

Preservation Oklahoma NEWS

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Preservation
OKLAHOMA 



Edwards Store Receives Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant

The Edwards Store (Most Endangered Places 2013, 2018, and 2019) recently completed a major step in preservation with funds from a new grant courtesy of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The two chimneys (c.1850 and 1870) have been stabilized and work can soon begin on restoration of the fireplace interiors. The land around the building is also being cleared of trees and underbrush to mitigate damage from natural elements.

The Oklahoma Heritage Preservation Grant Program is a grants-in-aid program offered by the Oklahoma Historical Society (OHS) with the goal of encouraging the collection, preservation, and sharing of Oklahoma history at the grassroots level in all parts of the state. Open to tribal and municipal governments and not-for-profit historical organizations located in Oklahoma and registered with the Oklahoma Secretary of State, this grants program offers funding for projects focused on collections, exhibits, and programming.

The Edwards Store, established in 1850, is one of the few remaining original structures that were stage stops on the Butterfield Overland mail and stage line from St. Louis to San Francisco from 1858 to 1861. Stage passengers were served meals at this location. Thomas Edwards established the trading post on the Fort Smith-Boggy Depot Road and it later became the original post office and site of the town of Red Oak. The structure is of "dog trot" design typical of the 19th century and built from hewn logs.



William Bailey works on Edwards Store Chimney, Photo:POK

(article continued on page 4)

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Preservation Oklahoma is currently seeking board members from Tulsa and rural areas. If you are interested in serving on the Preservation Oklahoma Board of Directors, please contact Executive Director, Chantry Banks at director@preservationok.org.

Preservation Oklahoma News, the newsletter of Oklahoma's historic preservation community, is published quarterly as a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office.

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This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.

Mail all correspondence to Preservation Oklahoma.

SHPO May Workshop Series

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, is pleased to announce its May Workshop series. The sessions will be held May 21-22, 2020 in the Oklahoma History Center Musser Learning Lab, 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City.

All workshops are free and open to the public however the SHPO requests that participants register no later than 5:00 PM Wednesday, May 13th. Space is limited for all sessions and will be reserved on a first-come basis.

Each workshop is devoted to one the SHPO's federal preservation programs and is designed for preservation professionals, government agency representatives and concerned citizens. **However, for calendar year 2020, the Section 106 workshop will not be offered as the presentation is being reevaluated and redeveloped.** For more information or to register for classes, please contact Tifani Darata at tdarata@okhistory.org or 405/521-6249. You may also register online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/workshops.

Workshop Schedule and Descriptions:

*May 21 (10:30am-4:30pm) - **Working with the National Register of Historic Places** (presented by Sara Werneke, National Register Program Coordinator)*

The National Register of Historic Places is the foundation of the SHPO's programs, and a basic understanding of the register is essential for those involved in historic preservation at all levels of government and in the private sector. The workshop provides detailed information about the National Register criteria, what listing means, the rights of property owners in the nomination process, tips for preparing successful nominations, and much more.

*May 22 (10:30am-12:30pm) - **Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings** (presented by Jennifer Bailey, Tax Program Coordinator/Historic Preservation Specialist)*

Participants will learn about the federal and state investment tax credits for certified rehabilitation of a certified historic structure. A detailed discussion of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, Parts 1, 2, and 3, will guide owners and developers in successfully preparing the information needed for the State Historic Preservation Office to review the project and for the National Park Service to certify it. The session is designed as a stand-alone workshop or as a companion to the Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

*May 22 (1:30pm-4:30pm) - **The Secretary's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings** (presented by Jennifer Bailey, Tax Program Coordinator/Historic Preservation Specialist)*

The workshop features a discussion of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation. Generally known as The Standards, these commonsense principles are widely used in the historic preservation field. Whether pursuing the 20% federal and 20% state tax credits for a certified rehabilitation, planning a rehabilitation project funded with federal assistance, serving on a local historic preservation commission, or rehabilitating your historic private home, you will find the session beneficial. It is designed as a stand-alone workshop and as a companion to Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings.

In early March, Preservation Oklahoma's Executive Director, Chantry Banks, had the opportunity to visit The Edwards Store and visit with historical preservationist William Bailey, who noted that chimney stabilization was happening at the perfect time. He wasn't sure how much time they would remain standing. Also on site that day was Edwards Store supporter and preservationist June Chubbuck. She gave Banks a tour of the property and adjacent family cemetery. She is excited about the prospects that Edwards Store holds for future generations. Plans are being made to restore the Store and surrounding grounds to what it might have looked like during the years of the Butterfield Overland stage line. Next steps will include archeological surveys of the property, identifying unmarked plots in the cemetery, and restoration of the well that sits just to the east of the store.

"I'm thrilled that a site featured so many times on our Most Endangered Places list is being preserved," Banks said. "I'm confident that the Edwards Store will be here for future generations to learn about Oklahoma's pre-statehood history and its important role in this overland mail route." Visit <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=BU019> for more information on the Butterfield Overland route.



1870 Chimney at Edwards Store, Photo: POK



Edwards Store, Photo: POK

POK Welcomes New Executive Director

Preservation Oklahoma announced in February that its board of directors has chosen Chantry Banks as the new Executive Director of the organization.

"We're very excited to have Chantry take the helm at Preservation Oklahoma," said Daniel Barrett Mathis, Board President. "His experience in development and fundraising will be critical to helping usher POK into a growth phase, and the board of directors looks forward to working with him on exploring new ways to further POK's mission."

Banks said, "I am honored and excited to lead Preservation Oklahoma. The historic places of our state are very important to me, and I look forward to growing POK's awareness across Oklahoma."

Raised on the site of the headquarters of the historic Cheyenne – Arapaho Cattle Ranch near Hammon, Chantry's grandparents, the late L.E. and Patt Hodge, helped establish his love of history at an early age. "My grandparents always made sure every trip included at least one stop at a historic site. I'm grateful they instilled a love of the people, places, and history of Oklahoma. I feel I'm honoring them by accepting this position."



Chantry Banks, Photo: Pierce Nix

Chantry's grandmother, Patt, established the Hammon Museum in 1976 in the Dorroh-Trent house (NRHP, 1979) and Chantry has fond memories of the home. "I remember wanting to know everything about the artifacts housed in the museum. I also recall getting a stern talking to after running up and down the stairs one too many times. It was a beautiful home full of history." Sadly, the home was demolished in the 90's.

Banks attended Hammon Public Schools and graduated in 1998. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, where he performed in the historic Old Science Building theatre. In 2006, Chantry moved to Orlando, Florida, where he attended the MFA Acting program at University of Central Florida. He worked as an actor and costumer for several theatres in Orlando, including Orlando Repertory Theatre and Orlando Shakespeare Theatre.

After several visits back to Oklahoma, Banks decided 2011 was good time to move home. He settled in Oklahoma City and began his nonprofit career at the Museum Store at Oklahoma City Museum of Art. He spent two years at Oklahoma Arts Institute as Office Manager before joining the Development team at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. He spent the next five years at Lyric, eventually handling all fundraising and special events for the organization, as well as developing important relationships with donors.

Chantry looks forward to his tenure at Preservation Oklahoma and is excited about its next phase of growth. He is currently working on the Most Endangered Places for 2020 and researching new fundraising opportunities. He also plans devoting time to site visits across the state and engaging advocates in all 77 counties.

Chantry may be reached at 405/525-5325 or director@presevationok.org.

MYSTERIES *of the* MANSION

FOURTH THURSDAYS

OVERHOLSER MANSION

Events at the Overholser Mansion

Please plan on joining POK at the Overholser for Mysteries of the Mansion, a unique and special tour that explores some of the behind-the-scenes history and spaces not typically on a regular tour. Overholser Museum Coordinator Lisa Escalon will be leading these tours and will share interesting stories of the mansion and the Overholser family history. Our first Mysteries tour is tentatively scheduled for April 23 (dependent on the mansion's ability to reopen due to COVID-19). The tours continue every 4th Thursday through the summer.

Summer Soiree, POK's summer fundraising event, has been pushed back to a date to be determined in the fall. All others events are to be announced.

When the Overholser Mansion reopens, tours will be available every Tuesday-Saturday, beginning at 10 am. Tours begin on the hour and reservations are not required.

Special rates are available for groups. Please call 405/525-5325 to schedule your group tour.

State Historic Preservation Office News

NRHP Nomination Grants Available from SHPO

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) nominations. The SHPO has reserved \$10,000 of its FY 2020 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the U.S. Department of the Interior for the program. Applications are accepted February 1 through April 30. Each grant is limited to \$1,000, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$700. Grant recipients will use the grant funds and nonfederal match to retain an appropriately qualified professional to prepare a complete individual property nomination package for the NRHP. Applicants must be aware that \$1,700 (federal grant + nonfederal match) is only an estimate of the cost for such projects and that more than the minimum \$700 nonfederal match may be necessary to cover the consultant fee. Consultants must consider the nature of the property proposed for nomination and many other factors as they develop their fee proposals.

The NRHP is the catalogue of our nation's significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes important in our past. While listing is not a guarantee of preservation or of financial assistance, the NRHP status of a property is often critical to the strategy for its preservation. The NRHP provides increased public awareness of these irreplaceable resources, provides limited protection for them, qualifies property owners for federal and state tax credits under certain circumstances, and may qualify the property owner for grant assistance when such programs are funded.

To obtain an application form go to www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant. You may also contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249.

OHS Sites Respond to COVID-19

The first priority of the Oklahoma Historical Society is the health and safety of our patrons, volunteers, and staff. Per Executive Orders 2020-06 and 2020-07 from Governor Kevin Stitt in response to COVID-19, all OHS sites and affiliates are currently closed to the public. We plan to reopen on Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

Additionally, all OHS-sponsored events at OHS sites and affiliates will be canceled or postponed through April 14. We will reassess future cancellations and closings as the situation develops. We thank you for your support.

Additionally, the OHS is canceling its annual Oklahoma History Conference, which was scheduled for April 22–24, 2020, at the Sequoyah Lodge near Wagoner. If you have already registered for the conference, the OHS will be in contact with more information. We regret any inconvenience that this will cause.



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Help POK Preserve Oklahoma's Historic Treasures!

Historic structures, much like photographs and newspapers, tell the story of Oklahoma communities, linking the past to the present. They also provide economically vibrant locations for local businesses and residents. Since 1992, Preservation Oklahoma has worked to protect and preserve these structures through advocacy, education, and programming. By joining our efforts, you are supporting the protection of Oklahoma's unique and diverse history. Your support also assists in the preservation of the 1903 Henry Overholser Mansion, an Oklahoma City landmark and home of POK's offices.

Membership Benefits

Membership benefits include discounted tickets to POK events, complimentary tours of the Overholser Mansion, and invitations to our annual membership appreciation event.

Membership Levels:

Student	\$25
Individual	\$50
Family	\$100
Partner	\$500

To join, please visit <http://www.preservationok.org/become-a-member.html> and join through our secure online payment form. You can also join by calling the POK offices!