

OKLAHOMA NEWS



www.preservationoklahoma.org

www.ok-history.mus.ok.us

Vol. 10, No. 2

January 2004

INSIDE ...

PAGE 2

Five Oklahoma Properties Added to National Register

PAGE 3

Grants Available for Route 66

PAGE 4

Douglas DC-3 Important in Aviation History

PAGE 5

Murrell Home Recognized as National Historic Landmark

PAGE 6

Window Workshop a Success

PAGE 7

2004 Statewide Preservation Conference Announced

PAGE 8

Preservation Oklahoma Gets Gold Dome Grant

PAGE 9

Things That Go Bump in the Night

PAGE 10

Past Remains Real at Santa Fe Depot

PAGE 11

An Evening Lecture at a Community Near You

PAGE 12

SHPO Offers Grants for National Register Nominations

Dick Moe to Visit Oklahoma

You are invited to join Preservation Oklahoma in an evening of preservation with renowned guest speaker, Mr. Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

On January 22, 5 p.m., Preservation Oklahoma will unveil its 2004 Oklahoma's Endangered Historic Places at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History in Norman, Oklahoma. This annual list is an opportunity to inform the public about our States endangered proper-

ties and sites, as well as to focus attention on the challenges these properties face.

Following the unveiling, Mr. Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation will bring remarks from the Trust's headquarters in Washington D.C. We are honored to have Mr. Moe in Oklahoma.

The public is invited to this exciting preservation event. For more information and reservations, call 405-208-2794 or e-mail kkeese@coxinet.net.

A Letter from the President of Preservation Oklahoma

As I write this letter, I am very thankful for the support of our members and the community.

Preservation Oklahoma has a new address, color and logo. It is with a great deal of enthusiasm that POK has taken the operational responsibility of the Overholser Mansion - a turn-of-the-century mansion in the heart of Heritage Hills in Oklahoma City's first historic district, both being on the National Register of Historic Places. POK's mission as the statewide preservation organization remains our focus, with the mansion



is an example of what we can do together through our membership.

We applaud Dr. Bob Blackburn, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the citizens of Heritage Hills and so many others for making this opportunity possible.

We invite you to visit our office and museum, and to help support our mission and objectives by becoming a member of Preservation Oklahoma.

Bill Gumerson
President

Five Oklahoma Properties Added to National Register

The State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce the listing of five Oklahoma properties in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is a listing of buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts that are significant in our nation's history. The five new listings are: the Lincoln Colored School, Fairfax; Narcissa D-X Gas Station, near Miami; Bridgeport Hill Service Station, near Geary; Little Deep Fork Creek Bridge, near Bristow; and the Ozark Trails Section of Route 66, near Stroud. The last four properties are related to Route 66 in Oklahoma.

• **Lincoln Colored School** is a simple, frame building on the northeast side of Fairfax, in Osage County. It was constructed in 1929 to serve as the primary school for African-American children in western Osage County. It was built under the auspices of the "separate school system" that was mandated by the Oklahoma Constitution wherein white and black children could not attend the same school. In 1929, the African-American population near Fairfax grew sufficiently to warrant the construction of a separate school. Built for under \$1,000, this small building housed not only a single room for all eight grades, but also the living quarters for the only teacher. The school served until 1956 and is one of the few extant separate schools in the state.



The Lincoln Colored School, Fairfax

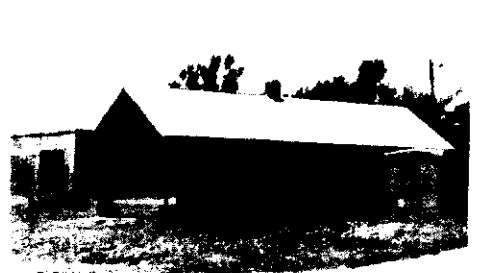
•• **The Narcissa D-X Gas Station** is located on old Route 66 south of Miami. It was listed under the "Route

66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma" Multiple Property Submission. The Narcissa station is significant as a reflection of the importance of the new federal highway system to local commerce. The highway passed to the east of Narcissa, a small rail stop with a collection of commercial endeavors. When the highway was paved in 1934, the frame gas station was moved mile to the highway and updated with a brick veneer. It demonstrates the powerful influence the automobile had in the commerce of the state.



Narcissa D-X Gas Station, Miami

• **The Bridgeport Hill Service Station** is another example of the influence of the newly designated Route 66 on the development of commerce in Oklahoma. Built in 1934 by Leroy Tilley, this simple box-and-canopy gas station sits atop Bridgeport Hill, south of Geary. The station was conceived as a part-time business to supplement the farm income of the Tilleys, but soon became the primary provider for the family. It was nominated under the "Route 66 and Associate Historic Resources in Oklahoma" MPS.



Bridgeport Hill Service Station, Geary

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

All correspondence, materials or address changes should be sent to: Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. 405 N.W. 15th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73103

Editors:
Melvina Heisch, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Oklahoma Historical Society
(405) 522-4484

Heather Seifert, Executive Director
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
Overholser Mansion
405 N.W. 15th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
(405) 525-5325

The activity that is the subject of this publication has been financed in part with federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendations by the Department of the Interior. This program receives financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, or handicap 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, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

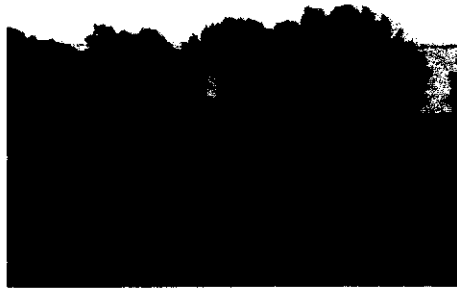
- On a dirt road west of Bristow, crossing Little Deep Fork Creek, is a small bridge constructed in 1914 by the Kansas City Bridge Company. The **Little Deep Fork Creek Bridge** carried Route 66 traffic from 1927 until 1929 when a new alignment for the highway was paved a short distance to the north. The bridge is a rare, surviving example of a Warren bedstead pony truss, a bridge design that was never popular to begin with. It was nominated for its engineering design and for its association with the first designated route of US Highway 66. It was nominated under the "Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma" MPS.



Little Deep Fork Creek Bridge, Bristow

- **The Ozark Trails Section of Route 66** near Stroud is a section of gravel road that once served as a part of Oklahoma's first major regional highway route and later as a designated route of US Highway 66. It features and original Ozark Trails obelisk at its eastern terminus and a 1917 Warren pony truss bridge at the western end of the segment. The Ozark Trails Association was a forerunner of the

"Good Roads" movement in Oklahoma. A series of roads connecting participating towns was marked with green and white signs to provide travelers a clear path from New Mexico to Arkansas and Missouri. At the intersections of these roads, large markers were erected to provide directions. Only two of these markers are known to exist in Oklahoma. As part of the road system, subscribing communities had to maintain and often build suitable roads. By 1926, when the federal highway system was created, these roads often provided ready-made routes for the newly designated highways. This section of the Ozark Trail served as Route 66 for two years until bypassed by a newly paved alignment. It was nominated as part of the "Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma" MPS.



Ozark Trails Section of Route 66, Stroud

For further information on these or any other National Register properties, please contact Jim Gabbert at the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, (405) 522-4478 or email at jgabbert@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

Grants Available for Route 66

The National Park Service, Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program is dedicated to preserving the rich and diverse resources of the historic U.S. Highway 66. The program provides funding assistance to support the preservation, restoration and rehabilitations of the most significant and representative buildings, structures and road segments in the eight states through which the route passes. Funding assistance is also provided to support research, planning, oral history and education outreach projects related to Route 66.

The program will be accepting applications for the 2004 cost-share grant cycle February 2-April 30, 2004. Notification of awards will be made in early July 2004. Application packages will be available for printing directly from the website www.cr.nps.gov/rt66, or you may request an application directly from the program office at (505) 988-6701.

If you have any questions about the grant program, eligibility requirements, or the application process, feel free to contact the program staff at (505) 988-6701.

Simms Appointed to HPRC

On October 7, 2003, Governor Brad Henry appointed Harry Simms, Jr. of Yukon to the Historic Preservation Review Committee (HPRC). Simms is Senior Architect with DymPar LLC, and he holds a BS in Environmental Design and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Architecture from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His experience in historic preservation includes service as the State Historic Preservation Office's staff architect in the early 1990s.

The HPRC provides advice on proposed National Register nominations and other preservation issues to the State Historic Preservation Officer per the requirements of the federal historic preservation program. In addition to Simms who serves as the HPRC's architect, members include Stanley Bussey (prehistoric archeologist) of Oklahoma City, LeRoy H. Fischer (historian) of Stillwater, Arn Henderson (architectural historian) of Norman, and Towanna Spivey (historical archeologist) of Duncan.

Simms was appointed to fill the vacancy created when Bill E. Peavler passed away in August 2003. He had served as the Committee's architect for over ten years. His dedicated service was greatly appreciated, and he will be missed by Oklahoma's preservation community.

The HPRC meets quarterly to consider nominations to the National Register of Historic Places and make recommendations about them to the SHPO. Their meetings in 2004 will be held on January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 21 in the Oklahoma Historical Society Boardroom, Wiley Post Historical Building, 2100 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City. The meetings are open to the public, and the SHPO encourages POK News readers to attend. The HPRC's meeting agenda is posted on the Oklahoma Historical Society's website at www.ok-history.mus.ok.us <<http://www.ok-history.mus.ok.us>> several days prior to each quarterly meeting.

For more information about the HPRC and the SHPO's National Register Program, visit the website cited above or contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249.



Aviation: From Sand Dunes to Sonic Booms

In celebration of a century of flight, the National Register of Historic Places is pleased to announce the launch of their latest travel itinerary, "Aviation: From Sand Dunes to Sonic Booms," highlighting more than 100 historic places in 32 states and 4 U.S. insular areas.

It is currently the main feature on the National Register of Historic Places homepage, www.cr.nps.gov/nr. You can also get there directly at www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/aviation.

Douglas DC-3 Important in Aviation History

By Jim Gabbert

Architectural Historian

Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office

The Douglas DC-3 has earned its place in aviation history as one of the most significant designs in aircraft history. Whether carrying passengers across the country as the mainstay of the airline industry from the 1930s through the 1950s, or ferrying troops or materials for the Allied forces during World War II, the DC-3 gained a reputation for reliability, durability, and fly-ability. Thousands of DC-3s (or C-47s, as designated by the military) were produced and have flown to all points of the globe.

Introduced in 1935, the DC-3 was produced by the Douglas Aircraft Company in Santa Monica, CA. By the



time the last one rolled off of the assembly line, more than 10,000 had flown in service. The DC-3 was the first profitable passenger airplane, able to make money on passengers alone. Soon, all of the fledgling airlines used the DC-3 as the mainstay of their fleets.

World War II brought a new, expanded role for the DC-3. Military needs dictated that all newly-produced models and most of the civilian models be converted to military use. A new factory was opened in Oklahoma City to help handle the new demand. While also utilized by the Navy, the DC-3 became famous as the "Gooney Bird," the C-47, that the United States Army Air Corps used to transport men and equipment in all theaters of the war.

The end of World War II found thousands of DC-3/C-47 airplanes in need of new careers. Most returned to civilian work, serving as the work-

horse of the civilian aviation fleet for the next fifteen years.

N-34 is the registration number for a DC-3 that is housed in Hangar 10 at the Federal Aviation Administration's Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center. This DC-3 is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, having served a lifetime of distinction as both a military plane and as a flight inspection platform for the FAA.

Built in the Oklahoma City plant of the Douglas Aircraft Company, N-34 began service under contract to the US Navy. It served in various capacities, including probable participation in the Berlin Airlift in 1948-49. It was retired from service in the early 1950s and loaned to the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) in 1958, where it was modified and introduced into service as a testing platform for navigational aids (navaids). For the next 23 years, N-34 served in the FAA's Southwest region as a low-level testing platform. In 1981, it was transferred out of active service and used as a training craft. It was retired in 1983. N-34 was declared surplus; all other examples of the FAA's DC-3 fleet had been disposed of when the decision was made to retain one example for posterity. N-34 was restored and reinstated in 1985 to be used in the agency's educational programs. Traveling to airshows and other special events availed the public the opportunity to view up close this significant airplane and to learn not just its story, but the story of the DC-3.

In a project beginning in 2002, the FAA has faithfully restored N-34 to reflect its long-time role in aviation history. The plane, airworthy as the day it rolled off the assembly line, will participate in the Centennial of Flight celebrations at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, helping to mark the anniversary of the Wright Brother's historic breakthrough.

Murrell Home Recognized as National Historic Landmark

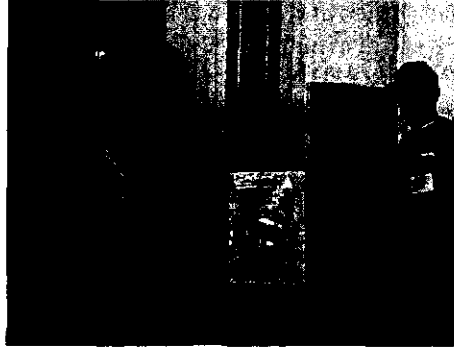
On Thursday, October 30, 2003, as part of a Historic America Trail of Tears Tour, the Murrell Home in Park Hill finally received some of its long-awaited honors. On that day, officials dedicated a bronze plaque listing its status as a National Historic Landmark and certificates showing its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, and the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail. The Murrell Home is the only antebellum mansion in the state of Oklahoma and has been operated by the Oklahoma Historic Society since the early 1990's.

Site manager Shirley Pettengill said



it all started last spring when a visitor to the historic home noted that as a part of his personal scavenger hunt, he took a photograph of every National

Historic Landmark plaque when he visited the site. Where, he wondered, was the Murrell Home's plaque?



Pettengill had never seen it or for that matter, the certificate stating the site was also on the National Register. She contacted deputy state historic preservation officer, Melvena Heisch, who started a search with the assistance of the National Park Service (NPs) personnel.

Research indicated that the Murrell Home was listed as a National Historic Landmark in 1974 but had never received a plaque. NPS personnel immediately had one cast, and it was dedicated on October 30 by Ms. Connie Rudd, superintendent of the Oklahoma City National Memorial on that same day, Ms. Heisch presented certificates showing the Murrell Home's listing to the National Register of Historic Places.

Note: This article was based on information in the Oklahoma Historical Society's newsletter Mistletoe Leaves, and by Shirley Pettengill, manager of the Murrell Home.

Become a Member of the Statewide Preservation Network...

Preservation Oklahoma's mission is to foster the preservation of historic buildings and sites in Oklahoma through advocacy, education, technical and financial assistance.

As a member, you become a part of a vital network of individuals and organizations working to rebuild communities, strengthen neighborhoods, restore historic properties ... you become a part of Oklahoma's future.

To join, complete this form and send to: Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. 405 N.W. 15th St. Oklahoma City, OK 73103

Name _____

From (if gift) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

- Heritage Club - \$10,000 or more
- Benefactor - \$1,000 - \$9,999
- Sponsor - \$500 - \$999
- Association - \$100 - \$499
- Friend - up to \$100

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) organization. Membership contributions are tax deductible.

Join Preservation Oklahoma today.

Volunteer and Learn at the Overholser

Are you interested in old houses, antiques and history? Do you like meeting new people? If you do, being an Overholser Mansion tour guide is the perfect volunteer opportunity for you.

Hours are flexible, Tuesday through Sunday, from 10 to 4pm. And training is provided. Call Heather at (405) 308-2794.

At right, Nancy Singleterry gives a school tour in the Overholser Carriage House.



Job Opening at the Overholser

Preservation Oklahoma is accepting resumes for the full-time position of Director/Curator for the Henry Overholser Mansion. This position is responsible for the overall management and development of the house museum.

Please call Heather (405) 308-2794 to receive the complete job description. Deadline for applications is February 15, 2004.

Window Workshop a Success

By Brenda Johnson
Criterion Group Volunteer

On November 21 and 22, 2003, The Criterion Group sponsored a Wood Window Workshop for homeowners, handymen and the trade at the historic OKC Farmer's Public Market Building, 311 S. Klein. The workshop



sessions were identical, and were presented by national preservation expert, Simon Herbert.

Simon is the Director of the Arkansas Institute for Historic Building Trades in Helena, Arkansas. He holds a BA degree in Industrial Design from Ravensbourne College of Art in Kent, England and a Master of Science in Historic Preservation from the University of Pennsylvania. He is an experienced preservation carpenter, architectural conservator and project and site manager for various preservation projects.

Participants in the workshop viewed live demonstrations of techniques such as paint removal, wood repair and re-glazing. Simon's lecture covered topics such as the energy efficiency of wood windows and maintaining the historical significance of a property through wood window maintenance.

Participants in the workshop viewed live demonstrations of techniques such as paint removal, wood repair and re-glazing.

Approximately 50 people attended the workshops which were sponsored in part by a grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Raina and Dr. Stan Pelofsky and Historic Preservation, Inc.

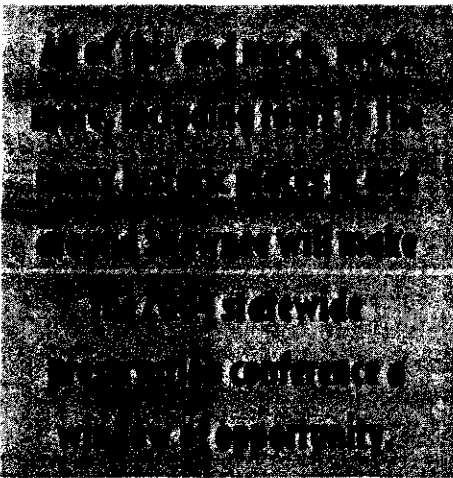
The Criterion Group is a non profit 501C(3) organization dedicated to preserving Oklahoma City's historic city center. For more information on joining this organization see the website at www.Criteriongroup.org



2004 Statewide Preservation Conference Announced

"Windows of Opportunity for Preservation is the theme for Oklahoma's 16th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference. The two-and-a-half day event will be held May 19-21, 2004 (Wednesday morning through noon Friday) in historic downtown Shawnee. Joining the State Historic Preservation Office, the Oklahoma Main Street Center, and Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. as conference cosponsors are Downtown Shawnee, Inc.; Shawnee Convention and Visitors Bureau; Shawnee Chamber of Commerce; The Society of the Revitalization of Downtown Shawnee; The Santa Fe Depot Museum; and The Mabee Gerrer Museum of Art.

The three concurrent conference tracks include A: Sacred Places and Special Spaces, B: Investing in the Past for the Future, and C: Streetscapes and Landscapes. Many windows of opportunity for saving Oklahoma's rich heritage are open, but if action is not



taken soon, some of these windows may close. For example, many of Oklahoma's historic county courthouses are at risk, and the Thursday (May 20) Investing in the Past for the Future sessions will examine the threats to these landmark buildings and explore possible solutions to the problems. Streetscapes and Landscapes sessions will provide detailed information about several programs which open windows for communities of all sizes to improve their economic and physical condition. Keynote speaker Kennedy Smith of the National Main Street Center will focus on historic preservation as a significant revitalization tool.

Through the Sacred Places and Special Spaces track we will emphasize the significance of historic houses

of worship and the special challenges of their preservation. Nationally recognized authority on meeting the financial needs of these important buildings, Rev. Susan B. W. Johnson, Senior Minister, Hyde Park Union Church, Chicago will deliver a special presentation on this subject. Noted scholar and author Virginia Raguin, Professor of Art History at Holy Cross will provide a highly illustrated presentation on identifying, researching, and documenting historic stained glass. Then Neal A. Vogel, Principal of Restoric, LLC, Evanston, IL and author of Preservation Brief #33: The Preservation and Repair of Historic Stained and Leaded Glass will discuss

this fascinating topic.

Peter Trieb, Principal of Peter Belden Trieb, Inc., Heritage Building Recording, Honeoye Falls, NY, will offer a special three hour workshop on Friday morning concerning the practical and cost-effective uses of various methods

of highly accurate building recordation, such as digital close-range stereophotogrametry. Anyone involved in the management and maintenance of cultural resources of all kinds will find this workshop of particular benefit. The techniques can be applied to resource types other than buildings, and museum curators will also want to attend this session.

All of this and much, much more, including tours to the many historic places in and around Shawnee will make the 2004 statewide preservation conference a window of opportunity. So, watch for conference information in mid-March and full program and registration details in April. If you have questions now, contact Melvena Heisch at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

Correction

The October 2003 issue of Preservation Oklahoma news was incorrectly numbered Vol. 10, No. 2. It should have been Vol. 10, No. 1. We apologize for any inconvenience.

7

April 1 Challenge Grant Deadline

Preservation Oklahoma has been approved for a matching grant of \$10,000 from the Kirkpatrick Family Fund to start a designated Endowment Fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. To receive this grant, Preservation Oklahoma will have to raise \$10,000 between now and April 1, 2004, and the Kirkpatrick Family Fund will match it to support the development of this fund.

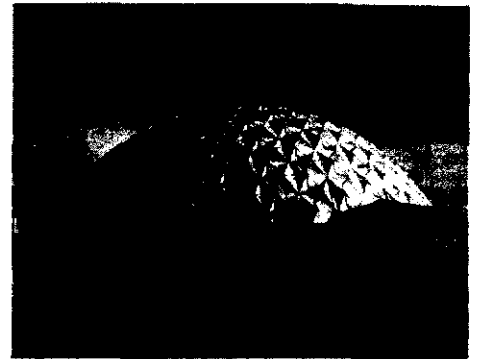
Designated Endowment Funds, like this one, provide a long-term, sustained source of income that help ensure Preservation Oklahoma's lasting impact on our State. If you are interested in helping Preservation Oklahoma reach their goal, please consider a tax-deductible donation today. Call Heather Seifert, POK Executive Director, (405) 308-2794 – or mail check to Preservation Oklahoma, 405 NW 15th Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103.

Preservation Oklahoma Gets Gold Dome Grant

Preservation Oklahoma has been awarded a \$1,500 grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to fund the development of architectural rehabilitation plans for the Gold Dome in Oklahoma City.

"With these start-up dollars, Preservation Oklahoma joins communities nationwide committed to preserving America's architectural and cultural heritage and, in so doing, creating more livable communities," said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The grant was made possible by the establishment of the endowed Preservation Services Fund for



Oklahoma. Grants ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 are awarded to nonprofit groups and public agencies and must be matched dollar for dollar. The purpose of this Fund is to assist in the preservation, restoration and interpretation of historic interiors.

Red Dirt to Riches:

A Holiday Event at the Harn Homestead and Overholser

The Harn Homestead and Overholser teamed up for a holiday event on December 6. After a morning at the Harn, visitors enjoyed Saint Nicholas in a white velvet suit, costumed musicians playing the dulcimer and banjo, visitors singing carols – plus hot apple cider at the Overholser.

Thank you to the Overholser volunteers that made it all possible: Bill Fullhart, Nancy and James Singleterry, Bob Sollen, Lisa Escalon, Petra Cox, Stephanie Kotzum, Theresa Black, Bob Sellons, Nona DeWoody, Tonya Davis and Kari Sloan.



Things That Go Bump in the Night

On October 24 and 25, volunteers dressed in period-costume recounted some of the spooky true-life stories and mysterious sightings that have occurred at the Overholser Mansion. Nearly 500 visitors toured the home which helped raise over \$1,800 for the

continued upkeep of the Mansion.

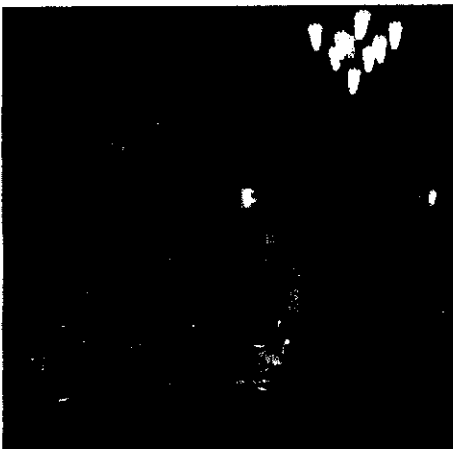
Thank you to Nancy Singleterry, Teresa Black, Becky and Ron Cosgrove, Dianna Yokum, Lisa Escalon, Petra Cox, and Heather Seifert and volunteers Mary, Christy, Justin for their efforts.



RSVP Volunteers Decked the Halls of Overholser

"A bridge between those who need, and those you give" is the motto for RSVP of Central Oklahoma - a non profit organization who links volunteers age 55 and older with essential community needs. And "give" is exactly what a group of RSVP volunteers did for the Overholser.

On December 2, nearly 15 RSVP volunteers "gave" of their time to decorate the Overholser for the holidays. This is no easy task: with ten rooms, four Christmas trees and garland by



the yards. The talent of these volunteers are what made the Overholser a holiday showcase.

Thank you to the RSVP Volunteers: Faye Beam, Pearlene Gore, Vandola Mitchell, Roberta Maloney, Mary Rose Martin, Nona DeWoody, Virginia Chandler, Joan Bowen and to Evelyn Harms, the RSVP Director of Volunteers.

Cherokee Saline Courthouse Update

Saline Preservation Association, a group recently formed to restore the 1880's Cherokee Saline Courthouse, hosted a meeting in Pryor last September. Close to 100 people attended the meeting in Pryor and assembled on the Saline Courthouse lawn. Bret Carter, Preservation Oklahoma board member, spoke on the importance of preserving historical buildings and how POK can help in networking.

Since the kick-off meeting, the Cherokee Nation has appointed Steve Woodall to oversee the project within the Nation and work with the Saline Preservation Association. The Cherokee Nation has boarded-up the windows and doors to protect the structure from outside elements and intrusion. The association has filed as a non-profit corporation with the Secretary of State and is applying for 501-C Charitable Status. An architect is currently working on measured drawings of the structure.

A general membership meeting is being planned for March 2004. For further information contact: Lisa Melchior 918-825-7868 or melchior@fullnet.net.

Preservationists to Meet in Tulsa

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has announced Tulsa will host the 2008 National Preservation Conference.

Tulsa was selected from a list of several cities, said Peter Brink, vice president of programs for the trust.

The conference is scheduled for Oct. 21-26, 2008, at various historic locations throughout downtown Tulsa. Conference topics generally focus on community revitalization, housing, smart urban/rural growth and heritage tourism.

Past Remains Real at Santa Fe Depot

By *Glen Vaughn-Roberson*
Director of Certified Local Government Program
Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office

When you walk down the street of a town, if you use your imagination just a little and listen very quietly you can almost hear the sounds of bygone days - the clapping of horses' hooves, the squeak of the buggy, the tooting of a Model-T Ford.

Next will come the voices, murmuring at first, followed shortly by more distinguishable sentences and individual words. The buildings, all of different materials, stand one-story, two-story, and now three bear witness to human history.

If such an experience were possible in Waynoka, Oklahoma, two obvious places to try would be the old Santa Fe Depot and the Reading Room next-door.

For over a century, the red brick depot has sat next to the Santa Fe Railroad track. Built in 1910, the depot is a long, rectangular, one-story building, running 84 feet parallel to the tracks and 22 feet wide.

Through its doors have walked thousands of ordinary people with tickets to California or points east. What made the depot so unique was the part it played in the Transcontinental Air Transportation, Inc. (later Trans World Airlines) par-

tially owned in the 1930s by the famous aviator, Charles Lindbergh. Passengers flew from Columbus, Ohio to Waynoka in a Ford tri-motor airliner, then, after a hardy lunch, caught the overnight Pullmans to Clovis, N.M. from where they again boarded a plane for Los Angeles. The entire trip took only a remarkable two days and two nights.

Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart were among the passengers on the first tri-motor to land at Waynoka's airfield. In its heyday, the depot played host to Greta Garbo, John Gilbert, Wallace Berry, Lon Chaney, Will Rogers, and Mae West. Lindbergh and his bride, Ann Morrow, came through the depot on their honeymoon. Earhart made a second visit on February of 1930.

The H-shaped two-story Harvey House, one of the most famous on the Santa Fe line, closed in 1937. Because a local minister worried about how a number of railroad men might spend their idle hours in pool halls and bars while laying over for a run back to their homes, the town remodeled the old Harvey House within a matter of weeks, turning it into a dormitory and reading room for crewmen. The lunch-



room became the lounge filled with magazines and newspapers. The old dining room became a meeting room and also houses a library available to all railroad personnel. The first librarian was James M. Robinson, an employee of the Santa Fe.

The Waynoka Depot and the Harvey House/ Reading Room complex was funded with enhancement grants from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation - totaling over \$1.5 million. The first phases of restoration con-

cerned exterior issues of the two historic structures. The first phase of the project includes restoring the interior of the former depot, pave the parking areas, landscape the complex, and professionally finishing the museum located on the second floor of the Harvey House. The Harvey House is

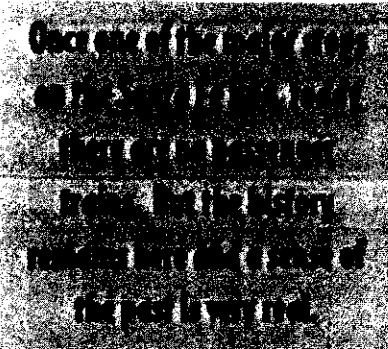
considered as one of Oklahoma's most admired Department of Transportation projects.

Already workers have removed paint from the depot's bricks, and the tile roof has been repaired and replaced as needed. Researchers have

explored interior color schemes and light fixtures of the 1920s. All of the oak woodwork on the first floor was restored, or replaced.

Today, the depot houses a restaurant on the first floor and a museum of Waynoka history on the second.

Once one of the major stops on the Santa Fe line, today there are no passenger trains. But the history remains here and a sense of the past is very real. The Santa Fe Depot is one of Oklahoma's most historic structures. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Change of Address

Preservation Oklahoma
405 N.W. 15th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

telephone (405) 525-5325
fax (405) 525-5325
cell (405) 308-2794
Overholser Mansion (405) 528-8485

An Evening Lecture in a Community Near You

Broken Bow. Clinton. Cherokee. Duncan. All recent locations for the monthly "Endangered Historic Properties Lecture Series" - a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma, the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Office, and in part by a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

Well over 100 participants enjoyed these free lectures given by experts in the field of preservation. Topics included "Why Save

by Mr. Arn Henderson.

Anna Eddings, a faithful participant commented about the series, "For years, I have traveled the state to enjoy these lectures. This series is an outstanding program of Preservation

Oklahoma and the SHPO. And I would encourage everyone to attend."

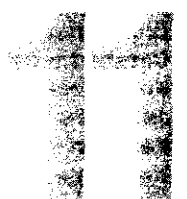
Mark your calendar for these upcoming lectures: January 22: Dick Moe, President of the National Trust for



From left: Dr. Michael Cassity, State Rep. James Covey, and his wife, Yvonne; State Sen. Robert M. Kerr, and his wife Robbie, and Route 66 museum director Pat Smith.

Your Community?" by Dr. Cathy Ambler, "Route 66 in Oklahoma" by Dr. Michael Cassity and "Vernacular Architecture of the Southern Plains"

Historic Preservation in Norman; February: Dr. Glen Vaughn-Roberson in Tulsa; and March: with Dr. Robert Brooks.



preservation **oklahoma, inc.**
educate, lead, advocate

405 N.W. 15th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
www.preservationoklahoma.org

NONPROFIT
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK
Permit Number 2579

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Preservation Oklahoma Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bill Gumerson, Oklahoma City
President
Barrett Williamson, Norman
Vice President
Jo Meacham, Oklahoma City
Secretary
Roger Rinehart, El Reno
Treasurer
Heather Selfert, Oklahoma City
Executive Director

Cathy Amber, Ph.D., Tulsa
Stephen Boyd, Hobart
Bret Carter, Ponca City
Cassandra Gaines, Muskogee
Konrad Keese, Oklahoma City
Julie Miner, Tulsa
Kathleen Page, Tulsa
Kay Wade, Guthrie

SHPO Offers Grants for National Register Nominations

The State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce that applications will be available on February 2, 2004 for its annual National Register Nominations Grants Program. Two application rounds will be conducted and the deadline for Round One is April 1 and for Round Two is June 1.

The grant funds are from the SHPO's FY 2004 Historic Preservation Fund allocation from the U.S. Department of the Interior and are for the purpose of retaining a professionally qualified consultant to prepare individual property National Register nominations. The maximum grant

amount is \$750. Applicants must provide a cash match from a nonfederal source. The required match for a \$750 grant is \$500. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, tribal governments, and local or state government agencies.

To obtain an application contact Shea Otley at 405/521-6249 or sjotley@ok-history.mus.ok.us. The application is also available on the SHPO's section of the Oklahoma Historical Society's website.

Go to www.ok-history.mus.ok.us and click on Preservation and then on National Register of Historic Places.