

# Preservation Oklahoma NEWS

January 2015  
Volume XXI, Issue 2

*The joint publication of the State Historic Preservation Office  
and Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.*

Preservation  
OKLAHOMA 



## **CITY OF OKC RECEIVES SKIRVIN EASEMENT**



*Skirvin Hotel. (Photo: SHPO)*

On March 3, 2004, Skirvin Partners LLC and the Oklahoma City Redevelopment Authority executed the Redevelopment Agreement for the Historic Skirvin Hotel. Subsequently, it underwent a highly successful certified rehabilitation and reopened in February 2007. The Agreement included the requirement that a preservation easement be donated at the appropriate time "in order to assist in preserving and maintaining the [Skirvin Hilton] and its architectural, historic, and cultural features for the benefit of the people of the City of Oklahoma City."

Preservation easements are a special type of easement commonly used to protect important cultural resources such as open space or historic properties. The Uniform Conservation Easement Act (1999) allows Oklahoma municipalities to hold easements for the purpose of preserving historical, architectural, archeological, or cultural aspects of real property. In addition, Oklahoma City's Historic Preservation Ordinance empowers the Historic Preservation Commission to recommend the acquisition of such easements to City Council.

On April 2, 2014, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed and recommended acceptance of the proposed easement on the Skirvin Hotel. On September 9, 2014, The Mayor and City Council accepted the donation of the preservation easement from Skirvin Partners, LLC, establishing the City of Oklahoma City's first preservation easement. The easement will ensure that the historic and architectural character of the exterior of the Historic Skirvin Hotel is preserved in perpetuity.

For more information, contact Katie Friddle, Historic Preservation Officer, City of Oklahoma City at 405/297-3084 or [kathryn.friddle@okc.gov](mailto:kathryn.friddle@okc.gov).

**Preservation Oklahoma, Incorporated  
Board of Directors  
2014-2015**

Barrett Williamson - President  
Norman

Brannyn McDougal - Vice President  
Shawnee

Susan Atkinson - Secretary  
Oklahoma City

Melissa Hunt - Treasurer  
Moore

Dr. Bill Bryans  
Stillwater

Jennie Buchanan  
Altus

Susie Clinard  
Shawnee

Jeff Erwin  
Oklahoma City

Mike Gallagher  
Oklahoma City

Alice Johnson  
Oklahoma City

Melyn Johnson  
Texhoma

Travis Owens  
Tulsa

*Overholser Carriage House, January 2014. (Photo: David Pettyjohn)*

*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.

Co-Editors

Melvena Heisch  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State Historic Preservation Office  
Oklahoma Historical Society  
Oklahoma History Center  
800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917  
405.522.4484  
[www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm)

David Pettyjohn  
Executive Director  
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.  
The Henry Overholser Mansion  
405 NW 15th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73103  
405.525.5325  
[www.preservationok.org](http://www.preservationok.org)

The activity that is the subject of this newsletter has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. 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 recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

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.

# Fresh from the Carriage House

## 2014 POK 20/20



2014 Award Winners. From left to right: Chris Fleming, Chip Fudge, Don & Sally Ferrell, Ron Frantz. (Photo: POK)

Preservation Oklahoma (POK) presented their annual preservation awards on November 6 during their fall event, POK 20/20. The event took place in the Heritage Room, located on the top floor of the recently rehabilitated Ambassador Hotel in Oklahoma City's Midtown District.

"Preservation Oklahoma is honored to recognize the successful efforts of these award winners," said Barrett Williamson, President of the Board of Directors. "Their hard work, dedication, and passion have saved these important markers of our state's rich and diverse history."

The following awards were presented:

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to Sally M. and Donald F. Ferrell from Chandler for their lifelong commitment to preserving Oklahoma's historic landmarks and for their tireless dedication to and advocacy for historic preservation. They were instrumental in the nomination of twenty properties to the National Register of Historic Places, including the 1897 Mascho-Murphy building which is today the home of the Lincoln County Historical Society. The Ferrells were also involved in the preservation of the WPA National Guard Armory, which is today the home of the Route 66 Interpretive Center in Chandler.

The **Preservation Leadership Award** was presented to Ronald H. Frantz, Jr., AIA, Director of the Great Plains Studios at the Institute for Quality Communities and Associate Professor in the Architecture Division at the University of Oklahoma. Frantz was recognized for his longstanding efforts to revitalize Oklahoma communities and to educate Oklahomans about historic preservation

The **Preservation Leadership Award** was presented to John M. "Chip" Fudge, Chairman of Claims Management Resources, for his longstanding preservation efforts and his leadership in the revitalization of Oklahoma City's Film Row.

The **Young Leadership Award** was presented to Chris Fleming, Executive Vice President and a partner of Midtown Renaissance. Fleming was recognized for his involvement in the rehabilitation of numerous properties in Oklahoma City's Midtown that has revitalized the district.

The event was generously sponsored by the Kirkpatrick Foundation; Preservation & Design Studios; the Cherokee Nation; Oklahoma City Foundation for Architecture; Fitzsimmons Architects; Jay & Valerie Hannah; and the Ambassador Hotel.

# New Oklahoma National Register Listings



*Long Branch Creek Bridge. (Photo: SHPO)*

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, has had a busy year with National Register of Historic Places listings; 17 new listings with eight pending in Washington D.C. The National Register of Historic Places is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past.

The National Park Service (NPS), National Trails Intermountain Region and the OKSHPO operate under a cooperative agreement to, among other things, exchange knowledge, skills, and resources to promote, recognize, and preserve the significant historic and recreational resources related to the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail, the Santa Fe National Historic Trail, and historic Route 66. In June 2012, we entered into a task agreement for the preparation of nominations for Trail of Tears properties. The NPS funding under the task agreement allowed us to contract for completion of four nominations. The Oklahoma chapter, Cherokee Trail of Tears Association worked with NPS and the OKSHPO staff to identify the properties for nomination. Beattie's Prairie and Breadtown were recorded in our site files and added to the National Register of Historic Places in

2014. The other new additions to the National Register for 2014 include: Logan Apartments in Norman, First Methodist Episcopal Church in Muskogee; Woodward Park and Gardens Historic District in Tulsa; Washington County Memorial Hospital in Bartlesville; Masonic Temple of Muskogee; Hamilton Cross House in Stillwater, Griffin House in Chickasha; McGregor House in Tulsa; Meloy House in Mustang; the Depew Route 66 Segment; Kelley Club in Oklahoma City; Oklahoma City Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant; Long Branch Creek Bridge in the Stillwater Vicinity; and Waynoka Telephone Exchange Building. All of the nominations can be found by visiting: [http://nr\\_shpo.okstate.edu/](http://nr_shpo.okstate.edu/)

Listing in the National Register is an honorific designation that provides recognition, limited protection and, in some cases, financial incentives for these important properties. The SHPO identifies, evaluates, and nominates properties for this special designation.

For detailed information, contact Lynda Ozan at 405/522-4478 or email [lozan@okhistory.org](mailto:lozan@okhistory.org).



*Logan Apartments, Norman. (Photo:SHPO)*



*Kelley Club, Oklahoma City. (Photo: SHPO)*

# HISTORIC LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP

---



*Overholser Carriage House. (Photo: POK)*

On February 10, 2015, Preservation Oklahoma will offer *Understanding & Reviving the Historic Landscape*. This workshop will explore the history of Oklahoma's landscaping practices and provide materials on how to incorporate these practices into historic neighborhoods. The workshop will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Carriage House of the Overholser Mansion, 405 NW 15th Street, Oklahoma City.

The workshop will be led by Brian Dougherty, FASLA, Program Officer of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation's Parks & Public Space Initiative and Margaret Annis Boys Trust.

Brian is a Licensed Landscape Architect in Oklahoma. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Horticulture and Landscape Design in 1978 from Oklahoma State University, and returned in 1981 to earn a Master's Degree in Trade and Industrial Education with an emphasis in Grounds Management. Brian served 15 years with OSU in Oklahoma City as a faculty member and later as the Division Head at the John E. Kirkpatrick Horticulture Center. Brian joined the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1998.

The cost of the workshop is \$10 and includes materials and light refreshments. Proceeds from the workshop will be used towards the Overholser Mansion's historic landscaping.

Funding for the workshop has been provided by the Kirkpatrick Foundation. Please contact Preservation Oklahoma offices at 405.525.5325 or e-mail david@preservationok.org to register. Payment will be accepted at the door or in advance. You may also register online at [www.preservationok.org](http://www.preservationok.org).

## REVISED SECTION 106 MANUAL ANNOUNCED

---

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces the availability of its revised Review and Compliance Manual (Section 106 Process). The manual is available in hard copy from the SHPO and at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/section106.htm>. It contains basic guidance for federal agencies and their designees/authorized representatives to consult the Oklahoma SHPO. The revised manual is presented in a more user-friendly format and includes links to additional guidance.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) stipulates that federal agencies and their designees/authorized representatives must consider the effects of their federal undertakings on archeological and historic resources which are listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (ACHP) regulations (36 CFR Part 800) detail the steps and timeframes for the Section 106 process (including a federal agency's responsibilities to consult with the SHPO, tribal governments, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), local governments, other parties, and the public (<http://www.achp.gov>).

# NRHP NOMINATION GRANTS AVAILABLE

---

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 2015 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the U. S. Department of the Interior for the program. The funds will be equally divided for award in two grant rounds with any funds remaining from Round 1 carried over for Round 2. Applications and detailed instructions will be available from the SHPO on February 1. The deadline for Round 1 applications is 5:00pm, April 1, and the deadline for Round 2 applications is 5:00pm, June 3. Each grant is limited to \$1,000.00, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least \$700.00. 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 \$1,700.00 (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 submit a NRHP Nomination Grant application online or obtain an application form, just go to [www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm). You may also contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249.

Information about the SHPO and its programs, including the NRHP, is available at [www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm](http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm).

## ACHP "GUIDANCE ON AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS"

---

Recently, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) announced the availability of its new "Guidance on Agreement Documents" (GAD). Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider the effects of federal undertakings on historic properties, and the consultation process may result in the development of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or Programmatic Agreement (PA). The new guidance for drafting these documents is available at <http://www.achp.gov/agreementdocguidance.html>. GAD is designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Section 106 process by increasing the proficiency of all involved parties, including federal agencies, states, Indian tribes, Native Hawaiian organizations, applicants, local governments, and other stakeholders, in crafting and implementing Section 106 agreements. It also includes advice on monitoring and closing out agreement documents.

The ACHP will also be developing new training on preparation of agreement documents to support GAD and update their Advanced Section 106 Seminar to incorporate GAD into an extended discussion on the resolution of adverse effects.

For information about the Section 106 process in Oklahoma, visit <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/section106.htm>.

# Unveiling of the 2015 List of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places

April 7, 2015  
Hart Building  
726 West Sheridan  
Historic Film Row, OKC

*Hart Building. (Photo: Hart Partners, LLC)*

## HPRC'S 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), is pleased to announce the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Review Committee's (HPRC) meeting schedule for calendar year 2015. The governor appoints the members of the HPRC to advise the SHPO about nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and other preservation issues. Current HPRC members include William P. Corbett (Historian, Tahlequah); Ron Frantz (Architect, Oklahoma City); John D. Hartley (Prehistoric Archeologist, Norman); Arn Henderson (Architectural Historian, Norman); and Charles S. Wallis (Historical Archeologist, Norman). The HPRC's 2015 meetings will begin at 1:30pm on Thursday, January 15, April 16, July 16, and October 15.

The meetings will be held in the Oklahoma Historical Society's LeRoy H. Fischer Boardroom, Oklahoma History Center (third floor), 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive, Oklahoma City, and they are open to the public. The HPRC and the SHPO encourage all interested parties to attend, and meeting agendas and NRHP nominations under consideration will be available at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/spevents.htm>.

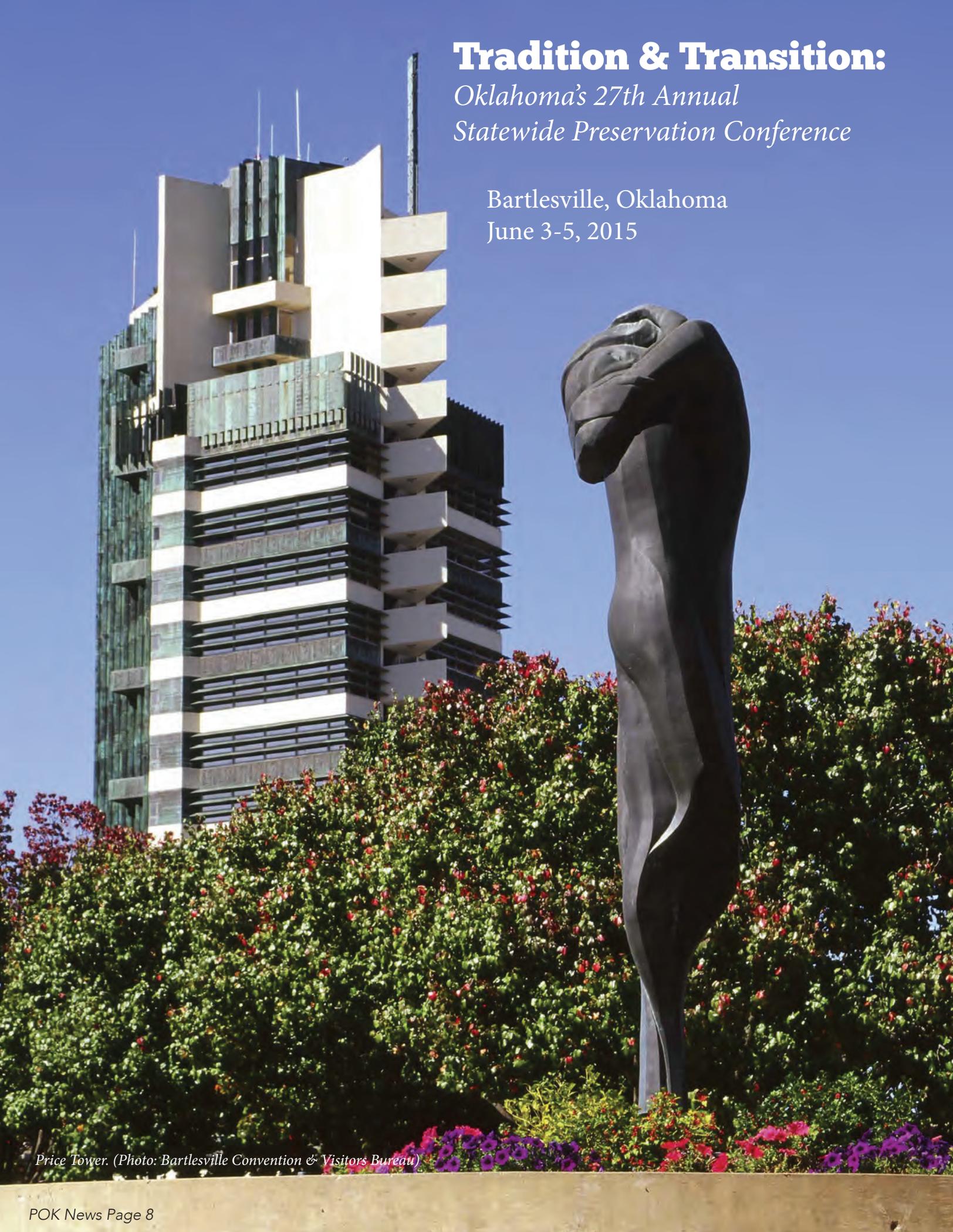
The National Park Service regulations governing the SHPO's programs require that a qualified state review board participate in the NRHP and other SHPO programs. During each meeting, the HPRC hears presentations on NRHP nominations from SHPO staff and consultants; receives comments from owners of properties proposed for nomination; listens to public comments and concerns; and formulates recommendations to the SHPO about whether or not a property should be nominated. The HPRC and SHPO staff invite concerned citizens and preservation professionals to participate in this important component of Oklahoma's preservation program.

For information about any of the SHPO's programs, call 405/521-6249 or visit us on the website listed above.

# **Tradition & Transition:**

*Oklahoma's 27th Annual  
Statewide Preservation Conference*

Bartlesville, Oklahoma  
June 3-5, 2015



*Price Tower. (Photo: Bartlesville Convention & Visitors Bureau)*

Save the dates, June 3-5, 2015, for *Tradition and Transition: Oklahoma's 27th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference*. The special places we appreciate, protect, and adapt for new uses embody our traditions. A more diverse preservation community develops; what is considered significant evolves; and new preservation methods and strategies emerge. The conference program will address these topics during two plenary sessions and three concurrent tracks of sessions.

The first plenary session occurs on Wednesday afternoon, June 3, and the featured speaker is Stephanie K. Meeks, President, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D. C. She will discuss the NTHP's new initiatives and the benefits of preservation for all communities. Tim Samuelson, Cultural Historian, City of Chicago, Cultural Affairs & Special Events, Chicago, Illinois, addresses the second plenary session on Friday afternoon, June 5. He will present a lively discussion about the significance of modern architecture with a focus on the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and Bruce Goff.

The three concurrent tracks of sessions include:

**TRACK A: Our Architectural Legacy** - Featuring properties associated with the Phillips and other oil industry families, the designs of Frank Lloyd Wright, and resources of the recent past. Also, sessions highlight certified rehabilitations statewide and the Historic Preservation Certification Application process.

**TRACK B: Preservation Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century** - Spotlighting the work of the United Nations and its World Heritage List, the preservation work of tribal governments and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices in Oklahoma and the tribal programs of the National Park Service and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Also, other federal agencies will share information about their cultural resource management efforts.

**TRACK C: Main Streets and Neighborhoods** - Celebrating the Oklahoma Main Street Program's 30th anniversary with a look back at its accomplishments and a look ahead to the challenges and opportunities for downtown redevelopment. Additionally, sessions focus on financial and other tools for revitalizing historic neighborhoods.

In addition to dozens of Oklahoma preservationists and the plenary speakers, special guest speakers include Antonio Aguilar, Technical Preservation Services Branch, National Park Service, Washington, D. C.; James Bird, Chief, Tribal Preservation Program, National Park Service, Washington, D. C.; Julie Fitzpatrick, Assistant Director/ Special Projects Coordinator, Pennsylvania Downtown Center, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Valerie Hauser, Director, Office of Native American Affairs, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington, D. C.; Susan Allen Kline, Independent Historic Preservation Consultant, Fort Worth, Texas; George C. Papagiannis, External Relations and Information, UNESCO, New York, New York; and Joe Watkins, Supervisory Anthropologist and Chief, Tribal Relations and American Cultures, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.

Special events include the opening reception; local tours; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.'s annual meeting and luncheon; and the State Historic Preservation Office's annual awards banquet.

Conference cosponsors include Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office; Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Oklahoma Main Street Center; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; Downtown Bartlesville Inc.; Bartlesville Area History Museum; Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce; Bartlesville Visitors Bureau; Bartlesville Redevelopment Trust Authority; City of Bartlesville; Price Tower Arts Center; and Washington County Historical Society.

Full conference program and registration information will be available in late April. Follow conference developments at:

<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm>;

<http://www.facebook.com/okshpo>;

<http://www.twitter.com/okshpo>;

<http://www.okpreservationconference.wordpress.com>.

If you may have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO (405/522-4484 or [mheisch@okhistory.org](mailto:mheisch@okhistory.org)) or Chris Wilson, Director, Downtown Bartlesville, Inc. at 918/214-8500 or [cwilson@downtownbartlesvilleinc.org](mailto:cwilson@downtownbartlesvilleinc.org).



## *For the Next One Hundred Years*

*Photo: Geoffrey Parks*

On the morning of February 22, 1904, members of Oklahoma City's Chafing Dish Club began their journey northward to attend one of their meetings. This meeting was different, however, as it was scheduled to take place in a stately new home located on the outskirts of the city—a home described at the time as a “triumph of architectural grandeur and beauty.” Welcoming those members were the home's owners, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Overholser.

For the past six years, Preservation Oklahoma has overseen the restoration of the Overholser Mansion's exterior to its original appearance. The project began in 2008 thanks to a \$250,000 donation from Devon Energy. Large gifts soon followed from Leslie & Cliff Hudson, the Insamuch Foundation, and Chesapeake Energy and nearly \$700,000 was raised for the project. Bill Gumerson, former POK President, donated his services as the Restoration Chair, and Mike Kertok served as the architect.

The restoration began with the repair of the mansion's historic windows. The next phase featured repairs to the roof and the chimney caps. Next, paint that had been added in the 1970s was removed from the sandstone of the mansion's exterior.



*Overholser Mansion, 2007.  
Notice the brown paint on the sandstone. This was removed during the restoration. (Photo:POK)*

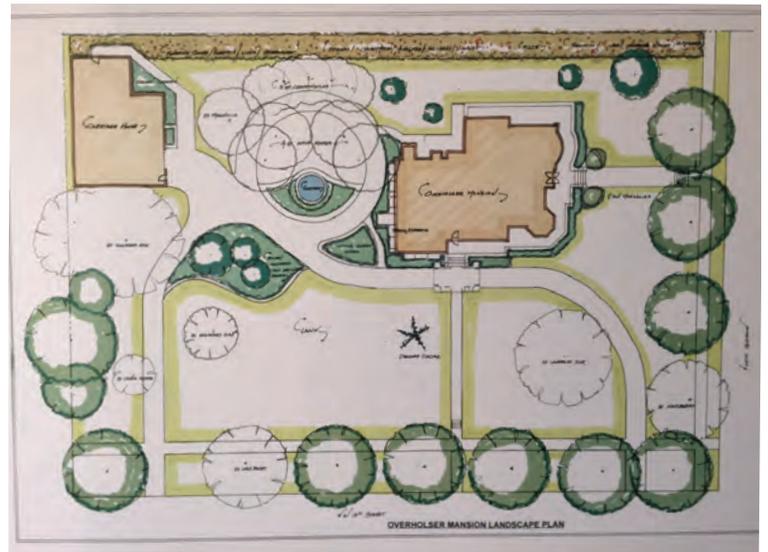
The sandstone was then sealed and repaired. The final phase, the repair and replacement of the mansion's porches, was completed in September.

On October 7, 2014, Preservation Oklahoma held a reception recognizing this achievement and thanked the donors who made it all possible. That evening, Preservation Oklahoma also announced the next phase of the mansion's exterior restoration efforts, the implementation of a historically accurate landscape. This plan will reflect the historic nature of the home as well as its important part of the Heritage Hills neighborhood. Reflecting the time period of 1904-1934, the new landscaping will also serve as an education opportunity as visitors will learn more about the types of plants and trees used when Oklahoma City was being established. Funding for the landscaping has been generously provided by the Heritage Hills Associate Board as well as a grant from the Oklahoma City Community Foundation and its Margaret Annis Boys Trust.

Since 2003, Preservation Oklahoma has been proud to be the official caretaker of this Oklahoma City treasure. Today, thanks to the generosity of numerous individuals, corporations, and foundations, visitors to the Overholser Mansion can see it through the eyes of those that visited it for the first time over 110 years ago. More importantly, these efforts have ensured that the mansion can be enjoyed and can educate visitors for the next hundred years and beyond.



*Restoration of the sandstone. (Photo:POK)*



*Overholser Mansion historic landscape plan. (Photo: POK)*

*Presenation of the donor plaque at the Overholser Restoration Reception. From left to right: Mick Cornett, Mayor, Oklahoma City; John Richels, Chief Executive Officer, Devon Energy; Brannyn McDougal, Vice-President, POK Board of Directors; David Pettyjohn, POK Executive Director; Leslie Hudson; Bill Gumerson; Cliff Hudson; Dr. Bob Blackburn, Executive Director, Oklahoma Historical Society. (photo: Sierra George)*





Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.  
The Henry Overholser Mansion  
405 NW 15th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73103

405.525.5325  
www.preservationok.org

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Permit No. 2579

Change Service  
Requested

## Help POK Preserve Oklahoma's Historic Treasures!

By becoming a member of Preservation Oklahoma, a 501(c)3 organization, you are demonstrating your commitment to historic preservation in our state and your willingness to get involved in the critical issues of preserving Oklahoma's heritage for future generations. Each member increases the strength, power, and presence in advocacy efforts at the local, state, and national level. Your membership is greatly appreciated and is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

### Membership Benefits

In addition to being a part of Oklahoma's preservation community, members of Preservation Oklahoma receive newsletters and email updates on preservation news and issues, invitations to members-only events, free admission to tours and programming throughout the year, and much more!

### Membership Levels:

Sod House:	\$25 Individual	\$75 Family
Bungalow:	\$100 Individual	\$300 Family
Victorian Mansion:	\$500 Individual	\$1,500 Family

Corporate, Institution, and Senior/Student Levels are also available.

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!