

PRESERVATION OKLAHOMA NEWS

A joint project of the State Historic Preservation Office and Preservation Oklahoma



July 2009 Volume XV, No 4

Statewide Preservation Conference and Preservation Oklahoma's Annual Meeting

By Kay Decker, President of the Board of Directors, POK

The Annual Statewide Preservation Conference was held June 3-5 at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center with 424 in attendance. The number of attendees at this year's conference was the largest to date. Sessions were held throughout the three day event which covered such topics as Rural Cemeteries, National Register Nomination Processes, Façade Improvements on Main Street, Agritourism, Using Historic Buildings as Museums, Federal and State Tax Credits for Preservation, Cultural Resource Management Practices, and many others. Tours to the surrounding communities of Mangum, Hobart, Altus and Sayre were also available to participants. The Annual SHPO Awards Banquet was held in which sixteen Citations of Merit were given for preservation efforts across the state. The

featured keynote speakers during the conference were Reid Nelson, Director of Federal Agency Programs from the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, who presented the keynote at the opening reception and Dr. Ken Culp III, Volunteerism Specialist for 4-H Youth Development, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Kentucky, who presented at the Annual Preservation Oklahoma Luncheon Meeting. Conference co-sponsors were: State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., Main Street Altus, Hobart Main Street, Inc., Mangum Main Street Program, Sayre Main Street Program, Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center, and the Southern Prairie Library System.

Preservation Oklahoma held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon on June 4th in conjunction with the Statewide Preservation Conference at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center. Over 65 attended the luncheon and Dr. Ken Culp III was the featured speaker. Dr. Culp's presentation titled "Multi-Generational Volunteers" focused on how organizations can best meet the expectations of volunteers from the different generational cohorts in the United States today. The Preservation Champion Awards were given to Honorable Kathy Taylor, Mayor of Tulsa for her support of the National Preservation Conference which was held in Tulsa last fall, Honorable Maxine Thomason of Mangum for her continuing support of downtown revitalization efforts and the Main

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Preservation Champions 2009 Recognized by Preservation Oklahoma

Photos credited to Lisa Melchior and Ken Kelsey



Top Row, Left to right:

Ann Thompson, POK Board Secretary and Marva Ellard
(Preservation Champion Award Winner)

Ann Thompson, POK Board Secretary and Sandie Olson
(Preservation Champion Award Winner)

Ann Thompson, POK Board Secretary and Kim Reeve
(Preservation Champion Award Winner)

Bottom Row, Left to right:

Ann Thompson and Maxine Thomason
(Preservation Champion Award)

Ann Thompson and Lisa Melchior (Preservation Champion
Award for Saline Preservation Association)

SHPO Recognizes Oklahoma Preservationists

On Thursday, June 4th, the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office presented its 2009 Citations of Merit at the awards banquet held during Oklahoma's 21st Annual Statewide Preservation Conference at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center.

Government agencies, organizations, firms, and individuals were recognized for their accomplishments in the areas of archeological site preservation, research, publications, public programming, leadership, and restoration/rehabilitation work. The honorees included:

Jim and Charlotte Murphy

In January 2007, the Judge Harry L. Fogg Residence on South Hoff in El Reno was included on Preservation Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places list, and the Classical Revival style house was vacant, for sale, and rapidly deteriorating. But then, Jim and Charlotte Murphy purchased the house. Armed with a personal connection to the house (Ms. Murphy is the Fogg's granddaughter) and many historic photographs, the Murphys carried out the rehabilitation work needed to save the National Register-listed property.

Kenwood Historic District Neighborhood Association

The SHPO recognized Enid's Kenwood Historic District Neighborhood Association for sponsoring Kenwood Golden Days 2008 Festival with activities conducted in the district and throughout Enid during Cherokee Strip Days. The festival was designed to inform others about Kenwood Historic District's rich history and architecture. Since the festival, Kenwood residents often see visitors driving through the district to see the outstanding collection of historic houses. Today the entire community is more aware of Kenwood's history and how it helps tell the city's story.

General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute and Museum

The General Tommy Franks Leadership Institute & Museum received the Citation of Merit for the adaptive reuse of Hobart's 1933 Farmers Co-op Association Building. Planters Coop Association, owners of the building located on Main Street, donated the property to the City of Hobart, and the City then made it available to the Institute. Since the project began in the summer of 2007, about \$187,000 has been spent on the

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Statewide Preservation Conference and Preservation Oklahoma's Annual Meeting

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Street Program, Sandie Olson for the Waynoka Depot and Harvey House Restoration Project, Marva Ellard for the Sieber Hotel Restoration Project, Kim Reeve for the TulOil Building Restoration Project, and the Saline Preservation Association for the Cherokee Nation Court House Restoration Project.

New members of the Board of Directors were named for Preservation Oklahoma. They are: Susan Atkinson, Norman; Bret Carter, Ponca City; and Herb Fritz, Tulsa. They join Dr. Kay Decker, Freedom and Alva; Lisa Melchior, Pryor; Ann Thompson, Oklahoma City; Suzette Hatfield, Oklahoma City; Katie Altshuler, Oklahoma City; Ken Kelsey, Ringwood; and Dr. John Feaver, Chickasha, as Board of Directors for the coming year. Dr. Cathy Ambler, Tulsa, was recognized for her six years of service to the Board of Directors for Preservation Oklahoma.

Upcoming events for Preservation Oklahoma can be found on the organizational website: www.preservationok.org and all paid members will receive a Preservation Products and Services Directory by mail in October.

For more information about POK programs, services, or preservation planning grants, please contact the office at 405-525-5325 or email at preservationok@preservationok.org.

If you would like to receive email notices regarding preservation related grants, workshops and upcoming events, please forward your email address to: preservationok@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.

Editor **Melvina Heisch**
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Oklahoma Historical Society
2401 N. Laird Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
405/522-4484
www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm

All correspondence should be directed to:

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
The Henry Overholser Mansion
405 N.W. 15th Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103
Email: preservationok@preservationok.org
Phone: 405/525-5325

Lisa Escalon
Museum Coordinator

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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

Omnibus Public Land Management Bill Good News for Oklahoma Preservationists

John L. Nau, III, Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and Richard Moe, President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, recently hailed President Barack Obama's signing of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (H.R.146/S.22) into law.

The two national historic preservation organizations (respectively the independent federal agency that advises the President and Congress on historic preservation issues and the nation's leading preservation membership nonprofit) have long supported permanent legislative authorization of the Save America's Treasures and *Preserve America* grant programs. The omnibus bill that incorporates the authorization of these two complementary programs contains numerous measures important to natural, cultural, and historic resource preservation constituencies.

"This legislation permanently authorizes these two important programs that provide American citizens in communities across the country with the means to use and save their historic places that tell their part of the American story," Nau said. "In doing so, they make powerful economic, environmental and cultural contributions to communities and the nation."

"America's cultural and historic resources help define us as a nation, and their preservation benefits all of us," said Richard Moe. "Permanent authorization of Save America's Treasures and *Preserve America* is a necessary step in the ability to continue telling America's remarkable and diverse story – the U.S. Congress and the President are to be commended for their support."

Save America's Treasures grants, established during the administration of Bill Clinton and championed by then-First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, provide essential funding

for restoration and preservation work on nationally significant historic structures and objects. Two important Oklahoma projects supported through SAT grants include restoration of decorative plaster ceilings in the E. W. Marland Mansion, located in Ponca City, and rehabilitation of buildings in the Fort Reno Historic District, located near El Reno.

The *Preserve America* program, which includes a grant program, was established during the administration of George W. Bush when Mrs. Laura Bush served as honorary chair for both initiatives. *Preserve America* Communities in Oklahoma include Ardmore, Durant, Enid, Newkirk, Oklahoma City, Ponca City, Shawnee, and Tulsa; and Muskogee's application for the recognition is pending in Washington, D. C.

The *Preserve America* grant program provides matching funding for educational, marketing, planning and related historic interpretation and heritage tourism efforts.

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office received a grant from the program in October 2008, to support its partnership efforts with Oklahoma State University's Department of Geography to digitize locational information for properties included in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI).

The National Park Service administers both the Save America's Treasures and *Preserve America* grants. The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a strong non-governmental proponent of both grant programs and the principal private partner to Save America's Treasures. The Save America's Treasures grants function in coordination with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The *Preserve America* grant program functions in coordination with the ACHP.

In addition to authorization of *Preserve America* and SAT, the Omnibus bill included a provision reauthorizing the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program. Originally authorized in 1999 and administered by the National Park Service's National Long Distance Trails Office, the Route 66 program was scheduled to sunset on September 30, 2009. However, the bill reauthorized this important program for another ten years. This is especially good news for Oklahoma preservationists and the state's heritage tourism industry. The NPS collaborates with private property owners; non-profit organizations; and local, state, federal, and tribal governments to identify, prioritize, and address Route 66 preservation needs. It provides cost-share grants to successful applicants for the preservation and restoration of the most significant and representative properties dating from the Route's period of significance, 1926 through 1970. Cost-share grants are also provided for the full range of historic preservation activities.

The grant support from this program assisted the Oklahoma SHPO in its ongoing efforts to record Route 66 resources and nominate them to the National Register of Historic Places, and the grants have fostered many other projects along Oklahoma's segment of the historic highway, including rehabilitation of Tulsa's Meadow Gold Sign, which was officially re-installed and unveiled to the public on May 22nd.

For more information on *Preserve America*, visit www.preserveamerica.gov. For more information on Save America's Treasures, see www.nps.gov/history/hps/treasures/. For more information on the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program, visit <http://www.cr.nps.gov/rt66>.

Subscribe to the Oklahoma SHPO's Listserve

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office invites you to subscribe to its listserv. Get the latest information on a wide range of topics such as availability of grants and share information about your preservation efforts. To subscribe just go to <http://lists.onenet.net/mailman/listinfo/okshpo>

for step-by-step instructions for subscribing and using the listserv.

Anyone can post a message to the listserv whether or not they are a subscriber. Just send a regular e-mail message to okshpo@lists.onenet.net. That's all there is to it,

and your message reaches everyone on the list. Please remember that you cannot send attachments with your message.

The OKSHPO listserv is an easy way to publicize your preservation-related events. Join us.

Hidden Treasure in Tulsa's Pearl District

by Krista Brown

TulOil Building—An Urban Treasure

The TulOil Building in Tulsa was nothing but an empty building with overgrown weeds a few years ago. However, BKL, Inc. Architecture and Engineering firm owners, George Rochelle, Stacy Loeffler and Kim Reeve saw something else: their firm's future office.

BKL is one of many businesses around the United States who are "recycling" older buildings, also known as "adaptive-reuse". In an era where going green is high priority, discovering new uses for old buildings is proving to yield benefits for owners, developers and communities. On June 4, 2009, Preservation Oklahoma awarded BKL with an Urban Private Sector award for revitalizing the 6th Street TulOil Building at Oklahoma's 21st Annual Preservation Conference. Cathy Ambler, a preservation consultant who just completed her second term on Preservation Oklahoma's board maintains a running mental list of the area's "endangered places" and TulOil was one of the most prominent. "The TulOil Building, to my knowledge is the only small independent oil company building left in Tulsa and I had hoped the building would not be torn down. It's a favorite place of mine," said Ambler.

Historical, Sustainable and Sleek

The adaptive-reuse of the TulOil warehouse into office space

achieved three main objectives: to effectively use space for the firm's daily operation for its 18 employees, make the building more energy efficient and preserve the historical integrity of the building wherever possible. Initial steps included adding a 2,900 square feet mezzanine floor and a glass lobby which connected the warehouse and office building. Although not a LEED certified building, it is a sustainable project by utilizing the current structure, installing efficient heating and air conditioning, energy efficient lighting, skylights for daylight and insulating the roof. Very little drywall was added to create individual rooms; instead the floor plan utilizes a large open area with workstations. BKL's stance on the historic aspect of this 1923 building was to try not to "cover it up or mess it up." For example, the interior brickwork was lightly power washed to remove loose paint, then received a coat of clear sealer. Original "riveted" steel trusses were left exposed and unpainted ductwork was suspended between them. Also, several steel truck dock doors became dividing partitions in the interior mezzanine office space. "It took a lot longer than we thought, but it was well worth it. Working here makes an immense difference to me. I'm excited to walk into work every day," says Reeve. Today, the TulOil building lives on in Tulsa's Pearl District serving a different purpose than originally designed, but providing plenty of space for the architectural and engineering firm which saw through the overgrown weeds and boarded windows.

SHPO Recognizes Oklahoma Preservationists

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rehabilitation work and over 10,000 volunteer hours donated to the effort. Fittingly, the museum opened on Veterans' Day 2008.

Muskogee Historic Preservation Commission

The SHPO recognized the Muskogee Historic Preservation Commission for publication of *Traces of Muskogee's Past*, a four-color brochure, which highlights the city's National Register properties and locally designated landmarks. The Commission completed the brochure with one of the City's matching grants from the SHPO's Certified Local Governments Program.

Donald and Shirley Marquardt

Donald and Shirley Marquardt received the Citation of Merit for their preservation of Enid's historic McCristy-Knox Mansion. The mansion was built by Joseph McCristy, president of Enid Mill and Elevator Company, and was later owned by oilman Charles Knox. The National Register listed house sat vacant from 1979 until the Marquardts purchased it in 1995 while they were still living in Texas. They moved to Enid in 1999 and began their rehabilitation of this Enid landmark. Their work was completed last summer when the second story porch rails were reinstalled.

Jerry Worster

For the last few years, Mr. Worster has focused his real estate development efforts on the buildings at 2500-2522 North Robinson in Oklahoma City, apartments known as Brentwood Terrace. His careful, hands-on approach to the rehabilitation work, including repair of the exterior windows, entrance doors, and interior features all the way down to details of the bathroom tile, resulted in certification of the rehabilitation for federal and state tax credits. The project demonstrates that a comfortable, modern living space can result from meeting the spirit of the Secretary's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Ron Willfong

Ron Willfong, manager of Enid's Gaslight Theatre, received the Citation of Merit for his research on an Enid landmark. In preparation for celebration of the Enid Community Theatre, Inc.'s fortieth anniversary, Mr. Willfong carried out an extensive research project to document the history of the Gaslight Theatre building, and his work culminated in production of a DVD entitled *"A Palace on the Prairie: A Movie Palace, That Is!"*. After several changes in ownership and several years of disuse, the theater reopened in 1991 as the Gaslight Theatre. The community theatre group now presents nine productions each year in the rehabilitated building.

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Film Exchange Row LLC and J3 Architecture

Since The Film Exchange Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2007, the two-block area of downtown Oklahoma City has been the subject of a multi-building redevelopment. Film Exchange Row LLC with J3 Architecture has successfully undertaken the certified rehabilitations of 624 West Sheridan (United Artists Building); 628 West Sheridan (Oklahoma Theatre Supply); and 700 and 704 West Sheridan (Film Exchange Buildings) in what may become the largest certified rehabilitation of multiple historic buildings in the Oklahoma tax credit program's history.

Partners for *Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation in Oklahoma*

The SHPO thanks Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; the City of Oklahoma City; the National Trust for Historic Preservation; the Kirkpatrick Family Fund; Chesapeake Energy; and Julie Bott Miner, in honor of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Miner, for providing financial support necessary to complete *Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation*. The SHPO believes that the study offers community leaders in the public and private sectors the data they have long needed to support improvements in public policy that will not only stimulate our economy, but will result in improved preservation of our heritage assets. The study was completed by The Center for Urban Policy research, Rutgers University and made available to the public in January 2009.

Tonkawa Historical Society

The SHPO honored the Tonkawa Historical Society for its outstanding efforts to preserve an important local landmark. In 2007 the Society received the 1890s Tonkawa Depot through a donation. For decades the depot was used only for storage, and it became a local eyesore that was greatly in need of paint and repairs. The Society proposed their new acquisition for Preservation Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Places List, and when POK included the depot on the list, it stimulated local support for the Society's restoration effort. Within a year, the brick platforms had been cleared of dirt and weeds, wire mesh was removed from the windows and glass replaced, a new roof installed, and the building repainted.

Partners for the National Preservation Conference

The SHPO was pleased to present the Citation of Merit to the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture, Tulsa Preservation Commission, and Tulsa Convention and Visitors Bureau for their leadership in bringing the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 2008 conference to Tulsa and for helping to insure its success. The week of October 20-25, 2008 saw over 1,500 people from across the nation and from several foreign countries come together to share experiences in the preservation of the nation's heritage. While there were many who contributed their time and resources to make the event possible, there are always those that stand out in such an undertaking, as these three organizations do.

Waynoka Historical Society

The Waynoka Historical Society received the award for its rehabilitation of the Santa Fe Depot's Harvey House and for exterior work on the passenger depot. The Harvey House

was completed in 2000 with an Oklahoma Department of Transportation enhancements program grant. The Harvey House project has made a significant impact on Waynoka's economy. El Charro Restaurant occupies the original dining rooms and kitchen areas. The original News and Cigar Stand now function as the Waynoka Air Rail Museum Gift Shop. An elevator takes visitors to the museum on the second floor. Funding from the Oklahoma Centennial Commission facilitated the museums' development and other work.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Rectory

The church and rectory were constructed in 1908-1909 and were listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Through the years, the resident priest often lived in a Rectory located elsewhere. Due to a lack of financial resources, the exterior of the rectory had severely deteriorated. Paint peeled, wood rotted, and one of the original chimneys leaned dangerously. In the summer of 2007, after a SHPO staff site visit, the newly formed Parish Building Committee and Father Richard Cristler made the decision to rehabilitate the exterior of the house. The rehabilitation of the Rectory is a great source of pride to the people of Sacred Heart Parish and the town of Wilburton. The award nomination form stated, "It stands as a symbol of our continuous commitment to our history and the buildings that represent it."

Sieber Holdings LLC

Sieber Holdings LLC, led by Marva Ellard, was commended for the rehabilitation of the Sieber Apartment Hotel, located in Oklahoma City's mid-town. The re-opening of the Sieber in 2008 culminated a decade long effort to save the historic property from possible demolition. Leasing of the upper floors' residential units has begun and tenant designs for the first floor commercial spaces are underway.

Local Cosponsors of *Artfully Done: Oklahoma's 20th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference*

The SHPO acknowledged Ponca City Main Street; the City of Ponca City; the Ponca City Park and Recreation Department; the Ponca City Chamber of Commerce/Ponca City Tourism Department; the Ponca City Historic Preservation Advisory Panel; and Newkirk Main Street for cosponsoring the 2008 statewide preservation conference. Participants enjoyed sessions on a wide range of preservation issues, and learned about Ponca City's rich heritage through tours to the Marland Mansion, the Lew Wentz Camp, the downtown commercial district, and much more. The bus tour to Chilocco Indian Boarding School was a conference highlight. Without local partners, the annual conference would not be possible.

City of Okmulgee

The City of Okmulgee received recognition for production of "*Preserving the Past, Preparing for the Future*". With its annual Certified Local Governments fund grant from the SHPO, the City and its historic preservation commission developed the script and produced this fifteen-minute video through a contract with Swearingen Communications. The video shares a brief history of Okmulgee, highlights its architecture and its preservation, and discusses the legal, financial, and other tools critical to Okmulgee's successful downtown revitalization program.

SHPO Seeks Public Input for FY 2010 Program

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will hold a public meeting at 10:30 am, on Friday, September 11, 2009, in the Oklahoma History Center Classroom, 2401 N. Laird Avenue (just northeast of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City, to provide information about the statewide preservation program and to receive public input for development of the Fiscal Year 2010 Historic Preservation Fund application. The SHPO expects to receive approximately \$750,000 from the U.S. Department of the Interior's FY 2010 Historic Preservation Fund to carry out its programs and operations. Ten percent of the award is reserved for pass-through grants to Certified Local Governments (CLGs).

Under the National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO has responsibility for administration of the federal historic preservation program in Oklahoma. In brief, the purpose of the program is to encourage preservation of the state's archeological and historic resources for

everyone's benefit. Specific activities directed toward this goal include identification of properties important in history, architecture, culture, and archeology; evaluation and registration of significant properties; formal review of federal and federally assisted projects that could affect archeological and historic resources; development and implementation of the statewide historic preservation plan; administration of the CLG program; administration of the federal and state investment tax credits program for certified historic structures; and public outreach activities.

Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan (2005) [available from the SHPO or at www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm] sets forth the goals and objectives for historic preservation efforts in the state, including the SHPO's programs listed above. The SHPO's priorities for addressing the State Plan's

goals are continuation of the archeological and historic/architectural resources survey program to document property types under-represented in the state's inventory and to extend survey coverage to previously unstudied areas, preparation of nominations for the National Register of Historic Places, and provision of public outreach and technical assistance programs. Your comments will help the SHPO determine its specific projects and activities for FY 2010 to address these priorities.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, your written comments and suggestions are welcome. You may complete the SHPO's "Project Suggestion Form" and return it by 5:00 pm, Friday, September 11, 2009. Just call the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or send an e-mail message to Betty Harris at bharris@okhistory.org to have the form sent to you. You may also obtain it at www.okhistory.org/shpo/events.htm.

Preservation Champions 2009 Recognized by Preservation Oklahoma



Mangum Mayor Maxine Thomason (Preservation Champion Award Winner), Carol King of the Waynoka Historical Society



Left to right: Bret Carter-POK Board member; Lisa Escalon, Overholser Mansion Coordinator for POK; Lisa Melchior-POK Board member at the Preservation Oklahoma Annual Meeting and Luncheon



Ann Thompson, Kathy Dickson-OHS, Dr. Kay Decker assisting with the Annual Meeting Registration
Photos credited to Lisa Melchior and Ken Kelsey

Oklahoma Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office

2009/2010 Calendar of Events

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, is pleased to present its 2009/2010 series of special events. The location of each event or series is given below, and there are no registration fees unless noted. If you have questions, call 405/521-6249 or visit www.okhistory.org/shpo/events.htm. Note: If you have a disability and need an accommodation, please call 405/522-4484 at least two (2) days before the event.

NOTE TO ARCHITECTS: Registered architects will earn American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System (AIA/CES) Learning Unit Hours (LU Hours) for attending these programs. Contact your local AIA chapter to self-report your attendance. The SHPO will mail certificates of attendance after each event.

SEPTEMBER 2009

**11: Public Meeting for the SHPO's
FY 2010 Historic Preservation Fund
Grant Application (10:30am)**

Location: Oklahoma History Center
Classroom, 2401 N. Laird (immediately
northeast of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City

DECEMBER 2009

**9: Federal and State Tax Incentives
for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings
(9:30am-12:00noon)**

**9: The Secretary's Standards and
Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic
Buildings (1:30pm - 4:30pm)**

**10: The Section 106 Review Process:
A Workshop for Agency Officials
and Cultural Resource Management
Consultants (9:30am - 4:30pm)**

**11: Working with the National Register
of Historic Places (9:30am - 4:30pm)**

Location: Oklahoma History Center
Classroom, 2401 N. Laird (immediately
northeast of the State Capitol), Oklahoma City

MAY 2010

**12: The Section 106 Review Process:
Introduction and Overview
(9:30am - 12:00pm)**

**12: Determination of Eligibility under
Section 106 (1:30pm - 5:00pm)**

**13: Working with the National Register
of Historic Places (9:30am - 5:00pm)**

**14: Federal and State Tax Incentives
for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings
(9:30am - 12:00pm)**

**14: The Secretary's Standards and
Guidelines for Rehabilitating
Historic Buildings (1:30pm - 5:00pm)**

Location: Muskogee Civic Center (Room
AB), 425 Boston Avenue, Muskogee

JUNE 2010

**9-11: Oklahoma's 22nd Annual Statewide
Preservation Conference, Okmulgee**
Details available late April at www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm /Registration Fee

Preservation Oklahoma Announces New Community Partnership Program and Community Leadership in History Program

Preservation Oklahoma's new "Community Partnership Program" is now available for communities, local museums, historical societies, or preservation groups to access assistance from POK staff and board members to develop local tours or lectures which highlight historic structures, landscapes or districts. This program is the direct result of the Strategic Planning session which POK performed this past spring. The planning process helped POK board and staff in developing a revitalized mission and identifying significant and necessary goals which will further support preservation efforts across the state. The Community Partnership Program provides guidance to local groups who wish to sponsor a "This Place Matters Tour or Lecture". POK staff and board members will work with local groups to formulate their tour or lecture, develop and distribute press releases, develop the program for the event, and provide on-site guidance to community members on the day of the program. Local community groups provide volunteers to facilitate the tour or lecture and proceeds are then allocated to the community group to further their needs in their communities.

Earlier this past spring, POK also developed and piloted a "Community Leaders in History Program". The "Community Leaders in History Program" encourages community members to meet with POK staff or board members for training about those key ingredients to successful preservation and community revitalization projects which focus on the unique cultural heritage of the community. Community leadership is further developed and participants who complete the program will exhibit knowledge of preservation and its impact on community progress while also gaining hands-on knowledge of the various state and federal programs which can assist communities with revitalization strategies.

For both programs, individuals are encouraged to contact the Preservation Oklahoma office at 405-525-5325 or email at preservationok@preservationok.org. Scheduling of tours and lectures is underway currently for the upcoming fiscal year.

New Oklahoma National Register Listings

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce the newest National Register of Historic Places listings since December 2008.

The National Register of Historic Places is our nation's official list of properties significant in our past. The newest listings from Oklahoma include modern architectural styled schools, Lustron Houses, bridges, grain elevators in Enid, commercial buildings and Post Offices.

Four schools in Blackwell, Kay County were recognized for their association with mid-twentieth century improvements in educational facilities and as excellent examples of mid-twentieth century Modern architecture. The schools were designed by the firm of Caudill, Rowlett, Scott and Associates. Collectively, they were constructed between 1955 and 1959. These

schools include: Northside, Parkside, Washington and Huston Elementary Schools. Cynthia Savage prepared the nominations on behalf of Preservation Oklahoma. The schools were placed on the Most Endangered Places in Oklahoma in April of 2007.

Because of its low-maintenance materials and its modern styling, the Lustron House attracted significant attention from the government, the public, and the media as an attractive and affordable solution to the post-World War II housing crisis. Unlike its prefabricated predecessors, the modern conveniences and more traditional architectural styling of the Lustron allowed it to achieve marketplace success far beyond that of earlier metal prefabs. This single story rectangular home featured a low-pitched gabled roof and a recessed front

porch, similar to that of other traditional homes of the period. Ahead of its time in terms of design, the plan for this 1,000 square foot home emphasized openness and utilized built-ins to maximize space in almost every room. It featured an exterior and interior skin of enameled steel panels bolted to a structural steel frame and a concrete slab foundation. The three newly listed Lustron Houses include: the Josephine Reifsnnyder Lustron House in Stillwater, the Christian K. Usher Lustron House in Cushing and the Lustron House at 1554 SW Rogers in Bartlesville. The nominations were prepared by Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office staff.

The Little Cabin Creek Bridge located in the Vinita Vicinity of Craig County, is significant in its association with

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Enid Terminal Elevators

Preservation Oklahoma Encourages Use of Planning Grants for Historic Preservation Projects

Preservation Oklahoma is pleased to announce its support of the Kirkpatrick Foundation Preservation Fund's planning grants for historic preservation projects located in Central Oklahoma. The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Southwest Field Office has announced the availability of the Kirkpatrick Foundation Preservation Fund for matching seed grants which support historic preservation projects. Historic property owners or developers may apply for funding assistance to support engineering and architectural plans for projects which are located in the Central Oklahoma region. Southwest Field

Office staff will provide technical assistance to help recipients gain valuable experience and build their capacity to take on historic preservation projects.

The PlanFirst program for historic preservation projects continues to provide financial assistance to property owners and developers as well. POK has partnered with BancFirst since 2006 to provide financial assistance for architectural or engineering planning, feasibility planning, or other necessary work associated with historic preservation projects. Prospective applicants are asked to contact the POK

office and visit with staff about the overall scope of their project. The grant application is located on the POK website and can be submitted online. Grants are awarded to projects which involve historic structures or landscapes. Applicants are encouraged to speak with POK staff before starting work on the project so that appropriate technical assistance can be made available.

For more information about either the Kirkpatrick Preservation Fund or the PlanFirst Program, please contact the POK office at 405-525-5325 or email preservationok@preservationok.org

Cultural and Natural Resources: An Integrated Management Strategy

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce that the National Preservation Institute (NPI) will present its three-day seminar entitled "Cultural and Natural Resources: An Integrated Management Strategy" in Oklahoma City on November 17-19, 2009 in the Classroom, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 North Laird Avenue.

Explore a holistic stewardship approach to an integrated management strategy for cultural and natural resources on public and private lands. These resources often are analyzed and planned for independently, leading to isolated approaches. Through case studies, discuss and evaluate long-term planning and decision making processes that combine legal and management frameworks to better conserve and preserve the core values of these resources. An agenda is available online at www.npi.org.

The seminar instructor will be Claudia Nissley, President, Nissley Environmental Consultants. She is a specialist in Section 106; analysis of historic and cultural values; and programmatic agreements. Additionally, she served as the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Officer and Director, Western Office, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The NPI is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization offering specialized information, continuing education, and professional training to those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. The SHPO will serve as the cooperating organization with NPI to present this special seminar in Oklahoma.

For the seminar registration form go to www.npi.org/register.html. The advance registration rate is valid until October 6 (\$25.00 for the 3

days). The regular registration rate applies after that date (\$75.00).

American Institute of Architects members will receive 6 learning units each day for designated NPI seminars that meet the criteria for programs in the American Institute of Architects Continuing Education System. Consult the NPI website for further information.

If you may have questions about the cultural and natural resources seminar or other NPI programs, contact Jere Gibber, Executive Director, National Preservation Institute, P. O. Box 1702, Alexandria, VA 22313 (703/765-0100, 703/768-9350 fax, or info@npi.org; www.npi.org).

New Oklahoma National Register Listings

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historic Route 66 and as a rare Parker Pony Truss Bridge along Route 66. Opossum Creek Bridge located near South Coffeyville in Nowata County is an excellent example of stone arch bridges in Oklahoma. Constructed in 1913, it is one of only 15 remaining bridges of this type in the State. The nomination was prepared by Anna Eddings, Architectural Historian with Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

The Enid Terminal Grain Elevators Historic District is significant for its association with economics and agriculture. The elevators contributed significantly to the local economic well-being of Enid, providing not only jobs but a relatively stable industry that was connected to a variety of other businesses and industries, most notably the railroads. The grain elevators also importantly centered the state wheat market in Enid for most of the twentieth century. On an agricultural basis, the terminal grain elevators had a crucial role in moving

Oklahoma wheat to regional, national and international markets. The district also has architectural and engineering significance as a unique collection of concrete terminal elevators. Nowhere else in the state was there a grouping of terminal elevators such as that found in Enid. Cynthia Savage prepared the nomination on behalf of City of Enid.

The Atlas Life Building, located in Tulsa, is locally significant because it reflected and contributed to the commercial development of downtown Tulsa during the critical period in which the city's urban core took shape. It is also significant as a prominent structure in downtown Tulsa as a Classical Revival skyscraper. Completed in 1922, the building is most notable on the landscape of downtown Tulsa for its four story neon sign and its looming Atlas sculpture. The nomination was prepared by Cathy Ambler, Ph.D. and Michael Cassity, Ph.D. for the owners.

The Miami Downtown Historic District is locally significant for its association

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Atlas Life Building

New Director at NTHP's SWO

The National Trust for Historic Preservation's Southwest Office has a new director. On July 1st Jonathan Poston assumed his duties in the NTHP's Fort Worth office, which serves Oklahoma. We look forward to working with him and continuing the great partnership Oklahoma's preservation community enjoys with the SWO.

Jonathan brings more than 20 years experience with Historic Charleston Foundation where he led the preservation programs of the organization, including the revolving fund; conservation easements; advocacy for planning and zoning; and preparation and submission of preservation grant proposals. He also managed the

restoration and rehabilitation of houses purchased for resale, administered the Foundation's two landmark historic properties, and was the staff member for four trustee committees.

Jonathan was a Lecturer at the Clemson University/College of Charleston Joint Graduate Program in Historic Preservation. He has also taught at Mary Washington College and the College of Charleston.

Jonathan holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Richmond and an MA in Early American History, with a concentration in the Administration of Historic Sites, from the College of William and Mary. He is a member of the South

Carolina Bar. He has served on the Boards of Trustees of US/ICOMOS, Preservation Action, the Vernacular Architecture Forum, and the Palmetto Trust for Historic Preservation. He has published numerous articles, presented many lectures, and is the author of the 1997 book, *The Buildings of Charleston*, a 717-page guide to the city's architecture, now in its third printing from the University of South Carolina Press.

He joins an excellent staff of Wendy Ossoinig and Leah Brown and will build on the legacy of former director, Daniel Carey, who left to become the President and CEO of Historic Savannah Foundation. To contact members of the SWO staff, call them at 512/338-4398.

New Oklahoma National Register Listings

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with commerce in Miami, Ottawa County, Oklahoma. As the core of the central business district, the area has been the center of commercial development from the town's earliest years. The district is also significant for its architectural styling. The district represents the enclave of historic commercial architecture in the city. The buildings vary in detail but generally share a common architectural style, building material and decorative features. The nomination was prepared by Cynthia Savage for the City of Miami.

Four federally-sponsored art programs operated between 1933 and 1943 and are associated with the New Deal Era programs. They include: the Public Works of Art Project (PWAP), the Section of Painting and Sculpture (Section), the Treasury Relief Art Project (TRAP), and the WPA Federal Art Project (WPA/FAP). Five United States Post Offices were recently added to the National Register of Historic Places for their association with the Section of Painting and Sculpture. The newly listed post offices are located in Watonga, Coalgate, Madill, Hollis and Nowata. Thirty-one murals were painted in Oklahoma, of which twenty-two are still in their original location. Alyson Greiner, an Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University prepared the nominations.

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 Schwan at 405/522-4478 or email lschwan@okhistory.org.



Miami Historic Downtown



Washington School in Blackwell

Lincoln Windows in Oklahoma

By Ken Kelsey

On Saturday, May 2, 2009, Preservation Oklahoma, held its second “This Place Matters: Tours of Homes and Places” in Alva, Oklahoma. One of the highlights of the day was the opportunity to see the recently restored stained glass windows of the First United Methodist Church, located at 626 College Street. The restoration project of the original 1910 windows was difficult and time consuming, involving 73 windows and taking five years to complete; and remarkably, the challenging work was carried out by members of the congregation and community. To paraphrase the words of Rev. Terry Martindale, pastor of the church, the project deepened friendships and faith, and made it possible for future generations to enjoy the beauties of the stained glass windows.

Among the many beautiful windows, one particular set of four panels captured the interest of many of the day’s visitors. This set is known as “the Lincoln windows.” Flanked by unfurled American flags, President Abraham Lincoln stands before a writing desk and next to him is the badge of the Women’s Relief Corp, the official auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.). Directly above these four, the beautiful stained glass



First United Methodist Church of Guthrie
Photograph: courtesy of Ken Kelsey

forms a fourteen-foot wide, eight-petaled “rose” known as the G.A.R. window, memorializing that organization of Union veterans that was formed soon after the Civil War.

Why would a stained glass image of Lincoln be included in a church? Writing about these windows, Dr. Earlene Heaton Smith (2007) points out that pictures and symbols within stained glass windows are meant to remind viewers of important connections. In this case, the connection was between the Alva Methodists and the G.A.R. The imagery reminded them of the mutually important cause, the Civil War, that not only had split the Methodist Church but also had led to the creation of the Northern veterans’ organization. That cause was nobly represented by Abraham Lincoln. Interestingly, the local G.A.R. Post held its meetings in the church’s basement and paid for the G.A.R. windows. There were indeed very strong connections between the two organizations.

Of course this sort of bond was not exclusive to Alva, and neither were the stained glass images of Lincoln. Most often depicting him as the Great Emancipator, more than forty “Lincoln Windows” are known across the United States, many in Illinois and Michigan. Two other early examples exist in Oklahoma, one in Oklahoma City and the other in Guthrie.

Tragically, the “Lincoln Window” and the rose-shaped “G.A.R. Window” at the First United Methodist Church in Oklahoma City are now reproductions. The 1904 originals were destroyed on April 19, 1995 in the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building, which was located directly across from the church on North Robinson Avenue. After the bombing, the historic but damaged sanctuary was transformed into a fellowship hall with



First United Methodist Church of Alva, Photograph: courtesy of Ken Kelsey

the remade G.A.R. window as a focal feature. The “Lincoln Window” at First United Methodist Church in Guthrie remains arrestingly beautiful. Surrounded by a decorative frame of podium, columns, and architrave, the lifelike Lincoln stares thoughtfully at the document in his left hand. The window memorializes the local Post of the G.A.R. This window joins three others in an alcove off the main sanctuary that Pastor Mike DeMoss states could be used for overflow attendance. The other three windows also memorialize important figures and movements, including John Wesley, the Women’s Christian Temperance Union, and a local Lodge of the Odd Fellows. Clearly, connections to community values and organizations were a meaningful aspect of the imagery of early 20th century United Methodist Churches.

These three Oklahoma churches offer a fine opportunity to see art, history, and community combined to form powerful documents of our past.

- Alva, First United Methodist Church, 626 College Street, 1910, St. Joseph Art Glass Company
- Guthrie, First United Methodist Church, 224 E. Noble, 1909, Ford Brothers Glass Company
- Oklahoma City, First United Methodist Church, 131 NW 4th Street, 1904, Jacoby Art Glass Company

Smith, Earlene Heaton (2007). *Behold the beauties: The stained glass windows, First United Methodist Church, Alva, Oklahoma 1910-2007*. Norman, Oklahoma, Transcript Press.

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**"This Place Matters:
Burnham Dig Findings Exhibit and Lecture"
at the Freedom Museum, Freedom, Oklahoma.
2:00 p.m. Open to the Public.**

Event co-sponsored by the Freedom Museum and Preservation Oklahoma.

September 12, 2009

**"This Place Matters Tour"
Hobart, Oklahoma from 1:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Open to the Public.**

Event co-sponsored by Hobart Main Street and Preservation Oklahoma.

October 8, 2009

**"Germans from Russia: A Lasting Influence
on Great Plains Communities."**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
Cultural Heritage Lecture Series.

7:00 p.m. Open to the Public.

For more information, contact Dr. Eric Schmaltz, 580-327-8526

October 24, 2009

**"This Place Matters Lecture" in Talihina
2:00 to 4:00**

Location TBA

November 17-19, 2009

**National Preservation Institute Workshop
"Cultural and Natural Resources: An Integrated Management Strategy".
Oklahoma City.**

Contact Jere Gibber at 703-765-1000 or info@npi.org for more information.

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