In January 2007, the Judge Harry L. Fogg residence was included on the list of Oklahoma’s Most Endangered Historic Places. At that time, the formerly resplendent Classical Revival style house, located on South Hoff in El Reno, faced an uncertain future. While previous owners had started remodeling the house for use apparently as a bed-and-breakfast, this work remained largely undone. Additionally, the exterior of the building was rapidly deteriorating with several of the grand Ionic porch capitals lying on the wood porch floor that was itself becoming decrepit. Contributing further to the perilous situation was that the stately three-story house was for sale with no firm prospects in the offering.

Nearly twenty years prior to this, the house was documented as part of the 1988 architectural/historic survey of El Reno and Canadian County. The survey delineated a potential National Register-eligible historic district, aptly named the Southeast El Reno Residential District, of which the house was a contributing member. The survey also noted that the Fogg House was of probable individual significance as an excellent example of the Classical Revival style and for its association with Judge Harry L. Fogg. Fogg was named the first county judge in Canadian County following Oklahoma’s statehood in 1907.

The early documentation efforts of the property facilitated the house’s placement on the 2007 Most Endangered Historic Places list, which as a fundamental qualification requires that the properties on the list also be eligible for or listed on the National Register. With the property successfully included on the Most Endangered Historic Places list, Preservation Oklahoma then sought to formalize the National Register status of the building by applying for and receiving one of the State Historic Preservation Office’s annual matching grants to hire a consultant to prepare a National Register nomination for the Fogg House. Preservation Oklahoma engaged the services of Architectural Resources and Community Heritage (ARCH) Consulting to prepare the nomination in July 2007.

The draft nomination was prepared by early 2008. As part of the nomination process, it was determined that the house was eligible for the National Register for its association with Henry Lassen, owner of the property when the house achieved its current form. The building was originally constructed as a two-story house by A.F. and Sadie A. Masterman in about 1895. Henry and Mary Lassen purchased the property in 1898 and, as indicated by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, undertook a major expansion of the house sometime between 1901 and 1904. The turn-of-the-twentieth-century work included adding the third floor and the imposing front, two-story, wraparound porch. While the major remodeling work was reportedly designed by famed Oklahoma architect Solomon Layton, modifications to the...
New NTHP Staff in SWO

Oklahoma’s preservation community looks forward to working with Leah Brown, new Program Officer in the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s (NTHP) Southwest Office in Fort Worth. In addition to other duties, she will help manage NTHP programs and field services in Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas, and she brings a strong educational background and experience to the job.

Leah is a native Texan. She attended the University of Texas in Austin and received a BA in Anthropology. She received her MFA in Historic Preservation from the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD). Before joining the Southwest Office in October, Leah worked for the National Park Service (intern in the Technical Preservation Services section) and as the African-American Programs Coordinator for the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCSHPO). Leah has a varied background that includes archaeology and work with Rosenwald Schools.

She brings real understanding of the preservation movement, experience with fieldwork, and knowledge of administering grants to the position.

For information about the NTHP’s programs and services, contact SWO at 817/332-4398 or visit www.preservationnation.org.

BancFirst Grant Awarded to Guthrie Preservation Project

BancFirst, through a partnership with Preservation Oklahoma, announced the first recipient of a PlanFirst grant. The grant awarded the First United Methodist Church of Guthrie up to $1,500 for a conditions assessment, feasibility study or master plan for a specific preservation project. Preservation Oklahoma selected the Guthrie preservation project as one of six BancFirst grants from its 47 Oklahoma banking communities. Launched in 2006, the PlanFirst pilot program awards a total of $10,000 to Oklahoma historic preservation projects.

Recognizing the importance of the initial planning phase of preservation projects, the PlanFirst grant program focuses on funding planning initiatives. Examples of eligible projects could include architectural planning documents, conditions assessments and/or fund raising plans.

PlanFirst grants make it possible for Preservation Oklahoma to support and fund projects in communities throughout Oklahoma.

“We believe the PlanFirst grant program will increase public awareness of the importance of historic preservation in Oklahoma and can make a difference in the landscape of this state,” said LaVerne Dowding, president, BancFirst Guthrie. “BancFirst has deep roots in Oklahoma and has always been loyal to the local communities we serve. What better way to give back to them than through local projects,” he added.

Applications are available on-line at www.preservationok.org in a web-based format. For more information about applying for a PlanFirst Grant, please contact Sheila K. Barnes by email at preservationok@preservationok.org or through the website at www.preservationok.org.
The Judge H.L. Fogg Residence

Continued from Page 1

house in the 1940s and later diminished the ability of the house to convey a stricter architectural significance.

Lassen was deemed a person of historic significance for his contributions to the betterment of El Reno during the period. Lassen was a prominent businessman in El Reno, being president of the Canadian Mill and Elevator, as well as served on a variety of committees and in various political positions, including that of city Mayor. One of his more enduring public projects was the construction of El Reno’s Carnegie Library which was listed on the National Register on August 29, 1980. A fire destroyed the Canadian Mill and Elevator in the 1930s, making the house the best remaining resource intimately associated with Henry Lassen in El Reno. Because the resource achieved its significance in the first decade of the twentieth century, and that the Fogg did not purchase the property until 1919, the name of the house for nomination purposes was the Henry Lassen House.

The nomination proceeded to the state’s Historic Preservation Review Committee in July 2008. Shortly before this, in a stroke of momentous fortune, the house was purchased by Jim and Charlotte Murphy. In one of those amazing small world coincidences, Mrs. Murphy is the granddaughter of Judge H. L. and Blanche Fogg. Thus, in addition to a familial attachment to the property, the Murphys were lucky enough to already possess historic photographs of the house. As the nomination made its way to Washington D.C. for consideration by the Keeper of the Register, the Murphys initiated badly needed stabilization and restoration work on the property.

The Henry Lassen House was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 4, 2008. As of late November 2008, work on the house has dramatically reversed what was an increasingly dismal sight just last year. In addition to a sorely needed paint job, all of the porch capitals have been returned to their proper location atop the tall, fluted columns and the porch floor made whole. A lamp in the window now assures passers-by of a vibrant return to life, rather than the forlorn nothingness of an empty, gutted interior.

As with all preservation projects, the local entities, in this case the Murphys, were the deciding factor in the preservation of the property. However, without the efforts to document and raise awareness of the property through programs such as the Most Endangered Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places, we as the public would not have been aware of the astounding reversal of fortune for this house, clearly another feather in the state’s preservation cap.
Documenting Oklahoma’s Archeology (Part 1)

By Charles S. Wallis (Part 2 Coming In April 2009 Issue)

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) receives an annual allocation from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) to carry out its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act. Each year the SHPO solicits input from the public and preservation professionals about activities that should be priorities under these various programs. The SHPO is especially concerned about documenting archeological and historic resources across the state, and work was recently completed on two important archeological survey efforts undertaken as a result of the SHPO’s programs.

The Oklahoma Archeological Survey (OAS), University of Oklahoma, responded to the SHPO’s Request for Proposals for these projects and provided the nonfederal matching share. The SHPO and OAS entered into an agreement for completion of this important work to learn more about types of archeological sites underrepresented in the state site files.

Each project resulted in a field survey of a set acreage, an area totaling at least four square miles (2,560 acres) and a detailed written report of findings. This report discusses the geographical region included in the survey, an overview of previously recorded archeological sites, along with a discussion of newly documented resources identified during the current fieldwork. An assessment of each archeological site documented within the project area is made. This includes reassessment of previously known sites as well as discussions of any newly discovered locations. The report includes assessments about whether sites are worthy of listing in the National Register of Historic Places based on current level of information, or in need of further investigation before an opinion of eligibility can be reached. More frequently it turns out that the resource does not warrant further work or consideration due to the site setting having undergone substantial alterations, which generally leads to severe damage of the sediments containing the archeological remains. Whenever remains are out of context, this severely limits the range and value of information that can be obtained from excavation of the site. A site without integrity is typically not eligible for listing in the National Register.

The two recently completed projects were for a survey of a series of Red Bed Canyons along the Canadian River in Ellis and Roger Mills counties and a survey along the north side of the Red River in Jefferson and Love counties.

Dr. Leland Bement, staff archeologist with the OAS, was the principle investigator for the Red Bed Canyons survey (Morgan and Bement, 2008). This survey resulted in the documentation of 27 previously unrecorded archeological sites, dating from Archaic times through the Historic Period. Most of the work for this subgrant was conducted along the north side of the Canadian River in Ellis County (2900 acres) within a tract of land that contains a series of deeply incised canyons with short drainage basins that issue directly out onto the Canadian River floodplain before flowing into the main river channel. The area selected for survey in Ellis County is also known as the Four Canyons Nature Preserve, a property owned and maintained by the Nature Conservancy.

A total of 20 sites were identified in the Nature Preserve that pre-date the presence of Euro-Americans in the area. Five later historic era sites were also recorded. The later consist of farmsteads documented by evidence of old roads worn into the landscape as well as a scatter of historic debris or artifacts that were associated with use of the area. Historic ranching activities prevail for this setting. Determining the exact date of occupation for most sites was complicated by the failure to recover diagnostic artifacts (projectile points, pottery, etc.). Absence of such on the surface was believed to be largely the result of past collecting activities.

Use of the steep canyon setting and adjacent uplands on the north side of the river prehistorically was believed to be primarily the result of local, short-term resource exploitation. No signs of more permanent habitations were documented for the area. Opportunistic recovery and use of lithics that form a mantle of gravels on the uplands was the primary evidence that past activities have taken place in the area. Recovery of certain categories of large flake tools, possibly used to dig up plant roots, also supported harvesting of local floral resources as well. The tools were generally found along the canyon interfluves where one would expect to find the types of plants being harvested. Wild onions and blue funnel lilies were suggested to be likely candidates. Yucca for fiber is another possibility.

Survey work was also conducted on the opposite side of the Canadian River in Roger Mills County (44 acres). The setting, along Flying Creek, was totally different from that of the north side. The primary focus of work on this side of the river was an area that contained a permanent spring issuing from a broad terrace setting with evidence of some of the earliest ranching operations in the region. Not unexpected, the area of the spring also contains evidence of prehistoric use. Historic use of the setting dates from the late 1870s Flying V Ranch (Cheyenne-Arapaho Cattle Company) days, followed by that of the Bar X Cattle Company after the former was ordered to be evacuated by President Grover Cleveland in 1885 and all buildings associated with such destroyed by the U.S. Army when he declared such operations illegal. Not too long after, businessmen with large stock holdings in the Bar X Cattle Company out of Texas secured permission from the government to set up headquarters at the previous Flying V Ranch location. It is also at this spot that Jim Patterson in 1892, with the opening of the Cheyenne-Arapaho Reservation, filed a homestead claim during a land run for that year.

As an outgrowth of this study, it is suggested that additional work along major perennial streams with the Canadian River drainage is needed to address a number of still unanswered questions. Several of the prehistoric sites need to undergo additional work before they can be determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
Economic Impacts Study Released

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. and its many partners announced the release of *Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation*, one of the most important tools ever provided for Oklahoma’s historic preservation efforts, during a special presentation on January 9th at the Oklahoma History Center. “We believe 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 the buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes that represent Oklahoma’s unique heritage,” said Dr. Bob L. Blackburn, State Historic Preservation Officer.

Dr. David Listokin, Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers University, delivered the special presentation, detailing the methodology for completing the study and the exciting final results of the effort. The study examined the direct and indirect impacts of historic preservation activities in Oklahoma for the year 2007 and concluded that they totaled $357 million for the period (rehabilitation/$125 million; the 2007 and concluded that they totaled $357 million for the period (rehabilitation/$125 million; heritage tourism/$175 million; and Main Street/$57 million). The state’s preservation leaders have long believed that preservation and adaptive reuse of historic properties makes sound business sense for communities of all sizes, and now they have sound evidence of just how significant historic preservation is to a community’s economy and its quality of life. The study also addresses the impacts of two key Oklahoma Preservation programs since their beginnings, the federal rehabilitation tax credits program and the Oklahoma Main Street Program.

With financial contributions from the State Historic Preservation Office, the City of Oklahoma City, Chesapeake Energy, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, and Julie Bott Miner in memory of Lt. Col. and Mrs. James F. Bott, Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. selected the Center for Urban Policy Research, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, to complete the study. Dr. Listokin and Dr. Michael Lahr of Rutgers directed the project, and Dr. Dan S. Rickman, Oklahoma State University, worked closely with them to complete the property valuation analysis portion of the study. Rutgers developed, under contract to the National Park Service’s National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, the input/output model used for this and many similar studies across the nation. It is known as the Preservation Economic Impact Model (PEIM).

The Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, was also a key partner in the initiative as they provided valuable and extensive data for the study and participated in draft study reviews and other activities. The Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department also generously provided assistance. The study includes a detailed analysis of the economic impacts of general rehabilitation work in Oklahoma; of redevelopment completed under the federal and state rehabilitation tax credits programs; of the Oklahoma Main Street Program; of heritage tourism initiatives; and of local historic district designation.

An executive summary of the study provides a concise statement about how historic preservation activities are contributing to Oklahoma’s statewide and local economies and places these efforts in a national context. Hard copies of the summary are available upon request from POK (405/525-5325 or preservationok@preservationok.org) or from the SHPO (405/521-6249 or bharris@okhistory.org). The complete study document is available at www.preservationok.org and www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm (select “Publications”).

Governor Brad Henry states in a special message in the study’s executive summary, “I wish to thank Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. for coordinating the process to obtain the study and to encourage all of you to consider the results. I look forward to working with you as we move into Oklahoma’s second century with a vibrant economy and a sincere appreciation for our heritage.”

Meet Us at the Summit

Save the dates, June 3-5, 2009, for *Reaching the Summit: Oklahoma’s 21st Annual Statewide Preservation Conference*. It will be held at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center, and the location provides the perfect opportunity for learning about the landscape and heritage of southwest Oklahoma, as well as national, state, and local preservation mountains to climb and how to succeed in reaching their summits.

The three concurrent tracks of sessions include:

**TRACK A: Preservation Base Camp**
Presentations will address the basics of historic preservation programs; standards and guidelines; and, methods and techniques.

**TRACK B: Preservation Landscape**
Presentations will feature traditional, cultural, and natural landscape preservation issues; federal agency preservation programs that have national impact, as well as effects on Oklahoma resources; and current preservation policy issues.

**TRACK C: Peak Performance in Preservation**
Presentations will focus on getting the preservation job done with local human and financial resources.

Half-day tours to Altus, Hobart, Mangum, and Sayre will be program highlights. Other special events will include Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.’s annual meeting and luncheon and the State Historic Preservation Office’s annual awards banquet.

Conference cosponsors include the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society; the Oklahoma Main Street Center, Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; Altus Main Street; Hobart Main Street, Inc.; Mangum Main Street Program; and Sayre Main Street Program.

Watch the April issue of *Preservation Oklahoma News* and your mail for more information. Also, visit the SHPO’s website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpoevents.htm; and, something new, the statewide preservation conference blog by Lindsey Galloway, Oklahoma Main Street Center at www.okpreservationconference.wordpress.com.

In the meantime, if you may have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO (405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org) or Amy Jo Cobb (580/482-2277 or mainstreetaltus@sbcglobal.net)
National Register Nomination Grants Available from the SHPO

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) announces its annual matching grants to state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofit organizations for the preparation of National Register of Historic Places nominations. The SHPO has reserved $10,000 of its FY 2009 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 on April 1, and the deadline for Round 2 applications is 5:00pm on June 1.

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 National Register of Historic Places. Applicants must be aware that $1,700.00 (federal grant + nonfederal match) is only an estimate of the cost for such projects and that additional nonfederal match may be required to retain a consultant to complete project work. Consultants must consider the nature of the property proposed for nomination and many other factors as they develop their fee proposals.

To obtain a National Register Nomination Grant Application contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249 or visit our website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm.

The National Register is the catalogue of our nation’s significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes important in our past. While listing in the National Register is not a guarantee of preservation or of financial assistance, it is one of the most important components of the preservation strategy for any significant property. The designation 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.

Information about the State Historic Preservation Office and its programs, including the National Register of Historic Places, is available at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm.

SHPO Receives Preserve America Grant

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has received a Preserve America grant for the digitization of locational information for the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI).

The OLI is the SHPO’s database of architectural/historic resources documented through its various programs. To facilitate more efficient and effective use of the OLI, a few years ago the SHPO entered into a partnership with the Department of Geography, Oklahoma State University (OSU) to transfer all OLI information from hard copy files into an automated system that is now available to the public online at www.okhistory.org/shpo/oli.htm.

Consistent with the recommendations of the Preserve America Summit and with Tomorrow’s Legacy: Oklahoma’s Statewide Preservation Plan, the SHPO will use the Preserve America grant assistance to complete the first phase of a multi-year effort to digitize the locational information contained in the OLI for those properties within the Oklahoma City-to-Tulsa urban core.

The Cartography Services Office of OSU is providing the nonfederal matching share for the project and conducting the project under an agreement with the SHPO. OSU will acquire Latitude and Longitude Coordinates for all identifiable OLI entries in Creek, Lincoln, Logan, Oklahoma, and Tulsa Counties. It is estimated that this will result in digitization of locational information for approximately 14,000-18,000 of the 40,000+ entries in the OLI Database. All coordinates will be entered into the OLI Database and available for public use via the online query system by December 31, 2009. If work progresses more rapidly than anticipated, work will begin to digitize the locational information for OLI resources in Cleveland County.

The Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory Locational Information Digitization Project will enhance the efforts of the SHPO, federal agencies, other state and local governments, tribal governments, and concerned citizens to protect architectural/historic resources statewide. While the SHPO’s inventory is now available in a searchable online database, the locational information consists of street addresses and quarter section, township, and range data. Digitization of the locational information will enable all OLI users to maximize the benefits of current technology in planning and other activities. Completion of the project work will improve consideration of the state’s historic properties in decision making at all levels of government and by the private sector too. Easy access to accurate locational information that can be transferred to project maps and other documents will encourage use of the OLI by the full range of possible users and expedite Section 106 review for applicants and the SHPO. The information will also make it possible to improve assessments of areas where additional survey and inventory work is needed to increase the total number of historic resources identified and thus improve protection efforts of both the public and private sectors.
The National Register of Historic Places is a catalogue of the buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects whose hallowed ground and sturdy walls provide a glimpse into our past. These sites also may be selected for architectural and archeological interests. The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce that the following thirteen properties were added to the National Register as of December 5, 2008.

**New Oklahoma National Register Listings**

**Canadian County:**
Henry L. Lassen House
605 South Hoff, El Reno

**Comanche County:**
Douglass School
102 East Gore Boulevard, Lawton

**Grady County:**
Silver City Cemetery
two miles north of Tuttle

**Jackson County:**
The Wichita Falls & Northwestern Railroad Passenger Depot
5223 South Main Street, Altus

**Jackson County Courthouse** and Jail additional documentation
101 North Main Street, Altus

**Kivlehen House**
525 North Jackson Street, Edmond

**Osage County:**
Woolaroc Ranch Historic District
located near Barnsdall

**Pittsburg County:**
Rock Creek Bridge
Blanco Vicinity

**Tulsa County:**
Mayo Motor Inn
416 South Cheyenne, Tulsa

**Tulsa Monument Company**
1735 East 11th Street, Tulsa

**Tulsa City Veterinary Hospital**
3350 Peoria Avenue, Tulsa

**Mr. Zion Baptist Church**
419 North Elgin Street, Tulsa

**Mayo Building**
420 South Main Street, Tulsa

**Woodward County:**
Woodward Theater
818 Main Avenue, Woodward

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.
**Save the Date!**

Join fellow preservationists for the **Oklahoma’s Most Endangered Historic Places 2009** Press Conference and Reception

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**Jaunary 26, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.**

in the historic
First United Methodist Church of Guthrie
224 East Noble Avenue
Guthrie, Oklahoma

**Free and open to the public!**

For more information please email Sheila K. Barnes, Executive Director Preservation Oklahoma, Incorporated preservationok@preservationok.org

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**Join Preservation Oklahoma today** and become a member of the Statewide Preservation Network.

Preservation Oklahoma’s goal is to encourage the preservation of Oklahoma’s historic places through advocacy, education and leadership.

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

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**Name**

**Address**

**City | State | Zip**

**Phone**

**Email**

**From (if gift)**

- Victorian $10,000 or more
- English Tudor $1,000 - $9,999
- International $500 - $999
- Colonial Revival $250 - $499
- Arts and Crafts $100 - $249
- Vernacular up to $100

Mail, along with check, to:
Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.
405 Northwest Fifteenth Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

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