New State Rehab Tax Credit

Preservation and community revitalization efforts across the state got a real boost with passage of Senate Bill 435 on May 27 and Governor Henry’s approval of the measure in June. The bill, which includes numerous tax reduction and incentives programs, contains a provision that expands the rehabilitation tax credits established under the Local Development Act.

Senator Jay Paul Gumm (Durant) and Representative Debbie Blackburn (Oklahoma City) led the effort that dramatically improves this important economic development tool. The bill creates State rehabilitation tax credits that:

- Parallel exactly the 20% federal investment tax credit for the rehabilitation of historic buildings used for income producing purposes (including use for rental residential) by eliminating the limitation to historic hotels and newspaper plants currently contained in the Act.
- Provide a state tax credit equal to the 10% federal tax credit for renovation of older buildings that do not qualify for the 20% federal credit and that will be used for an income producing purpose (excluding use as rental residential).

It is important to note that taxpayers who qualify for either the 20% or the 10% federal credit will automatically qualify for the same amount of state tax credit without any additional paperwork or review. Also, these incentives can work in any community across Oklahoma. According to the Oklahoma Tax Commission, rule making for the new credits will occur this fall, and taxpayers will have the opportunity to claim the credit on their 2006 tax return.

Further information about the new incentives will be provided in Preservation Oklahoma News and at the State Historic Preservation Office’s December 7 workshop on the federal tax incentives (see Calendar of Events in this issue).
The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, is pleased to present its 2005/2006 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. 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. Many of the sessions meet the AIA/CES Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) criteria. Contact the SHPO's Historic Preservation Architect at 405/522-4479 or catherinem@ok-history.mus.ok.us if you have questions about AIA/CES credits.

SEPTEMBER 2005
2 - PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE SHPO'S FY 2006 HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION (10:30 AM)
Location: Shepherd Mall Activity Center, Shepherd Mall, Suite 408, N.W. 23rd and Villa, Oklahoma City

DECEMBER 2005
7 - STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS PRESERVATION PARTNERS IN OKLAHOMA: THE CLG PROGRAM (9:30 AM-12:00 PM)
7 - GUIDELINES AND TAX INCENTIVES FOR REHABILITATING HISTORIC BUILDINGS (1:30 PM-4:30 PM)
2005 National Preservation Conference Registration Now Open!

The National Preservation Conference is the one national meeting you should be sure to attend if you're a professional, volunteer, or advocate concerned with saving America's historic places and revitalizing communities. So plan now to join your colleagues September 27-October 2, 2005, in Portland, Oregon.

It's your once-a-year opportunity to connect with peers from throughout the country and explore the big picture of the national preservation movement.

Learn about new developments and emerging challenges in areas ranging from architectural design to smart growth planning and downtown revitalization to government policy and incentives to heritage education and historic site stewardship to organizational management. No preservation conference covers so much!

Explore Portland and the region, a living laboratory for downtown livability and smart growth planning. Find out what's working there—and what's now under threat.

Enjoy the lively social events and make use of the informal networking that takes place all week long to exchange experiences, concerns, and ideas with like-minded preservation leaders.

For a preliminary program and registration information, go to www.nthpconference.org or call (202) 588-6100, (800) 944-6847.

Preservation Oklahoma Honors Outgoing and New Board Members

At Preservation Oklahoma's Annual Meeting, outgoing board members were honored and a new slate of officers announced.

Outgoing board members included Stephen Boyd of Hobart, Roger Rinehart of El Reno, Kay Wade of Guthrie and Jo Meacham of Oklahoma City. Each of these board members brought experience, talent and an enthusiasm for preservation that will be missed.

Two new board members join the POK Board. They include Suzette Hatfield and Jeannette Elliott, both of Oklahoma City. We welcome Suzette and Jeannette to the Board, and look forward to working with them.
Recent Listings in the National Register of Historic Places

BY JIM GABBERT, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN, OK/SHPO

A number of Oklahoma resources have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places in the last seven months. Fourteen properties, spanning the history of Oklahoma from prehistoric times, through the Indian removal period to the middle of the 20th Century, have been added to our nation's official list of properties significant in our past. Residential and commercial districts, schools, a park, a church, and even a gas station reflect aspects of twentieth century life. Two sites associated with the Cherokee Trail of Tears help tell the story of that event. Two archaeological sites have provided important information on the lifeways of our prehistoric ancestors.

The National Park Service commissioned a study and a Multiple Property Cover Document for the Cherokee Trail of Tears involving multiple states and numerous resource types, the study identified extant places of significance related to the removal of the Cherokee from the southeastern US to Indian Territory in the 1930s. Two Oklahoma sites were identified and nominated to the National Register: the Reverend Jesse Bushyhead Grave in Adair County and the Illinois Campground in Cherokee County.

See Recent Listings on page 9

Preservation Oklahoma Receives $5000 Grant

Preservation Oklahoma was one of ten projects in the country selected to receive a grant from the Johanna Favrot Fund for Historic Preservation. These funds will be used to help conduct a study on the economic impacts of historic preservation in Oklahoma. Fund raising efforts for this study are ongoing. Daniel Carey, Director of the Southwest Office of the National Trust is pictured here with Bill Gumerson, POK President, for the check presentation.

The Overholser Mansion

SAVE THE DATE

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Gumm, Blackburn and Citizens for the Gold Dome Receive Awards

Preservation Oklahoma announced the 2005 Preservation Oklahoma Award recipients at their annual meeting held on June 9 in Stillwater, Oklahoma. These annual awards are given under the categories of “Public Leadership” and “Advocacy.” We applaud the work of these individuals and groups whose tenacity, courage and determination are the backbone of successful preservation projects across Oklahoma.

The “2005 Preservation Oklahoma Awards” were given to:

SENATOR JAY PAUL GUMM AND REPRESENTATIVE DEBBIE BLACKBURN: “PUBLIC LEADERSHIP”

In recognition of their exceptional public leadership efforts in sponsoring Senate Bill 409 and HB 1964, respectively. These bills resulted in the subsequent passing of SB 435, a statewide tax credit for the rehabilitation of Oklahoma’s historic properties.

CITIZENS FOR THE GOLD DOME: “ADVOCACY”

In recognition of the group’s efforts to bring public attention to the once threatened Gold Dome Bank Building in Oklahoma City. Lisa Chronister and Michael Smith, both members of the Citizens for the Gold Dome, accepted the award on behalf of the group.

SHPO Presents 2005 Citations of Merit

The Oklahoma Historical Society’s State Historic Preservation Office presented its 2005 Citation of Merit for the accomplishments of twenty-five individuals, organizations, firms, and government agencies in the preservation of Oklahoma’s heritage. During its annual awards banquet at 7:00 pm on Thursday, June 9 in the Stillwater Community Center. The banquet was a highlight of Oklahoma’s 17th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference.

The award recipients’ contributions were made through archeological site preservation, leadership, planning, publications, public programming, research, or restoration/rehabilitation.

CHILDREN’S HISTORICAL RESOURCE CENTER, CHANDLER

In 1987 the Lincoln County Historical Society used donated funds to purchase the 1901 Oleson-Crane building which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Under the leadership of co-chairmen Sandra Bailey and Don Ferrell, and with donated services from Oklahoma City’s TAP Architecture, the Society successfully completed the $65,000 privately funded rehabilitation project in October 2004 for the Children’s Historical Resource Center.

JOHN FEATHER

Dr. John Feather, President, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, was recognized for his leadership and planning efforts related to preservation of the Oklahoma College for Women Historic District.

GAIL LOAFMAN, DUNCAN

Ms. Loafman received the Citation of Merit for her leadership in saving Duncan’s W. T. Foreman House.

JOHN BROWN, HOBART

Mr. John Brown was recognized for his rehabilitation of the J. C. Penney’s Building, a contributing resource in the National Register listed Hobart Downtown Historic District.

CITY OF LAWTON

The City of Lawton was awarded the Citation of Merit for its adoption of a local historic preservation ordinance in 2004.

MARY MELTON AND MINNETTE PAGE

Mary Melton and Minnette Page received the Citation of Merit for their leadership in the preservation of the historic Lawton High School building.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

The SHPO appreciates its working relationship with the General Services Administration and recognized their exemplary rehabilitations of the U.S. Courthouse in Lawton and the Carl Albert U.S. Courthouse and Federal Building in McAlester.

THREE RIVERS MUSEUM, MUSKOGEE

On April 17, 2004, the Three Rivers Museum conducted its first Downtown Muskogee Walking Tour, a five-hour event

See Citations of Merit on page 6
with a lunch stop held during the annual Azalea Festival, and the organization was recognized for this educational program.

**LUCILLE CLINE, NEWKIRK**

Ms. Cline was recognized for her efforts to protect one of Newkirk's important historic commercial buildings: The Cline Building.

**NEWKIRK COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Newkirk Community Historical Society was recognized for its leadership efforts and the preservation of important downtown commercial buildings.

**NEWKIRK HERALD JOURNAL**

The SHPO was pleased to recognize the Herald Journal for keeping the public informed about local preservation issues and events.

**NEWKIRK JUNIOR MAIN STREET**

Newkirk was the first community in the nation to have a Junior Main Street program. The most amazing part of this story is that a group of eighth-grade students created the organization themselves in 1997 with the assistance of Jana Shafer and Karen Dye.

**NEWKIRK MAIN STREET DESIGN COMMITTEE**

The Newkirk Main Street's Design Committee received the Citation of Merit in recognition of exemplary leadership in local preservation efforts.

**JANA SHAFER, NEWKIRK**

The SHPO recognized Ms. Shafer as one of Oklahoma's exemplary local preservation leaders. Not only has she served on the Board of Directors for Newkirk Main Street, but also she has served as the Newkirk Junior Main Street sponsor since 1997.

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY AND OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, OKLAHOMA CITY**

Through presentation of its Citation of Merit, the SHPO commended the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management for their exemplary preservation planning efforts.

**THE HONORABLE ERNEST ISTOOK**

We were pleased to present the Citation of Merit to Representative Ernest Istook for his efforts to facilitate redevelopment of Oklahoma City's Skirvin Hotel.

**SHAWNEE'S COSPONSORS OF OKLAHOMA'S 16TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE**

Windows of Opportunity for Preservation: Oklahoma's 16th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference was held May 19-21, 2004, in historic downtown Shawnee. Through presentation of the Citation of Merit, the State Historic Preservation Office extended its sincere appreciation to the local cosponsors without whom the event would not have been possible.

**WINFREY HOUSTON, STILLWATER**

It was indeed an honor to present Mr. Houston with our Citation of Merit for his many preservation leadership activities and for his rehabilitation efforts on Stillwater's 7th Street.

**STILLWATER COMMUNITY CENTER FOUNDATION**

The Stillwater Community Center Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, was established in 2001 to obtain support for the maintenance and operation of the Stillwater Community Center.

**STILLWATER HIGH SCHOOL/C.E. DONART ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND MUSEUM**

With the emphasis on historic educational buildings in this year's statewide preservation conference program, it was especially appropriate to recognize the Stillwater High School/C.E. Donart Alumni Association and Museum for their efforts to record and preserve photos, documents and memorabilia associated with the school and assist graduating classes with reunions.

**U.S. FOREST SERVICE**

The U.S. Forest Service was awarded the Citation of Merit for its efforts in protecting significant archeological sites on Federal property in southeast Oklahoma.

**SOUTHWEST POWER ADMINISTRATION**

The Southwest Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, received the Citation of Merit for its preservation planning initiative, development of a Programmatic Agreement with the SHPO and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

**FRED LUCAS**

The Watonga Main Street Program's Citation of Merit nomination for Dr. Lucas identified him as a true Watonga preservation pioneer, and the SHPO is pleased to recognize his efforts.

**PATSY AND WESLEY LUCAS**

Dr. Wesley and Patsy Lucas were presented the Citation of Merit for their stewardship of a highly significant archeological site and for their generous cooperation with the Oklahoma Archeological Survey.

**CHUCK SMITH**

Mr. Chuck Smith was awarded the Citation of Merit for his stewardship of highly significant archeological sites and his outstanding assistance to the Oklahoma Archeological Survey.
Lost, Threatened, Rehabbed

**LOST:** Skelly Building, Tulsa.
The original 1921 six story building was expanded to nine stories in 1928 under plans designed by renowned architect Bruce Goff. The current owner is demolishing the building in order to replace it with a parking lot.

**THREATENED:** Auto Hotel, Tulsa.
Built in the 1930's, this seven story-parking garage is threatened by the neighboring church who plans to demolish the landmark Auto Hotel for surface parking.

**THREATENED:** Ottawa County Court House, Miami.
Built in 1915, remodeled in 1953, listed on the National Register of Historic Places March 2004. County Commissioners plan on demolishing this court house to make way for the construction of a new $4 million court house.

**REHABBED:** Gold Dome Bank Building, Oklahoma City.
A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on May 14 to celebrate the rehabilitation of the Gold Dome. This 1958 building had been listed on the "Most Endangered List" by both the National Trust and Preservation Oklahoma.

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"Yard Sale for the Yard" a Success

In the wee hours of May 7, the Overholser Carriage House was alive with treasure-seekers, searching for that ultimate yard sale find. A total of $1006 was raised from this Yard Sale for the Yard, a fund raiser for the maintenance of the Overholser Mansion grounds. Thank you to those that generously donated items and to Pam Shoulders, a Mesta Park resident, who priced the "treasures." Don't throw anything away—we plan to do it again next year!
Chilocco Preservation Survey

On March 23, a bright sunny Saturday, an energetic group of volunteers gathered at Chilocco Indian School to undertake a cursory survey of campus. This initial phase was completed in hopes of placing the property in the National Register of Historic Places.

Closed as a government boarding school in the early 1980s, this remote Kay County site has over 90 buildings and structures—many of them made of limestone quarried from the property. The survey volunteers traveled from all parts of Oklahoma and neighboring states to participate in this day-long project. This particular part of the project involved taking pictures of each building and filling out a historic resource survey form. Many thanks to the Confederated Chillico Tribes Council, the State Historic Preservation Office, Preservation Oklahoma and to the volunteers for making this important phase a success. A special thanks to the North Central Chillico Alumni Association for providing the volunteers with a delicious lunch and numerous stories.
SHPO Seeks Public Input for FY 2006 Program

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will hold a public meeting at 10:30 am, on Friday, September 2, 2005, in the Shepherd Mall Activity Center, Shepherd Mall, Suite 408, N.W. 23rd and Villa, Oklahoma City, to provide information about the statewide preservation program and to receive public input for the development of the Fiscal Year 2006 Historic Preservation Fund application.

The SHPO expects to receive approximately $600,000 from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s FY 2006 Historic Preservation Fund to carry out Oklahoma’s statewide preservation program. Ten percent of the amount is reserved for pass-through grants to Certified Local Governments. Over half of the total HPF grant award will be used for subgrants to complete archeological and historic/architectural resource survey projects, to prepare National Register of Historic Places nominations, and to continue public outreach and education programs.

Your input will help shape the future of Oklahoma’s past. Accordingly, the SHPO will appreciate your ideas and suggestions about what its FY 2006 program priorities will be.

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 investment tax credit program for certified historic structures; and public outreach activities.

Tomorrow’s Legacy: Oklahoma’s Statewide Preservation Plan (2005) [available from the SHPO at the address below or at www.ok-history.mus.ok.us/shpo/shpomp.htm] sets forth the goals and objectives for historic preservation in the state. The SHPO will base its FY 2006 program on the State Plan’s goals and objectives. The SHPO’s specific priorities include 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.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, your written comments and suggestions are welcome. Just request a Project Suggestion Form from the SHPO, 2704 Villa Prom, Oklahoma City, OK 73105, 405/521-6249, FAX 405/947-2918, or mail to sop@ok-history.mus.ok.us. The SHPO must receive your completed form by 5:00 pm, Friday, September 2, 2005.

Recent Listings

Reverend Bushyhead was a leader of one of the parties that made the trek to Indian Territory and once here, became a leader in the reunification of the tribes differing factions. His grave, in the Baptist Mission Cemetery near Westfall, is the last extant site associated with this important leader. The Illinois Campground, near Tahlequah, is the debarkation point of the last group of Cherokee that left Georgia. Led by Chief John Ross, this group marked the end of the Cherokee Trail of Tears. The site also gained renown as the site of the first Cherokee National Convention, wherein the divisions of the Cherokee Nation were set on the path of unification.

Two archeological sites in Harper County represent significant advances in the knowledge and understanding of our prehistoric ancestors. The Smith #2 Site and Patsy’s Island site were discovered by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey’s Dr. Leland Bement and his colleagues and students while surveying the drainage of a tributary of Beaver River. The survey, sponsored by the SHPO, encountered numerous single-cultural occupations—sites that give an in-depth look at cultural groups through a slice of time and shed light on their survival strategies. Patsy’s Island represents a Plains Woodland period occupation and Smith #2 is from the Late Prehistoric period.

Residential Districts in Tulsa and Enid were listed recently. Riverside Historic Residential District in Tulsa and the Kenwood Historic District in Enid represent significant residential development in their respective cities. The Riverside neighborhood, south of downtown Tulsa.

See Recent Listings on page 10
was one of the early automobile suburbs in the city. Overlooking the Arkansas River, this neighborhood developed in the late 1920s and 1930s contains numerous Period Revival style homes and garages. Enid's Kenwood Historic District represents the first development outside of the core downtown in the 1900-1920 period. Here, many of the most prosperous citizens of Enid built their homes. Marked by Kenwood Avenue, which cuts diagonally through the district, the area contains some of the best examples of early century architecture in the city.

Two commercial historic districts were added to the National Register as well. Comprising the hearts of commerce of Chickasha and Hobart, these two districts represent the economic development of these two county seat towns and show by the significant architecture that lines their streets the difference that location and timing can make for the success of a town. The Downtown Hobart Historic District is centered on the Kiowa County Courthouse. Lining the streets are numerous red brick commercial and governmental buildings, many of which date to Territorial days. They reflect the importance of the town as a shipping point for western Oklahoma. The Chickasha Downtown Historic District encompasses the blocks immediately east of the Rock Island Railroad depot. Art Deco banks and stately brick commercial buildings line the streets for blocks; each building represents the success of the town known as the Queen of the Washita Valley.

Also located in Chickasha is the Grady County Courthouse. This Art Deco masterpiece was designed by Layton, Smith, and Forsyth and constructed with help of the Public Works Administration (PWA) in 1934. The building's highly stylized Art Deco details make it stand out among Oklahoma's county courthouses.

Another New Deal era project, McLain Rogers Park in Clinton, was recently added to the National Register. The Works Progress
Administration (WPA) constructed a pool, bathhouse, amphitheater and other amenities in a pastoral setting on the south edge of town. Located on an old alignment of historic Route 66, the park is notable for its period neon entry sign.

In Cherokee, Alfalfa County, stands a unique example of church architecture. The Friends Church, built in 1919, exhibits a stylistic vocabulary that reflects the Arts and Crafts movement, more popular in domestic architecture. The wide eaves and knee braces of the roof help shelter the numerous stained glass windows. Cherokee Main Street is raising funds to rehabilitate this distinguished old building.

The Antioch School Alumni Association has spent hundreds of hours of volunteer time helping to maintain and preserve the physical and historical characteristics of their old two-room school. Listed as the Antioch Dependent School District #15, this red brick building has served the community well past its use as an educational facility.

Once found nearly everywhere, the old Phillips 66 cottage style stations are disappearing from our landscape. Phillips was a leader in branding their stations with a distinct look. Phillips 66 Station #473 on East Admiral Boulevard in Tulsa is one of the few, intact, Phillips model “B” stations around. Recently rehabilitated, this service station continues to add to the historic fabric of roadside Tulsa.

Located on the campus of Oklahoma State University is a handsome building that, through a partnership between the university and the city of Stillwater, has come to be the epicenter of a program of national renown. The Campus Fire Station is the home of the Fire Service Training School as well as a working fire station for the city. The training school, housed here since the late 1930s, is internationally known and has been credited with instituting professionalism in the fire service.

These properties represent many aspect of our state’s history, from a humble school in a rural community to a training school that attracts students from around the world to the neighborhoods in which we live.

Our shared history is embodied in the built environment and the National Register of Historic Places is a way to recognize these significant resources. Help the State Historic Preservation Office achieve its goal of having five listings from each of Oklahoma’s 77 counties by the Centennial. We need new listings from Coal, Cotton, Dewey, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Love, McLain, Major, Marshall, Nowata, and Woodward counties.

For more information on this goal or anything related to the National Register of Historic Places, contact Jim Gabbert, Architectural Historian for the SHPO at (405) 522-4478 or email jgabbert@ok-historymus.ok.us.
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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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