

KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
A STATE AGENCY

ANNUAL REPORT | 2008



REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES.

This land we call Kansas has been home to many different peoples. The rolling hills, high plains, and rich soil of Kansas have made an impact on the people who lived here. This diverse landscape serves as the stage upon which a human drama is set. For more than 130 years it has been the mission of the Kansas Historical Society to collect, preserve, and share the stories of Kansas.

As one of the premier historical societies in the country, we offer within our physical and virtual facilities fascinating stories of the people who make Kansas history. At the center of the nation, Kansas has often played a pivotal role in the American drama. Each year, a growing number of people across the nation and around the globe turn to the Kansas Historical Society for a glimpse of this interesting history. This year alone we provided programs and services to nearly 6.5 million people!

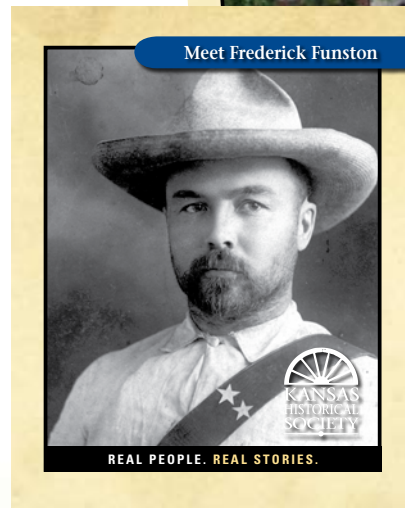
See our video, *Year in Review 2008*, at kshs.org!



kshs.org

Lucinda Todd
(1903-1966)

- One of 13 plaintiffs in *Brown v. Board of Education* of Topeka landmark U.S. Supreme Court case to desegregate schools
- Secretary of Topeka NAACP, which brought NAACP Legal Defense Fund to Topeka
- Taught in Topeka elementary schools
- Todd's papers in the collection of the Kansas Historical Society



“... most other states don’t come close to what Kansas Historical Society and Kansas Collections have done the past several years with making stories and information available.”

– Susan Hoppe, Wichita



Education

The Kansas Historical Society serves K-12 classrooms as the state resource on Kansas history; with learning opportunities for families and adults at the Kansas Museum of History, 16 state historic sites, and the Kansas State Capitol Tour Center.

- Project Archeology is completing a multi-year initiative to provide teaching materials on Kansas archeology to third through eighth graders. The seventh and eighth grade materials were used in a teacher training workshop in Manhattan in June.
- Every USD school with students in kindergarten through fourth grade and every service center in Kansas received a complementary set of 30 *Read Kansas!* lessons in October 2007. This program received an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History.
- The number of Kansas teachers reached through in-services and conference presentations highlighting KSHS programs increased dramatically in FY 2008.
- The Santa Fe Trail Association recognized *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains* with an Award of Merit for its publication of the special issue, "The Pike Expedition: A Bicentennial Reflection."
- New sections on Plains Indian homes and life in a log cabin were added to Discovery Place at the Kansas Museum of History in Topeka.
- Four new curricular standards-based tours for elementary school students were developed for the Kansas Museum of History. They include *Indian Homes in Kansas; Wagons, Wheels, and Wings; Risk Takers and Pizza Makers; and Oregon or Bust!*
- The curricular standards-based tour, *Meet Kansas Territorial Characters*, was completed to bring more school children to Constitution Hall State Historic Site in Lecompton.
- The first "Cookin' at the Cottonwood" event in September drew 16 teams from Kansas to compete in a barbeque and chili cook-off at Cottonwood Ranch State Historic Site in Studley.



"This year I would love to use these [*Read Kansas!*] cards to challenge my students to learn even more about Kansas than they have already learned."

– Debbie Shaffer, Guthridge Elementary School, Parsons





“Wow! I visited the museum [Kansas Museum of History] with my daughter’s fifth grade class from Fort Scott and was truly impressed.”

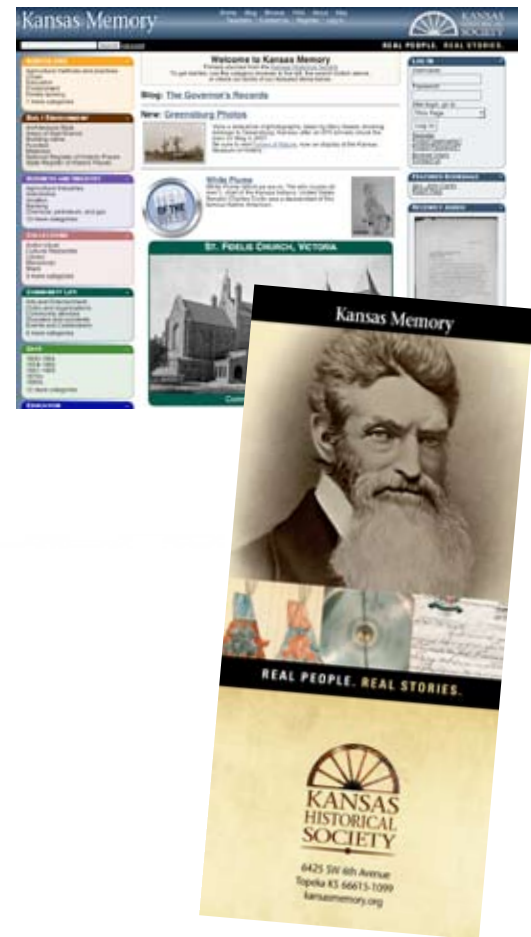
- The John Brown Freedom Festival drew 350 people to John Brown Museum State Historic Site in Osawatomie.
- Tours over three consecutive weekends at Kaw Mission State Historic Site in Council Grove drew 600 Boy Scouts.
- A new curricular standards-based tour exploring the Oregon-California Trail was developed for fourth graders at Hollenberg Pony Express Station State Historic Site near Hanover.
- The 150th anniversary of one of our state’s most tragic events was commemorated by 130 people at Marais des Cygnes Massacre State Historic Site near Pleasanton with new signage and a program by U. S. Senator Sam Brownback.
- School attendance grew in May as a result of new curricular standards-based tours at Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site in Fairway.
- Four sports-related movies with Kansas connections (*Knute Rockne All American*, *Hoosiers*, *Brian’s Song*, and *A League of Their Own*) were shown as part of the Sundown Film Festival. A total of 952 people attended the series, which was inspired by the museum’s special exhibit, *Game Faces: Kansans in Sports*.
- The special exhibit, *Forces of Nature*, which examines how extreme weather has influenced the state, its inhabitants, and the image of Kansas, opened March 21, 2008, at the Kansas Museum of History.
- The museum hosted the third annual Haunted History on the grounds and in the galleries October 27, 2007. Events included flashlight tours of the museum and nature trail.
- The K.T. Wiedemann Foundation, Inc., provided a large donation for operations at William Allen White House State Historic Site in Emporia.
- More than 150 volunteers participated in the 2008 Kansas Archeology Training Program (KATP) in which one of the lodges at Pawnee Indian Museum State Historic Site near Republic was excavated.



Collections

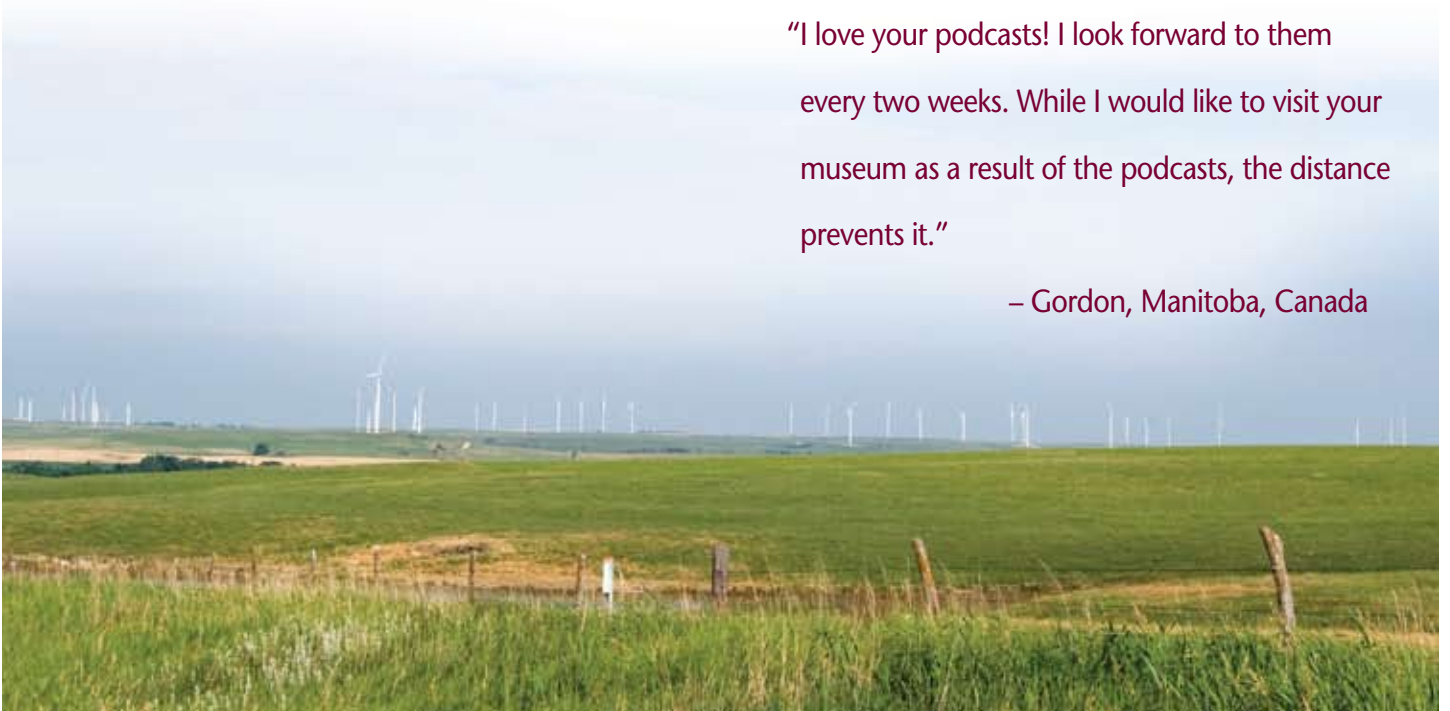
The Kansas Historical Society is the repository of the state's records and artifacts, and is charged with providing access to items for the citizens of today and preserving those items for future generations.

- The agency received a major grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to provide descriptions for all of the records in the manuscripts and State Archives collections.
- Notable document acquisitions included Civil War letters; business records of Thatcher Office and School Supply; records from the Arma chapter of the Slovenian National Benefit Society; records of Lakeview Fishing and Shooting Association; Fort Scott ledger books; scrapbooks about Robert Owen, a member of the 1960 gold medal-winning U.S. Olympic hockey team; and a variety of historic and contemporary photographs.
- The museum's *Cool Things* podcast series received two awards: voted one of the top ten museum podcasts in the nation by MuseumPodcasts.com, and an honorable mention in the national MUSE Award competition by the American Association of Museum's Media and Technology Committee.
- Notable artifact acquisitions included Dryden pottery made in Ellsworth, 1940-1950; 1968 Frigidaire electric stove; 1870s dress helmet worn by Colonel John Yard, Fort Hays; chair in which Ulysses S. Grant sat; snow gate used to close I-70 at Goodland exit during blizzards; and street signs damaged in the May 2007 Greensburg tornado.
- *Kansas Memory*, a virtual repository of primary source collections, launched in October 2007 with the help of John Carlin, past governor and former archivist of the United States.



"I love your podcasts! I look forward to them every two weeks. While I would like to visit your museum as a result of the podcasts, the distance prevents it."

– Gordon, Manitoba, Canada





Preservation

The Kansas Historical Society provides incentives and assistance to individuals and communities across the state to encourage local preservation of historic buildings and cultural landscapes, stimulating economic development. The agency also preserves 16 historic sites across the state.

- An Electronic Records and Information Management Dialogue drew 25 state leaders May 8, 2008, to discuss challenges facing Kansas government in managing and preserving electronic records.
- Governor Kathleen Sebelius and the Kansas Legislature approved funding for an electronic records preservation-planning enhancement for FY 2009. The planning effort will work towards an enterprise approach that will facilitate the preservation of those electronic records with enduring value.
- A number of Kansas communities have a special relationship with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) because they have met requirements established by the National Park Service for Certified Local Governments (CLG). The National Park Service recognized the city of Independence as the newest CLG in August 2007.
- The Kansas barn survey and *Agricultural-Related Resources of Kansas* multiple property nomination was completed with a survey of 352 structures.
- Sixty-nine State Historic Preservation Tax Credit projects were completed representing a \$9,746,364 investment in historic properties in Kansas. The state tax credit is equal to 25 percent of qualifying expenses, totaling \$2,436,591 in state tax credits in 2008. On January 1, 2007, new legislation made it possible for rehabilitation projects undertaken on buildings owned by IRS certified non-profit organizations to receive a 30 percent state tax credit.





- Federal transportation enhancement funds were used to rehabilitate the interior of one of the officer quarters at Fort Hays State Historic Site in Hays. The interior finishes were restored and new heating and electrical systems installed.
- Federal, private, and state funds were used to restore the exterior wood components, including the siding, trim, and windows, at Goodnow House State Historic Site in Manhattan.
- The interior of Grinter Place State Historic Site in Kansas City was restored using federal transportation enhancement funds.
- Twenty-five volunteers from the Civil War Preservation Trust spent 200 hours cleaning and maintaining the landscape at Mine Creek Battlefield State Historic Site near Pleasanton.
- State and federal funds were used to repair the brick masonry and wood window lintels on the front façade at Native American Heritage Museum State Historic Site in Highland.



Agency Programs and Services Usage

Type	Fiscal Year 2007	Fiscal Year 2008
Admissions	140,665	143,353
Public programs	52,882	34,052
Special programs for children	38,705	35,471
Services	6,010,185	6,263,268
Grants	27	36
Total	6,242,464	6,476,180

This is a statistical breakdown of fiscal year 2008 programs and services usage.

FY 2008 Admissions

Site	Location	Paid	Complimentary	Total
Capitol Tour Center	Topeka	No charge	59,329	59,329
Constitution Hall	Lecompton	3,666	809	4,475
Cottonwood Ranch	Studley	594	260	854
First Territorial Capitol*	Fort Riley	No charge	1,234	1,234
Fort Hays	Hays	3,554	1,786	5,340
Goodnow House*	Manhattan	No charge	1,062	1,062
Grinter Place	Kansas City	Closed for rehabilitation	Closed for rehabilitation	0
Hollenberg Pony Express Station	Hanover	1,291	114	1,405
John Brown Museum*	Osawatomie	No charge	2,681	2,681
Kansas Museum of History	Topeka	36,207	10,626	46,833
Kaw Mission	Council Grove	3,100	722	3,822
Mine Creek	Pleasanton	1,019	210	1,229
Native American Heritage Museum	Highland	1,041	131	1,172
Pawnee Indian Museum	Republic	2,166	898	3,064
Potawatomi Mission	Topeka	No charge	6,775	6,775
Shawnee Indian Mission	Fairway	2,548	254	2,802
William Allen White House*	Emporia	1,134	142	1,276
Total		56,320	87,033	143,353

*Community partnership site



FY 2008 Public Programs

Site	Location	Onsite	Offsite	Total Served
Constitution Hall	Lecompton	1,584	2,305	3,889
Cottonwood Ranch	Studley	838	417	1,255
First Territorial Capitol*	Fort Riley	0	22	22
Fort Hays	Hays	2,196	260	2,456
Grinter Place	Kansas City	3,521	0	3,521
Hollenberg Pony Express Station	Hanover	750	0	750
John Brown Museum*	Osawatomie	675	847	1,522
Kansas Museum of History	Topeka	3,183	0	3,183
Kaw Mission	Council Grove	5,016	92	5,108
Mine Creek	Pleasanton	185	2,063	2,248
Marais des Cygnes	Pleasanton	80	0	80
Native American Heritage Museum	Highland	0	208	208
Pawnee Indian Museum	Republic	1,745	282	2,027
Shawnee Indian Mission	Fairway	7,510	155	7,665
William Allen White House*	Emporia	118	0	118
Total		27,401	6,651	34,052

*Community partnership site

“It was a pleasure to visit the historic site of Lecompton, Kansas [Constitution Hall State Historic Site] ... As a first time visitor to Kansas, the genuine welcome and friendliness I received was indeed kind.”

– Janise Mitchell



FY 2008 Special Programs for Children

Program	Location	Total Served
Bald Eagle Rendezvous	Lecompton	325
Daddy and Me Campout	Fairway	40
Discovery Place	Topeka	9,271
Happy Birthday, William Allen White	Emporia	50
History & Environmental Fair	Topeka	950
History Day	Statewide	780
Ice Cream Social	Emporia	50
Indian Education Program	Topeka	50
Kansas Day at the Capitol	Topeka	1,020
Kansas Day at Hollenberg Station	Hanover	35
Kansas Day at Kaw Mission	Council Grove	81
Kansas Day at the Museum	Topeka	1,400
Kansas Day at Shawnee Indian Mission	Fairway	27
<i>Kansas Kaleidoscope</i>	Statewide	437
Republic County Field Day	Republic	104
Rural School Days	Topeka	1,427
Thursdays at the Museum Summer Program	Topeka	144
Traveling Resource Trunks	Statewide	18,925
Tricks & Treats at the Boo-seum	Topeka	341
Young Troopers	Hays	14
Total		35,471

“Thank you so very much for a wonderful field trip. I was impressed with the overall tour ... As the first graders exclaimed, ‘This was the best field trip, ever!’”



FY 2008 Services

Type of Service	Total Served
Archeology Month – artifact identification	30
Archeology Training Program – Republic County	151
Historic Preservation Conference	126
Historic Preservation state and federal law reviews	2,789
Historic Preservation tax credits (federal) – open cases	112
Historic Preservation tax credits (state) – open cases	259
Interlibrary loan	2,675
<i>Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains</i>	2,765
KITES (Kansas Interpretive Traveling Exhibits Service)	53,300
<i>Kansas Memory</i> user sessions	138,192
Microfilm rolls (duplicates) produced	1,268
Microfilm rolls (originals) produced	130
Media request for information answered	161
Museum loans processed	411
Museum request for information answered	360
Photographic digital prints produced	977
Photographic digital scans produced	1,657
Photographic use permits granted	219
Podcast downloads	102,581
<i>Reflections</i> magazine	3,565
Research requests answered	4,509
State Archives & Library patrons	6,377
State Archives & Library tour participants	465
Retention and disposition schedules approved	78
State records retrievals	14,309
Teacher training participation	485
Third-party rental participation	24,739
Unmarked Burial Sites Preservation Act cases	10
Vital records workshop	35
Website user sessions	5,900,533
Total	6,263,268



FY 2008 Grants

Type of Service	Dollar Amount	Number of Projects
Historic Preservation Fund	\$ 208,763	14
Heritage Trust Fund	\$ 1,214,049	22
Total	\$ 1,422,812	36

FY 2008 Collections

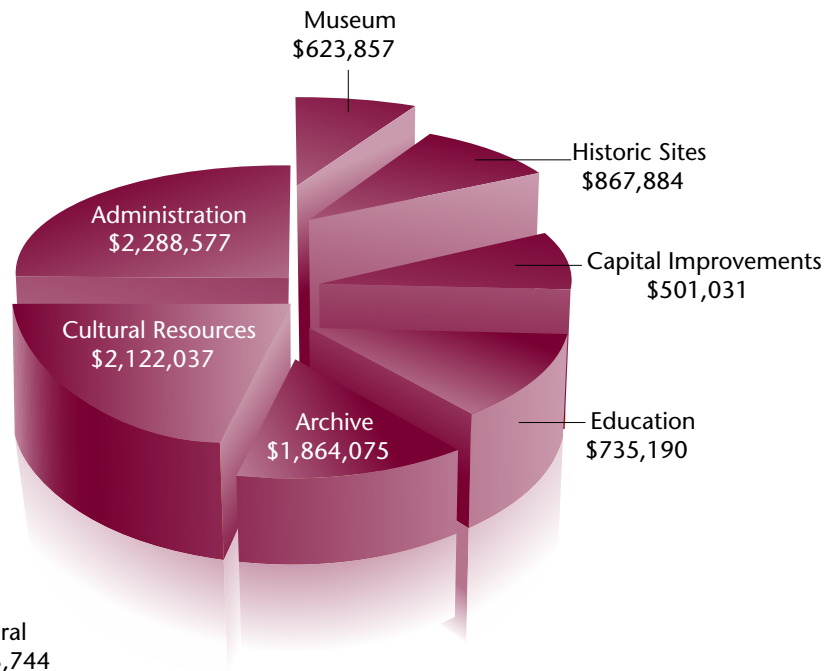
Just 14 years after Kansas became a state, the Historical Society officially began collecting documents and artifacts. These collections tell diverse stories of our state from the earliest times to the recent past.

Collection	Size
Archeological artifacts	4,932 cubic feet
Library books and pamphlets	436,834
Manuscript materials	10,665 cubic feet
Maps and architectural drawings	30,529
Microfilm reels	78,449
Museum artifacts	108,893
National Register and state register listings	1,097
Photographs and audio-visual items	491,849
State archival materials	34,977 cubic feet
State records (Records Center)	57,154 cubic feet

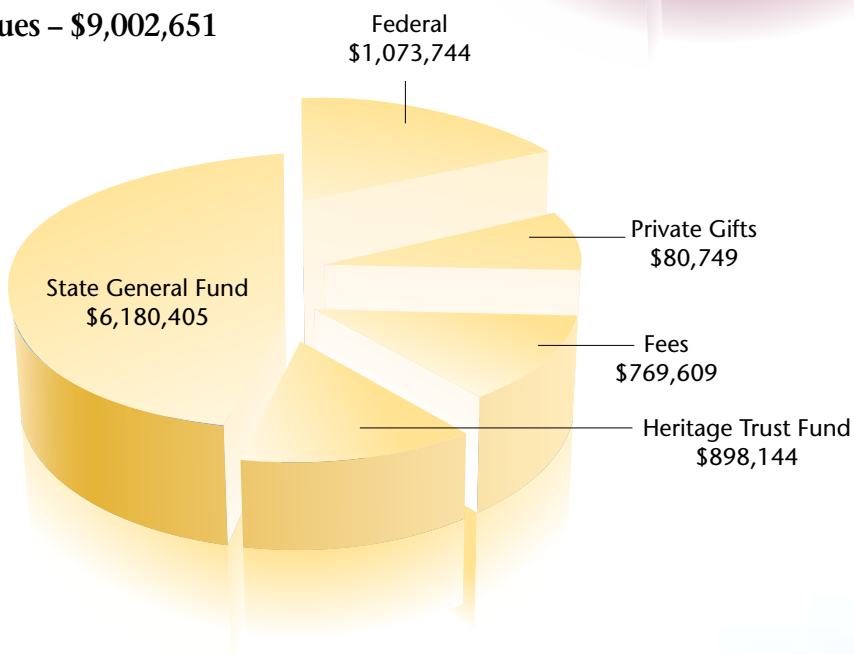


FY 2008 Resources

Expenditures – \$9,002,651



Revenues – \$9,002,651



Volunteers

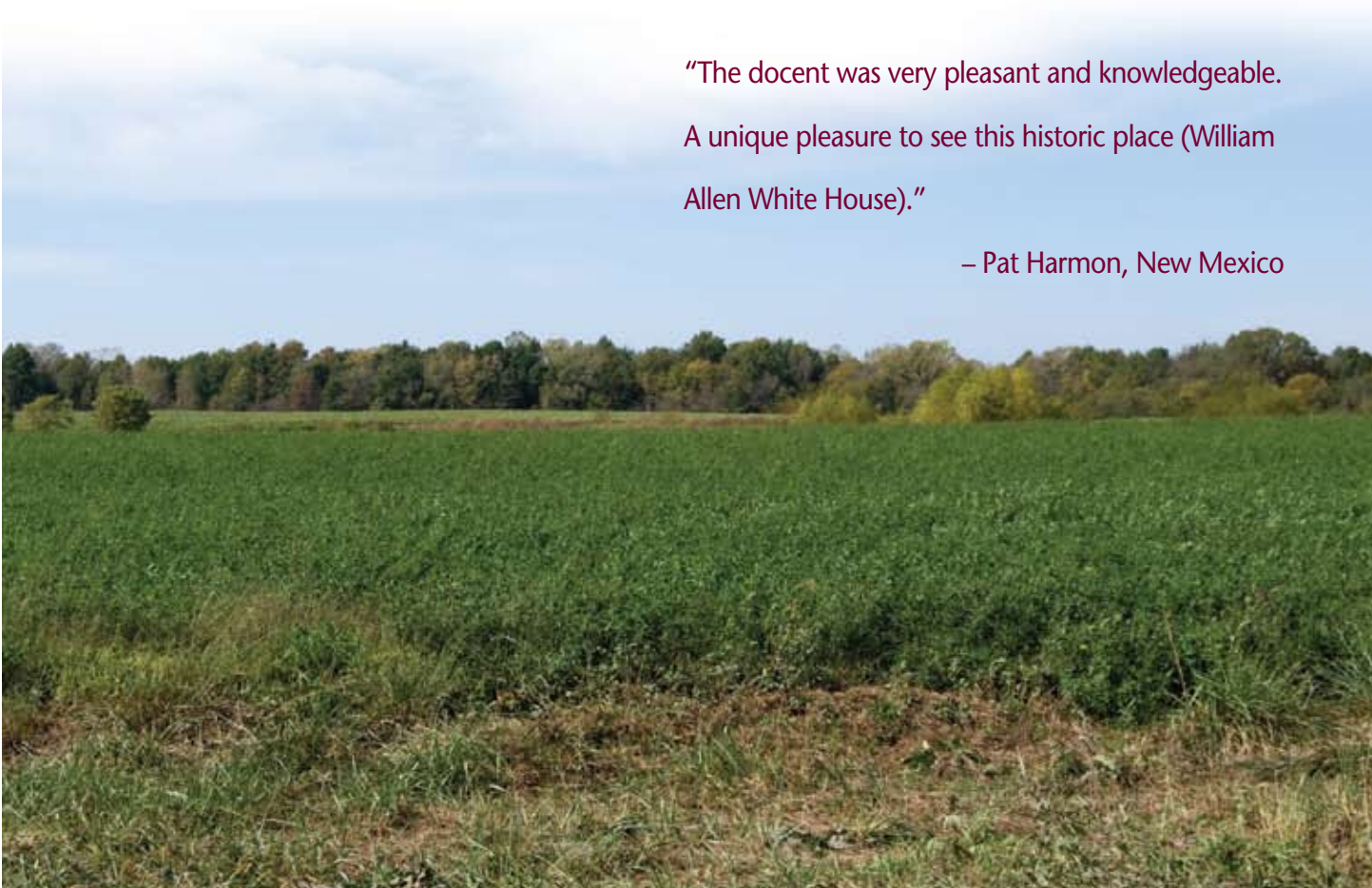
The Historical Society is grateful for its many dedicated volunteers who each year contribute thousands of hours to its success. Their contributions are varied – providing information and giving tours at the Kansas Museum of History, cleaning artifacts in the Archeology Lab, transcribing documents for the State Archives & Library, welcoming visitors to the state historic sites, and helping students climb to the top of the Kansas State Capitol dome. Volunteers for the Historical Society contributed more than 20,000 hours this year.

FY 2008 Volunteer Contributions

Service Area	Number of Volunteers	Hours Contributed
Archeology	22	2,180
Archives	32	2,923
Capitol Tour Center	8	203
Discovery Place	7	699
Docents – Kansas Museum of History	14	700
Information – Kansas Museum of History	10	666
Museum Store	4	970
Potawatomi Mission	10	1,355
Special projects	79	3,317
State Historic Sites	202	6,894
Summer youth	11	486
Total	399	20,393

“The docent was very pleasant and knowledgeable.
A unique pleasure to see this historic place (William
Allen White House).”

– Pat Harmon, New Mexico





Kansas Historical Society staff.

The Kansas Historical Society is part of the executive branch of state government. Information in this publication covers activities from July 1, 2007, through June 30, 2008. The Historical Society is grateful for support from Governor Kathleen Sebelius; the Kansas Legislature, the KSHS, Inc., board of directors; and the numerous private donors that have helped preserve the history of this great state.



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