The United States will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) during Calendar Year 2016 through the Preservation50 initiatives. To help launch the celebration in Oklahoma, Governor Mary Fallin proclaimed “January through December 2016 as Oklahoma Historic Preservation Year to highlight the state’s unique heritage and to call on our citizens to assist in the preservation of the special places that represent that heritage.”

The Oklahoma Archeological Survey; the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Review Committee; the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office; the Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Oklahoma Main Street Center; the Oklahoma State University Department of Geography, Department of History, and School of Architecture; the University of Oklahoma Department of Anthropology, College of Architecture, and Institute for Quality Communities; the Oklahoma Anthropological Society; and Preservation Oklahoma Inc. believe that historic preservation delivers great value to Oklahomans and that the National Historic Preservation Act has been essential to the protection of significant archeological and historic properties and that it will continue to strengthen preservation efforts over the next fifty years. These agencies and organizations, partnering with others across the state, will participate in Preservation50.

For more information about Oklahoma Historic Preservation Year and Preservation50 events, visit http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/spevents.htm or http://www.preservationok.org/calendar-of-events.html. Or, contact Melvena Heisch at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.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.

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This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240.

Mail all correspondence to Preservation Oklahoma.
POK SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR PRESERVATION LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Preservation Oklahoma seeks nominations for our annual Preservation Leadership Awards. These awards recognize the efforts of individuals, organizations, and government agencies that have worked tirelessly to save the important markers of our state’s rich and diverse history. The awards will be presented during the unveiling of the 2016 list of Oklahoma’s Most Endangered Places on April 5, 2016, in Tulsa.

Awards are presented in the following categories:

**Young Leadership Award**: Awarded to an individual under the age of 40 who has made a meaningful impact on the preservation community.

**Preservation Leadership Award**: Awarded in three categories (individual, organization, government agency) for outstanding contributions to historic preservation.

Nomination forms can be located at www.preservationok.org or by e-mailing david@preservationok.org. Nominations are due February 1.

OVERHOLSER MANSION OFFERS NEW PROGRAMMING

Beginning in February, the Overholser Mansion will offer guests of the mansion two new opportunities to learn more about the history and collections of this Oklahoma City treasure.

**Director’s Tours** will take place each Saturday at 2 p.m. Guests will have the opportunity to go behind the scenes and examine archival materials as well as other collections of the mansion not available during regular tours.

**Mysteries of the Mansion** will take place at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month. These extended tours will allow guests to tour the mansion at night, examine archival materials, as well as hear some amazing stories. Guests must RSVP in advance.

The Overholser Mansion is owned by the Oklahoma Historical Society and managed by Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.

More information is available at www.overholsermansion.org. For questions, please contact Lisa Escalon, Overholser Mansion Museum Coordinator, at overholsermansion@preservationok.org or at 405.525.5325.
Save the dates, June 1-3, 2016, for Preservation is Golden: Oklahoma’s 28th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference. In 2016, the United States will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through Preservation50. Government agencies, private organizations, and individual citizens will engage in programs and activities to highlight historic preservation successes over the last half century, evaluate the NHPA’s role in these achievements, and consider goals for the national preservation program for the next fifty years. Oklahoma’s 28th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference is just one of the ways the state’s preservation partners will join the celebration.

Preservation is Golden sessions address the impacts of the NHPA in Oklahoma, the standards for the appropriate treatment of historic properties, and the economic and social opportunities of historic preservation for communities of all sizes. The three concurrent tracks of sessions feature dozens of Oklahoma preservationists and special guest speakers, and include:

**TRACK A: Preservation50**
Sessions focus on the NHPA’s impacts on historic preservation in Oklahoma. Specific topics include development of the statewide preservation program; the National Register of Historic Places; protection of archeological and historic properties; and the federal, tribal, state, and local partnerships created under the NHPA.

**TRACK B: Gold Medal Preservation Performances**
The National Park Service began the development of standards and guidelines for preservation treatment options in the early 1970s, and sessions demonstrate the application of the standards for identification, evaluation, restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization, preservation, and reconstruction through a series of case studies.

**TRACK C: Golden Opportunities**
Historic preservation provides opportunities for economic and social benefits in rural and urban areas. Sessions highlight impacts of Main Street, the need for a new generation of preservation leaders, agencies and organizations that strengthen preservation, and much more.

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

Conference cosponsors include Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office; Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Oklahoma Main Street Center; Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.; and Main Street Enid, Inc.


If you have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO (405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org) or Kelly Tompkins, Director, Main Street Enid, Inc. (580/234-1052 or Kelly@mainstreetenid.org).
SCHOLARSHIPS TO ATTEND 2016 STATEWIDE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE NOW AVAILABLE

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships for Oklahoma college and university students to attend Preservation is Golden: Oklahoma’s 28th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference. It will be held June 1-3, 2016, in downtown Enid (full registration and program details available in late April).

Twenty (20) scholarships are available on a first-come basis to those who qualify. The scholarship covers the conference registration fee, and the application deadline is 5:00pm, Friday, May 6. For details and an application form contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at 405/522-4484 or mheisch@okhistory.org, or visit the SHPO’s website at www.okhistory.org/shpo/conference.htm.

SHPO ANNOUNCES HPRC’S 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), is pleased to announce the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Review Committee’s (HPRC) meeting schedule for calendar year 2016. The governor appoints the members of the HPRC to advise the SHPO about nominations to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and other preservation issues. Current HPRC members include William P. Corbett (Historian, Tahlequah); Ron Frantz (Architect, Oklahoma City); John D. Hartley (Prehistoric Archeologist, Norman); Arn Henderson (Architectural Historian, Norman); and Charles S. Wallis (Historical Archeologist, Norman). The HPRC’s 2015 meetings will begin at 1:30pm on Thursday, January 21, April 21, July 21, and October 20.

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

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

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

Louis Geischen Horse Barn, Near Orlando. Photo: SHPO
Join the Preservation50 Celebration!

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) became law on October 15, 1966, and the United States will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. Therefore, it is appropriate that we reflect on the many ways the law has fostered the identification and treatment of Oklahoma's significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, and objects over the last fifty years and that we expand the use of its programs and the Standards developed for them to protect our sense of place for future generations.

The Oklahoma Historical Society's mission is to collect, preserve, and share the state's history, and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) contributes to the accomplishment of this mission through the federal preservation programs established under the NHPA. The SHPO appreciates its many partners who complement these efforts to meet the goals and objectives of Tomorrow's Legacy: Oklahoma's Statewide Preservation Plan (http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm). One of the objectives calls on the statewide preservation community to join the celebration of the NHPA's fiftieth anniversary. Here are some ways to learn more about Preservation50 events in Oklahoma and across the nation.

The National Park Service's Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science directorate is celebrating both the NHPA's 50th anniversary and the Centennial of the NPS (hashtags: #FindYourPark, #EncuentraTuParque, #FindYourHeritage, and #NationalHistoricLandmark). With a social media campaign that will highlight the great preservation work that has taken place in all 50 states for the last 50 years with its State, Tribal, local government, and private partners. Launched in November 2015 and running through November 2016, NPS Cultural Resources is sharing preservation success stories from across the nation focusing on a state or territory each week. Using the hashtag #50for50 in conjunction with #Preservation50, they will tie together all the good work that the NHPA has inspired and accomplished through partnerships in the 50 states over the last 50 years. Oklahoma will be featured the week of July 25, 2016. Visit http://www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/50for50.htm

Preservation is Golden: Oklahoma’s 28th Annual Statewide Preservation Conference (June 1-3, 2016, in Enid) will focus on the impacts of the NHPA on the preservation of Oklahoma's heritage. Also, a photographic exhibit about the history of historic preservation in Oklahoma will be presented at the Oklahoma History Center (October 2016). To find out more about these and other Preservation50 events, to receive weekly e-mail updates, or to promote your local Preservation50 event, view the Oklahoma Preservation Calendar of Events at http://www.preservationok.org/calendar-of-events.html.
NEW OKLAHOMA NATIONAL REGISTER LISTINGS

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

The theme for 2015 in National Register of Historic Places nominations for Oklahoma was the Certified Local Government (CLG) Program. Under the CLG program, local governments that enforce appropriate historic preservation zoning ordinances are delegated certain SHPO responsibilities, receive federal matching funds for development of their local preservation program, and participate in the NRHP nomination process. In 2015, fifteen nominations came from communities that participate in the CLG program.

New additions to the National Register for 2015 include: First National Bank in Skiatook; First Church of Christ Scientist and St. John Baptist Church and Rectory in Ponca City; Oklahoma Iron Works-Bethlehem Supply Company Building, Elizabeth Manor and Sally Ann Apartments in Tulsa; McAlester Downtown Historic District; Hayes-Kennedy-Rivoli Theater Building in Blackwell; C.A. Comer House in Dewey; Czech Hall of Oklahoma City, Lodge Laska; KCS Railway Depot in Stilwell; Fuksa Portion of the Chisholm Trail Roadbed near Bison; James Martin Baggs Log Barn near Pickens; the Balloon Hangar at Henry Post Army Airfield (Fort Sill); and, the Seminole Municipal Building. All of the nominations can be found by visiting: http://nr_shpo.okstate.edu/

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

For detailed information, contact Lynda Ozan at 405/522-4478 or email lozan@okhistory.org.
ACHP ANNOUNCES 2016 TRAINING

The ACHP is an independent federal agency established by the National Historic Preservation Act, and it is authorized to comment on federal undertakings and to encourage federal agencies to consider historic resources in their project planning. The ACHP’s regulations (36 CFR Part 800) provides the steps that other federal agencies follow to comply with Section 106 of the NHPA as they plan federally funded, licensed, or permitted projects and carry out consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, Tribal Historic Preservation Offices, tribal governments, and others.

In 2016, ACHP staff instructors will offer Section 106 training in cities nationwide. The interactive courses feature practical guidance and opportunities to apply learning in case-based exercises. The Section 106 Essentials covers the fundamentals needed to carry out or participate in a federal historic preservation review. A case study and small group exercises provide opportunities for participants to apply the ACHP’s regulations to real-life scenarios.

The Advanced Seminar is a one-day course that addresses the effective management of complex or controversial undertakings and includes a newly expanded focus on the development of successful Section 106 agreements. Experienced Section 106 practitioners will improve their consultation and agreement drafting skills by sharing ideas and working through problem-solving exercises in a smaller class setting.

Visit http://www.achp.gov/106select.html for registration details and pricing. Please contact Cindy Bienvenue at cbienvenue@achp.gov if you have any questions.

ACHP Section 106 training supports continuing education requirements for professional planners and architects. ACHP is a Certification Maintenance Provider for APA/AICP for the Section 106 Essentials (12 CM) and the Section 106 Advanced Seminar (6 CM). The ACHP is registered with AIA/CES for the Essentials (12 LUs). For convenient, instructor-led training on specific Section 106 topics, check out the ACHP’s Section 106 Webinar Series. For more information, visit www.achp.gov/sec106webinar.html.

ROUTE 66: THE ROAD AHEAD INITIATIVE FINAL REPORT

The Route 66: The Road Ahead Initiative Steering Committee received feedback from over 300 Rt. 66 stakeholders who took part in this past summer’s series of Collaboration Workshops. Based on the results of the workshops, the steering committee has produced a final report (https://gallery.mailchimp.com/b0483cd5a1a3dbbce4754e539/files/Final_Report.pdf), which includes next steps for achieving its mission:

“To revitalize and sustain Route 66 as a national icon, for the benefit of all Route 66 communities, travelers, and businesses/attractions, through collaborative partnerships focused on promotion, preservation, research/education, and economic development.”

With the release of the Final Report, the steering committee believes that a clear vision is set forth: The creation of a new organization focused on promoting and facilitating collaboration amongst all Route 66 stakeholders. Everyone with an interest in and passion for Route 66 is invited to join the effort being led by the Route 66: The Road Ahead Initiative. Learn more about the Route 66: The Road Ahead Initiative at its website: www.sites.google.com/site/66roadahead/.
OLD SCHOOL, NEW TECHNOLOGY

The Amber-Pocasset 3rd grade is producing an iMovie about the WPA-built Pocasset Gymnasium as their part of the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust (OETT) grant the elementary school received in 2015. The OETT grant provided the funds to purchase iPads for each classroom. As part of their moviemaking using the OETT iPads, the class interviewed Lee and Cindy Savage about the building and efforts to preserve it which include listing on the National Register in 1996 and inclusion on Preservation Oklahoma’s Most Endangered Historic Places list in 2013. Although the building remained in use as the school gymnasium until about 1989, the class was not having much luck in locating historic images to include in their digital presentation. Using the file information in the SHPO’s Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, an image of the building just after its 1941 completion was located in the Chickasha newspaper. The Grady County Historical Society scanned the original newspaper to provide the 3rd graders with a quality image of the sandstone building.

OSAGE NATION OFFICIALLY DESIGNATED THPO

The Director of the National Park Service (NPS) has formally approved the proposal of the Osage Nation to assume certain State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), duties on tribal trust lands in Oklahoma. Provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) authorize this special designation. The Tribe has assumed formal responsibility for review of Federal undertakings pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA. Additionally, they have assumed all of the other SHPO functions set out in the NHPA with the exceptions of assisting in the certification of local governments and in the evaluation of Investment Tax Credit rehabilitation projects. The Osage Nation’s Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) is:

Andrea A. Hunter, Ph.D.
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Osage Nation

627 Grandview
Pawhuska, OK 74056
918/287-5328
Fax: 918/287-5376
ahunter@osagenation-nsn.gov

With this designation, seventeen (17) Oklahoma tribal governments now have formal THPOs. For more information about the role of tribal governments in the federal historic preservation program and for a complete list of Oklahoma’s THPOs, visit the SHPO’s website at http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/tribalcon- sultation.htm.

For a complete list of the tribes that have assumed SHPO functions nationwide, visit the NPS website at http://grants.cr.nps.gov/THPO_Review/index.cfm.
NRHP 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 (NRHP) nominations. The SHPO has reserved $10,000 of its FY 2016 Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) allocation from the U. S. Department of the Interior for the program. The funds will be equally divided for award in two grant rounds with any funds remaining from Round 1 carried over for Round 2. Applications and detailed instructions will be available from the SHPO on February 1. The deadline for Round 1 applications is 5:00pm, April 1, and the deadline for Round 2 applications is 5:00pm, June 3. Each grant is limited to $1,000.00, and the applicant must provide a nonfederal, cash match of at least $700.00.

Grant recipients will use the grant funds and nonfederal match to retain an appropriately qualified professional to prepare a complete individual property nomination package for the NRHP. Applicants must be aware that $1,700.00 (federal grant + nonfederal match) is only an estimate of the cost for such projects and that more than the minimum $700 nonfederal match may be necessary to cover the consultant fee. Consultants must consider the nature of the property proposed for nomination and many other factors as they develop their fee proposals.

The NRHP is the catalogue of our nation’s significant buildings, structures, sites, districts, objects, and landscapes important in our past. While listing is not a guarantee of preservation or of financial assistance, the NRHP status of a property is often critical to the strategy for its preservation. The NRHP provides increased public awareness of these irreplaceable resources, provides limited protection for them, qualifies property owners for federal and state tax credits under certain circumstances, and may qualify the property owner for grant assistance when such programs are funded.

To obtain an application form go to www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrgrant.htm. You may also contact the SHPO at 405/521-6249.

Information about the SHPO and its programs, including the NRHP, is available at www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm.

BALLARD JOINS SHPO STAFF

The Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office is pleased to announce that Stephanie Ballard has joined the staff as the new survey coordinator. Stephanie is a native Virginian and holds a B.A. from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. She also holds a M.A from Durham University in the United Kingdom. She has a varied background that includes work in cultural resource management and historical research. Stephanie can be reached at 405/522-2713 or email sballard@okhistory.org.

Photo: S. Ballard
Every American has places that are important to them. Places they care about. Places that matter.

To preserve these treasures, the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) has launched our This Place Matters campaign—an ambitious project to identify, protect, and restore the sites that matter to people like you who drive our growing preservation movement.

In the year ahead, NTHP will be ramping up this vital effort to raise public awareness of the places that are meaningful to Americans.

Check out ThisPlaceMatters.org and watch a brief video featuring some of the landmarks, neighborhoods, and landscapes that matter to National Trust supporters. And please share photos and stories of the places that are important to YOU with the hashtag #ThisPlaceMatters.
Help POK Preserve Oklahoma's Historic Treasures!

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

Membership Benefits

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

Membership Levels:

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

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

To join, please visit http://www.preservationok.org/become-a-member.html and join through our secure online payment form. You can also join by calling the POK offices!