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HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Interpretive Themes of the Three Major Time Periods Covered

1. The trading and organization period (1865-1872)

- A. Trading posts at the confluence of the Big and Little Arkansas Rivers 1865-1870
- B. The military encampment 1867-1870
- C. Formation of the town 1869-1870
- D. Attracting a business base: chasing the railroad and the cattle trade 1870-1872

2. The cattle trade era (1870-1876)

- A. Securing the cattle trade
- B. Forming a community with an economic base in railroads and cattle
- C. Social organization: schools, churches, and social institutions in a frontier town
- D. Legal organization: jails, courts, and law enforcement in a wide-open city
- E. Race, class, and gender on the frontier: minorities in the cattle trade and the city, roles of women and ethnic groups.

3. The period of metropolitan expansion of Wichita and the development of agrarian Sedgwick County (1872-1880).

- A. Construction of a city: from wood to brick and stone
- B. Developing industry to succeed the cattle trade
- C. Refining social and legal organization
- D. Becoming an agricultural center: railroads and cash-crop farming
- E. The emergence of ethnic and racial communities
- F. Laying the basis for the future: attracting new industry and promoting the community.
- G. Frustration in agriculture: the roots of the agrarian revolt

Five Interpretive Districts and Their Themes

1. Old Town District Theme: The Old Town District represents the early settlement of what became Wichita and Sedgwick County before formal organization in 1870. Special emphasis is placed on the themes of early settlement **with Darius Munger and his town building efforts**, lucrative trade with Native Americans, hunting for profit, and initial town building. The Munger house, its inhabitants and lives, serve as a key vehicle for interpretation of this recreated historic area. The Trader's cabin, which is now called Gifford's General Store, reinforces the aspects of the economics and community of initial settlement. Visitors should be made aware that American settlement started in the Wichita area before it was legal. Town building required sufficient capital

investment, surveying, platting the land into sellable plots and a population to purchase property and provide the requisite goods and services for a growing population. Trading with Native Americans for animal hides and the exploitation of the region's wildlife served as the basis for Wichita's first economic system. The Treaty of the Little Arkansas in 1865 and its subsequent removal of the indigenous people allowed for the prompt settlements of the Osage Indian Trust lands before and after 1870. Local Native Americans used the Arkansas River Valley and its natural resources for food, clothing and shelter. Items not produced from the natural environment came from American traders that frequented the area well before permanent settlement.

The Old Town interpretive goals are to acquaint the visitor with:

- The use of available natural resources in building construction
- The removal of Native Americans to the Indian Territory
- Trade with Native Americans in the Indian Territory

A developing early economy based on hunting and trading
Life in a recently settled region
The impact of settlement on the Environment and Native Americans

2. Residential District Theme: The Residential District emphasizes the lives of Wichita's residents, diversity of social classes and their lifestyles in the 1870s. The district also relates the establishment of a permanent population and the economic basis for their existence. The resident's cultural institutions such as churches and schools highlight the reliance on long practiced rituals and customs. The District shows the variety of people that lived in Wichita and that residents, whether upper, middle or lower class, sought and recreated characteristics of their

life with which they were familiar. Wichita's numerous organized religious denominations and educational facilities served as two prized foundations for people of all ages and classes. Schools and churches in turn cemented the community's bond and encouraged its survival. The District's built environment shows that the emerging city was progressive in its architectural styles and its development as a modern urban center of the 1870s.

The Residential District's interpretive goals are to acquaint the visitor with:

- The establishment of permanent residents in a growing Wichita
- The accompanying cultural institutions that arrived with immigrants
- The change in lifestyle as compared with the Old Town District
- The varied social and economic classes that comprised Wichita in the 1870s
- The lives of varied families living in the same community

3. Industrial District Theme: The Industrial District including the blacksmith shop, cattle pens, grain elevator, and the planning mill emphasize the rise of Wichita's industrial development and growth in the 1870s. The District best illustrates the magnitude of Wichita and Sedgwick County's regional relationships with outside markets. The railroad's construction to Wichita in 1872 provided a physical link to the international market place and made Wichita a cattle town for a short time. Grain, livestock, animal hides and other raw materials left

Wichita by rail and that same railroad in turn brought both unrefined and finished goods for sale in the region. A local industrial center started almost immediately in Wichita with brickyards, tanneries, several wagon works and planning mills supplying the local residents and adding to the expanding community's economy. Buildings and their interpretation illustrate the change from the limited economic base of the cattle trade to a broad based economic system rooted in commerce, manufacturing and agriculture.

The Industrial District's interpretive goals are to acquaint the visitor with:

- The diversity of the Wichita economy at the end of the cattle trade era
- The impact of the railroad and its coming to Wichita and Sedgwick County
- The city's commitment to further industrial and economic expansion
- The role of mass production in late 19th century America
- The life of industrial workers in an urban setting

4. Business District Theme: The Business District emphasizes Wichita's mercantile interests and its ties to local, regional, national and international markets. The district illustrates the successful aspects of town building and the wide range of commercial interests available in Wichita during the 1870s. The District also ties to the DeVore Farm and the nature of the agricultural economy that was well established by the mid-1870s. Urban Wichita residents and Sedgwick County farmers played a

major role in the transition from cattle town to one that had a varied local economy. Drug stores, harness shops, clothiers, banks, newspapers, law offices and more blended into a substantial commercial interest. Just as important to the Business District and the Industrial District was the fact that Wichita and Sedgwick County could and did have strong reciprocal economic relationships with local, regional, national and international markets. The railroad and the purchasing public's

desire provide the needed infrastructure and

demand for such relationships.

The Business District's interpretive goals are to acquaint the visitor with:

- The rapid economic change from hunting/trading to commercial trade
- The monetary relationship between Wichita and its rural population
- The role and diversity of commercial enterprises in 1870s Wichita
- The variety of goods and services available in Wichita and Sedgwick County
- The role of women and ethnic minorities in Wichita businesses

5. DeVore Farm Theme: The 1880 DeVore Farm emphasizes the rise and prominence of agriculture in Sedgwick County from 1870 to 1880. DeVore Farm interpretation relates the immigration of agrarians and their culture to Sedgwick County and the Arkansas River Valley. The farm continues relating the relationship of agriculture with Wichita and their interrelated market ties. Overseas markets, crop failures and war impacted Sedgwick County farmers both positively and negatively in the 1870s. The site's mechanized equipment illustrates how

farmers embraced technological change and its ability to produce more from the land with less physical labor. Farmers willingly expended capital and time to purchase machinery that produced maximum returns on their monetary investment in a market driven economy. Gender roles and the division of labor clarify how a family, along with shared labor from neighbors and friends, built and sustained an agricultural operation in Sedgwick County.

The 1880 DeVore Farm's interpretive goals are to acquaint the visitor with:

- The acquisition and division of land in Sedgwick County
- The use of livestock and technology in historic agriculture
- The function of agriculture in Sedgwick County
- The growth of agriculture after the Wichita cattle drive era declined in 1874
- The effect of mechanized agriculture on crop production and the environment
- Life on Sedgwick County farms from 1870 to 1880

Additional Interpretive Themes

Social history: class division community events and rituals, religious history

Women's history: entrepreneurs, prostitutes, farm & urban women & their social roles

Military history: Civil War in Kansas, Camp Beecher, Plains Indian War Campaigns

Agricultural history: DeVore Farm and Sedgwick County agriculture

Minority history: ethnic and racial minorities and their role in Sedgwick County

Economic history: cattle trade, town building, and the coming of the railroad

Industrial history: local industrial base (planning mill, blacksmithing, rail road)

Cattle Trade History: Chisholm Trail, economic impact of the cattle trade, rise of ranching

Environmental history: trapping and hunting, trade with Native Americans, despoiling the Great Plains

An Outline of the Essential Wichita History 1865 To 1880

1. THE LITTLE ARKANSAS TREATIES, 1865, and subsequent actions by Congress 1865-1870, ended the Wichita and Osage ownership of the land. The forced removal-of the Indians to Indian Territory was attended by great loss of life on the part of the Indians.

- a. The Little Arkansas Treaties 1865.
- b. The forced removal of the Wichitas in 1867.
- c. A joint resolution of Congress ending all treaties and negotiations with Indian Tribes, 1869.
- d. A Congressional appropriations rider, 1870.
- e. The forced removal of the Osages in 1870.

2. TRADING AND HUNTING: The principal original economies for settlers:

- a. Trading with the Indians in the area 1863-1870.
- b. Trading with the first white settlers and military men in the area 1867 -on.
- c. Hunting wild game such as buffalo, deer, elk, antelope, etc., for hides and meat.
- d. Trapping wild fur bearing animals for fur.

Important TRADERS AND HUNTERS:

- a. Jesse Chisholm (1805-1868?)
- b. J. R. Mead --trading in the area by 1863. Set up temporary post near present Clearwater in 1865.
- c. William Greiffenstein --Set up a temporary post-west of the River forks in 1865.

FREIGHTING AND PROVISIONS SUPPLY: A second economy was created by the demands of the treaties entitlement provisions of goods and rations for the reservation Indians in the Indian Territory. Wichita became a supply center for these provisions as well as the center of a shipping industry, based on hauling the supplies to I.T. by freight wagon train.

3. 1867 TO 1870, SETTLEMENT OF WICHITA –THE PRE-ORGANIZATIONAL PERIOD.

- a. The Wichita Land and Town Company started in Emporia in 1868, with Munger, its agent, who was brought to area in April 1868.
- b. Munger started to run his hotel 1868. Munger was Justice of the Peace. The Munger Hotel became the nucleus of a small and growing village.
- c. A military camp, finally known as Camp Beecher, was established in 1868 and abandoned in 1869.
- d. E. H. Durfee set up a trading post in the area in August of 1868 Greiffenstein bought the post in 1869.
- e. The area is marked by frontier violence and lawlessness.

WICHITA AND SEDGWICK COUNTY WERE INCORPORATED IN 1870:

- a. D. S. Munger representing the Wichita Land and Town Co. filed a claim on 160 acres in 1870.
- b. Eli T Waterman filed a claim south of Mungers'. William Greiffenstein bought the east half of this.
- c. Wichita is incorporated on July 21, 1870. There were 123 petitioners, including Mrs. McCarty. It was incorporated with a board of Trustees and a President.
- d. Later elections were held and, in 1871, E. B. Allen became the first Mayor.
- e. The first city ordinances are written with a view to curbing the violence in the area.
- f. Munger and his company competed with Greiffenstein to build the business center of the new settlement. Greiffenstein won. By 1872, Greiffenstein's north Main Street was the business center. There were 175 buildings in town.

4. TOWN BUILDING 1870-1873: William Greiffenstein and J. R. Mead worked together to relocate the business center of town to Douglas Avenue. The established north Main Street merchants objected and competition was fierce. A small land boom was created.

- a. J. R. Mead organized a railroad in 1871, The Wichita and Southwestern. Mead and Greiffenstein and their railroad company got the County to float a \$200,000 bond to have- the railroad built. As planned, it was immediately bought by the Santa Fe railroad.
- b. The competing north Main merchants build the imposing First National Bank in 1871 and the even more impressive Occidental Hotel in 1873.
- c. Wm Greiffenstein then built the prominent Eagle Block in 1872 and the Douglas Avenue House in 1873 both on Douglas Ave.
- d. Due to extraordinary efforts to develop the city, the population of Wichita went from 607 in 1870 to 3,138 in 1873.

5. THE CATTLE TRADE: 1870-1876:

- a. In spring of 1870, four Wichita businessman known thereafter as the "four horsemen" canvassed the trails for herds and redirected them to Wichita. Cowboys were given the "freedom of the city." Saloons, brothels, and gambling houses ran at full tilt.

- b. 1872, the peak year, 80,000 head of cattle, left Wichita on trains for the eastern slaughterhouses. The cattle market in Wichita of \$2,000,000 that year.
- c. A committee of seven is established by the city to pay off unhappy farmers whose crops the herds trample.
- d. A little wooden jail was built in 1871 to "cool" the excesses of rowdy cowboys. A larger one was built in 1874.
- e. The city fined gambling, prostitution and liqueur with the philosophy that the fines, without taxes on business, was enough to run city government.
- f. The Texas cattle trade ended in 1876. This was due to two things:
 - i. The railroads moved to the south and west, and
 - ii. The State Texas cattle quarantine line was moved west of Wichita, as a favor to local farmers.

6. THE GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE: 1870-1880:

- a. In 1872, there were no grain elevators in Wichita. In 1878, two years after the collapse of the cattle trade, there were eight. During the harvest of 1876, 600 farm wagons a week jammed the city's streets, waiting for a turn to unload grain at the local elevators.
- b. In 1872 there were 26 acres planted in wheat in Sedgwick County, and no reported harvest, in 1878 there were 86,428 acres in wheat which yielded 1,891,8,28 bushels. This added \$1,134,297.80 to the local economy. Corn, as with other crops, also increased in the county's first decade, from 757 acres in 1872 to 55,701 acres in 1878.
- c. Natural disasters hindered farming. In the winter of 1874 was very severe. In spring of 1874 there was a grasshopper plague. Some pioneer farmers did not survive these events or the high interest rates charged by moneylenders and bankers.
- d. Domestic farm animals replaced the wild game animals, which were being hunted to near extinction.

7. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROGRESS 1870 -1880:

- a. There was a Masonic Lodge by 1870 other fraternal orders followed.
- b. German immigrants started a Turnverein, or European style health and fitness society in 1871.
- c. Eagle Hall, built in 1872, was the site of many plays, theatrical performances, lectures, and concerts.
- d. The Wichita Literary Society was started in 1872, the Library and Lecture Association was started in 1877 with the purpose of starting a library.
- e. Public Schools were neglected in the 1870s, school was often held anywhere there was room.

8. REFORM MOVEMENTS, 1873-1880:

Two churches were organized in 1870. The number grew to seven church organizations and six churches by the end of the decade. There was serious objection to the vice and violence that catering to the cowboys and others in the community engendered. This came from both the resident community of Wichita, and, for slightly different reasons, the farmers.

- a. The national Grange movement, the Patrons of Husbandry acquired many local members in the early 1870s. They opposed the cattle trade in Wichita and its attendant injustices to farmers.
- b. The Ladies Relief Society of Wichita --formed to give relief to stricken farmers in 1873.
- c. W. E. Stanley and the political stand against prostitution in 1877. The City council denied that there was a problem.
- d. The Sedgwick County Temperance Union was started in 1878.
- e. Wichita, as elsewhere came under the statewide prohibition which passed in 1880 and took effect the following year.

A Brief Overview Of Kansas History And Settlement

The Central Plains caused explorers and travelers though the region to consider it a wasteland unsuitable for agricultural development. In fact, for many years the area was referred to as the "Great

American Desert," a label that did little to inspire white settlement of the land. As the national policy of Indian removal progressed to the Kansas area,

white settlement, particularly in the northeast, progressed rapidly.

The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 established Kansas as a U.S. Territory. The territory was established at a time when there was great national division over slavery and the admission of new states. Under the terms of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, residents would be allowed to determine whether Kansas would be admitted as a free or slave state. That period of determination was marked by fierce debate and disagreement, fraudulent elections, political unrest and conflict that earned the territory the title of "Bleeding Kansas." Kansas was admitted to the Union on January 29, 1861.

Though the northeastern part of the state boasted such rapidly developing towns as Atchison, Lawrence, Leavenworth, and Topeka, most of south central Kansas still belonged to the Osage Nation, and was not officially opened to white settlement. A

number of early entrepreneurs roamed the area hunting and trading among the Indians. However, the Civil War stalled much of the activity in the south central region. Many of the traders left during those years.

After the resolution of the war, settlers began to flood the area in anticipation of legalized settlement. Although many squatters began to engage in urban development, the land was not legally available for settlement until 1870, when a series of treaties were successfully negotiated. The outcome was the legalized purchase of the former Osage Trust Lands for \$1.25 an acre, and the removal of the Osage and other resident Indians to Indian Territory in the south. The availability of this land opened another chapter in Kansas's history, and led to the development of a south central city to rival the economic strongholds in northeastern Kansas.

Historical Overview Of Wichita & Sedgwick County **H. Craig Miner and William Unrau, from Old Cowtown Museum's Storyline**

From the beginnings of its history, Wichita and its immediate surroundings were intricately related to the Indians of the south-central plains and the emigrant tribes who in the 1860s and 1870s were forced out of Kansas to the Indian Territory to the south. In the wake of the massacre of Southern Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians in 1864, at Sand Creek in Eastern Colorado Territory, remnants of these tribes fled eastward into Kansas. Here, at the confluence of the Little and Big Arkansas, they, and the Kiowa and Comanches (who had also suffered at the hands of invading whites) were in part placated by federal negotiators by the Little Arkansas Treaty of 1865. Several early Wichita businessmen were either directly or indirectly involved in these negotiations. The subsequent Treaty of Medicine Lodge of 1867, just southwest of Wichita, provided more stringent and detailed plans for tribal removal and was significantly related to the emerging white settlement of the Wichita area.

Refugee Wichita Indian settlement at the end of the Civil War constituted another important episode in the human occupation of the and the complex Osage Trust Lands settlement of the late 1860s that opened the floodgates of white emigration and

urbanization to Wichita stands as one of the most important and far-reaching land dispossession chapters in the history of the trans-Missouri West.

Contemporary with the opening of the land to white settlement was the arrival of adventuresome and profit-seeking traders who exploited the Indians and their federal annuity funds, and who saw in the Wichita area an ideal site for mercantile advancement, transportation development, and town speculation. All of these developments were enhanced by the enormous markets provided by the "treaty" Indians in the Indian Territory markets that made early Wichita a major western emporium for supplying the Indian agencies and federal military installations in the Indian Territory and adjacent areas of the Southwest.

There are readers of western literature who would find it difficult to believe that there could have been a viable village economy at Wichita before the arrival of the railroad, before the impact of the cattle trade and even before the Indian title to its location was extinguished. The existing wealth and amenities necessary to attract the railroad and the cowboys came from the dynamics of the earliest unincorporated stick and sod town, sharing its site

with a group of refugee Indians and a dugout military post. The key to Wichita's prosperity before 1870 was subsidies from the federal government. Following the Civil War the U.S. accomplished the final concentration of once self-sufficient Indian tribes on reserves in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) and contracted for their subsistence with traders and freighters in adjacent frontier outposts like Wichita. One of the treaties to accomplish Indian removal (the Little Arkansas Treaty) was negotiated at the site of Wichita in 1865. Wichita traders, led by James R. Mead, used profits gained from commerce with the Wichita Indians, who were moved to the Arkansas fork by the government during the Civil War, to expand their operations, to the tribes newly located to the south. A primary middleman in this exchange, Jesse Chisholm, laid out a trail between Wichita and the Indian Territory that would have its share of fame. To aid in the campaigning necessary to bring some tribes to reservations, a small military post, named Camp Beecher, was established at Wichita in 1868 and remained one year as an initial market for saloons and stores.

In addition to the federal monies available for supplying the Indians in the Indian Territory, the earliest Wichitans also added profits from hunting. They hauled buffalo and other hides first to market at Leavenworth and shortly to their own tanning companies. By 1870, when certainty about the removal to Indian Territory of the resident Osages allowed formal incorporation of Wichita, it was ready to take full advantage of the promise of the Texas cattle herds making their way north along the Chisholm Trail.

Wichita was an important cattle-shipping center for only three seasons following the arrival of a branch of the Santa Fe railroad in 1872. By 1876 extension of the railroads, taxation of cattle drives by Indian tribes in eastern Indian Territory, and movement of the state quarantine line regulating driving of Texas longhorns moved the trade almost entirely to Dodge City. Yet Wichita shipped 80,000 cattle from its stockyards in 1872 and 66,000 in 1873, and the accompanying banking, grocery, boot making, hostelry and vice businesses were enough of a boon to the local economy to establish the town as a regional power. More important, experience with the cattle trade taught Wichita business leaders the importance of low taxes, minimal government bureaucracy, flexible law enforcement and heavy

promotion in attracting and keeping industry in a city that had no obvious natural advantages over its competitors.

Wichita promoters gave financial inducements to cattlemen to bring their herds to town, printed expensive flyers, floated a \$200,000 county bond issue to attract the railroad, and hired agents to circulate among the drovers in Texas and among potential cattle buyers in Illinois and Indiana. To finance this, a special tax was levied on merchants with the promise that if the campaign were successful, all city revenues in the future cattle town would come from license fees on gambling and vice.

Through the seasons of 1872 and 1873 fines from prostitution, along with license fees from "dram shops" (saloons) and gambling tables, contributed about \$3,000 a month to the revenues of a town with a population of 3,000 with dirt streets and no sewer system. Meanwhile, a single Wichita grocery sold \$100,000 in merchandise to cowboys in 1872 alone. Such prosperity, combined with the entire elimination of any city tax during the cattle trade years (1872-1876) was reward enough for enduring the raucous behavior of the drovers and their compatriots.

In the peak cattle years, city government attempted to regulate the vice that was not in the town's economic interest to eliminate. One method was to attempt isolating the worst places in areas outside the city limits on the west side of the river; another was to prosecute those who flaunted their nefarious occupations too obviously before sensitive citizens; a third was to enforce a strict gun control law within the city, so that whiskey and women did not lead inevitably to deaths.

Not everyone in the area, however, supported the compromises involved in the cattle trade; Sedgwick County farmers felt they received little benefit from the trade and were forced to pay high prices and high interest brought on by the cowboys' money. The women of Wichita thought their husbands' increased income inadequate compensation for the sordid atmosphere of a town where children went to school by day in buildings that were used as brothels at night. When the cattle trade at Wichita declined rapidly after 1875, these hitherto-suppressed voices of reform were heard, and church rallies, against vice became frequent.

The climax of the reform movement came in 1880 with the passage of statewide prohibition. Wichita by then was a city of 4,000 working to develop a diverse economy based upon the surrounding farms. When the new law took effect, Wichita's famous

Keno Comer at Main and Douglas closed its doors for good, and it could accurately be said that a definable era in the city's history came to an end as well.

National 1870s Historical Context

The following is taken from a rough draft of “Working the Land: Sedgwick County Agriculture in the 1870s.” by Fred Goss, Dee A. Harris, and Tracie Carr Nice. While the article is printed in its entirety as an introduction to the 1880 DeVore Farm, this expanded political section paints the national background upon which Wichita started and developed.

Throughout the last half of the nineteenth century, America went through many significant social and political changes. Even as issues and events debated at the national level impacted local and state affairs, so too, did local and state politics have an impact at the national level. Reflecting the tenor of the nation as a whole, Wichita and Sedgwick County formed a microcosm of the trend of agrarian revolt to a variety of issues and influences, including tariffs, tax assessments, interest rates, political corruption, and the railroads.

Politics in the 1870s and 1880s were in large part a by-product of the war between capital and labor. Every Farmer was dependent on uncertain markets, domestic and foreign; on the national and regional money supply and interest rates; and on the railroad. As the 1870s wore on and the farm economy worsened for western Farmers, they began taking an increasingly active voice in politics. Farmers’ grievances included fluctuating wheat prices, railroad rate fixing middlemen, high cost of the necessities of life, high cost of capital, and the unstable state of federal currency, jerky deflation, and tariffs. By the late 1870s, farmers were looking to politics to relieve the economic depression that affected their lives so strongly. Population, geography and class structure had a huge effect on the changing politics of the nation, creating different causes in every area of the country: The national political scene was as ever changing as the population itself. The one constant force from the 1860s to the 1880s, however, was governmental domination by the Republican Party with the election of Abraham Lincoln as President in 1860, Ulysses S. Grant in 1868 and 1872, and Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876. The only change in Republican leadership was with the ascension of Vice President Andrew Johnson, affiliated with the Union Party, after the assassination of Lincoln in 1865.

The Republican Party was considered a radical party after the Civil War by its Democrat opponents, and was primarily composed of the northern middle class and the working people. The Republican Party was allied with capitalism, and was a direct force behind the rapid industrialization and economic expansion

both during and after the Civil War, passing legislation, which symbolized the shift in the economy from farm to factory. Republican legislation also shifted the focus of politics from state to national government. The principal items on the Republican agenda were “a protective tariff to foster manufacture’s, federal aid for the construction of the transcontinental railroad, a national bank system with power to issue money, and a Homestead Act that offered free land to the nation’s toilers, both urban and rural.

The Democratic Party, long an active and viable part of the American two-party political system, fell on hard times in the late 1860s, chiefly because of their stand during the Civil War. They did however; emerge as a solid party in the South in the 1870s as they had been before the Civil War. The principal issues of the Democratic Party were reconstruction of the South and opposition to the Republicans and the re-establishment of white hegemony. The Southern Democratic Party endeavored to evoke sectional and racial loyalty, calling themselves the “Party of the Fathers.”

Although the Republicans and Democrats were the two major political parties in this era, a variety of minor parties also played a role during this time, including the Liberal Republican Party, Anti-Monopoly Party, Farmer’s Alliances, The Grange, National, Greenback Party, People’s Party, Prohibition Party, and Socialist Labor Party.

The period also saw the rise of the Patrons of Husbandry (The Grange), a rural organization that was economic, social, and political. Founded in 1867, the Grange gained its greatest vigor in the Midwest where there was great political and economic unrest. Dedicated to educating farmers, the goals of the Grange were many: to enhance the comfort of farmers’ homes, increase crop diversification, reduce expenses, attack the mortgage system, advocate agricultural education, and assail all forms of political corruption. Chief among their purposes was legislative regulation of freight charges and the promotion of cooperative effort among farmers.

Within the tumultuous years between 1865 and 1880, many new concerns came to the forefront of the national political scene, which affected farmers of the Midwest. There were, however, three central issues dominating national politics: the tariff question, hard money vs. soft money, and the railroads. The tariff question affected all Americans, both urban and rural. During the Civil War, the government had instituted a steep tariff on imported manufactured goods, giving American manufacturers protection from foreign competition and encouraging industrial development. After the war, the possibility of removing or reducing the tariff rates caused great political fervor and class division. The result was an outcry from manufacturers and working men who thought they needed protection from foreign competition, while farmers saw high tariffs as depressing prices for farm products and inflating costs of the everyday necessities.

The money question was a major issue from the end of the Civil War through the turn of the century, and also became a major class and sectional issue. During the Civil War, the U.S. Treasury had financed the war by issuing paper money called "greenbacks." From 1866-1868, the Federal Government redeemed these greenbacks with gold and silver coin known as "specie". But from 1868 to 1875, a bitter argument ensued between "greenbackers," who favored the continued issuance of non-redeemable United States Notes, and "sound money men," who wanted all paper money backed by an equal amount of specie. The sound-money men finally prevailed when Congress passed the Specie Resumption Act of 1875, however the issue continued at the forefront of American politics becoming a major factor in the Populist Party platform in the 1896 presidential election.

The railroads were the third major political issue of the late Nineteenth century. The steam locomotive was a powerfully symbolic image of the new industrial Culture. Page Smith, in *The Rise of Industrial America*, details how the railroad invoked all sorts of emotions: *awe at its power, at the thrust of its great wheels, the clouds of trailing, smoke, the tolling bell, the eerie whistle borne mournfully on the wind, and greed at the wealth it promised, rage at its dictatorial and unpredictable ways and at the corruption that followed it everywhere like a dark cloud.* The railroads were most controversial however, because of the great scandals involved in

their construction, as well as the fact that they were virtual monopolies. Farmers in the West especially had grievances against the railroads because each line controlled all the traffic in its vicinity. Only when the lines converged was there competition among rail lines.

As these three questions were debated on the national political front, many of the same issues were also at the forefront of state politics. The political status of the state was very similar to that of the nation, since Kansas was so strongly tied to the nation as a whole.

Kansas was born in the strife surrounding the Civil War. The struggle to become a free state would significantly affect its politics. Kansas sent a greater percentage of its population and saw more of its men die in the war than any other state in the Union. Kansas was a solidly Republican state both during and after the war. Kansas had a long line of Republican governors from 1861 to 1882. After winning statehood in 1861, the first elected Governor was Samuel J. Crawford, who served from 1862-1868, James M. Harvey served from 1868-1872, Thomas A. Osborn from 1872-1876, George T. Anthony from 1876-1878, and John P. St. John from 1878-1882. Within Kansas, however, the liberal wing of the Republican Party held greater power than it did nationally. Kansas Republicans continued to favor the idea of Reconstruction, supported strong sanctions against the South, and supported Greeley's candidacy against Grant in the 1872 election.

The Democratic Party in Kansas was almost a minor party until 1882 when it experienced resurgence and won the governor's seat by appealing to the ethnic and working classes. During the 1880s, however, the Democratic Party developed a strong reform element and came to be more active. The Liberal Republicans, or Independent Republicans as they were also called, had a stronghold in Kansas until 1872 when the Union Labor and Greenback Parties took over as two of the stronger minor parties.

In the early 1870s, Kansas's farmers' grievances sparked a third-party movement in state politics. The Kansas Grange, formed in Hiawatha in early 1872, sought to actively express farmer discontent and develop the newly created Independent Reform Party, which became the second strongest in the state in the election of 1874. In Kansas, as with so many

of the other agriculturally dominated states, economic issues were at the forefront of politics. Scott G. McNall, in, his book *The Road to Rebellion*, summarizes the farmer's woes.

The farmer had seen the government boost the railroads, was aware of the Credit Mobilier scandal, which enriched some politicians and beggared the people who held the watered stock of the Corporation. They would soon become aware of the 'Crime of 1873,' when Congress passed legislation demonetizing silver and thereby contributing to a rapid contraction of the currency, in the same year that a nationwide depression, brought on by the closing of Jay Cooke's banking house, began. The farmer was in trouble as early as 1871.

Converted from the Independent Reform Party into the Greenback-Labor Party in 1878, reformers called for a repeal of the national banking law, an increase in the currency, the issuance of money by the government directly to the people rather than through national banks and a halt to the subsidies of money or public credit and grants of public lands to private corporations. The Republican and Democratic Parties eventually adopted most of these issues.

As with the national political scene, the three central issues of tariffs, hard money vs. soft money, and the railroads dominated Kansas's politics as well. One other political issue, however, which lit the flame of morality in Kansas in the 1870s and 1880s, was liquor prohibition. Although a territorial dram shop law remained on the law books in the 1870s, the law was by no means enforced heavily, and most saloons ran wide open. In 1873, however, the Women's Christian Temperance Union Was established in Kansas, and a "Women's Crusade" was launched to prohibit the manufacture, importation, and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Within Kansas, this became a major moral and political issue, which divided citizens on either side of the issue. The crusade culminated with the passing of a state constitutional amendment in 1880, causing Kansas to become the first state to adopt constitutional prohibition.

Politics on the local level followed much the same trends as the national and state level, focusing on the Republican Party as the dominant political force in Sedgwick County. In all of the elections from 1865

to 1880 local newspapers were the instruments for political discussion. The *Wichita City Eagle* served as the organ for the Republicans and the *Beacon* worked for the Democrats. Party meetings were held in each township, and were organized by local party supporters to further their goals and debate issues with opposing parties.

Once again, the three central federal and state political issues of tariffs, money, and railroads were important factors in Sedgwick County politics. But at the local level, politics took on a more personal nature. County farmers believed assessors favored urban real estate speculators and unfairly raised values on farm property, while county-wide bond issues for railroads and bridge, mostly benefited the city. The money question came out at the local level when Sedgwick County farmers maintained that interest rates of Wichita banks were inordinately high because of the competing demand for capital from the cattle trade. Additional political issues brought out by *The Wichita City Eagle* indicate that Sedgwick County voters were also concerned about fence laws, legislation for local imports, the gold standard, and tax reform.

One major political issue, which was important in the late 1860s, was the cattle industry. Local businessmen campaigned and won the change of state quarantine laws in order to appeal to Texas cattle drovers to bring their herds to Wichita. Farmers, however, were against the cattle industry because the animals trampled their crops if unfenced, and also because agricultural and cultural development would be slowed by the need for large, unfenced ranges for the cattle. Farmers also feared that "Texas Fever," carried by the Longhorn cattle, would be transferred to domestic cattle and cause death. By 1875, however, county farmers were able to get the quarantine line moved to the west boundary of the county.

The farming community gained increasing economic importance throughout the 1870s. Although Wichita and Sedgwick County fixated on cattle in the early 1870s, the farming community gained increasing economic importance. According to *Wichita, The Early Years* by Craig Miner, by the late 1870s "farm interests, once a small voice the wilderness, dominated the thinking of Wichita economic planners."

But this by no means made farm life any easier in Sedgwick County, as rural residents suffered through grasshopper plagues, drought, Indian scares, lightning storms, and economic depression. These types of adverse conditions aided the Grange in recruiting members within Sedgwick County. During the 1870s, the Grange lobbied for a market place in Wichita with fair scales and an open exchange of price information, worked for election of state legislators favorable to farmers, and protested against unfair county tax assessments. When necessary, the Grange took action by boycotting

Wichita merchants whose prices were considered too high. The Grange enjoyed a large amount of success in Kansas throughout the 1870s and 1880s as a grass-roots organization that laid the foundations for a new element in American politics an aggressive farmers' political party. The culmination of the "farmer's revolt," as the movement was christened, was the 1896 presidential election, when William Jennings Bryan, an eloquent orator and statesman from the Midwest brought the plight of the American farmer to the forefront of national politics as the candidate for the Populist Party.

MUSEUM ORIENTATION EXHIBIT LABELS

Early Settlement

From the time of the earliest recorded accounts, the central plains region of the United States had an image problem. As early as 1806, government and private expeditions to the region reported generally unfavorable accounts of the area. Popular opinion held that the best use of this "Great American Desert" was for concentration of the Indian population.

The first non-Indian settlers to arrive at the area where the Little and Big Arkansas Rivers meet did not share the observation of a barren and unoccupied expanse. Instead, they found a rich and fertile land inhabited by a diverse Indian population. Long before enterprising hunters and traders began a parade of economic opportunism in the region, The Wichita Indians, along with the Caddoes, Keichis, Wacos, Towakanies, and Osage settled along the banks of the rivers. By the end of the Civil War in 1865, a series of hunters and traders had located posts around the scattered Indian village that was known as "The Wichita Town." Among the early traders were Jesse Chisholm, William Matthewson, James R. Mead, and William "Dutch Bill" Greiffenstein. While the hunters and traders yielded great financial rewards from the natural setting and resources, others were dreaming of a more permanent settlement that could only be possible with the removal of the Indians.

In October 1865, the United States Government and the Osage Indians completed negotiations to make the land available for legal settlement. Under the terms of the Treaty of the Little Arkansas, parts of the 8,000,000 acre reserve would be sold to settlers who would pay \$1.25 an acre into a trust fund for the benefit of the Osage. News of this treaty prompted the first significant influx of general settlement into the village of Wichita. Although a series of renegotiations would complicate the settlement process, Congress ultimately guaranteed the right of Osage Land settlers to buy their claims. On July 21, 1870 Wichita was formally incorporated as a city. By the time of its incorporation, Wichita had 800 people and 175 buildings. Although the economy quickly diversified, the hunting, trading, and freighting industries continued to enhance the local economy throughout the 1870s.

The years 1870 - 72 in Wichita marked a struggle for dominance between businessmen with interests in the original townsite at present-day 9th & Waco and those investing with William Greiffenstein to the south along Douglas Avenue. Greiffenstein was most liberal in spending money for the support of his street, and he eventually prevailed. One observer noted, "Some men are a battalion; Greiffenstein was a brigade."

"Great American Desert?"

From the time of the earliest recorded accounts, the Central Plains region of the United States had an image problem. As early as 1806, U.S. Government and private expeditions to the region reported generally unfavorable accounts of the area. American popular opinion held that the best use of this "Great American Desert" was for concentration of the Indian population.

The Munger House: Wichita's Oldest Residence

The most substantial building in Wichita in 1869 was the Munger House, built by Darius S. Munger. Munger arrived in Wichita in spring of 1868 as a partner in the Wichita Town Company, and was a visible and prominent figure in the developmental stages of the town-building era. He secured positions as Justice of the Peace and Postmaster, thereby keeping his company's name in the forefront of the development. Munger erected one of the first permanent structures in Wichita. It was built as a point of operation for his town building

activities and as a source of personal income. With his wife Julia and his two daughters, he operated a small hotel out of the facility, charging \$2.00 a day for room and board.

The Munger House was donated to Old Cowtown Museum by the Eunice Sterling Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was moved to the Museum in 1952. It is the oldest surviving permanent structure from Wichita, and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

"A Well - Kept Park"

Early settler and entrepreneur James R. Mead described in glowing terms his first journey to the area where he would soon settle and begin a lifelong series of business enterprises. There was nothing of interest to be seen along the trail...until we reached the bluffs overlooking the Arkansas River. Here a vision of beauty and interest greeted our eyes, such as perhaps no other spot on the plains could furnish. A level valley spread out before us as far as the eye could reach. The fresh green grass, cropped close by the buffalo and bordered by belts of timber resembled a well-kept park. Through this valley wound the great and

little Arkansas Rivers, their banks fringed with stately trees. Scattered about over this landscape were groups of buffalo, fat and sleek, their bodies covered with a new coat of fur, black as Jet. Some were grazing and others were lying down motionless as if asleep. This was their country and their home, and in the entire broad valley there was no human being to disturb them. So long as earth endures man will labor with hand and brain, but with all his labor, wealth, and art, he can never restore the beauty and life of that valley as I saw it on that bright June day of 1863.

"The Happy Valley"

Settlers to the burgeoning town site expressed similar appreciation for the still unspoiled beauty of the landscape. Prominent merchant and banker W.C. Woodman described his first impression of the "Happy Valley" at the time of his arrival in 1870.

I remember well when on that bright August morning in 1870, foot sore and eye-sore, dejected and weary of long march and privation, from yonder rolling mound my vision first dwelt upon this enchanted valley.

Speechless I gazed enraptured upon its marvelous beauty; the bright morning sun was its radiant chandelier; the cerulean heavens were its canopy....for all around me was a vast eternity of ethereal space. No voice was there; unbroken was the silent air; yet Jehovah in stupendous majesty reigned visible in all; nothing, save in the dim distance yonder, far, far away, a scattered line of seeming habitation.

The Bone Trade: The Buffalo Disappear

By 1880, millions of the buffalo had disappeared from the plains. Local hunters contributed greatly to this massive ecological transformation. In 1871, William "Dutch Bill" Greiffenstein contracted to sell 500,000 buffalo hides at a price of \$1.00 each. He filled the order in only six weeks. The members of his expedition carried two rifles, using one until it was too hot to hold, then changing to the spare.

Hard-pressed farmers generated extra income by gathering buffalo bones from the prairies and hauling them to Wichita. Heads and ribs were worth \$5 a ton, shin and shoulder blades \$10 a ton, and horns \$30 a set. Heads and ribs were ground as fertilizer, shins and shoulder blades went to sugar refineries and horns were sent to factories to be used in umbrellas, fans, and pipes.

Selling Wichita: The Role of Newspapers in Early Wichita

In the 19th century West, it was generally accepted that any town needed a solid, promotional newspaper in order to grow and prosper. In 1870s Wichita, Marshall Murdock and his *Wichita City Eagle* newspaper filled that role. At the invitation of Wichita business leaders, Murdock came to Wichita in 1872 to start a Republican newspaper. In October of the same year, D.G. Millison established the Democratic *Wichita Beacon*. Both papers served a vital function in the development process of the town. City leaders knew that a newspaper could be used as the ultimate public relations tool to promote business, settlement, recruitment of railroads, as well as the social and cultural aspects of the community.

Murdock was the premier publicist for the city, and was known nationally almost as much for his unswerving loyalty and promotion of Wichita as for his extravagant writing style. He set an optimistic tone regarding the Wichita and Sedgwick County, emphasizing the virtues of the area and minimizing problems, thereby encouraging settlement. Murdock used the common editorial rhetoric of the time period, speaking in the future tense, or what has been termed “booster” language. His writing style exemplified the typical western promotional newspaper.

Delano & Wichita: So Close, and Yet So Far

The settlement known as Delano takes its name from the township in which it was located. It was commonly called West Wichita in reference to its location on the west side of the Arkansas River. Delano developed as a boom town annex that provided a venue for “disreputable” businesses serving the cattle trade community. It was geographically separated from the rest of Wichita only by the Arkansas River. The communities were

linked by the Douglas street bridge. This toll bridge symbolically served two contrasting purposes. It was a link to the larger Wichita community, but it also provided a buffer from the vice district. Bars, brothels, and gambling houses operated in convenient proximity to the Wichita clientele without being subjected to the regulations of similar establishments located within the city limits.

Delano: No Organization...No Interference

Delano’s vice establishments operated openly, and thrived during the years of the cattle trade. In October of 1872 the *Wichita City Eagle* noted that, “Another man-trap has just been built in West Wichita and is in full blast.” In 1873, when the

sheriff closed one of Wichita’s gambling establishments, the occupants vowed to move their operation to West Wichita, where they observed that there was no town organization and no moral officers to interfere.”

Delano: Settled Down and Settled In

Legitimate businesses and reputable citizens also called West Wichita home. In an effort to emphasize the positive and attract more respectable settlement, community leaders offered free lots of land to anyone who would improve the property. As the cattle trade moved away from the area, so did the seamier businesses. A school was opened in 1872. In 1875, Delano Township had 55 houses and 62 families residing within its boundaries. By

1878, the population had reached 498. However, the 1880 population was listed as only 504. These numbers reflect the interdependence that existed between “Wichita City” and West Wichita. Although Delano had residential areas and many businesses, it was not a self contained town, but an extension of the commercial district which originated east of the river. In 1881, Delano was incorporated into the City of Wichita.

The Faces of Wichita

Wichita of the 1870s reflected earlier trends in Midwestern settlement. Wichita’s Native American population gave way to a population of organized entrepreneurs, transient fortune seekers, and hopeful immigrants. The permanent populace was

supported by a diverse and elastic cross section of developing Western demographics in Middle America.

The largest percentage of residents in 1870s Wichita were from the Midwestern United States. Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio, were the most common points of origin of the city's residents. Fewer

numbers came from New England and the southern states. Many members of the ethnic population were second generation immigrants who also relocated from other Midwestern states.

Minorities in the Cattle Trade

African-American, Hispanic, and Native American cowboys were employed in the cattle trade during the late 19th century. The percentage of minority cowboys related to the geographic region. African-Americans comprised the majority of cowboys in the coastal regions of Texas, and Hispanic cowboys were generally found in greater numbers near the Texas-Mexico border. The number of minority cowboys decreased dramatically in the Northern regions.

Like other members of the cattle trade, minority cowboys were considered part of the transient population that supported the economic base of the city. Within their own ranks, the cowboys enjoyed a certain amount of equality; the emerging "cowboy culture" of the late 19th century judged men on the merits of their work skills and not always on the color of their skin.

The African American Population in Early Sedgwick County

At the height of the cattle trader era in Wichita, blacks constituted 3.2% of the city's permanent population, and an estimated 10% of the county's permanent population. African-Americans associated with the cattle trade met little opposition by the white permanent population. Part of the emerging "cowboy culture" of the late 19th century judged men on the merits of their work skills and not always on the color of their skin.

Like other members of the cattle trade, black cowboys were considered part of a transient population that supported the economic base of the city.

African-Americans who maintained permanent residence within the community were not as likely to attain equal employment status to the white population. The 1880 Census reported that 247 of Sedgwick County's 18,753, residents, or approximately 1%, were African-American. Most came from Midwestern States and were worked as laborers, builders, farmers, domestic workers, or they worked as hotel and restaurant employees. Alexander Clark opened a blacksmith shop in 1874 and advertised that he would "do work for all parties irrespective of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." In the same year, a group of African-Americans opened an ox yoke factory.

Wichita's attitudes towards blacks were reflective of common attitudes throughout the west. As towns grew and became more permanent in social and demographic makeup, blacks were less well received than they had been in the formative years. While the larger population held little opposition to blacks who fit the societal expectation of respectable, hardworking citizens, they were quick to criticize those who did not fit the ideal of the well-ordered and progressively industrial Victorian era. This attitude was illustrated in 1879, when fourteen blacks migrated to Wichita as part of the massive "Exodus" movement of blacks from the south. The City Council voted to send them back, officially citing fear that the small group might introduce epidemic disease into the community. A more likely of their concern was voiced by Marsh Murdock in the *Wichita Eagle*, when he worried about a potential influx of unskilled (and therefore unemployable) immigrants to the tax-conscious community.

Wichita Public schools were integrated, and elections and the legal process were open to all citizens. However, there was an increasing amount of social segregation occurring by the end of the 1870s. Local newspapers often made mention of social gatherings within the black community, and documented the establishment of black churches and Sabbath schools.

Urbanization and Agrarian Expansion 1876 – 1880

Wichita's broad based economy insured its survival beyond the cattle town stage. The industrial and agricultural pursuits that preceded the cattle trade continued to grow and expand after the cattle trade had faded from the economic forefront.

Wichita in 1880 was a vital and evolving community of 5,000 people. Its first economic bases – hunting, trading, and the cattle trade, were giving way to new and diverse manufacturing ventures. Wichita boasted a foundry, packing plant, glove, soap, wagon, and cracker factories, a rotary harrow plant, a steam newspaper press, 10 construction firms, and 9 steam elevators.

Agriculture continued to play a key role in Sedgwick County economics. Through most of the decade, corn was the most common cash crop. Wheat did not emerge as the number one cash crop until there were better market conditions and until the grasshopper indicated a preference for corn. By

The 1875 census indicates that 45% of Wichita's population was female. These women found ample opportunity for earning a livelihood in a rapidly developing frontier town. Single women worked as milliners, seamstresses, clerks, restaurant workers, school teachers, and domestic servants. Some came to Wichita during the cattle trade to work as prostitutes or to serve in other vice-related occupations.

The accepted role of a 19th century woman was that of wife, mother, spiritual guide, charitable worker, cultural refiner and to some degree, social reformer. Women took advantage of these social expectations to participate in and have an active voice in the community. The female population aligned themselves with, or created, the popular cultural and reform movements of the day; taking on topics such as temperance, religious instruction,

the mid-seventies, County farmers produced and experimented with a variety of crops, including wheat, rye, barley, oats, potatoes, sorghum, cotton and flax. Fruit orchards were abundant. There were more than 34,000 apple trees and 224,000 peach trees in the county in 1876.

As the retail and manufacturing fronts strengthened, so did the city's cultural element. Area residents attended church socials, civic club meetings, elaborate parties, and theatrical performances. They did so dressed in clothing imported from eastern cities or made in the latest fashionable styles by local milliners.

Whether the functions were held in churches, homes, shady groves, meeting halls, or the Turner Opera House, residents enjoyed themselves immensely. Wichitans strived to demonstrate that the community's cultural development was equal to its economic growth.

Women in Wichita

prostitution, and charitable work. Women in Wichita involved themselves in all of these topics. They organized charitable institutions, such as the Ladies Aid Society, which provided relief for families devastated by the 1874 grasshopper plague. Through that organization, they found a public voice in the publication of the *Wichita Babie*, a newspaper devoted to furthering the work of the Society.

Married women who worked outside of the home usually did so out of economic necessity, and those who did worked almost exclusively in traditional female related industries. There are notable exceptions, including Mrs. Anna Palmer, who owned and operated the Victor Cigar Store, and a rare female cattle drover, Mrs. T.M. Boreland, who came up the trail with her three children and one thousand head of cattle.

HISTORY RESOURCE BOOKS ABOUT THE TIME PERIOD

1. Wichita, The Early Years, 1865-1880 - Dr. H. Craig Miner
2. Hunting and Trading on the Plains 1859-- 1875 - J.R. Mead
3. Wichita Century.- Dick Long
4. History of the State of Kansas, Counties, Cities, Towns and Villages - A. T. Andreas

5. History of Wichita and Sedgwick County Kansas Past and Present - Hon. O. H. Bentley
6. Wichitana - Rea Woodman
7. Cattle Trade of the West and Southwest - Joseph G. McCoy
8. Our Common School Heritage - Sandra Van Meter McCoy

9. The Kansas Doctor: A Century of Pioneering -Univ. of Kansas Press
10. Wichita Fire Department, 1872-1978
11. The Wichita Police Department, The First Century
12. Illustrated History of Early Wichita - Eunice Sterling Chapter, D.A.R.
13. Folks - Victor Murdock
14. Wichita 1866-1883 - Cradle Days of a Midwestern City - Dick Long
15. A History of The Sedgwick County Medical Society - Howard C. Clark, M.D.
16. Early Days in Kansas - Bliss Isely
17. The Cattle Trailing Industry - Between Supply and Demand, 1866-1890 - Dr. Jimmy Skaggs
18. Dynamics of Faith: Wichita 1870-1897 - Dr. L. Curtis Wood
19. Why The West Was Wild - Nyle H. Miller and Joseph W. Snell
20. Portrait and Biographical Album of Sedgwick County Chapman Brothers
21. The Cattle Towns - Robert R. Dykstra
22. Wichita City Directory and Immigrants Guide, 1878 D. B. Emmert
23. Columbian History of Education in Kansas - William Finn

HEIRLOOM GARDENS

Old Cowtown Museum recreates the horticultural past of Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas, 1865-1880, through its heirloom gardens, field crops, and natural flora restoration. Authentic heirloom varieties of vegetables, flowers, and field crops are grown on the museum's 17 plus acres to depict life in 1870s Wichita and Sedgwick County. Visitors to the museum have an opportunity to participate and observe daily and seasonal living history demonstrations of historic horticultural practices. Vegetable and flower gardens are created throughout the museum's historic residences such as those at the Munger, Murdock, and Story and One-Half houses, and visitors can learn about early agricultural practices at the 1880 DeVore Farm.

The image of the garden was both familiar and meaningful to Americans of the last half the 19th century. Unlike modern Americans, they were products of a society, which was predominately agricultural in character, tradition and ideology. Commonly read books, such as almanacs and the Bible, shaped the spoken and written word of Victorian society, enriching it with agricultural metaphor and simile. As Americans moved westward, they viewed the expanse of land as a storehouse designed by God for progressive 19th century ideals and as a prospect for security. Well-cultivated gardens and fields were an important part of this security, especially to immigrants during a time when comparatively few opportunities existed in Europe for owning arable land. The impact of the vastness of the prairie was immense for Wichitans during the 1870s. However, the cultural motivations, values, and beliefs that they brought to

the prairie were steeped in the ideal and ordered agrarian state.

The last half of the 19th century was a time of rapid and expanding industrialization in America. Urbanization and mechanization brought about changes that were not only progressive but also frightening. Gardening helped allay people's fears by engaging them in a hallowed tradition of goodness, virtue, and ever-renewing life. Gardening became linked with wholesome physical activity. Various popular magazines and journals featured articles on the healthful effects of gardening. City women, in particular were frequently entreated to adopt a more physically active lifestyle. Gardens provided suitable outdoor activities for yet unemancipated women. Gardening was deemed to be stimulating rather than a harmful strenuous exercise. The suburban garden represented the better of two worlds, a compromise between agriculture and industry.

The age of industrialization also added benefits and helped to shape the character of gardening in America. Industrialization left its mark on agriculture, through new processes of growing, harvesting, transportation, and marketing of product. This changed the nature of food ways in America. The reality of the late 19th century was not a subsistence agricultural state, but an ever-expanding industrial base that linked town and country together in an interdependence on the new emerging technologies.

Industrialization was also linked with a heightened state of science throughout the 19th century, when an increasing emphasis was placed on scientific analyses to further human understanding. Through botanical explorations, different strains of plants were introduced into American gardens. As botanical explorations expanded the scientific knowledge of plants, horticultural societies were formed to transmit that knowledge to average gardeners through popular publications, formal meetings, and mass exhibitions.

Along with promoting home gardening, scientific advancement through horticulture also allowed individuals to develop highly specialized enterprises such as nurseries, greenhouses, and seed houses. These in turn were supported by consumers with the spending power required to purchase goods and services and the leisure time to devote to activities such as gardening.

As industrialization proceeded, plants and seeds became affordable at prices to gardeners who abandoned the uncertainties of home collected seeds for purchased, hybridized creations. The invention of the lawnmower and mass production of specialized gardening tools made ornamental gardening feasible for the average person. Rapid developments in transportation made mass distribution of seeds and plants possible, and color printing made these products part of an irresistible marketing practice.

Wichitans during this time reflected these gardening trends prevalent in American society. They were the beneficiaries of an industrialized center in the prairie with transcontinental railroad links throughout America by 1872. The local newspapers advertised a vast variety of seeds and plants, and also offered up popular horticultural tips

to turning the prairie into a garden for both the agricultural and urban dwellers. As a young cattle town becoming a burgeoning metropolis, Wichita was often viewed as an unsightly, unsanitary collection of crowded stores, neglected streets, and untrimmed weeds overrunning all vacant spaces. There is a tendency to view such untidiness as a mark of western primitive toleration, forgetting that equally appalling conditions existed in the overgrown eastern metropolises. However, as with other urban dwellers across America during this time, Wichita's residents aspired to the prevalent ideal of an ordered, well tended, gardens and landscaped surroundings. In the newspapers and public speeches, attention was directed to individuals who beatified their residences with trees, lawn ornamentation, and landscape gardening. The editor of *The Wichita Beacon*, 1876, described his vision of a transfigured Wichita, already developing into a city with

...broad avenues lined with umbrageous trees, her yards and lawns filled with shrubbery and beautiful flowers, her private residences, many are elegant and costly, and almost all exhibiting an appreciation of comfort, taste and beauty, with almost unlimited variety of design and arrangement [promises an] intellectual center... radiating the influence of social, moral and intellectual culture.

Old Cowtown Museum recreates the early horticultural history of Wichita using newspaper accounts, biographical data, agricultural reports, and horticultural literature of the time period to portray popular gardening practices. Heirloom varieties of vegetables, flowers, and field crops are acquired and cultivated by the museum to represent the varieties available to Wichitans during the 1870s.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION - OLD TOWN DISTRICT

The Old Town Area of Old Cowtown Museum represents the earliest attempt at establishing a permanent settlement at the site that became Wichita, Kansas. The area where the confluence of the Little and Big Arkansas Rivers met had previously served the plains tribes indigenous to the area, and others such as the Wichita Indians who came north during the Civil War to become wards of the federal government, and served as an excellent trading center for the hunting grounds west of the Arkansas Valley.

The exhibits at Old Town represent a period of non-Indian settlement when the land legally belonged to the Osage Indian Nation as trust lands. The earliest white hunters and traders in the area had no conscious intention of establishing a city on the site, because the existence of a city would have presumably destroyed their economic base. However, in 1868, D.S. Munger came to the site as a representative of a Topeka based Wichita Land and Town Company with intentions of establishing and incorporating a city. It was believed that a treaty negotiation would eventually be reached with the Osage Nation, freeing the land for white settlement.

The period, which Old Town represents, was relatively brief, circa 1868-1870. However, during this time period Wichita's first substantial economic commodity was established. This economy was based on hunting and trading with the Indian tribes. The excellent hunting grounds to the west made Wichita the ideal site to trade with the Indians. Even after the Osage Nation ceded the land, Wichita was in an excellent location to continue its hunting and trading economy when the Indians were removed to Indian Territory to the south. Hunting, trading, and government subsidies for supplying the Indian tribes to the south remained an important and viable economic base into the 1880s for Wichita.

The D.S. Munger residence is considered the first permanent residence in Wichita. The Munger House is a physical representation of a conscious attempt at city building. At the same time it is important to mention that at the time of the Munger House construction the land was not legally available for settlement. Wichita was legally incorporated in 1870 after the Osage Nation land was ceded.

While Munger was relatively sure of the permanence of Wichita becoming a reality, not everyone was as positive that Wichita was an ideal place to live and become successful. There was no railroad service in Wichita prior to 1872. All supplies had to be brought by wagon and stage routes. Although, by 1870, Wichita was considered to be a well-established communication and transportation center for the southern part of the state, with adequate wagon and stage routes in operation, it was not until Wichita received rail service that the means of production could be adequately established and supplies from the East adequately received.

The Trader's Cabin, now called Gifford's General Store, is an example of a temporary building. This building is representative of persons who were not as committed to establishing a community or who were doubtful of its potential, or who were here only for the purpose of temporary gain. People who constructed such buildings may have been people who made an initial attempt in the area and failed, then moved on to more promising locations. The temporary residences were also the first means of existence for early settlers. The buildings were erected until more permanent buildings could be built when the means and supplies to build became available in Wichita.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. Old Town represents the earliest attempt at establishing a permanent non-Indian settlement at Wichita. The period that Old Town represents was relatively brief, circa 1868-1870.
2. The settlement of Old Town represents a period of white settlement when the land legally belonged to the Osage Indian Nation as trust lands. Negotiations for legal settlement were taking place amidst the town building of the earliest settlers.
3. Old Town represents the first substantial economic commodity of the area -- hunting and trading.

4. The D.S. Munger House represents the first permanent building in the area. Munger planned to stay and established a community. Trader's Cabin is representative of the type of temporary buildings constructed by the earliest settlers, in lieu of permanent building supplies and by persons who either failed in the area or who were skeptical of the success of Wichita.

Old Town District--Trading Post

The Trading Post located at the entrance of the historic grounds is connected to the Old Town area of the Museum. It represents the very roots of pre railroad Wichita at time when hunting, trapping and trading with the Indians were the only economic ventures in the area. The plains around the Little and Big Arkansas Rivers was a hunter's paradise between 1860 and 1874 and during those years millions of head of game animals from quail to buffalo were slaughtered for meat and hides.

J. R. Mead was a hunter, trader, and freighter whose trading post at meeting of the big and little Arkansas River typifies many from that era though he himself was an extraordinary entrepreneur with diverse interests that were pursued from the profits of a trading post such as this.

Some of the most frequently listed items in Mead's account journals from the 1860s are hides, coffee, tobacco, soda, and food.

Mead's activities provide an excellent transition from wide open prairie to town that he helped shape and build.

Between 1863 and 1866, Mead started to trade with the Indians by setting up trading posts; in addition to maintaining the headquarters at Towanda on the Whitewater river, one between the Big and Little Arkansas Rivers, another near Clearwater, and another in Indian Territory on the Chisholm Trail. He represented the Wichita Indians at the Treaty of Little Arkansas in 1865-

In the early days the consistent and continuous backbone of the Wichita economy was trading, and the supplying of Indian reservations to the south with treaty mandated goods and provisions. Mead organized and freighted large quantities of such supplies to his partner William Mathewson who was located at the Kiowa and Comanche Agency at Fort Sill, Indian Territory.

In the spring of 1868 Mead had become associated with the Wichita Land and Town Company which

was formed that year in Emporia, primarily by businessmen W. W. Lawrence, A. F. Horner, and E. P. Bancroft. Bancroft and Lawrence had held political offices as well, and their colleague Governor Samuel Crawford was also named as a principal. D. S. Munger was appointed to represent them as their Wichita agent. For a short time Mead tried to help Munger sell the Land Company's lots. Mead sold sixty-eight lots altogether for Munger between 1869 and 1876.

Mead became interested in politics. He was elected as the Republican senator for the Fifteenth District of Kansas in 1868. He was appointed Chairman of the Joint Ways and Means Committee of the Kansas House and Senate in 1870. His standing in Topeka and with other Republican leaders generally furthered the cause of the settlement of Wichita.

By 1870 Mead had control of eighty-four lots in the Wichita Land Company's 160 acre townsite. He also had, in 1868, purchased 160 acres of Osage Indian Trust Lands on the edge of the settlement of Wichita, east of Munger's nemesis William Greiffenstein's rival town development of "North Main Street." It became apparent to Mead that his interests lay in cooperating with Greiffenstein whose townsite laid between his land and Munger's land. Mead and Greiffenstein were fellow hunters and Indian traders and had known one another well for several years.

In 1870 Mead sold his Towanda properties and permanently moved to Wichita. Together with William Greiffenstein, Mead carefully laid out Douglas Avenue along the south side of his Wichita property, with the intentions of making it the new central business district of the town. (Much to the profound displeasure of the businessmen already located in the Main Street development, Greiffenstein, the Main Street champion, turned coat and cooperated with Mead.) "[Mead] determined to make Douglas Avenue another Main Street. In fact he intended to make it more main than even Main itself".⁷

In order to achieve this, the avenue was made extra wide and important business features were organized for the east and west extremities of the avenue. The first of these was a railroad which would follow the east, boundary of Mead's property and have its Depot at the east end of Douglas Avenue. In 1871 Mead organized the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad with \$200,000 in Sedgwick County bonds raised for the purpose. That same year Mead and three other businessmen rode south along the Chisholm Trail and aggressively persuaded cattle drovers to bring their heads to Wichita rather than continue on to Abilene. The second Douglas Avenue amenity was a toll bridge located on the west end of the street over the Arkansas River which Mead helped to organize.

Both the railroad and the bridge were finished in time for the cattle season of 1872, Greiffenstein, for his part, built several very impressive business buildings on Douglas Avenue in 1872. Together with others, now interested in the Douglas Avenue project, Mead invited M. M. Murdock a Burlingame newspaperman to relocate to Wichita's Douglas Avenue. Here, in 1872, Murdock started the Wichita City Eagle.

As the Douglas Avenue project grew, Mead found other business opportunities. In 1872 he became the vice-president of the Wichita Bank, which later in the year became the First National Bank of Wichita. The First National Bank served the growing community well through the cattle trade period

The Heller/Hoffman cabin, donated to Old Cowtown Museum by the estate of Donna B. Heller, was originally located in Elmo, Dickinson County, Kansas, south of Abilene, Kansas. The cabin arrived on the grounds in January 2003, and was restored to its present appearance in 2009.

Leonhard Hoffman was granted land patent and probably built the cabin the late 1860s, soon after the Civil War ended. He built the central cabin portion first, very quickly after wards constructed lean-to wings on opposite ends of the log structure. The log structure was built of locally grown walnut and the quality of the workmanship is very high.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Trading Post represents the hunting and trading period of Wichita's economy. The hunting and trading activities are the primary economic draw to the early settlement of Wichita.
2. Wichita's first substantial economy was based on hunting and trading.
 - a. The area around Wichita was important to the Indians for hunting and trading.
 - b. Non Indian hunters and traders capitalized on the natural resources of the area i.e.: buffalo, elk, deer, antelope, and on trading with the Indians.
 - c. Hunting, trading and government subsidies for supplying goods to the Indians south of Wichita remained an important economic base for the city throughout the 1870s
 - d. Buffalo hunting and the hide and meat trade.
 - e. The bone trade after the arrival of the railroad.
3. The hunting culture paves the way, as well as overlaps, the cattle and farming economy that builds Wichita.

Industrial Area - Drovers Camp

Interpretively the drovers' camp is located on the Pathway to the Past by the First Presbyterian Church, on "the edge" of town outside the city limits. It provides opportunity for interpreting one of the most well known and popular periods of Wichita history, that of the cowboy.

General History of Cowboys

Cattle ranching in the U.S. was introduced when Columbus brought cattle and horses to the Americas in 1494. It spread into present Mexico, and then into present United States with the explorer Coronado. While in Mexico, the Spanish cattle herders called Vaqueros, established many of the practices used in cowboy work today.

Activities such as roundups, branding, roping, and drives to market, were all practiced by these men who had special ranking in the Hispanic social hierarchy because of their skills.

Ranching activity in Texas was largely a subsistence activity focusing on the sale of hides

and tallow, because of government restrictions on markets. In the 1780s there were profitable cattle drives between San Antonio and New Orleans. The climate and grass in Texas provided the infant ranching industry with possibilities of unlimited growth. Their distance from eastern beef markets kept the market mostly local, except for shipments to New Orleans. Meat was the main export but cattle hides were the second most important export commodity. They also sold the tallow, bones and horns which were made into soap, fertilizer, combs, and buttons.

With the gold rush of 1849 a new market developed by shipping cattle and draft animals. Some drove cattle to California directly. Others began overland drives to Missouri and Illinois, toward Kansas City and St. Louis respectively. Infections of local stock by Texas tick fever brought local resistance, a

situation that would be duplicated in Kansas and lead to the end of Wichita's time as a railhead.

The beginning of the Civil War ended these drives, and the blockade of the Mississippi ended trade with New Orleans. Most of the men were involved in the war, but upon their return they found vast herds of unbranded cattle roaming the land. The post war boom brought unprecedented Eastern demand. Rising prices and westward moving railroads revived the overland cattle drives. Although the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad reached Denison, Texas, in 1871, shipment by rail to Kansas was expensive (five dollars a head when the maximum sale price of a steer in Kansas was thirty dollars). Also the railroads made no special accommodations for the trade and animals were likely to arrive at the Kansas markets in poor condition.

Cowboys and the Cattle Drives

In order to gain profit from the sale of their cattle, the cowboys had to drive them from Texas towards Kansas, where they were shipped to the northeastern states. In the spring, cattle were rounded up, counted, new calves branded, and sick cows "doctored". Then cattle to be sold, approximately 2000 to 2500, were separated and a crew was hired to drive them north. The crew had strict organization, and a strong sense of teamwork. The **Trail Boss** was hired by the owner to supervise cattle and the cowboys, and make all decisions about the herds movement. The **Ramrod** was the Trail Boss second-in-command who made decisions in his absence. The **Cook** provided three meals a day, set up the camp for the night and served as doctor and veterinarian. The **Wrangler**, often the youngest in the crew, was in charge of the remuda, a band of about 40 horses that the cowboys rode on the drive. The **Cowboy** drove the herd by day and did 2 hour night shifts to prevent stampedes. For their work the cowboys earned between \$30-\$40 a month, the cook \$60, and the boss about \$90.

The cowboys who moved the cattle from Texas to Wichita were a mixed group. The majority were white men some who had direct investment in the cattle. Mexican Vaqueros, part of the long Spanish tradition of cattle working were joined by newly emancipated slaves. While still slaves, they had learned their craft and now with their freedom found relative prestige because of their skills, as well as the same amount of pay as white men.

There were also a large number of Native American cowboys from the southwest, and some who had herds in Oklahoma.

The drive from Texas to Wichita took from twenty-five to one hundred days, depending how long the herd lingered in Indian Territory fattening on grass. They traveled between 8 to 15 miles a day guided by about 12 cowboys (the norm was two men for every three hundred cattle). They often spent 18 or more hours a day in the saddle. At night the cattle would be bunched together and sung to by cowboys riding in opposite directions to keep them from stampeding. Anything could spook a herd of cattle and running cattle could injure themselves or the cowboys, as well as lose up to 50 pounds of valuable weight. The cattle drives, in addition to the natural hazards of heat, wind and lightning, faced hostility from homesteaders as the cattle trampled fields, and the longhorns infected the local herds with **Texas Tick Fever**.

The trail drive was all business and the cowboy took nothing frivolous. His **hat** was broad brimmed and protected from sun or rain and served as a water dipper, A **wide bandanna** protected the back of the neck from the sun, the mouth from dust, could tie his hat on, or strain his river water drink. The **shirts** were long sleeved and made from cotton or wool to protect from the sun and wind. The **pants** were brown Levi's or jeans, on top of which were often worn **Chaps**, or leather leggings that

protected the legs from the brush. The leather **boots** had high uppers to protect the ankles, pointed toes for ease in getting in the stirrups, and high heels to keep the boots from sliding through the front of the stirrups. On the boots were **spurs** that were used to guide the horse. They also carried **pistols**, though rarely on their person, and were used more for communication and hunting. Tied to the saddle was a **bedroll**, a canvas covered quilt. But of all these the most important possession was his **saddle**. It cost about 3 months wages, but was a good investment as it was used 18 hours a day. The work was hard and dangerous but the cowboy life that was romanticized and idealized, attracted

young men and boys of many ethnic and social backgrounds, from eastern college boys to European royalty and former slaves.

At the end of the trail laid profits, gambling, prostitution, and drinking, from which Wichita profited to the degree that for three years there were no property taxes and the profits for local businesses made many fortunes in Wichita. With the defeat of the plains Indians, the demise of the Buffalo, and westward moving population, cattle were slowly confined to ranches, rather than overland drives.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. Wichita intentionally took a large gamble in pursuing the cattle trade, but as a matter of consequence, through the acquisition of the railroad cemented its future.
2. The cattle trade provided the economic bridge between the hunting and trading, and the developing farming economy.
3. The cattle trade sustained Wichita for three good years, providing profits for businesses and limited city taxes.
4. The cattle drives were a rare experience of cross-cultural cooperation that unfortunately ended when the crew reached the city limits.
5. The cattle trade unintentionally encouraged cooperation and voices of reform for farmers and many of the town's citizens.
6. The acquisition of the railroad, while necessary to secure and sustain the role as a rail head, unwittingly led to an increase in town and farm population that later pushed the cattle trade west.

Old Town District – Gifford's Store

Gifford's Store and Saloon was built before November 1868. It was a log structure, story and a half, (18' x 25'). The Gifford family lived upstairs and the first floor was used as a store and saloon. Gifford's Store, like the Munger House, was built of cottonwood logs. Presumably, it had a sod roof. It was built so near the river that local residents could tie their fishing lines from it.

The building was part of the approximately a dozen buildings in the area settlement that included Vigus House/Hotel and the Munger House. The Vigus House/Hotel was a structure

with a central log building with a picket lean-to and sod roof, that stood on the east side of Waco Street, a little northeast of the Munger House. George Clark's Saloon, across the street and to the north of Gifford's had the distinction of being the first frame building in town, built in 1869. It was made of walnut lumber that had been brought from El Dorado. In a town full of men and a military outpost nearby, the demand for alcohol was great. So great that the abuse of alcohol that it was one of the factors in closing Camp Beecher, a small military outpost from 1868-9 to the northwest of the townsite.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. Gifford's Store and Saloon represents a business in the beginnings of the town of Wichita.
2. His was one of two saloons in town at the time it was built.
3. The Store competed with Doc Lewellen's store (former Jessie Chisholm trading post)

Old Town District - The Munger House

The Munger House, located in the Old Town Area of Old Cowtown Museum, was the home of Darius S. Munger and his family, and was not the first home built in Wichita, but was the first substantial story and half building. The house is representative of the earliest part of Wichita's permanent history. It reflects the pre-railroad settlement and town-building phase in early Wichita.

Munger left his home and his livery business in Topeka, Kansas and came to the town site of Wichita in 1868 as a partner in the Wichita Land and Town Company. As a representative to the company, it was Munger's responsibility to actively promote the establishment and growth of Wichita. He was charged with the responsibility of building a hotel that would provide temporary housing for new settlers to the area, as well as providing accommodations for short-term visitors to the town. The structure served as a community center at a time when Munger's promotional responsibilities necessitated his involvement in a wide variety of civic activities. At various times, Munger served as the Justice of the Peace, the postmaster, and the coroner. In addition, the house served as a business headquarters for Munger and as a home to the Munger family.

Munger's efforts to create a town centered in his "Old Town" area were in competition with Deutch Bill Greiffenstein's Douglas Avenue development and the two joined town sites at Central Avenue. Greiffenstein, in collaboration with J. R. Mead, developed the Douglas Avenue area to the point that the "center of the City" moved away from Munger's original town.

Darius Sales Munger was born in Forrestville, Chautauqua County, New York in 1812. He married Julia Phelps of Westfield, Massachusetts in the early 1830s. Munger was the son of a carpenter and contractor, and he presumably learned the carpentry trade at an early age, providing him with an essential skill in his later experiences. Munger left New York in the mid 1830s. By the time of his settlement in Topeka in the late 1850s, he had played a role in the establishment and the government of communities in New York, Wisconsin, Missouri, and Kansas. Munger's experiences as a professional pioneer" made him a qualified choice to represent the land

company in Wichita. Munger's arrival signaled a transition from the area as a trading and hunting outpost to a rapidly developing town with a permanent community and organized social institutions. Munger's business served as a catalyst for growth in the early months of the town's existence.

Leaving his family in Topeka, Munger arrived in Wichita early in 1868 and began construction of the home. He utilized the natural resources of the area in the construction process. Cottonwood trees from the banks of the Arkansas River provided the necessary lumber for the walls. The plaster was made from lime derived from mussel shells found in the river. The hardware items and the flooring came from Emporia, Kansas. Though 56 years old at the time of his arrival, Munger built the home by himself. The Munger's youngest daughter, Mary Ellen, who was also known as Molly, came to Wichita in the summer of 1869 to help her father complete the home and to prepare it for inhabitation. According to Mary Munger's remembrances, she helped her father complete the wood shingles for the roof and marveled at his attention to detail in the entire construction. Julia Munger and another daughter, Amelia, arrived in Wichita on September 1, 1869. The Mungers had three grown children, Helen, Charles, and Melissa, who did not accompany them to Wichita.

The Munger House was completed in 1869 and was originally located at the present day corner of Ninth and Waco near the Arkansas River. The site contained a few outbuildings that included a barn that stood between the house and the river. At the time of its construction, it was one of approximately a dozen buildings in the area. In 1874 W.C. Woodman, an early entrepreneur and Wichita's first banker, purchased the Munger House. Woodman enlarged and improved the structure until it was completely integrated inside a Victorian house that he named Lakeside Mansion. The Munger House was rediscovered when Lakeside was demolished in the 1940s. The Wichita Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution purchased the cabin to preserve the city's heritage and donated it to Historic Wichita, Inc. in 1949. The house has been restored to its 1869 appearance, and is the Museum's only building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Interior Exhibit Information

The interior of the Munger House exhibit has been designed to reflect the diverse uses of the house. At times during the first months of its completion, the house served as a hotel, post office, judge's chambers, hospital, business office for the Wichita Land and Town Company, meeting place for Episcopal Church services, coroner's office, and a public meeting place in general. Each room of the home has been furnished to represent the crowded and hectic lifestyle of its residents. The furnishings in the home are not those belonging to the Munger family, but are pieces from the time period which most appropriately represent the 'interpretive themes of the house. The Munger House exhibit contains some particularly old and beautiful pieces. Though the family was starting over in a new location, they brought with them cherished possessions that had accompanied them through several moves west. To families uprooted by the migration Process, the belongings that accompanied them over the years and miles provided a stability and constancy to their family experience.

The Public Room

The public room, so called to emphasize the diversity of its uses, best represents the community activities that took place in the home. In other homes, this room might have been called the parlor. However, in the Munger House, its uses were far more widespread. The public room served as dining room, hotel lobby, judge's chambers, Munger's office, and as a public meeting place. The room has been furnished to represent each one of these activities. Guests' trunks serve as a reminder of the crowded nature of the home. One corner of the room has been reserved for Munger's office area. In this area Munger kept records of Wichita Land and Town Company transactions, as well as maintaining hotel records. Maps on the wall illustrate the land that would soon be open for settlement. The table was used for the most pressing obligation of the moment. The sewing work on the chest represents the never-ending work of the Munger ladies. An outside door in the southwest corner of the room provided direct access to the room for the public.

The Kitchen

The kitchen was a center of activity in the home, and would usually have been bustling with activity. The Mungers undoubtedly spent much time in the kitchen preparing meals for the hotel guests, the

family, and other visitors to the home. Though they did not have the advantage of railroad service at the time the house was completed, the Mungers could enjoy canned goods and other specialty items through the freighting industry. According to the original ledgers from Lewellen's General Store, the Mungers always had a well-stocked kitchen. Amelia's name is listed in the ledger as the person who often picked up the needed items. However, early newspaper accounts also indicate that Darius Munger was sometimes seen shopping for the choicest meats and the finest produce. As in other nineteenth century homes, the kitchen was used for much more than simple food preparation. Laundry, ironing, and other household chores also took place in the kitchen. In addition, during the time that Munger served as postmaster of Wichita, the kitchen also served as a make-shift "post office." The kitchen is the only room of the house that is not plastered. When Munger built the house, he plastered the other rooms before plastering the kitchen at a later date. It seems that the decorative emphasis was placed in the areas that the public was most likely to occupy.

The Family Bedrooms

The family bedroom area reflects the sacrifice and inconvenience of the Mungers during the early period of the home's inhabitation. There is no evidence to suggest that a permanent wall ever divided the room. A make-shift wall, such as the one represented by the canvas, provided the family with some small amount of "privacy." The entire Munger family was involved in the effort to see the hotel, the business, and the town succeed. Unlike the guests, the Mungers did not have individual rooms with permanent walls. The one area of the house, which was reserved for the family, did not provide much more privacy than the public areas of the home.

The east side of the room represents the room of Mary and Amelia Munger. Mary was 14 at the time of her arrival in Wichita, and Amelia was 26. Although they were living in a small, developing community, the girls shared a universal eagerness to participate in casual and organized social activities. Fashion illustrations from *Harper's Weekly* adorn the wall. Various cosmetic articles are on the commode. One might imagine that the Munger daughters held many of the same interests and fascinations as young girls of today. However, life

was not carefree for the Munger girls. They were vital partners in the family business, and they shared in the tremendous workload.

The west side represents the room of Darius and Julia Munger. The items in this area represent some of the treasured possessions, which the Mungers had traveled with over the years. All items are symbolic of the family's personal belongings. The pictures in the bedroom area are not Munger relatives, but represent family and friends left behind. Mr. and Mrs. Munger were products of an older generation. They were influenced by the eastern tradition into which they were born.

The Hotel

The hotel guest rooms were located upstairs. The upstairs area is not exhibited to the public, but it is an important part of the interpretation of the home. The upstairs area consisted of four hotel guest rooms. The stairway was located on the outside of the home, enabling the guests' direct access to the upstairs the upstairs apparently went through several stages of completion. Remembrances of early

Wichita settlers describe the Episcopalian Church services taking place in the upstairs "loft." Others recall various numbers of rooms, in various stages of completion. It is not known the exact date of the completion of the upstairs, but it is known that there were eventually four rooms which had permanent walls and were at least partially furnished.

After the Mungers sold their home to the Woodman family in the early 1870s, they became the managers of the Empire House Hotel. Several quotes from the *Wichita Weekly Beacon* and the *Wichita City Eagle* indicate the personality and operating style of the Mungers. Mr. and Mrs. Munger were well known for their hospitality and for their ability to make their guests comfortable. The November 19, 1873 issue of the *Beacon* states that "No one knows better than [Munger], how to cater to the public wishes. His good wife is noted for her neatness, cleanliness, and ability as a housekeeper." In October 1875, the *Beacon* said "no one ever yet had reason to complain of the fare, rooms, or beds of any house Mrs. D.S. Munger has been landlady of, nor the treatment of guests by the landlord, D.S. himself."

The Mungers continued to live in the area until the time of Mr. Munger's death in 1879. Over 800 people attended his funeral, and his death signified the close of the settlement period. Mrs. Munger eventually lived with Mary and her family in Newton, Kansas, and died there in 1894, at which time she was proclaimed by the *Wichita Eagle* as the "oldest woman resident of the city."

Today the name of Munger has become synonymous with the concept of Wichita's pioneering spirit. Although they often lacked public recognition during their attempts to solidify the foundations of Wichita, they are now recognized as symbols of Wichita's pioneer past and its entrepreneurial future.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Munger House, which was completed in 1869, is located in the Old Town Area of Old Cowtown Museum. It served as a hotel, public meeting place, and as the home of Darius and Julia Munger and their two youngest daughters, Mary and Amelia.
2. At the time of Munger's arrival in the area, finished lumber and hardware items had to be brought from other parts of the state through the freighting industry. Munger utilized the natural resources of the area to build the structure.
3. Unlike earlier settlers, Munger came to the area for the purpose of building a permanent structure, establishing an organized community, and developing social organizations.
4. The Munger House exhibit represents the transition of Wichita from a trading and hunting outpost to an organized city.
5. The Munger House is the only building at the Museum that is on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register of Historic Places is the Nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation. Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archeological resources. Properties listed in the Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. The National Park Service administers the National Register, which is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION RESIDENTIAL AREA

The Residential Area is a representation of the permanent resident community of Wichita during the 1870s. People during this time were living in Wichita with the intention of staying and prospering. Temporary residences (log cabins, dugouts, etc.) were no longer necessary. With the advent of railroad service in 1872, people could build, buy and live in homes like the Story and A Half House, or homes built in the Victorian style like the Murdock House. The Story and A Half House represents an average low to middle income family. The Murdock House represents a family of higher economic standing.

The permanent residential community in Wichita during the 1870s was expanding with the influx of settlers amidst the urban growth indicators of the railroad, cattle trade, development of 'industry and a diversity of businesses, and a growing agrarian hinterland. An indicator of the permanent residential community in Wichita during the 1870s was the establishment of social institutions such as churches, schools, and other community organizations. People living in Wichita during the 1870s were intent on staying and becoming successful. The majority was not a transient population. As community builders they desired the best social institutions available without municipal

taxation. The institutions they erected were ones that they had known in other areas, especially in the East. The residential community in Wichita during the 1870s had the common desire to have these institutions in Wichita, Kansas.

The Residential Area is representative of Wichita during the year's 1872-1880. Wichita was an expanding urban community, and was quickly shedding its frontier appearance. Wichita, as an urban center of the southern Great Plains region, was experiencing the same successes and failures in city building as older, more established cities in other parts of the country had experienced earlier. At the same time, Wichita was not an isolated frontier outpost. National trends in the fabric of social, cultural and economic institutions affected its residents. Wichita was tied to the rest of the United States by the informational and cultural umbilical cords of telegraph and railroad, which brought the world of the East to its residents. The people who lived and worked in Wichita during the period 1872-1880 were products of their age and time. As such they were inevitably tied to the rest of America and shared consciously or passively in its culture, albeit adapted to their peculiar circumstances.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Residential Area represents the permanent resident community of Wichita from 1872 - 1880.
2. The Residential Area is an indicator of people who lived in Wichita with the intention of staying and economically and socially successful. The residential community had the desire to establish familiar social institutions such as churches, schools, and community organizations.
3. Wichita, during the year's 1872-1880, was an expanding urban community, which was quickly shedding its frontier appearance. Wichita was an important urban center of the southern Great Plains region.
4. The residential community of Wichita from 1872-1880, was tied to the national trends of social, cultural, and economic institutions, and reflected these trends via the telegraph and railroad.

Residential Area - First Presbyterian Church

The First Presbyterian Church, located in the Residential Area of Old Cowtown Museum, represents one of Wichita's social and religious organizations of the permanent residential community during the 1870s. Churches played an important role in the development of permanent residential communities in the westward movement. As well as being a part of a community's religious beliefs, churches in early Wichita were also tied to the fabric of the social, cultural and political

organizations. Shortly after the first church in Wichita, St. John's Episcopal Church, was established, the First Presbyterian Church was organized. On March 13, 1870, thirteen individuals met to form the new congregation. Prior to building the First Presbyterian Church, the congregation met in a dugout and in a livery stable. This was unsatisfactory and the members raised about \$800 and with the aid of \$400 from the Board of Church Erection.

By fall the population had changed and a new plan was needed. It would be necessary to have a house that would cost more than \$1,200, but the Presbytery recommended only \$500. Timely aid of \$200 from the Memorial Fund saved it from extreme financial difficulty. The Presbyterians erected this church building for about \$1,500. This building was the first wood frame church in Wichita. The low cost in building was made possible by the volunteer labor of the congregation. The cottonwood lumber for the building was hauled to Wichita from Emporia, Kansas.

By the fall of 1872, the congregation had outgrown this building, and it was sold to the Catholic Church, moved, and renamed St. Aloysius. The St. Aloysius Catholic congregation for several years as a church and school used it. The Churches in early Wichita were often the center of many family activities. In addition to church services and Sunday school classes, there were church programs, and active women's organizations. In addition, the churches were often in the forefront of the movement against crime and vice. The members of church congregations and organizations shared a common desire to create a prosperous, safe, permanent residential community in Wichita during the 1870s. Church organizations appealed to the city leaders to do away with the "immorality" of

gambling, prostitution, violence, and other vices, which accompanied the cattle trade. The concern among church organizations was the fear that Wichita would receive the wild reputation that other Kansas Cattle towns had, and that such a reputation would deter people from bringing their families to Wichita. Such a reputation affected the Presbyterian congregation when they applied to their national board in New York for financial aid to build a larger church. The First Presbyterian Church in Wichita was denied aid because of Wichita's wild reputation.

The First Presbyterian Church was erected in the summer of 1870 on the southeast corner of Wichita and 2nd St. It was sold to Saint Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Church in late 1872 for \$500 including furnishings. It was sold to a group of African Americans who moved to 2nd and St. Francis Ave. used it as hotel "Hotel Centropolis" It was later used as a boarding house owned by Mrs. Millie Hodge who moved the structure to the 600 Block of N. Main. A second story was added to the structure as a boarding house and windows were added on the front of the first floor. The building was condemned after a fire destroyed the second floor in 1949. The building was moved to its present site at the Old Cowtown Museum in 1952, where it was restored as a church.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The First Presbyterian Church represents one of the social and religious organizations of the permanent residential community in Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Churches played an important role in the development of the permanent residential community. As well as occupying a religious role, churches were involved in the development of the social, cultural, and political climate in 1870s Wichita.
3. This building was constructed as the First Presbyterian Church in 1870 at a cost of \$1,500.
4. Churches took an active role in defining the standards they believed would lend to developing a family-orientated climate.

Residential Area- The Hodge House

The Hodge House in the residential district of Old Cowtown Museum represents life of the minorities in early Wichita. The house was built by Wesley Hodge, an African-American blacksmith, between 1878 and 1885. The Census in 1880 lists his family as Wesley age 40, his wife Millie, a homemaker aged 38 and their two children, daughter Fannie age 15, and son James age 13, who worked as a bootblack. All family members were born in Mississippi and were one of the earliest African-American families in

Wichita. When they arrived in 1876, they joined a growing population that in 1875 census listed as 62, but by 1880 had grown to 246 people.

Wesley passed away in 1885 at 45 leaving his wife Millie to support their two teenage children. About the time of Wesley's death the family acquired the former Presbyterian/Catholic Church from 2nd and 4th Aves. It was moved to 605 N. Main next to the Hodge House at 607 N. Main and converted into a

rooming house of 10-12 rooms. The rooming house opened on August 17, 1887, being described by the *Wichita Eagle* as:

“a first class hotel for colored people on North Main. The house is newly furnished and fitted and the table furnishings are as good as the market affords.”

The rooming house businesses continued to support Millie A. Hodge throughout her long life. She lived to be 97 years old and never remarried. She was active in the Calvary Missionary Baptist Church where her daughter Fannie played their first organ in 1878.

Fannie Hodge married David L. Roberson on 3 April 1889. Roberson was a printer by occupation. He disappears from the records and Fannie, we assume, remarried and had one daughter Mildred Stewart in 1905. In 1909, Fannie married William Sullivan. The couple lived in Sedgwick County, as well as Colorado and Illinois during their lives. It is known that William, Fannie and Mildred were literate and that Mildred attended college.

James Hodge married Ida ? and continued to live in Wichita. He worked primarily as a laborer, though is listed once in the Directory as a blacksmith. Ida died in 1904 and no record of children has been found. James passed away in 1916. The Hodge family continued to own 607 N. Main until at least 1937 living in this residence off and on during this time and renting it the rest of the time.

The Hodges joined an African-American population that in 1875 constituted 3.2% of the city's permanent population, and an estimated 10% of the county's permanent population. The population seasonally fluctuated with the arrival of the African-American Cowboys who, along with the other cowboys supported the economic base of the city.

The African-American cowboy was part of the emerging “cowboy culture” of the late 19th century which judged men on the merits of their work skills and not always on the color of their skin. Their presence in a town met little opposition by the white permanent population.

This, unfortunately, was not the case for the permanent residents who were not as likely to attain equal employment status to the white population. The 1880 Census reported that 247 of Sedgwick

County's 18,753 residents, or approximately 1%, were African-American. Most came from Midwestern States and were worked as laborers, builders, farmers, domestic workers, or they worked as hotel and restaurant employees. Alexander Clark opened a blacksmith shop in 1874 and advertised that he would “do work for all parties irrespective of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” In the same year, a group of African-Americans opened an ox yoke factory.

Wichita's attitudes towards African-Americans were reflective of common attitudes throughout the west. As towns grew and became more permanent in social and demographic makeup, African-Americans were less well received than they had been in the formative years. While the larger population held little opposition to African-Americans who fit the societal expectation of respectable, hardworking citizens, they were quick to criticize those who did not fit the ideal of the well-ordered and progressively industrial Victorian era. This attitude was illustrated in 1879, when fourteen African-Americans migrated to Wichita as part of the massive “Exoduster” movement of African-Americans from the south. The City Council voted to send them back, officially citing fear that the small group might introduce epidemic disease into the community. A more likely cause of their concern was voiced by Marsh Murdock in the *Wichita Eagle*, when he worried about a potential influx of unskilled, (and therefore unemployable) immigrants to the tax-conscious community.

Wichita Public schools were integrated, and elections and the legal process were open to all citizens. However, there was an increasing amount of social segregation occurring by the end of the 1870s. Local newspapers often made mention of social gatherings within the African-American community, and documented the establishment of African-American churches and Sabbath schools.

Reinterpretation: In 1950, the remains of the little white church and an associated building believed to be the parsonage were purchased by the newly formed Historic Wichita-Sedgwick County Inc. The bill of sale describes the buildings as the first church building and its' parsonage. Recent research has revealed that the small house located at 607 N. Main

was never a Parsonage which has led to its

reinterpretation as the Hodge House.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. As one of the core families in growing Wichita, the Hodge Family represents the growing presence of an African-American community in Wichita.
2. As a skilled craftsman, Wesley would have earned more than the average African-American, thereby enabling the family to build their own house and purchase the old church.
3. The Hodge House represents a typical working class home of the era.

Residential Area - Murdock House

The Murdock House, located in the Residential Area of Old Cowtown Museum, was built in 1874. It was the home of Marshall M. Murdock, his wife Victoria, and their three children. Their home is represents a comfortable upper middle class Victorian household in 1870s Wichita. Marshall Murdock was the editor of the Wichita City Eagle newspaper. Murdock established the paper in 1872; the first issue was published on April 12 of that year. Murdock was the premier publicist for the city, and was known nationally almost as much for his unswerving loyalty and promotion of Wichita as for his extravagant writing style. Marshall Marcellus Murdock was born near Morgantown, in present day West Virginia. Murdock's family moved to Ohio when he was eight years old. It was in Ohio that he began his apprenticeship as a printer. In 1856, Murdock family moved near Topeka, Kansas. In 1862 Marshall Murdock married Victoria and started working for a paper in Lawrence, Kansas. Before moving to Wichita, Murdock owned and operated the Weekly Osage Chronicle, located in Burlingame, Kansas.

At the invitation of Wichita business leaders, Murdock moved to Wichita in 1872 to start a Republican newspaper. Undoubtedly Murdock received a subsidy or bonus from Wichita business leaders for moving his family and newspaper operation to Wichita, though he would vehemently deny throughout his career. The editor had similar offers from other cities, but there was nothing particularly impressive about Wichita in 1872 to indicate that it provided a natural advantage over other locales. However, it is significant to note that Wichita leaders believed that the city needed a promotional newspaper like Murdock's. The city leaders knew that a newspaper could be used as the ultimate public relations tool to promote business,

settlement, and recruitment of railroads, as well as the social and cultural aspects of the community.

Marshall Murdock's wife Victoria, and two children, Kate and Victor, accompanied him to Wichita in 1872. A daughter, Love-en-Tangle, born in 1875, died as a young child. Another child, Marcellus was born in Wichita in 1883. Victoria Murdock is remembered as being very diplomatic and supportive of her husband's business. Obviously she was more involved in the publication of The Eagle than the public was generally aware. When Marshall died in 1908, Victoria took over ownership of the Eagle and became one of the few women publishers of a substantial daily newspaper during that time.

In addition to being a newspaper editor, Murdock was also, a politician, which aided his role as a town promoter. His newspapers, including the Eagle, were Republican in sentiment. The year he arrived in Wichita he was elected to the state senate from the southwest district of Kansas. In 1874, Murdock was appointed postmaster for Wichita, a position he held for many years.

Murdock and his writing style exemplified the typical western-editor-politician-town promoter. Although it is difficult to see the direct effect of Murdock's promotion of Wichita, it is important to note that the moneyed clique of Wichita believed the city needed the promotion that a newspaper like Murdock's would bring. His writing style and content leaves no doubt that he was at all times a defender and promoter of the interests of Wichita.

The Murdock House

The Murdock House was built in 1874, and was originally located at Fourth and Oak streets (present day St. Francis and Murdock). At the time the

house was constructed, the area was sparsely populated and the Murdocks were considered to be living "out on the prairie" rather than in downtown

Wichita. The house has been restored on the exterior to its original 1874 appearance.

Interpretation of the Exterior

The Murdock House, in the Residential Area of Old Cowntown Museum, represents a comfortable upper middle class Victorian family home in the permanent resident community in Wichita during the 1870s. As a permanent residential structure, the house and the Murdock family, represent a component of the Wichita population during the 1870s who were intent on staying in Wichita and becoming successful along with their city. As community builders, the Murdock family, and Marshal Murdock in the role of town promoter, desired the best available economic, social, and cultural institutions.

The front yard represents a typical Victorian landscape, which a family like the Murdock's may have had. A cast iron fence of intricate design surrounds the front yard. The front yard contains flowerbeds in the form of carpet patterns. The two largest beds were known as "plum pudding" arrangements.

The architectural style of the Murdock House is late Victorian Gothic or Stick style. Wichita received railroad service in 1872. This allowed families like the Murdocks to build a home in the prevalent Victorian style. The railroads also allowed the Murdocks to landscape and plant their surrounding yard in a manicured fashion.

Interpretation of the Interior

Evidence for the interior furnishings of the Murdock House is not available. The artifacts and objects displayed within were not the actual possessions of the Murdock family. However, the home has been furnished with items which were known to be available to Wichitans during the 1870s, and which a family like the Murdocks would have used.

families in Wichita placed on the decorative arts and prevalent styles of the period. It was a "show place" of items that reflected to visitors that Wichita was not a "backwater place on the frontier." The railroad made popular styles of the East available to families like the Murdocks.

Entrance Hall

The entrance hall was an important component to the Victorian-style home because it allowed for the receiving of guests before they entered the front parlor. The hall tree was an important item in the entrance. In addition to holding hats, shawls, and etc. the hall tree was often the place to leave calling cards. Visitors that the Murdocks received observed Victorian calling card etiquette and would have left their calling cards in a similar tray.

Dining Room

The family as well as guests used the dining room. According to the typical taste of the day, dining rooms had walls painted a dark color or were papered with an equally dark paper. This was done to attract the observer's eye to the center of attention; silver, crystal, and white linen. The furniture in the room also reflects the types and styles available to the Murdock family. The prints on the walls are of genre style. One of the prints is Scottish and one is American in subject. The Scottish print represents the Murdock family background. The door in the northeast corner of the room opens onto a staircase leading upstairs. The second story originally contained three bedrooms for the Murdock family and a hallway. **(It is now used for Museum storage. Fire codes do not allow the Museum to give tours of the second story because there is only one exit.)**

Front Parlor

The front parlor in the Victorian home was used for entertaining special guests. It was primarily kept behind closed doors and "off-limits" to children. In the front parlor, Marshall Murdock would have received important business associates and other guests related to his involvement in politics and town promotion. The front parlor was the most highly decorated room in a Victorian home. The artifacts displayed reflected the importance that

Back Parlor or Sitting Room

The back parlor, or sitting room, was one of the most used rooms by the family. It was the Victorian

equivalent to the present day family room. In the back parlor the young Murdock children would have played. Victoria Murdock would have used the sewing machine. The secretary was used to write correspondences and for home study. The center table is more functional than the formal table in the front parlor. The coal-burning stove in the back parlor was considered a fast, efficient, and economical improvement over fireplaces.

Kitchen

The kitchen was a busy place of activity. It was not exclusively used for food preparation. Laundry, soap making, and mending were done in the kitchen. Stoves of the period were heated primarily with coal, although straw, wood, or cobs were used according to the availability of the fuel supply in Wichita.

The pantry off the kitchen was the family's storehouse. Notice the various goods available. As

the foodstuffs in the pantry and the "period" trash in the wastebasket attest, the Murdocks had a variety of the desired food items available to them. After the railroad came to Wichita, families like the Murdocks would have had access to popular food items such as canned salmon or fresh oysters with regularity.

One of the important functions of the kitchen was to provide a place to wash hands before eating or after coming inside. Water was brought from an outdoor well. The water pitcher was filled and kept on the washstand. After use, dirty water was poured into the slop bucket.

Back Porch

The back porch led to the back yard and the back door, which was used by the family as an entrance to the house.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Murdock House was built in 1874. It was the home of Marshall A Murdock, editor of the Wichita City Eagle, his wife Victoria, and their children. Wichita business leaders to establish a Republican newspaper in Wichita recruited Murdock. Marshall I Murdock is remembered for the role he played in the promotion of Wichita in his newspaper.
2. The Murdock House is part of the Residential Area of the Museum. The House represents of a upper middle-income Victorian dwelling in the permanent resident community of Wichita after 1872.
3. Wichita received railroad service in 1872. This allowed for the construction of houses, like the Murdock's, in the prevalent Victorian style. The railroad also made possible the availability of the furnishings in the home, any desired foodstuffs, coal used for fuel, and many other "metropolitan" amenities.
4. The Murdock House may be used for interpretive purposes to demonstrate the over-arching effect the railroad had upon Wichita. Compare and contrast the Murdock House with the Old Town Area and pre-railroad Wichita.

Residential Area - The Story And A Half House

The Story and A Half House is located in the Residential Area of Old Cowtown Museum. It is representative of a typical lower middle class home of the late 19th century. The house could have belonged to a young family, new to the Wichita area, who had high hopes for success in their new home. Many young families were attracted to the area from homes in Midwestern states such as Indiana, Iowa, and Ohio. This type of family often chose not to pursue farming, but took jobs in town and became a part of the residential community. The father may have been a store clerk or may have worked in a newspaper office. Initially, this family would not have been wealthy, but would have enjoyed a stable existence in this type of small, yet comfortable house.

The Parlor

Like the parlor in the Murdock House, the parlor in the Story and A Half House was also considered a special room. The nicest furnishings occupied the room, and great care was taken to maintain the newness and "specialness" of the room. However, because this type of home had only one parlor, the family would have used it more frequently than a formal parlor in a larger home. Although company would have been entertained in the parlor, the family may have gathered here in the evenings as well. Despite more frequent use, the room was regarded as the best room in the house, and its contents were treated with special care.

The furnishings of the parlor reflect the widespread popularity of certain parts of Victorian taste and

culture. The same types of furnishings and artwork adorn the Story and A Half House as the Murdock House. Items may vary in value, but not in style or taste. Many aspired to an ideal lifestyle and participated in that lifestyle within their particular means and abilities. The photographs on the wall represent family members. The young people represent the children at various ages, and the adults on the south wall represent grandparents left behind.

If you looked in on the family on any particular evening, you may have seen Father reading the newspaper, Mother mending clothes or instructing the children in their various activities, and the children playing quiet games, or perhaps working on a school project. In the fall and winter months, a parlor stove, which would have been located on the east wall, would keep the room warm. In warmer months, windows and doors could be opened to maximize airflow through the house.

The Middle Room

The middle room would have been used for a number of family activities, including, but not exclusively, dining. Although meals would have been served here, the table could be folded down to make room for many other activities. The children's toys and schoolbooks in the corner of the room indicate that the children may have spent much of their free time here. Some of the work of the household may have been based from the room; at it would be the place where more casual visiting and activities would have taken occurred. The door in the southeast corner of the room lead to the stairway. The stairway provides access to the two small bedrooms, which are not accessible to the public, but are currently used, for storage.

The Kitchen

The small kitchen demonstrates the difficult working conditions of a nineteenth century home. Space was limited, and extreme weather conditions could make the kitchen a very difficult place to work. The wood-burning stove was used for cooking. On particularly hot days, cooking would have been done early in the morning, or cold meals would be served as much as possible. In cold

weather, the stove was a source of heat. There is no icebox in the home. Food, which needed to be kept cool, would be kept in a cellar, down a well, or on the back porch during the winter months. Although the kitchen is small, it is well stocked with equipment and utensils. A pitcher and basin by the back door served as a "kitchen sink" for those entering the house with dirty hands and faces. As was the case in the Murdock House, the family probably used the back door most frequently.

The Outside

The outside of the Story and A Half House was as important to family activities as the inside. Laundry was done outside and hung on the line to dry. The woodpile and chopping block represent a monotonous task to the men in the family, as the wood box could not be allowed to become empty. A kitchen garden in back of the house provided some of the family's food. It would have provided fresh vegetables, as well as many items, which would be canned and enjoyed throughout the year. The outhouse serves as a reminder of the many inconveniences associated with 19th century life. Many pleasant hours were spent on the porches of the house, where shade trees and cool breezes provided the coolest atmosphere. Because of the lack of space and the uncomfortable working conditions, activities such as butter churning and washing dishes may have taken place on the porches as well.

Building History – The Story and a Half and Kirby House were owned and given to the Old Cowtown Museum by Leo McKenzie whose family owned the Wichita Carriage Works. Story and Half is believed to have been built in the 1880s it may have been located on the 900 block of North Wichita or near Water and 1st Streets.

Kirby House is believed to have been built in the 1880s it may have been located at 3rd and Water Streets, cati-corner from fire station No. 1. The McKenzie family owned several house some of which were probably rental or employee residences. These structures were moved to the Old Cowtown Museum in 1961.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Story and A Half House is a part of the Residential Area of Old Cowtown Museum. The house is representative of a lower-middle income family in early Wichita after the arrival of the railroad in 1872.

2. The presence of the railroad made a wide variety of goods readily accessible to people of all economic standings.
3. As the residential community of Wichita became more firmly established, the rate of settlement increased. People of varying backgrounds settled in Wichita in hopes of obtaining social and economic success.

Residential Area - One Room School

The One Room School, located in the Residential Area of Old Cowtown Museum represents the residential community's educational institutions of Wichita during the 1870s. William Finn held the first school in Wichita in an abandoned sod dugout. It was a subscription school for which Finn charged a dollar a pupil. Finn's school lasted only for the 1869-1870 winter term. It was the custom during the period to conduct a winter term of four months of advanced studies for older children and a three-month primary course during the summer for the younger children. W. H. Tellers conducted a winter term during 1870-1871 in the second story of the New York Store, a prominent Douglas Avenue business. Mr. Teller was the first schoolmaster employed by the newly incorporated city in 1870. Over sixty students were enrolled in the summer term of 1871, which was taught by Miss Jessie Hunter.

In August 1871, the only school bond issue until the late 1870s was passed, allocating \$5,000 for a new school. Wichita's first school building, the First Ward School, was built on land donated by J.R. Mead. The schoolhouse was a rectangular two-story frame building. Two classrooms were on the first floor and one on the second. Schoolteachers in Wichita during the period were paid between \$35 to \$50 dollars a month. The first election of the Board of Education was held April 1, 1872. Wichita's public schools during the period were inadequate. New residents arrived daily as Wichita's population continued to expand during the 1870s. Subsequently, Wichita's school population almost immediately outgrew the first school building. Although it would have been more economical to build a new school than for the city to rent extra

rooms, a new school building was considered an unnecessary extravagance. City leaders were afraid that taxation would have a negative effect on the city's development, and they refused to support another bond issue. Throughout the 1870s, schoolteachers were poorly paid, supplies were limited, and space was inadequate. The first school building burned in 1879, and in 1880, a \$25,000 bond issue was finally passed to construct a brick building to house Wichita's educational institution.

The One Room School is an original schoolhouse from Sedgwick County. The interior represents the many one-room school buildings, which were found throughout rural America during the period. All age groups were taught in the one-room school and a variety of desks sizes were available for the students. Paper was often scarce. Individual slates were used for writing. The children were called to the recitation desk at the front to recite, read, or answer questions for the teacher.

This was a rural one room school; Wichita held classes in any room available.

This structure is a one room school. The original origins of the structure are unknown but the school was moved several times as an additional classroom where additional space was needed. The school remained at the Meridian School at 301 S. Meridian for 12-14 years prior to being moved to Cowtown. It served as a classroom until Payne Elementary was built. The school was open to the public for the Kansas Centennial; afterwards the school board donated the structure to Cowtown where more people can see it. It was moved Cowtown in 1962.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The One Room School represents Wichita's educational institutions of the 1870s.
2. The Wichita School District #1 was established in 1870. In 1871, a \$5,000 bond issue was passed and a two-story school was constructed on donated land.
3. Throughout the 1870s, Wichita's school system was inadequate to meet the demands of an expanding urban population. City leaders believed that taxation for better schools would have negative effect on the development of business in Wichita.

4. Wichita schools in the 1870s had underpaid teachers, limited supplies, and inadequate and poorly equipped space.

5. This one-room schoolhouse represents of the many one-room schools throughout rural America during the period. The One Room School is an original schoolhouse from Sedgwick County.

NOTE: See "Teaching in a One Room School" for additional information and use of the One Room School exhibit as well as other handouts from the Interpretation Department.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION BUSINESS DISTRICT

The Area Interpretation of the Business District at Old Cowtown Museum represents the growth and diversity of businesses in Wichita during the years 1872-1880. Prior to receiving railroad service in 1872, the economy that the businesses of Wichita relied on was primarily hunting and trading. Business in early Wichita developed from trade with the Indians and later from government contracts for goods freighted by wagon train to Indian Territory to fulfill treaty obligations. In its early years of existence, Wichita depended on the energy and force of its residents in order to grow and prosper. Although there was a great amount of talk among the early settlers about the ideal geographic location of Wichita, there was actually

little to differentiate from many other small towns to the west and south. What was important to early Wichita was that it possessed residents who were promoters nonpareil. The arrival of the railroad in 1872 ushered in an important era of economic growth. The railroad allowed for the diversification of readily available goods. This growth was reflected by the development of businesses offering a more specified type of service. For example, the central role of the general store was supplanted by businesses catering to specific clientele and selling specialty goods. Drugstores, meat markets, dry goods stores and other specialty shops began to thrive in the expanding economy.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. Wichita's early economic base was founded on hunting and trading with Native American tribes in the area. Fulfilling government treaty obligations to tribes in Indian Territory continued to be important to the Wichita economy throughout the 1870s.
2. The arrival the railroad in 1872 accelerated population growth, brought a diversification of goods and services, and increased the shipping and purchasing capabilities of local merchants.
3. The cattle trade significantly impacted business in Wichita by bringing a transient population into an inflationary market.
4. An expanding agricultural hinterland, which included a growing rural population and the development of a significant agricultural economic base, increased the base of customers from which businesses could benefit.
5. The Business Area of Old Cowtown Museum is not an exact representation of a location in early Wichita. Early Wichita contained many more architectural styles, and included many brick and stone buildings.

Business District - Blacksmith Shop

The Blacksmith Shop, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum represents a general repair shop, with emphasis on agricultural equipment repair, in Wichita during the 1870s. The blacksmith's trade was an important business to the early settlement of Wichita. Before Wichita received railroad service in 1872, the blacksmith shop provided a necessary means of production and repair. In the absence of a sufficient, affordable and a continuous quantity of tools, farm equipment, and other hardware, the blacksmith shop in early

Wichita was a business which was central to the economic base.

After Wichita received railroad service, the role of blacksmiths and their trade changed. The railroad provided more mass produced and factory manufactured goods. The railroad expanded Wichita's industrial base to include foundries, wagon and farm equipment manufactures, and other industries which provided goods and services previously tied almost entirely on the blacksmiths' trade. However, the railroad also increased

settlement and expanded Wichita's agricultural base to such a degree that the blacksmiths and their trade continued to provide an essential business need throughout Wichita during the 1870s. The Wichita City Directory of 1878 listed twenty-four individuals as blacksmiths and twelve businesses, specifically, as blacksmith operations.

During this period, the wheelwright and farrier trades (the farrier was engaged specifically in the fitting and shoeing of animals) were businesses which were closely aligned with to the blacksmith. A "general blacksmith shop" during the period usually included blacksmiths which were skilled in the wheelwright and farrier trades in order to meet the growing agricultural industry needs. General

Blacksmith shops in Wichita during the 1870s demonstrated the importance of the trade to Wichita. The general shop represented the changing role of technology in Wichita.

Building History - Best Guess: We believe that this structure was built at the museum in honor of the G. A. Millar Blacksmith Shop once located at 923 E. Douglas. The structure was built at Cowtown with the help of Millar's son Ben Millar. G. A. Millar operated his shop from in Wichita from 1878-1917. Ben Millar converted the original shop into an automotive repair shop after his father's death.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Blacksmith Shop represents a general repair shop, with emphasis on agricultural equipment repair, in Wichita during the 1870s.
2. The blacksmith shop provided the necessary means of tool production and repair to pre railroad Wichita.
3. Wichita's increasing agricultural industry base during the 1870s reaffirmed the importance of the general blacksmith to Wichita's economy.
4. The blacksmith trade demonstrates the changing role of technology in Wichita.

For interpretation and description of the Blacksmith Shop building, tools, and equipment refer to "historic Structure Report and Furnishing Study, Blacksmith Shop," on file in the Interpretation Department

Blacksmith Shop – Activities

One of the easiest hands on items in the shop is to allow young visitors to turn the blower handle on the forge. Children love the opportunity of helping the blacksmith. Great care must be taken as you now have a visitor close to the fire. This is easily handled by putting your body between children and sparks from the fire.

All visitors are fascinated by the movement of metal, but one demonstration is the bending of a half inch iron bar. Cold the bar is almost impossible to bend, while orange hot the smallest child can bend the steel easily. This requires great care because of the heat and you must place the child's

hands in a safe position. Use both of the child's hands on the same spot so that one doesn't wander for leverage. This demo is only to be practiced after you have learned the properties of the metal and you feel that you are in complete control of the situation.

Remember that as a blacksmith your work will sometimes take longer than the average visitor wants to watch you work. It helps to have some projects, which are in varying degrees of finish; visitors love to see you finish an item. They also want to see what you started the project with.

Business District - Marshal's Office

Wichita's first few years were ones of especially dynamic change. Between 1868 and 1880 Wichita evolved from a trading post on the Arkansas River to a small city with all the amenities that Victorian society offered. Business and civic leaders here, as elsewhere in the western towns springing from the

plains, recognized that order and security were vital to the process of town building. Law enforcement in Wichita also evolved, reflecting the culture and values of the city. The picture that emerges on review of the events of those first years is rather

different than that painted by the mythology that has grown up surrounding the American West.

During Wichita's infancy, Osage Indians presented perhaps the greatest threat to settlers. The federal government had not yet finalized negotiations with the tribe regarding lands previously granted to them in Kansas, and until well into the 1870s, some of the Osages defied efforts at containing them in Indian Territory, which was present day Oklahoma. Trading entrepreneurs, however, chose the townsite in part for its proximity to Indian Territory: it was a natural terminus for freight to or from the south (Indian Territory and Texas) and the southwest (the Chisholm and Santa Fe Trails). That the Osages left Wichita settlers largely alone may have been due to the presence of a U.S. army regiment stationed about a mile northwest of the townsite. By the time this regiment departed in 1869 to suppress Indian resistance elsewhere in the state, Wichita was sufficiently large to protect itself.

The infrastructure of law enforcement took shape quickly in the growing town. The first term of the Kansas Ninth District Court convened in June, 1870, on the second floor of a livery stable on North Main. With 2,000 inhabitants, Wichita incorporated as a second-class city the next month. The city council drafted ordinances and appointed Ike Walker the first marshal on July 25. William Smith succeeded Walker within less than a year but resigned after only two days, ostensibly to pursue other prospects. Mike Meagher accepted the position and served ably for three years. During 1871, at least eight additional policemen were sworn in by either the police judge or by

O. W. Brummett, the city clerk. Certainly not all eight worked concomitantly, opportunities were often fluid in frontier towns, and one of the men, Meagher's twin John, assumed the position of Sedgwick County Sheriff.' Thus by 1871 the city had laid the foundations of law and order.

Although experiences with cattle herds passing by on their way north shaped the city ordinances passed in 1870, at this point Abilene, not Wichita, enjoyed preeminence in the cattle trade. Wichita's economy centered instead on the animal hide business, which it dominated on the plains throughout the 1870s, and on wagon freighting. The latter industry flourished even after the arrival of the Santa Fe railroad in March of 1872: freight continued to move south by wagon due to tribal reluctance to permit railroads in Indian Territory; and emigrants enroute to rich south-central Kansas farmlands disembarked at the Wichita terminus. Historians contend that the presence of a developed hunting trading economy provided Wichita with some of the prerequisite institutions to become a cattle town and that city leaders labored to secure rail service primarily in order to exploit the cattle trade.' whatever the impetus, railroads were key to survival for many prairie towns. Certainly the presence of the Santa Fe gave Texas cattle drovers earlier access to shipping, shaving ninety miles off the trip to Abilene or to Ellsworth, the previous destinations for herds to be shipped to eastern markets. The opening of the 1872 season saw Wichita, already a trading center and now a rail terminus, poised for ascendancy among Kansas cattle towns.

Marshal's Office activities

The first opening line for the marshal's office is "Did you come to check your guns?" This can lead into a discussion on the city ordinance against carrying of weapons on the streets of Wichita and the difficulties that early Marshals had in enforcing this law.

Having children try on handcuffs is an excellent hands-on experience. Explain to visitors how very few cowboys spent any more than a few hours in the jail i.e.; Costs of feeding the prisoners; they aren't spending money while in jail and the fact that if you treat the drovers too harshly they not return next year.

All visitors want to hear about Wyatt Earp and many other famous gunmen. Using the story of Earp's firing by Marshal Meager can be tempered by also telling the story of the drunk individual found by the bridge and how fortunate this man was to be found by Wyatt Earp an honest lawman.

The firearms displayed in the Marshal's office lend well to opening conversations with visitors about firearms of the early west.

Business District - Meat Market

The Meat Market located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum represents the diversification of local markets in Wichita, Kansas during the 1870s. The Meat Market represents the availability of specialty foods, and the ongoing importance an economic institution of Wichita's hunting and trading period. Meat markets in 1870s Wichita carried a large variety of wild and domestic meats. Professional hunting was a legal and vital business in early Wichita. Hunters supplied local meat markets with wild game, and sent great quantities of meat to eastern markets and restaurants. Wild and domestic meats were shipped from Wichita meat markets to eastern markets in special rail road cars packed between layers of ice and straw. Game animals included buffalo, elk, deer, antelope, and game birds such as ducks and geese. Fish caught by nets in the Arkansas River were also a staple of meat markets in Wichita.

The Meat Market represented the variety of food which were available, as well as the demand for

domestic meats in Wichita. Cattle, hogs, sheep, chickens, ducks, and geese were all a part of the local diet. The meat market was the outlet for processed meats such as smoked hams, sausage, bacon, as well as lard rendered from the butchering. The meat market was also a local outlet for oysters. Regular shipments of oysters were brought by train from the east coast combined with other food items. The odor of the meat market and the flies which accompanied the inventory, necessitated that the meat market engage in a singular activity.

Although hunting was one of the first major industries in Wichita, the vast herds of buffalo, wild game, and flocks eventually became depleted and their habitat became occupied by farms and towns. As the agrarian economy of Sedgwick County expanded, domestic animals became more dominate in the local meat markets, and domestically raised meats became a part of the local economy.

Label in Exhibit - The Plentiful Plains

Meat markets in early Wichita provided residents with a large variety of wild and domesticated meats and specialty items. Some of the earliest business activity in the region centered around the hunting industry. Commercial hunters and fishermen supplied local markets with wild game. Wild turkey, prairie chickens, antelope, deer, elk, black and yellow catfish and white bass were some of the abundant wildlife available to consumers. Merchants also sold large quantities of meat to eastern markets. The meat was packed in ice and shipped by railroad. As the population of Sedgwick

County increased, the herds of game became depleted as farms and towns began to take over their habitats. As a result, domestically raised meats grown specifically for consumption became more common in the local markets.

Nineteenth century Americans consumed great amounts of meat. Nearly every meal included beef, pork, poultry, or fish. Imported specialty items such as oysters and other seafood were commonly found on local bills of fare.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Meat Market represents the diversity of local businesses in Wichita during the 1870s. The Meat Market is representational of the availability of specialty foods, and an institution directly related to the economic impact of hunting in the Wichita region.
2. The Meat Market also represents the local diet during the time period. The meat market distributed a wide variety of wild and domestic meats to the residents and shipped great quantities of wild and domestic meat to eastern markets.
3. Unlike other early businesses in Wichita, the meat market did not combine the sale of meat with other food-stuffs.
5. With the expansion of the agrarian economy and the depletion of wild game and in its natural habitat, domestically raised meats dominated the meat market business.

Business District - Turnverein Hall

The Turnverein Hall at Old Cowtown Museum represents the attempts of the expanding metropolitan community in early Wichita to organize social and cultural organizations for the city.

As Wichita began to develop economically during the 1870s, church, civic and social organizations played a part in the rising cultural aspirations of the city's residents. While much of the social life of the resident population revolved around activities sponsored by the ladies' auxiliaries of the various churches, there were also men's lodges, amateur music and drama groups, a volunteer library association and a chapter of the Turner society.

To a high degree, women in early and growing metropolitan communities were seen as the purveyors of civilization and culture. Women in 1870s Wichita were excluded from the mainstream of business and politics in much the same way that

ethnic minorities would later be. Women were expected to emerge in public only in certain well defined roles. They could do church and charity work, such as the Ladies Relief Association did during the grasshopper invasion of 1874 and be respected for it. Or they could take leadership roles in the cultural life of the city, which many men saw as bothersome, but necessary part of an important and growing metropolis. Women with families in Wichita had to bear up under the strain of living on the fringes of a society that was for the most part oblivious to their sensibilities. They were expected to maintain "civilization" in early Wichita where every economic condition mitigated against it. Wichita had a cultural life during the 1870s, but it could be described as popular rather than high culture. Brass bands were the average and favored musical taste, and amateur or traveling theater groups put on plays.

The Turnverein Society

Wichita had an active German population, many of whom belonged to the local chapter of the Turner Society, a German fraternal organization. With its German origins and emphasis on physical fitness, it was a distinctive group that included in its membership "the principal German element in the city." The term "turnverein" is a German term referring to a club of "turners" or gymnasts. But in other respects it resembled the lodges in lofty objectives and the more earthly commitment to social events. In 1871 a small frame hall was built

at First and Main at the cost of \$500. The building was occupied by the society until 1879, when the Turner Opera House was constructed. The Turnvereins introduced it to the rest of Wichita by announcing a grand ball and by stating their "objectives [of] developing strength, encouraging truth, protecting justice, and guarding liberty." To support their promise of providing uplifting culture for the community, the Turnverein Society sponsored a number of public concerts, dances and balls, and athletic displays.

Label in Exhibit - The Turner Society

As Wichita grew and developed, so did its religious, social, and civic organizations. The Masons, Odd Fellows, Eastern Star, and the Turner Society all had Wichita chapters in the 1870s. The Turner Society originated in Germany in the early 19th century. William "Dutch Bill" Greiffenstein, a German immigrant, was often referred to as the "father of Wichita."

Wichita's German immigrants established a Turner Society in 1871 and built the first Turnverein Hall at Main and First streets for \$500. The Society occupied the building until 1879 when the more elaborate Turner Opera House was built. Members introduced the Society to Wichita by announcing their objective of "*developing strength, encouraging truth, protecting justice, and guarding liberty.*" Turnverein means "exercise union," and the organization stressed physical fitness, conducted exercise classes, and sponsored dances and other community activities.

The motto above the northwest door proclaims, "Alert, happy and free, are the courageous sons of the gymnastics movement." The motto by the stage states, "Friends are more important than fire, water, and bread."

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Turnverein Hall represents the attempts of early Wichita residents to bring cultural elements to the expanding metropolitan community.
2. To a large degree, women in Wichita during the 1870s were seen as the initiators of social and cultural events. The cultural life of the city was one area in which women could assert leadership roles.
3. The Turnverein Society sponsored numerous public concerts, dances and balls, and athletic displays.
4. The culture of Wichita's early social organizations is described as popular rather than high culture. However, the numerous organizations, although mostly amateur in style, represents the importance that early residents in Wichita placed on current trends and cultural organizations.

NOTE: The motto above the northwest door proclaims, "Alert, happy, and free, that's the courageous sons of the gymnastics movement. The motto by the stage states, "Friends are more important than fire, water, and bread.

Business District - Southern Hotel

The Southern Hotel, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the importance that hotels had in the promotion and growth of Wichita during the 1870s. With the constant influx of immigrants, a growing business community, and the cattle trade, hotels provided an important service in the rapidly growing town. The hotel played an important role in the founding and growth of western towns. When D.S. Munger came to this area in 1868 as an agent for the Wichita Land and Town Company, he built one of the first permanent houses in Wichita. It contained four small hotel rooms on the second floor. The more primitive Vigus Hotel, which was originally the home of Henry Vigus, served the same purpose as the Munger House: a place for newly arrived immigrants to have a roof over their heads while they constructed their own homes and businesses.

As Wichita grew, hotels served an ever increasing role as the headquarters for business and social events. During 1872 the three Wichita hotels registered 19,410 people. During the cattle trade era of 1872 to 1876, the hotels became the headquarters for the buying and selling of cattle. By 1874, Wichita had ten hotels which did over \$368,000 in business. Balls, banquets, and community event of "social significance" were often hosted by a hotel. For example, in 1880 the Occidental Hotel hosted a banquet in honor of General Philip Sheridan. These social activities took on a public air since hotels were often built through community efforts such as hotel stock companies. The hotel was considered to be of vital importance for the promotion and growth of the city.

The hotels in early Wichita provided the best food and atmosphere available. Hotels were typically the testing grounds for new inventions and domestic

conveniences. The rooms of the Occidental hotel featured fine ingrain carpet, spring beds, bedsteads of fashionable design, wash stands, a mirror, a lounge and full chamber sets. Attractive chandeliers lighted carpeted halls. The menu at the opening of the Occidental Hotel featured oysters, stuffed pig, tame duck with olives, boiled ham, pickled tongue, lobster salad and over twenty deserts. The elaborate decoration of hotels and the abundant food they offered helped to dispel a common belief that Wichita was a barren frontier outpost void of social amenities.

In early Wichita, hotels were of particular significance since they also served in place of public buildings. In the early years, Wichita lacked permanent city and county government buildings. Private buildings were rented out or donated to the governmental agencies. Even before Wichita was officially incorporated, the Munger House was used to hold town meetings and served as the judge's chambers. Later in 1875 the Sedgwick County offices were moved to the Occidental at the request of two-thirds of the county's citizens, who signed a petition asking the county to move its offices to a more elegant atmosphere.

The Southern Hotel exhibit is an adapted building in which the exterior resembles the original structure. However, photographs indicate that our exhibit differs greatly in size from the original, which burned in 1875. The rooms on the second floor are representative of the variety of hotel rooms available to long or short term guests. The downstairs depicts a hotel foyer and dining room.

Building History - According to museum records this structure was moved to the Old Cowtown Museum in 1962 from 1117 W. Douglas. This

structure appeared in the City Directory in 1906, over the years it was occupied by several woodworkers. It was still operating as American Cabinet Shop in 1959. It was vacant in 1961 and moved by 1962. The structure may have another purpose prior to being used as a wood working shop; the second floor may have been rented to boarders. It may have been built as early as 1887 and moved to the 1117 W. Douglas location. At the

Old Cowtown Museum the structure was transformed into a hotel exhibit based on Wichita Southern hotel which was built on the east side of the 100 block of North main Street in 1871. The Southern Hotel was one of the earliest hotels in the city and burned in 1875.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Southern Hotel represents the importance that hotels had in the founding, promotion and growth of Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Hotels in Wichita often served as the headquarters for business transactions and social events. Hotels in Wichita provided the best food and atmosphere available during the 1870s.
3. In Wichita, the hotel also functioned as the seat of city and county government, in lieu of public buildings.
4. Hotels catered to a variety of guest demands. Many hotels had dormitory style rooms and private rooms available for short term guests, as well as rooms for long term guests or boarders.
5. Hotels were considered to be of vital importance for the growth and promotion of the city. Hotels were often built through community efforts such as hotel stock companies.

Business District - Fritz Snitzler Saloon

The Fritz Snitzler Saloon, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents an important economic and social establishment of the cattle trade industry in 1870s Wichita. Saloons were an ever-present part of Wichita's society and economy during the cattle trade era. While both the permanent resident and the seasonal visitor patronized the saloon, the common interest of saloon owners during the cattle trade was based mainly on capitalizing on the cowboys' desires. After a long and laborious cattle drive, the young and festive cowboys needed to let off steam, and to do so they chose behavior that was considered shocking, even criminal, and certainly uncivilized, to more conservative citizens. The saloon was a favorite outlet for this type of rowdy behavior. In 1873 there were fifteen saloons in Wichita. There was enough drinking in Wichita to keep the local breweries operating at full capacity and the saloons and liquor stores made good profits from the transient population.

Saloons had varied reputations and provided differing services, largely dependent on the owners' standards. Saloons were often combinations of bars, gambling house, show places, hotels, restaurants, billiard halls, sporting clubs and fronts for prostitution. Saloons also varied in size and style, from the very elegant to the very crude. First class saloons (or dram shops, as they were called), not only offered everything in the way of beverages but

also served as informal meeting place for city leaders, who discussed town policy over drinks.

Saloon owners sold other things beside liquor. Often a full bill of fare was offered. Some saloons specialized in ice cream oysters or specialty sandwiches. Gambling paraphernalia was often sold as well as tokens which were received by prostitutes in exchange for their services.

Although Wichitans encouraged a little rowdyism and drinking, they also favored some limits on saloons. While the economic realities of the cattle trade were mixed, affecting the town proper more favorably than the countryside, the social effect of a large transient population was for some residents highly undesirable. The best that Wichita residents could hope for was "the kind of trouble that would do no permanent damage to the reputation of the town or to its citizens." Wichitans tolerated the high-spirited social atmosphere of the saloons and their attending vices so long as the saloons and the transient population which frequented them continued to generate revenue. Fees of twenty-five dollars a month for each saloon licensed by the city provided a great share of the income of the town. Through the cattle trade seasons of 1872 and 1873 fines from prostitution, along with license fees from saloons and gambling tables, contributed approximately \$3,000 a month to the revenues of a town with a population of 3,000. Elimination of any city tax, due to the fees on vice and vice

establishments, was the reward for enduring rowdyism.

In the peak cattle trade years, the city government tried to regulate the vice that was not in the town's best interest to eliminate. One method was to attempt isolating the worst places in areas outside the city limits, on the west side of the river. Another was to prosecute those who flaunted their nefarious occupations too obviously before sensitive citizens; a third was to enforce a strict uncontrolled law within the city limits so that the combination of whiskey and women did not end in deaths. This

mild attitude toward all aspects of vice remained as long as the cattle industry thrived.

The exterior of the saloon represents Fritz Snitzler's Saloon, a popular saloon and restaurant in Wichita during the 1870s. The sign on the building is a replica of an original Fritz Snitzler Saloon sign. The interior has been designed to interpret many elements found in cattle trade era saloons. The building was originally used as the Rockford City Hall, located in Derby, Kansas, before being moved to the Museum.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Fritz Snitzler Saloon represents an important economic and social establishment of the cattle trade.
2. Saloons were an ever-present part of Wichita's society and economy during the cattle trade era.
 - a. Saloons supplied the cowboys with an outlet for rowdyism and vice after the long drive
 - b. Saloons were social gathering places, entertainment halls, and occasionally the informal seat of local government.
 - c. Fees and fines from saloons and their at-tending vices contributed to the city's revenue.
 - d. Saloons varied in size and style, and had varied reputations. The city tried to keep the violence often associated with saloons to non-lethal rowdyism.
3. Most Wichitans tolerated the high-spirited social atmosphere so long as the saloons and the transient population which frequented them continued to generate revenue for the city.

Business District - Drug Store

The J.P. Allen Drug Store, located in the Business District at Old Cowtown Museum represents the drug store practice and the relationship between medical and pharmaceutical practices of the 1870s. The Drug Store Exhibit consists of a drug store retail area and a pharmacy laboratory downstairs, and doctors' and dentist office upstairs. The interpretation of the offices represents the practices of Doctors E.B. Allen, and A.H. Fabrique; the layout of the doctor's office is patterned after a period photo of Dr. Fabrique's office.

Drug stores of the 1870s were a combination of ancient tradition, newly developing scientific method and contemporary need. Drug Stores such as the one operated by J.P. Allen offered individually compounded prescriptions and manufactured medicines to treat a wide variety of conditions. Pharmacists compounded prescriptions to meet the specifications of physicians. These prescriptions were prepared or packaged at the time they were presented by the patient. If the prescription was found to be beneficial, the patient could obtain unlimited amounts of the drug, as policies restricting refills were unknown at the time.

In keeping with a seemingly timeless tradition, the pharmacist or druggist would fill prescriptions in the back of the store, behind a prescription screen which set apart the pharmacy lab area from the retail portion of the store. This area was not normally accessible to the public. The privacy it offered the druggist helped to sustain the aura of mystery and intrigue which had surrounded the profession for hundreds of years. In practical terms, it also prevented customers from observing a process that they could recreate at home at a lesser cost to themselves and at a lesser profit for the pharmacist.

Manufactured patent medicines required no prescription, and were similar in concept to modern over the counter medications. However, unlike modern over the counter drugs, patent medicines often far exceeded prescription drugs in terms of potency. They usually served only to cloak symptoms, rather than to cure illness. Many patent medicines contained large amounts or combinations of opium, opium derivatives, and alcohol. These medications were widely used by patients who chose self treatment over the conventional diagnostic

process. The individuals often sought the short term gratification of treating symptoms, rather than identifying the underlying illness. Sometimes, the cure became the symptom; addiction to the treatment often became a greater problem than the original malady. While some druggists viewed the patent drugs as a threat to their prescription sales, most recognized the large public demand and stocked a fall line of and reaped the financial benefits of their popularity. Patent medicines were stocked on the shelves in the retail area of the store. This area, which was known as the dispensing department, also contained general merchandise such as, paints, toiletries, sponges, perfumes, tobacco, glass and other items.

There was a close relationship between the practices of physicians and pharmacists of the late nineteenth century. At times their roles seemed to overlap. Some nineteenth century physicians filled prescriptions and operated drug stores as a side line to their medical practices. Similarly, some druggists concocted and recommended their own prescriptions, a practice which sometimes led to the creation and marketing of their own line of patent medicines. Drs. Allen and Fabrique, and J.P. Allen formed a partnership which took advantage of the strengths and capabilities of each professional. The doctors provided medical and surgical services while J.P. Allen provided the medications essential to the patients' recovery.

Doctors Allen and Fabrique had the difficult task of practicing medicine in a time of changing and conflicting scientific theory, primitive surroundings, and unsanitary conditions. Numerous medical methods and schools of thought were being taught and practiced in the late nineteenth century. Some doctors plucked elements from the various medical philosophies to form their own hybrid model of medical practice. It is understandable that many individuals of the time period at best misunderstood, and at worst distrusted the medical profession as a whole. Doctors who opened practices in new communities often had to engage in other businesses in order to survive financially. Looking back on his life and early practice, Dr. Fabrique stated that "...It took nerve to practice medicine in Sedgwick County prior to the Eighties." (Frances Wilson Brooks, "Doctor Fabrique and Early Wichita Medical Practice," (unpublished M.A. thesis, The University of Wichita Kansas, 1931).

E.B. Allen was born in Ohio in 1836. He arrived in Wichita in 1869, and is considered to be the first practicing physician in Wichita. His partnership with his brother Joseph and with Dr. Fabrique began in 1870 with the opening of the City Drug Store. In addition to his interest in the health of the citizens of the community, Dr. Allen was apparently interested in the well being of the community as a whole. He became active in local and state politics soon after his arrival. Allen was elected as Wichita's first mayor in 1871; he served several terms in the Kansas Legislature, and served as the Secretary of the State of Kansas for two terms.

Dr. Andrew Hinsdale Fabrique may not have been the first doctor in Sedgwick County but he certainly became the most well known. He has been referred to as the "Father of the medical profession in Wichita. Born in Indiana in 1842, Dr. Fabrique worked in pharmacies in Kentucky and New Orleans before beginning his medical studies at Tulane University. After serving in the Civil War, he completed his education at Rush Medical College in Aurora, Illinois. Fabrique moved to Wichita in 1870. Not finding the population to be sufficient to support his practice on a full-time basis, he opened and operated a sawmill near the present site of Derby, Kansas. It was not necessary to continue this endeavor for long. After joining the Allen partnership in 1870, his services were in demand until his retirement in 1911. Like Dr. Allen, Fabrique was highly respected in the community. He is particularly noted for his commitment to raising and maintaining professional standards in the medical practice, for his compassionate manner, for delivering more than two thousand babies during his career, and for his role in the founding of St. Francis Hospital.

Joseph P. Allen was the younger brother of E.B. Allen. Born Indiana in 1838, the younger Allen brother left home at a young age, holding a variety of positions prior to his enlistment and service in the Army during the War. After his discharge, he worked as a drugstore clerk in Leavenworth, Kansas before opening his own business at that site in 1868. In 1870, he sold his business and moved to Wichita, opening the first drug store in the new community, located at 119 N. Main Street. Like his brother, J.P. Allen also demonstrated an interest in local politics. He served five year on the City Council, and was elected Mayor in 1887.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The J.P. Allen Drug Store, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the pharmaceutical and medical practice of the 1870s.
2. The downstairs area represents the drug store operated by J.P. Allen. The front retail area contained the patent medicines, liquors, and related medical and items. The back area contains the prescription lab.
3. The office of Dr. Fabrique and a dental office are interpreted upstairs. There was a close relationship between the medical and pharmaceutical practices of the late nineteenth century.
4. Medical conditions and practices of the late nineteenth century were inconsistent, inexact, and unregulated. Nineteenth century physicians such as Dr. Allen and Dr. Fabrique faced many challenges in their practices.

Business District - Land Office

The Land Office, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the transfer and dispersal of land in early Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas.

White settlement in Kansas was primarily an activity of land speculation and acquisition. The Land Office represents a major economic component in the development of Wichita and the surrounding land. The acquisition of land in Wichita, and its surrounding environs, was part of the two-fold process of western expansion which included complex land laws and the Indian policy of the United States government. Both were linked to each other in subsequent attempts to develop lands in Kansas economically through the application of a peoples' technology, and the application of private and federal capital to transform the natural resources of the region.

The first land claims in the area that became Wichita were made by D. S. Munger, a partner of the Wichita Land and Town Company in 1868. The claims were made at a time when the land legally belonged to the Osage Indian Nation as trust lands. The first white settlers filed quit-claims with the hope that Congress through treaty negotiation would make the Osage trust lands available for legal settlement. In 1870, negotiations were completed and the land became available from the Osage Nation at \$1.25 an acre.

The Land Office interprets the promotion of Wichita and Sedgwick County and the land boom which followed the location of industries such as rail road development, the cattle trade, and agricultural expansion in the area. During

the 1870s there were real estate agents who worked out of land offices and served as sales representatives to prospective sellers and buyers of the surrounding land. In addition, the land agents acted as legal representatives to Eastern land buyers, collecting their rents and tending their business interests in the West. The land agents also acted as a welcoming committee to newly arrived immigrants in their promotion to acquire buyers. The land agents during the period of land acquisition and expansion in Wichita, also indirectly acted as county extension agents in their zeal to prove the value of the new land to their prospective buyers. Displays of corn and wheat, the produce of gardens and orchards, together with evidence of the superiority of the tall prairie grass hay and game animals one might expect to find, were exhibited in the land office of the period.

Two types of land offices existed in Wichita during time of 1865-1880. There were several private real estate firms and a U. S. Land Office which sold government land.

The Land office exhibit interior is represented from a steel line engraving which appeared on the cover of the July 11, 1874 Harper's Weekly, entitled "A Kansas Land office." On the back wall is the illustration which shows a map of Sedgwick County. It shows the displays of vegetation and the make-shift filing cabinet, the table with desk compartments, peaches, jars of soil samples, chairs, and law books are arranged to represent the illustration.

The sign of the Healy and Niederlander Land Office is represented on the exterior of the

building. The Healy and Niederlander Land Office was established in 1877 by Mr. Healy and by Mr. Niederlander who joined him the

following year. Their original office was located at the northwest corner of Douglas and Emporia in Wichita.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Land Office represents the transfer and dispersal of land in early Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas.
2. The land became legally available for sale in 1870 through treaty negotiations with Osage Indian Nation.
3. The Land Office represents the promotion of the area and an economic component in the development of urban and agricultural businesses in Wichita and Sedgwick County.
4. In addition to several private real estate firms, a U. S. Land Office was located in Wichita for the dispersal land.

Business District - Barbershop

The Barbershop, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents a business and social institution of the expanding metropolitan community of Wichita during the 1870s.

In the early 1870s, there were several "shaving saloons" in Wichita. Both permanent residents and transient visitors patronized the barbershop. Many of the regular customers had their own shaving mugs with their names and an illustration of their vocations on them. Once or twice a week, a townsman would come in for a shave and the barber would mix the lather in the man's personalized mug from a bar of a popular soap such as Williams Shaving Soap.

Some barbershops, like the one interpreted here, had a back room where a man could take a bath. During the cattle season in Wichita, after weeks on a cattle drive, cowboys would come first to the barbershop for a shave and a bath before moving on to the saloon for refreshment, relaxation, and entertainment. The facilities for baths were provided for the transient population at large: newcomers, cattle drovers, cowboys, traders, hunters, traveling salesmen, performers, and railroad employees.

In issues of the 1872 and 1873 Wichita City Eagle, J.B. Thompson advertised under the heading "Shaving Saloon." "Shaving, hair-cutting and dressing done in the latest style of art. Baths, hot or cold, 50 [cents]." Soap, towels, and Lilac Water (a bathing cologne), were generally available at extra cost.

During the 1870s, no "self-respecting" woman would ever set foot in a barbershop for fear of catching a glimpse of a man in the Bath Room. Often the barbershop took on the atmosphere of a men's private club -- a place to gossip, socialize, and occasionally conduct business.

Building History - Wichita Township Hall was opened in November of 1881. It served as polling and meeting location for Wichita Township. When the building was built it was outside of the City of Wichita which grew around it. For a number of years it remained the Wichita Township Hall even though the township itself had shrunk away from the hall. The structure was also used as a hamburger stand which paid rent to the Township. It remained a voting place until 1953. The structure was moved to Cowtown in April of 1955. It was used as a Post Office exhibit until the mid 1980s.

Label in Exhibit - A Close Shave and a Hot Bath

*Shaving, hair cutting and dressing done in the latest style of art. Baths, hot or cold, 50 (cents).
J.B. Thompson -The Wichita City Eagle, 1873*

Late 19th century barber shops provided local residents and visitors to Wichita with grooming services and bathing facilities. Local residents frequented barber shops, which were also called shaving saloons, on a regular basis. The men of the town often kept personalized shaving mugs at their favorite shop. While they were there, patrons swapped stories, advised each other in politics, read the local papers, and enjoyed an atmosphere of a private men's club. Transient visitors, such as cowboys and others associated with the

cattle industry, would visit the shops for shaves, haircuts, and for a long anticipated bath at the end of a trail drive. Given the nature of these establishments, it is clear that women were not among the patrons

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Barbershop represents a business and social institution of Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Barbershops were sometimes referred to as "shaving saloons."
3. Barbershops catered to the permanent residential community and the transient population. Some barbershops had facilities for bathing.
4. Due to the barbershop's gender-specific orientation and its bathing facilities, the barbershop often reflected the atmosphere of a men's club -- a place for men to get together and gossip, socialize and occasionally conduct business.

Business District - Law Office

The Law Office, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents legal practices in Wichita and Sedgwick County, Kansas during the 1870s.

As early as 1872, there were at least seventeen lawyers in the Wichita area, although many practiced part time and needed a second job in order to sustain an income. This was not an unusual practice throughout the nation during the time period. Many lawyers were also budding politicians who used their knowledge of the law to secure positions of influence in local affairs. As with other professionals of the period, such as doctors and editors, lawyers received great benefit from belonging to the "night" political party. Similarly, they frequently acquired influence and gained the trust of residents by functioning as local land agents. Whereas criminal trials occasionally brightened the legal life of a town, few lawyers could have survived without the paperwork and litigation provided by land purchases, title transfers, mortgages, sales, and claim jumping. Debt collection may have been one of a lawyer's most important sources of income, as evidenced by the many advertisements for negotiation of land loans in the early Wichita newspapers. As with the other professional careers during the period, the legal profession remained largely closed to women. Only five of the 40,736 lawyers in the United States in 1870 were women.

Young attorney William C. Little came to Wichita to practice law in September, 1870. Years later, William C. Little wrote to the Wichita Bar Association of his experience in Wichita during the early years.

You can understand that business in the Courts was light, the country was just opened for settlement and the people were peaceably disposed and there were but few differences to adjust. Divorce suits were almost unknown. The lure of alimony on a 50-50 basis was wanting as the majority of the people were bachelors. Much of the time we were lawyers without clients, clients without money, county officers without offices, and Courts without courtrooms, finding temporary quarters in different places from time to time as we were able. Litigation was varied and the amounts involved were not large. There were a few cases of replevin from time to time on account of herds of cattle becoming mixed. The ruin of small gardens and patches of sod corn by stampeded herds called for a settlement, generally, however outside of Court. Where two or more settled on a claim the question of priority of settlement had to be adjudicated. This was done by testimony before the Receiver of our local land office, which was reduced to writing and forwarded to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington. Criminal cases were few, an occasional shooting, but this did not occur often.

In his first year of business, William C. Little booked about \$300. In addition to practicing law, Little had a claim of land which he worked six miles from Wichita.

In the early years of Wichita's existence, there were no "elegant" offices like the one represented here. However, as the community grew, so did the need for the services of lawyers. The interior of the Law Office represents an attorney's office of the late 1870s.

Label in Exhibit - Law and Order

Early Wichita had no shortage of attorneys. By 1872 Wichita already had at least seventeen lawyers among a population of 2,000 residents. Few found that they had enough work to practice law on a full time basis; most had additional jobs. Some worked as land agents, some as merchants and business owners, and one served as the Methodist Sunday School Superintendent.

Many attorneys were self educated, but were generally well versed in legal theory and practice. The cases they handled were often far from glamorous. The majority involved debt collection, land title work, land purchases, and small claims. Attorney D.B. Emmert advertised his practice in the 1878 Wichita City Directory:

D.B. Emmert, Land Attorney, Notary Public, and Real Estate Agent. Will practice before the Land Office, and the Departments at Washington, Pay Taxes, Collect Rents, and Carefully Prepare and Acknowledge Instruments of Writing. In these transactions, reliability and fair dealing are guaranteed.

Label in Exhibit - Lawyers without Clients

William C. Little was one of Wichita's first attorneys. He opened a practice in September of 1870. Fifty years later, as the last surviving original member of the Wichita Bar Association, he was asked to recall his experiences to his successors.

You can understand that the business in the Courts was light, the country was just opened for settlement and the people were peaceably disposed and there were but a few differences to adjust. Divorce suits were almost unknown. The lure of alimony on a 50-50 basis was wanting as the majority of people were bachelors. Much of the time we were lawyers without clients, clients without money, county officers without offices, and Courts without courtrooms, finding temporary quarters in different places from time to time as we were able. Litigation was varied and the amounts involved were not large. Criminal cases were few, an occasional shooting, but this did not occur often.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Law Office represents the legal practices in Wichita and Sedgwick County during the 1870s.
2. Usually, lawyers had a second source of income to supplement their law practice. The majority of a lawyer's services involved the paperwork and litigation provided by land purchases, title transfers, mortgage sales, and claim jumping.
3. As the city's rural and urban communities and businesses expanded during the 1870s, so did the need for the services of lawyers.

Business District - Fechheimer Clothing Store

The Fechheimer Clothing Store, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the growth of mercantile business, change in technology, and Jewish immigration to Wichita during the 1870s. M.M. Fechheimer immigrated to New York City where he became a partner in a clothing business. Arriving in Wichita after 1870, Fechheimer purchased a lot from William Greiffenstein and erected the Fechheimer building on the southwest corner of Main and Douglas. The two story structure housed the clothing business on the first floor, and a grocery store on the second floor. Once his business was established, Fechheimer brought his wife, Getta, whom he had married in New York City, to

Wichita. While residing in Wichita, the Fechheimers had five children.

Fechheimer's clothing store represents a specialty mercantile clothing business. Fechheimer's clothing store departed from the traditional general store, which sold some clothing in addition to various other necessary supplies for a frontier city. Fechheimer, with his previous mercantile background, capitalized on the booming economy of Wichita during the early 1870s, offering an exclusive service in clothing. Exclusive mercantile services were aided by the advantages that the railroad brought to Wichita in 1872. Businesses like Fechheimer's clothing store could meet the demands of a growing metropolitan community

with a continuous supply of specialty clothing, tailored goods, and top-of-the-line fabrics available for use in the latest fashions. Manufactured clothing was available to men, while women's clothing was still being tailored to the individual. This was due in large part to the form fitting styles which were so fashionable to late nineteenth century women. Such styles did not lend themselves to standard sized patterns.

The exterior of the building represents the clothing store in which M.M. Fechheimer began his mercantile clothing business in Wichita. The interior interprets any specialty store carrying the latest fashions.

In addition to the clothing business, Fechheimer opened a saloon and a beer garden 'in 1873. By 1879, M.M. Fechheimer had accumulated enough capital to invest in a new building at the northeast

corner of Market and Douglas. The new building where he moved his clothing business was termed by some as a "skyscraper." Fechheimer was active in the Jewish community in Wichita. He helped to establish the first Jewish congregation in the city, the Holy Emanu-El.

Building History The structure may have originally been located in the east side of the 900 block of Lawrence (Broadway) in Wichita. Early museum records indicate that this structure was used a house and later a liquor store. Searches of City Directories and Sandborn maps were unable to find a firm match for this house on the 900 block. It was moved to the museum in the 1960s. It was used as a dress shop exhibit, before being used as a men's clothing store representing the actual Fechheimer's clothing store.

Label In Exhibit - Fashion On The Frontier

As Wichita grew and as the local economy diversified, an increasing number of specialty stores emerged, providing consumers with a greater variety of merchandise. By 1878, Wichita had thirteen dry goods and clothing stores. Fechheimer's Clothing Store exhibit represents one of the specialty mercantile clothing business which provided the latest fashionable clothing, fabrics, and accessories to the budding metropolitan community.

Clothing stores carried ready-made clothing for men and boys in standard sizes. Women's clothing was not generally available for purchase. The popular close-fitting fashions for women made mass production in standard sizes impractical. Instead, women bought the fabric and notions that they needed, and made the clothing themselves or employed a dress maker. Most stores also provided tailoring services as an option for male customers.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The M.M. Fechheimer Clothing Store represents the growth of mercantile business, changing technology, and Jewish immigration to Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Fechheimer's clothing store represents a specialty, mercantile clothing business.
3. The presence of the railroad and Wichita's booming economy aided the growth of mercantile businesses like Fechheimer's.
 - a. The demand for specialty services such as tailored clothing continued to increase.
 - b. Fechheimer's store could provide the latest fashions and top quality merchandise in the metropolitan community of Wichita.

Business District - The Wichita City Eagle

The Wichita City Eagle building located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the office and printing business of Marshall M. Murdock, editor and owner of the Wichita City Eagle newspaper. The Wichita City Eagle represents the impact that Murdock had on the development of frontier towns.

The first newspapers in Wichita were the Wichita Vidette, which was published for short duration in 1870, and the Wichita Tribune which operated for six months in 1871. The Wichita City Eagle became the first substantial and ultimately successful paper to be published in Wichita, followed by the Wichita Beacon. Both the Eagle and Beacon began publication in 1872. The Eagle

was a Republican backed newspaper, with its editor Murdock extolling the virtues of the city. The Beacon was biased towards the interests of Democrats and farmers. Throughout the 1870s, the Eagle and the Beacon enjoyed a lively rivalry which encouraged the success and increased circulation of both publications.

At the invitation of Wichita business leaders, Marshall Murdock moved to Wichita in 1872 to start a Republican newspaper. Before moving to Wichita, Murdock owned and operated the Weekly Osage Chronicle located in Burlingame, Kansas. Undoubtedly Murdock received a subsidy or bonus from Wichita business leaders to bring a Republican newspaper to town, though he would vehemently deny this throughout his career. The most influential leaders believed the city needed a promotional, and Republican, newspaper. They knew that a newspaper could be used as the ultimate public relations tool -- to promote business, settlement, recruitment of railroads, as well as the social and cultural aspects of the community. Murdock published the first issue of the Wichita City Eagle on April 12, 1872. Murdock was the premier publicist for the city, and was known nationally almost as much for his unswerving loyalty and promotion of Wichita as for his extravagant writing style. Marshall Murdock set a tone of optimism regarding Sedgwick County and Wichita. His articles emphasized the virtues of the city and minimized the problems to encourage settlement in the area. In his reporting, Murdock used the common editorial rhetoric of the time period, speaking in the future tense, or what has been termed as "booster" language. Murdock, his paper and his writing style exemplified the typical western-editor-politician-town promoter newspaper.

Interpretation of the Exterior

The exterior of the Eagle Building represents the first offices of the newspaper. The first office, occupied for only three months, was located in a small building at Third and Main. In August 1872, the newspaper moved its headquarters to a new building in the "Eagle Block" at the corner of Douglas and Main. A large wood carved and gilded eagle adorned the new building; the painted eagle on our exhibit represents this.

Interpretation of the Interior

The interior of the Eagle Building represents a typical newspaper office and printing establishment

of the time period and in particular, the first building the Wichita City Eagle occupied. However, some of the presses postdate the first Eagle offices, though they are appropriate for our time period.

The Front Office Exhibits

Marshall Murdock's Office: This exhibit represents Marshall Murdock's office. It is not an exact replica, but resembles newspaper offices of the time period. Murdock received visitors in his office and reported these visits in his newspaper. **The Public Reading Room:** In absence of a U.P.I. press service, Murdock and other editors of the time period exchanged publications with one another. The room is interpreted as a place set aside by Murdock for his readers. Reading rooms were an important component of early newspaper offices. The public reading room served as place for the exchange of information through the newspapers that it offered and through the discussions between patrons who used the room. The curiosity cabinet in this room contains items such as those that readers brought to Murdock. Murdock encouraged his readers to bring in objects of interest in order to display them for public enjoyment.

The Presses

The Washington Press: The Washington Press is the type that Murdock first used to publish the Eagle. The type is inked by using ink balls or a hand roller. When the type is sufficiently inked, paper is placed on the type, the type is closed and the bed is moved under the press. The lever is pulled towards the printer which presses the paper onto the type. The bed is then moved out and opened. The sheet of paper is taken off the press, and the process begins again. The Washington Press could be operated by experienced printer at a maximum speed of one copy per minute.

The Cylinder Press: Murdock reported the purchase of new presses for the Eagle in 1873. One of the presses operated similar to the cylinder press displayed in the exhibit. The cylinder press is a self or automatic inking press. The cylinder and the rollers turn in place, while the type and the ink move underneath the rollers and the cylinder. The press is propelled by turning the wheel that is on the side of the press. The arrow painted on the wheel indicates the direction the wheel turns to print. The cylinder press allowed Murdock to significantly increase the printing time and number of issues he

printed. In 1875 the Eagle reported the purchase of steam engines which allowed further advancement in printing time.

The Job Press: Murdock used this type of press to do job printing. Business cards, calling cards, letterhead, and small handbills were printed on such a press. It is a self or automatic inking press. The ink rollers take the ink from the ink plate and spread it on the type. The press is propelled either by the wheel or the foot peddle. This is the press which is currently used for printing demonstrations.

Other Newspapers in Wichita

| | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Vidette | Aug. 1870-Late 1872 |
| Gazette | Portion of 1871 |
| Wichita Tribune | Mar. – Nov. 1871 |
| Wichita City Eagle | begin April 1872 |
| Daily Beacon | Oct. 1872 - |
| Weekly Beacon | Dec. 1872 - |

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Daily Beacon | Cattle Drive 1873 |
| Independent (6 mo.) | Spring – Fall 1871 |
| Herald | Oct . 1877-Oct. 1879 |
| Weekly Republican | Dec. 1879 |
| Daily Republican | Dec. 1880 |

This structure first appeared in the City Directory in 1917; however construction and style of the building may be from an earlier time since it was common to move structures in early Wichita. It was a Grocery Store located on southwest corner of 9th and Main, Wichita. The first listed owner was Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart, grocer. The store remained under her name for several years. The store was later used as Andrew Cook's Jewelry repair and Cook's Exchange Shop in the 1940s and 50s. The structure was vacant in 1959 prior to being moved to Cowtown.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Wichita City Eagle Building in the Business District represents the office and printing business of Marshall M. Murdock, editor and owner of the Wichita City Eagle newspaper. The exhibit represents the role that editors like Murdock played, and the importance that newspapers had in the development of frontier cities like Wichita.
2. Marshall Murdock was recruited by city leaders to come to Wichita to establish a promotional, Republican newspaper. Murdock began publication of the Eagle April 12, 1872.
3. Murdock's reporting style and publishing philosophy exemplified a typical booster newspaper of the time period. Murdock was the premier publicist for the city, and was known nationally almost as much for his unswerving loyalty and promotion of Wichita as for his extravagant writing style.
4. The building exterior represents the first offices of the Wichita City Eagle.
5. The front rooms represent the type of office and reading room Murdock used.
6. The back room represents the early history of the Eagle's presses and printer's equipment used in the publication process.

Consult the "Manual for Interpretation and Demonstration of the Wichita City Eagle Exhibit," for more information on the history of Wichita's newspapers, the history and operation of the presses, and biographical information on Marshall M. Murdock.

Print Shop Activities

“Good Day, did you bring me any news?” This is a great opening line to use in the newspaper office. It leads to discussions of how news traveled in the 1870s, mail, railroad, telegraph, word of mouth. The newspaper office is a good place to discuss politics of the day as well as social customs and business.

Knowing the story behind upper and lower case letters and the location of J & U in the upper case alphabet is always a visitor pleasing experience. The whole visit can be taken up with a conversation on the type and the setting of that type.

The opportunity to print your own bookmark is always pleasing to our visitors. Children and adults enjoy doing this project.

Business District – Gill's Mortuary

The Undertaker exhibit, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, is representative of a business which conveyed a cultural aspect of life and death in 1870s Wichita. Contrary to popular belief, few deaths in Wichita during the 1870s were attributed to homicide. Disease, infection, accidents, the hazards of harsh winters, and natural causes were the most common causes of death. As was the custom then, undertaking was generally an extension of the furniture business. The Wichita City Eagle, in 1877, carried an advertisement for

“Furniture. H. Bolte. Manufacturer and dealer in all kinds of Parlor, Chamber, Dwelling & Kitchen Furniture. A full line of Undertaker's goods. Undertaking done on short notice and in the most approved style.”

The Undertaker exhibit is representative of a cultural aspect of Wichita's populace common during the 1870s. The funeral ceremony was central to the rituals of death. Neighbors and relatives generally helped a family "lay out" a corpse by washing and clothing it. Death often proved to be a shared community experience, a time to come to the aid of bereaved families by sending them food, offering sympathy, helping with household chores and doing anything that might help families in their time of grief. The corpse was usually placed on view in the parlor of a family's home. While on view in the parlor, the corpse generally rested on a wooden board placed between two chairs, or on a specially constructed "cooling board." In order to preserve the corpse for at least a day of viewing, blocks of ice were placed under the board with smaller pieces around the body. The "cooling board" was often covered with a tapestry or linen which was special to the family. Very few families, even in cities where undertakers took charge of the corpse, embalmed bodies before the 1880s, unless they intended to transport the body a long distance. Americans before that period considered embalming to be an "unnatural" and "revolting" practice. Cremation was also not a popular practice.

Coffins, used to transport the corpse to the cemetery, were usually simple. On the frontier, some bodies were buried in nothing more than a

blanket or sack. Most everyone else settled for a pine box lined with cloth. During the 1870s, prosperous city dwellers were purchasing metal or fancy (rosewood or mahogany) caskets. The word "casket," implied a container for something precious and expressed the value of its contents. Wooden coffins could be purchased from local cabinetmakers or even made by the family. Professional coffin and casket makers catered to more pretentious customers. Likewise, undertakers began to play a more prominent role in preparing the body for the funeral and making arrangements for burial, even though the use of funeral "homes" and funeral "parlors" were not popular until the 1880s.

The elegant hearse in the back room of the exhibit dates from the 1870s. Laden with flowers, it often led the procession of mourners. Parlor services in the home and graveside services varied according to religious affiliation and the section of the country, but some common elements emerged. Most people decked their parlors with flowers, partly to mask any unpleasant odors emanating from the deceased. Once all the mourners had been given a chance to view the corpse in the parlor everyone gathered for the minister's requiem. This generally consisted of a scripture reading, prayers, and a brief, glorious account of the loved one's life. Some religious denominations, most notably Catholics and Episcopalians, held a second graveside service. Although the decorum of mourning was important and quite rigid in some aspects, a black wreath or ribbon hanging on the front door of the home, letters written to relatives on black bordered stationary, or pallbearers wearing black sashes. Some family members chose not to dress in black. Rather than deepening the gloom of an already somber occasion, mourners preferred to dress "quietly" in Sunday clothes. Their attire, they believed, stressed the Victorian belief "that death is simply the passage from one life to another."

The interior of the Undertaker exhibit post-dates the generally practiced funerals of 1870s Wichita during the 1870s. The Undertaker exhibit is used to interpret the cultural aspect of death, which the residential community of Wichita shared with the rest of United States.

Label in Exhibit - Undertaking in Early Wichita

Death was no stranger to late 19th century Americans. Although mortality rates had decreased from previous decades, death was still a very visible factor in families, homes, and communities. After a death occurred, many survivors relied on the services of undertakers.

By the 1870s, undertaking was becoming common in Wichita. Most of these businesses grew out of the cabinet making trades. Local undertakers coordinated funeral services, provided caskets, clothing, and a hearse. Embalming did not become common practice in Wichita until the turn of the century, although the technology was being utilized in other parts of the nation much earlier.

M.A. McMillen was one of the first to open a separate undertaking establishment in Wichita. His advertisements in the *Wichita Eagle* indicated the scope of his business.

*M.A. McMillen, Undertaker! And Dealer in all kinds of Metallic & Wood Caskets, Burial Cases. Also a full line of robes and shrouds, and attendance on funerals with all its details carefully conducted. Office and Rooms on Main Street, Opposite Post Office, Wichita.
Wichita City Eagle, June 6, 1878*

Label in Exhibit - Nineteenth Century Mourning

In Victorian society, mourning customs softened and veiled the harsh realities of death. New, mass produced rectangular caskets replaced traditional body-shaped coffins. The term "cemetery," replaced "graveyard" as the preferred term for a loved one's final resting place. Religious symbolism and imagery dominated cemetery markers and eulogies. Terms such as "At Rest" and "Only Sleeping" were a common site on markers, and represented an increasingly romanticized view of death.

Love-en-Tangle, Marshall Murdock's ten year old daughter, died of spinal meningitis in 1883. Her obituaries epitomized the flowery Victorian writing style used to make the death of a child seem more bearable.

"Tangle," daughter of M.M. and Victoria Murdock, died at the residence of her parents...after an illness of one week, in her tenth year. The little sufferer, who was found a sweet and enduring relief from all sickness and pain, hovered for days between life and death, and then she was borne away by angel messengers to that fair land where there is no night, and where little children shall be pillowed upon the breast of Him who loved and blessed them in the days of His mortal pilgrimage. The sympathies of the friends and relatives of the bereaved family...are extended to them in this time of bereavement and sorrow.

Correspondence from the Emporia, News, published in the Wichita Eagle on March 1, 1883.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Undertakers is representative of a business which conveyed a cultural aspect of life in 1870s Wichita.
2. Undertaking and coffin and casket manufacture were often extensions of the furniture and cabinetmaking business.
3. The deceased was usually viewed by mourners in the family's parlor, where the funeral services also took place.
4. Although funeral "homes" and funeral "parlors" were not popular until the 1880s, undertakers began to play a more prominent role in preparing the body for the funeral and making arrangements for burial as the residential community of Wichita continued to expand, and as was common practice in the rest of the country during the period.
5. The interior of the Undertaker exhibit generally post-dates the practice of funerals during the interpretation period of Old Cowtown Museum.

Business District - Carpenter Shop

The Carpenter Shop, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents a finish carpenter or cabinet maker shop in post-railroad Wichita. When early settlers came to the Wichita area, the only indigenous wood of any construction merit were cottonwood trees. The earliest settlers had to have milled lumber brought by wagon from Emporia or Leavenworth, Kansas. When the Osage Trust Lands, on which the settlement of Wichita was located, became available for sale in 1870, Wichita was incorporated as a town. As a result Wichita experienced a small land and building boom. After the railroad came to Wichita in 1872, the expansion of commercial and residential building increased. The railroad also facilitated an increase in the number of lumber mills, carpenter shops, skilled woodworkers, and a regular supply of lumber and other building materials.

The Carpenter Shop is interpreted as a finish carpenter or cabinet maker shop. A finish carpenter required both skill and experience. Some of the work done in the Carpenter Shop would have included custom made furniture, doors, window frames, decorative trim, and exterior and interior molding for buildings. In addition, the finish carpenter and cabinet maker shops often supplied undertakers with coffins and other wooden necessities of that business. In addition to finish carpenters, the carpentry trade in general was in demand during the 1870s. Those employed in the trade included day-labor carpenters, contract builders, lumberyard operators, and planing mill

workers. Wages were usually relatively high by 19th century standards.

Tools

The top shelves on the west side hold molding planes. Each plane was designed to cut a different type of molding. The shape at the bottom of each plane is the shape the molding it would cut. The lumber used in this type of shop was usually rough and would first have to be smoothed with a heavy smoothing plane, like the ones leaning against the wall on the work benches. Drill presses were used to drill holes for wooden pegs in order to fasten the comers of large pieces of furniture. The foot operated jigsaw was used to make curved cuts on pieces of furniture and decorative trim. The mortise machine was used for making the mortise half of a mortise and tendon joint. Such a joint would be used to fasten a table skirt to a table leg. With this tool the carpenter could chisel a square slot in the table leg into which the tendon half of the joint would be fitted. The shave horse was used to hold wood requiring shaving. The wood could be held in place with the foot, allowing both hands to be free. At the same time, since the wood being worked on was held in place with "foot pressure" it could quickly be readjusted to another angle for shaving. The grinding wheel was used to sharpen tool blades. Other tools used by the finish carpenter included a bench vise, marking gauges, draw knives, wooden mallets, spoke shaves, gouges, chisels, saws, braces, and bits in a variety of sizes.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Carpenter Shop in the Business District represents a finish carpenter or cabinet maker shop of post-railroad Wichita.
2. A. The Osage Trust Lands became available for sale in 1870. Wichita was then incorporated as a town and experienced a land and building "boom."
B. Railroad service to Wichita facilitated building growth of commercial and residential structures and the need for skilled wood workers. In addition, the railroad made the regular supply of lumber and construction supplies readily available to the population of Wichita.
3. The finish carpenter shop was only one component of the carpentry industry in Wichita. Carpenters were in great demand in Wichita during its 1870s period of metropolitan expansion.

Carpenters Shop, Activities

The carpenters shop has more hands on opportunities than any other site. Welcome your visitor into the shop by asking if they have an order for molding. This can be demonstrated with scrap wood and you can have adult or child participation with the molding planes. This can lead you into a discussion of the building boom going on in the 1870s.

The shave horse at the front door is very popular. You should have a tool handle that you are working on and explain the uses of the shave horse. Have a piece of scrap wood that your visitor can try out the draw knife and shave horse. This horse is well suited to teaching children because they must use both hands to operate the draw knife and it almost impossible for them to cut themselves. Even so DO NOT allow them to work unsupervised.

The rip saw in the middle of the room is a great hands-on tool. When children operate the saw both hands are required to make it work this keeps small hands safe. There is an advertising book telling the uses and the price of the saw. This gives great opportunity to discuss the industrial revolution, the building boom and the advantages of having a railroad in town.

The drill press at the back door can be demonstrated and visitors can get another hands-on experience.

Hand tools, hammers, saws, brace & bits can all be handled by visitors young and old. Keep sharp objects i.e.; chisels knives etc., under your control at all times for the safety of our visitor. Remember we are trying to give the visitor a pleasant experience.

All of the items and activities can be used to draw your visitor into conversations on the areas you are well versed on. Remember you can be a good interpreter and not know everything about a site you are in. The trick is to draw your visitor to the things you know.

Business District - Saddle And Harness Shop

The Saddle and Harness Shop, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents a business important to the economy and way of life in Wichita during the 1870s.

Among the first settlers in Wichita was Henry W. Vigus, who established a rough hotel known as the Vigus House, or the ell. After Wichita became more established, Vigus returned to his earlier trade of a harness and saddle maker. He was one of at least two harness and saddle makers in Wichita prior to 1870. Thereafter, Wichita had approximately a half dozen saddle and harness shops.

The economy of the early settlers in Wichita was heavily dependent on goods transported from the industrialized East. It was natural that people during the period were concerned about the transportation of those goods to Wichita from the East. Before the railroad arrived in Wichita in 1872, this transportation of articles was done entirely by animal power. Even after the arrival of the railroad, transportation of people and goods was still dependant on team drawn vehicles to outlying areas, as well as from one establishment to another in town. Wagon freighting was therefore an important business in early Wichita. Hides, machinery, and grocery supplies were among the items shipped in trains of up to ten or fifteen wagons, to and from Wichita. During the 1870s, a number of businesses had colorful delivery wagons. Hotels provided transportation to and from the

railroad in a carriage known as an omnibus. Horse and animal power was important not only as a means of transportation and livelihood for the cowboy, farmer, and townspeople, but also as a status symbol and means of recreation. The trade and craft of the saddle and harness business was crucial the support of transportation in early Wichita.

The importance of the manufacture and maintenance of the saddles and harnesses to cowboys, farmers, and townspeople is apparent. New saddles, bridles, and harnesses were in demand, as were leather straps, buckles, hooks and other hardware (called findings) used by persons doing repairs of their own.

The interior of the Saddle and Harness Shop interprets the selling of commercially made saddles such as the ladies' side saddles, the making of new saddles, and the repair and maintenance of saddle and harness leather goods. The tools used for the trade are arranged on the wall above the workbench. There are shears for cutting the leather, and various edgers and punches to cut, shape and decorate the various leather pieces. The edgers were used to round the edges of straps and other manufactured leather items. Various punches cut holes, made round rosettes or created ornamental decorations. A multiple blade chisel made holes for stitching. Leather items were stitched while clamped to the harness horse or leather vise.

Stitching was facilitated by the use of awls and with large needles and waxed thread.

The process of making a new saddle was long and complicated and started with the carving of a wooden frame known as a tree. This was covered with wet rawhide which shrank into a tough binding when it dried. The other parts of the saddle were then added layer by layer. Saddles were particularly important to the cowboys because unlike horses and other items owned by their employer, their saddle

was their own. It was up to the cowboy to maintain and repair it. The saddle was one of the most important possessions of a cowboy. Drivers also depended heavily on the saddle and harness maker's craft. Team drivers included anyone with a couple of horses and a light buggy to the freight wagon train mule skinners. Farmers extensively used the team harnesses for working their land with all modes of animal power, and in hauling grain and other produce to the Wichita markets.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Saddle and Harness Shop represents a business important to the economy and livelihood in Wichita during the 1870s.
2. The economy of the early settlers in Wichita was heavily dependent on the transportation of manufactured goods from the East. Wagon freighting was an important business in early Wichita. After the arrival of the railroad in 1872, transportation of goods and people was still dependant on animal power and team drawn vehicles.
3. The saddle and harness business were important to the livelihood of the cowboy, farmer, and townspeople.
4. The interior of the Saddle and Harness Shop interprets the selling of commercially made saddles and harnesses, the manufacture and selling of new saddles and harnesses, and the maintenance and repair which were important for those leather items.

Label in Exhibit - Saddle and Harness

Saddle and harness shops were key to local transportation, local freighting, and agricultural practice in early Sedgwick County. Although the railroad was the primary mode of transportation of goods and people over extended distances, residents relied on team driven vehicles and animal power for their local transportation needs. In addition to harness and saddles, these shops sold and repaired leather goods, hides, and carried animal hair used for making plaster and other animal byproducts.

The number of saddle and harness shops did not decrease when the railroad arrived in 1872, but increased along with the growth of industry and population throughout the 1870s. Prior to 1870, there were at least two such shops in Wichita. By 1875, the four saddle and harness shops in Wichita had a combined net profit of approximately \$47,000. Smith & McComb Bros. competed for the local trade by listing a newspaper ad assuring readers,

All Work Manufactured in the Shop, under the special superintendence of the proprietors. A large Stock of Saddles, Harness, Bridles and Collars, Constantly on Hand.
The Wichita City Eagle, June 6, 1878

Business District - Baldwin Photographic Gallery

The Baldwin Photographic Gallery, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the promotion of a social and cultural atmosphere in Wichita during the 1870s.

As the permanent residential community of 1870s continued to expand, the pursuit of leisure, social, and cultural activities became an increasingly important part of life for the residents and to town promoters who wished to extol the virtues of their city to outsiders and potential settlers.

Nereus Baldwin was one of the first photographers to photograph Wichita and regularly advertised in the newspaper that he stocked stereoptic views of the city. Baldwin also entertained locals with his refracting telescope. His followers kept up a running correspondence with the newspapers on matters of interesting astronomical events. Baldwin's Gallery became the seat of the first library in Wichita. In 1876, the Wichita Library and Lecture association and the Ladies Auxiliary Society to the Library Association were established.

The Ladies Auxiliary was presided over by Mrs. Nereus Baldwin. The Library Association was granted a charter to operate a library by the Secretary of State, and a \$3.00 membership fee was established. These fees were supplemented by the many fund raising activities of the Association. The men of the Association held lectures, and the auxiliary sponsored ice cream socials and concerts. In the beginning, the library was only open on Saturday afternoons, though at a later date it extended its hours to include Wednesday afternoons as well. Baldwin's daughter, Della, was the first

librarian. Records indicate that 2,047 volumes were circulated in 1878. While the Library Association was active in the city and raised \$1,250 towards a new building to house the library, it was unable to gain financial support from the city council. It was not until the turn of the century that a free public library was established, with the city providing \$50 a month towards its support. The interior of Baldwin Photographic Gallery interprets a typical photographic portrait gallery of the period. All the photographs displayed are attributed to Nereus Baldwin.

Label in Exhibit - Nineteenth Century Photographic Techniques

Various types of photographic images were produced during the 19th century, each enjoying varying degrees of popularity and longevity. Some commonly used types are listed below.

Daguerreotypes - Image produced on a silver-coated copper plate. The sensitizing agent used was iodine; the developing agent used was mercury.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Introduced: | 1839 |
| Peak Years: | 1852 - 1854 |
| Last Made: | 1865 |

Tintypes - Negative images produced on a thin iron plate, viewed as a positive due to an undercoating of black varnish. The sensitizing agent used was silver nitrate; the developing agent used was pyrogalllic acid.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Introduced: | 1856 |
| Peak Years: | 1860 - 1863 |
| Last Made: | 1867 |

Albumen Prints - Positive prints produced from a glass negative on paper coated with egg white. The sensitizing agent was silver nitrate; the developing agent was pyrogalllic acid.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Introduced: | 1850 |
| Peak Years: | 1860 - 1890 |
| Last Made: | 1910 |

Cartes de Visite - An albumen print, usually 22" by 32" mounted to a card measuring "22 by 4"

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Introduced: | 1854 |
| Peak Years: | 1859-1866 |
| Last Made: | 1905 |

Definitions taken from *Mace, O. Henry. Collector's Guide to Early Photographs*, Radnor, Pennsylvania: Wallace-Homestead Book Company, 1990.

Label in Exhibit - Capturing a Glimpse of Early Wichita

As Wichita grew, its residents tried to enhance the social and cultural atmosphere of the city. Photographers such as Nereus Baldwin took studio portraits of families and individuals at prices that were affordable for the general population. Baldwin took all of the photographs that are in this exhibit. In addition to displaying the photographs in their homes, settlers often sent them back East to reassure family and friends of their success out West.

There were at least three professional photographers in Wichita by 1880. Ong & Hartough advertised the photography of young children as a specialty:

*And bring along your babies, we care not how young,
We will make a good picture of everyone.
We take them so quickly they seldom move,
So bring them along and our words we will prove. Wichita City Directory, 1878*

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Baldwin Photographic Gallery represents the promotion of a social and cultural atmosphere among the permanent residential community of Wichita during the 1870s. Nereus Baldwin was a portrait photographer and an early photographer of the city of Wichita. Baldwin was also engaged as an amateur astronomer, entertaining interested audiences.
2. The Baldwin family was actively involved in the promotion of the social and cultural atmosphere and institutions among the residential community. Mrs. Baldwin presided over the Ladies Auxiliary Society of the Wichita Library and Lecture Association. Baldwin's daughter was the first librarian.
3. Baldwin's Photographic Gallery also housed the first library in Wichita.

Business District - The Millinery And Dress Shop

The Millinery and Dress Shop, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the entrepreneurial role of women in early Wichita. In 1878, when the population of Wichita was around 4,000, there were at least 47 businesses owned and operated by women. Over half of those businesses were listed as seamstress, dressmaker, milliner and/or hairdresser. This was followed by a large number of laundresses. Women who suddenly found themselves widowed, might start a small seamstress business but they rarely stayed in the business and mostly took in mending and washing.

Other women who owned their own businesses were listed as boarding house owner, music teacher, and four were cigar store owners.

It was not unusual for dressmakers and milliners to be married women with children, such as . Mary Klentz who the exhibit is named after.. She had a dressmaking/millinery shop on North Main St. from 1878 – 1892 when it was taken over by her daughter Sophia. This follows true to form as dressmakers and milliners were typically trained as young girls or early adults. They apprenticed in shops under the tutelage of the shop owners, starting as a clerk, then moving onto easy seams, then buttons and buttonholes, eventually graduating to the fine detailed seams and hat construction techniques. It took years to learn their craft.

Skilled seamstresses were valued as ladies' clothing was very form- fitted. Each garment made to fit the size and shape of each lady. The idea of standard sizes or off the rack clothing would not come until later in the century. it required a skilled seamstress to tailor the clothing to the individual. With the need for such tailored garments, Standardized sizes were not practical or available, and women could not purchase clothing "off-the-rack".

The intricate structure of the fashionable clothing of the period required extra care and skill. While the sewing machine changed the arduous chore of sewing for the farm women, who made their families clothing and undergarments, or the middle-class women who sewed for their families and homes, but it did not change the dressmakers work as much. The machine was still used for large seams and other simple stitching, but the dressmaker did the complex handwork herself.

Dressmakers were in demand if a woman was not as handy with a needle as a professional, a special occasion was coming up that required the latest fashions, or simply well off enough to purchase her clothing.

Even the foundation garments required specialization. Corsets, a staple in any woman's

wardrobe, could be ordered from manufacturers or purchased from large stores in the “big city,” but local *corsetieres*, ladies specializing in the construction of corsets, were in high demand to fit this most necessary garment.

Children also required special clothing such as ornately decorated christening gowns and *layette* sets for babies as it was the fashion of time to dress babies in intricately laced and flounced clothing.

Milliners were in high demand as Millinery was not something most women would attempt at home. The construction of a hat was time consuming and took great skill both in execution and design. Many milliners were also hairdressers, as the style of the time made hair and hats to work together in creating the fashion of the day. False hair was often an integral part of the effect.

Label in Exhibit – Hats and Hair

Hats and hairstyles changed almost yearly during the decade of the 1870s. One constant was that hair was big. Whether pulled back from the face and piled in a high chignon, with ringlets or wispy tendrils on the sides and down the back, or eventually, short frizzed bangs, “false” hair was important to create the latest style. “Ladies Ornamental Hair” was sometimes arranged in twisted coils and pinned in, or twined into thick ropes with curls.

In the early 1870s hats were perched high and back on the head and decorated with a profusion of flowers and ribbons. Later in the decade, bonnets and hats were slightly larger, usually with one side turned up, but still worn back from the face. They were elaborately trimmed with fruits, flowers, and birds, in whole or part. Ladies who could afford to match their bonnets to their dress, rather than the standard black velvet, were in high style.

Label in Exhibit – The Bustle

The most identifiable women’s clothing trend during the 1870s and 1880s was the Bustle. The bustle and accompanying draped skirt fabric, was used to accentuate the female form. In conjunction with the corset, it also minimized the waist. Bustle placement began at the center back of the waist in 1870, slipped downward to near the back of the knees around 1876, then it popped back to its original position but in a narrower shelf- like projection in 1881.

Label in Exhibit – Dressing for the Occasion

Everyday Wear - The most typical dress was made up of two or three pieces, including a jacket-style bodice. Fabrics such as wools, coarse silks, satins, and velvets, were heavy, some weighing up to six pounds! Colors were mostly muted and dark, such as wines, plums rust-reds, dark browns, greens, navy or peacock blue. Dresses of two or more contrasting shades and fabrics were common. Trimmings, of fringe, tassels, large upholstered buttons, stiff bows, ribbons and beading were mostly affixed to the skirt.
Tea Gowns - These were more comfortable, informal fashions for occasions such as entertaining at home or a casual dinner with family.

Evening Dress - Evening gowns had lower cut necklines with short sleeves, or, for very formal occasions, dipped off the shoulder. In addition to the usual trimmings, these were decorated with feathers, whole or portions of real stuffed birds, butterflies and other insects, even bird’s nests.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. Dressmaking was a necessity for many women since they could not purchase clothing “off the rack” due to the form-fitting styles of the time.
2. Hats were worn by women as part of their daily attire and required specific skill to construct. Very often the milliner was also the hairdresser, as hair was an integral part of headwear.

3. Along with dresses and hats these ladies created articles such as corsets, undergarments, and children's clothing.
4. These ladies were trained and apprenticed for many years in order to learn their art.
5. Women were business owners and entrepreneurs in the 1800's more often and in more diversity than one would think.
6. Clothing evolved over time. There are a number of illustrations in the shop with time frames indicated on them so that the different styles of dress and their changes over time can be seen.
7. There is an illustration of women's undergarments and the order in which they were layered under the clothing. Be sure to point out the fact that shoes would be one of the first things put on before the corset was secured

Business District - Bank

The Bank, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the financial institutions which serviced the expanding economy in Wichita during the 1870s.

Banking began in Wichita as a small time money lending service which was carried on by some of the land agents and local grocers. Those money lenders who were particularly successful went on to form banks. Banking in Wichita developed as a natural outgrowth of credit and bookkeeping systems used by general store merchants. Interest was high and the loans were generally made for short periods. Local merchant W.C. Woodman, is one example of a storekeeper who went into the banking business. Woodman established the Arkansas Valley Bank and became well known as a reputable banker and a political leader.

Wichita had not officially existed for even one year before the First National Bank was built in 1871. The original building was a two-story brick structure, which for that time, was quite a magnificent building. In 1872, with the arrival of rail service to Wichita and the cattle trailing industry, Wichita boasted three banks with deposits received totaling 5.5 million dollars. Banking in Wichita was reflective of the economy in the United States during the period, and especially of the developing lands in the Western and Great Plains region.

During the 1870s, banking in Wichita represented the economic climate of an expanding metropolitan area which relied on its surrounding natural resource hinterlands (primarily agricultural), to develop capital. This economic climate often manifested itself in the form of economic tensions between the city and the countryside. The banking

industry came to embody the economic struggle between urban and rural interests. Professionals in both the city and country were engaged in the economic, social, and environmental transformation of their proximity. The tensions that arose between urbanites and ruralists were created from differing opinions, priorities, and applications of taking advantage of the available economic hinterlands and transforming those hinterlands into capital. In the expanding metropolitan economy, the elaborate linkages which bound city and country together also created rifts regarding who would be receiving the majority of the capital benefits. Such tensions arose between city and country residents in Wichita, Kansas, and throughout the nation during its cattle-trailing era.

During Wichita's cattle trade era, rural residents found themselves on the wrong side of an unregulated economy that created inflation and high interest rates. During the 1870s, farmers in Sedgwick County faced a hostile environment. The transformation of this environment into capital beyond a subsistence level left many farmers in a less than desirable situation than their urban counterparts residing in Wichita, the county seat. One obstacle farmers in Sedgwick County had to contend with was the location of their industry. The townsite of Wichita was located where the Little Arkansas River joined the mainstream of the Arkansas. The relatively flat, well-watered, grassland had previously belonged to the Osage Indians and was not available for settlement until 1867. Instead of receiving free acreage under the Homestead Act, Wichita area farmers had to pay \$1.25 and acre. The settler on Osage lands had one year from the filling date to pay in full. A farmer in search of a longer term of payment was forced to mortgage his property to a Wichita banker at

ruinous rates. An area fanner during the period complained that the objectives of congressional land laws must be "to give the land grabber a chance to buy cheap land with improvements already made or money lenders a chance to loan at rates that would double in eighteen months."

The land mortgage system seemed especially unsound and unfair to the fanner who compared the borrowing power of a cattle broker in Wichita. One area farmer writing under the pseudonym "Agricola," raised a voice about those involved in the cattle trade who could borrow at four percent while farmers were required 36 to 60 percent on their payments. The fanner continued, "he [the fanner] can't borrow a dollar from the banks on his land or anything else that he has except his note with undoubted security for thirty to ninety days, but the Texas [cattle] man can borrow ten thousand dollars on his individual note without endorsement--Vide McCoy." The general assumption by farmers during the period was that anyone connected with the booming cattle-trailing industry that followed the cattle town promoter and entrepreneur Joseph G. McCoy, was sufficient collateral for speculation in the cattle trade. The First National Bank of Wichita issued cashier's sight drafts for 30, 60, and 90 days in connection with the cattle trade.

The motives of moneylenders in frontier towns like Wichita followed a late nineteenth century pattern of an unregulated monopoly on farm mortgages. Money loaned on the security of agricultural land in the newly opened western states returned a magnificent rate of interest. Moneylenders were able to maintain high rates of interest after the Civil War when a highly organized money power in the United States arose. The security in agricultural land tended to appreciate in value, virtually guaranteeing the lender no losses if forced to assume ownership. After the farmer lost his financing, the business of struggling with other claimants would begin anew.

To Kansas farmers in general, the tactics of this money power were a "conspiracy against the people." The uncertainty about land title and a competing cattle industry left many Wichita area farmers believing the speculator received special favors from the moneyed interests of Wichita, while the farmer received cold shoulder treatment for their pleas. The journalistic rhetoric of the period suggests that there were two levels of commercial commitment among cattle town businessmen. The first commitment was to the day-to-day cash value represented by cattle trade speculators, cattle drovers and cowboys, and associated transients that determined short-term commercial loyalties. The second commitment was to the frontier fanner who was often viewed with tepid interest by the typical cattle town businessman. Rural residents during the cattle trade era in cattle towns like Wichita were considered a subsidiary clientele, albeit an important one. Underneath the accompanying rhetoric about the cattle trade and its commercial profits was the persistence of an orthodox agricultural community serviced by the cattle town. During the time period of the cattle trade in Wichita, the complex commercial relationship between city and country tended to emphasize the short-term profit potential of the cattle-trailing industry instead of a long-term investment in agriculture, at least as it appeared in the journals of the era.

The exterior of the Bank exhibit does not represent a specific bank building from early Wichita. The interior of the exhibit represents the elegant style of decorations and fixtures generally found in banks in the latter half of the nineteenth century. The mahogany colored teller's cages resemble bank furnishings used in large and small banks during the 1870s. The wallpapers used in the exhibit were designed in England at the end of the 1870s. The brass foot rails were designed to protect the teller's cages against the rough shod farmers and the boots and spurs of the cowboys. Writing tables or ledges were provided for the patrons.

Label in Exhibit - Prosperous Times

The Arkansas Valley Bank exhibit represents the financial institutions which serviced the expanding economy in Wichita and Sedgwick County during the 1870s. Banking began in Wichita as a small time money lending service by some of the land agents and local grocers. Formalized banking developed as an outgrowth of credit and bookkeeping systems used by the merchants.

In 1871, the First National Bank opened as the first formal banking institution in Wichita. By 1872, the town boasted three banks with 5.5 million dollars in deposits. In the 19th century, the federal government did not insure deposits, and account holders had no guarantee that their funds were secure. Many Wichitans lost assets when the First National Bank failed in 1876. Although the bank returned 70% of the losses to its customers, many local residents harbored reservations about the stability of their banking institutions.

Label in Exhibit - Varied Interests

As the cattle industry brought short term prosperity to the Wichita economy, the agricultural industry exercised an increasing impact on the long term commercial success of the region. The financial climate resulted in economic tensions between the urban cattle interest and the rural agricultural interests.

Wichita banks favored the short term profit potential of the cattle industry to the long term investment in agriculture. As a result, rural residents found themselves on the wrong side of an unregulated economy that created inflation and high interest rates. Local farmers complained bitterly at paying annual mortgage interest rates of 30-60% while nonresident cattle men received loan rates as low as 4%.

One area farmer, writing under the pseudonym "Agricola," stated:

....(The farmer) can't borrow a dollar from the banks on his land or anything else that he has except his note with undoubted security for thirty to ninety days, but the Texas (cattle) man can borrow ten thousand dollars on his individual note without endorsement... The Wichita Beacon November 4, 1874

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Bank represents the financial institutions which serviced the expanding economy in Wichita during the 1870s.
2. The banking industry of Wichita began as a small time money lending service which was carried on by some land agents and local grocers. Those money lenders who were particularly successful sometimes went on to form banks.
3. In 1872, with the arrival of rail road service to Wichita and the accompanying cattle trailing industry, Wichita boasted three banks with deposits totaling 5.5 million dollars.
4. Banking in Wichita during the 1870s was reflective of the economy in the United States during the period, and especially of the economic development of western lands.
5. The economic climate in Wichita during the 1870s often manifested itself in economic disparities between rural and urban residents.
 - a. Wichita money lending institutions and businessmen tended to emphasize the short-term profit potential of the cattle-trailing industry instead of a long-term investment in agriculture.
 - b. During the era of Wichita's cattle trade, rural residents found themselves on the wrong side of an unregulated economy that created inflation and high interest rates.

Business District - Jail/Calaboose

The Jail or Calaboose at Old Cowtown Museum is an original building which represents a component of law enforcement during the early 1870s in Wichita. Before the construction of this jail, a "holdover" in a vacant building previously been used by a man engaged in the lime business was used to contain prisoners. Wichita's first city jail was constructed during the summer of 1871. The jail, or calaboose as it was commonly referred to, was constructed of cottonwood two-by-sixes laid flat and spiked together with square nails. The

construction and size of the jail make it evident that it was not meant for long-term prisoners. The jail was used mostly for cases where drunkenness and rowdiness had erupted into violence. Many of those activities which would result in a jail sentence in later years, such as prostitution, gambling, or running open saloons, were "licensed" by regular fines to those engaged in these activities. Since the economic future of many businessmen depended upon the cattlemen choosing Wichita as a transfer point for the herds from the Chisholm Trail to the

railroad, the business community of Wichita was extremely tolerant of the rowdy cowboy element. The aim of the business community of Wichita was the regulation of the cowboy's life in Wichita (i.e. a gun control law within city limits), not the prohibition of his many amusements which contributed to the local economy. The social and residential community of Wichita, however, adopted a disdainful attitude towards cowboys and their flagrant behavior. In 1874, a six cell, two-story county jail was constructed at a cost of \$10,700. The original jail became a residential storage building for many years before it was donated to the museum.

This structure was Sedgwick County's first jail built in 1871 at the southwest corner of Market and Second Streets in Wichita for \$600 by Ludlum and

Lindsay construction firm. The structure contained four holding cells and no offices; it was most likely built to hold short term prisoners. It was later moved to 12th and Market. In 1874 a new 6-cell, two-story county jail was built at a cost of \$10,700 and the original jail became a storage building, remaining so until its donation to the Museum. In 1952 the structure was moved to the Old Cowtown Museum after being purchased from the Wichita School Board for one dollar. In 1990, it was moved from the old town area, to the space between the General Store and the Bank.

The Jail was in use during Wyatt Earp's term of service as a police officer, and in the 1960s was labeled incorrectly "Wyatt Earp's Jail."

Label In Exhibit – Wichita's First Jail

The jail you are standing in was Wichita's first city jail, commonly referred to as the calaboose. It was constructed in 1871, and was in use until 1874, when a more substantial one was built. As the size and sturdiness indicate, it was never intended for long term or maximum security use. The calaboose was used mostly for cases where drunkenness and rowdiness erupted into violence. It was a "cooling off tank" for those whose public behavior exceeded the limits deemed acceptable by the community. Although some prisoners complained of being held without just cause or of being treated inappropriately, others expressed gratitude for fair treatment:

Editor Eagle: We, the prisoners confined in the Sedgwick County jail, wish to express our sincere thanks to Sheriff Dunning and Deputy Massey for their kindness to us while in their charge and especially to Mrs. Dunning for the splendid Thanksgiving dinner. Hoping yet to have a chance to return the kindness before we die, we remain your humble servants -Prisoners. The Wichita City Eagle, December 7, 1876

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Jail or Calaboose is an original building which represents a component of law enforcement during the early years of the 1870s in Wichita.
2. The Jail was constructed in the summer of 1871, and was used mostly in cases where drunkenness and rowdiness erupted in violence.
3. The economic importance of the cattle-trailing industry to the business community allowed for the tolerance of the cowboy's rowdy behavior. Activities such as prostitution, gambling, and open saloons were licensed or punishable by regular fines, which added to the local cattle trade economy, rather than with jail sentences.
4. The size and construction of the Jail indicated its use for short-term prisoners. In 1874, a six cell, two-story county jail was constructed.

Business District - General Store

The General Store, located in the Business District of Old Cowtown Museum, represents a business which provided basic goods and services in Wichita during the early 1870s. The General Store is representative of businesses which supplied a wide variety of products to its clientele rather than a specific, specialized, retail trade. The general store

in Wichita served to supply the resident community with a wide variety of manufactured goods and groceries. It also provided travelers with provisions and replenished the cattlemen's supplies during their stay in Wichita. In 1868, Doc Lewellen opened a grocery and general merchandising store. He had formerly operated a trading post on

Chisholm Creek. Lewellen's ledgers indicate that he sold a great variety of goods: canned food, flour, potatoes, sugar, coffee, tobacco, candy and whiskey. He also sold lumber, hardware, building materials, and dry goods including sewing supplies as well as manufactured men's clothing. Shirts, pants, collars, handkerchiefs, jackets, drawers, suspenders, rubber boots (called "gum shoes"), shirt studs, overcoats, suits, vests, neckties, shoes and boots for men, and all kinds of cloth, thread, hose, whale-bones, pins, mosquito net, silk handkerchiefs, buttons, dress trimmings, ribbons, braid, elastic hair pins, corsets, and garters for women. The women made their own dresses or had them made by one of the seamstresses in town. Lewellen seemed to have a rather lenient policy toward "trying out" merchandise since his customers would regularly take two or three pairs of shoes home to try out and after a week bring back all but one pair and receive a refund. Stiff shirt collars were purchased by the box. Many residents purchased a box of collars to use until they were dirty and then threw them away, thus keeping themselves in clean collars. Men's suits were also available cost between sixteen and twenty-seven dollars. Men's hats and boots were among Lewellen's biggest sellers. Dishes from England were a basic necessity for any social gathering among the "self-respecting" ladies. There was a vigorous competition between stores in Wichita to fill this desire for fine table furnishings. Women often purchased Queensware, China, stoneware, willow ware, wooden ware, and white granite ware to use in their homes.

Label in Exhibit - General Stores - Town and Country

General stores were significant in both rural and urban communities. In rural areas, a general store provided customers with all of their basic needs. In towns such as Wichita, they provided basic grocery and household items and services during the years before improved transportation allowed merchants to specialize their inventories.

The General Store exhibit represents a store in Wichita from about 1868 - 1873, when retailers carried moderate amounts of many different items. *The Wichita Tribune* described the problems one merchant had shipping his goods from the nearest railhead:

Mr. J.E. Price has just returned from the East, where he has been purchasing a large stock of goods for the Spring and Summer trade. His store is well filled and he is selling very cheap. The great trouble is to get his goods from the Railroad as fast as they are taken from his store.
The Wichita Tribune, March 29, 1870

Label In Exhibit - From the General to the Specific

In the general store could be found everything needed and available to life as it was lived in 1870s Wichita. Rea Woodman said of her father, W.C. Woodman, that he sold everything from shot to coffins. Vegetable seeds, chairs, several kinds of soap, pipes, pills and tonics, notepaper and pens, garden tools, candles and lamps were among the variety of goods available. In the grocery line, advertisements from the period indicate that three types of coffee plus tea were "on hand", and California canned goods were often mentioned. Coffee was dispensed by the pound from large tins or wooden boxes, advertising their contents with bright orange backgrounds. The coffee beans were scooped into a coffee grinder, if the customer wanted to pay a little more for the added convenience. In the 1870s, Lewellen sold coffee three pounds for one dollar, or ground at thirty-five cents a pound. More extravagant coffees in tins were sold for forty cents a pound. Tea was dispensed from a tea box with glass sides. Spices were sold from smaller tin boxes such as the green canister on the shelf. Occasionally these spices were also ground for the customer.

A general store during the period was an "everything" kind of store. Before Wichita received rail road service in 1872, general stores were the primary outlet for any and all types of groceries and dry-goods. After the rail road came to Wichita, general stores could distribute all the goods available elsewhere in the United States. Eventually, the rail road also would facilitate the growth of specific retail businesses and the decline of the central and important role the general store had in early Wichita.

Urban general stores changed as towns grew and as economies became more diverse. In growing towns with multiple stores, it became necessary for competing store owners to emphasize an area of specialty in order to remain competitive.

Doc Lewellen, one of Wichita's earliest merchants, adapted his crude trading post from its early beginnings to a more permanent and substantial general merchandise store in 1868.

When Wichita received railroad service in 1872, it became easier for retailers to obtain the same goods carried by their counterparts in larger eastern cities. Stores which had carried a little of everything in the early 1870s were announcing specialties by the mid 1870s.

The Wichita Tribune advertised that J.R. Decky carried *A...a moderate supply of groceries. He also keeps a news depot.* By the end of the decade, most stores which had carried general supplies identified themselves as either grocery or dry goods stores.

Label in Exhibit - Community Ties

In rural areas, stores served as community centers where patrons could visit, exchange information, conduct business, or lounge around the stove. Rural store owners often held leadership positions and occupied a visible place within the community. In urban areas a general store was not needed as a central meeting place. However, urban merchants still maintained strong community ties. Wichita merchants provided classroom spaces before a permanent school was built. Others donated goods and services to the poor and to charitable organizations.

The Star Bakery will distribute one hundred loaves of bread Christmas day, to the poor of Wichita, free of charge. Mr. Nugent was always mindful of the poor. Though not a wealthy man himself, his hand is never closed to those worse off than himself. We wish his generosity could be imitated by many others far more able than himself... The Wichita Weekly Beacon, December 16, 1873

POINTS TO STRESS

The General Store represents a business which provided a large diversity of goods and services in Wichita during the early 1870s.

1. The General Store is representative of businesses during the period which catered to supplying the general needs of its clientele rather than a specific, specialized retail trade.
2. The general store in Wichita served both the resident and transient population with manufactured goods and groceries. Food-stuffs, hardware, tobacco and whiskey, table ware, clothing, and any type of product in demand were all available at the general store.
3. The arrival of rail road service in Wichita during 1872, enabled general stores to distribute all the goods available elsewhere in the United States. The railroad also facilitated the growth of specific retail business and the decline of the central and important role the general store had in early Wichita.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERPRETATION - INDUSTRIAL AREA

The Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum reflects three forces which had a profound effect on Wichita's economy: the presence of the railroad, the cattle trade, and the development and expansion of an agricultural economy.

As the railroads moved west, the area that became Wichita was bypassed by the Santa Fe Railroad because the community was within the Osage Indian Trust Lands, and therefore not available for

sale. However, early settlers knew that a railroad was vital to the continuing growth of Wichita. The railroad provided the most efficient and fastest transportation and communication link with other cities.

In order to attract the Santa Fe Railroad, the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad Company was founded with James R. Mead as its president. Through the efforts of this company, Sedgwick

County residents approved a \$200,000 bond issue in August 1871. Within a year, Santa Fe built a rail line between Newton and Wichita. The first trains arrive in Wichita on May 16, 1872. Marshall M. Murdock stated in the Wichita City Eagle the next day, "One can now take the cars at Wichita one morning and be in St. Louis the next morning and in Chicago the following evening. We are now within the bounds of civilization."

The railroad was the most important factor in convincing cattlemen to drive their cattle to Wichita. Wichita served as a major cattle-shipping point for only a few seasons, from 1872 - 75. Though the physical presence of the trade was short-lived, it was highly successful from a long-

term economic standpoint. The cattle trade, along with the accompanying banking, grocery, hotel, and clothing and vice businesses brought in more than sufficient income to establish Wichita as a regional economic force.

Not everyone was thrilled with the cattle trade. Farmers felt that they received little benefit from the trade. Unlike the cattlemen, they did not receive low interest loans and other benefits of a booming economy. With the decline of the cattle trade, the agricultural community stepped out of the shadow of the longhorns and became an economic force whose yield soon exceeded that of the cattle trade.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Industrial Area represents the presence of the railroad, the cattle trade, and agriculture in early Sedgwick County.
2. The railroad, which arrived in Wichita in 1872, was vital to the economic success of Wichita.
3. The cattle trade generated a tremendous amount of income during its three seasons in Wichita.
4. The agricultural industry that emerged as the cattle trade declined had a greater long-term impact on the economy.

Industrial Area - Grain Elevator/Scale House

The Grain Elevator and Scale House located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum represents the role of agriculture in Sedgwick County and agribusiness in Wichita.

The development of agriculture in Sedgwick County was important to the economic base of Wichita during the 1870s. As the economic importance of the cattle trade began to wane in Wichita by the mid 1870s, the agrarian industry became a resource, which ultimately exceeded the economic impact of the cattle trade. The agricultural industry, like the cattle trade, was dependent on railroad service, which Wichita received in 1872. Between 1874 and 1876, the growth rate of winter wheat, a principal commercial crop in Sedgwick County, was more than eleven fold. In a four county area that surrounded Wichita, the increase was six fold. Winter wheat acreage in Sedgwick County increased from 23,000 acres in 1874 to 128,000 in 1876. Wichita. Merchants responded in turn by increasing the farm implement and milling and trading opportunities that the wheat industry brought. The buying, selling, transporting and processing of this resource provided substantial economic opportunities for Wichita businesses.

The Agricultural Economy

As Sedgwick County and Wichita experienced a boom in winter wheat between 1875 and 1876, area farmers also saw an upturn in their industry. However, a number of economic factors resulted in businesspersons other than farmers from becoming the principal benefactors in this industry. The first obstacle farmers had to overcome was the location of their industry. Although farmland in Sedgwick County was located in a relatively flat, well watered, grassland, (the land that belonged to the Osage Indian Nation) land was not available for purchase until 1870. Instead of receiving free acreage under the Homestead Act, Wichita area farmers had to pay \$1.25 an acre. The settler on Osage lands had one year from the filing date to pay in full. A farmer in search of a longer term of payment was forced to mortgage the property to a Wichita banker at ruinous rates. In this economic environment land speculation became prolific, driving land prices higher. The dry season of 1873 was followed by another drought in 1874. In August 1874, Sedgwick County was devastated by a grasshopper infestation, which greatly reduced crops that could be harvested. In addition, the

National Panic of 1873 depressed the prices farmers received for their crops. During the 1870s, farmers in Sedgwick County found themselves on the wrong side of an unregulated economy that created inflation and high interest rates.

Crops Raised by Local Farmers

Corn was originally the most common agricultural product grown by area farmers. In the absence of a commercial market, corn was the easiest to use for family consumption and animal feed. Winter wheat became the more common crop after Wichita received railroad service in 1872, when area farmers learned how hot and dry the summers could be, and after the grasshopper's devastated corn still in the fields in the summer of 1874. By the late 1870s, Sedgwick County became one of the top wheat producing counties in the country. Other crops raised by area farmers included barley, rye, oats, sorghum, and potatoes. Some successful experimentation with growing cotton was also accomplished.

The Operation of the Grain Elevator

During harvest time in the late 1870s, Wichita's streets were crowded with horse drawn wagons filled with grain, each waiting its turn to unload at one of eight grain elevators. At the grain elevator, the fanner would pull his wagon onto the platform scale by the scale house. A clerk inside would write

the total weight of the wagon on a ticket. Then the farmer would take his wagon into the grain elevator drive-through. The horses would then be unhitched and led a few steps forward. A block-and-tackle pulley was used to hoist the front end of the wagon up and the grain was unloaded into the pit below the elevator. At the bottom of the pit was a long canvas conveyor belt with small metal buckets attached. The conveyor belt extended from the bottom of the pit to the top of the head house. The conveyor belt moved in a continuous circle. The metal buckets carried grain from the bottom of the pit to the top of the head house where they tripped and spilled grain into a hopper before returning to the pit. The hopper had a moveable shaft at the bottom to direct grain into any one of ten bins in the elevator. At the bottom of each bin was a trap, (a small door) which could be used to empty the grain back into the pit for recirculation to another bin or to a spout which emptied outside the grain elevator into grain cars on the railroad tracks or into farmers' grain wagons for seed or animal feed. When a farmer's grain wagon had been emptied and his horses hitched, the farmer would pull his wagon onto the platform scales to be reweighed. The difference between the total weight of a wagon that was full and then emptied was the weight of the crop, which was written on the farmer's ticket. When the farmers sold their crop they were paid the going price per-hundred-weight, less storage, handling, and processing.

Label in Exhibit - Grain Elevator

The Arkansas Valley Grain Elevator was constructed in 1910, and was originally located in Bentley, Kansas. It was moved to the Museum in 1986. Although it is typical in design and construction of late 19th century grain elevators, it is believed to be the only fully restored, operational elevator of its kind in North America.

In 1988, Old Cowtown Museum received the Kansas Museums Association's Award of Excellence for Restoration for its work on this elevator.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Grain Elevator and Scale House located in the Industrial Area represents the role of agriculture in Sedgwick County, and agribusiness in Wichita.
2. The development of agriculture in Sedgwick County became increasingly more important to the economy of Wichita as the cattle trade declined.
 - A. Farm implement sales, milling, and trading and processing of crops were important to the economy of Wichita.
3. When Wichita received railroad service in 1872, the agricultural industry was able to move from a subsistence level to a commercial level.
4. Farmers in Sedgwick County faced a hostile environment and an unregulated economy in which to make a living.
 - A. The land surrounding Wichita was Osage Indian Trust Land. It was not available as free land under the Homestead Act. Speculation and high interest rates on mortgaged land kept the price of land high.

B. A drought in 1873 was followed by the national Panic of 1873, which kept crop prices low. Another dry year in 1874 ended with a devastating grasshopper plague.

5. Corn was the first common crop raised by local farmers. When area farmers made the transition to commercial agriculture, via the railroad and the winter wheat industry, Sedgwick County became one of the top winter wheat counties in the country by the late 1870s.

Industrial Area - Livery Stable

The Livery Stable, located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum, represents transportation, communication and economic development in Wichita and Sedgwick County during the 1870s.

The Livery Stable was one of the businesses crucial to transportation and communication in early Wichita. The livery was a commercially operated horse stable that both rented and boarded horses, mules and vehicles. Livery stables rented saddle horses, teams and wagon rigs to people arriving by

stage or train and to Wichita's urban populace. People arriving in town on horseback or in a horse drawn rig could board their horse or horse and rig at the stable as long as needed. Animal owners could also buy feed for their animals. Livery stables also served as auction houses where the buying and selling of horses and mules, wagons and carriages or any other horse drawn vehicles occurred. Proprietors of livery stables also often served as veterinarians or had a partner who performed medical treatment for the stable's horses and mules.

Stagecoach Transportation in the Southern Plains Region 1870-1890

As early as 1869, stagecoaches delivered mail and passengers to Wichita. Early in 1870, Henry Tinsdale of Lawrence built a stage station for his Southern Kansas Stage Company in Wichita. By the summer of 1870, there was also another stage line in Wichita, the Kansas Stage Company, operated by Terry & Co. Stages arrived and left daily in Wichita.

News about stagecoach services to and from Wichita began to appear in *The Wichita Eagle* in the spring of 1872. Among other things, we learn that the cost to passengers was ten cents a mile. If we consider that a common wage in 1872 (and for long afterwards) was a dollar a day, it is evident that traveling by stagecoach was something of a luxury.

Railway systems were well developed in both the Eastern and Western United States in the first half of the 19th century, but there was a gap in the middle with few railway lines operating between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains.

Stagecoach companies, which were not slow to take advantage of a growing movement, particularly after the end of the Civil War, to settle the Great Plains, filled this gap in transportation services. As soon as a village of a few hundred people had come into existence there was a stagecoach operator willing to connect that settlement with another somewhere else. Wichita is a good example of this: In 1870 the little hamlet near the junction of the Big

and Little Arkansas Rivers consisted of about a dozen wooden buildings set on a vast prairie. Yet only two years later there was a daily stagecoach service from the nearest railway at Newton to Wichita. Shortly after, in April 1872, there was a second service to Wichita from Sedgwick, which was also on the railway. The stagecoaches met the trains, gathered up rail passengers wishing to proceed to Wichita, and carried them to their destination that same evening.

By July 1872 The Southwestern Stage Company was running a daily line between Wichita and Wellington and had a service three times each week between Wellington and Caldwell. The 1870s was an era of rapid railway expansion. Rail lines were being laid so quickly that some of the stagecoach services between towns lasted only a few weeks. The service from Newton to Wichita, which began in April 1872, was forced to close in May 1872 because a branch railway line from Newton to Wichita had been built and was in operation.

Undaunted, the stagecoach companies simply switched their services to connect towns like Wichita with other towns where there were, as yet, no railways. Ripe for stagecoach expansion were the vast territories to the South and Southwest of Wichita. In March 1873 The Southwestern Stage Company contracted to carry the U.S. Mail and passengers from Wichita to Wellington, Caldwell, Cheyenne Agency, Wichita Agency, Kiowa

Agency, and on to Ft. Sill in Indian Territory. The 240-mile journey each way was a weekly service. A passenger making the entire journey from Wichita to Ft. Sill would be charged \$25, which, of course, did not include meals and an overnight stop on the way. Remarkably, the journey was accomplished in only two days with one overnight stop.

Even after the train connected Wichita with cities to the north, the stagecoach was indispensable as reliable transportation elsewhere. What did the coaches carry? We get some indication of that from this announcement in the Winfield Courier in 1878: "The Wichita stage, which is now a four horse Concord coach, comes in every evening loaded with passengers." Such was weekend travel over one hundred years ago.

For a stage company to set up a weekly service such as that from Wichita to Ft. Sill was a major undertaking and a considerable investment, and this one was so popular that the weekly service was soon changed to twice a week. Stations had to be established at 12 to 15 mile intervals over the entire 240-mile stretch. Each station had to be manned and stocked with teams of horses, each four-horse-team taking the stage to the next station on the line, where they would be exchanged for fresh horses.

Recognizing the value to passengers of the stagecoach connections to and from their railway stations, the railway companies were careful to list stage connections in their train schedules. In an advertisement which appeared in *The Wichita Beacon* in May 1873, it is mentioned in the train schedule that trains arriving in Wichita connect with the Southwestern Stage Company for Augusta, Douglass, Winfield, Arkansas City, Oxford, Belle Plaine, Summer City, Wellington, and, in Indian Territory, Pond Creek, Turkey Creek, Cheyenne Agency, Wichita Agency, and Fort Sill.

Hotels in Wichita were careful to advertise that stagecoaches arrived and departed daily from their doors for all points South and Southwest. An early photo shows a coach pulled up before the Douglas Avenue House. Another shows a stage before the Empire House. It was common practice for the stage coaches to leave from hotels and for their passengers to stay the night there so as to be sure to be included when the coach left early in the morning.

In the spring of 1878 The Southwestern Stage Company put on four new four-horse stages, two of them running daily from Wichita to Caldwell via Waco, Belle Plaine, London, and Wellington. The other two operated, also daily, from Wichita to Arkansas City via El Paso and Winfield.

A Washington newspaper correspondent wrote his description of the luggage being loaded on to a coach over one hundred years ago: "In due time the stage made its appearance with its four spirited horses and the baggage was put on. Trunks, which were diminutive in size compared with those now used, were put on the rack behind, securely strapped; valises and packages were consigned to the depths of a receptacle beneath the driver's seat, and band boxes were put on top. The back seat was generally given to ladies and elderly gentlemen, while young men usually sought a seat on top of the stage by the driver." Perley's Reminiscences 1886 p.38.

In 1884 one D.R. 'Cannonball' Green set up the Cannonball Stage Line and one of his advertisements in *The Wichita Beacon* announced that his stagecoaches would leave Kingman at 6:30 each morning for Coldwater, Comanche County, making the entire 100-mile journey in daylight. Horses are changed every eight miles. Passengers may take breakfast at Kingman and supper at Coldwater. The company also ran three stages daily from Kingman to Saratoga and Pratt Center.

In 1885 Cannonball Green put in another stage line from Kinsley to the South and another from Pratt Center to the Southwest. He made it known that he was putting Concord Stages in on his main line, the Concord being the best and most comfortable stage.

According to *The Wichita Beacon* (May 1, 1886) Cannonball Green (now elevated by the newspaper to 'Colonel Green') "...has done more with his stage line to build up the western part of the state than perhaps any other one individual."

In 1886, William Mathewson, the original 'Buffalo Bill' and noted Wichita pioneer, was operating a stage line between Anthony and Caldwell.

The stagecoach era on the Great Plains thrived for approximately twenty years, from 1870 to 1890. As the railways continued to expand, the stagecoach

companies continued to retreat, offering their services to communities outside the rail network, carrying passengers and the U.S. Mail from small towns to the nearest railway station, and meeting trains to carry passengers out to their final destination in small towns.

Eventually two factors killed the stagecoach business: The greatly expanded network of railroads and the advent of the motorcar, which, in turn, forced states and counties to improve the roads. Another thing that the railroads killed were a lot of small settlements that found themselves left high

and dry and isolated after the railways came through. An example near Wichita is the town of Marshall on the Ninnescah River. In the late 1870s and early 1880s it was a thriving settlement on the stage line. In August of 1883 the Wichita and Western Railroad passed by 2 1/2 miles to the South where a new town called Cheney was built. As a result, almost the entire town of Marshall moved to Cheney because the presence of the railroad promised greater opportunities for economic prosperity. Today the name Marshall survives only as the name of a street in Cheney.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Livery Stable represents a business crucial to transportation and communication needs for Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Livery stables boarded horses, and rented horses and vehicles. The livery stable also fed animals boarded there, and was often was a place to receive veterinary care for the animals. In addition, livery stables operated as auction houses for the buying and selling of horses, mules, and horse-drawn vehicles.
3. During the 1870s, livery stables were an important economic asset to the city as it continued its expansion of settlement, and in its capacity as center for trade.

Industrial Area - Santa Fe Depot

The Santa Fe Depot represents the dynamic and transforming role the railroad had on Wichita is and Sedgwick County's economic, transportation, and communication developments during the 1870s.

Recruitment of Railroads

From the beginning, early Wichita settlers wanted a railroad. In 1870, the year Wichita incorporated; Sedgwick County held a bond election and its residents voted substantial aid to any railroad that would come to Wichita. Wichita residents knew that a railroad would provide the most efficient and fastest transportation and communication with the outside world. A railroad was essential for attracting settlers to the area, for expansion of businesses and goods receivable, and for attracting the cattle trade.

The first bond issue to attract a railroad failed. However, in the spring of 1871, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad reached Newton, thirty miles north of Wichita. Originally the Santa Fe planned to build to the junction of the Arkansas Rivers at Wichita, but since Wichita was located on Osage Indian trust lands, the Santa Fe could not collect its land grant within the boundaries of the former Osage lands. In 1871 Wichitans organized the Wichita and Southwestern railroad company, and called for another county bond election for the

support of the company and its goal of building a branch line from Wichita to Newton. The bond issue did not pass unopposed. Park Citizens voted unanimously against the railroad bonds since a railroad to Wichita would hinder Park City's attempts at attracting the cattle trade. In return for the support of votes from residents of Newton, Wichita offered to support the creation of Harvey County in the northern half of Sedgwick County, with Newton as the county seat. Wichita and Newton votes together prevailed over those of Park City. The first train arrived in Wichita May 16, 1872. A Wichita newspaper editor exclaimed, "We are now within the bounds of civilization."

The Impact of the Railroad

The arrival of the railroad in 1872 changed nearly everything about Wichita. The city's primary economic subsidy changed from hunting and trading to the cattle industry. Supplies from eastern markets which were hard to obtain or which were previously unavailable in Wichita became abundant. After the railroad began regular service to Wichita, the city's industrial and commercial bases continued to expand. The railroad also facilitated the growth of agriculture in Sedgwick County by providing a market for farmers' products. After the railroad arrived in Wichita, farmers began growing

more wheat and less corn, as agriculture moved from a subsistence market to a commercial market.

The arrival of the railroad in Wichita also facilitated an increase of immigration to the area. Many of the immigrants to Wichita and Sedgwick County arrived by train. The railroad also played an important part in the recruitment of immigrants to the area. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad published a pamphlet in 1876 entitled "How and Where to Get a Living. A Sketch of the 'Garden of the West.' Presenting Facts Worth Knowing Concerning the Lands of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Co. in Southwestern Kansas." The pamphlet contained maps and illustrations of the area and tables about agricultural production and the price of land. This booklet was more than just promotional material. It offered advice to the potential settler. On two occasions the Santa Fe Railroad brought newspaper editors from states such as Illinois, Indiana and Iowa to visit Wichita. The newspaper editors wrote complimentary things about the city. As a result, the number of immigrants from these states increased.

The railroad greatly increased the speed of communications between Wichita and the rest of the nation. The depot was one of the places in Wichita, which had a telegraph line. From the telegraph office in the depot, news from the East was received, and urgent messages were sent. The Santa Fe Depot represents the point where Wichita became tied to the rest of the nation by the informational and cultural umbilical cords of the railroad and the telegraph, which brought the "real world of the East" to the townspeople.

This structure is an original 1870s Santa Fe Depot, which was located in Anness, Kansas. It was made to standardized plans. The Depot was moved to Cowtown in 1954. It is the same type of standardized depot that was built in Wichita in the 1870. The structure has been interpreted as a 1870s depot since its move to the museum in 1954, helping to tell the key story of the railroads impact on the development of Wichita.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Santa Fe Depot represents the dynamic and transforming impact the railroad had on Wichita and Sedgwick County's economic, transportation and communication developments during the 1870s.
2. Wichita's early residents actively recruited the railroad service because they knew it would greatly increase their economic, social, and cultural opportunities. The first train arrived in Wichita on May 16, 1872.
3. The arrival of the railroad in Wichita had a tremendous impact on the city and the county.

Wichita's primary economic base shifted from hunting and trading to the cattle industry.

Supplies from eastern markets became readily available.

The railroad helped to expand industrial and agricultural growth in the area.

The railroad served an important role in immigration.

The railroad and the telegraph increased the speed of transportation and communication to and from Wichita.

Industrial Area - Livestock Area

The Livestock Area, located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum, represents the cattle trade industry of Wichita during the 1870s.

The cattle trade was an important economic base for Wichita during the mid-1870s. After the Civil War, southern drovers began driving thousands of Texas longhorn cattle northward to meet the railhead, which would carry the beeves to eastern markets. The point where the cattle boarded rail cars to the east were the as cattle towns which boomed with economic opportunity. By 1870, Wichita merchants were looking for ways to take full advantage of the cattle herds then making their way north along the Chisholm Trail running through Wichita. A few obstacles had to be overcome in order to make

Wichita into a cattle town. Wichitans had to convince cattle drovers that the city was an ideal supply point along the Chisholm Trail and could provide amenities for cowboys, since the town site possessed no natural advantages over rival towns. Most importantly, Wichita needed a railroad service to assure its continued profits in the cattle trade. In response to these needs, Wichita residents used a good deal of promotion and persuasion to acquire the cattle trade. Wichita promoters bribed cattlemen to bring their herds to town, printed expensive flyers, floated a \$200,000 county bond issue to

attract the railroad, constructed city stock yards, and hired agents to circulate both among drovers in Texas and among potential cattle buyers in Illinois and Indiana. To finance this, a special tax was levied on merchants, with the promise that, if the promotion were successful, all city revenues in the future cattle town would come from license fees on gambling and vice.

The promotion worked for three seasons following the arrival of a branch of the Santa Fe railroad in 1872. In 1872, Wichita shipped 80,000 cattle from its stockyards, and 66,000 in 1873. At the beginning of the cattle trade, the average price for cattle at Wichita's market was from \$8.00 to \$11.00 per head. In the height of the cattle trade prices averaged from \$22.00 to \$26.00 per head. The accompanying banking, grocery, clothing, hostelry and vice businesses were enough of a boom to the local economy to establish the town as a regional power. A single grocery in Wichita sold over a \$ 100,000 in merchandise to cowboys in 1872 alone.

Through the cattle trade seasons of 1872 and 1873, additional revenue was gained from license fees on vice operations. Approximately \$3,000 a month was garnered from prostitution, saloons and gambling establishments. Such prosperity, combined with the entire elimination of any city tax during the cattle trade years, was reward enough for enduring the rowdyism accompanying the particular vices of

cowboys. Wichita was an important cattle-shipping center for only three seasons. Not everyone in the area supported the compromises involved in the cattle trade. Sedgwick County farmers felt they received little benefit from the trade, which forced them to pay high prices, and high interest rates brought on by the cowboys' money. By 1876 extension of the railroads, taxation of cattle drives by Indian tribes in eastern Indian Territory, and the movement of the state quarantine line regulating the often-diseased Texas longhorns, moved the trade to Ellsworth and Dodge City. When the cattle trade declined to nearly nothing after 1875, with only the most loyal drovers coming to Wichita, the hitherto-suppressed voices of reform clamored against the vices of the cattle trade.

Although the cattle trade era was relatively short in Wichita, encompassing the years 1872 to 1876, the economic boom brought on by the cattle buyers, drovers, and especially the working-class-transient cowboy's money, was essential to Wichita's continued growth. The experience with the cattle trade was a "boom industry" for Wichita. The cattle trade taught business leaders the importance of low taxes, minimal government bureaucracy, flexible law enforcement and heavy promotion in attracting and keeping any industry in a city that had no particular advantages over its competitors. In later years a bust would follow the boom, but for the 1870s, the cattle trade industry was important to its economic stability and expansion.

POINTS TO STRESS

1. The Livestock Area represents the cattle trade in Wichita during the 1870s.
2. Wichitans promoted their city, provided rail service and persuaded cattlemen to come to Wichita in order to acquire the cattle trade.
3. Wichita experienced a boom in its economy during the cattle trade years. Wichita merchants and vice dealers prospered from the money of cattle buyers, drovers, and the cowboys. License fees on vice operations kept taxation low and aided the city's revenue.
4. Not everyone gained from the cattle trade.
5. Farmers protested high prices; high interest rates and lobbied for a state quarantine line against diseased cattle.
6. Economic gains from the cattle trade were accompanied by the rowdyism stemming from services catering to the cowboys' vices.
7. Although the cattle trade era was relatively short in Wichita, it was an important economic factor and essential to the expansion of continuing industries.

Competition for a Railhead

The cattle trade industry was important to Wichita as for its economic stability and expansion during the mid-1870s. After the Civil War, southern drovers began driving thousands of Texas longhorn cattle northward to meet the railhead, which would

carry the beeves to eastern markets. From railheads cattle fattened on local corn and grass, were shipped to packing houses in Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, and New York. The towns where the cattle

boarded rail cars headed East boomed with economic opportunity.

In 1867, Joseph McCoy with the Kansas Pacific Railroad made Abilene, Kansas, the first major railhead inside Kansas. Kansas Pacific's railhead moved west to Ellsworth in 1870 after Abilene tired of the rowdy cowboys. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad made a play for the cattle trade looking for traffic on its line and funding as they laid track towards the western border, by opening a railhead and creating the town of Newton in 1871.

While not yet a railhead, Wichita profited from the cattle trade as a supply depot. By 1870, Wichita merchants were looking for ways to take full advantage of the cattle herds as they made their way north along the Chisholm Trail running through Wichita. As the town had no other natural advantages over other towns, Wichitans had to convince cattle drovers that the city was an ideal supply point along the Chisholm Trail. From the beginning Wichita subscribed to the idea that such risks were worthwhile in promoting large enterprises and that the person or town that always played it safe would be the most insecure of all. Location helped but nothing was automatic and nothing was irreversible. The Wichita leaders worked hard through the summer of 1871 to consolidate the city's position. By mid May more than 7,000 cattle had passed through Wichita; 3,250 came through in one day. By the end of 1871 fifteen thousand to twenty thousand head of cattle a week passed through Wichita on their way to the railroad towns. By council order and with the blessing of Greiffenstein, Douglas Avenue became an official cattle thoroughfare, and a formal cattle committee was appointed by the Wichita City Council to attract a railroad and to interest someone in building a bridge across the Arkansas River.

In 1871 there were more rumblings from Park City, the defeated rival of Wichita for the County seat. Since Abilene had rejected the cattle trade during that year, the Kansas Pacific Railroad began to center its cattle operations at Ellsworth. The railroad agreed to fund a new cut off for the Chisholm Trail that would pass through Park City and terminate at the Kansas Pacific yards in Ellsworth. The Kansas Pacific employed Henry Shanklin, former agent for the Wichita Indians, to locate, stake, and plant signs along this new route from the Ninnescah River to Ellsworth by way of

Park City, bypassing Wichita. He proceeded south along the trail, explaining to everyone he met that the old trail was closed and that he, as agent for the Kansas Pacific Railroad, could guide them safely along the new route.

Wichitans heard of Shanklin's activities, and responded by sending four men, known after as the "Four Horsemen." -- N.A. English, Mike Meagher, J.M. Steele and James Mead -- out to meet the first trail herd of the season, which was already following Shanklin along the new route some miles west of Wichita. The four rode 20 miles through the night and caught up with the herd shortly before sunrise. Though they appeared to have arrived too late, they took the drovers aside and tried to convince them they had been misled and were "liable to get lost, miss the best market and a paradise of a town." Shanklin responded that the old trail was closed by settlers shooting cattle and that the rivers at Wichita were too muddy. The cattlemen were uncertain. They were already ten miles west of Wichita, the prairie was burned black to the east, and their cattle's hooves might be injured by walking across the burned section. The four took the leader aside and offered a handsome consideration for his inconvenience and the first herd went by way of Wichita, as did most other herds that season. A risky gamble though there was nothing certain about becoming a cattle town. Specific location seemed unimportant. Wichita lay along the Chisholm Trail, but so did a number of other places, and as Park City's efforts demonstrated there was nothing so advantageous about the Chisholm Trail as a route that could not be overcome by the right kind of urban promoters.

In the spring of 1871 the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe line reached Newton, thirty miles north of Wichita and 20 miles north of the Osage Territory Trust Land border. They had originally planned to build to the junction of the Arkansas Rivers at Wichita, and they tried to have the Osage treaty modified so that it could collect its land grant within the boundaries of the former Osage lands. This proved impossible, and so the route changed to pass just north of the Osage trust lands at Newton. That decision was frustrating to Wichita and to mark the end of the city's control of the cattle trade, that summer Joseph McCoy came to Newton from Abilene to help design stockyards.

Park City (also located in Sedgwick County) promised to vote against any county aid to a railroad connecting Wichita and the Santa Fe main line, since such a line would compete against Park City's Kansas Pacific connections. The Kansas Supreme Court passed down a judgment in the spring of 1871 declaring that it was constitutional for county bonds to be subscribed to the stock of railroad companies. This decision freed Wichita to organize its own railroad, the Wichita and Southwestern (W & SW), and to call a county bonds election for the support of the company and its goal of building a branch from Wichita to Newton. They hoped to attract the attention of established railroads with the promise of spur heading south toward the border of Indian Territory. James Mead wrote Santa Fe superintendent T.J. Peter on June 2; "Upon what terms will you build a branch of your road to Wichita?" Three days later came the reply: "In answer to yours the 2nd will say, if your people will organize a local company and vote \$200,000 of your county bonds, I will build a railroad to Wichita within six months. Wichita promoters, floated a \$200,000 county bond issue, printed expensive flyers, constructed city stock yards, and hired agents such as Shanghai Pierce to circulate both among drovers in Texas and among potential cattle buyers in Illinois and Indiana. To finance this, a special tax was levied on merchants, with the promise that, if the promotion were successful, all city revenues in the future cattle town would come from license fees on gambling and vice.

The Wichita and Southwestern directors filed a charter on June 22, 1871. The bond election on August 11 was successful and the Santa Fe people let construction contracts for the Wichita branch immediately. The bond issue did not pass unopposed. Park Citians voted unanimously against the railroad bonds and submitted some fraudulent negative votes as well. Wichitans made sure that the issue did pass by enlisting the aid of Newton residents. Wichita offered to support the creation of Harvey County in the northern half of Sedgwick County, with Newton as the county seat, in return for Newton's support of the W & SW bonds. The combined votes prevailed over those of Park City. Newton later refused to pay its share of the Sedgwick County railroad debt. Sedgwick County sued, citing the 1871 agreement, but the Kansas Supreme Court decided in 1877 that the technicality in the law originally dividing Sedgwick and Harvey

counties allowed Newton and Harvey County to escape responsibility. Sedgwick County was therefore stuck with a large number of unsalable bonds, but it did have a railroad.

The first W & SW train came into Wichita May 16, 1872. The bridge and the railroad were ready, but a few details remained to be worked out before Wichita was fully adapted to the cattle trade. A two-story building known as the Texas Headquarters was constructed in the city as a center for the trade. A route for driving the cattle from the Chisholm Trail proper, across the river, and into the stockyards was marked. Wichita's preparation and promotion worked for three seasons following the arrival of the railroad. In 1872, Wichita shipped 80,000 cattle from its stockyards, and 66,000 in 1873. At the beginning of the cattle trade, the average price for cattle at Wichita's market was from \$8.00 to \$11.00 per head. In the height of the cattle trade prices averaged from \$22.00 to \$26.00 per head. The accompanying banking, grocery, clothing, hostelry and vice businesses were enough of a boom to the local economy to establish the town as a regional power. In 1872 a single grocery in Wichita sold over a \$100,000 in merchandise to cowboys.

Although the cattle trade era was relatively short in Wichita, encompassing the years 1872 to 1876, the economic boom brought on by the cattle buyers, drovers, and especially the working-class-transient cowboy's money, was essential to Wichita's continued growth. Through the cattle trade seasons of 1872 and 1873, additional revenue was gained from license fees on vice operations.

Approximately \$3,000 a month was garnered from prostitution, saloons and gambling establishments. Such prosperity, combined with the entire elimination of any city tax during the cattle trade years, was reward enough for enduring the rowdyism accompanying the particular vices of cowboys.

The relationship between the high level of vice and rowdyism and the low level of gunplay was not accidental. Wichitans at the time recognized that cowboys needed some sort of outlet, and they preferred that it be drink and women rather than murder. They also tried to confine the rowdyism to the Delano section to minimize its impact on the lives of those Wichitans who were benefiting economically from the presence of the herds. "Drunkenness and brawls may be atoned for by

money in the police court," the *Wichita Eagle* observed in 1872, "but revolvers and knives in the hands of men excited over women and whiskey are followed by death." It was remarkable really that the city managed to skirt such dangerous territory for so long without the rowdiness and vice leading more often to a murder. Cowboys might be forced to check their guns; they might be encouraged to limit their dancing and womanizing to the dance halls across the river; but the privilege of drinking oneself into near oblivion at any time of the day or night was held to be an inalienable right. There was enough drinking in Wichita to keep the local breweries operating at full capacity and the saloons and liquor stores making good profits. In 1873 there were fifteen saloons in Wichita. So common was drinking and so disastrous were its effects through the seventies that Wichitans seem to have

compensated with anti-saloon legislation that lasted for a century after the cattle trade left the city.

Not everyone in the area supported the compromises involved in the cattle trade. Sedgwick County farmers felt they received little benefit from the trade, which forced them to pay high prices, and high interest rates brought on by the cowboys' money. When the cattle trade declined to nearly nothing after 1875, with only the most loyal drovers coming to Wichita, the hitherto-suppressed voices of reform clamored against the vices of the cattle trade. By 1876 extension of the railroads, taxation of cattle drives by Indian tribes in eastern Indian Territory, and the movement of the state quarantine line regulating the often-diseased Texas longhorns, moved the trade to Ellsworth and Dodge City.

Industrial Area - The Henry Wolf House

The Henry Wolf House is located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum. It represents the type of housing often occupied by new settlers to the city. It represents the type of affordable housing sought out by immigrants to the area, who often arrived with very limited financial resources. New settlers came to the area with expectations of greater economic opportunity in the American West. Many immigrants ultimately achieved some measure of success, but most initially began their new lives in humble surroundings. It was not uncommon for new settlers to the area to occupy homes on the outskirts of town. Those who lived on the edge of the community had the advantage of close access to jobs in town, while still having the geographic advantage of adequate space and opportunity to supplement their income through the cultivation of large gardens, and by raising chickens, milk cows, and other livestock. Immigrants wishing to establish farms in the area often found a number of factors to be prohibitive to immediate success. Land around Wichita could not be taken under the Homestead Act. The land had previously belonged to the Osage Indians under a trusteeship. Therefore, the minimal price per acre was \$1.25. In addition to the price of land, high interest rates and farm mortgages kept the price of land high. New immigrants to the area found support from the city's ethnic groups. Previous immigrants who had

already settled in the area were often able to lend assistance and support to the new settlers, many of whom were unfamiliar not only with the geographic area, but with the language and the culture as well. Wichita had a large ethnic population during the 1870s, and cultural diversity survived within the larger community.

THE WOLF HOUSE EXHIBIT

The exhibit bears the name of Heinrich Wolf, a German immigrant who settled in western Sedgwick County near the community of Garden Plain. Wolf occupied this small house as he was developing a farm. As his economic stability increased, Wolf was able to build a larger home, leaving the smaller structure to be used for other purposes.

At this time, not enough is known about Henry Wolf to interpret the exhibit as specific to the Wolf family. Instead, the exhibit generically represents the home of an immigrant family. While the house contains mostly items familiarly found in American homes, a number of items in the home suggest German origins. The trunk found in the front room is a replica of a trunk belonging to Henry Wolf's father, Frank Wolf. The replicated German newspaper pages on the east wall, along with the framed copy of the Lord's Prayer "Vater Unser" represents the desire of immigrants to preserve their cultural identity.

POINTS TO STRESS:

1. The Henry Wolf House is located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum.

2. Many immigrants arrived in the Wichita area in the 1870s in the hopes of experiencing greater economic opportunity. While some eventually achieved economic success most began with modest accommodations and limited financial resources.
3. Immigrants wishing to establish farms often lived close enough to town to supplement their incomes by working “town jobs” and raising livestock. Economic conditions sometimes made establishing farms difficult for new immigrants.
4. Immigrants with strong ethnic ties found support from fellow immigrants who were already established in the community.

Culinary & Medicinal Herbs from the 1870s

Healing by herbs is a time-honored tradition. This activity is the root of modern pharmacology. Immigrants such as the Wolf family from Germany brought their herbal lore and craft to America. They combined this knowledge by learning about local herbs from Native Americans, though they believed that the spirit of the plant heals rather than the plant itself. The Shakers were one of the first groups to organize the mass cultivation and sale of herbs and seeds. Their example of profit through harvesting and selling herbs and seeds, rather than using herbs to care for their individual health, lead others to consider wildcrafting the harvesting of herbs. Settlers such as the Wolf family, part of the westward expansion, looked for cash crops to supplement their income. The towns drugstore nearby would be the logical choice to sell the raw material for medicinal products, herbs. If you visit the drug store you will see many of the same herbs preserved.

These plants, here in this plot, were chosen for their historical use and some are still used medicinally today. A few herbs are planted strictly for their ornamental or culinary use.

Herbs don't possess any magical or mystical properties. The benefits from a herbal product is

the active chemical compounds in the plant material.

For herbs purchased today, used in conventional medicine, the variability of potency has been overcome with standardization of the chemical composition of the herb.

Self-medication with herbs is not recommended. There is a natural variation in different specimens. Identification of a plant in the wild is not easy and may be mistaken for a deadly plant.

This garden concept was created by Nanette Duncan, Sedgwick County Extension Master Gardener. The garden plan was designed by Jeanie De Armond, landscape designer and medicinal herb research assistant at K-State, Extension Department. Plants supplied by Dr. Rhonda Janke's medicinal herb research project from K-State. For more information on medicinal herb research join the Great Plains Herb Growers Association by contacting Dr. Janke at rjanke@oznet.ksu.edu. The garden will be maintained by Master Gardeners and local Girl Scouts. A special thank you to Wal-Mart for grants to allow this garden to happen.

Historical and Current Healing Uses

English and Common Marigolds line some of the beds.

1. Borage: Good for cuts or green wounds, gargling, washing eyes, diuretic properties. Current use—seed lowers systolic blood pressure and is anti-rheumatic.
2. Rose: Tonic and mildly astringent, for heart, kidneys, liver and stomach. Current use-Rose essential oil is used in aroma-therapy. Rose hips are used as vitamin C, a sedative and as an astringent.
3. Lavender: For flatulence, fainting and to induce vomiting, gargle, for loss of voice, for head pain, cures scabs and itch. Current use—lavender essential oil is a popular herbal oil in

aromatherapy for relaxation. Flower used for headache and colic and oil for burns.

4. Rosemary: Warm infusion for colds, colic, nervous conditions. Flowers quicken the memory and senses. Current uses-- Leaf aids in digestion and rheumatism and as an appetite stimulant.
5. Marjoram: Promotes perspiration, used for cough and stuffing of the lungs and pains of the ear. Current use—Leaf tea good for colds and headaches.
6. Yarrow: Closes wounds and staunches blood, for toothache and falling hair, diabetes and piles. Current use—leaf used for high blood pressure and as an astringent.

7. St. John's Wort: Good to stop bleeding, heal ulcers, cure burns, good against melancholy and madness. Current use—flower has an anti-depressant action for mild to medium cases of depression. Also used to heal cuts.
8. Sorrel: Used for scurvy and skin diseases, a poultice for tumors and boils, excellent for the blood. Current use—leaf used for kidney and liver problems and ulcers.
9. Milk Thistle: Astringent, diuretic, tonic, boiled with milk for dysentery and diarrhea. Current use—tea made from plant is used to improve appetite and as an anti-inflammatory.
10. Self Heal: Diuretic, increases secretion of urine. Current use—herb used as an antibacterial and to reduce blood pressure. The flower is used as a liver stimulant.
11. Butterfly Bush: For Pleurisy, bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, dry cough and influenza. Current use—root used for winter illness and respiratory conditions.
12. Soapwort: Tonic, astringent, valuable in jaundice and liver complaints. Current use—root is used for skin conditions like eczema and for acne.
13. Blue Vervain: Used for intermittent fevers, colds, worms, wounds, tumors, sores, falling hair, toothache. Current uses—herb, for colds and flu and stress.
14. Horehound: Coughs, colds, asthma, pulmonary affections. Current uses—herb, appetite stimulant, stimulates bile flow, cough suppressant.
15. Licorice: Used for coughs, pain of the intestines and bronchial infections. Expectorant. Current use—root, anti-inflammatory, expectorant.
16. Mullein: Good for coughs in man and cattle, swelling of the eyes, cure for piles, warts, gout. Flowers used for blonde hair dye. Current use—leaf, for coughs and flower, for earache.
17. Boneset: Treatment of fevers, colds, catarrh, influenza, for loss of appetite and to induce sweating. Current use—leaf used for fever.
18. Feverfew: For headaches, stomachache, fevers, colds, hysterics and suppresses urine. Current use—Best known for diminishing the symptoms of migraines.
19. Monarda: Useful for upset stomach and nausea, diuretic and flatulent colic. Current use—*Monarda didyma* would find in Earl Grey Tea. Tea used for sore throat and insomnia.
20. Elderberry: Diuretic, bark used in dropsy, berries for rheumatism and gouty affections, cures bites of mad dogs. Current use—Fruit used for colds and flu. Flowers for colds, fever, bronchitis.
21. Mint: Soothes insect stings, good for spasms and colic, takes away headache. Current use—a flavoring agent, leaf promotes bile flow and prevents vomiting.
22. Lovage: Used to expel gas, increase flow of urine, for kidney stones, jaundice, malaria and female complaints. Current use— whole herb used as detoxifier and for rheumatic symptoms.
23. Coneflower (Echinacea): Blood purifier, rheumatism, migraine rattlesnake bites and bee stings. Current use—root and herb used to booth the immune system and to fight infections.
24. Burdock: For gout, leprous diseases, used as a cooling poultice, treating skin conditions. Current use—root as anti-biotic for skin sores, mild laxative for detoxification and the leaf for indigestion.
25. Sunflower: Used in treatment of bronchial and pulmonary affections. Current use—seed is edible and plant is mostly ornamental.
26. Coneflower: See 23.
27. German Chamomile: For digestive disorders, cramps, skin conditions, hysteria and nervousness. Current use—flower used as mild sedative, anti-inflammatory, and for indigestion.
28. Joe Pye: Name refers to an Indian who used the plant to apparently cure typhus fever, also used to eliminate stones in urinary tract. Current use—root used for menstrual pain.
29. Sand Plum: Culinary uses, good in jelly.
30. Strawberry: Used for diarrhea, dysentery, night sweats. Current use—leaf as a diuretic, fruit as a liver tonic and antibacterial.
31. Raspberry: Listed in Pharmaceutical directory of Crude Drugs of 1872, no uses given. Current use—leaf for diarrhea and as an astringent.
32. Oregano: Same as above, no use given. Current use—culinary and as an antibacterial and for toothaches.
33. Lemon Balm: Good for green wounds, will break boils and expel afterbirth. Current use—leaf used for insomnia and to aid digestion.
34. Thyme: Good against wamblings and gribings of the belly and inflammations of the liver, strengthens the lungs. Current use—leaf used for bronchitis and cough.
35. Nettles: Asthma, expectorant, antispasmodic, stops nosebleed. Fresh nettle juice to scalp stimulates hair growth. Current use—No evidence that it is effective in growing hair. Leaf used as a diuretic and to improve anemia.
36. Hollyhock: Used in coughs, female weakness, inflammation of bladder and afflictions of the kidneys. Current use—ornamental uses.

37. Marshmallow: Effective against pleurisy, falling sickness, constipation, dandruff and splinters. Current use—root and leaf to aid indigestion and as an expectorant.
38. Calendula: Used for fevers, cancer and to prevent infections of lacerated wounds. Current

use— a coloring agent in cosmetics and perfumes. Flowers used to heal wounds and burns.

39. Gooseberry: Culinary use only— a dessert fruit. Warning: Foliage and unripe fruit are harmful if eaten.

***These herbs represent the varieties being tested by K-State Research & Extension in production trials to develop alternative crops for Kansas Farms. Dr. Rhonda Janke of Kansas State University, Dept of Horticulture leads this medicinal herb research. Listed medicinal uses are examples of uses of processed herbal products.

Industrial District - Eagle Cornice Works

The Eagle Cornice Works is located in the Industrial Area of Old Cowtown Museum. This business represents the rapid diversification of industries in the Wichita area. It prospered despite having no locally available raw materials, relying instead on the railroad to bring raw materials and carry out finished goods. This same practice was observed over and over throughout Wichita's history. Without raw materials Wichita relied on the daring intuition and pluck of the entrepreneurial spirit of those who inhabited the place.

The Eagle Cornice Works was founded in 1883 by W. N. Caswell and F. Buckley. The company specialized in the production of galvanized window cornices, window caps, dormer windows, tin, iron, and slate roofing and the wholesale of sheet metal. It began in a 7 by 9 foot room on N. Main St. and rented scattered additional spaces as needed until 1888, when the expanding business was housed in a single large brick structure on S. Main.

A Cornice Works Shop was essentially a sheet metal fabrication shop which specialized in producing a variety of metal pieces and window cornices. These materials, joined together, created ornamental storefronts and building details. Businesses such as these created catalogs so customers could create their own unique style of building front. Once produced, these light weight facade details could be easily shipped and installed at any location. These metal façades were popular between 1880 – 1910 and replaced earlier more

expensive and labor intensive decoration made of stone, wood, or cast iron. This made it possible for businesses of lesser means to project an image of wealth and prosperity heretofore only available to those of means.

Many buildings in Wichita and the surrounding area originally had detail work by the Eagle Cornice Works. These include the Sedgwick County Court House, Garfield (Friends) University, Fairmount College (Wichita State University), and the Kingman Bank.

Cornice Works were a short lived industry as by the early 1900s building styles were beginning to evolve away from ornate detail. The best known cornice works companies were owned by two brothers who formed the Mesker Brothers Iron Works of St. Louis, Missouri and George L. Meskers Company of Evansville, Indiana. Together they produced some of the most notable and well preserved cornice works examples. More information about the cornice works industry is available at www.gotmesker.com.

The Eagle Cornice Works Company was split into two companies which now operates as Buckley Roofing and Buckley Industries (specializing in insulation). In 1993, the machines displayed in this exhibit were donated to the museum by Buckley Industries. They include folding, forming, crimping, and guttering machines, and a slate roofing tile punch.

Points to stress

1. The Cornice Works shop represents the rapidly expanding diverse industrial base of Wichita made possible by the railroad service to Wichita.
2. Metal cornice works provided ornate building details that were easy to install at affordable prices. These made it possible for businesses of lesser means to project an image of wealth and prosperity heretofore only available to those of means.
3. It is the only known cornice works industry exhibit of its type.

THE 1880 DEVORE FARM

In the years after the Civil War the Midwest rose to agricultural dominance. By 1870, more than 1/3 of the farm population was in the North Central region. In the areas of Minnesota, Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas, farm population rose from 300,000 in 1860 to 2.5 million in 1880. The Federal government encouraged farming in the west through the creation of the Homestead Act, providing ownership of land after 5 years of occupation, and the building of the Transcontinental Railroad. Many people were lured to the west, some who came unprepared, without tools or knowledge of basic agriculture but came with high hopes. Many fortunes were lost, while others learned and stayed to populate the Midwest. Contrary to this trend the majority of settlers coming to Kansas had farmed for a living in the eastern United States.

Farmers coming to the area knew that farming was a risky occupation full of physical hard work and danger, but also held economic rewards. One had to have funds to pay for travel to the area, buy the land, and to provide for a family until the first crop was in and sold. There were also dwellings, barns and outbuildings to build, as well as livestock and machinery to buy. Starting a farm on the Kansas plains was not cheap but it required less capital outlay, since the average price per acre of Kansas farmland was cheaper than that found in Eastern states. For land sales Sedgwick County was an exception. Created on Indian land held in trust by federal government by treaty agreement, it was not eligible for the Homestead Act. The land had to be sold for the standard fee of \$1.25 an acre, with proceeds returned to the tribe. Despite the lack of Homestead land, the average price per acre was far cheaper than land in Illinois and Indiana. It was not quite free, but it was still a bargain. Many newcomers paid for their claims in cash which gave them title to the land. The owner then mortgaged the land and used the capital for farm improvements. This practice explains why Kansas farmers had a high indebtedness rate by 1890. The debt load also offers insight as to the causes of the agrarian unrest which gripped Kansas and the Great Plains in the 1890s.

The growing amount of agriculture in Sedgwick County created an economic dilemma. The pursuit of the **cattle trade**, and ultimately the railroad, produced huge profits for many but also

brought social problems and direct economic problems for the increasing farming population. The railroad gave promise to future of agriculture. Unfortunately the goals of the cowboys and their sponsors, and the farmers were mutually exclusive. The cattle herds needed wide expanses of unfenced, unplowed land to pass through or graze. Farmers wanted herd laws to protect their lands and fences that would encourage the orderly development of the area. They also wanted to protect their eastern-bred herds from the Texas tick fever that the longhorns brought. Though farming did hold the promise of constant market for goods rather than the feast and famine cycle of the cattle trade, businessmen were reluctant to give up the large profits.

Farmers in Sedgwick County joined with local citizens, upset by the prostitution, drunkenness and gambling brought by the cattle trade, in 1875 to persuade the state legislature to move the quarantine line for Texas cattle west of Wichita. This made it possible for farmers to develop the area unhindered.

Farming had an economic impact as well.

Wagons loaded with grain filled the streets, nine grain elevators operated in town, and farmers purchased agricultural implements from several local implement dealers. The local chapter of the Patrons of Husbandry, better known as the Grange, met monthly; while newspapers devoted columns to area farming conditions. The *Wichita City Eagle* printed a special "Immigration Edition" in 1878 with the singular purpose of encouraging permanent settlement along the Arkansas River Valley.

Farming was big business! While early settlers in the history of the United States were subsistence farmers opening the land until others came to settle, those who came to Wichita in the 1870s viewed farming as a small business with national and international connections. Machinery, with its initial capital outlay, brought a high degree of productivity. As the country became more urban, and as global trade continued to build, the demand for farm products was high. These same markets were affected by national and global events. For example, demand for American wheat fell sharply when wheat from Russia flowed once again after the Crimean war in 1857, causing prices to fall dramatically.

By 1880, the year the DeVore farm portrays, the population of Sedgwick County had grown from 1,000 in 1870 to almost 19,000. The total number of farms had grown from 0 to 2,700. Sedgwick County had the most acres under cultivation in the state and a leader in corn production. Farm size varied in Sedgwick County from as much as one thousand acres to as little as 100 acres. Cultivated ground varied as well from 40 to 200 acres; however the average farm in 1875 was 160 acres, with roughly one-quarter of that farmed or "improved." 1880 farms were larger, averaging 320 acres or a half section.

The average farm had 35 acres in corn, 30 acres in wheat, and 10 acres in oats. Almost all of the farms had orchards of one to four acres for either personal use or as a cash crop. The rest of the ground was in unimproved pasture or fields for hay. The average farm would have four cattle other than the two milk cows, and only a few still had oxen to pull farm equipment. For their replacement, the farm would have three horses, and maybe one mule. The remaining livestock would be two sheep and 20 pigs. Machinery values jumped to become \$120 of the average \$2000 a farm was worth. While this average masks diversification that many farmers were engaged in, it does reveal the progressive and experimental Sedgwick county farmer that the DeVore farm portrays. Although farmers in the 1870s and 1880s often perceived themselves as victims of the capitalistic economic situation, many were quite successful, amassing both wealth and land and made a comfortable living, enjoying success. Others were merely able to eke out an existence in the hot, dry plains of Kansas enduring failure.

The farmers who came to the area were eager, optimistic experimenters anxious to find out what this untested former "Great American Desert" could produce. Lured by the scientific promise that "the rain follows the plow," they initially planted crops from the East in anticipation that a similar climate would develop. They were also practical sort who grew three primary mainstay crops. Corn, the primary crop, could be sold or fed to their animals, oats the same, while wheat, still a minority crop was sold for cash; a cropping system that followed longstanding agricultural tradition of cash first and subsistence second. Corn was king, though by 1885 it would be surpassed, as wheat would become Kansas's cash crop. Lesser crops such as rye, castor beans, flax, cotton, hemp, sorghum and honey rounded out Sedgwick County agricultural production.

Livestock was essential to the operation of the farm. The **Percheron horses** used at the DeVore farm represent a moderate breed of draft animal that was well suited for the size of the farm. They provide the power for the farmer who was increasingly more reliant on mechanized agriculture. The **Durham short horned milking cow** served the diverse needs of the farm. A utilitarian animal, it could be raised for efficiently for milk, cream, butter or meat. The **Berkshire hog** represents more of the farm economic diversity. Not the lean "other white meat" of today, hogs were bred for the fat that could be sold for soap making or lard for food products as well as the meat. The **Light Brahma chickens** complete the picture of experimentation. Originally from India, they represent just one of the hundreds of varieties of poultry that were experimented with to maximize egg and meat production.

Livestock, as well as the Texas cattle, made fencing essential to any farm. The **fence law** of the time made it the farmer's responsibility to keep animals out of his fields. Eastern Kansas had substantial stands of walnut, oak, and chestnut for making fence rails, but trees became scarce as settlement moved farther west, forcing farmers to rely upon alternative fence types. By the 1870s, Joseph Glidden of DeKalb, Illinois had successfully produced barbed wire for mass production. Barbed wire proved an economical fence for the plains and Wichita businesses readily supplied it to their customers.

Buildings were a large part of the Kansas farmer's capital investment. Structures could be simple or complex in design, function, and materials. Buildings included barns, chicken coops, stables, houses, spring houses, living quarters, and ice houses. Frame, log, batten and board (used in the DeVore farm buildings), stone, and timber frame building styles made their way onto Sedgwick County farms by 1880. An early 1870s farmer might start with crude outbuildings, but after a few years sawed lumber and cedar shingles would be commonplace on the farmstead.

The other large capital outlay for a farmer was **agricultural implements.** The Great Plains were well-suited to mechanized agriculture, since the uninterrupted open spaces were the ideal environment for grain reapers, harvesters, binders, grain drills, mowing machines, and sulky (riding) plows. The early machinery was expensive, heavy and could be very dangerous. Yet the Midwest with

the wide flat plains was tailor made for mechanized farming. By the 1870s new technological and industrial innovations allowed farmers to ride their agricultural implements. This labor saving led a dramatic increase in production and permitted the size of farms to expand. Reaping machines, for example, cut ten to twenty acres of grain per day and allowed one farmer to cultivate more ground and produce larger quantities of grain.

These changes also affected the **gender-related work and family responsibilities**. Women, while active partners in the business of farming, were not so crucial to field work. With more time men began to take over traditional female areas of poultry and dairy functions. This in turn allowed farm wives to spend more time concentrating on the traditional family responsibilities of managing a household and its daily operation. With gender roles more reflecting the Victorian “spheres of influence” farm wives could now conform more to middle class “Victorian cult of true womanhood” in how they viewed their lives and activities. Yet women found themselves still striking a delicate balance between traditional and progressive practices, between family and work responsibilities.

The advance of technology reducing the man’s labor had the opposite effect on women by actually increasing her workload. Advances in technology led to increased expectations for production. For example with the availability of manufactured cloth, women no longer had to weave their own textiles but there was an increase in the amount of clothing a person could expect to own, most sewn by the women of the house. Home canning equipment provided families with more year round fruits and vegetables, but increased the women’s work load year round by having larger gardens, which led to more garden work and processing of harvested foods.

The **difficult working conditions for farmwomen** did not go unnoticed. Women found political voice through the Grange, which allowed them to participate as full members, and the ideas popularized within the Grange influenced their lives. They were also affected by their proximity to Wichita’s urban setting, and the developing trends and ideas that were infiltrating popular urban thought were also thrown into the mix of rural culture practices. Farmwomen were readily offered

advice through farm publications, periodicals, local newspapers and the advice manuals. The rise in advice manuals that accompanied the rising middle class now expanded to “encyclopedias” that addressed topics ranging from planning and furnishing a farmhouse to effective vegetable and child rearing techniques.

Children played a large role in women’s lives.

Infant mortality rates remained high and death through childbirth was not uncommon. Common childhood diseases and accidents claimed the life of many children. Less than ten percent of Americans in the 1870s who reached age fifteen had both parents and all of their siblings.

Just as the lives of men and women were **changing**, so were the **lives of children**. Childhood was developing in the minds of the people as a distinct developmental stage. Children were afforded opportunities for play and leisure time, which only a few decades earlier were considered expendable luxuries. By 1880, contemporary literature and housing plans were beginning to suggest that adolescents might warrant their own physical space within the home.

Children were essential to the farm operation

doing a wider variety of chores than their parents, making them the most flexible labor for the farm. Before adolescence tasks were not assigned by gender, with both helping with animal care, fieldwork, and household chores, but as they reached adolescence, work responsibilities were separated. Boys took over livestock chores such as feeding, cleaning stables, milking, turning out and retrieving livestock from the pasture, and the never-ending task of cutting wood. Girls learned the domestic arts and the all-important job of managing a household.

Many children appreciated the physical freedom of rural and farm life, while simultaneously dreading the physical demands of assisting in the operation of the farm. With the creation of rural schools, formal education was becoming more a part of a child’s life, though schooling was frequently interrupted by seasonal demands of the farm. This exposure to the wider world increased the competition for children’s futures. As incentive many children were given small parcels of land or animals to oversee with them retaining the profits from their efforts.

The Order of Patrons of Husbandry - The National Grange

Motto: In Essentials, Unity - In Non-Essentials, Liberty - In All Things, Charity

Key to farmers' lives in 1880 was a social and fraternal organization called the Grange. The Civil War devastated the Southern farmer and left many northern families with crippled or dead family members, all who felt the growing middlemen and railroad barons were feasting on the life's blood of the working man of all regions. To aid these people and attempt to heal the nation Oliver Hudson Kelley along with six others founded the Grange in 1867. Though influenced by the growing labor movement, it developed as a fraternal organization using the Masonic Order as a model, rather than a trade union to unite farmers in the North, South and West. It was founded with a ". . . desire a proper equality, equity, and fairness; protection for the weak; restraint upon the strong; in short, justly distributed burdens and justly distributed power." It was open equally to women and men, Christian but not sectarian, anti-sectional,

pro-temperance and anti-tobacco, supported rural mail delivery, the family farm and progressive (graduated) taxation. It created buying cooperatives to eliminate the middleman and reduce prices for members. It was well known for its battles with the railroads, which were viewed as high handed, greedy and unscrupulous. The United States government gave the railroad companies, (railroad magnates or robber barons); vast amounts of farmland (grants) to sell so support the building of the railroads and they had a monopoly on carriage of grain and other farm produce and supplies. Many state legislatures enacted what were known as the *Granger Laws* lowering freight rates and establishing state railroad commissions to regulate railroads and eventually other public utilities. Officially non-sectarian, many of their grievances were carried by the Greenback Party, Farmers Alliance and Populist Party's

Points to stress

1. Farms in 1880 time period were not subsistence farms but businesses which affected and were affected by local, state, national and international events.
2. Farms in 1880 were hotbeds of experimentation. From sorghum, cotton, castor beans, poultry and cattle, the drive was to become more productive and more progressive.
3. The DeVore farm reflects the growing mechanization of farm work which increased productivity and brought gender roles more in line with that of the Victorian Culture.
4. Farms were powerful economic engines that through the Grange attempted to use its clout and gain a louder and more important political voice.

CHART OF BUILDING FORMER LOCATIONS

| EXHIBIT - update 2011 | BUILT | MOVED TO SITE | FORMER / OTHER NAMES | ORIGINAL LOCATION | ORIGINAL & SUBSEQUENT OWNERS |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|--|--|
| 1 ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - #17 | Nov. 1870 | 1952 | St. Aloysius Church | Southeast corner of Wichita & Second. - Moved to Second & St. Francis - date unknown Moved to 605-607 N. Main - date unknown | Presbyterians, 1870 - 72 Catholic Church, 1872 - ? Mrs. Mollie Hodge, ? - 1949 Stored in the "County Yards" until 1952 |
| BALDWIN'S PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO — #9 | 1960 | | The Library | Unknown. May have been partially salvaged from 1910 home in the 800 block of South Broadway | Unknown |
| BANK - #7 | 1961 | | Arkansas Valley Bank | Built on Site | Built by Trustees of Historic Wichita Inc. |
| Barber Shop #29 | 1881 | 1955 | The dress and military shop Uniterpreted - 1989 Post office Old township hall | 404 N. Hydraulic , Wichita, KS | Wichita Township, hamburger stand paid rent to the Township. Voting place until 1953. |
| BLACKSMITH SHOP - #4 | 1959 | | | Built on site - Original building 1878-1917- | assisted by son Ben Millar |
| BLOOD HOUSE | 1871 | | | Northeast corner of Broadway and 63 ^W St. South | Gillman Blood - 1871 Blood Family to 1996 |
| CARPENTER SHOP - #24 | 1970 | | | Built on Site | Built by the National Association of Women in Construction |
| DEVORE FARM HOUSE | 1884 by Homer Smith | 1993 | Smith House | 15428 E. Central, North side of east Central St, just West of Andover | Smith Family |
| Dress Shop | 1961 | built on site | | Gunsmith Exhibit sponsored by the Chisholm Trail Gun Club. - Marshal's Office exhibit.- current Dress Shop | Built by OCM Staff and Volunteers |
| Empire House | 1904 - replace Sutton grocery store | 1960 | Delmonico's restaurant | 816 E. Murdock. | 1904 farmers grocery, 1946 John & Jim Jabara - Jabara Market, |
| GARDNER COAL - #39 | 1904/5? | 1965 | | 1210-1245 N. Main St. | The Kiefer & Gardner Coal & Materials Co. |
| GENERAL STORE - #6 | 1884 | 1965 | A.K. Masters Gen. Store | 429 Main in Garden Plain, Kansas | A.W. Masters - 1884 Wheeler & Stanton The Stepaneck Family (1926) |

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|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|---|--|
| GRAIN ELEVATOR - #1 | 1912 | 1986 | Bentley Grain Elevator Arkansas Valley Grain Elevator | Southeast corner of the intersection of the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks and the Bentley Road | Bentley Farm Co-op Burlington Northern Railroad |
| Heller Cabin/ Trading Post | 1860s ca | Jan. 2003 | Heller cabin | Elmo, Dickinson County, Kansas, south of Abilene, Kansas. | Leonard Hoffman, Donna Heller |
| J.P. ALLEN'S CITY DRUG STORE - #20 | 1996 | | | Built on site to replicate original J.P. Allen Drug Store | Built by OCM Staff and Volunteers |
| JAIL - #12 | Completed 6/21/1871 | 1952 | | Southwest corner of Market & Second, soon moved to 12 th and Market. | (Built by Ludlum & Lindsey - \$600) City of Wichita, 1871-1951, Wichita School Board, 1951-1952 City of Wichita, 1952 |
| Kirby House | 1880s | 1961 | | 3rd and water | Leo McKenzie, rental property ? |
| LAND OFFICE - #30 | Build 1954 | On site | barber Shop - Gunfighters hideout | pieces of S.E. Walter Grocery 2nd floor - moved to OCM 1953 | Owned by city of Wichita, Built by Trustees |
| LAW OFFICE - #28 | 1960 | | | Built on Site | Built by Larry Roberts |
| LIVERY STABLE - #38 | 1960 | | Red Barn | Built on Site | |
| FECHHEIMERS CLOTHING STORE - #27 | c.1880 | 1961? | Dorrthea's Dress Shop | 900 Block of South. Broadway - east side of the street (unconfirmed) | Unknown possibly later used as a residential structure and liquor store. |
| Marshal Office - #3 | 1961 | | Exhibit Building, Indian Exhibit Building | Unknown | Unknown |
| McGinn Center - #31 | 1892 | 1953 | J.P. Allen Drug Store City Drug Store | S. E. Walter Grocery story - 712 N. Market (2 story bldg, second floor destroyed in storm at OCM | first owner S E Walters, grocer |
| MEAT MARKET - #2 | 1890 | 1987 | Breising Meat Market, Whitewater Meat Market, town library | 113 South Main - Whitewater, Kansas | Fred Breising Sr. - 1890 - 1920s Arthur Newman - 1946 - |
| MUNGER HOUSE - #13 | 1868-69 | 1952 | The Munger Hotel | NW corner of 10 th and Waco started spring 1868 9th & Waco - 1874 Moved to 920 Back Bay Blvd. - 1898 | D.S. Munger 1868-1874, W.C. Woodman, 1874-1897, P.J. Conklin, 1897 Dr. E.H. Fuller, 1897-1943, Eunice Sterling Chapter D.A.R. - 1944 |

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|------------------------------|--|---------|--|---|--|
| MURDOCK HOUSE - #19 | 1874 | 1974 | Eaglehurst Eagle's Roost | North side of Murdock, between Emporia and St. Francis | M.M. Murdock, 1874 - 1901 Other Murdock relatives to Converted to Apartments in 1918 St. Francis Hospital to 1974 City of Wichita 1974 |
| ONE ROOM SCHOOL - #23 | 1910 apx. | 1962 | School House | mobile school house moved several times, last school location 301 S. Meridian | Wichita Board of Education |
| Emporium - #5 | 1954 | | Fire House, Wells Fargo Exhibit, orientation exhibit | Built on Site | |
| PARSONAGE - #18 | Unknown | 1952 | | remodeled unrelated building located at 605-607 N. Main | Unknown City of Wichita 1952 |
| SADDLE & HARNESS SHOP - #10 | Unknown | Unknown | Lawrence Thompson Exhibit, Harry Shepler Saddle Shop | Unknown. May have been partially salvaged from 1910 home in the 800 block of South Broadway | Unknown |
| SALOON - #32 | c.1885 | 1966 | Fritz Snitzler Saloon- | First floor of former derby hardware store, which remains in original condition. 2nd floor was removed before moving. Roofline, false front, porch and interior adapted to use. | Unknown, Rockford Township, City of Derby |
| SANTA FE DEPOT - #37 | 1886-87 | 1954 | | Anness, Kansas | ATS&F Railroad |
| SCALE HOUSE - #1A | 1987 | | | Built on Site | |
| SOUTHERN HOTEL - #33 | 1887? , 1906 first listed on city directory | 1962 | Cabinet Shop, 2nd floor Rooming House | 1117 W. Douglas | Unknown, Keeney Stevens - 1961 |
| STORAGE AND FORWARDING - #36 | Unknown - late 1800s or built on site from salvage materials | 1976 | Potter's & Weaver's Building | Unknown | Unknown |
| STORY & A HALF HOUSE - #20 | 1888 apx. | 1961? | McKenzie House | 900 block of North Wichita or near first and water. No firm location. Found) | Leo McKenzie, rental property? |

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|--------------------------------------|--|------|---|--|---|
| Traders Cabin #14. | Pre-1868 | 1969 | Settler's Cabin Horse Thief Cabin Sauffer Cabin | Several miles south of present day Clearwater, Kansas, south of the Ninnescah River where it was crossed by the Chisholm Trail, "50 yards" from the Trail. | Unknown, 1865-71 Samuel S. Kincaid, 1872-78 Adrian Sauffer, 1878-1950 Louis Sauffer, 1950-1969 |
| TURNVEREIN HALL -#35 | 1880s | 1966 | Keno Corner Community Hall | Main Street in Derby, Kansas | Hardware Store, Derby Township City Building and Police headquarters |
| Gill's UNDERTAKER'S - #25 | 1964 | | Mortuary | Built on Site. Contains various re-incorporated parts of a local, dismantled house. | |
| WICHITA CITY EAGLE & PRINT SHOP- #26 | c. 1890 (1917 appears on city directory) | 1959 | The Newspaper Building | Southwest corner of 9 th & Main. | Elizabeth Stewart grocery store, Andrew cooks' jewelry repair and exchange. |
| WULF HOUSE - #41 | 1883 | 1978 | Henry Wulf House | Galis Township, Kingman County, Four miles north of K54 and a quarter mile west of Highway 17. | Henry Wulf, Frank Hoover |