

The Happenings

St. Joseph Museum
Pony Express Museum

Volume 18

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Number 5

St. Joseph Museum Archives



Hollenburg Pony Express Station, near Hanover, Kansas

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From the Director

Today is the day on which our articles for the *Happenings* are due. After receiving the articles, on the due date hopefully, Gail Rose collects all the articles from the various computers and puts them on one main disk. They are then printed out and a preliminary proof is done by Gail and Marilyn Taylor. Following this, a corrected copy is provided for each author so he or she may make clarifications, additions or subtractions. Gail then enters all the corrections into the computer, prints out updated copies and gives them to Mary Helen Burrowes for final editing. During this time the layout process has been commenced by either David Mead or Rhonda Clem. Rhonda, a senior graphic arts student who is a recent addition to the part-time staff, will be doing more and more of the layout under the David's supervision.

Accompanying photographs and graphics have already been designated by the authors so that by the time the edited copy comes back from Mary Helen, Gail can make the corrections and send all the material to David and Rhonda. After the juggling process of the layout is complete, June Swift proofreads the final copy to make sure all corrections have been made. Some two to three weeks after the articles are due, a disk with the completed layout is taken to the printers. So, in about a month from now, you should receive your issue of the *Happenings*.

Now all of this is predicated on an even flow and distribution of work, with no disruptions. Of course, Murphy's Law comes into play at this point! There are always interruptions, as that is the nature of our operation. We are a service organization, and as such we have the responsibility to respond to those requesting a service. Those requests are not controlled, as we believe in being accessible. As a result, our deadlines are not always met at the time we initially set them.

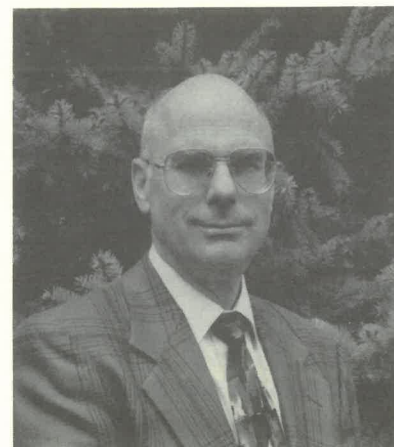
This past year has been a whirlwind experience of intensive involvement. We got behind on several issues of the *Happenings* and have ended up the year having to combine the fifth and sixth issues into one. If you go back over the past issues that you have received, you will see and understand what I mean by

intensive involvement. The net result is that a lot has been accomplished. Major work on exhibits has been ongoing, as has extensive

research. The hours that the museums are open to the public have increased 67%. These increased hours are reflected in the higher attendance figures that we are experiencing. In the future, our efforts will be even more apparent as we are laying the groundwork for a much expanded program. Our work load is such that it has not been possible for us to accomplish all that we wanted to. In the conservation of time and energy, we have combined the fifth and sixth issues. Because of the very fine support that we have enjoyed over the years, it is my feeling that the membership will understand. I feel that you are interested in quality rather than quantity. Certainly that has been our trademark here on staff. Although we have succeeded in producing a lot of work, our goal has always been quality.

I feel that I can sincerely express on behalf of the staff the very positive year that we have all experienced. That positive experience has been achieved through the cooperative efforts of you, the membership, the trustees, the volunteer staff and the paid staff. As director of the Pony Express Museum and the St. Joseph Museum, I extend sincere appreciation for everyone's contribution. I wish for each of you a very meaningful holiday season and a continuation of the spirit of the season throughout the year. For me personally, it has been a sincere joy to be involved all these years. Thank you.

Sincerely yours and
May peace be with you,



THE EXCAVATION OF A PONY EXPRESS STATION AND A PREHISTORIC HOUSE

Photos and Text
by Jim D. Feagins



Fig. 1 - St. Joseph Museum tour group at KAA dig, Hollenberg Pony Express Station.

The excavations were part of the annual Kansas Archaeology¹ Training Program which is a co-

operative effort of the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS) and the Kansas Anthropological Association (KAA). Because the archaeological digs had been in progress for one-and-a-half weeks prior to our visit on June 12, it was expected that our group would be able to observe quite a few of the excavated features and artifacts from both sites. We were not disappointed. A work force of over 200 participants enabled a laboratory, a flotation station and two archaeological sites to be worked simultaneously.

One of the main goals of the visit to the Hollenberg Station excavation - (site 14WH316)² - was to make comparisons with what is being found at the archaeological excavations behind the Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph. Also, there was considerable interest in seeing the laboratory and excavation methods for the two Kansas sites and in observing the flotation

I watched the circling hawk with extended wings catch the thermal uplifts of air and was fascinated by the interplay of cloud shadows as they moved across the landscape. Realizing it was a wonderful day to be alive and looking forward to our field trip's destination, my attention was quickly diverted from nature back to the stimulating conversations within the museum's van. Topics ranged from sites excavated, artifact types and archaeologists we had known, to bird habits, insect species, family, the weather and the occasional light-hearted teasing shared among new and old friends of various ages.

Thus began the journey of several St. Joseph Museum staff and archaeological volunteers to observe and learn from the excavations being conducted at the Hollenberg Pony Express Station (figs. 1-3) and at the nearby prehistoric Wollenberg site (figs. 4-7). These archaeological sites were located near the small town of Hanover, Ks., in Washington County not far south of the Nebraska state line.

Prior to excavation, the structure had been raised above its foundation and moved to one side. This



Fig. 2 - Hollenberg Pony Express Station.

1. Archaeology may also be spelled archeology. We prefer the first spelling, but the Kansas Archaeology Training Program prefers the second.

2. As explained in previous Happenings, the first number refers to a state (in this case, 114 is Kansas); the letters refer to a county (WH denotes Washington County); the second number (316) is the site number within the county.



Fig. 3 - Cellar at Hollenberg Pony Express Station.

Wollenberg Site

The museum group next visited the Wollenberg site 14WH319 (fig 5). It is located a short distance to the west of Hanover. This prehistoric farmstead dates within the Middle Ceramic period—A.D. 900-1500. The site consists of the remains of possibly two earthlodges, one of which was excavated. The excavated post hole pattern indicated that the small lodge had been square with rounded corners (Lees 1991b). The soil-covered, wood-and-thatch struture had been burned resulting in burying a variety of cultural features and artifacts. The heat from the burning earthlodge fired its soil covering. These pieces of fired soil (which archaeologists call daub) often contain the impressions of the grass, sticks and poles which made up the structure.

The thousands of pieces of daub, the remains of some pieces of charred timbers (see fig. 6), the pits, hearth, post holes and artifact patterns will, when fully analyzed, give detailed information about the lifestyle of the prehistoric people who lived at the Wollenberg site. The cultural assemblage from the site is a little surprising since it does not exactly match any of the defined Central Plains assemblages. The Wollenberg site may prove to be extremely important for helping to show the nature of interaction between various cultural groups of people (represented by Smoky Hill, Upper Republican, Nebraska and possibly Steed-Kisker complexes) during this prehistoric segment of time (Lees 1991b:1).

increased the efficiency and safety of those excavating around the old foundations. According to William Lees, the site archaeologist, the bulk of the hundreds of artifacts recovered from the excavation date to the 1860s and 1870s (Lees 1991b:1). The future analysis of the excavation data should give useful insights into architectural details and cultural history of the site. Because there were so many numbers, it took four full days just to map the features and artifacts from the site (Lees 1991b:1).

At the time of the museum group's visit, a flotation device was being operated by a crew of three to process soil from the Wollenberg site. Among the soil particles in a site are often found charred seeds and other small cultural items. Samples of soil, especially from certain features such as pits and hearths, are dissolved in a screen-bottomed container placed within a tank of slowly agitating water. The dissolved soil will pass through the screen as it sinks to the bottom of the tank. The cultural material that is heavier than water (i.e. chert chips, small bone fragments, pieces of fired soil, etc.) will sink and collect on the screen (fig. 8). This material is called the "heavy fraction." The light fraction (i.e. charred seeds and wood fragments, etc.), will float on the surface of the water where it can be skimmed off. This often microscopic-sized material (fig. 9) can be examined by specialists to identify the species of plants present when the site was occupied. Also, a variety of other cultural information can be gleaned from careful examination of the heavy and light fractions obtained from the flotation device. This data should be especially useful for helping understand the subsistence of the prehistoric people in the area around 900 or so years ago.

In a school building in Hanover, a temporary laboratory was set up for sorting, washing and labeling the artifacts from the two sites. Preliminary analysis of the artifacts will also be done at the temporary

laboratory. During the two-week excavation period, over 2,300 artifacts were cataloged and many more were washed and sorted by the KAA volunteers (Lees 1991c:7). Remaining work will be done at the KSHS laboratory in Topeka.

In addition to a nice meal at a local restaurant, the chance to ask many questions, and to examine the various facets of the excavation and curation process, and the camaraderie of our group made the day a great success. The field trip proved to be quite enjoyable and educational, and should continue to enrich the staff and volunteers participating in St. Joseph's own Pony Express excavation.

Fig. 4 - Wollenberg (Prehistoric House) Site.

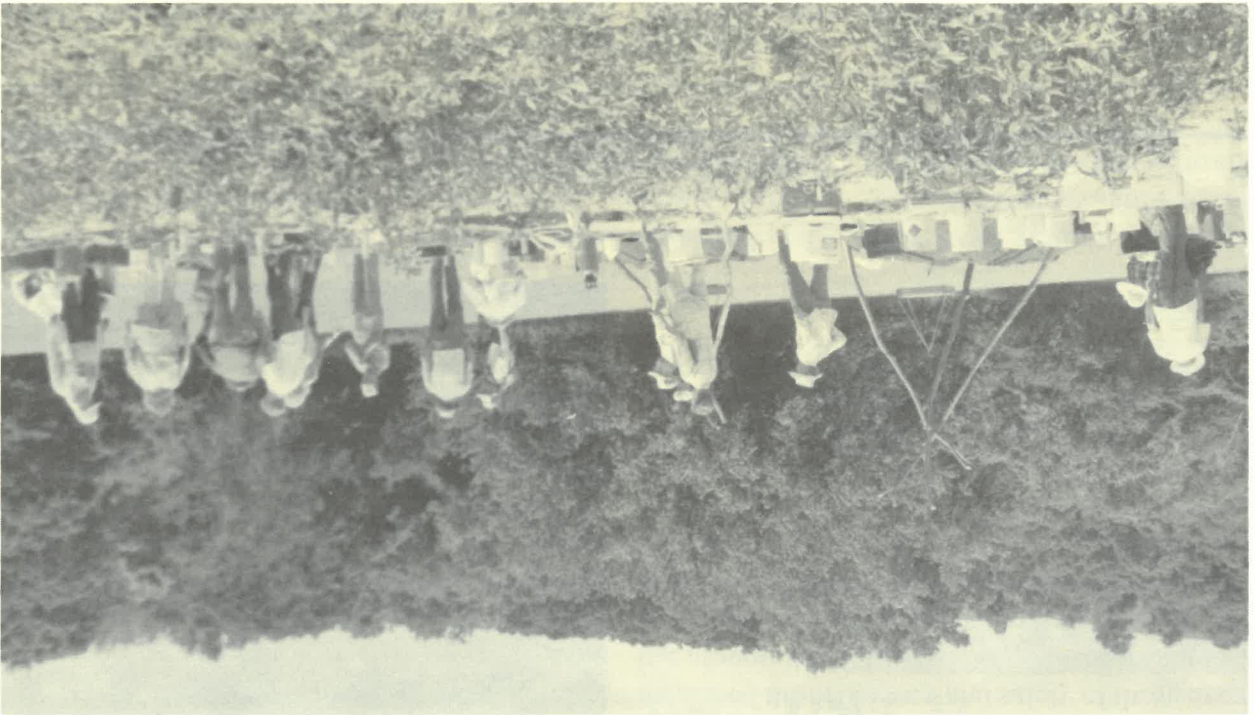


Fig. 5 - Margie Reed gives a tour to St. Joseph Museum group at prehistoric Wollenberg site.



Fig. 6 - Prehistoric post hole and "rafter" at Wollenberg site.

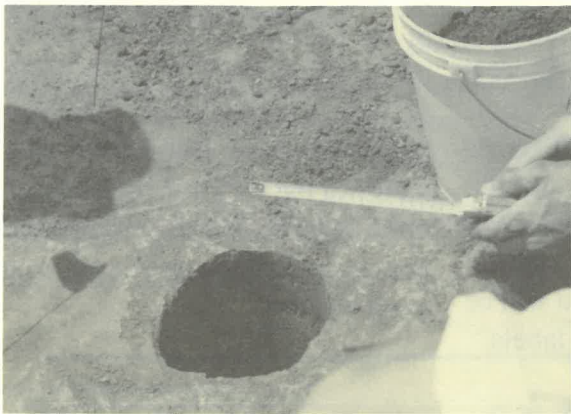


Fig. 7 - Measuring post hole from prehistoric house, Wollenberg site.



Fig. 8 - Randy Thies with heavy flotation fraction at KAA dig, Hollenberg site.



Fig. 9 - Light fraction from flotation at KAA dig, Hollenberg site.



The flag marks the site of the Pony Express station near Old Julesburg in present-day northeast Colorado.

Two goals were set for the research trip to Colorado. One was to obtain specific information about the location of the approximately 20 miles of trail in the northeast corner of Colorado, the location of old Julesburg and a nearby station site. The other was to obtain information about the riders of that area. Both goals were met. Before visiting the libraries, staff members

followed the trail as it entered Colorado, following the south side of the South Platte River past the

station site to the crossing of the South Platte near the mouth of Lodgepole Creek in present-day Wyoming.

In the libraries at Denver, several new photos of riders were obtained. These will be used in a "Gallery of Pony Express Riders" exhibit. An example of the information found is the reminiscence of Jim Moore found in the 1905 *Field and Farm Magazine*. Moore was a rider whose route was from Midway station in Nebraska to Julesburg, a distance of 140 miles. He rode this stretch both ways once a week, and each stretch usually took around 12 hours. On one occasion, Moore's relief rider in Julesburg was ill. "Moore drank some cold coffee, filled his pocket with cold meat and was in the saddle again" for another ride. Within 22 hours, Moore rode 280 miles. After the Pony Express, Moore settled on a ranch in Colorado.

There are several libraries still to be visited. We do not anticipate any startling new discoveries about the Pony Express. Our goal is to supplement the information that we already have.

Re-dedication of Marker on St. Joe Road

By Jackie Lewin, Curator of History

Those of you who read the article on the Pony Express trail through Kansas in the last issue of the *Happenings* may have noticed that several of the accompanying photographs were taken by Ray Ellenbecker. Recently, Mr. Ellenbecker (a Marysville, Kansas, historian as well as a photographer) was one of the speakers at the rededication of the monument at the site of the historic junction of the St. Joe and Independence Roads to California.

Fifty years ago, when the monument at the site was originally dedicated, Ray Ellenbecker was present to photograph the event. At the rededication, August 11, 1991, exactly 50 years later, Ray Ellenbecker told of the role played by his father, John Ellenbecker, Ezra Meeker, Howard Driggs and others in the

marking of this and other trail sites. Ezra Meeker traveled the trail in a covered wagon as a child and later retraced and marked the trail. Howard Driggs authored several books about the trail and was president of the American Pioneer Trails Association.

Duane Durst, curator of the Hollenburg Pony Express Station in northeast Kansas, was master of ceremonies for the afternoon program which approximately 200 people attended. Other speakers included Dr. Ramon Powers, executive director of the Kansas State Historical Society, who gave a broad overview of the emigrant trails. Francis Peniston, who is a member of the St. Joseph Museum, also spoke as a representative of the Oregon-California Trails Association. He related the history of the first wagon train to California, the Bidwell-Bartleson Party of

State of Missouri Backs Pony Express Museum Project With NAP Tax Credits Totaling \$375,000

Ray Ellenbecker of Marysville, Kansas, speaks to the group attending the rededication of the monument on the Oregon-California Trail marking the junction of the roads from Independence and St. Joseph. His family has lived in the area since the 1860s.



Darlene Peniston

1841, and encouraged those listening to continue to support the passage of the bill to bring the California and Pony Express Trails into the National Historic Trails System.

The program ended, as it had 50 years ago, with the unveiling of the monument followed by children from the Immanuel Lutheran Church School in Bremen, Kansas, singing "God Bless Our Native Land" and "America the Beautiful." The monument is located on a county road seven miles west and two miles north of Marysville, Kansas.

The State of Missouri has recognized the importance of the Pony Express Museum Restoration and Expansion Project, slated to begin in 1992, by authorizing Pony Express, Inc., to offer Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) tax credits to project contributors. Year-end donations, of cash and in-kind services, may qualify for a state tax credit that amounts to 50% of the donation. Contributors may claim the tax credit over a five year period.

Missouri's NAP was created by the General Assembly in 1978 to foster community development. The Department of Economic Development finance projects helps not-for-profit organizations improve the quality of life in their neighborhoods and communities.

NAP encourages local support for community development projects by offering a 50% state tax credit to eligible contributors. Any person, firm, or corporation in business in the State of Missouri can qualify for the tax credits. Besides corporations, this includes financial institutions, partnerships, small business corporations (S-corps), and individuals who own and operate their own businesses, own and operate a farm, or receive income from rental property or royalties.

Upon notification by NAP, Pony Express Museum Director, Richard Nolf, remarked, "The fact that Pony Express, Inc., received such a large share of available state tax credits speaks well for the organization's plan and attests to the outstanding leadership and commitment demonstrated by the Board of Trustees."

Pony Express, Inc., Board President, Dick DeShon, praised the state's investment in the Pony Express Museum Restoration and Expansion Project. "NAP tax credits will help Pony Express, Inc., generate the \$1.5 million needed to successfully complete Phase One of what promises to be a highly visible community development project," Mr. DeShon commented.

Pony Express, Inc., was created in 1990 by the St. Joseph Museum Board of Trustees to take over the reins of the Pony Express Museum and guide the institution into the future. The new, not-for-profit organization is dedicated to preserving and

interpreting the legend and legacy of the Pony Express as it originated in St. Joseph, Missouri. A 30 member board, composed of business and civic leaders, is entrusted with the operation and development of the Pony Express Museum.

After a year of careful planning, which included preparation of the detailed NAP proposal, Pony Express, Inc., is initiating the physical revitalization project at the Pony Express Museum to better serve the educational, cultural and recreational interests of the community and its visitors.

By the year 2000, Pony Express, Inc., plans to transform the museum into THE PONY EXPRESS NATIONAL MEMORIAL. The ambitious restoration and expansion project will take place in two phases. Phase One, expected to take two years, will restore the historic stables to their original size while doubling museum exhibit and program space. Phase Two aims to create a new wing to house living history exhibits, visitor facilities, offices and the growing collection of Pony Express artifacts.

Phase One of the restoration and expansion project centers on reconstructing the lost portion of the Pony Express Stables. Reconstruction will be based on archaeological and historical research. Simultaneously, the interior of the existing facility will undergo renovation. A community room and new, handicap accessible restrooms will be added.

After reconstruction and renovation are completed, state-of-the-art exhibits will be installed. A premier firm, Deaton Museum Services (DMS), from Minneapolis, Minnesota, will design and fabricate the new exhibits. DMS will create distinctive, life-size sculptures; colorful, sweeping dioramas; and "hands-on" exhibits to convey the story of the world-renowned Pony Express. Historical material, never before exhibited due to current space limitations, will be drawn from the archives and showcased in the enlarged interpretive facility.

State Representative Charlie Shields summed up the need for the Pony Express Museum Restoration and Expansion Project in a letter to Department of

Economic Development Director Carl Koupal, Jr. "This project is of vital importance to the St. Joseph area," noted Shields. "Not only will it help recreate a part of St. Joseph's rich history, it will help to revitalize the neighborhood around it, and will help stimulate the growth of the tourism industry in Northwest Missouri."

Dick DeShon recently sent a letter, on behalf of Pony Express, Inc., to museum members and friends. In his letter, Mr. DeShon mentions the tax benefits of a year-end contribution to the Pony Express Museum Restoration and Expansion Project. If you did not receive Mr. DeShon's letter, or would like more information about the NAP tax credits, please call the St. Joseph Museum. A member of Pony Express, Inc.'s, development staff will be happy to assist you.

Heidi Hornaday, Curator of Development

Count Birds for Christmas

Tired of being cooped up in the house this winter? Bundle up and join local birders on their annual Christmas Bird Count, a winter ritual sponsored by the National Audubon Society. Participants spend a full day counting every bird they observe in a 7 1/2- mile radius from a designated point. Counts are conducted throughout North and South America every winter and results are published in American Birds, an Audubon birding journal.

Three Christmas Bird Counts are held in northwest Missouri at three locations; St. Joseph, Maryville and Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge. The St. Joseph count was held on December 14 and compiled by Ival Lawhon. Maryville's count was held on December 15 and compiled by Dr. David Easterla. The Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge count will be held on December 20 and compiled by David Mead. Persons interested in participating in Squaw Creek count, should contact David at 232-5636.

VETERANS' RECEPTION AT THE PONY EXPRESS MUSEUM

December 7, 1941, is a date that will be forever etched in everyone's memory as Pearl Harbor Day, and this year marked the 50th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. However, December 7, 1991, was memorable for another reason. The St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums hosted a reception on Saturday, December 7, 1991, to honor all veterans who have fought in defense of their country. As part of the reception, we saluted 11 "Honorary Pony Express Riders" who served in the United Arab Emirates with the 139th Tactical Airlift Group during Operation Desert Storm. These men constructed a facade for their tent that resembled the Pony Express Museum.

That facade has been donated to the Pony Express Museum and will form the nucleus of a new exhibit that will make its debut after the expansion at the Pony Express Museum. The present exhibit consists of photographs and memorabilia given to the museum by the men of the 139th TAG.

The 139th TAG provided a color guard, and there was a musical ensemble from a St. Joseph school. The 11 "riders" were administered the "Pony Express Riders' Oath", making them Official Pony Express Riders. There were refreshments for everyone, and the Pony Express Museum was open free to the public that day.

Invitations were sent to Mayor Glenda Kelly; City Manager Pat Lilly; members of the St. Joseph City Council; Governor John Ashcroft; State Senators Sidney Johnson and Millie Humphreys; State Representative Ed Schellhorn; U.S. Senators John Danforth and Christopher Bond; and Representative Tom Coleman.



Front: J. Sherlock, J. Wright, A. Dunning, G. Grable, S. Owens Rear: B. Versus, M. Black, N. Wildhagen, R. Cluck, D. Matlack, R. Whiteker

Museum Hill Neighborhood Association Meetings

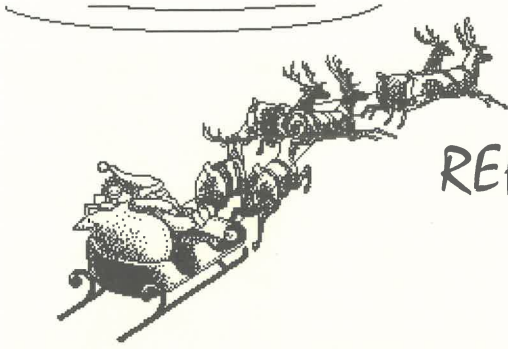
The September meeting of the association was held at the D&G Restaurant and the October meeting was held at Barbosa's. The group made several decisions for the time period covered. Members decided to take part in the Clean Sweep operation again this year. The group's annual Christmas Party was held Saturday, December 14. This party, as well as the others undertaken by the neighborhood association, have always been well attended and provide a good time for everyone.

Midwest Museum Conference

The 64th annual Midwest Museums Conference was held in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, on September 25-28, 1991. One of six regional associations of the American Association of Museums, the Midwest Museums Conference is a consortium of museums within the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

The St. Joseph Museum has been a member of the Midwest Museums Conference for many years. David Mead, Curator of Natural History, and Robbie Sipes, Curator of Exhibits, attended the conference this year, which was entitled "The Power of the Object." Conference sessions dealt primarily with objects in museum collections and their interpretation in exhibits.

Other conference topics included the role of museums within the community and museum program development. Daily tours were made to the many museums in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area including the Bell Museum of Natural History, Science Museum of Minnesota, Old Fort Snelling and the Walker Art Center.



REFLECTIONS ON A CHRISTMAS PAST

By Sarah Elder, Research Assistant

Christmas in downtown St. Joseph used to mean yards of evergreen draped across the streets from side to side, red bells and bows decorating the evergreen and lamp posts, and wreaths hanging from high above. Walking or driving down the streets was like moving under a huge canopy. When the decorations received a light dusting of snow, the area seemed to be magical to both young and old. Those days are gone now, but we can still recapture them through pictures like these.

This photograph shows what downtown looked like during the Christmas season. It is only one of several in the St. Joseph Museum's photograph collection. This particular picture is from the Cook Camera Collection, an assortment of photographs donated by the Cook Camera Shop in the 1970s.

We hope that you enjoy this reminder of a Christmas past.

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!

Courtesy Cook Camera Shop



This photograph was taken in the mid-1930s. The view is to the west on Felix Street from Eighth Street. Do the names of any of the businesses look familiar to you?

WOUNDED KNEE - DECEMBER 29, 1890

By Marilyn Taylor, Curator of Ethnology

The Christmas season is usually a time of happiness and goodwill, but it was during December 1890, that a deplorable event in the history of the United States occurred. December 29, 1890, is when the Massacre at Wounded Knee took place. Although the slaughter at Wounded Knee was the culmination of events that were set in motion when Christopher Columbus landed on the North American continent in 1492, the more immediate causes can be traced to the late 1880s. It was in 1888 that a ceremonial religious dance, the Ghost Dance, originated among the Paiutes in Nevada. The Ghost Dance spread rapidly among other tribes until it numbered among its participants nearly all of the Native Americans from the Missouri River to the western slope of the Rockies.

The prophet of the Ghost Dance religion was a young Paiute man named Wovoka, but he was commonly called Jack Wilson from having worked in the family of a ranchman named Wilson. Wovoka was already known among his own tribe as a medicine man when, near the end of 1888, he had a vision in which he was taken into the spirit world to receive a revelation. The revelation was to the effect that a new era was close at hand where the white man would disappear, the Indians' ancestors would return from the dead and herds of bison would reappear on the plains.

The Indians must prepare for the event by practicing the songs and dance ceremonies which Wovoka gave them. Within a very short time, the dance spread to the tribes east of the Rockies where it became known as the Spirit or Ghost Dance. The dancers, both men and women, wore shirts or dresses usually made of muslin and painted with figures derived from the wearer's visions. The dancers held hands and moved slowly around in a circle, facing toward the center and keeping time to songs that were sung without any instrumental accompaniment. Hypnotic trances were a common feature of the dance. Although one of the prophet's promises was the disappearance of the white man, the cult's message was one of peace. It forbade the use of weapons, even against the white man.

The new religion was quickly embraced by the Sioux living in Dakota. They had been gathered onto reservations where the land was not suited to the agricultural way of life being forced on them. The Sioux were destitute and despairing and the Ghost Dance gave them new hope. On the other hand, reservation officials were alarmed at the activity going on and were determined to stamp out the Ghost Dance, with force if necessary.



Ghost Dance shirt, in the Harry L. George collection at the St. Joseph Museum. The Indians expected the symbols and figures painted on the muslin shirts to protect them from harm. The George collection was purchased for the St. Joseph Museum by William K. Goetz in memory of his parents, M. Karl and Caroline W. Goetz.

On December 15, 1890, the Indian agent at Standing Rock Reservation ordered the arrest of his most famous charge, Sitting Bull. The agent felt that Sitting Bull was the focus of the unrest caused by the new religion and that he might use his popularity to start a general uprising among the Sioux. When Sitting Bull was killed while resisting the arrest, panic arose among the Indians on the reservation and hundreds fled into the countryside. Troops were sent out to round them up and return them to the reservation.

A few refugees made it to Chief Big Foot's village on the Cheyenne River Reservation. There, they were surrounded by troopers. Again panic set in, and the refugees, now joined by Big Foot and his people, abandoned the village under cover of darkness and left for the Pine Ridge Reservation. The troopers pursued and caught up with the refugees on December 28 at Wounded Knee Creek in the present-day state of South Dakota. The following morning while the military was trying to confiscate the Indians' weapons, a scuffle broke out that touched off the massacre of the Sioux men, women and children - at least 153, and by some accounts, 300.

The glorious age of the Plains Indians that began when they acquired horses from the Spanish in the 16th century ended at Wounded Knee.

New Exhibits

By Robbie Sipes, Curator of Exhibits

Two Native American exhibits have been completed on second floor. These two new cases contain artifacts that once belonged to the Iowa, Sac and Fox. In the early 1800s, these tribes inhabited the area now known as St. Joseph.

At the time of first white contact in the early part of the 18th century, the Missouri was the dominant tribe in the area around what is now St. Joseph. The Missouri tribe had originally migrated from the Great Lakes area with the Iowa and Oto. In 1700, the Missouri were living along the streams and rivers of what would become northwest Missouri while the Iowa were living to the north and the Oto to the north and west.

The Missouri tribe was practically wiped out in the 1830s by their traditional enemies the Osage. The remnants of the Missouri tribe went to live with their kinsmen, the Oto, along the Platte River in what would become Nebraska.

In return for vacating their former lands adjacent to the Great Lakes, the Iowa, Sac and Fox had (according to the terms of treaties in 1825 and 1830) been given sections of what is now northwest Missouri. By 1836, settlers were clamoring to add this area to Missouri - a state since 1821. The Platte Purchase Treaty of 1837 added the six counties that now make up the northwest corner of Missouri to the state.

As a part of the Platte Purchase Treaty, the Iowa were given land across the Missouri River in Indian Territory several miles upriver from Joseph Robidoux's trading post at Blacksnake Hills, (the future site of St. Joseph). The Sac and Fox received land south of the Iowa; the Kickapoo (who had been given land in Indian Territory in 1832) were directly across the Missouri River from Robidoux's post; and the Potawatomie were south of the Kickapoo.

When Kansas became a territory in 1854, the Native Americans fared better than in the past. They kept some of their land in the territory, although it was smaller than its original boundaries. Today there is a tract belonging to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska in northeastern Kansas and southeastern Nebraska. The Sac-Fox of Missouri headquarters are just north of Hiawatha, Kansas; the Kickapoo are south of Hiawatha near Horton, and the Potawatomie are several miles south of the Kickapoo.

Community Activities and Programs

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September 4 - Jackie Lewin gave a program on the Pony Express. Twenty Questors attended the program which was given at the Harding House.

September 19 - Jim Lehr, President of St. Joseph Museum, Inc. and Rich Nolf were interviewed for Arts 2000, a city wide focus group addressing the needs of the community. They were asked about the operations of the St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express Museum and how these relationships affected the community.

October 2 - Marilyn Taylor gave a program on Native Americans at Parkway School. There were 60 fifth grade students attending the program.

October 11 - David Mead spoke to the "Learning for Living" group from the University of Missouri Extension Service in Savannah. He spoke about winter bird feeding and conducted a bird identification workshop. Twelve people attended the program.

October 17 - Rich Nolf spoke at a luncheon sponsored by the Kiwanis. He talked about the function of a museum. Some 40 members attended the luncheon.

October 12 - Jackie Lewin traveled to St. Genevieve, Missouri, to present a slide program on the Pony Express. She spoke to the Foundation for the Preservation of St. Genevieve. One hundred people attended the presentation.

The Ghosts of Fort Leavenworth

After lunch, there was a short time allotted for shopping in the renovated stores in Leavenworth's historic district. Then, it was off to Fort Leavenworth for the highlight of the trip. John Reichley, "Chief Ghost Buster," provided a program about the spirits of Fort Leavenworth. John is a retired military officer who serves as curriculum evaluator at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at the fort. He is a member of the Fort Leavenworth Historical Society, is very interested in all aspects of the fort's history and often presents programs about it.

Although John admits that he has never seen one of the ghosts, he has collected the stories about them. The stories certainly provided an entertaining Halloween program. After his presentation, illustrated by slides, John and the group boarded the motorcoach for a tour of the fort and the haunted sites discussed in the slide program.

After a final stop at the fort's Frontier Museum, the group headed back to St. Joseph arriving at the museum at 5:00. A frightfully good time was had by all.



On October 29 at 8:00 a.m., 39 adventurers set off for Fort Leavenworth to learn about some strange and eerie occurrences reported there. The group was sidetracked several times along the way. The first time was a short stop at Weston Bend State Park to admire the fall foliage. Unfortunately, most of the leaves were gone because of several days of rain. However, since the Missouri River overlook in the park provides a breathtaking view at any time of the year, the stopover was enjoyable. Coffee and donuts were served during the pause.

Upon entering Leavenworth, the motorcoach took the scenic route along the Esplanade where the group viewed some of the historic homes in this area. The next stop was the Hallmark plant in Leavenworth where scented candles, Christmas ornaments, gift wrap and wooden writing instruments are made. As the group approached the front door to the plant, the scent of candles confirmed that this was the right place. In addition to being interesting and informative, the tour was fun. At the end, each of the group received a sack containing samples of Hallmark products.

In order to provide sustenance for everyone to face whatever eerie events were to be revealed at the fort, the lunch stop was next. Lunch was served in the old Union Depot which was recently renovated and is now used as the Riverfront Convention Center. The waitresses, who were members of the Leavenworth Historical Society, were costumed as Harvey Girls. After lunch, one of the "Harvey Girls" gave a short presentation explaining how the young women hired by Fred Harvey became very popular waitresses in restaurants catering to railroad travelers.

Volkswalk - A Step Back in Time

By Marilyn Taylor, Curator of Ethnology

On September 28, 1991, the St. Joseph Family YMCA and the St. Joseph Museum sponsored "A Step Back in Time," a volkswalk through historic areas of St. Joseph. Other groups who helped with the volkswalk were Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Main Street St. Joseph, the Candie Shoppe, Barbosa's Castillo and Hardee's. The Parks and Recreation Department and the Chamber of Commerce were also involved.

A volkswalk is a leisurely walk through a scenic, historic or otherwise interesting area over a pre-determined route. The event is non-competitive and the participants can walk at their own pace, making it an excellent recreational opportunity for the entire family. Volkswalking was started in Germany to encourage physical activity among all people, not just athletes. With the establishment of the American Volkssport Association (AVA), the activity became popular in the United States. Volkswalking is only one of the activities in volkssport. Others include bicycling, swimming and cross-country skiing.

In order for the walk to be sanctioned by the AVA, a club must sponsor the event. For that reason, the Missouri Riverbluff Ramblers Club was formed with Helen Caton, YMCA physical director, serving as president and Marilyn Taylor, St. Joseph Museum curator, serving as vice-president. The YMCA coordinated the event and the St. Joseph Museum provided the historical information for the walk. David Mead of the St. Joseph Museum staff designed two brochures, one to be sent out for registration and one to be handed out to participants the day of the walk. The one used the day of the walk contained a map, course instructions and historical information about selected sites along the route.

David also designed the award which was available for purchase by those who completed the 10KM/6.2 miles walk. To follow the historical theme, the award, a suncatcher of colored glass and pewter, was patterned after a stained glass window in one of St. Joseph's fine old homes.

There were over 170 people taking part in the volkswalk. Many of them came from volksclubs in

the area, but there were a number of St. Joseph residents who participated. Anyone can participate, although children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Pets can be brought along, but they must be kept on leashes and be under control at all times. There was no charge to those who walked the course and enjoyed the scenery. Walkers wanting credit toward acquisition of volkswalking achievement awards paid \$1.50 to have their books stamped. Those wanting both the credit and the suncatcher were charged \$6.00. On the day of the walk, personnel from both the museum and the YMCA staffed the various stations: registration, payment, T-shirt sales, checkpoints, etc.

There were many compliments about the volkswalk. Participants enjoyed the scenery, the historical information and the weather since September 28 was a beautiful autumn day in St. Joseph. A second volkswalk will be scheduled for the fall of 1992. It will be another opportunity for the St. Joseph Museum, the YMCA and the other organizations to work together.

New and Reinstated Members

The boards of trustees and staffs of the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums would like to welcome **Helen Sundell** of Omaha, Nebraska, as a new member. We would also like to thank **Karen Springs** of Omaha, Nebraska, for purchasing a membership for her sister, **Constance Parker**, who resides in St. Joseph. We are very grateful for their interest in the museums and we appreciate their support.

Remember, a membership in the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums is a gift that a friend or relative will enjoy all year long.

The St. Joseph and Pony Express Museum stores now have the newly published book, *Missouri On My Mind*. This book is a large format book that celebrates the timeless beauty and spirit of Missouri—its land, wildlife, cities, towns and people—with outstanding color photography and memorable descriptions. Featured are the finest images by Missouri photographer Frank Oberle and several other well-known Missouri photographers. The stunning photographs are accompanied by selected quotations from such notable Missourians as Mark Twain, Harry S. Truman and Thomas Hart Benton. *Missouri On My Mind* also features an introduction written exclusively for the book by popular Missouri author William Childress.

Of course, what would a book on Missouri be without the sights of St. Joseph? The attractions of our city, including the Pony Express Museum, are featured along with quotes from an 1804 immigrant's guide. The Pony Express Monument, which is located in the Civic Center Park, is one of four locations featured on the back cover.

Missouri On My Mind is a tribute to the beauty, the heritage, the pride and the spirit of Missouri. It is filled with gorgeous photographs of our magnificent rivers, hills and prairies. This book is the perfect gift for the photographer, nature or history buff on your list.

The St. Joseph Museum shop and the Pony Express Museum shop are the places to find gifts that truly represent our part of the country. There are Pony Express matted prints, bronze replicas of St. Joseph's Pony Express Monument, Pony Express statues and books on the history of the Pony Express for children and adults, just to name a few.

What better gift for children than the new St. Joseph coloring book, *City Sights*? Both shops have this delightful new book that is filled with the architecture of St. Joseph and the historical background on each site. To the delight of the little girls in your life, the St. Joseph Museum carries reproduction paper dolls from the Victorian era. The St. Joseph Museum also has a wide variety of authentic Native American pottery, baskets, silver jewelry and small rugs. The shops also carry some excellent products created by area craftspeople. For a little something different this season, don't forget the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museum shops.

Recent Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Harold W. Dubach - Over forty newspaper clippings collected by Henry W. Dubach, Harold's father, a life-long resident of St. Joseph.

Kay Hamilton - Two family Bibles, belonging to the the Hamilton and Larmer families, and miscellaneous documents. **Aaron West** - Through the courtesy of the Rogers Historical Museum, paper Rotarian badge used when the organization met in St. Joseph in 1926.

Krista Kiger - Two gold coins, one a 1927 \$2 1/2 piece, the other an 1854 with an Indian head on one side and "California Gold" on the other. **Marilyn Taylor** - Ticket to St. Joseph Cardinals baseball game played here July 12, 1991. A Pony Express mochila was exchanged during the game.

Linda Fugitt - Two Sacramento, California, newspapers with articles regarding the 1991 Rerun of the Pony Express. **Russ Mooney** - Five paper placemats reproducing the George Gray mural, "The Pony Express," used for advertising by Bill's Saddlery. **Ann Bruning Brown** - Book, *The Bridger Pass—Overland Trail—1862-1869*, coauthored by donor. **Olive Martin** - United States Navy military uniform worn by Cleo Martin, donor's late husband, during World War II.

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JOIN THE ST. JOSEPH MUSEUM!

The St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express Museum are cultural institutions established for the purpose of preserving our history. We strive to provide top quality interpretive exhibits, preserve our priceless collections and act as an educational resource for our community and beyond. Our goal is to keep abreast of current exhibit techniques, provide educational programs for youth and continue our work in the areas of collection and research. To succeed, we need you. You can contribute through a donation of your time (as a volunteer), materially (adding to our collections), or your membership donation (monetary contribution.) Together, we make the St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express Museum institutions we can all be proud of. All monetary contributions are equally divided between the St. Joseph Museum and the Pony Express Museum unless otherwise specified.

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Members of the St. Joseph and Pony Express Museums have the benefits of receiving museum publications, free admission throughout the year, museum gift shop discounts and discounts on museum sponsored field trips. Members who contribute \$100.00 or more also receive twelve issues of *Smithsonian* magazine. (\$20.00 is allocated for this publication and is not tax deductible.) Members also have the opportunity to attend "Members Only" events such as exhibit openings, autograph sessions and tours of storage areas.



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I wish to help materially. I have a (Historic)(Ethnological)(Scientific) material contribution which I would like you to consider.

NOTE: If you have questions, please call the St. Joseph Museum at 232-8471 and ask for the Coordinator of Volunteers to make an appointment.