

KANSAS HISTORY

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of the
Central Plains

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Spring 1995

THE
UNION PACIFIC
Railway
THROUGH
KANSAS & NEBRASKA
TO
ALL POINTS EAST

S.H.H. CLARK GEN. MANAGER
T. L. KIMBALL ASST. GEN. MANAGER
G.S. STEBBINS GEN. TICKET AGT.
J.W. MORSE GEN. PASSENG. AGT.
OMAHA, NEB.

Detailed description: This is a vintage advertisement for the Union Pacific Railway. The background is a light blue-to-yellow gradient. At the top, the word 'THE' is in a simple serif font. Below it, 'UNION PACIFIC' is written in a large, bold, black, serif font with a white outline, arched over a central illustration. The illustration features a large, detailed deer with impressive antlers in the center, flanked by two circular vignettes. The left vignette shows a mountainous landscape with a river, and the right vignette shows a steam locomotive crossing a bridge over a body of water. Below the deer, the word 'Railway' is written in a large, ornate, black, serif font with a white outline. Underneath that, the words 'THROUGH', 'KANSAS & NEBRASKA', 'TO', and 'ALL POINTS EAST' are arranged in a series of horizontal lines, with 'KANSAS & NEBRASKA' being the largest and most prominent. At the bottom, there are four lines of text: 'S.H.H. CLARK GEN. MANAGER', 'T. L. KIMBALL ASST. GEN. MANAGER', 'G.S. STEBBINS GEN. TICKET AGT.', and 'J.W. MORSE GEN. PASSENG. AGT.'. The word 'OMAHA, NEB.' is centered at the very bottom. The entire advertisement is framed by a thin black border.



Kansas State Historical Society rooms, west wing of the statehouse, ca. 1895.

The Kansas State Historical Society has made its home on the corner of Tenth and Jackson Streets in Topeka for more than eighty years. For most of that time the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) Memorial Building has housed all of the Society's historic documents, pre-historic and historic artifacts, and voluminous library collections, and entertained tens of thousands of serious researchers and curious visitors. The Society itself, however, is much older than its historic quarters. Its collections and tiny staff first resided in the state capitol.

Beginning in 1875 the Society occupied various locations in the statehouse from a bookcase in the office of State Auditor Daniel W. Wilder, the "father" of the Society, to the entire fourth floor of the south wing. Space was a major problem for the Society from day one, as the above photograph illustrates. And this persistent problem—inadequate facilities to properly accommodate the ever-growing collections, along with the desire of other governmental agencies to free up more room in the statehouse—was a significant factor in the movement in the early twentieth century to erect a permanent facility to house the Kansas State Historical Society.

Thus in 1914 the Society moved its collections across the street from the capitol to the Memorial Building at Tenth and Jackson.

The Society will be leaving its historic location and building later this year. Interestingly, many of the same issues that forced the Society out of the capitol were at the heart of the drive for a new museum building in the 1980s and a new research center in the 1990s. In addition to a special issue of *Kansas History* planned for later this year, the journal will commemorate the Society's statehouse/Memorial Building history with a four-part series of photographs on the inside front covers.

The first shows a portion of the Society's overcrowded statehouse space in the mid-1890s and four key members of the organization's staff: Franklin G. Adams, the first permanent secretary of the State Historical Society (1876–1899) and the person most responsible for its early success; Grace Darlow, a clerk; Zu Adams, chief librarian and daughter of F.G. Adams, to whom she provided invaluable assistance; and George A. Root, who served on the Society staff until retirement in 1947 when he claimed to be "the oldest relic on the state's payroll in point of continuous service."

KANSAS HISTORY

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Cover: A late nineteenth-century poster advertising the Union Pacific Railway. An article on railroad development begins on page 18. Back cover: An 1898 cooking class at Kansas State University. This school's domestic science program is the subject of this issue's "Industrialists Not Butterflies."

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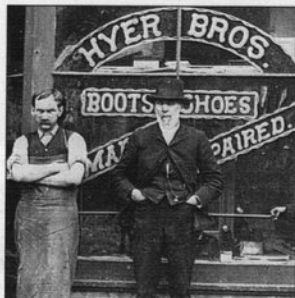
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