Back on September 9th, the Preservation Alliance held its annual meeting and kicked off a new membership year. We elected the board of directors and new officers, including myself, as president. (See page 5 of this newsletter for a list.)

Bruce McMillan provided the program and provided those in attendance with a PowerPoint tour of historic downtown Junction City. Among other things, we learned that downtown Junction City housed the studio of the famous photographer, J. J. Pennell, whose photograph of a Junction City bar was used in the opening credits of the television show "Cheers." Junction City was also home to a soda fountain that served the first glass of Coca-Cola in Kansas.

Other downtown buildings have had their exteriors refurbished through the removal of unattractive treatments to reveal the original limestone beneath. It’s educational as well as inspirational to see what other communities like Junction City are doing to preserve, restore, or repurpose their historic buildings.

This summer, my family took a driving vacation to Seattle, making stops in Ft. Collins, Colorado, and Portland, Oregon, along the way. While in Fort Collins, we stayed in the historic Armstrong Hotel (www.thearmstronghotel.com), which had been recently renovated.

When it was built in 1923, the Armstrong Hotel was the tallest building in Fort Collins and was a popular tourist stop. The building, along with downtown Fort Collins, fell into decline during the 1970s, and it was eventually closed.

By 2002 when the hotel’s future was uncertain, new owners began renovation. Fort Collins had started to reinvest in its downtown, creating a charming “old town” where an historic hotel would fit right in.

Original hotel features include the tiled lobby, sweeping staircase, hardwood floors, transoms above the doors, and skylights in the third floor hallway. My family appreciated the opportunity to connect with an historic place and to support that place in a tangible way.

Likewise, when my family visited Portland, Oregon, we dined in a repurposed elementary school. Kennedy Elementary School was built in 1915 (www.mcmenamins.com/427-kennedy-school-home), when its single-story design was seen as innovative because it allowed for faster evacuation of the building in an emergency.

Declining enrollment in the 1970s and the school’s deteriorated condition led to its being permanently closed in 1980. The school district wanted to demolish the building, but neighbors and former students fought for the next 15 years to block its demolition and save the school.

Finally, in 1994, a pair of brothers proposed to renovate the school into a microbrewery, hotel, and restaurant. The classrooms have been converted to hotel guest rooms and retain their chalkboards, cloakrooms, and oversized windows. The brewery is housed in the former girls’ restroom which features pink tile. The original cafeteria is now a lively restaurant, and the auditorium shows family-oriented movies every Friday.

I wanted to share my travel stories in hopes that they will educate and inspire as we advocate for preservation in Manhattan and Riley County. It is clear that patronizing businesses that are associated with historic properties can make for a pleasant way to learn a locale’s history and culture. It is no secret that historic preservation and economic development work hand in hand to make communities more interesting and financially viable.

Travel also shows us that we aren’t alone as we strive to protect our cultural resources. Evidence of preservation advocates can be seen in nearly every community. Maybe their ideas will inspire us and show us what could be possible here at home.

Finally, I want to thank out-going president Pat O’Brien for her two years of dedicated leadership. Her extensive knowledge of Manhattan’s historic buildings has been an indescribable asset to the Preservation Alliance and I greatly appreciate her years of service.
I was a student of Bernd Foerster’s in the late 80’s and early 90’s. He was already semi-retired from being the dean of the School of Architecture.

I took a few preservation courses from him not realizing that the “powers that be” would soon eliminate this area of study. Bernd was a strict teacher but I never had any problems with that.

He would be speaking at the podium in the front of the class room and see a student dozing off. Unlike most professors, he did not just ignore the snoozer. He would either slap a book loudly on the podium or walk right up to the slumbering youth and drop a book on the concrete floor next to his or her desk. He would calmly say, “If you want to sleep then stay at home, it is disrespectful to me and to your classmates that are trying to learn.” Needless to say, after the first couple of times, not too many people entered his classroom thinking they would pick up a quiet nap.

As stated in Bernd’s memorial service, he was a man that called many to action, including myself. I am and have been a dedicated preservationist ever since he imparted his knowledge and wisdom in the room that now bears his name. I believe that the preservation mindset is something that is born into certain people and all it takes is the right spark to ignite the flame. Bernd was that spark for me and that fire will burn for the rest of my life.

He was able to convey to his students, in simple ways, the value of preserving the built environment. All those old buildings are an embodiment of our collective history. They are from a specific time and place and will forever speak for those who built and occupied them. They create the backdrop of our daily lives.

The communities that are wise enough to retain their built heritage are richer for it. They will have that illusive “sense of place” that is so lacking in our modern, homogenized society.

Bernd was forever the educator. A few years ago when I was working on the ever-evolving preservation awards, Bernd was visiting with me about the photographs I was preparing. He was complimentary of the work I had done. I said that I needed a better camera. He looked at me and said, “Michael, it is not the camera that makes a difference between a good and bad photo, it is the eye and mind behind the camera that makes the difference.” He was right and that gave me all the confidence I needed at the time. I will always have fond memories of Bernd for he was a person who had one of the most powerful and positive impacts on my life.

The Riley County Historical Society and Museum sponsor a religious history interest group for people who preserve religious history in our community.

Meetings typically include a building tour with information about the building’s architecture and changes over time.

A tour of the library and archives leads to discussion about how materials are handled, cataloged, and stored. Collections provide the source materials for religious history books and commemorative videos.

The opportunity to consult with like-minded individuals has spurred more than one organization to upgrade facilities and re-examine storage practices.
Training Manhattan’s Historic Resources Board

The purpose of the Historic Resources Board (HRB) is to encourage the preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation of historic properties within the City of Manhattan through the designation of Historic Sites, Structures, and Districts as per Ordinance 6065. The Board also advises the City Commission on matters related to historic preservation and it issues Certificates of Appropriateness on locally designated historic properties.

Manhattan is one of fifteen Certified Local Governments (CLGs) in Kansas. CLGs take on more historic preservation responsibilities than other communities and, in turn, benefit from access to a special pool of grant money.

Manhattan’s HRB usually meets on the fourth Monday of each month, 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, although it’s not unusual for special meetings to be called. Current members of the HRB are Tom Roberts, chair; George Lauppe, vice chair; Dea Brokesh; Michael Dudek; Michael Krysko; Derek Richards; and Patrick Schaub. The City’s staff liaison to the HRB is Cam Moeller who may be reached by phone at 785-587-2412 or by email at MOELLER@ci.manhattan.ks.us.

On October 11th Katrina Ringler, State CLG Coordinator in the State Historic Preservation Office, provided preservation training for Manhattan’s HRB. Katrina explained that, when faced with a decision, the first step is to determine which statute applies. Manhattan has a local preservation ordinance that applies to locally designated properties. Projects requiring permits trigger project scrutiny on behalf of locally designated properties as well as state and national registered properties.

Certificate of Appropriateness

- Mandated by local ordinance.
- For locally designated buildings and districts only.
- Use standards adopted in ordinance as well as any adopted design guidelines specific to the property or district.
- Often triggered by a permit, but not always. Some local ordinances say “all projects” involving historic properties or have other triggers for review.
- Usually does not include “environs.” Check your local ordinance.
- Can sometimes consider financial impact on owner (Economic Hardship).

State Law

- KSA 75-2724—state statute.
- For buildings listed in the State and/or National Register and contributors within a state or national register district.
- Use Standards for Rehabilitation (or the over arching Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties).
- Triggered by action of the state or a subdivision of the state (i.e. city, county, school board, etc.) — often means a locally required permit (i.e. building permit, sign permit, demolition permit, etc.) includes interior work.
- The SHPO or an authorized historic preservation commission (HPC) must review a project to determine if it will “encroach upon, damage, or destroy” the listed property.
- If the SHPO or HPC find that the project will adversely impact a property, then the local governing body must determine if there are an “feasible and prudent alternatives” to the project. If not, then plans must be made to minimize harm caused by the project.

Environs

- KSA 75-2724—state statute.
- For any project within 500 feet of a State or National Register-listed property or district (1000 feet in an unincorporated area)
- Use Guidelines for Evaluating the Effects of Projects on Environs
- Triggered by action of the state or a subdivision of the state (i.e. city, county, school board, etc.) - often means a locally required permit (i.e. building permit, sign permit, demolition permit, etc.). Typically does not include interiors.
- Kansas is rare in that we have an “environs” law that goes beyond state-owned properties.
- The SHPO or an authorized historic preservation commission (HPC) must review a project to determine if it will “encroach upon, damage, or destroy” the environs of a listed property.
- If the SHPO or HPC find that the project will adversely impact the environs, then the local governing body must determine if there are any “feasible and prudent alternatives” to the project. If not, then plans must be made to minimize harm caused by the project.

The board of directors of the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance, Inc. has voted to contribute $500 to the Kansas Preservation Alliance, Inc. to be added to an endowment fund honoring Bernd Foerster.
The U.S. Secretary of Interior has provided standards by which to determine if projects are appropriate to historic properties. Depending on the nature of the project, a particular set of standards and guidelines is selected.

**Standards for Preservation**

1. A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.

4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

6. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

**Standards for Rehabilitation**

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.

3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

6. Deteriorated historic features will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and, where possible, materials. Replacement of missing features will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence.

7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.

8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

9. New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environs.

10. New additions and adjacent or related new construction will be undertaken in a such a manner that, if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

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**Is your December over-scheduled and hectic with shopping, wrapping, parties, and special events?**

**The PA board of directors is planning a relaxing, stress-free post-holiday social event for all members in January.**

**Details to follow.**
The legalities associated with historic preservation can be complex and intimidating. Help is available at the State Historic Preservation Office (785-272-8681 ext. 240). The services of preservation specialists are also available for hire. Contact the state preservation office for information about private preservation firms.

### Standards for Restoration

1. A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use which reflects the property’s restoration period.
2. Materials and features from the restoration period will be retained and preserved. The removal of materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize the period will not be undertaken.
3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate and conserve materials and features from the restoration period will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
4. Materials, features, spaces, and finishes that characterize other historical periods will be documented prior to their alteration or removal.
5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize the restoration period will be preserved.
6. Deteriorated features from the restoration period will be repaired rather than replaced. Where the severity of deterioration requires replacement of a distinctive feature, the new feature will match the old in design, color, texture, and where possible, materials.
7. Replacement of missing features from the restoration period will be substantiated by documentary and physical evidence. A false sense of history will not be created by adding conjectural features, features from other properties, or by combining features that never existed together historically.
8. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
9. Archeological resources affected by a project will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
10. Designs that were never executed historically will not be constructed.

### Standards for Reconstruction

1. Reconstruction will be used to depict vanished or non-surviving portions of a property when documentary and physical evidence is available to permit accurate reconstruction with minimal conjecture, and such reconstruction is essential to the public understanding of the property.
2. Reconstruction of a landscape, building, structure, or object in its historic location will be preceded by a thorough archeological investigation to identify and evaluate those features and artifacts which are essential to an accurate reconstruction. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.
3. Reconstruction will include measures to preserve any remaining historic materials, features, and spatial relationships.
4. Reconstruction will be based on the accurate duplication of historic features and elements substantiated by documentary or physical evidence rather than on conjectural designs or the availability of different features from other historic properties. A reconstructed property will re-create the appearance of the non-surviving historic property in materials, design, color, and texture.
5. A reconstruction will be clearly identified as a contemporary re-creation.
6. Designs that were never executed historically will not be constructed.

### M/RCPA Officers & Directors 2010—2011

- Kathy Dzewaltowski—President
- Gary Ellis
- Sara Fisher—Vice President
- Linda Glasgow
- Nancy Holmes
- Michael Mecseri
- Dori Milldyke—Secretary
- Debbie Nuss
- Pat O’Brien
- Marina Pecar-Krstic
- Barbara Poresky—Treasurer
- Gina Riffel

If you have old sheets that you could donate to the Wolf House Museum for covering furniture, please bring to the Riley County Historical Museum, 2309 Claflin Road.
The Strasser House, located on North Fourth Street in Manhattan (formerly 326 Laramie), was built in 1874.

The history of the house is available online at preservemanhattan.org in the April 2007 newsletter. The house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on July 6th, 2010.

The Friends of the Wolf House first toured the Strasser House on January 17th, 2010. An article about that visit appears in the February 2010, newsletter.

In the spirit of “one stone house helping another,” McCullough Development, Inc., owner of the Strasser House, Schultz Construction, contractor, and Ebert Mayo Design Group once again teamed up to assist the funding effort to renovate the Wolf House by offering special access to the dramatically transformed house as a thank you to faithful Wolf House donors.

The Strasser House returned to service as duplex apartments on December 1st, 2010. The apartments are managed as part of the Strasser Landing complex owned by McCullough Development, Inc.

The tour of the Strasser House concluded with a Friends reception at the National Register designated Leslie Fitz House, 1014 Houston Street, home of Ron and Dixie West. Dixie has served as president of the Riley County Historical Society in 2010.

Friends organizers will continue to provide special opportunities to Wolf House donors in the future.
The kitchens in apartments A (downstairs) and B (upstairs) are identical, one above the other. The sink’s countertop is configured to provide a breakfast bar for two. The near wall features tall cabinets that match those shown along on the far refrigerator-and-stove wall.

A common front entrance opens to a small foyer with the door into apartment A a step to the right and stairs leading straight up to a small landing with the door into apartment B also a step to the right. The historic newel post and lower part of the banister have been retained. The upper part of the banister was sacrificed in order to maximize space in apt. B.

The apartments are finished in a neutral palette with white trim and contemporary fixtures.

McCullough Development’s Rich Seidler (pointing) and Charlie Busch (blue shirt) explained project choices to a rapt audience of about fifteen people who expressed their gratitude with applause.
McCall Road Extension &
North Fourth/North Third Street Re-alignment:
Considering the Section 106 Process

Members of the general public, including six members of the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance’s board of directors, attended the McCall Road extension/North Fourth and North Third Streets re-alignment presentation held on the evening of Wednesday, November 3rd, at the Riley County Seniors Service Center in Manhattan.

The City of Manhattan and Alfred Benesch & Company (formerly known as HWS Consulting Group, Inc.), entered into a contract on October 5, 2010, to develop approximately 1,000 linear feet of new arterial roadway connecting the McCall Road/U.S. 24 (Tuttle Creek Boulevard) intersection with the roundabout intersection at North Fourth Street and Bluemont Avenue.

The proposed North Fourth Street re-alignment has been designed to carve through the Goodnow Park neighborhood’s residential and commercial areas. A twin project would bow Third Street towards the west through the neighborhood. The exact path of the new arterial has been labeled on the map as “preliminary—subject to change.” The project manager estimated the number of affected properties to be “between five and one hundred.”

The proposed project is to be funded in part by the Kansas Department of Transportation Surface Transportation Program. Because federal dollars would be invested in this project, a review under Section 106 the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is required.

**Saving Places That Matter**, a book by Thomas F. King, provides some information about the Section 106 process:

Places, known interchangeably as “historic properties” or “historic resources,” that might be regarded as historic places requiring consideration under Section 106 of the NHPA include “districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects included on or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.”

So does a place need to be listed on the National Register before Section 106 applies? No. Just because a place hasn’t been formally designated as historic doesn’t mean it isn’t historic.

Most places on the National Register are associated with specific historical events or people, or broad patterns of international, national, state, regional, tribal, or local history. Properties can also be eligible if they have architectural value, engineering value, archeological value, or cultural value.

Section 106 also deals with a variety of effects such as visual effects, auditory effects, changes in land use, and changes in traffic patterns.

The agency proposing, assisting, or considering permitting the project is required to consult the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Licensing also counts as an “undertaking” and thus triggers Section 106. The SHPO, according to Section 106 regulations, is to “reflect the interests of the State and its citizens in the preservation of their cultural heritage.”

Other parties to be consulted are the project proponent, local governments, Indian tribes, and other interested groups and individuals. The Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance would have liked the consultative process to begin far earlier, even though KDOT does not usually initiate consultation until they have project plans.

Section 106 says “Consultation means the process of seeking, discussing, and considering the views of other participants, and, where feasible, seeking agreement with them regarding matters arising in the section 106 process.”

**Consultation** is a key aspect of the Section 106 Review. Another equally important key aspect is mitigation, or the resolution of adverse effects. The National Trust has a good summary of mitigation possibilities at [http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/legal-resources/understanding-preservation-law/federal-law/section-106](http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/legal-resources/understanding-preservation-law/federal-law/section-106). According to **Saving Places That Matter**

- Consultation means that consulting parties must be identified and then actually consulted.
- Consultation is defined as actual discussion, considering, sitting down and talking with one another.
- Consultation is a back and forth discussion with the aim of solving problems.
- Consultation is more than “tell us what you think, citizens; we’ll maybe listen then let you know when we make our decision.”
- Consultation is more than “public notice.”
- Consultation ought to provide opportunities to talk, to listen, and to consider.
- Consultation is supposed to start as early as possible.
Please detach here to return your membership acceptance

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Key words and phrases to understand are

- **Process**: something that develops over time and involves interactions among parties
- **Seeking**: reaching out to find out what people think
- **Discussing**: talking with people to find out what they think
- **Considering**: the actual thinking about who should be included in the process and what those people think
- **Other participants**: beyond the SHPO and beyond technical experts
- **Seeking agreement**: negotiating to reach agreement among participants.

One member of the public who attended the November 3rd meeting explained that his house had been in the family since 1939. He asked who would want to live there now? It is hoped that the Section 106 process will answer the neighborhood’s many questions.
On November 1, 2010, Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance board member Linda Glasgow began serving as the Kansas Preservation Alliance’s president.

The Kansas Preservation Alliance (KPA) is a private 501 (c) (3) organization that works as an advocate for historic preservation throughout the state of Kansas in cooperation with the National Trust, the State Historic Preservation Office, and local preservation groups. The Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance is a member of the KPA as is the City of Manhattan.

When rehabilitation tax credits were capped during the 2009 state legislative session, causing disruption to preservation projects around the state, the KPA raised $18,800 to be used as a match for a grant from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The grant was used to retain economic specialists from Rutgers University’s Center for Urban Policy Research in order to document the effect that the rehabilitation tax credit program has had. Favorable results of the study supported the advocacy campaign that in 2010 returned the tax credit program to its original status.

Preservationists from around the state will be carefully watching legislative action in 2011, concerned that rehabilitation tax credits might be in danger again. The KPA intends to maintain its firm advocacy for those tax credits which have done so much for historic buildings locally and throughout the state.

Because legislative action necessitated a dramatic expenditure of funds on behalf of the rehabilitation tax credit program, the KPA has been engaged in some serious belt-tightening and fund raising. One way to show support for rehabilitation tax credits is to become a member of the KPA, an organization with a history of advocacy for those credits. More information is available on the KPA’s website, www.kpalliance.org, and on the KPA’s Facebook page.