

The Round Tower

Cleveland County Historical Society
Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum



New From The Archive

Corbett, Oklahoma Friendship Quilt
1868 PianoForte

..... pg. 2-3

.....pg. 4

New Exhibit Room

Maid's Room

.....pg .5

Summer History Camp, recap,

.....pg. 7-10

Christmas At the Moore-Lindsay Historical House
Christmas Open House December 11, 2015, 5:30-8:30 pm
Carriage rides starting at 5:30 pm

The Christmas season began at the Historical House in early October when our Museum Manager, Stephanie Hixon, along with members of the Cleveland County Historical Society started to plan Victorian Christmas for 2015. By the third week of November, volunteers will help bring down Christmas boxes and trees from the attic in the Carriage House. Ultimately, thirteen trees will be set up through out the house, and festive decorations will adorn each room including the grand oak staircase in the entrance hall. By early December there is an almost magical transformation from the routine of every day activities in the House to the celebration of the holidays and the Christmas season. This celebration would not be complete without visitors, who each year stop by to celebrate Victorian Christmas at the Museum. It is our pleasure to treat museum quests to live music, carols, carriage rides, and Christmas foods, desserts, and spiced wassail.

Victorian Christmas at the Historical House coincides with the 2nd Friday Art Walk in downtown Norman. A Carriage will run from Main Street to the Historical House and back from 5:30 to 8:30 P.M.



Formal Parlor



Carriage Ride



Informal Parlor

Corbett Oklahoma Brick Friendship Quilt



Corbett, Oklahoma Remembered in Historic Quilt.

All that remains of Corbett, Oklahoma is the Baptist Church, a cemetery, and a quilt with the embroidered names of the men and women, who lived and raised their families in Corbett, Oklahoma community. The quilt was recently donated to the Cleveland County Historical Society and is on display in the Moore-Lindsay Historical House.

Corbett, Oklahoma was located three miles south and six miles east of Lexington, Oklahoma in the southeastern corner of Cleveland County. The town was named after James P. Corbett and located on 80 acres, which he had purchased in 1893 from Louis D. B. Higbee, a member of the Citizen Pottawatomie Nation. James Pleasant Corbett was born in 1857 in Fayette County Alabama. In 1884, he married Mary Sizemore. In the fall of 1892, Corbett and his family began their migration west. They traveled by train to Alvord Texas, where they stayed for a year. After a trip to scout out farming land in Oklahoma, Corbett moved his family north. They arrived in the Citizen Pottawatomie Nation with a herd of cattle, a wagon of family possession and four children. The Corbett's would eventually have ten children.

In a corner of his 80 acres, J. P. Corbett assigned town lots to various businesses—a mercantile, a blacksmith shop, a cotton gin, a sawmill, a pond, a gristmill, a church, a home for the pastor, and a school, all necessary to make Corbett a successful town and community. The main agricultural products produced in Corbett were corn, cotton, apples and pears. What was lacking in the town of Corbett, however, was commerce. Corbett was only two miles from the South Canadian River, which blocked access to the town from the south. Also, the nearest depot to ship commodities was Purcell, which was ten miles away. So, Corbett was at most a struggling trade center that had to compete with Purcell in the Chickasaw Nation and the newly established town of Norman, both of which were on the Santa Fe Railroad.



Corbett, Oklahoma Remembered in Historic Quilt, con't

By 1920, Corbett only had 120 residents. In 1930, the cotton gin burned, the soil was depleted of nutrients and the drought killed the orchards. In the 21st century, the only significant building left is the Corbett Baptist Church and the Corbett brick or friendship quilt, which has 207 names of individuals who lived in the Corbett community. The quilt was completed in 1906 by the ladies aid society of Corbett. The ladies encouraged community members to include their names on the quilt, to do so would cost them ten cents. The quilt sold at auction in 1907. The proceeds were contributed to the Corbett Baptist Church for new pews. The winning bid was from Joel T. Sizemore for \$50.00. Mr. Sizemore, the brother of Mary Corbett, was a bachelor and kept the quilt for years in his trunk. He later gave the quilt to his sister.

The quilt made its way to Norman in 1915, when the founder of Corbett, James P. and his wife Mary moved to Norman to better educate their children. The quilt was then passed down to the family Corbett women in order to keep the quilt in the family. The first to inherit the quilt was daughter Lula. During WWII, when Lula and her husband, James Gault, moved to San Francisco, the quilt went with them. The quilt then passed to her young sister Clemmontyne Carrie Corbett Morris. Clemmontyne's daughter, Celia Morris Phillips, inherited the quilt in 1989. The quilt was then passed down to her daughter.

The Corbett Brick quilt is made up of red and white rectangle patches in diagonal rows, the white rectangles have the embroidered signatures of those who contributed their ten cents. The 207 signatures reflect the population of Corbet and Purcell in 1906.

New to the Cleveland County Historical Society Collections

1868 PianoForte



The PianoForte was produced by the Haines Bros. Piano factory in East Rochester, N.Y. Napoleon and Francis Haines started their piano factory in 1851. Napoleon was one of the earliest piano makers in America. In design, he did away with the cumbersome square piano and designed a compact beautiful upright piano. Haines Bros. pianos became very popular and were desired by schools, colleges and musical conservatories.

New Display The Maid's Room

William S. Moore, banker and Norman businessman, purchased all of the lots in block 1 of the new town of Norman in July 1899, which is now 508 N. Peters. The *Norman Transcript* revealed that Mr. Moore started construction of his Victorian home on Peters Ave. soon after the purchase of the land; the home was ready for occupation in December of 1899. In 1900 Norman, Oklahoma Territory, Moore's Victorian Queen Anne home was very prestigious and was considered one of the grand homes to be built in Norman after the land run. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were among the "elite" of Norman and in their home they allowed space for a maid's room, which was occupied by a young woman from Missouri, who tended to the Moore family and their guests.

Today, The Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum represents the life style of the Moore and Lindsay families, now even more accurate with the addition of the maid's room on the second floor just outside the back staircase to the kitchen. The room is furnished very sparsely according to the decorum of the times. The furniture is simply designed and made out of oak, the more common wood used in functional furniture.



Membership Renewal

Help maintain the Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum with your membership in the Cleveland and County Historical Society. The Historical Society, established in 1967, oversees the operation of the City owned Moore-Lindsay Historical House Museum established in 1973 at 508 N. Peters. Your financial support through membership in the Society goes toward operation of the museum and helps to fund historical displays and educational exhibits.

There are three Levels of Membership, all members receive the quarterly newsletter, The Round Tower and access to our photo and paper archives and Sanborn Maps.

1. Standard: \$15.00

Includes online quarterly newsletter

2. Heritage: \$30.00

Includes quarterly online newsletter & copy of *Norman 1889-1949* (Arcadia Press 2012)

3. Premium : \$50.00

Includes online quarterly newsletter, limited edition museum replica Christmas ornament and copy of *Norman 1889-1949* (Arcadia Press 2012)

Mail your membership to Cleveland County Historical Society, 508 N. Peters, Norman Oklahoma 73069 **OR: Visit <http://www.normanmuseum.org/membership.html> and use credit card or paypal.**

We appreciate your financial support.

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Summer History Camp Overview

This summer, the Moore-Lindsay House hosted it's first every Summer History Camp for kids. The camp was held 4 Thursday afternoons in July. Each week the camp grew with interest, with the last week hosting 18 campers. The campers learned about Norman history, Victorian architecture, and many aspects of the pioneer lifestyle. The event was made possible through the City of Norman's generous efforts to redo the Carriage House, and the support of various community grants.

Week One: Victorian Architecture

This week the campers learned the definition of architecture, and the special features that make up the Queen Anne Victorian style. They learned the different functions of the rooms in the Historical House, through an exciting and interactive scavenger hunt. They finished up the camp by designing their own mini Victorian homes made of cardboard.



Summer Camp participants and Museum volunteers create their own Victorian style homes from cardboard.

Fall 2015 E-Newsletter pg. 8

Week Two: Pioneer Cooking

The second week of Summer History Camp was all about cooking in an early pioneer kitchen. The campers helped the local pioneer chef, “Ms. Stephanie” prepare a yummy meal while using all of the kitchen tools in the museum.

Campers learned about butter molds, bread machines, wood burning stoves, and iceboxes. We followed up the cooking lesson with some butter making, relay races, and a tasty butter and bread snack.



Campers take turns shaking the whipping cream to make their own butter.



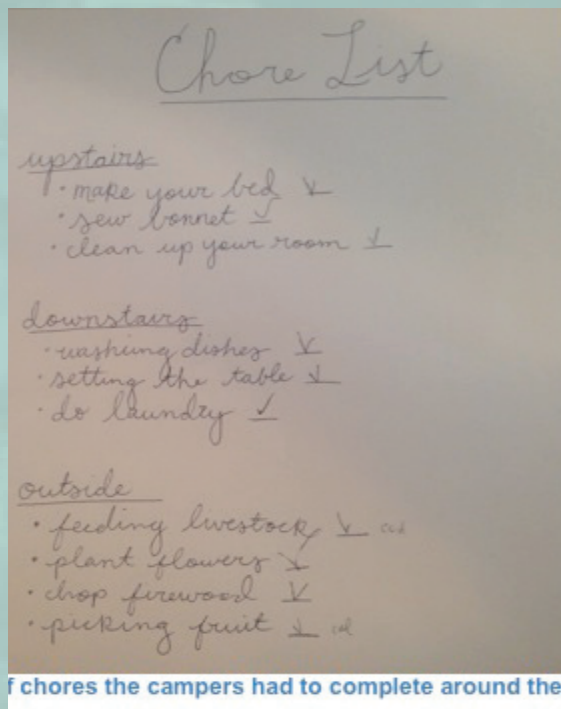
Finished Product



Campers participate in egg and spoon relay races in the Museum garden

Week Three: Kid's Rule! Toys, School, & Chores

The next week, the campers learned about the lifestyle of children during the early 1900s. Campers took turns completing chores in the Historical House, and practicing calligraphy. Campers also had the chance to create their own whirligig toys, and compete in the “chamber pot relays.”



Chores the campers had to complete around the r

Week Four: Norman History: Photos & Maps

For the final week of summer camp, the campers learned about Norman's early founders, the development of Norman, and how to read maps. Comparison of buildings on Main Street from pre-statehood to modern day allowed the campers to observe what buildings still exist, and others that have been changed. Campers ended the day by creating their own Main Street models with churches, general stores, and banks.



Campers create their own Main Street examples during week four.