



PAWHUSKA

Oklahoma



Historical

Famous

Ben Johnson



Preservation

Osage Indians

Heritage

Pawhuska Visitor Center offers visitors a place to relax and learn information about the city of Pawhuska and the surrounding communities. Restrooms are available. Tour buses are welcomed. National Geographic's Fire and Thunder video is shown from 9:00-5:00 on Monday thru Friday.

Downtown National Historic Register

District is comprised of 98 buildings, 86 of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These two and three-story brick structures along with a five-story triangle building provide an impressive tribute to days gone by.



Constantine Community Center

was originally built as the Pawhuska House Hotel in the 1880's. In 1911, Mr. C.C. Constantine purchased the building and remodeled it into the elegant Constantine Theater. In 1987, a group of concerned citizens began the long, tedious renovation.

Blacksmith's House was the first house built in Pawhuska. Built in 1871 for the Osage Tribe's blacksmith, Sid Delaureu, this home is currently undergoing extensive renovations.



First Boy Scout Troop in America Monument is situated in the front of the Osage County Historical Museum. Reverend John F. Mitchell, a missionary priest from England sent to St. Thomas Episcopal Church by the Church of England, organized the first boy scout troop in America in May of 1909. A life-sized bronze honors Reverend Mitchell and the 19 Charter members who were organized under the English charter.

First National Bank is on the site of the second Osage Agency as the original log cabin in the valley burned. The Osage Tribe built a hand-cut sandstone two-story building, which housed the Agency and Commissary. In 1924, this current structure was built.

Triangle Building is a rare free-standing triangle building. As early buildings in Pawhuska were constructed, a triangle piece of land was left in the middle of town. It was a park with a two-story bandstand in the center. In 1915, this five-story "flat-iron" building was completed.

Osage County Courthouse was completed in 1914. Osage County is the largest county in Oklahoma, twice as large in area as the entire state of Rhode Island.

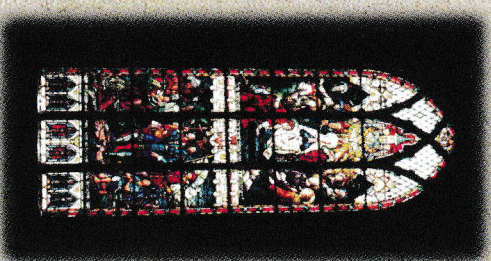
Superintendent's Home has been the residence to 30 Osage Agency Superintendents. In 1994, the home was turned into administrative offices for the recently formed Osage National Council. This building is constructed of sandstone quarried in Osage County and is listed on the National register of Historical Places.

Osage Tribal Museum, Library, and Archives preserves the culture of the Osage Tribe via displays, lectures, crafts and a library. Notable exhibits include the famous Black Dog Shield and an extensive photographic exhibit. This museum is the oldest continually operating tribal museum in the United States. Hours are Tuesday thru Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., (918) 287-4622

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church is known widely as the Cathedral of the Osage. Special permission from the Vatican had to be granted to depict living tribal members in the glorious stained glass that were crafted in Munich, Germany in 1919. The two largest windows show scenes significant to the Osage. One shows Columbus meeting a party of Indians and the other shows prominent Osage of the era gathered around the black cassocked Rev. Schoenmakers. Group tours may be arranged through the church, (918) 287-1414

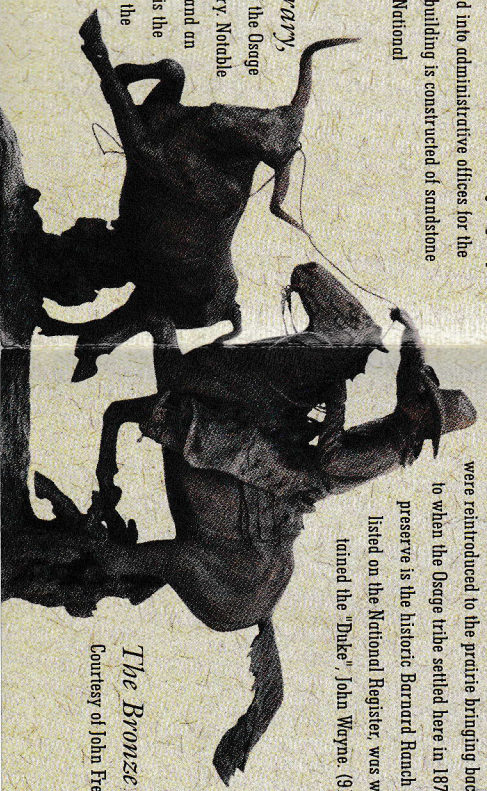
Osage County Historical Museum

Museum is housed in the old Santa Fe Depot. Exhibits on the grounds of the museum include a turn of the century school house (Edith Layton School House), two Santa Fe railroad cars, and the first Boy Scout in America monument. Inside the museum, visitors are treated to exhibits depicting Western Oil, Pioneer, and Indian heritages. Hours are Monday thru Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Weekends, 12 p.m.-5 p.m., (918) 287-9924



Chief Lookout Memorial is located approximately 3 miles north and east of Pawhuska is the burial site of Chief Fred Lookout and his wife, Julia. The site is on top of mountain and is marked with a granite stone that is 10 feet tall. This scenic overlook has a 360 degree panoramic view of Pawhuska, Bird Creek Valley, and Osage County.

Tallgrass Prairie Preserve is located north of Pawhuska with over 37,000 acres of the only protected ecosystem of its type in the world. Bison (buffalo) were reintroduced to the prairie bringing back the character of the land to when the Osage tribe settled here in 1871. The headquarters of the preserve is the historic Barnard Ranch Bunkhouse, which is now listed on the National Register, was where Ben Johnson entertained the "Duke", John Wayne. (918) 287-4803



The Bronze Horse
Courtesy of John Free