

Buffalo Tales

September/October 2015

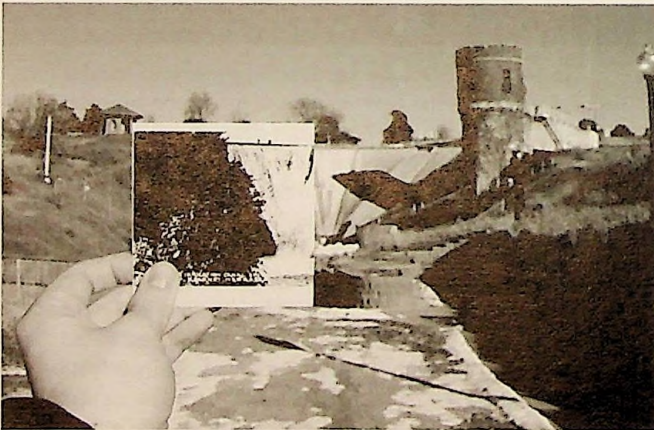
Looking into the Past 2014: Photo Project Partnership with UNK Small Group Communications (part I)

By Kylee Johnson, Holly Green, Molly Anson, and Yamin Zou

For the Looking Into the Past Photo Project, students from Dr. Messersmith's UNK Small Group Communications class partnered with the Buffalo County Historical Society to choose old pictures of places in Kearney. They spent many hours combing through the archives looking for photos, made copies of the originals, and extensively researched the subjects of the pictures. They made the extra effort to use historical sources, such as old documents, to learn about the places and to help locate them. Once the research was done, the students took the copies to where the original pictures were taken. They painstakingly worked to line the historical photo up with the location today (taking into account the time of day of the original), then took a picture featuring the photo.

Look at the picture of the Kearney Canal below:

As you can see, the main focal point is the top edge of the Kearney Canal dam. However, you will also notice how the trees are no longer in the image, along with the bottom part of the canal not matching up. This will happen. Many of the sites will have had restorations or additions so it will not be uncommon to only have one focal point line up. This picture was also chosen as the example because it had to be cut in half. The picture was a picture of the entire Kearney Canal dam, so in order to have the picture taken, the copy was cut in half as to show the present day picture.



Kearney Canal

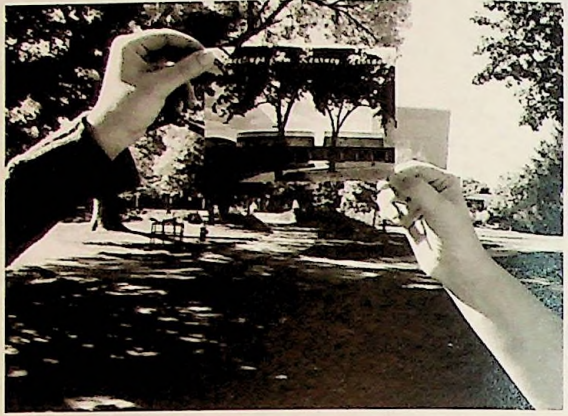
The dry years of the 1870s inspired W.W. Patterson's idea of providing irrigation to farms in the Platte Valley. Patterson planned to build a canal from the Platte River to the Kearney reservoir. This canal would provide irrigation to the

farms and generate power. The Kearney Canal and Water Supply began construction in 1882, however, because of lack of funds, the construction stopped. George Frank bought the company and was able to complete the project in 1886. In April of 1888, the Canal Company finished construction of the power plant and electricity began flowing to Kearney. This hydropower facility is the oldest in the state and only has one generator that is from 1920. This hydro plant has been renamed Spillway Park and Museum and its preservation is set in three phases. The first phase was to restore the area by planting trees and shrubs, completed in 1997. The second phase is to fix or replace the bridges to make the walkways more scenic. After that is done, the final phase (no set date) is to turn the plant into a museum.

- "State's Oldest Hydropower Plant." *State's Oldest Hydropower Plant*. N.p., n.d. Web. 13 Nov. 2014.

Fine Arts Building

The Fine Arts Building, locally known as "The FAB", is home to the department of Music and the Performing Arts. The building houses several theaters and a recital hall that are used for performances throughout the year. Because this building was to house the Fine Arts and Humanities classes, some reconstructing and an addition consisting of classrooms on the west side of the building for art students



along with private practice rooms for music students was needed. Between the recital halls and the classrooms lies a coffee shop for those passing through on cold days to warm up in between classes, catch up with friends or study in a quiet environment. The Fine Arts and Humanities has some of the greatest opportunities for their students provided by the public in form of endowments and private funding. One of these programs is the UNK New Music Festival, started in 2002, involving nearly 31 states and several countries, allowing students display their own music to professionals. Another way funds are created are through the many shows provided here on campus for students and the community to attend. Advertising for these plays, musicals, and music events can be found all over campus and on the website calendar.

-Cody Royal with Holly Green

-"Fine Arts & Humanities." *College of*. N.p., n.d. Web. Nov. 2014.

-"Music." *Concerts & Events*. N.p., n.d. Web. Nov. 2014.

-"University of Nebraska Foundation." *University of Nebraska Foundation*. N.p., n.d. Web. Nov. 2014.



Eva J. Case Hall

On June 9, 1930, the cornerstone was laid for the Eva J. Case Hall, the first residence hall to be built on campus, then called the Nebraska State Teachers College at Kearney. In September 1930, Eva J. Case Hall was opened for 180 freshman women. The original Eva J. Case rooms had 2 beds that folded into closets, a dresser, two desks and chairs, and also a rocking chair. Each floor had two bathrooms with two bathtubs and two showers in them. The cost to have room and board was \$6.50 per week. Case Hall was named after Eva J. Case who was the first woman head chairperson of Green Terrace Hall, a building that was bought when the land was purchased for the college. Case Hall was renovated in 1978-1979, however, in 2006 Case Hall was destroyed to make room for Nester Hall.

-"Eva J Case Hall." (n.d.); n. pag. *Calvin T Ryan Library*. Web. 29 Oct. 2014. <<http://library.unk.edu/archives/docs/CaseHall.pdf>>.

Nebraskan Student Union

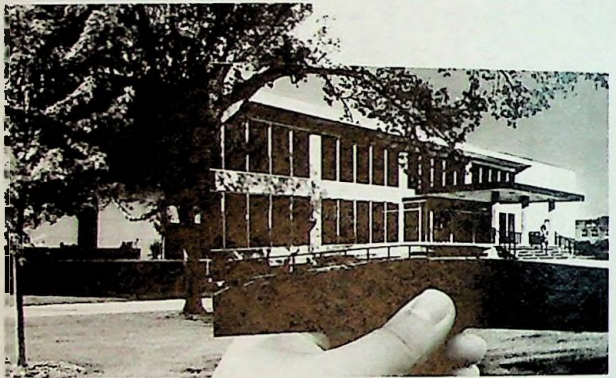
The Nebraskan Student Union was opened in the year 1964 and in 2002 a 25,000 square foot renovation was completed. The Nebraskan Student Union is for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests that come visit the University of Nebraska Kearney. The Nebraskan Student Union is the home of administrative offices,

the Office of Multicultural Affairs along with student activity offices. UNK food service and operations, campus bookstore and also has conference spaces available. -"2014-2015 UNK Catalog / Facilities." *2014-2015 UNK Catalog / Facilities*. N.p., n.d. Web. 28 Oct. 2014.



Library

Built in 1963, the library was the center of the Kearney State College campus. It was used for studying and gathering information before the technology era made everything attainable at the touch of a mouse. The library was added on to between 1981 and 1982, doubling its size, and was renamed for English professor, Calvin T. Ryan. Fast forward nearly thirty years, the library now has enough room for over a thousand users. It holds a coffee shop lounge, several computer labs, study rooms, a reference desk, individual computer stations, and lounge areas. There are currently over 210,000 print titles, over 130,000 e-book titles, over 600 print subscriptions and over 120,000 periodical volumes. The



third level is home of the writing center and tutors where students of the University of Nebraska at Kearney utilize the help to better themselves academically. In addition to all the wonderful tools mentioned, the library also publishes its own bi-annual newsletter titled *In Brief* to let anyone interested know what is happening at the library.

-"Calvin T. Ryan Library - Home." *Calvin T. Ryan Library - Home*. N.p., n.d. Web. 1 Oct. 2014.

Museum of Nebraska Art-- MONA

In 1976, the Nebraska Art Collection Board of Directors had the dream of a place to display fewer than 30 pieces of art which showed the unique artistic heritage of the state. After the Nebraska Legislature passed the bill that would allow the official collection to be displayed, renovations started on the building which had been the Kearney Post Office since 1911. MONA, the Museum of Nebraska Art, was dedicated and opened to the public in October of 1986. Today, MONA has over 5,000 pieces of artwork that display the historical significance of the state and collects, preserves, and enhances the quality of life of each of those pieces. In addition, MONA also has workshops for students and adults each year.

-"Museum of Nebraska Art: Discover the Story behind the Art of Nebraska." *Museum of Nebraska Art*. N.p., n.d. Web. 13 Nov. 2014.



Soon, all of the pictures from the Looking into the Past Buffalo Tales will be available for viewing in color on our facebook page.

2015 Calendar of Events

September 11: Walk in the Cope Shoes Event. See the calendar on our website, bchs.us, for a list of event.

October 3: Fall Festival at Trails & Rails Museum 10am to 2pm. Family fun, children's activities, food and drink. FREE admission, donations accepted.

October 16: 2015 Paranormal Experience with Synergy. Class begins at 7pm at Trails & Rails Museum. \$40/person. Sign up at bchs.us or in person at Trails & Rails Museum.

All of November: Christmas Decorating (during regular business hours)

First two weekends in Dec. (Dec.5/6 and Dec. 12/13) from 1-5 pm: Open to the public: 28th Annual Christmas Tree Walk *** **Saturday, December 5 from 12-1pm: Members Only Preview of the 28th Annual Christmas Tree Walk***** check out dozens of trees decorated by area not-for-profits that tie their mission into this year's theme, **Santa's Workshop.**

Education notes:

Trails & Rails Museum **closed** April 28 through May 9 for Kearney Public Schools.

Listen to Mardi Anderson on KGFW 1340 AM at 9 am on the last Friday of each month for a fabulous story about Buffalo County!

January: Place Names in Buffalo County

February: The Dust Bowl Days

March: The Art of Weaving

April: National Sod House Society

May: On the Road to _____

June: Chautauqua

July: Teas from Native Plants

August: Tea Party

September: 100 Years of 4-H

October: History of Canning Jars

November: History of WWI Poppies

December: Sing along with Jim Cudaback

Fabulous Fridays are held on the 2nd Friday monthly at 2 pm. Locations vary, so check the web site.

Volunteers, chairpersons, and sponsors are still needed. Please contact the office for more information on supporting your Buffalo County Historical Society!

PO Box 523, 710 W. 11th St., Kearney, NE 68848

(308) 234-3041 www.bchs.us bchs.us@hotmail.com

We hope you enjoy these stories about Buffalo County. We would love to have a stock pile of Buffalo Tales ready so they can go out in a more timely manner. Please submit your memories and stories to us by e-mailing them to bchs.buffalotales@hotmail.com or sending them to the post office box: BCHS, PO Box 523, Kearney, NE 68848.

We appreciate your support!

Director's Report

-We received a letter on 9/11/15 letting us know the City of Kearney awarded us \$900 from Kearney Keno funds to help seal the exterior of the Blacksmith Shop. Jerry Marlatt is in charge of this project. We are hoping to utilize YRTC guys to help with the labor. An e-mail has been sent to YRTC and we are waiting to hear back from them.

-The Kearney Army Air Base sign that we worked on the wording for (and the City of Kearney is funding) has arrived in Kearney. I am not sure when they plan to install it, but BCHS should be there during that ceremony.

-Linda and Tom, her husband, have been coming down almost weekly to work on the garden area by the front gate. They do a terrific job and we have many compliments on it throughout the year.

-BCHS will be participating in this year's Walk in the Cope's Shoes event by holding five activities that are FREE and open to the public. Please visit the calendar on our website, bchs.us, for a list of activities.

Be our friend on Facebook: "BuffaloCountyHistoricalSociety"

BCHS Gold Engineers

Cash-Wa Distributing
 Frank Cepel
 Ron Eckloff
 Ft. Theatre Dentistry/Dr. Walter Martin
 Lance & Chris Hehner
 Jerry & Tami Hellman
 Fred & Betty Kempf
 Elbert & Betty Lowenstein

Jerry & Edith Marlatt
 Janice & Bill Martin
 Sharon & John Martin
 Midlands Contracting, Inc.
 Corene & Errol Phillips
 Eric & Debbie Rosenlof
 Leonard Skov
 Joe & Jean Widdowson

BCHS Silver Engineers

Ace Irrigation
 Arby's & Motel 6 of Kearney
 George & Roxanne Bascom
 Elaine & Michael Batenhorst
 June & Steele Becker
 Jim Berglund
 Vicki Bissell
 Gerald & Genevieve Brandorff
 Butch & Margaret Brown
 Kenneth W. Carmann
 Dora Day
 Jim & Marsha Fairbanks
 Thomas Gallagher
 John & Mary Haase
 Galen & Marilyn Hadley
 Hamagel Farms
 Cris & Heidi Hehner
 Tom & Mary Henning
 Robert Heyd
 Carol Copeland Huntington
 Mr. Robert Jones

Howard Kolbo
 Sharon & Gary Mason
 McDermott & Miller PC
 Duncan & Janice McGregor
 Jim & Jan Miller
 Nelson's Furniture
 O'Brien-Straatmann-Redinger-Funeral Home
 Dick & Glenda Prascher
 Kimbera & Ronny Roberts
 Dr. Charles & Vickie Schaepler
 Rob & Tova Shaffer
 Steve & Joan Sheen
 Trenton D. Snow, LLC
 Dan & Julie Speirs
 Douglas & Emily State
 Stubblefield, Inc.
 Carlene Waldron
 David H. Weir, MD
 Dave & Beth Westesen
 Roger Worlock

A Huge Thanks to our Silver and Gold Engineers for their support of the BCIS/Trails & Rails Museum

(Contact Trails & Rails Museum for more information on becoming an Engineer)

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Email: bchs.us@hotmail.com

Katherine Wielechowski, Editor

2014 Annual dues, payable January 1, are:

Student.....	\$10.00
Individual.....	\$35.00
Family.....	\$40.00
Institutional Membership.....	\$50.00
Supporting Membership.....	\$75.00

Directors

Term expiring June 1, 2016: Dr. Roger Davis, Lance Hehner, Matt O'Callaghan, Jan Rodehorst

Term expiring June 1, 2017: Kelly Krier, Mary Beth Lowe, Mike Peak, Dr. Jinny Turman

Term expiring June 1, 2018: Pam Artman, Pat Neff, Corene Phillips, Robin Smith

Officers (1 year term)

President.....	Lance Hehner
Vice-President.....	Dr. Roger Davis
Secretary.....	Corene Phillips
Treasurer.....	Mary Beth Lowe



Trails & Rails Museum

Buffalo County Historical Society

710 West 11th St. P.O. Box 523

Kearney, NE 68848-0523

Visit us at

www.bchs.us

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