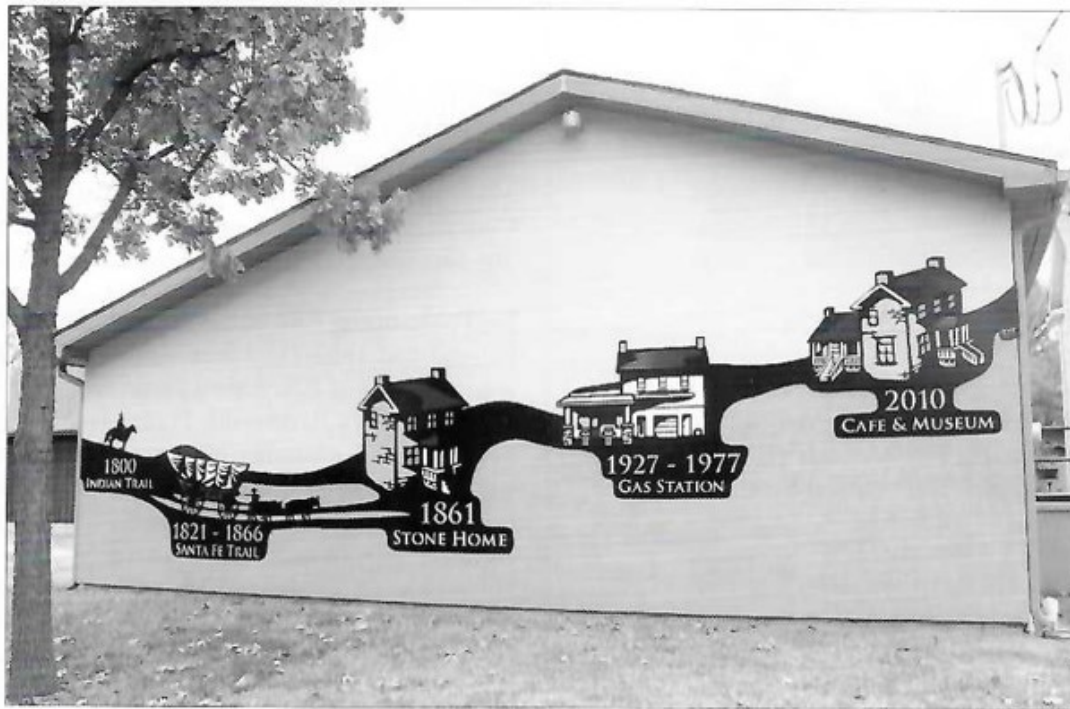


## Santa Fe Trail Artwork Created at Council Grove, Kansas



*By Kenneth McClintock*

A new cut-metal mural, “Santa Fe Trail”, at the Trail Days Historic Site, 803 W. Main St., Council Grove, Kansas, was dedicated September 29. The site is the location of the Rawlinson-Terwilliger Home, which is certified both as a historic site and as an interpretive site on the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

The mural covers the south wall of the adjacent building, being renovated to house the Trail Days Arts and History Center, a 100-seat, multi-purpose auditorium. The mural is composed of five interconnected, cut-steel images depicting the evolution of the site since 1800.

The first image, “Indian Trail 1800”, depicts an Indian on horseback, as a reminder that the Santa Fe Trail was largely comprised of a series of Indian trails.

The second image, “Santa Fe Trail 1821-1866”, depicts an oxen-drawn covered wagon during the heyday of the Santa Fe Trail through Council Grove, which ended when the Kansas Pacific Railroad reached nearby Junction City, Kansas.

The third image, “Stone Home 1861”, depicts the original portion of the Rawlinson-Terwilliger Home, built by Abraham and Mary Rawlinson in 1860-61, alongside the Santa Fe Trail. It was then the last house west-bound Santa Fe travelers passed leaving Council Grove.

The fourth image, “Gas Station 1927-1977”, depicts the front of the home as it appeared at one time during the

half-century it served as a gasoline filling station.

The fifth image, “Café & Museum 2010”, depicts the Rawlinson-Terwilliger Home substantially restored to its appearance in an 1880 photograph. Although restoration of the home was completed in 2006 by the not-for-profit Historic Preservation Corporation, it was in 2010 that the name “Trail Days Café & Museum” was adopted.

The Trail Days Historic Site has been under development since 1994, when Kenneth and Shirley McClintock and the late Lola Costa formed the Historic Preservation Corporation to save the dilapidated home from demolition. In 2018, the McClintocks received from the SFTA the Paul F. Bentrup Ambassador Award, which is given to those who preserve, protect, and promote the Santa Fe National Historic Trail.

The artwork was designed by the McClintock’s son, Timothy McClintock, of Round Rock, Texas, a graduate of the Laguna Beach College of Art and Design. The design was fabricated and installed by Bobby Alexander of Alexander Artworks, Council Grove, Kansas. The several layers of cut metal provide an appearance reminiscent of a bas-relief sculpture.

Historic Preservation Corporation received a \$5,000 grant from the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts and a \$1,000 grant from Council Grove Area Foundation. The Morris County Historical Society donated \$100, and \$4,325 came from individual donations. Tim McClintock, the artist, created the design without charge. †