

Inside Displays

1922 "70" Willys-Knight Six
Automobile

1930s Simplex Motorcycle

Anderson Home –
Original Log Cabin

Salute to Veterans

Dr. E.C Bryan Medical Clinic

Wildlife Exhibit

Sanborn Fire Insurance
Maps of Osage Mission, St. Francis
Institute and St. Ann's Academy

Photo Displays
Osage Manual Labor Schools
St. Francis Institution
St. Ann's Academy
Pictorial History of St. Paul Schools
Pictorial History of St. Francis
de Hieronymo Church

Free Admission

We are a non-profit institution,
and are able to continue to live
our mission through the
generous donations of people
like you.

(Taken from the Kansas Historical Marker)

Osage Catholic Mission

This mission was founded in 1847 for Osage Indians living along the Neosho and Verdigris rivers. A manual labor school for boys was established by the Jesuits and a department for girls by the Sisters of Loretto. Highest recorded enrollment was 239. In 1848 the first Catholic church in southern Kansas was built. During the Civil War when property was laid waste throughout the border the mission was always spared and school was never suspended. When the Osages moved to Indian territory in 1870 white children gradually replaced the Indians. The school became St. Francis Institution for boys and St. Ann's Academy for girls. St. Francis closed in 1891 and St. Ann's was destroyed by fire in 1895. Notable in service here were Mother Bridget Hayden and Fathers John Schoenmakers, John Bax and Paul Mary Ponziglione, the latter an Italian nobleman. A town, Osage Mission, organized in 1867, became St. Paul in 1895.

Hours

9:00 - 2:00

Tuesday thru Saturday

**Call to schedule group tours or visits
outside our scheduled hours.**

203 Washington Street

St. Paul, KS 66771

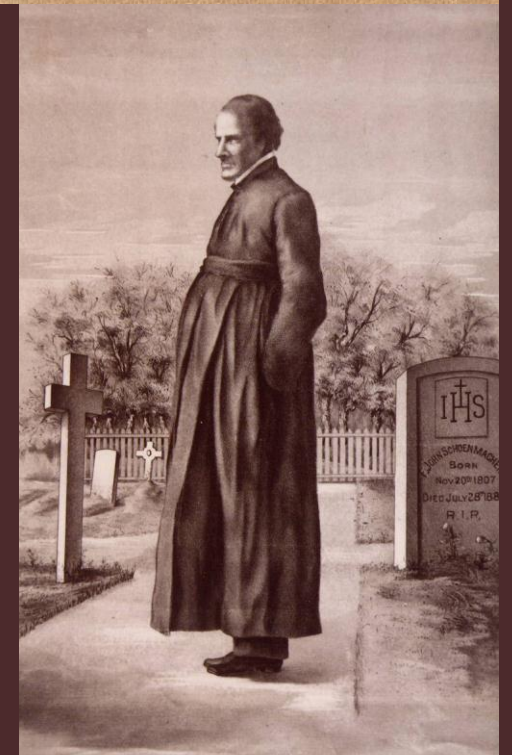
(620) 449-2320

email: museum@osagemission.org

<http://www.osagemission.org>

Osage Mission Neosho County Museum

TELLING THE
STORY OF
OSAGE
MISSION



W. W. Graves Research Room

Our museum is uniquely qualified to conduct historical or genealogy research; or to support individual research efforts. We have access to the writings of the Jesuit missionaries, and the works of local editor and historian William Whites Graves. Our research resources include:

Books:

- Annals of Osage Mission
- Annals of St. Paul
- Annals of St. Paul, The Swan Song for The St. Paul Journal
- History of Neosho County, 2 volumes
- Life and Letters of Early Jesuits
- Jesuits of the Middle United States
- Removal of the Osage from Kansas
- Traditions of the Osage
- The Osage
- Hope Cemetery Records
- St. Francis Cemetery Records

Other sources:

- W.W. Graves noted index cards from his time as editor of *The St. Paul Journal*
- Microfilm for “*The Journals*” 1867 – 1961
- Early Jesuit mission records
- Indexed obituaries (available on microfilm 1895-1961; printed copies from 1961-present)

Researchers Welcome

Workspace, Microfilm Reader and Printer Available. Copies provided at small cost.



Mission Statement

The Mission of the Osage Mission - Neosho County Museum is to collect, preserve, interpret, and display information and artifacts that illustrate the history of Osage Mission and Neosho County, Kansas, making this heritage better known, understood, and appreciated.



The Mission Story

Jesuit missionaries who arrived here in 1847 were responsible for the establishment of over 108 missions and stations across Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and as far west as Wyoming over the next 50 years. Inside displays tell the story of the missionaries, churches and schools.

Outside Displays

One Room Schoolhouse
Harness & Blacksmith Shop
Farm Machinery
Steam Engine

The museum is located across from St. Francis de Hieronymo Catholic Church on Hwy. 47, and within walking distance from the historical St. Francis Cemetery.

The Osage Mission story was selected as one of 24 finalists for the Kansas 8 Wonders of History. The museum is located on the site of St. Ann's Academy, a girls' school opened in 1870 by the Sisters of Loretto. The school was destroyed by fire in 1895 and never rebuilt.