



Solomon Valley Museum Musings

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Sheridan County

Sheridan County Museum

1224 Oak, Hoxie, KS 67740 -- 785-675-3501

Also Visit ► Mickey's Museum

Highway 24, Hoxie, KS 67740 -- 785-675-3501

Museum Musings -- The main building of the Mickey Museum complex was built in 1963, by Vernon and Isabelle Mickey, as a replica of an early-day hardware store. Vernon furnished it with old display cases and merchandise as they did in the family's original store building of Mickey Hardware. This building houses a large variety of items showing the growth and change of the county through the years.

Soon one building proved to be inadequate so another building was constructed. Originally this building was used for storage of the growing collection.

In 1983, the Bee Hive school house from the Studley area was moved to the complex. The school house is furnished as one would expect to see in the early 1900's. Visitors can now visit the one-room schoolhouse and experience the past. The school district was in session from 1897-1953, using this building for a majority of those years. Though the country school is a thing of the past, the memories linger on. While you are in the school you cannot help but hear the stories being told by the artifacts that have watched countless students reach new heights.

In January 1994, Vernon Mickey donated Mickey's Museum to Sheridan County. Years of artifacts had been collected by Vernon and Isabelle Mickey. It was then that the Sheridan County Historical Society was named the caretaker.

In 1997 the two buildings were connected to house the Sheridan County Historical Society office which was moved from the courthouse. Having both entities in the same place helped increase interest by opening the museum to the public on a regular basis for the first time in its existence.

Currently, the second building is a work in progress. We have received a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council which we are using to clean, catalogue, and display items from the original collection.

Residents of the area donate to the ever-growing collection on a regular basis. To help with the ongoing process, the museum and historical society have hired a new employee. Jennifer Spresser, also a board member, is now in the process of evaluating the Mickey's Museum collection, cataloging procedures, and visioning the displays. She will be working four days a week. We think she's got it now, she is LOSING sleep thinking of ideas.

Mickey's Museum is open Tuesday through Friday 8:30-12:00 and 1:30-4:00 or by appointment. Stop in and visit us. We are located at 1224 Oak (Highway 24) in Hoxie, or you can reach us at 785-675-3501. You can also visit us on our website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ksschs

by Jennifer Spresser

Director of the museum and a member of the board of SV24