

HISTORIC

DODGE CITY *Walking Tour*

— ★ —
BE YOUR



West

— ★ —

Dodge City Convention & Visitors Bureau

400 W. Wyatt Earp Blvd.

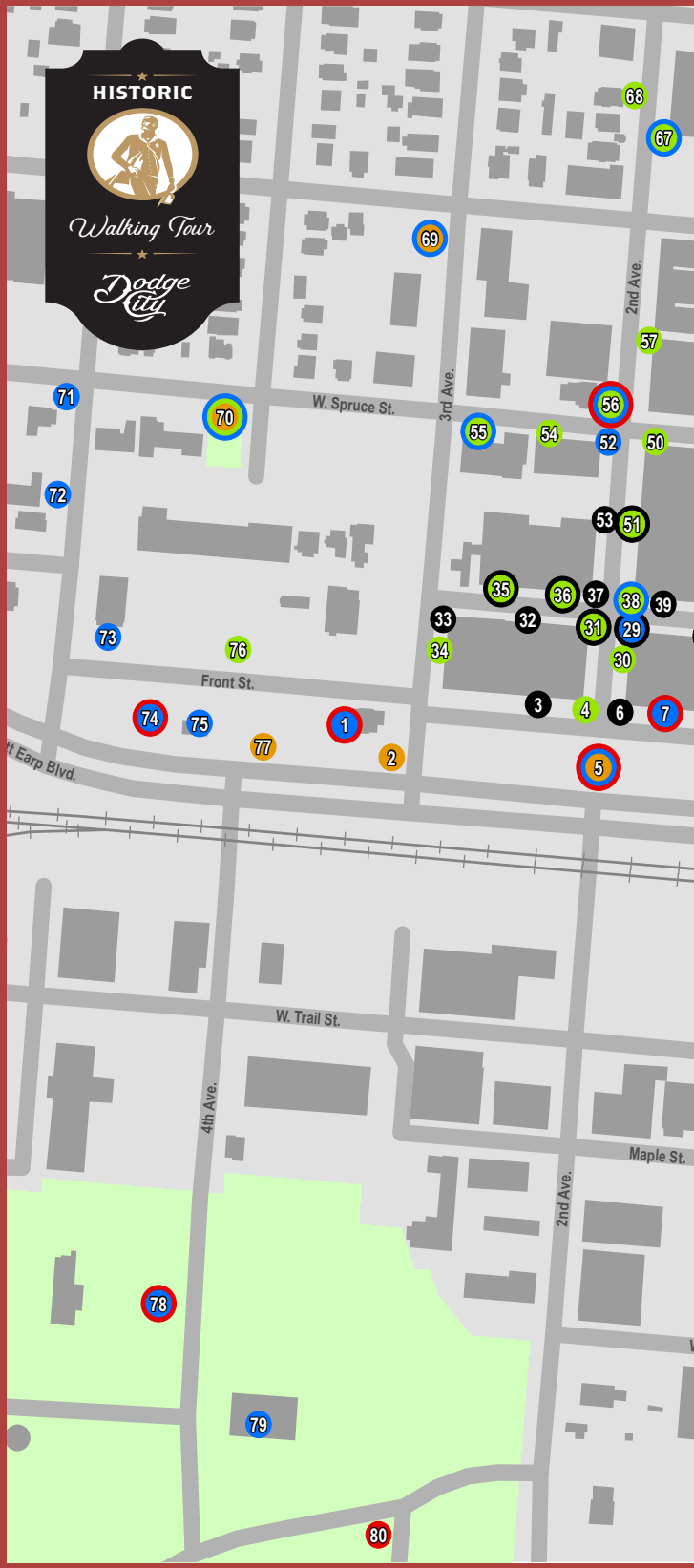
Dodge City, KS 67801

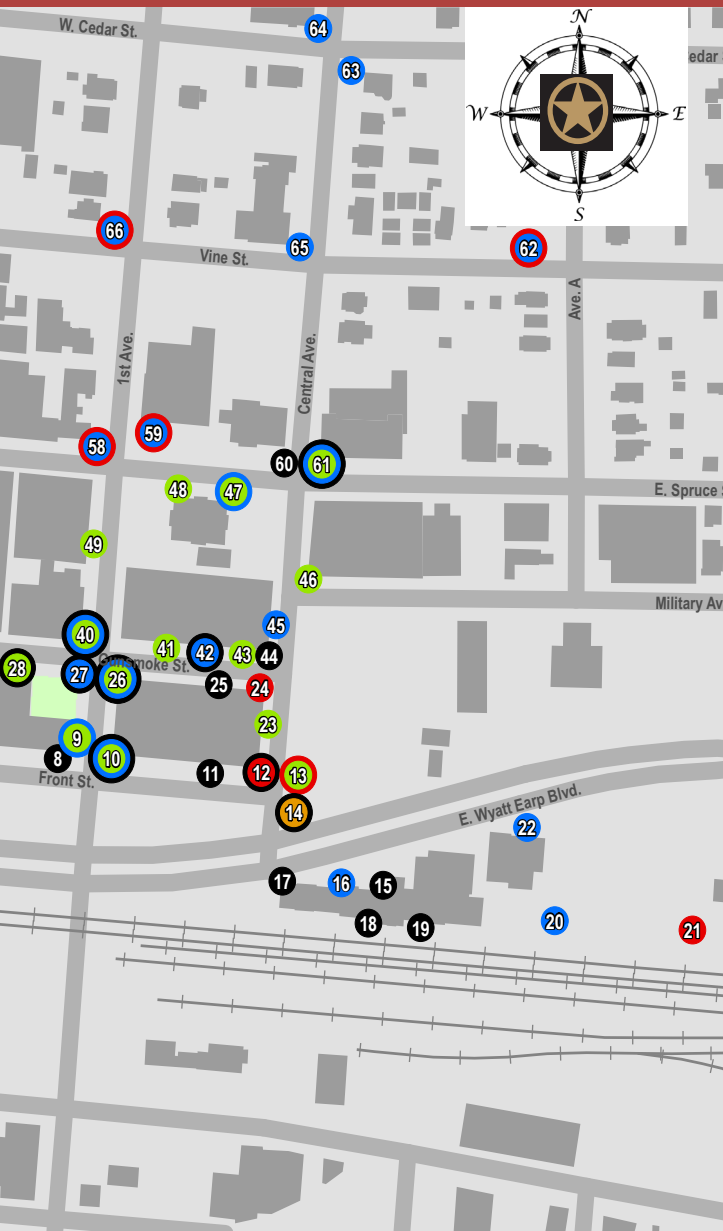
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Key

Dodge City Trail of Fame
Medallion

Location of Interest

Historical Information

Storyboard

Custom Pole Art Banner

Sculpture

LEGEND

Blue - Location of Interest

Red - Historical Information Storyboard

Black - Dodge City Trail of Fame Medallion

Green - Custom Pole Art Banner

Orange - Sculpture

1. Visitor Information Center / Convention & Visitors Bureau, Dodge City, A Frontier Legend
2. James Arness / Matt Dillon
3. Dennis Weaver
4. Steaming West
5. Western – WTHS, Dodge City, Full Of Excitement; The Longhorn Cattle Drive; Wild & Wooly Front Street, El Capitan
6. Charles Rath
7. Original Site – Front Street, Original Site - Front Street A Brief History
8. Joe Bogner
9. Bainbridge Building, Indian Overlooking Fort Dodge
10. Postal Tele. Office, “Big Nose” Kate Elder, Front Street
11. Hamilton Ham Bell
12. Dodge City, A Railroad Town, Doc Holliday
13. The 100th Meridian, Where East Meets West, The Ticket Master
14. Wyatt Earp, Wyatt Earp
15. Dennis Hopper
16. Santa Fe Depot
17. General Grenville M. Dodge
18. Fred Harvey
19. Don Steele
20. Historic Sundials
21. The Mexican Village: A City Within A City, Dodge City’s Mexican Village
22. The Homestead Theatre And Depot Theatre Business Office (Former Harvey Girl Dormitory)
23. Coronado Cross
24. Premier City Of Region
25. Henry Fonda
26. Former Location of Beason Theater, Chalk Beeson, Performing Arts
27. Eisenhower Park, “Buck” Taylor
28. Amanda Blake, The Frontier Doctor
29. Fidelity State Bank, Ben Bates, James Arness
30. Beautiful Boots
31. Milburn Stone, Reaping What You Sow
32. Ken Curtis
33. Burt Reynolds
34. Kicking High
35. Glenn Strange, Bulldogging
36. James Nusser, Connectivity
37. Gene Barry
38. J.C. Penny CO, Building The West

1. Bruce Boxleitner
2. Location Of First School On The Western Frontier, Roger Ewing, Hamilton Ham B. Bell
3. Lighting The Way
4. Dodge Theater Building, Errol Flynn
5. Million Dollar Block
6. Brig General George Armstrong Custer
7. Ford County Government Center (Former Lora-Locke Hotel), Military Reservation Marker
8. Immaculate Heart Of Mary Church
9. Ford County Courthouse, Religion Comes To Town
10. Roundhouse
11. Soule College
12. Celebrating The Arts
13. Hugh O'Brian, U.S. Signal Station
14. Former First National Bank Building
15. "Bat" Masterson
16. The High Stakes Game
17. Boot Hill Resource Center, Electrifying Rural Communities
18. Carnegie Center For The Arts, From Cattle Capital To Modern City, Cornerstone Of The Cattle Industry
19. Pressing News
20. St. Cornelius Episcopal Church, St. Cornelius' Episcopal Church History
21. Fallen Officer Memorial (Dodge City Police Department), Gospel Hill
22. T. L. McCarty
23. United States Post Office, Ramon House, Mueller-Schmidt House
24. Mueller-Schmidt House, Home Of Stone, The Mueller-Schmidt House, 1881
25. Sughrue Home
26. Sacred Heart Church
27. Presbyterian Church
28. Brick Streets, Hinkle House, Hinkle House
29. City Hall, The Long Trail
30. Heading For Dodge
31. Stan Herd Mural, La Salsa Man
32. Boot Hill Distillery (Former Municipal Building), Centennial Monument, Ham Bell Monument, Union Church Bell, Cowboy, Oxen Trail - Head Monument
33. Boot Hill Bed And Breakfast (Former Burr House)
34. Kansas Teachers Hall Of Fame And Gunfighters Wax Museum
35. Boot Hill Museum & Cemetery
36. 1139 Steam Engine, The Boot Hill Special Steam Engine
37. Sitka Kansas - Santa Fe Depot
38. Western Standoff
39. Doc Holliday
40. Long Branch Lagoon, Dodge City Swimming Pool History
41. Wright Park, Hoover Pavilion, Liberty Garden, Wright Park Zoo
42. Robert M. Wright

LEGEND

Blue - Location of Interest

Red - Historical Information Storyboard

Black - Dodge City Trail of Fame Medallion

Green - Custom Pole Art Banner

Orange - Sculpture

Handicap Accessible | Public Restroom | Main Street Dodge City
Historic Plaque Program



1. VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER / CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU: Visitor Information Center offers a rest stop for visitors to obtain information and brochures before seeing all of our Old West attractions. The Visitor Center also operates the Historic Trolley Tours of Dodge City's old west historical sites, Fort Dodge, and Dodge City's cattle industry four times daily from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. The 1900s replica trolley is fully enclosed (air-conditioned and heated) and handicap accessible.



DODGE CITY, A FRONTIER LEGEND

2. JAMES ARNESS / MATT DILLON: Actor and war hero James Arness was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as James Aurness. During WWII he was severely wounded during the Anzio, Italy invasion and earned a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and several other decorations. The 6'7" tall actor is best known for his 20 year - 617 episode portrayal of Marshal Matt Dillon on Gunsmoke, the longest-running TV western. His other TV western credits include 'How The West Was Won' and 'The Macahans.' View his medallion and handprints at #29 on the walking tour. (May 26, 1923 – June 3, 2011)

Depart sculpture platform, cross Front St. to the north and cross 3rd Ave. heading east

3. DENNIS WEAVER: An Emmy winning actor and environmentalist, Weaver got his real break on Gunsmoke in 1955, creating the memorable character Chester Goode – the stiff-legged assistant to Marshal Dillon. Like so many others who got their start on the show, Weaver moved on to even greater notoriety after co-starring with James Arness for 250 episodes. Dennis was the first inductee of the Dodge City Trail of Fame. (June 4, 1924 – February 24, 2006)
4. STEAMING WEST: In 1872, during the year the city was founded, the Santa Fe Railroad came to Dodge City as it journeyed west toward California. Sponsored by the Depot Theater Company.

Cross Front St. and head south toward Wyatt Earp Blvd.

5. GREAT WESTERN – WTHS: Western Cattle Trail, also known as the Great Western Cattle Trail, the Chisholm Trail, Fort Griffin Trail, Dodge City Trail, Northern Trail or Texas Trail, spanned from Texas north to Dodge City. The Great Western Trail was the most heavily traveled trail in the United States, passing through Dodge City where longhorns were either placed on railcars or continued north. The cattle boom ended in 1885 when the quarantine line moved west of Dodge City.

DODGE CITY, FULL OF EXCITEMENT; THE LONGHORN CATTLE DRIVE; WILD & WOOLY FRONT STREET

EL CAPITAN: El Capitan commemorates the Texas Longhorn that gave Dodge City its place in history as the “Queen of the Cowtowns.” Over 4 million head were driven up the trail to the Santa Fe Railhead in Dodge City.

Cross Front St. and head north to the east side of 2nd Ave.

6. CHARLES RATH: This German immigrant was a Dodge City pioneer arriving in 1872 when the city was founded and opened a mercantile trade dealing in buffalo hides. In 1896, he left Dodge City; headed west to California where he died in 1902 at the age of 66.
(1836 – July 30, 1902)
7. ORIGINAL SITE - FRONT STREET: On this site once stood a row of wooden structures that was the central business district of old Dodge City. The buildings housed numerous saloons and trading establishments frequented by buffalo hunters and cowboys. Some businesses located on this site were Wright & Beverly Store, Long Branch Saloon, and F.C. Zimmermann Hardware Store. Firearms were not allowed north of the railroad tracks (called the “deadline”). In the mid-1880s, two fires destroyed the wood buildings, resulting in the town rebuilding in brick (parking area bordered by 2nd Ave., Wyatt Earp Blvd., and 1st Ave.).

ORIGINAL SITE—FRONT STREET A BRIEF HISTORY

8. JOE BOGNER: Lifelong resident of Dodge City, Joe Bogner was a philanthropist and community leader. Joe became the owner of Western Beverage (the local Anheuser Busch distributor) in Dodge City in the early 1970s. Joe was very civically involved and supportive of his community, and his family continues his legacy.
(March 19, 1953 – April 14, 2015)
9. BAINBRIDGE BUILDING: 1905. The Bainbridge building was built as a specialty store along with several other commercial buildings built along the same block. The

Bainbridge's were associated with the Rath-Bainbridge Drug Company, which occupied the adjacent building. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



INDIAN OVERLOOKING FORT DODGE: Fort Dodge was established in 1865 to protect travelers along the Santa Fe Trail. It was decommissioned in 1882 and became the Kansas Soldiers Home in 1890 which continues to operate today.

Cross Front St. and 1st Ave. and continue east along Front St.

10. POSTAL TELE. OFFICE: 1916. The Postal Tele. Office building was built as a specialty store along with several other commercial buildings built along the same block. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



"BIG NOSE" KATE ELDER: Doc Holliday's love interest, her real name was Mary Katherine Horony but used Kate Elder as an alias while in Dodge City. The "Big Nose" moniker had nothing to do with her face but referred to her being "nosey." (November 9, 1849 – November 2, 1940)

FRONT STREET: Rebuilt in brick following two fires, the original Front Street was demolished in 1970 as an Urban Renewal project. Sponsored by Boot Hill Museum.

11. HAMILTON HAM BELL: Hamilton B. "Ham" Bell was a prominent citizen from the early days to his death in 1947. During his time in Dodge City, Ham opened the Elephant Livery & Corral, which was one of the first businesses in Dodge City. He also served as Undertaker, Deputy Marshal, and Ford County Sheriff. View his pole art banner at #40 on the walking tour. (1853 – 1947)

12. DODGE CITY, A RAILROAD TOWN

DOC HOLLIDAY: Dentist, gambler, and gunfighter; John Henry "Doc" Holliday arrived in Dodge City in early 1878 with paramour Big Nose Kate and practiced dentistry in Room 27 of the Dodge House Hotel. He saved Wyatt Earp from a saloon shooting that September and left for Las Vegas, New Mexico late that year. Immediately south of his medallion was the location of the Dodge House Hotel where he lived. View Doc Holliday's sculpture at #77 on the walking tour. (August 14, 1851 – November 8, 1887)

Cross Front St. and Central Ave. at the crosswalk and continue east

13. THE 100TH MERIDIAN, WHERE EAST MEETS WEST

THE TICKET MASTER: The shiny steel rails of the brand new Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad stretched into

Dodge City, and the town was waiting. The railroad initiated tremendous growth for many years. Already, south of the tracks, hastily built frame buildings, and tents were housing two grocery and general merchandise stores, a dance hall, a restaurant, a barber shop, a blacksmith shop – even a saloon next to Sitler’s original sod house. The famous Front Street legend had begun. Dodge City was already setting a record for growth. Sponsored by Gavin and Kim Unruh.

14. WYATT EARP: Buffalo hunter, teamster, lawman, gambler and saloon keeper, Wyatt Berry Stapp Earp served as Assistant City Marshal in 1876, 1877, and again in 1878. He briefly was Ford County Deputy Sheriff under Sheriff Bat Masterson in 1878 before leaving for Las Vegas, New Mexico. Earp returned to Dodge City as a member of “Dodge City Peace Commission” in 1883.
(March 19, 1848 – January 13, 1929)

WYATT EARP

Continue east to the protected crosswalk and cross Wyatt Earp Blvd.

15. DENNIS HOPPER: Renowned actor, filmmaker, and photographer, Hopper was born in Dodge City and lived here until just after WWII. Hearing the trains pass through town was his best memory of Dodge City.
(May 17, 1936 – May 29, 2010)
16. SANTA FE DEPOT: Built in 1897 and an addition added in 1898, the Richardson Romanesque architecturally-styled depot once housed a famed Harvey House Restaurant and Hotel (the largest “Harvey House” in Kansas). The current structure replaced the original boxcar depot and a subsequent wood building. Previously, a government warehouse occupied the area and served as a starting point for many excursions into the unsettled land southwest of Dodge City by government supply wagons. Construction of the Depot used 500,000 bricks. The basement held the boiler room, root cellar, coal house, store room, and laundry. The first floor contained the express offices, baggage rooms, ladies and gents waiting rooms, lunch counter, dining room, hotel office, kitchen, and storeroom. The second floor housed 28 sleeping rooms, ladies parlor, and there were five sleeping rooms on the third floor. The facility continues to serve as a stop for Amtrak’s Southwest Chief between Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Depot is open for viewing during regular business hours; the building entrance is at the double doors with a white and green awning. The Depot Theater Company offers guided tours by appointment throughout the year, call 620-225-1001 to arrange. The Santa Fe Depot houses a restored “Harvey House” hotel room on the east wing of the second floor as well as a Mexican Village display on the first floor. The Mexican Village was a small claim shanty town in the southeast corner of Dodge City from the early 1900s to the 1950s. The village

was home to railroad workers and their families that were recruited from south of the border. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



17. **GENERAL GRENVILLE M. DODGE:** Civil War general, statesman, and railroad magnate, Grenville Mellen Dodge lent his name to Fort Dodge, just east of present-day Dodge City, and inspired the railroad.
(April 12, 1831 – January 3, 1916)
18. **FRED HARVEY:** An innovative restaurateur and marketer, Fred Harvey is credited with creating the first restaurant chain in the United States. He developed the Harvey House lunch rooms, restaurants, souvenir shops, and hotels, which served rail passengers along America's railroads. He was also a leader in promoting tourism in the American Southwest in the late 19th century. Fred Harvey and his employees successfully brought new higher standards of both civility and dining to a region widely regarded in the era as "the Wild West." Dodge City's Santa Fe Depot was a Harvey House Restaurant and Hotel.
(June 27, 1835 – February 9, 1901)
19. **DON STEELE:** Instrumental in the restoration of the Dodge City Historic Santa Fe Depot, Don was the founder of the Depot Theater Company which performs regularly in the theater created in the building during restoration.
(June 29, 1948 –)
20. **HISTORIC SUNDIALS:** Passengers on the train, persons waiting for the train, and the ever-changing schedules were the reason for the sundials. Built in 1897 (reconstructed in 1928), the historic twin sundials dictate Central and Mountain Time zones for railroad travelers. Sun time and clock time are the same only four days of the year. During May, September, October, and November, sun time is much faster than clock time. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Cross the parking lot heading east toward Central Station Bar & Grill and the red caboose

**21. THE MEXICAN VILLAGE: A CITY WITHIN A CITY,
DODGE CITY'S MEXICAN VILLAGE**

Cross parking lot along Wyatt Earp Blvd. heading west toward Santa Fe Depot

22. **THE HOMESTEAD THEATER AND DEPOT THEATER BUSINESS OFFICE (FORMER HARVEY GIRLS DORMITORY):** Harvey House Restaurant and Hotel wait staff consisted of young women, the "Harvey Girls" who were required to live in dormitories and who had to obey strict rules of conduct. The Business Office is open during regular business hours and does not offer tours of the building. Listed

on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Follow sidewalk and grass back to the protected crosswalk in front of the Santa Fe Depot, continue along sidewalk to the west side of Central Ave. and Front St., and head north along Central Ave. to Gunsmoke St.

23. CORONADO CROSS: The Coronado Cross signifies the spot where Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, a Spanish explorer, is said to have crossed the Arkansas River in search of the fabled “Cities of Gold” in 1541.

Head west along Gunsmoke St.

24. PREMIER CITY OF REGION

25. HENRY FONDA: Four-time Academy Award winner, Fonda appears on the Dodge City Trail of Fame as one of many Hollywood actors tied inexorably to Dodge City for having starred as our most famous lawman, Wyatt Earp, in the 1946 movie My Darling Clementine.

(May 16, 1905 – August 12, 1982)

26. FORMER LOCATION OF BEESON THEATER (1915): The Chalk Beeson Theater was originally built in 1915 in honor of Chalkley (“Chalk”) Beeson by his sons Merritt and Otie. Beeson was a well-known Dodge City character. The theater hosted traveling vaudeville acts from 1915 until the 1920s and then operated as a movie theater until 1935 when the theater closed and was converted to a commercial building in 1935. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

CHALK BEESON: Chalkley “Chalk” McArtor Beeson was a businessman, lawman, cattleman, and saloon owner. Chalk served in almost every aspect of Dodge City life until his death in 1912. It is largely his collection of artifacts and documents which you can view at present day’s Boot Hill Museum. Interestingly enough, Chalk was the “real” owner of the original Long Branch Saloon, not Gunsmoke’s “Miss Kitty.” He also formed the Dodge City Cowboy Band in 1879, which continues today (thus making it the longest running municipal band west of the Mississippi). The Beeson Theater building was named after him.

(April 24, 1848 – August 9, 1912)

PERFORMING ARTS: Dodge City has been home to many performing arts venues over the years. Sponsored by a Friend of the Depot Theater.

Cross Gunsmoke St. and 1st Ave. and continue west

27. EISENHOWER PARK: Dedicated to Dodge City resident, Martha Elizabeth “Betty” Muncy, a volunteer and benefactor of the community who donated this land for this park to the City of Dodge City and named it Eisenhower Park in recognition of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

“BUCK” TAYLOR: Walter Clarence “Buck” Taylor, III; rancher, renowned western artist, and actor, starred from 1967 through 1975 as gunsmith turned Deputy Marshal Newly O’Brien in Gunsmoke. He is the son of well-known character actor Walter “Dub” Taylor. Buck placed his hands and signature in the concrete during his induction ceremony in 2004.

(May 13, 1938 –)

28. AMANDA BLAKE: Best known for her 19 years as Kitty Russell, owner of the Long Branch Saloon on Gunsmoke. She was born Beverly Louise Neill in Buffalo, New York, in 1929. A lifelong animal lover, Amanda was deeply involved in the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) in Galt, California, which she helped found and support until her death in 1989.

(February 20, 1929 – August 16, 1989)

THE FRONTIER DOCTOR: Samuel J. Crumbine, MD was the Kansas Health Officer from 1904—1924. He was instrumental in attacking Tuberculosis and diseases spread by flies and the common drinking cup. Sponsored by Dr. Clair & Eleanor Conard.

29. FIDELITY STATE BANK: The 1916 building’s classical architectural style was typical to financial institutions at the time of the bank’s construction. Original organizers of the bank, R.W. Evans and George Hoover made their fortunes during the city’s turbulent old west boom days.

BEN BATES: Texas native, Ben Bates was performing in the Chicago Rodeo in 1967 when an ad man spotted him. The cowboy was plucked from the horse circuit and made the new Marlboro Man. Two years later, he landed a gig that required even more of his natural cowboy skills. Bates became the stunt double for James Arness on Gunsmoke. For the final four seasons of the long-running Western, Bates performed the more dangerous Marshal Matt Dillon stunts. Bates continued to double Arness for a quarter century, in Gunsmoke reunion films.

(September 4, 1933 – October 4, 2017)

JAMES ARNESS: Actor and war hero Arness placed his signature and handprints on his medallion at his home in 2005. View his sculpture and more historical information at #2 on the walking tour.

(May 26, 1923 – June 3, 2011)

30. BEAUTIFUL BOOTS: The Women’s Chamber of Commerce supports many activities including beautification. The sunflowers and other wildflowers are seen across the prairie landscape. Sponsored by the Dodge City Area Women’s Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

Cross Gunsmoke St. and 2nd Ave. and continue west

31. MILBURN STONE: The only native Kansan on the cast of Gunsmoke, Stone hailed from Burrton, Kansas, not Dodge City, though he starred as the crusty “Doc Adams” for 500 episodes of the show. Stone started in vaudeville as a song-and-dance-man but made it big in 1955 in Gunsmoke where he won a well-deserved Emmy in 1968.
(July 5, 1904 – June 12, 1980)

REAPING WHAT YOU SOW: Grain farming in arid southwest Kansas began as families settled in the area. Sponsored by Fred & Linda Casterline.

32. KEN CURTIS: Born Curtis Wain Gates in nearby Lamar, Colorado, Ken Curtis started out replacing Frank Sinatra as a vocalist with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra and sang with the Sons of the Pioneers. Changing his name to Ken Curtis during his singing career he eventually created the role of scruffy, hillbilly deputy Festus Hagan on Gunsmoke. He appeared in 252 episodes from 1959 through the show’s end in 1975.
(July 2, 1916 – April 28, 1991)

33. BURT REYNOLDS: With too many acting, directing and producing credits in the film and television industry to mention, few people haven’t heard of Burt Reynolds. For Dodge City fame, he played Quint Asper, the half-Native American blacksmith and sometimes deputy in Gunsmoke for three seasons.
(February 11, 1936 – September 6, 2018)

34. KICKING HIGH: In the late 1800s, Dodge City boasted 19 establishments licensed to sell liquor, with several hosting floor shows that included dancers.

Cross Gunsmoke St. to the north side of the street and head east along Gunsmoke St.

35. GLENN STRANGE: This American actor who mostly appeared in western films, is best remembered for his role as Sam Noonan, the famous bartender on Gunsmoke, some skills of which he may have learned from his father who was a bartender and later a rancher. He is also remembered for his performances, playing Frankenstein’s monster in three Universal films in the 1940s.
(August 16, 1899 – September 20, 1973)

BULLDOGGING: The rodeo allowed cowboys to display their many skills with horses and cattle. Dodge City hosts one of the premier rodeo events in the United States and Kansas’ only Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) Wrangler Million Dollar Tour Rodeo.

36. JAMES NUSSER: After playing various roles on radio’s Gunsmoke, in its sixth year on television, he was cast in the role of Dodge City’s town drunk “Louie Pheeters.” Nusser truly blossomed in the role, and Gunsmoke fans loved him. Most drunks on TV then were played by comedians, but Nusser’s

lifelong struggle with alcoholism allowed him to bring total believability to the character of Louie.

(May 3, 1905 – June 6, 1979)

CONNECTIVITY: The Pony Express did not pass through Dodge City, the banner represents the transition to the more reliable and speedy communication ability of the telegraph. Sponsored by Rick Sowers & family.

37. **GENE BARRY:** The TV show *Bat Masterson* in 1958 pulled the dapper Barry from “B” movie obscurity and made him a legendary TV star. In the 1960s, he created the character Amos Burke in *Burke’s Law* and Glenn Howard in *The Name of the Game* for which he won a Golden Globe in 1968. (June 14, 1919 – December 9, 2009)

Cross Gunsmoke St. and 2nd Ave. and continue east

38. **J.C. PENNY CO:** 1915. The J.C. Penny CO. building was built as a specialty store along with several other stores along the same block. J.C. Penny CO. operated out of this building until 1930 when it relocated to a new two-story building. The building was then divided into two sections; *Warshaw’s* (men’s furnishings store) on the south half and *Servery Store* on the north half which is now *Warrior Lawyers International*.



BUILDING THE WEST: Wagons along the Santa Fe Trail brought many families to the Dodge City and Ford County area. Sponsored by the Credit Union of Dodge City.

39. **BRUCE BOXLEITNER:** Bruce has made guest appearances in many other TV shows, including *Gunsmoke*. He is best known for his leading roles in the television series ‘*How the West Was Won*,’ ‘*Bring ‘Em Back Alive*,’ ‘*Scarecrow and Mrs. King*,’ and others. He also starred in *The Gambler* TV film series alongside *Kenny Rogers*. (May 12, 1950 –)

40. **LOCATION OF FIRST SCHOOL ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER:** In 1873, a one-room building was built on the corner of First Ave. and Gunsmoke St. where the AT&T building is today. “Here they constructed a small one-story, one-room frame building, which of course in keeping with tradition of that time was painted red,” *Heinie Schmidt*, a reporter for the *High Plains Journal*, wrote in 1949. It was the first school in Dodge City. And, some claimed, the first school on the western frontier. Eleven students attended — ten boys and one girl. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

ROGER EWING: Ewing is best remembered for his characterization of part-time Deputy Marshal Clayton Thaddeus “Thad” Greenwood in 36 episodes of *Gunsmoke*. Other acting credits include appearances on TV series

Bewitched, Rawhide, The Bing Crosby Show, as well as film credits in None But the Brave, Play It As It Lays, Smith!, and others. After his acting career ended, Ewing returned to his previous work as a photographer.

(January 12, 1942 –)

HAMILTON 'HAM' BELL: View his medallion and more historical information at #11 on this walking tour. Sponsored by Nancy Sherer and Family and in memory of Jim Sherer.

Cross Gunsmoke St. and 1st Ave. and continue east

41. LIGHTING THE WAY: The chuckwagon was the rolling café for drovers riding herd as cattle moved north from Texas. Torches supplemented moon-light during the evenings. Sponsored by the Community Foundation of Southwest Kansas.
42. DODGE THEATER BUILDING: 1929 - One of the first Spanish-style theaters in the west, the Dodge Theater was constructed in 1929. It was also the first theater to add air conditioning and the first to purify the air during the dust bowl years. The theater was built not only for movies but for stage performances as well. In April 1939, the Dodge Theater (one of three theaters in Dodge City) played host to the most spectacular, and first ever, Hollywood world premiere to occur outside of Hollywood. The movie "Dodge City" brought over 40 Hollywood stars into Dodge City, including the film's leading actors. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

ERROL FLYNN: Heartthrob and swashbuckler roles made this Tasmanian born actor a household word during his 50-year life. He co-starred with Olivia DeHavilland and Ann Sheridan in the 1939 movie "Dodge City."

(June 20, 1909 – October 14, 1959)

43. MILLION DOLLAR BLOCK: Commonly referred to as the "Million Dollar Block," the section of buildings on the north side of Gunsmoke St. and bordered by Central Ave. and First Ave. reflect the optimism and community spirit of the early 1900s. The block was completed in 1929. Sponsored by RSC Equipment Rental.
44. BRIG GENERAL GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER: A decorated civil war cavalry officer (actually a "Brevet" or temporary Major General), in 1868 Custer and his 7th Cavalry were briefly at nearby Fort Dodge before cutting the wagon road south to Camp Supply in present-day Oklahoma. He then attacked the Cheyenne camp of Chief Black Kettle on the Washita River resulting in most of the southern Cheyenne moving onto reservations. Military Ave. was the original road to Fort Dodge.
- (December 5, 1839 – June 25, 1876)

Head north along Central Ave.

45. FORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER (FORMER LORA-LOCKE HOTEL): The former Lora-Locke Hotel opened in March of 1928. The five-story, Italian Renaissance architectural style building, allowed for multiple unique features. A ‘Twentieth Century Marvel’ with elegant rooms as luxurious as a fancy East Coast hotel boasted 115 rooms. The Lora-Locke was the hub of downtown featuring a ‘Speakeasy’ Club, multiple dining facilities, Rose Ball and Banquet Rooms, and a coffee shop. The Lora-Locke Hotel closed in 1978 and was purchased by Ford County (serving as the Ford County Government Center) in 1989. Dodge Citians once referred to this block as the “Million Dollar Block” due to a large capital outlay to construct the buildings. More information about the structure is inside the window on the east side of the building as well as inside the lobby. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



MILITARY RESERVATION MARKER: A marker on the sidewalk adjacent to the east door of Ford County Government Center (former Lora-Locke Hotel) indicates the northwest corner of the Fort Dodge Military Reservation established in 1865.

46. IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH: German immigrants to the area founded the church located in Windthorst, Kansas. It is on the National Register of Historic Sites. Sponsored by Windthorst Heritage, Inc.

Head west along Spruce St.

47. FORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE: The building was erected in 1913 to replace an early version located on the same site, and was built in the Roman Renewal style reflecting the early 20th-century trend of classical Roman themes for American public buildings. The outside is white Bedford stone with Berea limestone columns, and the original interior consisted of Alabama marble. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

RELIGION COMES TO TOWN: A group of Methodists and Presbyterians were instrumental in the establishment of the Union Church, the first in Dodge City. Several denominations used the church. Later, each group constructed their own house of worship. The Methodist Church was located on the west side of First St. near Vine St. Sponsored by the Keystone Class, First United Methodist Church.

48. ROUNDHOUSE: The Roundhouse was used to repair locomotives, and was located about one mile east of the depot and south of the tracks. The original turntable remains on the site. Sponsored by Jack & Glatha Denton.

Cross Spruce St. and 1st Ave. and continue west

49. SOULE COLLEGE: Founded by Asa Soule, the college opened

in 1888 operated by the Presbyterian Church. It was donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church, then sold to the Catholic Diocese becoming St. Mary's Academy and later St. Mary's of the Plains College. This original building was destroyed in 1942 by a tornado. Sponsored by St. Mary's of the Plains Alumni Association.

50. **CELEBRATING THE ARTS:** The Carnegie Art Center is depicted in the banner. Sponsored by the Dodge City Area Arts Council.
51. **HUGH O'BRIAN:** In 1955, the lead role in *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp* pulled this actor from relative obscurity into the living rooms of millions of Americans. He remained a bachelor until the age of 81. His medallion is located in front of the building which formerly housed the *Journal Press*, a publication which eventually became today's nationally known *High Plains Journal*, with offices still located in Dodge City. (April 19, 1925 – September 5, 2016)

U.S. SIGNAL STATION: Dodge City has had a weather facility since its early years. This building was the second weather station and the first to record weather statistics for Ford County.

Cross Spruce St. and 2nd Ave. and continue west

52. **FORMER FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING:** Dodge City's "skyscraper," of five stories, was constructed in 1930 and is graced with a massive mural painted by the internationally known artist, Stan Herd. The mural models Fredrick Remington's "The Old Stagecoach of the Plains" painting. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.
53. **"BAT" MASTERSON:** Buffalo hunter, gambler, lawman, sports writer, army scout, William Bartholomew "Bat" Masterson moved to Dodge City to join brothers Ed and James in 1877. Bat served as an Assistant City Marshal and in late 1877 was elected Ford County Sheriff. Defeated in the 1879 election, he left Dodge City but returned briefly in 1883 as a member of the "Dodge City Peace Commission." About 150 feet west of his medallion was the location of his home. (November 26, 1853 – October 25, 1921)
54. **THE HIGH STAKES GAME:** Card playing is part of the west in history and modern times.

55. **BOOT HILL RESOURCE CENTER**

ELECTRIFYING RURAL COMMUNITIES: Rural electrification became a reality for rural areas with the passing of the Rural Electrification Act in 1935. Chartered in 1945, the Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc. started with just over 300 miles of line in rural areas surrounding Dodge City. Victory Electric purchased services of the City of Dodge City in 2007, and its citizens became members. Currently Victory

Electric has over 3,200 miles of line. Sponsored by Victory Electric Cooperative Assn., Inc.

Cross Spruce St. to the north side of the street and head east

56. **CARNEGIE CENTER FOR THE ARTS:** The former Carnegie Library was constructed in 1907 with a grant from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, featuring a rare corner entrance and rounded architectural features established the Carnegie Library in Dodge City as one of the more unique Carnegie libraries. The structure is home to the Dodge City Area Arts Council's Community Arts Center. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



FROM CATTLE CAPITAL TO MODERN CITY

CORNERSTONE OF THE CATTLE INDUSTRY: In 1936, Karl Winter purchased the livestock auction facility in Dodge City and leased the Santa Fe Stockyards used in the heyday of the cattle drives. Winter Livestock Commission Company sold some 29,886 head in the first year of operations. Winter Livestock marketed over 650,000 head in 2017, making it America's largest independent cattle auction company. Dodge City's location is managed by Brian and Darci Winter, fourth-generation ranchers in Southwest Kansas. Sponsored by Winter Livestock, Inc.

Cross Spruce St. and 2nd Ave. and continue east

57. **PRESSING NEWS:** The newspaper was a large part of life in early Dodge City and many communities. It provided not only the reporting of local events but what was happening across the land. Sponsored by Martha E. Muncy.
58. **ST. CORNELIUS EPISCOPAL CHURCH:** Built in 1898, St. Cornelius Episcopal Church is the oldest church building still in use in Dodge City. It is constructed of native stone used formerly in an ice house owned by Henry Sturm, an early day businessman. Sturm donated the stone to the church when he demolished his ice house. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

ST. CORNELIUS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Cross Spruce St. and 1st Ave. and continue east

59. **FALLEN OFFICER MEMORIAL (DODGE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT)**

GOSPEL HILL

60. **T. L. MCCARTY:** Dr. Thomas L. McCarty was a pioneer who arrived in Dodge City in November of 1872 and decided to stay since the town needed a doctor. He built the first hospital near the famous Long Branch Saloon and a second

larger facility where the Landmark Bank currently stands.
(November 27, 1848 - 1930)

Cross Spruce St. and Central Ave.

61. UNITED STATES POST OFFICE: Built in 1932 and renovated in the 1970s, the Italian Renaissance architecturally designed building retains the elaborate terra-cotta exterior design and wooden windows. It is located on Central Ave., once known as “Silk Stocking Avenue” by locals because early day wealthy Dodge Citians constructed homes on this street. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



RAMON HOUSE: Marshal Ramon K. House served as the last official US Marshal of Dodge City. His office was located in the US Post Office building.

(September 25, 1915 – September 1, 1998)

MUELLER-SCHMIDT HOUSE: Built to be one of the most splendid homes in Dodge City, Ford County’s “Home of Stone” lives up to this, even today. It remains the lone limestone house in Dodge City, elegant in its simplicity of line. It can also claim the distinction of being one of the oldest building in Dodge City. View location of interest for historic information at #62 on the walking tour.

Head north on Central Ave. to Vine St. and then take a right toward Ave. A

62. MUELLER-SCHMIDT HOUSE, HOME OF STONE: 1881— This home was constructed from 1879 to 1881 of native limestone, a building material quarried north of Dodge City. The ‘Home of Stone’ was owned by only two families, John Mueller was a bootmaker who came to Dodge City to open a boot store and built the home. The home and furnishings were sold to Adam Schmidt in 1890. Adam’s two unmarried children lived in the home until 1960 and sold it with all its furnishing to Ford County in 1965. The Ford County Historical Society curates it for the county and is open for viewing June through mid-August (closed the remainder of the year except by appointment). Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

THE MUELLER—SCHMIDT HOUSE, 1881

Head west on Vine St. to Central Ave. and turn north

63. SUGHRUE HOME: 1900 - This home is associated with the Sughrue family who lived in Dodge City from 1915-1978. P.H. Sughrue, the cousin of notable lawmen Pat and Mike Sughrue, served as an early day marshal. Decorative ironwork from early Dodge City buildings enhances the patio and garden areas. **This is a private residence and not open for public viewing.**

**Cross Cedar St. to the north and then cross Central Ave.
to the west**

64. SACRED HEART CHURCH: Located on "Gospel Hill" and built on the first Catholic Church (1882) site, the 1916 church is of Spanish Mission architectural style. Carved Bedford limestone surrounds a front doorway. George Melville Stone, a well-known Kansas artist, painted the 26' by 26' altar mural and the stained glass windows are by Emil Frei. The church is open for viewing. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

Cross Central Ave. and Cedar St. and continue south

65. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Located on "Gospel Hill," this present church, built in 1925, was built on the first Presbyterian Church (1880) site. Distinctive architectural features of the structure include a red tile roof, interior stained glass windows, elaborate interior woodwork, and excellent exterior stonework. Gospel Hill was the site of early day Dodge City churches said to overlook the debauchery occurring daily on Front Street.

Turn west on Vine St. and continue west to 1st Ave.

66. BRICK STREETS: Dodge City has approximately 14 miles of well-preserved brick streets constructed between 1912 and 1925. The dark red pavers are more than two inches thick and are considered the highest in quality. At intersections, a cross-diagonal weave design prevents heavy vehicles from tearing up the streets when making turns. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.

HINKLE HOUSE: Constructed by bartender George Hinkle in 1880. Hinkle served as Sheriff from 1880 to 1884 after defeating Bat Masterson in the election. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. **This a private residence and not open for public viewing.**

HINKLE HOUSE

Turn north on 2nd Ave.

67. CITY HALL

THE LONG TRAIL: Cattle drives brought thousands of longhorns to Dodge City from Texas. The railroad provided a shipping point to slaughterhouses of the east. Sponsored by Kent & Dee Smoll.

Head north to Cedar St., cross 2nd Ave. and turn south toward Vine St.

68. HEADING FOR DODGE: The Dodge City and Panhandle Stage Line carried mail, freight, and passengers to and from the Indian Territory and Texas. Sponsored by the Strobel

Family in memory of Ken Strobel.

Turn west along Vine St. toward 3rd Ave. Cross 3rd Ave. and Vine St. and then cross Vine St. on 3rd Ave. heading south

69. STAN HERD MURAL: Stan Herd was born in Protection, Kansas in 1950. From an early age, he was interested in drawing and portraying life in rural America. He attended Wichita State University on an art scholarship. After college, Herd returned to his agricultural roots by pioneering an art form called Crop Art. Along with the attention Herd has received for his Crop Art, he has been recognized for his mural works throughout the United States. Other murals by Herd can be seen throughout the community; the former First National Bank, Western Beverage building, a chronologically historical mural on the National Beef Packing Plant.

LA SALSA MAN: La Salsa Man is a 26 feet tall sculpture created by the late actor Dennis Hopper. The Carnegie Center for the Arts and the Dodge City Area Arts Council accepted the donation from the Dennis Hopper Art Trust on April 15, 2013.

Head south on 3rd Ave. and cross Spruce St. at the light. Turn west along Spruce St.

70. BOOT HILL DISTILLERY (FORMER MUNICIPAL BUILDING): The building, opened in 1929, initially housed city offices, the city jail, police and fire stations until the 1960s. Of Spanish Mission style architecture, the structure retains remnants of an earlier City Hall built in 1888, then demolished when town fathers constructed this building. Rescued from the 1888 City Hall is a buffalo head over the doorway on the north side of the building. Boot Hill Distillery is proud to continue the legacy of Boot Hill and Dodge City in this building, offering tours of the building and the distilling processes. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places.



CENTENNIAL MONUMENT

HAM BELL MONUMENT

UNION CHURCH BELL: The Union Church Bell rang at the first church building in Dodge City, Union Church. This church was a community church used by all faiths.

COWBOY: Early day pioneer dentist, Dr. O.H. Simpson, sculpted the cowboy sculpture in 1927 to commemorate the Dodge City cowboy era and the cattle drives. Simpson used a live model, Joe Sughrue, to form plaster of paris molds for his sculpture. Sughrue was a former cowboy and later a marshal of Dodge City.

OXEN TRAIL-HEAD MONUMENT: Inscribed by Lane

Dutton; "My Trails Have Become Your Highway, Seven Million Head of Longhorns Marketed From Dodge City, 70's - 80's". This monument is a tribute to the Texas cattle drives and placed on Boot Hill in 1932.

Cross Spruce St. and 5th Ave. and head south

71. FORMER BURR HOUSE: Constructed in 1927, the Burr House is an excellent local example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style and its associations with successful Dodge City businessman and real estate developer Hiram Burr, a descendant of Aaron Burr. Listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. **Not open for public viewing.**

72. KANSAS TEACHERS HALL OF FAME AND GUNFIGHTERS WAX MUSEUM: Exhibits dedicated to early and present-day Kansas teachers who have devoted their lives to this fine profession. The Wax Museum features life-size figures of famous old west individuals.

Cross Walnut St. and 5th Ave. and head east to follow the sidewalk south toward Front St. and turn east

73. BOOT HILL MUSEUM & CEMETERY: A replica of 1870s/1880s famous Front Street and western history, the museum complex is located on the original site of Boot Hill Cemetery. Summer entertainment includes the Long Branch Saloon Variety Show, chuckwagon style dinner, and gunfight reenactments. Listed on the State Register of Historic Places.



Cross Front St. south across the parking lot and head east

74. 1139 STEAM ENGINE: Built in 1903 by Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for a cost of \$19,846.98. It has a boiler that holds 8,500 gallons of water. The boiler was heated by burning oil. The oil tank has a capacity of 3,300 gallons. The locomotive has traveled approximately one million miles.

THE BOOT HILL SPECIAL STEAM ENGINE

75. SITKA KANSAS - SANTA FE DEPOT: Built in 1930 in Sitka Kansas, about 60 miles southeast of Dodge City. It was eventually moved to Ashland, Kansas where it housed a small railroad museum before being transferred to Boot Hill Museum in 1970.

76. WESTERN STANDOFF: Dodge City had the reputation of a sometimes lawless community. Through the years, Dodge has had many titles: Buffalo Capital of the World, Cowboy Capital, Queen of the Cowtowns, Wickedest Little City in America, Beautiful Bibulous Babylon of the Frontier, and others. Sponsored by Bell and Carlson.

77. DOC HOLLIDAY: View his medallion and more historical

information at #12 on the walking tour.

Cross Wyatt Earp Blvd. at the protected crosswalk, heading south along 4th Ave. into Wright Park

78. **LONG BRANCH LAGOON:** Long Branch Lagoon, Dodge City's western themed water park, features a multiple pool design; consisting of a 50-meter competition pool, a lazy river with an integrated wave pool, and a shallow water leisure pool. Each pool is packed with exciting aquatic features, including rockscaping with waterfalls, various water slides, playful sprays, deep water diving, climbing walls, and a large interactive play structure with a dumping bucket.



DODGE CITY SWIMMING POOL HISTORY

79. **WRIGHT PARK:** Dodge City's Wright Park began in 1883 when Robert Wright platted the park and Peter Mootz began landscaping. Wright Park is home to Wright Park Zoo, Hoover Pavilion, Liberty Garden, the Municipal Band Shell, and many plaques and memorials.

HOOVER PAVILION: The building was erected in 1919 and named for George M. Hoover who was one of the first citizens and retailers of Dodge City as well as the second mayor. Tradition has it that the city began when Hoover pitched his tent on the town site and began selling whiskey from a barrel in a tin cup. Hoover left a large part of his estate (at his death in 1914) to the City of Dodge City, partly to build the Pavilion, a famous meeting hall in Wright Park. The Spanish style pavilion has stucco walls and a red tile roof. Beautifully restored/renovated, the facility is available to host meetings, receptions, performances, and events.

LIBERTY GARDEN: A peaceful memorial to remember the tragedies of September 11, 2001. The site includes pieces of the World Trade Center and Pentagon buildings and stones from the grove at Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

WRIGHT PARK ZOO: In 1922, the Kiwanis Club proposed a bird sanctuary in Wright Park. In a few short years the sanctuary grew into a zoo when Dodge City acquired two North American black bears, and by 1946 two buffalo, three bears, eight to ten deer, six peafowls, six monkeys, a flock of geese and ducks, numerous lions, and an eagle all called Wright Park Zoo home. The animal's enclosures were scattered about the park until the mid-20th century when the zoo took its current form, occupying approximately five acres in the southwest portion of the park. In October of 2010, Wright Park Zoo gained accreditation with the Zoological Association of America.



80. **ROBERT R. WRIGHT**