

\*\*MICODEMUS HISTORICAL SOCIET\*

\*\*AND MUSEUM

"The Master Has Already Written The Scrip

611 South 5th Street

Historic Nicodemus, KS, 67625

# NICODE MUS SOCIETY ST. 10

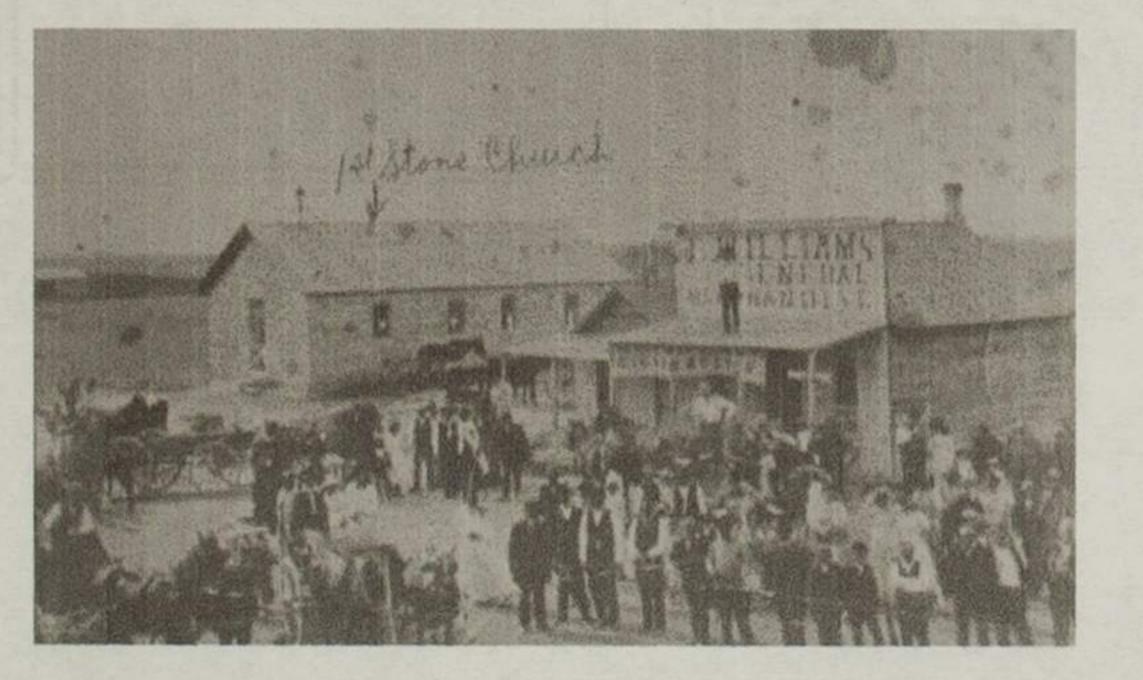
# NICODEMUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

"The Master Has Already Written the Script"

611 South 5th Street
Nicodemus, Kansas 67625
nichis@ruraltel.net
785-839-4280

Hours of Operation;
Saturday 10:00 – 4:00
Sunday 1:00 – 4:00
All other times by appointment only.

National Historic Site (1996) National Historic Landmark (1976) An All African-American Town



# ABOUT THE SOCIETY

## **OUR MISSION**

To *collect, preserve*, and *interpret* the history of Nicodemus and its founders, residents, and descendents. To assist in the preservation of the remaining historic buildings of Nicodemus.

### **OUR MUSEUM**

Our museum is located on the south end of the historic town of Nicodemus, and was the former home of historian and town resident, Ola Wilson. The house was donated to the Nicodemus Historical Society in 1992 and was reopened October 2005, with the assistance from a grant provided by the Hansen Foundation. It houses our archival collections, exhibits, and offices. We are currently working to upgrade the exterior and interior with heating and air conditioning, running water, new and secure windows, doors, siding, and resurfacing the porch. We welcome any donations to assist us in our endeavors.

#### OUR KU COLLECTION

# Kansas University-Spencer Research Library

In 1990 the Nicodemus Historical Society established a photographic and materials collection at the Spencer Research Library. This collection houses one of the nation's most comprehensive and prominent African American photographic collections. It is used and sought out by professionals, media, and students nationwide. Photos included, but are not limited to farming, hunting, women, families, portraits, buildings, etc. The manuscripts include organizational and personal records, diaries, correspondences, receipts, record books, obituaries, etc.

#### **OUR EXHIBITS**

We currently have two exhibits: (1) The Kansas-Kentucky Connection. That covers the history of the migration from Kentucky to Kansas and the general history of the town up to present day. It includes 10 text and photo panels, and 10 historic farmed photos. (2) The Women of Nicodemus is a10 historic photographic exhibit. (Available for traveling)

Ways You Can Help

Genealogy-Photo Collections-Fund Raising
Memberships-Volunteering

# OUR ANNUAL EVENTS

# Pioneer Day

This annual event is usually held the second week in October. The highlight of the event is to feature crafts, foods, bake sale, living history programs, period games, hay/wagon rides, etc. The history of Nicodemus is highlighted.

# Christmas Tree Trimming Party

This annual event is held the first or second Saturday in December. A large tree is donated by Prairie Dell Pines, tree farm near Ogalla. In the spirit of giving Lynn and his wife Karla Davignon, started the tradition in 2001, of donating one of their trees to the Historical Society for the community. Children and adults participate in the selection of the tree at the tree farm. The tree is put up in the Township Hall and decorated, with refreshments and Christmas music provided. Everyone is encouraged to bring an ornament.

#### **OUR PROGRAMS**

Angela Bates, Executive Director, and former founder and president, is available for a slide and history presentations covering the history of Nicodemus. This 1 hour program has been presented to schools and organizations throughout the state of Kansas and around the nation. Call to arrange for this dynamic presentation!

#### **OUR GIFT SHOP**

A small section in our museum is dedicated to selling selected items. Our logo t-shirts and hats are among the most popular items sold. Other items include, stationary, greeting cards, posters, books, coloring books, documentary film, commemorative stamped items, crafts, Nicodemus Flour COOP items and Ernestine's BBQ Sauce.

#### OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS

Emancipation/Homecoming Celebration
Last Week End in July

Nicodemus Jazz Festival September (call 785-421-3311for date)