



## HAVE HISTORY, WILL TRAVEL

The Lansing Historical Museum is dedicated to the advancement of history education through interpretive exhibits and educational programs. In-house and outreach programs can be tailored to a group or organization's needs. Scout troops, school classes, 4-H clubs, social groups, and senior citizen complexes are encouraged to contact the Museum for programming.

The Museum offers special guided tours for school field trips and larger groups. Prior arrangement is required. Internships are available to high school or college students.

Receive updates about the Lansing Historical Museum's activities, exhibits, and collections on Facebook. Also, check the City of Lansing's website:

[www.lansing.ks.us](http://www.lansing.ks.us)



## RESEARCH REQUESTS

The Museum's growing collection is available to researchers. Patrons are strongly encouraged to contact the Museum before visiting to make sure somebody with knowledge of the collection will be available to assist with research.

The Museum has many prison related items. However, patrons needing inmate records need to contact the Kansas Historical Society at [www.kshs.org](http://www.kshs.org).

The Museum has a large collection of yearbooks that patrons may utilize in their research. We also have selected school records from some of the local one-room schools including Delaware School and Nine Mile School.

### Museum Hours

Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sunday 1-4 p.m.



# Lansing Historical Museum



115 East Kansas Avenue

Lansing, KS 66043

(913) 250-0203

[www.lansing.ks.us](http://www.lansing.ks.us)

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## LANSING'S HISTORY

Delaware Township played a vital role in the early history of Leavenworth County. In 1854, Delaware City was located two miles east of present day Lansing. After losing the election for the county seat to Leavenworth, the town slowly died. Many residents of Delaware City moved to the nearby city Town of Progress.

In 1878, William Taylor Lansing and John Schmidt purchased and platted 90 acres and named the town Lansing. Eventually Progress and Lansing would merge into what is now Lansing. In 1959, the city of Lansing became incorporated and in 2010, the population surpassed 11,000 people.

## LANSING HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Lansing Historical Museum is a historically accurate restoration of the 1887 Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe depot. It is a classic example of a standardized rural/small town combination station. In 1989, the depot was in danger of being demolished. Concerned citizens formed the Lansing Historical Society to save the depot. The depot was given to the Society with the stipulation that it be moved from its original site. The Lansing Correctional Facility offered a location on its grounds, and it has resided there since 1992.

The Lansing Depot is one of the few surviving historic buildings of Lansing. The buildings in the east side of Main Street were demolished in the 1960s to expand the highway to four lanes.

The Museum's collection includes artifacts from the Santa Fe Railroad, the Kansas State Penitentiary, local schools, and businesses. In addition to permanent displays, the West Room features temporary exhibits throughout the year.

**PRISON HISTORY** In 1859, the Kansas Legislature authorized the creation of the Kansas State Penitentiary. Architect Erasmus Carr, who designed the Capitol building in Topeka, designed the new prison. Construction began in 1864 with the use of inmate labor; however, the Civil War delayed the project. In 1867, workers completed the main building and inmates were relocated there in 1868. In 1990, the Kansas State Penitentiary became the Lansing Correctional Facility. LCF is the largest prison in the Department of Corrections. The medium and maximum units are located on Kansas Avenue. The minimum prisoners are housed at East Unit on Highway 5.

