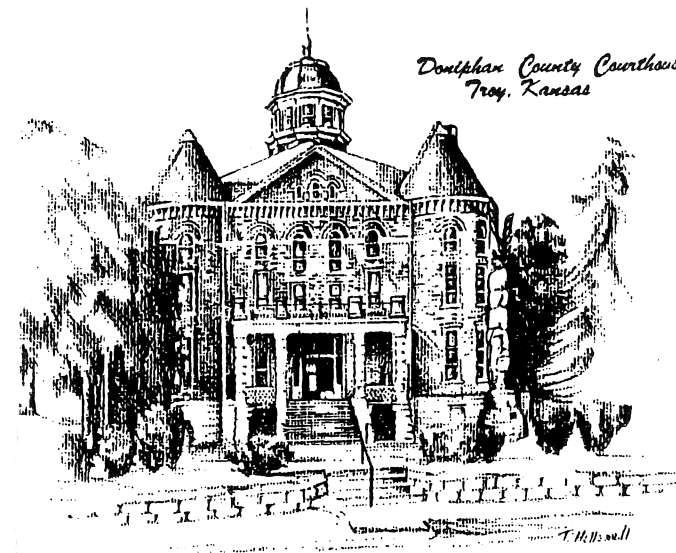


Doniphan County Courthouse
Troy, Kansas



DONIPHAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The first courthouse in Troy was actually built across the street north of the present location and part of it in later years was used as a hotel known as the Higby House.

The first courthouse on the courthouse square was built in 1858 about where the present jail is located. It was built at a cost of \$15,000.00 and was considered by many as the "monstrosity of human architecture".

On March 12, 1867, the courthouse burned and there ensued a furious battle to have the courthouse located in other towns. The commissioners were offered many inducements of lots, building sites and bonuses. A general election was called to decide where the courthouse should be located. The results of the election were not untypical of the times as the number of votes were more than the number of voters in the county.

The Kansas Supreme Court finally decided the issue after several months by declaring that the courthouse should be located in Troy. While the legal wrangling was ongoing another structure was built on the present site and finished in 1868. The builder was James Dryden. This building was small but served its purpose until the county began to swell because of the influx of eastern settlers and immigrants from England and France.

The present courthouse was built because of the increasing population and the need to protect county records. This time there were also problems to work out before construction could begin.

The county had a bonded indebtedness of \$481,000.00 that was incurred when bringing the railroads to the county. Cyrus Leland, who was a member of the legislature in 1904, got an act passed that allowed the commissioners to levy three mills for a period of three

years to build a new courthouse.

The cost of the building was to be \$50,000.00. The contract was awarded to J. H. Wagonknecht of Wathena for \$42,000.00. Extra time spent in the work caused the builder to lose money on the project. The courthouse was begun in 1905 and finished in 1906. The dedication was held on July 4, 1906 and official business began on July 5th.





DONIPHAN CO. COURT HOUSE, TROY, KAN. 12

I haven't seen this yet but
the picture looks nice doesn't it?

Troy, 8-12-09. Well how are you
by this time. I am feeling
very well this morning. Consider
my trip yesterday
tired. We
are all



"Made for dealers everywhere."
By Ritchie Bros., Chicago, Ill.

are
guaranteed
heard.
night & so on. you are get
along alright. Well I guess
I will tell you the truth
I get home. Love,
Dad.

id

H

'Mending wall'

Hiawatha
World
3/21/06

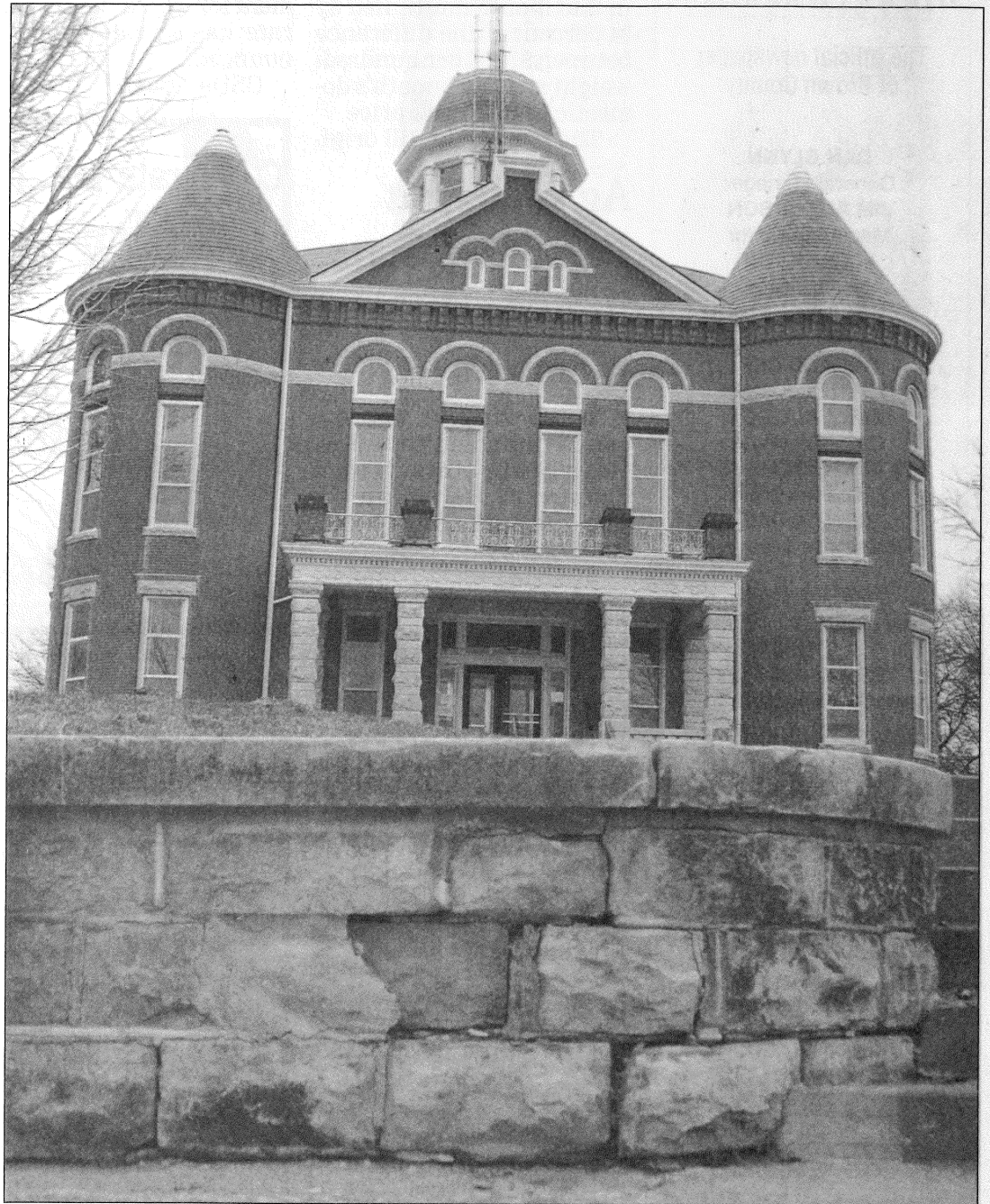


Photo by Ike Larson

Work will continue on the aging limestone wall surrounding the grounds of the Doniphan County Courthouse in Troy. The Doniphan County Commission recently accepted a bid of \$84,200 to rebuild nearly 155 feet along the northeast corner of the wall, according to the *Kansas Chief* newspaper. The county refurbished a similar stretch along the northwest corner last year. Officials expect this year's project to be completed in time for the courthouse's 100-year anniversary celebration in July.

Courthouse 'to shine' by time of centennial

By Paul Stewart
Chief reporter

The centennial Courthouse observance is fast approaching.

Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners wants to ensure that some necessary improvements are made prior to the July 4 holiday weekend events.

The three-member board, during Monday morning's regular meeting, heard custodian Richard Blanton discuss the chimney and a roof leak on the building, the gazebo in the courtyard, and replacing window blinds in the treasurer's office.

Accompanied by Register of Deeds Susan Shuster, Blanton said the gazebo needs to be repainted, as well as the roof reshingled.

County Clerk Peggy Franken previously had reported that Porters Building Center, Elwood, would donate 11 bundles of shingles.

It is hoped that volunteers and community service workers will be used to do the painting.

Blanton advised he was using a paint can to catch the water from the leak on the north side of the roof, near the dome.

The custodian said he had received a \$142 quote to replace a window blind in the treasurer's office. The room has six windows, with the blinds being 105 inches tall by 37 3/4 inches wide.

After leaving the room, briefly, to check on the one damaged blind, First District Commissioner Artie Lucas, who chaired the meeting, advised, "Let's just switch one from this [the commissioner's] room."

The centennial celebration, in conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the city of Troy, will be a five-day event, June 30-July 4.

In other actions during the meeting, the commissioners:

- heard a request from county resident John Whetstine for rocking a section of Saratoga Road in Burr Oak Township.

- were informed by Sheriff Jerry Dubach that Robert Tackett had been employed as a full-time emergency communications dispatcher, at \$7.75 an hour.

- signed a proclamation designating the month of May as Older Americans Month. It was submitted by Aging Department administrator Connie Potter.

- read a letter from Troy area resident George Jorgensen regarding Extension Council districting. Effective July 1, Nemaha, Jackson and Jefferson counties will become the Meadowlark District, he advised. Jorgensen suggested a similar district—composing Atchison, Brown and Doniphan counties—would help to solve 'local' problems, due to shortages in current cash flows.

Stained glass windows again adorn Courthouse

Sept 22, 2005

By Paul Stewart
Chief reporter

Some upper portions of the Doniphan County Courthouse "sparkled" in the bright sunlight last Wednesday as several stained glass windows, which recently had been restored, were replaced by a Leavenworth business.

Ed Lauterbach and son Mike, of Friar Tucks Stained Glass Windows, were on hand to place the windows in the courtroom area, located along the northeast portion of the building. Last month, the Board of County Commissioners approved a \$9,400 bid by Friar Tucks for the restoration project.



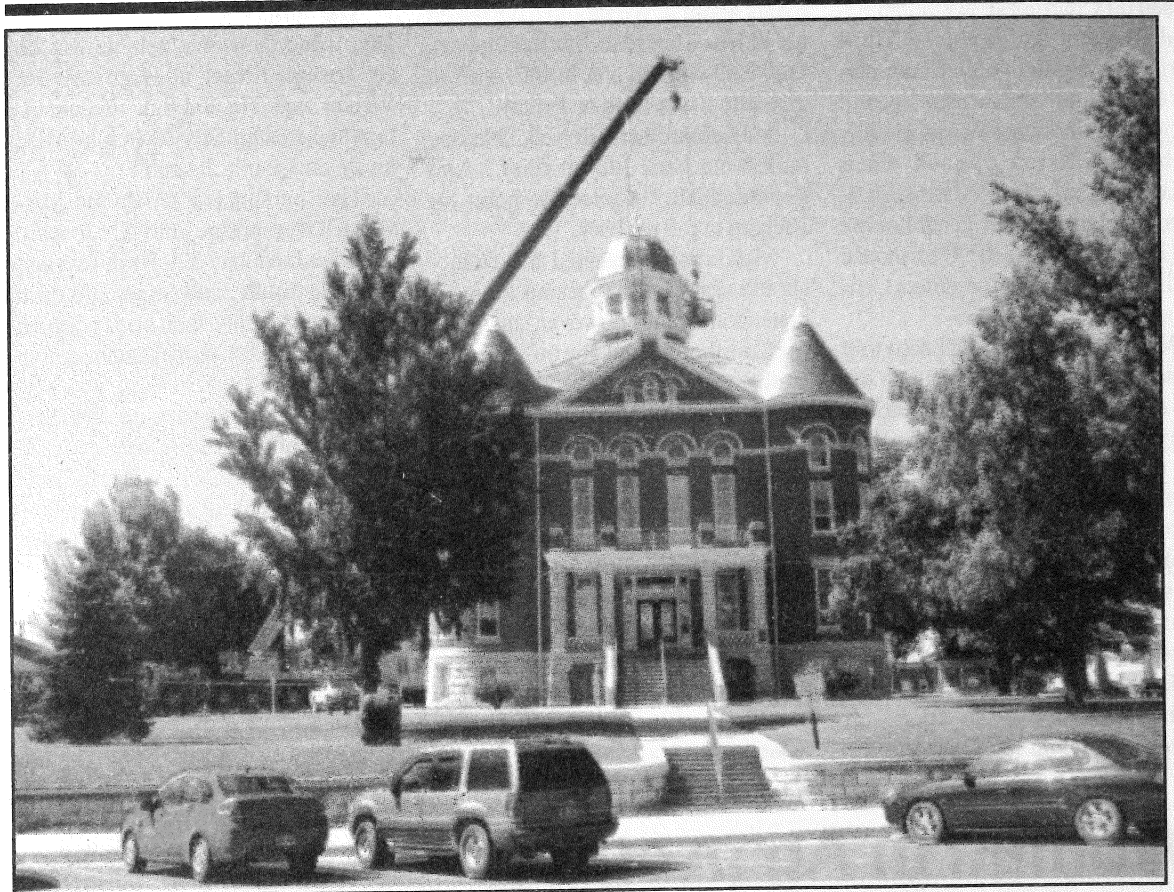
Above: Mike Lauterbach, in an elevated bucket, is shown replacing one of the 10 stained glass windows on the Courthouse.

At Right: Courthouse custodian Richard Blanton looks at the restored stained glass windows ready to be reinstalled at the Courthouse.

At Left: A restored stained glass window, located on the north side of the Courthouse, can be seen through the courtroom, with pictures of former judges R. St. Clair Graham, 1866-1869, and Nathan Price, 1869-1872.







Courthouse roof, dome repair

Workmen from Seaman & Schuske Metal Works used an Ideal Crane, both of St. Joseph, to repair recent storm damage at the Doniphan County Courthouse. The weekend storm reportedly damaged a four-foot section of tin on the southwest side of the roof area.

Doniphan County Courthouse

Troy, Kansas



DONIPHAN CO. COURT HOUSE, TROY, KAN. 12

Courthouse #1

Sept. 1855 - Sept. 1856

Warehouse/James Whitehead
Bellmont

Courthouse #2

May 1857 - Dec. 1860

Site of Troy Clinic

Courthouse #3

Dec 1860 - March 1867 Burned

2 stories high (2 jail cells
2 offices
1st floor
2nd floor = 30 offices)

Courthouse #4

Contract let for
C4 at Waltham
Apr. 1869. \$6000 cost

in center of town square
Saw just hauled for District
Court Room for ea. meeting

1870-71 jail separate built - 7000

Courthouse #5

July 1906
dedicated July 4th

Lincoln

Nov 30th 1859 - to St Joe by
rail from East

(Dan Wilder, Mark Delahoy
whose wife was cousin
of Lincoln
met Lincoln & crossed
Mo River on ferry

Great Western Ellwood
Hotel

Dec 1, 1859 - Bitterly cold horses &
buggy 12 m to Troy

accompanied by
Judge Maynard
Barter Wilder
Daniel Wilder
Henry Boder
Joseph Hayton
Drank Kotch
Alan Richardson

Spoke to ~ 40 people at Courthouse
for 1 3/4 hrs. & proceeded
to Doniphan then Atchison

[overshoes johnny cakes
Sidney Tennant Smith Taverne]