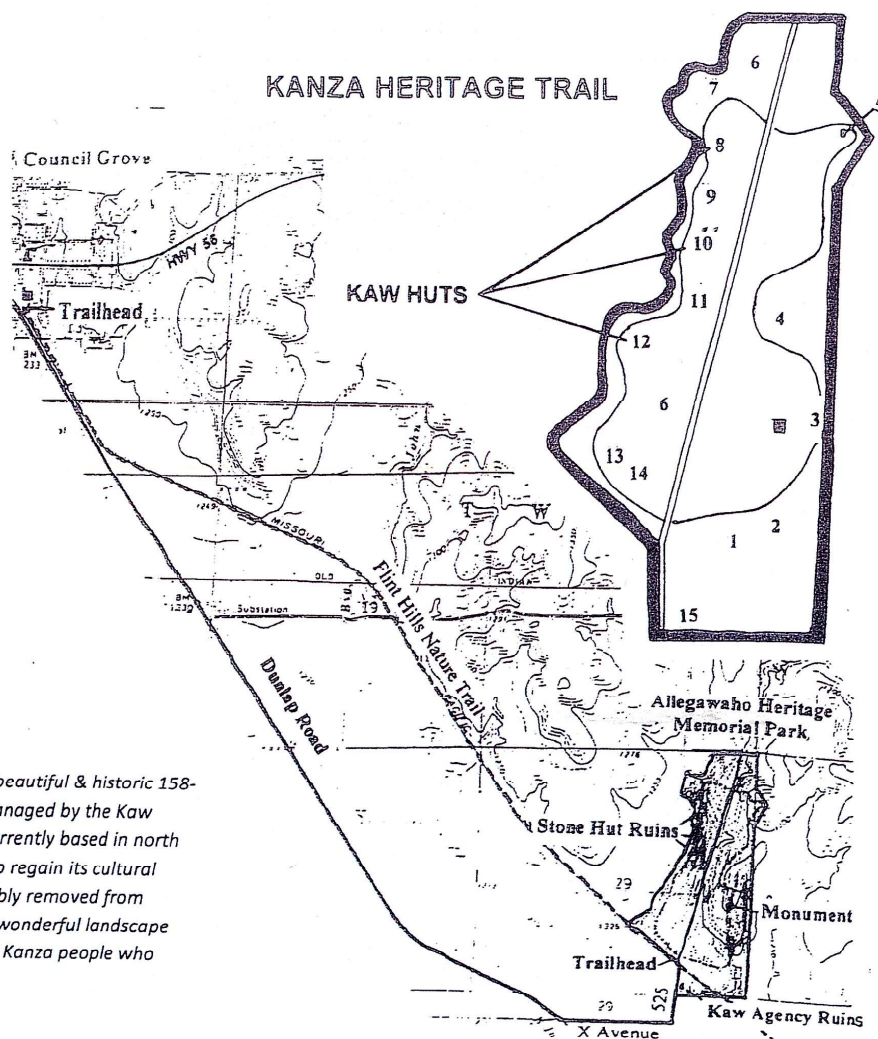


Today you have walked in the path of the Kanzas who lived here, the farmer who plowed the fields & the deer who created the woodland track. Research will continue to inform & shape our interpretation. We hope you will return to experience the park as it evolves.

### DIRECTIONS to Allegawaho Park:

- Travel on US 56 (Main Street), turn South onto Dunlap Road (5<sup>th</sup> & East Main)
- Proceed 2 blocks South, turn East on Walnut St. one block & then travel southeast
- Proceed on Dunlap Road approx. 3 ¼ miles
- Turn left onto X Avenue (gravel road). The monument will be visible to the east.
- Proceed East about 4/10<sup>th</sup> mile, turn left (North) onto Road 525
- Drive North to the Kaw Agency Building (on the right)
- The trailhead for the Kanza Heritage Trail is located about 200 yards north of the Agency Ruins.

The 2-mile long Kanza Heritage Trail loops through the beautiful & historic 158-acre Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park owned and managed by the Kaw Nation, a self-governing tribe of over 3,200 members, currently based in north central Oklahoma. The Kaw Nation is actively working to regain its cultural heritage, which was nearly lost when the Tribe was forcibly removed from Kansas in 1873. By walking this Trail, you will engage a wonderful landscape steeped in natural beauty and rich cultural history of the Kanza people who once lived here.



## Allegawaho Memorial Heritage Park

'the path of the Kanzas...'

In the Flint Hills

near

Council Grove, Kansas



Revised 2012

1. **Pause Point #1** - A bronze plaque of the Kaw Tribal seal is located at the center of this Pause Point. Cast stone centerpieces contain patterns of ribbon weaving for which the Kanza are famous. Images are engraved in cast stone sections with relief areas filled with color epoxy. A prayer that is written in the outer rim of the circle reads: "Wakanda- Bless all who walk here. May we know and respect all your creation and what you have taught our people. Wiblahah."
2. **Proposed Visitor/ Interpretive Center** - In time to come a 4,100 s.f. circular building will be built at this location to house display areas, exhibits, auditorium, gift shop, office, kitchen and restrooms. Future plans include park staff to assist visitors, distribute information and facilitate tours.
3. **Monument to the Unknown Kanza Warrior** - The limestone tower you see near the beginning of the trail was built by local citizens in 1925. Frank Haucke, the owner of the land who raised money for its construction, was made an honorary chief of the Kaw Tribe during that ceremony. The 35' high spire was added as a tribute to the memory of the Kanzas' presence in the area. This commemorative act was prompted by the discovery of a warrior's remains found by a group of Boy Scouts in exposed cut bank erosion in a nearby streambed. The warrior and this burial paraphernalia were entombed in the base of the monument in Aug. 1925 during an elaborate dedication ceremony attended by several members of the Kaw tribe and local and state dignitaries.
4. **Little John Creek Valley Overlook** (2,929 feet) - The timber stretching north-south in the valley below this overlook marks the course of the Little John Creek. This valley offered the Kanzas abundant timber, water, grass, and rich soil. During their occupation of the Council Grove Reservations from 1848 to 1873, the Kanza lived nearby in a village. The first village chief, Peg Ah Ho Shee died in the late 1860's. He was succeeded by Chief Wah Ti An Gah.
5. **Promontory** (4,646 feet) - This highest point in the park affords a wonderful view of the surrounding Flint Hills landscape. You have entered one of the last vestiges of a vast tallgrass prairie that once covered much of the Midwest. As the white frontier expanded west thousands of 'sodbuster' plows tilled the prairie grasses under. But here on the western edge of that vanished tallgrass expanse, prairie plants still flourish in regions of thin-soiled uplands known as the 'Flint Hills.' The stone bench offers a resting spot for contemplating the natural beauty of this landscape - home to the Kanza in years past. *Note: Visitors with health restrictions may want to skip the steep climb to the point.*
6. **Prairie Restoration** (5,464 feet) - The Kaw Nation has converted thirty-five acres of bottomland into tallgrass prairie. Native tall grasses such as Big bluestem, Switch grass, Indian grass, and indigenous wildflowers now flourish where farm crops once grew.
7. **Grandfather Oak** (5,976 feet) - This fabulous Bur Oak easily pre-dates the Kanza occupation of this valley. The Kanza word for Bur Oaks is *tta ska hu*. Like the Kanzas, Bur Oaks are native to this area. The Bur Oak is a long-lived species; some trees like this one have survived for more than three hundred years. The resiliency and strength of Bur Oaks are qualities reflective of the tenacity and purpose of the Kaw Nation in reclaiming a portion of the tribe's former homeland in Kansas.
8. **Wah Sko Mi A's Hut** (6,494 feet) - These stone ruins are the remains of one of 138 huts the U. S. government built as dwellings for the Kanzas in 1862. The stones were quarried from the side of the hill you just descended. The mortar is made up, in part, of the gravel from the streambed of Little John Creek. The measurements of the three huts in this park are 16 by 20 feet.
9. **Fallen Cottonwood** (7,018 feet) - For many years this immense Cottonwood towered above other trees. Today, as a result of a lightning strike, fallen portions of the tree are sprawled across the ground along the trail, nurturing the variegated fungi sprouting from its lifeless hulk. The Cottonwood held spiritual significance to the Plains Indians. The slightest breeze will make the Cottonwood leaves shake and clatter like raindrops. This seemingly constant rustling of leaves reminded them of the wind, which the Indians believed served as the path and voices of Higher Powers. The Kanzas are strongly associated with wind as the original version of the tribal name, *aca*, has been translated to mean *People of the South Wind*.
10. **Kick A Poo's Hut** (7,707 feet) - These huts were designed as single-family dwellings similar to that of the Euro- Americans. In contrast to these huts, the Kanza had lived communally for centuries with an entire family inhabiting one dwelling. In 1862 the government was assigning 40 - acre allotments to each member of the tribe in hopes that the Kanzas would spread out over the reservation, farming the land adjoining their new huts in the European way. The Kanzas preferred to remain in their three villages, where they could continue to practice their ancient communal traditions.
11. **Little John Creek** (8,007 feet) - The source of this creek is just a few miles north of the park. Little John Creek is an intermittent stream, with water running through it in wet seasons and after significant rainfall. But even in dry times, you can find a few pools. The Little John joins the Big John Creek less than a mile southwest of this point. Big John Creek flows into the Neosho River, which joins the Arkansas River in Oklahoma. People have mined the Little John Creek in the past for gravel; some of the mounds you have seen along the trail are the residues of these excavations.
12. **Ke La Lah Heo's Hut** (8,242 feet) - The huts were comprised of only one room with each hut heated with a fireplace. After the Kanzas were forced to leave, the settlers lived in these structures. Later, after they had built their homes, the white people used the huts as outbuildings for their farms. The panels of corrugated metal in the vicinity of the huts are relics of the Euro-American period of occupation.
13. **Kanza Earth Lodge** - This 25 - foot diameter replica of a Kanza earth lodge gives park visitors an opportunity to learn about the traditional Kanza life style. Visitors can experience 'first hand' what it was like to live as a Kanza in homes of this type in the Council Grove area. The Kanza used at least two different types of homes. When traveling to hunt buffalo the tipi was typical. The more 'permanent' home was a bark or earth lodge. The earth lodge structure, funded through the Atchison County Historical Society Challenge Cost Share Grant and the Kaw nation, was built over a two-year span of time by volunteers and Kaw Nation staff.
14. **Pause Point #2** - At the center of this pause point is a cast stone pattern taken from a beaded Kanza belt. Sixteen Kanza clan camp names are engraved in the outer rim of the circle. Interspersed with the clan names, patterns taken from the beaded belt work appear on the north, east, south and west sections of the rim. All images are engraved in the cast stone sections with relief areas filled with color epoxy.
15. **End of the Trail** (10,380) - As you leave the park, take a minute to visit the stabilized ruins of the 'Agency Building' and speculate on the events which may have occurred there as the Kanzas interacted with the government officials. It was at the Kaw Agency in June 1872 that the great Kanza Chief Allegawaho made his eloquent protest against his people being forced once again to move from their beloved Kansas homeland.