From any direction, you can enjoy the spectacular scenic Flint Hills or explore the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve on K-177 only minutes from Council Grove.

COUNCIL GROVE/MORRIS COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TOURISM
207 W. Main, Council Grove, KS 66846
EMAIL: chamber@tctelco.net
www.councilgrove.com

Council Grove is a favorite rendezvous on the Santa Fe Trail. Enjoy the quiet, friendly charm of this historic town while touring the downtown historic district (on the National Register of Historic Places), dining at local restaurants, and shopping unique stores.

You can stand on the site of the Council Oak where the first treaty was signed establishing the right-of-way for passage on the Santa Fe Trail or in front of the historic Hays House, Conn Store or Terwilliger Home. Imagine the wagon trains passing by and almost hearing the creaking wagons, the plodding oxen and the braying mules.

Located at the crossroads of Highways 56 and 177, Council Grove is nestled in the scenic tallgrass prairie of the Flint Hills. Just like in trail times, rolling hills stretch as far as you can see across one of the country’s last true tallgrass prairies. Flint Hills’ beauty, quaint charm, warm hospitality and old trail town lore captivate those who stop to visit…experiencing the present and past of the Flint Hills life.

Enjoy Scenic Trails

Discover the History & Charm of Council Grove!

Other Sites of Interest!

Father Padilla Monument
A memorial to the first Christian martyr in what is now the U.S., is located on a hill west of the intersection of 900 Road and K-177, immediately south of Council Grove. It is on private property and may be viewed from the road.

Council Grove Federal Reservoir
A 3,310-acre lake with 40 miles of shoreline. Complete camping, boating, and fishing facilities are available. Hunt on designated public hunting areas or visit the natural wildlife preserve.

Council Grove City Lake
Located 3.5 miles northwest of Council Grove, this 500-acre lake is well-stocked for fishing and is surrounded by 339 residences.

Historic Trees
Council Grove has been designated as a “Tree City USA”. Trees of the Santa Fe Trail era are marked with plaques.

U.S. Post Office
Includes Post Office Section Art, which was named an 8 Wonders of Kansas Art finalist. The mural, “Autumn Colors” was painted by Charles B. Rogers in 1941.

Additional Historic Sites
Carnegie Library, and former First Baptist Church (now Bowes Community Center).

For guided, special group tours, or more information call: 1-620-767-5413

www.councilgrove.com
1. Kaw Mission Historic Site/Museum
   Built in 1857 and is the oldest NR NT
   Kaw Mission Historic Site/Museum.
   www.kawmuseum.org  620.676.5917
   2. Cottage House Hotel
   Originally a three-room cottage built in 1867.
   This building later became a boarding house.
   Also built in 1867, this hotel is a fine example of Western Commercial architecture.
   Cottage House Hotel. www.cottagehousehotel.com  620.676.5918
   3. Hays’ Home
   Built in 1861, this home is the oldest house west of the Mississippi.
   This house was originally built by the town’s first settler, Seth H. M.
   Hays. It was occupied by Seth Hays, his adopted daughter, K. L. Hays, and his former wife, Lucy. Hays is buried in the yard with his father and mother. The house is 80 years old and is surrounded by beautiful cottonwoods, which were planted by the Reverend Seth M. Hays. It was occupied by Seth Hays in 1871. It is the oldest house on this site. The house is surrounded by beautiful native stone wall and enceint.
   July 21, 1981, the Farmers & Drovers Bank
   was built by Seth Hays in 1871. It is the oldest building west of the Mississippi River.

   5. Terwilliger House
   Built in 1892, this building is an example of Western Commercial architecture.
   Terwilliger House. www.terwilligerhouse.com  620.676.5919
   6. Cottage House Hotel
   Originally a three-room cottage built in 1867, this building later became a boarding house.
   Also built in 1867, this hotel is a fine example of Western Commercial architecture.
   Cottage House Hotel. www.cottagehousehotel.com  620.676.5918
   7. Conn Stone Store
   Built in 1864 as a residence, with the store being added later.
   This building is a fine example of Western Commercial architecture.
   Conn Stone Store. www.connstoneshop.com  620.676.5919

   8. Conn Stone Store
   Built in 1864 as a residence, with the store being added later.
   This building is a fine example of Western Commercial architecture.
   Conn Stone Store. www.connstoneshop.com  620.676.5919

   9. Farmers and Drovers Bank
   Built in 1867, this is the oldest bank building west of the Mississippi.
   Farmers and Drovers Bank.
   10. Farmers and Drovers Bank
   Built in 1867, this bank is one of the oldest bank buildings west of the Mississippi.
   Farmers and Drovers Bank.

   11. Seth Hays’ Home
   Built in 1861, this home is the oldest house west of the Mississippi.
   This house was originally built by the town’s first settler, Seth H. M.
   Hays. It was occupied by Seth Hays, his adopted daughter, K. L. Hays, and his former wife, Lucy. Hays is buried in the yard with his father and mother. The house is 80 years old and is surrounded by beautiful cottonwoods, which were planted by the Reverend Seth M. Hays. It was occupied by Seth Hays in 1871. It is the oldest house on this site. The house is surrounded by beautiful native stone wall and enceint.
   12. Custer Elm
   In 1867, Gen. George A. Custer and fellow officer Amos Kimball purchased a 120-acre farm just south of this tree. After the death of the tree from Dutch Elm disease in the mid-1970s, its stump was preserved on the site.
   Custer Elm. www.terwilligerhouse.com  620.676.5918

   13. Guardians of the Grove Society
   This bronze statue of a Kaw (Kanza) woman honors the Kaw Indian American tribe.
   Guardians of the Grove Society. www.guardiansofthegrovesociety.org

   14. The Brinckerhoff House
   Built in 1860, this house is the oldest house west of the Mississippi.
   Brinckerhoff House. www.brinckerhoffhouse.com  620.676.5918

   15. Fenner’s Cave
   Built in 1889-1945.
   Fenner’s Cave. www.fennerscave.com  620.676.5918

   16. Hays House
   Built in 1860, this house is the oldest house west of the Mississippi.
   Hays House. www.hayshouse.com  620.767.5911

   17. Crawford House
   Built in 1860, this house is the oldest house west of the Mississippi.
   Crawford House. www.crawfordhouse.org  620.676.5919

   18. Neosho Riverwalk
   This landscaped, lighted sidewalk is an ADA accessible sidewalk connecting the Kaw Mission and the Guardian of the Grove statue. On the east bank of the river is an overlook of the Neosho River Crossing.
   Neosho Riverwalk.

   19. Old Stone Barn
   Built in 1860, this is the oldest home still standing on the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas and it houses a bed and breakfast.
   Old Stone Barn.

   This Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway depot was built in 1894, and is one of only two M-K-T (“Katy”) depots remaining on their original sites in Kansas.
   N-A-T Depot.

   21. Legenmeyer Homestead Heritage Park
   Located north of the intersection of X Ave. and S25 Road (about 3 miles southeast of town, off Dunlap Road), this 158-acre park is being developed by the Kaw Nation.
   Legenmeyer Homestead Heritage Park.

   22. Big John Limestone Barn
   This beautiful stone barn was built by Seth Hays in 1871.
   This is the oldest building west of the Mississippi.
   Big John Limestone Barn.

   23. Greenwood Cemetery
   Building a beautiful stone barn west of the Missouri River was ideal for crossing by Santa Fe freighters and travelers. The crossing is also visible from the Main Street Bridge.
   Greenwood Cemetery.

   24. Decorated Men’s Monument
   This monument is part of the historic site.
   Decorated Men’s Monument.

   25. Santa Fe Trail Ruts
   A wide swale created by Santa Fe travelers is located 0.6 miles south of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 56 and 1400 Road, about 5 miles west of Council Grove. A Sign, “Santa Fe Trail Ruts”, marks the path of the trail.
   Santa Fe Trail Ruts.

   26. Council Grove, Kansas
   It is one of the oldest cities in Kansas and the site of the Santa Fe Trail. It is located west of the Greenwood Cemetery Wall.
   Council Grove, Kansas. www.councilgrove.org  620.676.5918

   27. Historical Council Grove
   The City of Council Grove is located in southeast Kansas.
   Historical Council Grove.

   28. Council Grove
   It is one of the oldest cities in Kansas and the site of the Santa Fe Trail. It is located west of the Greenwood Cemetery Wall.
   Council Grove. www.councilgrove.org  620.676.5918

   29. Sibley’s Grove
   A campsite for Barons on their way east.
   Sibley’s Grove.

   30. Santa Fe Mission
   A large mission built in 1867, this mission is located 0.6 miles south of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 56 and 1400 Road, about 5 miles west of Council Grove.
   Santa Fe Mission.

   31. Council Grove
   It is one of the oldest cities in Kansas and the site of the Santa Fe Trail. It is located west of the Greenwood Cemetery Wall.
   Council Grove. www.councilgrove.org  620.676.5918

   32. History of Council Grove
   The City of Council Grove is located in southeast Kansas.
   History of Council Grove.

   33. The Mission of Council Grove
   The Santa Fe Mission was built in 1867 at a site selected for the first Billy Lee Evins Cemetery.
   The Mission of Council Grove.

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