



Great Plains



Focusing on the future

while keeping the past

The concrete blast walls of Building 706 were engineered to protect and segregate operations in this original 1941 structure at the Kansas Ordnance Plant. The 1,848 sf building even had floors paved with sheets of lead.

Today, the concrete skeleton of Building 706 is destined to become a memorial to the past, as it offers a haven to employees and visitors in the future.

One of two nearly-identical buildings, 706 housed the mercury fulminate operation. With a chemical formula of $Hg(CNO)_2$, this primary explosive was highly sensitive to friction and shock, and the lead-paved floors helped minimize concerns. Mercury fulminate was used as a trigger for other explosives in the production of munitions.

The architecture of the building is what made this small building so appealing to the Great Plains staff who wanted it preserved. The blast walls are considerably closer than those in most other buildings, however it is the aerial view that is most intriguing. With multiple compartments, once the skin of the building and the roof are removed, the walls will provide small cubical areas that can offer a hiker a place to rest or a park tenant's employees a place to pull out a brown bag lunch.

Both Army and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment have signed off on the plan to keep the bones of 706 standing, as long as the soil under the foundation slab tests negative for explosives. This spring the answer to that question should be revealed.

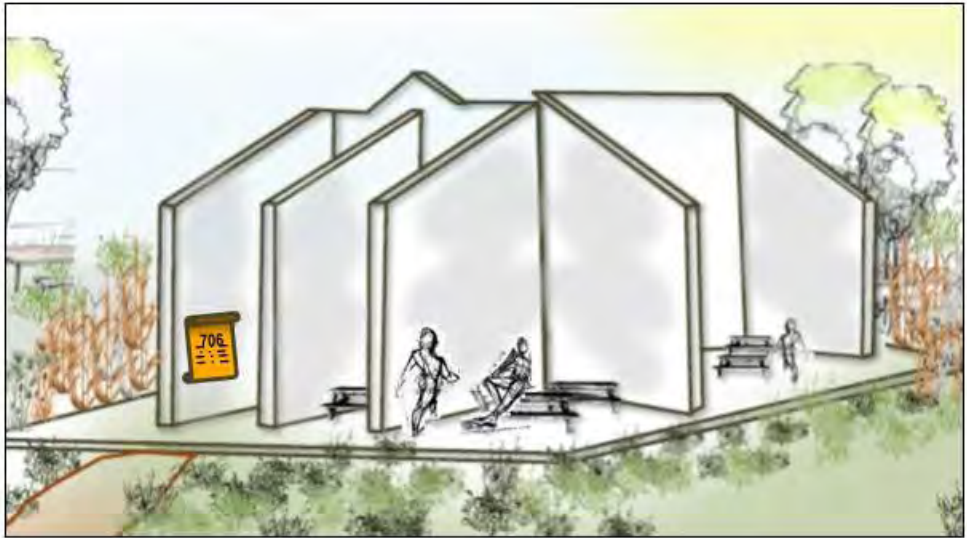


Illustration: One of the most contaminated buildings at the Kansas Army Ammunition Plant is slated to become one of the most restful for future employees and visitors at the Great Plains Industrial Park.

Bottom Photo: Building 706 as it appears today.



From the past...

One of the shorter emergency exit slides still remains attached in the 900 production area. There is no doubt these slides would not pass OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Agency) standards today, but one will find these

emergency exits throughout this World War II-era production facility. There are even stories about employees who dared to take bicycle rides down the tallest ones, which were attached to the three-story melt-pour towers.

If you have historical photos you'd like to share with us, please email acharles@parsonsk.com

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New construction at park

Construction has moved forward on the first new building at Great Plains Industrial Park, located on a pristine setting toward the southern end of the park at 1929 19000 Road (just west of former Roads DD and 5).

The Kansas Department of Wildlife Parks and Tourism's new building will be the headquarters for the Grand Osage Wildlife Area. An equipment barn will be constructed on the same property.

Grand Osage biologist and manager Rob Rigglin said that construction should be complete in June.

Since this former ammunition plant still has a secure perimeter, as remediation continues, the Grand Osage Wildlife Area is currently restricted to special hunts. Information about applying for these hunts can be found at <http://kdwpt.state.ks.us>. Drawings for these hunts are available for both in-state and out-of-state hunters. Other hunts are specific for youth and mentors, and wounded-warriors. At times, special accommodations can also be made for hunters with mobility challenges.




Construction of KDWPT headquarters is expected to be completed by June.



The 3,000 acre Grand Osage Wildlife Area will soon have its own headquarters building and equipment barn.

Shhh...

 Great Plains is still a contender for a prospect looking to bring jobs back into the U.S., competing only against a location in Tennessee. While we can't share the name of the company it is important to remember that the stranger you see at the convenience store or a restaurant could be someone checking out our community. Please remember that every resident is an ambassador who could have an impact on the success of Great Plains.

Two GIANT Auctions

AUCTION

April 26, 10:30 a.m. and May 3, 10:30 a.m.
Equipment, machinery, tools, and more

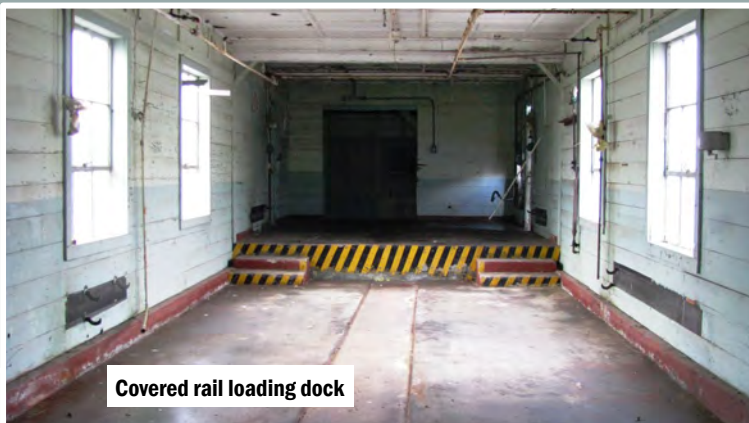
FEATURED PROPERTY



33,023 sf

Once used for final assembly and shipping, Building 913 offers 33,023 sf of manufacturing and warehouse space. This clay tile block building also has self-leveling pit docks for easy loading, as well as convenient rail docks.

Heavy concrete floors measure 18" deep in this 71' by 465' building. The open-timber interior provides for flexibility in designing space. Complete with restrooms and office space, the building provides a great space for start-up manufacturing operations.



Covered rail loading dock

Constructed in 1941, this building has excellent natural light and doors that are easily retrofitted to accommodate specific purposes. Any volume of electricity is readily available.

A long-term lease on this, and a variety of other buildings, is available now by contacting Daniel Mann at 620-421-1228 or by emailing dmann@parsonsk.com.



465' x 71' under one roof

Spring Burns



The magazines in 1600 received their first recorded burn in March. Grand Osage Wildlife Area manager and biologist Rob Riggin helps control a back-burn area.

Spring is the time when smoke rises from burning of pastures and fields across Kansas, and property at Great Plains enjoyed the same treatment. Spring burns put nutrients back into the soil for the coming growing season. Burns also provide weed and brush control. At Great Plains Industrial Park, burns also help control the risk of fire as remediation continues at this former Army Ammunition Plant.



--- Sign up for a tour! ---

If you would like a tour of the Great Plains Industrial Park, with a look at its past and future, email acharles@parsonsk.com or call 620-421-1228. Tours will be given periodically as time allows.



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TO: