

Grant funds awarded for historic Oskaloosa property

(KAIR)--A Jefferson County historic home is named as one of 15 such properties statewide set to receive grant funds.

The Newell-Johnson-Searle House Outbuilding is named in a news release from Kansas Governor Laura Kelly as the recipient of nearly \$83,000 in 2021 Heritage Trust Fund grant.

That follows the awarding of more-than \$1 million in grant funds by the Historic Sites Board of Review for use by the 15 historic preservation projects.

According to the release, HTF grants “reimburse expenses for projects that preserve or restore qualifying historic properties,” with the funded projects representing “a diverse collection of properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Register of Historic Kansas Places.” All awards are contingent upon available funding.

The Newell-Johnson-Searle House, located on U.S. Highway 59 on the east edge of Oskaloosa, was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2017.

The house, a two-and-a-half-story, wood-frame building, was built and modified in 1860, 1877, and 1913. The property also includes a contributing one-story stone building with a cellar and a non-contributing wood-frame garage.

The property was deemed significant as one of Oskaloosa’s finer early homes, as well as its association with Oskaloosa co-founder Newell, who owned it from 1858 to 1918.

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