

## **Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum Building Information Sheet**

### **Library**

Dedicated in 1962; opened for research in 1966. This is one of 13 presidential libraries administered by National Archives and Records Administration. The Library was built through private donations (about 18,000 individual contributions) at a cost of approximately \$2 million.

The exterior of the building is of native stone quarried at Cottonwood Falls, KS. The stone was quarried and fabricated by the Lardner Stone Company of Topeka, Kansas and installed by the general contractor, Dondlinger and Sons Construction Company of Wichita, KS.

The plate glass was furnished and installed by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company of Salina, KS. The ornamental bronze metal incorporated in the front entrance, courtyard and lobby interior depicts a story of two natives of Kansas, the Buffalo and the Blue Stem Grass of the prairie, upon which the buffalo fed. The metal was fabricated, furnished and installed by the Flour City Ornamental Iron Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The walls of the lobby and corridors are of book-matched Laredo Chiaro marble from Italy. The floors in all public areas are Roman Travertine marble with trim of Brech D'Alep and Rouge Fleuri marble from France. The buff-colored marble used in the restrooms is native American marble, Cliffdale Marble, quarried from St. Genevieve, Missouri along the cliffs of the Mississippi River. All the marble was furnished and fabricated by the Locarni Marble Company of Carthage, Missouri.

The walnut paneling used in the Library is American native walnut furnished, fabricated and installed by the Oklahoma Fixture Company of Tulsa, Oklahoma. The large bronze light fixtures in the Lobby and the smaller fixtures in the corridors are custom built. The sides of the smaller fixtures have a five-star design, designating General Eisenhower's rank as a Five Star General.

The terrazzo flooring in the staff area consists of a sand-cement base, topped with a white cement intermingled with varied colors of marble chips, patterned by interspersed brass metal strips. This work was done by the Southwest Terrazzo Company of Wheatland, Oklahoma.

The three prime contractors for the construction of the Library were:

- Dondlinger & Sons Construction Company of Wichita, KS
- Tipstra-Turner Company of Wichita, KS
- Webb Johnson Electric of Salina, KS

Library courtyard was enclosed in 1982 and the floor was completed in 1984.

**Home**

The family home was given to the Eisenhower Foundation following the death of General Eisenhower's mother, Ida, in 1946.

**Visitors Center**

Opened in 1975 after the old Lincoln Grade School was torn down. Cost for new wing of Museum and the VC was paid with government funds at \$1.5 million.

**Place of Meditation**

Built in 1966 and Designed by James Canole, Kansas State Architect. The President was buried there on April 2, 1969. During the first year 764,000 visitors paid their respects to the President. The stained glass was designed by Odell Prather of Philadelphia and installed by Conway Studios in Winona, Minnesota. Cost was approximately \$200,000.

**Eisenhower Statue**

The statue was dedicated in 1985. Designed by sculptor, Robert Dean. Base and terrace was constructed by Oettinger-Lloyd Construction Inc. of Clay Center. Cost was approximately \$300,000.

**Pylons**

Completed in 1956, the pylons were originally located in front of the Museum in a reflective pool; they were relocated to their current site in 1962. The pylons were a project of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, in cooperation with the Soroptimists International clubs of Kansas (the Soroptimists raised funds for one of the five pylons).

**Museum**

Built and dedicated in 1954; enlarged and rededicated in 1971. The limestone exterior was quarried from Onaga Stone in Onaga, KS. The stonework was purchased from Lardner Cut Stone Company of Topeka, KS. The general contractor for the Museum was Busboom and Rauh in Salina, KS.

The Museum solar panels were installed and operational in 1983.