

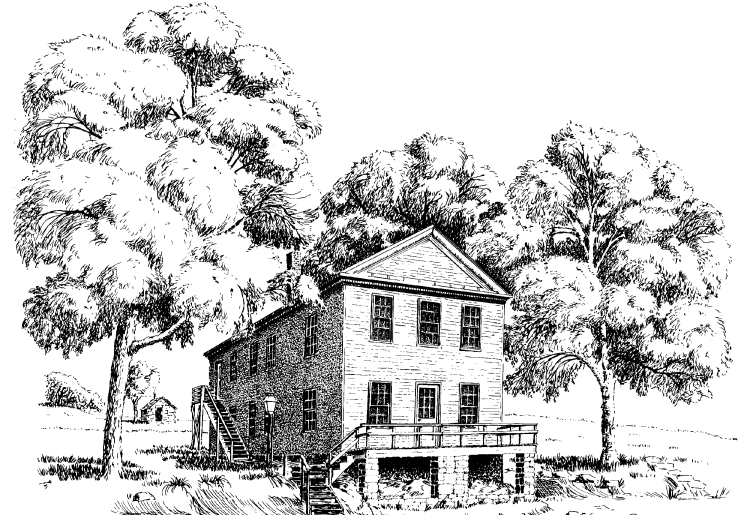
Who Are The Lecompton Reenactors?

We are a diverse group of people of different ages, occupations and backgrounds who share a love of the history and heritage of our Nation and State. Using monologues written by Howard Duncan, the group's founder, we attempt to give a sense of what it may have been like to be alive at a pivotal time in our Nation's history. We are all volunteers, providing our own authentic to the period garments and accouterments to create our character impressions. We give two, slightly different presentations, *"Bleeding Kansas"* and *"Kansas Territorial Characters"*. *"Bleeding Kansas"* is a more generalized make up of historical men and women intended to show the diverse opinions in Kansas Territory and the country regarding slavery in the mid 1800's. *"Kansas Territorial Characters"* helps educators enhance the classroom experience by allowing their students to "meet" and interact with the people who played a role in our Kansas Territorial history. The presentation supports the Kansas 7th Grade History Standards. We give about 50 presentations a year at historical sites in Kansas and Missouri, living history events, and to church, community, civic and historic interest groups.

For more information or to arrange a presentation, please contact: Tim Rues, Site Administrator Constitution Hall - State Historic Site
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Cover: Constitution Hall by Ellen Duncan

"Bleeding Kansas"



By J Howard Duncan

Presented by the

Lecompton Reenactors

Lecompton Kansas Territory

Welcome to Lecompton, Kansas Territory!

On May 30, 1854, the Kansas Nebraska Act is signed by President Franklin Pierce opening two new territories for westward expansion. The Act rescinded provisions of the Missouri Compromise of 1820 whereby no new slave state would be permitted north of a line marked at 36°30' N latitude and west of Missouri. It ignited a fire, which grew in intensity until it enveloped the Nation in civil war. The fuel for the fire was slavery. The tinder for the fire was Popular Sovereignty; power vested in the people. Now the settlers in the new territories will vote for their own constitution that will allow or prohibit the ownership of slaves.

Today, at this political meeting, you will meet some of the people of the era. Listen carefully to their opinions, their politics, and their stories of personal hardship. Soon, you the settlers will cast your vote for a constitution to decide whether Kansas will be slave or free!

Those Who May Attend Today's Meeting

You the Settlers who have come to the Kansas Territory

Harriet Beecher Stowe..... Author of Uncle Tom's Cabin

Clarina Nichols..... Newspaper Editor

Sara Robinson.....Author and wife of Charles Robinson

Dr Charles Robinson.....Agent of New England Emigrant Aid Society

Senator David Rice Atchison....Former US Senator from Missouri

Andrew Reeder.....Territorial Governor

Sheriff Samuel Jones.....Sheriff of Douglas County

Judge Rush Elmore.....Justice of the Territorial Supreme Court

James Lane.....Politician and Free State Leader

The Rev Thomas Johnson...Founder of the Shawnee Indian Mission School

Mahala Doyle.....A
Widow

John Brown.....Abolitionist