

Sonja, continued from page 5

Sonja's first love is portraiture, he said, and "capturing exact likenesses" in pastel, colored pencil, graphite, charcoal, acrylics and water colors. For her sculpture, she collects clay in Oklahoma and Arkansas.

"In fashioning her native clay pieces," said Foster, "she uses ancient methods of hand building, stone polishing and outdoor open pit firing with native barks and woods. She combines her passion for painting with a sculptural sense of clay."

The works of Ayres have been collected in Europe as well as across the United States. Her work is featured in "Night of the First Americans" at the John F. Kennedy Center and the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, DC

Listed in the Who's Who Encyclopedia of Native Americans, Ayres has won numerous awards. They have included the Civilized Tribes Museum Art Show in Muskogee, Trail of Tears Art Show in Tahlequah, Red Cloud Indian Art Show in Pine Ridge, SD, and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian Show in Cherokee, NC

Sequoyah's Home is located 11 miles northeast of Sallisaw on State Hwy. 101. The cabin was built in 1829 by Sequoyah, who invented the Cherokee Alphabet, and it is now managed by the Oklahoma Historical Society. For further information, contact Foster at (918) 775-2413.



OKLAHOMA ENTERS SIX NOMINATIONS IN NATIONAL HISTORY AWARD REGIONAL

From Okla. Historical Society

■(OKLAHOMA CITY) The successful opening of the new Oklahoma Route 66 Museum in Clinton has led to a nomination for a national award by the American Association for State and Local History.

Also nominated were writers Glenda Carlile and ArVel White, a video documentary on the *Last Raid at Cabin Creek*, two volumes on north central Oklahoma, and the centennial celebration of the McClain County Court, said Oklahoma Awards Chairman Bruce Joseph of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

"These six state winners will be judged at the regional level this spring," said Joseph, "with regional winners going to the national finals. The national winners will be announced in July."

The Route 66 Museum was opened last September as a \$1 million project with more than \$250,000 raised by the Clinton community. It features the seven decades in which U.S. Hwy. 66 extended 397 miles through Oklahoma as "The Main Street of America."

Details of the other nominations are:

— Carlile of Oklahoma City has completed three books on Oklahoma women, including most recently, *Petticoats, Politics and Pirouettes* on women from 1900-1950. Previous books included *Bucskin, Calico and Lace*, and *Oklahoma Territorial Women*.

— White, who lives in Hooker, was nominated for her three volumes on Hooker and the Oklahoma Panhandle. The latest, *Main Street Memories*, followed *Hooker History, Volumes I and II*.

— *Last Raid on Cabin Creek*, a 90-minute documentary, was produced by Richard L. Harding of Tulsa on the Civil War Second Battle of Cabin Creek near what is now Vinita. The nomination was by Steven Warren of Tulsa.

— *North Central Oklahoma: Rooted in the Past, Growing for the Future* was produced in two volumes by the North Central Oklahoma Historical Association with stories and photos of families who settled and built Ponca City and other north central communities.

— The McClain County Court Centennial was led by District Judge Candace Blalock. She headed the organization for the event, which resulted in a refurbished court house.

Oklahoma winners of national awards will be honored next April during the Oklahoma Historical Society Annual Meeting. For more information, contact Joseph at the Oklahoma Historical Society, 2100 N. Lincoln, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 or (405) 522-5236.

STATEWIDE PRESERVATION CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

From Okla. Historical Society

■(DUNCAN, OK) Patsy Garner, Carolyn Rodgers, Norma Anderson and Sue Ellis of Duncan will address the May 16-18 Statewide Preservation Conference at the Simmons Center in Duncan.

Garner and Rodgers will describe the Duncan Main Street Program at 8:45 a.m. on May 17 in a session called: "Down But Not Out on Main Street, Duncan Case Study."

Ellis will join Vickie Milam of the Graham Main Street Program in Texas in "Duncan's Patterson Hospital: Case Study." Anderson will describe "The Chrislip House Nomination" for the National Register of Historic Places.

All have extensive experience in preservation, said Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer Melvena Heisch. Garner is known as the "God Mother of Duncan's Main Street Program," and she co-chaired Duncan's Centennial Celebration.

Ellis has been a designer and consultant since 1977 and has an arts degree in interior design from the University of Oklahoma. Anderson has lived in Duncan for 27 years and is active in art related to interior decorating.

The conference will feature three tracks, or series of sessions with seven out-of-state speakers and more than 30 from Oklahoma. For further information, contact the State Historic Preservation Office at (405) 521-6249.

"Whatever is not nailed down is mine. Whatever I can pry loose is not nailed down."

Collis P. Huntington