Old Kia Kima TIMELINE

The First 100 Years: 1916 to 2016

1916 — Bolton Smith, the first President of Chickasaw Council, BSA, purchased and donated the original 160 acre Kia Kima site as a Boy Scout Camp

1916 — Original 16 Stone Cabins were built around the Quadrangle

1926 — The Thunderbird Lodge was built with funds donated by Edward M. Soloman, then President of the Chickasaw Council, BSA

1943-47 — Camp Closed due to WW II

1948 — Kia Kima re-opened after the War years

1948 — The Chickasah Lodge of the Order of the Arrow was founded at Old Kia Kima

1963 — Old Kia Kima Closed in a land swap with Cooper Properties in exchange for 540 acres up-river to establish a new BSA camp, KKSR

1993 — OKKPA Founders first visited the Old Kia Kima ruins in the fall of 1993, 30 years after camp closed

1996 — The Old Kia Kima Preservation Association, Inc. was formed, by former Old Kia Kima staff members, as a 501 (c) 3 Public Charity

1998 — Boyce and George Billingsley purchased the original 43 acres that was the core of Old Kia Kima and donated it to OKKPA

1999 — New Bath House facilities were built in the Spring and the funding drive for the restoration and dedications of the 16 Stone Cabins were begun at the September OKKPA annual meeting.

2000 — The OKKPA Board approved a Core Values emphasis in the Spirit of Old Kia Kima, and in concert with our Mission Statement.

The original 16 Stone Cabin restorations and dedications were completed in September. The Thunderbird Lodge Restoration began. The Flagstaff Cairn was erected in honor of George Billingsley and a Time Capsule was sealed into the flagstaff base.

2001 — The New Camp Office, Cooler/Freezer, and Storage facility was built around the core of the Old Pump House. Also, a new Group Cooking & theDining Pavilion was built on the site of the original Pavilion.

The Staff Lodge, AKA "The Rats Nest" was restored and dedicated to George Billingsley.

2002 — A restored Old Kia Kima is re-opened for BSA Troops after a 39 year gap.

2002 — Restoration of the Thunderbird Lodge was completed. Also this year, The Pioneering Pole Barn was completed, and the Ole 97 Covered Bridge was built over Spirit Creek leading to the new Campfire Amphitheater built on the former site of the 1958-1963 Camp Staff Cabins.

2004 — A new location for Youth Group organized and supervised swimming and boating activities was constructed just up river from the former site.

2005 — The Ralph and Martha Jane Young Chapel was erected near the headwaters of Spirit Creek, and dedicated at the September OKKPA Annual Meeting.

2006 — Restoration of the Old Church in the Wildwoods was completed on the original site just as it was originally.

2007 — OKKPA Board approved a land swap with S.I.D. to acquire the Old Dining Hall facility and surrounding property.

2008 — Upper floor of the Thunderbird Lodge approved as an Old Kia Kima Museum with 6 locked display cases.

2009 — Old Dining Hall facility is restored to it's original open air configuration for use as a covered Activities Pavilion for Youth Groups.

2016 — **20 Year Anniversary**

Celebration of the 1996 founding of OKKPA, Inc.

(April of 2016)

2016 — **100 Year Centennial**

Celebration of the 1916 founding of Old Kia Kima

(September of 2016)