

Construction of sod houses

Section 19, Pages 541 - 570

This collection consists of correspondence, plans, and specifications on the construction of sod houses. In 1932, the Kansas State Historical Society put out a call for information about and instructions on constructing a sod house, in order to create one in the museum when it was located at the Memorial Building in Topeka. The collection includes all correspondence received from this request, handwritten and typed reminiscences from around the country from men who built and lived in sod houses, as well as some of the standardized responses sent by the Society's secretary.

Date: 1932

Callnumber: Kansas State Historical Society, Sod Houses, Plans and Specifications on Construction, Boxes 1-2

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 228755

Item Identifier: 228755

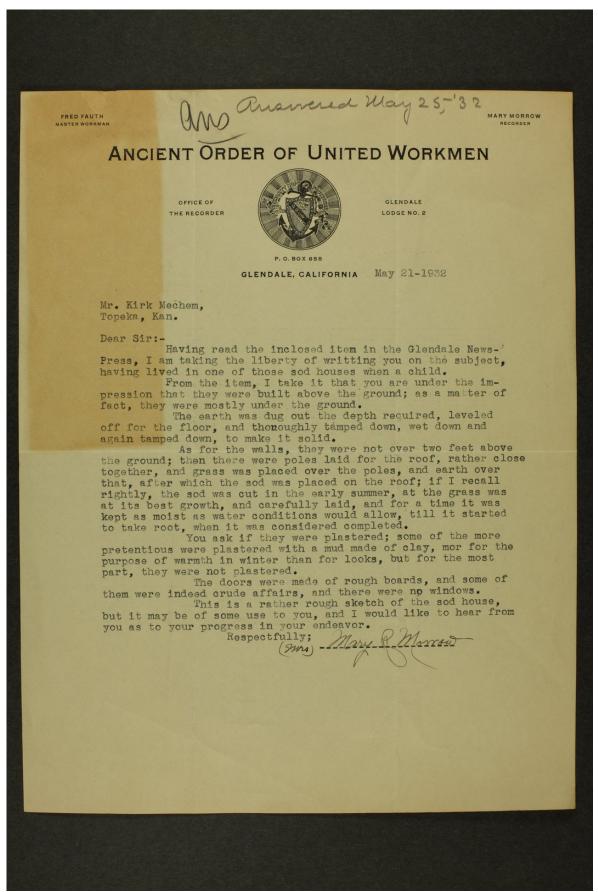
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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

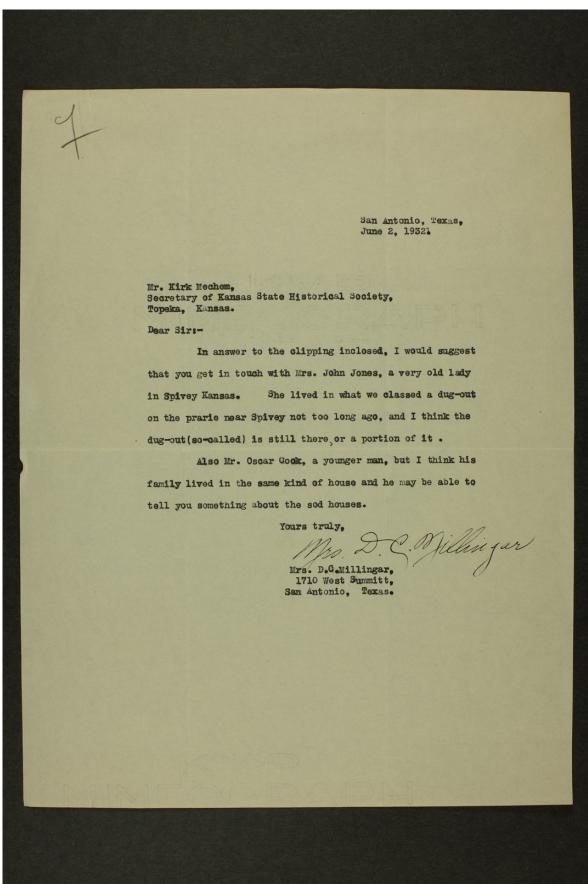




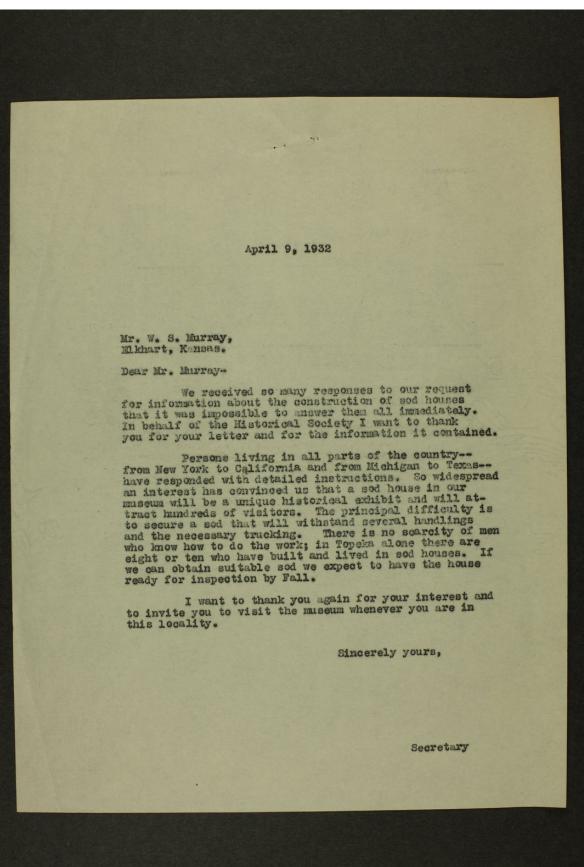




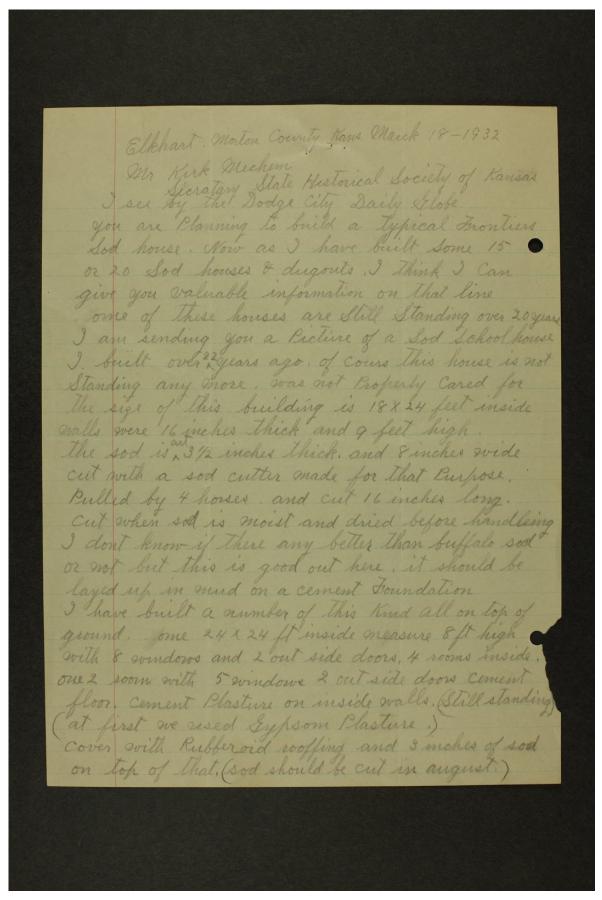




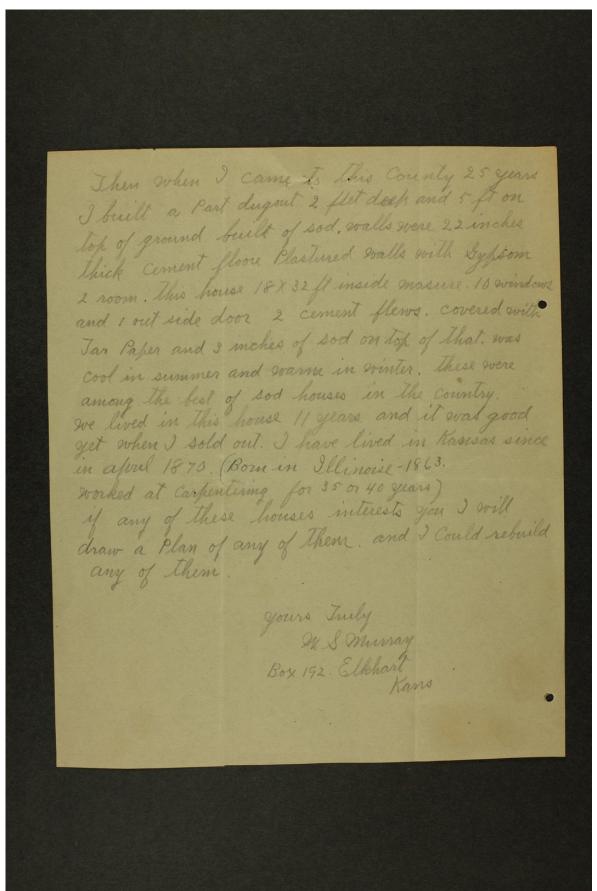








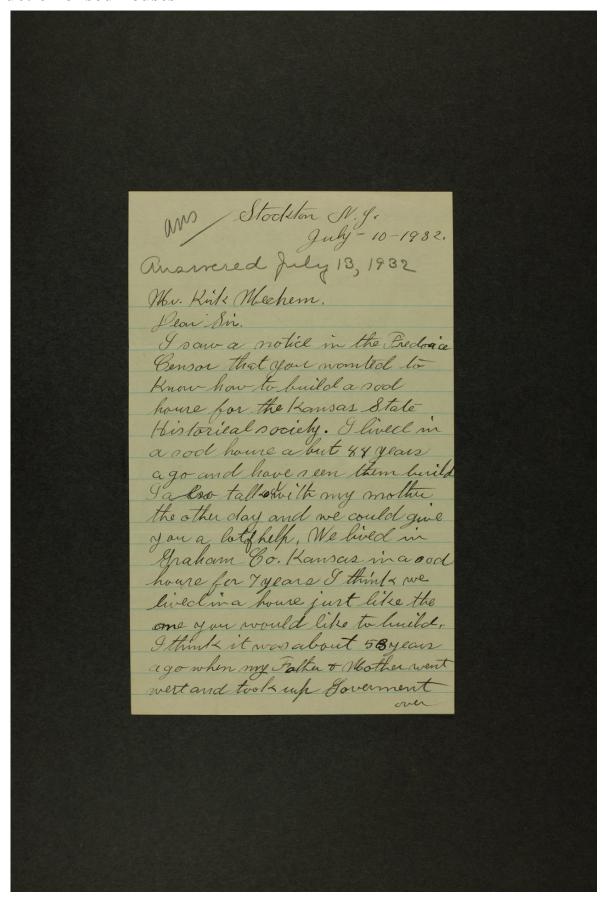




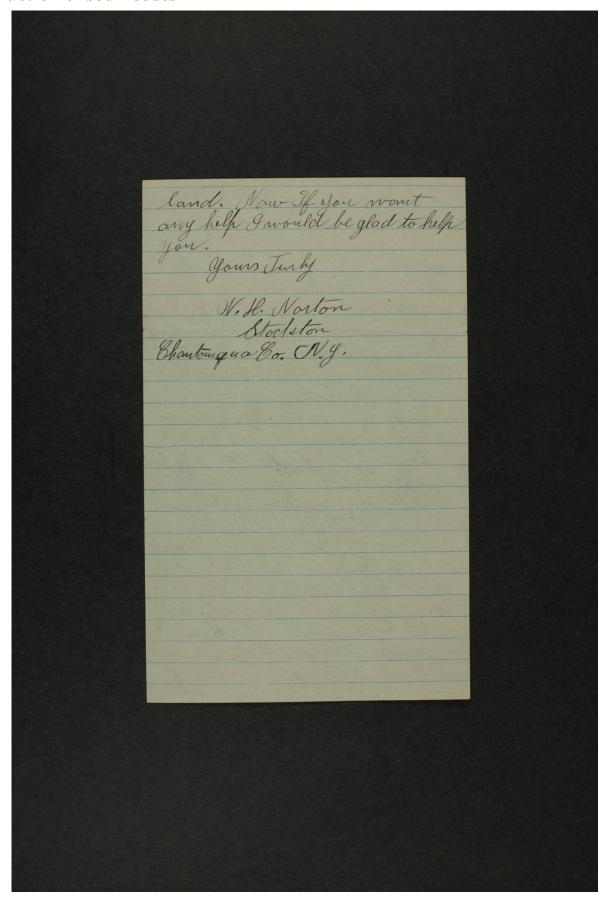


ans
E. L. MORRIS, *865 *FAIRVIEW, TVF
Mr Kirk Medien
Align Sih
it in with much interest I read
your desire to suild a sad Hank
if hende my throughth /2 nots lo /8 > 3
Men I watered my Father Build a Big
Vel Ethen Love Trees
Theleine I could give a lot of good in- formation and the Building of hugh
formation and the Bulking of hugh
he glad to hear from you.
and if I can not tell you Haro, I san
Come & Morayon horo et it done. yourhearf E. L. Morris
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auswered June 2, 1932

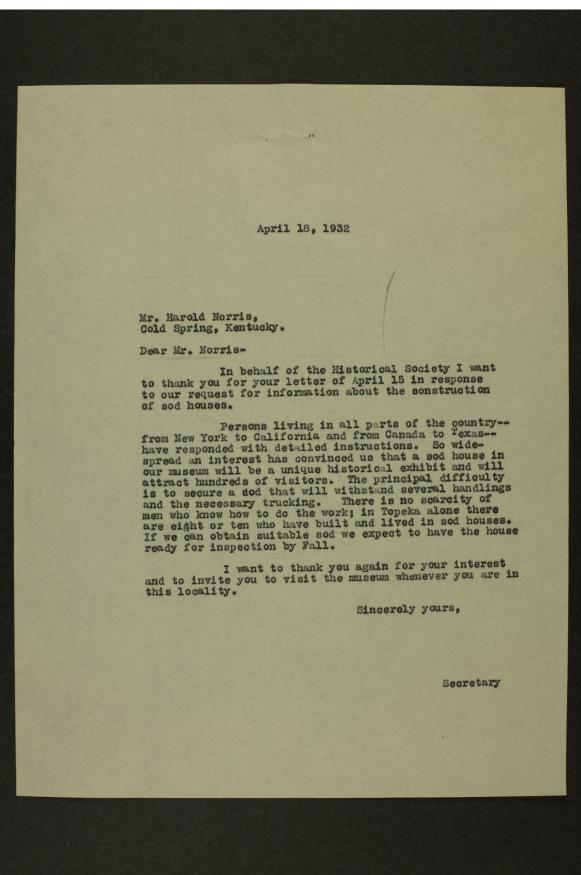














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Kirk Mechem,

Secretary, Kansas State Historical

Society.,

Topeka, Kansas,

April, 15. 1932

Cold Spring, Ky.

R.F.D.# 2.

Dear Sir:-

This evening while reading The Cincinnati Post
I found your write up about the (sod house) if you wish
information regarding this subject, I can furnish all
the information you would want to know about the sod house,

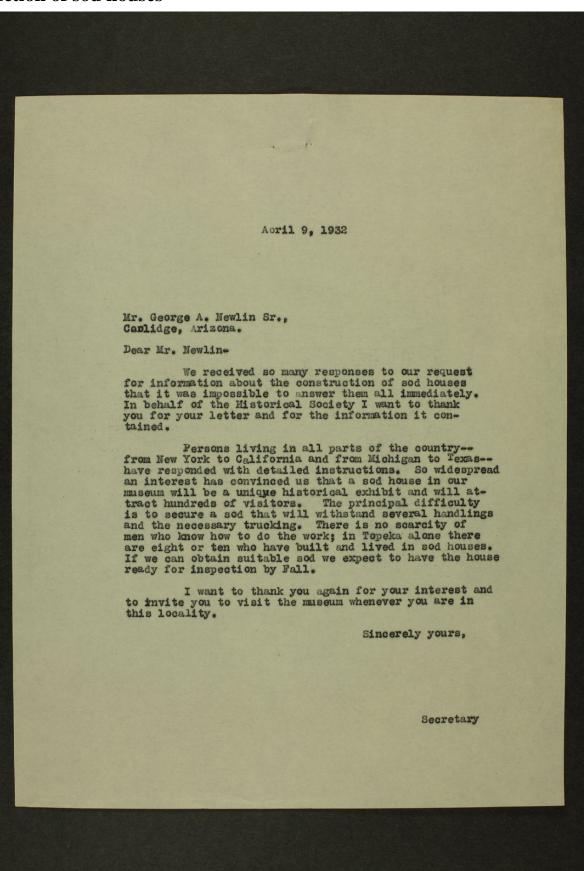
(My Father once lived in one) On the western Plains.

If you are interested, just what would this information be worth to you.

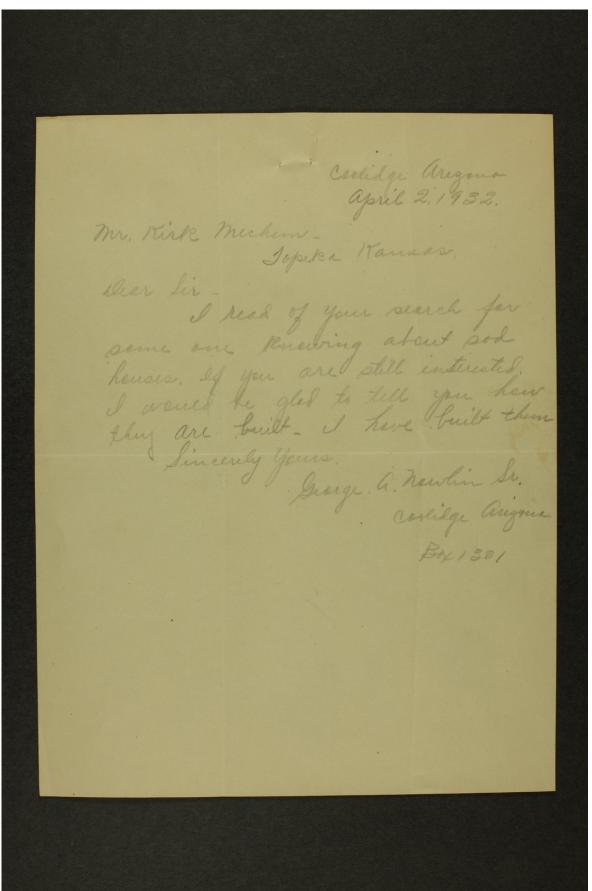
Sincerely, Yours

Harold Norris.

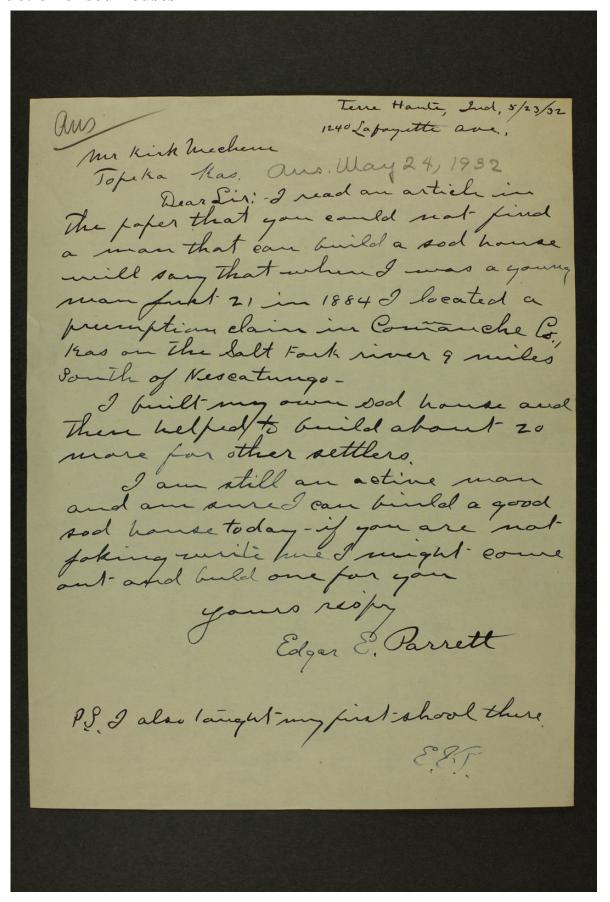




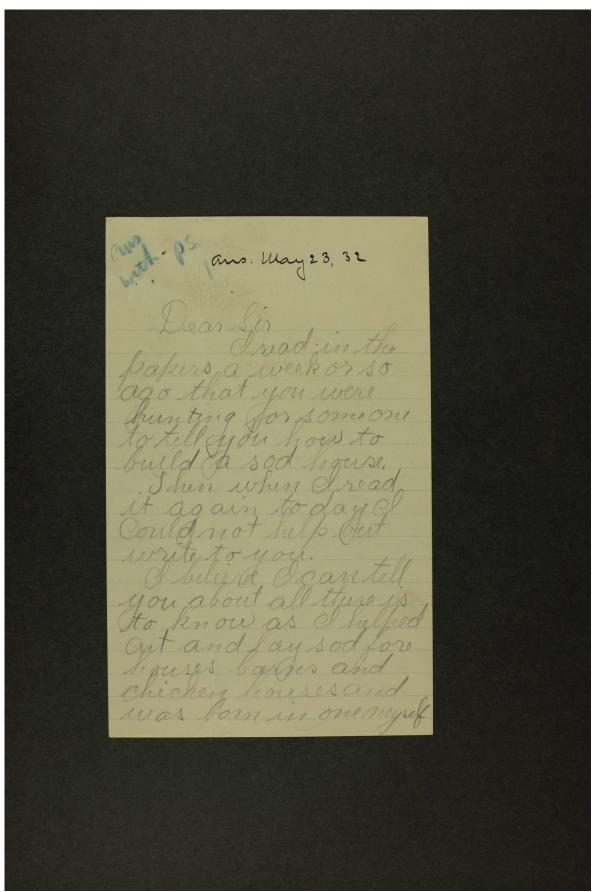




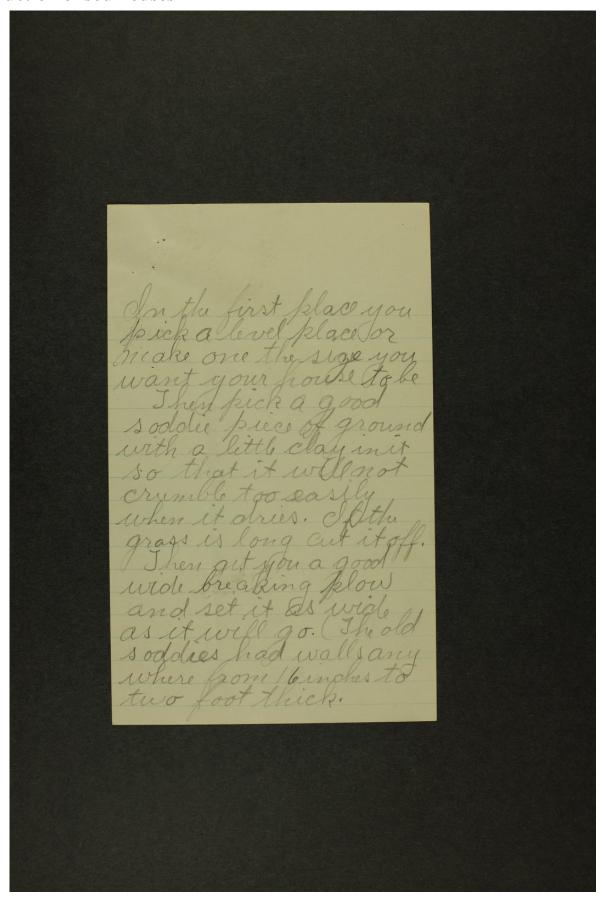




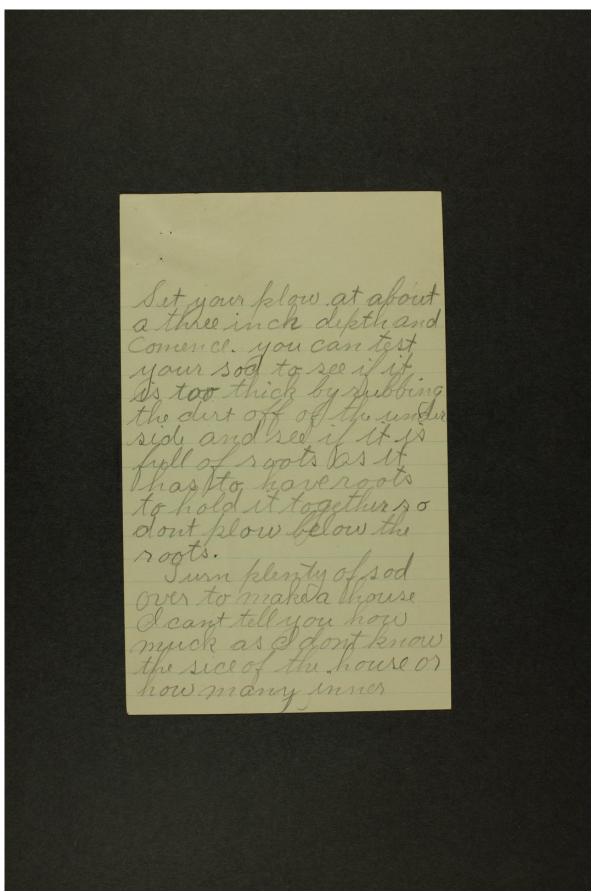




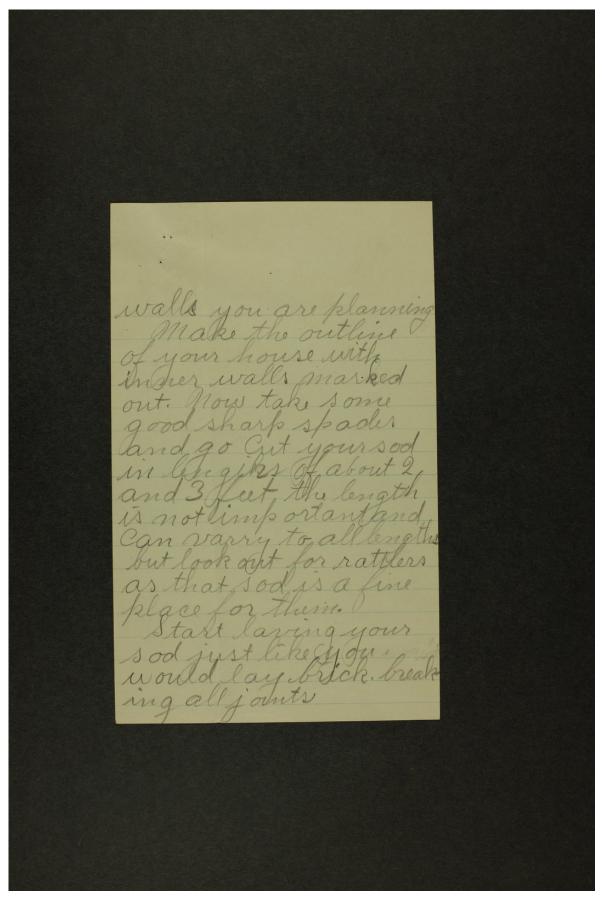




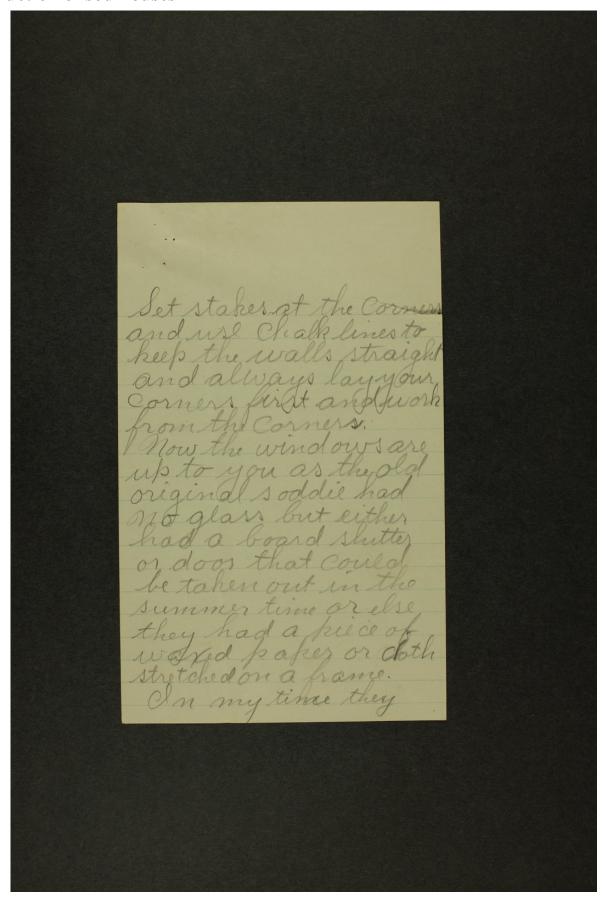




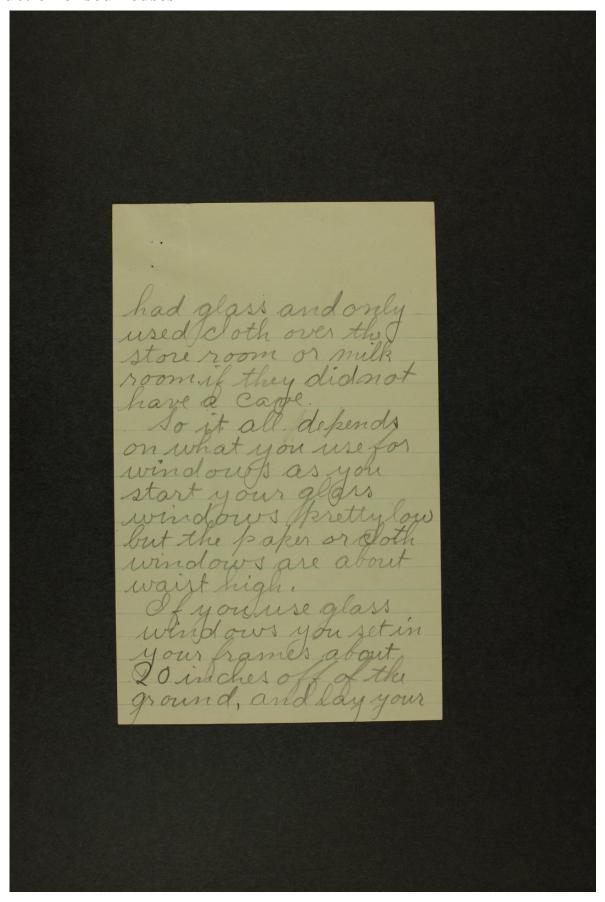




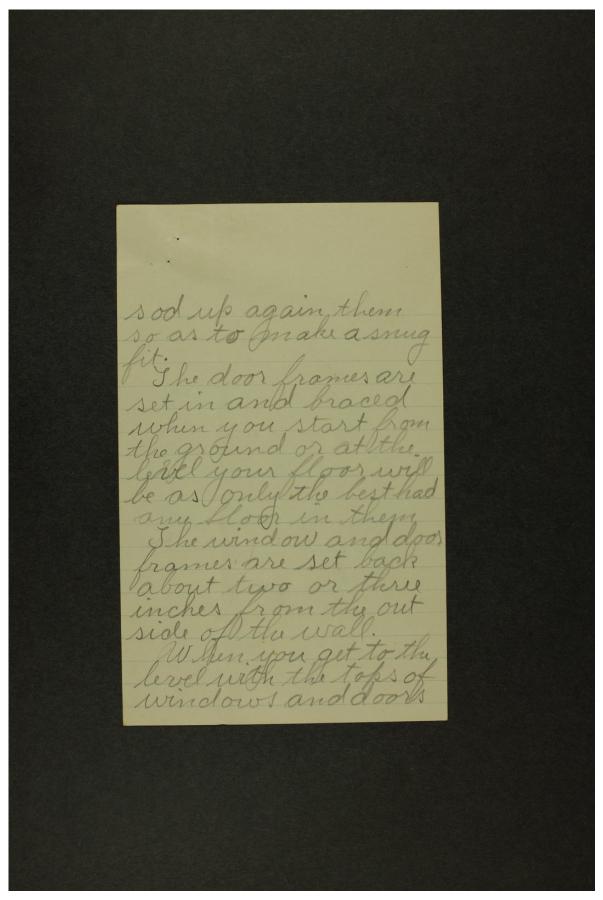




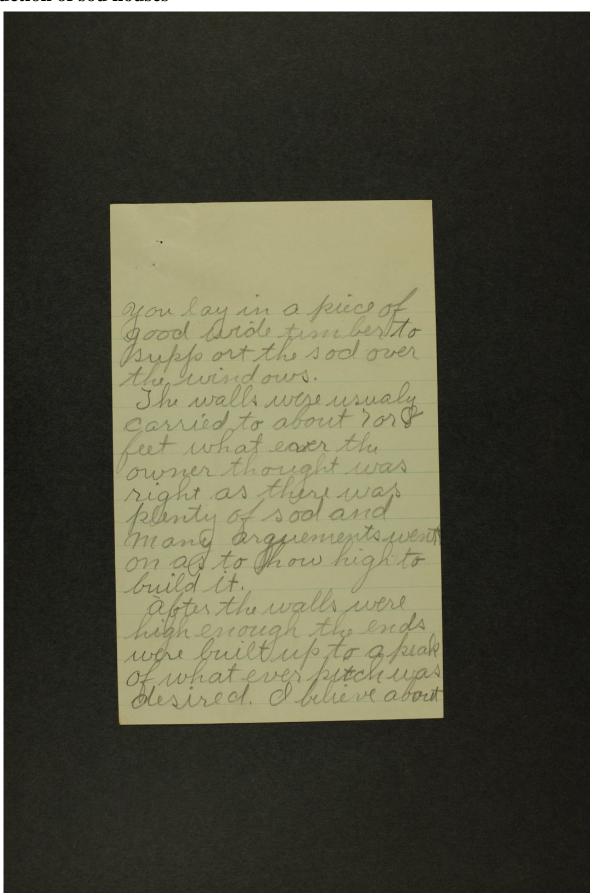




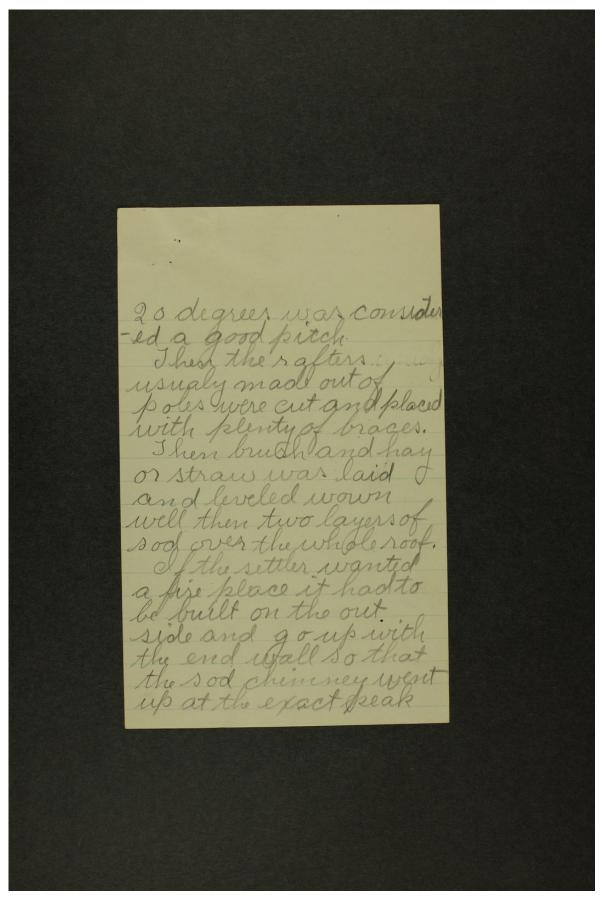




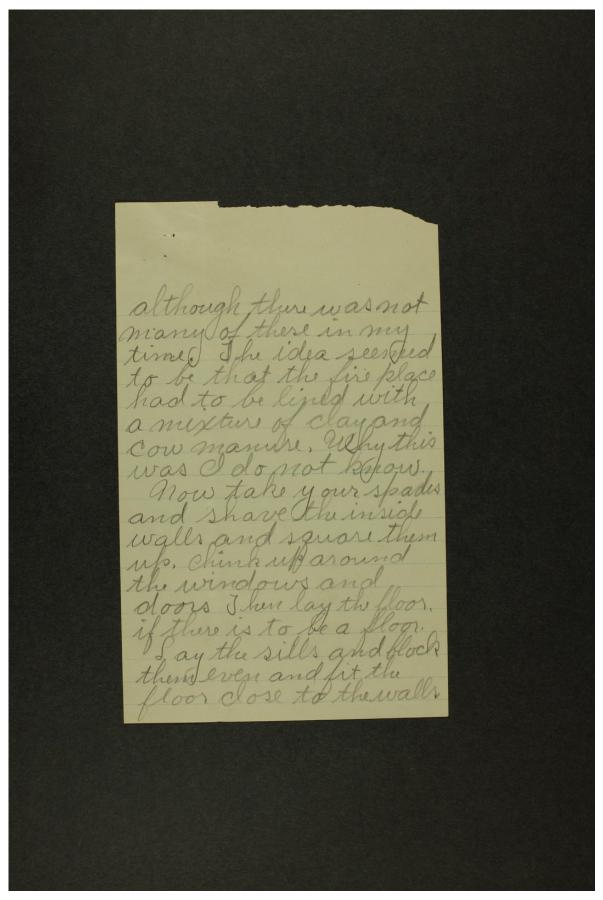




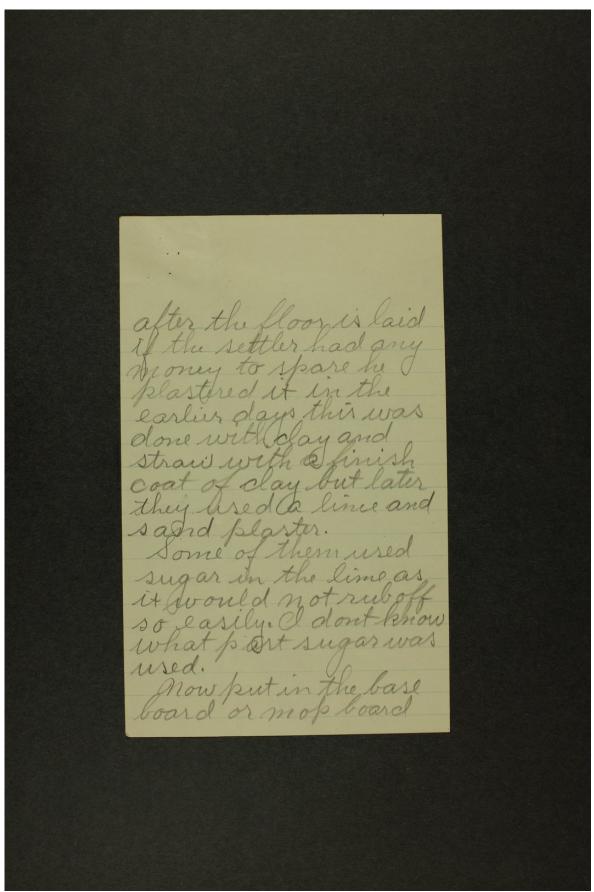




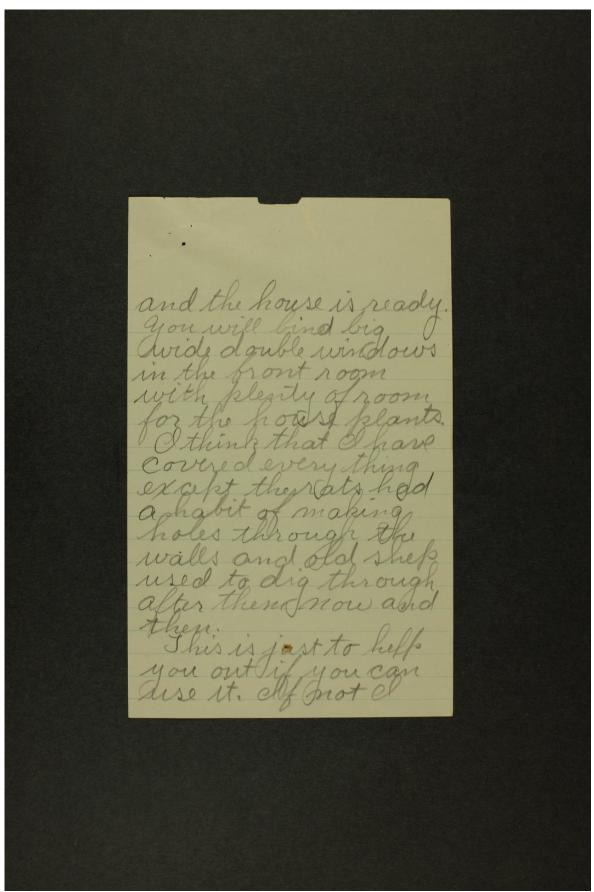




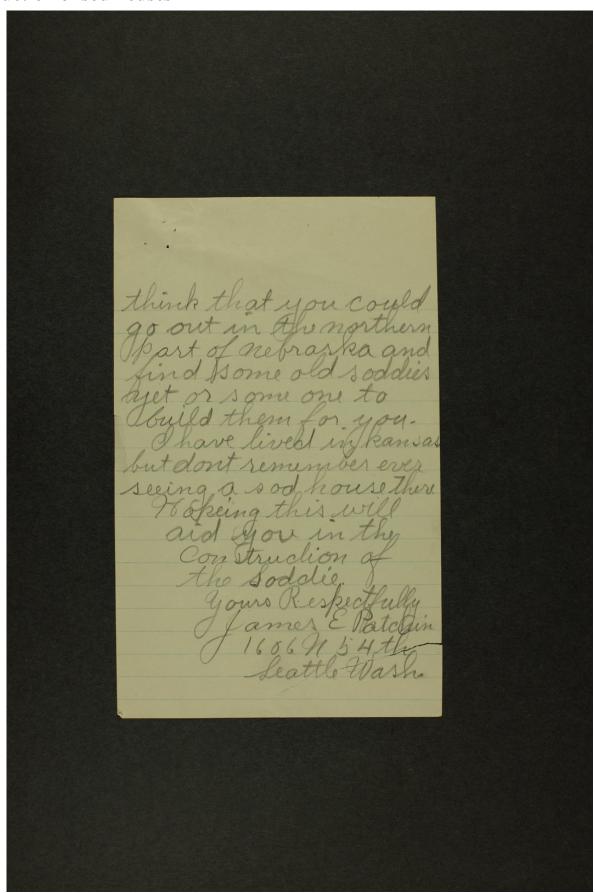




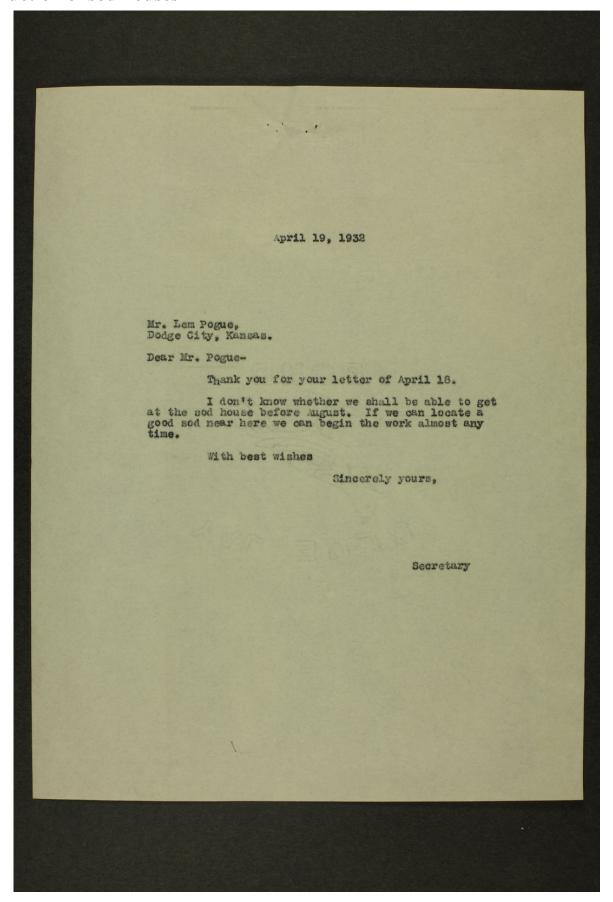














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Dodge City Kans:, 4-18-1932, Mr Kink Mechen Topeka Hans, Dear Im mechen. my opinion is that good sod is hard to find any where In the early days, the prairie fires kept the ground from getting herily coated with gras and in the years when there was a great they kept the grass short which kept the grans best place to get the sod is along the edge of a draw where the buffalo and bluestern grasses are mixed- and the best time



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April 15, 1932

Mr. Lem Pogue, Dodge City, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Pogue-

Please accept my thanks for your letter of April 11.

The Topeka Capital carried a story about our proposal to build a sod house. It was picked up by the Associated Press and by the United Press. The United Press story made it appear that there is no one in Kansas who knows how to build a sod house. As a result, I have received over seventy letters from all parts of the country containing detailed instructions. As a matter of fact, there are eight or ten men in Topeka who have built and lived in sod houses and who are well qualified to construct one for us.

Your letter is one of the best I have received and I very much appreciate your time and trouble. The principal difficulty now is to secure a sod that will withstand three of four handlings and the necessary trucking. I don't know whether we can find a sod in this neighborhood that will answer our purpose. I am told that the buffalo sod has deteriorated in recent years. What is your opinion of getting a goos sod? What is the best time of year to secure a sod that will not rot and last longest.

Thanking you again and with best wishes

Sincerely yours,

Secretary