

NEWS RELEASE: May 16, 2011

### **Historic Preservation Month highlighted in Rotunda**

In recognition of Historic Preservation Month, an exhibit showcasing early Greene County inhabitants is on display throughout May in the Greene County Historic Courthouse Rotunda.

The exhibit, presented by the Greene County Historic Sites Board, highlights a United States Map from the 1830s, when Greene County was founded; Revolutionary War veterans buried in Greene County; log cabins and other early structures; the Cherokee Trail of Tears and six authentic reproductions of dresses worn by Native American women whose tribes lived in or passed through southwest Missouri.

“These beautiful dresses represent the Osage, Delaware, Kickapoo, Seminole, Sac and Fox and Cherokee nations,” said Jackie Warfel, who curated the exhibit. “All of the dresses are faithfully reproduced based on old patterns, and the Cherokee dress was actually made by a 91-year-old Cherokee woman, who tore the material into strips of cloth, instead of cutting it, before putting it together.”

The Greene County Historic Courthouse is at 940 Boonville Ave., Springfield, and the Rotunda is open weekdays 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. This exhibit will remain in place until May 31 and is free and open to the public. The exhibit will move to the Battlefield City Hall, Battlefield, Mo., in June.

For more information, call David J. Eslick, chair of the Greene County Historic Sites Board, at 417-889-9332; Jackie Warfel, Historic Sites Board member, at 417-732-3848; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-224-5510.

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