

NEWS RELEASE

March 27, 2014

For more information, contact:
[Kinsey Crocker](#) at Anglin PR (405) 840-4222
After hours for media on a deadline (580) 402-5269

Geologists Find New Home in Historic Cotton Growers Building in Downtown OKC

OKLAHOMA CITY – When the red brick building at 10 N.W. 6th Street was constructed in 1923, it housed the organization that oversaw one of Oklahoma’s biggest cash crops of the time – cotton. Ninety years later, the building will receive new life from one of Oklahoma’s other leading industries.

In March, the Oklahoma City Geological Society began a \$1.3 million renovation on the 18,000 sq. ft. building originally occupied by the Oklahoma Cotton Growers Association. Most recently owned by Moyers Factory Warehouse, the building was primarily used by the owner for personal storage.

After being hidden on the 9th floor of the First National Center for 13 years, the Oklahoma City Geological Society, which has been in existence since 1921, was looking for a centrally located space with parking, enough room to house their 12,000 sq. ft. library and additional room for an event space for member meetings, continuing education and other events.

“The Society has been a relatively unknown organization to the city,” said Mike Harris, CEO of the Oklahoma City Geological Society. “Unless you are in the older generation of the oil and gas industry, you may not know we exist. The new building will help increase our visibility as we also begin to implement strategies to reach and serve a new generation of geologists and other natural resources professionals interested in the earth sciences.”

The Oklahoma City Geological Society purchased the building and adjoining parking spaces for \$1.36 million on January 31, 2014.

Prior to its purchase, the two story building with a full basement was stress-tested to ensure it could support the approximate 100,000 lbs. weight of the Society’s library. The library houses 500 file cabinets containing more than one million well logs and other historic well records dating back to the early 1900s.

Renovations have begun on the building and will include updating electric and plumbing systems and adding HVAC, bathrooms and a catering kitchen for the event space. The first floor and basement will be devoted to the library and office space while the second floor will be utilized as

-MORE-

“Geologists Find New Home...” – ADD ONE

an event space for the Society’s monthly educational luncheons and other functions.

New features including glass garage doors surrounding the conference room will be incorporated into the interior design. Original features including the exterior plaque listing the Cotton Growers’ 1923 board members will be maintained.

A walk-in safe, also still intact, will be incorporated into one of the office spaces. And the building’s original skylights, which were sealed by a previous owner, will be restored.

“We’ve learned there were strict regulations over the cotton industry that specified cotton was to be graded by visual inspection under a north-facing skylight at 10 a.m.,” said Greg Flournoy, board president for the Oklahoma City Geological Society. “There are many interesting details about this historic building, and it’s rewarding to be a part of the rebirth of the area.”

Mass Architects and Clyde Riggs Construction have been contracted for the project. Prosperity Bank is providing the financing. The renovations are expected to be completed this fall.

The Oklahoma City Geological Society will be launching a capital campaign to assist with funding the purchase and renovations of the building.

The Oklahoma City Geological Society, founded in 1921, is a professional membership-based organization composed of geoscientists. The Society provides members with continuing education and networking opportunities, publishes the “Shale Shaker Magazine” and offers a library of more than one million well logs and other historic well records from wells drilled in Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Arkansas that date back to the early 1900s. These logs and records are an important resource for those in the oil and gas industry who are looking for new sources of oil and gas. For more information about the Oklahoma City Geological Society, visit www.OCGS.org.

###

Editor’s Note: For photos, renderings or interviews with the Oklahoma City Geological Society leadership, contact Kinsey Crocker at Anglin PR (405) 840-4222.