

HISTORIC LECOMPTON

**Civil War
Birth Place**



**Where Slavery
Began to Die**

Kansas & National Historic Landmarks

Lecompton, Kansas was the Territorial Capital of Kansas from 1855-1861. Lecompton, population 640, was recently voted one of the “best small towns in Kansas” by the readers of KANSAS! Magazine—for good reasons! It’s a quaint small town with amazing—nation changing—history.

There is lots to do in Lecompton! Lecompton is a perfect day-trip destination, or a great place to stop when you are traveling through the area. Driving time from Kansas City via the Kansas Turnpike I-70 to the Lecompton Exit (197) is approximately one hour. Travel from Lawrence or Topeka is an estimated 20 minutes. Unique shops and two great eateries to serve you in Lecompton! Excellent navigational signs guide you to our museums and historic sites. [“Bleeding Kansas” reenactments and programs available](#) for motor coach tours, student field trips, company retreats, and clubs and organizations. Large groups can arrange for a delicious meal cooked and served by the members of the Lecompton United Methodist Church, formerly the Windsor Hotel and home of the 1885 Chickering Grand piano. Short piano recitals can be arranged. Call for details!

Two Museums [Constitution Hall](#) is an award winning, National and Kansas Landmark. It is the oldest wood-frame building in Kansas in its original location and where the infamous [Lecompton Constitution](#) was written and signed. This document called for Kansas to be admitted into the union as a pro-slavery state. It sparked a chain of events that divided the nation and eventually climaxed in the Civil War. Visit Historic Lecompton to experience the “Civil War birth-place, where slavery began to die.”

Two blocks away from Constitution Hall is the [Territorial Capital Museum](#), an award-winning historic site chronicling the history of Lecompton from the tumultuous, controversial territorial days to the delightfully quaint present. Housed in the stone Lane University building, where President Eisenhower’s parents met and married, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Old Lecompton City Jail Experience prison life in our 1892 jail. Contains the original door, hardware and original window bars. Used until the 1920's as a jail. Step inside and see what prison life was like! Was it cruel and unusual punishment?

Territorial Democratic Headquarters This stone building was the headquarters of the Democratic Party during the Kansas Territorial period (1854-61). The cabin was used during a time when Lecompton, known as [“The Birthplace of the Kansas Democratic Party,” was the territorial capital](#) and stood at the center of national attention. Within these walls ambitious and influential men gathered to discuss issues, plot strategies, and make decisions that helped to shape the destiny of Kansas politics and government.

Yearly Events and Upcoming Events

For More Information:

Contact 785-887-6148 or 785-887-6520

Email: lanemuseum@aol.com

Hours: 9 to 5 Wednesday through Saturday and 1 to 5 on Sunday.

Call to visit on Monday and Tuesday.

