

Old-fashioned shackles reminiscent of the ones used to confine a slave. The sickle used to clear a path of corn on a quest for freedom.

These items and more are on display inside The Old Quindaro Museum & Information Center. The museum began as the residence of John A. Walker, the original caretaker of the former Western University, once located nearby. Today, the museum seeks to preserve the rich history of the Quindaro community, settled by former slaves, where runaway slaves found sanctuary.

On display is a knife used to clear corn and brush during a daring escape. It was inclement weather during the escape. The Missouri River had frozen over. When the slaves reached the river's edge where the cornfields were, they cut the corn and hid the women and children under the brush to camouflage them from the slave catchers. The men tied rags on their feet as they walked across the ice to make sure the passage was safe. The knife was found in a barn in 1972.

Many of these slaves were eventually adopted by the Wyandot Indian tribe.

The museum also includes an exhibit of the first African-American firefighters in Kansas City, Kansas and a restored kitchen, complete with a vintage stove.

For more information on this attraction or others in Kansas City, Kansas call 913-321-5800 or go to visitkansascityks.com.

Thank-you and enjoy the tour.