

February 2, 2016

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For immediate release:

## Stone Arched-Roof Cellar Tours in the Flint Hills

Presented by The Volland Store

Native stone arched-roof cellars are the focal point of the Volland Store's current exhibit "The Spirit of Place: Rooted in the Flint Hills." Photographer Tom Parish has documented the interiors of nearly 300 arched-roof cellars throughout the northern counties of the Flint Hills, and some of the best examples of his work are now on display at the Volland Store.

The photography of arched-roof cellars by Parish was accompanied by considerable research. Parish discovered that this particular structure, with its arched roof made entirely of stone, without wood or concrete supports, is unique to the Flint Hills. Furthermore, there is no written information about them: how they were built, who built them, or what they were used for. Tom sought oral histories from the descendants of those who built or owned them, and his body of work has made a significant contribution to both the cultural and anthropological history of the Flint Hills.

The Volland Store is pleased to present a tour of arched-roof cellars during the month of February led by Tom Parish. A choice of two dates is offered. Through the generosity of local landowners, several arched cellars in Wabaunsee County will be made available for the tour where Parish will share his interpretation of these hidden treasures.

Dates for the tour are: Saturday, February 13, or Sunday, February 21. Tour participants will meet at 1:00 pm at the Volland Store and will be bussed to the tour stops. They will see the cellars first hand and hear Tom speak about their unique history. The tour will wind through the Flint Hills, returning to the Volland Store by 5 pm.

Ticket sales benefit continued programming at The Volland Store. Tickets are available at The Volland Store (open weekends noon - 5pm), online at [thevollandstore.com](http://thevollandstore.com), or by calling Wrenn Pacheco (405-633-1273). Tickets are \$10.00 per person. Only 30 seats are available for each tour. Reserve your spot today.

If weather prevents the tour on February 13th, the "weather date" will be February 21st. Please watch our Facebook page or visit [thevollandstore.com](http://thevollandstore.com) for weather cancellations and updates.

The Volland Store is an art gallery and event center in the Flint Hills, half-way between Alma and Alta Vista, KS, just off Old K-10 Highway at 24098 Volland Road. Hours of operation are Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 5 pm. For further information, call Abby Amick (620-271-2953) or Wrenn Pacheco (405-633-1273).