

TESTIMONIES OF TIME

Rich in color, accurate in history, the murals painted by the late Don Sprague transport a person back to a time when bank robbers rode through the dusty streets of Coffeyville, two local brothers created a flying sensation, and a man named Walter "Big Train" Johnson left his mark as a legend in baseball.

Between 1988 and 1992, Sprague painted 14 murals in and around downtown Coffeyville. Before he began painting any of the murals, Sprague spent hours doing research, making sure each mural was historically accurate.

The murals command a second look when people learn that hidden in the scenes is the name of Sprague's son, Tim. The dots after Sprague's signature represent the number of times "Tim" appears in a mural.

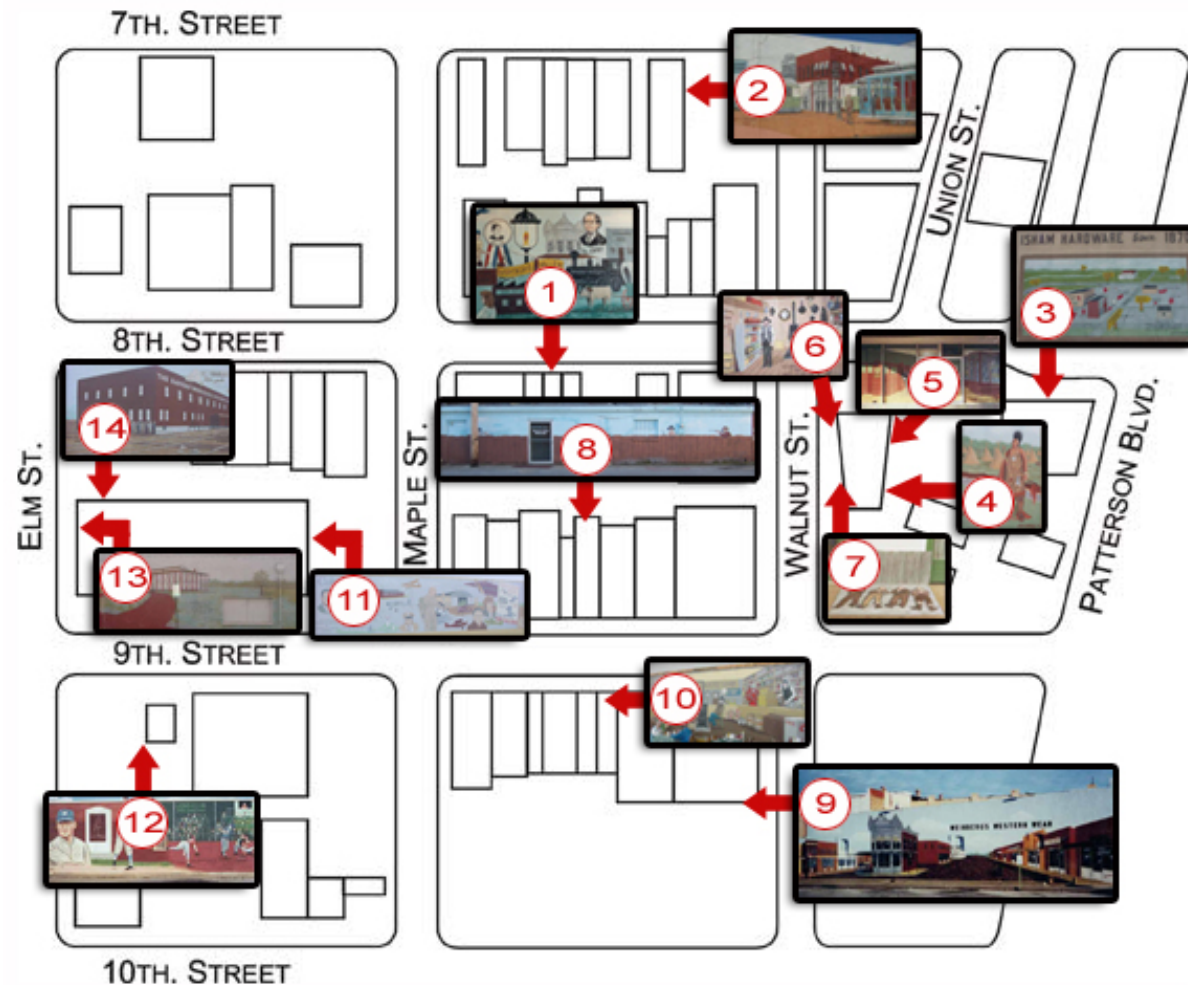
Thanks to Don Sprague's generosity of time and talent, the batter on Don Sprague's favorite mural will always stand ready at the plate. And on a warm summer day, if you listen closely, you can almost hear the announcer's voice echoing through the air and the crowd cheering on forever. One can only imagine how many more historically significant paintings we might have been able to admire in Coffeyville were Don Sprague still around. And so Coffeyville, as well as the name and murals of Don Sprague, will likely be remembered in tomorrow's "history."

MURAL LOCATIONS

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| 1. Collage of Coffeyville History
127 W. 8th (Inside MidWest Realty) | 8. Defenders on Wall
Death Alley |
| 2. Interurban
109 W. 7th | 9. Downtown Coffeyville in 1892
912 Walnut |
| 3. Attractions Map
811 Union | 10. Old Grocery Store Interior
117 W. 9th (Inside) |
| 4. Chief Black Dog
807 Walnut (backside) | 11. Aviation History
210 W. 9th |
| 5. Old Bank Interior
807 Walnut (backside) | 12. Walter Johnson/Little League
223 W. 9th |
| 6. Colonel Coffey's Trading Post
807 Walnut | 13. Natatorium
9th & Elm |
| 7. Daltons Laid Out on Sidewalk
807 Walnut | 14. Kansas Wholesale
809 Elm |

The Many Murals of

Don Sprague...



*Take a walking tour
and locate the hidden name
of Sprague's son, Tim.*

www.donsprague.org

1. Collage of Coffeyville History

This was the first mural painted by Don Sprague. It was originally painted for a local lawyer, Robert Eastman, for a wall in his office. The building is currently owned by Midwest Real Estate and the mural is painted inside the building on the office wall. This mural is a collage of many items depicting both the past and present of Coffeyville. [Don did not hide Tim's name in this mural.](#)

2. Interurban

The Interurban was an intricate part of Coffeyville's transportation. Ground was broken for an interurban line in 1905 to connect Coffeyville and Independence. Eventually the line also ran to Nowata, Cherryvale and Parsons. By 1920, the line was carrying 75,000 city passengers and 35,000 interurban passengers monthly. The interurban terminal building still stands at 8th and Walnut. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural two times.](#)

3. Attractions Map

This map gives locations of various attractions throughout Coffeyville and is locted on Isham's Hardware. Isham's is where citizens of Coffeyville got the guns and ammunition used during the Dalton Raid on October 5, 1892. On the west corner of Isham's is where two of our citizens lost their lives during the Raid, and at the east end, one citizen was killed. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural two times.](#)

4. Chief Black Dog

Portable window mural. As early as 1803, Chief Black Dog and his band of Osage Indians made a trail through Coffeyville. Chief Black Dog was seven feet tall, weighed over 300 lbs. and was blind in his left eye. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

5. Old Bank Interior

Portable window mural. Mural of The First National Bank which was one of the two banks robbed during the Dalton Raid. The bank was located just to the north of Isham's Hardware. [Don did not hide Tim's name in this mural.](#)

6. Colonel Coffey's Trading Post

Portable window mural. During the Civil War, many Osage Indians camped in the Verdigris Valley area, west of the River. They had to cross the river to trade with white men. Colonel James A. Coffey set up a trading post on the west side of the River. The Indians decided it was easier not to have to cross the River to trade with the white men and soon the trading center became a thriving town. Coffeyville is named for Colonel Coffey and was established in 1869, eight years after the State of Kansas joined the Union. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

7. Dalton's Laid Out on Sidewalk

After four members of the Dalton Gang were killed, their bodies were laid out in the jail for one day before they were buried. Those killed were Bill Power, Bob Dalton, Grat Dalton and Dick Broadwell. Grat and Bob Dalton and Power were killed in the alley. Broadwell managed to escape on his horse; however, he died on his way out of town. Grat, Bob and Power are buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Coffeyville. Broadwell is buried in Hutchinson. Emmett Dalton received over 23 slugs in his body during the Raid; however, he survived. He was sentenced to life imprisonment, paroled after 14 years and moved to California where he worked in real estate and performed in a movie. He died at the age of 67. [Don did not hide Tim's name in this mural.](#)

8. Defenders on Wall

This mural depicts the gentlemen who defended Coffeyville during the Dalton Gang's attempt to rob two banks at the same time. When the raid was over, which lasted 12 minutes, four of the Dalton gang were dead and four of Coffeyville's citizens were killed. Three of the citizens - George Cubine, Charles Brown and Lucius Baldwin - were killed near Isham Hardware; Marshall Connelly died in what is today known as Death Alley. The banks were robbed of approximately \$25,000. After the day's banking business was completed and the books were balanced, the Condon Bank came up \$20 short and First National Bank was \$1.98 over, so fortunately for the banks most of the money was recovered. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

9. Downtown Coffeyville in 1892

Painted on the wall of the Cultural Arts Center, this mural depicts Coffeyville as it looked the day the Daltons rode into town. This 22' x 94' mural took 74 hours and 15½ gallons of paint to complete. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

10. Old Grocery Store Interior

Originally located above the meat counter in Nu-Way Foodliner, this mural depicts an early day grocery store and is fashioned after pictures of Don's wife's grandfather's grocery store. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural two times.](#)

11. Aviation History

This mural depicts the aviation history of Coffeyville. The Funk brothers, Joe and Howard, produced the Funk Airplane from 1941-1948. The Inman Brothers operated a flying circus using their pet lion as the mascot. A flying school was in operation in Pfister Park and the Army Air Base was in full operation in the 40's. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

12. Walter Johnson/Little League

Generally known as the greatest pitcher in the 1st half of the 20th century, Walter Johnson called Coffeyville home during the off season. Johnson pitched for the Washington Senators during his 21-year major league career. He later spent seven seasons as a manager. Johnson was one of the first five players to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural two times.](#)

13. Natatorium

The Silurian Springs Bath House was built by W.P. Brown, who also built the Brown Mansion. The Bath House was built in 1906 west and south of the Mansion. In addition to the spa, which attracted people from all over the U.S., the Bath House had facilities for golf, tennis, basketball, handball, tether ball, weightlifting and indoor and outdoor swimming pools. The Natatorium was built in 1906 and torn down in the 1950's. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural one time.](#)

14. Kansas Wholesale

Built in 1909 by M.S. McNabney, Kansas Wholesale carried an entire line of wholesale groceries. The business is still open today in the 1300 block of Willow which has been Taylor Wholesale for over 50 years. M.S. McNabney was also instrumental in carrying out the historical mural project. [Don hid his son's name, Tim, in the mural two times.](#)

www.donsprague.org

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