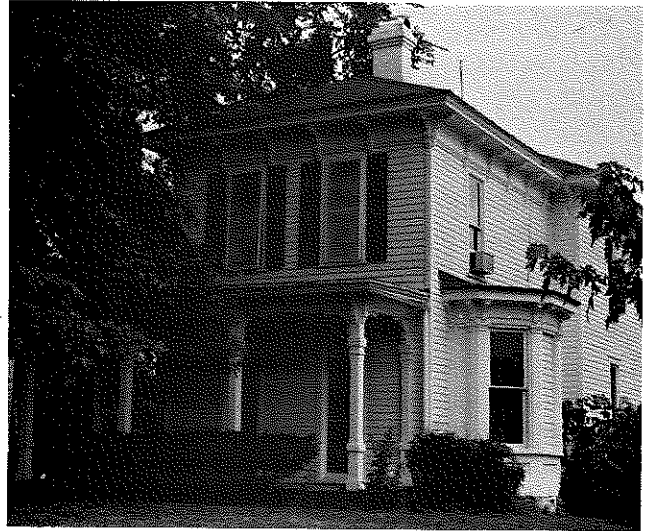


## *A Geography of Kansas Poetry*



### *“Place”*

*Is it the house I grew up in  
The way the sun slanted through the front window  
Warm bars of winter dust and light  
Is it a locus inside a muddy muscle  
The heart squeezing rivulets of blood  
Again, again, again*

*By Denise Low*

***"A Geography of Kansas Poetry"*** is a tape-slide presentation that captures the sights and sounds of Kansas in a unique way. In the opening poem, by *David Perkins*, the state's landscape hits you "like a slap," then as you move from poems about Leavenworth, Lawrence, Colby, Hutchison, and other towns to poems about farming and fishing to poems about buffaloes and Kiowas. In the final poem, William Stafford declares that "once you cross a land like that/you own your face more." This presentation crosses Kansas with poetry while twenty-one poems are read as pictures of Kansas and its history are flashed on the screen.

The work was selected and created by the poet *Michael Paul Novak* and visually produced by the artist *Larry A. Luxman*, both on the faculty of Saint Mary College in Leavenworth. The project was funded in part by a grant from the Kansas Committee for the Humanities, affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, as a way of increasing public understanding of the humanities.

The works of seventeen Kansas poets and over one hundred photographs make up the twenty-five minute showing. An introductory essay and bibliography accompany the slides and tape.

***"A Geography of Kansas Poetry"*** is available to schools, libraries, and appropriate organizations by writing *Michael Novak, English Department, Saint Mary College, Leavenworth, Kansas 66048*.