

Less celebrated are

THE SMALL PROJECTS WITH BIG PAYOFFS.

The big dams and navigation projects may carry the greatest glamour and mystique, but some of the most cost-effective Corps' projects are those grouped under the headings of "local protection projects" or "small projects."

A prime example is at Wichita, Kansas, which grew up along the Arkansas River that cuts squarely through the heart of the city. After years of fighting floods along the river, civic leaders asked the Corps to study flood control possibilities. The project had a stormy local history that took years to resolve, including numerous lawsuits. But in 1959 the project was finally complete: the Corps built a new channel that in effect diverts the Arkansas River around Wichita. The project

The Tulsa District and the City of Tulsa completed the Joe Creek channel project in 1980, after decades of disastrous flooding.

The waters had overwhelmed us, the stream had gone over my soul.

— Psalms 124:4

