

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED MAY 23 1977  
DATE ENTERED DEC 23 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

\*\* SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Arcadia Round Barn  
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

US 66 in downtown

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Arcadia

VICINITY OF

No. 5

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Oklahoma

40

Oklahoma

109

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Frank Vrana

STREET & NUMBER

401 E 13

CITY, TOWN

Edmond 73034

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Oklahoma County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Special Arcadia Round Barn Survey

DATE

1976

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Oklahoma Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Odor's round barn - 60 feet in diameter, 43 feet in height - was six months in the building. Oxen cleared the ground in early 1898. Local red Permian rock was used for the foundation. Odor apparently designed the barn himself and no one knows just why he chose to make it round. Green burr oak trees were cut for the timbering. To shape the crucial rafters he ordered construction of a form. The timbers were soaked in water until soft enough to band into the mold. When they were ready to erect Odor himself fit the first ones in place. Flooring, shingles, and siding were brought in, but the joists, studs, and other dimension lumber were of oak from the farm, which probably helps to explain why the barn, for all the neglect of its latter years, still stands.

Today the shingles are covered with cheap green asphalt roofing. Most of the window frames are gone and here and there studs are exposed by breaks in the siding. A half-dozen creosote poles, wedged into angle irons bolted to the second-floor joists on the east side of the barn, recognize damage inflicted by a recent storm in the area. Still, dilapidated as it obviously is, the barn is probably threatened less by collapse than by arson-minded vandals.

\* \* \*

Interestingly enough, the barn has already been "enshrined" (after a fashion) in the Arcadia Post Office. Gregg Burns, the paraplegic artist who works with mouth-held pen or brush, featured the barn in one of his widely reprinted works. The original he donated to the Post Office, which has it mounted on a panel in the lobby surrounded by historic pictures of the old landmark in his heyday.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1898 to the present      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      William Harrison Odor

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Arcadia's landmark round barn, to quote a recent newspaper headline, "ain't what she used to be." But for all her nearly four score years, she still stands ALMOST erect, an architectural curiosity, a symbol of pioneer perseverance, and something of a memorial to a small town and a railroad, both of which typical American institutions came into being, flourished briefly, and then faded away to near-oblivion while she watched serenely from atop a low overlooking the Deep Fork River. On all three counts she would seem to deserve the recognition and protection of National Register status.

\* \* \*

This northeastern corner of Oklahoma County was opened to settlement with the Old Oklahoma "run" of April 22, 1889. William Harrison "Big Bill" Odor arrived in 1892. In 1898 he built his barn, a two-story affair for hay, grain, and livestock. Later he used it to house a harness and livery stable business. But almost from the first it also served as a community center. While the barn was still under construction three young workers, realizing what a fine place it would be for dances, persuaded Odor to let them pay the difference between the planned rough flooring and more suitable hardwood. From time to time for the next twenty-five years "barn dances" drew dancers and musicians to Arcadia from a wide area.

Arcadia itself - and the M-K-T railroad - arrived simultaneously in 1902. But the year before Odor had helped organize a neighborhood band. One musician, of many, who played at one time or another in the barn, was M. E. Trapp, who became the 6th governor of the state in 1923. Odor was proud of his barn and is said to have compared its acoustics with those of the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. Be that as it may (or may not!) it was a popular rallying point while Arcadia flourished. Odor was a builder and promoter. A school teacher in Kansas before coming to Oklahoma, he organized the first Bank of Arcadia in 1905. He was later in the hardware business. His was the first phone in what grew to become the independent Arcadia Telephone System.

Today the town has lost its cotton gins, its bank, and virtually of its other businesses. Interstate 44 has drawn off much of the US 66 traffic that once moved through the town within a few feet of the eye-catching red barn ... which is now more gray than red, its painted advertisement for an Oklahoma City store weathered into illegibility. Even the rusted rails of the M-K-T just beyond the highway are rarely used today and the line's abandonment is imminent. But the barn itself remains, thanks to a half-dozen sturdy supports on the east (down-wind) side ... a slightly atilt memorial, not only to a rural way-of-life that has now virtually disappeared, but also to a sturdy pioneer spirit which, hopefully, has NOT disappeared, but merely found other ways in which to express itself.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Anderson, Willene, "The old round red barn . . ." Oklahoma City Times,  
 Oct. 10, 1974  
 Gilson, Nancy, "Old Barn Holds Pioneer History," Oklahoma Journal,  
 April 14, 1975  
 Jones, Linda and Baker, Marjorie, "Arcadia . . ." Edmond (Okla.) Booster,  
 April 22, 1976

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 4	6 5 1 5 7 5	3 9 4 7 5 7 8	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

DATE

December 1976

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

STATE

Oklahoma

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Harry L. Deerpree M.D.

DATE

12-9-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Muntz

DATE

12/23/77

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles H. ...

DATE

12-22-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

77001094  
OKlahoma

Property Ascadia Round Barn  
State Oklohoma Working Number 5.23.77.820

TECHNICAL ~~# 10 needs SHPO report, title, date~~ 12.20.77 CONTROL  
Photos 2 ~~" " level checked~~ OK pl  
Maps 1 5.25.77

HISTORIAN WRL

# 3 NEEDS COMPLETION.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT  
Hgnib  
11/17/77

ARCHEOLOGIST

No real preservation plans for structure. Otherwise -

OTHER

accept  
Braham  
11/28/77

HAER

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

Sheffield spoke with Kent Redh -  
no definite preservation plans, but argue  
that no listing will stimulate local  
group.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept  
Worvich  
12/22/77

BRANCH CHIEF

Herrington  
12.22.77

KEEPER

Wny  
12/23/77

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry 2.7.78

Send-back 11.29.77  
Re-submit 12.20.77

Entered DEC 23 1977

INT:2106-74

NAME OF PROPERTY Arcadia Round Barn STATE Oklahoma

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8 Statement of Significance: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9 Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM Reference(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12 Certification: Please have SHPO sign + date form.  
Photographic Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_  
Map Coverage: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: Level of significance needs a check.  
please complete section #3  
Are there any plans to preserve this building?

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Bill Labovick  
on the National Register staff, telephone 202 523 5483

Thank you for your attention to the above items.  
Walter H. Cole Date: 11.29.77  
Chief, Branch of Registration

INT:2105-74



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*Oklahoma Co.*

Arcadia Round Barn

Arcadia, Oklahoma

Paul Lefebvre - 1977

216 NE 26 OKCity 73105

Barn from SSE

Photo No. 1072

DEC 23 1977

MAY 23 1977



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DEC 23 1977

Oklahoma Co.

Arcadia Round Barn  
Arcadia, Oklahoma  
Paul Lefebvre - 1977  
216 NE 26 OKCity 73105  
Interior, lower level,  
showing massive second-  
level supports  
Photo No. 2 of 2

MAY 23 1977



12/22

TELEPHONE REPORT

AM  
PM

1. CALL  TO:  FROM (Name)

Kent Ruth

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

405-884-5456

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Renovation/Restoration of Round Barn.

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

No plans to restore structure, only hopes. A group of interested people in neighboring Edmund, Okla. ~~has~~ may possibly become involved in such project. Ruth feels that NR history will encourage some organization to make a move.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

Sheffield

880

STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
OFFICE OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

HISTORICAL BUILDING  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105

HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
REVIEW COMMISSION

GEORGE L. CROSS, Ph.D.  
*Chairman*

ROBERT E. BELL, Ph.D.  
CHARLES W. HARRIS, Ph.D.  
JAMES L. LOFTIS, A.I.A.  
H. MILT PHILLIPS

GEORGE H. SHIRK  
*State Historic  
Preservation Officer*

HOWARD L. MEREDITH, Ph.D.  
*Secretary to the  
Commission and  
Office Director*

CERTIFICATE

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the attached nomination for the National Register of Historic Places has been reviewed in accordance with the requirement of Paragraph XXV of Section II of POLICIES AND PROCEDURES and that in our opinion it meets the criteria set forth in CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION as contained in Section 1 of Volume 2, THE NATIONAL REGISTER PROGRAM 1975.



*Robert E. Bell*  
Robert E. Bell

*G. L. Cross*  
George L. Cross

*Charles W. Harris*  
Charles W. Harris

*James L. Loftis*  
James L. Loftis, A.I.A.

*H. Milt Phillips*  
H. Milt Phillips

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the foregoing constitute the Review Commission for the State of Oklahoma as heretofore appointed by the Governor.

*Howard L. Meredith*  
Howard L. Meredith  
Secretary to the Commission

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      OKLAHOMA

Date Entered      DEC 23 1977

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Arcadia Round Barn	Arcadia Oklahoma County

Also Notified

Hon. Dewey F. Bartlett

Hon. Henry L. Bellon

Hon. Mickey Edwards

Regional Director, Southwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Dr. Harry L. Daupras  
235 Pasteur Building  
1111 North Lee  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

880

Mott/js

12/29/77

# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Arcadia Round Barn  
 ② OTHER NAMES:  
 ③ date of entry: DEC 23 1977  
 ④ county code: 109

⑤ LOCATION street & number U.S. 66 city / town Arcadia vicinity of state OK county Oklahoma  
 ⑥ NPS REGION: SW

⑦ OWNER  PRIVATE  STATE  MUNICIPAL  COUNTY  MULTIPLE  FEDERAL (agency name)  
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS  HABS  HAER  NHL ⑩ FUNDED?  YES  NO ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT 5th ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION  STATE  FEDERAL if state who prepared form?

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES, NAME  NO ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?  YES, NAME  NO ⑮ ACREAGE LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  ruins  unexposed  unexcavated  altered  unaltered  reconstructed  excavated  original site  moved  unknown  
 ⑰ features: INTERIOR  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-4  NOT APPLICABLE-7 EXTERIOR  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-5  NOT APPLICABLE-8 ENVIRONS  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  NOT INTACT-0  UNKNOWN-6  NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS  YES-Restricted  YES-Unrestricted  No Access  Unknown ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE  YES  NO ⑳ SAVED?  YES IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?  yes  no

㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:  ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2  ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1  AGRICULTURE-3  ARCHITECTURE-4  ART-5  ENGINEERING-11  COMMERCE-6  COMMUNICATIONS-7  CONSERVATION-8  ECONOMICS-9  EDUCATION-10  ENTERTAINMENT-26  EXPLORATION-12  HEALTH-27  INDUSTRY-13  INVENTION-14  LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15  LAW-16  LITERATURE-17  MILITARY-18  MUSIC-19  PHILOSOPHY-20  POLITICS/GOVT.-21  RELIGION-22  SCIENCE-23  SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24  SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30  TRANSPORTATION-25  RECREATION-28  SETTLEMENT-29  URBAN PLANNING-31  OTHER (SPECIFY)  
 ㉒ CLAIMS: explain 'first'  'oldest'  'only'

㉓ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY: ㉔ dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events: ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

㉖ architectural style(s): ㉗ architect: ㉘ master builder: ㉙ engineer:

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer: ㉛ interior decorator: ㉜ artist: ㉝ artisan: ㉞ builder/contractor:

㉟ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP