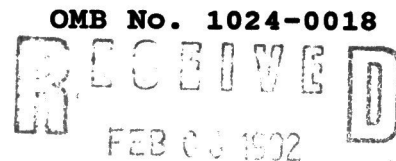


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



NATIONAL
REGISTER

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Oklahoma County Courthouse

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: 321 Park Avenue

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Oklahoma City

vicinity: N/A

state: OK county: Oklahoma code: 109 zip code: 73102

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing		Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>		<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>		<u>1</u>	objects
<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: County Courthouses of Oklahoma

4. State/Federal Agency Certification Oklahoma County Courthouse

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. N/A See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official James H. Wade Date January 28, 1991

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official	Date
---	------

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

✓ entered in the National Register
 ____ See continuation sheet.
 ____ determined eligible for the
 National Register
 ____ See continuation sheet.
 ____ determined not eligible for the
 National Register
 ____ removed from the National Register
 ____ other (explain):

Adams Byers 3/5/92

Signature of Keeper	Date of Action
---------------------	----------------

6. Function or Use	Oklahoma County Courthouse
--------------------	----------------------------

Oklahoma County Courthouse

Historic: GOVERNMENT

Sub: Courthouse

Current : GOVERNMENT

Sub: Courthouse

=====

7. Description

=====

Oklahoma County Courthouse

Architectural Classification:

Art Deco

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation CONCRETE roof ASPHALT
walls STONE: Limestone other STONE: Granite
METAL: Aluminum

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally .

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-37 _____

Significant Dates : N/A _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Layton and Forsyth, Architects
Manhattan Construction Company, Builder

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

X See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 1
=====

Summary

The Oklahoma County Courthouse, built in 1936-37, is a thirteen-story building constructed of Indiana limestone.¹ The stepped-back massing, bas-relief murals, and abstract floral/corn ornamentation executed in aluminum exemplify the Art Deco style. Sited alone on a landscaped block of downtown Oklahoma City's Civic Center, the courthouse is surrounded by modern high-rise and historic buildings, including the Municipal Building/City Hall, the Municipal Auditorium, the Center Theatre, and the Harbour Longmire Building (NR, 1980). The Oklahoma County Courthouse possesses an unusually high degree of architectural integrity.

Physical Description

Sited alone on an attractively landscaped block of downtown Oklahoma City's Civic Center, the Oklahoma County Courthouse stands as a deceptively simple Art Deco massing of Indiana limestone. From a 203-foot by 132-foot base--which is relieved by wing walls and monumental steps of dark grey Cold Spring Minnesota granite--the building rises three stories out of the ground and then diminishes to 173 feet by 89 feet, forming an extremely well-proportioned, stepped-back shaft of ten more stories.

On all faces of the building, the plain surface contrasts with carved ornamental bands, dentil courses, medallions, and inscriptions incised into the limestone surface. The entrances are further embellished by decorative cast-aluminum-and-etched-glass light standards designed in the Art Deco idiom and mounted on massive, granite pedestals.

The building's fenestration is organized in vertical bands, separated by limestone pilasters, creating a strong vertical expression. These bands of

X See continuation sheet.

¹Scholars have been confused about locations in the building over the years, because the first floor was initially called the basement and the fourth floor (utilities and storage) was ignored altogether in the original numbering. Thus what were called the sixth-floor courtrooms in 1937 are known today as the eighth-floor courtrooms. The two courtroom floors of double-height with mezzanines and the topmost three floors of the county jail help to create thirteen stories.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 2
=====

windows are ornamented at the spandrels with abstract floral/corn expressions, executed in that very "moderne" 1936 material, aluminum. At the eleventh story, these aluminum elements form window grilles, which rise as stalks of corn to the top of the building, further enhancing the sense of verticality.

At the south entrance, a flight of granite steps flanked by wing walls leads to a monumental entry portal. Within the portal, a ribbon of four glazed, aluminum doors is graced by floriated, cast-aluminum moldings set between monumental, stepped-back pilasters executed in Cold Springs black granite. Vertical bands, designed in an abstract floral pattern and fabricated of aluminum, extend from the doors to reach an inscribed, stone lintel. Above the entrance, at the frieze, a carved bas-relief mural portrays a supposed panorama of the state's history, from Indians welcoming a mountain man, to a cowboy, to a pioneer farm couple.

At the east and west entry portals, fluted, polished granite pilasters support a granite frieze, embellished with volutes and a palmette leaf. The pilasters flank sets of three glazed, aluminum doors, crowned by ornamental aluminum transoms, which are in turn surmounted by a monumental lintel with a shield motif.

Throughout the interior, in an array of rich marbles and cast plaster, symbolic ornamentation references Oklahoma's character. Her agricultural produce is acknowledged: Corn and bundles of wheat are abstracted in plaster medallions. The ranching industry receives its due: A shorthorn bull carved in the black marble of the lobby's west mezzanine railing stares across the way at a longhorn steer on the east railing, while a bison arbitrates from the northern rail. The state's frontier history is expressed again and again: Wooden bas-relief ornamentation behind judges' benches in some courtrooms portray tribal justice, and in others, frontier lawmen; the six chandeliers ornamenting the two-story main lobby clearly take their geometric expression from wagon wheels; and ancient bows and arrows are expressed in cast aluminum over the east and west entrances.

At the top of the monumental south entry stairs, the visitor's first interior experience is a two-story cruciform lobby of polished Tennessee marbles, with rose-colored walls and black pilasters and mezzanine rails. Accents of lilac, cream, and metallic-gold tints are found in the plaster, the castings of government symbols about the tops of the walls, and the

X See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 3

=====

coffered ceiling. The carefully patterned terrazzo floor, designed in a classic sixteen-point "mariner's compass," recalls the wall and ceiling colors.

Throughout the courthouse halls and lobbies, repetition and variety distinguish each floor's public space. Each floor has its own design of hanging light fixtures, all in nickel-finish steel and restrained Art Deco vocabulary; each has its own patterned terrazzo floor, reflecting the colors and balance of its marble pilasters and walls. The unique color scheme of each floor contrasts dark pilasters (from reddish brown to ebony) with light wall panels (ranging from light grey to rich rose). The fifth through the eighth floors also display ornamented coffered ceilings that complement the shades of the pilasters. These ceilings rise higher with each floor until they culminate at the eighth-level courtroom lobby in a double-height, fully groined, barrel-vaulted ceiling, framed with an almost whimsical frieze of stylized cow skulls and corn bushels.

The eight ceremonial courtrooms--four each on levels seven and eight--are two-story in volume and finished in rich materials and ornamental elements. Here--in contrast to the courthouse's general use of hollow-steel doors and frames--courtroom doors, frames, and trim are executed in black walnut. Here the lobby's polished marble walls extend into the room as wainscots. The ornate pendant light fixtures are restated as Art Deco "stalactites" in ceilings surrounded by cast or sculpted plaster crown treatments. And here the aluminum trim of the exterior is recalled in linear ornament on the walnut rails and the judge's bench. Two of the eighth-floor courtrooms, left unfinished until some time after the building opened, are faced with Texas shell limestone. The courtroom levels possess a high degree of architectural integrity.

Additions

In 1950, the Boy Scouts of America erected a small replica of the Statue of Liberty on the grounds in front of the west entrance. This object does not contribute to the significance of the courthouse but does not affect the integrity of the property.

The Oklahoma County Courthouse remains virtually unaltered from its 1937 appearance and maintains an unusually high degree of architectural and historical integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 4

Summary

The Oklahoma County Courthouse is significant under Criterion C as a locally outstanding example of Art Deco architecture constructed under the auspices of the New Deal. The building, completed in 1937, was designed by the prominent architectural firm of Layton and Forsyth. Its stepped-back massing, bas-relief murals, and abstract floral/corn ornamentation executed in aluminum combine to create an unusually good expression of the Art Deco idiom, which in the 1930s became closely associated with the New Deal and its extensive building program.

Historical Context

Oklahoma County was created in 1890, following the opening of the Unassigned Lands to white settlement and the passage of the Organic Act, which established Oklahoma Territory. The county commissioners rented office and courtroom space until 1901, when they erected the first courthouse building, an imposing Victorian Romanesque edifice.

In 1936, the Romanesque building was replaced by the present courthouse, a larger facility designed in the thoroughly modern style of the day, Art Deco. By that time, the county required more space and updated facilities to accommodate a wide range of government services, including legal proceedings, incarceration of prisoners, property deed record-keeping, voter registration, tax assessment, and the issuance of marriage licenses. The county turned to the Public Works Administration (PWA) to help finance the construction of the new courthouse as part of a complex of four buildings known as the Oklahoma City Civic Center. The Civic Center encompassed the Municipal Building/City Hall, the Municipal Auditorium, and the Oklahoma City Police Station/Jail, as well as the Oklahoma County Courthouse.

The PWA was founded in 1933 to increase employment and stimulate the economy through the construction of useful public works. The agency created thousands of construction jobs for skilled and unskilled workers and, thereby, helped ease the economic distress of the Great Depression.

One of the PWA workers who benefitted from the project and the New Deal's parallel interest in promoting regional art was Derald T. Swineford, who later became a prominent Oklahoma sculptor and art professor at the

X See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 5

Oklahoma College for Women, now the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma in Chickasha. The wooden bas-relief carvings found above chamber doors and behind the judicial benches were carved by Swineford. Swineford's murals appear in public buildings in Enid, Norman, and Chickasha, as well as in the Oklahoma County Courthouse.

Importantly, when the courthouse was built in 1936--a time when the national economy was beginning to rebound from the depths of the depression--the new complex symbolized a break with the past. This symbolic break was epitomized by the juxtaposition of two photographs published in the Daily Oklahoman, one of the aging Romanesque courthouse, the other of the stately, sleek new seat of county government, with the caption "The Old Gives Way to the New."² For Oklahoma County residents, the new County Courthouse represented their hopes for a prosperous future.

Architectural Significance

The Oklahoma County Courthouse is significant as an outstanding local example of the Art Deco architecture of the New Deal. Often referred to as "PWA Art Deco," the style was transitional both between classical architectural and the International Style and between the Zigzag Art Deco of the twenties and the Streamline Art Deco of the thirties. The PWA Art Deco style was more severe than the earlier Zigzag idiom, and the ornamentation and building material relied less on the use of color. Most buildings of this style are monumental; their size and bulk conveyed "an image of strength, solidity and permanence, a sign of reassurance to a disillusioned nation."³ Hallmarks of the style include zigzag massing, symmetrical composition, the suggestion of an entablature and cornice, and the use of applied ornamentation. Ornament often took the form of relief sculpture, murals, and mosaics depicting local themes and glorifying the "common man," and it commonly found expression in "machine age" materials

X See continuation sheet.

²Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City), 18 April 1937, Section E.

³Tulsa Art Deco: An Architectural Era, 1925-1942, with introduction by David Gebhard (Tulsa: Junior League of Tulsa, 1980), p. 100.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 6

such as aluminum. These hallmarks are evident in the Oklahoma County Courthouse, which fuses the geometric expressionism of Art Deco, the Southwest's lexicon of ornament and symbols, and classical motifs. The stepped-back massing and the use of floriated ornamentation executed in aluminum, bas-relief murals depicting frontier scenes, and classical ornament such as fluted pilasters, dentils, volutes, and palmettes combine to create an elegant example of PWA Art Deco architecture. Moreover, the richly ornamental interior, including the use of rich textures and contrasting colors, Southwestern motifs, Art Deco light fixtures, and patterned terrazzo floors, contribute importantly to the significance of the building.

The Art Deco expression of the Oklahoma County Courthouse has few peers in Oklahoma County. The Municipal Auditorium and the Municipal Building/City Hall, both part of the Civic Center complex, are also Art Deco in style, but not as elaborately detailed as the courthouse building. The only comparable example is the First National Bank Building, a zigzag skyscraper in downtown Oklahoma City enriched with aluminum ornamentation and graced by a Neoclassical interior. Completed in 1931, however, the First National Bank Building was the final expression of the exuberance of the Oklahoma City oil boom; it does not reflect the more restrained tone of the PWA's interpretation of the Art Deco style. Similarly, the Montgomery Ward Building (NR 1980), located near the courthouse in downtown Oklahoma City, represents an earlier impulse within the Art Deco movement. Built in 1928, the building was designed within the Pueblo Deco idiom, utilizing Mayan motifs.

The Oklahoma County Courthouse is also one of the best examples of a PWA Art Deco courthouse in the state of Oklahoma. Aside from the Oklahoma County facility, nine of Oklahoma's seventy-seven county courthouses were designed in the Art Deco style. Only the Pottawatomie County Courthouse and, to a lesser extent, the Cleveland County Courthouse and the Grady County Courthouse (a Layton, Hicks, and Forsyth design), compare in the richness of detail. None is as monumental nor as outstanding an example of PWA Art Deco architecture.

The architectural firm of Layton and Forsyth designed the Oklahoma County Courthouse. Solomon Layton, the firm's senior partner, was Oklahoma's premiere architect. He is credited with the creation of more than 150 public and commercial buildings in the state. From about 1910 until his death in 1943, Layton teamed with George Forsyth (and from 1925 until 1935,

X See continuation sheet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 7
=====

Jewell Hicks was also a partner in the firm). The firm made its greatest aesthetic imprint on the capital city, as it designed a prodigious number of Oklahoma City's most important buildings, many of which are listed in the National Register. Among Layton's earlier designs were the monumental Oklahoma State Capitol (in partnership with S. Wemyss-Smith, NR 1976), the Oklahoma Publishing Company Building (NR 1978), and the Oklahoma High/Central High School (with Wemyss-Smith and John W. Hawk, NR 1976). The partnership of Layton and Forsyth (and Layton, Hicks, and Forsyth) designed the Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company Building (NR 1980), the Braniff Building (NR 1980), the India Temple Shrine Building (NR 1980), the Mid-Continent Building (1978), the Skirvin Hotel (NR 1979), the Oklahoma Historical Society Building (NR 1990), the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Building, the Baum Building (demolished), the Patterson Building (demolished), the Petroleum Building, Halliburton's Department Store (demolished), the Medical Arts Building, and four major school buildings. At the University of Oklahoma, the firm designed the Bizzell Library, and Layton and Wemyss-Smith created the plans for Monnet Hall.

Layton's firm established its reputation throughout the state of Oklahoma as the foremost designer of county courthouses. With various partners, Layton created the plans for sixteen county courthouses (eight of which were designed in partnership with Hicks and Forsyth); most of these are listed in the National Register. Layton's firm had only two rivals in shaping the state's courthouse architecture: the firm of Tonini and Bramblett, and architect Jewell Hicks (who was also for a time associated with the Layton firm), each with eight county courthouses to their credit. Layton designed the first Canadian County Courthouse (with W. J. Riley; demolished), the Greer County Courthouse (NR 1985), the second Cleveland County Courthouse (destroyed), and the Creek County Courthouse (with Wemyss-Smith; NR 1985). Working with partners Wemyss-Smith and Hawk, he developed the plans for the courthouses in Beckham County (NR 1984), Carter County (NR 1985), Washita County (NR 1984), and Craig County (NR 1984). Finally, in partnership with Hicks and Forsyth, Layton designed the courthouses for Harmon County (NR 1984), Jefferson County (NR 1984), McIntosh County (NR 1985), Muskogee County (NR 1984), Pittsburg County (NR 1984), Grady County, Hughes County (destroyed), and Okfuskee County (NR 1984). Of these, only the Jefferson County Courthouse and the Grady County Courthouse express the Art Deco style, and neither is as fine an example as the Oklahoma County Courthouse.

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

Oklahoma County Courthouse

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: 1.25 acres

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>14</u>	<u>634240</u>	<u>3925850</u>	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: N/A See continuation sheet.

The city block bounded by North Hudson Avenue on the west, West Park Avenue on the south, North Harvey Avenue on the east, and Couch Drive on the north.

Boundary Justification: N/A See continuation sheet.

The boundaries encompass the entire site historically associated with the courthouse. It is drawn to exclude the elevated walkway that connects the courthouse to the annex across Couch Drive.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Oklahoma County Courthouse

Name/Title: Harold A. Hite, architect, and Marsha Weisiger, architectural historian, SHPO

Organization: Oklahoma County Commission Date: July 24, 1991

Street & Number: 2901 Classen Blvd. Telephone: (405) 525-3162

City or Town: Oklahoma City State: OK ZIP: 73106

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Oklahoma County Courthouse Page 8
=====

Blackburn, Bob, Henderson, Arn, and Thurman, Melvena, The Physical Legacy: Buildings of Oklahoma County, 1889 to 1931 (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma County Historical Society, 1980).

Chickasha Daily Express, October 4, 1986.

Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City), April 18, 1937, Section E.

Daily Oklahoman, February 11, 1990.

Grady, Charles, County Courthouses of Oklahoma (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1985).

Henderson, Arn, Parman, Frank, and Henderson, Dortha, Architecture in Oklahoma: Landmark and Vernacular (Norman: Point Riders Press, 1978).

Hite, Harold A., ed., Great Buildings Ahead: A Walking and Motoring Tour of Central Oklahoma Architecture (Oklahoma City: American Institute of Architects, Oklahoma City Chapter, and Metropolitan Library System, 1989).

Oklahoma City. Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office. County Courthouses of Oklahoma Thematic Nomination, 1983.

Oklahoma City. Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office. United States Community Improvement Appraisal Report: Oklahoma County, Oklahoma, unpublished report prepared by the Oklahoma City Manager, March 8, 1938.

Tulsa Art Deco: An Architectural Era, 1925-1942, introduction by David Gebhard (Tulsa: Junior League of Tulsa, Inc., 1980).

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

County Courthouses of Oklahoma MPS

OKLAHOMA

51. Oklahoma County Courthouse

9/5/92

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Oklahoma County Courthouse
NAME:

MULTIPLE County Courthouses of Oklahoma MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OKLAHOMA, Oklahoma

DATE RECEIVED: 2/06/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/18/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/05/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/22/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92000126

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/5/92 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPD

TOWARD N

1 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPO

TOWARD NE

2 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPO

TOWARD E

3 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
HAROLD HITE
MARCH 1991
OKLAHOMA SHPD
TOWARD NW
4 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPD

TOWARD W

5 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE
OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPO

DETAIL OF W ENTRANCE,
TOWARD E

6 of 7



OKLAHOMA COUNTY COURTHOUSE

OKLAHOMA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

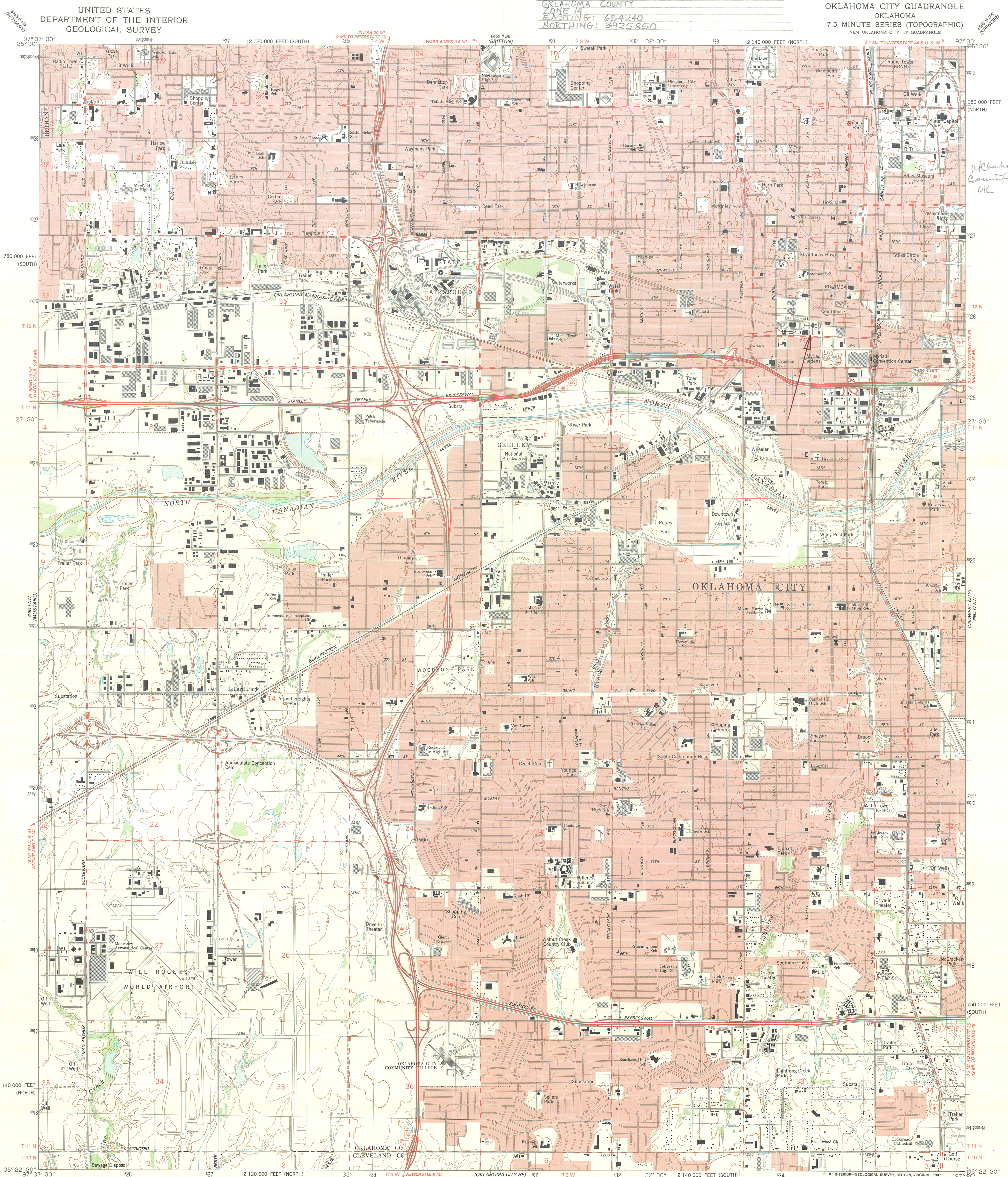
HAROLD HITE

MARCH 1991

OKLAHOMA SHPD

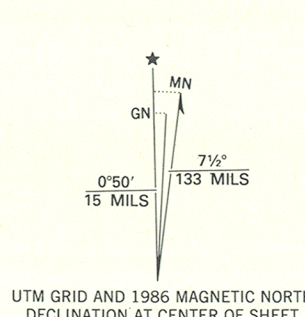
DETAIL OF S ENTRANCE,
TOWARD N

7 of 7



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Oklahoma State Highway Department
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1954. Field checked 1956. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1984. Field checked 1985. Map edited 1986
Projection: Oklahoma coordinate system, north zone
(Lambert conformal conic)
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Oklahoma coordinate
system, north and south zones
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 14
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 3 meters south and
28 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73069
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.
NE/4 OKLAHOMA CITY 15' QUADRANGLE
35097-05-TF-024

1986

DMA 6454 1 NE-SERIES V883



Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
621 N. ROBINSON, SUITE 375 • OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102 • (405) 521-6249

January 29, 1991

RECEIVED
FEB 03 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to transmit one (1) National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Oklahoma County Courthouse. The property is located in Oklahoma City, a Certified Local Government, and has been recommended by the CLG, as well as the state Historic Preservation Review Committee, as eligible for listing in the National Register.

We look forward to the results of your review. If there may be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Ms. Marsha Weisiger of my staff or me.

Sincerely,

Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MKH:kd

Enclosure (1)

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION REPORT

1. Name of Nominated Property: Oklahoma County Courthouse
Location: (Street address) 321 Park Avenue (city) Oklahoma
City (State) Oklahoma (county) Oklahoma
2. Certified Local Government Reporting: Oklahoma City
Historical Preservation and Landmark Commission
Contact Person: Terry Taylor
Title: Associate Planner
Address: 200 North Walker Avenue, 4th Floor, Oklahoma City,
Oklahoma 73102 Telephone: 405/297-2613
3.
 - a. Date CLG received the nomination: August 5, 1991
 - b. Date Property Owner(s) notified: August 29, 1991
 - c. Date of Public Hearing (if appropriate): NA
 - d. Date nomination considered by local review commission:
October 3, 1991
 - e. Date nomination submitted to SHPO: October 18, 1991
4. Recommendation of the CLG (check appropriate item):

xx The chief elected local official and the local review commission agree that the property is eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

_____ The chief elected local official and the local review commission agree that the property is not eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

_____ The chief elected local official considers the property eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, but the local review commission disagrees.

_____ The local review commission considers the property eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, but the chief elected local official disagrees.

5. Owner(s) Response (check appropriate item):

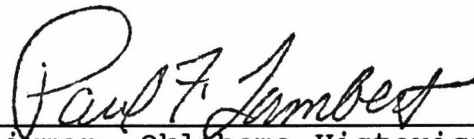
xx The owner (majority of owners) consent to listing of the nominated property in the National Register of Historic Places.

_____ The owner (majority of owners) object to listing of the nominated property in the National Register of Historic Places.

6. Local Review Commission's Statement of Opinion:

The local review commission considers the property xx
eligible _____ not eligible for nomination to the National
Register of Historic Places for the following reasons:

The Oklahoma County Courthouse does indeed possess
the architectural qualities required to demonstrate
distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or
method of construction, which signifies a specific
time in American history and architecture.



Chairman, Oklahoma Historical
Preservation and Landmark Commission

Paul Lambert

Name

October 18, 1991

Date

(Comments continue on the reverse side of this page. xx Yes
_____ No)

DATE TUE, FEB 25, 1992, 10:50 AM Page: 1
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY REPORT
REFERENCE No.: 92000126 Control No.: 920225/gml

PROPERTY NAME: Oklahoma County Courthouse

OTHER NAME/ NOT APPLICABLE
SITE No. :

MULTIPLE NAME: County Courthouses of Oklahoma MPS

ADDRESS/ 321 Park Ave.
BOUNDARY :

CITY: Oklahoma City

COUNTY: Oklahoma STATE: OKLAHOMA

Restricted Location Information: Owner: LOCAL Resource Type: BUILDING

Contributing Noncontributing

Buildings	1	0
Sites	0	0
Structures	0	0
Objects	0	1

Nomination/Determination Type: MULTIPLE RESOURCE

Nominator: STATE GOVERNMENT

Nominator Name:
NOT APPLICABLE

Federal NOT APPLICABLE
Agency:

NPS Park Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Certification: DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION

Date: 02/06/92

Other NOT APPLICABLE
Certification:

Historic GOVERNMENT
Functions:

Historic COURTHOUSE
Subfunctions:

Current GOVERNMENT
Functions:

Current COURTHOUSE
Subfunctions:

Level of LOCAL Applicable Criteria: ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING
Significance:

Significant Person's Name: NOT APPLICABLE

Criteria Considerations: NOT APPLICABLE

Area of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Periods of: 1925-1949
Significance:

Circa: Specific Sig. Years:
NOT APPLICABLE

Architect/Builder/Engineer/
Designer:

Cultural Affiliation:

Layton & Forsyth
Manhattan Construction Co.

NOT APPLICABLE

Other Documentation:

NOT APPLICABLE

HABS No. N/A

HAER No. N/A

Architectural ART DECO
Styles:

Describe Other Style: NOT APPLICABLE

Foundation Materials: CONCRETE
Wall Materials: LIMESTONE GRANITE
Roof Materials: ASPHALT
Other Materials: ALUMINUM

Acreage: 1.3

UTM Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Coordinates: 14/ /6 34 240/ /39 25 850 / / / /