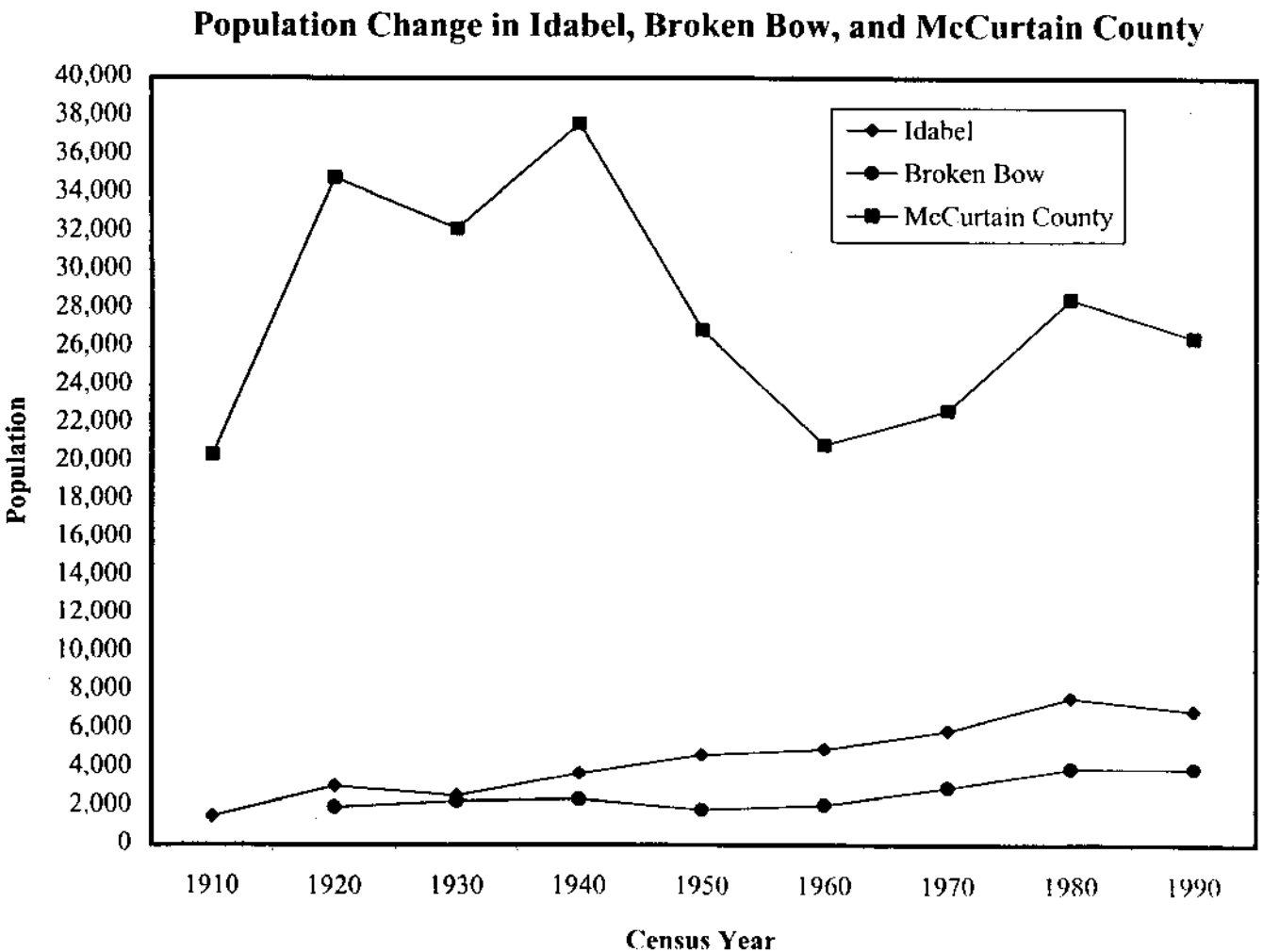

Population Change in Idabel, Broken Bow, and McCurtain County
Idabel
Broken Bow
McCurtain County
Population
40,000
38,000
36,000
34,000
32,000
30,000
28,000
26,000
24,000
22,000
20,000
18,000
16,000
14,000
12,000
10,000
8,000
6,000
4,000
2,000
0
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
Census Year

Figure 7

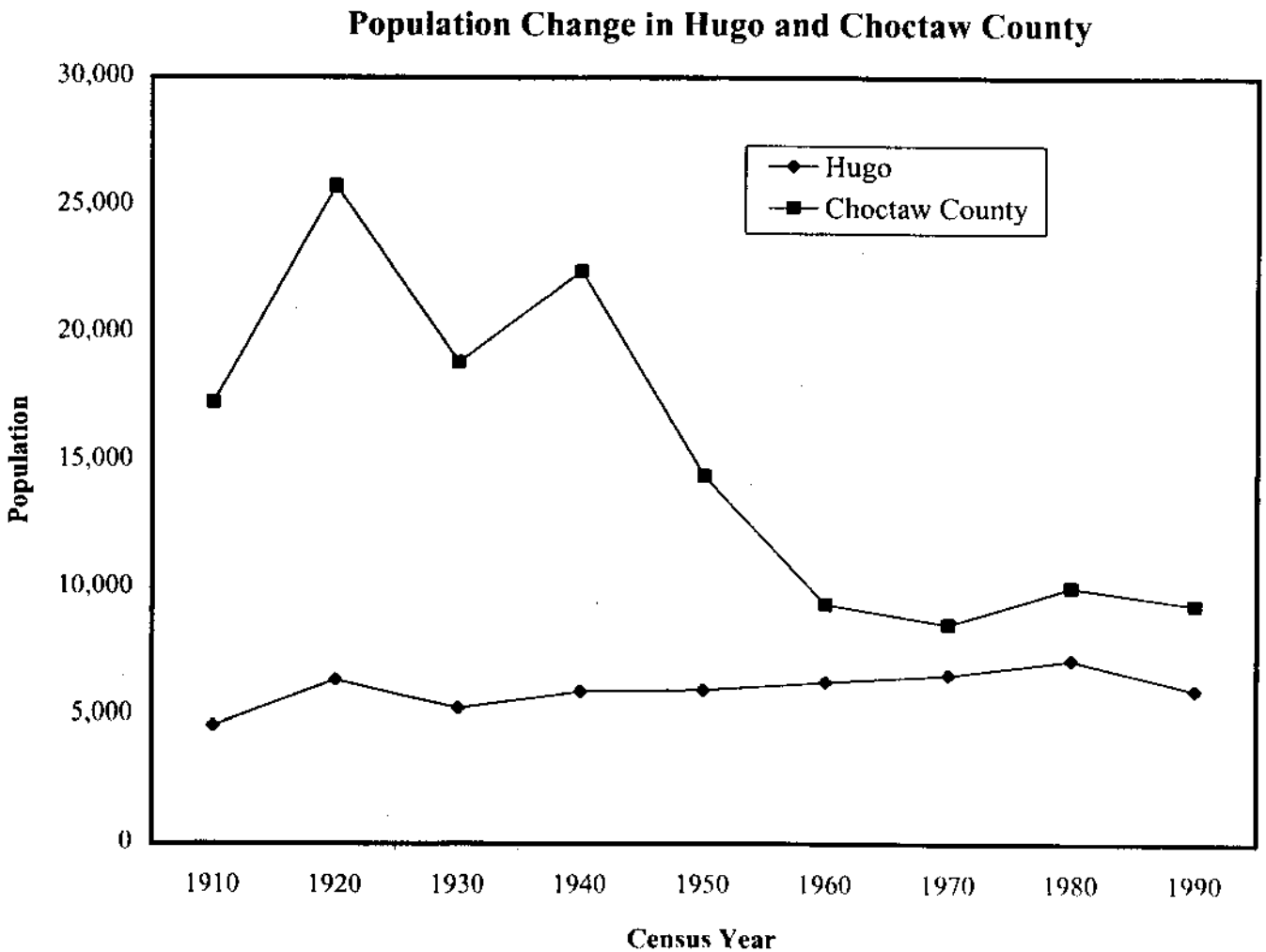

Population Change in Hugo and Choctaw County
30,000
25,000
20,000
15,000
10,000
5,000
0
Population
Hugo
Choctaw County
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
Census Year

Figure 8

War, Antlers did not record an increase in its population until the 1970 census, while Broken Bow's population showed growth by the 1960 census.

In contrast, Hugo and Idabel both experienced a peak in their population by 1920, highlighting the heyday of the cotton economy (figures 7 and 8). Hugo and Idabel were also two of the towns in the region to record an increase in their populations between 1940 and 1950. This growth reflects both the increase in manufacturing that accompanied the war and post-war period, as well as rural to urban migration stimulated in part by the trend toward farm consolidation. With the exception of Broken Bow, economic contraction in the 1980s resulted in significant proportional declines in the populations of the other study towns.

ANTLERS

Founding and Naming

Perhaps the most important factor influencing initial settlement in the vicinity of the present site of Antlers was its association with abundant fish and game as well as a natural spring. "Beaver's Station" was the name used to refer to the general area.[14] The event that led to the formal establishment of Antlers, however, was the construction of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad across the Choctaw Nation. In 1885 the extension of the railroad to Antlers was completed. That same year Victor M. Locke, an intermarried Choctaw citizen from Tennessee and Confederate veteran who had been living in Indian Territory, moved his store to Antlers.[15] During the summer of 1887, a post office was established.[16] The name "Antlers" was reputedly chosen because of the deer antlers that had been nailed to trees to mark the location of the spring.[17] The surveying and platting of Antlers was completed February 7,1901. Exactly seven months later the Department of the Interior approved the survey. Incorporation of the town of Antlers followed in 1903.[18]

The morphology of Antlers might best be described as modified orthogonal. Towns platted with an orthogonal arrangement typically included just one street surveyed for business blocks. This street typically ran perpendicular to and crossed the railroad tracks making the railroad depot a prominent focal point of the town. Antlers represents

[14] Kent Ruth, *Oklahoma Travel Handbook* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977), 36.
[15] C. E. Dudley, *Days Gone By* (Antlers, OK: Pushmataha County Historical Society, n.d.), 23.
[16] George H. Shirk, *Oklahoma Place Names* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1966), 9.
[17] Ibid., p. 9; Community Employment Development Division, *Economic Base Report, Pushmataha County* (Oklahoma City, OK: n.p., 1968), 7.
[18] Dudley, *Days Gone By*, 9.

a modification of this pattern because it possesses two streets with business blocks: Main and High Street.

The original townsite of Antlers included 56 blocks, only four of which were partially subdivided for commercial development. The business blocks stretched along Main Street east of the railroad tracks, and included the unit blocks of North and South High Street. In railroad towns a customary practice was to create 300-foot square blocks. If residential, these blocks would be subdivided into 6 lots, each 50 feet wide and 140 feet deep. If the blocks were commercial they would contain twice as many lots.[19] However, the geometry of town blocks in Antlers is highly irregular with some block-fronts that are 300, 400, and even 500-feet wide. Longer blocks are more common in the northeast and southeast quadrants of the original townsite.

In Antlers the railroad depot stands on the east side of the railroad tracks just south of Main Street. A town cemetery was also surveyed beyond the town limits on the southwestern side of the city where, by 1901 some burials had already taken place. At the time Antlers was surveyed a private cemetery, the Victor Locke Family Cemetery, was also in use. It was located beyond the boundaries of the original townsite on the northwestern side of the town. Because of town growth, this cemetery is now within the Antlers city limits.

Natural Resources/Industry

In terms of natural resources, Antlers is located in the vicinity of good supplies of sand and gravel, much of which comes from quarries near the Kiamichi River. These

[19] John H. Hudson, *Plains Country Towns* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1985), 87.

sands and gravels have been largely incidental to the early prosperity of the town, which stems instead from the additional commercial activity made possible by the arrival of the railroad and the surrounding timber resources. The lumber industry in Antlers has its roots in the Territorial Period and has long been an important economic mainstay for the community. As early as 1893 the Long-Bell Lumber Company had established a mill near Antlers.[20] Logs from as far as 10 miles away were hauled to Antlers for milling and shipping.[21] By 1904 the Nesbitt Lumber Company was in operation on High Street, an additional sawmill had been built, and small woodworking shops were also in business. Antlers also had an ice factory and a light and power plant, but lumber sheds, sawmills, and planing mills dominated the town's initial industrial landscapes.

Agriculture

Together with the lumber industry, agriculture has served as one of the twin pillars of the local economy. Whether on small or large parcels of land, cotton cultivation was favored because it generated a cash crop. The 1899 Sanborn Fire Insurance map of Antlers shows that a cotton platform had already been constructed adjacent to the railroad. Antlers did not become a cotton ginning center until after the turn of the century, however. In Antlers, as in many towns, the cotton gins were often multi-purpose processing centers that also included a gristmill, feed mill, and sometimes even a sawmill.

[20] John W. Morris, ed., *Geography of Oklahoma*, volume 6 of The Oklahoma Series (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977), 85.
[21] Ibid., 88.

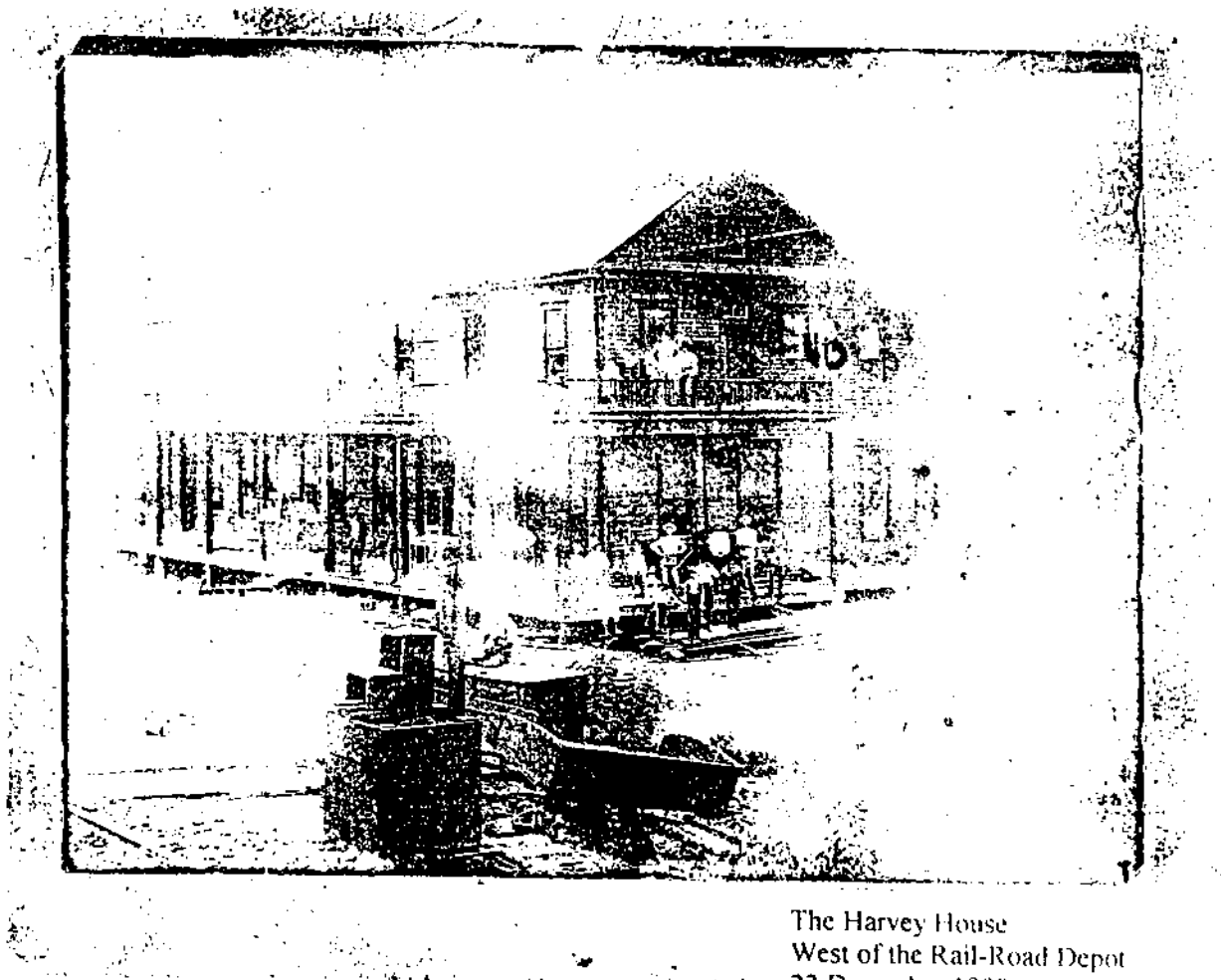
Cotton cultivation expanded in the 1920s, and in Antlers much of the buying and selling of cotton took place in the two business blocks along High Street.[22] By the end of the decade, overproduction caused the price of cotton to plummet. Soil exhaustion and erosion compounded the problems faced by cotton farmers in southeastern Oklahoma. Gradually, cotton lost its prominence to pasture and cattle. With the exception of the small feed mill that still stands west of High Street, Antlers possesses few properties that reflect the historic importance of agricultural activity here.

Commercial/Professional Establishments

Hotels were some of the earliest commercial establishments in Antlers and provided essential boarding facilities in the early period of municipal growth. By 1901 four hotels had been built in the town. Most notable among these was the Frisco Hotel. The hotel was a frame structure that stood just northwest of the depot, which was then located on the west side of the railroad tracks. The Frisco Hotel included a Harvey House (figure 9). Harvey Houses were restaurants providing meal service to train passengers and railroad employees. Diner cars eventually made Harvey Houses obsolete. Nevertheless, the Frisco Hotel and Harvey House operated in Antlers for about ten years. The 1911 Sanborn map classified the Frisco Hotel as "vacant," and by the time the 1916 Sanborn map was produced the hotel and Harvey House no longer existed.

The Antlers Bank and Trust Company was organized in 1901 and was the first bank to open in Antlers. It originally occupied a building on North High Street. By about 1906 it became the Antlers National Bank and had relocated to a new building on

[22] Dudley, *Days Gone By*, 22.



The Harvey House
West of the Rail-Road Depot
23 December 1900
Antlers, Indian Territory

Photo and text courtesy Pushmataha County Historical Society.

Figure 9

the northeast corner of Main and High Streets. The Antlers National Bank building was an elegant brick structure with a second-story tower (figure 10). The First National Bank now occupies a newer structure on that site. About 1910 the Farmer's Exchange Bank moved to the corner directly across the street from Antlers National Bank. The Farmer's Exchange Bank also occupies a newer structure, but appears to be one of the oldest, continually operating businesses in Antlers.

In addition to banks and hotels, commercial development in Antlers included general merchandise stores, grocery stores, blacksmiths, hardware stores, drug stores, jewelry stores, law offices, a livery, and eventually, a telephone exchange. Information on the medical profession in Antlers is limited, but one of the first practicing physicians was Dr. J. H. Nash. In 1897, Dr. Nash built a house at 420 West Main Street in Antlers. Across town, the Pushmataha Hospital on East Main Street was built by the 1950s.

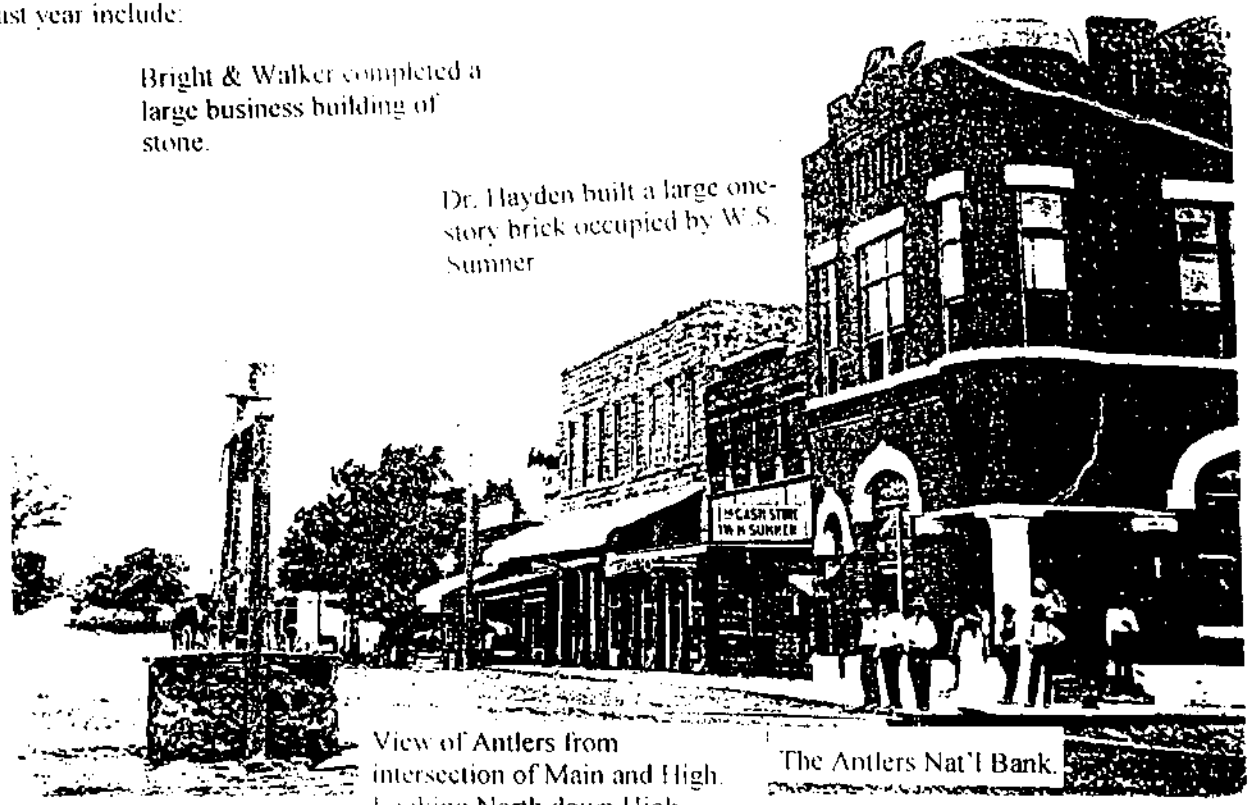
Transportation

The first railroad depot in Antlers stood south of Main Street and on the west side of the railroad tracks. The present depot, designed to be fireproof, was built on the east side of the tracks in 1911. Passenger service to Antlers lasted until 1958. The depot subsequently fell into disrepair until salvaged and restored under the leadership of the Pushmataha County Historical Association. In 1980 the Antlers Frisco Depot and adjacent spring were listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Antlers News of October 2[illegible]'06 reports: buildings built within the past year include:

Bright & Walker completed a large business building of stone.

Dr. Hayden built a large one-story brick occupied by W.S. Sumner



View of Antlers from intersection of Main and High. Looking North down High Street

The Antlers Nat'l Bank.

Photo and text courtesy Pushmataha County Historical Society.

Figure 10

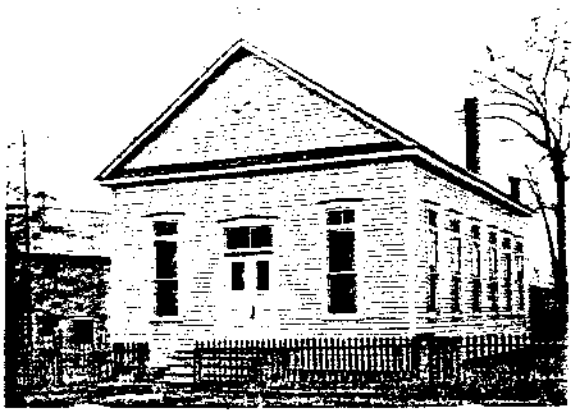
Churches and Schools

The 1896 Sanborn map of Antlers indicates that there was a Baptist Church on the south side of North Street (now Northeast Second Street). Sometime prior to 1904 a Methodist Episcopal Church had been built on the west side of Antlers just south of Main Street. By 1908 buildings for members of the Christian and Presbyterian churches had also been erected.

One of the more interesting developments pertaining to both churches and schools in Antlers involves the establishment of the St. Agnes School of the Choctaws. This was a Catholic mission school established in 1897 under the leadership of Father William Ketcham. Initially the school was a "neighborhood" or tribal school. Nuns employed by the Choctaw government taught at the school and many of the children educated at the school were full-blood Choctaws.[23] The school's enrollment peaked during the period from 1910 to 1913, when nearly 130 students were in attendance.[24] St. Agnes School was established on East Main Street and it grew to include a number of buildings. In addition to a church, there was a boy's home, a building for the nuns, and classrooms (figure 11). None of the original buildings has survived. The tornado of 1945 destroyed most of them and resulted in the termination of the mission. St. Agnes Catholic Church was subsequently rebuilt in the same area on East Main Street, and constitutes one of the few reminders of this former mission.

The first public school in Antlers appears to have been built circa 1905 and was located in the vicinity of the present Southeast Second and B Streets. By 1916, that

[23] Carolyn Thomas Foreman, "St. Agnes Academy for the Choctaws," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 48(1970): 325.
[24] Velma Nieberding, "St. Agnes School of the Choctaws," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 33 (1955): 191.





St Agnes Catholic Church, then and now. Top photo from Velma Nieberding, "St. Agnes School of the Choctaws," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 33 (1955):185.

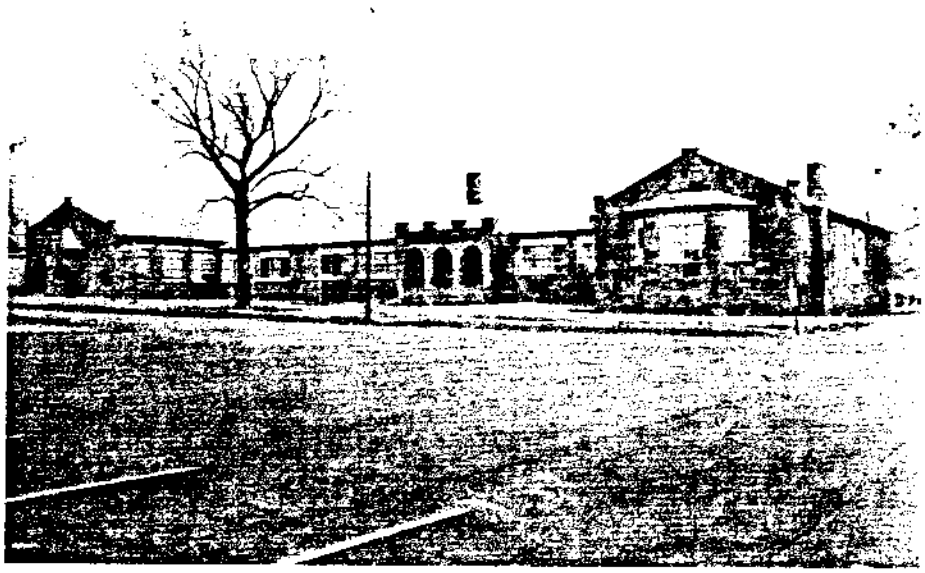
Figure 11

school building had been abandoned for a new one located near the present Northeast A and Third Streets. The first high school in Antlers also dates to 1916 and it was built in the same area. These buildings have been replaced with newer structures and the high school has since moved to a new location.

During the 1930s several Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects resulted in the construction of new school buildings. From 1936-1938 the Antlers Negro School, later named the George Washington Carver School, was built at Northeast Sixth and C Streets. Black laborers on work relief constructed this building from native stone. The Brantly school campus at Northeast A and Third Streets was also the result of a WPA project. Three separate structures were built at this location between 1936 and 1940. The Brantly Elementary School was the first structure completed. Architecturally, it is also the most attractive with castellated parapets and an arcaded entry (figure 12). In 1939 the gymnasium, Rodman Hall, was completed. It stands just to the northeast of the elementary school. The Domestic Science Building was completed in 1940 just west of Rodman Hall. All of the buildings are constructed of uncoursed native stone. These buildings are still in use, and their architectural integrity has been maintained. It is unusual to find such a collection of buildings, and as a unit they warrant consideration for listing in the National Register.

Cultural and Social

A variety of social clubs and organizations have long existed in Antlers. The International Order of Odd Fellows maintains a cemetery on the north side of town, and used to occupy one of the few three-story buildings in downtown Antlers. Located on



Brantly Elementary School in 2001.

Figure 12

South High Street, the lodge was destroyed by the tornado of 1945. For at least 45 years now, the Masonic Lodge has occupied the building at 201 Southwest B Street.

By about 1910 residents of Antlers could view picture shows at the auditorium on Lyon Street (now Southeast Second Street). Downtown Antlers still has a movie theater at 201 North High Street.

Politics and Government

The history of Antlers would not be complete without some discussion of the Locke War. This conflict stemmed from outcome of the election for principal chief of the Choctaw Nation in September of 1892. Wilson N. Jones, the Progressive candidate, ran against Jacob B. Jackson who represented the Nationalist Party. The results of the election were close, but Jones was declared the winner. In reaction, a group of Nationalists assassinated several members of the Progressive Party. Although a settlement was reached, members of both parties took up arms. In advance of the swearing in ceremony, armed Nationalists organized and marched on the Choctaw capital in Tuskahoma. No conflict materialized, however tensions flared a few months later when Willis Jones was arrested was in connection with the previous assassinations. Several Nationalists subsequently freed Jones and took him to the home of Victor M. Locke in Antlers. Approximately 150 Nationalists eventually gathered at the Locke home and prepared to protect Jones and his liberators. Principal Chief Jones dispatched the militia, and a battle ensued. A small contingent of federal troops was subsequently

sent to Antlers to keep the peace.[25] The significance of these events involves the use of federal troops in Indian Territory and the implications this had for the sovereignty of tribal governments.[26]

From a legal standpoint, the maintenance of law and order in Indian Territory was a complicated issue. Legislation passed in 1895 permitted the extension of Federal court into Indian Territory.[27] The Choctaw Nation formed the Central District of Indian Territory. Antlers was designated one of four towns where the court would sit, and was given jurisdiction over places within the present Choctaw, McCurtain, and Pushmataha counties.[28] The U.S. Government, in need of a courthouse, resorted to leasing a simple frame building. This first courthouse was located just north of where the present courthouse stands today—southwest of the business district, and across the railroad tracks. Oddly, the courthouse in Antlers does not constitute one of the focal points within the main central business district. Rather, commercial and governmental functions were spatially separate, and to a certain extent remain so today.

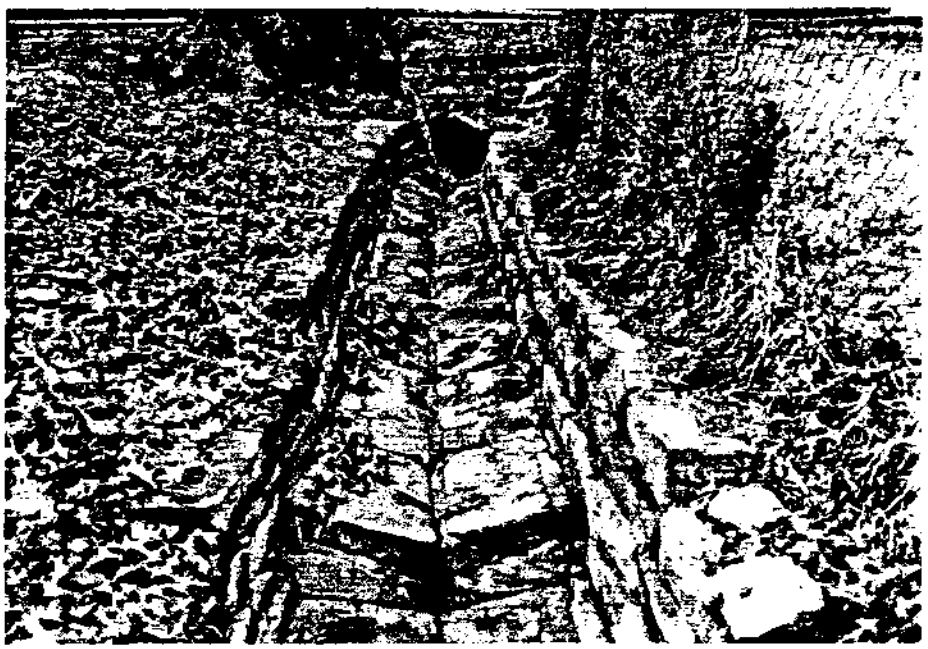
The present Pushmataha County Courthouse has its origins in the Depression. During the 1930s, Antlers suffered as the impact of the Depression rippled through the region and across the country. In 1933 the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) was created. Through this program the federal government could make emergency relief grants to states. The Pushmataha County Courthouse (Project #3918) was constructed as a result of this program. The courthouse is an excellent example of

[25] Debo, *Rise and Fall*, 169-72.
[26] Ibid., 173.
[27] Debo, *Rise and Fall*, 187.
[28] Dudley, *Days Gone By*, 13.

the Public Works Art Deco style, is one of the most attractive buildings in the town, and may be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

Another cultural resource that Antlers possesses includes the several stone-lined drainage channels that wind through the town. These structures represent another legacy of the Depression (figure 13). They were also constructed as part of a public works program such as the WPA. These impressive structures still constitute a small but functional part of the city's infrastructure and merit the attention of preservationists.

In conclusion, the growth and development of the city of Antlers needs to be considered in light of the relevant agricultural, economic, industrial, social, and political forces. Familiarity with the contextual development of the city over time plays an important part in helping identify potentially significant historic resources.



Drainage channel on NW B Street.

Figure 13

HUGO

Founding and Naming

Hugo owes its existence to the railroads, and specifically the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. Construction of the Frisco line across the Choctaw Nation to Paris, Texas was completed in 1887. By 1899 the Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad had developed plans to cross the Choctaw Nation utilizing an east-to-west route that would roughly parallel the Red River.[29] It was not until 1901, however, that railroad officials decided where the intersection of these two lines would occur.[30] This junction—wherever it occurred—would create a new town. That town was Hugo.

If the location of the town was carefully engineered, the selection of a name for it was rather more haphazard. In 1901 a post office was authorized. The first name chosen for it was "Raymond," after Charles Raymond, a federal judge for Indian Territory.[31] Because another post office was already using this name, it was rejected. As an alternative, "Hugo" was suggested. The name recalls the French novelist Victor Hugo. Mrs. W. H. Darrough, whose husband was a federal marshal and townsite developer, is often credited with suggesting this name.[32]

The surveying of the Hugo townsite began in the fall of 1901 under the direction of government surveyor W. Y. Collins.[33] The official survey and plat was completed the

[29] Debo, *Rise and Fall,* 125.
[30] Frances Imon, *Smoke Signals From Indian Territory,* vol. 2 (Wolfe City, TX: Henington Publishing Company, 1977), 81.
[31] Ibid., 82.
[32] Ibid., 82; Shirk, *Oklahoma Place Names,* 107.
[33] Imon, *Smoke Signals,* vol. 2, 81.

following September. The original townsite spanned 415 acres.[34] Fourteen months elapsed before the survey was approved. On December 10, 1903 the Department of the Interior officially approved the townsite survey of Hugo. Curiously, several sources indicate that Hugo was incorporated on September 3, 1903.[35] If these dates are correct, then Hugo provides an unusual example of a town that incorporated before its boundaries were officially approved.

Hugo possesses an urban morphology that resembles a symmetric plan. The symmetry of these towns is based on the arrangement of the business blocks in relation to the railroad. Towns platted symmetrically have not one but two main commercial streets that are separated by the railroad. In Hugo these are Main and Duke Streets, respectively south and north of the railroad tracks. One deviation from the formal symmetrical plan involves the portion of Broadway that links Main and Duke Streets. It has also developed a commercial focus. Similarly, Hugo's location at the junction of two railroads actually creates two axes of symmetry rather than one. Within the original townsite then, Hugo's business district was sizable. Nine entire blocks as well as portions of six other blocks were surveyed as business blocks. Indeed, the size of the business district seems indicative of the perception that Hugo possessed tremendous potential for future commercial growth.

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[34] "The History of Hugo, Oklahoma," *Hugo Husonian*, 8 March 1906. TMs in Hugo Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.
[35] Ibid.; Imon, *Smoke Signals*, vol. 2, 82; Bertha Killian, "Historical References," 1936. TMs in Choctaw County Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.

Natural Resources Industry

The forested hinterlands of Hugo provided an accessible resource of both hardwood and softwood timber that helped shape Hugo's industrial growth. By statehood Hugo was firmly established as a major regional timber-processing center. At least two lumber companies were operating in Hugo as early as 1904. Within another four years Hugo could boast having a total of five lumber companies, one of which had a lumberyard containing an average stock of 2,500,000 board feet.[36] Even at this early point in Hugo's history the lumber industry had generated important spin-offs including a a handle factory, a stave factory, and a creosoting company for treating railroad ties, fence posts—and eventually—telephone poles.[37] During the 1930s the American Creosoting Company had one of the largest payrolls in Hugo.[38] For many years the T. H. Rogers Lumber Company, established in 1924, was one of the oldest continuously operating industries in Hugo.

Decades of timber harvesting with little concern for sustainability eventually took their toll. By the 1940s, much of the accessible old-growth timber had been harvested, leaving cutover and eroded hillsides. This impacted the ability of Choctaw County to function as a major regional timber supplier. In fact, the county no longer provided the bulk of the lumber treated at the creosoting plant in Hugo; it was shipped from Arkansas instead.[39]

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[36] Sanborn Map Company. "Hugo, Oklahoma 1908." *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Oklahoma* (Teaneck, NJ: Chadwyck-Healey, 1983), microfilm.
[37] Edwin Gordon Pardue, "A Geographic Study of Choctaw County, Oklahoma" (master's thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1949), 82.
[38] "Plant Has $25,000 Payroll," *Daily Oklahoman*, 27 September 1936.
[39] Pardue, "Geographic Study," 84.

Some of the other industry in Hugo centered on railroad maintenance and repair, and for a time Hugo even had a small iron works for that purpose. The railroad roundhouse was part of the industrial landscape of Hugo for decades but has been torn down. The quarrying and processing of limestone, sand, and gravel have formed additional components of Hugo's industry. By 1911, two oil companies were operating in Hugo and maintained storage tanks there. Through the 1920s a number of light industries also developed. These included bottling works, ice companies, and an ice cream factory. Despite the existence of these industries none of them ever vied with the commodities of cotton and timber.

The decline of the cotton market meant that Hugo's industrial sector would be even less diversified. Following the Second World War the city, chamber of commerce, and local residents made a concerted effort to address this problem by attracting other light industries to the area.[40] By the middle of the 1950s Hugo had succeeded in attracting the Wells-Lamont Glove Corporation, which quickly became a major employer.[41] Like other cities and towns in southeastern Oklahoma, Hugo continues to seek ways to diversify its economic and industrial sectors.

Agriculture

Much of Hugo's initial growth can also be attributed to its importance as a center for agricultural processing and distribution. The roots for this can be traced to developments in the area prior to the Civil War. By 1844 Robert M. Jones, part Choctaw,

[40] John Dexter, "The Little People Do a Big Job," *Daily Oklahoman*, 31 October 1954.
[41] Francis Thetford, "Choctaw County Proud of Past, Looking Ahead," *Daily Oklahoman*, 26 August 1962.

owned several plantations along the Red River south of Hugo. Using slave labor, perhaps as many as 500 slaves, he produced enormous quantities of cotton.[42] After Hugo was platted and settled the town became a hub for cotton processing. Hugo not only ginned cotton, it also had a cotton compress and cotton oil production facilities. In the 1920s as many as four cotton gins operated in Hugo. Local farmers shifted away from cotton cultivation during and after the Depression, and peanuts became a leading crop. Although Hugo had a peanut factory as early as 1915, it was a small operation. However, by 1943 the Woldert Peanut Products Company had established a shelling plant in some of the buildings that had once been part of the Hugo Cotton Oil Company. One of the main buildings of the peanut oompany is still standing, although it is in poor condition (figure 14). Not far away stands another relic structure: at cone-shaped steel storage building that was probably once part of the cotton compress that used to be located nearby (figure 15). In 1961 the last of Hugo's cotton gins went out of business.[43]

Corn cultivation has also been a component of the regional agriculture, and Hugo served as a milling center. By about 1915 the Hugo Milling Company had been built on South Fifth Street just north of the railroad tracks. This facility includes a corn mill, steel elevator, and two large feed warehouses. Part of it is still in use, and it is the best, most intact property that recalls Hugo's importance as a processing and milling center (figure 16).

[42] W. David Baird and Danney Goble, *The Story of Oklahoma* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994), 155.
[43] Thetford, "Choctaw County."



Woldert Peanut Products Company

Figure 14

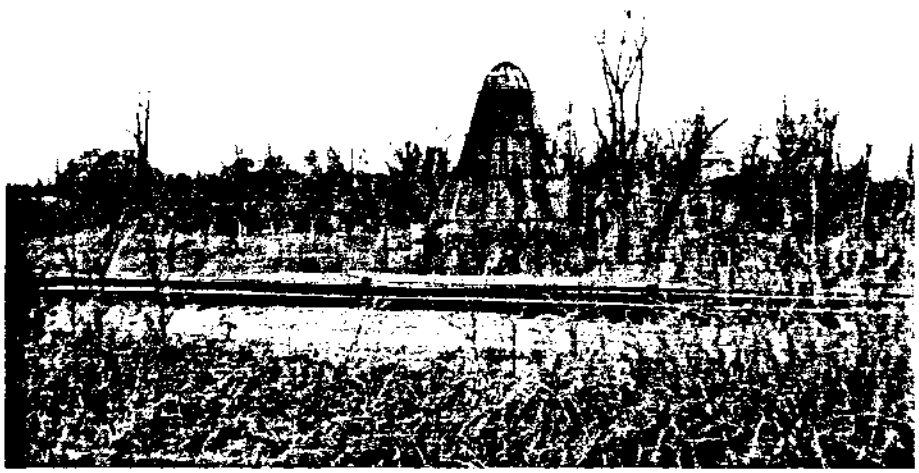
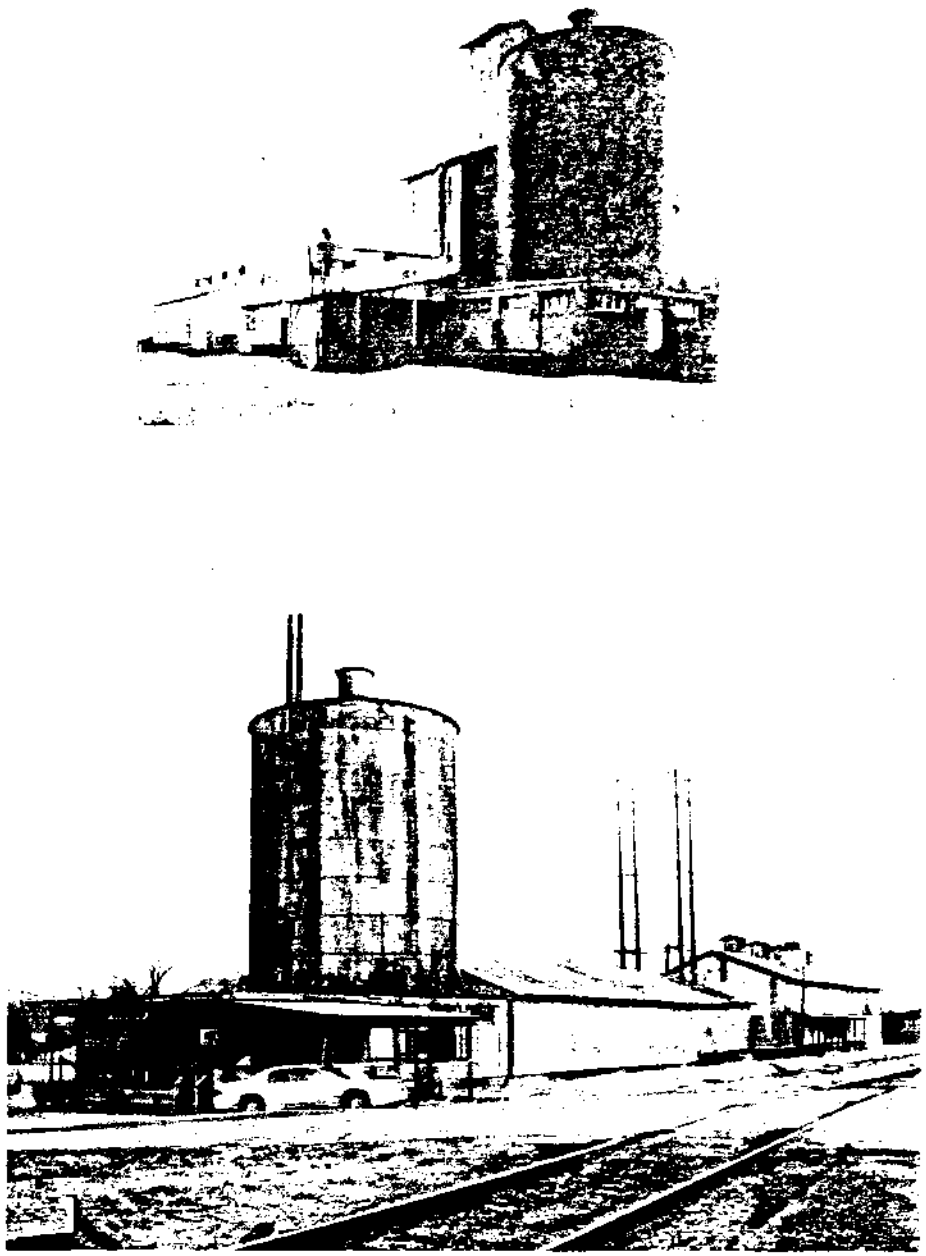


Figure 15



Hugo Milling Company circa 1916 and 2001. Top photo from Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo—1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 5.

Figure 16

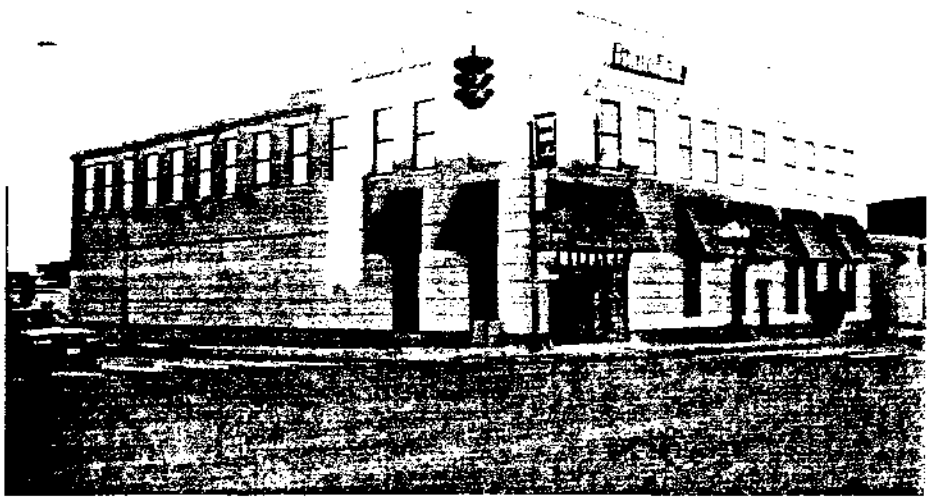
Commercial/Professional Establishments

Commercial growth in Hugo predates statehood. By 1903 two banks had been built in the business district. One occupied the Brader Building on the northeast corner of Broadway and Jackson Streets, and the other occupied the Blakeney Block on the northeast corner of Broadway and Duke Streets. Hugo's earliest bank, the First National Bank was organized in 1901-1902.[44] It is unclear which of these buildings it occupied. A third bank anchoring the downtown operated from the impressive Joel Spring Building on the northwest corner of Duke and Broadway Streets. The Brader Building, which still houses a bank, has been substantially remodeled (figure 17). After several years the bank building in the Blakeney Block became the office building of the Southwestern Land Company, which promoted the sale of lots in Hugo (figure 18). Both it and the Joel Spring Building have been altered (figure 19).

In addition to banks, hotels constituted important downtown landmarks. Prior to 1904 the large Oriental Hotel was on the northeast corner of the present Duke and A Streets. However, the 1908 Sanborn map does not show this hotel on the corner lot. Instead, the Oriental Hotel has moved one property to the east, and the corner building is labeled "Hoffman Hotel." During the 1920s this corner building housed the Belmont Hotel. Although the precise sequence of events warrants additional research, it appears that in 1907 Joel Spring purchased the building that is shown as housing the Oriental Hotel on the 1908 Sanborn map. Over the years the building has served many different

[44] "The History of Hugo, Oklahoma," *Hugo Husonian*, 8 March 1906. TMs in Hugo Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.





Top photo from Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo—1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 5.

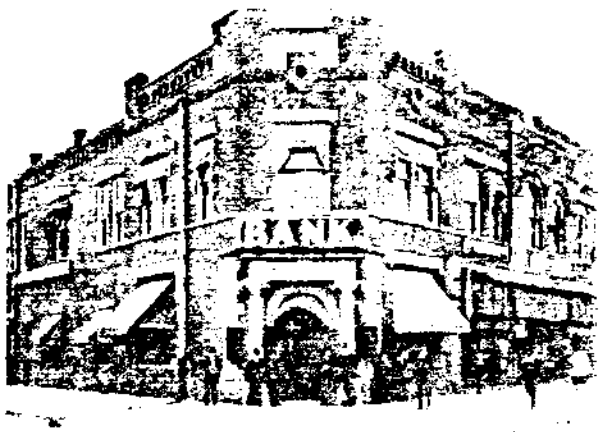
Figure 17





Top photo from Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo—1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 5.

Figure 18





Top photo from Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo—1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 12.

Figure 19

business purposes. This structure, though altered and vacant, still stands. The Belmont Hotel has been torn down.

Other notable hotels include the Commercial Hotel (circa 1903), built on the northwest corner of Jefferson and Broadway Streets; the Winnie Hotel (circa 1905) on the west side of Broadway just north of the Commercial Hotel; the Webb Hotel (1911) near the Frisco Depot; and the Preston Hotel (1915) on the southeast corner of Duke and Broadway Streets. Of these, the Webb Hotel was the only three-story hotel. In 1913 a large addition, also three-stories, was built. Both parts of the hotel were later torn down. The Commercial Hotel was torn down sometime during the 1930s or early 1940s. A small one-story diner now occupies the location. The Winnie and Preston Hotel buildings are still standing though they have both been altered and are no longer hotels.

Across the street from the Winnie Hotel, on the northeast corner of Broadway and Jefferson Streets, stands the Chandler Building. The Walton Chandler Lumber Company used to occupy the block directly across Jefferson Street to the south. The Chandler Building dates to 1919. During the 1930s it was used as a roller skating rink. Today the building houses an automobile dealership.

A myriad of other businesses including drug stores, general stores, grocers, undertakers, and clothing stores operated in Hugo's expansive commercial district. The results of a business census, taken in 1931, record Hugo's growth. That year Hugo boasted 20 grocery stores, 25 filling stations, 15 cafes, 12 hotels, 5 blacksmith shops, 5 garages, and 2 banks.[45]

[45] Prior Falk, "Choctaw County," 1936. TMs in Choctaw County Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.

In 1980 a portion of the downtown business district bounded by Jackson, Jefferson, Second and A Streets gained listing in the National Register as the Hugo Historic District. More than twenty years have elapsed since that listing was obtained. Field surveys conducted in Hugo during the fall and winter of 2000-2001 provided an opportunity to evaluate the architectural integrity and overall cohesiveness of the district. The Hugo Historic District is still reasonably intact, though the concentration of structures possessing a high degree of architectural integrity has diminished significantly. For example, the store on the southwest corner of Broadway and Jackson Streets constitutes a new intrusion to the district, as does the bank on the southwest corner of Broadway and Duke Streets. Remodeling has affected the integrity of the bank building on the northeast corner of Broadway and Jackson Streets, as well as the Chandler Building.

Transportation

Hugo grew as an important regional headquarters and roundhouse for the Frisco Railroad. The first railroad depot in Hugo was constructed in 1902. In 1911 a new depot was constructed but was destroyed by fire two years later. The present depot dates to 1914 and was designed to be fireproof. This depot also included a Harvey House, and the second story was used as a place to hold town meetings.

During the peak period of rail transportation approximately 12 passenger trains passed through Hugo on a near daily basis. Passenger service to Hugo ended by 1960. A few years later the depot was sold and used as a wood chip factory and salvage yard. The Choctaw County Historical Society purchased the depot in 1978, and has since restored it

and now uses it as a museum. The Hugo Frisco Depot was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, and since that time has been carefully maintained.

Schools and Churches

Public schooling in Hugo dates to 1906 when voters approved a levy to support schools.[46] By 1907 three school buildings had been constructed. The East Side Public School was built near the present East Bluff and North Eighth Streets. The West Side Public School occupied the southwest corner of the present South K and Main Streets. The more centrally located high school stood near the railroad tracks on the northwest corner of the present North E and Clayton Streets, where the Hugo Middle School is today. In 1920 a new high school was built at 201 East Brown Street. This stately brick building, which is still in use as the high school today, reflects the Collegiate Gothic style and may be individually eligible for listing in the National Register.

In 1936 black WPA workers built the Hugo Negro High School at 113 East Lowery Street. Between 1938 and 1939 the Robert E. Lee School at South Fifth and Rosewood Streets was constructed. It was also the result of a WPA project. The bricks used to construct the building were apparently salvaged from an earlier building on the site.[47] The building is still in use, though not as a school.

Within about five months of Hugo's establishment efforts had been made to organize church services. In the absence of church buildings, services were held in

[46] Frances Imon, *Smoke Signals From Indian Territory*, vol. 1 (Wolfe City, TX: Henington Publishing Company, 1976), 3.
[47] "Hugo, Choctaw County, Oklahoma." Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

various locations. A Methodist minister appears to have delivered the first sermon in Hugo, but other denominations soon organized and conducted services.[48]

The First Baptist Church initially built at North Second and Bluff Streets in 1903.[49] Growth in church membership led to the construction of a new church building, although numerous financial difficulties were encountered in the process. Construction on the church building that now stands at North Third and Jackson Streets began in the 1920s but was not completed until the 1940s.[50] The total cost of the church amounted to $114,000.[51]

The Presbyterians built one of their first churches (circa 1907) on the southeast corner of Second and Jackson Streets. By 1918 the foundation of a new church had been constructed on the northwest corner of North Third and Jackson Streets, kitty-cornered from the eventual site of the First Baptist Church.[52]

By 1910 the Methodist-Episcopal Church (now the First United Methodist Church) was worshiping in a church building on the northwest corner of North Second and Clayton Streets. Within another decade the Methodists had built a very impressive Classical Revival style structure, possibly National Register eligible, on the northeast corner of North Second and Kirk Streets.

Of the churches that have historically served the black population of Hugo, the Church of God located at 709 West Martin Luther King Street was built circa 1940.

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[48] "The History of Hugo, Oklahoma," *Hugo Husonian*, 8 March 1906. TMs in Hugo Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.
[49] Mrs. Earl (Pat) Curtis, *A History of First Baptist Church Hugo, Oklahoma,* (Muskogee, OK: Hoffman Printing Company, Inc.), 5 passim.
[50] Ibid., 17-18.
[51] Ibid., 18.
[52] Sanborn Map Company. "Hugo, Oklahoma 1918." *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Oklahoma* (Teaneck, NJ: Chadwyck-Healey, 1983), microfilm.

Although it has had several major alterations, the stonework is very attractive and bears Art Deco influences. This church warrants restoration. Another church dating to circa 1940 is St. Mark's Episcopal Church located at 300 E. Lowery Street. It is a contributing resource to Hugo's South Residential District. The Church of Christ occupies the northeast corner of North Fourth and Jackson Streets. Despite its appearance, it is actually a fairly recent addition to the downtown.

Cultural and Social

The Hugo Masonic Lodge was officially established in 1903.[53] The Knights of Pythias were also organized at about this time. Both groups initially held meetings in the two-story Lodge Hall located on the southeast corner of Main and South F Streets. By about 1904 the Masons began meeting in another Lodge Hall built on West Duke Street, across the street from the Oriental Hotel. For a time during the 1920s the three-story Wright Building, located on the southwest corner of Broadway and Duke Streets also served as a lodge hall. The Masons subsequently moved their lodge to a newer building at 402 North Broadway Street. About 1920 the American Legion Hall was built near the northeast corner of North Second and Jackson Streets and was an important gathering place. It has since been torn down.

For more than 50 years the circus has been an important component of Hugo's entertainment industry. During the 1940s several circuses began using Hugo as a wintering ground. Numerous different circuses have wintered here including the Kelly-

[53] "The History of Hugo, Oklahoma," *Hugo Husonian*, 8 March 1906. TMs in Hugo Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.

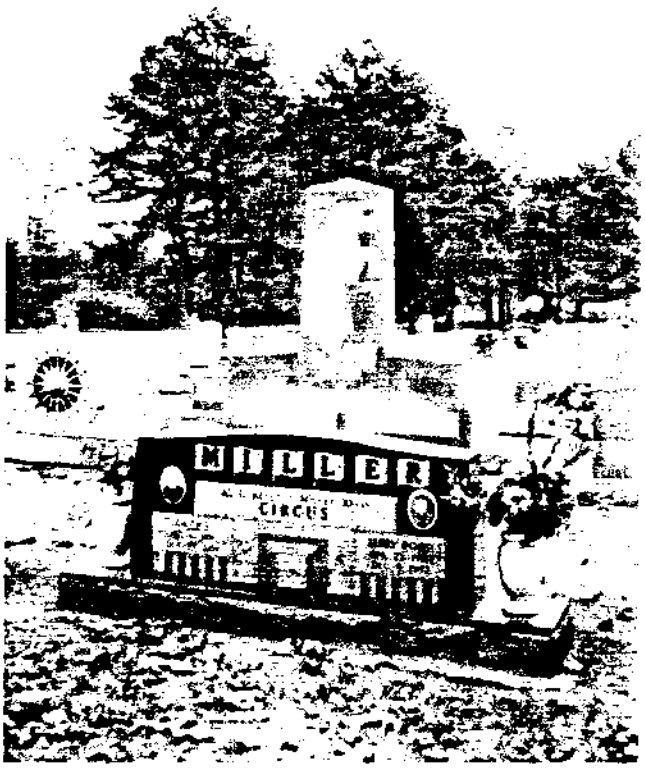
Miller, Carson-Barnes, Cole Walters, and Bob Stevens Circus. In 1960 a portion of the Mt. Olivet Cemetery was purchased and set aside as burial space for circus performers. This 120 by 100 foot section was subsequently designated "Showman's Rest," although it is commonly referred to as the "Circus Cemetery." Many of the tombstones in this section have inscriptions or images that highlight an individual's or family's connection with circus life (figure 20). This section of the cemetery is one of Hugo's most popular landmarks.

Politics and Government

As the county seat, Hugo is home to the Choctaw County Courthouse. This three-story Greek Revival style building with cupola was one of the most distinctive and impressive structures in Hugo (figure 21). When it was built in 1911 it cost an estimated $125,000 and dominated the block on the south side of Duke Street between Third and Fourth Streets.[54] The structure was eventually razed so that a more modern facility could be built.

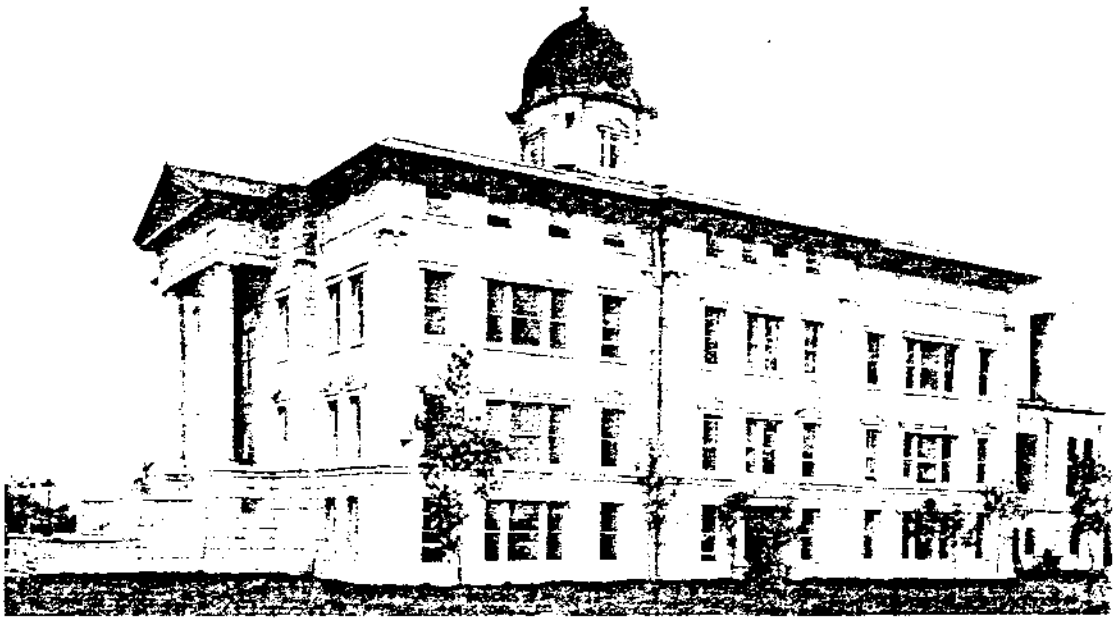
Hugo also possesses a building that temporarily served as the local War Savings Bank (figure 22). The building dates to about 1917 and is marked with the letters "W.S.S." an abbreviation for "War Savings Stamps." There is an old photograph of this building hanging in the hallway of the second story of the Frisco Depot and Museum. The photograph, dated March 27, 1918, shows that this building once stood in the middle of the intersection of Broadway and Duke Streets. The W.S.S. building has since been

[54] Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo—1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 14.



"Showmen's Rest" within the Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Figure 20



Former Choctaw County Courthouse. Photo from Choctaw County Historical Society, *Hugo--1916* (Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979), 14.

Figure 21



War Savings Stamps Building in 2001. It was built circa 1917.

Figure 22

moved, and now stands on the property located on the southwest corner of North F and Bluff Streets. This building captures a very specific moment in American history when the United States had entered the First World War and was promoting the sale of War Savings Stamps, the precursor to War Savings Bonds, in order to support the war effort. This building may be eligible for listing in the National Register.

Several attractive structures in Hugo are the result of public works projects during the Depression. The Hugo Armory, Choctaw County Public Library, and the football stadium constitute the more prominent examples of facilities constructed with WPA labor. However, WPA laborers were also responsible for making some improvements to the Mt. Olivet Cemetery. The construction of the caretaker's house, the chapel, the curbing, and the stone walls surrounding the cemetery all resulted from WPA projects.

Located at 222 East Jefferson Street, the Hugo Armory has been listed in the National Register since 1988. The armory was constructed of native sandstone in 1936. Architecturally it reflects very modest Art Deco influences. Upon closer inspection, however, the artistic designs in the stonework surrounding the entry are very striking and reveal the time, effort, and care devoted to the design and construction of this building. The Choctaw County Public Library (formerly the Hugo Public Library) stands just west of the armory and has also been listed in the National Register since 1988. Like the armory, it is built of native sandstone and dates to 1936-1937. Initially the building served as the regional headquarters for the WPA.[55] There have been some alterations to the building, but these have not compromised the integrity of the structure.

[55] "Hugo, Choctaw County, Oklahoma." Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The Gene Nesbit Stadium, formerly referred to as the Hugo Athletic Field and Stadium, is located about three and one-half blocks north of the Hugo High School at North Second and Lloyd Streets. The stadium is the result of a 1939 WPA project, and the facility is rather imposing. An elliptical, seven-foot high stone fence—now topped with barbed wire—encloses the facility. The grounds are expansive and include a football field, athletic track, and grandstand with bleachers of poured concrete. The long outer wall of the stadium, the old ticket booth, and the surrounding fence were constructed from native sandstone. A broad round concrete arch stamped with the words "Hugo Stadium" marks the entry. One minor alteration to the stadium includes the addition of a wooden press box. This property may still be National Register eligible.

BROKEN BOW

Founding and Naming

Broken Bow developed where a Choctaw settlement called "Con Chito" had existed. The transformation of this village into the town of Broken Bow is intimately associated with the development of the lumber industry. Two brothers, Hans and Herman Dierks, became owners of the Choctaw Lumber Company in 1909.[56] Although they hailed from Nebraska where their family had been involved in the timber industry, their new company operated in present McCurtain County. Shortly after acquiring the Choctaw Lumber Company they opened a lumber mill in Wright City, formerly known as Bismarck. To facilitate the distribution of their lumber they arranged to have a railroad built between Valliant, on the Arkansas and Choctaw branch of the Frisco Railroad, and

[56] Faiman-Silva, *Choctaws at the Crossroads*, 97-98.

Wright City.[57] By 1910 their railroad, the Texas, Oklahoma, and Eastern extended to the Con Chito vicinity.[58] The Dierks brothers realized the potential value of the forest resources surrounding Con Chito and made plans to build another lumber mill.

Broken Bow is another railroad town but differs from Antlers, Hugo and Idabel because it was not a government-platted town and post-dates the allotment period. In some ways the character of Broken Bow's development more closely resembles that of a company town. The Southern Township Corporation, a subsidiary of the Choctaw Lumber Company, surveyed and platted the town, and selected a site where the company's lumber mill was to be built. The Choctaw Lumber Company also built housing in Broken Bow for its mill employees.

The land that became the original townsite of Broken Bow was part of the Artemissa McClure allotment. Miss McClure was a child at the time the Dierks brothers expressed interest in purchasing the land. Her father, P. J. McClure, eventually sold her allotment to the Dierks brothers. Two Choctaw cemeteries that were situated on land involved in the transaction were moved before platting could take place.[59] The surveyor, E. S. Byington, completed the plat of the original townsite in July 1911. The plat was approved and notarized on August 15, 1911. In early September town lots were publicly auctioned, and within another three weeks a post office had been established.[60] The town was named "Broken Bow" after the Dierks' hometown in Nebraska.[61]

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[57] Ibid., 98.
[58] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1 (Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1982), 298.
[59] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years* (Broken Bow, OK: Broken Bow Alumni Association and Broken Bow History Committee, 1985), 4.
[60] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 44; Shirk, 29.
[61] Shirk, *Oklahoma Place Names*, 29.

As surveyed and platted the Broken Bow townsite covered 232.7 acres and consisted of 78 fairly uniform blocks. Portions of four blocks were surveyed as business blocks, and two blocks were reserved for schools. The remaining blocks were residential and were carefully segregated such that whites lived west of the mill and blacks were confined to a small portion of town east of the mill. The white residential section of Broken Bow housed mill employees and was appropriately known as "White City," supposedly a reference to the fact that the houses in this part of town were painted white.[62] In terms of town morphology, Broken Bow's gridiron arrangement took the shape of a classic "T-town." The railroad station was built at the southern end of Main Street and constituted an important "anchor" for the business district that developed a few blocks to the north along Main Street.

Natural Resources/Industry

The expansion of the Dierks' lumber industry provided the stimulus for Broken Bow's initial boom. After the townsite was platted construction began on the Choctaw Lumber Company sawmill, commonly referred to as the Broken Bow mill. The mill formed a massive complex that included softwood and hardwood sawmills, a planing mill, numerous lumber sheds, and wood-drying yards. The mill was built south of the railroad tracks and east of the present South Park Drive. It was operational in 1912.[63] For the next four decades the mill produced a varied stock of wood for furniture, flooring,

[62] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 49.
[63] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 221.

siding, beverage crates, and treated timber.[64] Operations were scaled back considerably in the 1950s when the hardwood mill was closed.[65] The year 1969 constitutes another watershed in the history of Broken Bow because Weyerhaeuser Corporation bought out the entire Dierks' operation. The size of the Dierks' industry at the time led some to claim that this constituted the most extensive business deal affecting the structure of the timber industry.[66] The remaining mill operations at Broken Bow were shut down. Weyerhaeuser subsequently sold the property, which now houses a shopping center.[67]

Although the Broken Bow mill dominated the industrial economy of the town, it was not the only mill. Rather, numerous mills and related woodworking industries opened in and around Broken Bow. The Adams Stave Mill, for example, operated not far from the train station.[68] In the same area, the McCurtain County Lumber Company built a sawmill and planing mill in 1929.[69] Other early forms of light industry that developed in Broken Bow included an icehouse and bottling plant. By 1930 the Continental Oil Company, Pierce Petroleum Corporation, and Magnolia Petroleum Company were maintaining oil storage facilities in Broken Bow. During the Second World War Broken Bow produced bomb crates and ammunition boxes.[70]

Most of the early industrial landscapes of Broken Bow are gone. Of the lumber mills and yards remaining, many are located away from the downtown. There is, however, one small sawmill and lumberyard at North Park Drive and East Ninth Street

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[64] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 22.
[65] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 221.
[66] Faiman-Silva, *Choctaws at the Crossroads*, 101.
[67] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 221.
[68] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 48.
[69] Sanborn Map Company. "Broken Bow, Oklahoma 1930." *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Oklahoma* (Teaneck, NJ: Chadwyck-Healey, 1983), microfilm.
[70] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 22.

that is still in operation. Within the past few decades the poultry-processing industry has become locally significant. Tyson Foods built a plant in south Broken Bow and constitutes a major local and regional employer.

Agriculture

Raising livestock, first on the open range and later on fenced property, has long contributed to the agricultural economy in the Broken Bow area. In addition, a mixture of subsistence cultivation and truck farming of various fruits and vegetables generally satisfied local consumer demand. As in other southeastern Oklahoma communities, cotton became a major cash crop and Broken Bow developed into a modest cotton-processing center.

Through the greater part of the 1920s Broken Bow possessed two cotton gins. The Temple Cotton Oil Company cotton gin was located adjacent to the railroad tracks at Second Street and Bock. The J. W. Costilow Cotton Gin stood on the north side of town at Broadway and Seventh Streets.[71] Nothing remains of these gins today.

The push to diversify the agricultural base influenced local and regional farming practices for a short time during the early 1920s. Farmers in and around Broken Bow concentrated on the production of fruit and vegetables including tomatoes, sweet potatoes, and strawberries. However, a very wet year in 1922 led to the demise of this venture. For a while there was also an effort to purchase cutover land from the Choctaw

[71] Ibid., 12.

Lumber Company and convert that to agricultural use, but the thin soils could not support this.[72]

Commercial/Professional Establishments

Within four years of its establishment the town of Broken Bow boasted 12 different hotels.[73] The first hotel built in Broken Bow was the Johnson Hotel, erected in 1911. The more substantial three-story Dell Hotel superseded this in 1915 and operated as a hotel until 1989. The Dell Hotel still stands at 24-26 North Main Street and with restoration would likely be National Register eligible. For many years the Charles Wesley Hotel stood on the northwest corner of North Third and Broadway Streets. Today, Broken Bow is served primarily by motels including the Charles Wesley at 302 North Park Drive, and the End of the Trail Motel at 11 North Park Drive.

J. W. Costilow, the owner of a cotton gin in Broken Bow, played a part in the establishment of one of Broken Bow's earliest banks. The First National Bank organized in 1913 with Costilow as president, and occupied a two-story brick building on the northwest corner of North Second and Main Streets.[74] By 1921, and possibly several years earlier, another bank stood on the west side of Main Street, just a few doors south of the First National Bank.[75] As Broken Bow has grown, however, the banks have been drawn away from Main Street to Park Drive, which is now part of Highway 259 and an important cross-town thoroughfare.

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[72] Carter, W. A. *McCurtain County and Southeast Oklahoma*, 203.
[73] Ibid, 8.
[74] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 12.
[75] Sanborn Map Company. "Broken Bow, Oklahoma 1921." *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Oklahoma* (Teaneck, NJ: Chadwyck-Healey, 1983), microfilm.

As a company town Broken Bow was fortunate to have one of the early hospitals built in the county. This hospital was built in 1912 and located at 300 South McClure Street in the residential section of town west of the Broken Bow mill.[76] By the early 1920s Broken Bow contained a range of commercial and professional establishments including six hotels, five cafes, five doctors, four barbershops, three garages, three drug stores, three lawyers, two banks, and several hardware stores.[77] By about 1925 the telephone exchange at 120 North Broadway had been built. The building is still in use today and is a contributing resource to the Broken Bow Commercial District.

Transportation

The extension of the Texas, Oklahoma and Eastern Railroad (TO&E), a subsidiary of the Choctaw Lumber Company, to Broken Bow in 1910 created the impetus for town formation. The site that would become Broken Bow offered an excellent location for extracting timber from the wooded countryside. In 1912, passenger service linked Broken Bow and Valliant. Within another decade the Texas, Oklahoma and Eastern Railroad had been extended east from Broken Bow to DeQueen, Arkansas.

As an indication of the importance of the railroad, the TO&E depot was constructed even before the town lots were auctioned.[78] The depot dates to 1912, and reflects Craftsman styling (figure 23). This building presently houses the Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce and has recently been restored. It may be eligible for listing in the National Register.

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[76] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 5.
[77] Sanborn Map Company. "Broken Bow, Oklahoma 1921."
[78] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 32.



The Texas, Oklahoma & Eastern Depot in 2000.

Figure 23

Schools and Churches

Broken Bow's first school once stood in the 600 block of North Park Drive and was built in 1911. This board and batten structure was replaced by a brick building the following year.[79] Two ward schools and a high school served Broken Bow's youth during the 1920s. A new high school was built in 1936 as part of a WPA project and was used until 1981 when a new high school was completed.[80] Prior to integration the Dunbar School, on the east side of Broken Bow, served the town's black population. During the 1930s a high school was built and, following integration, it was used at the East Side Junior High until the building burned in the 1970s.[81] In 1959 Bennett Elementary School was built on the grounds of the first school. A new high school was completed in 1981, and the old one burned in 1983.

To encourage the establishment of churches, the Choctaw Lumber Company donated corner lots to the first congregations that organized. The first church to form in Broken Bow was probably the Methodist Episcopal Church, which dates to 1911 and eventually became the First United Methodist Church. The building used for worship stood at the corner of North Campbell and Third Streets. The Methodists have since relocated to the south side of Broken Bow and their church building dates only to the early 1970s.[82]

The First Baptist Church organized in 1912 and built on the corner of Broadway and Fifth Streets. The church building presently in use dates to the mid-1960s. The Presbyterian Church in Broken Bow organized in 1915 and their building occupied the

[79] Ibid., 87.
[80] Ibid., 92.
[81] *Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years*, 96-99.
[82] Ibid., 59-60.

corner of Broadway and Fourth Streets. That initial structure stood until it was consumed by fire in 1959.[83] The First Christian Church organized in 1920 and their church building dates to 1922. It is still in use on 318 North Main Street. In 1951 the First Assembly of God Church moved into its new building on the northwest corner of North Third and Main Streets. The local congregation has since vacated this building for a new church recently constructed about 1986 on South Park Drive.[84] Broken Bow does not have a Catholic church.

In terms of the historically black churches in Broken Bow, the Macedonia Baptist Church appears to have been organized by the 1930s. The church building was constructed of native sandstone in 1946, and some alterations to the building were made in the 1960s. It is still in use and is located on the northwest corner of East First and Washington Avenue. The Williams Temple Church of God in Christ is just up the block on the southeast corner of East Second and Washington Avenue and dates to 1956. Although in disrepair, the original wood-clad John the Baptist Church still stands at the northwest corner of East Second and Currence Streets. The structure appears to date to the 1920s, and at one time was served by the Rev. R. A. Ducket.

Cultural and Social

Movie theaters provided the main source of entertainment in Broken Bow until the television gained popularity. The first theater in Broken Bow was the Callaham Theater. Built in 1913 and located in the unit block of Main Street, it was an "air-dome

[83] Ibid., 64.
[84] Ibid., 75.

theater" with bench seating and no roof.[85] The Arrow Theater, also on Main Street, superseded this in 1916. Broken Bow has no theater in its downtown today.

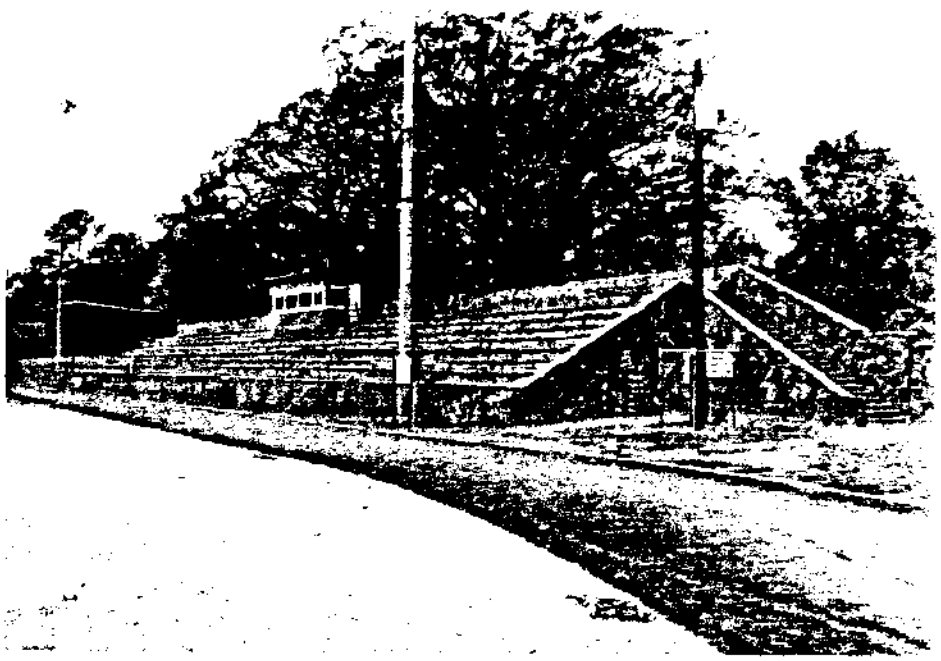
Various fraternal and civic organizations formed in Broken Bow. The Woodmen Workers of the World, the Masons and the Odd Fellows held meetings in town. The second floor of the First National Bank building served as a lodge for a number of years.[86] The present Masonic Lodge, on the west side of Broadway just north of First Street dates to 1950. It is a contributing resource to the Broken Bow Commercial District.

Politics and Government

Since it was not selected to serve as the county seat, Broken Bow did not provide as many government-related services. By late 1920s, however, Broken Bow did have a state forestry office on South Park Drive.[87] For reasons that are not entirely clear, the post office has occupied five different buildings in Broken Bow. The stone building at 121 North Broadway once housed the post office and Citizen's State Bank. It is one of the more striking buildings in the downtown.

During the Depression, area inhabitants were able to take advantage of work relief programs. As a result, Broken Bow possesses a few noteworthy structures created as public works projects. One of these is the football stadium for Broken Bow High School (figure 24). Although a new high school has been built, the team still uses this WPA-built stadium for its games. This facility dates to 1941 and includes a football field,

[85] Ibid., 13.
[86] Ibid., 12.
[87] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 233.



Broken Bow Stadium Grandstand in 2000.

Figure 24

track, and grandstand. A seven-foot wall made of native stone encloses the grounds. The north grandstand also consists primarily of native stone. The south grandstand is not original, consists of concrete blocks, and includes a press box. Despite these modifications, this facility may be National Register eligible.

Two other public works projects include the WPA-built city hall and community building, both on Main Street. The Broken Bow City Hall (215 North Main Street) was built in 1939 and presently houses the Broken Bow Police Department. Architecturally it is a very good example of the Public Works Art Deco style (figure 25). The building is National Register eligible. Across the street from this stands the Broken Bow Community Building, not to be confused with the Broken Bow Community Center at 201 North Broadway Street. The Broken Bow Community Building was constructed as a result of a WPA project in 1937-1938 and reflects the Craftsman style. It may also be eligible for the National Register.

Broken Bow's library was also built during the 1930s, but not specifically as a WPA project. The library resulted from a National Youth Administration project (NYA). The NYA was created in 1935 and for several years was administratively a part of the WPA. Nevertheless, the NYA provided part-time work for unemployed youths (aged 16-25) who were not full-time students. The Broken Bow Library was also constructed of native sandstone. It is still in use and has recently been restored. Because of its architecture and the comparative rarity of NYA structures, it may also be National Register eligible.



Former City Hall Building on North Main Street in 2000.

Figure 25

IDABEL

Founding and Naming

Idabel's origins date to the allotment period when it was set aside as a townsite on the route of Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad. Idabel was originally platted as the town of Purnell on August 27,1902 and the Department of the Interior approved the townsite plat on October 29, 1902. The town took its name from Isaac Purnell, who worked as an official for the Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad. When the charter for a post office was submitted the name "Purnell" was rejected because it was too similar to "Purcell," another Oklahoma town. The name "Mitchell" was subsequently used until it met a similar fate. Late in 1902 the post office eventually obtained a charter under the name "Bokhoma."[88] Finally, in February 1904 the town's name was officially changed to "Idabel," a name derived by conjoining the names of Purnell's two daughters, Ida and Belle. The original townsite covered an area of 89.39 acres that were subdivided into 23 blocks. A five-acre cemetery was also surveyed and was adjacent to the townsite on the southwest corner. Portions of four blocks on either side of Main Street were surveyed as business blocks.

A bird's eye view of Idabel reveals that its morphology is highly irregular. In its initial form the layout of the town was a "T-town" with streets shifted slightly north of east in an orthogonal alignment with the Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad. The railroad depot stood at the foot of Main Street. A small business district developed in the business blocks along Main Street, perpendicular to the railroad tracks. Eventually the business district also stretched along Central Avenue. In theory, municipal growth would

[88] Ibid., 102.

largely be confined to one side of the tracks. However, subsequent additions to the Idabel townsite significantly altered the basic "T-town" configuration. Between 1908 and 1910 several additions were platted on the west side of the railroad, effectively breaching the "T" arrangement and carrying development south and west of the tracks. During the same time period several additions were also platted on the southeastern and northern sides of the town. Every one of these additions was platted with a gridiron pattern of streets aligned with the cardinal directions rather than the orthogonal pattern of the original townsite. As a glance at any street map of Idabel reveals, the boundaries of the more recently platted additions are marked by significant bends or disruptions in the street pattern.

Natural Resources/Industry

The burgeoning lumber industry played a substantial role in Idabel's early industrial development. One of the lumber companies already in operation by 1908 was the Smith Lumber Company located at Central and Southeast Madison Streets.[89] By 1911 the Idabel Lumber Company built a planing mill in the same area south of Madison Street near the railroad. Within another five years the Jones Hardwood Sawmill was in business in the Denison Addition west of the railroad tracks. By 1926 South Idabel also had a hardwood mill. Although this mill burned in 1951 it was eventually rebuilt.[90] For many years another lumber company occupied a sizable lot behind the Johnson Hotel.

[89] Ibid., 110
[90] Ibid., 232.

Neither of these companies has survived to the present, although the Mendenhall Lumber Company located on Northwest Dixie Street is still in operation.

Two strategies implemented in the late 1930s attempted to fortify Idabel's regional resource base: reforestation and the application of lime and fertilizers. Cutover lands were increasingly sowed with pine seedlings and the addition of lime to area soils helped farmers turn cropped out land into productive pastures.[91] This latter endeavor led to the opening of a limestone quarry and crushing facility north of Idabel. The harvesting of pine logs for distribution to paper mills from Idabel was underway by the 1950s and provides an indication of the success of the reforestation effort.[92]

Agriculture

It would be difficult to overstate the importance of cotton cultivation as a factor fueling Idabel's growth and wealth prior to the Great Depression. Cotton constituted the cash crop that supplemented the livelihoods of most subsistence farmers across southern and eastern Oklahoma. The agro-industrial landscapes of Idabel provide testimony to the local and regional significance of this crop. Idabel became an important center for the buying, selling, processing, and distribution of cotton. On a smaller, local scale some sorghum was milled to produce syrup

By 1911 the H. X. Whitten Cotton Gin Company was in operation in Idabel, and cottonseed warehouses had been erected near the railroad where the grain elevator stands today. Within another five years Idabel possessed at least three cotton gins and a cotton

[91] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol 2, 216-217.
[92] Ibid., 241.

oil company. The town would ultimately boast a total of five cotton gins, including the first electric cotton gin in McCurtain County.[93]

In Idabel, Central Avenue became the main transaction center where buyers would purchase the baled cotton. Sometime after 1929 part of the 200-block of South Central Avenue was designated for this purpose.[94] Like Hugo, Idabel was able to maintain one operating cotton gin into the 1960s because there was still some cotton cultivation in the Red River valley.[95] In the 1970s cotton ceased to be a significant component of the agricultural landscape of McCurtain County.[96] There are no surviving cotton gins in Idabel today.

The conversion of the worn out cotton farms to pasture paved the way for the expansion of the livestock industry in the Idabel area. Soybeans, corn, and sorghum are also harvested in the region. A large, defunct and dilapidated grain elevator—silent witness to a bygone agricultural heyday—stands near the northwest corner of Texas and Washington Streets.

Commercial/Professional Establishments

For a number of years the corner lots at the intersection of Main and Central constituted the financial hub of Idabel. The Bank of Idabel, established in 1904, was one of the first banks in the town. It later became the First National Bank and by 1908 occupied the northeast corner of Main and Central. The original building was clad in brick and had a canted corner. Modifications to the building during the 1940s squared

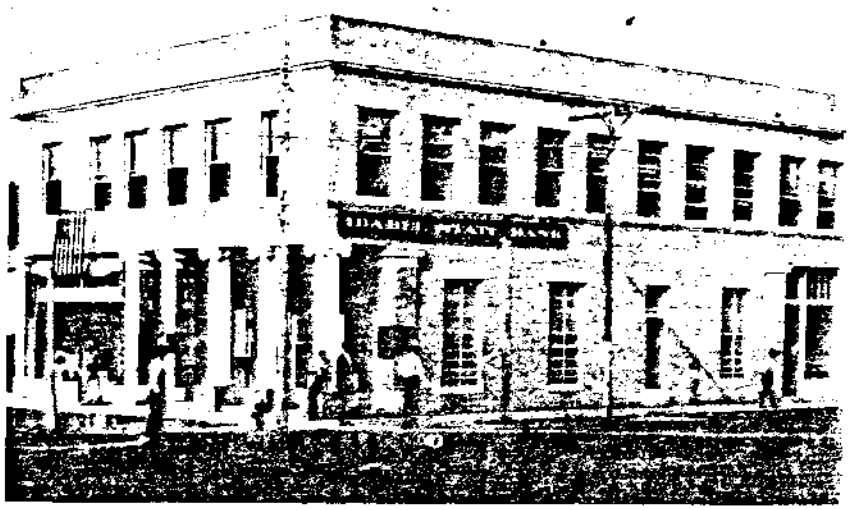
[93] Ibid., 210.
[94] Ibid., 211.
[95] Ibid., 213.
[96] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 207.

the formerly canted corner, covered the brick with limestone, and added a Greek Revival façade. In 1908 the First State Bank was organized and built on the southwest corner of Main and Central where it remained until 1925.[97] The Idabel State Bank, built in 1912, was located on the northwest corner of Main and Central. The structure was significantly modified in order to house the Grand Leader Store, which had occupied the premises by the 1930s (figure 26). The Idabel National Bank was built on the southeast corner of Main and Central. The building subsequently became the location of another First State Bank, organized in the 1930s.[98]

The Stewart Hotel, located on South Central and built in 1903, was Idabel's first hotel. Numerous other hotels soon dotted the town. In 1909 the Robinson Hotel was constructed on the southwest corner of Central and Martin Luther King Drive. It was widely recognized as the most lavish of the Idabel hotels prior to the construction of the Hotel Rouleau in 1917.[99] The Robinson Hotel still exists, however it has been altered (figure 27). The Rouleau Hotel was, and still is, one of the few three-story buildings in Idabel. It is presently being remodeled for use as apartments for seniors (figure 28). The building may be National Register eligible.

Numerous general merchandise stores came and went. The Smith and Allen Store was built in 1910 on West Main Street between Central Avenue and Texas Street.[100] Idabel also had an ice company that was located near the railroad depot. One of the oldest businesses in Idabel is the Coca-Cola bottling plant, which was established in Idabel in the early 1900s. It is now located at 500 South Central Avenue in a newer

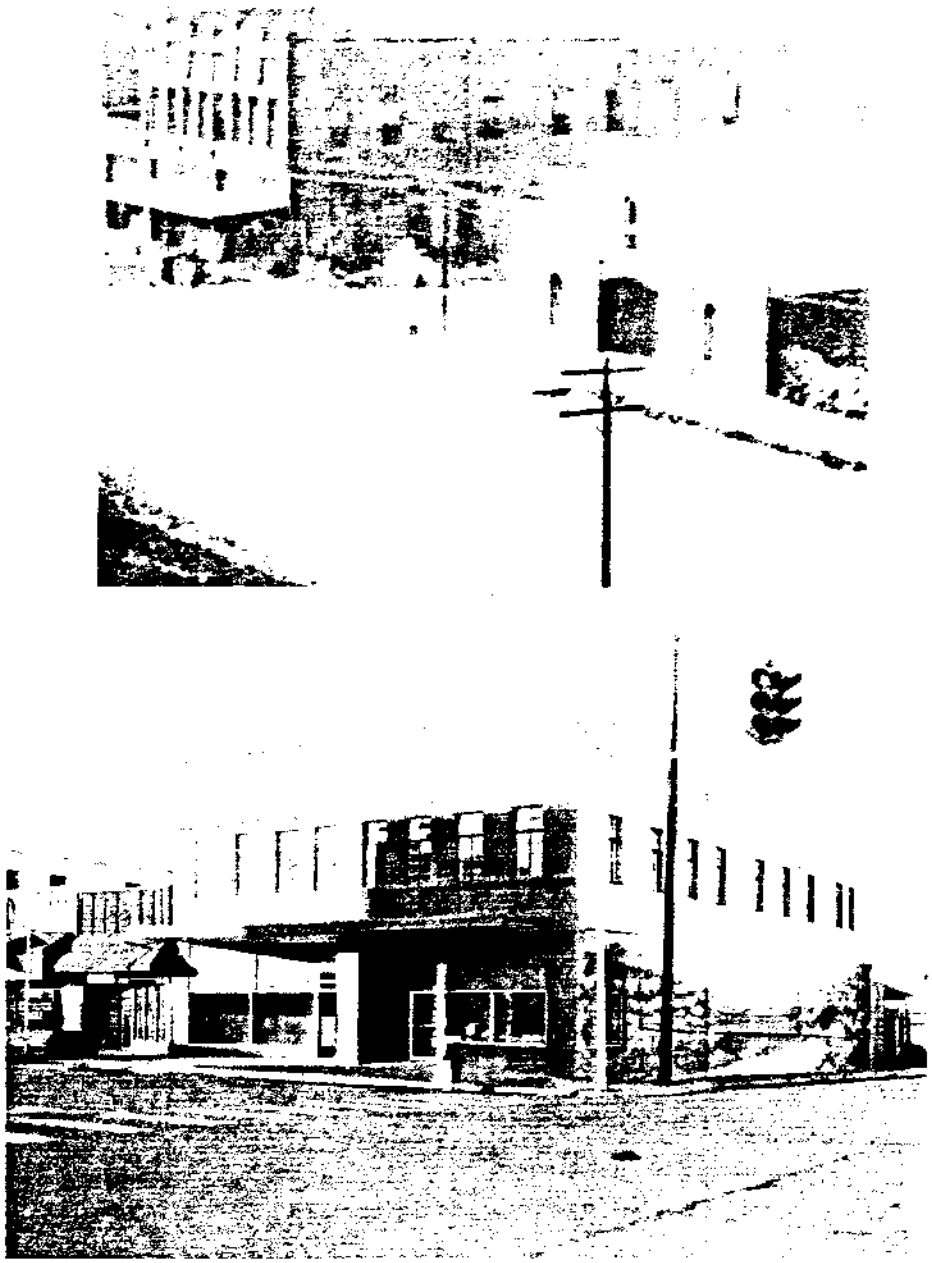
[97] Ibid., 115.
[98] Ibid., 135.
[99] Ibid., 113.
[100] Ibid., 115.





The Idabel State Bank/Grand Leader Building in 1912 (top) and 2001. Top photo from McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History* (Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1982), 123.

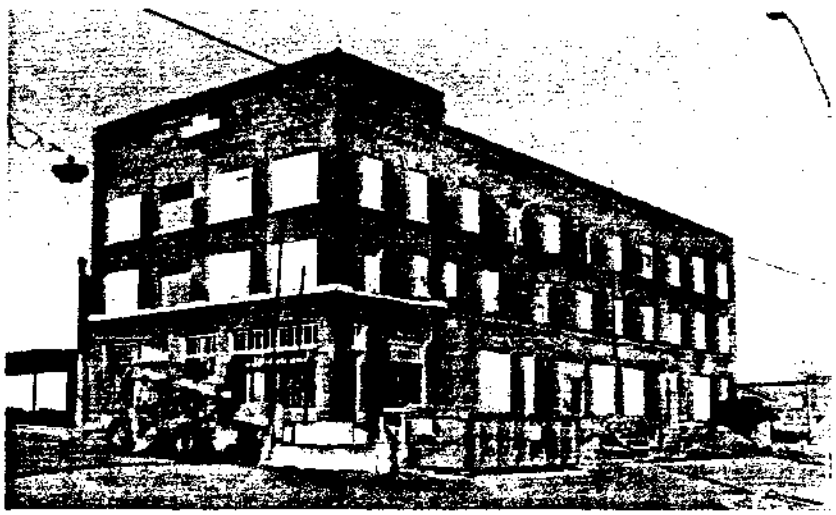
Figure 26



The Robinson Hotel about 1920 (top, back left) and in 2001. Top photo from McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History* (Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1982), 114.

Figure 27





Hotel Rouleau about 1930 (top) and in 2001. Top photo from McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History* (Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1982), 124.

Figure 28

facility.[101] The building that presently houses the Southern Abstract and Title Company at 16 Northwest Martin Luther King Drive dates to about 1920 when it functioned as a wholesale grocery. For some time in the 1950s the building housed the Idabel Seed Company. It has recently been restored and may be National Register eligible (figure 29). The Idabel Light and Fuel Company building at 3-5 North Central Avenue dates to about 1910 and is still in use today. The two-story building at 3-5 South Central Avenue also dates to about 1910. These three buildings are contributing resources to Idabel's Downtown Commercial District.

Idabel was the first town in McCurtain County to acquire a hospital. This was the Graydon Hospital and the Queen Anne style structure it occupied was built on the corner of Central and Third Streets in 1910.[102] It burned in 1959.

Transportation

The first railroad depot in Idabel was a wooden frame structure that stood near the railroad tracks at the foot of Main Street.[103] Citizen concern about the fire hazard of the structure culminated in a series of protests. These protests were carried to the Oklahoma Corporation Commission with the result that the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad was ordered to build a new, fireproof depot.[104] In 1912 work on the new brick depot was completed. Despite the fact that the depot had been listed in the National Register since May of 1979, the building was razed in 1998.

[101] Ibid., 105.
[102] Ibid., 279.
[103] Ibid., 104.
[104] Ibid., 113.



The Idabel Seed Company Building in 2001.

Figure 29

Schools and Churches

Idabel's first brick school lasted from 1909 to 1937.[105] By 1914 two public schools had been built to serve the north and south sides of town. These were, respectively, the George and Herndon Public Schools. Of these, the Herndon School has survived to the present. It occupies the lot at Southwest Bokhoma and Quincy Streets, although it is presently used for storage (figure 30). The Gray High School was built in 1927 at Southeast D and Main Streets. The high school burned in 1980, but the gymnasium did not. The Idabel Middle School has since been built on the site and is now awkwardly attached to the old gym.

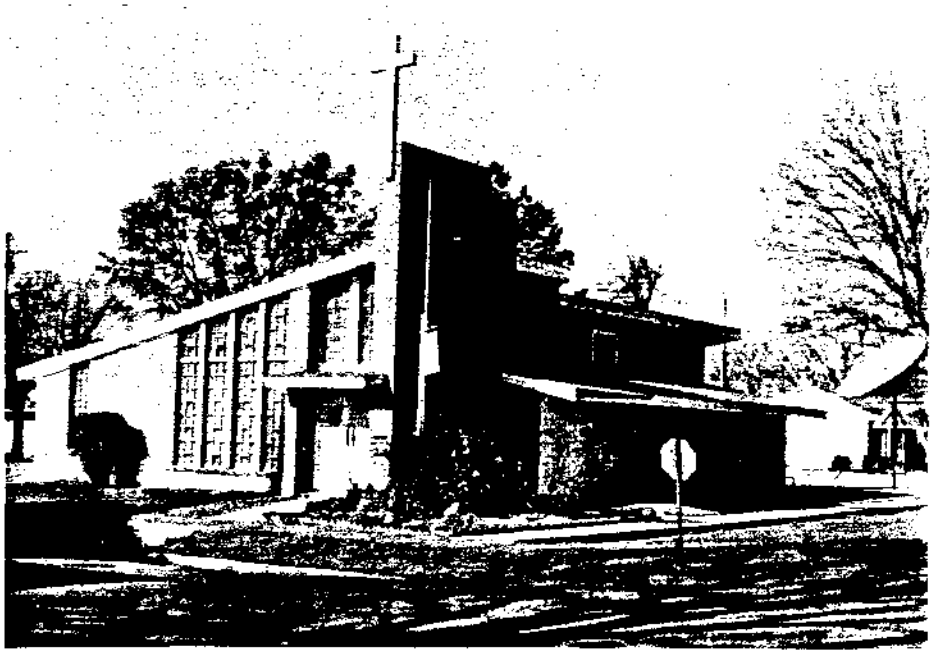
Like many buildings in the south part of the town, several of Idabel's churches were damaged or destroyed as a result of the 1917 tornado. The First Baptist Church, for example, was completely destroyed and replaced by a new brick building in 1920. That building was subsequently replaced with a newer one that dates to about 1960. The First Presbyterian Church, which had been constructed at the corner of Madison and D Streets, was severely damaged by the tornado.[106] A new brick structure was erected in the late 1920s and is still in use today. The first building to house the Methodist Church was built in 1917, replaced in 1919, and replaced again in the 1960s.[107] Perhaps the most unusual church building is that of the St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church. Built in 1950 it takes the shed roof, a type of roof associated with the Modern Movement and typically reserved for residential dwellings, and applies it to a church (figure 31).

[105] Ibid., 142.
[106] Ibid., 128.
[107] Ibid., 131.



Herndon School was built circa 1914.

Figure 30



St. Francis de Sales Church dates to 1950.

Figure 31

Cultural and Social

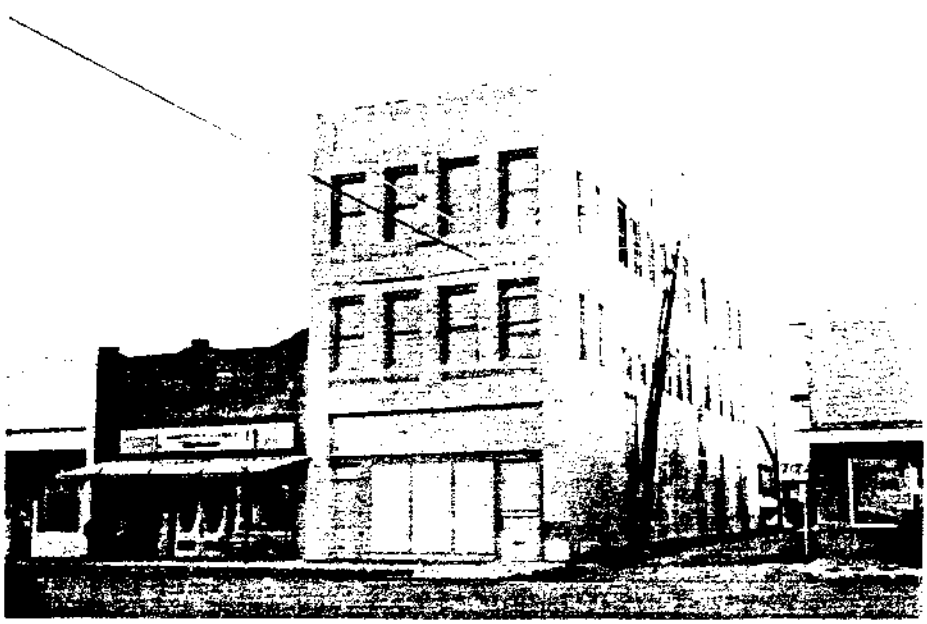
As early as 1908 Idabel already boasted a pool hall and bowling alley. By 1916 a movie theater had been built in the unit block of South Central Avenue, on the east side of the street. This eventually became the Lyric Theater, which prospered into the 1940s. Then, in 1947 the State Theater was built at 117 North Central Avenue.[108] This building is still in use, although it presently houses a law firm.

The Masonic Lodge in Idabel dates to about 1925. Located at 8 North Central Avenue, this building represents another of Idabel's rare, three-story structures. The brick cladding has since been covered with plaster, but the building is in fair condition (figure 32). At Southeast Jefferson Street and Central Avenue stood the American Legion Building. Built in 1922, the "hut," functioned as an armory and community building. Traveling "Toby Shows" and Chautauqua groups used it for their performances. The building burned in 1936.[109]

Politics and Government

Time and the pressure to modernize have dealt a number of blows to several of the government-related structures in Idabel. The old post office/federal building was built in 1938-39 on East Main Street and A Avenue and was torn down in 1975. In 1974 the new City Hall replaced the Municipal Building, which had been constructed in

[108] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 2, 87.
[109] Ibid., 127; Len Green, " 'American Legion Hut' Remembered," *McCurtain County Gazette*, 22 September 1983.



The three story Idabel Grand Lodge Building in 2001.

Figure 32

1940.[110] Idabel's courthouse, built in 1920, met a similar fate. Although other buildings had served as the McCurtain County Courthouse prior to 1920, the courthouse erected in 1920 constituted one of Idabel's most impressive buildings. The three-story, brick clad building reflected the Greek Revival style and was used until 1964, when it was replaced with a newer structure.[111]

Idabel possesses one WPA-built structure that is particularly notable: the Idabel Armory at Southeast F and Washington Streets. This enormous building was built in 1936 of native sandstone and modestly decorated with pilasters and parapets. This building no longer serves as the armory but has been adaptively re-used as the Idabel bus barn. This property gained a listing in the National Register in 1988.

[110] McCurtain County Historical Society, *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*, vol. 1, 137.
[111] Ibid., 266.

XVI. ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Maps

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.

Microfilmed versions of Sanborn maps of the four towns exist, but the temporal coverage they provide is rather uneven. On a surprisingly frequent basis the Sanborn maps for Antlers were updated at two to four year intervals beginning in 1896. After 1916 map updates became less frequent, yet the sequential Sanborn coverage of Antlers is better than that of any of the other study towns.

The list below provides a chronology of the Sanborn maps, and subsequent updates, for each of the four towns. These microfilms are available at the map library in the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University and at Bizzell Library on the University of Oklahoma campus.

Antlers, Oklahoma:
Reel 1: 1896, 1899, 1901, 1904, 1908, 1911, 1916, 1924, and 1934
Reel 21: 1956

Broken Bow, Oklahoma:
Reel 3: 1921 and 1930

Hugo, Oklahoma
Reel 8: 1904, 1908, 1911, 1918, 1924, and 1946

Idabel, Oklahoma
Reel 9: 1911, 1916, 1927, 1930, and 1946

Plat Maps.

The courthouses in Pushmataha County and Choctaw County maintain the plat maps for Antlers and Hugo, respectively. The plat maps for Idabel and Broken Bow are housed at the McCurtain County Courthouse. Most of the plat maps for the different towns are originals and show the lot lines, the name of the surveyor, and contain the date and name of the plat. An unfortunate circumstance is that the maps have been placed in large plastic bags that are sealed with bolts. This is especially problematic for Hugo because several of the plat maps have been folded in ways that make it difficult or impossible to view the dates on the maps.

City and Telephone Directories

Antlers:

Antlers, Oklahoma Telephone Directory, April 1956.
Antlers, Oklahoma Telephone Directory, February 1960.
Antlers, Oklahoma Telephone Directory, October 1967.

There are presently no city directories for Antlers on file at the Pushmataha County Historical Society. However, there are some telephone directories. As indicated above, the oldest dates to 1956.

Hugo:

Hugo and Choctaw County Directory, 1910-1911.
Hugo City Directory, 1930.
Hugo City Directory, 1940.

The city directories listed above for Hugo are held at the Frisco Depot Museum but are not available for public use. The Frisco Depot Museum also has an extensive collection of telephone directories dating to 1936.

Secondary Sources

Planning/Preservation Documents

Baxter, Karen Bode. "Region 4: Ranching in the Eleven Counties of Southeast Oklahoma: 1830s to 1930s." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1986.

Baxter, Scott. "Region 4: The European Ethnic Experience in Oklahoma: 1870-1920." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1986.

_____. "Region 4: Transportation in Oklahoma to 1920." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1986.

_____. "Regions 4 and 5: Historic Context for the Native American Theme: 1830-1939." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1987

Scarpino, Philip V. "Region 4: Industrial Development in the Eleven Counties of Southeastern Oklahoma to 1930." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1986.

Smith, Michael W. "Region 4: Patterns of White Settlement in Oklahoma, 1889-1907." Oklahoma City: State Historic Preservation Office, 1986.

All of the reports listed above are on file at the State Historic Preservation Office in Oklahoma City. The documents provide thematic studies about Management Region #4, which includes the towns of Antlers, Broken Bow, Hugo, and Idabel.

Vertical File Information: Antlers, Broken Bow, Choctaw County, Hugo, Idabel, McCurtain County, and Pushmataha County

The relevant materials in these vertical files include the items listed below. It appears that these manuscripts were prepared between 1936 and 1939 as part of the Federal Writer's Project of the WPA. Some of them indicate who prepared the manuscript while others do not. These documents provide brief, if sometimes repetitive, historical sketches of the counties and towns in the study area. Their usefulness stems from the contemporaneousness of their observations. The annotations below try to highlight the differences between the manuscripts.

Antlers Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Ervin, Lay. "Antlers." Ms. Prepared April 13, 1936. Pushmataha County Vertical File. Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

   This concise paper presents a thematic overview of Antlers, including the town's industrial base, transportation, schools, prominent citizens and civic clubs.

Broken Bow Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Ervin, J. R. "Broken Bow." Ms. prepared April 22, 1936.
   A short report on the resources, industry, and accommodations in Broken Bow.

Choctaw County Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Falk, Prior. "Choctaw County." Ms. prepared April 7, 1936.
   This manuscript contains a tally of the number of different businesses in Hugo. These derive from a business census dating to 1931.

2) Killian, Bertha. "Historical References." Ms. prepared April 27, 1936.
   Tucked in the middle of this historical sketch of Choctaw County is a discussion of two common Indian meals, ta-fula and tash-lubona, both corn-based stews.

3) Williams, Paul. "Choctaw County." Ms. prepared April 16, 1937.
This very short report comments on the problems of erosion, illiteracy, and the lack of educational opportunities in Choctaw County.

4) Wilson, L. "Choctaw County." Ms. prepared August 27, 1936.
More complete than Killian's work (described above), this county history includes a good description of the local topography as well as a marketing analysis of the county's population, agriculture, and industries.

Hugo Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Lay, Ervin (V. A.). "Hugo." Ms. prepared April 14, 1936.
A brief overview of Hugo's establishment, industry, schools, and prominent citizens.

2) Nedry, J. M. "Red River Bridge: Hugo to Paris." Ms. prepared February 10, 1936.
Nedry's report recounts some of the events leading to the construction and opening of the first "free" or "no toll" bridge across the Red River that opened in 1926.

Idabel Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Ervin, Jessie. "Place Names in Oklahoma." Ms. prepared November 28, 1939.
Recounts the naming of Idabel.

McCurtain County Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) Falk, Prior. "McCurtain County." Ms. prepared April 1, 1936.
Provides some agricultural and demographic statistics for the county and also lists the numerous different churches, fraternal organizations, and businesses in Idabel.

2) Salter, William E. "McCurtain County." Ms. prepared May 4, 1936.
Discusses the topography of the county as well as its agricultural production.

Pushmataha County Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

1) "Pushmataha County." No date.
This manuscript, probably also written sometime in the late 1930s and likely part of the Oklahoma Writer's Project, provides a very brief account of the

general topography of Pushmataha County, its early settlement, and acquisition of military roads and railroads.

2) "Pushmataha County" Federal Writer's Project ms prepared 1936. This is a short county history and provides some interesting insights including the observation (on page three) that Pushmataha's location places it in the "...moist malaria district in the state."

Local Studies/County Histories

Broken Bow: The First Seventy-Five Years. Broken Bow, OK: Broken Bow Alumni Association and Broken Bow History Committee, 1985.

This is a very important resource for information on the historical development of Broken Bow. Its value stems primarily from the numerous old photographs recording the growth of the town, railroad, lumber mills, and related industries. Brief topical essays provide additional historical detail.

Carter, W. A. *McCurtain County and Southeast Oklahoma: History, Biography, Statistics*. Idabel, OK: n.p., 1923.

A useful resource that details the history and development of McCurtain County as recorded by a 33-year resident of the county. The book lacks systematic organization but the chapters are informative and contain numerous photographs. The chapter on agriculture, which discusses the controversies surrounding cotton cultivation, is instructive, as are the biographical sketches of people who played a part in McCurtain County's growth. The book also contains a business directory for the county.

Choctaw County Historical Society. *Hugo—1916*. Hugo, OK: Choctaw County Historical Society, 1979.

This is a reprint of the publication, *Opportunity! Hugo, Oklahoma*, originally produced by the Southwestern Land Company. It is essentially a piece of promotional literature created by the company in charge of selling commercial and residential lots. As a result, it includes a collection of very good contemporary photographs of both commercial and residential properties in Hugo.

Coleman, Louis. "Tidbits of McCurtain County History." Idabel, OK: n.p., n.d.

Louis Coleman, for many years the director of the McCurtain County Historical Society, also authored a history column for the *McCurtain Gazette*. This is a compilation of many of those columns, beginning in 1996, and is available at the Idabel Public Library.

_____. *The First United Methodist Church of Idabel, Oklahoma.* Diamond Anniversary 1904-1979. A History of Our Church. Idabel, OK: n.p., n.d.

A very detailed account of the establishment and growth of one of Idabel's churches.

Community Employment Development Division. *Economic Base Report: Pushmataha County.* Oklahoma City, OK: n.p., 1968.

One of the useful features of this work is that it includes a reasonably detailed discussion of the historical background of Pushmataha County, with a modest emphasis on evolving sources of economic livelihood.

Curtis, Mrs. Earl (Pat). *A History of First Baptist Church Hugo, Oklahoma.* Muskogee, OK: Hoffman Printing Co., Inc., 1977.

This book recounts the establishment, growth, and missionary activity of the First Baptist Church in Hugo from 1902 to 1977. It contains some useful information on the building history of the church and parsonage.

Dudley, C. E. *Days Gone By.* Antlers, OK: Pushmataha County Historical Society, n.d.

A collection of writings on the early history and families of Antlers. The first several chapters provide detailed, block-by-block descriptions of the town and its early businesses. This is a reprint of writings originally published by the *Antlers American*.

Imon, Frances. *Smoke Signals From Indian Territory, Vol. 1.* Wolfe City, TX: Henington Publishing Company, 1976.

_____. *Smoke Signals From Indian Territory, Vol. 2.* Wolfe City, TX: Henington Publishing Company, 1977.

These two volumes constitute an eclectic collection of writings on events and people in the Choctaw Nation. Of interest are the chapters on the Locke-Jones War in Antlers, early Hugo businesses, and bank failures.

McCurtain County Historical Society. *Historical McCurtain County.* Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, n.d.

This 30-page booklet appears to date from the late 1970s. It provides an item-by-item description of historical routes, places, and structures in McCurtain County.

_____. *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History*. Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1982.

_____. *McCurtain County: A Pictorial History. Volume 2*. Idabel, OK: McCurtain County Historical Society, 1999.

Together, these two volumes provide an immensely valuable photographic chronicle of McCurtain County history prior to the 1960s. Organized both geographically (by community) and thematically, the books give the reader a feel for the local and regional trends that affected McCurtain County. Broken Bow and Idabel receive substantial coverage in both volumes.

Oglesby, Eliza S. *History, McCurtain County*. Haworth, OK: By Author, 1973.

Unfortunately, this is a difficult work to evaluate because of the poor quality of the typescript. Most of the information focuses on the recent past, meaning the 1950s and 60s. The book does contain some photographs from the 1960s.

Oklahoma Employment Security Commission. *A Report on Human and Economic Resources: McCurtain County*. Oklahoma City: Research and Planning Division, Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, 1976.

Of particular interest in this report are the various county statistics including the acreage managed by Weyerhaeuser, the steady increase in average farm size from 1930 to 1969, and basic demographic data. A copy of this report can be found in the McCurtain County vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Olivo and Associates. *Hugo Historical Preservation Plan, 1980*. Oklahoma: Olivo and Associates, n.d.

Provides a brief survey of Hugo's commercial properties and suggests methods for implementing a preservation plan. This survey was completed at about the same time that the Hugo Historic District was being nominated for listing in the National Register. The book includes a nice chronological series of maps showing the dates of construction of many of the commercial properties.

Williamson, Lea Ann, Vanessa Lowe and Kara Petre. *Forest Heritage of McCurtain County*. N.p., 1977-78.

This pamphlet gives an overview of the development of the lumber industry beginning with the efforts of the Dierks brothers and then discussing the Weyerhaeuser operations. A copy of this pamphlet is kept in the McCurtain County vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Newspaper Articles

"Choctaw County Proud of Past, Looking Ahead." *The Daily Oklahoman*, 26 August, 1962.

A selective and celebratory article that reviews the county's past successes and sounds an optimistic note for the future economic development of the region.

Gatliff, Jim. "Luton Celebrates 30 Years at Palace Drug." *Hugo Daily News*, 6 September 1983.

This biographical sketch of Smith Luton, a Hugo native and owner of the Palace Drug Store at Jackson and Broadway Streets, contains some historical information about the building where his drug store is located. The article also includes a 1916 photograph of the building. A clipping of this article can be found in the Hugo vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Green, Len. " 'American Legion Hut' Remembered." *McCurtain County Gazette*, 22 September 1983.

An interesting article that recalls the history of one of Idabel's historic buildings. The building, though destroyed by fire in 1936, was occasionally rented for use by traveling "Toby Shows" and Chataqua meetings. A clipping of this article can be found in the McCurtain County vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

"Idabel Livery Stable." *McCurtain County Gazette*. 10 April 1983.

The 1910 photograph of the stable that was published with this article is of interest. The newspaper speculates that the old livery stable was located at the corner of North Central and First Streets. A clipping of this article can be found in the McCurtain County vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Imon, Frances. "Show Folks Exit at Hugo." *The Daily Oklahoman*, 26 December 1965, 5.

A brief account of the establishment of "Showmen's Rest," the burial space at the Mt. Olivet Cemetery that is reserved for the circus folk.

Kane, Newell. "Country Gals Become Part of Old Frisco Depot History." *Hugo Daily News*, 2 February 1983.

Discusses the role of the Country Gals Extension Homemakers in restoring the dormitory rooms used by the Harvey Girls who worked at the Frisco Depot in Hugo. A clipping of this article can be found in the Hugo vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Roberts, Mayo. "Idabel Sparkles With Time's Touches." *The Daily Oklahoman*, 6 July 1930.

A selective retelling of Idabel's history with an emphasis on one of the county's early doctors, C. A. Dennison. The article includes some historic photographs of Idabel.

"The History of Hugo, Oklahoma." *Hugo Husonian*, 8 March 1906.

Although not well organized, this article does detail the early development of Hugo, including the surveying of the original townsite, the formation of the first churches, and the genesis of a business district. A typescript of the original article, interspersed with several parenthetical comments that provide additional clarification about certain historical details, is stored in the Hugo vertical file at the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Theses

Conley, Albert R. "The Economic Advantage of Cotton Production in Southeastern Oklahoma as Compared to Southwestern Oklahoma." Master's Thesis, Oklahoma A & M College [Oklahoma State University], 1941.

An interesting study of the advantages and disadvantages of cotton cultivation in the southeastern and southwestern parts of the state. The author examines such factors as climate, topography, mechanization, scale, and trading networks.

Pardue, Edwin G. "A Geographic Study of Choctaw County, Oklahoma." Master's Thesis, Oklahoma A & M College [Oklahoma State University], 1949.

A regional survey of Choctaw County, with an emphasis on trends affecting agriculture and industry.

Self, Huber. "The Peanut Industry in Oklahoma." Master's Thesis, Oklahoma A & M College [Oklahoma State University], 1947.

A good overview of the emergence of peanut cultivation in Oklahoma, and its contribution to local economies. Hugo's Woldert Peanut Producers Company is discussed on p. 56 and is identified as a peanut shelling plant established in the 1940s.

General Regional Studies

Baird, W. David and Danney Goble. *The Story of Oklahoma.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994.

This is a valuable resource for anyone interested in Oklahoma history. The book progresses chronologically through a discussion of the peopling of Oklahoma, and the interplay of politics and economics that has shaped the state. Antlers is mentioned briefly on pp. 187-188 in connection the Locke War.

Debo, Angie. *The Rise and Fall of the Choctaw Republic.* 2nd Ed. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1961.

A classic study of Choctaw history and the first to concentrate on the Choctaws in the period from the end of the Civil War to statehood. The chapters recounting the process of allotment and the dissolution of tribal sovereignty are especially valuable.

Ellsworth, J. O. and F. F. Elliott. "Types of Farming in Oklahoma." *Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin,* no. 181 (June 1929): 1-84.

This monograph examines the agricultural patterns across the state during the early to mid 1920s. Crop production, size of holdings, and patterns of land tenure are some of the topics presented. Several useful maps depict the distribution of crops across the state.

Faiman-Silva, Sandra. *Choctaws at the Crossroads: The Political Economy of Class and Culture in the Oklahoma Timber Region.* Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press, 1997.

An excellent study in political economy that examines the marginalization of the Choctaws. Drawing on perspectives from world-system theory, the author explores the processes by which the Choctaws were integrated into the Euro-American market economy while systematically being impoverished through the loss of land and resource rights, and social and cultural alienation.

Foreman, Carolyn Thomas. "St. Agnes Academy for the Choctaws," *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 48(1970): 323-330.

A brief overview and selective history of the St. Agnes Mission school in Antlers until its destruction by the tornado in 1945.

Foreman, Grant. *Indian Removal: The Emigration of the Five Civilized Tribes of Indians*. Foreword by Angie Debo. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press. 1972.

This factual account is an essential resource for anyone interested in the removal of the Five Civilized Tribes and their establishment in Indian Territory. Grant Foreman was a lawyer who worked for the Dawes Commission before becoming a well-known chronicler of Oklahoma history.

_____. *A History of Oklahoma*. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1942.

A standard chronological account of Oklahoma's history. Although it contains little in the way of county-specific information it provides broad coverage of the events culminating in statehood.

Gibson, Arrell M. *Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries*. 2nd Ed. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981.

A concise and readable history of the state. One of the most valuable features of this book is its extensive, 16-page bibliographical essay.

Hudson, John C. *Plains Country Towns*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1985.

This book focuses on the forces shaping town development in the Great Plains. Nevertheless, its examination of the role railroads played in creating and changing regional urban patterns is essential reading for anyone interested in Oklahoma's urban geography.

Males, Mike. "No Sound I Will Ever Forget: The Antlers Tornado of 1945." *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 73 (1995): 52-65.

A useful assessment of the impact of this violent tornado on the cultural resources and cultural landscape of Antlers. The article has some minor inaccuracies concerning the number of three and four-story buildings in Antlers.

Morris, John W., ed. *Geography of Oklahoma*. Volume 6: The Oklahoma Series. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977.

This is the best general survey of Oklahoma geography, although many of the maps are reprints from the *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma*.

_____. *Cities of Oklahoma.* Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1979.

A collection of essays written by diverse scholars. It includes brief discussions of Antlers, Broken Bow, Hugo, and Idabel but is more valuable for the coverage of trends affecting urban development in Oklahoma.

Morris, John W., Charles R. Goins, and Edwin C. McReynolds. *Historical Atlas of Oklahoma.* 3rd Ed. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986.

This atlas uses data from the 1980 census, so many of the maps in it are in need of updating with more recent census information. However, this remains a highly valuable source of historical and geographical information about Oklahoma.

Nall, Garry L. "King Cotton in Oklahoma, 1825-1939." In Donald E. Green, ed. *Rural Oklahoma.* Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977, pp. 37-55.

A good, brief overview of the rise of cotton cultivation in Oklahoma, the relationship between tenancy and overproduction, and the impact of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Nieberding, Velma. "St. Agnes School of the Choctaws." *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, 33 (1955): 183-192.

A useful account of the work of Father Ketcham, a Catholic missionary among the Choctaws, who was instrumental in establishing the St. Agnes School of the Choctaws in Antlers.

Oklahoma Almanac. 2 vols. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Publishing Company, 1930-31.

Contains a wide range of information about the state including brief entries for the cities and towns in Oklahoma. Town-specific statistics include the tax rate, number of railroad cars filled with goods, and the number of school buildings and churches.

Ruth, Kent. *Oklahoma: A Guide to the Sooner State.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1957.

A brief historical overview of Antlers and the Locke War is provided on p. 389. Discussion of Broken Bow, Hugo, and Idabel is limited to a synopsis of their founding and important local industries.

_____. *Oklahoma Travel Handbook.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977.

An alphabetical listing of places in Oklahoma with brief entries that cover their history, economy, and other items of special interest.

Ruth. Kent and Jim Argo. *Window on the Past: Historic Places in Oklahoma.* Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Press, 1982.

This book provides a highly selective inventory of historic places in Oklahoma. It is organized alphabetically by county and covers sites ranging from cemeteries to dams, houses, and statues. This book does not include any specific mention of Antlers, Broken Bow, Hugo, or Idabel.

_____. *Here We Rest: Historic Cemeteries of Oklahoma.* Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1986.

This lavishly illustrated book is the best source on Oklahoma cemeteries published to date. Surprisingly, however, it provides only brief mention of the "circus cemetery" in Hugo.

Shirk, George H. *Oklahoma Place Names.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1966.

Written by the former president of the Oklahoma Historical Society this is one of the best sources for information on Oklahoma's toponyms.

Wright, Muriel H. *A Guide to the Indian Tribes of Oklahoma.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1951.

A dated but still very useful discussion of the various tribes in Oklahoma. Entries are arranged alphabetically and systematically discuss the location, population, history, government, and culture of the different Indian tribes.

Writer's Program of the Work Projects Administration, comp. *The WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma.* Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1986.

This paperback edition, based on a version first published in 1941, provides a new introduction and a restored essay on the history of Oklahoma by Angie Debo since her contribution was mysteriously omitted from the original. The first part of the book includes thematic coverage of topics such as agriculture, transportation, literature, and architecture. The second part discusses the major cities, and the third part includes 16 different tours that explore all regions of the state. The book is illustrated with several nice sets of black-and-white photos. The entry for Antlers (pp. 328-29) contains a good discussion of the "Locke War."

XVII. SUMMARY

This Reconnaissance Level Survey of Four Southeastern Oklahoma Towns identified and evaluated a total of 377 properties in the study area. All properties were surveyed with minimum-level documentation including completion of the OK/SHPO Historic Preservation Resource Inventory Form and submission of at least two 5x7 black and white prints.

(1) Thirty-five (35) individual properties were recommended for National Register consideration.

(2) One hundred ninety-nine (199) individual properties were identified as warranting further study. This total only represents individual properties that are outside districts. An additional 89 properties were surveyed as contributing resources to the eight proposed districts.

(3) One National Register listed district, the Hugo Historic District, was updated (NR listed 11/12/80). A total of 12 properties in the district were surveyed.

(4) Seven (7) individual properties listed on the National Register were surveyed and updated with forms and photographs. These properties include: Antlers Frisco Depot and Spring (NR listed 6/27/80), Hugo Frisco Depot (NR listed 6/6/80), the Hugo Armory (NR listed 9/8/88), the Hugo Public Library (NR listed 9/8/88; now the Choctaw County Public Library), Idabel Armory (NR listed 9/8/88), the Barnes-Stevenson House (NR listed 11/17/78), and the Spaulding-Olive House (NR listed 9/28/76).

(5) One National Register listed property was found to have been demolished. This is the Frisco Station at Idabel. Orginally listed 5/21/79 it was demolished in 1998.

(6) Eight thumbnail sketches for proposed districts were written. Proposed districts include: High Street Residential District (Antlers) and Downtown Commercial District (Antlers); East Residential District (Hugo) and South Residential District (Hugo); Broken Bow Commercial District and White City Residential District (Broken Bow); Idabel Residential District and Downtown Commercial District (Idabel). All of these districts were assigned tentative boundaries and depicted on maps along with contributing resources, and any National Register eligible or listed properties. The thumbnail sketches provide a rationale for conducting intensive level surveys.

(7) Fifty (50) individual properties were surveyed and identified as not warranting further study.

(8) Thumbnail sketches were prepared for thirteen (13) areas that did not meet qualifications for intensive level surveys.

(9) Two hundred forty-five (245), or approximately 65% of the individual properties surveyed, were residential (single or multiple) dwellings.

(10) Fifty-two (52) of the individual properties surveyed were commercial and this represents the second leading type of property.

(11) Seventeen (17) religious structures were surveyed.

(12) Additional property types documented in this survey include educational (9), governmental (6), industrial (6), and recreational (4).

(13) This survey also documented four (4) structures. These are the drainage channels at North High Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets in Antlers, at Northwest B and Sixth Street in Antlers, at Northeast Second and C Street in Antlers, and on East Rena Street between Third and Fourth Streets in Hugo. The locations of two other drainage channels in Hugo were also mapped.

(14) Residential areas in the four study towns include the following architectural styles: Queen Anne, Tudor Revival, Neoclassical, Colonial Revival, Prairie School, Italianate, Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival, Bungalow/Craftsman, National Folk (Shotgun, Pyramidal, Gable-front, Massed Plan, Hall & Parlor subtypes), Folk Victorian, Moderne, International Style, and Modern Movement (Minimal Traditional, Contemporary, and Ranch subtypes). As this list reveals, the Eclectic Period (1880-1940) is the prevalent architectural period represented.

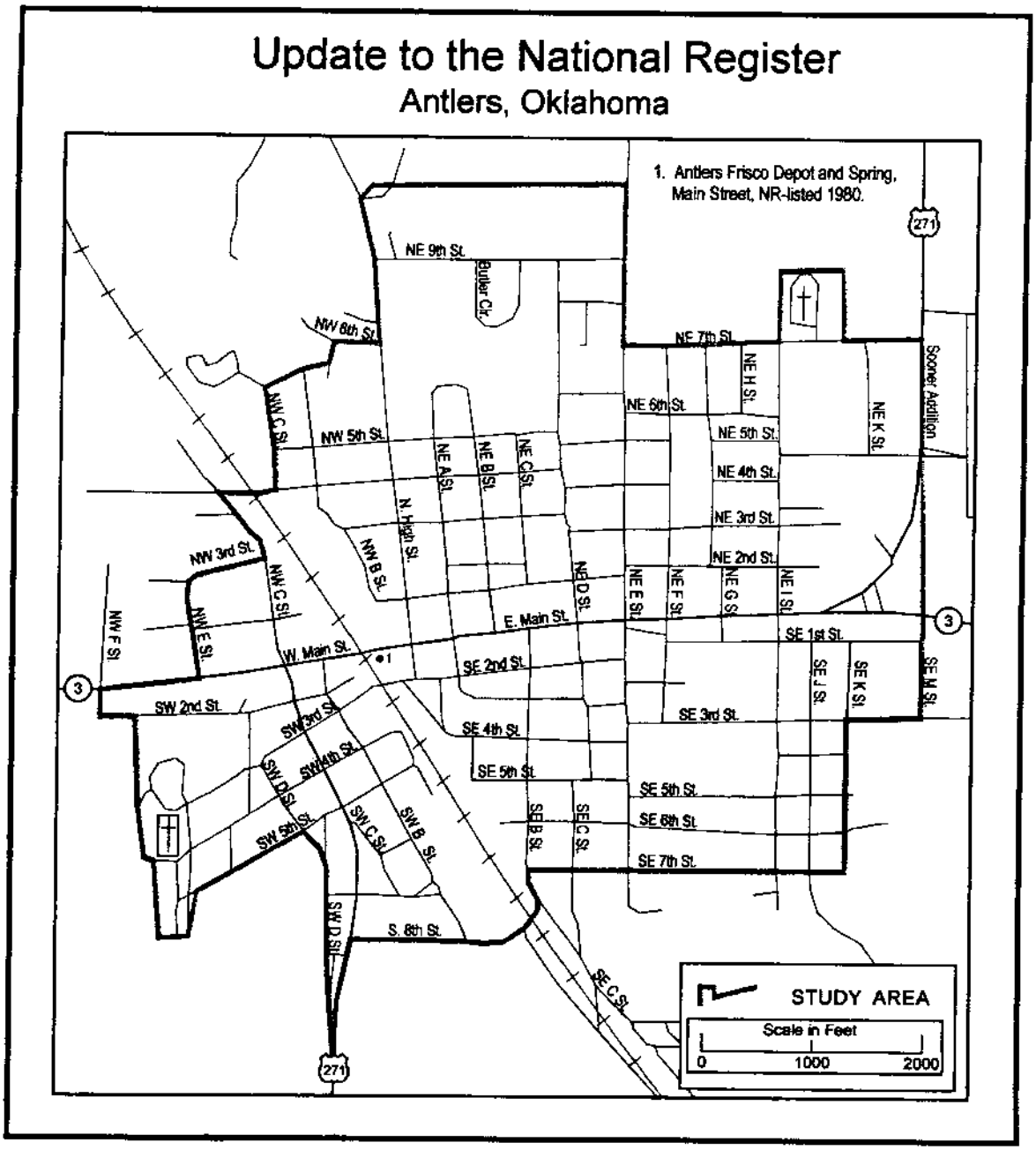
(15) The commercial areas in each of the four study towns is largely composed of shops that have either one or two stories. Uncommon examples of three-story buildings include the Grand Lodge (8 North Central Avenue) and Hotel Rouleau (21 East Main Street) in Idabel. The commercial architecture in the four study towns is largely conservative in that it tends to lack decorative detailing. In addition, brick constitutes the most common type of cladding.

In closing, the built environments of Antlers, Broken Bow, Hugo, and Idabel contain a variety of cultural resources that testify to the diverse social and historical forces that have influenced these places. A great deal of research remains to be conducted on the ages and names of many of the properties surveyed as a part of this project. In addition, each study town has at least two districts that will warrant an intensive level survey in the near future. Each study town also includes some excellent examples of properties that were created as a result of public work initiatives during the Depression. Although architecturally ostentatious properties are uncommon in these towns, there are numerous individual examples of well-designed and maintained properties that warrant the attention of preservationists. Several of these warrant immediate attention for their National Register potential. These include: the Hugo High School, War Savings Stamps Building in Hugo, the apartments at 201-205 East Duke Street in Hugo, the Hugo Milling Company, the Broken Bow City Hall, Citizen's State Bank in Broken Bow, the Pushmataha County Courthouse, Citizen's National Bank building in Antlers, the Brantly School campus in Antlers, Hotel Rouleau in Idabel, and the Idabel Seed Company Building.

This project is not a comprehensive survey, but represents an important first step in the attempt to inventory Oklahoma's historic properties. There are still more properties, sites, and structures that need attention. Encouraging citizens to form a preservation society or build alliances between local and county historical and genealogical societies, municipal governments, and chambers of commerce can significantly improve the preservation effort, especially when supplemented with

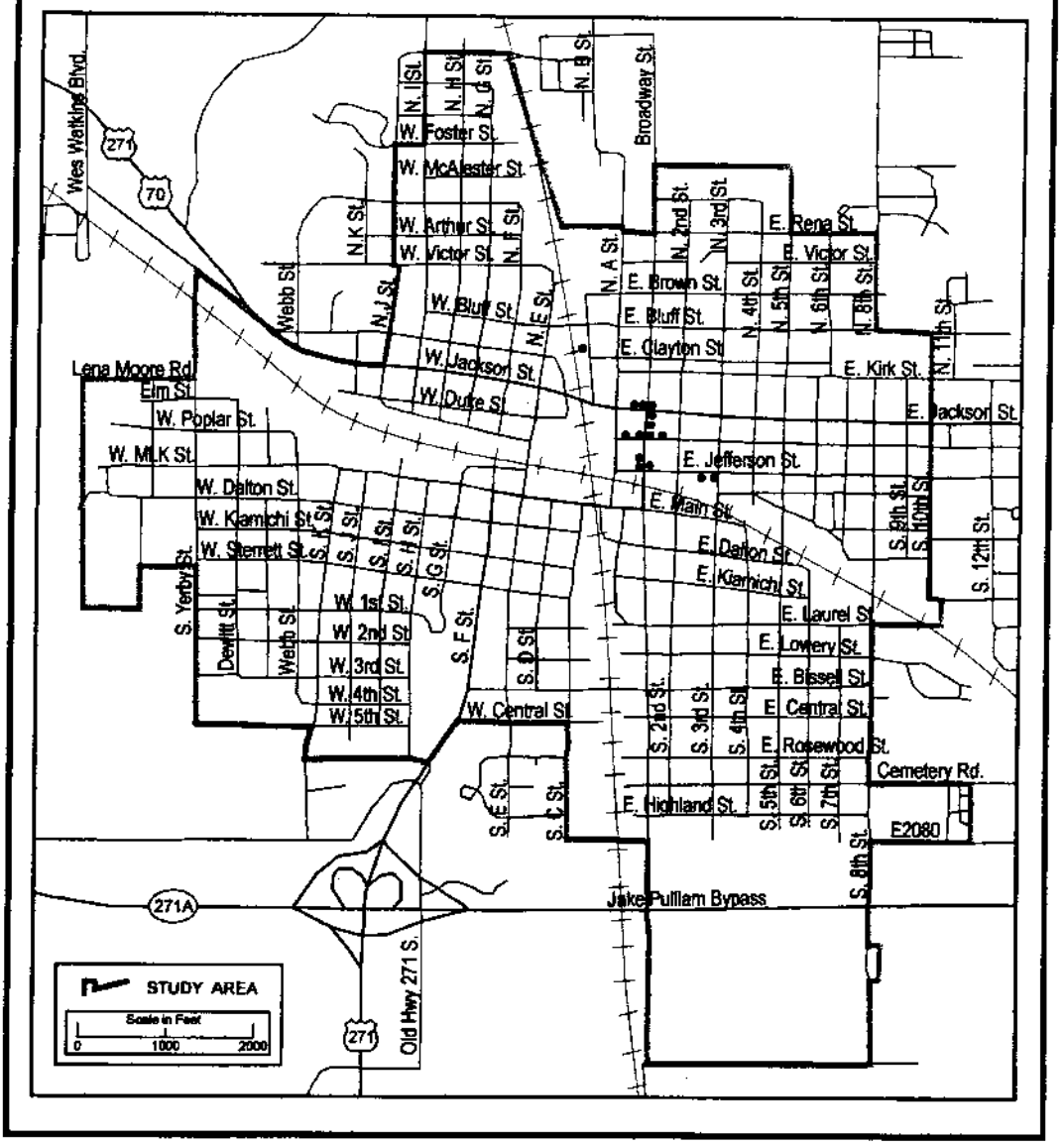
assistance from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

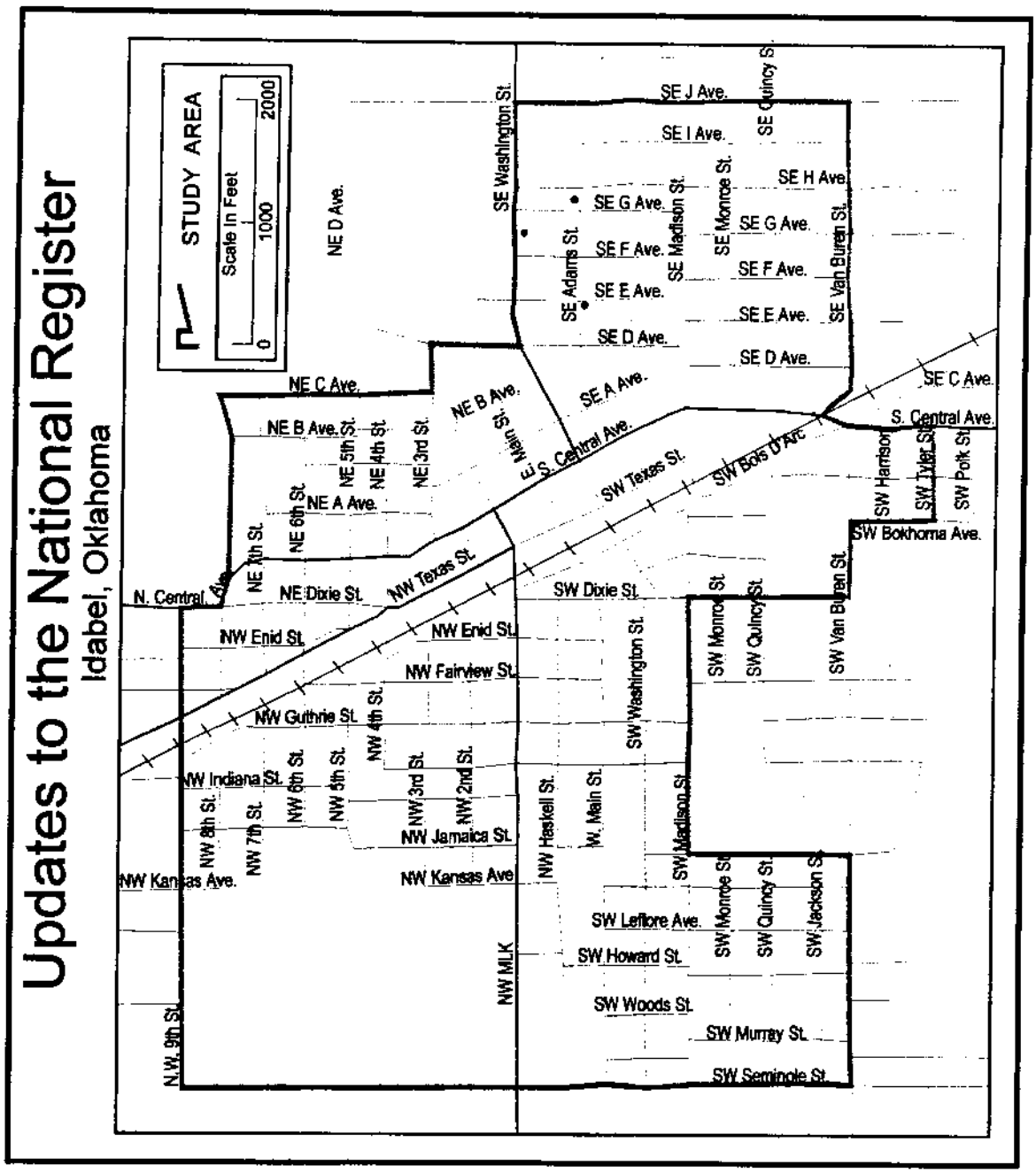
Update to the National Register
Antlers, Oklahoma

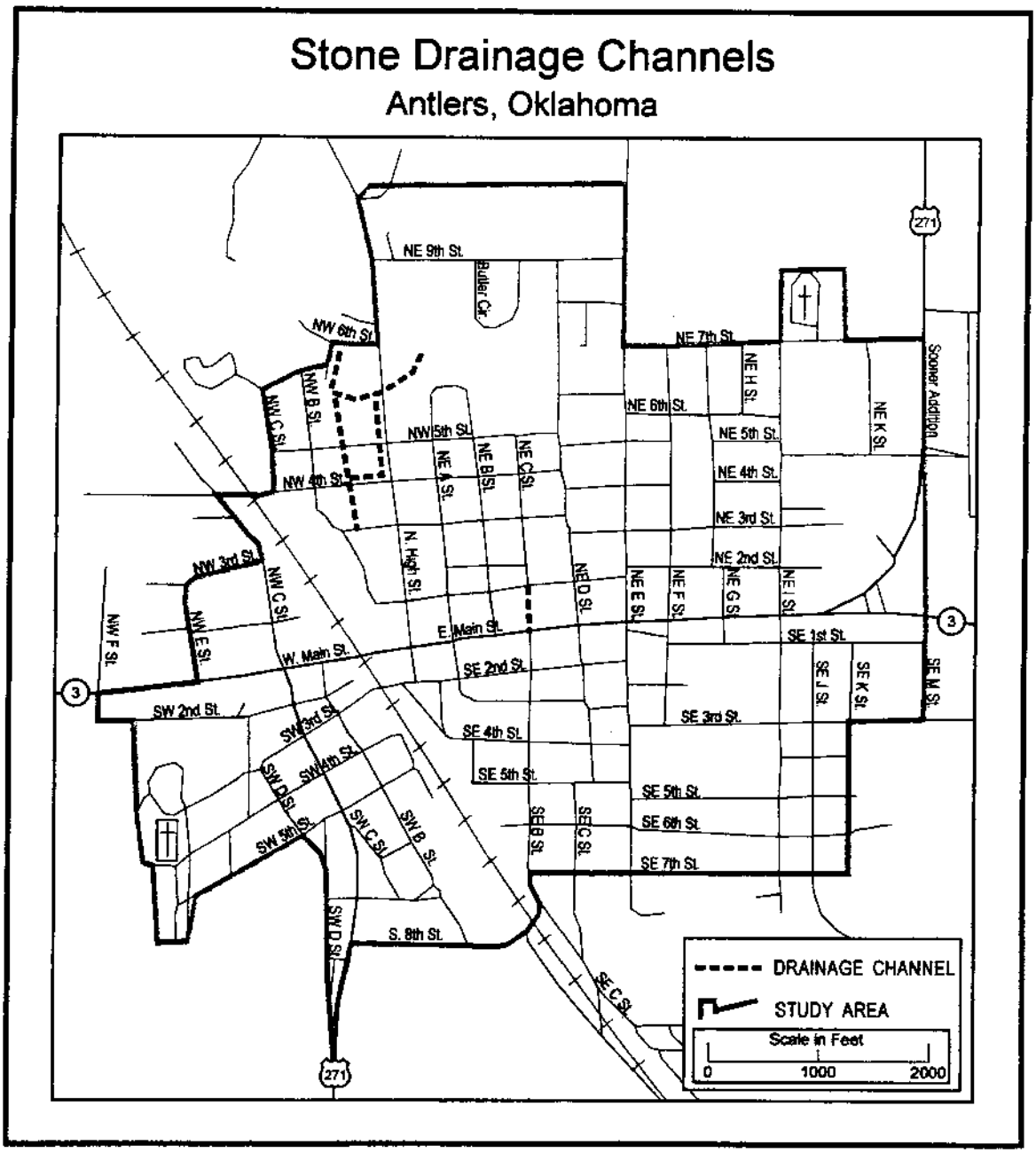


Updates to the National Register

Hugo, Oklahoma

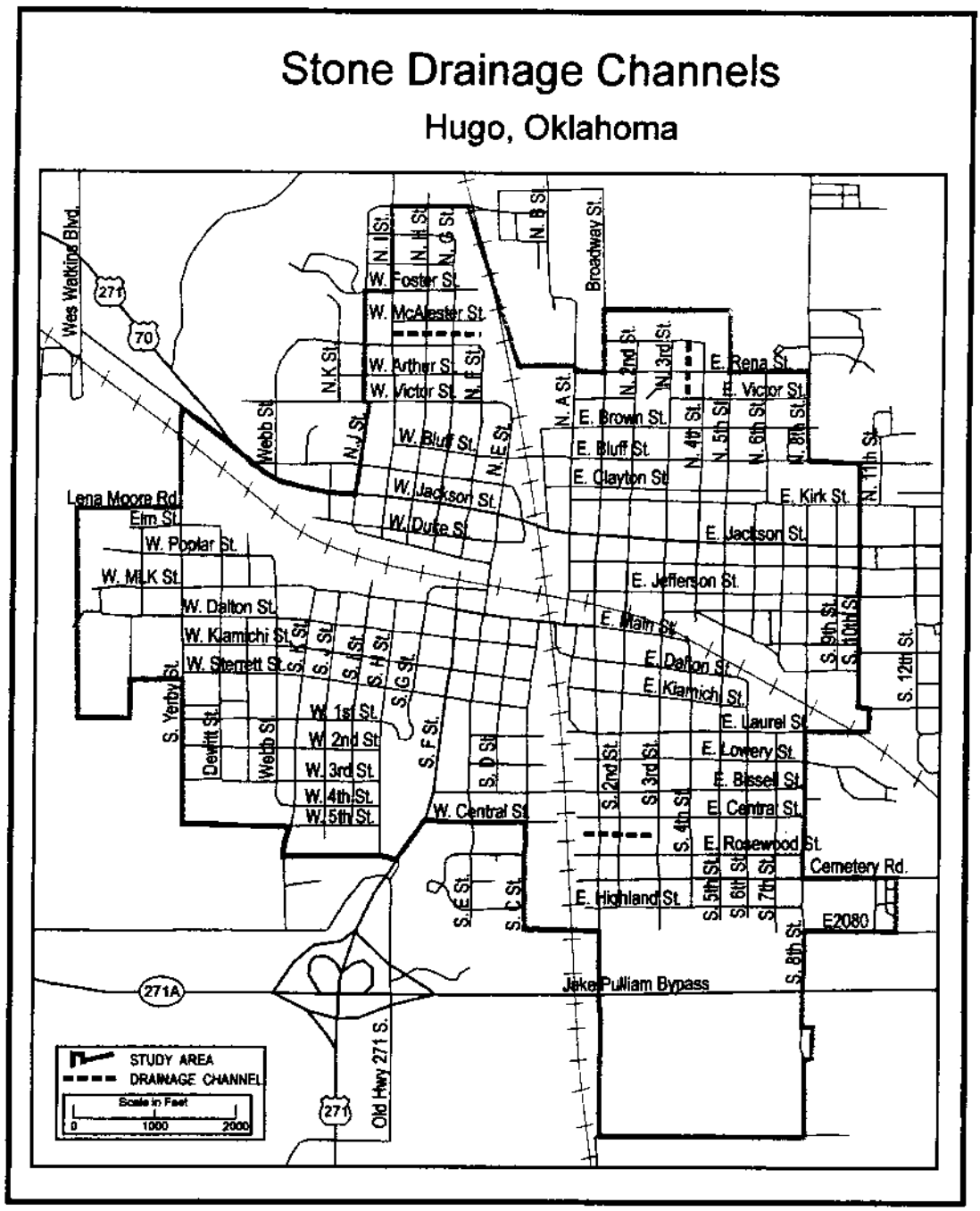


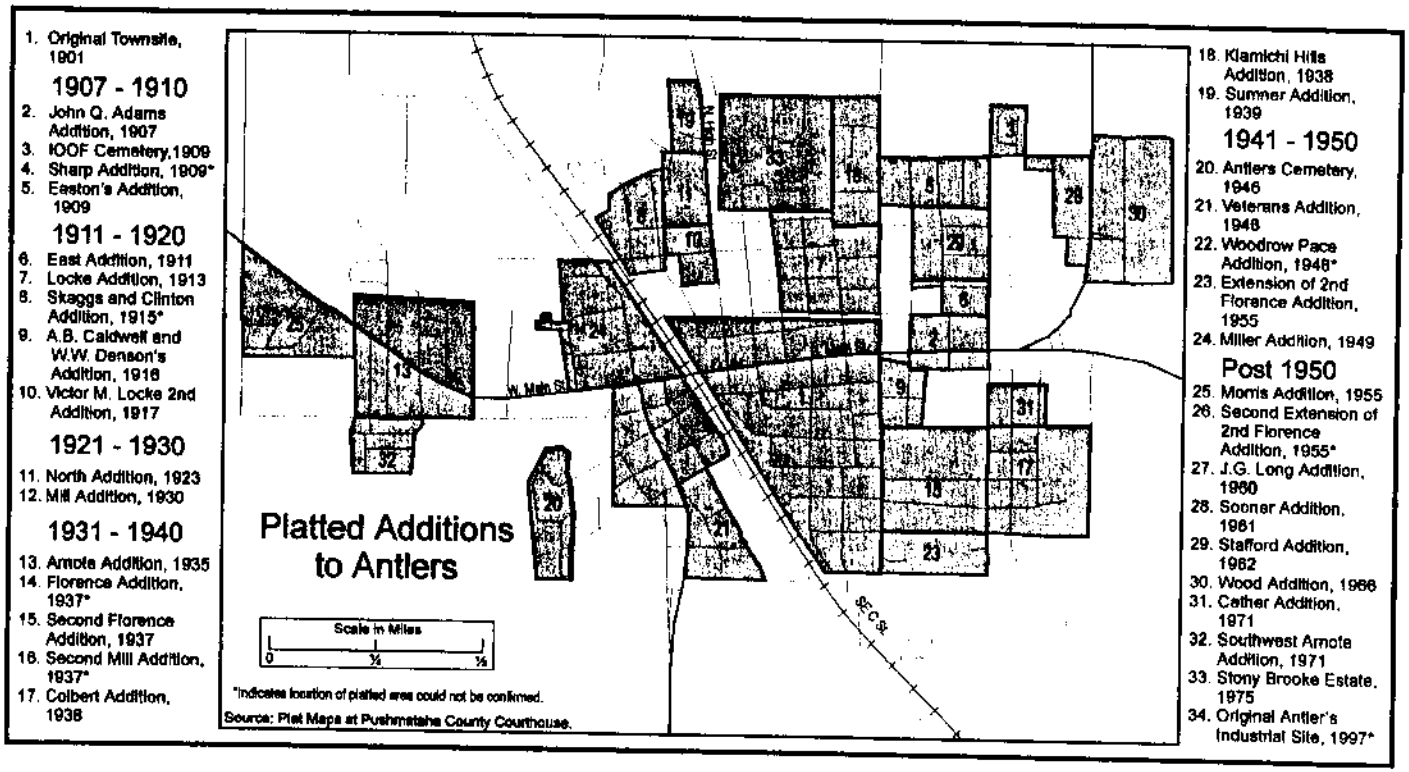

Updates to the National Register
Idabel, Oklahoma
STUDY AREA
Scale in Feet
0
1000
2000
NE D Ave.
SE Washington St.
SE J Ave.
SE I Ave.
SE Quincy St.
SE H Ave.
SE G Ave.
SE Madison St.
SE Monroe St.
SE Van Buren St.
SE F Ave.
SE Adams St.
SE E Ave.
SE D Ave.
NE C Ave.
NE B Ave.
SE A Ave.
SE C Ave.
S. Central Ave.
NE 5th St.
NE 4th St.
NE 3rd St.
Main St.
E-W S. Central Ave.
SW Texas St.
SW Bois D'Arc
SW Harrison
SW Tyler St.
SW Polk St.
NE A Ave.
NE 6th St.
NE 7th St.
SW Bokhoma Ave.
N. Central Ave.
NE Dixie St.
NW Texas St.
SW Dixie St.
SW Monroe St.
SW Quincy St.
SW Van Buren St.
NW Enid St.
NW Fairview St.
NW Guthrie St.
NW 4th St.
SW Washington St.
NW Indiana St.
NW 6th St.
NW 5th St.
NW 3rd St.
NW 2nd St.
NW 8th St.
NW 7th St.
NW Jamaica St.
NW Haskell St.
W. Main St.
SW Madison St.
NW Kansas Ave.
SW Leflore Ave.
SW Jackson St.
NW MLK
SW Howard St.
SW Woods St.
SW Murray St.
N.W. 9th St.
SW Seminole St.


Stone Drainage Channels
Antlers, Oklahoma
NE 9th St.
Butler Cir.
NW 6th St.
NW B St.
NW C St.
NW 5th St.
NE A St.
NE B St.
NE C St.
NW 4th St.
NE 7th St.
NE H St.
NE K St.
Sooner Addition
NE 6th St.
NE 5th St.
NE 4th St.
NE 3rd St.
NE 2nd St.
NW 3rd St.
NW C St.
N. High St.
NE D St.
NE E St.
NE F St.
NE G St.
NE I St.
NW F St.
NW E St.
W. Main St.
E. Main St.
SE 1st St.
SE 2nd St.
SE J St.
SE K St.
SE M St.
SW 2nd St.
SW 3rd St.
SE 3rd St.
SE 4th St.
SW 4th St.
SE 5th St.
SW D St.
SW 5th St.
SW C St.
SW B St.
SE B St.
SE C St.
SE 5th St.
SE 6th St.
SE 7th St.
S. 8th St.
SW D St.
SE C St.
271
3
DRAINAGE CHANNEL
STUDY AREA
Scale in Feet
0
1000
2000

Stone Drainage Channels

Hugo, Oklahoma





1. Original Townsite, 1901

1907 - 1910

2. John Q. Adams Addition, 1907
3. IOOF Cemetery,1909
4. Sharp Addition, 1909*
5. Easton's Addition, 1909

1911 - 1920

6. East Addition, 1911
7. Locke Addition, 1913
8. Skaggs and Clinton Addition, 1915*
9. A.B. Caldwell and W.W. Denson's Addition, 1916
10. Victor M. Locke 2nd Addition, 1917

1921 - 1930

11. North Addition, 1923
12. Mill Addition, 1930

1931 - 1940

13. Arnote Addition, 1935
14. Florence Addition, 1937*
15. Second Florence Addition, 1937
16. Second Mill Addition, 1937*
17. Colbert Addition, 1938
18. Klamichi Hills Addition, 1938
19. Summer Addition, 1939

1941 - 1950

20. Antlers Cemetery, 1946
21. Veterans Addition, 1948
22. Woodrow Pace Addition, 1948*
23. Extension of 2nd Florence Addition, 1955
24. Miller Addition, 1949

Post 1950

25. Morris Addition, 1955
26. Second Extension of 2nd Florence Addition, 1955*
27. J.G. Long Addition, 1960
28. Sooner Addition, 1961
29. Stafford Addition, 1962
30. Wood Addition, 1966
31. Cather Addition, 1971
32. Southwest Arnote Addition, 1971
33. Stony Brooke Estate, 1975
34. Original Antler's Industrial Site, 1997*

*Indicates location of platted area could not be confirmed.

Source: Plat Maps at Pushmataha County Courthouse.

Platted Additions to Hugo

1902

Original Townsite

1906 - 1910

1. Kirkpatrick East - 1906
2. Hebard - 1907
3. J. C. Kirkpatrick - 1907
4. Johnson - 1907
5. Terry - 1908
6. Devore - 1909
7. Fairview - 1909
8. Laurel Heights - 1909
9. Tyler-Gaylor - 1909
10. Edgemont Place - 1910
11. Everett - 1910

1915 - 1916

12. Davis - 1915
13. Kirkpatrick's Nursery - 1915
14. Kirkwood Place - 1915
15. Rena Kirkpatrick - 1915
16. Webb - 1916

1930 - 1948

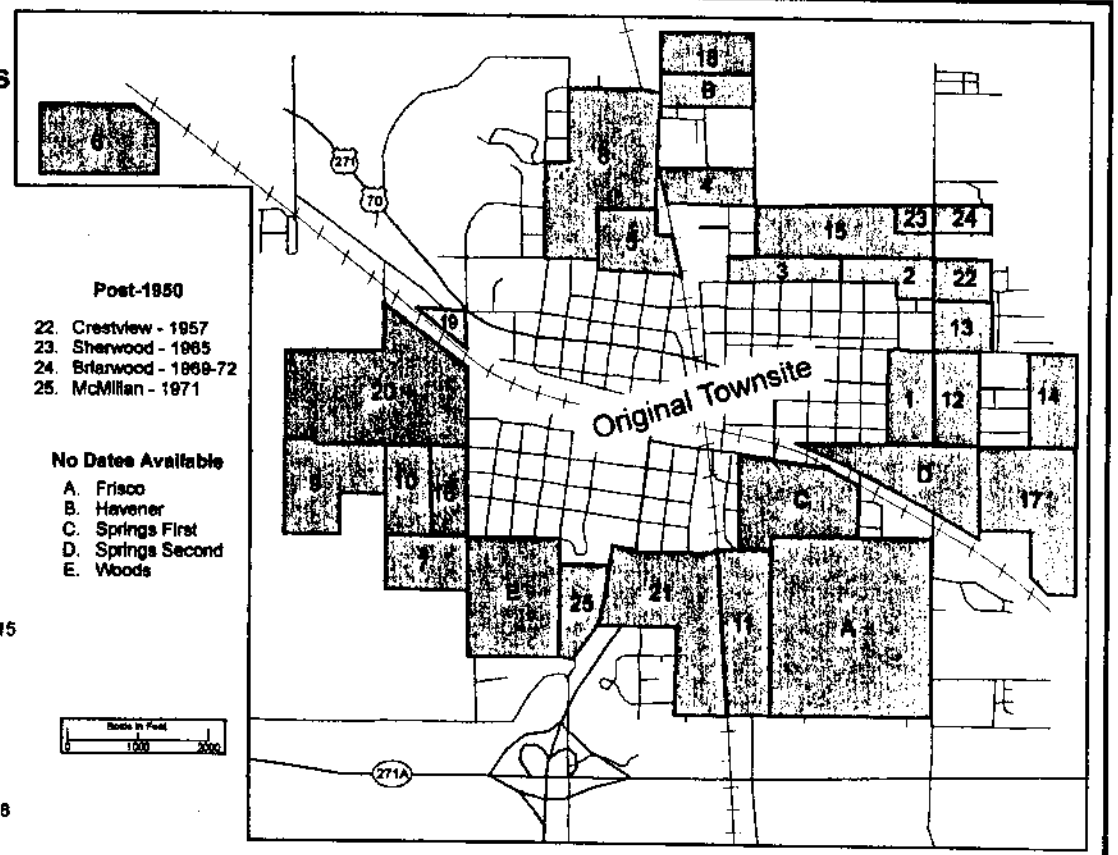
19. Burgoyne - 1930
20. Main Street Park - 1947
21. Washington Heights - 1948

Post-1950

22. Crestview - 1957
23. Sherwood - 1965
24. Briarwood - 1969-72
25. McMillan - 1971

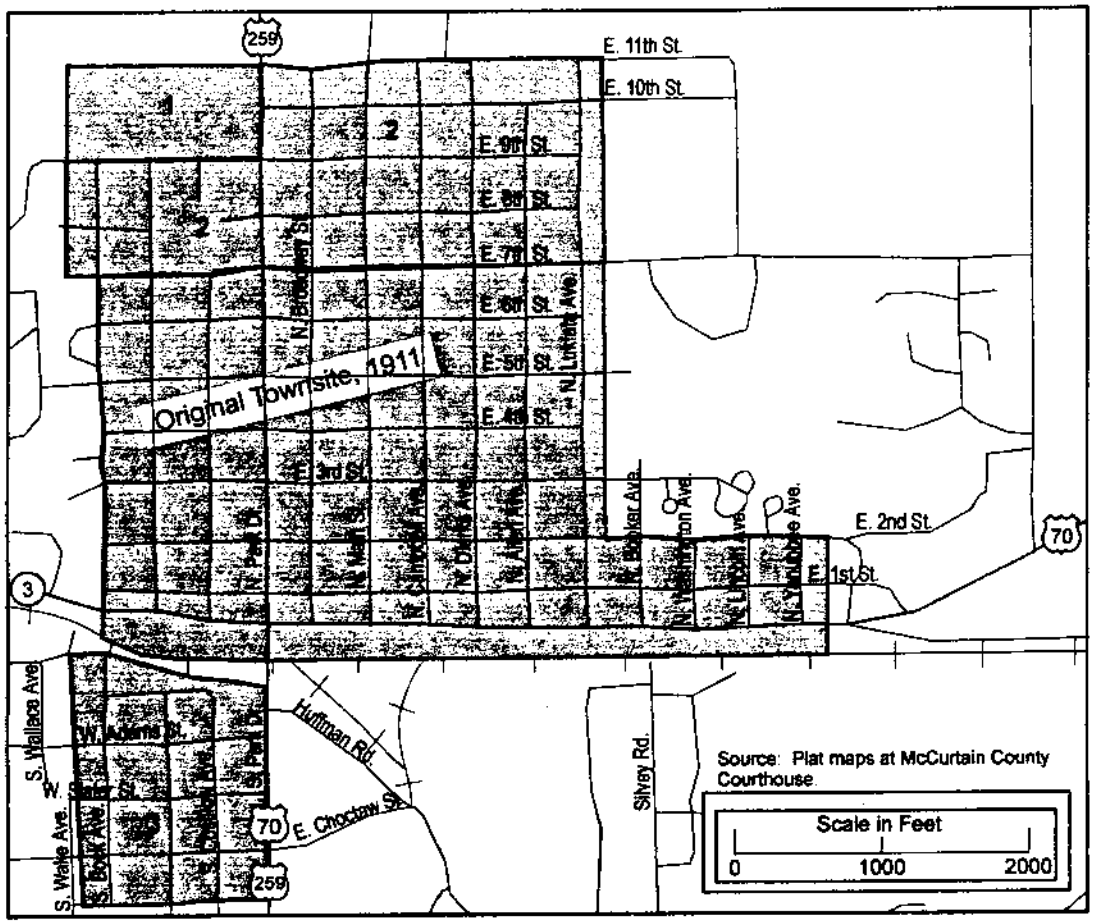
No Dates Available

A. Frisco
B. Havener
C. Springs First
D. Springs Second
E. Woods

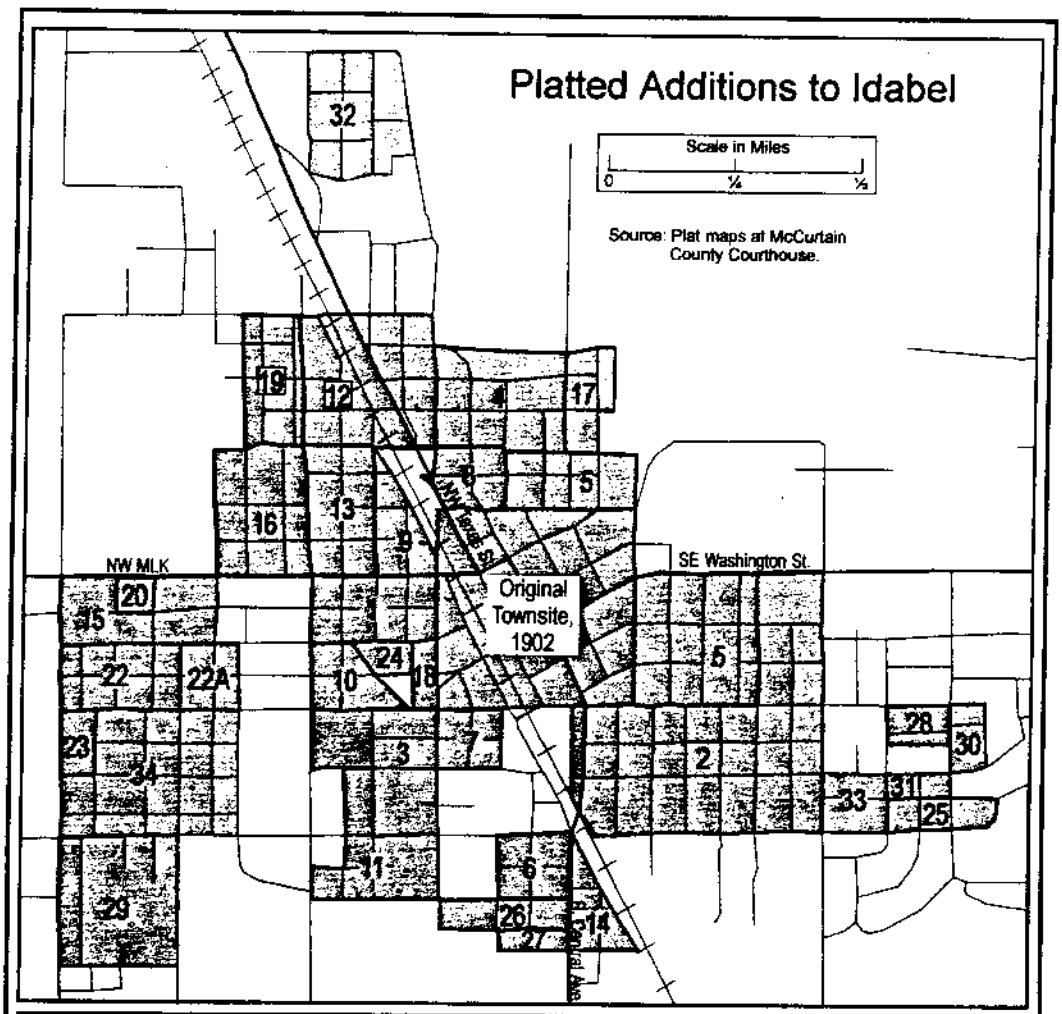


Source: Plat maps at Choctaw County Courthouse.

Platted Additions to Broken Bow



1. Costilow and Byington Addition, 1912
2. Broken Bow Heights Addition, 1912
3. White City, 1941



1908 - 1910

1. Denison Addition - 1908
2. Oaklawn Addition - 1908
3. Leggett Addition - 1909
4. Choctaw Addition - 1909
5. Whiteman's Addition - 1909
6. William's Addition - 1909
7. Holman Addition - 1909
8. Whittens Addition - 1910
9. West Side Addition - 1910
10. Thomas Addition - 1910
11. Woodson Addition - 1910
12. Lone Pine Addition - 1910
13. Garner Addition - 1910

1911 - 1920

14. Herndon Addition - 1911
15. McClendon Addition - 1911
16. Fairview Addition - 1912
17. Park Heights Addition - 1912
18. Love Addition - 1917
19. L.M. Proctor Addition - 1918
20. Johnson Addition - 1920

1931 - 1940

21. Keys Addition - 1931*
22. College Heights Addition - 1936
22A. Extension to College Heights Addition - 1939

1941 - 1950

23. Williamston Addition - 1944
24. Hunt Addition - 1945
25. Meador Addition - 1945
26. Woodrum Addition - 1945
27. Wilson Addition - 1946
28. Haizlip Addition - 1947
29. Daniels Addition - 1948
30. Gardner Addition - 1948
31. Anderson Addition - 1950

Post-1950

32. Lofton Heights Addition - 1959

No Date

33. Westminister Heights Addition - No Date
34. Rose Hill Addition - No Date

* indicates that location of platted area could not be confirmed.

XVIII. ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

Since there are four separate Oklahoma communities that comprise this report, the architectural reviews will divided into four separate commentaries. The first of these reviews will concern the community of Antlers, the second will deal with Hugo, the third will focus upon Broken Bow and the final commentary will be on the community of Idabel.

1. ANTLERS, OKLAHOMA

Of the nine properties listed in the Antlers, Oklahoma survey as "National Register eligible," three are grouped structures of the Brantly School, and one is primarily a non-architectural subject (the Locke Family Cemetery). The **Brantly School buildings** are significant not only in their architectural design, detail, and materials used, they are also significant in their symbolic associations with the town's educational history and "sense of place." The Brantly School's association with the Works Progress Administration is also significant historically and symbolically. The town of Antlers has a long-time association with stone as a construction material and these buildings are reminders of this heritage.[1] These buildings should be proposed for the National Register.

The **Pushmataha County Courthouse** is significant in its Art Deco features as well as its WPA associations. The small paned upper transom windows with hopper windows below are quite interesting in their strong visual patterning and in their

[1] Native fieldstone is a construction material that is typically picked up from the ground surface –not quarried. This exposure to the climatic extremes "weathers" the stone surfaces in various ways, affecting color and surface abnormalities. During the early 1990's a large amount of this stone was shipped from

functional directness. The stylized Art Deco panels that flank the courthouse name banner appear unique to this part of Oklahoma. This building should be proposed for the National Register.

The residential structure at **1006 Northeast Second Street** does indeed suggest certain aspects of Prairie School styling; especially in the second story horizontal window banding that occurs on the more private "rear" façade. It is this horizontal emphasis further made evident by the extended roof edges and cornice moldings of the rear façade that most strongly suggests prairie school influences. The front façade is so restrained it leaves little suggestion of the much more interesting south and west facades.

The commercial structure at **107 West Main Street** displays beautiful brick masonry construction and it is significant that the upper windows of the structure remain intact. The symmetrical street façade is well composed and fascinating in how it achieves depth though the use of masonry details. The retrofitted awning should be removed. This building should be proposed for the National Register.

The **Citizen's National Bank** (111 West Main Street) is a beautifully rendered masonry façade. The strongly pronounced horizontal granite lintels and accompanying vertical columns are quite beautiful in their simplicity and clarity of structure and material. The solid upper transom windows should be restored to their original glass. All in all this is a nice, quiet dignified building and it should be proposed for the National Register. Hopefully the future will be kind to this building's adjacent structures also, so that they too might return to a more original (and visually pleasing) state.

Antlers via rail to Ann Arbor, Michigan for use in a home designed by the internationally known architect, Fay Jones of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The residence at **807 North High Street** is significant to this reviewer for its stone masonry. There is an "exuberance" in this masonry that is not often found. There are several well-composed elements to the house and the repetition of the arch motif is quite nice (especially in the "nautical" front door). The 18/18 windows are also unique and rarely found in residential construction.

It is also the opinion of this reviewer that several other structures in the town of Antlers, Oklahoma receive further study and consideration due to their architectural style, detailing, and use of materials. These are:

- **712 Southeast First Street** (House)
- **816 Northeast Second Street** (House)
- **304 Northwest Third Street** (House)
- **607 Southeast Third Street** (New Covenant Christian Fellowship Church)
- **107-123 Southwest Third Street** (Apartment complex)
- **201 Northeast Forth street** (House)
- **213 Northeast "A" Street** (Church)
- **404 Northeast "F" Street** (Church)
- **104 North High Street** (Commercial building)
- **410 North High Street** (House)
- **411 North High Street** (House)
- **206 East Main Street** (Former house)

In regards to the proposed historical districts for Antlers, Oklahoma, I concur with the survey analysis for both the designated Downtown Commercial District and the High Street Residential District as being eligible for National Register status.

2. HUGO, OKLAHOMA

Of the four communities featured in this report the town of Hugo, Oklahoma stood out from the other three towns for both the quality and the quantity of its buildings with significant architectural aspects.

Of the fifteen structures designated in the site survey as "National Register eligible," nine are regarded by this reviewer as worthy of such designation. Two of the fifteen (cemeteries) are non-architectural in nature and have not received further comment. Below, each of these fifteen structures will be reviewed with an addendum of other structures that are viewed as significant and worthy of further study.

The **Gene Nesbit Stadium** at North Second and East Lloyd Streets is a fascinating and rare example of a total design effort. The stadium's extensive use of stone masonry performed in the WPA "style" and the state of preservation of original walls, bleachers, and support facilities creates a most impressive sense of place. It is unfortunate in the manner that barbed wire and chain-link fencing have been utilized but with careful design considerations for security, etc. this detraction could be eliminated. This should be proposed for National Register status.

The **Hugo Milling Company** at South Fifth Street and the accompanying structure at **305 South Fifth Street** do not appear to this reviewer to have any strong architectural aspects that would warrant its inclusion in the National Register.

The house at **501 East Bluff Street** has several redeeming qualities that warrant its inclusion in the National Register. The structure is a blend of Craftsman and Prairie with certain aspects of Italianate. The house is in a sad state of repair currently and urgent steps should be taken soon to negate any further decline.

The **War Savings Stamps (W.S.S.) Building** is a small structure of delightful proportions and details. This is a significant structure both historically and architecturally and is most deserving of National Register status. It may very well be one of the most significant structures in Hugo. Every attempt should be made to restore this structure.

The **Hugo High School** at 201 East Brown Street has several significant design features and details. The use of brick with contrasting stone details is carefully conceived and constructed. The gymnasium addition provides a unique contrast of how community values and priorities (and design responses) have changed with time. A community's institutional structures are valuable not only for their historical aspects but also their contribution to the community's sense of place. This building is worthy of National Register status.

The apartment building at **201-205 East Duke Street** is quite interesting as an example of early apartment building design. Its good state of preservation is also significant --it appears almost new! The contrasting stone and brick detailing convey an immediate sense of care and consideration not only for its inhabitants but also the community it fronts. How many apartment structures are built today with such care and attention –very, very few! This structure is most worthy of National Register status. In the opinion of this reviewer this structure ranks among Hugo's finest architectural gems.

The most significant features of the house at **501 South F Street** are its four upper-story cross gables and the manner in which these intersecting valleys continue down becoming the hip ridges for the lower floors. There is a strong appeal to this simple, straightforward planning solution. However, the attached circular portico is an

awkward departure from the simple symmetrical plan and creates an uncomfortable imbalance. There are other examples of similar "attached" porticoes in Hugo leading one to suppose that the same builder/designer contributed in all of such examples. This structure should be researched further before being recommended to National Register status.

The structure at **203 East Jackson Street** is significant in its unique use of native fieldstone masonry. The random, almost haphazard patterning of the stone is curious yet confusing. The building character suggests to this reviewer an earlier date than 1950. There should be more information uncovered as to the historical significance of this structure as its architectural significance alone does not warrant its immediate nomination for National Register status in the opinion of this reviewer.

The **First United Methodist Church** located at 201 East Kirk Street makes a strong presence primarily through its Classical Revival style portico. The portico's Corinthian columns and entablature are outstanding in detail and construction and are very well proportioned. The portico appears to be an addition –not part of the original construction. The side-aisle arched windows are nicely detailed but unfortunately the subsequent "protective" glazing has greatly obscured this feature. Other insensitive additions have further detracted from the church's once simple dignity. With care much of this building could be returned to its previous state of dignified grace. This building should be nominated for National Register status.

The house at **411 East Kirk Street** is a Modern/Moderne Ranch style house that appears to have been designed by a trained design professional. The details are carefully crafted and certain house functions appear to be carefully oriented to both solar

conditions and the street frontage. This house could date from the 1960's. This house is worthy of National Trust status.

The house at **309 East Lowery Street** has several Prairie School attributes, namely the horizontal lapped siding that culminates at the upper level windowsills and then changes to wood shingles. The eaves of the upper roof are also generous in overhang depth, also a typical prairie school feature. The "half-hex" projecting bay (stairway?) on the west façade is quite attractive. All appearances point to a well considered, well crafted house. It is unfortunate that subsequent additions and alterations have not been in keeping with the original structure however it appears most of these additions could be removed or reconfigured to a more suitable result. This house is suitable for National Register status.

The house at **402 East Lowery Street** has several features that warrant its nomination for National Register status. Along with it being a contributing resource to the South Residential District its architecture is both "quirky" and well constructed. The circular porch extension shares many of the same elements that the house on 501 South F Street has. The change of materials from the canted wood shingled window subbase to horizontal lapped siding between windows to the much wider lapped board "crown" trim above the windows is interesting and unique. Who designed these two houses? It would be interesting to know these stories.

The grounds and structures of **Mt. Olivet Cemetery** at East Trice and Eighth Streets are historical and unique. Further research should be performed to determine what features have been changed on the buildings down through time (are the decorative wrought iron posts of the chapel's front porch original?). Efforts should be made to

restore such structures to their original appearance as this cemetery is of immense interest and historical importance to the community of Hugo. This site should most definitely be preserved and included on the National Register list.

In the opening paragraph to this review of Hugo's structures it was noted that Hugo has an abundance of buildings that are architecturally significant. Below are listed those structures that should be further investigated and considered.

- **208 North Second Street**
- **701 North Second Street**
- **413 South Second Street**
- **105-107? South Third Street**
- **401 South Third Street**
- **411 South Third Street**
- **500 South Third Street**
- **505 South Third Street**
- **509 South Third Street**
- **600 South Third Street**
- **617 South Third Street**
- **101 East Bissell Street**
- **1102 East Bluff Street**
- **512? West Bluff Street**
- **810 West Bluff Street**
- **209-213 North Broadway Street**
- **501 North Broadway Street**

- **505 West Clayton Street**
- **411 East Duke Street**
- **508 East Duke Street**
- **612? East Duke Street**
- **801? East Duke Street**
- **806? East Duke Street**
- **1000? East Duke Street**
- **East Jackson and North Third Streets**
- **300 East Jackson Street**
- **301 East Jackson Street**
- **401 East Jackson Street**
- **702 East Jackson Street**
- **802 West Jackson Street**
- **1000? West Jackson Street**
- **104 East Laurel Street**
- **308 East Lowery Street**
- **519 West Main Street**
- **314 East Rosewood Street**
- **1410 West Sterrett Street**
- **South Yerby Street and Lena Moore Road**
- **806 South Yerby Street**

The number of architecturally significant buildings in Hugo is important and further research should be performed. Regarding the proposed residential districts I agree with

the survey report that both the South Residential District and the East Residential District are suitable for National Register status.

3. BROKEN BOW, OKLAHOMA

The site survey of Broken Bow, Oklahoma proposes five structures as National Register eligible.

- **Broken Bow Stadium** at North Seventh and Costilow Streets. This stadium shares much with the WPA stadium reviewed previously in the section on Hugo, Oklahoma. Built of native fieldstone, the grandstand opposite the newer concrete stands and press box most clearly represents the original appearance of the stadium. The sloping wall handrails lend a gentle transition from ground plane to the bleacher sections and are quite provocative from an architectonic standpoint. This section of original construction is worthy of National Register status. The newer addition has unfortunately greatly compromised the integrity of the original.
- **The Citizen' State Bank/Post Office** at 121 North Broadway Street is significant in how it defines the street edge with its long, stone-veneered façade. The building is also significant in its contribution to the history of Broken Bow and as a contributing resource to the town's Commercial District.
- **The Broken Bow Public Library** at 404 North Broadway Street is a well-constructed stone building with a beautifully ordered façade of clearly defined bays accented with concrete lintels and sills. Although the roof and windows are recent replacements the effort has been well considered and executed. Public

libraries are significant institutional and cultural symbols. This building illustrates this importance in the way the community has extended a loving hand toward its continuance.

- **City Hall** at 215 North Main Street. This is a delightfully detailed and well-proportioned building! The manner in which the native stone and concrete have been used and the various details immediately suggested to this reviewer the work of noted Chicago architect Walter Burley Griffin.[2] This building is a little gem!
- **Texas, Oklahoma & Eastern Depot** at 113 East Martin Luther King Drive. Although it appears that much of this station's former detailing and structure (soffit brackets?) are missing this is still a worthy building. Train stations are replete with memories and connect us directly to times when trains were the primary long distance means of travel. It is always a shame when such stations are lost.

Other properties deemed worthy of further study are:

- **10? West First Street**
- **110 North Dierks Avenue**
- **M. W. Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. 103? North Broadway Street**
- **Broken Bow Community Center, 201 North Broadway Street**
- **119 North Main Street**
- **End of the Trail Motel, 11 North Park Drive**
- **703? North Park Drive**

[2] Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937) was an early employee and protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright who left Wright's office in 1906 to begin his own practice. His work is noted for its strong massing and simple

The Broken Bow Commercial District is indeed suitable for National Register status. This reviewer disagrees with the survey report regarding the White City Residential District in Broken Bow and recommends that this district is not suitable for National Register status.

4. IDABEL, OKLAHOMA

The site survey team has noted six structures in Idabel as National Register eligible.

The residence at **305 Northeast Seventh Street** is a handsome Craftsman Bungalow style house that is in good repair. The two projecting gabled porches, which are supported by nicely detailed wood columns atop brick bases (and include roof bracketing which is typical of the style), are visually dynamic in their horizontal thrust and wonderfully functional as a sheltered place to be. The relationship of these porches to the street and drive are open and inviting. The horizontal banded windows on the south and east façades are attractive and speak directly to their function of providing light and ventilation to the house interior. This house is National Register appropriate.

The log residence at **707 Northwest Guthrie Street** raises questions as to its origins and date of construction. The presence of concrete foundations that emulate logs and the pyramidal foundations at the porch columns suggest less of a true folk structure and more of a "kit" of parts. This could easily be much later than 1915. Further research

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detailing. In 1912 Griffin won the international competition to design the new capital for Australia in Canberra.

should be performed to validate these issues before becoming eligible for National Register status.

The house at **706 Southeast Jefferson Street** has several attractive attributes but the date of 1940(?) appears questionable. The car shelter (especially the width and height of openings) indicates a much later date, possibly as late as the 1960's. It is possible that this car shelter is a later addition. Further research should be performed before advancing this structure to National Register status.

The house at **701 Southeast Madison Street** exhibits very carefully executed coursed stone masonry veneers. This type of dressed surface stone implies a construction date of the 1940's or 1950's which is also compatible with this Ranch/Modern style of home. The "D" that appears on the fireplace surface is an unfortunate distraction however the house is endemic of the style and although the reviewer has some reservations, this house should receive National Register status

The **Hotel Rouleau** at 21 East Main Street is a noble structure that has unfortunately suffered much with time. Its brick masonry features are well conceived and well proportioned. Not only does the structure represent good design and quality construction it also establishes the street corner. To lose such a structure, in the opinion of this reviewer, would be a great loss to both Idabel's history and its legacy of having well-designed, well-crafted buildings. It is also essential in maintaining the Downtown Commercial fabric. This should building should receive National Register status, and hopefully, it will be saved from further destruction or loss.

The **Idabel Seed Company** at 16 Northwest Martin Luther King Drive is a marvelous example of early Oklahoma Commercial style buildings. Its restoration has

been performed with care and intelligence. So many of these types of structures have suffered due to modernization. This building illustrates beautifully the typical storefront arrangement of window display, side-lighted entry doors, and overhead glass transoms above the suspended sidewalk shelter. Yes, this should most definitely receive National Register status.

In addition to the above mentioned structures in Idabel, Oklahoma below are listed six other structures which the reviewer found particularly worthy of further study. These six structures are:

- **Gus Rowland House** at 301 Northeast A Avenue
- **John M. Craig House** at 303 Northeast A Avenue
- **101 Southeast A Avenue**
- **Herndon School** at 200 Southwest Quincy Street
- **Idabel Grain Elevator** at Southwest Texas Street
- **1301 Williams Drive**

The Downtown Commercial District of Idabel is suitable for National Register status. It is also the opinion of this reviewer that the Idabel Residential District is also suitable for National Register status.