ENERGY
SOUTH CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
1900-1930

PJS
165-166

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Funded By: Oklahoma State University (College of Arts and Sciences)

Oklahoma Historical Society (State Historic Preservation Division)

National Park Service (U.S. Department of Interior)

Acknowledgement of Support

The activity that is the subject of this publication has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many residents of the ten counties in South Central Oklahoma (Study Unit V) made this research report possible through their support and cooperation. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all those individuals and organizations who provided vital information concerning historic properties and who contributed their time to my efforts. These Oklahomans have been cited in Appendix C.

Several members of the faculty, staff, and administration at Oklahoma State University deserve recognition because of their contributions to my research during the past year.

Frances Hays (Geography)
Susan Shaull (Geography)
Richard Hecock (Geography)
Gayle Maxwell (Cartographic Services)
Mary Ann Anders (History)
Debbie Hickman (Arts and Sciences Business Office)
Jan Madole (Arts and Sciences Business Office)
Anne Schneider (Research Director - College of Arts and Sciences)
Neil Hackett (Associate Dean - College of Arts and Sciences
Smith Holt (Dean - College of Arts and Sciences)

I am deeply indebted to the Historic Preservation Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society for their advice, cooperation, and patience in guiding me through the RP3 project.

Earle Metcalf (State Historic Preservation Officer)
Melvena Heisch (Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer)

Finally, a special note of gratitude to five geography department graduate students who, through their untiring work, made this a successful project.

Judy Hettich
Bryan Brown
Mark Miller
Deb Brown
Mary Aue

I sincerely hope that the results of this project will prove useful in historic preservation planning and provide a framework for resource management decisions in Study Unit V. Furthermore, I hope that suitable measures will be taken to protect the historic properties which have been identified and evaluated in Study Unit V.

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May, 1985

Research Design:
Objectives and Methods

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RESEARCH DESIGN

As a subgrantee of the State Historic Preservation Office of Oklahoma, the Department of Geography at Oklahoma State University followed the basic outline of the state RP3 plan developed in 1983. Of the eleven themes identified by the state (exploration, Native American, settlement, transportation, agriculture, cattle, ethnic, industry, commerce, urban, and energy), the Department of Geography selected energy because of its previous research in petroleum history of Oklahoma and occupational folklife of petroleum workers in Oklahoma oil fields. After careful examination of the Oklahoma RP3 Study Units (Figure 1), Study Unit V, a group of ten counties located in south central Oklahoma (Figure 2), was selected. Rationale for this decision was based on an evaluation of several factors:

(1) Energy development history for the entire state which began in the mid-nineteenth century on an exploratory basis.

(2) Study Unit V contained three of Oklahoma's largest petroleum fields opened and developed prior to 1930: Healdton, Hewitt, and Seminole.

(3) Although energy development history occurred prior to 1930 in other study units within the state, Study Unit V contained the largest concentration of major producing pools, boomtowns, and energy-related resources based on archival research (Figure 3). Study Units II and III were also analyzed on a preliminary basis. They both included major petroleum fields developed shortly before or concurrent to those in Study Unit V. Background research on these two study units was completed in anticipation of extending the energy theme to other areas of Oklahoma and to establish a spatial framework and historical context for

OKLAHOMA RP3 STUDY UNITS

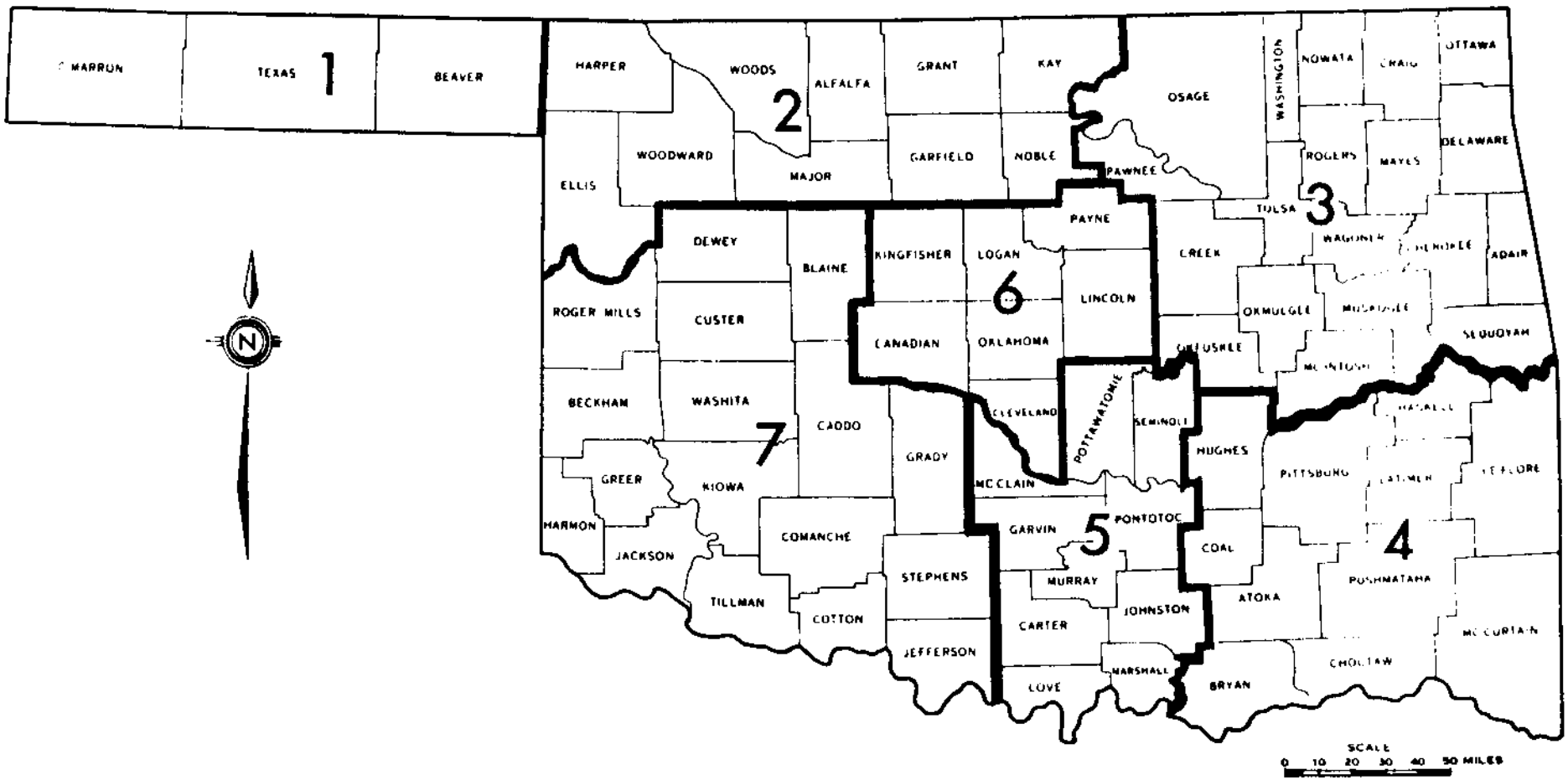


Figure 1.

Energy Development in South Central Oklahoma (Region 5):

1900 - 1930

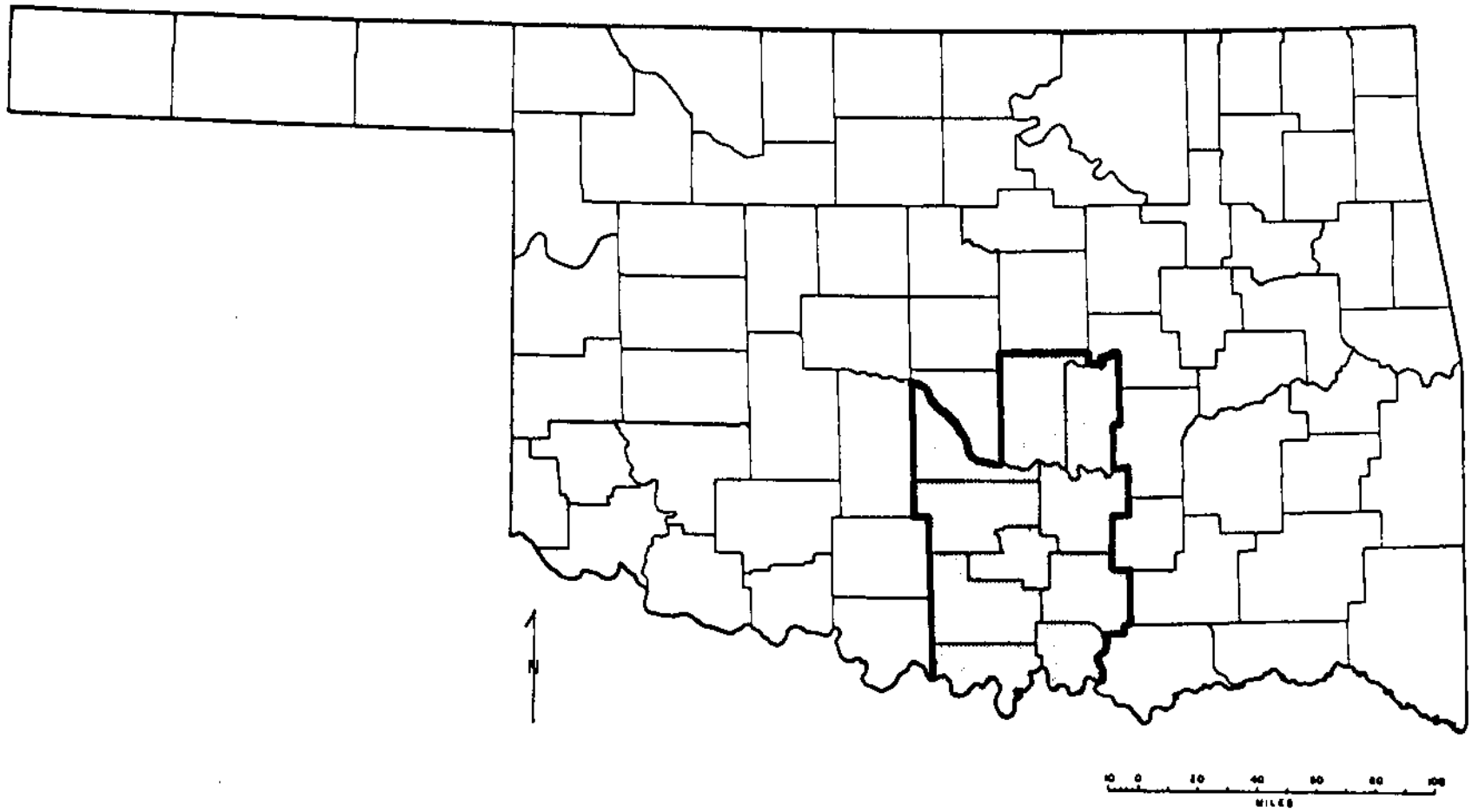


Figure 2.

PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS FIELDS OF OKLAHOMA

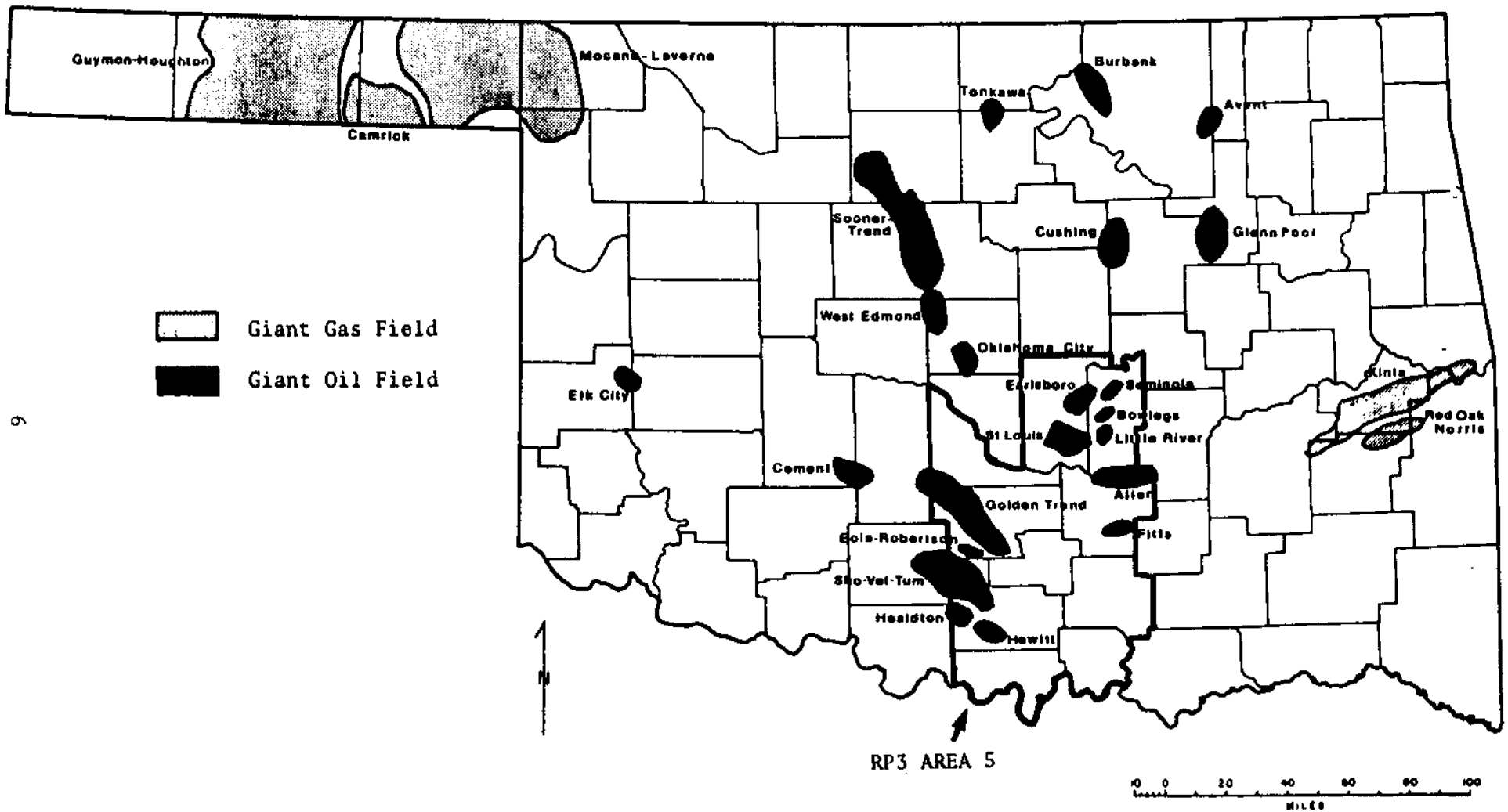


Figure 3.

energy development history in Study Unit V (see Chapter II).

Chronological limits for the project were based on historical evidence which indicated that the peak production years for the three major petroleum fields in Study Unit V occurred during the time frame of 1900 to 1930. Although some exploration took place prior to 1900 and production activity continued after 1930, the 1900–1930 period spanned the opening of the major fields to the early stages of declining production. Healdton was opened in 1913, followed by Hewitt in 1919 and Seminole in 1923; therefore, more than sixty years had elapsed since the discovery of the Seminole Field.

In developing a research design for our specific project, we adhered to the state plan as close as possible. We found the state plan provided both flexibility and limitations. The energy theme was flexible enough to allow emphasis on petroleum (oil and gas) and no guidelines were imposed on extending the energy theme to include all metallic and non-metallic minerals. Nor were there any preconceived definitions presented on the types of historic resources that were to be included under the energy theme. Chronological limits of the study were established by the subgrantee based on historic context research. Approval without question was given by the state office.

The major drawback of the state plan was the previously established study unit boundaries. The spatial context of themes include historic and cultural resources which cannot be limited by rigid boundaries. In our case, energy resources in south central Oklahoma, especially those associated with the three major petroleum fields, overlapped the boundaries of Study Unit V. Healdton Field activities extended into Study Unit VII and the Seminole Field extended into Study Units III and IV (Figure 3). Although energy-related resources in those areas will be identified and evaluated in future RP3 projects, it would seem logical that they should be included with those

resources in Study Unit V where the major portions of the three petroleum fields were located.

Objectives and Methods of Project:

(1) Project director prepared timetable for project beginning June 1, 1984 through May 31, 1985.

(2) A two-day training workshop was held May 31-June 1, 1984 for project staff (project director and five research assistants). Agenda items included use of cameras and development of prints, distribution of survey forms, explanation of filing system, travel itineraries for field workers, press release handouts, and procedure for establishing local contacts. Each of the five research assistants was assigned two counties in the study unit.

(3) A list of historic and cultural resources associated with the energy theme was compiled from archival research findings and distributed to each field worker. Included were:

a. Industrial structures related to petroleum such as drilling equipment and derricks, production units, storage facilities and tank farms, refineries and processing plants, and transportation facilities such as pipelines and loading racks.

b. Industrial buildings related to petroleum including company offices, company camps, maintenance garages, well service facilities, and company housing.

c. Petroleum boomtowns including working class housing, e.g., shotguns and pyramidals; residence of families in the petroleum business; commercial buildings such

as hotels/boarding houses, banks, and other buildings resulting from boomtown development; social institutions such as churches, schools, and lodges which were constructed to accommodate boomtown growth; and transportation facilities constructed during boomtown development, e.g., railroad depots.

(4) Project director reviewed existing survey material completed at the local and state level for Study Unit V. A list of Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory and National Register nominations was distributed to each field worker for their respective counties. Workshop discussion focussed on an analysis of these previously identified historic resources. A total of 172 properties had been placed on the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory. Of these, 27 were National Register Properties. Nine of the 172 properties previously identified in Study Unit V were related to energy (Table 1).

(5) Project director compiled bibliography on the ten study unit counties, especially those sources dealing with energy theme and 1900-1930 time frame. Several general works on the history of petroleum in Oklahoma were also included to place petroleum history of Study Unit V in the context of statewide energy development history (Appendix A). Bibliographical sources included theses and dissertations, books and journal articles, and government documents. This preliminary archival research was conducted in the Oklahoma State University Library. Bibliographical materials were distributed and discussed during workshop.

(6) Recent U.S. Census data were collected from the 1983 City-County Data Book in order to obtain an overall picture of the ten county

Table 1

PRIOR IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES IN STUDY UNIT V

Name of County	O.L.I.	N.R.	Energy Theme
Carter	19	4	3
Johnston	19	5	0
Garvin	25	7	0
Seminole	25	6	5
Pontotoc	21	0	0
Pottawatomie	16	3	0
Love	20	1	1
Murray	17	1	0
Marshall	2	0	0
McClain	8	0	0
Totals	172	27	9

Energy-related properties included:
Carter County (Ringling Depot*, Roy Johnson Home, and Healdton Oil Field)

Seminole County (Bishop's Alley, Betsy Foster Well, Davis Well No. 7, Fixico No. 1 Well, and W. E. Grisso Mansion*)

Love County (Oil Springs)

* National Register properties

SOURCE: State Historic Preservation Office, 1984

study unit. Data were organized in tabular form according to population characteristics, per capita and median family income, housing, manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, agriculture, and mineral industries. The latter statistic gave some indication of current levels of petroleum activity in the study unit. Tables in Appendix B were distributed to field workers at the workshop.

(7) Further archival research was conducted by field workers in each county during the period of June 4-15, 1984. Focus of this research was on sources unavailable in the preliminary university library search such as city and county histories, industrial and business records, city commercial directories, back issues of local newspapers, and historic plat maps of study unit towns.

(8) Reconnaissance surveys of all ten counties were conducted by the five field workers from June 18-29 in order to gain an overall perspective of the study unit. The list of expected historic and cultural resources associated with the energy theme (No. 3 of this outline) was checked to determine the need and type of further identification work in the study unit counties. Based on this initial "windshield" survey, a set of priority counties was developed based on the absence or presence of expected property types. Those counties deemed worthy of intensive surveying included Carter, Love, Marshall, Pottawatomie, Seminole, and Pontotoc. McClain, Garvin, Murray, and Johnston were given low priority for additional resurveying. In addition to setting priorities for the counties, field workers established a list of local informants including local history buffs, county and city historical societies, and petroleum workers and industries

(Appendix C). Press releases were submitted to county seat newspapers in each of the priority counties in order to explain purpose of survey, sponsoring agencies, names of field workers and project director, and types of historic and cultural resources being surveyed. This technique proved immensely valuable because local agencies such as Chambers of Commerce and county historical society offices offered their services in obtaining information. Furthermore, the newspaper stories aroused public interest in the project and made local citizens aware of the presence of field workers in their communities (see attached samples of newspaper stories in Appendix D).

(9) Intensive surveys of the six priority counties were conducted from July 2 - August 17, 1984. Two field workers were reassigned from four low priority counties to two high priority counties -- one to Carter county, location of the Healdton-Hewitt Fields, and one to Seminole County, heart of the Greater Seminole Oil Field. During the period, identification and evaluation of specific historic properties related to the energy theme was conducted. Seventy-five historic properties were deemed eligible for National Register consideration and 142 properties met qualifications for listing on Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (Chapters V and VI). Documentation for historic properties was collected including legal descriptions, sketches and measurements, verbal boundaries, photographs, construction dates, and other information on the significance and integrity. A file for each property was prepared.

(10) From September 3 to December 31, 1984, project staff reviewed files on all O.L.I. and National Register properties. O.L.I. forms were

completed and submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office for consideration. Several steps were followed in completing files on the National Register properties:

a. Topographic maps were ordered and labeled.

b. UTMs were computed.

c. Photograph negatives/contact sheets were reviewed and decisions made on development of B/W prints.

d. More formal sketch maps, if necessary, were prepared in cartography lab (thematic and district nominations).

e. Several photos were taken because of vegetation problems during summer field work.

f. Lack of historical documentation on several properties required further archival research and some additional field work.

(11) From January 1 to March 29, 1985, final drafts of description and significance statements for National Register properties were written. All National Register forms were typed and submitted to State Historic Preservation Office. Analyzed new identification information and placed it into historic context of project, categorized property types to determine if preliminary list was correct, and evaluated survey techniques to see if adequate coverage of study unit was given.

(12) From April 1 to May 31, preparation and completion of final RP3 report was undertaken. Staff reviewed entire procedure of RP3 project. A set of recommendations was compiled for integration of results into overall preservation plan for Oklahoma. Results to be printed and disseminated to various local, regional, and state agencies for future planning activities.

Historical Background of Energy Development in Oklahoma

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN OKLAHOMA: BACKGROUND RESEARCH FOR HISTORIC CONTEXT DEVELOPMENT

It would appear to be sound logic to consider energy development when structuring a comprehensive historic preservation plan for the state of Oklahoma. This theme has pervaded the history of the state almost from its inception. Energy exploration in what is now Oklahoma began approximately the same time that Col. Edwin Drake ushered in the oil century in 1859 at Titusville, Pennsylvania. For most of the nineteenth century, Native Americans in Indian Territory experienced the use of oil seeps, or springs, for medicinal purposes or for providing heat and light by igniting the escaping gas. The earliest discovery of an oil well was accidental. Lewis Ross in drilling for salt water in 1859 struck a vein at about 700 feet that yielded approximately ten barrels per day for a year. Oil men since that time have been in search of "black gold" in Oklahoma.

Early efforts in energy development were concentrated in northeastern Oklahoma where the first well was discovered near Salina, Indian Territory. Petroleum activities were handicapped by government regulations, inadequate transportation systems, and the lack of an accessible market. Exploration was also slowed by the Civil War conflicts in Indian Territory where the Five Civilized Tribes were divided over their allegiances to North and South. The post-Civil Ware era witnessed rejuvenation of exploration in the early 1870's when the Chickasaw Oil Company headed by Robert M. Darden began securing leases. Again efforts were hampered by the U.S. Department of Interior regulations designed to prevent non-Native Americans from exploration and development.

For about a decade, oil men avoided Indian Territory because of Federal government policy. Then in the early 1880's, Dr. H. W. Faucett organized two

companies: Choctaw Oil and Refining Company and the Cherokee Oil Company. The leases secured by the Cherokee Company, however, were cancelled. In contrast, the Choctaw Company was successful in obtaining leases. Unfortunately, Faucett became ill and died in 1888 and the Choctaw Company ceased operations.

In 1886, the United States Oil and Gas Company was formed by Edward Byrd and eleven wells were drilled in present day Rogers County, northeast of Tulsa. Byrd's company failed because there were no suitable markets.

These early activities provided the foundation for energy development to continue on a commercial basis in Oklahoma. In order to better understand energy development in south central Oklahoma (Study Unit V), it is necessary to examine the earlier trends and patterns which occurred in northeast and northwest Oklahoma (Study Units II and III).

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA (STUDY UNIT III): 1897-1930

Petroleum history in northeast Oklahoma began as early as the latter part of the nineteenth century when various oil wells were drilled in Indian Territory in lands of the Cherokee, Creek, and Osage Nations. The first commercial oil well was drilled along the Caney River in late January, 1897, just northwest of early-day Bartlesville. William Johnstone and George Keeler, two pioneer settlers in the Bartlesville area, were early promoters of drilling for oil and secured leases from the Cherokee Nation in 1895. The leases were transferred to Cudahy Oil Company which had been active in exploration for petroleum in other parts of Indian Territory. The well, named for the daughter of William Johnstone (Nellie), produced between 50 and 75 barrels of petroleum per day. Oklahoma's first commercial oil well was a

technical success but failed because of the lack of a market. These early oil pioneers, however, had discovered a portion of what eventually would be called the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Field, a vast area covering approximately 20,000 square miles in northeastern Oklahoma and southeastern Kansas.

The next major strike in the Mid-Continent Field was at Red Fork, just to the southwest of present-day Tulsa, on June 25, 1901. The Creek Nation raised objections over the lease agreements surrounding the Red Fork well (Sue A. Bland No. 1) and the Secretary of the Interior eventually halted further petroleum activity in the area.

By 1902, the Department of Interior had withdrawn some of its objections to oil leases in Indian Territory and allowed petroleum explorations to begin anew. In 1904, a significant strike was made near Cleveland in Pawnee County, Oklahoma Territory. One year later the famous Glenn Pool discovery well, Ida Glenn No. 1, came in about ten miles south of Tulsa, Creek Nation.

The Cleveland Field was opened on May 27, 1904 when the Minnetonka Oil and Gas Gompany drilled on the "Uncle Bill" Lowery farm just south of town. Christened the Uncle Bill No. 1, the well spewed gas strong enough to be seen ten or fifteen feet above the mouth of the hole. By the time drilling reached 1,250 feet, the flow of gas was estimated at 750,000 cubic feet per day. When the well reached a depth of 1,625 feet, oil sand was found and it was decided to shoot the well. Immediately after the shot of nitro, the Uncle Bill No. 1 produced crude at a rate of approximately 250 barrels daily.

The field quickly expanded toward the south and west as numerous wells were soon drilled. Territorial Governor Ferguson reported by July of 1905 that some 220 wells in the area had a daily production of approximately 11,000 barrels.

The fever generated over the discovery of the Cleveland Field soon spread

into Indian Territory and in 1905, Robert Galbreath and Frank Chesley drilled a well on the Ida Glenn farm. The Ida Glenn No. 1 produced approximately 75 barrels of crude daily and ushered in the first major field in Oklahoma--the fabulous Glenn Pool.

Glenn Pool eventually grew from an eighty acre tract to a field of almost eight thousand acres, establishing Oklahoma as one of the leading petroleum producing regions in the United States. The impact of Glenn Pool was felt both at the state and national level and resulted in two important developments. (1) It was discovered at a time when the production of the Gulf Coast and Texas fields had begun to decline. This prompted the Gulf Coast operators to extend their pipeline trunks northward into Oklahoma, thereby opening up a new producing area to the petroleum industry. (2) The oil from Glenn Pool was rich in gasoline content, easy to refine and excellent for fuel oil, which made it easier for big refining companies and producing companies (Texas Company, Gulf, Standard) to shift from the use of oil for illumination to the primary use of petroleum for energy.

Glenn Pool continued to expand and by 1910 the size of the field had more than tripled from that of 1907. Annual production peaked in 1908 at 20,494,313 barrels folowed by 18,946,740 in 1909 and 19,236,904 in 1910. Although production had decreased to 5,993,628 barrels in 1915, Glenn Pool's influence on the history of the Oklahoma petroleum industry extended beyond the heyday of the field. Glenn Pool was significant in energy development history for three reasons: (1) it had brought the pipelines to Oklahoma and opened new marketing outlets, (2) it had caused the great influx of capital into Oklahoma that would make continued development of the petroleum industry possible, and (3) it focused the eyes of the nation on the petroleum industry of Oklahoma.

The Okmulgee area provided several series of discoveries in northeast Oklahoma. Drilling activity began in 1906 and by 1907, the Morris Field was opened with a well that flowed at the rate of 5,000 barrels per day. That same year the Lucky Field in T13N-Rs 12 & 13E was discovered. Following these initial discoveries, several promising fields were developed during the next ten years including the Coalton, Schulter, Bald Hill, Turkey Pen Hollow, Independent, Hamilton Switch, Preston, Salt Creek, Natura, and Brinton. Although exploration in the Okmulgee-Henryetta area produced oil and gas in marketable quantities, most of these small fields served as temporary diversion for petroleum operators.

The two remaining areas of northeast Oklahoma destined to become major producers were the Burbank and Cushing Fields. The Osage Nation land had been explored and some production had occurred in the 1890's. The Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company and Barnsdall Oil Company had made the initial discoveries in the eastern part of Osage County. Because of World War I and the advent of the automobile, a resurgence of drilling activity occurred in Osage County. They found crude at a depth of approximately 3,000 feet which later proved to be the Bartlesville Sand. Drilling operations spread in every direction from Marland's discovery well, however, major activity was centered to the north. As excitement grew over the Burbank discovery, a total of 102,192 acres of land were leased from December, 1921 to June, 1922.

In 1920, crude flowing from the Burbank Field jumped from 134,408 barrels to 4,986,340 barrels in 1921, and reached an annual production of 24,230,563 barrels of oil in 1922. Peaking in 1923, the annual production was 26,206,741 barrels of oil.

Many prominent petroleum companies were involved in the western part of Osage County: Carter, Phillips, Skelly, Comar, and Gypsy. By 1930, two

thousand wells were in operation in the region, but production had dropped to 43,000 barrels per day.

Burbank was not the only field opened on the old Osage Reservation during the 1920's. In 1921, the Frankfort, Madelene, and Prue Fields were discovered followed by the Foraker Field in 1922 and the Atlantic Field in 1924. These fields combined to maintain a high annual production from Osage County wells outside the Burbank field. The crude from these wells rose from 17,077,348 barrels in 1920 to a substantial 41,810,178 barrels in 1923.

The Cushing Field was opened in early 1912 on the Frank M. Wheeler farm, twelve miles east of Cushing, a small agricultural community prior to 1912. After numerous failures of striking oil near Cushing in 1906 and Ripley in 1907, Thomas B. Slick, an experienced "wildcatter", struck oil on the Wheeler farm. Slick, who obtained financial assistance ($8,000) from the oil magnate Charles B. Shaffer of Shaffer and Smathers in Chicago, leased the land from Wheeler in January, 1912. Wheeler was promised an income from one-eighth of any oil produced from wells on his land.

The drilling crew worked in secrecy until April 1, 1912 when Slick and Shaffer made public their well log which showed that Wheeler No. 1 was producing 400 barrels daily at a depth of approximately 2,300 feet. Lease buyers and oil speculators rushed to the site of the new discovery, and two miles east of the discovery well, Wheeler No. 1, Charles Wrightsman and B. B. Jones soon brought in a well producing 5,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily.

By mid-summer, 1912, five oil field supply companies has established offices in the town of Cushing. When the output of the Cushing field reached 2,200 barrels a day, two more companies opened operations in the field--Southwest Oil Company and the Gypsy Division of Gulf Oil Company.

Production began to increase in late 1912. By December of that year,

there were forty-nine producing wells, fifty-nine being drilled, and rigs for eighty more were awaiting crews. The field's total output had reached 8,500 barrels daily. One month later daily production had jumped to 20,000 barrels a day.

Daily production continued to increase until it peaked in April, 1915 at an estimated 300,000 to 330,000 barrels per day, which represented more than two-thirds of the high grade refinable crude oil then being produced in all of North, Central, and South America. The field supplied oil to 90 percent of the existing refineries in Kansas and Oklahoma and had led to the construction of a dozen new refineries and several new pipelines in Oklahoma. The three largest pipeline companies--Prairie Oil and Gas, Texas, and Gulf--were carrying 40,000 barrels of crude oil a day from the Cushing Field. Two hundred tank cars left Cushing each day transporting crude oil to out-of-state markets.

Oklahoma led the nation in the production of crude oil in 1915. The majority of this oil came from the Cushing Field's production of 49,079,704 barrels from its 1,056 wells. The field yielded 17 percent of the petroleum sold in the United States during 1915 and produced 3,000,000 barrels more than the total production of Oklahoma in 1908, when it was the nation's principal oil-producing state for the first time.

New discoveries in 1915 near present-day Oilton and Pemeta, both located on the northern edge of the Cushing Field, and Shamrock, located on the southern edge, helped Oklahoma to rank first among oil producing states in 1916. But by June, 1916, the immense quantities of oil had ceased to gush forth and its unprecedented production began to diminish. Oklahoma again produced more oil than any other state in 1917, but the Cushing Field contributed less of the state's total output.

The Cushing Oil Field of Oklahoma dominated the petroleum industry of the United States for eight years (1912-1920). Although its production began to decrease by 1916, the Cushing Field forestalled the development of other important fields in Oklahoma until the end of World War I.

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA (STUDY UNIT II): 1910-1930

Ernest W. Marland, who had enjoyed modest success in the oil and gas business in West Virginina and Ohio, moved to Ponca City, Oklahoma in 1908. Marland, a self-educated geologist, was convinced that he would be able to locate profitable supplies of petroleum in the north-central area of the state.

Marland's continued efforts in exploration resulted in the location of the Newkirk-Mervine Field in 1913. That year a well was drilled on the Murdock farm located in SE 1/4 of Section 2 T27N-R3E. Flowing at an initial rate of a hundred barrels per day, the discovery well touched off a flurry of activity that failed to establish significant production and interest in the area quickly subsided. In late 1916, however, Marland opened a gas well in Section 17-T28N-R3E with a flow of 28,000,000 cubic feet of gas per day, and a new round of exploration began which resulted in a series of producers during 1918 and 1919, greatly intensifying the development of the field.

The next locale of interest to oilmen in Kay County was the Blackwell area. Marland had already developed the north end of the field by 1912 which resulted in twenty-one gas wells. But it was not until after B. B. Jones drilled a well in 1914, which brought in a initial flow of 600 barrels of oil per day, that interest heightened. Shortly thereafter, the Duluth-Oklahoma Company brought in a nearby producer with a flow of 2,000 barrels of oil per day.

Southwest of Kay County, directly east of Enid in Garfield County, the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company opened the Garber Field in September of 1914. The discovery well was located on the Hoy farm in the NE 1/4 of Section 25 T22-N-R4W. After the discovery, the Garber Field attracted several major companies including Roxana, Healdton, Cosden, Marland, and Atlantic. One of the Sinclair wells in Section 18 flowed 27,000 barrels, the largest intitial potential of any Oklahoma well to that date.

Noble County was the site of the Billings Field discovery well in February of 1917. Drilled by the Midco Petroleum Company in Section 22 T23N-R2W, it produced 250 barrels of oil per day. The Midco Well confirmed another potentially productive area in northwest Oklahoma.

Grant County's contribution to the petroleum history of northwest Oklahoma began in July of 1920 when the Deer Creek Field was opened by the Western States Land and Development Company. The discovery well initially produced 18,000,000 cubic feet of gas daily and, when deepened, it flowed at the rate of 10 barrels of oil per day. The same company brought in the first oil well during the same year and it flowed at an initial rate of 450 barrels per day.

In 1920 Marland embarked on a new series of explorations in the area of Tonkawa, southwest of Ponca City. After securing adequate financing, Marland's crew began drilling. After several unsuccessful wells, the J. H. Smith School Land Well No. 1, located in the NW 1/4 of Section 16 T24N-R1W, came in shortly before midnight on June 30, 1921. Adequate storage facilities were not available in the beginning, therefore, it was impossible to guage the well's flow for several weeks; however, when measured, it was flowing 1,000 barrels per day that tested between 41 degrees and 43.9 degrees gravity. The Tonkawa Field was a money-maker from the outset, and by April, 1922, Marland

had already recovered the cost of drilling the discovery well.

The Tonkawa Field was the wonder of the petroleum world because it contained so many producing horizons of oil and gas in a single field. Four sands were major producers of crude ranging from a depth of approximately 1,850 feet to about 4,300 feet. Three horizons were major producers of both oil and gas and two layers were major gas producers.

With so many producing horizons, Tonkawa became a major supplier in the state. Although the field covered only approximately eight square miles, as many as five derricks might be clustered around one location producing oil from several different horizons. Such prolific production resulted in the completion of fifteen pipelines into the field by 1923 and eleven others were under construction. But it was not only oil that made Tonkawa famous; gas wells were also a major factor. By April, 1921, twenty gas wells had a daily flow of 408,250,000 cubic feet. Crude remained king because between February 27 and April 23 of 1923, Tonkawa produced oil valued at $208,000 daily for a sixty-day total of $12,480,000. The highest daily production for the field was 112,112 barrels of oil, and by the end of 1927, the field had produced an average of 30,000 barrels of oil per acre.

Following Tonkawa, serveral other fields were opened in the same region: Thomas and Braman in 1924 and Hubbard and Vernon in 1925.

A significant historic aspect of energy development in northwest Oklahoma was the emergence of two major Oklahoma petroleum companies that were to have an impact on both the state and the nation: Champlin Petroleum Company of Enid and Continental Oil Company of Ponca City.

The discovery of the Garber Field in 1914 resulted in formation of one of Oklahoma's most successful companies by Herbert H. Champlin, an Enid banker. Champlin, who had never invested in petroleum property, organized a company

that eventually spanned the spectrum of the petroleum industry from production to refining to sales. Champlin continued to reinvest profits from his company back into the business until his death in 1955. By that time, the firm was the world's largest family-owned company engaged in every phase of the petroleum business.

Throughout the oil boom of the early twentieth century, E. W. Marland's company and Continental Oil Company continued to develop. On April 30, 1929 the two firms entered into a plan of reorganization. Marland Oils acquired all properties of Continental, but the latter's name was to be retained. The newly-formed corporation made its headquarters in Ponca City and became a major factor in the growth of Oklahoma's petroleum industry.

A second outgrowth of the history of energy development in Region 2 was the technological advances made from 1910 to 1930. Two major innovations in drilling occurred in the Tonkawa Field: the use of rotary drilling rigs which revolutionized drilling practices and the development of the diamond core drill which was eventually used throughout the industry.

Historical Context for Study Unit V: The Greater Healdton-Hewitt District

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN STUDY UNIT V: HISTORICAL CONTEXT

HEALDTON-HEWITT FIELD: INDUSTRIAL

Petroleum history in the south central region of Oklahoma began as early as the late 1800's when farmers were forced to abandon water wells because of oil seepages. Date of the first well in the region cannot be definitely established, however, it is reported that prospecting for oil began in western Carter County in the late 1880's. One of the earliest prospectors was a man named Palmer who sank a well in ca. 1888 with a crude springpole drilling rig powered by hand. Palmer reported to residents of Ardmore that when his well reached a depth of approximately 425 feet oil began "oozing and slopping" over the top of the hole. Palmer's efforts to lease land were halted because the land was restricted by Federal treaty with the Chickasaw Nation.

Because most of the region was located in the Chickasaw Nation, petroleum companies, which had become interested in Palmer's discovery, were likewise handicapped in securing leases and interest in the area subsided until 1904 when the railroads began drilling wells in hopes of providing fuel for trains. Four wells were drilled in the Healdton vicinity in 1904-05 by the Atchison, Topeka, and Colorado Railroad. These wells were sunk to a depth of 500-800 feet, however, they caved in because of unstable rock formations.

Despite the unfavorable conditions, interest in the Healdton region remained high. Roy M. Johnson, owner and editor of the Ardmore Statesman, had listened to stories about petroleum in south central Oklahoma and, in 1912, decided to drill a well near Palmer's old discovery. He convinced two of his friends in Ardmore, Edward Galt and A. T. McGhee, to form the Plains Development Company in order to secure leases from the Chickasaws. The land where Palmer's old well was located was owned by two Ardmore attorneys, Wirt Franklin and Sam Apple, who wanted a share in the enterprise. A new

corporation, the Crystal Oil Company, was organized to include the two new partners with Johnson, Galt, and Franklin serving as officers. Financing their operations with borrowed capital, the Crystal Oil Company secured leases on approximately 6,000 acres. J. M. Critchlow, an experienced driller from Pennsylvania, was hired by the company to begin drilling about twenty miles northwest of Ardmore. Drilled in the NE 1/4 of Section 8 T4S-R3E, the discovery well, Franklin No. 1, was completed on August 4, 1913, at a depth of 920 feet and had an initial flow of between 25 and 100 barrels per day.

Critchlow organized the Red River Oil Company from his share of the lease holdings and began work on another well approximately one-half mile northwest of the discovery site. Located on the Mary McClure farm, Critchlow's well came in with a 60 feet gusher and flowed about 300 barrels per day thereafter.

These two discoveries brought hundreds of petroleum people from Oklahoma and Texas to Ardmore, the nearest large town. Magnolia and Corsicana, two major petroleum companies, found Healdton crude to be of high quality. In October of 1913, Twin State, a subsidiary of Sun Oil Company, purchased 1,000 acres of lease land and made plans to connect their wells with refineries in Port Arthur, Texas.

On November 11, 1913 the first major shipment of six carloads of machinery was received in the field and a string of rotary drilling tools was brought in for the first time. Two days later, the Magnolia Company announced plans to construct a 55,000 barrel storage tank in the field. This tank would serve as storage until the completion of a proposed 6-inch pipeline from Addington, Oklahoma east to the field. The new pipeline would join Magnolia's main line which terminated at their refinery in Ft. Worth, Texas. By the end of 1913, there were fourteen producing wells in the Healdton Field and output for December of 1913 was estimated at 22,000 barrels of oil.

Healdton came into its own as a major field in 1914. Magnolia Pipeline Company completed the 6-inch pipeline to the field in order to market the crude. The first major industry to locate in Ardmore as a result of petroleum development was the Ardmore Refining Company capitalized at $100,000 with a refining capacity of 1,500 - 2,000 barrels per day. These facilities encouraged further activity and by spring of 1914 forty-three wells were being drilled. By the end of 1914, 255 wells were producing 65,000 barrels per day.

Although major companies provided the earliest storage and transportation systems, Healdton was a field composed primarily of independent companies. Approximately 90 percent of the leases were held by independent operators. C. F. Colcord and the Skirvin Brothers of Oklahoma City as well as ex-governor Charles Haskell took an active part in the early history of the development of the field. Of the 120 companies operating in the field by June of 1914, only three were considered major companies: Twin State (a subsidiary of Sun Oil Company), Gypsy Oil (a Mellon Company), and Corsicana Petroleum (a Texas-based operation). In 1916 one of the largest independent producers in America, Harry F. Sinclair went to Ardmore and personally negotiated with Crystal Oil Company (first independent company which opened the field) for purchase of their property. Crystal's success was phenomenal. Within a year from their original investment of $50,000, the company had grown to an estimated value of between $3 and 5 million. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. being a director in the Sinclair Company went with Sinclair to close the deal. Sinclair purchased 1,810 acres (800 acres in the proven area of the field) for an estimated $1,500,000. A fourth major company entered the field in 1915. The Royal Dutch Shell Company and its American subsidiary, Roxanna Petroleum, purchased 7,070 acres from three independents at an estimated $3,000,000.

Peak production of the Healdton Field was reached in 1915 with a daily output of 90,000 barrels. Although production tapered off in 1916, the field was still producing at a rate of 75,000 barrels per day from over 1,200 wells. By the end of 1917, close of the field's fourth year, daily output remained high at 65,000 barrels from over 1,700 producing wells. Drilling activity remained constant with forty new wells being drilled each month. Facilities for transporting Healdton crude were now adequate. Nine companies had constructed pipelines to refineries in Oklahoma and Texas (Magnolia, Producers, Coline, Ardmore Refining, J. Howard Pugh Company, The Texas Company, Yarhola Pipeline, Pierce Pipeline, and Sinclair Oil and Gas). The Ringling Railroad (Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific) had been built from Ardmore to a terminus southwest of the town of Healdton.

The rapid and continued development of the Healdton Field was based on four major factors:

(1) Low cost of drilling -- a completed well in the Cushing Field, the last major field in Oklahoma prior to Healdton, cost between $15,000 - 20,000 whereas the Healdton wells rarely cost more than $4,000.

(2) Short amount of time required for drilling because of such shallow depths -- principal oil bearing formation (Pennsylvania sand renamed Healdton sand in this field) ranged in depth from 800 to 1,200 feet and normal drilling time was between 10 and 20 days.

(3) Unusual thickness of producing sands (200 feet thick) provided constant and sustained production which made Healdton one of the most remarkable fields ever discovered.

(4) Promised price of $1.03 per barrel provided incentive for intensive drilling activity.

Production in the Healdton Field continued into the 1920's, however, it had declined to approximately 1,400 barrels per day by 1925. The Healdton Field became one of the largest single pools discovered in Oklahoma and by 1937 its total production was estimated at over 200,000,000 barrels (Table 2).

Throughout its development, Healdton was a "poor man's" field. The lease size, low cost of drilling operations, and short period of time required to drill a well made it possible for independent operators with smaller financial reserves to compete with the larger oil companies. As a result, several financial bases were developed by independent oilmen within the state including Lloyd Noble, Wirt Franklin, Roy M. Johnson, Edward Galt, Ward Merrick, Sr., Robert A. Hefner, C. F. Colcord, and Erle Halliburton. Moreover, at that time, the Healdton output, combined with production of the Cushing Field, helped continue Oklahoma's number one position in the nation in petroleum production during the decade of 1910-1920 (Figure 4).

A second major pool in south central Oklahoma was discovered in 1919. Also located in Carter County, the Hewitt Field was opened by the Texas Company on June 5, 1919 when it drilled the A. E. Denny No. 1, which came in at 450 barrels per day. Although shorter lived than Healdton, the Hewitt Field produced 13,095,000 barrels of crude in 1921. Production began to decline after 1921, however, Hewitt produced one of the state's most impressive wells in 1924. It produced 12,800 barrels per day at a depth of 2,940 feet.

The Greater Healdton-Hewitt District, which included several minor pools in addition to the two major ones, encompassed most of western Carter County (Figure 5). Its discovery and development remains a major watershed in

Table 2

PRODUCTION DATA - HEALDTON FIELD (1913-1937)

Year	Barrels Per Day	No. of Wells
1913	20,000	14
1914	65,000	255
1915	90,000	N/A
1916	75,000	1,200
1917	65,000	1,740
1918	45,000	N/A
1923	17,000	N/A
1924	16,500	1,918
1925	1,400	1,915

TOTALS BY 1937 - 200,000,000 Barrels

SOURCE: OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

N/A: Data Not Available

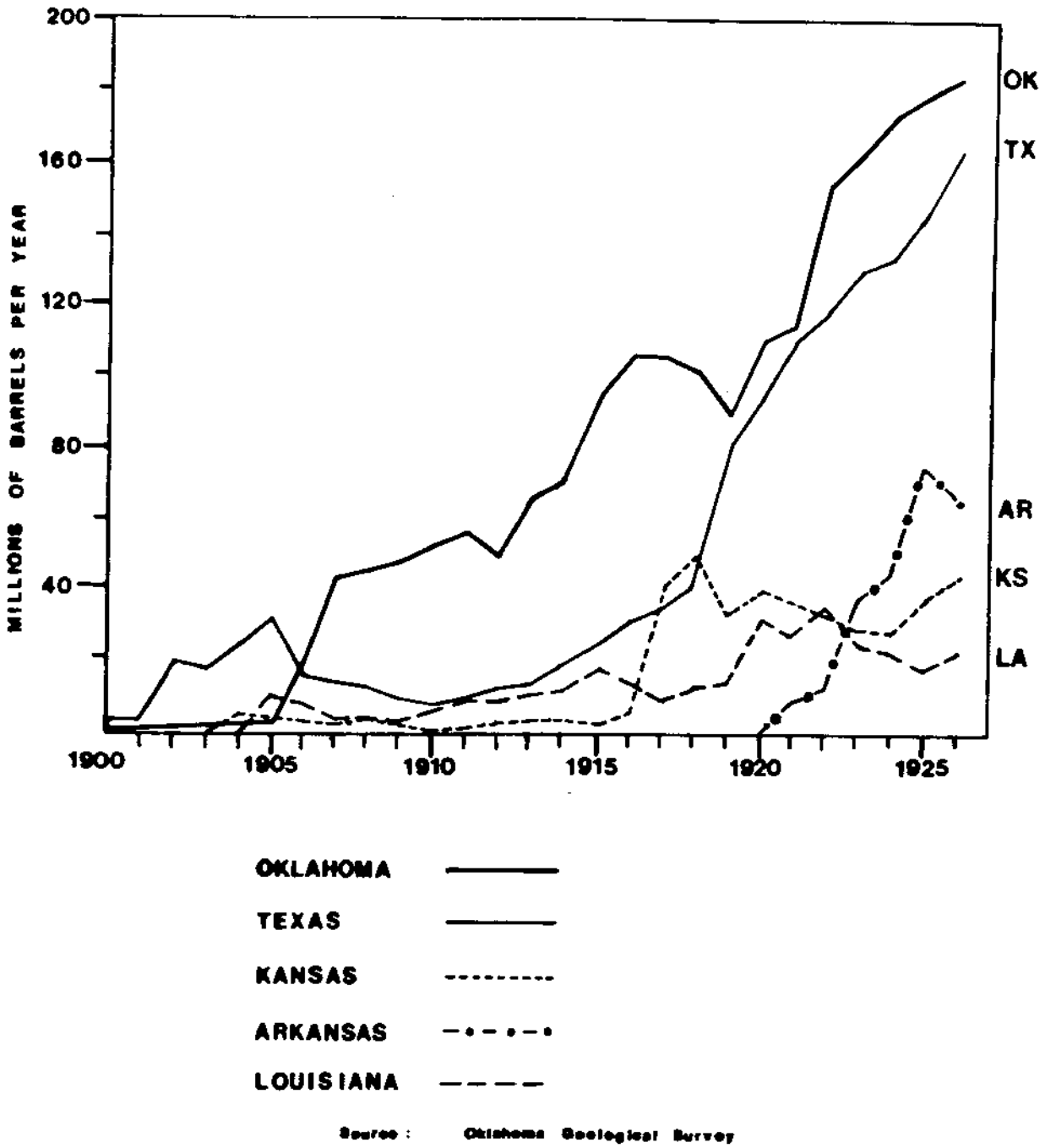


Figure 4. OIL PRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL OIL-PRODUCING STATES, 1900-1926

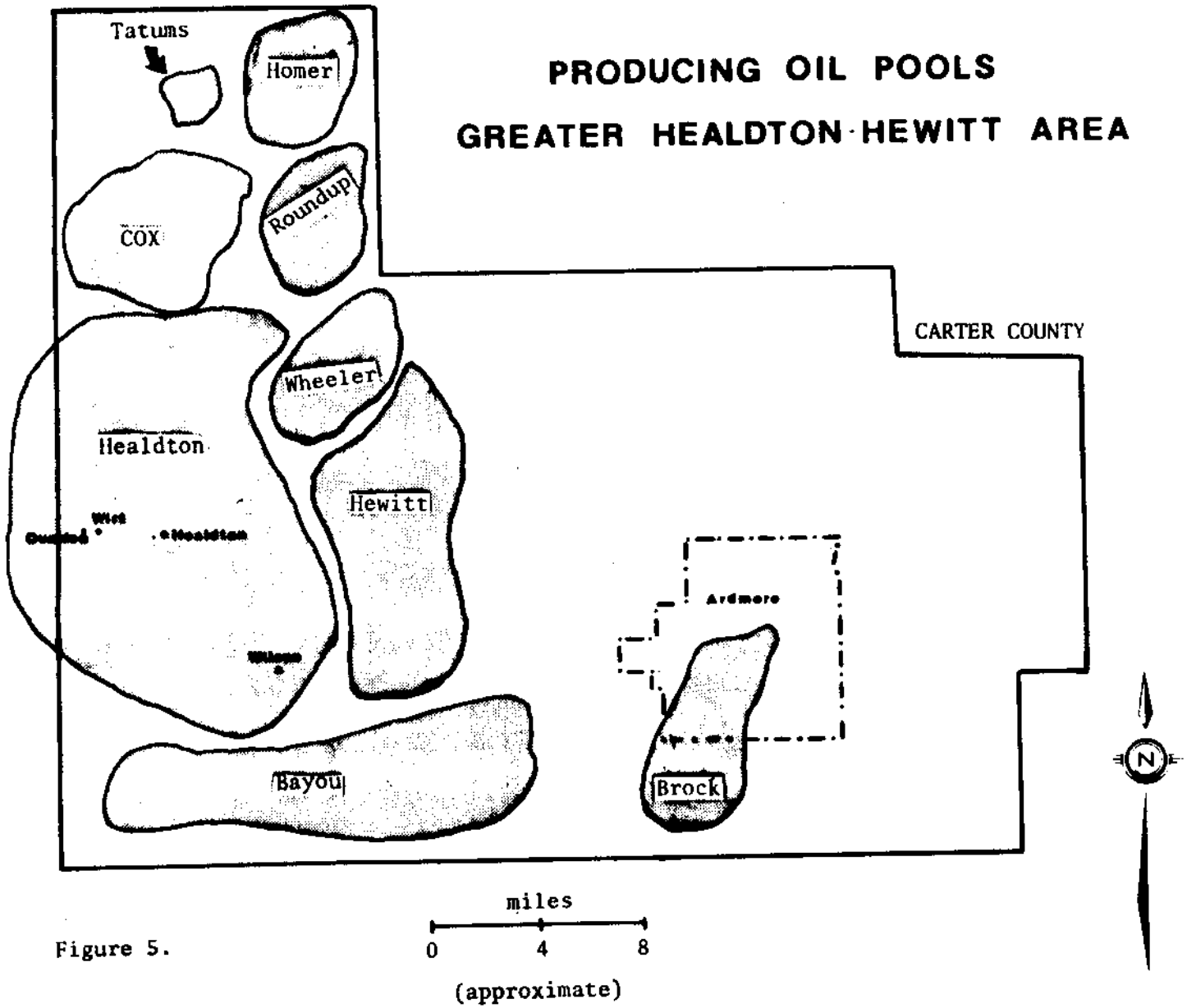

PRODUCING OIL POOLS
GREATER HEALDTON-HEWITT AREA
Tatums
Homer
COX
Roundup
Wheeler
Healdton
Hewitt
Bayou
Brock
Ardmore
CARTER COUNTY
N
miles
0
4
8
(approximate)

Figure 5.

Oklahoma petroleum history because southern Oklahoma was opened to exploration, production, and industrialization for the first time. Prior to the Healdton-Hewitt District, energy development had been confined to the northeast and north central sections of the state. It also provided a chronological link from the earlier fields in Oklahoma to the opening of the Seminole Field, a second major district in south central Oklahoma, in 1923.

HEALDTON-HEWITT FIELD: SOCIOECONOMIC

Perhaps the most visible change in the region was the phenomenal growth in population stimulated by the oil boom. Generally speaking, petroleum fields emerge in sparsely populated rural environments which are physically isolated from urban conglomerations. In the case of the Healdton-Hewitt District, three types of population change occurred:

(1) Emergence of boomtowns in the rural portions of the field -- these were settlements which had not previously existed and virtually sprang up overnight (often referred to as "mushroom cities"), e.g., Wirt.

(2) Small agricultural trading communities, which already existed, expanded and their urban function changed from one based on providing goods and services to surrounding agriculturists to one oriented toward petroleum, e.g., Madill.

(3) Medium-sized somewhat diversified cities which took an active role in the processing and shipping of crude -- attracted oil-related industries because they were located on a railroad line, maintained office space, and possessed social and commercial advantages over the smaller boomtowns, e.g., Ardmore.

Six counties in Study Unit V were affected by the Healdton-Hewitt boom (Carter, Garvin, Johnston, Love, Marshall, and Murray). All six experienced an increase in population during the 1910-1920 decade, the period when the Healdton-Hewitt Field reached peak production. The greatest impact of the oil boom was in Carter where the major portions of the Healdton-Hewitt Field were located, especially the western half of the county (Figure 5). During the boom period, the population of Carter county soared from 25,358 in 1910 to 40,247 in 1920, a growth rate of 58.7 percent. The remaining five counties

manifested population increases ranging from Murray (2.9 percent) to Marshall (26.3 percent). Major towns within each of these six counties also experienced growth in population (Table 3). By 1930 the boom period had, for the most part, ended and population began to level off. All counties except Carter suffered population decreases as "boomchasers" and other transient oil field workers moved on to other fields in Oklahoma and Texas.

Boomtowns in the Healdton-Hewitt District displayed characterisitcs similar to those previously established elsewhere:

(1) Attracted large numbers of migrants who followed oil booms from field to field -- commonly referred to as "boomchasers," they were transient laborers in search of quick wealth and did not have families.

(2) In addition to "boomchasers" who were laborers, there were also hoards of oil field camp followers preying on the workers such as prostitutes, gamblers, and whiskey/drug dealers.

(3) Phenomenal growth in population resulted in several community planning problems:

   a. housing shortages,

   b. sanitation and health deficiencies,

   c. lack of adequate transportation systems,

   d. inadequate communication especially postal services, telephone lines, and newspapers,

   e. lack of recreational facilities, and

   f. need for additional law enforcement and fire protection.

The first boomtown in the Healdton-Hewitt Field was Wirt, established shortly after the drilling of the discovery well approximately twenty miles northwest of Ardmore, county seat of Carter County. Because of the poor

Table 3

GREATER HEALDTON-HEWITT FIELD

POPULATION OF TOWNS AND CITIES

City	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980
Ardmore	8,618	14,181	15,741	16,886	17,890	20,184	20,881	23,689
Davis	1,416	1,609	1,705	1,698	1,928	2,203	2,223	2,782
Healdton	—	2,157	2,017	2,067	2,578	2,898	2,324	3,769
Madill	1,564	2,717	2,203	2,594	2,791	3,084	2,875	3,173
Marietta	1,546	1,977	1,505	1,837	1,875	1,933	2,013	2,494
Pauls Valley	2,689	3,694	4,235	5,104	6,896	6,856	5,769	5,664
Tishomingo	1,408	1,871	1,281	1,951	2,325	2,381	2,663	3,212
Wilson	—	2,286	2,517	1,700	1,832	1,647	1,569	1,585

SOURCE: City and County Data Book, 1983

communication in this relatively isolated western part of Carter County, 500 oil field workers in late 1913 petitioned the U.S. Postal Department to locate a new post office at the junction of Sections 4, 5, 8, and 9, the heart of the Healdton Pool. By May 17, 1914, the town proper had 3,000 inhabitants with a business section adequate to serve them. Originally named Franklin in honor of Wirt Franklin, co-founder of the field, the name was changed to Wirt because it was later discovered that a Franklin, Oklahoma already existed. Wirt's post office was officially opened in December of 1914. The Daily Ardmoreite of late 1915 described Wirt as a typical boomtown "filled up with a lot of men gathered from the four corners of the earth." The Ardmoreite concluded that while there were "good, law-abiding men" among the population of Wirt, "there are many desperate characters who hesitate at nothing to accomplish their purpose." Typical of oil field boomtowns, there were no schools and only one church which had a membership of approximately 100. Today, Wirt is still found on the Oklahoma Highway map and retains its post office despite the fact that its population is less than 100 residents.

Wilson and Dundee, two other boomtowns, emerged in 1914. The 48-acre townsite of Dundee was platted in early 1914. According to Shirk's Oklahoma Place Names, it was named for the Dundee-Christopher Oil Company which donated land for the Dundee School, the first such facility to serve the oil field proper. Designated as school district #65, the Dundee School had an enrollment of 250 pupils during the boom period. By 1920 Dundee boasted of an accredited high school and the school building served as a community center for Dundee residents.

Located approximately seventeen miles west of Ardmore, Wilson became the transportation center for the Healdton Field. By the end of 1914, Wilson's population had reached 800 and it had become the drayage headquarters for the

field. Some 500 teams were headquartered in or near the town and the community reported more horses than people. That statistic changed when Ardmore oilman Jake L. Hamon persuaded his friend, circus owner John Ringling, to build a railroad to serve the field. Built from Ardmore to Wilson, the Ringling railroad provided the chief means of transportation into the field and caused the boomtown's population to increase to more than 2,000 by 1920.

The Healdton-Hewitt boomtowns followed the patterns of boomtowns of the past. Six phases of boomtown evolution occurred:

(1) initial excitement generated by the discovery of a potentially valuable reservoir of crude,

(2) frantic scramble to lease the most promising land,

(3) tremendous influx of oil field workers (mostly single men) into the community during the process of drilling and development,

(4) mushrooming growth of boomtown resulting from a steady stream of those individuals intent upon providing goods and services to workers and reaping the riches of the oil field,

(5) gradual replacement of the less stable early arrivals by men with families and an established social order including construction of churches and schools, and

(6) either an eventual return of the boomtown to a small, peaceful, agricultural-oriented community or the boomtown fades into total obscurity (oil field ghost town) once the boom fever had run its course.

Of the cities which already existed when the boom period began, Ardmore was the one which benefited most in a socioeconomic sense. Established in 1887 along the Santa Fe Railroad, Ardmore was the largest town in southern Oklahoma in 1910 with a population of 8,618. Located about twenty miles east

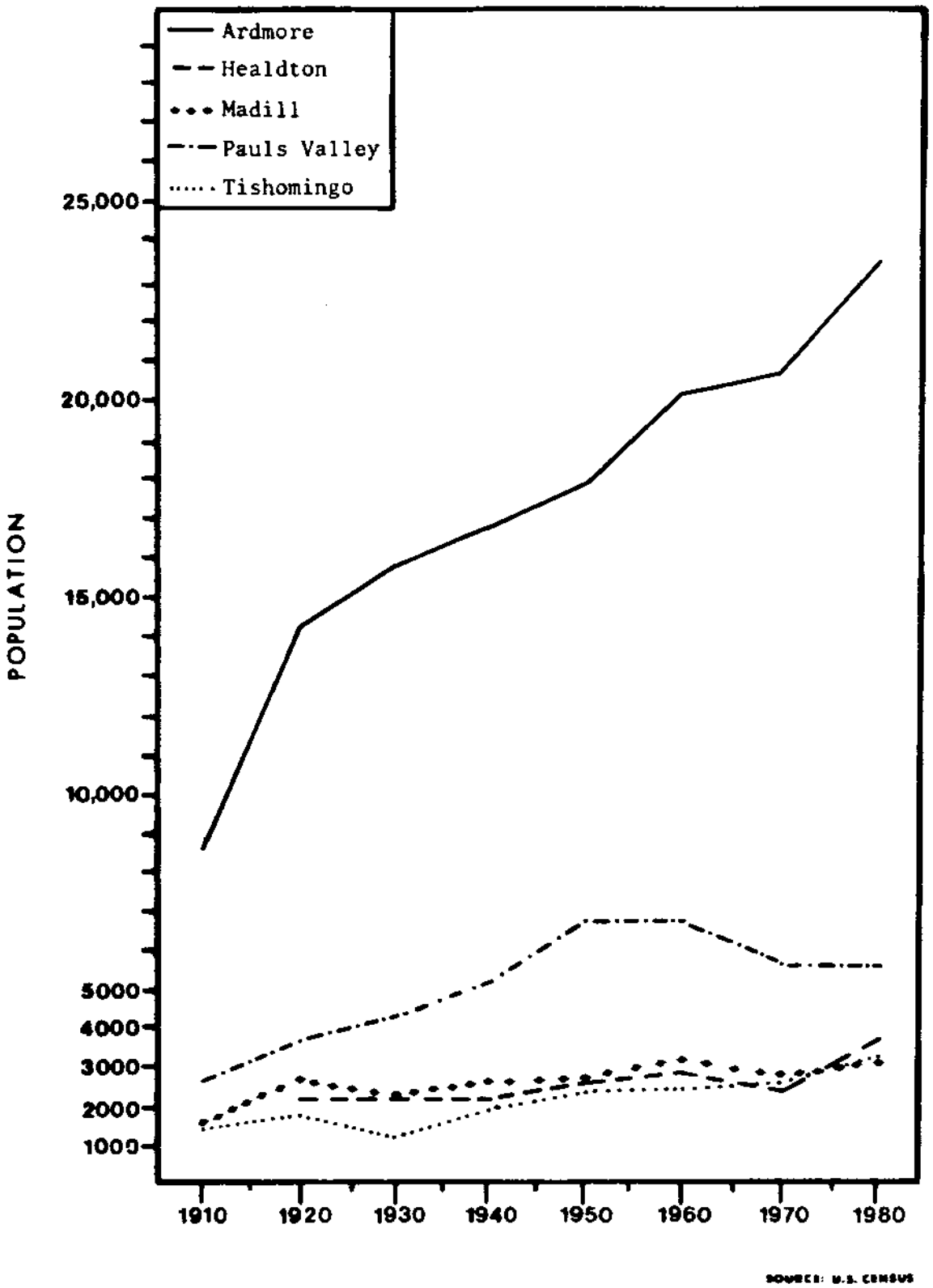


Figure 6. CITIES OF HEALDTON-HEWITT DISTRICT: POPULATION

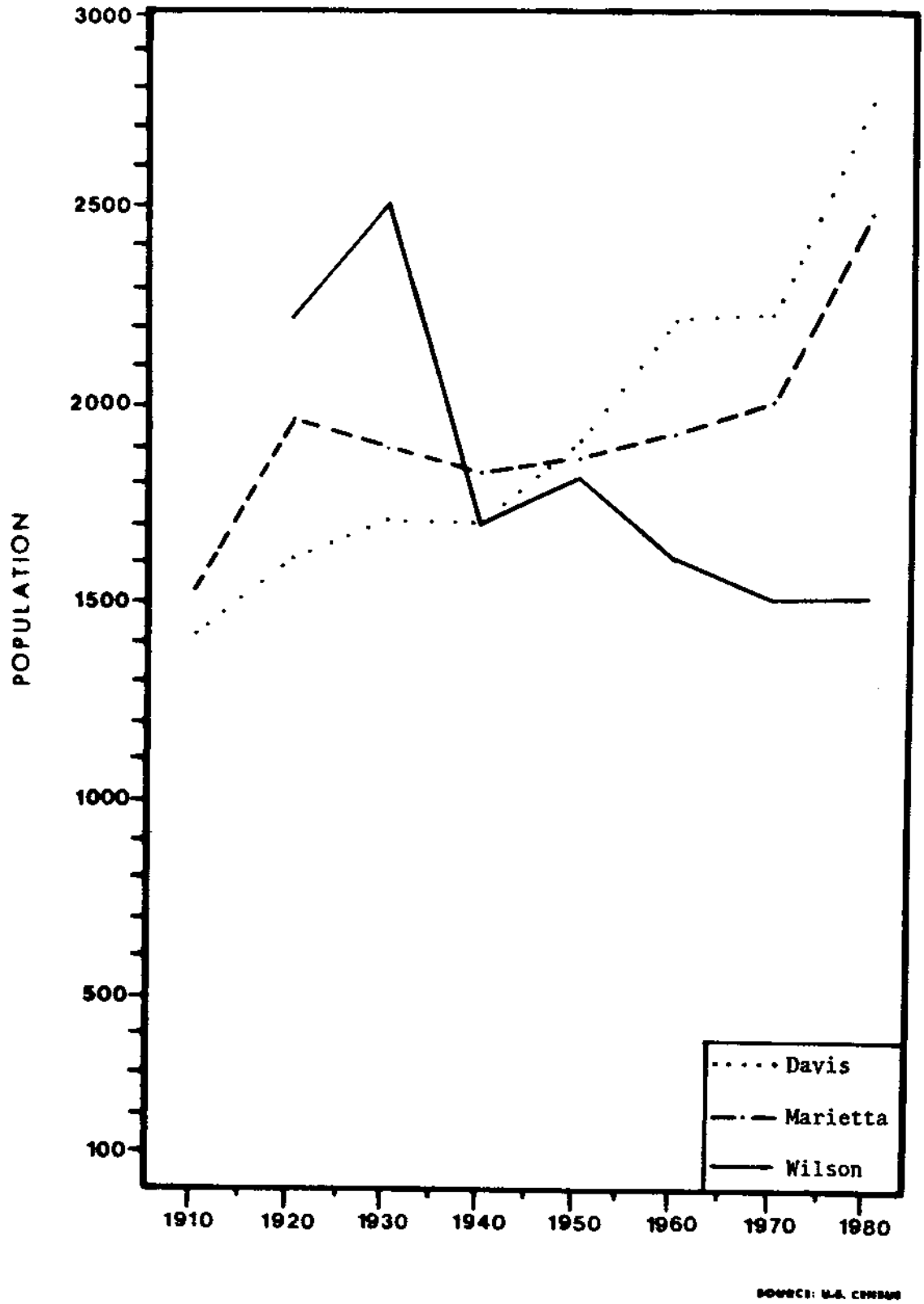


Figure 7. SMALL TOWNS OF HEALDTON-HEWITT DISTRICT: POPULATION

of the Healdton Field discovery well, Ardmore was primarily an agricultural and railroad center prior to the oil boom. From 1910 to 1920, it experienced a population increase of 64.6 percent as its number of inhabitants grew from 8,618 to 14,181 during the boom decade (Figure 6). The first industry to locate in Ardmore because of the petroleum boom was the Ardmore Refinery, the first such facility to serve the field. Seven refineries were eventually constructed in Ardmore with a combined capacity of more than 30,000 barrels daily. Furthermore, many oil field supply companies located their main offices and warehouses in the city. Bank deposits increased $1 1/2 million in 1915 alone. Data from 1917 indicate that oil field activity had stimulated Ardmore's economic growth -- building permits totaled over $1 million; telephone installations doubled; school enrollment increased more than 1,000; retail sales increased 50 percent; and three new industries were constructed (a pecan factory, stove foundry, and tire and rubber company captialized at $1 million).

In conclusion, the discovery of petroleum brought a complete transformation to the socioeconomic structure of the Healdton-Hewitt District. Population growth and industrial development resulted in newer and higher quality school systems. Combine valuations of the four school districts in the Healdton-Hewitt District exceeded $15 million at the peak of the oil field prosperity. Church membership grew and physical expansion occurred because of the contributions made by wealthy oil families. Combined with the Cushing Field, located in the northeastern study unit, the Healdton-Hewitt District helped Oklahoma continue its domination of the petroleum industry of the United States through World War I. In terms of historic significance, the following summary outlines key contributions of the Healdton-Hewitt District during the chronological limits of this study:

(1) Opened exploration and production of petroleum in southern Oklahoma -- prior to the Healdton-Hewitt Field, energy development had been confined to the northeast and north central sections of the state.

(2) Proved to be one of the largest pools of petroleum discovered within Oklahoma (90,000 barrels per day in 1915).

(3) Helped Oklahoma continue its domination of the petroleum industry in the United States through 1920.

(4) Ardmore Independent Oil Producers Association, one of the first independent petroleum producers organizations, was formed in 1914 as a result of the field's development.

(5) Wirt Franklin, co-founder of the field and first president of the Crystal Oil Company, became first president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (served from 1929 until 1935).

(6) Because Healdton was a "poor man's" oil field, it spawned the organization of more than 100 independent oil companies in Oklahoma.

(7) Several successful Oklahoma oil men began their petroleum exploits in the Healdton-Hewitt District including Wirt Franklin, Edward Galt, Roy M. Johnson, Lloyd Noble, Ward Merrick, Robert A. Hefner, C. F. Colcord, Skirvin Brothers, and Erle Halliburton.

(8) Although primarily a field of independent operators, several major companies expanded their operations as a result of their participation in the Healdton-Hewitt District. Among these were Magnolia, Corsicana, Gypsy, Sun, Sinclair, and Shell.

List of National Register of Historic Places Nominations

(9) Origin of one of the country's most famous oil field service companies. Halliburton Services was a name which became known worldwide for its innovations in cementing and pumps.

(10) First refinery (Ardmore Refining Co.) and first pipeline (Magnolia Pipeline Co.) developed in southern Oklahoma.

(11) In terms of settlement, several oil field boomtowns were established including Wirt, Wilson, Dundee, and New Healdton. Existing towns in the region like Ardmore, Madill, Pauls Valley, Marietta, and Davis experienced population increases ranging from 13.6 to 73.7 percent (Figures 6-7).

(12) Construction of commercial and industrial buildings expanded. Oil field structures dominated the landscape including derricks for drilling, plants for refining, and huge steel tanks for storage. Hastily erected hotels and houses, especially shotguns, provided partial housing for workers.

(13) After initial settlement, more social institutions emerged which created a need for school, church, and lodge buildings.

(14) Additional transportation facilities were constructed such as pipelines, railroads, and roads.

Historical Context for Study Unit V: The Greater Seminole District

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN STUDY UNIT V: HISTORICAL CONTEXT

GREATER SEMINOLE DISTRICT: INDUSTRIAL

The Greater Seminole District was to become the largest petroleum producing area in Oklahoma when it was opened in 1923. It eventually covered approximately 1,300 square miles which included all of Seminole County and parts of Pottawatomie, Hughes, Okfuskee, and Pontotoc Counties (Figure 8). Located within the Greater Seminole District were six (Earlsboro, St. Louis, Seminole City, Bowlegs, Little River, and Allen) of the state's twenty-two "giant oil fields," i.e., those fields having a cumulative production of over 100 million barrels (Figure 9). More than fifty different pools of oil were uncovered, twenty-nine of which were significant strikes (Table 4). The sheer magnitude of the crude produced from the conglomeration of pools was astounding. So great was the production in the district during its peak years of 1926-1936 that 702,157,800 barrels of petroleum were moved from the region. That amount represented 18 percent of all the oil produced in Oklahoma, 4 percent of the oil produced in the United States, and 2.6 percent of all the oil produced in the world from the beginning of the industry to 1936. Based on the value of the 1936 dollar, the total amount of the crude for the 1926-1936 period was $1,009,966,794.

Discovery of petroleum in the Greater Seminole District occurred before the 1920's boom. The Allen Pool, near the Seminole-Hughes County border, was opened in 1913. Three years later, the Francis Pool was discovered and production reached 100 barrels of oil per day. That same year of 1916, the Holdenville Pool yielded an initial flow of 4,000 barrels. Finally, the Maud Pool, also opened in 1916, produced small amounts of gas. These developments, however, were overshadowed by events in the Cushing Field in the northeast

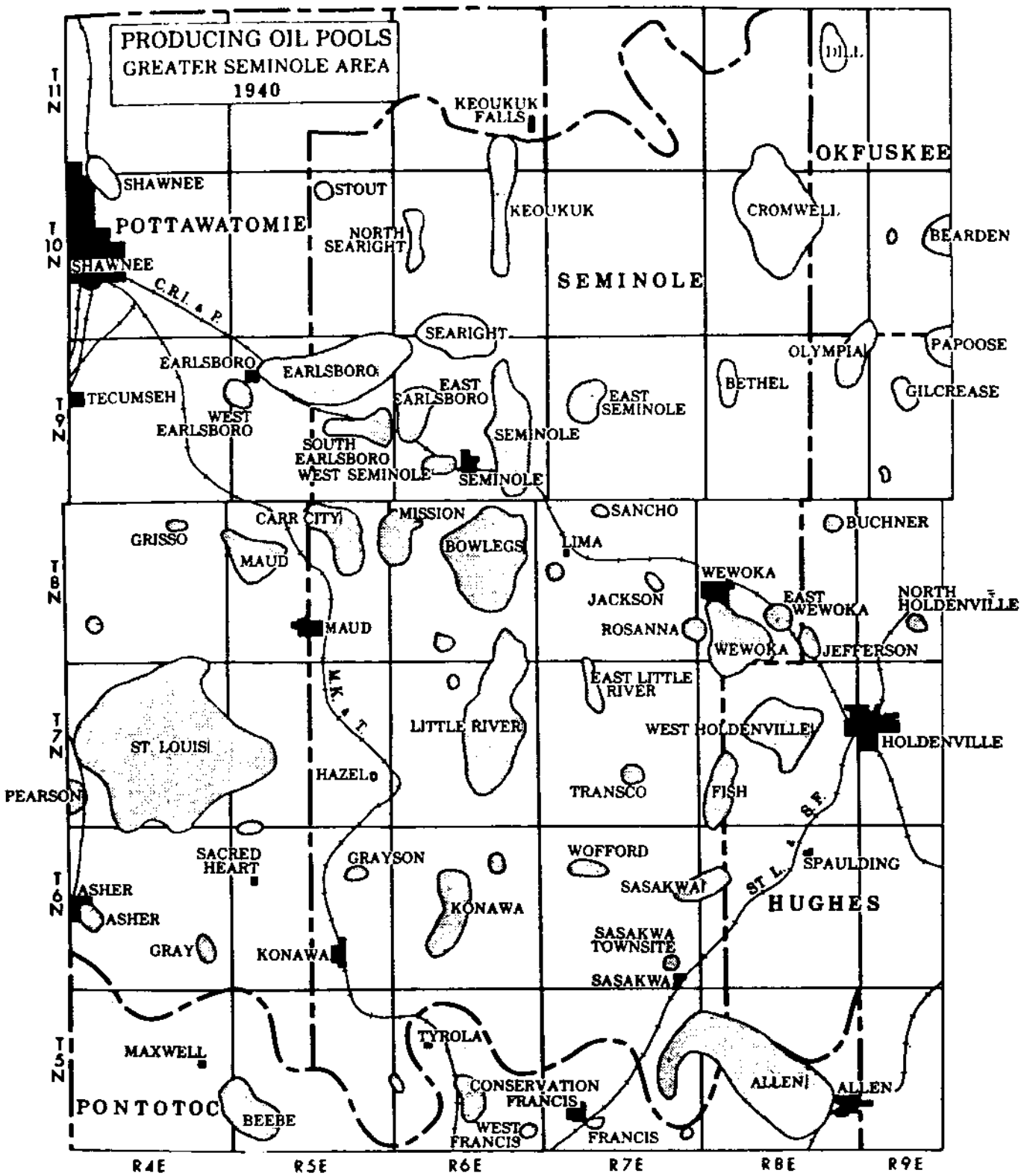

PRODUCING OIL POOLS
GREATER SEMINOLE AREA
1940
T11N
T10N
T9N
T8N
T7N
T6N
T5N
R4E
R5E
R6E
R7E
R8E
R9E
KEOUKUK FALLS
OKFUSKEE
SHAWNEE
STOUT
POTTAWATOMIE
KEOUKUK
CROMWELL
BEARDEN
NORTH SEARIGHT
SEMINOLE
C.R.I. & P.
SEARIGHT
OLYMPIA
PAPOOSE
EARLSBORO
EARLSBORO
EAST EARLSBORO
BETHEL
GILCREASE
TECUMSEH
WEST EARLSBORO
EAST SEMINOLE
SEMINOLE
SOUTH EARLSBORO
WEST SEMINOLE
SEMINOLE
CARR CITY
MISSION
SANCHO
BUCHNER
GRISSO
MAUD
BOWLEGS
LIMA
WEWOKA
JACKSON
EAST WEWOKA
NORTH HOLDENVILLE
MAUD
ROSANNA
WEWOKA
JEFFERSON
EAST LITTLE RIVER
K.K. & T.
LITTLE RIVER
WEST HOLDENVILLE
HOLDENVILLE
ST. LOUIS
HAZEL
PEARSON
TRANSCO
FISH
S.F.
SACRED HEART
GRAYSON
WOFFORD
SPAULDING
ASHER
KONAWA
SASAKWA
ST. L. & S.F.
HUGHES
ASHER
GRAY
KONAWA
SASAKWA TOWNSITE
SASAKWA
TYROLA
MAXWELL
CONSERVATION
ALLEN
ALLEN
PONTOTOC
BEEBE
FRANCIS
WEST FRANCIS
FRANCIS

Figure 8.

PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS FIELDS OF OKLAHOMA

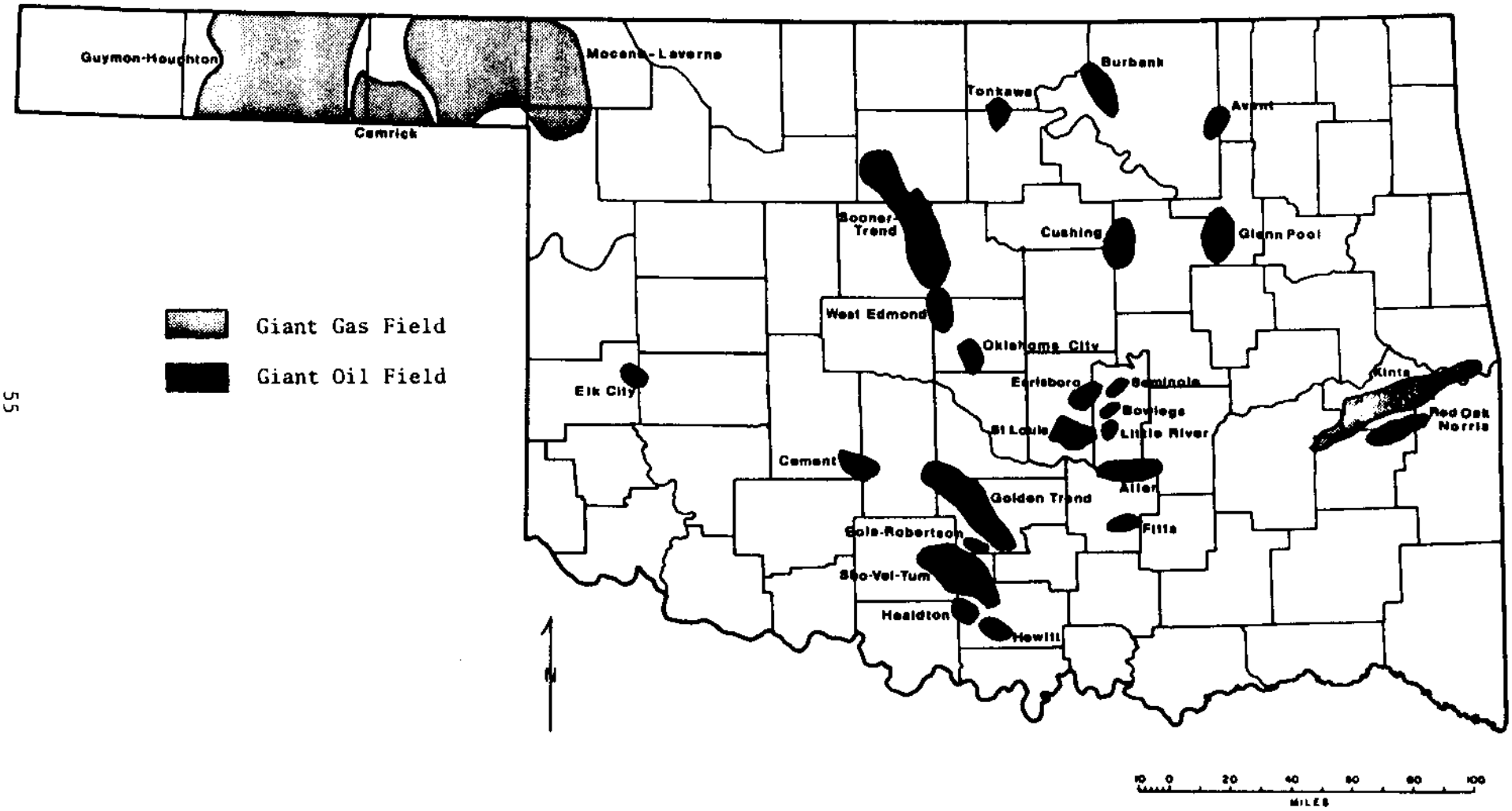


Figure 9.

Table 4

PRINCIPAL OIL-PRODUCING POOLS IN GREATER SEMINOLE DISTRICT

Pool	Year Discovered	Total Output to Jan. 1, 1940, in Bbls.
Wewoka	1923	48,860,000
Cromwell	1923	55,159,150
Bethel	1924	1,750,000
Seminole City	1926	131,156,554
Searight	1926	33,298,496
Earlsboro	1926	124,532,785
Bowlegs	1926	113,400,705
Asher	1927	2,815,900
Allen	1927	46,295,787
Holdenville	1927	3,443,050
Little River	1927	121,912,190
Carr City	1928	29,400,705
Maud	1928	11,288,349
Mission	1928	24,420,663
Pearson	1928	1,592,110
St. Louis	1928	130,301,373
Earlsboro, East	1929	37,312,236
Fish	1929	14,543,667
Sasakwa	1929	9,201,829
Earlsboro, South	1930	8,548,553
Konawa	1930	14,134,877
Olympic	1930	8,027,717
Seminole, West	1930	12,100,473
Sasakwa Townsite	1933	2,102,784
Searight, North	1935	2,955,139
Keokuk	1936	3,665,850
Bethel, North	1936	2,409,859
Konawa, West	1937	1,000,089
Sacred Heart	1939	75,846

region and the Healdton/Hewitt Field in the southern part of Study Unit V.

The Seminole boom was ignited by discovery of the Betsy Foster No. 1 well near Wewoka on March 16, 1923. Search for oil in the Wewoka area had begun in 1902 when the Wewoka Trading Company drilled a well on the B. F. Davis farm. Five years later, a second well was drilled in the Wewoka vicinity and drillers reached the "Wewoka Sand" which was to become a major producing formation in the 1920's.

The Foster Well of 1923 had thus culminated a twenty year search for petroleum in the area. At the time of discovery, the initial flow was estimated at approximately 100 barrels per day, however, after the well was deepened, the flow reached an amazing 3,500 barrels per day.

At about the same time of the Foster Well discovery, the Gardner Oil Company brought in a well located in the northern portion of Seminole County. The discovery of these two wells in the same general vicinity touched off a run by oilmen to the region and the boom was on. Storage facilities to accommodate production from these two wells were quickly erected including both wooden and metal tanks. The Prairie Pipeline Company soon constructed an extension of their two-inch pipeline from Wetumka to the new pool to provide an outlet for the crude.

The Foster and Gardner Wells resulted in additional discoveries in the region within the next two months of 1923. Wewoka Oil and Gas Company, Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company, Independent Oil and Gas Company, Magnolia Petroleum Company, and Dixie Oil Company moved drilling equipment into the field. Three oil-bearing formations were discovered by the spring of 1927: Smith, Sykes, and Hunton. The Wewoka Pool eventually produced from eight different horizons. The Wewoka Pool boundaries covered an area of approximately 1,700 acres (Figure 8). Peak production from the Smith and

Sykes formations was reached in June, 1925 when 134 wells averaged 19,860 barrels of oil.

Following the Wewoka Pool opening, a second discovery well near Cromwell heightened interest of oilmen throughout the state. On October 2, 1923, the No. 1 Bruner was drilled approximately fifteen miles northeast of Seminole. The Cromwell Field was to eventually include 3,560 acres located in the northeastern corner of Seminole County (Figure 8). By the end of 1924, seventy-five wells were producing an average of 62,391 barrels of oil per day. Although production in the Cromwell Field tapered off by 1927, it still retained an average of almost 11,000 barrels per day from an estimated 393 wells.

The boom was going strong through 1925 and early 1926 even though no new major discoveries were found. But 1926 proved to be a banner year for the Greater Seminole District because three new fields were opened within a two-month period in the spring of 1926: Earlsboro, Seminole City, and Searight. Located in the northwest corner of Seminole County, these three fields covered a total of 7,130 producing acres and produced an amazing total of 105,326,194 barrels of crude in less than two years.

The Earlsboro Field came in when the Morgan and Flynn Oil Company drilled the Ingram No. 1 well on March 1, 1926. The well produced an initial flow of 200 barrels of oil from a depth of approximately 3,500 feet in the Earlsboro Sand. A second major well in the Earlsboro Field was completed in late 1926 when the Gypsy Oil Company drilled the No. 1 State well at a depth of between 4,275 and 4,291. Flowing from the Seminole Sand, the well eventually reached a production of 8,050 barrels of crude daily.

The Earlsboro Field was developed very rapidly. Within eight months after the State No. 1 came in, there were 130 wells producing 192,000 barrels

per week. The Earlsboro Field came to cover over 4,170 acres, part in Pottawatomie and part in Seminole County (Figure 8). In July of 1927, it had taken the lead over all other fields in the Greater Seminole District. Through 1945 it produced an unbelievable 192,109,857 barrels of oil.

On March 7, 1926, the No. 1 James opened the Seminole City Field. Located just 2 1/2 miles east of the town, this well touched off a wave of renewed drilling efforts. The Amerada Petroleum Company completed a second well about one-quarter mile east of the No. 1 James and the Garland Independent Oil and Gas Company brought in a third well one mile east of Seminole. This third well, No. 1 Fixico, produced an initial flow of over 6,000 barrels per day. Described as the largest in the state, the Fixico well started a new rush to the Seminole District. By early February of 1927, the Seminole City Pool reached its peak of 253,192 barrels of oil daily from 211 wells. The Seminole City Field covered approximately 3,600 acres (Figure 8).

F. J. Searight completed the No. 1 Youngblood on April 21, 1926 and a new field was opened. The Searight Field covered approximately 700 producing acres, and by November, 1927, production from 62 wells reached 25,663 barrels of crude. The Searight Field was located about four miles north of Seminole and produced from the Seminole Sand and Hunton Limestone formations. Cumulative production through 1945 for the Searight Field was 35,603,999 barrels.

The Bowlegs Field opening followed close on the beginning of the Earlsboro boom. The Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company, heretofore active in the Osage pools, drilled its Goforth No. 1, about two miles northeast of Bowlegs, on June 18, 1926. A second well located about half mile south and a half east spudded in on June 19, 1926. The Davis No. 1 reached the Wilcox Sand and by July of 1928 had produced over 556,000 barrels of oil. Peak production at Bowlegs came during the first of August, 1927, when 173

wells drilled to an average depth of 4,000 to 4,300 feet were averaging 190,408 barrels per day. Cumulative production from the time of discovery through 1945 was 125,520,996 barrels establishing it as one of the five most prolific pools in the Greater Seminole District.

Bowlegs production had not yet peaked when I.T.I.O. brought in the discovery well for the Little River Field, lying farther south. The No. 1 House was spudded in on July 24, 1926 and its peak production of 13,794 barrels was reached on July 3, 1927. The House well was an indicator of future wells in the Little River Field. It came to rank among the top five of the Greater Seminole with its cumulative production of 135,145,570 barrels through 1945.

Several other major fields of the Greater Seminole District were opened in 1928. Similar to other pools in the area, the St. Louis and Maud discoveries seemed to merge into one another. On March 20, 1928, the Mid-Continent and McCullough Company brought in the first major well in the St. Louis Field. Located southwest of Seminole in eastern Pottawatomie County, the St. Louis Field ranked second only to Earlsboro for cumulative production through 1945. Producing from three different formations, its total production was 167,369,838 barrels. The discovery well for the Maud Field was completed by the Gypsy Oil Company in August, 1928. During 1928, the Maud Pool produced 488,318 barrels of crude. Croxton and Bucklin opened the Pearson Pool in 1928 with a producer from the Hunton Limestone. By May of 1930, there were approximately 600 producing acres around the small town of Pearson with an average yield of 5,420 barrels. The Carr City Pool was developed in 1928 and cumulative production through 1945 totaled 33,121,013 barrels.

The Greater Seminole oil boom continued into the late 1920's and 1930's. Fields were opened in and around the town of Sasakwa in 1929 and 1933, Konawa

and Fish Pools in 1929, and the Keokuk, Bethel North, and Sacred Heart in the mid-1930's (Table 4). By September of 1929, Greater Seminole was the nation's top producer of high-gravity oil. It included six giant pools (Seminole City, Earlsboro, Bowlegs, Allen, Little River, and St. Louis), from each of whose wells had flowed over a million barrels of crude by 1945 (Figure 9). The added production from the Greater Seminole pools placed Oklahoma at the top of the oil producing states in America in the late 1920's (Figure 4).

The unusually large production is accounted for by several natural and man-made factors. Geologically, the subsurface of the region included seven different producing horizons. Also advantageous to producers was the compact nature of the district in which so many large pools were located close together. This allowed for easy exploration and aided in the transporation of production and drilling equipment. Furthermore, the Seminole boom period spanned an era of great change and innovation in the petroleum industry. Cable tools, which had drilled 85 percent of all wells in the United States as late as 1920, were too slow for the Greater Seminole operators where competition between independents and majors was keen. The district had many leaseholders and the size of the average lease was small, therefore, speed was absolutely necessary to keep rival producers from draining the oil from someone else's lease. The use of rotary drilling was encouraged for the sake of speed, however, the rotary bit was not without its problems. When hard formations were reached, the bit could veer off at an angle for a considerable distance causing crooked holes to be drilled. To compensate for this drawback, a new technique was developed in the Seminole pools: directional drilling. This involved the practice of slanting a hole from the original course by either whip-stocking or by using a knuckle-joint drilling tool.

A second technological innovation for increasing production was first

used in the Seminole District: air-gas lifts. Air was injected near the base of the oil column, the exact point generally being determined by experiment at different depths, under a staring pressure, where the well was not flowing, of 350 to 800 pounds per square inch. When the well began to flow, the pressure was reduced from 200 to 325 pounds, the working pressure under normal conditions. This technique was one of the reasons the Greater Seminole pools peaked so rapidly.

Production was further enhanced by the use of acid treating. On many wells, production increased as much as 1,000 percent. It was particularly effective in the Hunton limestone horizon because the acid pumped into the formation ate into the limestone, thereby, increasing production. The use of mud in drilling reached full-scale practice in the Seminole. Mud helped seal formations so as to restrict the wasteful escape of gas, to prevent holes from collapsing, and stop high-pressure formations from blowing the drilling equipment out of the well.

Methods of exploration were improved in the Greater Seminole. Early pools were discovered by random drilling, doodle-bugging (witching), and intuitive geology. By 1928 the seismic reflection method was being extensively used in the field and three small, but profitable pools (South Earlsboro, West Seminole, and North Carr City) were brought in using the seismic technique.

It was almost unbelievable that the experiences of Red Fork, Glenn Pool, Cushing, Healdton, and Tonkawa could be duplicated in the 1920's because most oil men predicted that Oklahoma's major petroleum fields had already been discovered. But the series of pools to become known as the Greater Seminole became the largest ever for Oklahoma and played a tremendous role in the economic and industrial history of the state.

GREATER SEMINOLE DISTRICT: SOCIOECONOMIC

The economic and cultural life of the Greater Seminole District was abruptly changed from a slow, sleepy, uneventful, rural, pastoral existence it had known for years to one of hurry, bustle, violence, industrialization, and urbanization.

Transportation systems were grossly inadequate. The Rock Island was the only railroad serving the heart of the District, but the Frisco and Santa Fe served some of the southern and western portions of the field. Seminole City soon became the center for shipments as the Rock Island added truckage, often to the point where the oil companies wanted it. Pipelines were laid by oil companies to connect with both northern and southern national terminals. One of the major outgrowths of the Greater Seminole era was the formation of the Great Lakes Pipeline Company by six firms: Pure Oil, Mid-Continent Petroleum, Continental Oil, Barnsdall Corporation, Skelly Oil, and Phillips Petroleum: Pooling their resources, the six Oklahoma-based companies secured the necessary capital to finance the Great Lakes line. As originally constructed in 1931, the pipeline was capable of pumping 30,000 barrels of petroleum per day through a system stretching 1,500 miles from Okmulgee, Oklahoma north to Minneapolis, Minnesota, then east to Chicago, Illinois.

Similar to the Healdton-Hewitt Field, the Greater Seminole District emerged in a sparsely settled, predominantly rural environment. Population changes occurred both in terms of numbers and types of people. Oil field population was composed of workers with different skills: rig builders, truckers, pipeliners, tankies, tool pushers, roughnecks, muleskinners, and others just to name a few. Furthermore, professional and non-professional services were required and the area, for the most part, was found lacking. Attorneys, physicians, geologists, and educators were needed to serve the

throngs of new people. Non-professionals of a respectable nature (e.g., merchants, bankers, and newspaper publishers) moved rapidly to those areas where they believed money could be made in large sums and on a short term basis. Non-professionals of less than respectable nature always followed the booms including prostitutes, gamblers, and whiskey/drug dealers.

There is no doubt that the Greater Seminole District was the scene of the greatest population explosion in Oklahoma since the land runs opening Oklahoma Territory. Because of the relatively low productivity of the land and the lack of industrial development, there were no densely populated rural areas or large towns. In 1920 the four largest incorporated places within the District were Wewoka (1,520), Konawa (896), Seminole (854), and Maud (637). Shawnee (15,384), located on the northwest edge of the district, Holdenville (2,935) on the southeastern side, and Ada (8,012), just to the south of the District, were the trade centers which supplied most of the goods and services for the smaller communities (Table 5).

Overnight the region was changed as stores developed at numerous section corners, crossroad settlements emerged, and citizens of existing communities were convinced that their town was destined to become a metropolis. Villages expanded into towns and towns into cities within a short period. Between 1920 and 1930 every settlement in the Greater Seminole District, with the exception of Francis, gained in population (Figures 10-12). The largest gains were in those settlements adjoining the producing fields. The population of Seminole jumped from 854 in 1920 to 11,459 in 1930, a gain of over 1,200 percent. Wewoka, Maud, and Earlsboro each experienced gains of more than 500 percent. Cromwell and Bowlegs were the only authentic boomtowns, both of which came into existence in the 1920's. St. Louis, previously only a "wide spot in the road," was incorporated with a population of almost 500. Shawnee,

Table 5

GREATER SEMINOLE AREA

POPULATION OF TOWNS AND CITIES

City	1910	1920	1930	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980
Ada	1,349	8,012	11,261	15,143	15,995	14,347	14,859	15,902
Allen	645	1,377	1,438	1,389	1,222	1,005	974	998
Asher	381	370	653	507	420	343	437	659
Bowlegs	---	---	464	303	---	---	---	522
Cromwell	---	---	249	451	313	269	287	337
Earlsboro	388	317	1,950	486	278	257	248	266
Francis	931	911	607	370	271	286	283	365
Holdenville	2,296	2,935	7,268	6,632	6,192	5,712	5,181	5,469
Konawa	761	896	2,070	2,205	2,707	1,555	1,719	1,711
Lima	---	146	239	271	99	---	238	256
McComb	166	281	197	201	123	76	41	58
Maud	503	637	4,326	2,036	1,389	1,137	1,143	1,444
Pearson	---	---	66	---	---	---	---	---
St. Louis	---	---	493	326	290	76	207	109
Sasakwa	241	355	781	532	365	253	321	335
Seminole	476	854	11,459	11,547	11,863	11,464	7,878	8,590
Shawnee	12,474	15,348	23,283	22,053	22,948	24,326	25,075	26,506
Tecumseh	1,612	1,429	2,419	2,042	2,275	2,630	4,451	5,123
Wewoka	1,022	1,520	10,410	10,315	6,747	5,954	5,284	5,480

SOURCE: City and County Data Book, 1983

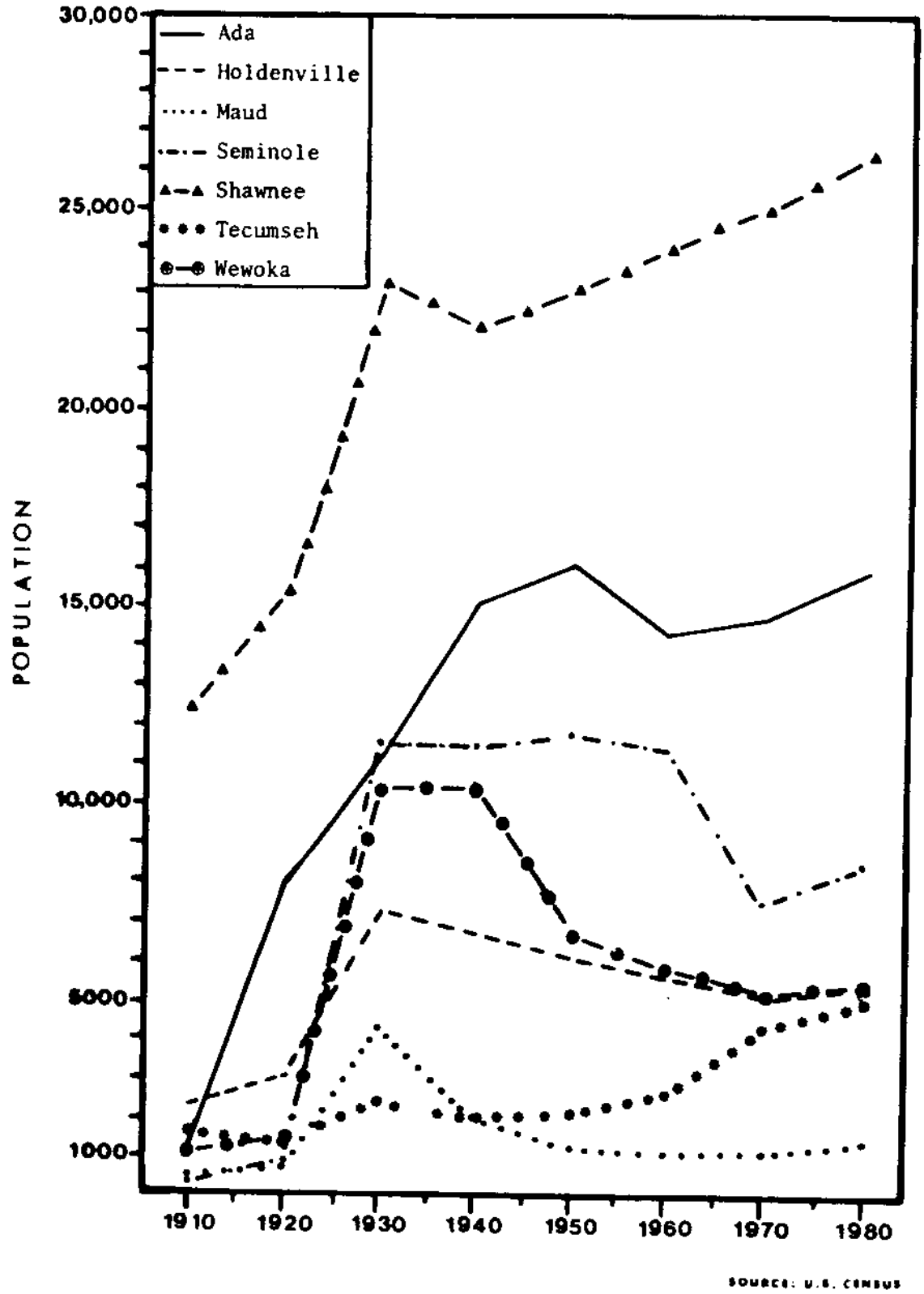


Figure 10. CITIES OF SEMINOLE DISTRICT: POPULATION

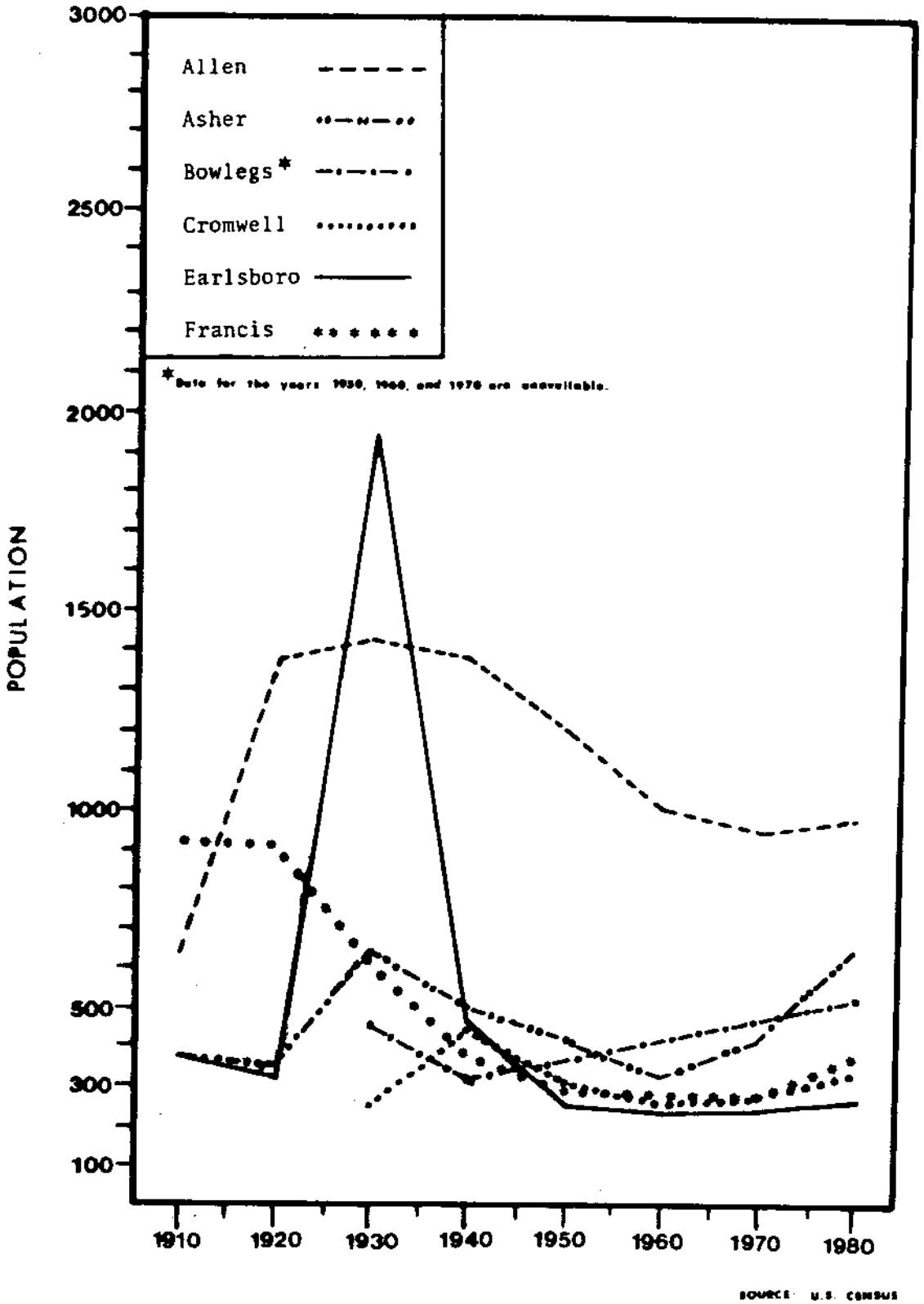


Figure 11. SMALL TOWNS OF SEMINOLE DISTRICT: POPULATION

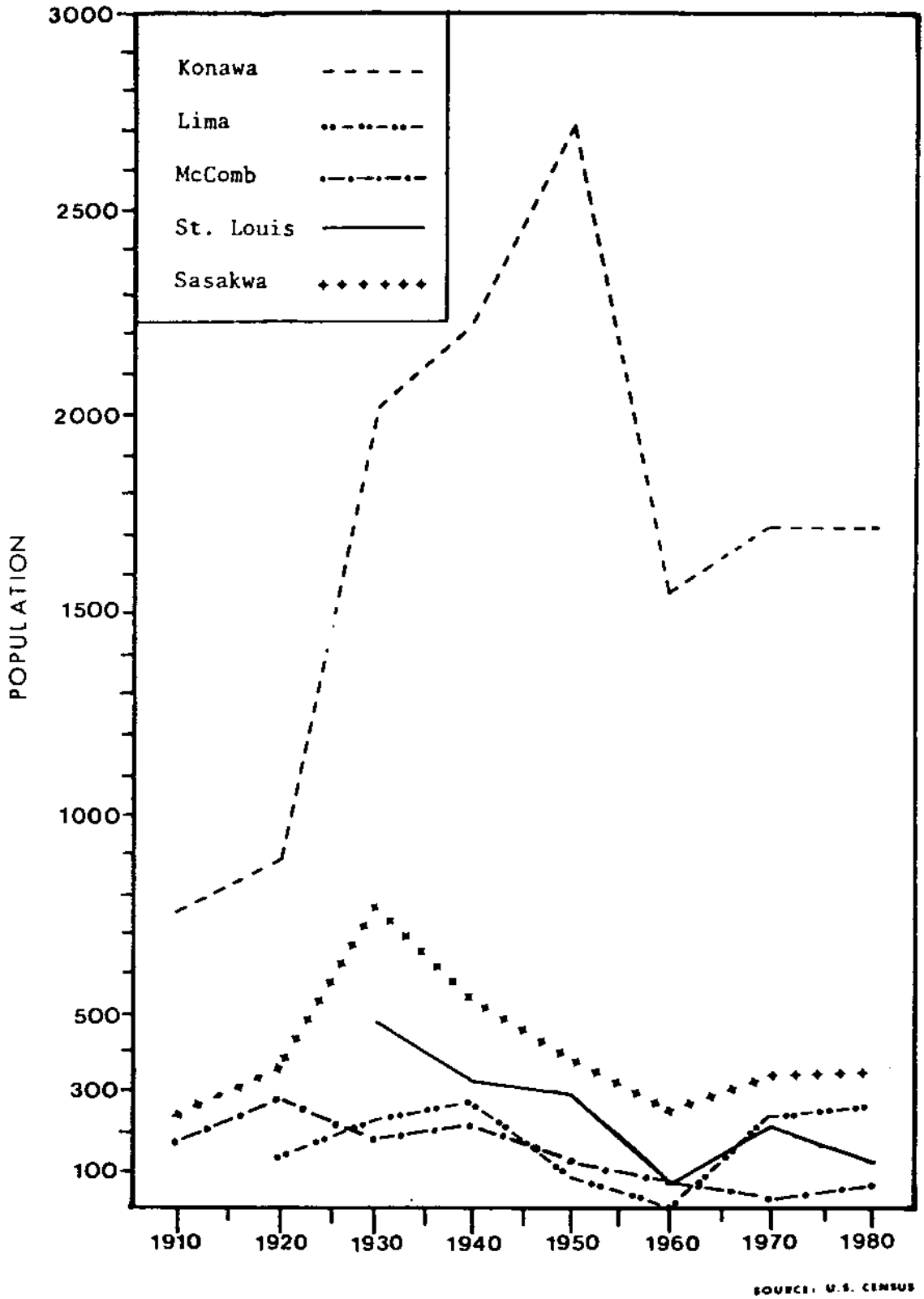


Figure 12. SMALL TOWNS OF SEMINOLE DISTRICT: POPULATION

Holdenville, and Ada, located on the periphery, also gained considerable population. The United States Census data for 1920 and 1930, however, does not take into account the phenomenal growth experienced during the decade when the boom peaked. Various estimates place Wewoka between 15,000 and 20,000; Seminole between 25,000 and 30,000; Earlsboro between 4,000 and 5,000; Maud at 10,000; and Bowlegs at 8,000.

After 1936, population began a downward spiral because production in the numerous pools began to decrease. In population losses between 1930 and 1940, Earlsboro decreased by 1,464, or roughly 75 percent; Maud dropped from 4,326 to 2,036, or approximately 53 percent; and Sasakwa declined from 781 to 532, or about 32 percent. Ada, Konawa, and Seminole continued to gain population during the 1930's, but the rate was miniscule compared to the 1920's, e.g., Seminole's gain was less than one percent (Table 5).

The demographic history of the Greater Seminole District followed the same pattern as the Healdton-Hewitt Field of a decade earlier. Three types of urban morphologies occurred during the boom period:

(1) Emergence of boom towns near the producing pools where settlements were non-existent in 1920, e.g., Cromwell.

(2) Small, agricultural market centers expanded and were dominated by petroleum-related functions, e.g., Earlsboro.

(3) Medium-sized cities which took an active role in the processing and shipping of crude as well as attracting oil-related industries because of commercial and transportation advantages, e.g., Seminole.

Cromwell was a full-fledged boom town. In a matter of months, a community of between 8,000 and 10,000 emerged from a cotton patch. Joe I. Cromwell had bought several acres in the area in anticipation of the boom and

platted a townsite in early 1924. It was five blocks wide and eight long. Lots were sold so quickly that two new additions were platted before the end of the year. Poorly constructed buildings were erected everywhere. Housing problems were compounded by the fact that no town had previously existed. People camped in tents for several miles on either side of the new settlement. During the early part of the boom it is estimated as many people lived in tents as in houses.

The rapidly growing population created further problems. Cromwell had emerged so quickly that it was unincorporated, therfore, no local law enforcement personnel existed. Robbery, hijacking, murder, and prostitution were rampant. To complicate the situation, there was no jail if offenders were captured. Lawbreakers were handcuffed and locked to a log chain fastened to a tree.

Additional problems included no source of water, no sewage disposal system, and lack of fire protection. In December of 1924, a huge fire destroyed almost all the town's business district. Water had to be transported in by wagon. Cromwell had no railroad and the dirt roads south to Wewoka and north to Okemah were virtually impassable due to unseasonably rainy weather and heavy oil field hauling.

The rapid increase in school age population was another matter of concern for boom towns such as Cromwell. Before the boom, a one-room rural school was adequate for the farming population of the area. Within four months, provision had to be made for 350 students. For three years, enrollment continued to climb. Eventually the petroleum companies provided funds for a new high school in Cromwell completed in 1927. Oil men like Joe Cromwell also helped in the construction of churches in boom towns. The First Baptist and First Methodist Churches of Cromwell were built with donations derived from

oil field royalties. Pastors' salaries were also often covered by funds provided by oil families.

Cromwell deteriorated almost as rapidly as it emerged. Reflecting a decline in production, Cromwell's population dropped to a mere 249 by 1930. Those involved in the oil business moved on to Seminole, Earlsboro, and other places in the Greater Seminole District where booms were in progress.

Unlike Cromwell, Earlsboro owed its existence to the Choctaw Coal and Railway Company which extended its tracks from McAlester to Oklahoma City in the late 1890's. It was a small, rural market center of 317 inhabitants in 1920, primarily dependent upon surrounding cotton farms. Within three months of the discovery of oil near Earlsboro in 1923, its population soared to an astronomical figure estimated between 5,000 and 10,000. The small, sleepy village landscape changed dramatically -- a one-block Main Street was lengthened to four and other streets, both parallel and at right angles to Main, were quickly added. Every available space was used for housing including garages, chicken houses, and coal sheds. Earlsboro, too, witnessed the "tent city" atmosphere as every vacant space was utilized. Prior to the boom, the town had no utilities of any kind, therefore, water supply, sewage disposal, and electricity were unavailable. Traffic congestion and muddy roads/streets exacerbated the boom period problems (Photo No. 1).

In their zeal for improvement, the residents of Earlsboro enacted a municipal tax to provide for city services. By 1936 Earlsboro had water, electricity, and a sewer system; however, the debts incurred by the city were far in excess of its ability to pay. A bankruptcy petition was filed in 1938 and by 1940 only 486 residents remained in what became an oil field ghost town.

The city which experienced the most dramatic change due to the Seminole



Photo No. 1. Transportation Problems in the Seminole Field during the 1920s.

boom was Seminole. Following the discovery of Fixico No. 1 in July of 1926, Seminole's population jumped from approximately 800 to several thousand as landmen, lease hounds, pipeliners, roustabouts, contractors, drillers, and boomchasers poured into Seminole (Photo No. 2). Within a few days, more than 10,000 were trying to eat and sleep where 800 had lived before. Seminole's Main Street was lengthened from one to six blocks (Photo No. 3). So rapid was the expansion of the water system that in 1926 three bond issues were voted in the amount of $40,000. Assessed property values more than trebled, deposits at the First National and First State banks increased five-fold, and post office receipts zoomed from $972 in August, 1926 to $5,958 in March of the next year. Over 4,500 daily calls were made at Seminole's post office, a figure more than at New Orleans or San Francisco.

The housing shortage was the most severe problem. Tents sprouted from every conceivable place. Sleeping spaces were rented in hotel lobbies, motion picture houses, and pool halls. Shacks, shanties, and lean-tos of every type and description abounded. Constructed of boxes, sheet iron, card board, or whatever was available, these shelters lined the streets and roadsides (Photo No. 4).

Oil companies adopted the plan of building company camps for their permanent employees: bunk houses for single men and houses for the married men. There were eventually 100 such camps in the vicinity of Seminole containing from four to fifteen homes, e.g., Mijo Camp. In 1927 within a five mile radius of Seminole, there were 27 gasoline plants -- the largest of which was Sinclair Plant No. 13.

School enrollment increased from 634 in 1926 to 3,335 in 1929. Five outlying school buildings were quickly constructed: Grisso, Oliver, Carter, Independent, and Lanier. A new 20-room junior high school and a one-story



Photo No. 2. Oil Field Workers in the Seminole District.



Photo No. 3. Garage and Hotel in Seminole, 1927.

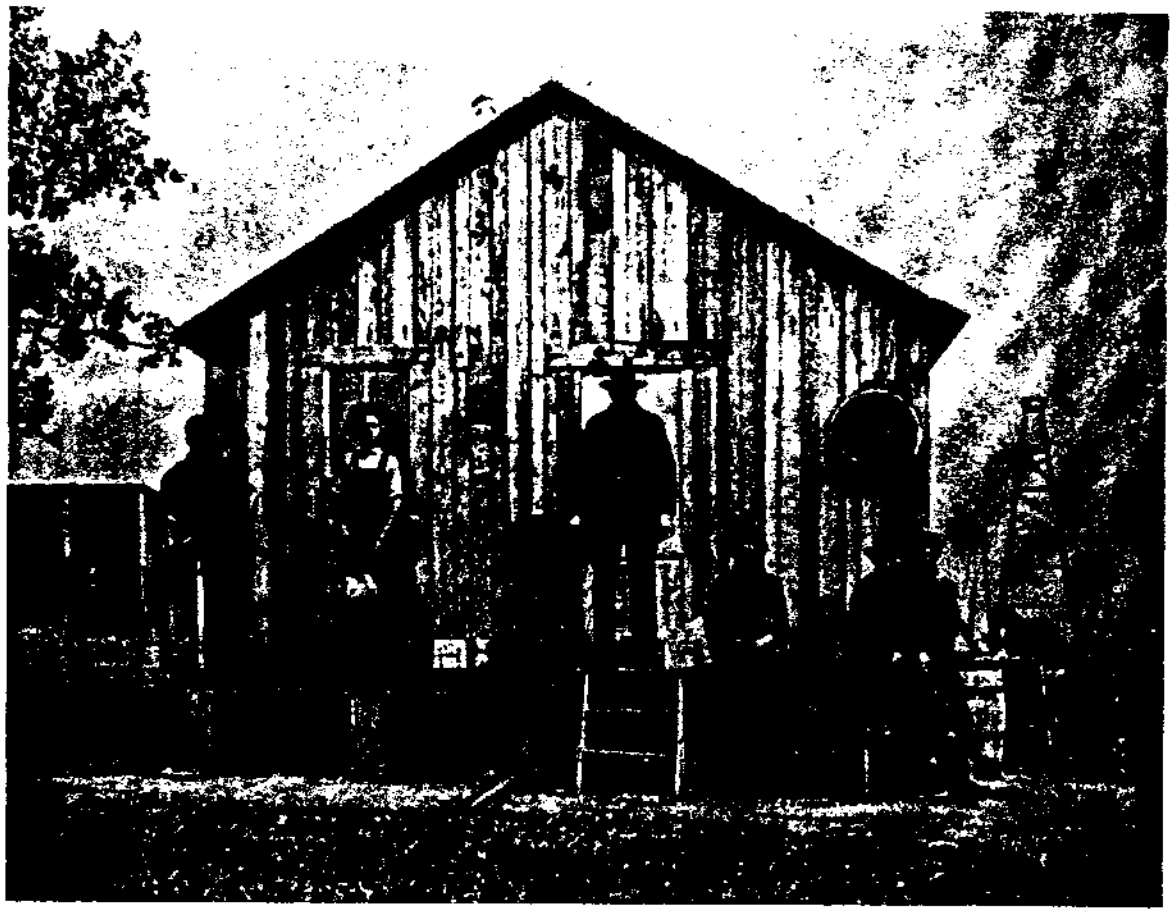


Photo No. 4. Boom Town Housing in Seminole during the 1920s.

15-room elementary school were built in Seminole in 1928. Finally in 1930, a new high school building was completed at a cost of $224,000.

Although several new pools of oil were discovered in the Greater Seminole District after 1935, the boom period for the city of Seminole was largely over by then. Oil field businesses, however, continued to dominate the economic life of the community until after World War II. Thereafter, Seminole began a diversification process and is one of the few American boom towns able to maintain its population stability. It actually gained population after the boom era from 11,459 in 1930 to 11,863 in 1950. The city lost population in 1970 due to a deannexation plan whereby oil company camp locations were deleted from the city limits. By 1980 population was again on the increase in Seminole (Table 5).

In conclusion, the Greater Seminole Oil District was "the greatest of them all" in Oklahoma. It affected the socioeconomic structure of the region, state, and even the nation. Production from the twenty-nine producing pools was the major factor in Oklahoma regaining the top spot among petroleum producing states in the late 1920's (Figure 4). It was the most significant field in Oklahoma petroleum history for a variety of reasons:

(1) America's foremost source of high-quality petroleum in the 1920's, a period of peace and prosperity for the nation.

(2) One of the largest petroleum districts in America. The twenty-nine producing pools covered all or parts of five counties (Seminole, Okfuskee, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, and Hughes) of which three are included in Study Unit V (Seminole, Pontotoc, and Pottawatomie). Eventually the district covered 1,300 square miles (Figure 8).

(3) It contained six of the twenty-two giant oil fields in Oklahoma,

i.e., those which had cumulative production of over 100 million barrels. The six fields were Earlsboro, St. Louis, Seminole City, Bowlegs, Little River, and Allen (Figure 9).

(4) Petroleum was discovered in seven different producing horizons.

(5) Regional refineries declined and were replaced with interconnecting pipeline systems to link Oklahoma with marketing outlets across the nation, e.g., Great Lakes Pipeline constructed in 1931 was formed by six Oklahoma-based firms (Pure Oil, Mid-Continent Petroleum, Continental Oil, Barnsdall Petroleum, Skelly Oil, and Phillips Petroleum). This pipeline connected Oklahoma to Minneapolis and Chicago.

(6) It was the last petroleum district in Oklahoma where wells were allowed to produce at full capacity. Thereafter, government regulation set proration of well production.

(7) During the decade of 1926 to 1936, the Greater Seminole District produced 702,157,800 barrels of oil which represented 18 percent of all produced in Oklahoma, 4 percent of all produced in United States, and 2.6 percent of world production since the beginning of the petroleum industry. Based on the value of the 1936 dollar, the period produced $1,009,966,749 worth of crude oil.

(8) The Greater Seminole District was the primary factor in Oklahoma regaining top position among petroleum producing states in the late 1920's (Figure 4).

(9) New techniques, methods, and innovations were first introduced in the Greater Seminole District including:

a. rotary drilling used on large scale,

b. air-gas lifts,

c. acid treatment of wells,

d. electric power,

e. mud drilling,

f. seismic reflection in exploration, and

g. directional drilling.

All these elements enhanced production capacity of wells as well as saving time and reducing labor costs.

(10) The Greater Seminole District was comprised of both independents and majors. Several independent companies were formed as a result of the district: Home Stake Oil and Gas, Cromwell Oil and Gas, and Searight Oil. Major companies which expanded operations in the region: Amerada Petroleum, Carter Oil, Cosden Oil and Gas, Gypsy Oil, Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company, McMan Oil, Magnolia Oil, Mid-Continent Petroleum, Pure Oil, Phillips Petroleum, Sinclair Oil and Gas, and Twin State (a subsidiary of Sun).

(11) Construction of industrial buildings and structures expanded at a rapid rate. Oil field structures dominated the landscape -- wood derricks were replaced with metal ones, both cable tool and rotary drilling rigs were used, redwood and steel storage tanks sprouted everywhere, and twenty-seven gasoline processing plants were located within a five-mile radius of Seminole.

(12) Large numbers of company camps were erected to position employees as close as possible to their work. There were 100 such camps in the vicinity of Seminole. Among them were the Walker, Mijo, Tidal, Phillips, Sinclair, and Pure Oil Camps; each containing from four to fifteen houses. The largest was the Gypsy Camp with 166 houses.

(13) Population statistics indicate phenomenal growth of existing

villages and towns in the Greater Seminole District (Figures 10-12).

(14) New school buildings of a permanent nature were constructed to accommodate the school age population. Brick buildings were erected in Bowlegs, Maud, Seminole, and Cromwell.

(15) New churches were founded and built with funds donated by wealthy oil families such as J. A. Ingram (Earlsboro First Methodist), Joe I. Cromwell (First Baptist of Cromwell), and S. S. Orwig (First Methodist of Cromwell).

List of Oklahoma Landmark Inventory Nominations

I. BUILDINGS

A. Dwellings

(1.) Phil Stuart Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 13-16, Block 1, Blakeney's Addition
Date: 1929
Significance: Stuart was vice-president of the Mammoth Department Store during the oil boom era.

(2.) J.A. Ingram Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 21-24, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Gaining oil wealth in Earlsboro, J.A. Ingram became mayor of Shawnee in the early 1930's. He was responsible for the construction of Shawnee Lake, the city's major water source.

(3.) Frank Buck Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 28-34 & West 50' of Lots 1-8, Block 39, Rose Garden Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Frank Buck served as president and principal owner of the Federal National Bank from 1923 to 1961.

(4.) Robert Varnum Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 17-20, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition
Date: 1929
Significance: Varnum was one of the major petroleum operators in the Seminole Oil Field during the late 1920's and 1930's.

(5.) C.B. Billington Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-4, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Billington was a petroleum businessman and financed the first skyscraper in Shawnee.

(6.) Charles Neal Mansion or "Stonehurst"

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 23A, 23B, 24, Block 3, Re-Plat Broadway Heights Second Addition
Date: 1927
Significance: Neal founded the Shawnee Motor Supply Company.

(7.) Roy Jarvis Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 13-16, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Jarvis managed an oil royalty company based on mineral rights derived from the Jarvis No. 1 and 2 oil wells, two of the major discoveries in the Earlsboro Pool of the Seminole Oil Field.

(8.) Dr. J.E. Walker Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 12-13, Block 2, Re-Plat Broadway Heights Second Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Walker was one of the leading physicians of Shawnee during the oil boom era.

(9.) H.T. Douglas Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 8-28, Block 37, Rose Garden Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: H.T. Douglas was one of the most influential community leaders in the commercial history of Shawnee. His home is the best example of Georgian Revival architecture in the town.

(10.) Charles Wells Mansion

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-4, Block 1, Blakeney Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: Wells was one of the leading attorneys of Shawnee during the oil boom period.

(11.) E.C. Aldridge Mansion

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-4, Block 2, Bluff View Addition
Date: 1933
Significance: E.C. Aldridge was Mayor of Wewoka at the height of the oil boom. A prominent civic leader, he has been accredited as a key instrument in the town's major advancements since crude oil money began flowing in 1923.

(12.) B.F. Davis Home

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 2-3, Block 1, Westwood Addition
Date: 1930
Significance: B.F. Davis was a leading attorney, banker and oil man during the Wewoka petroleum boom.

(13.) Hicks Epton Home

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 1, Block 1, Westwood Addition
Date: 1928
Significance: The original owner, Erving L. Wilson was a prominenet lawyer during the oil boom. Wilson also invested in oil leases and received reputable sums. The second owner, Hicks Epton, gained national and local esteem as a lawyer and originator of Law Day in 1946. He was also president of the Wewoka Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce. Epton was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1967, and was made president of the American College of Trial Lawyers in London, England.

(14.) Lloyd Noble Home

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1 and 18, Block 88, O.T.
Date: 1918
Significance: Lloyd Noble was a leading petroleum industrialist who lived in the home from 1934 to 1955 while he was president of Noble Drilling Company, Samedan Oil Corporation, and B.F. Walker Trucking Company. The home is one of the best remaining examples of Bungalow style architecture in Ardmore.

(15.) Elmer Harbor Home

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: E 1/2 of NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 21, Township 10 N, Range 4 E, IM.
Date: 1935
Significance: Harbor was a wealthy banker in Shawnee during the Seminole Oil Field boom.

(16.) Walter Neustadt Mansion

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 6, Block 421, O.T.
Date: 1920
Significance: Walter Neustadt was a reputable oil executive at the height of Ardmore's oil boom.

(17.) Ward Merrick Mansion

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 10, Block 19, O.T.
Date: 1918
Significance: Merrick was a leading independent oil man in the Healdton Field.

(18.) Neal House

Location: Oil City, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 11-12, Block 9, O.T.
Date: 1910
Significance: This home is the oldest building in the boomtown of Oil City. It is also one of only two buildings over 50 years old in the community.

(19.) Galt/Franklin Home

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Block 4, Dornick Hills Addition
Date: 1915
Significance: The Galt/Franklin Home is historically significant because of its association with two of Oklahoma's most well-known petroleum executives, Edward Galt, who built and resided in the dwelling from 1915 to the early 1920's, and Wirt Franklin, who purchased the home from Galt, and lived in it until his death in 1962.

(20.) Roy M. Johnson Home

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Block 4, Dornick Hills Addition
Date: 1915
Significance: The home is historically significant because Roy M. Johnson was one of the most influential petroleum executives in Oklahoma history. He formed a development company which drilled the first well in the Healdton Oil Field.

B. Churches

(1.) First Baptist Church

Location: Maud, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-3, Block 2, Supplemental Maud
Date: 1928
Significance: The First Baptist Church was a prominent institution during the oil boom era. It was constructed from local pledges and was nearly razed when the community's oil wealth went bust.

(2.) First Baptist Church

Location: Cromwell, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Highway 56, P.O. Box 171
Date: 1924
Significance: The First Baptist Church was constructed by the town's founder and oilman, J.I. Cromwell. He gave the church to the citizens as his civic attempt to clean up "Cromwell the Wicked" and rid it of the undesirables.

(3.) First Baptist Church

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 3-6, Block 11, O.T.
Date: 1929
Significance: The First Baptist Church was built during the petroleum industry's height and is the result of great oil wealth in the community.

(4.) First Methodist Church

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-2 and N 1/3 of Lot 3, Block 25, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: The First Methodist Church is historically significant because it was completely financed by the petroleum wealth of one individual and presented to the town as a gift. It is the only oil boom church in the community to remain totally intact.

(5.) First Presbyterian Church

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 33-34, Block 88, O.T.
Date: 1929
Significance: The First Presbyterian Church is historically significant because it is one of two churches in Wewoka that was constructed from petroleum wealth and remains completely unaltered today.

(6.) Missionary Baptist Church

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-5, Block 65, O.T.
Date: 1932
Significance: The Missionary Baptist Church is significant because it is one of two unaltered oil boom churches in Wewoka.

(7.) First Presbyterian Church

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 8-9, Block 301, O.T.
Date: 1917
Significance: The First Presbyterian Church is the oldest oil boom church in Ardmore and the oldest Gothic Revival Church in the community. It is one of the best remaining examples of this type of architecture in south central Oklahoma.

(8.) St. Philip's Episcopal Church

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-3, Block 415, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: St. Philip's is the oldest Episcopal church in south central Oklahoma and the only Gothic Revival Episcopal church in this area.

(9.) First Baptist Church

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 9, Block 376, O.T.
Date: 1928
Significance: The First Baptist Church is the oldest Baptist Church in Ardmore and the only Baptist Church in south central Oklahoma employing Gothic Revival architecture.

(10.) Oil City Union Church

Location: Oil City, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 23-24, Block 10, O.T.
Date: 1908
Significance: The Union Church played on important role in Oil City as petroleum brought more people to the area. It is the only remaining church in Oil City.

(11.) First United Methodist Church

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: East 50' of Lot 3, Lot 4, Block 330, O.T.
Date: 1925
Significance: First United Methodist Church is the oldest Methodist church in Ardmore constructed during the peak production years of the Healdton Oil Field. It is the best remaining example of Greek Revival architecture as applied to a church building in Ardmore.

C. Schools

(1.) Maud High School (Pottawatomie School District 117)

Location: Maud, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-10, Block 1; Lots 13-24, Block 2 in the Woolridge Addition to the city of Maud.
Date: 1930
Significance: This educational facility was built to accommodate the incredible increase of the school-age population during the oil boom.

(2.) Maud Elementary School (Pottawatomie School District 117)

Location: Maud, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-10, Block 1; Lots 13-24, Block 2
Date: 1926
Significance: This educational facility was built during the height of Maud's oil boom and served to educate the children of oil workers.

(3.) St. Louis High School

Location: St. Louis, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: W 1/2 of SE 1/4, Section 14, Township 7N, Range 4 E
Date: 1929
Significance: The St. Louis High School was built with oil-related funding following the discovery of oil in the mid-1920's.

(4.) White Bead School

Location: Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: 3 miles northwest of Pauls Valley on Highway 19.
Date: 1919
Significance: This educational facility is the oldest and only remaining dependent rural school in Garvin County. It is the only remaining school building in the community of White Bead, (founded as an Indian Settlement in 1870) and one of only two buildings remaining in the entire town. The school has remained in continuous operation since its construction.

(5.) Zaneis Teacher's Dormitory

Location: Wilson, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Five miles south of Healdton, Oklahoma
Date: 1932
Significance: This is the only educational facility of its type still standing in the Healdton/Hewitt Oil Field and the only building still intact representative of the Zaneis School District #72.

(6.) Zaneis School Pump House

Location: Wilson, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Five miles south of Healdton, Oklahoma
Date: 1922
Significance: This pump house was essential for supplying water to the Zaneis school and continues to serve the same purpose.

(7.) Zaneis School Cafeteria

Location: Wilson, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Five miles south of Healdton, Oklahoma
Date: 1928
Significance: Associated with Zaneis School, one of the oil boom era schools, constructed in the Healdton Field.

D. Commercial

(1.) W.S. Key Building

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 3-8, N 13' of Lot 9, Block 20, O.T.
Date: 1926
Significance: This building is historically significant because it was once owned by Col. William S. Key, a prominent citizen of Wewoka.

(2.) Hotel Aldridge

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: South 1/2 of Lot 10, All of Lots 11 and 12, Block 47, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: An elegant hotel during the oil boom, Hotel Aldridge was the site for many petroleum deals. Furthermore, it was built by Mayor E.C. Aldridge, a local politican and leading oil man.

(3.) Reed Hotel

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 9, Block 21, O.T.
Date: ca. 1923
Significance: The Reed Hotel was a well known brothel during Wewoka's 1923 oil boom.

(4.) OTASCO Building

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 10-12, Block 46, O.T.
Date: ca. 1923
Significance: This building is one of the few boom-time structures left in Wewoka that remains unaltered. It served as a garage and automotive parts store.

(5.) A.M. Cummings Building

Location: Allen, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-2, Block 31, O.T.
Date: 1920
Significance: The A.M. Cummings Building served as a popular rooming house and entertainment hall for the local oilers. It is one of three remaining petroleum-boom buildings left in the downtown district, and is by far the most ornate.

(6.) Healdton Funeral Parlor/Auto Sales & Service

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 1, Block 58, O.T.
Date: ca. 1920
Significance: This building was constructed as a mortuary. It is one of the few business buildings remaining in the oil boom town of Healdton.

(7.) Healdton Cafe

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 22, Block 49, O.T.
Date: 1925
Significance: This two-story brick building is one of the few remaining business buildings that was constructed during Healdton's oil boom.

(8.) Blondell's Flowers

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 24, Block 50, O.T.
Date: 1925
Significance: Built during the oil boom in the Healdton field, this building still remains intact on Main Street.

(9.) Sanford Building

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 5, Block 23, O.T.
Date: ca. 1923
Significance: The Sanford Building served as the city clerk's office, the water department and the telephone exchange when the Seminole Field began production.

(10.) Born Building

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-2, Block 28, O.T.
Date: 1925
Significance: As one of the largest buildings in Seminole, the Born Building served as a multi-purpose structure during the boom.

(11.) Pauls' Showcase Furniture Building

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 22-24, Block 27, O.T.
Date: ca. 1923
Significance: This building is historically significant because it housed the Bethlehem Pipe Supply Company, the Seminole Post Office and the Chief Theater during the community's peak oil production era.

(12.) Mulky Hotel

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 9-10, Block 304, O.T.
Date: 1910
Significance: This hotel housed oil field workers during the boom. It is the only hotel in Ardmore that is still being used for its original purpose.

(13.) Bettes Funeral Home

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 1, Block 412, O.T.
Date: 1922
Significance: This building provided funeral services for the oil boom residents in Ardmore.

(14.) Harvey Funeral Home

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1, 2, 11, Block 411, O.T.
Date: 1924
Significance: This building originally served as a hotel for petroleum entrepreneurs. It was converted into a funeral home in 1928.

(15.) Woods Grocery Store

Location: Kingston, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 11-12, Block 22, O.T.
Date: 1904
Significance: This building is the only surviving grocery store from the oil boom era in the community of Kingston.

(16.) First National Bank

Location: Kingston, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: East 66' of Lot 1, Block 27, O.T.
Date: 1905
Significance: This is the only remaining bank building in the petroleum boom town.

(17.) Hotel Aldridge

Location: Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 11-16, Block 106, O.T.
Date: 1928
Significance: This large building is historically significant because it was built by Wewoka Mayor E.C. Aldridge, a prominent civic leader and oil boom tycoon.

(18.) Drug Store

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 10, Block 33, O.T.
Date: ca. 1907
Significance: The Drug Store is one of only two buildings remaining in Earlsboro that was constructed ca. 1907. It remains in its original structural condition.

(19.) General Store

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 8-9, Block 33, O.T.
Date: ca. 1907
Significance: This building is one of only two buildings remaining in Earlsboro that was constructed ca. 1907.

(20.) Bank Building

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 13, Block 24, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: Serving the oil boom residents, this bank building is one of only two buildings remaining from the Earlsboro oil boom era.

(21.) Furniture Store

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 9, Block 23, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: This building is one of two remaining buildings built during the Earlsboro oil boom period.

(22.) Royal Hotel

Location: Madill, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 20-21, Block 20, O.T.
Date: 1906
Significance: The Royal Hotel served as a prominent hotel in Madill. It housed many well known oil families until permanent homes were built.

(23.) Woody Motor Company

Location: Madill, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 10-12, Block 36, O.T.
Date: 1917
Significance: Originally a wagon and mule yard, this building became a Ford Motor Company dealership in 1920. It is one of the oldest Ford franchises remaining in the United States.

(24.) Worth Hotel

Location: Madill, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 13-15, Block 18, O.T.
Date: 1914
Significance: The Worth Hotel is the oldest oil boom era hotel which remains in original condition in Madill. Furthermore, it is one of the best examples of Plains Commercial architecture in Madill.

(25.) Blanchard New Building

Location: Blanchard, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 4, Block 67, O.T.
Date: 1930
Significance: This building houses the first established newspaper in Blanchard.

(26.) Hickerson Realty

Location: Maysville, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 1, Block 91, O.T.
Date: 1910
Significance: The building was originally used as the Maysville First State Bank. Today it is used as a real estate office and oil lease brokerage.

(27.) Duke's Grocery

Location: Wirt, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 4, Township 4S, Range 3W
Date: 1917
Significance: Duke's Grocery is the only remaining commercial building in the oil boom community of Wirt.

(28.) Van Sanford Apartments

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-6, Block 20, O.T.
Date: 1929
Significance: First permanent lodging facilities built to alleviate housing shortage during oil boom in Seminole.

E. Industrial

(1.) Service Pipeline Company Station

Location: Wirt, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: 1 1/2 miles west of Wirt, Oklahoma; Section 8, Township 4 South, Range 3 West
Date: 1914
Significance: Built in 1914 and abandoned in 1953, this is the best example of a service pipeline company station remaining in south central Oklahoma.

(2.) Healdton/Hewitt Oil Field Bunk House

Location: Wilson, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 9, T4N, R2W
Date: 1923
Significance: This building has continuously served the Hales Oil Company, one of the oldest independent operators in south central Oklahoma, for over 60 years. It is the best remaining oil field bunk house still intact in the Healdton/Hewitt Field.

(3.) Homestake Oil and Gas Company

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: West 25' of Lots 1-4, Block 27, O.T.
Date: 1927
Significance: Constructed at the height of the Seminole oil boom, this building served as headquarters for the Homestake Oil and Gas Comapny, the first petroleum company in the Seminole Oil Field.

(4.) Lindsay Mobil Oil Service Station

Location: Lindsay, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 1, Block 57, O.T.
Date: 1934
Significance: This is the oldest continuously operating gas station in Lindsay, Oklahoma.

(5.) Santa Fe Railroad Depot

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: First Street and Wirt
Date: 1917
Significance: This depot was the point from which oil tank cars left Healdton and oil field workers arrived.

(6.) Santa Fe Depot

Location: Marietta, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Southwest Front Street at Main and Front
Date: 1913
Significance: This is the best remaining example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture applied to a railroad depot in south central Oklahoma and one of the oldest Santa Fe depots in south central Oklahoma.

(7.) Lindsay Santa Fe Depot

Location: Lindsay, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: 110 North Main Street
Date: 1903
Significance: This is one of the two oldest Santa Fe depots in south central Oklahoma and one of the two best remaining examples of vernacular architecture as applied to railroad depots.

(8.) Pauls Valley Santa Fe Depot

Location: Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Paul and Earl Street Intersection
Date: 1903
Significance: This is one of the two oldest Santa Fe depots in south central Oklahoma and one of the best examples of vernacular architecture as applied to railroad depots in south central Oklahoma.

(9.) Sunray Oil Refinery

Location: Vicinity of Allen, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 26, R8E, T5N
Date: 1921
Significance: Oldest remaining oil refinery buildings in the Greater Seminole Oil Field which remain intact. Includes four historic buildings.

(10.) Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Depot

Location: Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: South End of Main Street
Date: 1928
Significance: This depot handled more freight than any other depot on the Rock Island line in Oklahoma during the oil boom years, 1928-1940.

(11.) Bebee Field Round House

Location: Vicinity of Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: NW 1/4, Section 31, T5N, R5E
Date: 1929
Significance: It is the oldest remaining and best preserved example of a central power well-pumping industrial building in the Seminole Oil Field.

F. Lodges

(1.) Ardmore Masonic Temple

Location: Ardmore, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 3-6, Block 303, O.T. of Ardmore
Date: 1930
Significance: This is the oldest remaining fraternal order meeting place in Ardmore and has continously served the town's social and commercial needs for over 54 years.

(2.) Healdton Lodge Hall

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 13-14, Block 50, O.T.
Date: 1925
Significance: This is the only remaining fraternal order meeting place in Healdton, Oklahoma.

(3.) A.F. and A.M. Lodge

Location: Earlsboro, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 5, Block 33, O.T.
Date: 1917
Significance: During the oil boom era, this building served as a meeting place for lodge members.

(4.) Masonic Temple/Billington Building

Location: Shawnee, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-4, Block 25, AP Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma
Date: 1929
Significance: Architecturally, it was the first Sullivanesque-type skyscraper constructed in Shawnee. It was the most important office building in the central business district of Shawnee during the peak production years of the Greater Seminole Oil Field, 1927-1940.

G. Government

(1.) Blanchard City Hall and Jail

Location: Blanchard, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 18-22, Block 78, O.T.
Date: 1905
Significance: The basement of this building was used to hold law-breakers during both territorial and early statehood periods.

(2.) Indian Territory Courthouse

Location: Purcell, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lot 10, Block 113, O.T.
Date: 1860
Significance: A territorial jail was located in the first story of this building. After statehood, it continued to function as a correctional facility.

II. STRUCTURES

(1.) Carter Oil Company Gasoline Plant

Location: Cromwell, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: 1 mile southeast of Highway 56 - Interstate 40 junction
Date: 1924
Significance: Beginning operation during the Greater Seminole oil field boom, this gasoline plant houses the only remaining cooling tower in Seminole County.

(2.) Sinclair Loading Rack

Location: Vicinity of Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 35, T9N, R6E
Date: ca. 1928
Significance: This is the only remaining loading rack in the vicinity of Seminole. It was instrumental in the transportation of petroleum products to refining centers before the advent of pipelines.

(3.) Healdton Water Tower

Location: Healdton, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Lots 1-5, Block 50, O.T.
Date: 1920
Significance: This water tower was constructed to supply water to Healdton during the oil boom era and is still used by the city.

(4.) The Viaduct

Location: Francis, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 29, T5N, R7E
Date: 1900
Significance: From 1900 to 1930, this wooden viaduct bridge was the only access route to Allen, Oklahoma. All retail supplies and oil-related commerce passed across the viaduct.

(5.) Wewoka Switch and Sidetracks

Location: Wewoka, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Between the intersection of the Chicago Rock Island and Pacific Railroads and Wewoka Avenue.
Date: 1902
Significance: Mounds of misguided freight often sat on the sidetracks for months before the owners found them. When the oil boom hit, millions of dollars of drilling equipment began to flood the track and many carloads were lost on the Switch. Hence, oil field workers throughout the world used "It's lost on the Wewoka Switch" to explain the lack of equipment delivery.

(6.) Healdton Field Tank Farm

Location: Wirt, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 17, T4S, R3W
Date: 1919
Significance: Four original 55,000 barrel oil storage tanks remain intact. One of the earliest tank farms in the Healdton Oil Field.

III. SITES

(1.) Tom B. Slick No. 1 Oil Well

Location: St. Louis, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: West 1/2 of the southeast 1/4 of Section 18, T7N, R5E
Date: 1928
Significance: This well, drilled by Tom B. Slick on the O.A. Hembree lease, opened the Ray City Area for oil drilling. News of this well persuaded other oil companies to drill deeper wells to the second Wilcox sand formation.

(2.) Roper No. 3 Oil Well

Location: Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: SE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 32, T5N, R5E
Date: 1927
Significance: This well has been continuously pumping from the Viola formation since April, 1927 and currently produces 3-4 barrels of crude oil per day.

(3.) Roper No. 4 Oil Well

Location: Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: NE 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 32, T5N, R5E
Date: 1927
Significance: This well has been pumping continuously since 1927 and currently produces 8-9 barrels of crude oil per day in the Bebee Field.

(4.) B.A. La Salle Mole No. 1 Oil Well

Location: Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: 1/2 mile south of the county road 347-148 intersection
Date: 1926
Significance: This is the oldest producing oil well in the Bebee Field of Pontotoc County and the discovery well of the West Bebee Field.

(5.) Arbuckle Well

Location: Madill, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: S 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 25, T5S, R5E
Date: 1909
Significance: Drilled by George W. Bilbo in the Madill Pool, this is the oldest well in Marshall County. It originally produced 400 barrels of crude oil per day, making it the greatest producer in the field. It is still producing.

(6.) Alba Johnston Well Site

Location: Milo, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: NE 1/4 of Section 31, T2S, R1W
Date: 1920
Significance: This is one of the first oil wells drilled near Milo, Oklahoma.

(7.) First Oil Well in Love County

Location: Marietta, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: S 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 26, T6S, R2E
Date: 1914
Significance: This was the first oil well to be drilled in Love County.

IV. DISTRICTS

(1.) Mijo Camp Industrial District

Location: Vicinity of Ada, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: Section 29, T5N, R5E
Date: 1924
Significance: It is the oldest remaining oil field production camp in Pontotoc County. Includes thirteen buildings and two structures.

(2.) Sinclair Gas Plant No. 13 Industrial District

Location: Vicinity of Seminole, Oklahoma
Legal or Address: .75 mile east and .25 mile south of the intersection of old Highway 99 and Highway 59.
Date: 1927
Significance: It is the oldest remaining gas processing plant in the Greater Seminole Oil Field. Includes forty-one historic buildings and structures.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Aldridge Home

Location: 926 Sunset Drive, Wewoka, OK 74884

Owner: Mrs. Mimi M. Massad, 926 Sunset Drive, Wewoka, OK 74884

Description: Condition: Good

The E. C. Aldridge Mansion is a 2 1/2 story, detached, rectangular-shaped dwelling finished with polychromatic brick laid in the running bond. The clipped gable main roof features a center gable over entrance and the one-story wings attached to rear and east side have hipped roofs. All are covered with red Spanish tiles. A rectangular-shaped end wall chimney is located on east side and square-shaped wall chimney in rear.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1924-1942
Builder/Architect: E. C. Aldridge
Areas: Political/Commercial

Aldridge built the home in 1933 in the new Bluff View Addition of Wewoka at a time when he had attained considerable wealth from his various commercial enterprises. Elected as mayor of Wewoka in 1926, Aldridge served in that political capacity until 1942. During his tenure as mayor, Wewoka made many civic improvements including new water and sewer lines, additional paved streets, more professional fire department, and expanded health care. Aldridge's municipal leadership occurred at a time when the city was forced to change its urban function from one of a small town rural market center to one oriented toward serving the nearby petroleum fields.

In addition to political duties, Aldridge was also active in various commercial activities. During the time he lived in the nominated property, he was President of the Farmers National Bank, held interests in the Key Hardware and Shepherds Dry Goods, managed extensive landholdings and oil leases, and owned the Hotel Aldridge.

Aldridge lived in residence at 926 Sunset Drive from 1933 until his death in 1966 at the age of 89. Aldridge's contributions to the political and commercial history of Wewoka were memorialized in his obituary where he was described as a "city pioneer" and "builder of Wewoka."

The Aldridge Home continues as a single-family residence thereby retaining its historic integrity. A 10' x 10' addition was completed in the early 1970's to the southeast corner. Similar construction materials, roof type, and decorative elements were used. Other than this minor alteration, the E. C. Aldridge Home has maintained its architectural integrity and stands as an historic landmark to the significance of E. C. Aldridge to the community of Wewoka.

Major Bibliographical References:

Wewoka Democrat, June 16, 1927; Wewoka Capital-Democrat, December 22, 1927; and Wewoka Times, November 30, 1966.

Barking Water: The Story of Wewoka. Oklahoma City: Semco Color Press, 1960.

Morris, John, The Greater Seminole Oil Field. Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Books, 1981.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Wewoka West, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/727540/3892200
Verbal Boundary: Lots 1-4 and 37-40, Block 2, Bluff View Addition to Wewoka, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Johnson Home

Location: 400 Country Club Road, Ardmore, OK 73402

Owner: Dr. Otey Johnson Estate, 400 Country Club Road, Ardmore, OK 73402

Description: Condition: Good

Primary architectural characteristics are: a multi-level, Spanish red-tiled, low pitched, cross-hipped roof; arched doors and windows; partially enclosed, covered porches and patios set off by arcades supported by columns; and casement windows. The home is constructed in the shape of "U" with the facade forming both the base of the "U" and its south side. On either side of the arms of the "U" are flat-roofed wings with cement balustrades simulating marble. The one-story, detached residence is constructed of coursed ashlar granite with a watertable and boxed cornices.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1915-1960
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Industrial/Political

The Roy M. Johnson Home is historically significant because of its historic association with Roy M. Johnson, one of the most influential petroleum executives in Oklahoma history. In 1907, the year of Oklahoma statehood, Johnson moved from Texas to Ardmore where he started a weekly newspaper, the Ardmore Statesman. During the next eight years, he promoted the potential of petroleum in the Ardmore vicinity. Finally in 1915, he and two fellow Ardmore businessmen (Galt and Franklin) formed a development company which drilled the first well in the Healdton Oil Field, which dominated the petroleum industry of Oklahoma for the next decade. Following the discovery of oil in 1915, Johnson had accumulated sufficient wealth to build a mansion in the Country Club section of Ardmore. From 1915 until his death in 1960, Johnson and his family resided in the nominated property. His most productive years were in the 1920's and 1930's when he served as treasurer of the Crystal Oil Company, County Commissioner of Carter County, a member of the first Oklahoma Highway Commission, financed the first skyscraper in Ardmore (Simpson Building), director of the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce, and director of the Ardmore National Bank. He was

also known for his philanthropic activities having donated land for both the Ardmore Memorial and Ardmore Adventist Hospitals.

Johnson's most significant contributions to the historical development of city of Ardmore and state of Oklahoma were made while residing in the nominated property. The home is currently owned by the Otey Johnson Estate (Otey was one of Roy's children) thereby continuing its historic association with the Roy Johnson family.

Major Bibliographical References:

Rister, Carl Coke, Oil! Titan of the Southwest. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949, pp. 126-127, 130, 132, 185, 251, 257-258, and 373.

Forbes, Gerald, Flush Production: The Epic of Oil in the Gulf-Southwest. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1942, pp. 34-35 and 187-188.

Franks, Kenny A., The Oklahoma Petroleum Industry. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980, pp. 80, 82, 132, 144, 174, and 229.

Goodnight, Marjorie C., Pioneers in the Development of Carter County. M.A. Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1939, pp. 61-77.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Ardmore West, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/671850/3787360
Verbal Boundary: Block 4, Dornick Hills Addition to Ardmore, Oklahoma. Beginning at a point 467' south and 134' west of the northeast corner of the NE 1/4, NE 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 18, T4S R1E, which is at the northeast corner of said property, proceed west 134', thence south 134', thence east 134', thence north 134' to point of beginning. The nominated property lies within these boundaries.



Roy M. Johnson Home

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Galt-Franklin Home

Location: 400 Country Club Road, Ardmore, OK 73402

Owner: Dr. Otey Johnson Estate, 400 Country Club Road, Ardmore, OK 73402

Description: Condition: Excellent

The Galt/Franklin Home is a rectangular, two-story, detached residence composed of a large central block with flanking two-story wings; a low-pitched, "H" shaped, cross-hipped roof with wide, projecting, bracketed eaves; two low, interior brick and stucco chimneys at the intersections of the three roof planes; and a stucco wall finish.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1915-1962
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Industrial/Political

The Galt/Franklin Home is historically significant because of its historic association with two of Oklahoma's most well-known petroleum executives, Edward Galt, who had the dwelling built and resided in it from 1915 to the early 1920's, and Wirt Franklin, who purchased the home from Galt and lived in it from the time of purchase until his death in 1962.

While living in the home only a short period, Galt was during that time the secretary of the Crystal Oil Company, the first such operation in the Healdton Oil Field, one of Oklahoma's most prolific producers from 1913 to ca. 1930. Franklin's residency in the home spanned the most productive years of his career as a petroleum executive and political figure. His petroleum-related activities included president of Wirt Franklin Petroleum Corporation, 1927-1937; first president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, 1929-1935; official in the Petroleum Administration for the War, 1942-1944; and lifetime member of the Board of Directors of the American Petroleum Institute. Politically, he was an unsuccessful Republican candidate for the United States Senator from Oklahoma in 1932 and also served on the Resolutions Committee of the Republican National Convention that year.

The Galt/Franklin Home was occupied from 1915 until 1962 by two of Oklahoma's most famous petroleum executives and their families, Edward Galt (1915-ca. 1922) and Wirt Franklin (ca. 1922-1962); both of whom made significant contributions to the petroleum heritage of Oklahoma and the nation.

Major Bibliographical References:

Rister, Carl Coke, Oil! Titan of the Southwest. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949, pp. 126-127, 130, 132, 185, 251, 257-258, and 373.

Forbes, Gerald, Flush Production: The Epic of Oil in the Gulf-Southwest. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1942, pp. 34-35 and 187-188.

Franks, Kenny A., The Oklahoma Petroleum Industry. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980, pp. 80, 82, 132, 144, 174, and 229.

Goodnight, Marjorie C., Pioneers in the Development of Carter County. M.A. Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1939, pp. 61-77.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Ardmore West, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/671760/3787430
Verbal Boundary: Block 4, Dornick Hills Addition to Ardmore, Oklahoma. Beginning at a point 400' west and 200' south of the northeast corner of the NE 1/4, NE 1/4, NW 1/4 of Section 18, T4S, R1E, which is at the northeast corner of said property, proceed west 200', thence south 200', thence east 200', thence north 200' to point of beginning. The nominated property lies within these boundaries.



Galt/Franklin Home

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Paul Stuart Mansion

Location: 1818 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Owner: Phyllis Stuart Harris, 1818 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Description: Condition: Excellent

The Phil Stuart Mansion is a two-story, detached dwelling finished with buff brick in the running bond. It is approximately 30' x 50" and has a hipped roof covered with composition shingles.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1929-1939
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Commercial

The Phil Stuart Mansion is both historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with Phil Stuart, a prominent Shawnee businessman during the oil boom era, and (2) one of the best examples of high style architecture constructed in Shawnee during the boom era of the late 1920's.

Stuart built the home in 1929 and resided in it until 1939, the time of his death. During the period in which he lived in the nominated property, Stuart was Vice-President and part owner of the Mammoth Department Store, the only business of this type in Shawnee during the oil boom era of the late 1920's and 1930's. He also assumed an active role in civic affairs, served on Board of Directors of a Shawnee bank, and managed considerable area landholdings. From the latter, he received oil royalties which he used to construct the property at 1818 North Broadway.

The Stuart Mansion architectural vocabulary follows no one particular style. Rather it draws upon several styles giving an eclectic quality to the dwelling. Major architectural features include the two-story projecting pavilion which is highlighted by the decorative smooth cement entry surround flanked by latticed openings, the arcaded porch with battlements, the three-sided bay with battlements and round arched openings, decorative brackets in widely overhanging eaves, and the numerous paired windows with multiple lights.

The nominated property has remained in the Stuart family since his death in 1939 as his daughter currently occupies the home.

The architectural integrity of the residence has remained intact for over 55 years.

Major Bibliographical References:

Personal Interviews: Mrs. Phyllis Stuart Harris, July, 1984; and J. Knox Byrum, January, 1985.

Morris, John, et. al., The Greater Seminole Oil Field. Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Books, 1981.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Shawnee, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/688660/3913800
Verbal Boundary: Lots 13-16, Block 1, Blakeney's Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

J. E. Walker Mansion

Location: 1829 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Owner: William and Alice Green, 1829 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Description: Condition: Excellent

The Walker Mansion is a two-story, unattached dwelling constructed of running bond masonry. It has a gable roof covered with diamond-shaped composition shingles and displays an ell-shaped floor plan.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1920-1931
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Social/Architecture

The J. E. Walker Mansion is both historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with J. E. Walker, one of the leading physicians in Shawnee during the oil boom era, and (2) it is one of the best examples of high style eclectic type architecture constructed during the oil boom era in Shawnee.

J. E. Walker, a physician in Earlsboro, acquired considerable landholdings prior to the Seminole Oil Field boom. When the Seminole Field was opened, petroleum was discovered on his land and he decided to move his practice to the larger city of Shawnee in the late 1920's. With his oil royalties, Walker constructed a large home in Shawnee where he lived his remaining years as one of the major community figures.

The nominated property embodies a sense of eclecticism with its round arched openings, parapeted wing with battlements, highly ornate massive wall chimney centrally located in the facade, and multi-paned windows many of which are arranged in ribbon-like fashion.

Major Bibliographical References:

Personal Interviews: J. Knox Byrum, January, 1985; Mrs. Edwin A. Dawson, July, 1984; and William Green, July, 1984.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Shawnee, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/688710/3913870
Verbal Boundary: Lots 12-13, Block 2, Replat of Broadway Heights Second Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Charles Neal Mansion or "Stonehurst"

Location: 1901 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Owner: Donald and Carol Vogt, 1901 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Description: Condition: Excellent

Stonehurst is a two-story, unattached dwelling with random, rubble, native stone finish. It measures approximately 30' x 75' and has a steeply pitched, multigable roofing system covered with wood shingles.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1928-1955
Builder/Architect: George Carr
Areas: Commercial/Architecture

The Charles Neal Mansion is historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with Charles Neal, one of the most prominent civic and commercial leaders of Shawnee during the oil boom era of the late 1920's and 1930's, and (2) it is the only remaining example of an English-style cottage built during the oil boom era in Shawnee.

Charles Neal founded the Shawnee Motor Supply Company in 1919. When oil was discovered in the Seminole Oil Field, Neal's company profited immensely from the petroleum activity because it was a major supplier for motors and other accessories used in oil field equipment. In 1928 Neal purchased the nominated property from a builder who had constructed the home as a "spec" property one year earlier. While living in the home, Neal continued as manager and owner of the Shawnee Motor Supply Company and assumed an active role in civic and religious affairs. He was a charter member of the Shawnee Rotary Club and served on the building committee of St. Paul's Methodist church. Neal died in 1942, however, the property remained in the family until 1955 because one of his sons lived in it for thirteen years.

Built at a cost of $23,000 in 1927, the Neal Mansion was commonly referred to as "Stonehurst" because of the extensive use of Missouri limestone imported from Carthage, Missouri. Built by George Carr and designed by Hugh Brown, the property was considered to be the first "model" home in Shawnee and was a "spec" house purchased by the Neal Family in 1928.

Eclecticism dominates the Neal Mansion, however, its random ashlar wall finish gives it an overall English country home appearance. Prominent architectural features include the multi-gabled roofing system, matching end wall chimneys, roof dormers in rear, the combination of steeply pitched and flared gables, and ribbon-like bands of window openings with multiplicity of lights.

Major Bibliographical References:

Personal Interviews: Donald and Carol Vogt, July, 1984; and Patsy Neal Askin, July, 1984.

Morris, John W., et. al., The Greater Seminole Oil Field. Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Books, 1981.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Shawnee, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/688720/3913938
Verbal Boundary: Lots 23A, 23B, and 24, Block 3, Replat of Broadway Heights Second Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

C. B. Billington Mansion

Location: 1904 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Owner: John and Linda King, 1904 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Description: Condition: Excellent

The C. B. Billington Mansion is a 1 1/2 story, castle-like, unattached dwelling. It is constructed of running bond brick finished in stucco. The gabled roof is covered with cedar shake shingles. The home is approximately 35' x 60'.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1928-1940
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Industrial/Commercial

The C. B. Billington Mansion is historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with C. B. Billington, one of the most important community leaders in Shawnee during the oil boom years of the late 1920's and 1930's, and (2) it is the only remaining example of Gothic Revival architecture constructed during the oil boom in Shawnee.

Billington moved to Shawnee in 1928 from Maud where he had been a successful hardware dealer and landowner. During the oil boom of the late 1920's, oil was discovered on his property near Maud and Konawa in the Seminole Oil Field. With his oil royalties, Billington in 1929 financed the first Shawnee skyscraper named after him. A loyal Mason, Billington had the skyscraper designed so that the Shawnee Masonic order could use the top two floors with the remainder devoted to office space. Billington maintained a land and royalty company office in the skyscraper until his death in ca. 1940.

The Billington Mansion employs Gothic Revival style elements including the castle-like turret with conical roof, pointed arch entryway, stained glass windows, and steeply pitched cross gables. Additional architectural features include the round arched openings with Palladian-like windows, flared eave on front cross gable, and diamond-shaped lights in main window in facade. Billington resided in the nominated property from 1920 to 1940, the year of his death.

Major Bibliographical References:

Personal Interviews: Ross Porter, July, 1984; and J. Knox Byrum, January, 1985.

Morris, John W. et. al., The Greater Seminole Oil Field. Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Books, 1981.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Shawnee, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/688662/3913930
Verbal Boundary: Lots 1-4, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS BY PROPERTY TYPE

DWELLINGS

Roy Jarvis Mansion

Location: 1928 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Owner: Wesley F. Mainord, 1928 North Broadway, Shawnee, OK 74801

Description: Condition: Excellent

The Jarvis Mansion is a two-story, unattached residence masoned in running bond brick. The home is ell-shaped and has a gabled main block and a hipped rear wing. The roofing system is finished in Spanish red tile.

Significance: Specific Dates: 1928-1972
Builder/Architect: Unknown
Areas: Commerical/Political

The Roy Jarvis Mansion is both historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with Roy Jarvis, and (2) it is one of the best remaining examples of high style architecture built during the oil boom in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Jarvis lived in the nominated property from 1928 to 1972. During that time, he managed considerable landholdings in the Earlsboro area where oil had been discovered in 1923. He also maintained a royalty company based on mineral rights derived from the Jarvis Nos. 1 and 2, two of the major wells in the Earlsboro Pool of the Seminole Oil Field. As was the case of many farmers who lived in the outlying areas, Jarvis moved to Shawnee and built a mansion with his oil field wealth.

Eclectic in nature, the Jarvis Mansion features a multi-gabled roofing system, massive exterior chimney in facade, red-tiled Spanish roof covering, round arched openings in first floor, and ornately decorated entryway with stepped parapet and scrolled brackets supporting a red-tiled shed roof.

Major Bibliographical References:

Personal Interviews: Mrs. William R. Dougherty, July, 1984 (Jarvis' daughter); and J. Knox Byrum, January, 1985.

Geographical Data:

Acreage: less than one acre
Quadrangle Name: Shawnee, OK
Scale: 1:24,000
UTM: 14/688650/3914010
Verbal Boundary: Lots 13-16, Block 2, Bellmont Heights Addition to Shawnee, Oklahoma.