

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JUL 5 1985  
date entered AUG 5 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Bebee Field Round House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number OK 13 N/A not for publication

city, town Ada  vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Pontotoc code 123

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

**4. Owner of Property**

name Paul Tucker

street & number Route 2, Box 348

city, town Ada N/A vicinity of state Oklahoma 74820

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of County Clerk

street & number Pontotoc County Courthouse

city, town Ada state Oklahoma 74820

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historic Preservation Office

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma 73105

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent     deteriorated  
 good         ruins  
 fair          unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved    date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Bebee Field Round House is a one-story industrial building with corrugated metal siding and roofing. It is approximately 32' x 80' with the "round", or circular, section some 40' in diameter. It has a gabled roof in front and conical-shaped roof in rear. A circular roof ventilator is located near the front facade.

The front, or north side, has double wood plank doors and a shed type attached porch.

The gabled roof system has three openings in west side and four in east wall. West side openings include one wood plank door and two fixed pane windows, one of which has four lights and the other two lights and louvered panel. The four windows in east wall consist of two louvered type, one half glass and half louvered, and the last a four light fixed pane type of which two panes are missing.

The round section has eight rectangular-shaped openings with either louvered panel or corrugated metal coverings.

Additional openings in the round portion include small rectangular slots for the shackle rods leading to the fifteen pumping units which the round house powered.

Although some of the window panes are missing, the corrugated metal needs paint, and some of the shackle rods have been removed, the integrity of the building has remained intact for over 55 years.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
			<input type="checkbox"/> science
			<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
			<input type="checkbox"/> social/
			<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
			<input type="checkbox"/> theater
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1929-1934      **Builder/Architect** Benjamin Trees Company

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Bebee Field Round House is an historically significant building because it is the oldest remaining and best preserved central power well-pumping industrial structure in the Seminole Oil Field.

Built in 1929 by the Benjamin Trees Company, a production operation, the Bebee Field Round House was the central power house for fifteen pumping units in the Bebee Field during its peak production years of 1929 to 1934. The building housed the well-pumping installation which consisted of an engine (gas-powered) powering a large diameter, horizontal bandwheel with shackle-rod lines attached to its circumference.

The bandwheel is an eccentric (offcenter), and as it revolves on a vertical axle a reciprocating motion is imparted to the shackle rods. The shackle rods are jointed steel rods approximately 25' long and 1" in diameter which connect the bandwheel with an oil well's pumping unit. Shackle-rod lines are supported on metal posts (2" line pipe) topped with wooden guide blocks that are lubricated with a heavy grease.

Although crude oil production in the Bebee Field steadily declined after 1934 and more modern gas and electric powered pumping units were installed directly over some of the well sites formerly served by the power house, the nominated property continued to function until 1983 when parts for the various equipment could no longer be obtained. Original equipment which remains in the nominated property includes the bandwheel (a Joseph Reid model made in 1927 by the Gas Engine Company of Oil City, Pennsylvania), idler gear, centric post, and some of the shackle rods. For over 55 years the Bebee Field Round House was a vital part of the industrial history of the Seminole Oil Field.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Personal Interview: B. J. Robertson, July, 1984  
Paul Tucker, July, 1984

Lagenkamp, R. D., Handbook of Oil Industry Terms and Phrases. Tulsa: Penwell Books, 1981.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Vanoss, OK

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	4	6	9	9	0	0	0	3	8	6	0	1	3	0
Zone		Easting						Northing						

B 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

C 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

D 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

E 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

F 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

G 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

H 

Zone		Easting						Northing						

### Verbal boundary description and justification

(continuation sheet)

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Judy Hettich Supervised by Dr. George O. Carney

organization Department of Geography date March, 1985

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater state Oklahoma 74078

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature C. M. Petraly date 6/21/85

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

### For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

William B. Bushong date 8/5/85  
for Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

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Verbal Boundary - Round House

Beginning at a point 1070' south and 460' east of the intersection in Oil Center of the north and west section line roads for section 31, T.5 N., R.5 E., proceed south 130' to the southwest corner of said property, thence east 90', thence north 130', thence west 90' to the point of beginning. The nominated property lies within these approximate boundaries.