

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

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

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Carter County Courthouse

Location: First and "B" ^{SW} Southwest, Ardmore, Oklahoma 040, Carter County 019

Owner: County of Carter, First and "B" Southwest, ARdmore, Oklahoma

Description: Condition: excellent, altered, original site

The Carter County Courthouse, built in 1910, is a three-story, square, neo-classic building of limestone and granite construction. The building is located on a square, typical of small, mid-western towns. The building is seven bays wide, with eight Doric pilasters dividing the bays. The aluminum window frames probably were originally wooden. Modern, metal-framed doors have replaced the original entrances.

The first floor of the courthouse has recessed, arched windows. Framing the windows is a limestone entablature with dental molding underneath, all below a projecting cornice line. Above this third-story cornice line is a stone balustrade with garland decorations between the rails. On top of the third floor is a coffered-roof cupola. It has four clocks and twelve fluted, Ionic pilasters.

The central feature of the interior is a small-scale, three-story rotunda. The floor has a grid pattern of black and white mosaic tile. The first and second floor have cove ceilings while the third floor has a coffered ceiling. Wide and narrow grained marble are used extensively in the interior on columns, stairs and a five-foot high wainscot.

Significance: December, 1910; Architect/builder: Layton, Smith and Hawk/W.A. Tackett Associates

The Carter County Courthouse is significant because it serves as a center for local government and as an architectural landmark. It is particularly significant because it was designed by the architectural firm headed by Solomon Andrew Layton. The courthouse bears his characteristic stamp of sturdy construction and neo-classic styling. Layton was one of Oklahoma's greatest architects and he designed more than 100 public, commercial and educational structures in Oklahoma, including the Oklahoma State Capitol

Acreage: Less than 1 acre Quadrangle: 1:24,000/7.5 minute

Verbal Boundary Description: Lots 1, 2, and 3; Block 378, original city of Ardmore

UTM: 14 672385 3782610