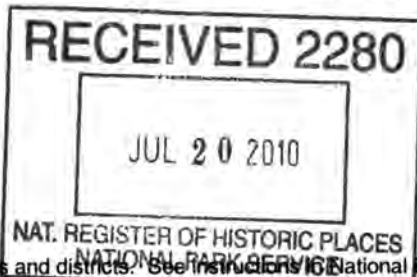


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name White Cloud Lodge
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 820 E. 146th not for publication
city or town Perkins vicinity
state Oklahoma code OK county Payne code 119 zip code 74059

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Bob Blachman July 19, 2010
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

[Signature] 9/3/10
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

White Cloud Lodge
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5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | district |
| 0 | 0 | site |
| 0 | 0 | structure |
| 0 | 0 | object |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic: Institutional Housing

Education: School

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant/Not in Use

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Contemporary

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Concrete; Stucco; Wood

roof: Concrete; Asphalt; Metal

other: Brick

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

White Cloud Lodge, about two miles southwest of Perkins, Oklahoma, on the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch in rural Payne County, is a generally L-shaped, one-story, 6,300 square foot Contemporary building completed in 1966. In 1955 architect Elmira Sauberan Smyrl designed this group home as her master's thesis project. Knowing it would likely be constructed over time and supported by donations, Smyrl chose inexpensive, durable concrete for the foundation, walls, and roof. In fair condition and not in use today except for storage, White Cloud Lodge shows little alteration from its original appearance. It faces northwest on a wooded slope toward the Cimarron River just to the north. Nearby are a newer group home, a small rustic cabin, and farm buildings that are not part of this nomination. The landscape around White Cloud Lodge includes an old-growth cedar grove to the north and surrounding agricultural lands that are part of this working ranch dedicated to sheltering and rehabilitating boys assigned to it by the Oklahoma juvenile system.

Narrative Description

Setting:

White Cloud Lodge on the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch is located in rural southern Payne County, Oklahoma. It stands about 1.2 miles west of U.S. Highway 177 and just north of East 146th Street. About one mile east of White Cloud Lodge and adjacent to the highway is a cluster of small, mostly older homes on a grid of unpaved streets. This is the community of Vinco, a town that flourished briefly in the early 1900s. Otherwise, the nearest town to White Cloud Lodge today is Perkins, Oklahoma, about one mile further north on U.S. Highway 177. Another ten miles beyond Perkins is Stillwater, Oklahoma, a university town and the Payne County seat. Approximately three miles south of Perkins and beyond the boys ranch is the complex of the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma. It includes tribal government facilities and service buildings, as well as bison pastures and the dance ground. Lands in this part of far-southern Payne County and adjoining Lincoln County are used mostly for small grain and livestock production with scattered rural home sites.

The primary feature on the landscape is the Cimarron River, which meanders generally eastward in the mile between Perkins and Vinco and about one-quarter mile north of White Cloud Lodge. The river creates a wide, shallow valley with sandy soil and a scattering of oil wells. Otherwise, the landscape in the vicinity is generally open and gently rolling but interspersed with timbered areas and creeks in small ravines.

Most of the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch, today totaling 725 acres, is open crop land and pastures. White Cloud Lodge is located on "The Cedars," an eighty-acre "farm," or division, of the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch. It takes its name from an old-growth cedar grove on the slope down to the river's south edge. Historic features on the land very near White Cloud Lodge are believed to include buffalo wallows, the sites of an Iowa Indian-U.S. treaty negotiation and a post-allotment Iowa Indian home, and traces of the Burk-Martin Trail, a military wagon road from Coffeyville, Kansas into the Indian Territory.¹

White Cloud Lodge is one of four residential buildings on the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch, originally the 650-acre ranch owned by the Main family, who in 1952 dedicated the land for use as a rehabilitation facility for delinquent boys. The "Old Homestead" adjacent to U.S. Highway 177 further south is the early 1900s home of the G. W. Main family. Much renovated and expanded, it is now used for administrative purposes. White Cloud Lodge, dedicated in 1966, was the second. Mabee Lodge, built in 1994, was the third, with the Anthony-Meinders House the most recent. There are also several utilitarian farm buildings on the ranch. None of these other resources retains the historical integrity or significance of White Cloud Lodge.²

White Cloud Lodge is a major part of the complex at The Cedars in the northern area of the ranch. The approach is along a graveled drive off East 146th Street (East 735 Road). The drive goes generally north about .1 mile, passing east of

¹ Lea Ann Donnelley Walker and Richard Green, *Y-O-U and the I-O-A Way: A Chronicle of the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch and the Main/Donnelley Families Who Founded It* (Stillwater, Okla.: New Forums Press, Inc., 1998), 59, 155-156.

² *Ibid.*, 57, 58.

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Mabee Lodge and then making a complete somewhat diamond-shaped loop around White Cloud Lodge. The lodge sits on a gentle slope that descends from the rear toward the front of the building, which faces generally northwest. To the northeast of the lodge is a large metal utility building; to the north and northwest are two additional large metal sheds. North of White Cloud Lodge and across a fenced open space is a recently renovated and expanded rustic cabin, reserved for the use of the Main/Donnelley family. Just southwest the cabin is a small pavilion which shelters the bell from a now-demolished Vinco church. Beyond the cabin a nature trail leads through the old-growth cedar grove past a council ring, spring house, small memorials, and an open-air chapel as it descends toward the river. None of the resources described here are contributing because of their age or loss of integrity.

The nominated area is that space lying within the bounds of the graveled drive that loops around White Cloud Lodge. This space, approximately one acre, includes the lawn, which has a small grove of old oak and cedar trees in the northeast quadrant near the drive. There is also a border of smaller trees and old cedars along drive on the southeast. Most of this space, however, is open lawn. Small landscape features within the nominated area but not counted as resources include a free-standing flag pole at the front of the building, three metal wagon wheels mounted on metal poles in the southwest part of the lawn, a small pump and new pump house on the southern edge, a small concrete pad and basketball goal near the southwest corner of White Cloud Lodge, and a small depression believed to mark the site of a post-allotment Iowa Indian home.³

Exterior Description:

White Cloud Lodge is a one-story, generally L-shaped Contemporary building of roughly 6,300 square feet. The roof, walls, and foundation are concrete. The exterior walls also have a stucco overlay, while the roof, of six- to eight-inch-thick concrete, has an asphalt coating. The barrel roll roof, an example of the segmental shell structural form and quite unusual for this area, consists of a series of twelve barrel vaults lying perpendicular to the longer axis of the building and spanning its width. This building is oriented toward the northwest, with the longer leg of the L extending northeast. The much shorter leg extends toward the northwest. Inside the angle of this L is a roofed porch that shelters the main entry. Electrical conduits are common on the exterior walls. Slightly raised vertical strips about eight inches wide and resembling pilasters are set at the corners. They also divide the end walls equally and appear below the junctures of the barrel roof vaults, dividing the building visually into equal segments. The fenestration pattern is irregular on all but the southeast, or rear, elevation. Window frames are vinyl replacements, and wood infill is common. The most common window type is approximately four feet by four feet, with sliding windows above a horizontal space for an air conditioning unit.

There is a single entry on each elevation, with the main entry facing northeast and placed beneath the porch within the inner angle of the L. A narrow concrete sidewalk with short flights of steps that conform to the slope of the ground connects this main entry and a secondary entry on the northeast end of the longer leg of the L. The walk also parallels the drive along the front of the lodge. There are also secondary entries on the southeast and southwest elevations. The latter is recessed within a small porch.

The roof consists of twelve concrete barrel roll segments, set side by side, each approximately 12.5 feet wide, creating a strong corrugated effect. Wide eaves that tilt upward at about a thirty-degree angle on the northeast and southwest ends of the building, as well as on the porch above the main entrance, maintain the visual rhythm of the segments. Above the second and third roof segments toward the southwest end is a large rectangular vent shaft about five feet tall with a flat asphalt covered metal roof. Its wide eaves overhang louvers on the southwest and northeast sides. The walls on the southwest and northeast sides are plywood. There are small rectangular domed skylights on the two southwestern-most segments of the roof as well as on the fourth, sixth, eighth, and tenth. There are small metal vent pipes on the sixth and eleventh. Near the northwest corner of the roof, there is a small rectangular interior brick chimney topped by a wire mesh screen and a shallow hipped metal cap.

The northwest elevation is the primary elevation. It includes the longer leg of the L as well as the northwest end of the shorter leg of the L. The wall surface is stucco over concrete. It is painted a light cream color. It assumes a scalloped appearance at the top as it fills the ends of the barrel roll roof segments. This is actually a diaphragm which gives the roof structure additional strength, rigidity, and stability. A triple line of conduits near ground level carries wiring along the outside of the building. Slightly raised vertical strips about eight inches wide below each juncture of the barrel roll segments resemble pilasters. The first wall segment on the left, or northeast, end has a large centered opening with a pair of sliding windows above an air conditioning unit. The second segment has a single window with three horizontal panes offset to the right. The third segment has a single window with three horizontal panes set to the left as well as a smaller window with a

³ Ibid., 155-156.

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single pane set above three smaller sliding panes. The fourth segment has a single window set to the right. It has a fixed upper pane above three smaller sliding panes with wood infill below. The fifth segment has two large single windows. The one of the left has wood infill above three small sliding panes, one with wood infill. The bottom pane is frosted. The window to the right has wood infill above a fixed pane with frosted glass, over a bottom opening with three sliding panes, one of which has wood infill. The sixth segment has a medium-sized single window on the left. It has a fixed pane above three small sliding panes. The center sliding pane has wood infill. On the right of this segment there is a large utility box. There is a small louvered metal vent set near the roofline. The seventh segment has a large metal louvered vent near ground level on the left. On the right, double wood panel doors, added in the 1970s, provide access to the school room. The eighth segment on this elevation is recessed beneath the porch, which is an extension of the roof. It is supported on the north corner by a metal pole. The porch is approximately twelve feet wide and eleven feet deep with a two-foot overhang on the northwest. It has a concrete floor flush with ground level. There is a dark red brick planter box approximately 12 feet long along the northeast side and another brick planter box about 6.5 feet long on the northwest side, leaving an opening to the sidewalk on the north corner. Set under the porch on the wall facing northwest is a single window with sliding panes above a large air conditioning unit. Near the corner of the wall and facing northeast is a single metal glazed door. To the right of the door the bronze dedication plaque is mounted on the wall. Near the ceiling is a small lantern-shaped exterior light.

The shorter leg of the L forms part of the porch wall and extends northwest. On the northeast elevation of this extension is a single window which duplicates the one under the porch. It has sliding panes above a large air conditioning unit. The northwest elevation of this shorter leg spans four segments of the barrel roll roof. An exterior chimney about five feet wide occupies much of the extreme left segment. It has a plain rectangular shape and is constructed of brick that has been painted to match the exterior walls in color. The second segment has a large single window with sliding panes. The third segment has a smaller single sliding window. The air conditioner unit space below the window has been filled with wood. The fourth segment has a large single window with sliding panes. Set above the northwest corner on this elevation is the smaller brick interior chimney with the metal screen and cap.

The southwest elevation of White Cloud Lodge, much of it obscured behind a large overgrown shrub, is about forty-eight feet wide and spans the shorter leg of the L. A wide eave that tilts upward, repeating the rhythm of the roofline, extends the width of this elevation. A slightly raised vertical strip resembling a pilaster divides this elevation into equal sections. At the left end of this elevation is a single window with sliding panes. To the right of this window is a single window with two small sliding panes above an air conditioner unit. Just left of center on this elevation is a single entry, a glazed wood door set on a small concrete porch approximately five feet by six feet. This porch is enclosed in paneled wood siding and has a door opening but no outer door. To the right of the door is a single window with sliding panes. The pane on the left has been filled with wood.

The southeast elevation of White Cloud Lodge is approximately 150 feet long. The wall extends into the ends of the barrel roll roof segments and therefore has a scalloped top edge its entire length. Between each juncture of the roof segments there is a slightly raised strip resembling a pilaster as well as a concrete drip basin at ground level. Conduits carry wiring along the outside of the walls, and there is a large utility box at the extreme left end of this elevation. Unlike the northwest elevation, the fenestration pattern is generally regular. From the left, segments one and two, four through ten, and twelve have single centered sliding windows above space for an air conditioner unit. In the windows in segments six, seven, ten, and twelve, the air conditioner units remain. In the other windows this space has wood infill. In segment eleven there is a smaller single window with small sliding panes set vertically between fixed frosted panes. In segment three at the left end of this elevation, there is a single plain wood door opening directly onto the lawn.

The northeast elevation of the longer leg of the L is about forty-eight feet wide. There is a single slightly raised strip resembling a pilaster centered on this elevation. On the left, there is a single sliding window. Just to the right of center is a single wood door opening onto a small concrete porch. It has a brick step as well as a rectangular metal railing on the left. A short sidewalk leads toward the gravel drive and the sidewalk connecting to the main entrance. To the right of the door is a larger single sliding window.

Interior Description:

Architect Elmira Sauberan Smyrl designed the interior of White Cloud Lodge to be functional, low maintenance, and nearly indestructible while avoiding an institutional feeling. Rather, the design was intended to provide a home-like environment. Interior ceilings are concave, following the lines of the barrel roll roof. Like the exterior of the building, the interior walls and floors are poured concrete or concrete block. A long hallway, partially illuminated by skylights, bisects almost the length of the longer wing of the L-shaped building. At the northeast end of the hall, a wood door sets the house parents' private living quarters apart from the boys' rooms. Along the hallway on the southeast side, are five bedrooms capable of housing

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three boys each. Each room has a built-in storage unit and a southeast-facing window. There are four small bathrooms, each retaining its original tile, on the opposite side of the hall, along with a school room at the southwest end. The shorter wing of the lodge houses the living room, dining room, and kitchen. A wide, open doorway and a pass-through between the kitchen and dining room allow ease of serving as well as observation and supervision of the dining room. The main feature of the living room is a wide rectangular brick fireplace with a built-in brick bench across its width. A newer, much smaller semi-circular brick pad in front of the hearth protects the carpeting that has replaced the original tile floor. A free-standing wood-burning stove occupies in the west corner of the dining room. In addition, the lodge contains space for an office and utility room.⁴

Alterations:

There have been few exterior alterations to White Cloud Lodge since its construction in 1966. Wood infill in windows, most with either double or single panes in newer vinyl frames, is common on all elevations except the northeast. In the 1970s, the double wood panel doors were added just to the left of the porch on the northwest elevation.⁵ Given the scale of the building and the compatibility of these alterations with the original features, they do not impair its integrity.

Conclusion:

Although White Cloud Lodge has been unoccupied and used primarily for storage for nearly three decades, a recent engineer's study has shown that the building is structurally sound and a good candidate for rehabilitation and re-use. It is in fair condition at present and protected from vandalism and the elements. Its historical and architectural integrity have not been impaired, and it appears much as it did when it was dedicated in 1966. It is therefore eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

⁴ Ibid., 50.

⁵ Carol Lorine Donnelly Reed, interview by Mary Jane Warde, Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch, Perkins, Oklahoma, December 14, 2009; Stillwater, Oklahoma, March 10, 2010.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1966

Significant Dates

1966

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Smyrl, Elmira Sauberan, architect
Barta, John, builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The construction of White Cloud Lodge concluded in 1966, allowing the first residents to move in. The official dedication of the building by Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon occurred in September 1966.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Criteria Consideration G is applicable to this building because construction ended in 1966.

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

White Cloud Lodge on the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch near Perkins, Oklahoma is nominated to the National Register at the local level of significance under Criterion C because it is the design of architect Elmira Sauberan Smyrl. The Contemporary building was the 1955 master's thesis project of this pioneer woman architect and concrete construction specialist, who served as a professor of architecture from 1956 to 1986. Smyrl tailored the design to meet the specific construction constraints of this philanthropic project. She also incorporated her belief that psychology should guide architecture, particularly in designing this group home meant to shelter children judged delinquent while steering them toward a better future. White Cloud Lodge, a "school for family living" that provided functional, durable group housing and classroom space, is nominated under Criteria Consideration G because construction was completed in 1966, making it less than fifty years old.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

See Continuation Sheets

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

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DESCRIPTION

Narrative Description:

White Cloud Lodge on the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch near Perkins, Oklahoma was an important element in the dream of the Main-Donnelley family to provide a safe haven for delinquent boys likely to be imprisoned unless their lives changed course. While the Main-Donnelley family contributed the vision and land for the boys' ranch, the philanthropic project relied heavily on donated funds and expertise to thrive. This included cooperation with local and state organizations, particularly the Lions Clubs, and institutions, including Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (OAMC), today's Oklahoma State University. Among those at OAMC who contributed their expertise was Elmira Sauberan Smyrl. This pioneering woman architect designed White Cloud Lodge as her master's thesis project in 1955. The Contemporary building, intended to be a "school for family living," provided durable, functional, but welcoming shelter for boys assigned to the ranch by the state juvenile justice system in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Main family, who first proposed the idea for the boys' ranch, settled in Oklahoma Territory in 1891. Francis M. Main and his son George W. Main bought agricultural land and leased allotments on the former Iowa Indian Reservation in southern Payne and northern Lincoln counties. The ambitious Mains raised wheat, corn, and cattle and established a town originally named "Main" on the south bank of the Cimarron River. However, both the town, renamed "Vinco," and their businesses faltered early in the twentieth century, overshadowed by Perkins just across the river. The Mains retained their lands but moved into Stillwater, a small college town and county seat about ten miles north, in which they acquired rental properties. In 1919 Herndon Ford Donnelley, a student from Enid, Oklahoma, became one of their tenants. Four years later he married George's daughter Lois.¹

H. F. Donnelley, an ambitious, hard-working, and enthusiastic young man, shared the pioneer values of the Main family. From 1926 to 1933, he worked as a Boy Scout executive, firmly convinced that the principles of Scouting could keep boys out of trouble and be a positive influence in their lives. The shooting of a thirteen-year-old boy in Cushing, Oklahoma by a policeman in 1931 shocked Oklahomans and caused concerned communities to turn to Scouting for its character-building potential. Although Donnelley left professional Scouting for the insurance business in the mid-1930s, he retained a life-long interest in both Scouting and juvenile justice reform. He received the Silver Beaver, Scouting's highest award at the council level, in 1935. About the same time, a report he produced from Garfield County, Oklahoma juvenile court records influenced the creation of the state's juvenile probation system.²

In 1946 Francis E. Main, Donnelley's brother-in-law, attended a presentation by Cal Farley, founder of a well-known boys' ranch near Amarillo, Texas.³ Much impressed by Farley's work, Main discussed it with the extended family in regard to their own vision of someday using their land near Vinco to help handicapped children. Along with George W. Main's brother-in-law Frank C. Orner, a former Oklahoma Territory cowboy and state legislator, the Mains and Donnelleys had in 1939 incorporated their remaining 650 acres of farmland as the "I-O-A Ranch on the Cimarron." They took the name from the I-O-A brand once used by Orner while working for a ranch on leased

¹ Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 7-14.

² *Ibid.*, 26-34. Cushing is located in eastern Payne County.

³ Farley, a former professional wrestler and businessman, founded his Texas Panhandle boys' ranch in 1939. He provided a home for boys in trouble and used the ranch setting and lifestyle to urge them in more positive directions. Rotarians from Amarillo, Texas helped support the ranch financially. "Cal Farley's Boys Ranch," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/CC/yncl.html>> (February 19, 2010).

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Iowa tribal land. Now they agreed to revise their original plan and found a home for children in trouble. They modified the charter of the ranch corporation accordingly and transferred the 650 acres to a private, non-profit education corporation, the I-O-A Ranch for Boys and Girls. They set a limit of five years to accomplish their goal, making 1952 their deadline.⁴

Based on his experience, abilities, and inclination, H. F. Donnelley became the promoter and spokesman of the family philanthropic enterprise. Besides visiting Father Flanagan's Boys Town in Nebraska and studying the work of similar institutions, he solicited support and donations, both monetary and in-kind, for the I-O-A Ranch. He found a good source among staff and alumni at nearby OAMC. The first board of trustees included Director Oliver Willham, President, OAMC; Philip Donnell, Vice President, OAMC; Dr. George L. Cross, President, University of Oklahoma; Dr. Eugene Briggs, Phillips University; and Federal Judge Edgar Vaught. These men were also former presidents of the Lions International organization. Although the ranch might compete with that organization's eye bank project, Donnelley believed the Lions would be the best source of support for the ranch. His strongest selling point as the juvenile crime rate soared in the 1950s and 1960s was the role the I-O-A Ranch could play in the prevention of juvenile crime.⁵

Just ahead of the charter deadline in 1952, the first boy arrived at the I-O-A Ranch, Oklahoma's first group home for court-referred children otherwise bound for reform school. To accommodate them, the Mains' 1892 ranch house—"The Homestead"—was remodeled to house eight boys and the ranch parents. The objective was to create a "school for family living," that would provide the type of positive environment most of these boys had never experienced before. This, it was believed, should improve their behavior and subsequent lives. Each boy would learn "how to solve problems in daily living and learn to benefit himself and others."⁶ Symbolism was an important part of the ranch program as evidenced in the name "I-O-A," which stood both for the neighboring Iowa Indians and for "Individual Opportunity for Achievement." In designing the program, the founders, led by Donnelley, drew heavily on positive imaging, the pioneering ethos of Oklahoma families such as the Mains and Donnelleys, the rank and advancement structure of Scouting, Iowa Indian culture and history, and the ranching lexicon. The boys usually attended school in Perkins, and they were encouraged to participate in school activities, attend the church of their choice, and help with ranch chores and animals to gain a greater sense of self-worth and earn pocket money.⁷

As more boys arrived in 1954, H. F. Donnelley continued to be the primary problem-solver, promoter, and fundraiser. The ranch, which produced alfalfa, wheat, hay, and dairy products as well as operating a feed lot as of 1966, produced about half of its own support but did not generate profits. Monetary contributions were always needed; donations of labor, materials, and livestock were also welcome. Some staff members employed at OAMC (Oklahoma State University after 1957) continued the school's early relationship with the I-O-A Ranch. In 1956 the Agricultural Engineering Department designed a new barn for the Grade A dairy, which was then built with volunteer labor. However, there was also a need for more housing, and Donnelley had already begun planning for a second group home.⁸

The name chosen for the new residence was "White Cloud Lodge" based on an Iowa Indian leadership tradition. The location was "The Cedars," one of five "farms," or subdivisions, of the ranch. Situated near the Cimarron River and the north boundary of the ranch, it was named for an old-growth cedar grove often used for Scouting events and Main-Donnelley family activities. In territorial days it had been the scene of Iowa Indian tribal negotiations and was formerly the home site of Iowa allottee Theresa Big Ear. Raising the funds for the new building, estimated to

⁴ Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 13-14, 35-38.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 40-43. Phillips University was located in Enid, Oklahoma.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 47. Although the ranch was originally intended to serve both boys and girls, in the end it served boys only.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 44-47.

⁸ *Ibid.*, 48-49; *The Perkins (Oklahoma) Journal*, September 22, 1966.

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cost \$100,000, was a slow process which began in 1955. Eventually some 247 individuals gave at least \$100 each. The Owen Wimberly family of Okeene, Oklahoma donated \$20,000, which the state Lions Club organization matched. Fund-raising was still in its early stage when Elmira Sauberan Smyrl, a graduate student in the Agricultural Engineering Department at OAMC, took on the task of creating a cost-effective and functional architectural design for this latest "school for family living."⁹

A pioneer among women in the field of architecture, Smyrl was born Elmira Susannah Sauberan in 1919. She earned her bachelor's degree in architectural engineering at the University of Texas in 1941 and did graduate work from 1943 to 1945. One of the very few licensed female architects and engineers at the time, she worked for ten years as a staff architect for a small Austin, Texas company that specialized in commercial, government, and public school buildings. Meanwhile, she discovered a love of teaching while serving as an instructor at the University of Texas. After moving to Stillwater, Oklahoma with her husband, Smyrl worked toward a master's degree in the OAMC Agricultural Engineering Department. By this time, according to the college magazine, both students and professors at the institution frequently spent time at the I-O-A Ranch and had come to regard it as a laboratory for their ideas and research projects. While visiting the ranch, Smyrl learned that projected high building costs were delaying construction of the much-needed second group home.¹⁰ She quickly adopted the project for her master's thesis, the germination, according to a biographer, of her life-long interest in "the essential and thoughtful integration of geographical, environmental and human-purpose design elements."¹¹

In 1955 Smyrl stated of this project, "The psychological approach is the only feasible way to analyze the architectural efficiency of the design."¹² She began with the purpose of White Cloud Lodge, which was based on the needs of the children who would live there. She explained they generally came from backgrounds that included "broken homes, poverty, immoral or criminal parents, neglect, or lack of affection and understanding."¹³ These conditions had left them emotionally immature with low levels of control with regard to behavior and frustration. Treating them would include both individual and group therapy. Consequently, the planned living space must be flexible and durable, with room for the individual child to "explode" without doing his surroundings damage. There should be privacy to aid his growth in self-respect, a variety of recreational facilities and activities, and pleasant surroundings even for routine chores. The planned facility must permit the child freedom of movement and still allow the house parents to observe and supervise him. At the same time, the house parents would need their own privacy and living space.¹⁴ Smyrl aimed to design a group home that would be functional without being sterile or "institutional." It should "avoid the extremes of the traditional and of the ultramodern," she wrote. "It should be comfortable and colorful, but simple, attractive, and indigenous."¹⁵ Often the child would be coming from a shabby, if not squalid, impoverished home, so she hoped to avoid too much contrast with his new surroundings. Rather, White Cloud Lodge must provide "a "lived-in atmosphere" with "just as little forbidden space as possible in [his] living quarters." The kitchen would be the heart of the house, where housekeeping chores could be done efficiently but where the child would never feel unwelcome or in the way.¹⁶

⁹ Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 49-50, 155-156.

¹⁰ "Elmira Susannah Smyrl (Sauberan), 1919-2009," <<http://www.ilasting.com/remembersmyra.php>> (January 9, 2010); Marguerette Engel, "A Real-life Laboratory," *Oklahoma A. & M. Magazine* (April 1955):16-17. This publication did not have issue or volume numbers.

¹¹ "Elmira Susannah Smyrl (Sauberan), 1919-2009," <<http://www.ilasting.com/remembersmyra.php>> (January 9, 2010).

¹² Engel, "A Real Life Laboratory."

¹³ Elmira Sauberan Smyrl, "A Study of Fire-resistant Residential Construction Which Utilizes a Minimum of Skilled Labor—As Applied to a Children's Ranch Home," master's thesis, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1955, 9.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 10-11.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 12.

¹⁶ Engel, "A Real-life Laboratory."

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With regard to the actual building of White Cloud Lodge, Smyrl knew the planned group home would be largely financed by donations, which were accumulating slowly, and volunteers would probably provide much of the labor. Consequently, in creating her architectural design, she referred to traditional agricultural construction methodology that relied on workmen with low skill levels and simple tools building with available and inexpensive materials whenever time allowed. It was also possible that White Cloud Lodge would be finished in stages, so work completed must not deteriorate while waiting for the funds that would allow work to resume. The finished building should have a life expectancy of at least thirty years and be maintenance-free and damage-proof, as well as fire-resistant for up to four hours. After studying potential materials, Smyrl chose concrete for the foundations, walls, and roof because it best fit those requirements. It also suited a building that would be part of a working ranch.¹⁷

True to her expectations, about ten years lapsed between the time Smyrl developed the design for White Cloud Lodge and its completion about 1966, with John Barta, a Payne County dairyman, as the primary builder. Her original design had included a flat roof, but at some point a barrel roll roof of concrete overlaid with asphalt was substituted. Smyrl's original design had included a regular fenestration pattern, but the finished irregular pattern on the northwest elevation suggested that the builders made changes as needed during construction.¹⁸

The interior layout, however, followed Smyrl's original design that was based on the needs of the boys, house parents, and other staff. The 6,300 square-foot building included five bedrooms that could accommodate up to three boys each, four private bathrooms directly across the hall, a schoolroom for remedial studies, and separate living quarters for the house parents on the northeast end of the building. At the northwest end, there was a large living room with a wide brick fireplace, often used for roasting marshmallows and hot dogs, which flowed into the dining room and kitchen. A pass-through and a wide doorway between kitchen and dining room allowed observation, supervision, and ease of service. Near the kitchen were utility and storage areas. Once finished, White Cloud Lodge was ready to provide comfortable, durable, and welcoming accommodations for boys aged seven to sixteen, with most from eleven to fourteen.¹⁹

Five boys were already living in White Cloud Lodge, valued at \$60,000, when it officially opened in January 1966. In addition to studying remedial mathematics and reading in the new classroom with house parent and teacher Walter Peterson, the boys had been riding horses, camping out, exploring, and mapping The Cedars. They had also helped paint the walls of their new home and made welcome signs to greet visitors when the White Cloud Lodge dedication took place on September 25. Oklahoma Governor Henry Bellmon delivered the main address to a crowd expected to number 1,500.²⁰

Invitation literature suggested the important role I-O-A Ranch supporters expected the new building to play. It noted the growth in the ten-to-seventeen-year-old population to 25 million as of 1960 and forecast that one in nine would suffer emotional disturbance, likely to lead to juvenile delinquency. White Cloud Lodge would attempt to meet this challenge by serving as the site of a three-year demonstration "to scientifically evaluate the change of attitude of emotionally disturbed delinquent youth in a small informal family setting..." It would be the development site for a "workable model for use by every type of institution dealing with delinquent youth." Within the I-O-A Ranch complex, White Cloud Lodge would be the entry point for new boys, while The Homestead would become "Part-Way-Home" for boys preparing for transition back to their communities. The invitation proudly noted that 88 percent of the 180 boys assigned to the I-O-A Ranch by the courts since it opened in 1952 were "doin' okay" as

¹⁷ Smyrl, "A Children's Ranch Home," 13.

¹⁸ Engel, "A Real-life Laboratory"; Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 115; interview of Carol Lorine Donnelly Reed, by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, February 6, 2010.

¹⁹ Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 50-51.

²⁰ Ibid.; *The Stillwater (Oklahoma) News-Press*, September 25, 1966.

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adults.²¹

White Cloud Lodge served as a group home for boys referred by the Oklahoma juvenile system through the rest of the 1960s and into the 1970s, drawing clients from all of Oklahoma's seventy-seven counties. It quickly became the visual symbol of the ranch and was prominently pictured on ranch flyers, stationery, and fund-raising materials. In 1969 the Lions Clubs of Oklahoma formally assumed support for the ranch, and the name was changed to the Lions I-O-A Youth Ranch (now the Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch). The ranch also continued to be site of projects and studies by social scientists and graduate students, usually affiliated with Oklahoma State University or other local institutions, in a mutually beneficial relationship. House parents at White Cloud Lodge, the Homestead, and the later group homes were usually married OSU students, who could be expected to move on at graduation, thus avoiding burn-out from the demands of their positions.²²

In the 1970s, White Cloud Lodge took on a new role. Some time earlier new regulations against the use of asbestos had forced closure of the building for human occupation until its insulation could be removed. Consequently the building was unoccupied when it became clear that some of the newly arrived boys were not yet ready for public school in Perkins. Rather, they needed the services available from the Edwin Fair Community Mental Health Center. Consequently, one teacher and one aide from the center were assigned to hold classes in the school room at the re-opened White Cloud Lodge. It thus became an alternative school for these boys for about two years until they could join the rest of the ranch boys in the public schools. However, with the asbestos insulation removed, the cost of heating the building during winter weather proved prohibitive. White Cloud Lodge was closed again in the 1970s, vacated, and thereafter used only for incidental storage.²³

Conclusion:

Described as her "pet project," White Cloud Lodge is believed to have been the only building designed solely by Elmira Sauberan Smyrl, a pioneer woman architect. After earning her master's degree at OAMC in 1955, she became a professor in the Architecture Department at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana in 1956. She earned a second master's degree in applied sciences and in the 1970s earned her doctorate at Georgetown University. Although she worked with the Willson and Burg firm on the design of the Montana State University Field House, she preferred teaching, specializing in the technical courses in architecture. As an expert in concrete construction, she certified fallout shelters and served as a consultant on federal contracts. Smyrl retired in 1986 and died in September 2009, without having designed another building as far as can be determined.²⁴

An engineer's survey of White Cloud Lodge in 2008 found the building to be structurally sound, as durable as Smyrl designed it to be. The survey pointed out the need for repairs and upgrading of the heating and cooling facilities but judged it a good candidate for rehabilitation and re-use. Plans are to convert it into a living heritage center that will emphasize the same pioneer values incorporated into the rehabilitation of boys assigned to the I-O-A Ranch.

Therefore, White Cloud Lodge is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as the only known example of the individual work of Elmira Sauberan Smyrl, a pioneer among women in architecture

²¹ *The Perkins (Oklahoma) Journal*, September 22, 1966; Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 116.

²² Walker and Green, *The I-O-A Way*, 52, 124.

²³ *Ibid.*, 60.

²⁴ "Elmira Susannah Smyrl (Sauberan), 1919-2009," <<http://www.ilasting.com/rememberingmyra.php>> (January 9, 2010); Mr. and Mrs. John de Haas, telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, Bozeman, Montana, February 3, 2010; Bob Utzinger, telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, Bozeman, Montana, February 3, 2010; Jim Thull, telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, Bozeman, Montana, February 5, 2010.

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as well as a specialist in the concrete construction exemplified in this building.

Criteria Consideration:

Although White Cloud Lodge was constructed in 1965-1966 and does not yet meet the criterion of being fifty years old, it should be considered for listing on the National Register because it exemplifies new use of an old construction material in a new structural form incorporated into Modern architecture during the early and middle twentieth century. Furthermore, the architecture of the building remains unique for its purpose and its location in Payne County, Oklahoma.

Even though concrete, the main construction material used in White Cloud Lodge, dated back to antiquity, engineering advances in England had led to its employment for load bearing walls and fireproof floors in the new industrial buildings by 1866. Reinforced concrete, developed in Germany between 1875 and 1900, created further options for builders. These were demonstrated in the United States in the Ward House (NR 1976), completed in 1875 at Rye Brook, New York. However, both engineers and architects really began using reinforced concrete in innovative ways between 1910 and 1950, according to historians of civil engineering. Elmira Sauberan Smyrl designed White Cloud Lodge as her master's degree project in agricultural engineering in 1955. A major component of her master's thesis was a comparison of possible building materials, with concrete emerging as the best choice for this project.²⁵

The structural design of White Cloud Lodge was also part of another innovation during the Modern period. According to Professor Curt Siegel of the Stuttgart (Germany) School of Building Design, almost all architecture traditionally used two dimensional plane structures into the twentieth century. By the 1920s, though, architects and engineers were exploring the use of three-dimensional space structures such as the shell, a thin but strong, rigid, curved surface more often found in nature. One version of this structural form, the segmental shell, consists of several parallel cylinders split length-wise and attached to a diaphragm at each end to make the structure strong, rigid, and stable. It had the additional benefit of being simple and easy to build. It first appeared in Modern architecture in Hungary and Germany in the 1920s and was popularized somewhat later in a contest involving architects and engineers, including Walter Gropius and Pier Luigi Nervi. From the 1930s into the 1960s, variations of the segmental shell structure, constructed of a thin layer of concrete, appeared in designs for markets, churches, stadia, and airplane hangars requiring space uninterrupted by upright supports. A prominent example of use in the United States was the Abbey Church at the St. Louis Priory School, St. Louis, Missouri, designed in 1962 by Gyo Obata of Hellmuth, Obata and Kassabaum. Although documentation is lacking, it seems reasonable that Smyrl, by then an architecture professor at Montana State University and a concrete specialist, revised her original design to include a barrel roll roof, actually an example of the segmental shell then being used in Modern architecture, rather than the flat roof in her original sketches of White Cloud Lodge. It was, according to friends and family, "her pet project," and not actually built until 1966.²⁶

Although more than forty-five years have passed since Smyrl's project was finished, it remains unique in structure and architectural style in Payne County, Oklahoma. Buildings based on the shell structural form had appeared

²⁵ Frank Newby, ed., *Early Reinforced Concrete*, volume 11, Studies in the History of Civil Engineering (Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, Variorum, 2001), xv, xxii-xxiii; "ASCE Metropolitan Section—Ward House," <<http://www.ascemetsection.org/content/view/331/864>> (May 19, 2010).

²⁶ Curt Siegel, *Structure and Form in Modern Architecture*, translated by Thomas E. Burton (New York: Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 1962), 178, 180, 213, 215, 218, 222-223, 225, 228, 238; "The Stuttgart School of Building Design," *Structure*, April, 2008, <<http://www.structuremag.org/article.aspx?articleID=598>> (May 20, 2100); "Saint Louis Priory School," *Independent Schools of St. Louis*, <<http://www.independent-schools.org/member-schools/show/saint-...>> (May 2010); "Elmira Susannah Smyrl (Sauberan), 1919-2009," <<http://www.ilasting.com/rememberingmyra.php>> (January 9, 2010).

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earlier in the county, for example, in the Works Progress Administration designs for the National Guard Armories built in many Oklahoma towns in 1937-1938, including Stillwater, Cushing, and Yale. A more recent example is the Colvin Center, an athletic facility, on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater. However, there are no other examples in the county of the segmental shell structure used on White Cloud Lodge.

In fact, examples of the segmental shell structure remain rare in the region. Two are located in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: the Woodson Park Recreation Building and Saint Christopher's Church. A more prominent example is the Kimbell Art Museum, designed by Louis I. Kahn in 1972 and located in Fort Worth, Texas. It should be noted that all of these examples are public buildings. White Cloud Lodge, on the other hand, was designed as a residence and as a specific type of residence at that, a group home.²⁷

Because White Cloud Lodge exemplifies the use of concrete on a segmental shell structure applied to a group home residence, which remains architecturally unique in Payne County, Oklahoma, it should be eligible for the National Register under Criteria Consideration G.

²⁷ "Kimbell Art Museum," <<http://www.kimbellart.org/MuseumInfo/About-Kimbell-Art-Mu...>> (May 19, 2010).

White Cloud Lodge

Name of Property

Payne County, Oklahoma

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Publications:

Engel, Marguerette. "A Real-life Laboratory." *Oklahoma A. & M. Magazine* (April 1955):16-17.

Newby, Frank, ed. *Early Reinforced Concrete*. Volume 11, Studies in the History of Civil Engineering. Aldershot, U.K.: Ashgate, Variorum, 2001.

Siegel, Curt. *Structure and Form in Modern Architecture*. Translated by Thomas E. Burton. New York: Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 1962.

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Perkins (Oklahoma) Journal, The. 1966.

Stillwater (Oklahoma) News-Press, The. 1966.

Master's thesis:

Smyrl, Elmira Sauberan. "A Study of Fire-resistant Residential Construction Which Utilizes a Minimum of Skilled Labor—As Applied to a Children's Ranch Home." Master's thesis, Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1955.

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"Cal Farley's Boys Ranch." *Handbook of Texas Online*. <<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/CC/yncl.html>> (February 19, 2010).

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"Kimbell Art Museum." <<http://www.kimbellart.org/MuseumInfo/About-Kimbell-Art-Mu...>> (May 19, 2010).

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"Stuttgart School of Building Design, The." *Structure*, April, 2008. <<http://www.structuremag.org/article.aspx?articleID=598>> (May 2010).

Interviews:

De Haas, Mr. and Mrs. John. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde. Bozeman, Montana. February 3, 2010. Retired professor, School of Architecture, Montana State University, and wife, both friends of Elmira Sauberan Smyrl.

Reed, Carol Lorine Donnelly Reed. Interview by Mary Jane Warde. Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch, Perkins, Oklahoma. December 14, 2009; Stillwater, Oklahoma, February 6, 2010. Daughter of boys' ranch founders Lois Lea Main Donnelly and Herndon Ford Donnelly.

Reed, Carol Lorine Donnelly Reed. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde. Stillwater, Oklahoma. March 10, 2010. Daughter of boys' ranch founders Lois Lea Main Donnelly and Herndon Ford Donnelly.

Thull, Jim. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde. Bozeman, Montana. February 5, 2010. Special Collections librarian, Montana State University Library.

Utzinger, Bob. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde. Bozeman, Montana. February 3, 2010. Former chairman of the School of Architecture, Montana State University.

White Cloud Lodge
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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

White Cloud Lodge
Name of Property

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County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximate 1 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 14 676045 3980261
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

An irregular portion, approximately one acre in size, of the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of Section 13, Township 17 North, Range 2 East of the Indian Meridian. This portion is reached as follows: From East 146th Street at Mabee Lodge, go north on the gravel drive approximately .1 mile, to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning, which is the division in the gravel drive south of White Cloud Lodge, follow the drive, completely circling White Cloud Lodge, .19 miles to the point of beginning

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This is the boundary historically associated with White Cloud Lodge.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Mary Jane Warde

organization _____ date May 24, 2010

street & number 3523 Willow Park Circle telephone 405-377-0412

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74074

e-mail Mary.warde@yahoo.com

White Cloud Lodge
 Name of Property

Payne County, Oklahoma
 County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
 A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: White Cloud Lodge

City or Vicinity: Perkins

County: Payne **State:** Oklahoma

Photographer: Mary Jane Warde

Dates Photographed: December 14, 2009; January 13, 2010; March 15, 2010

Location of Original Digital Files: Oklahoma SHPO, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

Description of Photographs and Numbers:

| Photo number | View and Direction of camera | Date |
|--|---|-------------------|
| #1 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0001) | Northwest (primary) elevation, camera facing south-southwest | March 15, 2010 |
| #2 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0002) | Main entry, primary elevation, camera facing southwest) | March 15, 2010 |
| #3 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0003) | Northwest and southwest elevations, camera facing east | January 13, 2010 |
| #4 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0004) | Southwest and southeast elevations, camera facing north-northeast | January 13, 2010 |
| #5 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0005) | Northeast elevation, camera facing southwest | December 14, 2009 |
| #6 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0006) | Interior, central hallway, camera facing northeast | December 14, 2009 |
| #7 of 7 (OK_Payne County_White Cloud Lodge_0007) | Interior, kitchen and dining room, camera facing south | December 14, 2009 |

These photographs were taken with a 12.1 megapixel Canon PowerShot A1100 IS camera and printed on Epson Premium Presentation Paper, Matte by an HP Photosmart Premium printer with HP Vivera inks.

White Cloud Lodge
Name of Property

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County and State

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name IOA Youth Ranch, Inc
street & number P.O. Box 400 telephone 405-547-2031
city or town Perkins state OK zip code 74059

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY White Cloud Lodge
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OKLAHOMA, Payne

DATE RECEIVED: 7/20/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/13/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/30/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/03/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000619

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The White Cloud Lodge is locally significant under National Register Criterion C (Architecture). A modest, but unique, work of regional architect Elmira Sauberan Smyrl—a rare female working in a male-dominated profession at the time—the group residence is an exceptional local example of mid-twentieth century modernist design. The second major facility completed as part of the I-O-A Ranch, Smyrl's design for a farm-based living and educational facility to serve economically disadvantaged, at-risk children reflected her progressive theories on environmental design and their integration with modern materials and forms. A noted specialist in concrete construction engineering during her later career as a teacher, Smyrl's early master's thesis project provided a living laboratory for her work and became an important focal point and iconic symbol for the ranch.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion C
REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 9/3/10

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0001



OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0002



OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0003



OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0004



OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0005

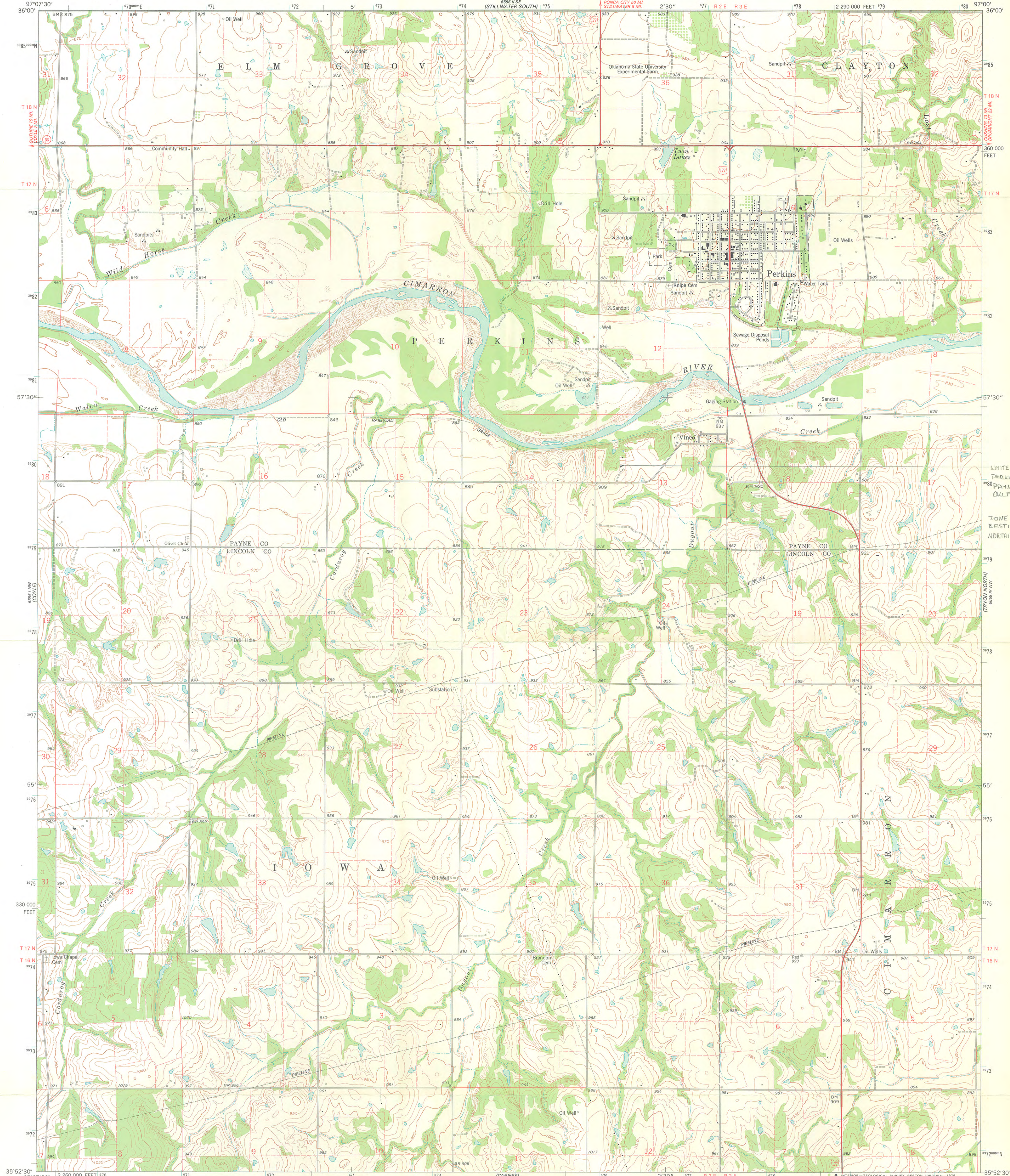


OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0006

EXIT

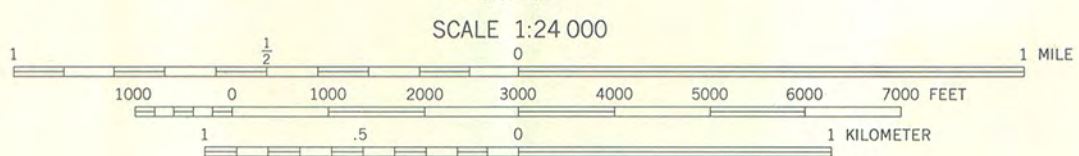
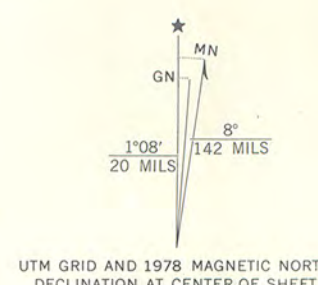


OK - Payne County - White Cloud Lodge - 0007

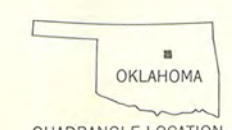


WHITE CLOUD LODGE
PERKINS VICINITY
PAYNE COUNTY
OKLAHOMA
ZONE 14
EASTING 676045
NORTHING 3980261

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1975. Map edited 1978
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Oklahoma coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



SCALE 1:24 000
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC DATUM OF 1929



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

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AND BY THE OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73069
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PERKINS, OKLA.
NE/4 PERKINS 15' QUADRANGLE
N3552.5 - W9700/7.5

1978

AMS 6555 1 NE—SERIES V883



Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

State Historic Preservation Office

Oklahoma History Center • 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive • Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7917
(405)521-6249 • Fax (405)522-0816 • www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm

July 19, 2010

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper of the Register
National Park Service 2280, 8th floor
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20005



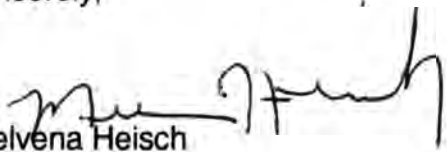
Dear Ms. Shull:

We are pleased to transmit twelve National Register of Historic Places nominations for Oklahoma properties. The nominations are for the following properties:

Brady Historic District, Tulsa, Tulsa County
Casa Loma Hotel, Tulsa, Tulsa County
Morrow Home Place, Collinsville, Tulsa County
Moore Ranch, Nowata Vicinity, Nowata County
White Cloud Lodge, Payne County
Wentz Camp, Ponca City, Kay County
Pond Creek Masonic Lodge #125, Pond Creek, Grant County
Nickels Ensor McClure House, Alva, Woods County
First United Methodist Church, Fairview, Major County
Squirrel Creek Bridge, Shawnee, Pottawatomie County
American Baptist Home Mission House, Tahlequah, Cherokee County
Administration Building, Wilburton Vicinity, Latimer County

We look forward to the results of your review. If there may be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Lynda B. Schwan of my staff or myself.

Sincerely,


Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MKH:lbs

Enclosures