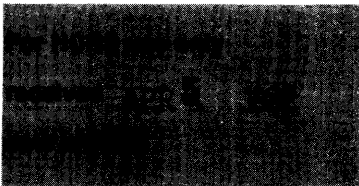


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

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



**1. Name**

historic Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific R.R. Depot

and/or common Ringling Road Station

**2. Location**

street & number N. Washington and N.E. 3rd NA not for publication

city, town Ardmore \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 003

state Oklahoma code 040 county Carter code 019

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	NA in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	NA 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: American Legion

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Ardmore

street & number 1st and B SW

city, town Ardmore \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carter County Court House

street & number 1st and B SW

city, town Ardmore \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

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## 7. Description

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**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

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

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

Built in a Western Commercial style, the Ringling Road Depot in Ardmore consists of a main, two-story section and a one-story extension used for freight storage. It is a rectangular building of red brick construction 185' by 32'. A concrete entablature encircles the building near the roofline. The north and south elevations have paired, double-hung, sash windows with connecting stone lintels and sills. The second story on the east side has three, double-hung sash windows with a continuous stone lintel.

The main two-story section has five bays on the north and south sides. This section has at the first floor level a bay-like projection on the north which served as a ticket window. The main entrance is located on the east end of the depot. Between the first and second stories is a deep wooden eave with massive supporting brackets, which extends around the perimeter of the building. This eave has asphalt shingles.

The single-story freight section has freight doors located on the north and south elevations. The building has a narrow concrete foundation. Decorative elements include tie-rod endings and a stone insert in the front of the building with the words Ringling Road Station.

# 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"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) John Ringling
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates    1915

Builder/Architect    N/A

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

The Ringling Road Depot in Ardmore is significant because it is the only building in Oklahoma directly associated with John Ringling of Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

John Ringling's railroad building efforts led directly to the establishment of three towns in southern Oklahoma: Ringling, Wilson, and Healdton, as well as the Healdton oilfield.

Ringling and the city of Ardmore built this depot in 1915, with Ringling's Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific Railroad Company. Construction of a line west from Ardmore had been begun in 1913 and was supposed to reach Lawton, Oklahoma. By the time builders finished the depot, the line extended 25 miles to the west, the present site of Ringling, Oklahoma. The depot built there no longer exists.

The Ringling Road never extended further west than Ringling because of the discovery of oil at Healdton, Oklahoma. The oilfield at Healdton was vital to the Allied effort in World War I. It supplied 50% of all the oil the Allied powers used during the war. The Ringling Road made this output possible.

The Santa Fe Railroad Company purchased the Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific Railroad from Ringling in 1926. Santa Fe used the line until 1976, when they closed the 25-mile stretch. They sold the depot to the city of Ardmore, which leased it to the local American Legion.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

ACRE TO THE VINTAGE

Robinson, Gilbert L. 'Transportation in Carter County, 1913-1917,' Chronicles of Oklahoma 19(1941): 368-376.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Ardmore west

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A 

1	4
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6	7	2	6	6	0
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3	7	8	3	1	0	1	0
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B 

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C 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 246, Lot 5. Original City of Ardmore.

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 Blane Mays Supervised by Mary Ann Anders

organization Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey date December 1, 1981

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone (405)624-5678

city or town Stillwater state Oklahoma

# 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*C. Metcalf*

title date 3-29-82

For HCRS use only

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

*Beth Groves* date 3/22/82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration