

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received **JAN 24 1984**

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Laverne's, North Main Street District

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number ~~North side of~~ Main St. ~~west from~~ ^{and} Broadway N/A not for publication

city, town Laverne N/A vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 040 county Harper code 059

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple (see continuation sheet)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. See Primary Nomination Form

street & number

city, town _____ state _____

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title See Primary Nomination Form has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Laverne's North Main Street District consists of ten buildings grouped together in the block on the north side of Main Street and west from Broadway. Both streets serve as highways in the county and these structures form a major part of the current business district in Laverne. The structures use a variety of materials, such as wood siding, red brick and concrete blocks that were easily hauled to the site of the town by railroad. The town was established in late 1912 and by 1913 six of these structures were built; the other four were added between 1916 and 1918, as the town became a viable commercial center for the surrounding agricultural area. Partly due to the fact that the town has maintained a fixed population base as a small rural community, most of the structures still retain their original design, with only a few attempts to rejuvenate facades or street level entries. The structures range in size from one to two stories, originally providing the town with a cafe, drug store, meat market, theatre, bank, post office, grocery store, clothing shop, general merchandise store, variety store, and doctors office.

The visual unity of the district lies in the consistency of scale and materials, the equal size lots, the compact and uniform set backs from the street, the repetition of design elements (false fronts, simple friezes, recessed entries and display windows, clearstories and doors with transoms) as well as the functional and austere appearance in the styling. The district is bounded on the east by the intersection of the two major streets in Laverne, on the back by an alley and on the west by two low-profile modern red brick businesses next to Oklahoma Avenue. The district's remaining historic commercial structures in town that retain their historical integrity and form the core of what was the original business district, the block from Broadway to Oklahoma on Main. The south side of the street was destroyed in a storm several years ago. The two newer buildings at the intersection of Main and Oklahoma have not been included, because historically, the intersection bordered on to the district's boundaries and only recently Oklahoma Avenue has been narrowed to allow for more construction along Main Street. The cohesion in this group of buildings accurately reflects the quick emergence of the community after the construction of the railroad.

Buildings contributing to the character of the district are: (see continuation sheet)

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Laura Covey
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lot 13

Katherine M. Delhotal
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lots 7, 8, 10

Harold Gardner
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lot 14, 15

Alan R. Gottach
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lot 9

Mr. and Mrs. Verle L. Sheppard
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lot 11

Nathan N. Wauhob
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 34, Lot 16

Leon Weibert
Laverne, OK 73848
Block 54, Lot 12

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1 and 2 - 1913, a one story red brick Plains Commercial building divided into two storefront facades by a pilaster strip similar to the pilaster strips that flank each edge of the facade. Between these strips are the two storefronts with identical stepped brickwork friezes and a vertical brick band above a concrete band that forms the lintel for the two clearstories. The corner storefront has a recessed, central entry with transom flanked by display windows. The west facade has a display window divided into three bays with a door and transom on the eastern edge of the facade. The buildings have been painted beige and the eastern clearstory has been covered with corrugated tin, but the rest of the structure is original in appearance, even to the wooden doors, screen doors, and window frames. The eastside of the building faces Broadway and essentially is a plain brick wall with a stepped roofline.

3 - 1916-1918, a one story red brick, Plains Commercial building with a central recessed entry flanked by display windows and capped by a clearstory. Above the clearstory is a projecting brick frieze and just below the roofline is a row of stepped brick machicolation that extends to the brick pilasters which flank the building. The only alteration has been the painting of the clearstory new windows with aluminum trim, and the covering of the brick below the display painted metal sheets.

4 - 1916-1918, a one story, red brick, Plains Commercial structure, with decorative detailing is identical to its neighbor on the east, except that the central entry and transom is not recessed. Again the clearstory has been painted as has the brick outlining of the frieze. This building housed the local post office until the new structure was completed in the 1970s.

5 - 1913, two story pressed cement, Plains Commercial structure has two, double hung sash windows on the second level with flat, projecting, lintels and sills. A row of laurel wreaths pressed into the cement blocks and a small projecting course help define the roofline. Presently painted green, the pressed cement blocks have been shaped to look like rough-cut stone with beaded mortar. Flat blocks form the edges at each side of the facade. The storefront at the street level is divided into three bays of display windows by the bronze window frames and the entry is recessed in the east bay. Recently, a wood shingle mansard-like awning has been added which extends across this facade (over the clearstory) and the facade to the west.

6 - 1916-1918, a two story, red brick, Plains Commercial building with pilaster strips on each side. Concrete lintels and projecting tilted brick sills distinguish the two second floor double hung sash windows. A stepped course of brick extends between the pilaster strips giving the appearance of a frieze. The central entry is recessed between the display windows. The only alteration has been the application of the mansard-like awning which also extends across the previous building. The facade is constructed of more expensive red brick while other walls are made of larger, cheaper, corrugated claytile.

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7 - Built 1907-1911, moved to present location in 1912, a one story, stuccoed false front building with a projecting frieze and small entablature. The storefront is not in use and has been covered with plywood that forms the backing for the "Welcome to Laverne" sign.

8 - 1913, a one story stuccoed, false front building with a small metal shed roofed awning extending across the storefront that has a slightly recessed door centered between the display windows. This structure has served as a cafe since it was constructed.

9 - 1913, a one story, wooden clapboard, false front building with a recessed entry with transom centered between display windows that consist of pairs of double hung sash windows. The wall below the windows is vertical board. Two side doors flank the central entry in the recessed area and all doors have screen doors.

10 - 1916 -1918, a one story, false front, wooden building with pitched roof that has been remodeled recently with the application of vertical aluminum siding over the false front and ashlar-like false stone on the store front. The entry is centered between two display windows. Although a storm door and new panes have been inserted, the wood framing is original.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1912-1918

Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The core of Laverne's business district, Laverne's North Main Street District began at the time the town was established in 1912 and within six years, by 1918, the character of this small business district had been established. The town had been established as a railroad town, a commercial center and the business district was the heart of its existence. The buildings nominated as part of this district have remained essentially unchanged visually while other businesses in the downtown have been altered or replaced due to storms, a major fire during the 1930s, and modernization. Especially, all but two of these buildings in this district are the only permanent structures to have occupied the sites. Also this part of the downtown has retained its original status as the business center even though a third of the structures have wooden false fronts (unusual due to the fact that most wooden commercial structures were quickly replaced with modernization or because of destruction due to fire or deterioration). In addition, these ten buildings, with no intrusions, form a cohesive unit that architecturally reflects the features common to Prairie Commercial wooden and brick buildings in the early twentieth century.

Structures across the street also formed a part of the original core of the business center in Laverne, but a fire in the 1930s destroyed many of these structures and others have been structurally remodeled. The two lots to the west of the nominated area contain two one story brick buildings added at later dates, not replacing older structures, but simply filling in space that had previously been used as a wider street thus, the boundaries of the district contain only the remaining unit of historical structures as well as the historical bounds of the block on the north side of Main Street

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Primary Nomination Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Laverne, OK 1971

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UTM References

A

1	4	4	2	0	1	8	0	4	0	6	2	8	6	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

Lots 7 through 16, Block 54, City of Laverne

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

state See Primary Nomination Sheet ~~state~~ county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title See Primary Nomination Sheet

organization date

street & number telephone

city or town state

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 *[Signature]*

title date

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

Entered in the National Register

date 3/8/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

