UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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STREET & NUMBER	and Month	lad.	·	
14 blocks of dov	ntown		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
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Oklahoma		049	Garvin	049
CLASSIFIC	ATION			
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_XDISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	X_COMMERCIAL	PARK
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SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	X_IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED		SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPOR
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OWNER OF	F PROPERTY	NO	MILITARY	
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS **TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE	
XEXCELLENT	DETERIORATED	UNALTERED		
GOOD	RUINS	X_ALTERED	MOVED DATE	
FAIR	UNEXPOSED			

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pauls Valley Historic District consists of 14 blocks of commercial buildings generally constructed between 1893 and 1910. These buildings together with the existing brick streets represent the epitome of the Anglo cultural adaption to the Chickasaw heritage of this state. This is a unique site not only for Oklahoma but the nation as well. Pauls Valley first settled in 1846 by Smith Paul was an important political and economic center for the Chickasaw nation. Many figures of state and local significance lived in and built many of the building in the historic district. The citizens of Pauls Valley are aware of their heritage and are committed to preserving it. The city has agreed to begin restoring the brick streets, and there have been several private restorations within the district.

Several buildings in the district were built before 1900. It is difficult to date these buildings precisely because of the Chickasaw land system which did not allow for private ownership. Some of these structures can be dated from early photographs and histories. Most of the older buildings are on Paul Street. The oldest building is probably the original First National Bank building constructe in 1893; this was the first bank in the Chickasaw nation. The bank was built by C. J. Grant, on the site where his general store had been since 1887. The building is located adjacent to the railroad tracks so as to be of easy access to the travellers. The structure is a two story brick which has been stuccoed in recent times and which is now missing its original cupola. It is being used for a rooming house and is in need of restoration.

Across the street from the bank is the old Leeland Hotel which has an interest ing story. The first floor was constructed in 1895 of native stone; the second floor was built before 1910 with brick; and the 3rd floor, also brick, was complete between 1910 and 1920. The Yeatts furniture Store, a two story brick building, was built at the same time as the 2nd floor of the hotel; the second floor of the furniture store was used as an annex for the hotel. A peculiar feature of the building's facade is the four stone face carvings of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Grant and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Garvin who were early day settlers in Pauls Valley and owners of the hotel. Much of the early stone work was done by an itinerate Italian stone carver, who lived in Pauls Valley during the 1890s.

Adjacent to the bank is the Royal Theater first built in 1917 which replaced an earlier building used as a theater. The building still retains the original sign. The building is a two story brick which has been stuccoed in the 1930s.

Adjacent to the Yeatts Furniture store is the Chamber of Commerce building which was constructed in 1906 as the Masonic Lodge. This two story brick building is the first restoration project for the Pauls Valley Historic District.

On the corner of Chickasaw and Paul Streets stand two beautiful two story brick buildings: Sooner TV, originally Burns Hardware; and Sooner Home Furnishings, originally Commerce National Bank. These buildings were constructed prior to 1900 and have been privately restored.

Across the street from these buildings is another structure that has been privately restored. The old Reavis Drug Store was constructed before 1900 by Judge and later Congressman J. B. Thompson. This two story brick building which was, at the time of construction, stuccoed and scoured to look like cut and dressed stoned. This work was done by the Italian stone carver living in Pauls Valley at the time.

SIGNIFICANCE

IOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
HISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
)-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
)-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
)-1699		EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
)-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
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)-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
	$(\mathbf{x}_{i}) \in \mathbf{x}_{i}$	· · · · · · · ·		

IFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

EMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Pauls Valley is one of the oldest towns in Oklahoma--first settled in 1846; but its significance is not merely age. For many years it was the economic capital of the old Chickasaw Nation. The business activity centered in the town stimulated the construction of many substantial structures most of which are still standing. The environment these historic buildings create allows us a unique glimpse into the life style of the Chickasaw Nation. This way of life is gone forever and the evidence of its existence can be found nowhere else. It is of transcendent importance that the Pauls Valley Historic District be preserved as a living monument to our nation's native American heritage.

The recorded history of Pauls Valley usually begins with the arrival of Smith Paul in the Washita Valley around 1846. Paul was born near Newborn, North Carolina in 1809 and had spent much of his adult life living with the Chickasaws in Mississippi. When forced to cede their lands, the Chickasaws moved to Indian Territory; and smith Paul accompanied the tribe to their new lands. At this time Paul was employed by a Scotish trader named McClure who had married into the tribe. After McClure's death, Paul married his widow thus gaining Chickasaw citizenship. By 1871 Paul had over 200 acres under cultivation with larger areas used for grazing and the whole region from the Washita River on the north, Whitebead Hill on the west; Wynnewood on the south, and Beef Creek on the east was known as Smith Paul's Valley.

The Valley was primarily agricultural well into the 1880s with little commercial development. In 1886 Smith Paul's Valley could boast only of one store, a blacksmith shop and a stage stand. Most business activity was centered at Whitebead Hill to the west. It was the arrival of the Santa Fe Railroad which stimulated the growth of Pauls Valley as a commercial center. The railroad was also responsible for the town's new name. The new stationmaster felt that "Smith Paul's Valley" was unwieldy; so when the first train pulled into the town, travellers were welcomed to Pauls Valley.

Though the town was platted in 1887 by J. J. Wiggins, the Chickasaw land system slowed construction of substantial buildings. In the Chickasaw Nation land was held in common. This meant that city lots could not be sold but only leased. It is therefore, difficult to date exactly structures built before 1906.

The passage of the Dawes Act in 1893 stimulated a real building boom in Pauls Valley. The Act required that the previously leased lots be purchased and improvements made. By 1898 the principal business district represented a frontage of almost 18 blocks with approximately 22 brick buildings and many more wooden structures. Brick for these buildings were produced at a kiln within the city limits; a few miles from town there was a stone quarry. An itenerate Italian stone cutter was responsible for most of the stone work done in Pauls Valley.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Jarrell Ray Walker, <u>A History of Pauls Valley</u>, <u>Oklahoma</u> unpublished MA Thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1953 From Bluestem to Golden Trend: Gravin County History

Files: Pauls Valley Democrat

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Oklahoma	Ga	COUNTY Irvin		049
STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
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, CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	1			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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Pauls Valley Historic District	t State
	a start
	Pauls Valley National Bank
Kelly Thompson	,101 West Paul
Box 586	'Pauls Valley, Oklahoma 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	
	J Mrs. Z. M. S. Smith
Thomas A. Crabtree	727 Nash
309 Ash	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	Marco Correll Mallin
Rill Humphron	Mrs. Carol Modie - 706 N. Pine
Bill Humphrey 101 S. Willow	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	rauls valley, OK 75075
radio (direj, ok (3075	Edward Patchell
Harry Pruett	\sim 701 N. Oak
313 N. Oak	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	
	- Joe Curtis & James Blanton
Garvin County Commissioners	123 W. Paul
Garvin County Courthouse	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	*****
Coop Colo Pottling Co	William Hensley - 108 N. Chickasaw
Coca-Cola Bottling Co. 112 W. Grant	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	Tauis Variey, OK 75075
	U. S. Postal Service
Pearl Jackson	Post Office
6401 N. Pennsylvania	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Suite 204	
Oklahoma City, OK 73116	Nathan Stufflebean
	616 N. Willow
Donald Reynolds	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Donray Inc.	
Ft. Smith, Ark	Dean Hart
. C. I. Woods	, 105 N. Willow Paula Vallow OK 73075
JC. L. Woods 117 E. Paul	Pauls Valley, OK 73075
Pauls Valley, OK 73075	Pauls Valley National Bank
radio varieje ok 19019	100 W. Paul
	Pauls Valley, OK 73075

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Pauls Valley Historic District

Buddy Strickland
RR #7 Box 239
Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Bruce Patton 303 E. Leslie Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Harry Thompson 101 E. Paul Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Mrs. Clarence Clark 1755 S. Walnut Pauls Valley, OK 73075

H. H. Hawley Stillwater, Ok 74074

C. M. Philpotts Rt. 3 Pauls Valley, OK 73075

 Quinnell Brothers (Jimmy & David) 300 E. Charles Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Cottie Alexander 215 S. Chickasaw Pauls Valley, OK 73075

, Clifford Hanley 714 N. Ash Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Erwin Colley
 123 E. Grant
 Pauls Valley, OK 73075

 Pratt's Savings and Investments 110 N. Willow Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Charles Pyle 1010 S. Walnut Pauls Valley, OK 73075

T. Ray Pyatt
109 N. Willow
Pauls Valley, OK 73075

.Carole Bowie 111 N. Willow Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Bill Paine 113 N. Willow Pauls Valley, OK 73075

A. F. Myer 802 N. Pine Pauls Valley, OK 73075

Port Schorrenberg 619 N. Ash Pauls Valley, OK 73075

William Slaughter 105 S. Willow Pauls Valley, OK 73075

L. E. Brewer 301 N. Ash Pauls Valley, OK 73075

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Pauls Valley Historic District

- Jewel Robbins •601 N. Walnut Pauls Valley, OK 73075
- Ray Butts • 403 N. Ash Pauls Valley, OK 73075
- C. L. Wood 116 Highland Rd. Pauls Valley, OK 73075
- W. L. Menefee 101 E. Paul Pauls Valley, OK 73075
- Forrest Duffeild • 707 N. Pine Pauls Valley, OK 73075
 - Louise Albert Tulsa
- J. Rose Williamson 704 S. Walnut Pauls Valley, OK 73075
 - Pauls Valley Chamber of Commerce * 112 E. Paul Pauls Valley, OK 73075

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Pauls Valley Historic District

The center of most downtown commercial centers is the banks. The two in Pauls Valley, The First National and the Pauls Valley National, are located across the street from each other on Paul Street. The First National was built in 1908 in a modified Greek Revival style and has been faithfully restored. The Pauls Valley National Bank was built in 1913 but has been remodelled so that all traces of the original structure have been lost.

Other important buildings along Paul Street are the Blanton Building construprior to 1900 by Norman Pruitt, a famous trial lawyer, and the Hart Building constructed prior to 1900 by Congressman Clause Weaver. Both are two story brick.

One of the oldest buildings in town is occupied by Toni's Threads. It was built in the 1890s as Pyeatt's Abstract Company and was across the street from the old federal court house which has been torn down. The building, a one story brick, has been privately restored.

The last important building on Pauls Street is the City Hall constructed in 1906. This beautiful two story brick building has interesting brick detail and a massive carved stone archway over the door.

Significant buildings elsewhere in the district are the Fraternal building constructed in the 1890s as a joint effort of the Masons, IOOF, and the Knights of Pythias. The IOOF still uses the building. Pauls Shoe Store was built in 1900 as Shumate & Sons and the Elks Lodge used the top floor; Lintz Department Store was built prior to 1906 as Van Hoozer Department Store; Crabtree Drug Store was built before 1900 and is still in use as a drug store; and the Reavis Drug Store was built in 1900 as Freeman's Department Store.

A very interesting building which can be dated with some precision is the old W. J. Long building. It has a cast iron store front with the date 1898 on the first step. The building is a two story native stone construction except for the top which was for some reason finished in brick. This building and the one adjacent and the one across the street still retains the 1900 tin awning that the entire commercial district once had.

The courthouse was built in 1918 in a neo-classical revival style. The brid streets which are throughout the district are an important part of the character and flavor of the historic area. The city has agreed to a pilot project to restor these unique streets.

The Pauls Valley Historic District is a fine example of a Chickasaw commerc: center. The architecture of the buildings reflected the blending of two cultures Chickasaw and Anglo. This unique district with its colorful brick streets is important not only for the state but for the nation as well. So much of our nati American heritage has disappeared. Pauls Valley Historic District which has main tained the integrity of its Chickasaw heritage to a remarkable degree is a signif remnent of this history. UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Pauls Valley Historic District

Most of the buildings in the historic district were constructed between 1893 and 1910. These structures have changed little from this period and are a fine examp: of an early 20th century rural commercial center heavily influenced by their Chickasaw heritage. The area is remarkably free of intrusions and only a few buildings have been altered to any significant degree. Several buildings have already been privately restored demonstrating the community's awareness of their heritage.

Until 1909 the streets of Pauls Valley were dirt which quickly turned into impassable mud after a rain or during the annual flood of the Washita River. To solve this problem, the city council decided to pave the streets with brick. On March 18, 1909 a contract was given to E. D. O'Yarmitt and J. W. Frelder for \$47,056.21 to pave 19,986 yards. On December 10, 1910 another contract was let to finish brick paving the streets. All the streets within the historic district are paved with this brick and within the city proper there are 16 to 18 blocks of brick streets. These streets are in good repair except where the city has repaved utility trenches with concrete. The city in conjunction with the Oklahom: Office of Historic Preservation has begun a pilot program to restore the brick streets to their original condition. This network of brick streets, one of the largest in the state, adds much to the character and quality of the historic district district district district district district brick streets.

The Pauls Valley Historic District is a fine example, remarkably intact, of a Chickasaw commercial center. No where else in the state or the nation can this heritage of the Chickasaw Nation be found. Pauls Valley represents an important instance of the blending of native American and Anglo culture. Even after the disappearance of the Chickasaw Nation in 1907 Pauls Valley has remained a significant political and economic center for southern Oklahoma. Many important political figures have lived and built many of the structures in Pauls Valley. This district so rich in Chickasaw heritage certainly merits the recognition of National Register status.

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Verbal Boundary Description: Pauls Valley Historic District

Beginning at a point at the western edge of the Santa Fe Railroad right-of-way 140' northwest of Grant Street then moving to a point at the western edge of the Santa Fe Railroad right-of-way intersecting with the extension of a line running along the center of Joy Street, southwest down the center of Joy Street to the center of the intersection of Joy Street and Walnut Street, moving to the northwest along the center line of Walnut Street to the intersection of Walnut and Guy, through the center of Guy to the intersection of Willow and Guy, then southeast along the center line of Willow to the alley line between Guy and Grant, along the alley line east-west to the initial point at the western edge of the Santa Fe Railroad right-of-way.