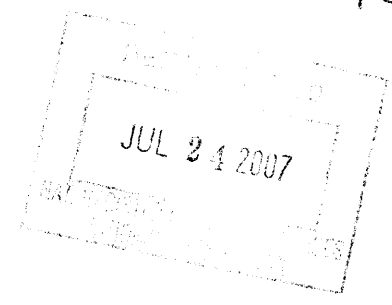


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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Franklin Hall

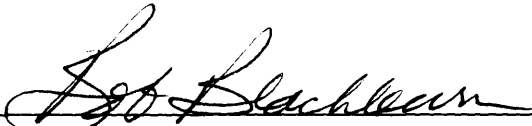
other names/site number Girls' Dormitory/Boys' Dormitory

2. Location

street & number 201 North College Avenue not for publication N/A  
city or town Goodwell vicinity N/A  
state Oklahoma code OK county Texas code 139  
zip code 73939

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 \_\_\_ nationally \_\_\_ statewide  locally. ( N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official

7-23-07  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.  
( \_\_\_ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

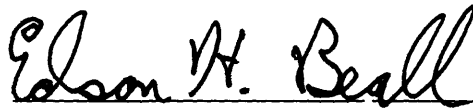
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification


I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the  
National Register  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register
- removed from the National Register

  
\_\_\_\_\_

9.6.07

\_\_\_ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

---

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5. Classification

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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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>EDUCATION</u>	Sub: <u>education-related</u>
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>EDUCATION</u>	Sub: <u>education-related</u>
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____
_____	Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

No Distinctive Style  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
roof ASPHALT  
walls CONCRETE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

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.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1909-1957

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

=====  
8. Statement of Significance (Continued)  
=====

Significant Dates 1910  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder Frank Shinville, contractor  
\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)  
=====

9. Major Bibliographical References  
=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

=====  
10. Geographical Data  
=====

Acreeage of Property Less than One Acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone Easting	Northing	Zone Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>264270</u>	<u>4052890</u>	
2				
	<u>N/A See continuation sheet.</u>			

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
=====

name/title Cynthia Savage, Architectural Historian, for Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.

organization Architectural Resources and Community Heritage Consulting date April 2007

street & number 346 County Road 1230 telephone 405/459-6200

city or town Pocasset state OK zip code 73079

=====  
Additional Documentation  
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====  
Property Owner  
=====

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

name Oklahoma Panhandle State University, David Bryant, President

street & number P.O. Box 430 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town Goodwell state OK zip code 73939



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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Franklin Hall  
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SUMMARY

Constructed in 1909-1910 in Goodwell, Texas County, Oklahoma, Franklin Hall is a two-story, rectangular, rock-faced concrete block building that measures thirty-seven feet by eighty feet. The building was constructed by Frank Shinville, a local contractor who also built the "cement stone" First Baptist Church building in Goodwell at the same time. The dormitory has a concrete foundation and a moderately-pitched, asphalt-covered, hipped roof. The original, one-over-one, wood, hung windows were replaced after 1960 with two-over-two, wood, hung windows with metal storms. While matching the width of the historic windows, the replacement windows are not as long with the remaining window opening infilled with wood. The pattern of infill differs between the two floors but is the same on each elevation. The second floor windows were infilled at the bottom and the first floor windows were almost all infilled at the top. Importantly, the historic, flat, lug, concrete headers and sills remain in place. The building has three, inset, round-arched, entry porches, one each on the east, south and west. A fourth, flush entry is located on the southeast side of the building. All four exterior doors are now wood slab with metal storm doors on the front and southeast entries. The limited decorative detail on the building consists of a smooth-faced, concrete block belt course and broad, boxed, wood eaves.

Notably, Franklin Hall and the immediately adjacent streets were not laid to correspond to the cardinal points of the compass. This off-set pattern of development matches the historic development of the community, which as was typical paralleled the railroad tracks which were instrumental in the formation of the community, but not the later growth of the campus. The building's facade, designated as the west elevation for descriptive purposes, fronts onto College Avenue which extends in a southeasterly direction from Sewell Street. The longer north elevation faces Sewell Street which, matching the streets and railroad tracks to the south, runs in a northeasterly direction from the true north-south Aggie Avenue, also called County Highway 40.



Current Aerial Map, Goodwell, Oklahoma

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National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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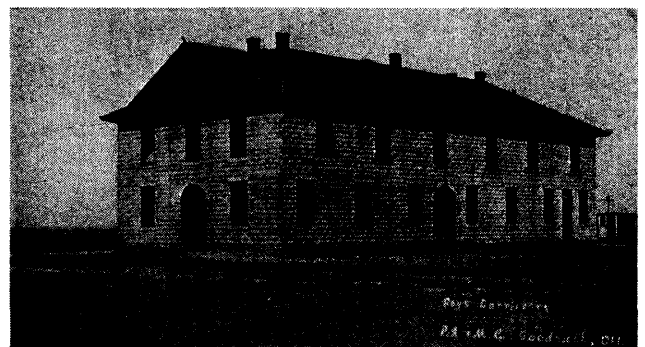
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Franklin Hall is located on the southeast side of the irregularly shaped Oklahoma Panhandle State University campus. The majority of the campus lies in a rectangle west of Aggie Avenue. A V-shaped section of campus lies between Aggie Avenue and Sewell Street with Franklin Hall located southeast of this. To the immediate northeast of Franklin Hall is the No Mans Land Museum, an affiliate of the Oklahoma Historical Society. The museum was initiated by faculty and students of the college, as well as local and regional residents, in the 1930s with the red brick, one-story building being constructed on the Panhandle Agriculture and Mechanical College campus in about 1950. To the southeast of Franklin Hall is a parking area with the relatively modern Baptist Student Union being the closest building and the older Baptist church located on the corner. Across College Avenue to the southwest is residential development with the majority of houses, many significantly modified, dating from the early decades of the Twentieth century.

Built as part of the community inducement to have the state legislature locate the state-supported agricultural high school in Goodwell, Franklin Hall has been used as college-related housing since construction. Initially, the building sheltered the school president and his family, as well as faculty and students of the Panhandle Agriculture Institute. Within a short period, the building became known as the Girls' Dormitory as the men "bached" it in nearby tents. In late 1914, a second dormitory was constructed on the campus that became the Girls' Dormitory, later called Earle Hall, although the president of the school also took up residence there. Functioning as the Boys' Dormitory for decades, the building was re-named Franklin Hall in the mid-1920s after the school became known as Panhandle Agriculture and Mechanical College. Following the end of World War II and the resulting explosion in college enrollment spurred by the G.I. Bill, Franklin Hall was converted into twelve apartments in 1946. Predominately used for married student housing, faculty also resided in the apartments at various times. In recent years, the building functioned as a residence for honors students. Since 2004, the building has been largely vacant due to code issues. Although not having definitive plans and hampered by funding issues, the university would like to rehabilitate the building and continue using it for housing purposes.

Work proposed for the building in 1914 including the laying of a five-ply composition roof, painting of the outside wood work and treatment of the concrete blocks with two coats of water-proofing material. Additional work was undertaken on the interior, primarily focused on providing indoor plumbing in the building. In the mid-1930s, the roof of Franklin Hall was altered by the removal of a large, front-facing gable, as well as installation of a new roof covering. Also at that time, the decorative, metal ridge cresting and the six brick chimneys were removed. Various small metal vents were scattered along the asphalt-shingle roof. Additionally, the front, inset entry porch was enclosed with a flush door, a fanlight and sidelights. The work was apparently done as part of the



Franklin Hall, c. 1909-1910

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campus improvements undertaken by the college with aid from the Public Works Administration. Following World War II, the dormitory was converted into twelve apartments, initially for use as married student housing and, subsequently, faculty and student apartments. Also by that time, the walls of the building has been painted white. By 1949, a second floor entry on the back side of the building, which itself may not be original, was apparently enclosed, leaving a small wood window, the top of which was at about the same height as the top of the other second floor windows. Since at least 1982, the window has been boarded as well. After 1960 but before 1982, the nonoriginal front entry enclosure was removed and the wood, one-over-one, hung windows replaced by shorter, wood, two-over-two, hung windows and metal storms.

Because the building is historically significant for its continued association with higher education in Goodwell, and because its function remained virtually the same, the period of significance extends from its construction in 1909 to 1957, the current fifty-year mark. Thus, the only nonhistoric alteration to the building is the replacement of the windows. As the fenestration pattern was not changed, the window modification has only a marginal impact on the building's integrity. Retaining its overall integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association, Franklin Hall conveys its historic association with Oklahoma Panhandle State University as the first building constructed on the campus and the only building in continuous use from the college's founding through 1957.

#### EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

Franklin Hall is a rectangular, two-story building constructed of rock-faced concrete blocks with a concrete foundation. As a fire-proof building material, concrete block had an obvious advantage over wood. Additionally, with machines readily available from companies such as Sears, Roebuck and Company to manufacture concrete block on-site, it was an attractive choice for building material on the sparsely settled plains of the Oklahoma panhandle. While various face patterns were available for concrete block from early on, the standard rock-faced blocks, such as those on Franklin Hall, remained the most popular through the 1930s. Also common to concrete block buildings, a different face pattern was used to add a decorative element to the building. Along the bottom edge of all four walls is a row of smooth-faced concrete blocks. The smooth-faced bottom row matches the decorative, smooth-faced belt course that encircles the building in the row immediately above the first floor window headers. The lug window header and sills are also smooth-faced concrete. The building has an asphalt-covered, hipped roof with broad, boxed eaves. The eaves, painted white to match the rest of the building, are still wood. Scattered along the roof are about eleven metal vents.

The west elevation, or facade, (see photographs 1 and 4) fronts onto College Avenue. The symmetrical wall contains three openings on each floor. The upper floor has three windows, each with smooth, flat, lug, concrete headers and sills. Placed directly below the second floor fenestration, the first floor has two windows flanking a central recessed entry. Like the upstairs windows, the first floor windows have smooth, lug, concrete headers and sills. Matching the

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other primary entries on the west and south elevations, the facade entry has a smooth-faced, concrete, round arch above the inset, entry porch. The smaller, smooth-faced blocks of the arch rest on rock-faced imposts that are slightly projected. A sizable, nonhistoric, metal, security light has been placed above the center of the arch, covering part of the belt course immediately above. The inset door is centrally located and consists of a nonhistoric, wood, slab door with a metal storm door. Immediately above the door was probably a transom window which has been infilled with concrete. A flat, smooth-faced, concrete header matching those above the windows remains in place above this.

The long north elevation (see photograph 4) contains six windows on the first and second floors. As on the facade, the windows on the north elevation are symmetrical. With no entries, this side of the building is relatively plain. A gas meter extends off the west corner of one of the middle windows with a water faucet located to the west of this.

The asymmetrical back of the building (see photograph 3) contains three openings on the first floor and two on the second floor. A third opening on the second floor that has been both a door and a window has been enclosed. The doorway is infilled with concrete painted to match the rest of the building and the window opening is boarded. The draft nomination submitted for the building in 1982 notes that the stairs accessing the second floor entry had been removed and the entry "boarded up" but does not indicate when this occurred. The aerial of the campus included in the 1949 yearbook shows the rear of the building. The opening in the photograph appears to match the small window opening and there are no stairs visible. In the 1949 photograph, the opening is visibly smaller than the other windows, indicating it was likely the existing boarded window and not an original opening. The doorway is also probably not an original feature of the building as it does not have the smooth-faced header matching the other entries and windows.

In addition to the center, nonoriginal opening, the second floor of the east elevation has two evenly-spaced windows. Both of these windows have the smooth-faced, concrete, lug headers and sills matching all of the other original openings on the building. Like the facade, the first floor of the east wall has three evenly-spaced openings consisting of two windows flanking a central entry. The center entry is inset within a round-arched opening. Matching the other entry porches, the smooth-faced, concrete block arch has rock-faced imposts that are slightly projected. On the center of the arch is a metal, nonhistoric light similar to the light above the facade entry but smaller in size. The rear entry consists of a wood slab door with a boarded transom. To the immediate north of the entry are a collection of electrical meters, boxes and pipes. Unlike the first floor windows on the west wall which are symmetrical, the east elevation first floor windows are spaced farther apart and do not align with the second floor windows. As on all elevations, the first floor window headers are located just one row under the smooth-faced belt course.

The window placement is also a defining feature of the south elevation (see photograph 2). Unlike the north and west walls, the south elevation has a different number of openings between the floors. The second floor contains six window openings with the first floor having seven windows and two entries. The second floor windows are evenly spaced, as are the first floor windows. As on the other elevations, all of the second floor window openings were

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infilled with wood along the bottom to accommodate the smaller, nonhistoric, two-over-two, windows. All but one first floor window has the wood infill along the top. The exception is the third window from the west which has a newer concrete infill that is solid along the bottom rather than the top. A single, window, air conditioning unit is located in the westernmost window for the lone apartment still in use.

Also setting this elevation apart from the others is that the entries on the first floor were not incorporated into the window pattern but instead inserted between two evenly spaced windows. Matching the other primary entries, the westernmost entry on the south wall contains an inset, wood, slab door with a boarded transom. As with the facade entry, there is a smooth-faced, concrete, flat header above the transom. The arch is again composed of smooth-faced blocks with projected, rock-faced imposts. Located almost in the east corner of the wall is the secondary entrance. Like the windows, this entry has a smooth-faced, flat, concrete header and sill. The door sill is slightly taller than the adjacent smooth-faced blocks. Like all of the other entries, the transom above the door is boarded. A small light extends from the center of the transom area. The wood slab door has a metal storm door.

#### ALTERATIONS

Franklin Hall retains a good degree of integrity. Since the period of significance, the only modification to the building has been the replacement of the wood, one-over-one, hung windows with smaller, wood, two-over-two, hung windows and metal. The remaining space left by the smaller windows was infilled with wood. The majority of first floor windows are infilled along the top and the second floor windows along the bottom. Because the replacement windows did not alter the fenestration pattern, this modification has minimal impact on the building's integrity.

The most significant changes to the building which occurred during the period of significance include the removal of a front-facing gable and six brick chimneys, as well as the application of composition roofing material at various times. Other minor changes include the painting of the building white and the rear second floor door/window. While the removal of the front-gable is notable, the building retains its appearance sufficiently to convey its historic significance. The building continued to serve the college for more than twenty years during the period of significance after the removal of the gable.

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SUMMARY

Franklin Hall is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with higher education in Goodwell, Oklahoma. In use for student housing from its construction in 1909-1910 through 1957, the current National Register fifty-year mark, the building is the only resource on the campus which spans the life of the institution. As the only state-supported school in the region, the college has been a major educational force in Goodwell and Texas County, as well as for the entire Panhandle region, for decades. The school was carefully located in Goodwell in 1909 to provide residents of the Oklahoma Panhandle with a state-supported institution of higher learning. The dormitory building was part of the incentive package offered by the community to secure the location of the school. Two other buildings, both churches, were also part of the deal but neither of these buildings are still extant. Finished in 1910, Franklin Hall was one of the two original buildings on the campus. The other building, the first Hesper Hall, was demolished in 1946. After completion of a third building in late 1914, Franklin Hall served the school as the only boys' dormitory on campus until 1939. Following the end of World War II and the resulting explosion in college attendance, Franklin Hall again filled a vital need of the college by providing married student housing. Thus, the building was a pivotal element of the school's physical plant throughout the period of significance.

Although Franklin Hall is just one of numerous buildings on the Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU)<sup>1</sup> campus, it is the only building connected to the school's founding and early history. The building continued served the school in a fundamental way through the 1950s. Through the years, particularly the second half of the twentieth century, the campus underwent significant growth, resulting in major change to the school's physical plant. Overall, the campus does not maintain sufficient historic integrity to be considered as a whole. As the sole resource capable of reflecting the educational significance of the school from its origination through the mid-twentieth-century, Franklin Hall is worthy of recognition.

BACKGROUND

Considered No Man's Land for decades in the latter 1800s, the Oklahoma Panhandle was the result of several nineteenth century political decisions. In 1819, the Adam Onís Treaty established the eastern boundary of the strip of land that for years belonged to no state or territory. The 1845 annexation of Texas combined with the Compromise of 1850 set the southern boundary. During the same period, the 1848 Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo and the 1850

<sup>1</sup>Originally called the Panhandle Agricultural Institute (PAI), the school became the Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical (PAMC) in 1921. In 1967, the legislature changed the name to Panhandle State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (PSC). Seven years later, the school was granted university status as Panhandle State University (PSU). The current name of the institution is Oklahoma Panhandle State University (OPSU).

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organization of the New Mexico Territory created the western line. The final north boundary came into being in 1854 with the formation of the Kansas Territory. Following the Civil War, the area, falling under no political jurisdiction, became a haven for lawlessness. In the 1880s, cattlemen and nesters began taking up residence in the region. Quickly tiring of the riffraff, the law-abiding residents formed vigilante committees in 1886 "...and purged No Man's Land of its renegade population." Continuing their quest for law and order, the committees sought to make No Man's Land an organized territory called Cimarron Territory. However, Congress instead attached the area to the newly formed Oklahoma Territory in the Oklahoma Organic Act of 1890. Initially one large county named Beaver, the panhandle was divided into three counties at statehood in 1907, namely Beaver, Cimarron and Texas counties.<sup>2</sup>

As with numerous communities in the future state of Oklahoma, the railroad was instrumental in the establishment of several towns in Beaver County, Oklahoma Territory. The dominant means of transportation for both people and goods in the first decades of the twentieth century, the presence of a rail line served to not only bring people to the community but contributed significantly to the development of the commerce and industry necessary for a town to flourish. In early 1902, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company (Rock Island) completed a sixty mile line from Liberal, Kansas, to Texhoma, Texas. The rail line extended diagonally through the near center of Beaver County, Oklahoma Territory, via the towns of Tyrone, Hooker, Optima, Guymon, Junior and Goodwell. While the post offices at both Optima and Guymon predated the completion of the line, Optima in 1886 and Guymon in 1901, and Junior never developed sufficiently to have a post office, the towns of Tyrone, Hooker and Goodwell all established post offices, and thus became recognized communities, after the railroad finished the line.<sup>3</sup>

More than a year after the Rock Island began running trains through the panhandle, the community of Goodwell established a post office on June 16, 1903. Named for the good quality water drilled at the townsite by the Rock Island, Goodwell rapidly began to take shape with tents and frame buildings. The surrounding agricultural community formed the economic backbone for the developing community. Following statehood in 1907, the town was included in the newly formed Texas County. By 1908, Goodwell boasted a number of businesses, including a grocery store, coal and feed store, two hotels, an implement store, lumber company, bank, real estate offices, a telephone company, a general store, a blacksmith shop, a butcher shop, a barber, a feed mill, and a livery and feed

<sup>2</sup>Arrell Morgan Gibson, Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries, Second Edition (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1991), 178.

<sup>3</sup>"Rock Island's Family Tree – Page 3," <http://home.covade.net/~scicoatnsew/rihist3.htm>, retrieved 16 April 2007. See also George H. Shirk, Oklahoma Place Names, (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1987), 102, 106, 119, 179 and 241.

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stables.<sup>4</sup>

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Education has long been a significant political and social cause in Oklahoma. Following their relocation to Indian Territory, the Five Civilized Tribes quickly established national systems of education. Upon the opening of Indian Territory to non-Native American settlement, once the business of acquiring land and building those first shelters was well underway, the focus widened to encompass educational needs. Although much attention was paid to establishing local primary schools, the founding of colleges and universities was also an immediate concern. Prior to 1890, the majority of institutes of higher education were located in what would become eastern Oklahoma and were run privately or by denominational organizations. These included the Shawnee Indian Training School in Shawnee which opened in 1874; Sacred Heart Abbey near Asher which commenced in 1876; Bacone College which originated in Tahlequah in 1880 but moved to Muskogee in 1895; Lady of Good Counsel School in Lehigh which started in 1883; St. Elizabeth's Cathedral in Purcell which began in 1888; El Meta Bond which commenced in Silver City in 1889 but moved to Minco in 1890; and, Catholic College of Oklahoma for Young Women, the only school located in Oklahoma Territory which opened in 1889 in Guthrie.<sup>5</sup>

Following the passage of the Organic Act on May 2, 1890, the state's first publicly supported schools of higher education were quickly initiated. Although not actually opened until 1891, both the Territorial Normal School in Edmond and the Territorial University, located at Norman, were founded in 1890. The Territorial Agricultural and Mechanical College, situated in Stillwater, was also established in 1890 but did not open until 1892. Seven years after the first three colleges were designated, the Territorial Legislature created Northwestern Normal School in Alva, which opened the same year, and the Colored Agricultural and Normal School in Langston, which opened the following year, 1898. In 1901, two more state-supported schools were specified. The University Preparatory School was located in Tonkawa and opened one year after its establishment. Weatherford was the location of the Southwestern Normal School which took two years to open.<sup>6</sup>

With the advent of statehood in 1907, eastern Oklahoma began to clamor for state-supported colleges, universities and

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<sup>4</sup>Shirk, Oklahoma Place Names, 102. See also Kathryn A. Sexton, The Heritage of the Panhandle: The History of Panhandle State University: 1909-1979, (S.I.: s.n., 1979), 4.

<sup>5</sup>Oscar William Davison, "Education at Statehood," The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Volume XXVIII, Number 1, (Spring 1950), 63 and 79.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., 78.



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normal schools in equal number to those already established in western Oklahoma. Provisions in the Oklahoma State Constitution also influenced the development of new schools of higher education. Reflecting its overall Progressive slant, the state constitution called for the teaching of agriculture, horticulture, stock feeding and domestic science in all public schools. Related to this, the constitution also placed an emphasis on industrial education (the teaching of practical skills and trades) in Oklahoma schools. Both of these elements were part of the popular progressive theory of education sweeping the nation at the time. The McCalla, Rainey and Faulkner Bill, approved by the House in early April 1908, put "...the constitution into force..." by creating a State Commission of Agriculture and Industrial Education. The commission was to consist of the State School Superintendent, the president of the State Agriculture Broad and the president of the state Agricultural and Mechanical College (A&M) at Stillwater. The bill also required that after April 1, 1909, all teachers pass an examination on "...the elements of agriculture and the allied branches" to receive a teaching certificate. Additionally, the bill appropriated \$2,000 to each Normal School to establish a department of Agriculture and Industrial Education. The state A&M school was to serve as the technical head of these departments. The bill also provided for the establishment of a secondary grade agricultural school in each of the state's supreme court districts, also under the auspices of the state A&M school.<sup>7</sup>

The creation of secondary grade agricultural schools was not an Oklahoma-only phenomenon. The first secondary grade agricultural schools were established in Minnesota and Alabama in 1889. These schools, as well as the secondary agricultural schools in Oklahoma, were an outgrowth of the federal Hatch Act of 1887. This act provided a limited amount of funds to found agricultural experiment stations in connection with colleges established under the 1862 Morrill Land Grant Act, commonly known as land-grant schools. Seeking to take advantage of the federal appropriations, Alabama established secondary agricultural schools and branch agricultural experiment stations in each of its nine congressional districts in 1889. The secondary grade schools proved popular as they offered "Instruction in practical and scientific agriculture" at a intermediary level between primary schools and college-level course work. Oklahoma's system of secondary grade agricultural schools combined with branch agricultural experiment stations was modeled after Alabama's "...district scheme..." as were the states of Georgia (1907), Virginia (1908), Mississippi (1908) and Arkansas (1909).<sup>8</sup>

In addition to aiding agriculture, public secondary schools also improved the educational levels attainable by the general public. This was particularly important during the late nineteen and early twentieth centuries when many towns and rural areas were unable to provide high school facilities. Preparatory, also referred to as high school,

<sup>7</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma), 7 April 1908.

<sup>8</sup>Gary E. Moore, "The Involvement of Experiment Stations in Secondary Agricultural Education, 1887-1917," Agricultural History, Volume 62, Number 2, (Spring 1988); retrieved from <http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/agexed/ace501/stations.html> on 23 April 2007.

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classes were a common element in Oklahoma’s colleges and universities for years. In general, the growth of public high schools in towns and cities and consolidated country schools brought increasing pressure to do away with this level of course work at state-supported institutions of higher learning by the 1920s. The state-supported secondary grade schools then typically became junior colleges and then, in many cases, four-year, degree-granting colleges. In more recent times, these schools’ have become full-fledged universities.

Responding to both eastern Oklahoma’s desire for schools and to meet the educational obligations set forth in the state constitution and corresponding legislation, the first state legislature established the Oklahoma School for Mines and Metallurgy in Wilburton, Cameron State School of Agriculture in Lawton, Connell State School of Agriculture in Helena, Murray State School of Agriculture in Tishomingo, Haskell State School of Agriculture in Broken Arrow, Conners State School of Agriculture in Warner and the Industrial Institute and College for Girls with no location specified. Although Lawton and Helena were in western Oklahoma, the other five schools were in Indian Territory.<sup>9</sup>

In 1909, the state legislature designated five more state schools of higher learning and located the Industrial Institute and College for Girls at Chickasha. The new schools were Panhandle State School of Agriculture at Goodwell, Northeastern State Normal School in Tahlequah, Southeastern State Normal School in Durant, East Central State Normal School in Ada and Eastern University Preparatory School in Claremore. In 1919, one last state-supported school was designated, Northeastern School of Mines in Miami. By 1950, the only state-supported school established by the first and second legislatures which was no longer in existence was the Haskell State School of Agriculture. The school closed in 1917 as a result of Governor Williams’ veto of appropriations. Although five other schools were temporarily shut down by Governor Williams’ action, they reopened in 1919. Amazingly, of the state-supported institutes of higher education established by the first and second legislators, the majority are still in existence today, although most have had at least one name change. It must be noted that the schools established after statehood did not benefit from federal land grants and all schools were racially segregated with African-Americans only allowed to attend the Colored Agricultural and Normal School until the 1950s.<sup>10</sup>

In all, the first state legislators established twelve institutions of higher education in Oklahoma. Of these, six were secondary agricultural schools. The primary agricultural school, Oklahoma A&M in Stillwater, was rapidly growing at the time with more than fifteen years and numerous graduates behind it. The general purpose of the secondary agricultural schools was to “...bring the work closer to the farm home and also act as a preparatory school for the more complete course at the agricultural college at Stillwater.” Initially each of the state’s five supreme court districts were allotted one secondary agricultural school. Within this system, the Oklahoma Panhandle was educationally

<sup>9</sup>Davison, “Education at Statehood,” 72 and 79.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., 72, 78-79.

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disadvantaged due to the distance between it and the state's educational centers. Recognizing this, Governor Haskell signed the Castele-Earle Bill in mid-March 1909 which allowed for a secondary agricultural school district for the three panhandle counties.<sup>11</sup>

Providing an equal opportunity to the panhandle communities, the Castele-Earle bill did not specify a location for the new school. However, the bill, also known as House Bill No. 368, stipulated that the school, initially called the Panhandle Agricultural Institute (PAI), should be provided with not less than eighty acres of land without cost to the state. As with the other secondary agricultural schools, the PAI was to be administered by the State Commission of Agricultural and Industrial Education, which was dependent upon the approval of the Board of Agriculture. The bill also appropriated \$12,000 from state treasury's building fund to construct a school building with an additional \$5,000 for maintenance and support for the 1910 fiscal year. The following year, the school was to receive \$7,000. All of the appropriation was subject to the provision that one-fourth of the money be expended in "...developing agricultural experiment in field, barn, orchard, shops, and garden of practical value to students of school and to farmers of the Panhandle Agricultural District in which the school (was) located."<sup>12</sup>

With towns throughout the panhandle seeking the school, the State Commission of Agriculture and Industrial Education, consisting of J.P. Connors, president of the State Board of Agricultural, E.D. Cameron, state school superintendent, and Dr. J. H. Connell, A&M College president, were tasked with making a survey and selecting the final location. Two towns in Texas County quickly rose to the forefront, Guymon and Goodwell. With Guymon landing the county seat in an April 1909 election, the board designated Goodwell as the PAI site in early June 1909. Local banker J.R.P. Sewell was instrumental in the effort to secure the school for Goodwell. President of both the First State Banks in Goodwell and Texhoma, as well as three other banks in Oklahoma and Texas, Sewell advocated long and hard for the school. As part of the agreement deal, Sewell pledged that a dormitory and two churches would be built in Goodwell by the time the state-funded school building was ready for use.<sup>13</sup>

By late July 1909, construction was underway on the brick Methodist church building with walls "...up to the windows." With the concrete blocks ready to go, work on the Baptist church at that time included the laying of the foundation. Also with "finished" blocks on-hand, the dormitory plans called for "...a handsome and imposing stone

<sup>11</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 16 July 1910 and 13 March 1909.

<sup>12</sup>Session Laws of Oklahoma, (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Harlow Publishing Company, 1911), page 16-18.

<sup>13</sup>The Texhoma (Oklahoma) Times, 11 June 1909. See also Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 3.

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structure.” Just days after announcing the building developments, Sewell became sick with “...bowel trouble...” and retreated to his room at the Josephine Hotel. Death “...relieved him of his suffering...” on Friday, August 5, 1909. Among the accomplishments noted in the front page article announcing the death of the forty-eight-year-old banker, the location of the PAI at Goodwell was noted “...as a monument to his untiring devotion in the cause of the education of the farmers’ sons and daughters of the Great Oklahoma Panhandle.” Although Sewell’s death, “...temporarily stopped (work) along some lines...,” his efforts “...had given the school, the dormitory and other buildings such a good start, that (work) can now be pushed to completion and the school saved for the town.”<sup>14</sup>

With “Work...now progressing on the dormitory...,” the first session of the PAI commenced in early October 1909 with three instructors and an initial student enrollment of forty-four. As the main college building was “..held up for some time on account of some misunderstanding as to the letting of the contract,” the first classes were held in Goodwell’s First State Bank building. Unfortunately, the day before classes started, high winds damaged the north wall of the dormitory then under construction, as well as the west wall of the nearby “...partially completed...” Baptist church. The building damage was estimated at several hundred dollars. The contractor for both buildings, Frank Shinville, had builders insurance on the dormitory but not the church. Notably, a couple of months before this, “stiff” winds damaged the college building under construction at the Connell State School of Agriculture in Helena and made a “...total wreck” of the frame dormitory nearing completion there.<sup>15</sup>

At the end of December 1909, the State Board of Agriculture began to advertise for bids for the construction of the college building with work quickly underway. By early April 1910, the outside walls of the dormitory were finished but heavy rains delayed completion of the block work under the supervision of O.L. Clarke. In mid-May 1910, the State Board of Agriculture met in Goodwell for the “dedication” of the brick college building and to accept a library donated by Sewell’s son, also a banker. Just weeks after this, Clarke, who had “...purchased one of the cement block machines that has been in use here...,” had obviously finished the block work on the dormitory and was busy making blocks for Frank Rus, the local meat market man. In mid-June 1910, Walter Baker was hard at work plastering the walls of the dormitory. The plastering job was expected to take several weeks. Baker finished the dormitory walls by the end of July 1910 and started work on the walls of the college building.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>14</sup>Ibid., 30 July 1909, 13 August 1909 and 27 August 1909.

<sup>15</sup>The Goodwell (Oklahoma) News, 9 September 1909 and 30 December 1909. See also The Daily Oklahoman, 10 August 1910.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., 14 April 1910, 9 June 1910, 16 June 1910 and 24 July 1910. See also The Daily Oklahoman, 4 May 1910.

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The second term of the PAI opened in early September 1910. Classes were held in the newly finished college building, subsequently called Hesper Hall, and faculty and students took up residence in the new dormitory. In early November 1910, the local newspaper announced that "Prof. S.W. Black and his family have moved into the girls' dormitory building." Later sources have described the Blacks' apartment as "...artistically furnished...". The school's first dining room was located on the dormitory's first floor, "...extending from the south door to the east end of the dormitory." The dormitory did not have indoor plumbing so an outdoor hydrant supplied water for all uses.<sup>17</sup>

In mid-1914, the State Board of Agriculture published a notice to contractors calling for bids on the construction of a girls' dormitory, shops and a heating plant at PAI. With the construction of a new girls' dormitory, the original dormitory became the boys' dormitory. At the end of August 1914, the board again ran a notice calling for the extension of the heating system and water and sewer connections to both the girls' and boys' dormitories. Interestingly, the bid specifications called for the heating system to heat the girls' dormitory and college and shop buildings to 70 degrees but the boys' dormitory to only 60 degrees. Additionally, the new septic tank for the boys' dormitory was to be half the size provided for the other buildings. As part of the work, the boys' dormitory was to also receive indoor plumbing. Two water closets, two lavatories, two shower baths and one thirty-gallon water heater with a gasoline attachment were to be installed in the boys' dormitory. Notably, at the start of the fall term in 1914, the boys' dormitory was "...full to overflowing" with work still progressing on the new girls' dormitory.<sup>18</sup>

Over the next years, the school continued to evolve. In 1919-1920 a second girls' dormitory was constructed. The following year, the name of the institution changed from PAI to Panhandle Agricultural and Mechanical College (PAMC) with increasing emphasis placed on college-level classes rather than high school. A new heating plant and sewerage system was completed in 1923, along with construction of a second story on the Industrial Arts Building. In 1924, concrete walks were laid about campus and several buildings were renamed. The boys' dormitory became Franklin Hall and the second girls' dormitory Anna Jarvis Hall. The following year, construction began on the Hughes-Strong Building and a dairy barn. In 1926 PAMC became a four-year college able to confer Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. The Sewell-Loofbourrow Hall was erected in 1927 and a president's residence in 1929.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup>Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 8-9 and 18. See also The Goodwell News, 3 November 1910.

<sup>18</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 13 June 1914, 28 August 1914 and 6 September 1914.

<sup>19</sup>Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 108-109. See also Albert W. Fanning, President, "Report to State Board of Agriculture, July 31, 1933," (Copy available OLI file, Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma), n.p.

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The 1930s continued the evolution of the school. As with other state-supported schools, PAMC received aid from various federal government New Deal programs during the trying years of the Great Depression. That the Panhandle was hit hard by the national economic crisis of the 1930s is evidenced in Goodwell by the major drop in population. In 1930, the town population stood at 501. By 1940, the number of Goodwell residents had fallen to 360. In late December 1933, the school applied for aid from the Civil Works Authority (CWA), one of President Roosevelt's New Deal agencies. Although a lack of funds caused the application to be denied early on, by late February small projects were underway around the campus. For example in May 1934, the window frames of all the campus buildings were painted white and screens, painted black, were placed over them. In June 1935, the school applied for grants from the New Deal's Public Works Administration (PWA) to complete the funding necessary to construct a new boys' dormitory and make repairs amounting to about \$24,000 to other campus buildings. The state legislature had also approved \$100,000 in bonds for the work. Among these repairs were plans for Franklin Hall to receive a new roof, front porch, floors, window casings and room arrangements. The only boys' dormitory for almost twenty years, Franklin Hall was joined by a new, rectangular, three-story, brick boys' dormitory in 1938-1939. A new, identical girls' dormitory was completed at the same time.<sup>20</sup>

Following the end of World War II, PAMC, like nearly all colleges and universities, experienced a surge in enrollment. With the G.I. bill paving the way for veterans to enter schools at unprecedented rates, administrators encountered an additional dilemma of providing housing not only for the students but also their families. Additionally, housing was at a premium in Goodwell at the time as the town population nearly doubled from a low of 360 in 1940 to 714 by 1950. Realizing that their enrollment would depend on how many prospective students could find lodgings, PAMC acquired twenty apartment units from the former Dalhart, Texas, air base. During the same period, the college undertook construction of five frame houses for use by school faculty. To provide more married student housing, the school converted Franklin and Anna Jarvis halls into apartments. For more than ten years, Franklin Hall, with its white window frames and black screens, sheltered twelve married students and their families. At various times, faculty members also resided in the hall but the construction of additional faculty houses in 1957 and 1959 lessened the need for faculty-use of Franklin Hall.<sup>21</sup>

From its founding in 1909, the agricultural school was critical in providing educational facilities to the Oklahoma

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<sup>20</sup>The Panhandle Collegian, (Goodwell, Oklahoma), 20 December 1933, 10 January 1934, 24 January 1934, 28 February 1934, 21 March 1934, 30 May 1934, 26 June 1935. See also Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 144.

<sup>21</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 6 September 1946. See also PAMC Yearbooks, (Available Oklahoma Historical Society Research Library, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma), 1948-1960; and, Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 250.

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Panhandle. The school remains the only state-supported institution of higher learning in the region. Agriculture also continues to be a dominant industry in the area, thus the school retains its "agricultural emphasis" to the present day. Throughout its history, the school has possessed a notable regional relevance. As described in 1936, the primary purpose of the school has long been "To investigate and assist in solving the agriculture problems of the Panhandle and to train teachers for its counties." In addition, the school placed an "...emphasis on Home Economics, general science and literature." Providing practical aid to the entire Panhandle area, the school dealt "...directly with problems peculiar to this region which in soil and climate is different from the remainder of the state."<sup>22</sup>

Typical of college campuses in Oklahoma, the school's physical plant evolved sporadically over the last century. While the school undoubtedly desired faster growth, actual building construction was dependent largely upon appropriations from the state legislature. By the early 1940s, the campus included nine "major" buildings, plus "...several smaller buildings." In 2003, the building count exceeded fifty, not including the three rows of student apartments on the northwest side of campus and the various athletic sites. Obviously, significant development has occurred in the last decades of the twentieth century and the first years of the twentieth-first. Cumulatively, the changes to historic buildings and new construction has resulted in a loss of historic integrity for the overall campus.

Located on the outskirts of the campus, Franklin Hall is the only college building that retains a connection with the very early history of the university, as well as its later years. In 1946, the original Hesper Hall, the first academic and administrative building on the campus, was demolished. A new, larger building, designed by the notable architectural firm of Sorey, Hill and Sorey, took the original's place and name in 1948. Although not an administrative or classroom building, Franklin Hall was an important component of the school's physical plant. In a small, relatively isolated town such as Goodwell and for a college that drew from a vast region, on-campus housing for students was critical for the growth of the school. This remains true to the present time, as evidenced by the amount of housing on the campus currently. First as the only permanent housing on campus, then as the only boy's dormitory for nearly thirty years and, finally, as married student housing at a time this type of housing was being thrown up on colleges and universities nationwide, Franklin Hall played a significant role in the continued ability of the school to provide an educational opportunity for desirous students.

Notably, Franklin Hall is also the only campus building that was part of the inducement package offered by the local community, J.R.P. Sewell in particular, to locate the economically-beneficial school in Goodwell. That the school would immensely aid community development in a multitude of ways was known even before the town was selected; thus, the offer of buildings and amenities by community leaders was a common practice even at that time. The two

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<sup>22</sup>Lake, "The Panhandle College at Goodwell, Oklahoma," (Available Goodwell Vertical File, Oklahoma Historical Society Research Library, Oklahoma History Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, April 6, 1936), 1.

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religious buildings that were the other components of the incentive package did not survive the passage of time. The Methodists' constructed a new building in 1924, resulting in the demolition of their 1909 building. A storm destroyed the original, concrete block Baptist Church. The Baptists' subsequently erected a larger building with a basement on the site, apparently by 1930.<sup>23</sup>

Although Franklin Hall has undergone some change itself, most notably the removal of the front-facing gable in the mid-1930s, the building maintains sufficient characteristics to convey its historic appearance and significance. The oldest extant building on campus, Franklin Hall reflects the founding and early history of the school, as well as the later decades of growth. As the only state-supported institution of higher learning in the three county area, PAMC contributed immeasurably to the education of numerous Goodwell and Panhandle residents, as well as for many in the adjacent states. As foreseen by J.R.P. Sewell in 1909, "There is no doubt when this school was located at Goodwell it meant more for agricultural development and success in the Panhandle than any thing (sic) else that has happened...."<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>23</sup>Sexton, Heritage of the Panhandle, 109. See also Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Goodwell, Oklahoma, 1930.

<sup>24</sup>The Texhoma Times, 30 July 1909.



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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 5 and 6, Kelly Addition, Goodwell, Texas County, Oklahoma.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include the property historically associated with Franklin Hall but excludes the empty, unpaved lot (Lot 4) on the south side which is used for parking.