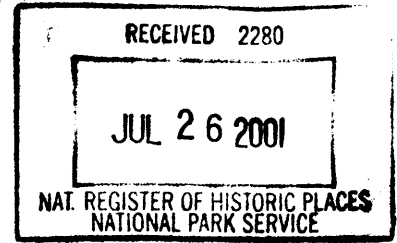


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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Oklahoma College for Women Historic District

other names/site number Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts; University of  
Science and Arts of Oklahoma

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Grand Avenue, 19th Street, Alabama Avenue  
and alley west of 15th Street not for publication N/A  
city or town Chickasha vicinity N/A  
state Oklahoma code OK county Grady code 051  
zip code 73018

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

July 23, 2001  
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

**Entered in the  
National Register**

9.9.01

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

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

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

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>14</u>	<u>6</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>2</u> structures
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> objects
<u>18</u>	<u>10</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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: EDUCATION Sub: college

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: college

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Other: Contemporary Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT

walls BRICK

\_\_\_\_\_

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  
ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1911 - 1951

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Significant Dates 1911  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)  
N/A

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

Architect/Builder Smith & Parr, architects  
Donathan & Moore, builder  
 See continuation sheet

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: University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Nash Library

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

Acreage of Property 50 acres mol

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
1	<u>14</u>	<u>595150</u>	<u>3877060</u>	3	<u>14</u>	<u>595520</u>	<u>3876960</u>
2	<u>14</u>	<u>595520</u>	<u>3877070</u>	4	<u>14</u>	<u>595590</u>	<u>3876960</u>
	<u>X</u>	See continuation sheet.					

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 the University of  
Science and Arts of Oklahoma

organization Savage Consulting date March 2001

street & number Rt. 1, Box 116 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 University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; Dr. John Feaver, President  
street & number P.O. Box 82345, Troutt Hall 210 telephone 405/574-1201  
city or town Chickasha state OK zip code 73018



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Materials (continued): roof: TERRA COTTA

SUMMARY

The Oklahoma College for Women is the historic state-supported womens college located in Chickasha, Grady County, Oklahoma. The campus originated in 1911 with the opening of the Administration building, currently known as Troutt Hall. Over the course of the next forty years, an additional fifteen of the existing twenty buildings were constructed. Four buildings have been erected on the campus since 1951: Gary Hall, built 1956-1957; the Alumni Chapel, completed in 1968; the Power and Heating Plant, built 1970; and, the Physical Education Center, built 1982. Due to insufficient age and, for the buildings constructed after 1965, a lack of association with the historic state-supported womens school, these buildings are noncontributing. Of the historic sixteen buildings, all but two are contributing resources to the district. The fourteen contributing buildings are Administration, Nellie Sparks Hall, Willard Hall, the President's Home, President's Home Garage, Austin Hall, Health and Physical Education, Senior Hall, Home Management House, Robertson Hall, Lawson Hall, Canning Hall, Addams Hall and Nash Library. The Steam Plant, currently named the Art Annex, and the Fine Arts building, now called Davis Hall, have both been significantly modified by nonhistoric additions. Because their historic integrity has been compromised, they are classified as noncontributing resources to the district. Although minor modifications have been undertaken on the fourteen contributing buildings, overall, they retain sufficient historic characteristics to allow them to contribute to the integrity of the district.

In addition to the twenty buildings, the district also contains six objects and two structures. Four of the objects are the brick entry gates located at various points on campus. Two gates mark the entrance to the campus as whole. Situated off of Alabama Avenue is the historic north gate which was built in 1932. This contributing gate has been slightly modified by the construction of a new centerpiece with the current name of the institution and the loss of the east marker. Despite these alterations, the gate retains sufficient integrity to contribute to the district. The matching historic south gate, marking the campus entry from Grand Avenue, was demolished in the late 1960s. A noncontributing, one piece, brick entry marker was constructed in the mid-1970s in the grassy Seventeenth Street median. The noncontributing marker matches the center piece constructed in the historic north gate. The two entry points to the oval, the centerpiece of the overall campus design, also both have brick entry gates. Constructed in 1930, both gates retain their integrity and are contributing resources to the district.

The historic stone bench located by Willard Hall and given by the class of 1924

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is also a contributing object. However, the approximate thirty-three modern wood and concrete benches placed around campus are noncontributing. Because the benches are minor in scale and insignificant in function, the modern benches are counted as one noncontributing object.

Also counted as noncontributing is the foot bridge to the chapel. A simple wood and metal pedestrian structure, the bridge spans a small drainage ditch on the extreme east side of campus. The other noncontributing structure is a modern, wood, sitting area constructed between the Administration building and Austin Hall in recent years. Composed of a stepped wood deck with a small reflecting pool, this area serves as a gathering spot for students between classes.

The twenty-eight existing resources constitute the significant building construction undertaken by the college in its ninety years of existence. Although some resources on the historic campus have been demolished, such as the brick street car station built in about 1917 and moved ten years later, the Greek Theater constructed in 1923 and torn down before the mid-1960s and North (Mary Lyon) Hall, a two-story house taken over by the college for use as a dormitory in 1928 and demolished in about 1976, these resources were relatively insignificant in scale and function. As such their loss, while unfortunate, does not compromise the integrity of the district as a whole.

DESCRIPTION

The Oklahoma College for Women (OCW) campus developed on a building-by-building basis. As the legislature granted monies for construction, the campus began to take shape. The majority of buildings are oriented towards Seventeenth Street, which runs north-to-south with a large, center, grassy median. By 1926, the campus included a paved circular drive off of Seventeenth Street which swept around the existing buildings and created a large grassy oval between the buildings and Seventeenth Street. The oval remains a grassy area containing numerous trees, two concrete walks and a flag pole.

Located on the southwest corner of the historic oval and northwest of the junction of Grand Avenue and Seventeenth Street is the President's Home and Garage. Built in 1919, the house and garage are oriented towards Seventeenth Street; however, a north side porch does allow the house a connection to the oval. West of the President's Home is Willard Hall, completed in the spring of 1920. Northwest of Willard Hall is Austin Hall, originally known as the Home Economics or Domestic Science Building, built in 1924; north and just slightly west of Austin Hall is the 1911 Administration building, the focal point of the oval. To the immediate north of Administration is the Fine Arts building, erected in 1921 and heavily obscured by nonhistoric additions; and north and

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slightly east of Fine Arts is Nellie Sparks Hall, the first dormitory on campus, built in 1914. All of these buildings face Seventeenth Street and are located around the oval.

In about 1917, a red brick Steam Plant, now called the Art Annex, was built off the oval to the northwest of the Administration building. The new Power and Heating Plant, constructed in 1970, was erected immediately south of the historic Steam Plant. Until 1927, the Steam Plant was the only building not constructed adjacent to the oval. At that time, the Health and Physical Education Building was built almost directly west of Willard Hall. Notably, the gym was oriented towards Grand Avenue, the first student-use building not facing Seventeenth Street. For many years, the area north and east of the gym contained several tennis courts. In 1982, a new Physical Education Center was constructed just north of the historic Health and Physical Education Building. The area to the west of the gyms remains a large, open, grassy area with a few chain link backstops used for various sports.

Also in 1927, a new brick dormitory was constructed north of Nellie Sparks Hall. Although facing Seventeenth Street, this building does not directly connect to the oval. Originally called Senior Hall which was changed to Susan B. Anthony Hall in 1940, this building anchored the north side of campus for several years. In 1948, a major addition was constructed onto the rear of Senior Hall, creating OCW's first Student Union. Because the addition occurred within the school's period of significance and the addition is a significant college amenity in itself, the building is considered a contributing resource. This building will be referred to as Senior Hall throughout the remainder of this nomination because that is the name the building had for the longest time during the period of significance.

Located directly west of Senior Hall is Addams Hall. Constructed using assistance from the Public Works Administration (PWA), this building was the last dormitory built on campus. Constructed in 1939, the dormitory is the only building on campus which was originally oriented towards Alabama Avenue. Due to its location behind Senior Hall, this building also has no connection with the historic centerpiece of campus, the oval.

Until 1929, all extant buildings constructed by the college were located on the west side of Seventeenth Street. The east side, referred to by the school newspaper as a park or the sanctuary, was heavily wooded for many years with a few private houses located on the north end. In 1923, students erected an outside theater in the sanctuary which stood until the early 1960s. The Greek Theater as it was called, was a simple, open air, Classical style structure in which the students held various plays and productions. In 1929, the Home Management House, essentially a home, was constructed on the east side of

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Seventeenth Street, just off of Grand Avenue and across from the President's Home. This was followed in 1934/1935 by three dormitories built under the auspices of the PWA. For unknown reasons, the dormitories were setback significantly from Seventeenth Street and situated at some distance apart. Two of the dormitories, Canning and Lawson halls, were located towards the north end of Seventeenth Street, near Alabama Avenue. The third dormitory, Robertson Hall, was constructed just north of the Home Management House.

In 1948-1950, the campus' first separate library building was constructed between Lawson and Robertson halls, directly across from the Administration building. The library was eventually named for M.A. Nash who was president of the college from 1927 to 1943. A few years after the library was finished, a drive was created on the east side of Seventeenth Street which follows the design established by the historic oval on the west side. Located north of the Home Management House, the circular drive goes behind Robertson Hall and the library and around Lawson Hall. Canning Hall is north of the drive, as is the noncontributing Gary Hall, constructed in 1956-1957 immediately off of Alabama Avenue, the north boundary of campus.

The only campus building located west of the drive on the east side of Seventeenth Street is the Alumni Chapel. Constructed in the mid- to late-1960s, the Chapel was located east and slightly south of Robertson Hall in what is now a lightly wooded area. The Chapel is located across a small drainage ditch so a noncontributing, wooden, pedestrian bridge has been constructed west of the Chapel. Although the Chapel was built after the school became co-educational and is located away from the concentration of historic buildings, the area on which the Chapel is located is part of the historic limits of the campus. As such, it has been included in the district.

Although none of the buildings are identical, overall, the buildings relate well to each other in terms of style and building material. The campus as a whole is very homogeneous with the use of light-colored brick being dominant. In general, the buildings ringing the historic west side oval are more Classical in influence. In keeping with the Classical influence, these buildings are also three-stories in height. All but two of the buildings around the oval are three stories tall. The President's House is only two stories in height and was designed in the then popular residential style of Prairie School. The President's Home garage is similar to the larger residence in details and construction material but is only one-story in height. Although not located on the oval, Senior Hall's facade continues the Classical influence of the other buildings but the 1948 addition is more contemporary with very little ornamentation. The Health and Physical Education building also reveals a more modernistic style. The gym is a striking example of the Moderne style which fits well with the function of the building. The historic Steam Plant,

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built of common red brick, is minimally ornamented in a functional Commercial style. Addams Hall, constructed nearly thirty years after the Administration building, is similar to the three PWA dormitories on the east side of campus, except it is three stories in height, has an asphalt-covered roof and is U-shaped.

The west side of campus is dominated by buildings which are more Mediterranean in influence and only two stories in height. The Home Management House, constructed to serve as a laboratory for developing home making skills, is a traditional residence in every thing but historic function. Although not elaborately styled, the house is a nice example of the Spanish Eclectic style. The three PWA dormitories on the east side of campus, originally separated by numerous trees, are also good examples of the Spanish Eclectic style, a subtype of the Mission/Spanish Colonial style. Although Lawson Hall is oriented differently, all three buildings are L-shaped, two stories with basements and face Seventeenth Street. The dormitories are differentiated by their window and chimney treatments. Much of the character of the dormitories is currently obscured by lack of use which has resulted in a general loss of vitality and, for security reasons, the covering of the basement and first floor windows. Photographs of the buildings in the early 1980s, while still in use, convey much more compelling resources, particularly stylistically.

Thirteen years after the construction of Robertson, Canning and Lawson halls, OCW undertook construction of their first library building. Situated in between Lawson and Robertson, this building is contemporary in design. A good example of the International style, the library retains a link to the other campus buildings by the use of light-colored brick for the main body of the building. However, the library is the only building on the east side of campus that is a full three stories in height

Continuing the modern approach to buildings, Gary Hall was constructed in 1956-1957, also in the International style. Although only two stories in height, the building was designed to allow for a third floor. Like the library, Gary Hall features a combination of light-colored brick and concrete walls. After many years of effort and funded by donations, the Alumni Chapel was completed in 1968. The blond brick Chapel is compatible in building material to the historic buildings but features a contemporary design with Gothic style church architectural influences.

Both the new Physical Education Center and Power and Heating Plant are Contemporary in style and are constructed of light colored materials. The gym is a combination of brick and concrete, the power plant is constructed of brick. Because of their location on the backside of campus, these buildings do not have a major visual impact on the integrity of the campus.

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Following is a brief description of the twenty buildings which comprise the principal resources of the district. Because the layout of the buildings has already been described, the buildings are ordered chronologically. After the description of the buildings are brief descriptions of the notable objects and structures on campus. These are in chronological and categorical order. As such, the description of the objects begins with the 1924 bench which is followed by the modern benches. Next, the four gates are described chronologically with the 1970s gate last. This is followed by a brief summary of the noncontributing Chapel Bridge and Wood Sitting Area.

INDIVIDUAL BUILDING DESCRIPTION

1. **Administration**, currently called Troutt Hall. *Contributing*. Built 1910-1911; rear addition 1926; renovated 1951. Style: Renaissance Revival. Architects: Smith and Parr. Builder: Donathan and Moore. Photo 1.

The first building constructed on campus, Administration is an imposing, three-story, pressed brick and stone building. The ground floor of the building is stone with the upper two floors being blond brick. The roof of the T-shaped building is flat and the foundation is stone. Always a multi-purpose building, the front portion of Administration contains office space currently. Previously, the space was used for classes, office space, the school's library and, briefly when the school first started, as living space. The fenestration in this part of the building is regular with numerous windows and several entries. The rear of the building contains the auditorium and, historically, the school's gymnasium, as such the fenestration in this portion of the building is irregular.

The symmetrical facade of the building is composed of five bays with the center bay containing the main entry. The primary entry is above-grade with a wide concrete staircase with stepped, stone, wing walls providing access to the nonhistoric, paired, glazed, slab, double doors with transoms. The ornate stone entrance includes a wide arched entablature supported by Doric columns. The entablature extends across the door and the flanking paired windows. The arched area above the door is ornamented with a corbeled circular element flanked by geometric designs. Above the entry on the third floor is an arched ribbon window set into a recessed rectangle. The ribbon window is topped by an ornamented stone panel similar to the one above the entry. At an unknown time, the center stone was engraved with the initials "OCW." This is not original to the building as the name of the school was "Oklahoma Industrial Institute and College for Girls" when the building was erected. The ribbon window is flanked by paired windows which feature a raised brick label mold. Above both of the paired windows are matching oval ornaments. Centered above the entry on the brick pediment above the metal cornice is a highly ornamented cartouche.

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The remaining four bays of the facade are not as ornamented. The outside bays feature three single windows with brick corbelling above on each floor. The inside bays contain three sets of double windows with raised brick label molds on the main floor and brick corbelling above the third floor windows. The corners of the bays are marked by pilasters with corbelled capitals. Similar pilasters ornament the corners of the other elevations, as well as along the back north and south auditorium walls.

On the northeast corner of the building is a marble cornerstone. On the north side of the stone is the Oklahoma Masonic symbol with "Erected AD 1910" above and "Smith & Parr Donathan & Moore/Architect Builder" below. The east side reads "Oklahoma/Industrial Institute/and/College for Girls/Board of Regents/E.D. Cameron/J.P. Conners Martha B. Redwine/A.S. McKennon Catherine R. Patterson/C.N. Haskell/Governor."

Secondary entries are located on both the north and south sides of the front portion of the building. The double doors are nonhistoric glazed slab with transoms and sidelights. The side entries feature stone Doric columns supporting a wide stone entablature with dentils and a brick parapet with stone coping. Located at grade level, the entries open onto interior stairs at mid-level, allowing access to either the ground or main floors. Above the entries are a small fixed window and a double window on the third floor. Flanking the center fenestration on all three stories are five single windows.

On the west elevation, located in the corner of the T, is another entry with a nonoriginal handicap ramp. This entry has double, glazed, slab doors with a transom and sidelights. This entry does not match the other secondary entries. It has a narrow entablature with a brick parapet with decorative brick detailing and a stone coping. The entablature is supported by one Doric column. The other column was presumably removed when the concrete handicap ramp was installed.

The rear portion of the building, containing the auditorium, contains a number of windows of various sizes and shapes. The windows have been obscured with brown opaque window panes. The rear of the building was expanded by an addition in 1926. The addition did not alter the original configuration of the building, just extended the back farther to the west. The addition consists of that portion of the extreme west section that is taller than the rest of the building. Located towards the east side of the rear on both the north and south elevations are three large, arched, ribbon windows on the third floor. Below this are three smaller, square, ribbon windows on the main floor and even shorter ribbon windows on the ground floor. West of this, the fenestration becomes irregular. The majority of the remaining metal windows are four pane. There are also a couple of single, metal, slab, pedestrian doors in this

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portion of the building. On both the north and south elevation, these entries have above grade entrances with stone walls. On the very back of the building, on the second floor, there are wood double doors with no stairs.

Historically, additional secondary entries were located on the facade on either side of the stairs at ground level. Probably in 1951 when the interior of the building was extensively remodeled, these one-story entries which matched the existing side entries were removed and the space filled with windows. Also at that time, the historic, wood, one-over-one, hung windows which were topped by a transom window featuring a decorative sash were replaced with a combination of hopper and awning metal windows.

The Administration building retains a good degree of integrity. The removal of the two flanking entries on the facade are the most significant alterations which have occurred. Although slightly altering the facade, the removal of the entries does not profoundly alter the historic character of the building. The replacement of the window and door materials is a more common modification which does not significantly impact the integrity of the building. Despite the alterations, the building maintains the elements of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. Critically, the building continues to be the focal point of the campus design.

**2. Nellie Sparks Hall. Contributing.** Built 1914; large rear addition built 1917 and removed 2000; renovated 1952 and 2000. Style: Classical Revival. Architects: S.A. Layton and S. Wemyss-Smith. Builder: A.C. Kreipke. Photo 2.

This three-story building has a dark brown brick ground floor laid in a common bond with the header rows being recessed. The two upper stories are a lighter colored brick similar to the Administration building. A stone belt course divides the different colored brick. The building has a flat roof and concrete foundation. Originally rectangular in shape, a long narrow wing was constructed off the southwest corner of the building in 1917, creating an L-shaped building. According to the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps for the campus, between 1934 and 1939, a one-story kitchen facility was added to the back of the original building. The building was renovated in 1952 at which time the original front stairs were removed. In 2000, the 1917 wing and 1930s kitchen were taken off and a new center wing was constructed on the back of the building. Additionally, new windows and doors were placed in the building. The new windows are metal, eight-over-eight, hung which replaced the original, wood, one-over-one, hung windows. The doors throughout the building are French doors with a double door at the primary entry. All the doors include a transom and the main entry has sidelights as well. Despite the changes, the dormitory retains sufficient historic characteristics to contribute to the district.



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Continuing its historic function as a women's dormitory, Nellie Sparks Hall has a symmetrical facade composed of three bays. Like the other elevations, the facade has a brick parapet with a metal cornice and corbelled brick architrave. The flanking bays include three windows on each floor. The windows on the second and third floors have stone sills while the ground floor windows have stone lintels. Between the second and third floor windows are decorative stone ornaments, consisting of two small squares flanking a third. All three squares are set on a point. A single, stone square, set on its point, also ornaments the brick pilasters located at all the corners of the building.

The larger center bay of the facade is recessed between the flanking bays. A two-story porch highlights the center bay. Consisting of six arched and one square opening on the ground floor, the second floor of the flat-roofed porch has Doric stone columns, dentils, white wrought iron railings and a stone balustrade extending into the third floor. The main entrance is currently located in the center on the ground floor accessed through the nonoriginal square opening with a concrete surround. Historically, the second floor was the main floor accessed by concrete stairs with a curved brick wing wall. As mentioned previously, the stairs were removed in 1952 and the entrance reoriented to the ground floor. The original second floor entry has been partially infilled with brick and a single French door. The arched openings on the ground floor are currently open; although there are windows and doors inset on the main wall which follow the historic pattern. Previously, the openings in the porch wall contained arched entries in the two outermost openings, while the inner four openings contained one-over-one, wood, hung windows. On the main floor, historically four windows flanked the entrance and continue to do so. The third floor also maintains its historic fenestration pattern of seven windows.

The side elevations retain the majority of their historic characteristics with single windows and ornamentation similar to the facade. Although the south elevation has no entries, the north elevation has a central, inset entry with two separate doors. One door, facing north, is a French door and the other door, facing east, is a metal slab. A small patio area is also located on the north side of the building with some metal tables and chairs.

The rear elevation has been modified recently with the removal of the 1917 addition and construction of a new addition. The 1917 addition was attached to the southwest corner of the 1914 building. This portion of the rear elevation is now stuccoed and painted a cream color. The fenestration matches the window pattern on the northwest bay of the rear elevation of eight-over-eight hung windows flanking two four-over-four hung windows. The addition, placed in the center of the rear elevation, is light-colored brick with some corbelling and four-over-four hung windows. The addition is easily discerned as it does not

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match exactly the historic building in materials or ornamentation. Due to its location, the addition is not readily noticeable.

Although Nellie Sparks Hall has undergone modification, it maintains sufficient integrity to contribute to the OCW historic district. The removal of the stairs in 1952 and the demolition of the 1917 addition are serious modifications. The replacement of the original, one-over-one, wood, hung windows with eight-over-eight, metal, hung windows and construction of a new rear addition has also impacted the building. However, the building is still able to convey much of its historic appearance and character. The building retains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. The retention of these five characteristics, particularly the latter two, is sufficient for the building to maintain its contributing status.

3. **Steam Plant**, currently known as the Art Annex. *Noncontributing due to alterations.* Built 1916-1917; additions 1919, 1921, 1923 and 1930. Style: Commercial Style. Architect: Unknown. Builder: Unknown. Photo 3.

Located on the backside of campus, the one-story Steam Plant is the only building on campus built completely of red brick. Originally constructed in 1916 according to the Sanborn Fire Insurance maps and 1917 from information in the 24 October 1930 issue of *The Trend* and other sources, the Steam Plant was expanded in 1919, 1921 and 1923. Although the building is included in the 1920 *Argus*, it is seldom pictured in later yearbooks. The exact configurations of the 1919, 1921 and 1923 additions are unknown as the building does not appear on the 1918 Sanborns and the next available map was not completed until 1928. There is a discernible addition on the north side of the building as it has a slightly different brick. The building was expanded again in 1930 when a green house was constructed on the south side of the building.

The roof of the Steam Plant is flat and the foundation is concrete. The concrete steam stack remains in place although the building is currently used as an art studio. A functional building, the Steam Plant was ornamented along the upper walls with a minimal amount of brick corbelling and a header row of brick. Additionally, a few stone ornaments were placed on the corners and by the door. The historic entries feature a double, arched, brick header. In addition to the double, arched, brick header, the historic windows have concrete sills.

The door and window material have been replaced. Currently, the doors are metal slab and the awning windows are aluminum. The window and door openings have also been partially filled along the top with wood. A wood privacy fence and shed-roofed wood addition have been added to the west elevation. Also a small wood addition has been added in the juncture on the east elevation. This

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addition, composed of similar wood material as the other addition and the fence, is quite a bit shorter than the original wall. The shed-roofed green house appears to remain on the south elevation, however, the sides have been boarded over.

The integrity of the Steam Plant has been significantly compromised by the modifications which occurred. The wood addition and fence on the west elevation covers a significant amount of historic fabric. An abundance of vegetation also obscures much of the building. The other alterations, although not as significant, further detract from the building's integrity. Due to the culminative impact of the alterations, the Steam Plant is a noncontributing resource.

**4. President's Home. Contributing.** Built 1919; renovated 1952. Style: Prairie School. Architect: Unknown. Builder: Probably Kreipke-Schafer Company. Photo 4 and 14.

Constructed in 1919, the President's Home is a good example of the Prairie School style. This style was in vogue in residential developments constructed during the same period. Although the architect is unknown, the 22 October 1952 issue of the school newspaper, *The Trend*, indicates President Austin and his wife were influential in the design of the house. It is presumed that the builder of the house was the Kreipke-Schafer Company. This company was responsible for the construction of the contemporary Willard Hall and the 18 November 1919 issue of *The Trend* indicates that one contractor was responsible for both buildings.

The two-story President's Home has a red, hipped, terra cotta roof with a centrally located, nonoriginal, hipped-roof cupola with louvered vents. There are also blond, brick, chimneys on the east and west sides. The second floor is blond brick while the first floor is red brick. The floors are delineated by a band of blond brick laid in a soldier course immediately above the first floor windows. A narrow projecting band of blond brick is also located around the house underneath the second floor windows. The hung windows are a variety of twelve-over-one, nine-over-one, six-over-one and three-over-one. The wood windows have stone sills. The second floor windows have a brick lintel laid in a header bond. Although the blond brick soldier row acts as the window head for the majority of first floor windows, a few windows dropped below this line have a blond, vertical, brick header. The fenestration pattern is not identical on any of the walls. Single windows alternate with double and triple windows on the various elevations.

There is a second floor sun porch clad with stucco on the south side. Several of the windows in the sun porch have been covered with wood painted white to

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match the stucco below. A shed roof has been built off the sun porch to connect the nearby historic garage and house.

Originally oriented towards Seventeenth Street, the President's Home has a large, flat-roofed, one-story, partial porch supported by brick columns with Doric capitals and a wide, wood, entablature on the east elevation. The asymmetrical facade contains three windows on the second floor and two windows and a door on the first floor. There was a window located at the north corner of the facade's first floor. This window was infilled at an unknown with red brick, leaving only the outline visible.

Historically, the north elevation, which faces the oval, had a small entry porch. Supported by Doric columns and pilasters, the porch had an arched roof with an entablature which extended over two, narrow, flanking windows. This entry was removed in 1955 when other interior modifications were made to the house. A square partial porch, similar but not identical to the historic east side porch, was then constructed on the north elevation. This porch features a flat roof supported by brick columns with no capitals and a wood entablature. The interior entry space was also expanded at this time.

There is also an entry porch on the west elevation which is presumably historic. Similar to the historic north porch, the west porch features a flat-roofed covering supported by square Doric columns and round pilasters with a wide entablature. The wood columns and pilaster are set on low brick wing walls with concrete caps. One window on the north corner of the first floor, corresponding to the bricked-in window on the east elevation, has been filled in with red brick. The south elevation also contains an entry but it is covered by the historic sun porch. There is also a single, wood, paneled, below grade, entry to the basement on the south elevation.

Although currently vacant, the President's Home retains a good degree of integrity. The building has been modified by the infill of one facade and one rear window; the covering of some of the sun porch windows; the construction of the cupola on the roof; the removal of the historic porch on the north elevation and subsequent construction of a new porch in its place; and, construction of a shed roof connecting the house and garage. The most weighty modifications are the alterations to the north porch and the connection made between the garage and house. Despite these alterations, the President's Home retains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association. The home ably illustrates the significance and role of the college president on early Twentieth century college campuses.

5. **President's Home Garage.** *Contributing.* Built: 1919. Style: Prairie School. Architect: Unknown. Builder: Unknown. Photo 4 and 14.

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Currently attached to the President's Home by a metal shed roof, the single car, brick, hipped-roof garage was built at the same time as the house. Matching the house, the lower walls of the one-story garage are red brick with blond brick above. Historically, the garage had a single, wood, sliding door on the east elevation. At an unknown time, the doorway was widened and double, metal, overhead doors installed. Additionally, a flat-roofed, metal carport was constructed in front of the garage. There is a single, wood, slab door on the north side of the garage, providing access between the house and garage. There are two, single, wood, six-over-one, hung, windows in the west elevation and a single, wood, six-over-six, hung window in the south wall.

Overall, the garage at the President's Home retains a good degree of integrity. Alterations include widening of the garage opening, replacement of the garage doors and construction of a new metal carport in front of the garage. Despite these modifications and the shed roof currently connecting the garage to the house, the garage maintains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

**6. Willard Hall. Contributing.** Built 1919; addition 1923; renovated 1966. Style: Classical Revival. Architects: Layton, Smith and Forsyth. Builder: Kreipke-Schafer Company. Photo 5.

Construction of Frances E. Willard Hall, the second dormitory on the OCW campus, began in 1919 with the dormitory being completed in the spring of 1920. In 1923, an addition was constructed on the northwest corner of the building. This addition provided the last wing to create the existing I-shaped building and matched the original building in architectural features and decorative details. Although the materials were almost identical, along the back elevation of the building, a slight color difference is visible. Currently, the building serves as the men's dormitory. Previously, it also housed the Jane Brooks School for the Deaf. Like Nellie Sparks Hall, Willard Hall originally featured an above-grade entrance on the primary elevation. Although much of the original porch remains, the historic steps were removed in 1966 when the building was renovated.

The three-story, I-shaped building has a flat roof with a brick parapet, stone coping and metal cornice. In 1923, a brick box for the new freight elevator was built on the center of the new west wing of the roof. Similar to Nellie Sparks Hall, Willard Hall has a red brick ground floor with the upper floors being cream-colored brick. Like the majority of other buildings on the oval, the ground floor brick is laid in a common bond with the header rows being recessed. A stone belt course separates the different colored brick. The corners of the building are marked with brick pilasters featuring stone ornamentation.

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The windows are replacement, aluminum, single hung, three-over-two. The windows were probably replaced during the 1966 renovation of the building. The historic windows were wood, hung, six-over-six. Several windows have also been infilled with a yellow brick. Due to the color difference, the infilled windows clearly stand out. On the first floor in the center portions of the south and north elevations, full-length, triple, fixed windows have been installed. The entries throughout the building are nonhistoric glazed slab.

Willard Hall's historic symmetrical facade is highlighted by a centrally located, two-story porch composed of red brick on the lower level and cream-colored brick on the upper. In 1966, when the concrete stairs with brick, stepped, wing walls were removed, the entry was reoriented to the ground floor. At this time, a square opening was created on the ground floor for an entry. The other square openings on the ground level of the porch are historic, although they were usually obscured by vegetation.

The upper level of the porch has a combination of Doric stone columns flanking brick columns which support a wide stone entablature. The porch's flat roof has a brick parapet, stone coping and stone cornice. Decorating the brick parapet are evenly spaced, square, stone ornaments. Similar ornaments are located at the top and bottom of the brick columns. The original second floor entry has been infilled with yellow brick and a glazed slab door. The windows flanking the entry have also been partially filled with yellow brick and a new, single, metal window. The historic marble construction stone remains in place by the entry. It reads "Willard Hall/1920/J.B.A. Robertson, Governor/State Board of Public Affairs/Geo. F. Clark, Chairman/J.W Kayser, Vice Chairman/H.V. Bird, Secretary/Estelle C. Hoffman/Roberta E. Lawson W.E. Hocker/Layton, Smith and Forsyth/Architects/Kreipke-Schafer Co./Contractors."

On either side of the porch are two, evenly spaced, single windows on all three floors. Separating the porch from these windows are two historic drain pipes which reinforces the illusion that the facade is composed of three bays. Historically on the third floor, right above the porch, were three windows. The two outer windows were single windows identical to the other windows on the facade. The center window was a triple window consisting of a six-over-six window flanked by four-over-four windows. Although the outer windows remain, the center window has been largely infilled with yellow brick. A glazed slab door remains in the opening.

Additional secondary entries are located on the north side of the building. One is located in the west corner and the other in the east corner of the central bay of the north elevation. The historic entries have a pedimented stone surround and nonoriginal, double, glazed, slab doors with transoms. The north elevation has no entries. The east and west wings of the north and south

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elevation featured three single windows on each floor. One window per floor has been infilled. This is obvious on the second and third floors where unmatching yellow brick was used. It is not as easily discerned on the first floor where similar red brick was utilized.

The west elevation is symmetrical with numerous single windows and several entries. An historic entry in the center of the rear elevation has a single, glazed, slab door with the remainder of the entry filled with brick. Towards the south side of the back elevation, there is a metal slab door. The rear elevation has minimal ornamentation.

Willard Hall maintains a good degree of integrity. The building has been modified by the removal of the front stairs, infill of several windows and doors and replacement of the window and door material. The majority of exterior modifications probably occurred during the 1966 renovation of the building. Although the removal of the stairs is distressing, the majority of the historic porch remains in place. The infill of most of the windows was done with material that allows the historic opening to be obvious. The replacement of the window and door material is a frequent alteration found on public buildings still in use. Overall, the building conveys much of the same feeling as it did historically and the association between this building and the rest of the OCW campus remains as it was during the period of significance.

**7. Fine Arts**, renamed Davis Hall in 1957. *Noncontributing due to alterations.* Built: 1921; first addition 1951; second addition 1969-1970. Style: Classical Revival. Architect: Unknown; 1969-1970 addition: Locke Smith Wright. Builder: Unknown; 1969-1970 addition: Paul Allison, Inc. Photo 6.

The original Fine Arts building was constructed in two phases in 1920 and 1921. The south half of the building was constructed first beginning in spring 1920. By fall of 1921, the north half was complete. Similar to the later Austin Hall, the Fine Arts was originally designed as a rectangle. Due to additional space requirements, a sizeable addition was constructed in 1951 on the north side of the building. The addition, also basically rectangular in shape, was set off from the building with only a small part being physically attached to the north elevation. The addition, however, extended past both the east and west elevations of the historic building. In 1969, increasing demands resulted in the construction of another addition, this time on the south side of the building. A more complex addition, the 1969 construction essentially wraps around the front of the building, including a separate circular section which extends from the center of the historic facade. Both additions are in the Contemporary style and do not possess the detailing or ornamentation of the original building.

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Although the additions have overwhelmingly obscured the south, east and north elevations at first glance, portions of the historic building remain apparent in between the additions. Furthermore, the west elevation is almost fully exposed. The symmetrical, three-story, brick, original Fine Arts building has a flat roof with a brick parapet and a metal cornice. The foundation is concrete. Like the other buildings on the oval, the lower portion of the building is of darker brick laid in a common bond with the rows of headers recessed. The first floor of the Fine Arts building is constructed of brown brick and, separated by a stone belt course, the second and third floor are a cream-colored brick. Brick pilasters lightly decorated with stone ornamentation mark the corners of the building. Although not part of the 1920 construction, by 1921 the front pilasters were further ornamented with lyre frieze panels near the top. More ornate stone panels were also located on the third floor above the historic main entry.

Previous to the 1969 addition but after the 1951 addition, the windows in the original building were replaced with a combination of metal, two-over-two and four-over-four, hung and some multi-pane fixed windows. Opaque panels were also placed in the top of the windows to completely fill the original openings. The historic windows were wood, six-over-six, hung. Currently, the doors in the building are nonoriginal glazed slab and metal slab. The modern main entry, containing double metal slab doors, is in the two-story circular construction which extends from the centrally located historic entrance. The circular addition is attached to the former entry via a glass wall. Although the historic main entry, consisting of double glazed paneled doors sheltered by a stone entablature supported by double Doric columns, has been completely covered, the historic frieze panels on the third floor above the entry remain.

The two-story 1951 addition is constructed of a cream-colored brick which is similar to the original. The addition is attached to the original building via a small construction on the north elevation. Some of the original window openings on the north elevation have been bricked in. The ribbon windows in this addition are a combination of metal hopper and awning with a continuous cantilevered concrete awning above.

The main portion of the three-story, cream-colored, brick 1969 addition is on the south elevation. This addition extends past the east and west elevations of the historic building. When combined with the two-story, circular, brick addition on the facade, the addition blocks off the majority of the historic facade. As previously mentioned, the circular element is attached to the center of the facade via a two-story glass wall construction. The windows in the 1969 addition are few and are metal, fixed sash. The addition is ornamented with a large concrete belt course which matches the concrete coping. On the north wall of the main addition is a metal construction plaque. The



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plaque reads "Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts/Lecture Hall and Classroom Addition/Davis Hall/Board of Regents/1969-1970/Mrs. John Holland, Chairman/Mrs. Howard Abernathy Dr. Ed Calhoon/Art Bower Grady D. Harris Jr./Vincent Butler Wade Watson/Dr. Robert Martin, President/Paul Allison, Incorporated -- General Contractor/Locke Smith Wright, Architect and Engineer."

The integrity of the Fine Arts building has been compromised by the additions. Although portions of the facade and all of the rear elevation remain visible, the Contemporary style additions dominate the overall character. Possessing none of the historic features, the additions adversely impact the feeling and association of the building in relation to the other resources on campus. As such, the Fine Arts building is a noncontributing resource.

8. **Austin Hall**, originally called Home Economics or the Domestic Science Building, renamed Austin Hall following the death of President G.W. Austin in 1926. *Contributing*. Built: 1924. Style: Classical Revival. Architect: Layton, Smith and Forsyth. Builder: Kreipke-Schafer Company. Photo 7.

Built in 1924, Austin Hall is a three-story, flat-roofed, rectangular, brick building with a brick parapet and metal cornice. The symmetrical building features a brown brick first floor and cream-colored upper floors, separated by a stone belt course. The brick on the ground floor is laid in a common bond with the header rows being recessed. The nonoriginal metal windows are one-over-one hung with an upper opaque pane. The middle window in the dominant triple windows on the building has been completely filled with a gray opaque panel which matches the upper opaque pane in the flanking windows. The original windows, which remained in the building until after 1970, were wood, hung, six-over-six. The doors are replacement glazed slab.

The facade has a centrally located, one-story, main entry which features an entablature with dentils supported by double Doric columns and pilasters. The double window above the entry features a stone surround and on either side of the third story double windows are two, small, circular ornaments. Although very similar to the historic facade of the Fine Arts building, Austin Hall is differentiated by the triple windows and the narrow, slightly projecting, end bays. The end bays are marked with pilasters which feature stone detailing similar to that of the other buildings on the oval. On the northeast corner of the building is a marble cornerstone which is almost completely obscured by vegetation. Similar to the cornerstone on Administration, the north side of the cornerstone has the Masonic symbol with "Laid by/the most worshipful/Grand Lodge/A.F. & A.M" above and the unreadable name of the Grand Master and "Grand Master" below. On the east side, the top line reads "M.E. Trapp - Governor" while the the rest, consisting of the names of the Regents and others associated with the building, is unreadable due to the vegetation.

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There are secondary entries located on both the north and south elevations. Both entries have a square stone surround set off by a larger, square, corbelled, brick surround. The south entry is inset and has a single, glazed, slab door. The north entry is flush with the wall and has a double, glazed, slab door. The fenestration patterns on the south and north elevations are irregular with single, double and ribbon windows. The staircase on both sides of the building are lit on the third floor with a double window which extends into the second level.

The fenestration pattern and detailing on the west elevation corresponds to that of the facade. However, the rear elevation features several blind windows towards the north and south edges. In the center of the back wall is a double, metal, slab door.

Austin Hall retains a high degree of integrity. Although the window and door materials have been replaced, the original fenestration pattern remains evident. There have been no additions made to the building. Austin Hall maintains its integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association to a remarkable degree.

**9. Health and Physical Education Building. Contributing.** Built: 1927-1928. Style: Moderne. Architect: Layton, Hicks and Forsyth. Builder: Kreipke Construction Company. Photo 8, 9 and 24.

The Health and Physical Education Building is the only Moderne style building on campus. Like the other buildings, the three-story gym has a concrete foundation and brown brick first floor. The upper stories are a lighter colored brick. The roof of the building is flat with a stone coping and raised pediments on the corners of the north and south elevations. The metal, sixteen pane, awning windows with stone sills are original. Although the doors in the main entries have been replaced with double glazed slab, the single doors on the east and west elevations remain wood and glazed paneled with transoms.

The facade is composed of three bays. The flanking bays contain the primary entries. The one-story entries have raised stone and brick surrounds and low concrete wing walls with a stone cap. The single upper floor windows are separated by brick pilasters with an oversize stone cap. Containing classroom space, the west bay features separate windows on the second and third floor. In the center and east bay which contain the gym area, the windows are continous. At an unknown time, the windows in the center and east bay were covered by metal louvers. The west bay windows remain uncovered. The verticality of the buiding is emphasized by the pediments on the east and west bays, as well as the raised brick pilasters separating the windows. Another detail which reinforces the verticality are the flat ornaments flanking the

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windows in the east and west bays. Composed of brick headers and extending through both the upper floors, the ornaments have stone corner markers similar to the ones along the roofline.

The rear elevation is similar in detail to the south elevation. However, the center bay contains a large five door entry on the first floor which has been boarded over. The entry is marked by a short flight of concrete stairs with metal railings. A metal fire escape also winds it way down on the west bay of the north elevation.

The east and west elevation are also comparable with multiple windows and a center, single, recessed entry. The defining difference between these two elevations are the window. The east elevation has a continuous set of windows on the second and third floor. The west elevation has separate windows in the upper stories.

The interior of the gym retains a remarkable amount of historic fabric, including plaster walls, wood paneled doors and glazed-tile wainscoting. Most notable are the murals painted on the walls in two of the second floor classrooms. Historically, the rooms were one and it was called the "Little Gym." Painted in 1934 by noted Native American artist Acee Blue Eagle, the murals were federally-funded as a Public Works of Art Project. The murals include seven life size figures, a thunderbird design, two shields and several bird designs. The life size figures in one room include a spear dancer who faces another dancer with a bow and arrow and a drummer with raised arms. The other room features two buffalo dancers facing each other and a robed man with a spear and shield followed by a women leading a horse pulling their belongings. The thunderbird design is located by itself along the upper wall just inside the door containing the spear dancer and drummer figures. One shield is above the drummer, while the other is between the buffalo dancers. Both shields are at the top of the wall. As such, they are almost separate designs from the figures below. At various points along the walls, such as between the windows and at corners, are several small bird designs.

The Health and Physical Education Building retains a high degree of integrity on the exterior and interior. The exterior building has been minorly modified by the filling of windows with louvers on the north and south elevations, the boarding of the multiple doors on the north elevation and replacement of the main doors with double, glazed, slab doors. There have been no additions made to the building. Although the interior has undergone more changes, a surprising amount of historic fabric throughout the building remains intact. Overall, the Health and Physical Education Building maintains its integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association to an excellent degree.

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10. **Senior Hall**, renamed Susan B. Anthony Hall in 1940; renamed Student Union in 1948. *Contributing*. Built: 1928; addition 1948. Style: Classical Revival. Architect: probably Layton, Hicks and Forsyth; 1948 addition: Unknown. Builder: Kreipke Construction Company; 1948 addition: Cowen Construction Company. Photo 10.

Constructed in 1928, Senior Hall is a flat-roofed, brick, three-story building with a basement. Although not specified, the architect for the original building is probably the firm of Layton, Hicks and Forsyth who also designed the Health and Physical Education building constructed at the same time. Originally a dormitory for the senior women, the building was greatly expanded in 1948 with an L-shaped, two-story with a basement addition. Although the front of the building continued to be used for living quarters and small meetings, the addition created OCW's Student Union. The building was altered again in the late 1960s when the second floor outside terrace in the 1948 portion was glassed in.

Because the 1948 addition was added during the district's period of significance and is in itself a notable addition to the college facilities, it does not detract from the integrity of the building. Furthermore, the 1948 addition is easily distinguished from the original dormitory and the historic facade of the building retains much of the character, feeling and association of the pre-addition period.

Senior Hall has new, six-over-six, metal, hung windows. These are similar to the historic windows which were wood, six-over-six, hung. The historic wood and glazed panel door with paned transom and sidelights remains in the main facade entry. The roofline of the original building is ornamented by a stone cornice and coping. The roofline is further accentuated on the primary elevation by a center pediment with a geometric stone design in the apex. The partially covered, full-width porch features a similar stone cornice, coping and pediment on the center porch roof. The brick porch walls feature a narrow arched opening, stone entablature and narrow brick columns. The remainder of the porch has low, brick piers with stone caps and wrought iron railings. The windows in the lower two floors are relatively unadorned with stone sills. The third floor windows are separated by brick pilasters with stone Doric capitals and entablature. The third floor windows have a continuous stone belt course rather than individual sills.

The north and south elevation remain much as they were historically. However, a new exterior fire escape with a brick outside wall has been recently constructed on the south elevation. The fire escape utilizes existing openings so the fenestration pattern remains much as it was. The fire escape blocks a good portion of the south elevation from a distance but the historic fabric

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remains easily discernible upon closer inspection. The north elevation, facing Alabama Avenue, retains a high degree of integrity. The one-story bay window with a stone coping, cornice and belt course matching the decorative elements on the overall building, remains by the east side of the north elevation.

The original west elevation was almost completely obscured in 1948 when the Student Union addition was constructed. The fenestration along the third floor and the stone cornice and coping, however, remain evident. Constructed of cream-colored brick which is similar but not identical to the original building, the addition also does not feature the ornamentation of the 1928 building. On the north elevation, a large porte cochere was constructed that does imitate elements of the initial building. Supported by wide, brick columns with Doric capitals, the porte cochere has a flat roof with a wide cornice. Entrance to the building is through double French doors. The remainder of the north elevation features single, six-over-six, hung windows with narrow sills. Three of the second floor windows have been filled with metal inserts which are ornamented on the top. The other second floor windows have similar panels in the top of the windows. The only other decorative elements are a narrow, projected, brick header row above the second floor windows and nonhistoric signage indicating the name of the building.

The west elevation of the addition is similarly plain with only two single, metal, slab doors on the north side and single six-over-six hung windows on the south side. The second story door has a metal staircase which extends all the way to the north elevation. The lower windows on the south side have been covered with louvers and several have large vents going through them.

The south elevation of the addition originally featured numerous six-over-six hung windows and double panel doors on the first floor and an outside terrace on the second floor. Although the first floor remains much as it was, the terrace was glassed in in the late 1960s. Although this modification modernized this portion of the building, due to its location it does not destroy the integrity of the building.

Senior Hall maintains its integrity of location, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association. Although the 1948 addition significantly altered the original design of the building, this addition occurred during the district's period of significance and is itself a significant amenity. Although not part of the original campus facilities, student unions became a campus mainstay in the middle decades of the twentieth century. Offering a centralized location for dining and student activities, student unions also provided the students with easily accessible amenities previously only found off-campus.

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Other alterations to Senior Hall include the recent replacement of the windows with compatible six-over-six hung and the construction of a new exterior fire escape on the south elevation. Although the fire escape is a notable modification, much of the historic south elevation remains in place and viewable. Overall, Senior Hall retains sufficient integrity to be a contributing resource to the OCW historic district.

11. **Home Management House**, also known as Southeast Hall between 1930 and 1940 and more recently as Vice President's Home. *Contributing*. Built: 1929-1930. Style: Spanish Eclectic. Architect: Unknown. Builder: Unknown. Photo 11.

Construction on the Home Management House began in late 1929 and was finished by early February 1930. Although the building was intended to be a practice house for the Home Economics students to utilize their lessons, by the fall of 1930 the building was in use as a dormitory. It continued to function as a dormitory until spring semester 1940 when it returned to its original function. Currently unoccupied, the building was used most recently as housing for college administration.

Featuring an asphalt-covered, side gabled roof with gable returns on the front portion, the Home Mangement House has a hipped roof back portion. There is a brick, stepped, gable wall chimney on the south side and a brick, eave wall chimney on the north elevation. The two-story, blond brick house has a combination of three-over-three, six-over-six and nine-over-nine, wood, double hung windows. For the most part, the windows on the first floor are nine-over-nine with six-over-six on the second floor. The fenestration pattern includes single, double and triple windows. The windows on the first floor feature a projected label mold and concrete sills. The second floor windows have projected quoins similar to the ones marking the corners of the building. Although the majority of second floor window heads are obscured by the wide cornice, two single windows on the south elevation and one double window on the north elevation have flat, brick, headers with a stone keystone.

The west elevation, facing the President's Home and Seventeenth Street, is the primary elevation. The centrally located entry porch is covered by a wrought iron balconet on the second floor. The main entry is arched with a wood paneled door and screen door. The brick arched door surround has a concrete keystone and is quoined. To the north of the door is a set of double, nine-over-nine, double hung, wood windows. To the south is a bay window. Originally featuring four, narrow, diamond patterned windows, the bay window now has three undivided windows. The upper floor windows are six-over-six, double hung, wood set into a double-single-double pattern. The center single window is offset by the wrought iron balconet.

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The north elevation has no doors, only double windows. The south elevation features two French doors flanking the stepped chimney. The doors have an arched header with large keystones. Above each door is a single window. In the east half of the south elevation are triple windows on the second floor and double windows on the first. The east elevation also contains two single entries. Located in the north part of the east wall, the adjacent doors are wood and glazed panel. Immediately south of the doors on the first floor is a ribbon window composed of six, wood, six-pane, fixed windows. The remaining windows are double windows except for one small single window above the ribbon windows. Off the historic, wood, shed-roofed porch, a nonhistoric metal, flat-roofed deck area has been constructed. A metal, multiple car, flat-roofed carport has been added to the new porch.

The Home Mangement House retains a good degree of integrity. The only modifications have been the replacement of the windows in the front bay window and addition of the new deck area and carport. Although changing slightly the look of the bay window, the replacement of the windows is not a significant alteration. The deck area and carport also do not significantly impact the building's integrity. Located on the rear, the additions are not structurally notable and have only a minor impact on the historic fabric. Overall, the Home Mangement House retains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

**12. Alice Robertson Hall. Contributing. Built: 1934-1935. Style: Spanish Eclectic. Architect: Paul Harris. Builder: Dennehy Construction Company. Photo 15.**

Built under the auspices of the PWA, Alice Robertson Hall is similar to the other PWA dormitories on the OCW campus. Two stories with a basement, the L-shaped building is situated with the cross member facing Seventeenth Street. It is also the only building in which the basement is fully exposed on the rear elevation. The building has a low-pitched, hipped, terra cotta roof and a concrete foundation. There are two metal eyebrow dormers on the east and north elevations. There is a brick chimney on the south elevation and brick quoins marking the edges of the building. The chimney has no vents, a concrete cap and narrow incised bands.

The historic, wood, double hung windows are six-over-six with stone sills. Many of the windows have black screens. While the second floor window heads are covered by a nonoriginal, metal, boxed cornice, the first floor windows have jack arches with a stone keystone. The original wood cornice had exposed rafters. Currently vacant, the basement windows have been boarded and the first floor windows have been covered with vinyl siding. Additionally, many second floor windows have been broken. The doors are nonoriginal glazed slab.

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The east elevation is the primary elevation. The main entry has an elaborate stone surround featuring quoins and a broken pediment with an urn in the apex. The partial porch is uncovered with short brick piers with stone caps and black wrought iron railings. On the north side of the facade is a one-story bay window. Matching the other first floor windows, the bay windows have been covered with vinyl siding. There is another entry located in the junction on the south elevation and one on the east elevation. Similar to the main entry, these entries feature a quoined stone surround. The south entry also has a raised, uncovered, partial porch

Robertson Hall maintains a good degree of integrity. The only modifications have been the covering of the basement and first floor windows, replacement of the door materials and the new metal cornice. For security purposes, all of the basement windows have been boarded and the first floor windows have been filled with vinyl siding. This alteration is easily reversible and does not significantly impact the integrity of the building. Likewise, the installment of glazed slab doors and the nonoriginal metal cornice are not major alterations. There have been no additions made to the building. A short distance from the northeast corner, a brick utility box has been constructed to house heating and air equipment. The freestanding box is one-story, has no roof and a chainlink door. Overall, Robertson Hall maintains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

**13. Roberta Lawson Hall. Contributing. Built: 1934-1935. Style: Spanish Eclectic. Architect: Paul Harris. Builder: Dennehy Construction Company. Photo 16 and 17.**

Roberta Lawson Hall, another of the PWA dormitories, is a brick, two-story, L-shaped building with a basement. The low-pitched, hipped roof is terra cotta and the foundation is concrete. Like Robertson, Lawson Hall has historic, single, six-over-six, wood, double hung windows and replacement glazed slab doors. The windows have a slightly raised brick surround and stone sills. Many of the second floor windows have black screens, while all of the basement and first floor windows have been covered for security purposes as the building is not in use. A wide, metal, boxed cornice has been put over the original wood cornice with exposed rafters. There is a brick chimney with brick detailing and a concrete cap on the facade and small, metal, eyebrow dormers on the west, south and east elevations. Quoins ornament the corners of the building.

The stem of the L aligns with Seventeenth Street with the main entry located in the interior corner on the south wall. Recessed, the entry features an elaborate stone surround with quoins and a broken scrolled pediment with an urn in the center. The uncovered partial porch has short brick piers with stone



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caps and black wrought iron railings. Next to the door is a metal construction plaque which reads "Roberta Lawson/Hall/Oklahoma College for Women/Regents/John Vaughn Maude O. Thomas/C.E. Fair Roberta Lawson/Mark Sexson/Dennehy Construction Company/Builder/Paul Harris/Architect/1935." Of the PWA dormitories, only Lawson has an exterior construction plaque.

The north elevation features a boarded entry with a quoined stone surround and uncovered partial porch with no piers or railings. Another entry with an identical surround but only an uncovered entry porch on the south elevation has also been boarded over. The east elevation has no entries.

Overall, Lawson Hall maintains a good degree of integrity. The only alterations have been the covering of the first floor windows with vinyl siding, replacement of the door material, boarding of the basement windows and one of the doors and installation of a new metal cornice. These alterations do not significantly impact the building. There have been no additions made to the building, although a brick, one-story utility box has been constructed off the northeast corner of the building. Housing heating and air equipment, the freestanding box has no roof. Lawson Hall retains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

14. **Ruby Canning Hall.** *Contributing.* Built: 1934-1935. Style: Spanish Eclectic. Architect: Paul Harris. Builder: Dennehy Construction Company. Photo 18.

Like Robertson Hall, Canning Hall is situated with the cross member facing Seventeenth Street. The brick two-story building has a basement, concrete foundation and low-pitched, hipped, terra cotta roof. The windows are original, six-over-six, wood, double hung. Also not in use, the basement and first floor windows have been covered. Many of the second floor windows have black screens. A wide metal cornice has been placed over the historic wood cornice with exposed rafters. The cornice covers the top of the second floor windows. Differentiating it from Lawson and Robertson halls, Canning Hall has no decorative window heads or surrounds. Rather there are rectangular stone panels between the first and second floor windows. There are two brick chimneys with double ceramic chimney pots. One chimney is on the west elevation and the other on the south elevation. Ornamenting the corners of the building are quoins. On the north and south elevations, there are two small, metal, eyebrow dormers.

Identically placed to Robertson Hall, the primary entry on Canning Hall features an elaborate, arched, quoined, stone surround which does not match either Robertson or Lawson. The uncovered partial porch has brick piers with stone caps and black wrought iron railings. Canning Hall retains its historic

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wood panel door with screen door on the primary entry. The other entries, both located on the east elevation, have been boarded over. These entries have similar stone surrounds.

Canning Hall maintains a good degree of integrity. Changes to the building include the covering of the basement and first floor windows and replacement of the wood cornice with a metal cornice. A brick utility box has been constructed off the east corner of the building. Located a short distance away, the freestanding box has no roof and housed heating and air equipment. The rear elevation also has been imposed upon by the playground which has been located behind the nearby Gary Hall. The playground has been fenced off with a chainlink fence which extends from Gary Hall, around the east wing of Canning Hall to the brick utility box; however, this has minimal impact on the historic elevation. Overall, Canning Hall maintains its integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association.

15. **Jane Addams Hall.** *Contributing.* Built: 1938-1939. Style: Spanish Eclectic. Architect: John Duncan Forsyth. Builder: D.C. Bass and Sons. Photo 19.

Addams Hall is the only building on campus facing Alabama Avenue. The three-story, cream-colored, brick building with a basement has a low-pitched, asphalt-covered, hipped roof and a concrete foundation. There is a one-story sunroom in the center of rear elevation and four, large, brick, chimneys with concrete caps on the roof. Like the other PWA buildings, the corners of the building are ornamented with quoins. Unlike the three dormitories on the east side of campus, Addams Hall is U-shaped.

The fenestration on all elevations is symmetrical with a basic division of the walls into three bays, a larger central bay flanked by narrow bays. The metal windows are a combination of eight-over-eight, six-over-six and four-over-four, double hung. Because the building is not currently in use, all of the basement and first floor windows, including those on the rear sunroom, have been covered with wood on the basement level and vinyl siding on the first floor. A few second floor windows have also been covered with vinyl siding. The majority of windows have no header with a narrow, brick, projecting sill. Although a few decorative wood shutters remain, the majority of the historic shutters have been removed. There is a raised belt course between the second and third floor windows. Four first floor windows in the center bay of the facade feature an arched header.

Centrally located on the facade, the inset primary entry has been boarded over.

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The entry is highlighted by a striking stone surround which does not match any of the surrounds on the other PWA dormitories. The raised surround extends above to the single, second story window directly above. The uncovered entry porch has black wrought iron railings. There are no entries on the east elevation. A below-grade basement entry is located on the west and multiple entries on the south elevation. All entries have been boarded over or covered with vinyl siding except for the French door above the sunroom on the center of the back wall.

Addams Hall retains a high degree of integrity. Although minor alterations have occurred, the historic characteristics of the building remain apparent. The most notable alteration is the covering of the basement, first floor and some second floor windows with vinyl siding and the boarding of the doors. This alteration is a reversible security measure as the building is not currently in use. Other notable changes including the removal of the historic wood shutters ornamenting the building. There have been no additions made to the building, although a brick utility box, matching the ones erected near the other PWA buildings, has been constructed off the southwest corner of the building. Addams Hall retains its integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association to a remarkable degree.

16. **Nash Library.** *Contributing.* Built: 1948-1950. Style: International Style. Architect: Paul Harris. Builder: Skaggs Construction Company. Photo 20.

Constructed over a two year period, the first separate library building erected on the OCW campus is a striking example of the International Style. The three story, flat-roofed building features a combination of brick and concrete walls with a concrete coping. The ground floor of the building is concrete, as well as around the facade windows. The remainder of the walls, except for a curtain window in the rear elevation, are of cream-colored brick matching the other buildings on campus. Typical of the International style, the building features minimal ornamentation with the majority of detailing being provided by the windows. The metal windows are a combination of awning, hopper and fixed.

The west elevation, the primary wall, is composed of three bays. The detail in the outer bays is minimal with only two concrete plaques along the upper wall. The north plaque has a hand on a book and the south plaque features a silhouette. The center bay contains a full-height portico with concrete columns. As constructed, the center entry consists of triple, glazed, slab doors. Above the entry is a two-story, fixed, triple window. On either side are two sets of double windows on the main and third floors. Along the extreme upper wall of the center bay is the carved quote "BOOKS ARE THE LEGACIES THAT A

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GREAT GENIUS LEAVES TO MANKIND--ADDISON." As originally constructed the full-height portico was raised to create an open air stage of sufficient size to accommodate a full orchestra. The portico was accessed via concrete steps. Although the stairs remain, in the early 1990s, the area in front of the building was graded to gradually rise from Seventeenth Street. Additionally, the formerly landscaped area between the concrete sidewalks leading up to the building from the street has been bricked in and a new clock has been situated near the street.

The north and south elevations are nearly identical with paired, metal, two-over-two-over-one windows on the second and third floors and paired, metal, two-over-two windows on the ground floor. However, the south elevation has a double, glazed, panel door on the ground level. The east elevation also features windows similar to those on the north and south elevation. However, the center of the east elevation is ornamented with a two-story, glass block, curtain window. Immediately to the south of this window, a new elevator shaft has been constructed. Built of similar brick with a concrete coping matching the main building, the addition is discernible only because the brick is not an exact match. There is also a double, metal, paneled door on the rear.

Nash Library retains a good degree of integrity. The only exterior alterations are the modifications made to the setting of the front of the building and the addition of the elevator shaft on the rear. The ramping of the area in front of the building and changing from vegetation to brick does not significantly impact the building's important characteristics. Similarly, the rear addition has minimal impact on the library's integrity. Overall, the building maintains its integrity of location, design, workmanship, materials, feeling and association. As such, it is a contributing resource to the OCW campus.

17. **Gary Hall.** *Noncontributing due to insufficient age.* Built: 1956-1957. Style: International Style. Architect: Noftsgger and Lawrence, AIA. Builder: Barbour and Short, Inc. Photo 21.

Similar to the library, Gary Hall is a brick and concrete, International style building. The building is U-shaped with a flat roof and concrete foundation. The front portion of the building is two stories with one-story wings extending off both sides to the east. The windows are metal, one-over-one, awning with projecting screens. The facade is dominated by triple windows, with paired windows characterizing the rear two-story section and alternating double and triple windows on the north one-story wing and ribbon windows on the south wing. The front entry is comprised of a one-story porch in the center of the facade with a semicircular roof supported by concrete-slab supports. The entry features two sets of double, glazed, slab doors with transoms and sidelights. The name of the building is on the porch in raised letters.

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On the north elevation in the two-story portion, there is an above-grade secondary entry with a single glazed slab door and a concrete entablature supported by concrete Doric pilasters. Another entry is located on the south side but it has a metal slab door and a flat projecting roof over the entry porch. Similar entries are located on the south one-story wing; however, the easternmost door is a metal and glazed, panel door. The area between the one-story wings is an open courtyard, now containing playground equipment. For the safety of the children, a chainlink fence has been constructed around the rear courtyard, extending over to Canning Hall.

Gary Hall retains a high degree of integrity. The only alterations consist of the enclosure of the rear elevation with the chainlink fence and the modern playground equipment. This alteration is not noticeable from the primary elevations of the building. Although Gary Hall retains its integrity, it is a noncontributing resource because it was constructed after the district's period of significance.

**18. Alumni Chapel.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.* Built 1966-1968. Style: Contemporary. Architect: Leslie Brauer of Brauer and Wood. Builder: B.W. Melton Construction Company. Photo 22.

The Alumni Chapel is a one-story building located on the far southeast part of campus. The cream-colored brick church is Contemporary in style with a Gothic-inspired detailing. It has a steeply-pitched, front-gabled, asphalt-clad roof and a concrete foundation. The windows on the north and south elevations are metal, eight-over-eight, double hung with frosted amber glass. The only window on the facade is a centrally located, large, round window with inset pieces of colored glass. The rear elevation contains a pointed-arch window that also has inset pieces of colored glass. The front, double, plank doors are contained within a concrete pointed-arch surround. On the rear elevation, there are two metal slab doors flanking the window. Metal lanterns flank the front entrance and there are brick planters flanking the stairs. Two, short, brick buttresses with concrete caps ornament the facade. Along the sides of the building, the brick buttresses alternate with windows. The facade is highlighted by a concrete steeple with a brick base and hipped roof.

Although the Alumni Chapel maintains a high degree of integrity with no discernible alterations, the chapel is noncontributing due to a lack of association with OCW. The chapel was erected after the school had become co-educational; as such, it has no connection to the historic state-supported women's school.

**19. Power and Heating Plant.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.* Built: 1970. Style: Contemporary. Architect: Unknown. Builder:

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Unknown. Photo 23.

The one-story, brick Power and Heating Plant has a flat roof and concrete foundation. The building has no windows and metal paneled doors. The plain building is ornamented by a wide concrete coping. The recessed entries are located on the east and west elevations with a loading dock on the east side. The south elevation has no openings but is connected to some large units located to the south by white pipe. The north elevation has two full-height double windows on the outside edges and two half openings on the inside. The inside openings have been vented. The openings on the north elevation are separated by full-height brick columns.

The Power and Heating Plant retains a good degree of integrity. The building is a noncontributing resource because it has no association with the historic OCW campus.

20. **Physical Education Center.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.* Built: 1982. Style: Contemporary Style. Architect: Brauer and Cavin. Builder: Willowbrook Development Corporation. Photo 24.

The Physical Education Center has a flat roof and brick foundation. The multi-level building has a two-story center portion with one-story areas around it. The north, east and south parts of the two-story part are stucco while the west elevation is brick. The one-story areas are all brick. The bricked areas have a concrete coping. The metal windows are fixed and the doors are glazed slab. There is a partial porch with a flat, concrete roof supported by narrow brick piers on the facade. There are two sets of double, glazed, slab doors on the outside edges of the porch with a ticket window beside each door.

The building is noncontributing because it has no association with the historic women's school.

OBJECTS AND STRUCTURES DESCRIPTIONS

21. **Class of 1924 Bench.** *Contributing.* Built: 1924. Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Elledge Brothers. Photo 5.

The marble bench is located just off the northeast corner of Willard Hall. Set on a wide slab, the bench is braced by three supports and has a separate, stepped back. Given by the class of 1924, the white bench is highly ornamented. "Class of 1924" is inscribed in the center of the back with incised detail on the sides. Below, on one of the supports, is carved "ERECTED BY/ELLEGE

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BROS/CHICKASHA/OKLA."

22. **Modern Benches.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.*  
Built: Unknown. Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Unknown. Photo 1 and 21.

Scattered around the west side of campus are approximately thirty-three benches. The benches are a combination of wood benches with metal supports and newer concrete benches. There are about ten concrete benches and twenty-three wood. The concrete benches are inscribed with the initials of the current name of the university. Underneath the name on the concrete benches is an incised line that has been painted green. Because of their small scale and insignificant function, the benches are counted as one noncontributing resource.

23 and 24. **South Oval Gate and North Oval Gate.** *Contributing.* Built: 1930.  
Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Unknown. Photo 12.

Given by the class of 1930, the south oval gate matches the north oval gate. Located on either side of the circular drive off of Seventeenth Street, each gate consists of two markers on each side of the drive. Each marker includes a tall brick pier with a concrete cap topped by a concrete ball. To the inside of the markers is a wrought iron piece which extends nearly to the concrete cap from the ground. The wrought iron piece is topped by a cone-shape which is similar to the lanterns topping the historic North Entry Gate. Off the other side is a shorter brick pier which has a short wrought iron piece with concrete cap connecting it to another short brick pier with a concrete cap. On the north marker of the south oval gates, the middle wrought iron piece is missing. All of the pieces have a concrete foundation. The front of the markers, facing Seventeenth Street, are unadorned. On the back, in the center of the large brick pier on both the north and south gates are granite slabs inscribed with "Class of 1930."

25. **North Entry Gate.** *Contributing.* Built: 1932. Style: Not Applicable.  
Builder: Unknown. Photo 13.

The north entry gate is located at Seventeenth Street off of Alabama Avenue. The west marker was demolished a few years ago when a car ran into it; the college hopes to rebuild it in the near future. The east marker, consisting of a tall brick pier with a concrete cap and metal lantern on top, remains. On the inside edge of the marker is a decorative wrought iron piece which extends from above mid-way to the ground. On the west side of the marker, a short, narrow brick pier is connected to the taller one by brick along the top. The space between the piers is ornamented with wrought iron. The short pier also has a concrete cap and foundation. The center of the gate, located in the

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median of Seventeenth Street, consists of two tall brick piers with decorative wrought iron pieces on the outside edge which extend to the ground. The tall brick piers are capped with a concrete cap and metal lanterns. Historically, there were shorter piers on the inside, connected by wrought iron railings which extended to the ground. Probably in the 1970s when a new south entry gate was erected, a full-width, brick centerpiece with a concrete cap and foundation was constructed in the north entry gate. The centerpiece is of a slightly different brick so it is discernible. The current name of the insitution is spelled out on the centerpiece in black letters. Just below the concrete cap on each of the historic center piers is an inset concrete plaque inscribed with "Class 1/9/3/2." Identically place in the outside pier is a concrete plaque with "O/C/W." The back of the piers are ornamented with a vertical brick design in the same location.

Despite the alterations, the gate is a contributing resource because of its significance as the entry to the campus. Seventeenth Street remains the primary street on campus and the gate continues to distinguish the entrance from residential Chickasha to the college environs.

**26. South Entry Gate.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.*  
Built: c. 1976. Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Unknown. Photo 14.

The historic south entry gate, identical to the North Entry Gate, was torn down in about 1968 for unknown reasons. In about 1976, a new gate was constructed on Seventeenth Street, off of Grand Avenue. This one-piece, brick gate is similar to the centerpiece constructed in the historic north gate. It consists of two short piers connected by a low brick wall. The gate has a concrete cap and foundation. Underneath an almost full-length light, is the name of the university in black letters. The gate is noncontributing because it was built after the school's period of significance and almost ten years after the school became co-educational.

**27. Chapel Bridge.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.*  
Built: c. 1968. Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Unknown. Photo 22.

Located over a small drainage ditch, the bridge is located immediately off the asphalt drive on the east side of campus. The wood plank with metal railing bridge is a simple functional structure with a center concrete support. The low railing has been painted brown. The bridge is noncontributing because it was built after the school's period of significance and after the school became co-educational.

**28. Wood Sitting Area.** *Noncontributing due to lack of association with OCW.*  
Built: c. 1995. Style: Not Applicable. Builder: Unknown. Photo 29.



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Located between Administration and Austin Hall, this simple wood sitting area is composed of a stepped wood deck with a wood railing. The area between the steps has been rocked with a small pool in the center. Five wooden benches are around the deck with one in the center. Built in the mid-1990s, this noncontributing structure is surrounded by vegetation so it is not readily visible. It is noncontributing because it has no association with the historic women's campus.

ALTERATIONS

Overall, the OCW campus maintains a high degree of integrity. The majority of buildings on campus remain with only four new buildings constructed after the period of significance. Of these, three of the buildings, the Alumni Chapel, Physical Education Center and Power and Heating Plant are located away from the main thoroughfare, Seventeenth Street, on the outside edges of campus. As such, they have very little impact on the integrity of the campus design. Only Gary Hall, on the extreme northeast side of campus, is readily visible; however, because it is located on the northeastern edge of Seventeenth Street, it also does not disrupt the historic elements of the campus.

As previously mentioned, a few buildings and structures have been demolished over the years. The most notable building was North (Mary Lyon) Hall which was located between Senior Hall and Addams Hall off of Alabama Avenue. This two-story, hipped-roofed building was originally a frame house. The college took the building over in the late 1920s and turned it into a dormitory. Probably in 1931 when other improvements were made, the building was bricked in a corresponding manner to the other campus buildings with a lower floor of darker brick topped by cream-colored brick on the second floor. North Hall was torn down in about 1976 because of lack of use and deterioration.

Other buildings demolished on the OCW campus include the street car waiting station, three frame houses on the northeast edge of campus, the Greek Theater and the ceramic studio on the west side of campus. The street car waiting station, a gift from the Lions and Rotarians, was a red brick, hipped-roof building with exposed rafters and two twelve-pane fixed windows. Constructed in about 1917, the building was moved behind the steam plant in 1927 and used as a biological field station. It was torn down at an unknown time. In 1928, the college acquired a frame dwelling on the extreme northeast side of campus. This was subsequently followed by acquisition of two other dwellings which which retrofitted to allow their use as a practice house and nursery school. All three buildings, plus an additional house located east of these and purchased by the college at the time, were demolished in 1956 to allow for construction of Gary Hall. Located north and east of the Home Management House and almost directly south of Robertson Hall, the Greek Theater was an open air

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theater consisting of a concrete entablature supported by Doric columns. Constructed in 1923, it was torn down before the mid-1960s. Built between 1934 and 1939, the frame ceramic studio was located west of the historic steam plant. It also was torn down at an unknown date.

Although the demolition of any historic resource is a loss, none of the buildings or structures torn down on the OCW campus were major resources. The most notable demolition was that of North Hall; however, the building was of relative minor significance and the demolition of it did not create a major gap in the campus' historic design.

Like any property which is still in use, the OCW campus has experienced minor modifications to its individual components which have slightly impacted the overall campus. However, the campus maintains its integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling and association to a remarkable degree. The historic design and feeling of the campus, arrived at on a building-by-building basis over the course of the period of significance, remains remarkably intact.

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Architect/Builder (continued): S.A. Layton & S. Wemyss-Smith, architects  
A.C. Kreipke, builder  
Layton, Smith & Forsyth, architect  
Kreipke-Schafer Company, builder  
Layton, Hicks & Forsyth, architect  
Kreipke Construction Company, builder  
Paul Harris, architect  
Dennehy Construction Company, builder  
John Duncan Forsyth, architect  
D.C. Bass & Sons Company, builder  
Cowen Construction Company, builder  
Skaggs Construction Company, builder  
Nofstger & Lawrence, architects  
Barbour & Short, builders  
Bruer and Cavin, architects  
Willowbrook Development Corporation

SUMMARY

The Oklahoma College for Women (OCW) is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its educational significance as the only state-supported womens college in the state of Oklahoma. Founded in 1908 as both a preparatory high school and girls college, the school remained all-female until 1965. In the early years of the college, industrial education was emphasized. This later shifted towards a more liberal education, which continues to be the focus of the institution today. Nationwide, only seven other schools, all in the south, were established as state-supported womens colleges. Unlike the other seven schools, OCW was opened at a time when other public colleges and universities in existence in the state accepted female students without restrictions. The district's period of significance begins in 1911 when the school's first building, Administration, opened and extends to 1951, the National Register's current fifty-year mark.

The campus is also nominated under Criterion C for its architectural significance. As a whole, the architecture on the OCW campus represents an excellent, cohesive collection of buildings constructed over the period of significance. Although a master plan for the campus was not developed until the 1960s, the campus has not been disrupted by noncompatible or nonhistoric construction. Additionally, the buildings on campus were designed by some of the most notable architectural firms in the state of Oklahoma.

BACKGROUND

Education has always played a critical role in the development of Oklahoma,

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both as a territory and as a state. 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 education. Although much of the attention was paid to establishing local primary schools, the founding of colleges and universities was 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 opened in 1876; Bacone College which originally opened in Tahlequah in 1880 but moved to Muskogee in 1895; Lady of Good Counsel School in Lehigh which opened in 1883; St. Elizabeth's Cathedral in Purcell which opened in 1888; El Meta Bond which opened 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, opened in 1889 in Guthrie.<sup>1</sup>

Following the passage of the Organic Act on May 2, 1890, which established the government of Oklahoma Territory, the state's first publicly supported school's of higher education were quickly established. Although not actually opened until 1891, both the Territorial Normal School in Edmond and the Territorial University, located at Norman, were established 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 also established 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 designated. 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>2</sup>

The Twin Territories were united in 1907 under the new state of Oklahoma. With the advent of statehood, eastern Oklahoma began to clamor for state-supported colleges, universities and normal schools in equal number to those already established in western Oklahoma. The first state Legislature responded by

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

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., 78.

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establishing the Industrial Institute and College for Girls with no location specified, as well as 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 and Conners State School of Agriculture in Warner. Although Lawton and Helena were in western Oklahoma, the other five schools were in Indian Territory. It must also 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>3</sup>

The following year, the state legislature located the Industrial Institute and College for Girls in Chickasha, Oklahoma. They also designated five more state schools of higher learning; Panhandle State School of Agriculture in 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. Amazingly, of the state-supported institutes of higher education, the majority are still in existence, although most have had at least one name change. 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 which 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.<sup>4</sup>

Although women were granted admittance to five of the state-supported schools in 1908, Oklahoma became one of eight states to establish a publicly-funded women's school in the United States. The Oklahoma Industrial Institute and College for Girls arose out of the desire to halt the sending of girls out of state for a separate education. Statistics in the office of the State Superintendent of Education revealed that a sufficient number of girls were going to female-only schools in Kansas, Texas and Missouri to justify establishment of an all-girls school in Oklahoma. Additionally, the idea of separate education for the sexes was held in esteem by many of the first legislators, many of whom originated in southern states where separate

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid., 72 and 79.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid., 78-79.

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education was an accepted norm.<sup>5</sup>

The purpose of the new institution, as detailed in the act creating it, was "...to give instruction in industrial arts, the English language, and the various branches of mathematical, physical, natural and economic sciences, with special reference to their application in the industries of life...". In order to avoid diminishing the importance of the vocational education offered at the coeducational Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical School, the act also provided that the instruction

"...shall not conflict with instruction in applied sciences now being offered or that may hereafter be provided students of both sexes in attendance at the State Agricultural and Mechanical College, and that none of the federal funds provided by Congress shall be diverted from the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College."<sup>6</sup>

Although the first legislature created the women's college in Oklahoma, it did not designate a site for the new campus. The second legislature located the school in Chickasha, Oklahoma, on the basis of a promise of land and utilities from the town. Grady County's first state Senator, Colonel J.T. O'Neil, and his daughter Anne Wade O'Neil, who championed the creation of the school to the first legislature, also probably influenced the final location. Situated in the Chickasaw Nation, Chickasha originated in 1892 as a railroad stop for the Chicago, Pacific and Rock Island Railway. By the early 1900s, Chickasha enjoyed a population of 6,370. With an economy predominately based on agricultural and related businesses, Chickasha benefited greatly from the opening of the Kiowa-Comanche reservation in 1901 which abutted the western border of the Chickasaw Nation.<sup>7</sup> In 1909, the city was eager to become home to Oklahoma's new all-girls school.

Although the first legislature included an appropriation to construct a

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<sup>5</sup>Anna Lewis, "The Oklahoma College for Women," The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Volume XXVII, Number 2, (Summer 1949), 179. See also Milton Lee Orr, Ph.D., The State-Supported Colleges for Women (Nashville, Tennessee: George Peabody College for Teachers, 1930), 198.

<sup>6</sup>Orr, State-Supported Colleges, 199. See also Lewis, "Oklahoma College for Women," 179.

<sup>7</sup>The WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma, (Lawrence, Kansas: University of Kansas Press, 1986), 266-267.

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building for the school, because no site was selected, the money did not materialize. Following the designation of Chickasha as the home for the school, the Governor promised a special session of the legislature to appropriate the necessary funds. In the meantime, the Chickasha Chamber of Commerce agreed to provide the money for the initial expenses. By late summer 1909, the school appeared to be on its way. However, as the new college president, instructors and students were gathering in Chickasha, the governor announced there would be no special session. Intent on opening the school, interested persons, particularly Anne Wade O'Neil, appealed to the citizens of Chickasha in a mass meeting followed by a "...six-day fund raising canvass..." to raise sufficient funds to hold the first classes. O'Neil also got the faculty to agree to work for half-pay until the government came through with the appropriations. By mid-September 1909, the first classes of the Oklahoma Industrial Institute and College for Girls were underway in the basement of the Chickasha High School. In all, there 119 students in attendance that first year with a faculty of eight, including the college president. In January 1910, a special session of the State Legislature belatedly appropriated funding for the school. Still not in permanent quarters, classes the second year were held in a local church and an adjoining flat. Although the number of students only rose by nineteen, the faculty more than doubled to reach twenty.<sup>8</sup>

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In 1911 with the opening of the \$100,000 Administration building, the college moved to its permanent location on the west side of Chickasha. With a campus of only one building, Administration housed not only all the school's classrooms but also the assembly hall, dining room, kitchen, gymnasium, library, and dormitory. One year after the opening of the campus, it became obvious that the name of the institution created an identity problem. The "Oklahoma Industrial Institute" conjured images of a corrections facility rather than a girls school. Indeed, some county judges, unaware of the true nature of the state-supported facility, sentenced some "incorrigible girls" to the college. Thus, the governing authorities of the school began to use the name "The Oklahoma College for Women" in 1912, although the state legislature did not formally change the name until 1916.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>8</sup>The Chickasha Centennial Commemorative Booklet Committee, Chickasha Oklahoma, 1892-1992, (Chickasha, Oklahoma: The Chickasha Centennial Committee, 1992), 92-93. See also Lewis, "Oklahoma College for Women," 180-181 and Orr, State-Supported Colleges, 200-201.

<sup>9</sup>Lewis, "Oklahoma College for Women," 180-182.

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Also in 1912, a pressing need for space in the college's sole building, Administration, resulted in the boarding of all students off-campus. Responding to the obvious need, the state legislature appropriated \$50,000 for construction of OCW's second building which was to be used as a dormitory. Completed in 1914, the building was named Nellie Sparks in honor of the Chickasaw woman who received the tribal allotment on which the college's first twenty acres were located. Spark's father, J.B. Sparks, gave the land to the college as Nellie had passed away while attending a girls college in Missouri. Housing only seventy-six students, the new dormitory quickly became too small. In 1917, a \$100,000 addition was constructed on the southwest corner of Nellie Sparks which allowed the dormitory to house 210 students. At about this time, a new steam plant was constructed behind the Administration building.<sup>10</sup>

The college granted its first degrees in 1915 to Ruby John Canning. The same year, President Austin sought accreditation for the college from the North Central Association of Universities and Colleges. This recognition was finally achieved in 1919. Also at that time, the legislature created a separate Board of Regents, composed of both men and women, to govern the school. The establishment of a separate Board of Regents was said to have "...aided materially in the development of the college." The State Board of Education had responsibility for more than a dozen schools and frequently did not distinguish between a college, a normal school or a preparatory school. A separate board "...had more time and felt more interest in the college."<sup>11</sup>

Also in 1919, the state legislature appropriated \$227,500 for construction of a dormitory, a Fine Arts building and President's Home at OCW. Alloted over a two year period, the dormitory and President's Home were to be built in 1919 with the Fine Arts building constructed the following year. Of the total \$227,500 appropriated, \$140,000 was earmarked for construction of the dormitory with \$10,000 to be spent on furnishing it. The President's Home, badly needed as the current president, G.W. Austin, his wife and two children were living in two rooms on the upper floor of Nellie Sparks, was to be constructed for \$7,500. The Fine Arts building was apportioned \$63,500 for construction with \$6,500 for furnishing. As planned, construction on both the President's Home and new dormitory, eventually named Frances E. Willard Hall, were started in

<sup>10</sup>Chickasha Oklahoma, 1892-1992, 96. See also Lewis, "Oklahoma College for Women," 180 and The Trend (Chickasha, Oklahoma), 24 October 1930.

<sup>11</sup>Lewis, "Oklahoma College for Women," 183-184. See also Guy Bailey and Pete Kimberlin, The Oklahoma Collegian, Volume 1 (N.P., 1926), 31.



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the spring of 1919. By mid-November 1919, the President's Home was nearing completion while work was being pushed on the dormitory. Although reservations for the new rooms were "...all ready being made by students from all over the state desiring to enter second semester...", Willard Hall was not completed until the spring of 1920 "...on account of the difficulty in securing labor." Although Willard Hall was not finished, on 10 February 1920 work began on the Fine Arts building. However, "Owing to the enormous increase in the cost of materials and labor...", only the south half of the building was erected in 1920. Opened to students by the fall term of 1920, the Fine Arts building was quickly filled to capacity. By the following year, the north half of the building was nearing completion. The whole building was dedicated on 20 October 1921 at which time it was noted that "This building is the only building in the state which is devoted exclusively to the study of fine arts." Including the departments of Piano, Voice, Violin, Dramatic Art and Art, the "Fine Arts School" had thirteen instructors with three assistants and over five hundred enrolled students.<sup>12</sup>

In order to secure the funding for the second portion of the Fine Arts building, J.D. Carmichael, Secretary of the OCW Board of Regents, agreed to a phased elimination of the preparatory school function at the college. Although President Austin felt that the high school portion of the college was "...a very important part of the service a girls' school should render the state," members of the OCW Board of Regents believed that "...the high-school department of the college should be gradually eliminated and the college maintained as a higher educational institution only." The board felt that the practice of turning away college-level students due to a lack of dormitory space while enrolling girls of high-school standing did not well serve the development of the school. This was compounded by the state legislators who refused to approve further appropriations for the school while it continued to serve as a high school. The legislators believed that the cost of educating the high schoolers should be borne by the city in a public high school and not the state. Thus, 1921 was the last year high school freshman were admitted to the college. By 1925, the preparatory portion of the college was completely eliminated.<sup>13</sup>

Two years after the completion of the Fine Arts building, OCW was getting ready

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<sup>12</sup>The Trend, 18 November 1919, 17 February 1920, 5 October 1920, 4 October 1921 and 1 November 1921.

<sup>13</sup>Rex Harlow, George W. Austin, His Life and Work, (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: N.P., 1927), 53-55. See also Orr, State-Supported Colleges, 202.

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to expand again. In addition to a wing being added to Willard Hall, a new domestic science building was slated for construction. Total cost of these two items was estimated at \$175,000 with an additional \$25,000 going to improving the heating plant. In what was believed to be "...the outstanding event of the year," the Masons laid the cornerstone of the new building on 19 February 1924 in a grand ceremony with a "large crowd" in attendance.<sup>14</sup> The home economics building was re-named Austin Hall in late 1926 following the death of the popular OCW president, G.W. Austin. Austin had been president of the college from 1914 until his death.

In April 1926, the "new" auditorium, consisting of a new back addition to the existing auditorium in the Administration building, was opened with much fanfare. The new KOCW radio station broadcast the ceremony with entertainment to interested persons. Additionally, President Austin spoke of the "...great future of..." OCW which was anticipated to include a new gymnasium and dormitory in the near future. However, by March 1927, the state legislature had still not appropriated funds for construction of these two buildings. At that time, the school newspaper made the appeal

"Without a doubt (OCW)'s influence is growing rapidly and being felt by great numbers of young women over the state and nation. Therefore, in order to meet this situation and use its opportunities for lasting service of this young womanhood, the Oklahoma College for Women is asking for this new dormitory and physical education building."

The state legislature responded by appropriating \$200,000 for "building and equipment." The Board of Regents, State Board of Affairs and "...other agencies having to do with the administration of the college..." were charged with the duty of deciding what type of building or buildings were to be erected. Moving rapidly, a contract was let to the Kreipke Construction Company of Oklahoma City for construction of the new Senior House and Physical Education Building in September 1927. At an estimated cost of \$25,000, the Senior Hall was to house sixty-five girls, most of whom were in the senior class. The Physical Education building, which was to provide "...a center of activities as well as its primary purpose of providing classrooms and gymnasium space" was estimated at \$175,000. Within a year of letting the contract, both buildings were ready for use.<sup>15</sup>

In 1928, the school also gained use of two existing buildings. A house on

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<sup>14</sup>The Trend, 3 October 1923, 13 February 1924 and 6 March 1924.

<sup>15</sup>Ibid., 8 April 1926, 10 March 1927, 5 May 1927, 30 September 1927, 13 January 1928, 4 May 1928 and 10 September 1928.

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Seventeenth Street, across from the new Senior Hall, was purchased by the college and "...fitted to facilitate care of students..." by Dr. Rebecca Mason, college physician. Because "Advance registrations were about 20 per cent higher than ever before and nearly 100 girls were on the waiting list for rooms in August," the school pressed into service as a "small dormitory" a two-story frame dwelling on the far northeast corner of campus. This new dormitory was quickly dubbed "North Hall." Additionally, the college bought an incinerator to "...consume the waste of the college..." and placed it on the northwest part of campus. According to the school newspaper "This is an admirable addition to any institution and we're glad we've got ours."<sup>16</sup>

On 28 November 1928, the state budget officer approved a budget providing \$455,500 for construction of a library building, another dormitory and Home Economics practice cottages on the OCW campus, as well as increases in the salary and maintenance funds. All of the items included in the budget were deemed "...quite necessary for the growth and operation of OCW...". The library was considered the most pressing because the library was housed in the Administration building and was overwhelmingly out of space. By May 1929, the budget had been radically trimmed because "...at the present time it is thought necessary to adhere to a program of rigid economy throughout the state." The only money allotted for construction was \$10,000 for a practice house for the Home Economics department. Practice houses were used by the Home Economics department to "...provide opportunity for actual participation in Home Management and to acquaint students with actual problems of Homemaking and to give them a basis for action in solving them." During a nine-week period, a handful of girls were assigned to the house and each girl performed as manager and hostess, cook, assistant cook and laundress, and maid during her stay. Designed by the "...Home Economics staff with the assistance of Miss Madeline Ritz of the Art department," the plans for the practice house were converted into working plans by an unnamed architect by October 1929. According to OCW faculty member, Miss Anna K. Banks, the practice house represented "...no particular period of architecture,..., but it (would) embody the best standards and conform to good taste. It (would) be the kind of home almost anyone would enjoy living in." In February 1930, the Home Management House was occupied by two faculty members.<sup>17</sup>

Shortly after the completion of the Home Management House, the college acquired

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., 10 September 1928, 12 October 1928 and 26 October 1928.

<sup>17</sup>Ibid., 7 December 1928, 3 May 1929, 10 September 1929, 18 October 1929, 7 February 1930 and 19 September 1930.

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another house on the northeast side of Seventeenth Street by the infirmary. The house was remodeled "...in order to have it in shape for use as a practice house next year." However, when the 1930 fall term opened, OCW had only one practice house. The Home Management House, built specifically as a practice house, was instead renamed Southeast Hall and began its first full school year as a dormitory for fifteen girls.<sup>18</sup>

Beginning in 1917, it became customary for each graduating class to present the school with a memorial of their class. The type of memorial differed from class to class. For example the 1924 class presented the college with a marble bench which was located by Willard Hall. The 1926 class presented a "...sparkling fountain...which ornaments a central spot north of Willard Hall..." which did not endure the test of time as well as the existing 1924 bench. Other classes presented trees to be added to the college landscape. The 1930 class gave the school one of the more enduring gifts. Presented on Cap and Gown Day, the 1930 senior memorial consisted of "...two gate ways of stone, brick and steel, to be placed at the entrances of the oval at Nellie Sparks and Willard." The oval, which swept around the existing college buildings, had been paved during the summer of 1926. The 1932 class followed the 1930s lead and presented the campus with "The gift of posts accenting the approach to the college..." from the north on Alabama Avenue. The classes of 1934 and 1935 followed this with pillars marking the southeast entrance of campus. Constructed by government laborers in August 1935, the gates off of Grand Avenue cost five hundred dollars "...and add a great deal to the beauty of campus in that they are exact duplicates of the gates at the northeast entrance."<sup>19</sup>

In late 1930, OCW also gained recognition by the American Association of Universities (AAU). In addition to the distinction of being placed on the AAU list, which was the "...highest rating that can be given to any college in America," acceptance also allowed "...the practical advantage that any graduate of this school will be accepted for post graduate work in any good school without conditions." Within three years, the College Blue Book, which rated every recognized college and university in America, placed OCW "...among those at the top." In 1934, the only institutions of higher education in Oklahoma on the AAU list were OCW and the University of Oklahoma. Additionally, OCW was one of three Oklahoma schools recognized by the Association of University Women and was on the approved list of colleges and universities of the Department of

<sup>18</sup>Ibid., 25 April 1930 and 19 September 1930.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid., 7 October 1926, 9 May 1930, 27 February 1931, 27 May 1932 and 20 September 1935.

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Education in France. In combination with its nearly fifteen year accreditation by the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities, "The standing of (OCW) guarant(ed) to her students full recognition of their work in all other reputable college and graduate schools, both in America and aboard."<sup>20</sup>

With the exception of the class memorials, a green house addition to the steam plant and the 1931 remodeling and modernization of North Hall, which probably included the bricking of the exterior in a manner similar to the other buildings on campus, major construction activity on the OCW campus came to a halt for several years following the 1930 completion of the Home Management House. In October 1932, faced with a thirty percent reduction in the 1933-1935 budget but in desparate need of additional housing, the college regents began discussing the issuance of bonds to sell to the Reconstruction Finance Corporation (RFC) with the proceeds to be used to construct another dormitory. The state legislature in 1931 had passed a measure allowing the school to raise \$200,000 by issuing bonds for construction of a dormitory. The RFC, set up by Congress in January 1932, was authorized to provide emergency loans to banks, life insurance companies, building and loan societies, farm mortgage associations and railroads. In July 1932, the Emergency Relief and Construction Act further allowed the RFC additional funds for relief loans to states, as well as additional monies for loans for state and local public works and a sizeable appropriation for federal public works. The RFC was eventually abolished by President Eisenhower in the early 1950s.<sup>21</sup>

By late February 1933, application had been made for a loan from the RFC for a \$150,000 dormitory. According to Dr. Nash, president of the college, the project was "...most timely and well worth while, due to the present economic conditions." President Nash further stated

"...that when conditions have righted themselves, which they most surely (would), the Oklahoma College for Women will possess this valuable addition to the convenience, beauty and facilities of the campus at a much lower cost than would be necessary during more normal times."

The question quickly arose of whether to use the money to build one large

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<sup>20</sup>Ibid., 7 November 1930 and 28 September 1934.

<sup>21</sup>Ibid., 31 October 1930, 7 October 1932 and 24 February 1933. See also George Brown Tindall, America: A Narrative History Volume 2; 2nd ed. (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1988), 1103-4 and 1312.

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dormitory on the east side of campus or three to four small dormitories among the existing buildings on the west side. By October 1933, the loan appeared to be assured but discussion on the number and placement of dormitories continued. Authority for the loan had also transferred from the RFC to the Public Works Administration (PWA). The PWA was legislated in June 1933 by President Roosevelt as part of his effort to assist citizens in distress and stimulate the national economy. Formally known as the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, the PWA was enacted to "prepare a comprehensive program of public works." In doing this, the PWA was intended to "create employment and aid industry by the construction of useful public works of enduring social value." In November 1933, U.S. Senator T.P. Gore informed the school of pending approval of a \$162,000 loan from the PWA. The loan was further confirmed by the Honorable Jed Johnson, also a U.S. Congressman for the Sixth District, who personally called upon the chief examiner of the Public Works Administration in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Johnson was a 1923 graduate of OCW.<sup>22</sup>

By January 1934, the government was ready to receive the final plans for three dormitories for the OCW campus. The two-story buildings were to be located "...on the east side of Seventeenth Street facing the old campus...". Each building was to house forty-four students. Although all three dormitories, designed by Chickasha architect Paul Harris, would share common features, "...each dormitory (would) differ from the others in outer appearance and also in the interior." Within three months, the Dunnehy Construction Company of Oklahoma City had received the contract for construction of the new dormitories with a low bid of \$112,486.<sup>23</sup>

In April 1934, OCW became the recipient of another New Deal-era program, the Public Works of Art Program (PWAP), also called the Projects of Works of Arts. In "...an endeavor to help preserve the historical background of the state...", Acee Blue Eagle was engaged to paint several murals on the walls of the "Little Gym" in the Health and Physical Education Building at OCW. Blue Eagle had previously completed murals at the Edmond State Teachers' College (now called the University of Central Oklahoma) and proceeded to paint murals in several federal buildings in Oklahoma after completion of the OCW murals. Blue Eagle only participated in PWAP for one year. The purpose of PWAP was to

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<sup>22</sup>Ibid., 24 February 1933, 28 April 1933, 13 October 1933, 10 November 1933. See also The Story of the PWA: Building for Recovery, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1939), 1.

<sup>23</sup>Ibid., 12 January 1934, 2 February 1934, 23 February 1934, 2 March 1934 and 9 March 1934.

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"...decorate various buildings throughout the state, supported by state taxes, with worthy works of art." The selection of Blue Eagle was part of "The local plan of painting murals (as) a feature of the more general movement for re-discovering Indian art." This "re-discovering" of Native American art by the general populace was launched in Oklahoma in the late 1920s with the first exhibition of the Kiowa Five at the University of Oklahoma. The Native American artist, according to the student newspaper, was "confronted with the problem of keeping his work from the influence of his modern environment." Blue Eagle handled this problem with great aplomb as he has been characterized as "Oklahoma's favorite Indian artist" and as an "...outstanding American Indian artist of the 1930s-1950s." Blue Eagle transferred the images to the walls of the Little Gym by throwing "...an enlarged drawing on the walls by a lantern slide machine and paint(ing) in the reflected outline."<sup>24</sup>

Although the start of construction for the three PWA dormitories was delayed due to complications with receiving the government funding, by the start of the fall 1934 term construction on the dormitories was well underway with a hoped for Thanksgiving completion. However, the dormitories were not completed and furnished until May 1935. The buildings opened for the 1935 fall term under the newly designated names of Ruby Canning Hall, Roberta Lawson Hall and Alice Robertson Hall. Canning Hall was named for first graduate of OCW; Lawson was named for one of the longest serving members of OCW's Board of Regents; and Robertson was named for the first woman Representative from Oklahoma to the U.S. Congress.<sup>25</sup>

Also in 1935, the college completed acquisition of the land that would form the main campus. The campus started on a twenty-acre plot of land given by J.B. Sparks to the Board of Regents of the college. Bounded by Grand Avenue and Seventeenth Street, the original portion of campus extended to within a half of a block of Alabama Avenue and half a block of Nineteenth Street. In 1921, a major segment of the east side of campus was acquired, as well as most of the

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<sup>24</sup>Ibid., 13 April 1934, 20 April 1934, 4 May 1934, 24 February 1939 and 25 April 1941. See also Nicholas A. Calcagno, New Deal Murals in Oklahoma (Miami, Oklahoma: Pioneer Printing, Inc., 1976), 2 and 5; "Blue Eagle, Acee (1907-1959), Papers and artwork." Guide to the Collections of the National Anthropological Archives Site. Retrieved January 2, 2001 from the World Wide Web at [www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/guide/\\_b2.htm](http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa/guide/_b2.htm).

<sup>25</sup>Ibid., 27 April 1934, 18 May 1934, 21 September 1934, 18 January 1935, 1 February 1935, 1 March 1935, 5 April 1935, 3 May 1935 and 20 September 1935.

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remaining portions along Alabama Avenue and Nineteenth Street. Beginning in 1922, the college began buying lots in the Higgins Place Addition, consisting of the extreme northeast part of campus. With the acquisition of the Warford property on the northeast corner of the intersection of Seventeenth Street and Alabama Avenue in 1935, the "...ownership by the college of all property along the east side of Seventeenth Street, between Alabama and Grand avenues" was complete. The college also purchased land south of Grand Avenue at the same time and always owned a 140 acre farm outside of town.<sup>26</sup> Because these parcels of land do not contain any major historic resources associated with the development of the school, they have not been included in the nomination.

Although the college aspired to get funding for construction of a chapel, another residence hall, a separate library building and an addition to Fine Arts in 1937, nothing came to fruition. In spring 1938, enrollment at the college exceeded one thousand for the first time. With students from seventy-one of Oklahoma's seventy-seven counties and Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas and Wyoming, the eight dormitories on campus were filled to capacity and, as early as March, reservations were already being made for the following year. In an effort to meet the growing demands, the college submitted plans to the State Legislature outlining a building program in early 1938. However, probably due to the economic problems still plaguing the state, immediate action was not taken.<sup>27</sup>

Finally, in October 1938, it was announced that construction of a new residence hall would occur shortly. Financed in part by a loan from the PWA, the new dormitory was estimated to cost \$100,000. The chief architect on the project was J.D. Forsyth. Forsyth also designed the Marland Mansion (NR/NHL 1973) in Ponca City, Oklahoma and the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore, Oklahoma. Aiding Forsyth at the local level was Paul Harris of Chickasha. Harris designed the three PWA dormitories on the east side of campus.<sup>28</sup>

The new residence hall was to be located "...on the northwest corner of the campus, between North Hall and Grimsley Gardens." Grimsley Gardens was the name given to the landscaped area on the extreme northwest corner of campus. The area was so named for the caretaker who developed what "...was once the

<sup>26</sup>Ibid., 11 October 1935. See also land records, County Clerk's Office, Grady County Courthouse, Chickasha, Oklahoma.

<sup>27</sup>Ibid., 15 January 1937, 12 February 1937, 9 April 1937, 3 March 1938, 24 March 1938 and 31 March 1938.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid., 7 October 1938.



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dump heap of the campus concrete" into a "beautiful garden" as early as 1926. The garden remains an open natural area today. Construction of the new dormitory by D.C. Bass and Sons of Enid was to begin on 9 November 1938 with the expectation that the residence hall would open for the following fall term. Unusual features of the new building included a sunroom on the south elevation and a buzzer system that connected "...the office with each girl in her room, thus eliminating much confusion."<sup>29</sup>

As expected, the new dormitory, accomodating ninety-seven girls plus a hostess and guest lodging, opened for the 1939 fall term. The 1939 sophomore class were the lucky residents of the new building. The following term, Southeast Hall was returned to its original function as the Home Management House with seven women majoring in Home Economics occupying the house for a rotating nine week period. In September 1940, the new sophomore dormitory was finally named Jane Addams Hall for the noted early twentieth century social reformer. At the same time, Senior Hall was re-named Susan B. Anthony Hall for "...America's greatest women-suffragist..." and North Hall, no longer the only residence hall on the north edge of campus, became Mary Lyon Hall for the first woman president of an American college for women, Mount Holyoke.<sup>30</sup>

Also in 1940, the college began making plans for construction of a new Post Office which would include a recreation room. Estimated at a cost of \$18,000, the new building would be aided by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), another of Roosevelt's New Deal programs. However, progress on this new building never materialized. In September 1942, the WPA did open an art gallery in the parlor of Austin Hall. New exhibitions were to arrive each month and would differ in subject matter and treatment. The art section of the WPA, however, ceased to function in January 1943, at which time the art work collected was allocated to state owned institutions. OCW received many pieces of the WPA collection, including several paintings by Acee Blue Eagle and a portfolio of Spanish-Colonial design produced by members of the New Mexico Art project.<sup>31</sup>

Despite America's involvement in World War II, OCW flourished during the early 1940s. Although no buildings were constructed on the campus, enrollment at the

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<sup>29</sup>Ibid., 7 October 1938, 18 November 1938, 13 January 1939, 17 February 1939, 22 September 1939.

<sup>30</sup>Ibid., 22 September 1939, 2 February 1940 and 20 September 1940.

<sup>31</sup>Ibid., 11 October 1940, 25 September 1942, 20 January 1943.

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school did not drop as at the majority of schools within the state and nation. In 1943, Dr. Dan Proctor succeeded Dr. M. Nash as president and OCW held its first summer school with a total enrollment of 234. According to the school newspaper, "The eight-weeks session proved successful with an even larger attendance in some of the courses during the regular school term." By January 1945, the college was requesting additional funds from the state legislature for expansion of the school's infrastructure. Although the legislature had appropriated \$80,000 for construction of a library the previous year, the college asked for an increase in the allotment to allow "...construction of a building which would be a credit to the Institution, both in appearance and in adequacy of its services." The college also appealed for monies to build another Fine Arts building, a Social Fundamentals building -- also known as a Student Union --, a Shops building, Science building and other additional classroom space. Additionally, the college noted that the other buildings on campus were in need of repair. Although the current war-time restrictions would not permit the repairs to be made, the college hoped to receive adequate funds to allow the repair work to occur when conditions permitted.<sup>32</sup>

By September 1945, with the end of World War II, OCW was slated to receive half million dollars in improvements. This included \$200,000 for a new library, \$10,000 for a heating plant, \$17,000 for repairs to the auditorium, \$4,000 for a new filtering system for the swimming pool located in the Health and Physical Education Building, \$50,000 for construction of a "central dining and recreation building" and \$125,000 for a new residence hall capable of housing 100 students. In May 1946, the State Board of Affairs awarded contracts for three OCW projects under the 1946-1947 state building program. As part of the 1946 program, Forrest L. Butler of Oklahoma City received a contract for the new filtering system for the swimming pool and repairs to the auditorium. Both projects were to occur over the summer of 1946. Under the 1947 program, Bruce W. Berry of Oklahoma City and Paul Harris of Chickasha received the "...architectural contract for the library building and equipment."<sup>33</sup>

By October 1946, plans had been expanded to include a "student union building, which (was) to be constructed as soon as labor conditions and materials permit." By May 1947, Senior Hall had been chosen for remodeling as a Student Union. To this end, bids for the sale of bonds amounting to \$300,000 were received by the Board of Regents on 19 May 1947. Plans for Senior Hall included a remodeled interior with an L-shaped wing being added to the west side of the existing building. The original portion was to contain guest rooms

<sup>32</sup>Ibid., 24 September 1943 and 12 January 1945.

<sup>33</sup>Ibid., 28 September 1945 and 3 May 1946.

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and club rooms. The new wing was to include "...a central dining room, cafeteria, small dining rooms, dance floor, outdoor terrace and recreation rooms." By the opening of the 1947 fall term, the Cowen Construction Company of Shawnee had made the low bid of \$307,000 for construction of the addition and renovation of Senior Hall with architect fees and equipment expected to bring the final cost to \$350,000. Additionally, the college announced that construction on the three-story, air conditioned library would begin "...in the near future." At the 14 November 1947 meeting of the Board of Regents, the plans for the library, drawn up by local architect Paul Harris, were approved and the board moved to request the State Board of Affairs advertise for bids immediately.<sup>34</sup>

Although not occurring as speedily as hoped for, the Skaggs Construction Company of Oklahoma City received the low bid for construction of the library with an offer of \$263,278 in February 1948. Construction activity on the library began in March 1948 with no completion date set. Although G.D. Klepper, construction engineer, reported to the Board of Regents that "all possible haste is being made to complete..." the new Student Union in November 1947, the building was not completed until the summer of 1948. The Student Union at OCW opened in September 1948 with great fanfare as "...one of (the) best on any campus in (the) Southwest." According to the school newspaper,

"Answering a long-felt need for an area where all student activities could center, the new Union will rank among the most modern in the nation. Few colleges whose size still permits personalized instruction will be able to match the new structure in either size or in excellence and luxury of appointments."

One of the most acclaimed features of the new Student Union was the "excellent system of air-conditioning which will operate the year round." Murals painted by Derald Swineford, a member of the college's Fine Arts department, also added to the beauty of the new union. Swineford, a local artist of some renown, also did some of the artwork in the Oklahoma County Courthouse. The Student Union was formally dedicated on 18 October 1948 with a program featuring a "...Mexican Film Star and his ensemble."<sup>35</sup>

Construction of the library did not proceed as rapidly. In August 1949, nearly

<sup>34</sup>Ibid., 8 October 1946, 5 November 1946, 26 February 1947, 7 May 1947, 24 September 1947 and 10 December 1947.

<sup>35</sup>Ibid., 10 December 1947, 11 February 1948, 17 March 1948, 19 May 1948, 2 September 1948 and 13 October 1948.

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one-and-a-half years after constructin was started, it was announced that the library would be ready for use by the start of the fall 1949 term. However, work on the building came to a standstill in early October due to a shortage of materials. Although the exterior of the building was nearly complete, the needed stacks and steel equipment would not be available for thirty to forty-five days. The furniture also was delayed for at least ninety days. Finally in May 1950, the library opened its doors. The first day of use, the entire student body and faculty managed to move over 10,000 of the 39,000 books in the library. The remainder of the books were moved over the summer so that the library was in complete operation when the college opened for the fall 1950 term. Ever proud of its new facility, the library was described as one that would "...compare favorably with those of any other American college. Every modern technique of functional planning has gone into its construction."<sup>36</sup>

With the opening of the library, the OCW campus was nearly complete. In 1956, an additional home economics building was constructed on the far northeast side of campus. Part of a building program that nearly all the Oklahoma colleges and other state institutions participated in, the new building was named Gary Hall in honor of the then-governor of the state. Construction of Gary Hall resulted in the demolition of the three frame buildings on Seventeenth Street that the college had used for a number of years. This included the infirmary, the second practice house and the nursery school. All three of these buildings were existing houses the college took over and adapted to their use.<sup>37</sup>

Gary Hall was the last building constructed on the OCW campus. In 1965, the college became co-educational and the name changed to the Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts. One year later, construction of the chapel began. Although the college had wanted a chapel for decades and several fund-raising efforts were mounted, none were successful until the mid-1960s. The chapel finally opened in 1968. Two years later a new Power and Heating Plant was constructed. In 1974, the name of the institution was changed again to the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO). Eight years later, a new Physical Education Center was erected by the historic Health and Physical Education Building. As USAO, the campus has endured into the twenty-first century remarkably intact.

Although both OCLA and USAO relied on the college's reputation as a liberal

<sup>36</sup>Ibid., 1 August 1949, 12 October 1949, 10 May 1950 and 29 August 1950.

<sup>37</sup>Ibid., 17 January 1956, 21 March 1956, 16 May 1956, 6 November 1956, 1 August 1957, 20 November 1957.

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arts school, OCW originated largely as an industrial school. Industrial schools provided technical training in areas that were once considered the domain of the home. As industrialization moved the nation from the farm to the city, the teaching of practical skills and trades fell to professional educators and the public school system. Whereas other Oklahoma vocational institutions sought to provide female students with an education that allowed them to "...share ...the burden of the active work of industry and commerce," the early OCW curriculum placed major emphasis on the development of "...young women of culture and accomplishments, with a practical training preparing them for the actual duties of home making. According to the 1910-1911 school catalogue, "The aim of (OCW) is to give to the girls and young women, not only a literary education on a par with a University course, but also such an industrial education as will make them useful, economical, scientific queens of our American homes."<sup>38</sup>

The emphasis on industrial education began to wane within a few years of the founding of the school, as evidenced by the change in the name of the institution. Replacing the industrial education-based curriculum was a liberal arts emphasis. Although in 1915, OCW's main purpose continued to be "...to turn out young women well qualified to make the highest type of wives and mothers rather than young women prepared for gainful occupations or the professions," courses in piano, physical education, english, mathematics, foreign languages and history were among the most popular with over 100 of the total 288 students attending each of these classes. By 1919, fifty-three percent of the degrees conferred by the school that year were Bachelors of Art, with twenty-seven percent being Bachelors of Science in Home Economics and twenty percent Bachelor of Music degrees. In 1928, the school awarded sixty-eight degrees. Of these, seventy-two percent were Bachelor of Arts, ten percent Bachelor of Science in Home Economics, seven percent Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, six percent Bachelor of Science in Commerce and four percent Bachelor of Music degrees.<sup>39</sup>

OCW was unique within the state as the only state-supported womens college. The female-only school "...occupi(ed) a peculiar place in Oklahoma's scheme of state education, in that it (was) the one strictly feminine institution." As previously stated, other state institutions of higher education in Oklahoma

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<sup>38</sup>"Oklahoma's Only Exclusive Women's College" Harlow's Weekly, (6 Feburary 1915) 97. See also First Catalogue and Second Annual Announcement of the Oklahoma Industrial Institute and College for Girls, (Chickasha, Oklahoma: N.P., 1910-1911), 6.

<sup>39</sup>Ibid, 98. See also Orr, State Supported Schools, 209-210.

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were co-educational prior to the founding of OCW. Although co-education was accepted by the turn of the twentieth century in many parts of the country, separation of the sexes was still viewed as desirable in some areas, particularly the south. In addition to the view that women were incapable of learning at the same rate or amount as men and that a female presence would distract their male counterpart, separate schools were also historically established to educate women for their "peculiar" role as homemakers. As evidenced by its early goals, OCW was established by men who largely shared these views.<sup>40</sup>

Although sexism was the basis for creation, and the eventual dissolution, of most female-only institutions, these schools occupy a distinct place in the development of education in the United States. The education of women has long been hindered by the same beliefs that caused the creation of women-only schools. While these beliefs have slowly fallen from popular acceptance, the opportunity for womens education has widened to encompass every field of study. Schools such as OCW demonstrate the emerging importance of womens education and the widening of opportunity for study over the course of the twentieth century. Founded as an industrial institute aimed at providing women with the skills to be "useful, economical, scientific queens of our American homes," by 1925 the purpose of the school had shifted to "...provide for the moral and intellectual advancement of the young women of Oklahoma." Although sexism was still prevalent and the fundamental course of study had not been greatly altered, it was acknowledged at that time that "The courses are projected along practical lines and when completed any young woman should be able to provide for herself, if necessary."<sup>41</sup>

In addition to its importance as a female-only school, OCW is educationally significant as a state-supported institution. Publically supported schools of higher education gained wide acceptance in the United States around 1820. Shortly after passage of the Morrill Land-Grant Act by Congress in 1862, every state within the Union had at least one public college. However, Oklahoma is one of only eight states that established and maintained a womens-only school. The first female-only state supported school was established in Mississippi in 1885. Georgia followed in 1889, North Carolina and South Carolina in 1891, Alabama in 1893, Texas in 1901 and Florida in 1905. OCW further stands out because of the existence of co-educational colleges and universities within the state. Of the eight state-supported womens-only schools, OCW was the only

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<sup>40</sup>Ibid., 97.

<sup>41</sup>First Catalogue, 6. See also Bulletin of the Oklahoma College for Women, Volume XVI, Number 1 (1 June 1925), 9.

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school chartered at a time when the land-grant college was open to women on an unrestricted basis.<sup>42</sup>

The presence of a state-supported women's college is also remarkable because it is through public institution that higher education became affordable for the middle and lower classes. Prior to the founding of the eight state-supported womens college, the only separate womens institutions were privately run. Thus, only those with above average resources were able to afford to attend these schools. Although the desire for a separate education quickly becomes immersed in the issue of sexism, the benefit of a state-supported institution was undeniable upon the availability of quality education for women in the middle and lower economic strata.

Although colleges and universities abounded in Oklahoma, OCW stands out as the only state-supported womens college. As such, it represents an important development in the evolution of education in Oklahoma, particularly women's education, during the first half of the twentieth century. The formation of the campus from one building in 1911 to numerous buildings by 1951 reflects the continued demand for educational opportunity by women over the course of the period of significance. The accreditation of the college by nationally recognized organizations further illustrates the seriousness of the school in its purpose to educate young women. Although the education focused on "...the duties of womanhood," the opportunity for advanced degrees provided women with greater knowledge and options than previously available.<sup>43</sup>

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The OCW campus is architecturally significant as an excellent collection of buildings constructed from 1911 to 1951. Compatible in style and building material, the buildings form an easily identifiable unit. This unit, termed the campus, is distinct from the surrounding residential area. Although the historic central business district is located many blocks away, the OCW campus is easily distinguished by its architecture and the layout of the buildings. Despite the proliferation of college and university campuses within the state, OCW is noteworthy for its collection of splendid buildings and the lack of incompatible, modern construction.

Although most of the buildings share at least one common trait, none of the

<sup>42</sup>Orr, State-Supported Colleges, 14-15 and 27.

<sup>43</sup>Bulletin of the Oklahoma College for Women Volume XXII, Number 4, (1931-1932), 14.

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buildings on campus are identical. Developed on a building-by-building basis, the architecture of the OCW campus reflects the aspirations of the governing authorities. The employment of the Classical Revival style and its related styles for the early buildings illustrates the popular return to the classical traditions that the eclectic styles of the Victorian period disrupted. Additionally, the classically inspired styles fashionable during the early twentieth century were believed to equate "the era's faith in education with its ideals of good citizenship."<sup>44</sup> Continuing to reflect popular taste, by the late 1920s, the architecture on campus shifted from the formal to the more relaxed Mediterranean-inspired styles with a couple of modernistic examples. As the Mediterranean-influenced buildings do not reflect the formality of the Classically-inspired, this shift fit well with the dominant function of these building as residence halls. Although two of the earlier buildings served the basic same function, the new buildings were smaller in scale and sought to provide a more home-like feel. The emergence of the modernistic International style beginning in the late 1940s continued the desire of the college to provide the most-up-to-date facilities possible as reflected in their architecture.

Working in the prevailing styles, the architectural firms that designed buildings on the OCW campus included many of the most noteworthy Oklahoma firms and architects. This includes Smith and Parr; S.A. Layton and S. Wemyss-Smith; Layton, Smith and Forsyth; Layton, Hicks and Forsyth; and, John Duncan Forsyth. Unfortunately, adequate information on local Chickasha architect Paul Harris has not been compiled to indicate his mastery of the architectural trade within the state.

Although not much is known about the Smith in the firm, the Parr of Smith and Parr eventually become one of the well-known partners in the firm of Hawk and Parr. J.O. Parr attended the Armour Institution in Chicago to obtain his architecture degree before moving to McAlester, Oklahoma, in 1906. Parr practiced architecture in McAlester until 1911 at which time he moved to Oklahoma City. The firm of Hawk and Parr was established in 1914 and continued until 1932. Following the dissolution of the firm, Parr continued the practice of architecture until his death in 1940. Although a complete listing of their works has not been assembled, the firm of Hawk and Parr has been characterized as "One of the most outstanding architectural firms to practice in Oklahoma County...". As an example of Parr's early work, the OCW Administration

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<sup>44</sup>Alan Gowans, Styles and Types of North American Architecture: Social Function and Cultural Expression, (New York: IconEdition, HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1993) 246.



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building is exemplary.<sup>45</sup>

Solomn A. Layton, the principal in the firms of S.A. Layton and S. Wemyss-Smith; Layton, Smith and Forsyth; and, Layton, Hicks and Forsyth, is widely acknowledged as a master architect within the state of Oklahoma. Layton has been characterized as "one of the most important and influential architects in all of Oklahoma's history." Although there is no complete record of the buildings designed by his firms, he is credited with more than one hundred educational, public and commercial buildings statewide. Layton and his various partners designed among other buildings, the Oklahoma State Capitol (NR 1976), the Braniff Building (NR 1980), Central High School (NR 1979), the India Temple Shrine Building (NR 1980), the Oklahoma Publishing Company Building (NR 1978), the Skirvin Hotel (NR 1979), the Oklahoma County Courthouse (NR 1992), as well as fifteen other county courthouses and numerous schools and private buildings. On the OCW campus, Layton's firms are responsible for the design of Nellie Sparks Hall, Willard Hall, Austin Hall, the Health and Physical Education Building and possibly Senior Hall. The architect for Fine Arts is unknown; however, it is conceivable that Layton's firm of Layton, Smith and Forsyth were responsible for its design as they were responsible for all the other major buildings constructed on the campus for the almost-ten-year period between 1919 and 1928.<sup>46</sup>

Although described as "...one of the foremost residential architects in Oklahoma during the early part of the twentieth century," John Duncan Forsyth is known for his public designs as well. Although only opening his firm in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1921, Forsyth quickly gained recognition for his excellence. By the late 1920s, Forsyth was engaged in the design and construction of the E.W. Marland Mansion (NR/NHL 1973). In the mid-1930s, he designed the Will Rogers Memorial in Claremore and in 1938 Addams Hall on the OCW campus.<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>45</sup>Bob Blackburn et al. The Physical Legacy: Buildings of Oklahoma County, 1889-1931, (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Southwestern Heritage Press for the Oklahoma County Historical Society, 1980)60.

<sup>46</sup>Mary Jo Nelson, "The Buildings of Solomon Andrew Layton," (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Historic Conservation Programs, Oklahoma Historical Society, n.d.), 1.

<sup>47</sup>Dianna Everett, National Register Nomination for the Lamerton House, Enid, Oklahoma. On file at the Oklahoma State Historic

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Despite the work of such well-known Oklahoma architects on the individual buildings, the basic design of the campus evolved over time. As far as has been determined, a master plan for the campus was not developed until the 1960s. It is assumed that the various entities charged with overseeing the school during the period of significance had some development plan in mind but the particulars are unknown. And, as with most state institutions, one of the most critical factors in the formation of the OCW campus was the allotments by the state legislature. Although the administration planned for numerous buildings over the years, only those funded by the legislature or federal New Deal-era programs actually came into existence.

Critically, the overall design of the campus has not been disrupted by nonhistoric construction. In all, only four buildings have been constructed on the campus since the period of significance. All four of these buildings are located on the perimeters of the campus with only one located on the main campus thoroughfare. Although the individual historic buildings on the OCW campus have been minorly altered, they continue to maintain a strong feeling and association.

College and university campuses abound in Oklahoma. As previously listed, the first and second legislatures created twelve schools alone. By 1909, there were nineteen state-supported schools designated in the two-year old state. By 1950, all but one school was still in existence. Currently, there are approximately twenty-six public institutions of higher education, not including satellite campuses, and twelve private schools within the state. This does not include historic schools which are no longer in existence. As such, a comparison of every campus is not feasible.

However, the OCW campus remains noteworthy as an excellent example of a college campus in Oklahoma formed over the first half of the twentieth century that has largely not been disrupted by nonhistoric construction. Although historic buildings remain on both of the main universities in the state, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University, new construction has encroached upon the historic concentration of buildings. The historic Colored Agricultural and Normal School in Langston has faired a similar fate; however, a small segment of the campus which retained its integrity, the Langston University Cottage Row Historic District, was listed on the National Register in 1999. Single buildings on other campuses, such as Eastern University Preparatory School (NR 1982) in Claremore, Science Hall at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford and the "Y" Chapel of Song at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond (2001), have also been nominated to the National Register.

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Architecturally, the OCW campus represents an excellent collection of buildings constructed from 1911 to 1951. The cohesion of the buildings creates an outstanding example of an early twentieth century college campus in Oklahoma. Designed by several of the notable architectural firms within the state of Oklahoma, the buildings are not replications of each other. However, the adherence to a dominant building material and common architectural styles, patterns and features allows the buildings to work together as a unit.

Educationally, the school occupies a unique position in the history of education in the state of Oklahoma. As the only state-supported womens college, OCW is significant in its association with the educational opportunities and practices for women during the first half of the twentieth century. Although other public schools of higher education in Oklahoma admitted women prior to the establishment of OCW, the development of the college reveals the role of separate education during the period of significance.

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25 April 1930; 9 May 1930; 19 September 1930; 24 October 1930;  
31 October 1930; 7 November 1930; 27 February 1931; 27 May 1932;  
7 October 1932; 24 February 1933; 28 April 1933; 13 October 1933;  
10 November 1933; 12 January 1934, 2 February 1934; 23 February 1934;  
2 March 1934; 9 March 1934; 13 April 1934; 20 April 1934; 27 April 1934;  
4 May 1934; 18 May 1934; 21 September 1934; 28 September 1934;  
18 January 1935; 1 February 1935; 1 March 1935; 5 April 1935; 3 May 1935;  
20 September 1935; 11 October 1935; 15 January 1937; 12 February 1937;  
9 April 1937; 3 March 1938; 24 March 1938; 31 March 1938; 7 October 1938;  
18 November 1938; 13 January 1939; 17 February 1939; 24 February 1939;  
22 September 1939; 2 February 1940; 20 September 1940; 11 October 1940;  
25 April 1941; 25 September 1942; 20 January 1943; 24 September 1943;  
12 January 1945; 28 September 1945; 3 May 1946; 8 October 1946;  
5 November 1946; 26 February 1947; 7 May 1947; 24 September 1947;  
10 December 1947; 11 February 1948; 17 March 1948; 19 May 1948;  
2 September 1948; 13 October 1948; 1 August 1949; 12 October 1949;  
10 May 1950; 29 August 1950; 17 January 1956; 21 March 1956; 16 May 1956;  
6 November 1956; 1 August 1957; 20 November 1957.

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Oklahoma College for Women  
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UTM References (continued):

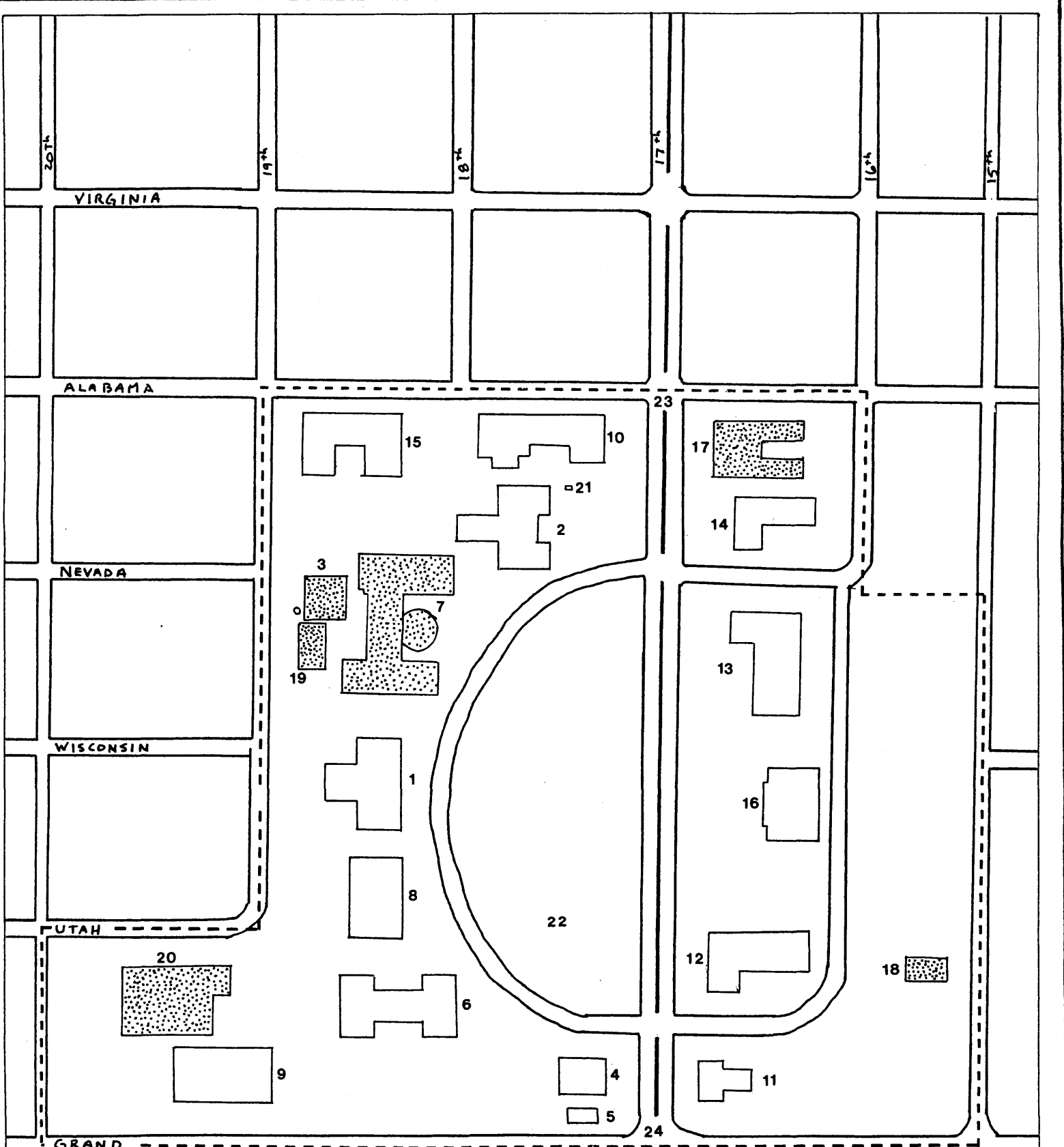
	Zone	Easting	Northing
5.	14	595590	3876620
6.	14	595030	3876600
7.	14	595030	3876730
8.	14	595140	3876730

Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the corner of Nineteenth Street and Alabama Avenue, proceed east along Alabama Avenue to Sixteenth Street, then south along Sixteenth Street to the end of Sixteenth Street, then east to the alleyway west of Fifteenth Street, then south along the alleyway to Grand Avenue, then west along Grand Avenue to Twentieth Street, then north along Twentieth Street to Utah Avenue, then east along Utah Avenue to Nineteenth Street, then north to point of beginning, Chickasha, Oklahoma, Southeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4, Section 32, Township 7 North, Range 7 West.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries include the property historically associated with OCW. Although the college owned areas outside of the main campus during the period of significance, these areas have not been included due to a lack of historic resources associated with the development of the school.



Contributing  
 Noncontributing

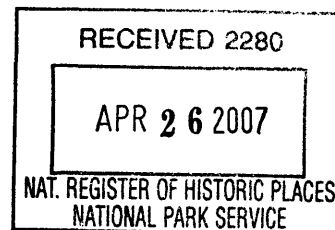
Oklahoma College  
 for Women  
 Historic District

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United States Department of the Interior  
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Oklahoma College for Women Historic District (Supplemental Documentation)

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by Grand Avenue, 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Alabama Avenue and alley west of 15<sup>th</sup> Street

not for publication N/A

city or town Chickasha vicinity N/A

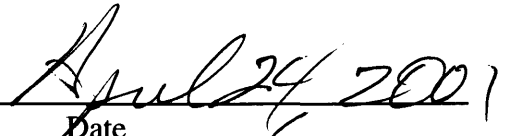
state Oklahoma code OK county Grady code 051

zip code 73018

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this x 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 x meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant \_\_\_ nationally x statewide \_\_\_ locally. ( N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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.)

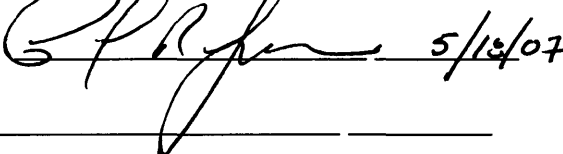
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date


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

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  5/18/07  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the  
National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the  
National Register
- removed from the National Register

\_\_\_ 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>15</u>	<u>5</u> buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<u>0</u>	<u>2</u> structures
<u>4</u>	<u>2</u> objects
<u>19</u>	<u>9</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 18

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

N/A

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: college  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: EDUCATION Sub: college  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Classical Revival  
Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival  
Other: Contemporary Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

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

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

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8. Statement of Significance

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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  
ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance 1911-1965  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

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Significant Dates 1911  
1951  
1965

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

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

Architect/Builder See original nomination  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(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

Acreege of Property 50 Acres MOL

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

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
1 _____	3 _____
2 _____	4 _____

N/A See continuation sheet.

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 the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma

organization Architectural Resources and Community Heritage Consulting date February 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 University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; Dr. John Feaver, President

street & number P.O. Box 82345, Trout Hall 210 telephone 405/574-1201

city or town Chickasha state OK zip code 73018



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Oklahoma College for Women  
Supplemental Documentation  
name of property  
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county and state

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JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGING STATUS OF GARY HALL FROM NONCONTRIBUTING TO  
CONTRIBUTING:

The Oklahoma College for Women Historic District, located in Chickasha, Oklahoma, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 9, 2001. At that time, Gary Hall, located on the northeast corner of campus, was included in the nomination as a noncontributing resource due to insufficient age. Erected in 1956-1957, the International Style building was designed by Noftsger and Lawrence, AIA, and constructed by Barbour and Short, Incorporated (see original nomination for description of property, page 38, Resource Number 17).

The construction date of Gary Hall now falls within the revised period of significance for the district. Originally set at 1951 to conform with the National Register's fifty-year mark, the period of significance has been extended to 1965, the last year the school operated as the Oklahoma College for Women (OCW). The building continues to maintain a high degree of integrity with only minor alterations noted in the nomination (see photograph 21 of original nomination and current photographs 1 through 4). The last building constructed on the OCW campus, Gary Hall merits recognition as a contributing resource.

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Section 8 Page 10

Oklahoma College for Women  
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JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGING THE PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Oklahoma College for Women Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 9, 2001. The period of significance for the district in the 2001 nomination was defined as 1911 through 1951. The start date corresponded with construction of the first building, Administration, on the Oklahoma College for Women (OCW) campus. Administration remains extant, in use for much of its original purpose. The end date for the period of significance, 1951, conformed with the National Register's then-fifty-year mark. Although extending the period of significance to meet the current fifty-year mark, 1957, would allow for incorporation of the last building constructed on the OCW campus as a contributing resource, it is preferred that the period of significance be extended to 1965, the year the school changed from an exclusively female degree-seeking student body to co-educational and the school's name changed from OCW to the Oklahoma College for Liberal Arts (OCLA). The change to co-educational, reinforced by a change in the institution's name, was a marked shift in the school's role in education in the state.

From its founding through 1965, OCW was unique within the state of Oklahoma as the only state-supported women's college. As such, the school is historically significant for its role in higher education, particularly women's education, in Oklahoma. Although the focus of the school remained ostensibly on preparing women for their "peculiar" role as wife and mother even into the 1960s, the opportunity for higher education as provided by OCW empowered generations of women with greater knowledge and options than they would have had otherwise. Additionally, the OCW campus is architecturally significant as an excellent, cohesive collection of buildings constructed over the course of the period of significance. The only building constructed on the OCW campus after 1951 was Gary Hall, erected in 1956-1957.<sup>1</sup>

OCW made significant strides during its first four decades. In addition to constructing a beautiful campus that included sixteen buildings and educating numerous women, the school was accredited by the North Central Association of Universities and Colleges and recognized by the American Association of Universities (AAU) and the Association of University Women. Notably, in the early 1930s, OCW was one of only two Oklahoma schools included on the AAU list; the University of Oklahoma was the other listed school. Also during the trying economic times of the 1930s, the school benefitted from aid provided by several New Deal agencies, including the Public Works Administration, Works Progress Administration and National Youth Administration. Besides four dormitories, other lasting legacies of the New Deal on the OCW campus include the murals in the Health and Physical Education Building painted by Acee Blue Eagle as part of the New Deal's Public Works of Art Program. Unlike other

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<sup>1</sup>The Daily Oklahoman. (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). 17 August 1958.

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Oklahoma College for Women  
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Oklahoma colleges, OCW was able to maintain its enrollment during the World War II years. With wartime restrictions lifted, the immediate post-war period was a time of growth for the school. In the latter 1940s, the school's first student union was opened and, within a few years, the college was boosted by construction of a separate library building. In all, by 1951, OCW was a well-respected, flourishing, state-supported, women's college. The school, however, continued to evolve over the next decade and a half. While the physical changes to the school resulted in only one major addition to campus during this time period, other developments also had an enduring impact.

Architecturally, the OCW campus was nearly completely formed by 1951. Only one building, Gary Hall, would be erected on campus between then and 1965. In late 1954, the OCW regents voted in favor of requesting the State Regents of Higher Education to approve plans and allocate funds for a second home economics building. The school needed another home economics building to relieve crowding in Austin Hall, the original home economics building on campus. Austin Hall at the time housed the home economics, art and science departments, as well as the psychology laboratory and was the site of many other classes. The local legislator noted that OCW was badly in need of a new home economics building and that "As a girls school it should have been first to get new vocational facilities...because there is greater demand by students now for vocational training, with home economics probably greatest in demand." About six months after the OCW regents voted to request the building, Governor Gary went on record as favoring construction of the new building, providing the \$15 million in bonds for "institutional improvements" included in the 1955 constitutional amendments package went forward. By August 1955, funding for a \$500,000 building was in place but the exact location and plans for the building had yet to be decided upon. In late December 1955, the OCW Regents signed the contract purchasing land on South 16<sup>th</sup> Street that would be part of the building site. Additionally, three college-owned, frame buildings on South 17<sup>th</sup> Street would be moved to make way for the new, commodious, one- and two-story, brick building on the northeast corner of campus. The contract for construction of the building was finally awarded in November 1956. Taking a full year to complete, the building was dedicated in November 1957 as Gary Hall in honor of Governor Gary. In addition to being "Spacious, beautiful and practical..."the International style building "...harmoniz(ed) with the other campus buildings," particularly the similarly styled Nash Library.<sup>2</sup>

Also having a lasting impact on the school was the 1953 relocation of the Jane Brooks School for the Deaf to the OCW campus. The addition of the twenty-five-year-old school was described as an "...another bright feather in

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<sup>2</sup>The Trend. (Chickasha, Oklahoma). 29 September 1954, 10 November 1954, 6 April 1955, 20 August 1955, 17 January 1956, 21 March 1956, 16 May 1956, 15 August 1956, 26 September 1956, 6 November 1956, 14 November 1956, 1 August 1957 and 20 November 1957. See also The Daily Oklahoman, 18 December 1955.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Oklahoma College for Women  
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(OCW's) academic cap." Taking up residence in Willard Hall, one of OCW's original dormitories, the Brooks school was "...renowned for its oral method of instruction for deaf children." Significantly, the addition of the Brooks school aided in OCW's recognition by the Conference of Executives of the American Schools for the Deaf. By the mid-1950s, OCW was one of fifteen nationwide colleges and universities approved to train teachers for the deaf. After OCW became co-educational in 1965, the Brooks school moved from Willard Hall and the OCW campus. However, the education for the deaf remains a popular program of study for students through to the present time.<sup>3</sup>

As with other Oklahoma institutions of higher learning, OCW was racially segregated through the 1950s. In late 1954, a suit was brought against the college in order to lift the color barrier. Filed in federal court, this "test case" was prepared by Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher, at that time an Oklahoma City attorney but also noteworthy as a Chickasha native and the first Black person admitted to the University of Oklahoma law school in a landmark 1948 case, and U.S. (Simpson) Tate, a regional attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) from Dallas, Texas. The petition alleged that Clydia E. Troullier of Chickasha sought to enroll in OCW on September 2, 1954 but was denied the right to enroll due to her race and color. The lawsuit contended that Troullier, the mother of two, was "...denied the hometown college rights open to all white girls at Chickasha." Styled as a class action, the suit was brought "...for the benefit of all other qualified Negro persons..." living in Grady County and Oklahoma. Notably, the Troullier case was "...the second NAACP action based solely on undergraduate residence, rather than on (the) right to enrol in specific courses not available at Langston Negro university."<sup>4</sup>

With the United States Supreme Court scheduled to hear final arguments in other cases on segregation in public schools in early December 1954, the Oklahoma Attorney General's Office asked in mid-November 1954 that the Troullier case not proceed. According to Fred Hansen, Assistant State Attorney General, the attorney general's office believed that the U.S. Supreme Court's final decision for these other segregation cases "...may express some conclusion of law which will be pertinent to the issues involved in this cause." Around the same time the attorney general asked for the delay, U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Ora Phillips appointed a three-judge federal court to hear the case at the federal court in Muskogee, Oklahoma. The judges selected were Circuit Court Judge Alfred P. Murrah and Federal District Judges Eugene Rice and Edgar S. Vaught. In early December 1954, Hansen announced that he would file a motion to dismiss the Troullier suit because the U.S. Supreme Court had already ruled that

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<sup>3</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 20 November 1953 and 3 November 1957.

<sup>4</sup>Ibid., 9 October 1954 and 18 November 1954.

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segregation in public schools must end in the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision of May 1954.<sup>5</sup>

Although Hansen was not successful in getting the suit dismissed, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a second *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling at the end of May 1955. This ruling ordered compliance by all states with the decision that “separate but equal” had no place in public education. As a result of the second mandate, the OCW Board of Regents voted in mid-June 1955 to “open” the school to African-American women for the fall 1955 term. However, the Troullier case did not end then. About a month after the OCW Board’s decision, Troullier’s attorney, Simpson Tate, argued that the state statute requiring that “...only white female citizens...” could attend OCW “...should be stricken on the grounds that sometime in the future Negroes might be barred from the school if it stood.” Hansen, in turn, asked that the suit be dismissed on the grounds that the “...final decision of the U.S. supreme court in the segregation cases of May 31, 1955, was considered by the attorney general’s office to invalidate all Oklahoma laws that are in conflict with that decision.” The federal judges declined to hear motions to dismiss or for summary judgement, instead deciding to “...hear the whole case on its merits.” The three judges appointed to hear the case were the previously appointed federal Judges Alfred P. Murrah and Eugene Rice with U.S. District Judge Royce Savage of the northern district of Tulsa replacing Judge Edgar S. Vaught. Additionally, U.S. District Judges Stephen Chandler and W.R. Wallace were invited to sit in on the sessions as they were involved in similar lawsuits. Just about a week later, a seven-page opinion was filed by Judge Eugene Rice in the eastern U.S. district court at Muskogee. Rice held that the statute did not need to be abolished as state colleges were already open to Black students. Both Murrah and Savage concurred with the opinion, thus ending the legal desegregation battle at OCW.<sup>6</sup>

At the same time that the OCW board opened the school to Black female students, they voted to close it to male students. For several years, the school had allowed men to attend classes at OCW in a cooperative agreement with other colleges and universities. The local, male “day” students transferred their class credits to these other institutions to receive a degree. As such, the men saved on commuting costs and time by taking available classes in Chickasha but they were not part of the degree-seeking student body. The program ended in June 1955 because the board deemed it was not successful for unspecified reasons.<sup>7</sup>

However, even before this, there were rumblings concerning the possibility of making OCW co-educational. In a

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<sup>5</sup>Ibid., 18 November 1954 and 4 December 1954.

<sup>6</sup>Ibid., 19 June 1955, 21 July 1955 and 28 July 1955.

<sup>7</sup>Ibid., 19 June 1955.

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presentation to incoming freshman in September 1954, OCW President Dan Proctor declared OCW would “definitely not” become co-educational. Proctor went on to explain “We have no intention of making this a coeducational school. We think we have something distinctive in being the only women’s college in the state.” Just over three years later, Proctor reiterated his stance against OCW becoming co-educational in some parting remarks to Chickasha organizations. In addition to its distinction among Oklahoma schools, Proctor also noted that on the national level “The more women’s colleges that go co-educational, the stronger OCW’s position becomes.”<sup>8</sup>

The co-educational issue continued to rear up over the next years. In early 1960, the Regents of Higher Education discussed the possibility of appending OCW to the University of Oklahoma (OU). In response to W.D. Little’s question on if OU “...could use the OCW plant at Chickasha advantageously,” OU’s President, Dr. George Cross, responded that, while OU would not be interested if the women’s school remained all-female, the addition of the campus as a co-educational school would likely help relieve undergraduate overcrowding at both OU and Oklahoma State University. Little went on to observe that, although co-educational appeared to be a national trend, he favored maintaining OCW as a women’s college but attaching it to OU because the female school was only half full. Dr. Freeman Beets, OCW’s president, “...told the regents if the school opened its doors to men it would lose half its enrolment.” The Regents Chairman, Warton Mathies, ended the discussion by noting that he “...opposed the closing or changing of any state-owned colleges...” at that time.<sup>9</sup>

Just eleven months later, the executive committee of the state legislative council “killed” plans recommending changes at OCW, as well as three other state-supported schools. Under the proposed plan by the council’s special committee on higher education and the governor’s commission on higher education, OCW’s board would be abolished and OCW placed under the Board of Regents of Oklahoma Colleges. Additionally, the school would become co-educational. Opposition mounted by local legislators of all effected schools was sufficient to result in the entire section of the joint committee report being stricken. However, the point was made that “...someday the state must consider these institutions from the standpoint of the entire state’s interest” and that the state-supported schools were not the property of the communities that they were located in. As a whole, the state was interested in making the higher education system more efficient because the size of enrollment was expected to double by 1970 but the amount of available funding was not.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>8</sup>Ibid., 16 September 1954 and 27 January 1958.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid., 26 January 1960.

<sup>10</sup>Ibid., 19 November 1961.

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In late December 1960, Dr. Beets met with a legislative task force headed by Representative H.L. Sparks, chairman of the house committee for higher education. At that time, Beets stated that making OCW a co-educational school would "...be a mistake." Beets went on to say the school "...fill(s) a definite need in the Oklahoma system with our specialized instruction for women in fine arts, home economics and speech and hearing." Additionally, the school had "...operated as a school for women for more than 50 years and ha(d) built a prestige (sic) reputation." Beets also noted that "To change would be a costly operation and until we could increase our faculty it would endanger our accreditation." He estimated that it would take between \$3 and \$4 million dollars to make necessary changes to the physical plant and the faculty cost would more than double. In conclusion, Beets stated "I wish this co-educational question would be settled" as it was hurting the college because many potential female students were unsure of the school's future.<sup>11</sup>

Less than a month later, Governor Edmondson come out in favor of a "serious study" to streamline Oklahoma colleges and universities. Based on the earlier joint report that highlighted "...evidence of duplication in the higher education system...", Edmondson favored the study because "...the public (was) not getting full value for its higher education dollar." The legislature was also feeling pressure due to promises of more money for schools and higher monetary requests for colleges, highways and mental health.<sup>12</sup>

In July 1961, the issue of a change in regents contributed to the resignation of the OCW President, Dr. Beets. Although Beets denied "...promoting the transfer of control from the OCW regents...", he admitted to discussing the matter with OU's Dr. Cross. Irregularities in Beets' travel claims also led the OCW regents to make the motion to fire the president. Beets tendered his resignation in response to the motion to terminate his employment. The same day that Beets resigned, the Oklahoma Attorney General offered the opinion that legislation to abolish the OCW board of regents and place the school under the OU board would be constitutional. The attorney general's opinion was sought by Senator Walt Allen of Chickasha. Allen's letter to the attorney general included the suggestion that the school be designated the "Oklahoma College for Women of the University of Oklahoma" so making the school co-educational was apparently not part of the package.<sup>13</sup>

Following Beets' resignation, the matters of switching the board and making the school co-educational faded from the

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<sup>11</sup>Ibid., 24 December 1960.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid., 7 January 1961.

<sup>13</sup>Ibid., 12 July 1961.

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limelight for several years. Dr. Charles Grady was appointed president of the college in November 1961, taking office in January 1962. Notably, although OCW was comparatively a small school, enrollment at the college in the early 1960s generally followed an upward trend. In August 1961, the school had only four slots remaining in the school's dormitories and these in rooms which already had students assigned. Two years later, the school conferred the highest number of degrees in more than fifteen years and dormitory reservations were still up over the previous year.<sup>14</sup>

With little warning but probably influenced by the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibited discrimination based on sex, Senator Don Baldwin of Anadarko introduced in March 1965 a joint resolution asking for a feasibility study for making OCW co-educational. Along with provisions for creation of a new board of regents, the measure suggested the name of the institution be changed to "Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts." The resolution cited the underutilization of the school as reason for the change. With "...the facilities and certain other resources necessary to provide educational opportunity for many more students now without any appreciable additional amount of facilities and faculty..." the only reason provided to explain the lack of optimal use was "...because at present only women are eligible for admission." Subsequent reports noted the high per student cost and relative low enrollment of OCW as justification for changing the historic institution. In less than a month, the House of Representatives approved the resolution called for the feasibility study in what the newspaper termed "The first step toward converting (OCW) to a co-educational liberal arts college." With Governor Bellmon signing on as well, the State Regents for Higher Education ordered the study at their regular meeting in mid-April 1965.<sup>15</sup>

The same month the feasibility study resolution was introduced in the state legislature, Dr. Kenneth Young, the college dean, submitted his resignation. Charging the current administration with irregularities in finance, administration and morals, Young made the list public in mid-May 1964, just weeks before leaving office. Among the variety of charges and explanations detailed in state newspapers was the observation that OCW president, Dr. Grady, did "...not favor turning OCW into a co-educational institution." Also of interest was the article later in the month noting that OCW graduated one of the largest classes in the college's history. The article makes no mention of this being the possible last class to graduate from the venerable institution.<sup>16</sup>

Seemingly abruptly, in July 1965 OCW became the Oklahoma College for Liberal Arts with passage of Joint Senate

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<sup>14</sup>Ibid., 31 August 1961, 28 November 1961, 21 July 1963 and 25 June 1964.

<sup>15</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 11 March 1965, 1 April 1965, 5 April 1965 and 20 April 1965.

<sup>16</sup>Ibid., 14 May 1965.



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Resolution #16. In addition to making the school co-educational and changing the institution's name, the resolution provided for a seven-member board to succeed the five-member Board of Regents of OCW. By July 21, 1965, twelve men had been accepted at the new/old school. The next day, Governor Bellmon signed into law the bill changing OCW into OCLA. A total of 165 men, the majority freshmen, enrolled in OCLA for the fall 1965 term. Despite the repeated claims of facilities to accommodate a co-educational student body being readily available at the school, the OCLA faced an immediate on-campus housing crisis even through the men accepted for the 1965-1966 were either locals or commuters. The existing five dorms on campus were rapidly filled, including former storage rooms which were converted to room space. Plans began immediately to move the "world-famous" Jane Brooks School for the Deaf from Willard Hall to return that building to its original use as a dormitory for the 1966-1967 school year, this time for men.<sup>17</sup>

After becoming co-educational in July 1965, the school underwent more change than just the admittance of men. The OCLA "experiment" sought to maintain the school's unique place among Oklahoma's higher education institutions by emphasizing a liberal arts curriculum based on "...an imaginative core curriculum of general education courses." Additionally, the plan called for a substantial raise in admission and retention standards, the creation of advanced placement programs, an administrative re-organization of the college and a change to the trimester calendar. While some of these changes proved to be enduring, such as the interdisciplinary core curriculum, the school fairly rapidly became embroiled in administrative difficulties, fueled by the general unrest of the time. This resulted in the replacement of OCLA with the University of Sciences and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO) in 1974.<sup>18</sup>

Overall, the years between 1951 and 1965 contained several noteworthy events for OCW. In addition to the construction of the school's second home economics building, Gary Hall, the school became home to the Jane Brooks School for the Deaf and was racially integrated. With the change to co-educational in 1965, the school's historic and architectural significance as a state-supported, women's college clearly came to an end.

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<sup>17</sup>Ibid., 21 July 1965, 22 July 1965 and 29 July 1965. See also "Oklahoma Statutes Citationized, Title 70.School, Chapter 40, Section 1676 - Board of Regents" The Oklahoma State Courts Network, <http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn>, retrieved 28 February 2007.

<sup>18</sup>The Chickasha Centennial Commemorative Booklet Committee. Chickasha, Oklahoma, 1892-1992, (Chickasha, Oklahoma: The Chickasha Centennial Committee, 1992), 108-1090

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Paul Harris, architect

In 2001, not much was known about Chickasha architect Paul Harris and his body of work. Since that time, it has become clear that Harris was an influential architect in Oklahoma, particularly in the southeastern Oklahoma communities of Chickasha and Lawton. Total, Harris worked on more than eight buildings, including the original design of five, on the OCW campus between 1929 and 1952. Harris also apparently submitted plans for Gary Hall in the mid-1950s which for unknown reasons were not selected. In addition to his work at OCW, Harris designed numerous buildings for the Cameron Agricultural College in Lawton, as well as a variety of residential, commercial, religious and military buildings in Chickasha, Lawton and other Oklahoma communities.

Born in Denton, Texas in January 1902, Harris graduated from the Chickasha, Oklahoma, High School in 1919. Although both Harris and his brother, M.E. "Pat" Harris, also an architect, have been described as Chickasha natives, their parents operated the Cornish/Ringling Orphans Home from about 1907 through the mid-1940s. Ringling is located some distance away from Chickasha in Jefferson County in the south central portion of Oklahoma. After high school, Harris attended the School of Architecture at Oklahoma A&M in Stillwater, graduating with a Bachelors of Science degree in architecture in 1925. In about 1927, Harris joined the Chickasha architectural firm of E.H. Eads and Company. It was this firm that designed the Home Management House on the OCW campus in Chickasha in 1929. This building is noteworthy as the first building on the campus not designed by Oklahoma's powerhouse architectural firm of Layton, Hicks and Forsyth. Five years later, Harris designed the three cottage dormitories on the east side of the campus. In the later 1930s, Harris was the local architect for construction of Addams Hall, also on the OCW campus. At the same time, Harris was engaged in the design and construction of the new Chickasha City Hall and the Chickasha Junior High School Auditorium. Harris' use of "architectural concrete" in the Chickasha City Hall merited his inclusion in Oklahoma: A Guide to the Sooner State, compiled by the Writers' Program of the Works Progress Administration. The city hall was cited as one of "...the most notable..." concrete buildings in the state that was "...excellent in design and permanent in construction." The city hall remains in use by the city of Chickasha and was included in the boundaries of the Chickasha Downtown Historic District (National Register listed 2005). Also mentioned as "An unusual and practical application of this (concrete) method of construction..." was a Harris-designed barn at the Cameron Agricultural College at Lawton.<sup>19</sup>

Continuing his work on the OCW campus, Harris designed the Student Union addition to Senior Hall and, in alliance

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<sup>19</sup>The Lawton (Oklahoma) Morning Press, 22 November 1958. See also The Daily Oklahoman, 2 December 1956; The WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma, (Lawrence, Kansas: University Press of Kansas, 1986), 97.

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with Bruce W. Berry, the school's first library building, Nash Library, in the mid- to late-1940s. In 1951, Harris designed alterations to several of the pre-1920 buildings on the OCW campus. More notably, it was also around this time that Harris designed the Comanche County Hospital in Lawton. The hospital was selected in 1951, while still under construction, as "Hospital of the Year" by The Modern Hospital. In May 1952, Harris moved his architectural office from Chickasha to Lawton. At the time, Harris was preparing plans for Lawton's eight-story, 105-room, "community hotel," subsequently called the Lawtonian, and planning a \$4 million academic building at Fort Sill, Snow Hall.<sup>20</sup>

In March 1953, Harris "...held most of the honors at the close of the first Oklahoma owners competition." Judged by three members of the American Institute of Architects, Harris received an award for the Cameron State College library addition, the Fort Sill elementary school, the Comanche County Hospital and a residence in Chickasha. In addition to the preliminary plans for the National Guard armory in 1953, Harris was at work on the McMahan Auditorium in the park and a design for the First Methodist Church of Lawton. In the years following, Harris prepared designs for the Lawton Constitution-Press Building, the Comanche County Fair Buildings in Lawton, the First Presbyterian Church of Lawton, the headquarters for the Southwestern Stationary and Bank Supply Company in Oklahoma City, the Lawton Clinic, the city Dial Telephone Exchange Building for Southwestern Bell Telephone in Lawton and the headquarters for the East Central Oklahoma Electric Cooperative, Inc., located south of Okmulgee. At unspecified times, Harris also designed the auditoriums at Lawton's McKinley and Washington schools; additions to the Officers' Club and Fort Sill National Bank; the gymnasium, Home Economics building, auditorium and a residential hall at Cameron State College; Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church; and, St. John's Lutheran Church.<sup>21</sup>

At the time of his death in November 1958, Harris was "...generally credited with bringing a "new meaning" of architecture to Lawton and Southwest Oklahoma" by his associates. A member of the American Society of Professional Engineers and the American Institute of Architects, Harris was "...prominent in State architectural circles." Although there is more to learn about Harris' career, his contribution to OCW, Chickasha and southwest Oklahoma is clearly notably.

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<sup>20</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 19 March 1951. See also The Lawton (Oklahoma) Constitution, 25 April 1952.

<sup>21</sup>The Daily Oklahoman, 18 March 1953. See also The Lawton Morning Press, 22 November 1958.

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