

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	JAN 8 1980
DATE ENTERED	AUG 29 1980

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
McAlester DX
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Corner of 5th Street and Carl Albert Parkway
CITY, TOWN
McAlester
STATE
Oklahoma

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
003

___ VICINITY OF
CODE
40

COUNTY
Pittsburg

CODE
121

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Alford Oil Company (Bill Alford, Owner)
STREET & NUMBER
6th and Railroad
CITY, TOWN
McAlester

STATE
OK

___ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Office of the County Clerk
STREET & NUMBER
Pittsburg County Courthouse
CITY, TOWN
McAlester

STATE
OK

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey
DATE
1979

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society
CITY, TOWN
Oklahoma City

STATE
OK

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This Art Deco structure is typical of many commercial buildings of the period. The low, unified horizontal design is reinforced by a banded frieze containing lettering identifying the nature of the business and owner. This structure is today almost exactly as it was when built. It is constructed of wood and brick with an overlay on the exterior of pale green glass tile. The ceilings in all rooms are braced by the original 2 by 12s.

Exterior alterations have been few. An awning was placed over the pumps which have doubled in number, and the front southeast corner, originally having a rounded picture window, has been changed and an angled, sectioned glass put in its place. The striking exterior feature is the tower of the building. The tower itself is of clear glass tiles once illuminated by neon lights. Atop the glass tower sits a red pegasus that revolved and was also illuminated.

The interior has not been radically changed. The office contains the original wooden shelves on all four walls and the glass counter in the center of the room. The garage is still functioning as such and the room at the east end of the building, originally used for tractor parts, is now used for tire storage and sales. This building also had one of the first indoor bathrooms in a gas station in the area. Both the men's and women's are original; both have original fixtures and floor tile.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Built about 1939 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Dewey Treece

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This structure is significant because of its architectural character and integrity. It is the only such commercial structure in Oklahoma which retains so much of its original detail and represents an architectural style which flourished across the nation in a relatively brief period of the 1920s and 30s.

In the late 1930s, increased travel by auto brought three significant structures—the diner, the motel, and the gasoline station. Few structures dating to this period of early florescence remain, but a few communities retain examples dating to a time when auto travel was not synonymous with Interstate Highways.

Many of the commercial structures of this period were in the Art Deco, or Art Moderne, style. This style represented a clean break with past forms and helped spread modern decoration in architecture. The trademarks of the style include curved surfaces, glazed tile or brick, and glass blocks. Because this time span represented a period of growth for the relatively young state of Oklahoma, many buildings of this style once existed.

One of the major symbols of the era was the Mobil Oil Company's Pegasus, a fine example of the marriage of myth and advertising when a symbol was more than an abstract graphic design. This structure is remarkable among small commercial buildings in Oklahoma. It retains more integrity than any other Deco gas station, and indeed is one of very few small Deco commercial structures still in original condition and being used for its original purpose. It is viewed with pride by the owner and by local residents, who consider it an area landmark.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Interview, Mr. Ken Sellars, Manager, McAlester, OK, March 15, 1979
 Whiffin, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Style.
 Cambridge, Mass., M.I.T. Press, 1969.
 Henderson, A, Parman, F, and Henderson, D. Architecture in Oklahoma: Landmark and Vernacular. Norman, OK: Point Riders Press, 1978.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY under 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME McAlester, OK

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5'

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 | 2,4,7,5,3,5 | 3,8,6,8,8,1,0
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | |

D | |

E | |

F | |

G | |

H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Diane Everman and Mary Ann Anders

Directed by Dr. Annetta L. Cheek

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey

DATE

March, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Oklahoma State University

TELEPHONE

405-624-5678

CITY OR TOWN

Stillwater

STATE

OK

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

H. Glenn Jordan

TITLE

DATE

12/3/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/29/80

ATTEST:

Forney Bruce McPherson
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/27/80

Bell Givens
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION