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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

RECEIVED 2015

OCT 23 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Lake Ponca Duck Pond Historic District

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

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

2. Location

Street & number: Intersection of L.A. Cann Drive and Edam Road

City or town: Ponca City State: OK County: Kay

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 X A B X C D

	<u>Oct 19, 2015</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
_____ Signature of commenting official:	_____ Date
_____ Title :	_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

for Edson H. Beall 12-8-15
Signature of the 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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>23</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	objects
<u>32</u>	<u>10</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE: park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE: park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: National Park Service Rustic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property:

walls: STONE: Limestone

WOOD: Weatherboard

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District is approximately 60 acres. It is located in the northeast portion of Ponca City in Kay County, Oklahoma. The park site is an area formed west of where Ponca City's reservoirs, East and West Lake Ponca, are joined by a canal. The east side of the park has gently sloping lawns around three small ponds. The west side of the park has steeper, more thickly vegetated areas around a creek that runs north and northeast through the west side of the park. Park features include the spillway and gravel loading station that was constructed as a part of the PWA construction of East and West Lake Ponca from 1934 to 1935 and the recreational buildings, objects and structures constructed by the CCC in the National Park Service Rustic style from 1936 to 1938. Later additions include a picnic shelter that was constructed in 1955, and the stone entry gates and foot bridges added between 1939 and 1963. A modest concrete masonry unit caretaker's residence was also added during the same period.

The spillway still serves the reservoirs, and the gravel loading station is largely intact. The extant CCC-era construction includes culverts and headwalls, stairs, a large picnic shelter, restrooms, a shelter with a terrace and fire pit; bridge foundations, trails, fireplaces, and grilles. The 1955 picnic shelter, as well as the stone foot bridges and stone entry gates, are constructed in a style that is a compatible yet distinct adaptation of the earlier NPS Rustic style. Most of the historic resources are in very good condition and the park possesses a great deal of integrity. There are thirty-two contributing resources and ten noncontributing resources.

Narrative Description

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park is in the southwest corner of the 1600-acre Lake Ponca Recreation Area, in the northeast portion of Ponca City, the largest city in Kay County, Oklahoma. The park site is approximately 60 acres in a five-sided area south of West Lake Ponca and west of East Lake Ponca where the two lakes are joined by a canal under L.A. Cann Drive. The park is roughly bounded by the west side of L.A. Cann Drive on the east, the shore of West Lake Ponca on the northeast, a boundary line approximately 115 feet north side of the concrete spillway going west from West Lake Ponca over to West Snake Road on the north, continuing south and west following the curve along West Snake Road to where it intersects with Kygar Road, turning south and going approximately 470 feet along the east side of Kygar Road, turning east and continuing approximately 283 feet, turning south and continuing approximately 1190 feet, and turning to the east and going approximately 1290 feet to intersect with the west side of L.A. Cann Drive. An organizing feature of the park is a road with an inner and outer loop that connects the two park entries on L.A. Cann Drive. The inner loop provides easy access to the pond areas. The outer loop extends west from the north and south legs of the inner loop, terminating in a crescent-shaped parking area that is oriented north and south. The loop road is largely unchanged from its original design.

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The park was constructed in the National Park Service Rustic style by the Civilian Conservation Corps, with the native stone construction and naturalistic settings favored by the National Park Service. The east part of the site features three small ponds, oriented north and south, surrounded by gently sloping lawns. The two southernmost ponds are circled by the inner loop road and the northernmost pond is north and west of the loop road as it travels northeast towards the north park entrance.

Recreational buildings, objects and structures in the park are located mainly west of the ponds along an outer loop road that extends west from the north and south legs of the inner loop road and along Turkey Creek, which meanders northwest from the southwest portion of the park, northeast south of the lake dam spillway, and north over towards West Lake Ponca. The topography west of the creek is steep with thick vegetation. There is also a ridge east of the creek, with a gentle slope starting north of the original picnic shelter and becoming much more pronounced as it rises to the northeast between the creek and the north pond. These changes in elevation provide sites on higher ground for buildings, good views within the park, and a great deal of visual interest within a relatively small area.

A one-story concrete masonry unit caretaker's residence constructed within the period of significance and three newer non-contributing metal utility buildings are located within the area between the west side of the inner loop and the east side of the outer loop roads. Despite their central location, their visual impact is limited because of their distance from both the ponds on the east and the recreational areas to the west and the elevation changes on the site.

The two park entries from L.A. Cann Drive are marked by curved native stone walls terminating in round columns on each side of the road. Near the south entry, there are two culverts with stone headwalls, one south of the south entry and the other south of the intersection of the south loop road and the north/south leg of the inner loop road. Going west along the south leg of the loop road, a large stone fireplace is northwest of the intersection of the north/south leg of the inner loop road and the south leg of the loop road. Progressing further west on the south leg of the outer loop road, the main recreation area on the west side of the outer loop road comes into view. The west portion of the loop road is a drive through parking area that follows the crescent-shaped curve of the main recreation area which, in turn, follows the curve of Turkey Creek. The north and south legs of the loop road connect with the north and south ends of the parking area.

A new playground and picnic area are located southwest of the outer loop road at the south end of the recreation area. Following the curve of the parking lot around to the northwest and north is the newer stone picnic shelter, an open area stabilized by low stone retaining walls, a small new playground, the original stone picnic shelter on an elevated site stabilized by low a stone retaining wall on the west, and a picnic area with the remains of two original stone grilles and three new steel grilles and concrete picnic tables. A ridge that begins north of the original picnic shelter becomes steeper east of this picnic area, and the original stone restrooms are located at the top of the ridge east of the north end of the picnic area and close to where the outer loop road turns back to the east. There are stone stairs north and south of the restrooms to allow access down to the picnic areas and the creek, with a longer, steeper stair on the north side of the restroom to accommodate the steeper slope. The north side of the outer loop road turns east and connects with the north side of the inner loop road. The road then follows a gentle compound curve to the north and east, in between the north and center ponds, and it terminates at the north park entrance on L.A. Cann Drive.

Turkey Creek flows west of the main recreation area. Features along Turkey Creek include the remains of an original low water crossing and an adjacent newer (ca. 1979) low water crossing. Following the creek to the northwest and then around to the north, two rectangular stone piers and a stone bridge abutment mark the location of a now-demolished wooden footbridge. As the creek flows to the north and curves around to the northeast, there is an intact stone bridge which spans the creek from the northwest side of a picnic area west of the restrooms over to the southeast corner of the spillway.

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The area at the bottom of the spillway is paved in concrete. Heading west on the south end of the spillway, the flat paved concrete area becomes a broad set of concrete stairs leading to a trail from the spillway southwest corner to a steep stone and earthen path going up to the "Crow's Nest," a stone shelter with a stone terrace and fire pit on the high ground west of the creek that offers a great eastward view of the park. Going back down to the bridge at the southeast corner of the spillway, the creek flows east northeast and then turns sharply to the north. North of this turn, another stone bridge crosses the creek to access a picnic area on the west side of the creek. A little farther north, the northernmost picnic area is on the east side of the creek. The picnic areas are on gently sloping sites near the creek that are set off by more steeply sloped areas to the north and east of the picnic area west of the creek and to the east and south of the north picnic area east of the creek. The picnic areas in the park are a mix of the original stone fire pits with newer metal grilles and concrete picnic tables interspersed. The newer grilles are elevated and were installed in the original picnic areas to augment the stone fire pits. The original wooden tables and benches no longer remain and were replaced with concrete tables and benches. Paths in the picnic areas appear to be in their original locations, but have been resurfaced. Paths in the picnic areas and on the south side of the restrooms appear to be in their original locations. The original paths were surfaced with compacted gravel, but were resurfaced with stone and, then, with a concrete topping, probably to provide a more stable and level walking surface.

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park retains its historic integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, materials, workmanship and design. The site, buildings, structures and objects that give the park its form and contribute to its function are all fine examples of the work achieved by the PWA, the CCC, and the post-New Deal era construction by the Ponca City Parks Department. A listing of resources follows.

Contributing resources are in bold:

1. **South Entry Walls Flanking Gate:** 1939-1963, structure, photos 0001-0003
Stacked stone walls built with a concave curvature face the road. The curve of the walls forms a welcoming u-shaped entry. The walls slope up from the outside edge to the inside edge on either side of the entry drive. The walls terminate into large circular columns at each end that are taller than the walls. The tops of the columns and walls are finished with irregular stone crenellation. The walls are in excellent condition.
2. **Stone Headwall at Culvert:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0004
A wide curved headwall constructed of stacked ledgestone supporting either end of a large stone lintel frames a culvert that goes east below L.A. Cann Drive to the south and slightly west of the south entry gate. The headwall stonework is in good original condition, although there is overgrowth in front of it and the pipe is partially obstructed by dirt and vegetation.
3. **Stone Headwall at Culvert:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0005
A wide, curved, stacked ledgestone headwall with a large central stone frames a culvert that goes north from the south side of the loop road, approximately where the inner loop meets the outer loop. The headwall stonework and culvert are in very good original condition.
4. **Stone Fireplace:** 1936-1938, structure, photos 0006 & 0007
This is a large ashlar stone fireplace with a stone hearth, random rubble stone inserts, a slightly curved single lintel stone above the fireplace opening and a single stone mantel above the fireplace opening and in front of the chimney. The base of the chimney is slightly wider than the stack. The transition from the base to the stack on either side is formed by wedge-shaped and slightly rounded stonework rather than a flat ledge. Mortar in the outline of a low-pitched gabled pediment is visible where ornamental stonework above the mantel was apparently removed. The interior firebrick is intact. Except for the missing gabled stone work, the fireplace is in very good original condition.

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5. **Duck Ponds:** 1936-1938, structure, South Pond - photos 0008 & 0009; North Pond - photo 0067; Center Pond - photo 0068
A group of three ponds were constructed by the CCC in the east side of the park. They are oriented north and south near L.A. Cann Drive and they are surrounded by gently sloping grassy areas. The ponds were originally used as stock ponds for the lakes. They are now designated as children's fishing area. The inner loop road surrounds the south and center duck ponds, and the north duck pond is north of the loop road. The duck ponds are in excellent condition.
6. **Stone Headwall at Culvert:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0072
A relatively small, straight, stacked ledgerstone headwall with stepped curved sidewalls that ascend to a stone-lined drainage ditch. The culvert is located east of the parking area at the west side of the loop road, towards the south end. The headwall stonework and culvert are in excellent condition.
7. **Caretaker's Residence:** 1955, building, photo 0010 & 0011
A one-story concrete masonry unit residence for park staff with a hipped roof, a small raised front porch with an intersecting gabled roof supported by wrought iron columns, and a single car garage. The residence is currently not in use and windows and doors are boarded for security. The building is in very good condition.
8. **Storage Building:** ca. 2005, structure, photo 0010 & 0011
A small metal utility building with a gabled roof and garage door. It is located north of the caretaker's residence.
9. **Storage Building:** ca. 2014, structure, photo 0010 & 0011
A small metal utility building with a gabled roof and garage door. It is located north of the above storage building.
10. **Storage Building:** ca. 2014, structure, photo 0010 & 0011
A metal utility building with a gabled roof and garage door. It is located northeast of the caretaker's residence.
11. **Playground #1, Grille and Picnic Table:** Playground #1 - ca. 1990; Grille and Picnic Table - 1960 to present; object, photo 0012 & 0013
View from the outer loop road towards the largest playground, located on the south side of the park, with a typical newer metal grille and concrete picnic table.
12. **Picnic Shelter #1:** 1955, building, photos 0014 to 0018 and photo 0073
The stone and wood construction of this picnic shelter is compatible with the older CCC construction, although the building construction vocabulary is clearly newer. The building has a rectangular plan and a gabled asphalt shingle roof. The ridge is centered on the long dimension, with the gable ends facing southeast and northwest. The gabled ends feature vertical wood board and batten siding with battens that taper on the ends and scalloped lower edges on the siding. Stonework in the walls is rough-cut and not coursed. Stone chimneys with irregularly-coursed stonework are centered on both gable ends. Stone columns supporting the roof on the northeast- and southwest-facing elevations are straight and rectangular. The building floor and surrounding sidewalk are concrete. Low irregularly-coursed stone walls act as retaining walls and define the perimeter. A water pump and fountain are built into the perimeter stone wall, with a stone surround and stone steps to assist with reaching the fountain. There are interior stone fireplaces at each end with ledgerstone mantels and relatively small arched fireboxes. What appear to be the original wood picnic tables are intact. The picnic shelter is in excellent condition.

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13. **Stone Retaining Wall and Drainage Structure:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0019
A long, curvilinear stone retaining wall with a large cast iron drainage pipe at its tallest point, about a third of the way north of the southern end of the wall. The wall is constructed of rough-cut stone laid in irregular courses that taper at each end to blend with the terrain like an outcropping. A stone-lined dry stream bed runs perpendicular to the wall near the drain pipe and over towards the creek. The retaining wall is in very good condition.
14. Playground #2: ca. 1995, object, photo 0019
View from the west side of picnic shelter #1 towards the second largest playground. The playground is located between picnic shelter #1 and picnic shelter #2.
15. **Stone Low Water Crossing Foundation:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0020
A foundation constructed of rough-cut irregularly-coursed stones laid in a battered pattern visible on the south face. The north face is not visible due to the adjacent construction of the newer "cobblestone" low water crossing on the north side. The original low water crossing was constructed with boulders that were later replaced with the concrete "Cobblestone" low water crossing below. The foundation is in fair condition.
16. "Cobblestone" Low Water Crossing: ca. 1979, structure, photo 0021
A double row of large concrete "cobbles" that function as a low water crossing without obstructing the flow of water along the creek.
17. **Stone Fireplace:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0022
A large stone fireplace constructed of rough-cut uncoursed and irregularly-coursed stone with a concrete foundation. The stone chimney is approximately half the depth of the fireplace and the width is slightly narrower. The firebox is raised and there are flat stone areas on either side of the metal grille. The metal grille and interior fire brick are intact. A stone lintel that spans the fire box at the back of the grille is broken and cracked but, despite this, the fireplace is in very good condition.
18. **Stone Bridge Piers & Abutment:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0023 & 0024
Rectangular, slightly battered bridge piers and an abutment on the west side of the creek. The pier stonework is a rough ashlar cut laid in regular slightly battered courses. The largest stones are at the waterline and the size gradually grows smaller from bottom to top. The abutment is similar, but the stones are larger and similar in size throughout. The location is at the creek directly west of picnic shelter #2. These bridge foundations match those of a wooden pedestrian bridge highlighted in *Park and Recreation Structures*. The photograph caption locates the bridge in "Ponca Lake Metropolitan Park, Ponca, Oklahoma," and the bridge is described as illustrating "... the results that can be obtained when the terminations of the handrails are 'brought to the ground.' Such satisfying features as ample bearing, firm anchorage, and exaggerated crown sum up to a total effect that is at once suggestive of strength and of skillful adaptation to site."¹ This structure is in very good condition.
19. **Stone Retaining Wall:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0025
A very low stone retaining wall constructed of rough-cut stone laid in irregular courses that taper at each end into the ground, similar to an outcropping. The retaining wall is in very good condition.
20. **Stone Fireplace:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0027 & 0028
A large stone fireplace constructed of rough-cut uncoursed and irregularly-coursed stone with a concrete foundation. The stone chimney is less than half the depth of the fireplace and the width

¹ Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part I-Administration and Basic Service Facilities* (United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1938), 185.

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is slightly narrower. The firebox is raised and there are flat stone areas on either side of the hearth that extend around to the back of the chimney. The metal grille and much of the interior fire brick are missing. Stonework highlights the inclusion of very large stones that are skillfully fit into the coursing patterns. A feature is a large roughly diamond-shaped stone that is set into the front of the chimney. This stone projects out from the chimney face and also projects up to become part of the irregular crenellation at the chimney top. The fireplace is in very good condition.

21. **Picnic Shelter #2, Perimeter Walks, Stone Retaining Wall and Steps:** 1936-1938, building; picnic shelter #2 and perimeter walks - photos 0026, 0029, 0030 & 0035; stone retaining wall and steps - photos 0029 to 0038

Picnic shelter #2 is a one story building with a rectangular floor plan and a low gable roof. The long axis of the building and the gable ridge are oriented north and south, and there is a massive stone chimney centered on each gable end wall. Gable ends have horizontal wood siding above the stone walls. North and south of both gable end walls is a five-sided wing - the shape is like a partial engaged octagon, with three sides removed. The wing on the north end is enclosed by a stone wall and is accessed through a door inside the shelter west of the fireplace on the north interior gable end wall. The wing on the south end is open and serves as a small picnic area, complete with a massive stone fireplace with a tapering chimney and single slightly curved stone lintel above the firebox and wood picnic tables and benches designed to fit the angular configuration. The walls of the main rectangular portion of the building are constructed of massive regularly coursed ledgestones, with slightly battered courses and alternating courses recessed. Approximately the center two-thirds of the long east and west walls are open, with the roof supported by massive square timber columns. In between the columns there are rough-cut stone curbs surmounted by a heavy timber sill. The columns sit on a heavy stone curb that projects out slightly in front of them. The stone walls on the north wing sit on a heavy slightly projecting stone base. They are constructed of a rough ashlar stone with regular coursing. A heavy wood fascia rests above the stone and supports the roof, which follows the plan of the partial octagon. A low stone wall constructed of three battered courses of large ledgestones surrounds the small picnic area on the south side. The height of each course shortens from bottom to top.

The materials on the interior of the shelter are the same as those used on the exterior. The stone walls and chimneys carry through, and there is vertical wood siding above the stone walls on the gable ends on the interior. There is a heavy timber roof structure with a wide board ceiling finish above, which is also the substrate for the wood shingle roofing. The interior chimney is massive and striking, with a full-width single stone mantel. Below the mantel is a wide metal firebox with a heavy stone surround set on a projecting stone base. The fire box has a curved top that is accented by a band of small irregular stones surmounted by a rustic stone arch. The tops of the arch stones are flat and course out with the tops of the three stone courses below the mantel. A massive tapered chimney constructed of large ledgestones in regular courses sits above the mantel. Eight large wood picnic table and bench sets are arranged against the open portions of the east/west walls (four on each side, with two each flanking central entry openings) and two half-size wood picnic table and bench sets are in the northeast and southwest corners. The picnic shelter floor and perimeter walks are constructed of very large stone slabs cut in large diamond shapes that echo the angular design of the end wings. The diagonal lines emphasize the fireplaces as focal points and give a dynamic sense of movement to the stone walk surface.

The low stone retaining wall west of the picnic shelter is constructed of rough-cut stone laid in regular courses. The wall stabilizes and delineates a raised grassy area. Stone steps approach the wall at a forty-five degree angle on the south side. A stone walk at the top of the steps leads to another set of steps that lead to the south side of the picnic shelter. The steps are constructed of large single slabs of stone and they are flanked by large, low, irregular stone curbs. There is also a set of stone steps centered on the west elevation of the picnic shelter. These steps start

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west of the stone walk around the building and go to approximately the midpoint between the retaining wall and the picnic shelter. The steps are flanked by very large stepped ledgestones. A sloped stone walk with irregular stone curbs and another set of steps similar to the center set is located on the north side of the retaining wall and leads to the north side of the picnic shelter. The picnic shelter is in excellent condition.

22. **Stone Retaining Wall:** 1939-1963, structure, photo 0039
A long stone retaining wall with a small cast iron drain pipe at roughly its center. The pipe extends through the wall towards the top, is exposed above grade as it goes up the slope west of the wall, and extends up to the sloped stone path to the Crow's Nest. The wall is constructed of rough-cut ashlar stone laid in regular courses in the lower half and smaller rough-cut stone laid in irregular courses in the upper half. Each end of the wall tapers into the ground. The south half of the wall appears to have been rebuilt at least twice. The north portion of the stonework is similar to the other retaining walls, but the south half includes two areas with stonework that does not match the original size, shape or construction. The retaining wall is in fair condition.
23. **Stone Bridge #1 to Spillway:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0040
This bridge crosses the creek north of a picnic area and over to the south side of the spillway. It has a concrete floor and low rustic stone walls on both sides. The walls are constructed of rough-cut stone laid in an regular courses. The walls are constructed in three segments. The east segment is splayed out at approximately a thirty degree angle and the top of the walls slopes up as it gets nearer to the creek. The next two segments go straight over the creek, with the third segment landing on the west shore. The third segment has two large drainage pipes to allow water to pass under the bridge. The two straight segments have concave curved tops. The tops of each segment are parged with small irregular stones embedded in the parging, echoing the irregular crenellation detail seen at the stone entry gates. Each segment is separated by a stone pier that projects from the wall surfaces, and both ends of the bridge walls terminate in round stone piers. The piers all project up from the top of the wall and have the same parging detail set with small irregular stones. The bridge is in excellent condition.
24. **Stone Fire Pits:** 1936-1938, object, photo 0041
Two stone fire pits constructed with a naturalistic massive stone exterior and an interior faced in fire brick. This construction was typical for the original fire pits. The metal grille and some of the fire brick are missing. There is a stone hearth as as the example in the photograph. The fire pits are constructed to resemble natural rock outcroppings. The park's stone fire pits were illustrated in *Park and Recreation Structures*.² The fire pits are in poor to fair condition.
25. **Playground #3, Metal Grilles and Concrete Picnic Tables:** playground - ca. 1970; metal grilles and concrete picnic tables - 1960 to present, object, photo 0013 and photo 0081
The smallest and oldest of the playgrounds located just north of a group of two metal barbecue grilles and three concrete picnic tables. These were installed to replace or augment the original fire pits and picnic tables.
26. **Concrete Spillway:** 1934-1935, structure, photo 0042 and photos 0074 to 0078
The north end of the spillway is near the north border of the district. The spillway is a massive concrete structure running north and south. The south end is located near Bridge #1 on the west side of the creek and the north end is located in an inlet on the south shore of West Lake Ponca. The spillway structure is huge, but much of it is not visible from the park because, while the central portion of the spillway slopes up to reach the lake high water level, it is distant from the park's recreational areas. Also, the upper and lower portions are relatively level. The spillway is approximately 930 feet long going north to south, 234 feet wide on the north end, tapering to 102

² Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part II-Recreational and Cultural Facilities* (United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1938), 33.

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feet about 560 feet from the north end, and flaring out to 165 feet at the south end. It has a combination of straight and sloped concrete walls on either side and a stair up to the top of the east wall at the southeast corner. The spillway is in excellent condition.

27. **Gravel Loading Station:** 1934-1935, structure, photos 0079 to 0080

The gravel loading station is a poured concrete structure that is built into the hillside west of the spillway. The structure is square in section, approximately ten feet by ten feet, and about forty feet long. It has an overhanging concrete roof with a square opening in the overhang. Trucks would back up to the overhang and gravel would be loaded through the opening.³ The loading station is in good condition.

28. **Crow's Nest:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0039 and photos 0043 to 0049

The Crow's Nest gets its name from its elevated vantage point. The Crow's Nest is a small but monumental stone shelter with a reinforced concrete shed roof. Its walls are constructed of massive rough stones set in fairly regular courses. Massive stonework at the front of the flanking bearing walls takes advantage of the visual interest of the natural stones by exposing their irregular faces and terracing them down to a continuous rustic stone base that goes around all three enclosed sides of the building. Massive stonework at the rear corners projects at an approximate forty-five degree angle from the walls and also terraces down to meet the stone base. The north and south walls extend above the roof, forming an irregular heavy stone parapet. The building has a single, centered, small opening in the rear (west) wall and is completely open between the north and south walls. The Crow's Nest and the Perry Lake Park (NR 2007) shelter are illustrated in *Park and Recreation Structures* and described as variations on the stone Adirondack shelter that "...retain a mere trace of the Adirondack prototype, yet are so bountifully supplied with individuality of their own that there can be no regrets for a tradition flouted."⁴ The photo shows that the shelter originally had a wood roof, but it was destroyed by fire and replaced with a reinforced concrete roof between 1939 and 1963.⁵

The building is approached from the northeast by means of a steep and narrow stone and earthen path with intermittent stone steps. The path ends at a large stone terrace with a low, round, stone fire pit in the center. The terrace is surrounded by a low stone curb constructed of massive irregular ledgestones. A broad set of stairs with four low risers leads from the terrace up to the stone floor of the shelter. The Crow's Nest is in fair condition.

29. **Park Trail - Walk to Bridge #2:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0050

This walk is typical of the park trails. Three-quarters of a mile of gravel "chat" trails were originally constructed. Presently, the trails have a concrete topping with stone work visible intermittently at the trail edges. Photos indicate that the original compacted gravel surface was first covered with stone and later with a concrete topping, presumably to stabilize the trail and provide a more level walking surface. The park trails are in fair to good condition, although their surface has been altered.

30. **Stone Stairs to Restrooms:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0051

These stone steps are located east of the creek between bridge #1 to the spillway and bridge #2 to the picnic area, and they lead up to the north side of the restrooms. They were constructed with a short run at the bottom, a landing, and a much longer run to the top. Treads are constructed of large single stone slabs. Over the years some of the risers have been parged. The stone treads show wear from foot traffic over many years. The stairs are wide and are faced on each side with massive low stone walls. The side walls appear to be constructed of solid

³ Jack Harney, interview by Jocelyn Lupkin, June 4, 2015, Ponca City, OK.

⁴ Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part II-Recreational and Cultural Facilities* (United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1938), 99.

⁵ Jack Harney, interview by Jocelyn Lupkin, June 4, 2015, Ponca City, OK.

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stone that was blasted to provide a channel for the stairs and very large stones that were found in place or nearby. The stairs are in very good condition.

31. **Stone Fire Pits:** 1936-1938, object, photos 0052 to 0054
A group of three stone fire pits showing typical conditions. The first photo shows portions of the large irregular stone facing intact and remnants of the interior fire brick. The second photo shows the large irregular stone facing intact. The third photo shows the large irregular stone facing intact with much of the fire brick, even though it is deteriorated. The location, layout and aesthetics of the firepits are still extant, however the fire pits are in poor condition.
32. **Concrete Picnic Tables:** 1960 to present, object, photo 0013
A group of three typical newer concrete picnic tables dispersed in an area with stone fire pits.
33. **Stone Bridge #2 to Picnic Area:** 1939-1963, structure, photo 0055 & 0056
This bridge, located where the creek turns north towards West Lake Ponca, is very similar in design to Bridge #1. It has a concrete floor and low rustic stone walls on both sides. The walls are constructed of rough-cut stone laid in regular courses. The walls are constructed in four segments. The segments on either end are splayed out at approximately a thirty degree angle and the top of the walls slope up as they get nearer to the creek. The two center segments go straight over the creek and are set on deep concrete beams that span the creek. The two straight segments have concave curved tops. The tops of each segment are parged with small irregular stones embedded in the parging, echoing the irregular crenellation detail seen at the stone entry gates. Each segment is separated by a stone pier that projects from the wall surfaces, and both ends of the bridge walls terminate in round stone piers. The piers all project up from the top of the wall and have the same parged detail with the small irregular stones. The bridge is in excellent condition.
34. **Stone Bridge #3:** 1939-1963, structure, photo 0057 & 0058
This is a small bridge over a swale east of the creek and northeast of the large stone footbridge. It has an asphaltic concrete walking surface and small half-round low stone walls on either side. The walls are constructed of small, rough-cut, irregularly coursed stones. They have the same irregular stones embedded in concrete parging on the top surface as the two larger foot bridges. The bridge is in excellent condition.
35. **Metal Grilles and Concrete Picnic Tables:** 1960 to present, object, photo 0013
A group of three typical newer metal grilles and concrete picnic tables.
36. **Stone Fire Pits (3):** 1936-1938, object, photos 0059 to 0061
A group of three stone fire pits on the north side of the north picnic area. The first photo shows the remaining stone foundation. The second photo shows portions of the large irregular stone facing and portions of the foundation intact, along with some of the fire brick. The third photo shows the large irregular stone facing intact with much of the fire brick. The location, layout and aesthetics of the fire pits are still in evidence. The fire pits show a range of conditions from ruins to fair.
37. **Concrete Picnic Table:** 1960 to present, object, photo 0013
A single typical concrete picnic table located within the north group of stone fire pits.
38. **Stone Stairs to Parking Area:** 1936-1938, structure, photo 0062
These stone stairs are located south of the north picnic area and lead up to the top of a steep slope for access to the parking area. They were constructed in four relatively long runs. Treads are constructed of single large stone slabs. Over the years some of the risers have been parged. The stone treads show wear from foot traffic over many years. The stairs are steep and narrow, and they are faced on each side with massive stone walls. The side walls appear to be

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constructed of solid stone that was blasted to provide a channel for the stairs and very large stones that were found in place or nearby. The stairs are in good condition.

39. **Stone Restroom:** 1936-1938, structure, photos 0063 to 0066

The stone restroom is a small building that is monumental by means of its deft use of materials and simplicity. The plan is a long narrow rectangle with a flat roof. Stone work is large, rough-cut, ashlar masonry in regular courses. Parapet stones are larger than the course below. The view of the building from the east shows the rooftop, parapet and about two feet of the east stone wall above grade. As you go around the building to the north and south, the entrances to the Women's and Men's restrooms, respectively, are clearly marked as deeply recessed entries on the east end of massive stone walls on the north and south. The east building wall projects past the perpendicular planes of the north and south building walls to form two massive stone wing walls that step down as they get further from the restrooms. The wing walls are constructed of huge ledgestones set in regular courses. They serve as retaining walls for the higher grade to the east and emphasize the path to the restroom entries. The north, south and west walls are constructed of huge ledgestones with regular coursing. Alternate courses are recessed to form oversize reveals in the wall surface, and the walls are battered down to a wide, continuous, massive stone foundation. The restroom signs are original cut metal and are mounted in the stone parapets centered above the door alcoves. On the west side of the Men's room entry a planter with a low stone curb is incorporated.

Walkways on the west and south sides are mostly concrete and new construction. However, short lengths of walk going directly into the restroom on the south and a much larger area on the north are original construction of large flagstones.

40. **North Entry Walls Flanking Gate:** 1939-1963, structure, photos 0069 to 0071

Stacked stone walls built with a concave curvature face the road. The curve of the walls forms a welcoming u-shaped entry. The walls slope up from the outside edge to the inside edge on either side of the entry drive. The walls terminate into large circular columns at each end that project above the walls. The tops of the columns and walls are finished with irregular stone crenellation.

41. **Park Road and Parking:** 1936-1938, structure

The configuration of the park road and parking area is a major organizing element in the park, and it appears largely unchanged. They were originally finished with a crushed stone surface and they are now paved with asphalt. Native limestone curbs are intact around the west drive through parking areas. The sole change to the park road is the replacement of a northwesterly segment from the north side of the inner loop to the outer loop with a northeasterly segment that directs traffic towards the north entry. The park road and parking are in excellent condition, although the surfacing material has been changed.

42. **Park Site:** 1934-1935, site

The overall setting of the park remains intact. The topography and plantings enhanced by the CCC, Turkey Creek, and the relationship of park amenities to the adjacent lakes, the rest of the Lake Ponca Recreation Area, and the larger community has matured but has not changed appreciably. Intrusions into the park are minimal and do not detract or obscure the original design. A combination of minimal changes and sensitivity to the NPS Rustic aesthetic have kept the park functioning as intended and allowed it to retain its historic integrity.

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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 grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHITECTURE

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

Period of Significance

1934-1963

Significant Dates

1935

1938

1955

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Civil Engineer: William Rea Holway

Architect: M.D. Timberlake

Civilian Conservation Corps, builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district under Criterion A for its association with the work relief and public works programs of the New Deal and its importance as a public recreation area. The park is also eligible under Criterion C as an outstanding example of National Park Service Rustic architecture and landscape design as applied to a municipal park in Ponca City, Oklahoma. The park has been in continuous use since the CCC construction was completed in 1938.

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District was constructed in three phases. The PWA-financed reservoir construction (East and West Lake Ponca) included the spillway and stock ponds and construction occurred between July of 1934 and March of 1935. The major part of the park construction, accomplished by the CCC, took place between January of 1936 and October of 1938, and it included restrooms, a picnic shelter, the "Crow's Nest" shelter, numerous fire pits, thirty-three picnic table and bench sets, footpaths, a loop road and parking area, drainage structures and retaining walls. Later, compatible construction occurred between 1939 and 1963 and included the two entry gates off of L.A. Cann Drive, a second picnic shelter, three foot bridges and a caretaker's residence.¹

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Association with the New Deal

The Great Depression affected the entire country, but Oklahoma's economy was especially fragile even prior to the Depression due, in part, to the high rate of farm tenancy and the large surpluses of agricultural commodities driving prices down following World War I. As a center of oil production, Ponca City's fortunes were also shaped by the oil industry during the early twentieth century. The discovery of oil and natural gas brought prosperity, but by 1931 overproduction sent oil prices to disastrously low levels. Compared to other states, Oklahoma suffered the third-greatest decline in income between 1929 and 1932.²

In 1930, the rural vote helped elect William H. "Alfalfa Bill" Murray as governor. Murray's strategies for fighting the Depression included sending the National Guard into the oil fields to try to prevent illegal oil production and allowing the homeless to plant gardens on the Governor's Mansion lawn. Murray's antics also included launching attacks on President Roosevelt, misappropriating PWA funds, failing to obtain state matching funds for Civil Works Administration projects, and general obstructionism towards federal relief programs. As a result, most federal programs were removed from the Governor's control and Oklahoma received few federal relief dollars.³ Despite Murray's antipathy towards the federal programs, Oklahoma did manage to obtain twenty-nine CCC camps in 1933. One of these was Company #868 for project SP-15, located at Lake Ponca.⁴

Severe drought hit the Midwestern and Southern Plains in 1931 and in 1932 the National Weather

¹ Jack Harney, interview by Jocelyn Lupkin, June 4, 2015, Ponca City, OK.

² Keith L. Bryant, Jr., "New Deal," *Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, www.okhistory.org (accessed March 05, 2015), 2009. <http://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=NE007>.

³ Ibid.

⁴ CCC Legacy, "CCC Camps Oklahoma," http://www.ccclegacy.org/CCC_Camps_Oklahoma.html.

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Bureau reported fourteen dust storms.⁵ Faced with these extreme conditions, in August of 1932 the Ponca City "...chamber of commerce...adopted a resolution recommending to the city commissioners that a firm of consulting engineers be employed to make a survey for a water reservoir or lake for a permanent city water supply and cost of dam and filtration plant" to provide a reliable water source for Ponca City.⁶ A reliable water supply was required not just for Ponca City's inhabitants, but also for large-scale commercial operations of its major refineries, the Continental Oil Company and the Empire Refining Company.⁷ In November of 1933, a \$560,000 grant application for a 760-acre lake was submitted to the federal public works advisory board. The ambitious proposal was the second largest submitted from Oklahoma in that year.⁸

U.S. Rep. Ernest W. Marland, a former Republican and Ponca City oilman, ran for governor in 1934 with the slogan, "Bring the New Deal to Oklahoma." As a congressman, Marland had good relations with the Roosevelt administration, and his relationship with the administration coupled with his intentions to run for governor may have aided the application from his district and home town. In March of 1934, Ponca City was notified by the PWA that its civil engineering construction documents and its financial plan, a bond issue for \$430,000 and a federal grant for \$130,000, were approved. The bonds were issued in June of 1934,⁹ and "[i]n July of 1934, contracts were awarded for Ponca City's new PWA lake project, including site clearing, dam construction, a pipeline, filtration plant, and plant equipment.¹⁰ It was predicted that by the fall of 1935 the lake level would be sufficient to support fishing and that by "January of 1936 there will be enough fish in the lake to open it to the public for fishing privileges."¹¹

The lake project was completed in March of 1935, but "[t]he general plan for construction of the municipal water project, know as Lake Ponca, called for a large portion of the landscaping, beautification, and finishing of many details to be done by that arm of the government known as the Civilian Conservation Corps."¹² Ponca City persevered in its plans for lake development and they had an ally in Governor Marland. Marland believed that Murray's obstructionism regarding federal relief programs "was detrimental to the financial survival of many families in the state."¹³ Consequently, he was supportive of getting CCC and WPA projects into Oklahoma. One of those projects was to develop the land where East and West Lake Ponca join, forming the east and northeast boundaries of a compact five-sided parcel of land that is the site of the present Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park. On June 27, the two-hundred and twenty person CCC camp in Perry, Oklahoma was transferred to Lake Ponca. On July 1, 1935, the City of Ponca City formally obtained the park site through condemnation, but the CCC camp was closed on January 1, 1936 and the company was moved to Colorado.¹⁴

Ponca City had invested \$5,000.00 in the Lake Ponca CCC camp for power, sewer and waterlines, but the CCC workers had been transferred after six months and "[o]nly a very small part of the necessary work had been completed." However, all of the "trucks, equipment and buildings were left at Lake Ponca...for use in the event another CCC group was assigned to Ponca City at a later time."¹⁵ Not to be deterred, in March of 1936 Ponca City officials went to Washington "to pledge the city's support to a park

⁵ PBS, WGBH Educational Foundation, "Timeline: Surviving the Dust Bowl, 1931-1939," accessed May 29, 2015, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/timeline/dustbowl/>

⁶ "Survey Urged for Ponca Water Job," *Daily Oklahoman*, August 16, 1932.

⁷ City Manager's Office, *Report on the City, 1941* (Ponca City, 1941) 30.

⁸ "Public Works Board Studies 17 New Pleas." *Daily Oklahoman*, November 26, 1933.

⁹ *Report on the City, 1941*, 29.

¹⁰ "Contracts are Let on Ponca City Jobs," *Daily Oklahoman*, July 27, 1934.

¹¹ "Ponca Lake to be Stocked With Fish," *Daily Oklahoman*, August 19, 1934.

¹² *Report on the City, 1941*, 31.

¹³ Bret A. Carter, *Kay County's Historic Architecture* (Mount Pleasant: Arcadia, 2007), 9.

¹⁴ *Report on the City, 1941*, 31-32.

¹⁵ *Ibid*, 32-33.

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service camp at Ponca Lake."¹⁶ They asked that the Lake Ponca CCC camp be reinstated, and in October of 1936 a new CCC company took possession of the camp to continue the "development of the recreational area around Ponca lake."¹⁷ This company was transferred on February 20, 1937, but the camp was repopulated a third time from July of 1937 until October 27, 1938, by Company #1825, a unit of African American Veterans.¹⁸

Despite the idealism of the Roosevelt administration, they ultimately decided to not confront widespread racial prejudice in order to expedite the CCC program:

The CCC shared its one conspicuous failure with the nation as a whole. While almost one enrollee in ten was black, a number reflecting their percentage of the population, black Americans had been harder hit by the depression and were thus underrepresented in the CCC as a percentage of the poor. And while the CCC tried at first to integrate camps outside the South, this effort gave way to complaints from the communities where camps were located and to the army's institutional racism. In 1935, Fechner [Robert Fechner, the head of the program] would re-segregate blacks into some 150 camps of their own and write Thomas L. Griffith, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who had complained to Roosevelt, that because blacks did equal work in the same conditions as whites, "this segregation is not discrimination."¹⁹

A "History of Lake Ponca" included in the City Manager's "Report on the City, 1941" was written in 1936 by George Miller, the City Attorney at the time. It is a thorough account, however, it is interesting that L.A. Cann, Ponca City's city manager from 1934 to 1948, felt compelled to add the following to Miller's history:

The above gives an excellent descriptive history up to January, 1936; five years have passed since that time. As a matter of record I will briefly register down to date:

As stated in Mr. Miller's story, the first CCC boys only remained in this camp about six months, from June 27, 1935, to [sic] inexperienced, and did very little work.

The second group were somewhat older, but as they were here such a short period, from October 12, 1936, to February 20, 1937, they did not accomplish much.

The third group were colored Veterans of the U. S. Army, ages thirty to sixty years. They arrived in July, 1937 and left October 27, 1938, about 16 months. These men were mature men and good workers, many of them skilled workmen, and through their labor and the management of good white Engineers and Foremen, we have the pleasure of enjoying the beautiful Lake Ponca Park today, and will for years to come.²⁰

Despite the prejudice in his remarks, Mr. Cann's desire to record the excellence of Company #1825's work at Lake Ponca Park shows his respect for them as individuals and stands as a tribute to CCC Company #1825 collectively.

Association with Public Recreation

Even before the New Deal, recreation was a national priority in the United States. Theodore Roosevelt doubled the number of sites within the National Park system during his presidency, from 1901 to 1909, and the National Park Service was established on August 25, 1916. The Federal Government "...recognized its interest and responsibility in the provision of recreational opportunities in local communities and in the several States as evidenced by legislation passed to meet certain situations. For

¹⁶ "Ponca City Boosts Park Service Camp," *Daily Oklahoman*, April 1, 1936.

¹⁷ "Ponca City Camp to be Reoccupied," *Daily Oklahoman*, September 20, 1936.

¹⁸ CCC Legacy, "CCC Camps Oklahoma," http://www.ccclegacy.org/CCC_Camps_Oklahoma.html.

¹⁹ Nick Taylor, *American Made* (New York: Bantam Books, 2008), 108.

²⁰ *Report on the City, 1941*, 33.

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instance, an Act of 1890 (26 Stat. 91), relating to the reservation and sale of town sites in Oklahoma, made it mandatory that all surveys for such town sites contain reservations for parks."²¹

Federal programs stressed the construction of recreational areas within the reach of all to promote the national well-being. By the middle of the 1930s, the cooperative effort between the National Park Service and municipalities to provide state and municipal parks in Oklahoma and other states was recognized and documented. In 1936 the National Park Service, in cooperation with the National Recreation Association, made a study of municipal parks. The results of this study were compiled in a comprehensive publication, "Municipal and County Parks in the United States, 1935." One of the observations in this study was that "[a]lthough these parks are found in all sections of the country, the movements to acquire them has [sic] gone forward most rapidly in California, Illinois, Texas, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Indiana, Oklahoma, and Michigan."²²

A chart titled "Acquisition of Park and Recreation Areas - Oct 1936 to Oct 1937" shows that, while Oklahoma did not acquire any new land for state parks, it acquired 110.87 acres for new municipal parks, the second highest amount in the twelve states included in the list. Also, Oklahoma utilized a greater number of funding sources for its municipal parks than any other state, including "Appropriation, general appropriation, borrowed water department funds, donations, placed in judgment against city, garden flower club, city park fund."²³ Resourceful Oklahomans apparently thought that no source of funding was too humble to fulfill their goals for outdoor recreational areas.

Water was often the centerpiece of parks in Oklahoma. Writing about state parks, it was observed that, "A body of water, the central tenet of federal-park planning, was well represented in Oklahoma. Each of the state's parks was constructed in parallel with an artificial lake (or in one case an improved river section)...Visitor surveys in 1938 validated this emphasis on water recreation. The average Oklahoma park visitor lived within twenty-five miles of his or her park, and went there for one-day outings to do water sports."²⁴ Access to water was also emphasized in Oklahoma's municipal parks and brought water-related recreation much closer to population centers.

One of the primary reasons put forth for the development of the Lake Ponca project was recreation. In addition to a reliable water source and an employment program, in 1933 city officials stated "[t]he need for a recreational center. At present there is a vital need for boating, fishing, and the many other advantages that are a part of the use of a large lake, situation [sic] near a city."²⁵ A few days after contracts were let on the project in July of 1934, the State Game and Fish Warden spoke to a civic club in Ponca City, saying that, "Ponca City has been known as one of the largest cities in the State without opportunities for fishing, and when the new lake is completed it not only will provide a city water supply, but will, if properly stocked, provide fishing and other water recreations for thousands of citizens and visitors."²⁶

In addition to water access for fishing and swimming, the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park also offered a "large shelter house" with thirteen table and bench sets for picnicking, and twenty picnic table and bench sets throughout the park. Three-quarters of a mile of graded and drained foot paths were also constructed and surfaced with gravel chat to stabilize them for exterior use and, in recognition of the growing availability of automobile travel, a park road and parking area requiring six-hundred cubic yards

²¹U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *A Study of the Park and Recreation Problem of the United States*, 109. <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uiug.30112102046825;view=1up;seq=5>.

²²U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *1937 Yearbook: Park and Recreation Progress* (Washington, D.C.: United States Government Printing Office, 1938), 26. http://archive.org/stream/1937yearbookpark00nati/1937yearbookpark00nati_djvu.txt.

²³Ibid, 47.

²⁴Langdon Smith, "Democratizing Nature Through State Park Development," *Historical Geography* vol. 41 (2013): 214. https://ejournals.unm.edu/index.php/historicalgeography/article/view/304/html_13.

²⁵*Report on the City, 1941*, 26.

²⁶Ibid, 30.

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of crushed stone were constructed.²⁷

The last phase of construction at Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park took place between 1939 and 1963, a period of dynamic growth for Ponca City. A caretaker's residence, a second large picnic shelter, three foot bridges, and stone walls flanking both entry gates were added during this time.²⁸

Ponca City's population increased by over twenty percent from 1940 to 1950 and, again, from 1950 to 1960.²⁹ In 1953, the [d]iscovery of a potentially rich oil pool was reported about eight miles northwest of Ponca City. The well flowed at 100 barrels an hour through a one-half inch choke. A local independent operator claimed it to be the "biggest thing in Kay County in years." A building boom followed, including private projects and public construction. New classrooms were added to the school administration building, the Cities Service Oil Company began a multi-million dollar modernization of their refinery, the Board of Education approved plans for a three-story addition to the High School, and Ponca Citizens voted 5 to 1 for bond proposals for a \$400,000 water plant expansion and a \$350,000 sewage treatment plant.³⁰ Building permits in 1954 set an all-time record, totaling \$3,656,000³¹ and, in 1955, the airport completed a \$500,000 expansion project and City commissioners approved Ponca City's largest ever budget for the new fiscal year.³²

As a gauge of Ponca City's growing recreational needs, in 1953 "...Wentz pool reported a record of 30,153 swimmers for the season"³³ and in 1955 a new 9-hole municipal golf course was opened.³⁴ In light of the City's fiscal and population growth during this time and the growing demand for outdoor recreation, it is logical to assume that park usage and park budgets increased, and that the additions of a second picnic shelter, a residence for a full-time caretaker, foot bridges for easier access to the west side of Turkey Creek, and decorative entries were considered a wise public expenditure so that Ponca Citizens could better enjoy their park.

Architectural Significance / Landscape Design

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an outstanding example of National Park Service (NPS) Rustic architecture and landscape design as applied to a municipal park in Ponca City, Oklahoma. Other excellent examples of municipal parks in this style in Oklahoma can be found at the Perry Lake Park in Perry (NR 2007), Nichols Park near Henryetta (NR 2006), the Norman City Park in Norman (NR 2000), and Wintersmith Park in Ada (NR 2000). All of these parks have design features specific to the NPS Rustic style in common.

Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park was constructed in three phases. Phase I was the PWA-financed reservoir construction which included the spillway, gravel loading station, and stock ponds. The civil engineer for Phase I was William Rea Holway, who was also responsible for Tulsa's Spavinaw Lake project, among many other large water projects.³⁵ Phase I construction took place between July of 1934 and March of

²⁷ Pioneer Women Landscaping And Other CCC Work Done." *Daily Oklahoman*, September 20, 1936.

²⁸ Jack Harney, interview by Jocelyn Lupkin, June 4, 2015, Ponca City, OK.

²⁹ U.S Census Bureau, "Table 6. - Population of Counties by Minor Civil Divisions: 1930 to 1950," 36-12. <http://www2.census.gov/prod2/decennial/documents/23761117v1ch06.pdf>

³⁰ Ponca City Publishing Company, "Ponca City Information: Ponca City History, 1953," <http://www.poncacity.com/history/pages/1950/1953.htm>.

³¹ Ponca City Publishing Company, "Ponca City Information: Ponca City History, 1954," <http://www.poncacity.com/history/pages/1950/1954.htm>.

³² Ponca City Publishing Company, "Ponca City Information: Ponca City History, 1955," <http://www.poncacity.com/history/pages/1950/1955.htm>

³³ Ponca City Publishing Company, "Ponca City Information: Ponca City History, 1953."

³⁴ Ponca City Publishing Company, "Ponca City Information: Ponca City History, 1955."

³⁵ *Report on the City, 1941*, 31.

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1935. Phase II was the major part of the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park construction accomplished by the National Park Service and the CCC, between January of 1936 and October of 1938. The architect for Phase II was M.D. Timberlake of Ponca City,³⁶ who designed many buildings in Ponca City and Kay County, including the district headquarters for Oklahoma Natural Gas, the Southwestern Bell Telephone dial building and new or remodel designs for nearly every building in the Ponca City School System.³⁷ Phase III occurred between 1939 and 1963 during a period of rapid growth for Ponca City. It included construction of a modest concrete masonry unit caretaker's residence, a second picnic shelter, three foot bridges, and the two entry gates off of L.A. Cann Drive. The caretaker's residence is a concrete masonry unit structure, but the entry gate walls, picnic shelter and bridges are constructed primarily of limestone and are distinct from, yet compatible with, the original NPS Rustic architecture.

Oklahoma lagged behind other states in its park planning at the state and local level and was not prepared to execute park projects when the CCC was started in 1933. However, once a State Parks Commission was created in 1935, support for park construction grew quickly.³⁸ The delay in park construction actually brought an advantage to Oklahoma parks. "The first two years of the rapidly thrown-together CCC program had produced many parks, but not all were of exceptional quality. By 1935 some hard lessons had been learned.³⁹ The two years that passed between the inception of the CCC in 1933 and the later park building that commenced in Oklahoma in 1935 allowed the National Park Service designers to refine the NPS Rustic aesthetic and the functionality of their designs and material choices. These mature designs resulted in Oklahoma having well-designed CCC-constructed parks that were a welcome addition to their struggling communities. In Oklahoma, "[t]he shock of the depression following the exuberance of the oil boom was reflected in architecture...About the only bright spots, architecturally, were the buildings built as Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) or Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects..." One of those CCC projects was the "...construction of the fine rustic buildings at Lake Ponca Park that were completed by the WPA."⁴⁰

The architect Albert H. Good was contracted by the National Park Service to catalog appropriate and exemplary buildings, structures and objects in NPS parks. The result was the three volume *Park and Recreation Structures*, the definitive guide to NPS Rustic design published in 1938. Good calls for "...park structures and facilities in which principles held in esteem by park planners, landscape designers, engineers, and architects have been happily joined in adequate provision for man's needs with a minimum sacrifice of the natural values present." The examples he shows are "appropriate to natural parks, as distinguished from naturalistic or formalized city parks."⁴¹

The recognition that undisturbed nature is an important amenity, even in areas near population centers where the natural environment isn't the most dramatic or outstanding, is an important principle that ties together the components of NPS Rustic parks. According to Good, parks should be designed to be subordinate to the natural site. Ideally, the placement and design of buildings, structures, objects and plantings blended harmoniously with the environment to provide a setting that felt uncontrived and natural, even while providing recreational amenities. The design philosophy of these "natural parks" was the guiding influence behind NPS park design.

In Ponca City, the contrast between the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park and Wentz Camp (NR 2010) exemplifies the difference between these natural and formalized design philosophies. The major buildings in Wentz Camp were designed in the Romanesque Revival style and constructed between 1928 and 1934. The Romanesque Revival style was based on "sober and dignified" European Romanesque architecture. The style was popularized in the United States by H.H. Richardson who first used it in 1870,

³⁶ Jack Harney, interview by Jocelyn Lupkin, June 4, 2015, Ponca City, OK.

³⁷ Carter, *Kay County's Historic Architecture*, 10.

³⁸ Smith, "Democratizing Nature Through State Park Development," 36.

³⁹ Smith, "Democratizing Nature Through State Park Development," 214.

⁴⁰ Carter, *Kay County's Historic Architecture*, 9.

⁴¹ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part I - Administration and Basic Service Facilities*, 2.

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and it continued to be used into the first decade of the twentieth century. Later examples showed "progressively less concern with historical accuracy, and progressively more with the quest for novelty and for architectural expressions more in keeping with the age."⁴² It was a massive style, expensive to construct, and it was generally used for monumental public buildings, such as courthouses, train stations, ecclesiastical buildings, schools, banks and prisons. The buildings at Wentz Camp are a relatively late and light-hearted expression of the Romanesque Revival, but they were nevertheless intended to leave an impression of grandness on their users. Wentz Camp is formally arranged almost symmetrically around a loop road, and its buildings and structures are set amid broad expanses of lawn. The more natural wooded landscape on the north, west and south perimeter serves as a backdrop rather than a setting for the Camp's buildings and the pool.

In contrast, the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park was designed to blend with its natural environment. Albert Good observed that, "Although virtually all of the nation's CCC parks were constructed of native materials in the government rustic style ... they cannot compare in style or quality to the extraordinary cabins, bathhouses, and other structures in Oklahoma. The most characteristic feature of these structures is the use of large stones that angle up from the ground, giving a building the appearance of having literally sprouted."⁴³ This "angling up" feature is used consistently throughout the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park. Building walls are constructed of rough-cut limestone, often utilizing large pieces in fairly regular courses, and the walls terminate by means of massive ledgestones that stair step down to meet the ground. The most interesting expression of this aesthetic, perhaps because it is the simplest and the strongest, is the park restroom. Huge ledgestones stair step up from the ground to the parapet in regular courses, and every other course is deeply recessed. The effect is of a natural stone formation that has been adapted to a strong, logical and formal building expression.

The park's site and landscape design consciously respect the topography, the creek flowing through the site, and the natural stone formations in the park. The loop road into the park was designed to follow the curve of the creek, and the buildings and picnic areas are arranged around the curved sites created around the road and the creek. Trees are incorporated into the park and planting areas are extensions of the buildings. Retaining walls and headwalls at culverts are designed to taper gradually into the ground to blend with grading like natural rocky outcroppings. The stair layouts and designs are especially sensitive to the natural site. Despite the elevation changes from top to bottom, eighteen feet for the north stair and twenty-four feet for the south stair, the stair runs are carefully angled and screened by massive stone sidewalls. From many angles, they appear to be natural channels cut from the limestone hillside east of the creek. The picnic area locations are still defined by the stone fire pits that were loosely grouped around the creek and the original picnic shelter. The fire pits are constructed of large native stones with at least one side buried, and they appear to be natural rocky outcroppings scattered throughout the site.

Photographs of one of Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park's stone fire pits, the Crow's Nest shelter, and a now-demolished wood bridge over Turkey Creek were featured in *Park and Recreation Structures*. Good noted how a fire pit was located on a slope to make it less conspicuous in the picnic area,⁴⁴ was complimentary about the individuality of the Crow's Nest design,⁴⁵ and remarked that the bridge illustrated "the results that can be obtained when the terminations of the handrails are 'brought to the ground.' Such satisfying features as ample bearing, firm anchorage, and exaggerated crown sum up to a total effect that is at once suggestive of strength and of skillful adaptation to site."⁴⁶

⁴² Sir Banister Fletcher, *A History of Architecture*, (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1961), 991.

⁴³ Albert H. Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part II-Recreational and Cultural Facilities* (United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1938), 214.

⁴⁴ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part II-Recreational and Cultural Facilities*, 33. http://npshistory.com/publications/park_recreation_structures/images/plate2b.pdf.

⁴⁵ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part II-Recreational and Cultural Facilities*, 99. http://npshistory.com/publications/park_recreation_structures/images/plate2f.pdf.

⁴⁶ Good, *Park and Recreation Structures: Part I- Administration and Basic Service Facilities*, 185.

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The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park's site, buildings and structures from the period of significance are still in use today and are virtually unchanged. They are constructed mainly of limestone and have an organic yet monumental quality. The locations of buildings, site amenities and landscape features were sensitively designed and executed with respect to the natural environment. The objects remaining from the period of significance include stone fire pits in their original locations that retain their form and most of their materials. Newer additions to the park include three playgrounds, three metal storage buildings, metal picnic grilles and concrete picnic table and bench sets. The scale and placement of these additions do not detract from the park as a whole, and the Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park retains its integrity of location, setting, feeling, association, materials, workmanship and design.

The Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic under Criteria A and C. The park is an outstanding example of National Park Service Rustic architecture and landscape design as applied to a municipal park, and it has strong associations with New Deal programs and patterns of recreational development. The site, buildings, structures and objects that give the park its form and contribute to its function are all fine examples of the work achieved by the PWA, the CCC, and the post-New Deal era construction by the Ponca City Parks Department. The CCC design and construction is especially noteworthy for the individualistic use of native limestone throughout the park, with the most outstanding building examples being the original picnic shelter, the restrooms, and the Crow's Nest shelter; and the best site design examples being the stairs, retaining walls, culvert headwalls and fire pits. Most of the later construction is compatible both in design and placement. Alterations to resources have been limited and great efforts have been made to replace materials in kind wherever possible. The park has been in continuous use since the CCC construction was completed in 1938.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 60

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.721335° | Longitude: -97.031416° |
| 2. Latitude: 36.721365° | Longitude: -97.030494° |
| 3. Latitude: 36.721868° | Longitude: -97.030010° |
| 4. Latitude: 36.721871° | Longitude: -97.027850° |
| 5. Latitude: 36.721775° | Longitude: -97.027868° |
| 6. Latitude: 36.719889° | Longitude: -97.024903° |
| 7. Latitude: 36.719625° | Longitude: -97.024438° |
| 8. Latitude: 36.719383° | Longitude: -97.024387° |
| 9. Latitude: 36.718780° | Longitude: -97.025195° |
| 10. Latitude: 36.718113° | Longitude: -97.025720° |
| 11. Latitude: 36.717491° | Longitude: -97.025915° |
| 12. Latitude: 36.716719° | Longitude: -97.026056° |
| 13. Latitude: 36.716803° | Longitude: -97.030235° |
| 14. Latitude: 36.720033° | Longitude: -97.030463° |
| 15. Latitude: 36.720028° | Longitude: -97.031420° |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Roughly bounded by the west side of L.A. Cann Drive on the east, the shore of West Lake Ponca on the northeast, a boundary line approximately 115 feet north side of the concrete spillway going west from West Lake Ponca over to West Snake Road on the north, continuing south and west following the curve along West Snake Road to where it intersects with Kygar Road, turning south and going approximately 470 feet along the east side of Kygar Road, turning east and continuing approximately 283 feet, turning south and continuing approximately 1190 feet, and turning to the east and going approximately 1290 feet to intersect with the west side of L.A. Cann Drive.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary comprises the land originally acquired for the construction of the park.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jocelyn Lupkin
organization: Robison & Associates
street & number: 2927 Paseo
city or town: Oklahoma City state: OK zip
code: 73103
e-mail robisonandassociates@gmail.com
telephone: (405) 524-4544
date: 6/8/15

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District
City or Vicinity:	Ponca City
County:	Kay County
State:	OK
Name of Photographer:	Jocelyn Lupkin
Date of Photographs 0001 to 0071:	March 2015
Date of Photographs 0072 to 0080:	June 2015
Location of Original Digital Files:	800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73105

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Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District _0001)
South entry gates, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #2 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District _0002)
South entry gates, northeast elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #3 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District _0003)
South entry gates, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #4 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0004)
Culvert, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #5 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0005)
Culvert, south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #6 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0006)
Fireplace, north elevation (left) and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #7 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District _0007)
Fireplace, south elevation (left) and east elevation (right), camera facing northwest.

Photo #8 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0008)
South Duck Pond, south end, camera facing west northwest.

Photo #9 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0009)
South Duck Pond, north end, camera facing west.

Photo #10 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0010)
Caretaker's residence and storage buildings, north elevations (left) and west elevations (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #11 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0011)
Caretaker's residence and storage buildings, south elevations (left) and east elevations (right), camera facing northwest.

Photo #12 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0012)
South playground #1, north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #13 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0013)
Metal grille and concrete picnic table, typical, camera facing south.

Photo #14 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0014)
Picnic shelter #1, southeast elevation (left) and northeast facade (right), camera facing west.

Photo #15 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0015)
Picnic shelter #1, northeast elevation detail at entry walk, camera facing southwest.

Photo #16 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0016)

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Picnic shelter #1, drinking fountain built into low wall, southwest elevation (left) and southeast elevation (right), camera facing northwest.

Photo #17 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0017)
Picnic shelter #1, fireplace at northwest interior elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #18 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0018)
Picnic shelter #1, northwest elevation chimney and foundation detail, camera facing southeast.

Photo #19 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0019)
South retaining wall and culvert, west elevation, with center playground #2 in background (left) and picnic shelter #1 in background (right), camera facing east.

Photo #20 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0020)
Low water crossing, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #21 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0021)
Low water crossing, northeast elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #22 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0022)
Fireplace, southwest elevation (left) and southeast elevation (right), camera facing north.

Photo #23 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0023)
Bridge piers and abutment, south elevation (left) and east elevation (right), camera facing northwest.

Photo #24 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0024)
Bridge piers and abutment, north elevation (left) and east elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #25 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0025)
South curvilinear retaining walls, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #26 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0026)
North retaining wall at picnic shelter #2, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #27 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0027)
Fireplace, south elevation (left) and east elevation (right), camera facing northwest.

Photo #28 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0028)
Fireplace, north elevation (left) and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #29 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0029)
Picnic shelter #2, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #30 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0030)
Picnic shelter #2, west elevation (left) and south elevation (right), camera facing northeast.

Photo #31 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0031)
Picnic shelter #2, south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #32 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0032)
Picnic shelter #2, south elevation exterior fireplace (left) and west elevation picnic table (right), camera facing north northeast.

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Photo #33 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0033)

Picnic shelter #2, perimeter walk around building, typical, camera facing north northeast.

Photo #34 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0034)

Picnic shelter #2, east elevation (left) and north elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #35 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0035)

Picnic shelter #2, north elevation (left) and west elevation (right), camera facing southeast.

Photo #36 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0036)

Picnic shelter #2, interior south elevation fireplace detail, camera facing north.

Photo #37 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0037)

Picnic shelter #2, interior south elevation showing structure, camera facing north.

Photo #38 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0038)

Picnic shelter #2, interior picnic table and bench set, camera facing southeast.

Photo #39 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0039)

Retaining wall, path to Crow's Nest and low terrace wall, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest.

Photo #40 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0040)

Bridge to spillway, northeast elevation, southeast elevation (left) and northeast elevation (right), camera facing west.

Photo #41 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0041)

Fire pit, south view, camera facing north.

Photo #42 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0042)

Spillway, south elevation, camera facing north.

Photo #43 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0043)

Crow's Nest terrace and firepit (left) and Crow's Nest southeast elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #44 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0044)

Crow's Nest southeast elevation (left) and terrace and low perimeter wall southeast elevation, camera facing west southwest.

Photo #45 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0045)

Crow's Nest southeast elevation and entry stairs, camera facing northwest.

Photo #46 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0046)

Crow's Nest southwest low wall at terrace (left) and southeast building corner(right), camera facing south southeast.

Photo #47 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0047)

Crow's Nest northwest elevation, camera facing southeast.

Photo #48 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0048)

Crow's Nest partial northwest elevation, west corner detail, camera facing southeast.

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Photo #49 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0049)
Crow's Nest terrace, fire pit and low perimeter wall, view into park, camera facing southeast.

Photo #50 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0050)
Park trail north picnic area, typical, camera facing southwest.

Photo #51 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0051)
North stair to restrooms, north elevation, camera facing south.

Photo #52 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0052)
Fire pit, east side, camera facing west.

Photo #53 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0053)
Fire pit, southeast side, camera facing northwest.

Photo #54 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0054)
Fire pit, west side, camera facing east.

Photo #55 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0055)
Bridge, east elevation (left) and north elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #56 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0056)
Large bridge #2, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #57 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0057)
Small bridge, east elevation (left) and north elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #58 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0058)
Small bridge, north elevation detail, camera facing southwest.

Photo #59 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0059)
Fire pit, south side, camera facing north.

Photo #60 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0060)
Fire pit, south side, camera facing north.

Photo #61 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0061)
Fire pit, west side, camera facing east.

Photo #62 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0062)
Stair from south side of north picnic area to top of steepest part of hill, camera facing south.

Photo #63 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0063)
Restroom, southeast elevation (left) and northeast elevation (right), camera facing southwest.

Photo #64 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0064)
Restroom, northeast elevation, camera facing southwest.

Photo #65 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0065)
Restroom, southwest elevation, camera facing northeast.

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Photo #66 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0066)
Restroom, northwest elevation (left) and southwest elevation (right), camera facing northeast.

Photo #67 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0067)
North pond, view from south side, camera facing north.

Photo #68 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0068)
Center pond, view from north side, camera facing south.

Photo #69 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0069)
North entry gates, west elevation, camera facing east.

Photo #70 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0070)
North entry gates, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #72 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0072)
Culvert, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #73 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0073)
Picnic shelter #1, northwest elevation (left) and southwest elevation (right), camera facing east.

Photo #74 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0074)
Spillway north edge, camera facing east.

Photo #75 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0075)
Spillway north portion, camera facing south.

Photo #76 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0076)
Spillway center portion, camera facing north.

Photo #77 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0077)
Spillway south edge, camera facing south southeast.

Photo #78 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0078)
Spillway stairs at southwest corner, view from bridge #1, camera facing northwest.

Photo #79 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0079)
Gravel loading station, south elevation, camera facing north.

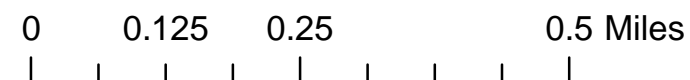
Photo #80 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0080)
Gravel loading station, east elevation, camera facing west.

Photo #81 (OK Kay County_Lake Ponca Duck Pond Park Historic District_0081)
Playground #3, southeast elevation, camera facing northwest.

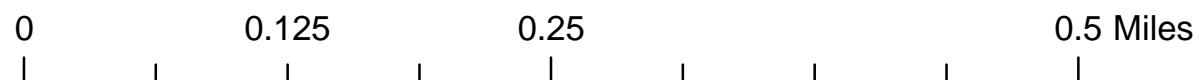
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Lake Ponca Duck Pond
Intersection of L.A. Cann and Edam Road
Ponca City, Kay County, Oklahoma



Lake Ponca Duck Pond
Intersection of L.A. Cann and Edam Road
Ponca City, Kay County, Oklahoma









ALL PETS
MUST BE
ON LEASH

























SHELTER USE
BY RESERVATION
ONLY
PHONE 787-0438





(SK)





























4

4

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SHADE
SHELTER



SHELTER
BY RESERVE
ONLY
PHONE











KEEP FEET
OFF TABLES

PARK DEPT.

PARK DEPT.

















MES LOVB

ONE LIFE ONE SHOW

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BE LOVE





































WEBER

WOMEN





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MEN



























ROBT

GARIE WALE





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lake Ponca Duck Pond Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OKLAHOMA, Kay

DATE RECEIVED: 10/23/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/27/15
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/14/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/08/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000872

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-8-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Oklahoma Historical Society

State Historic Preservation Office

Oklahoma History Center • 800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 521-6249 • Fax (405) 522-0816 • www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpon.htm

RECEIVED 2280

Founded May 27, 1893

OCT 23 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

October 19, 2015

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Park Service 2280, 8th floor
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are pleased to transmit twelve National Register of Historic Places nominations for Oklahoma properties. The nominations are for the following properties:

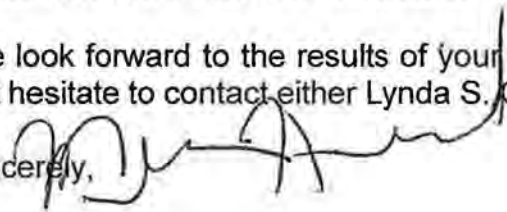
- a. Vannerson Homestead, South 7 miles on Highway 30 from intersection with Route 66, then 1.15 miles southwest, Erick Vicinity, Beckham County
- b. The University of Oklahoma Armory, 103 West Brooks Street, Norman, Cleveland County
- c. Fuksa, John and Mary, Farm, 1228 Marshall Road, Bison Vicinity, Garfield County
- d. Marshall Hall, 100 South University Avenue, Enid, Garfield County
- e. Public Library of Enid and Garfield County, 120 West Maine Street, Enid, Garfield County
- f. Robert R. and Minnie L. Kisner Mansion, 1111 West Wynona Avenue, Enid, Garfield County
- g. Santa Fe Freight Depot, 702 North Washington Avenue, Enid, Garfield County
- h. Lake Ponca Duck Pond Historic District, L.A. Cann Drive, Ponca City, Kay County
- i. Fairview Community Center, 206 East Broadway, Fairview, Major County
- j. Santa Fe Depot, 146 South EK Gaylord Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County
- k. Foyil Filling Station, 12243 S. Andy Payne Blvd, Claremore, Rogers County
- l. Belmont Apartments, 1314 South Denver Avenue West, Tulsa, Tulsa County

The members of the Historic Preservation Review Committee (state review board), professionally qualified in the fields of architectural history and prehistoric archeology were absent from the public meeting at which each of these nominations was considered and the recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Officer was formulated. Therefore, the member possessing the requisite professional qualifications for evaluation of Fuksa, John and Mary, Farm, Marshall Hall, Public Library of Enid and Garfield County, Robert R. and Minnie L. Kisner Mansion, Lake Ponca Duck Pond Historic District, Santa Fe Depot, and Foyil Filling Station was not present for the HPRC's formulation of its recommendation on the nomination. However, substantive

review of this nomination is not requested because the SHPO staff member possessing the requisite professional qualifications participated in the HPRC's deliberations on these noncontroversial nominations.

We look forward to the results of your review. If there may be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Lynda S. Ozan of my staff or myself.

Sincerely,



Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MKH:iso

Enclosures