

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic The Belvedere

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 109 North Chickasaw Ave. N/A not for publication

city, town Claremore N/A vicinity of congressional district 002

state Oklahoma code 40 county Rogers code 131

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> park
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Joe and Mary Moore

street & number 224 North Oak

city, town Claremore N/A vicinity of state Oklahoma 7/10/7

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk - 219 South Missouri

street & number Rogers County Courthouse

city, town Claremore state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Northeastern Oklahoma Counties Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society - State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Belvedere, constructed in 1902, is a rectangular shaped, three-story dwelling with dimensions of 42' x 42'. Originally a single family residence, it embodies some of the elements of the Victorian Gothic style. John M. Bayless, the builder, patterned the Belvedere after similar structures he had seen in Europe.

Red and yellow bricks, laid in a running bond pattern, were used as construction materials. There is a red brick turret at each corner of the building. The turrets on the front of the house are round with conical roofs. At the back of the structure, the turrets are square with pyramidal roofs. The eaves of the roofs project slightly over the turrets. The remainder of the structure has a hip roof with projecting eaves.

On the front of the structure there is a three-tiered porch which extends between the two turrets. There are four Doric columns on both the first and second floors which support the upper decks. On the second and third floors the porch decks are balustraded. There is a porte cochere, or carriage porch, on the northeast side of the house with a semicircular drive leading to the street. It has a gable roof with a triangular pediment which is supported by pillars resting on a brick wall.

There is a single panel door with lights leading onto the porch on the first and second floors at the front of the house. Side lights extending almost to the floor are located on both sides of the doors. There is a side entrance to the house located in the carriage porch. The door for this entrance is similar to those in the front facade.

On both of the round turrets there are three windows on each floor. They are $\frac{1}{1}$ sash windows and 5' apart. On the square turrets there are also three windows on each floor. They are $\frac{1}{1}$ sash windows located in the center of each side.

The fenestration on the front of the structure is the same for the first and second floors. On each side of the door there is a wide $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window. On the third floor there is a gable dormer window in the center which is used as a door to the porch. There is a window band with four panes above the door and side lights with two panes on each side of the door. Approximately 6' from each side of the door there is a double $\frac{4}{4}$ window which starts at the eave and extends down 3'.

In the first and second floors of the rear of the structure, there is a single $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window in the center which is flanked on both sides by a double $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window. In the third floor there is a gable dormer window in the center. It is a double $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window. On each side, next to the turret, there is a $\frac{4}{4}$ window which begins at the eave and extends down 3'.

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

7

2

On the southwest side of the structure, the fenestration is the same for the first and second floors. Beginning at the intersection of the round turret and the wide wall, there are two single $\frac{1}{1}$ sash windows, then a double $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window, and at the intersection of the side wall and the square turret, there is a single $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window. On the third floor, there is a gable dormer with a double $\frac{1}{1}$ sash window. On each side of this window, there is a $\frac{4}{4}$ window which begins at the eaves and extends down 3'.

There are two rectangular interior wall chimneys. They are constructed of red brick and sit on the center of the roof.

Several decorative elements are present on the structure. On top of each turret there is a hip knob with a finial and there is a finial on the point of the pediment over the carriage porch. There are stone lintels above all the turret windows and above all the first and second story windows except those in the front. The windows which have stone lintels also have stone sills. There is a stone watertable on all sides of the house except the front. The pediments in the dormer windows and the one above the carriage porch are decorated with rectangular wood shingles. The roofs of the turrets are also covered with rectangular wood shingles.

The Belvedere, which was converted into apartments during the mid-1920s, occupies a corner lot and is flanked on two (northeast and southeast) sides by streets. To the rear (northwest) of the structure, there are several apartments and to the southwest side a single family dwelling and an alley. The nominated property is surrounded by trees and the lawn has been landscaped with various shrubs and flower beds.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below							
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention						

Specific dates 1902 – ca. 1925 Builder/Architect John M. Bayless

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Belvedere is important because of its historic association with the John M. Bayless Family and its Victorian architecture.

John M. Bayless was one of the first settlers in northeastern Oklahoma. He came to Oklahoma during the railroad boom of the late nineteenth century and was responsible for selecting the route for the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad when it entered the state. At the turn of the century, he decided to move his family and business endeavors to Claremore, Oklahoma. In 1902, he designed and built the Belvedere which was the family home until the mid-1920s.

Bayless established the Bank of Claremore, one of the first in Rogers County, and embarked upon a career as a banker and developer. In addition to The Belvedere, he built the Sequoia Hotel, a three-story athletic club, and an opera house; all of which were important structures in the development of Claremore's social and commercial history. He also played an important role in the origin and evolution of the radium water baths of Claremore, which drew clients and visitors from throughout the United States.

The Bayless family was influential in the development of northeastern Oklahoma and later was active at the state level in the legal profession and politics. Three sons of John M. Bayless became bank officers; one in Claremore, one in Tulsa, and the third established banks in Miami and Nowata, Oklahoma. A fourth son was a lawyer-politician who served as Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

The construction materials and style make The Belvedere one of the most unique houses still intact in northeastern Oklahoma. Its yellow and red brick exterior and four turrets (two square and two round) make this Victorian Gothic dwelling one of the outstanding homes of Oklahoma according to John M. Morris' 1980 book entitled Oklahoma Homes: Past and Present. Most Victorian style homes in Oklahoma are constructed of wood and include only two turrets. For almost 80 years, The Belvedere has retained its architectural integrity and is the only building designed and constructed by John M. Bayless which remains in its original condition.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Howell, Joseph E., "Claremore Landmark Echoes the Past of Famous Oklahoma Family," Tulsa Tribune (November 10, 1959), p. 17.

Interview with Ruth Gerard, community resident, June 8, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Claremore, OK

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minutes

UMT References

A	<u>1 15</u>	<u>2 6 15</u>	<u>6 15 10</u>	<u>4 10</u>	<u>2 11</u>	<u>4 10 10</u>
Zone	Easting		Northing			
C						
E						
G						

B	<u> </u>					
Zone	Easting		Northing			
D						
F						
H						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 3, Block 103, Original Townsite of Claremore, Oklahoma.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Claudia A. Craig - Supervised by Dr. George O. Carney</u>		
organization	<u>Northeastern Oklahoma Counties Survey</u>	date	<u>September 24, 1981</u>
street & number	<u>Oklahoma State University</u>	telephone	<u>405-624-6250</u>
city or town	<u>Stillwater</u>	state	<u>Oklahoma</u>

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

1-25-82

title

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date

3/24/82

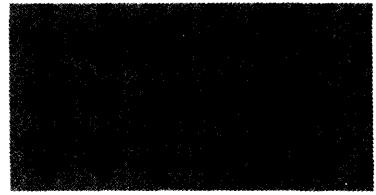
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

9

2

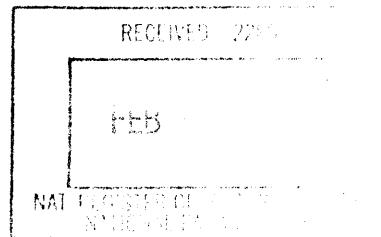
Morris, John W., Oklahoma Homes: Past and Present. Norman: University Oklahoma Press, 1980, p. 159.

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Belvidere, The

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 109 North Chickasaw Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Claremore vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Rogers code 131
zip code 74017

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page

Belvidere, The
name of property
Rogers County, Oklahoma
county and State

The Belvidere

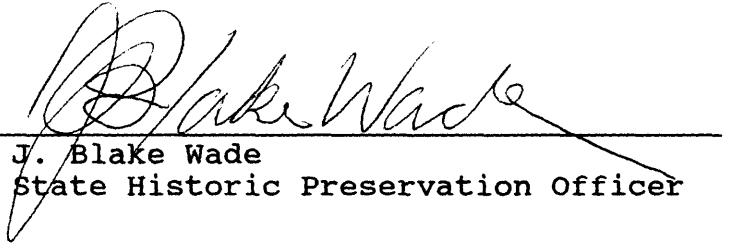
(Listed on the National Register of Historic Places 03/24/82)
Claremore, Rogers County (131), Oklahoma (OK)

Correction of Historic Name of Property:

The Belvidere was originally listed on the National Register of Historic Places as "The Belvedere," located at 109 North Chickasaw Avenue, Claremore, Rogers County, Oklahoma. Information was subsequently submitted showing that the correct spelling of the name of the property is "Belvidere" as evidenced by the name inlaid in tile on the front porch.

Therefore, this documentation is submitted to establish the correct name of the building as The Belvidere, located at 109 North Chickasaw Avenue, Claremore, Rogers County Oklahoma.

3 February 1997
Date


J. Blake Wade
State Historic Preservation Officer