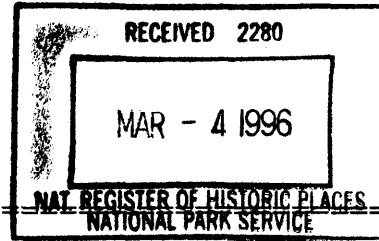


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

historic name Meeker Town Hall

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 115 North Fowler Street not for publication N/A
city or town Meeker vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Lincoln code 081
zip code 74855

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Baker Wade
Signature of certifying official

1 March 1996
Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Eileen H. Beall 4.4.96

Entered in the
~~National Register~~

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) WPA Resources in Lincoln County, Oklahoma

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: city hall

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: WPA Standardized Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls STONE:Sandstone
other _____

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

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ECONOMICS
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1935-1943

Significant Dates 1935

=====

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

=====

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Works Progress Administration, builder

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: _____

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

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>690260</u>	<u>3930730</u>	3	___	___
2	___	___	___	4	___	___

N/A See continuation sheet.

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

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

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

name/title Cynthia Smelker
organization Okla. Historic Preservation Survey date 1 July 1993
street & number Oklahoma State University telephone (405) 744-5679
city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078-0611

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

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

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

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

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

name David A. and Dorothy Randall

street & number Box 7 telephone _____

city or town Meeker state OK zip code 74855
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Meeker Town Hall
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

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SUMMARY

The Works Progress Administration (WPA) received an appropriation of 2,517 dollars to construct the Meeker Town Hall in 1935. Located approximately half a block off of Main Street, the building is situated in a primarily residential area but with numerous commercial buildings to its immediate south. Built in the WPA Standardized style, the town hall exhibits many representative WPA features. These attributes include use of polychromatic native sandstone for construction material, exposed rafter tails, double windows and a simple, functional design. The rectangular, one-story building is topped by an asphalt gable roof. Measuring 29' X 40', the building is adjoined on the north side by a 26' X 40 garage addition. The garage addition is further extended to the east by a cinder block addition measuring 20' X 22'. Although the addition is comparable to the original size of the town hall and identical in design, the WPA constructed portion is easily discernible due to the distinctive use of polychromatic native stone. Other alterations to the building include modification to the windows and doors. Overall, the town hall retains its integrity.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The west elevation of the building, the facade, originally had a centrally located single door with transom light flanked by paired, one-over-one, double hung, wood windows. The north windows have been infilled with a combination of wood and a single, one-over-one, double hung, metal window. The south windows have also been modernized, resulting in paired, double hung, metal windows shortened by the infill of wood in the upper third of the window. The doorway has also been modified with the addition of a new, three panel door and wood infill in the transom area. (Photograph 1 and 2)

The south elevation has one single window located near the west elevation and a former garage door near the rear of the building. The window, similar to the front windows, has been modernized with a new one-over-one, double hung, metal window and infill of wood in the upper portion of the window. The garage door has likewise been infilled with wood and a single, one-over-one, double hung, metal window. (Photograph 1)

The rear of the building has only one square vent window high in the gable and is devoid of any other decorative detail. The north elevation is presumably also without any openings as a building has abutted the town hall since its construction. At the time of construction, the neighboring building did not

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Meeker Town Hall
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attach itself directly to the town hall. However, possibly in the mid-1950s when the volunteer Meeker Fire Department obtained their first pumper, a double car garage was constructed contiguous to the town hall. Constructed of weatherboard, the garage has two overhead doors and one single, three panel door with light. On the west elevation of the garage is another three panel door with light and a square vent window in the upper gable. Also attached to the rear of the garage is a smaller cinder block building with a flat roof which slightly overlaps onto the WPA building. The garage is bordered on the immediate north by another garage. (Photograph 2 and 3)

ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS

A large garage has been attached to the town hall on the north side. This addition is similar in size and shape to the original building but is constructed of weatherboard rather than the characteristic WPA polychromatic native stone. Other alterations include modifying a garage door to a single window and replacing the wood windows with metal windows. The windows have further been changed by the addition of wood to the upper third of all. Nonetheless, the Meeker Town Hall continues to maintain its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship and conveys the feeling of its past environment.

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Section 8 Page 11

Meeker Town Hall
name of property
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SUMMARY

The Meeker Town Hall is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The town hall is historically significant as an example of the work undertaken by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in Lincoln County, Oklahoma. The work relief provided by the WPA allowed many destitute people to survive the trying times of the 1930s while also stimulating the local, and therefore state and national, economies. The Meeker Town Hall is further historically significant for its association with the local government during its use as a town hall. Additionally, the town hall is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The building is architecturally significant as an unusual example of the WPA Standardized style as applied to local government buildings. Contextually, the Meeker Town Hall relates to "The Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) in Lincoln County, Oklahoma, 1935-1943." The associated property type is WPA Resources, subtype Government Buildings.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The town of Meeker, Oklahoma, was founded in 1903. Similar to many Oklahoma towns, the impetus for the town came from the railroad. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, in constructing a branch road from Arkansas City, Kansas, to Shawnee, Oklahoma, required a depot in the vicinity. Land for the townsite was ceded by homesteaders Julian Meeker and Walter Fowler. As the railroad already had a Fowler on the line, the town was named Meeker in honor of Meeker's donation. The first bisecting street was named Fowler in honor of Fowler's contribution to the town. Offered at auction on 16 March 1903, many of the town's lots were brought by residents of the nearby town of Clifton. Bringing their buildings with them when they moved, the Clifton residents essentially moved their town, lock, stock and barrel to Meeker.¹ A small, agricultural community, Meeker never experienced a major population explosion. By 1930, the town boasted a population of 562, ranking it fifth in terms of population in Lincoln County.

Constructed in 1935, the Meeker Town Hall was one of the earliest projects undertaken by the WPA in Lincoln County. It was, however, not the first Depression era, federally aided project in the town. The Federal Emergency Relief Act provided labor and much of the material for improvement to the Meeker Community Building in the years preceding the WPA. Other WPA projects in the town included improvement to the streets and cemetery. The WPA received an appropriation of approximately 2,500 dollars for the Meeker Town Hall

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Meeker Town Hall
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project, 8,000 dollars for work on the streets and 3,000 for the cemetery project. Combined the three WPA projects boosted the local economy by nearly fifteen thousand dollars in a three year period.

Beyond helping the local residents and community economy, the construction of the town hall also facilitated the workings of the town government. Similar to the school buildings, many Oklahoma government buildings had become obsolete or, in some instances, were nonexistent. Due to their inability to procure sufficient funds, especially during the trying economic times of the Great Depression, many counties and towns were not able to construct the necessary improved facilities. However, with the assistance of the WPA and usually the sponsorship of the benefitting governmental entity, several city halls, jails and county courthouses were constructed to improve the quality of local government in many Oklahoma towns.

The construction of new city halls by the WPA allowed the respective community government to function with a new efficiency. The improved facilities centralized the seat of city government and also allowed for an expansion of city records and services. Additionally, the new building enhanced the community identity. The city hall, often the identifying building of small towns, was critical to the town's self-image.

The Meeker Town Hall continued in use as the town hall until about the late 1970s. At that time a new, modern, metal town hall was constructed on the northeast side of town. The town hall has since been used as a private residence.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

As a WPA building, the Meeker Town Hall is architecturally significant. WPA-built architecture varied in size, shape, exterior features and decorative details; however, all possess one or more unifying features that identify it as WPA constructed. As an example of the WPA Standardized style, the Meeker Town Hall is representative of many distinguishing WPA characteristics. These features include the use of polychromatic native sandstone and a utilitarian plan with no real architectural features and minimal decorative details consisting of exposed rafter tails and double windows. As an example of the early WPA buildings and a small town government building, the Meeker Town Hall is notable for its simplicity in design. The building exhibits few exterior features and decorative details.

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Meeker Town Hall
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The number of city halls and other municipal buildings constructed in Oklahoma was remarkably less than the number of school buildings. Total, only approximately twenty-seven projects to build new city halls or municipal buildings were undertaken by the WPA. Within the central seven Oklahoma counties, only three city halls were identified in the 1987 thematic survey of WPA resources completed by the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office. Of these three, one was located in Canadian County in Yukon; one in Logan County at Crescent; and, one in Lincoln County in Meeker. The Meeker Town Hall, as such, is historically and architecturally significant as a rare example of a WPA town hall in Lincoln County and Oklahoma.

ENDNOTES

1. Meeker's 75th Anniversary Celebration, (Meeker, OK: Meeker Chamber of Commerce, 1978), 7-9.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Meeker Town Hall
name of property
Lincoln County, Oklahoma
county and State

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Lincoln County, Oklahoma History. Claremore, OK: Country Lane Press, 1988.

"Meeker Town Hall." Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory, Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City.

Meeker's 75th Anniversary Celebration. Meeker Chamber of Commerce, 1978.

United States Community Improvement Appraisal Report, Lincoln County, Oklahoma. Okmulgee, OK: State of Oklahoma, Department of Government, 1938.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 15-16, Block 3, Meeker, Oklahoma, T12N, R4E, Section 20.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries include the property historically associated with the town hall.