

PH0680176

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	JUL 24 1978
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**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

Arkansas Valley National Bank (Pawnee County Bank)

AND/OR COMMON

Lyon Jewelry

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

547 Sixth Street

\_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Pawnee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

No. 1

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

CODE\*

40

COUNTY

Pawnee

CODE

117

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ SITE

\_\_\_ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

\_\_\_ PUBLIC

PRIVATE

\_\_\_ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ YES: UNRESTRICTED

\_\_\_ NO

**PRESENT USE**

\_\_\_ AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ MUSEUM

\_\_\_ PARK

\_\_\_ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

C. J. Lyon

STREET & NUMBER

547 Sixth Street

CITY, TOWN

Pawnee

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Pawnee County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Pawnee

STATE

Oklahoma

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Special Bank Survey

DATE

1977

\_\_\_ FEDERAL  STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Oklahoma Historical Society

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 Basically)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Erected in 1902, the Arkansas Valley National Bank building is a two-story, 30 x 90-foot structure, built entirely of native cut sandstone (with load-carrying exterior walls). Though completely traditional in style (cf. No. 8), it exemplifies fine stone work and is in the main an excellent example of turn-of-the-century bank construction in small town Oklahoma. Its one dominant feature is a corner wall, on the bias, that accommodates a high arched entrance under a be-pillared classic portico. Even today, though serving a jewelry store rather than a bank, this double-doored entry maintains its solidly respectable dignity.

Exterior of the building retains most of its original character. The only relatively minor change: replacement of three large windows with canvas awnings by shadow-box units to better accommodate its present use as a jewelry store. All interior walls and ceilings are of plaster over wood lathe. The downstairs interior has been newly remodelled, but the old bank vault (with traditionally decorative door), a wall clock, the tile floor, and some marble wainscoting of the original bank building remain. The exterior stonework is in need of cleaning and re-pointing. Although the upstairs is now unused, the windows and roof have been sealed to prevent further deterioration.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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 to present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Like a ship, every town needs an anchor. Especially an ambitious new town. And at the turn of the century, more often than not, this anchor was a commercial one, taking the form of a solid two-story bank building, invariably of brick or stone. Architecturally, it was usually Victorian overall, but often with a touch or two of the classic, as if to underscore its fiscal integrity. Almost without fail the building provided office space, above the banking floor, for the town's leading physician and other prominent professionals. And the bank's officers and/or builders, needless to say, included some of the town's most prominent and influential citizens.

The Arkansas Valley National Bank\* across the street west from the County Courthouse, could serve as prototype for the breed. Built in 1902, it had as a principal Gordon W. ("Pawnee Bill") Lillie, the noted Wild West showman and conservationist. (His home on the west edge of Pawnee, Blue Hawk Peak, with some 278 surviving acres of his ranch, are now in the National Register of Historic Places.) The bank was built of rough-cut native stone, gray-brown in color, with numerous chimney pots and turreted and ornamented second-story false front - but also with a cross-corner classic entranceway to the bank itself. And, upstairs, it housed a doctor, a photographer, and the local telephone office.

Today, of course, much of this commercial pattern has changed. The bank itself closed around 1918. Over the years the ground floor has accommodated a doctor's office, cafe, and other enterprises. Since 1946 it has housed a jewelry and curio store. The upstairs has long been unused, but for storage. However, the still handsome landmark - one of the town's earliest surviving permanent business structures - remains essentially unaltered. For these reasons, then - its traditional architecture, the significance of at least one of its principals (note the "LILLIE" atop the neighboring business building), its continuing role in the commercial life of the community, AND its actual survival - the Arkansas Valley National Bank\* is herewith nominated for National Register status.

\*Organizers planned to call their institution the Pawnee County Bank, hence the name on the building's east wall. It was chartered, however, as the Arkansas Valley National Bank and always went by that name.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Principal source was a history-minded local architect.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY C. one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 69,7160 4023560  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historical Society

DATE

December 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL   

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Harry L. Hensbee M.D.

DATE

7-14-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Charles Adams  
 DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

11-17-78

ATTEST:

Marcella Sheff  
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11-16-78