

PH0358479

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY
FEB 24 1976
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED SEP 29 1976

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 *NA* **
Electric Park Pavilion
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

300 South Main

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Blackwell

VICINITY OF

No. 6

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Oklahoma

40

Kay

071

CLASSIFICATION

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

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

City of Blackwell

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Blackwell

VICINITY OF

Oklahoma

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Kay County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Newkirk

Oklahoma

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Special Electric Park Pavilion Survey

DATE

1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Top of Oklahoma Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Blackwell (Box 100)

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED (basically) ORIGINAL SITE
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pavilion was erected 1912-1913 -- dedication was Easter Sunday 1913 -- in the Spanish style, with a ribbed dome at its center. Of brick and stucco construction, its main section stands approximately 80 x 160 feet. A 40 x 60-foot addition to the rear houses complete kitchen facilities and (today) air-conditioning. The building is on a 140 x 300-foot site two blocks from the heart of Blackwell.

Basically the building has not been changed significantly over the years. However, as a comparison of the two enclosed night-time pictures shows, the "electric" part of the Electric Pavilion has been downgraded a bit. But dome and wall-top lighting continues to suggest the spectacle citizens thrilled to in 1913 when the magnificent new structure was dedicated.

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 1912 to present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Significance of the Electric Park Pavilion can perhaps be understood only if one appreciates its setting - a small town in a new state. In 1912, when construction work began, Oklahoma had shed its Territorial status for Statehood but five years before. Blackwell, an ambitious agricultural community, had been established only a few years earlier, in 1893, when the vast Cherokee Outlet was thrown open to settlement. Previous to that the entire region had been, in effect, one large cattle pasture.

The Pavilion, then, was a rather flamboyant salute to electricity - in a day when that "new-fangled" source of light was, particularly in rural America, still a wonderfully exciting innovation. Today, of course, light is only one of electricity's many bounties. And the building itself, admittedly, is no longer quite the pride-provoking showplace of the county it was in 1913 when dedicated. However, then and now, it has served the widest variety of community needs - civic, social, and educational. And as such - as a focal point for nearly every phase of community endeavor for more than sixty years - the Pavilion would seem to be a statement of intent and purpose, of ambition and pride, of self-reliance and self-help. Perhaps it is no coincidence that Kay County is one of the most productive agriculturally in the nation.

* * *

From the beginning the Pavilion's kitchen and banquet rooms has provided a convenient meeting place for city and county residents. Its 800-seat auditorium has accommodated entertainment groups, both local or touring. Blackwell schools have frequently used it for graduation exercises and other activities. Records show the building has been used by various organizations as many as 345 times in a single year. The Pavilion has also provided office space for many clubs and organizations. Today it accommodates the Camp Fire Girls, the National American Red Cross, United Fund, and Associated Charities ... all of this in addition to the Top of Oklahoma Museum.

Project of the Top of Oklahoma Historical Society, the museum currently uses approximately half of the Pavilion. Highlighting its more than 2,000 items are two pioneer recreations. One portrays a kitchen, bedroom, parlor, and dining room at the turn of the century when this area was still Oklahoma Territory. The other is an early-day church. The museum also features displays of early county newspapers and various historical documents.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Unpublished material provided by the Top of Oklahoma Historical Society,
Box 516, Blackwell, OK 74631

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 3 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	4	6	5	3	2	9	2	4	0	7	4	0	4	0
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

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

DATE

November 1975

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

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

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

9/29/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

9/27/76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER