

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oklahoma	
COUNTY: Pawnee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Pawnee Indian Agency

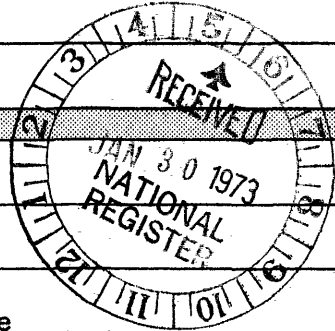
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
East edge of

CITY OR TOWN:
Pawnee

STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE: **40** COUNTY: **Pawnee** CODE: **117**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Pawnee Tribal Reserve

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pawnee Tribal Offices

CITY OR TOWN: **Pawnee** STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE: **40**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Office of the County Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER:
Pawnee County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: **Pawnee** STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE: **40**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Oklahoma Historic Sites Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1958** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Oklahoma Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Oklahoma City** STATE: **Oklahoma** CODE: **40**

STATE: **Oklahoma**

COUNTY: **Pawnee**

ENTRY NUMBER: **APR 11 1973**

DATE: _____

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

6-235-73

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Though many buildings remain in the Pawnee agency/school complex, this nomination requests National Register status for only two, both owned by the Pawnees. Both date back to the late 1870's when the temporary log buildings gave way to permanent affairs, constructed of the rather dingy gray sandstone characteristic of the area.

The original Pawnee Agency building itself is a rectangular structure some 20 x 40 feet in size, facing south with a narrow porch running its full width. The building is now leased to the U. S. Public Health Service and used as the pharmacy in connection with the nearby USPS hospital. Roofing is obviously new, and a few other minor changes and additions have been made. But basically the building is much as it was when it served the tribe as agency.

The two-story superintendent's house, also of stone, has had similar changes made to it over the years. Structurally, however, the residence remains much as it always has been. Also owned by the tribe, it is currently rented as a family dwelling. Agency and residence are separated by a couple hundred feet of lawn at the north edge of the no-longer-used school grounds.



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SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

c. 1876 to present

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Language | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Indian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pawnees, belonging to the Caddoan linguistic family, have now lived in Oklahoma for almost a century. It was in 1872 that they sold their Nebraska reservation lands along the Loup River and, in part because of constant warfare with the hostile Sioux, began looking for a new home farther south. They came into what is now Oklahoma in the winter of 1873-1874 and that fall they bought -- and paid for with tribal funds -- 283,000 acres between the Cimarron and Arkansas rivers in present Pawnee and Payne counties.

An agency was established the following summer, in 1875, on Black Bear Creek, near what is now the Pawnee Sub-Agency, on the east edge of the town of Pawnee. Temporary log buildings soon gave way to permanent structures of sandstone and though their use has changed from time to time over the years, most of them still stand. A boarding school was soon established near the agency. It remained in service until June 30, 1958, when it was finally closed.

Curiously, it was among the newly removed Pawnees that General George A. Custer recruited Indian scouts to aid him in his campaign against the Sioux and other hostile Plains tribes, the campaign that led to his death on the Little Big Horn in 1876. One hundred Pawnee enlistees served in the military campaigns that followed which saw the hostile tribes rounded up and returned to reservations. (In 1925 no less than ten of the army scouts were still living in Oklahoma.) The Pawnees, says Historian Muriel Wright, herself a Choctaw, have always been known for "courage, loyalty, and respect for authority." From the time their lands were absorbed in the Louisiana Purchase, the Pawnees "never made war on the United States, and Pawnee scouts served faithfully and courageously in the United States Army in Indian wars." (Indeed, their valiant service to their country extended right down to World War II, when they were cited not only for valor in battle but for their special communications talent. They were especially good in handling messages, as no enemy chancing to intercept them could "decode" their native Indian tongue!)

In 1892 the Pawnees agreed to the opening of their reservation to white settlement. Tribal members accepted allotments and the surplus lands (169,320 acres) were thrown open by "run" on September 16, 1893. Since 1936 the "Pawnee Indian Tribe of Oklahoma" has operated

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ruth, Kent, & Others, Oklahoma: A Guide to the Sooner State, University of Oklahoma Press, 1956, pp. 273-275
 Wright, Muriel H., A Guide to the Indian Tribes of Oklahoma, University of Oklahoma Press, 1951, pp. 202-207

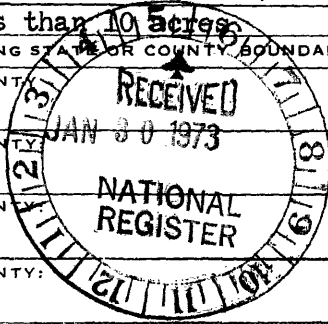
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		36° 20' 16"	96° 47' 23"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 10 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



*No
DTM
HF*

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION: Oklahoma Historical Society DATE: October 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN: Oklahoma City STATE: Oklahoma CODE: 40

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name [Signature]

Title Sho for [Signature]

Date JAN 19 1973

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

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/11/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 4 73

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Oklahoma	
COUNTY	
Pawnee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 11 1973

(Number all entries)

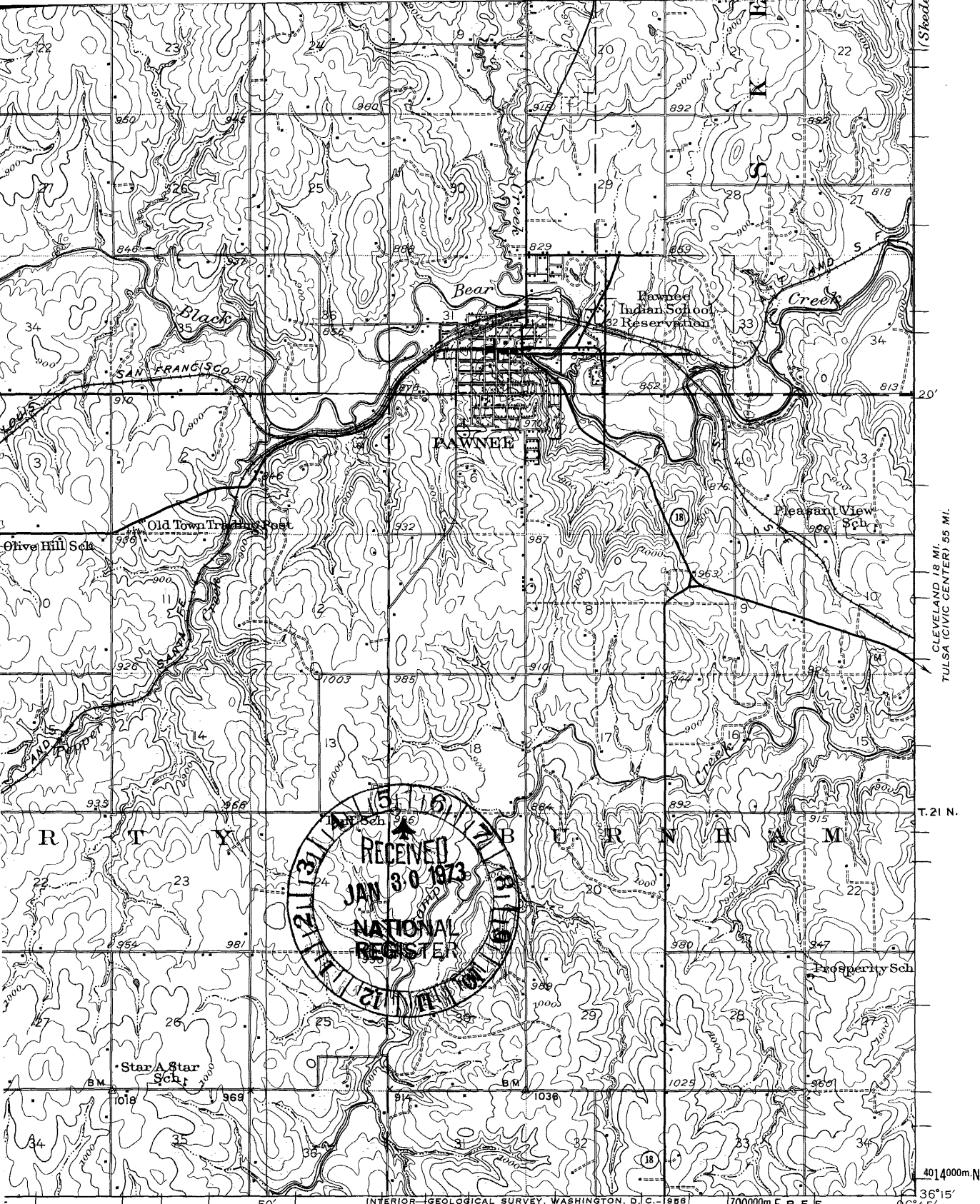
No. 8. Significance

Pawnee Indian Agency

under an officially ratified constitution. It provides for a Business Council and a more ceremonial Nasharo Council. The Pawnees have always been noted for their tribal religion, rich in myth, symbolism, and elaborate ceremonials. Much of this ancient cultural heritage has been retained and the annual Pawnee powwow in July is one of the state's oldest and better known Indian ceremonials.

These traditional affairs, along with a Public Health Service hospital, a rest home utilizing an old school building, a community center, and the variety of tribal functions and services that go along with an Indian agency, combine today to focus a continuing attention on this tree-shaded cluster of sandstone buildings, now nearly one hundred years old, that represents the only home the Pawnees have had in Oklahoma. Curiously, as this nomination is being prepared, Pawnee leaders are seeking the return to the tribe of the balance of agency lands and buildings, turned over to the City of Pawnee after the school was closed.

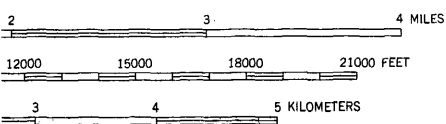




15' Sec. 20'
 CLEVELAND 18 MI.
 TULSA (CIVIC CENTER) 55 MI.

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 JAN 30 1973
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INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. - 1958
 2.5 MI. TO OKLA. 51
 CUSHING 18 MI.



Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Oklahoma (North)
 rectangular coordinate system
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 14, shown in blue

PAWNEE, OKLA.
 N 3615--W 9645 / 15

1930

COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
 BOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST