

**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 Cobb Building

and/or common American Bank

## 2. Location

street & number 203 East Cherokee St.

N/A not for publication

city, town Wagoner

\_\_\_ vicinity of

congressional district 002

state Oklahoma

code 40

county Wagoner

code 145

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name American Bank

street & number 203 East Cherokee

city, town Wagoner

\_\_\_ vicinity of

state Oklahoma

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number Wagoner County Courthouse, 307 East Cherokee

city, town Wagoner

state Oklahoma

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory

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

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## 7. Description

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

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### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Cobb Building, completed in 1895, is a flat-roofed, two story commercial structure 62' X 75'. It is constructed of cedar, pressed tin, and red brick laid in a running bond course; and set on a native sandstone foundation. The building embodies many elements of the Queen Anne Commercial Style: multiple construction materials, a second floor which projects over the first, and an overall exuberant visual display created by the decorative elements.

The second floor of the building's front has two three-sided bays which extend approximately 3' over the first floor.

The first floor of the building's front contains two paired, fixed-pane windows and five single, fixed-pane windows. On the second floor there are nine tall, fixed-pane windows. Each bay includes four windows and one window separates the two bays. There is a single mullion dividing each window into two lights.

On the west side of the first floor of the building there are two fixed-pane windows with plain stone lintels. The second floor of the same side includes three single fixed-pane windows and two double fixed-pane tall windows, each with a pyramidal-shaped hood molding.

There are no windows on the first floor of the building's east side, however, the second floor contains six single fixed-pane windows and one tall fixed-pane window. The tall window and two of the other windows each have a single mullion creating two lights. Above each of the windows there is a brick segmental arch.

Windows in the building's rear side include four single fixed-pane tall windows on the first floor and nine single fixed-pane tall windows on the second. Above each of the first and second floor windows on the rear is a brick segmental arch.

The structure contains three doors, two in the front and one in the west side. All doors are solid glass and have fixed-pane windows above them.

Decorative elements on the Cobb Building are varied both in style and construction material. Located primarily on the front, these elements contribute much to the character of the building, transforming a simple business structure into a classic example of the Queen Anne Commercial style.

Carved wooden posts frame each of the first floor windows on the front of the structure and pilaster strips flank the end windows. Molded cedar panels decorate the area above and below the first floor windows.

The top of the building is decorated with an elaborate pressed tin parapet. At each end of the parapet is a fluted cupola. In the center of the parapet, there is a lantern-like protrusion with fluted, circular columns supporting its roof. The center of the lantern is decorated with a pressed tin fleur-de-lis. On each side of the lantern there is a 16' long pressed tin wall with rounded ends topped by finials.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET Description

ITEM NUMBER 7

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At the northwest corner of the building there is a pressed tin cupola similar to those on the front.

Along the top of the west wall there is a wooden parapet decorated with dentils. Below the parapet there are molded wooden panels similar to the ones on the front of the building.

Over the past ten years, renovation and restoration work has been done to the Cobb Building. A drive-in banking facility was added to the east side of the structure, but was set back far enough so as not to affect the overall character of the building. The original windows were replaced with thermopane glass, however, the fenestration was not changed. The wooden panels above and below the first floor windows were replaced, but the construction materials and design replicated the original features.

The restoration project was carefully done by using historic photographs of the building and conducting oral histories with older residents of the community. As a result, the Cobb Building, now occupied by the American Bank of Wagoner, has been restored to its original appearance.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** 1895-Present      **Builder/Architect** Samuel S. Cobb

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Cobb Building is significant because: (1) it has been continuously associated with economic endeavors in the town of Wagoner, Oklahoma for over 85 years making it one of the oldest commercial buildings in northeastern Oklahoma, (2) the building's second floor served as the major focal point for Wagoner's social life from 1895 to the 1920s, and (3) it was one of the first substantial brick business structures in Wagoner, Oklahoma.

Samuel S. Cobb, one of the pioneer settlers in Wagoner County, constructed the building in 1895 to house the United States Post Office for the City of Wagoner and a drugstore to be managed by himself. Although the United States Post Office was moved after several years, the Cobb Building has housed commercial operations for over 85 years. A general merchandise store replaced the post office and Hoeshers Drug replaced Cobb's. Both were in business until the late 1960s when the American Bank purchased the building for use as a major banking facility in Wagoner, a function carried on to the present.

Cobb designed the second floor of the building to serve as a social center for the growing community of Wagoner. It consisted of a large ballroom for dances and theatrical productions as well as space allocated for civic, church, and fraternal meetings. From 1895 to the 1920s, the Cobb Building's second floor was the hub of social life in the town of Wagoner. The second floor was partitioned in the 1920s to create space for professional offices, and until its purchase by the American Bank in 1970, it housed offices for physicians, attorneys, and dentists.

Cobb's use of brick as the building's construction material was symbolic of his belief that Wagoner was to become a permanent community in northeastern Oklahoma. Prior to that time business establishments were constructed of wood in the relatively new town of Wagoner.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Wagoner County History, Oklahoma Extension Homemakers Council, 1980.

Interview with Bob Stevens, President of American Bank, July, 1981.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Wagoner West, Oklahoma

Quadrangle scale 7.5 minutes

### UMT References

A 

1	5	2	8	5	7	2	0	3	9	8	1	9	6	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H 

Zone				Easting				Northing						

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, and Western 5' of Lot 19, Block 288  
Original Townsite of Wagoner, Oklahoma

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia A. Craig supervised by Dr. George O. Carney

organization Northeastern Oklahoma Counties Survey date December, 1981

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature C. Metcalf

title SHPO date 7-19-82

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Beth Greenwood</u>	date <u>9/13/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	