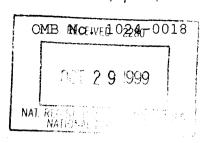
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



oute 66 Roadbe	d		
N/A			

SSE from Jct.	SR66 & Hiwassee	Rd. not for	publication
klahoma code <u>OK</u>	county Oklahoma	vicinity	<u>X</u> code <u>109</u>
	N/A SSE from Jct.	SSE from Jct. SR66 & Hiwassee	N/A SSE from Jct. SR66 & Hiwassee Rd. not for klahoma vicinity

of Action

3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the N 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that determination of eligibility meets registering properties in the National F the procedural and professional requiremmy opinion, the property X meets Criteria. I recommend that this property in ationally X statewide locally. additional comments.)	this X nomination request for the documentation standards for legister of Historic Places and meets ents set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In does not meet the National Register bety be considered significant
Job Dachburn	10-25-99
Signature of certifying official	Date
Oklahoma Historical Society; State Historic I	Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meet Register criteria. (See continuation Signature of commenting or other official 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):	
	Signature of Keeper Date

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 X structure object
Number of Resources within Property
Contributing Noncontributing buildings sites structures objects Total
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Resources in Oklahoma Resources in Oklahoma

=====	=======					
6. Fu	nction o	r Use				
	ric Func Transpo		categories f	rom instructior Road Related	ns)	- - -
						- - - -
	nt Funct Transpo			om instructions Road Related		- - -
						- - -
7. De	scriptio					-
Archi		Classification - roadway	on (Enter ca	tegories from i 	nstructions)	
Mater		ter categories tion <u>Concrete</u> N/A N/A		uctions)		
	other	Portland Concorded concrete comb		alt and		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right) \left$

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)
X 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) Transportation Engineering
Period of Significance 1922-1949
Significant Dates 1922 1926 1928-29

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Cultural Affiliation
Architect/Builder Oklahoma State Highway Commission—Design Brooks Dahlgren and West Paving Co., contractors
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References
(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 X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed Oklahoma County, Oklahoma Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

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10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property9.5			
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)			
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing 1 $\frac{14}{14}$ $\frac{653900}{654080}$ $\frac{3948120}{3947520}$ 3 $\frac{14}{14}$ $\frac{653960}{654180}$ $\frac{3947400}{3947320}$ 5 $\frac{14}{14}$ $\frac{654320}{654320}$ $\frac{3947360}{3947360}$ 6 $\frac{14}{14}$ $\frac{654820}{654820}$ $\frac{3947320}{3947320}$			
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/titleJim Ross, publisher			
organization Ghost Town Press date June 29, 1999			
street & number 13100 E. Old Highway 66 telephone (405) 396-2166			
city or town Arcadia state OK zip code 73007-7909			
~======================================			
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)

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed Oklahoma County, Oklahoma Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

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	_======================================	
Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of the SHP	O or FPO.)	
name Oklahoma County		
street & number 320 Robert S. Kerr Ave.	telephone	(405) 713-1361
city or town Oklahoma City	state <u>OK</u> zip	code _73102

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The nominated section of two-lane roadbed is just under one mile in length. Near its midpoint, a concrete pylon bearing construction data remains alongside the road. This stretch of original Route 66 lies along a wooded hillside approximately one mile east of the town of Arcadia, Oklahoma and approximately one-half mile north of the Deep Fork of the Canadian River. Rural in setting and zoned agricultural, this tree-lined lane is decorated with blackjack oak, burr oak, cottonwood, cedar, chinaberry, and other indigenous trees as well as an abundance of wildflowers. A haven for deer, the area is also habitat for coyote, rabbit, bobcat, raccoon, squirrel and other game. To the immediate north is a Black Angus cattle ranch and to the immediate west lies an operating dairy farm. To the east and south, the landscape is a mix of pasture, woodland, and cultivated river bottom.

The roadway within the boundaries of the property is nine tenths of a mile in length and its hard surface width is eighteen feet, with additional right of way of sixty-two feet, resulting in a total property width of eighty feet. Constructed in 1922 and paved in 1928-29 to Oklahoma State Highway Commission standards of the era, the property consists of the east and west adjoining "ends" of two separate road construction projects, each of which was built with a different road surface design. The first, completed in 1928, is a standard "Bates Type" roadway consisting of pure Portland Concrete, and is part of Federal Aid Project 137, Section G, extending 3/10ths of a mile on the east end of the property. The total length of this project was 4.058 miles. The second, completed in 1929, is a "Modified Bates Type" roadway consisting of a two inch asphalt surface over a five inch concrete base with nine inch concrete edgings, and is part of State Aid/Federal Aid Project 137, Section F, extending 6/10ths of a mile on the west end of the property. The total length of this project

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Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (Continued)

was 4.877 miles. The parts of these road projects extending outside the boundaries of the property have been overlaid by present Oklahoma State Highway 66.

Both road surface designs were common during the early years of paving U.S. highways, though the Portland Concrete surface (such as the property's FAP 137-G) ultimately became the design of choice, as it was more economical, could be built faster, and met all standards for durability. In 1928 Oklahoma, approximately 90% of all Portland Cement was manufactured in-state at the Ada, Oklahoma Portland Cement Company. (This cement, mixed on-site with aggregate, became Portland Concrete.) The resulting roadbed had a strength averaging 4,500 lbs. per square inch, as high as any in the nation. Calcium chloride was used as a curing agent. On asphalt projects (such as the property's SA/FAP 137-F), an on-site chemist from the state laboratory supervised the preparation and laying of the asphalt mixture, to include assisting the contractor in selecting the sands used. From day to day the finished product was tested for viscosity, solubility, specific gravity, melting point, volatility, penetration, and flash point.

At the point where the two road types abut (near the property's midpoint), there remains on the right of way a concrete FAP (Federal Aid Project) marker with two in-laid brass shields inscribed with data for each project in its entirety, to include the project's number and section, its length in miles, and the year of completion. This marker, which is three-sided and stands approximately three feet above ground, was installed by the state highway department at the time paving and all related work was completed.

ALTERATIONS

Other than periodic patching of holes with like materials, the dimensions and materials for both road types remain unaltered since their respective completions in 1928-29. The roadside FAP marker remains 100% unaltered.

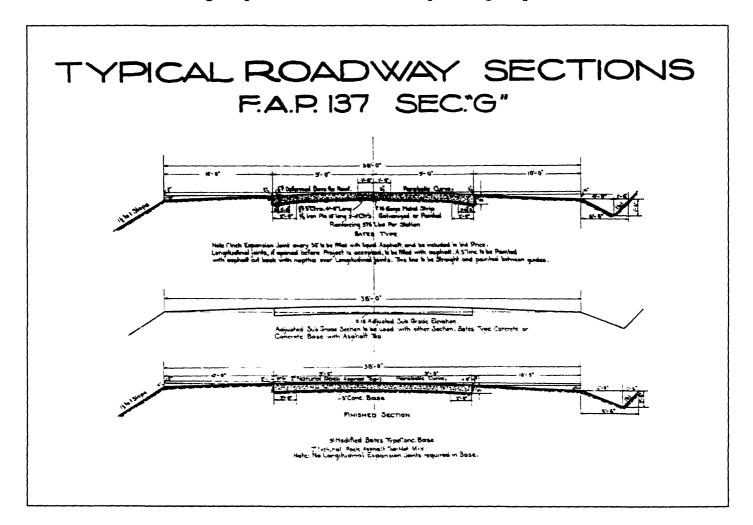
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Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed
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Oklahoma State Highway Commission roadway design specifications - 1928



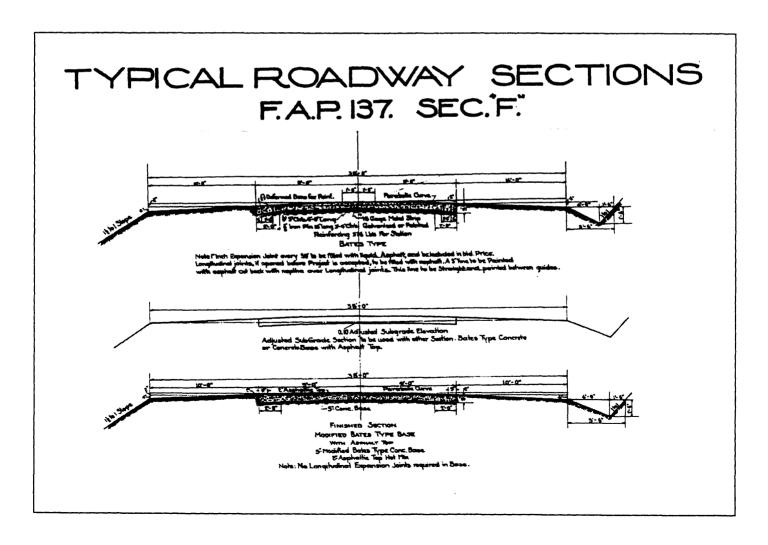
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Oklahoma State Highway Commission roadway design specifications - 1928



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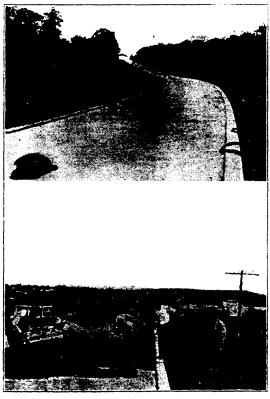
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Illustration of 1928 road building project of identical design to the property's FAP 137-F.



Federal Aid Project No. 168. Ohmulges County, 5 miles of concrete and asphalt paving uset of Henryetta, being built by Park and Moran of Ohmulges; C. P. Smith resident engineer and J. H. Tait division engineer.

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Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed
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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

This section of original Route 66 roadbed is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the development of a modern transportation system in Oklahoma and its association with U.S. Highway 66, one of the nation's first all-weather, interstate highways. It is also eligible under Criterion C as an excellent surviving example of roadbed construction and paving methods in the late 1920s, illustrating two distinctly different types of roadway design.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The dedication of Route 66 took place on November 11, 1926 at an American Association of State Highway Officials ceremony in Pinehurst, NC, when the uniform numbering system for the newly created national highway system was adopted by all the states. Prior to the establishment of this system, the nation's highways consisted essentially of discontinuous road networks devised by non-affiliated trails associations. The new government-mandated uniform marking system gave precise definition to each recognized federal highway in terms of its length and continuity.

Because both ends of the highway terminated in major cities (Chicago in the east and Los Angeles in the west), Route 66 soon became the nation's premier thoroughfare. It was known as "the way west," and during the Dust Bowl and Depression years it also became a road of hope for thousands of

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Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

migrant families desperate to escape the shriveled lands of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas and Kansas. In 1939, author John Steinbeck chronicled that exodus in his novel, "The Grapes of Wrath," wherein he defined Route 66 as "the mother road, the road of flight." It was an identification that so aptly described the innumerable instances of deliverance or despair resulting from the migrants' travels on the highway that "The Mother Road" thereafter became the universally adopted namesake for U.S.66.

Also known as The Will Rogers Highway (dedicated as such by the U.S.66 Highway Association in 1952) and The Main Street of America (the slogan used by the association), a variety of other events and occurrences also contributed to the establishment of its legendary status in transportation history. Among them were the "Bunion Derby" of 1928, a transcontinental footrace that incorporated all of U.S.66 and brought a high level of publicity to the fledgling highway, and the Will Rogers Caravan, a motorcade that traveled the highway in 1952 to promote a motion picture on the life of Will Rogers.

In 1946, during a car trip from Pennsylvania to Los Angeles, songwriter/composer Bobby Troup used the names of the towns on the map he followed to write the song destined to become the highway's anthem, "Route 66," a tune that was initially recorded by Nat King Cole and has since been recorded by dozens of other artists.

Troup's historic trip occurred immediately after World War II,

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

during which Route 66 had been used primarily as a conduit for military and truck convoys operating between the industrial East and training bases in the West. The congestion caused by the continuous stream of large trucks slowed traffic significantly, however, and over time resulted in serious damage to the roadway. These two unforeseen shortcomings played a major role in post-war decisions to replace the nation's highways with limited access, high-speed interstates, which came to bear with the Interstate Highway Act of 1956. Even though parts of many highways had by then been four-laned, over the next twenty years America's primary network of roadways, including U.S.66, were systematically replaced or upgraded to full interstate standards.

Among the millions who traveled this fabled road between its inception in 1926 and its official de-certification in 1985, hundreds of thousands felt its impact in a myriad of ways. For the majority of Americans still living, however, it is perhaps best remembered as America's vacation highway, where trading posts and reptile ranches once decorated the roadside and where small town boulevards were splashed with pulsing neon and lined with motor courts and full-service filling stations. Route 66 earned its place in the hearts of these motorists beginning at the end of World War II, when returning servicemen sought to re-visit former duty stations in California or simply set out with their families to experience first hand the freedom they now so deeply understood. Others flocked to the Grand Canyon and similar tourist attractions that were now much more accessible.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Throughout its years, Route 66 was in a continual state of physical change. In the beginning, the roadway itself was primarily a linkage of dirt and gravel roads, and as paving commenced, numerous alterations in the route were required to eliminate some of the hair-pin turns, flood-prone areas, and other hazards that involved safety or impeded traffic. Even with the advent of hard surfacing, however, funding limitations and the construction technology of the time left many stretches of the road marginal in terms of safety and ease of travel. It was common, for instance, for road builders to use existing bridges where possible, even if the result was an awkward deviation in the routing. Low-lying areas were often improved, but to a less than optimum degree.

Typical surfacing materials included concrete, asphalt, and brick, with concrete or asphalt accounting for all but a few short sections. The entire paving process took twelve years to complete (1926-1938) and progressed piece-meal, with each of the states involved creating their own specifications regarding design and materials and prioritizing which areas to pave first as funds were made available.

In Oklahoma, the State Highway Commission directed that the path of Route 66 was to follow State Highway 39 from the Oklahoma boundary with Kansas to Commerce, State Highway 7 from Commerce to Oklahoma City, and State Highway 3 across western Oklahoma. At the time, the roads that made up this linkage included existing section line roads, town roads, and the like, most of which were unimproved, including the nominated property. Situated in central Oklahoma only seven miles east of Edmond and twenty

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

miles northeast of Oklahoma City, the development of the section containing the property came early compared to areas that remained unpaved as late as 1937. This was due primarily to a higher volume of traffic in the vicinity of the larger towns. Even so, the property carried all Route 66 traffic for approximately one and a half years as a dirt road before improvements were made.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The initial right of way for the nominated property--66 feet in width--was purchased in 1922 for use as a county road. In 1924, it became part of Oklahoma State Highway 7, which was one of several new, numbered state highways created to replace the Ozark Trail and other "named" roads. In 1926, SH7 was also designated U.S.66 and in 1928, in preparation of paving, additional right of way was acquired, expanding the original sixty-six feet to eighty feet. Paving of the property's roadway, which involved two separate construction projects, began the same year and, as stated in the Narrative Description, involved two different road surface designs—the "Bates Type" concrete design and the "Modified" Bates Type" concrete and asphalt combination. The Portland Concrete project (FAP 137-G) opened to traffic in 1928, while the combination concrete and asphalt project (SA/FAP 137-F) was completed in 1929. At that time the concrete marker officially identifying both projects (the property's other resource) was installed on the right of way where the two roads meet.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Though the standard, all-concrete "Bates Type" roadway was faster and cheaper to build than the "Modified Bates Type" that featured a two-inch rock asphalt surface, it was not uncommon for the Oklahoma State Highway Commission to specify different designs for adjoining projects or to solicit bids that were not restricted to one design, as indicated on the specification sheets for the property's FAP 137-Sections G and F, each of which depicts both the "Bates Type" and "Modified Bates Type" roadbeds (see continuation sheets for Section 7, pages 11 & 12). Paving of highways at the time was an evolving innovation. As a result, highway departments often experimented with different surfaces to test durability. To further illustrate this point, FAP 137-H, which abutted SA/FAP 137-F only a few miles west of the property, was paved in brick, thus linking three consecutive projects of three different road type designs.

Because the property's roadway circumnavigated a small hill, its construction involved banking curves, inclines, and a measure of cut-and-fill (whereby high points were cut down and the extracted dirt used to fill low areas). Contractor for the "Bates Type" project (FAP 137-Section G), was Brooks Dahlgren. Contractor for the "Modified Bates Type" project (SA/FAP 137-Section F) was West Paving Company. Section G (totaling 4.058 miles) was let in the amount of \$111,108.00, while the accepted bid for Section F (totaling 4.877 miles) was for \$165,703.00.

Once completed, the property ferried all U.S.66 traffic until 1952. At that time, it was bypassed by a new alignment that re-directed traffic

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

around the other side of the hill. The characteristics of the upgrade alignment reflected the most current design aspects, including wider lanes, improved striping and drainage, less severe grades, and gentler curves. Consequently, the property was removed from the state highway system and its maintenance reverted to the county government. It has since remained open for localized use.

As part of one of the key routes when the first system of interstate highways was designated in 1926, the nominated property is one of a relatively few remaining sections of original Route 66 paving, and has two unique and significant distinctions: It contains the only unaltered, surviving specimen of the concrete/asphalt "Modified Bates Type" roadway built to the standards required by the State Highway Commission when U.S.66 was constructed in Oklahoma. It also contains the only surviving stretch of Route 66 paving that involves the adjoining of two different, original, unaltered road surface designs.

Both road types are highly representative of designs favored by road builders of the time and were used for first generation paving on virtually all of Route 66 in Oklahoma.

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NARRATIVE STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Continued)

Additionally, the significance of the property's roadbed is further enhanced by the original, unaltered, concrete project marker located on the right of way, which is among the few still existing on Route 66 and one of an even fewer number found to be fully inscribed with historical project data.

Because it has been only lightly traveled since its 1952 bypass, the nominated property mirrors precisely and superbly all of its historical associations. It stands not only as an important example of the road building technology of the era, it is symbolic of the role played by highways in the cultural changes spawned by the auto age and the evolution of transportation in America.

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Arcadia Route 66 Roadbed
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the northwest corner of the northwest quarter of Section 27, Oklahoma County, which is the intersection of Oklahoma State Highway 66 and Hiwassee Road and the junction of sections 21, 22, 27, and 28, proceed on an angle south-southeasterly for approximately one-half mile, then along a banking, uphill, left-hand curve approximately one-tenth of a mile to a due east direction following the quarter section line of section 27 for approximately three-tenths of a mile, to a reconnection with Oklahoma State Highway 66.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary described contains the entire property, to include the original paved roadbed as well as adjoining right-of-way, together totaling eighty feet in width by nine-tenths of a mile in length.

