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

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name Oklahoma A & M College Agronomy Barn and Seed House

other names/site number Barn A; Building #610;

2. Location

street & number 2902 W. 6th St., Building #610 not for publication N/A
city or town Stillwater vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Payne code 119 zip code 74078

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this _✓_ nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property _✓_ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally _✓_ statewide ___ locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Bob Blackburn 4-12-04
Signature of certifying official Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

_____ _____
Signature of commenting or other official Date

_____
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
_✓_ entered in the National Register Beth Boland 5/27/04
___ 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
of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

___ private
___ public-local
_X_ public-State
___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_X_ building(s)
___ district
___ site
___ structure
___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: EDUCATION Sub: Research Facility

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
Cat: EDUCATION Sub: Research Facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
OTHER: Transverse-Frame Barn

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT SHINGLE
walls BRICK
METAL: steel
SYNTHETICS: Fiberglass
other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.

_X_ 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)

EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE
_____
_____

Period of Significance 1934-1954

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Significant Dates 1934

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder: Wilbur, Phillip T. *et al* , architect

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
___ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
_X_ University
____ Other
Name of repository: Edmon Low Library

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than an acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	14	671580	3998430	3			
2				4			

N/A See continuation sheet.

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/title Erich Wehrenberg, Assistant Station Superintendant

organization Oklahoma State University date December 8, 2003

street & number Agronomy Research Station, Building #613 telephone (405) 624-7036

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078

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)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Oklahoma State University

street & number 107 Whitehurst telephone (405) 744-6384

city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74078

Summary/Introduction

For nearly seventy years, the Seed House, or Agronomy Barn, or "Barn A" as it is so often referred, has towered over the rolling prairies, sloping gently into the east banks of Stillwater creek on the west side of Stillwater, Oklahoma. Constructed in 1934, Barn A features reinforced concrete framing and solid 8" masonry exterior. The most notable and certainly the most defining characteristic of the colossal structure is its gambrel roof.

Barn A has had little reconstructive work done to the original brick structure during its lifetime. In the early 1950's, improvements intended to add to its longevity and usefulness in housing field-based agronomic research involved the addition of a series of greenhouses on the south side of the building. Twenty years later, in 1973, plans were made to address the building's substandard roof. Barn A's distinguishing green gambrel roof had long since become a landmark to passing motorist on nearby State Highway 51. The roof was rebuilt, utilizing the same outer dimensions, but a slightly different structural system. The green shingles were replaced with less colorful substitutes.

The Agronomy Barn is the oldest existing structure located at the Oklahoma State University Agronomy Research Station in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The station grounds are home to well over three hundred agricultural research initiatives, all of which utilize the capacity and shelter of the aged building. Nearly 30 other structures, housing research personnel, supports staff and equipment currently exist on the station grounds with Barn A. Also located on the station is the historic Magruder Plots, which have also been recognized by the National Register of Historic Places (79002018) as being the oldest ongoing and continuous wheat experiments west of the Mississippi River.

Description

Originally constructed as a seed house in 1934, Barn A is a brick transverse frame barn 108 feet long and 44 feet wide, two stories high, equipped with electricity and heated by gas. Its original cost was $10,000. The most striking feature of the two-story structure is the gambrel roof. Standing at a towering 37' 9" from grade to ridge, the ground stable barn represents an era of midwestern design often displayed in similar structures of its time. Agricultural college experiment stations promoted the gambrel-roof design following 1910 governmental health regulations for proper collection and handling of fluid milk production. The gambrel roof made an ample hayloft, as evidenced in Barn A, and could be erected with pre-fabricated trusses. Originally, the roof was coated an inch thick with eight-inch octagonal asbestos shingles with a ridge roll topping the crown. Standard rectangular asbestos shingles have since been used. The five steel ventilator ducts running atop the crown of Barn A and were originally intended to provide fresh air for station research personnel or field animals used to till the ground. A 30-degree pitch or slope extends 13'3" from the base of the roof, marking the first section. 2"x6" rafters and braces support the second section of the roof, which extends another 8'6" in elevation.

The north elevation of Barn A is 108 feet long. It features red brick walls laid up in common bond. (photo 1) An entry featuring two sliding wooden doors is centered on the face of the wall. The doors, each lit with six-pane, fixed

windows, are of plank construction. Wide, flat, rails and stiles make up the frame of each door, while diagonal tongue and groove planks comprise the body. The doors are hung on steel rollers fixed horizontally to the wall above the opening. Immediately to the west of the double doors is a single man entry that has been infilled with a plywood sheet. Eight steel framed windows are evenly spaced east of the central entry; seven are west of the man entry. Each window and the amn entry on the first floor has a corresponding window on the second floor. A single window is centered above the large, double entry. The windows are six-light hopper units. The sills are corbelled headers; a simple, flat lintel carries the wall above each opening. There is no embellishment. Four downspouts are spaced along the wall.

The west elevation features a large, central entry with a newer, overhead door. Two windows (all windows are identical in configuration) flank each side o nthe first floor, while six are on the second floor. In the gable wall of the gambrel roof, located just below the break of slope, are three additonal windows. (photo 2)

The east elevation is identical to the west elevation except for the presence of a large panel high in the gable, above the third row of windows. Approximately twenty-two feet wide and five feet high, this cast stone panel probably once announced the name of the building. Currently, it is blank. It is set apart by a frame of header bricks. Between the second and third row of windows is a simple wooden sign that reads "BARN A 610." (photo 3)

The south elevation has seen alterations over time, primarily in the addition of greenhouses perpendicular to the longitudinal wall. The easternmost greenhouse extends southward from a small wooden shed attached to the barn. The greenhouse is fiberglass supported on a steel frame in a profile much like a Quonset hut. (photo 4) A small stove pipe projects fro mthe endwall. The central greenhouse is identical wit hthe exception of the endwall configuration. Here the stovepipe projects from the roof and there is an entry door centered in the endwall. (photo 5) The westernmost greenhouse is a different configuration. It features a gabled roof and has some corregated metal siding with fan boxes projecting from the walls. This greenhouse extends out from the west endwall of the barn. The gable end of the greenhouse has a shed roof outshut with an entry door. (photo 6)

The interior of the barn is centered around the central passage that bisects the building longitudinally on an east/west axis. Entrance to the central passage is gained through the newer, overhead doors on each gable end. The structural system of the barn is visible along the length of the passage. (photo 7) The floor is poured concrete. Poured concrete posts and beams frame the passage, supporting the poured concrete floor of the loft. This floor is 10" thick. Brick curtain walls define the passage; the brick is laid up in common bond. Centered between each of the post and beam structural units are entry doors that lead to stalls (or to the greenhouses via stalls). There are a variety of door types, some replacements but of undetermined ages. (photos 7 & 9) At the east entry, the ceiling of the passageway is pierced wit ha large (6'X6') square opening allowing access to the loft. Primary access to the loft, though, is gained

by a staircase and freight elevator located on the north side of the passage, just east of the central north entry. (photo 8) The elevator is original.

The interior of the loft is characterized by the large open space created by the structural system of the gambrel roof. The floor of the loft is concrete. The brick side walls extend five feet to the eave of the gambrel roof. Parts of the loft have been partitioned with wire cages for storage while the balance of the loft houses large wooden racks for storage of research materials. (photo 10)

The roof of the barn is its most prominent feature. Supported by 2"X6' rafters, the double-sloped gambral roof reaches almost 21' from eave to ridge. The eaves are flared. Five metal venilators are evenly spaces along the ridge, providing ventilation and air circulation to the large loft area. Originally clad in green, octagonal, asbestos shingles, the roofing material was replaced with standard, square, asphalt shingles in 1973. A planned restructuring of the entire roof system was planned at that time, but never materialized.

The Oklahoma A & M Seed House, or Barn A, retains a high degree of its historic integrity. Alterations to the building include the addition of greenhouses to the south side in the 1950s. This expansion of the building reflects the research and educational mission of the facility. Conversion of former animal stalls to other research purposed reflects the changing technology of agronomic research from 1934 to the present. Routine maintenance has necessitated the replacement of original doors on the east and west ends of the barn and of the roofing material. The building retains excelelnt integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. The setting of the barn has been somewhat compromised by the continued growth and adaptation of the Agronomy Research Station. Newer buildings and altered older buildings are located nearby, detracting slightly from the barn's original setting. However, none of these minor changes impact the ability of the barn to convey its significance.

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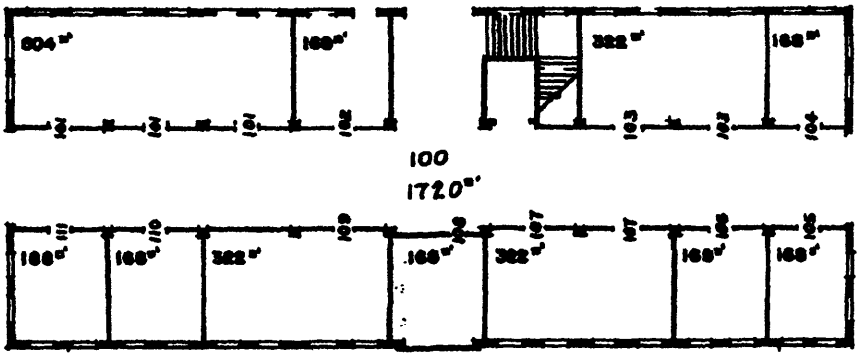
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 12

Oklahoma A & M Agronomy Barn and Seed House
name of property
Payne County, Oklahoma
county and State



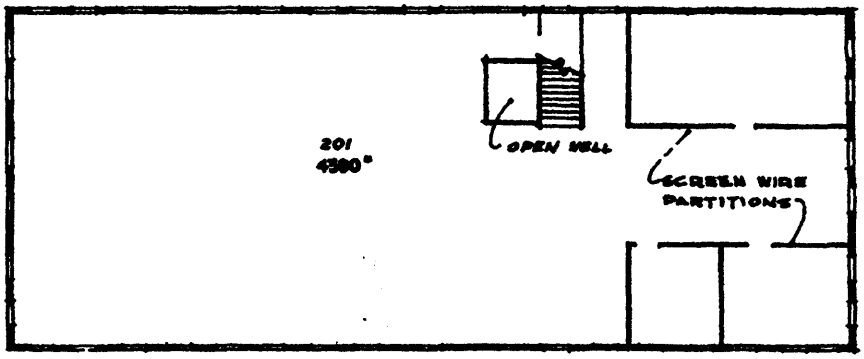
BUILDING AREA		FLOOR AREA				
GROSS:	9,504 SQ. FT.	GROSS:	4,752 SQ. FT.	N	AGRONOMY FARM BARN A FIRST FLOOR	SHEET 1 OF 1 BLDG. NO. 610
NET:	8,756 SQ. FT.	NET:	4,366 SQ. FT.			

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
PHYSICAL PLANT A-E SERVICES
STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA

REV. NO.	REV. BY	DATE:
0	NLB	11/04/92

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0" 0 5' 10' 25' 50' 100'

Current First Floor Plans



BUILDING AREA		FLOOR AREA				
GROSS:	9,504 SQ. FT.	GROSS:	4,752 SQ. FT.	N	BARN A AGRONOMY FARM SECOND FLOOR	SHEET 1 OF 2
NET:	8,756 SQ. FT.	NET:	4,390 SQ. FT.			BLDG. NO. 610

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
PHYSICAL PLANT A-E SERVICES
STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA

REV. NO.	REV. BY	DATE:
0	NLB	11/04/92

SCALE: 1/16" =1'-0"
0 5' 10' 25' 50' 100'

Current Loft Plans

NPS Form 10-900-a
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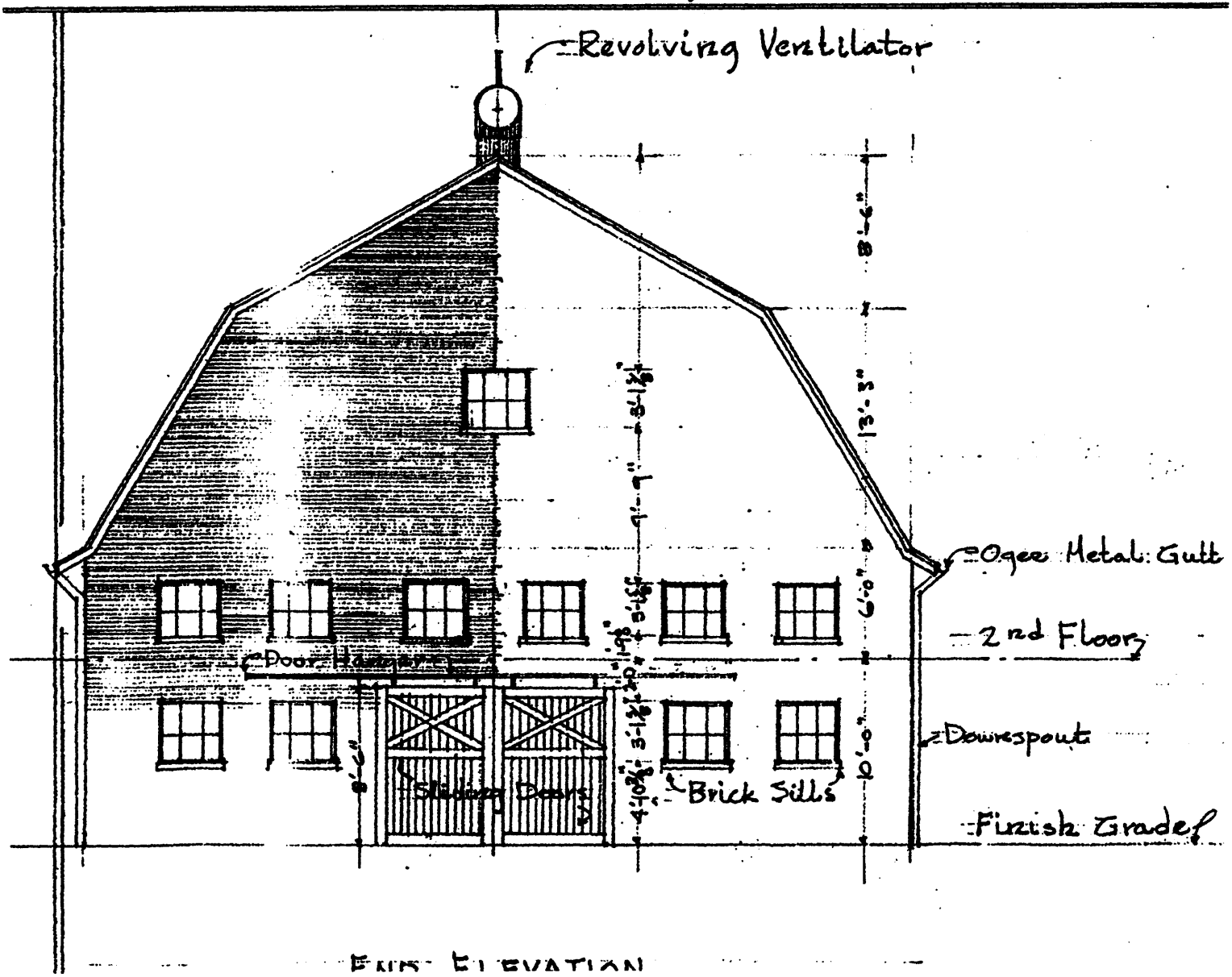
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 14

Oklahoma A & M Agronomy Barn and Seed House
name of property
Payne County, Oklahoma
county and State



From 1950 Revision Plans

Summary/Introduction

The Agronomy Barn Seed House, or "Barn A" as it is referred, bears a number of historical relationships that qualify its entrance into the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C. In 1890, well before Oklahoma became a recognized state in 1907, the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College was established as a Land Grant Institution of higher learning, extension, and research. Utilizing the resources provided through the Morrill Act, which donated land by the federal government in the recently opened and settled territory, Oklahoma A&M was to perform research essential to the residents of the newly-settled prairie, enabling them to prosper within the region. What ensued was the birth of an institution steeped in tradition and rich in history. As a structure, Barn A played a significant role in contributing to the broad patterns of Oklahoma history through its many contributions to research and the tireless and seemingly endless search for knowledge.

As with many Depression-era structures, Barn A exhibits a distinct commitment to longevity and dedication that epitomizes the people of our great state at the time. Built in 1934, with a distinctive gambrel roof and substantial concrete and brick walls, Barn A reflects the epitome of the extension mission of the college. Practicing the tenets of modern agricultural design, the Seed House, or Barn A, demonstrated to all the ultimate in agricultural outbuilding construction of the time. Unique and possibly more special to its users, the barn was designed by college architects, professors, and students and later constructed by student laborers and engineers. Philip A. Wilbur, professor of Architecture at Oklahoma A & M College, designed Barn a, along with a majority of the buildings constructed on campus during his 25 plus years with the institution.

Background & Historical Significance

For over a century, Stillwater, Oklahoma has been home to Oklahoma State University and the mission of the land grant university system. A year and a half following the land run of April 22, 1889, Territorial Governor George W. Steele signed into law legislation enabling the formation of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College in Stillwater, Oklahoma.[1] Since that time, hundreds of thousands have utilized the resources of the University to broaden their knowledge through teaching, research or extension programs. Although 1890 marked the beginning of OSU, the premise of the land grant university, and the law making way for the establishment of such institutions across the Midwest, was created several years prior. The Morrill act of 1862 set aside predetermined and designated parcels of property to be given to state governments for the creation and development of institutions of higher

1 Kamm, Robert B. *Oklahoma State University: The First Hundred Years*. Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University, 1990.

learning.[2] Oklahoma State has an elaborate and impressive history revolving around the adherence to the Morrill Act, which created the three-pronged land-grand mission of instruction, research and extension.

Utilizing the funds allocated through complimentary federal legislation entitled the "Hatch Act" of 1887, Stillwater residents established an agricultural experiment station to the fledgling college. The $15,000 authorized through the Hatch Act led to the creation of an experiment station, the genesis of the much larger station that later became the home of Barn A. [3]

The original experiment station farm used by the Department of Agronomy consisted of approximately 200 acres (later expanded to 500 acres before relocation) of medium rolling land, well suited for experimental and demonstration work and located just west of the small academic campus of Oklahoma A & M College. By 1907, the research station included a large, gambrel roof, wood frame barn, greenhouse, and laboratory.[4] By the mid-1920s, growth of the academic campus necessitated the move of the greenhouses to the north and barns dedicated to swine, poultry, sheep, and cattle research to the acreage northwest of campus.[5] The continued growth of the college and its need for additional classroom space along with expanding agricultural research needs led to the movement of the Agronomy Research Station to the present location at the corner of 6th street and Western Road in 1928. The present station land includes a tract on Cow Creek, which would later be used by horticulture for pecan and forestry experiments along with field and row crops. With money appropriated by the legislature in 1927, the Oklahoma State Board of Agriculture paid $24,000 for the 160-acre farm belonging to Cleo and Jay Snowden.[6]

Eventually, the facilities in the old research farm were transferred out to the new facility. Interesting is the story of the Magruder Plots (79002018), wheat trial plots that were physically moved to the new research station. A.C. Magruder was the first faculty member hired by James C. Neal, as the first Oklahoma Agriculture Experiment Station Director, in December 1891. Magruder was described as a "tireless worker" with an excellent understanding of the land-grant mission and the importance of agricultural research in dealing with production problems and how they impacted the state and it's many residents.[7] Of the many experiments Magruder undertook while at OAMC, the establishment of the wheat testing plots that now bear his name brought him the greatest recognition. The first crop on "Field 0" as it was

2 Chappell, Craig, *Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: Research Edition*, Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University, 1991
3 Chappell, *Research Edition.*
4 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Stillwater Oklahoma, 1907. (New York: Sanborn Map Company), Sheet 1.
5 Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1924, 1929, sheet 20.
6 Sanderson, J. Lewie, R. Dean McGlamery, and David C. Peters, *Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: The Campus Edition*, Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University, 1990
7 Green, Donald, *Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: Agriculture Edition*, Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University, 1990

known was planted on November 22, 1892 and has been seeded in continuous wheat with no rotation of fallow ever since. Originally located on University Avenue, the Magruder trials and the soil that had established them was moved to its present location on the Stillwater Agronomy Research Station. In 1947, faced with incredible enrollment growth, 500 tons of topsoil that was the Magruder trials was excavated and moved to the Stillwater Agronomy Research Station in order that the University could construct Stout Hall. The Magruder trials have long since utilized the accommodations of Barn A. For over 45 years Barn A has contributed to the researchers, graduate students, field technicians, undergraduate students, and the countless producers who benefited from the research findings of the Magruder trials.The full story of the significance of this trial field is noted in the National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the Magruder Plots.

As with any truly significant endeavor which has stood the test of time, the experiment stations have experienced growth and overcame several obstacles. The expansion which brought Barn A into existence in the mid 30's was led by a true visionary and committed servant of the University. Carl Blackwell served Oklahoma A&M College in a number of capacities including dean and director of the experiment station and dean of the college of agriculture, right up to his death in 1937. Blackwell wrote, "No matter how good our teaching staff may be and no matter how fine our extension organization may be, their work is going to fail unless it is backed up with correct information which can only be secured through a well organized experiment station." It was through his leadership and determination that the funding was secured to construct Barn A. His commitment and dedication set an uncompromising and impacting precedent for years to come. In the years since Carl Blackwell, several other satellite stations have been brought into existence in order to assist in the ongoing research initiatives. On the Stillwater station alone, nearly 30 additional structures, including a cotton gin (1936) and an office building (1946) have been erected to support the work of the station and the researchers.[8]

The new research station, no longer hemmed in by campus and town development, allowed for expansion of the research and extension mission of Oklahoma A & M. Barn A along with many of the other buildings and structures oat the station have been instrumental in the development of such advances as improved genetic strains of cotton, wheat, sorghum, and grass varieties. Through a decade spanning from 1946 to the mid 1950's, experiment stations and subsequent research initiatives grew tremendously with the passage of the Agricultural Research and Marketing Act. The AR&MA provided more matching money for agricultural research in marketing and more efficient use of machinery for the industrialization of agriculture at the production level. With this growth came a renewed commitment to the experiment station at the state and university level. This led to the experimentation of agricultural engineering at the station and the utilization of Barn A for storage of mechanized equipment rather than the mule teams that had long been employed for "horse" power. The research station grew with changes in technology and changing research needs.

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8 Green, *Agriculture Edition*

Architectural Significance

On the main research station, beginning after the move off campus, large, new facilities were constructed for swine, cattle, and sheep research. A working cotton gin was constructed. One of the first structures built at the new station site was a small, wooden barn, constructed as a Seed House;[9] as the facility grew and the research and educational programs expanded, this small barn quickly proved inadequate. Plans were made to replace the old Seed House with a larger, more modern facility. The Architecture Department was enlisted to design the new building, utilizing plans and layouts developed through the extension service over the years and through the new philosophy of scientific agriculture. Under the direction of Department Head Phillip T. Wilbur, faculty and students prepared the design for a concrete-framed, brick-walled, multi-purpose livestock and storage barn. Student and staff labor was utilized extensively in the construction of the new Seed House.

The layout of the Seed House was not atypical of the types of agricultural outbuildings encouraged by the extension service for use in private farms. The first floor plan is efficient, allowing the maximum utilization of space for the housing and maintenance of livestock. A concrete floor provided more sanitary conditions. The second floor, or loft area, is defined by large open space, ideal for the storage of hay, seed, or other agricultural products.

The new Seed House, or Barn A, expanded upon the favored transverse-frame, gambrel roof model espoused by the extension service. The barn was constructed with a heavy, concrete frame, allowing for an increased carrying capacity for the second floor loft. The frame allowed the use of masonry for the walls, providing a sturdy, aesthetically pleasing surface that required little maintenance. The brick walls allowed for the installation of many windows, providing both light and cross-ventilation to the entire barn.

Architecturally, Barn A represents an era that embodied the pioneering fortitude of the people of Oklahoma. The gambrel roof, ground stable barn was extremely popular in the early 1900's for its convenience in operation and construction and for its efficient design. Barn A's solid, 8 inch thick, combed face brick exterior walls are evidence to the commitment by the student and college architects who later designed a number of similar barns for the college. Barn A, as well as the later structures of similar purpose still serving Oklahoma State University bear witness to the "practice what you preach" mentality that served the land grant college well through the years.

Rather unfortunately, the extraordinarily large and very distinctive second story loft and roof of these buildings has long since been replaced in Midwestern landscapes. Barn A literally towers above many of the much younger buildings on the research station due primarily to the twenty-one foot, nine inch roof that has became a widely recognized icon on the research station and within the University. During the era of its construction, the design of

9 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1929/1942 revised, sheet 20

Barn A was widely considered to be the standard by which to operate. Scholars, architects and producers endorsed the efficient design for its convenience in daily use and the superior sanitation and hygiene for animal maintenance.

With a sharp eye toward the future, Oklahoma State University moves forward with a mindful appreciation of the history of structures such as Barn A and others. Buildings such as this not only represent a piece of history, but an era of significance that has led us to the vast accomplishments and advances that we share in today. The unmistakable design and ageless features of buildings like Barn A have served so many and will continue to have a positive impact in creating another 70 years of history in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Constructed during one of the most widely noted and challenging times in Oklahoma's history, Barn A defies the "hard luck" image so often applied to Oklahoma during the Great Depression and the dust bowl. Utilizing the talent at hand in the Department of Architecture, a building was designed and constructed to be effient, modern, and enduring. The 3 over 3 steel framed windows piercing the brick exterior walls provided much needed light to the stable area during the daytime and allowed the movement of air through the facility to keep those inside cool during the summer. In a time when electricity in rural areas was a luxury, the campus registry boasted of the new Seed House fully equipped with electricity and gas heating.

1950 brought a continued and yet renewed focus upon the need for further field based agriculture research and the use of the research station facilities. Barn A shared in the growth with the addition of an electrically operated freight elevator for lifting and moving large objects to the second story loft. Also added during the 1950 alteration were the greenhouses on the south side. Although official designs and records make no reference to the addition of three greenhouses to the barn, several personal accounts from station staff and faculty have confirmed their annexation during this renovation. A lean-to structure accessing the greenhouses from the interior of Barn A was added and the second story loft was partitioned off for storage, and a number of the 15 original animal stalls on the first floor were renovated for use in housing research material.

Conclusion

The Seed House, or Barn A, at the Oklahoma State University Agronomy Research Station stands in testimony to the mission of the Land Grant institution. It represents the importance of agricultural research to the economy of the state and it represents the application of scientific methodology to the design of agricultural buildings. Barn A, constructed in 1934 as the Seed House for the new Argonomy Research Station, has continued in its role in the development of modern agricultural practices through the research mission of the University. It stands as a testament to that role and to the foresight of its designers who created a building flexible enough to grow and adapt to changing needs and technologies. As such, it is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C.

Section 9 – Bibliography

Green, Donald E. Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: Agriculture Edition. (Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University) 1990,

Chappell, Craig. Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: Research Edition. (Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University) 1991.

Kamm, Robert B. Oklahoma State University: The First Hundred Years. (Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University) 1990.

Sandborn Map Company. *Fire Insurance Map, Stillwater, Oklahoma.* 1907, 1924, 1929, 1942.

Sanderson, J. Lewie, McGlamery, R. Dean, and Peters, David C. Oklahoma State University Centennial Historic Series: The Campus Edition. (Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University) 1990.

School of Architecture and Applied Art. *Plans for Seedhouse.* Architectural drawings (1950 revision).

Section 10

Verbal Boundary Description

From the intersection of State Highway 51 or City of Stillwater designated 6th street, Barn A sits 632 feet due north. The original building is placed 27 feet West of August street within the confines of the research station. This point will lead to the Southeast corner of the barn. Proceed 44 feet North to the Northeast corner of the structure. The Northwest corner is 108 feet due West of the previous marking, with the final corner of the rectangular structure being 44 feet South of the Northwest corner.

Boundary Justification

This boundary marks the property used to erect Barn A and the activity that supports its historical significance.