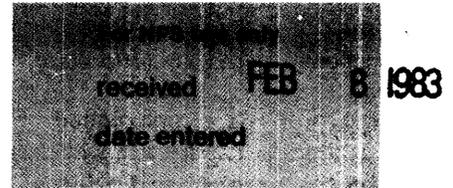


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Shinn Family Barn

and/or common

2. Location SE of Okeene

street & number Five miles east and two and 1/10 miles south N/A not for publication

city, town Okeene vicinity N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Oklahoma code 40 county Blaine code 11

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	N/A being considered	<input checked="" 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 Mrs. Bernice Weiters

street & number 2405 Kent Circle

city, town Greenville N/A vicinity of state Texas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk

street & number Blaine County Court House

city, town Watonga state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Okla. Preservation Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1981 federal state county local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Constructed ca. 1910 and measuring approximately 48 x 57 feet, the Shinn Family Barn is a two story frame structure erected on a mortared stone foundation and enclosed with board and batten siding. The 1 x 10 inch boards were originally painted red; the batten was white. The gabled roof contains wood shingles--now covered by composition shingles--and on the ridge located centrally is a decorative lantern that serves as a ventilator. The roof line is asymmetrical in appearance in as much as the north slope extends only to the second. In the east front gable and beneath an overhang is situated a large, vertically sliding door activated by a pulley which gives access to the hay loft. The hook, track, and pulley system that lifted the hay into the loft is still intact. The first floor of the barn is composed of horse stalls on the south, milking stanchions on the north, and a central drive-through originally enclosed by two sliding board and batten doors. Separating the drive-through from the milking area are grain bins.

With the exception of the composition roof, the structure remains unaltered from its original state. The south slope of the roof is in serious need of repair, some of the siding is missing while the remainder is weathered, no paint is in evidence, and most of the doors have been removed. The super structure of the building, however, remains very sound, and the exterior of the building retains completely its architectural integrity.

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 1910 **Builder/Architect** Elmus L. Shinn

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Shinn Family Barn is significant because of its relationship to a unique settlement pattern, to an extant agricultural system, and to a particular architectural style. Once within the limits of the Cheyenne-Arapahoe Indian Reservation, the region in which the barn is located—Blaine County, Oklahoma—was settled by a dramatic land run in April, 1892. Twenty-five thousand persons claimed property according to the provisions of the Homestead Act of 1862, resulting, where the land was good, in a settlement pattern of four 160 acre farm sites on each section of land and a population density of 20 per square mile. Elmus L. Shinn, the builder of the barn, did not participate in the run, but upon his arrival in Oklahoma Territory in 1896 he purchased the homestead rights to the site for \$800. The patent to the 160 acre tract was awarded to him in 1903. By that time Shinn had constructed a large barn anterior to the family dwelling. That original structure burned about 1910, but upon its foundation was erected the barn that is the subject of this nomination. As much as anything else, the barn signaled the passage of the pioneer stage of agricultural development and the success of the 160 acre family farm as a viable economic unit. The advent of gas powered machinery and the economies of scale, of course, have since made the 160 acre tract inefficient, fostered a rural population exodus, and caused the abandonment of farm structures. The traditional family farm is a thing of the past. The Shinn Family Barn thus symbolizes a unique settlement pattern that had its genesis in a land run and flowered in an era when 160 acre family farms were the rule rather than the exception.

The Barn is also significant for what it conveys concerning the nature of early 20th Century agriculture in western Oklahoma. Its several horse stalls reflect the dependence upon animal rather than mechanical transportation; its milking stanchions, suggest the self-sufficiency of the family farm; its huge hay loft indicates a period when forage was stored in loose piles; and its relative small grain bins make clear that wheat was merely a and not the cash crop. The first story earth, rather than concrete or wooden floor suggests the utilitarian nature of the barn and the necessity of economy in construction. At the same time, the size of the barn and its substantial building materials make clear that the structure was the economic focus of farm life and not a temporary shelter for machinery or agriculture products. At the same time, the Shinn Family Barn also reflects changing agriculture patterns. In recent times it too has been used primarily to store hay, and thus reflects the transition from a multi-crop to essentially a single crop economy.

The barn is also significant architecturally. The extension of the roof on one side to the ground floor is a style of construction common to the midwest but not to Blaine County. Significantly, it is a style identical to that found most often in northern Missouri, the birth place of Elmus Shinn. It is an outstanding testimony, therefore, of the fact that pioneers did not leave their cultural or architectural baggage back east as they moved to cheaper land. The barn is also significant because of its age and durability. Where other farm structures have decayed and been demolished, it still stands in relatively good condition. From a survey of the county and the knowledge of area residents, it is best remaining example of a structure that symbolizes a settlement pattern and an agriculture era—the 160 acre family farm—that is now no more than a fading memory.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Gilbert Fite, *The Farmers' Frontier, 1865-1900* (New York, 1966), 208-214.
Blue Skies and Prairie: Okeene Family Histories (Okeene, Ok., (1978)), 203-205.
Interviews with Faye Baird, Bernice Weiters, Hazell Owen, Watonga, OK, July 3, 1981, and interview with Clifford Shinn, Okeene, OK, July 22, 1981.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Ames

Quadrangle scale 15 min.

UMT References

A

1	4	5	6	8	1	4	0	3	9	9	3	5	0	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

From a point 510 feet south and 435 feet west of the road junction at the NE corner of Sec. 35, T 19 N, R 10 W, proceed south 100 feet, west 100 feet, north 100 feet, and east 100 feet to point of beginning.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title W. David Baird

organization Oklahoma Preservation Survey date 1981

street & number 502 Math Sciences telephone 624-5678

city or town Stillwater, Oklahoma State University 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 *W. David Baird* 2-2-83

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

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

William J. Stapp date 3/10/83
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration