

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER Various PAGE 2

Adair County Courthouse

Location: Courthouse Square; Division Street between Second and Third Streets, Stilwell, Oklahoma 40, Adair County 001

Owner: Adair County, Adair County Courthouse

Description: Condition: good, unaltered, original site

The Adair County Courthouse is a three-story, approximately rectangular building with a basement. It is constructed of buff brick with carved stone detailing. Square glass bricks are incorporated into the upper three-fourths of the windows. The areas of carved stone which frame the doorways and which decorate the parapet, display an elaborate pattern of curlicues, rosettes, and the high-relief faces of Indian chieftans wearing feathered headdresses. The frieze above the upper windows is inscribed with the words "Adair County Courthouse." The decorative line of carved Indian heads surmounts the inscription. The doors and windows are modern, metal-framed glass. The front facade's central portion projects forward approximately two feet from the corners of the building. An example of transitional, regional architecture, the structure suggests the flowing lines of later Art-Deco style. The Adair County Courthouse also epitomizes Oklahoma's Indian heritage in its unusual decorative details.

Significance: 1929; Builder/Architect: J.H. Reddick, J.J. Haralson

The Adair County Courthouse is significant because of its importance to the county as a center of government and a depository of official records. It is also particularly significant because it is one of only two courthouses in Oklahoma which utilizes distinctive carved stone depictions of Indian figures and symbols in its design. The other Oklahoma courthouse which is similarly decorated is in Pawnee County. Both counties have a large native Indian population. Both the Adair County Courthouse and the one in Pawnee serve as architectural reminders of Oklahoma's historical identity as "Indian Territory."

Acreage: Approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle 1:24,000/7.5 minute

Verbal Boundry Description: Lots 1, 2, and 3 in Block 39 in the original town of Stilwell

UTM: 15 352860 3964365