

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received DEC 1 1982
date entered 3/14/82

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Ardmore Historic Commercial District

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Main St. ^{and Hinkle Ave.} between C St. W. & Santa Fe Tracks N/A not for publication

city, town Ardmore N/A vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Carter code 019

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input 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	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 Multiple Ownership (See continuation Sheet)

street & number

city, town _____ vicinity of _____ state _____

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Carter County Courthouse

city, town Ardmore state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society Office

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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

The Ardmore Historic Commercial District consists of a group of ninety-seven major structures extending six blocks west from the railroad tracks down both sides of Main Street to C Street W. Built between 1895 and 1924, this prosperous district continues to serve as the core of the commercial center for south-central Oklahoma. As a result, the predominantly red brick buildings have been well maintained and most of the structures still display their original design. Some attempts have been made to rejuvenate facades and street level entries, but local property owners have expressed an interest in preserving the character of this historic area and most renovating is in keeping with the historical integrity of the buildings.

The structures range in size from one to six stories, providing the courthouse, jail, hotels, offices, banks, restaurants, meeting halls, telegraph office, theatres, saloons, billard halls, opera house, warehouses, railroad depot, hospital and retail stores that were part of a bustling community in early day Oklahoma. The stores offered a variety of merchandise and services: dry goods, drug stores, laundry, grocers, garages, bakeries, furniture, musical instruments, clothing, millinery, jewelers, barbers, and plumbers. The Plains Commercial facades of red brick combine a variety of decorative detailing in friezes, pilaster strips, eyebrow hoods, stringcourses, lintels, sills, and parapet walls and polychrome surfaces. Some of the more impressive structures reflect a Victorian Romanesque use of architectural elements (but with more delicate brick detailing) in round arched windows, and in the polychrome use of concrete, sandstone, limestone, terra cotta, and yellow brick detailing. The Victorian variety of colors, materials, textures, and ornamentation help distinguish the buildings and provide visual activity in the townscape.

The visual unity of the streetscape lies in the consistency of scale and materials, the compact and uniform set backs from the street, and the repetition of visual elements (especially the round arches, eyebrow hoods, parapet walls, horizontal banding, decorative brick friezes, entablatures, machicolation and rock-faced sandstone detailing). The district is bounded by open spaces separating the district from its surroundings. On the west end of Main Street it is separated by an abrupt change in scale, set backs, materials, design, spacing, and purpose of the newer businesses. On the east end the railroad depots and tracks form a visual boundary as well as symbolize the importance of the railroad to Ardmore's existence. The district's boundaries have formed the traditional core of the commercial district since the 1890s with only a few other older commercial buildings scattered nearby. The cohesion of this group of buildings accurately reflects the quick emergence of the community from railroad boom town to thriving commercial center.

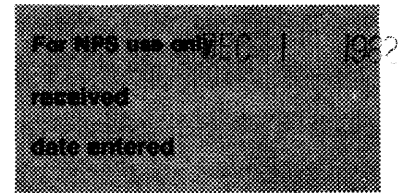
(NOTE: Numbers key to sketch map of the district. For the sake of consistency, building names are the known historic names.) Some representative and significant buildings contributing to the character of the District:

4. 206 W. Main: 1898-1902, one story, rough cut, native sandstone block wall for U. S. Jail; 1903-1907, three stories, red brick Plains Commercial structure (incorporating stone wall) with decorative brickwork divided into two bays by pilaster strips. Brick eyebrow hoods connected to a brick stringcourse with dentils cap the rows of three tall, narrow windows in each bay on the second and third level and break-up the horizontal appearance of the building as do the brick machicolation and decorative stepped brick friezes near the roofline. The street level, also divided into two bays, has display windows and clearstories. The covering over the clearstories for the signs and the new metal framing of the display windows, as well as the metal covering over the upper windows are the only alterations to the exterior and do not detract from

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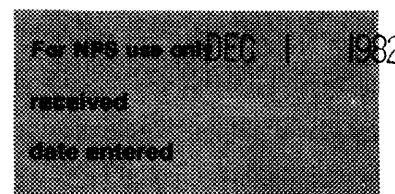
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Owner Of Property:

1. Glen Agnew: P.O. Box 1385, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401.
2. Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Alsop: 1602 W. Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401.
3. Ardmore Chamber of Commerce: 6 E. Main, Ardmore, Oklahoma 73401.
4. Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe: P. O. Box 1738, Topeka, KS 66628.
5. Louise J. Bauguss: 4128 Shannon Dr., F. Worth, TX 76116.
6. Maria Brantley: 1820 3rd SW, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
7. Glen C. Burn, C/O Charles A Milor: 11 N. Washington, Ardmore, OKla. 73401.
8. Everett Capshaw: Box 1401, Ardmore, OK 73401.
9. Robert A. Capshaw: Box 1401, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
10. Ethel L. Champion, C/O Joe Ben Champion III: Box 2336, Norman, Okla. 73070.
11. Dorys E. Clay: Box 1848, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
12. Garland W. Clay, Jr.: Box 1848, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
13. George Collier: 802 McLish, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
14. T. Fred Collins: Box 1781, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
15. Bob Colston, The Colston Corp.: 410 Little Building, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
16. W. J. Cooper: 302 F SW, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
17. Geraldine R. Cox: 1405 McLish, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
18. Mr. & Mrs. John H. Deere: Box 1921, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
19. Charles J. Davenport: 1602 5th SW, Ardmore, Okla. 73401.
20. D. A. Drake: Box 517, Ardmore, Ok 73401.
21. E. Dunlap Jr.: Box 1888, Ardmore, OK 73401.
22. Martin E. Dyer: Box 546, Ardmore, OK 73401.
23. W. Lawrence Eakin, Jr., C/O Charles A Milor: 11 N. Washington, Ardmore, OK 73401.
24. Rebecca Love Entirken (Trust), C/O James Coffman: 5 S. Commerce, Ardmore, OK 73401.
25. First Data Bank Inc.: Box 1948, Ardmore, OK 73401.
26. First National Bank & Trust Co. (Trustee): Box 69, Ardmore, OK 73401.
27. First National Corp. of Ardmore, Inc.: Box 69, Ardmore, OK 73401.
28. Kay Dillon Fore: Box 1724, Ardmore, Ok 73401.
29. Geraldine C. Frame: 1823 Stanley, Ardmore, OK 73401.
30. Ruth A. Fraser: 110 3rd SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
31. June Galook C/O Ida Yaffee: 124 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
32. Maria Glenn: 1532 NE 48, Oklahoma City, OK 73111.
33. W. M. Gwyn C/O W. M. Gwyn Jr.: 20 Shadewood, Gainesville, TX 76240.
34. A. C. Hall: Box 1237, Ardmore, OK 73401.
35. Eliza Cruce Hall Estate, First National Bank Admin.: Box 69, Ardmore, OK 73401.
36. Jean M. Harrell, C/O Carol M. Brown: 815 Rockford Rd, Ardmore, OK 73401.
37. Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Harris: Box 1116 Ardmore, OK 73401.
38. Thomas F. Harris: Box 1116 Ardmore, OK 73401.
39. Jack Hensley: 721 4th SE, Ardmore, OK 73401.
40. Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hensley: 720 15th N.W., Ardmore, OK 73401.
41. Antoinette Hollingsworth: Box 243 Ardmore, OK 73401.
42. Ann R. Hulme Co. Corp., C/O Woodrow Hulme: 20 A NW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
43. Katherine Gayle Johnson: 1525 NW 37th, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.
44. T. G. Johnson: 618 Stanley, Ardmore, OK 73401.
45. Clara E. Jones: Box 1389 Ardmore, OK 73401.
46. Stinnett B. Jones: 1423 Bixby, Ardmore, OK 73401.
47. Wilbur R. Jones: 1423 Bixby, Ardmore, OK 73401.

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48. Elsie Jan Jordan: 806 E. Jackson, Hugo, OK 74743.
49. K & S. Holding Inc.: C St. NW & W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
50. Selwyn E. Lacik: Box 7404 Dallas, TX.
51. Kenneth Lamb: 1601 Stanley, Ardmore, OK 73401.
52. J. S. Lane, C/O Goodwin Lane: 5900 Burnham Pl., Oklahoma City, Ok 73132.
53. L. T. Love, Turstee: 1804 4th SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
54. Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Luke: 212 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
55. Howard V. McGee, C/O Noel A. Mann: 323 F. SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
56. Mr. & Mrs. Don McGuire: Box 1116, Ardmore, OK 73401.
57. Noel A. Mann: 323 F. SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
58. Bill Mason: Box 1705, Ardmore, OK 73401.
59. Emma L. Massad: 108 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
60. Ethel Massad: 108 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
61. Charles A Milor: 11 N Washington, Ardmore, OK 73401.
62. Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Morris: Springer, OKla.
63. Keith Nance: 120 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
64. National Bank & Office Supply, Inc.: 48 A NW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
65. Noel Datin's Men's Wear, Inc.: 9 W. Main St, Ardmore, OK 73401.
66. Lorena Norris: 1820 3rd SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
67. Timothy O'Conner C/O Exchange National Bank and Trust Co. (Attn: Bill Gardner)
P.O. Box 789, Ardmore, OK 73401.
68. B. L. Owens: 14 E. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
69. Arthur Pinkard, Jr.: 25 N. Washington, Ardmore, OK 73401.
70. Douglas R. Ponder: 821 Ridgecrest, Ardmore, OK 73401.
71. Mr. & Mrs. Joe Ben Ponder: Box 1415 Ardmore, OK 73401.
72. E. H. Porter Co., Inc.: 410 K. SW, ARdmore, OK 73401.
73. James E. Porter and Cleo H. Porter: 410 K SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
74. Mr. & Mrs. Roger D. Roberts C/O Cleanco Janitor Supply: Box 1861 Ardmore, OK 73401.
75. Sara Robison: Box 638 Ardmore, OK 73401.
76. A. K. Rogers: 203 E. Main Ardmore, OK 73401.
77. James H. Russell C/O Daube Co. Box 38, Ardmore, OK 73401.
78. John Ruth :Box 134, Ardmore, OK 73401.
79. St. Louis & San Francisco Railway: 3253 E. Traffic Way, Springfield, Missouri 65802.
80. William A. Scott: 1809 3rd SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
81. Mary L. Shepherd C/O Joshua Kemp Shepherd, Worthen Bank & Trust Co. Br. Bldg.
Little Rock, AR.
82. Joe Simons: 101 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
83. Claude E. Smartt: P.O. Box 1385, Ardmore, OK 73401.
84. Charles R. Smith, Jr.: Box 1057, Ardmore, OK 73401.
85. Dorisan Spindle: 127 W. Main Ardmore, OK 73401.
86. Spreckelmeyer Printing Co.: Box 1627 Ardmore, OK 73401.
87. Mr. & Mrs. James L. Stolfa: Box 1195 Ardmore, OK 73401.
88. John J. Stolfa, Jr.: 1308 Douglas Ardmore, OK 73401.
89. R. T. Stolfa: Box 1629, Ardmore, OK 73401.
90. Ralph J. Stolfa: Box 1629, Ardmore, OK 73401.
91. John F. Sullivan: Box 1534 Ardmore, OK 73401.
92. Mr. & Mrs. Tom Tipps: 804 Carter, Ardmore, OK 73401.
93. Donald G. Waller: 1809 3rd SW Ardmore, OK 73401 .

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94. Grace J. Ward C/O Mrs. Grace Boulton: 1701 NE 63rd St., Oklahoma City, OK.
95. Mr. & Mrs. John F. Williams: 6 W. Main, Ardmore, OK 73401.
96. Marjorie Williams, Trustee: 326 C SW, Ardmore, OK 73401.
97. Woodruff Land & Mineral Trust: Box 1565 Ardmore, OK 73401.
98. J. C. Yeatts: Box 1928 Ardmore, OK 73401.

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the historical integrity of the structure whose first floor walls enclosed the U. S. Jail during territorial days. Before statehood, it had become the basis of a three story, brick, general merchandize store with rooms upstairs for the offices of the U.S. Court and for a hotel.

5. U.S. Courthouse Building, 200-202 W. Main: (C.E.Troutman architect). 1896-1898, two stories, red brick, corner structure with brick and sandstone detailing. The Main Street facade is divided into three bays with the central bay projecting slightly to provide the entry to the second floor where the U.S. Court was housed during territorial days. The first floor on Main Street consists of a pair of storefronts with flush display windows and clearstories divided by the round arched doorway with paired wooden doors to the stairway. Decorative brickwork includes pilaster strips, semi-circular eyebrow hoods above windows and the central entry, broken, toothed stringcourses above the clearstory level and below the decorative frieze at the roofline, with another stringcourse below the second story windows, and other decorative friezes to each side of the central bay and above the central entry. Rock-faced sandstone detailing includes the ends of the eyebrow hoods, the sills, the outline of the arch above the central entry, and a high watertable. The side street facade consists of similar decorative brickwork at the roofline and on the two levels of windows, (the upper windows treated the same as the main facade and the lower windows capped with segmental arches). Gray point with white detailing highlights the decorative brickwork and the upper windowpanes have been painted with striped curtains for added effect. The only alterations have been the use of protective stucco over the sandstone watertable, the covering of the clearstories, and replacement of display windows. The building was constructed as the U.S. Courthouse, the first one inside Indian Territory, and the Main Street first level was used as stores since statehood.

6. 128 W. Main: 1898-1902, two stories, red brick, Plains commercial structure with elaborate brick detailing including the machicolation above a stepped stringcourse, both broken by pilaster strips which divide the upper level Main Street facade into two bays and the side street facade into a series of bays of paired windows. The second floor windows on both facades are double-hung sashes with stepped sills capped with eyebrow hoods and divided on the Main Street facade by flattened pilasters with stepped bases and capitals. Small, paired first floor windows on the side street have semi-circular arches that form part of a stringcourse with dentil-like detailing that is repeated in the broken stringcourse at the base of the eyebrow hoods. A concrete watertable has been stamped repeatedly with "L. R. Marston, contractor, Ardmore, I.T.". The entry level is divided into two bays by the square white glazed, brick pillars with entries recessed from the display windows with mosaic tile floors and tin ceiling under entry. The original clearstory has been covered by metal to form the store sign, but otherwise the building retains its original appearance.

8. Dunlap Building, 100 W. Main: 1903-1907, three stories, yellow brick, long, narrow, corner building with yellow brick detailing in the small entablature, with the dentil molding between brickwork friezes, in the stringcourses above the second and third floors, and in the semi-circular eyebrow hoods with concrete scroll-like keystones above first floor and Main Street second story windows (double-hung sash windows divided into four panes). Rough cut limestone lintels and stringcourses (which double as sills on each level) plus broken band courses at the base of the eyebrow hoods combine with the long rows of windows on all levels (including the half visible basement), the brick stingcourses,

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the friezes, and the entablature to accentuate the length of the building and to break-up the vertical appearance of the narrow Main Street facade. The irregular grouping of the arched windows and doors on the side street helps break the visual repetition of windows and layers as do the metal railings around the basement windows. The only major alteration has been the addition of concrete tiles to the Main Street first level facade, but this continues to serve in its original capacity as offices.

9. Simpson Building (now Little Building), 10 W. Main: 1913-1918, six stories, red brick, with white, glazed terra cotta, decorative detailing, Italian Renaissance revival, U-shaped, corner office building. The elaborate, wide, overhanging, terra cotta eaves form an entablature with decorative brackets. The recessed roofline is edged in a terra cotta course with a centralized cartouche. Both street facades receive similar decorative details, but the Main Street facade (with the main entry) is divided vertically into three bays with the central portion receding slightly with rows of four double-hung sash windows with terra cotta sills while the windows of exterior bay (and the side street windows as well) are groups of three double-hung sash windows appear as part of the frieze, separated from the other floors by the terra cotta architrave. A projecting, decorative, terra cotta stringcourse above another decorative terra cotta band cap the lower level of horizontally grooved terra cotta (on a grey granite watertable) that emerges from the large, round-arched windows with decorative keystones that form the corners on each side of the entry. Five red granite pilasters support the glass entry with a floor of speckled (red/white/grey) granite in 4'x2' sections. The original entry awning has been replaced with a flat metal awning and the name "Simpson Building" (in terra cotta) has been covered by the lettering "Little Building." The building continues in its original use as an office building and it includes the original offices of the Independent Petroleum Producers of America.

11. 118 E. Main: 1902-1903, two stories, red brick garage with parapet wall delineated by decorative brick machicolation. The four, second story, tall, sash windows with rough-cut sandstone lintels are connected by semi-circular, brick eyebrow hoods. The brick stringcourse above the windows, the ends of the eyebrow hoods, the brick sills, and the clearstory provide a horizontal balance to the verticality of the facade and tall windows. The street level consists of paired, paneled (and lighted) garage doors divided by a wooden beam from the stairwell entry.

13. Pennington Grocery Company, 200 E. Main: 1915-1918, two stories with basement, trapezoidal floor plan, red brick, Plains commercial warehouse with one story, red brick section on rear (also built between 1915 and 1918). Both structures replace a similar facility demolished in the 1915 explosion. Horizontally grooved, brick pilasters divide the Main Street facade into five bays and the Caddo Street facade into six bays, each with pairs of windows on each level, breaking up the predominantly horizontal features of the building (rows of windows, watertable, frieze, and stringcourses). The upper level double-hung sash windows with 2x3 paned upper sashes have concrete sills. The first floor windows also have concrete sills, but some have been bricked in or replaced with solid glass panes. The basement windows have barred, protective grates. A band of brick caps and a high watertable forms the base for the pilaster strips. A stepped brick course that forms the base of the frieze also forms the capitals for the pilasters. The side of the building facing the tracks is stone with a series of tall, narrow windows with sills on each level. The one story rear section of the building received similar decorative treatment as the two story facade. Two garage entries abut the one story section.

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and its dock entry.

14. G. C. and S. F. Railway Freight Depot, South side of Main in railroad right-of-way: 1915-1918, two stories, red brick, gabled roof with green Spanish tiles with a one story wooden extension to south (also built 1915-1918). The brick structure with a concrete band at the top of a high watertable has rows of windows (which have been recently boarded in) with concrete sills on both levels of all three facades. The lower windows on the Main Street facade are slightly larger than the other windows with only three windows centered below the four upper windows. The wooden extension consists of a series of freight doors on both sides with a concrete platform facing the track. This structure replaces the earlier freight depot destroyed in the explosion.

15. Union Passenger Depot, North side of Main in railroad right-of-way: 1915-1918, one story structure of stucco with red brick detailing combining mission style and Plains commercial features. The long, narrow depot with a parapet gable is flanked by two flat roofed wings. Parapets also distinguish the wing walls and the opposing, central, bay-like ticket windows. The simplicity of the cream colored stucco walls, the red Spanish tile roof, the curvilinear peak of the main section parapet walls (and the appearance of the more angular parapets), and the massive appearance of the lintels and wood beams are reflective of the Mission style but the use of brick friezes in the wings, the wide eaves supported by heavy wooden brackets, the brickwork lintels and quoining around the windows, the double-hung sash windows, the transoms, and the wide brick band above the concrete foundation forming a high watertable and ledge add features common to Plains commercial structures. The long facade of the depot parallels the track and is surrounded by brick platforms, drives, and walkways. This structure replaces the depot destroyed in the explosion in 1915. Although passenger trains no longer serve Oklahoma, the depot is still in use by the Santa Fe Railway as a major switching and freight station for southern Oklahoma, attesting to the continued importance of the railroad to Ardmore's commercial vitality.

16. 123 and 125 E. Main: Pre-1894, two stories with basement, rock-faced sandstone Plains commercial building reconstructed between 1915 and 1918 on the remaining stone walls (after the 1915 explosion) as a two story, red brick, Plains commercial structure. The Main Street brick facade is bordered by pilasters that extend slightly above the roofline and are capped by concrete with shorter, one story pilasters on each side of the central doorway to the stairwell. Two stepped bands of brick form a frieze above the long, upper level, double-hung sash windows with brick sills. The facade is divided vertically with the central door with transom and single double-hung sash window above. Each side of this central door is flanked by an original wooden commercial storefront with clearstory and display windows and with two paired windows on each side at the upper level. The Caddo Street (A Street East) facade incorporates the old, rock-cut stone wall on the basement and ground levels. The upper level is red brick with machicolation and a row of eight double-hung sash windows with brick, segmental arch lintels and brick sills. During the early 1900s (until 1911), the building served as the first hospital in Ardmore, run by Dr. Hardy, and housed on the second floor with a drugstore at the ground level and a saloon and gambling hall in the basement, a typical multi-purposed commercial structure of the early twentieth century.

17. 119 and 121 E. Main: 1894-1896, one story, rock-faced sandstone Plains commercial building with decorative embattlement-like parapet wall with central peak and distinctive

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merlons braced by carved shell-shaped stone supports and rock pilasters on each side with capitals incorporated into the rock bands projecting at the roof level. Although the clearstories have been covered and the storefront entries altered, this structure is the closest (to the tracks) structure surviving the 1915 explosion and its distinctive rock facade (the only one remaining in the streetscape) adds variety and interest to the streetscape.

18 and 19. Carter and Booker Block, 15-21 N. Washington: 1903, two stories, late Victorian, red brick with yellow brick polychrome detailing on an arcaded series of four commercial storefront with central, double, lighted doors with transom and round arched clearstory in a bay projecting slightly from the facade. Brick pilasters protrude above the roofline and divide each of the four storefronts and flank each end. The three row, yellow brick, semi-circular eyebrow hood of the central door is visually repeated in the two row, eyebrow hoods of the series of upper level, double-hung sash windows (grouped in fours except for the bay south of the center which only has three windows). These arches are connected by a stringcourse of yellow brick that bisects the pilasters to tie the facade together. Another yellow brick stringcourse in each bay is above these windows as is the alternating red and yellow brick stringcourse above the machicolation. A small frieze in concrete with the name, "Carter and Booker Block" is placed near the roofline in the central, projecting bay. The collector boxes and the Y-shaped downspouts are centered over the interior pilasters. A series of crossed, yellow bricks form a pattern of stars between the machicolation and windows as well as above the central doors. The lower level with clearstories and wooden storefront entries and display windows support the metal beams that form a decorative band in each bay below the second floor brickwork. On each end, the clearstories have been covered and wooden storefronts have been replaced with aluminum framed storefronts. Some of the upper windows have been boarded up, but only temporarily. The polychrome facade and textural brick detailing are excellent examples of the combination of Victorian Romanesque and Plains commercial styles.

20. Masonic Temple Building, Northwest corner of Main and Washington Streets; 1896-1898, three stories, Victorian Romanesque building of red brick with limestone and brick detailing. Originally, the clipped corner was the focal point of the building with the main entry of a semicircular brick arch outlined by limestone forming a light above the door and supported by limestone doric columnades on limestone rectangular plinthes. The focal point was emphasized by the brick parapet wall capped by stone that peaked at this corner and included a metal sign embossed with "Masonic Temple." The unique treatment of the shaped, brick lintel above the second floor window in the corner also accentuates the corner entry. The small, tin entablature with curvilinear brackets disguises the gutter for the building and visually ties both street facades together as do the course with dentils below, the brick stringcourse above the third floor windows, the row of semi-circular, brick eyebrow hoods on the upper level windows, and the row of second floor windows, both with limestone sills. Brick pilasters with capitals forming the ends of the eyebrow hoods divide each column of windows and break up the horizontal emphasis of the building while the brick friezes below each window accentuate the horizontal features. The apparent symmetry of the facades in the repetition of window patterns is broken by the treatment of the corner entry, the brick merlons in the parapet wall, the one smaller column of windows (with a repetition of the shaped lintel) squeezed into the facade on Main Street, and the end ground level storefronts. The ground level entry has been recently altered with a mansard roof and squared corner, new storefronts, and

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rough cut boarding over the windows. Upper level windows have also received the same boarding treatment, replacing the sash windows. Even so, this structure has an imposing appearance at the major intersection in town. Historically, it served not only as stores and the meeting hall for the Masons, but also as a social center with its ballroom upstairs.

21. First National Bank Building, 13-15 W. Main: 1918-1924, one story equal to three stories, limestone, classical revival structure capped with Tuscan entablature and divided into three bays by the four ionic columns resting on two tall, grey granite bases and projecting like a portico. Each bay has a pair of 6x6 double-hung sash windows capped with a fan light. Below the central window unit, the double door flanked with pilasters support a decorative entablature pediment including medallions and dentils. Each bay to the side of the door has a pair of 2x2 double-hung sash windows with decorative window boxes similar to the one above the entablature pediment. Inscribed in the frieze above the columns is "First National Bank: and the two bronze plaques on the granite base read "First National Bank--Oldest Bank in Oklahoma--Founded 1889." While most of the bank's services have moved to a new facility, this building is still used as the computer and record center for the bank. The unusual style of this structure shares features common to other structures, especially the common roofline, the semi-circular arched shapes of the windows.

22. 105 and 107 W. Main: 1896-1898, two stories, brick with elaborate brick decoration commercial structure sharing facade design although originally divided by a pilaster strip into two storefronts. On the west portion of the facade, a double-hung sash window at each side of the central window with a semi-circular brick eyebrow hood that joins with the other windows' lintels and the decorative brick window facing combine to visually separate the window unit from the facade. The east portion windows received similar treatment except with a pair of central windows. The roofline distinguished by machicolation, collector boxes with downspouts on each end of the building, and small rectangular vents above the windows increase the visual variety of the decorative elements. The original storefront ground level facades have been covered with a mansard roof and brick faced entries. This structure combines a roofline and similar decorative features common with neighboring structures to provide visual variety with cohesion in the streetscape

23. 127 and 129 W. Main: 1896-1898, two stories, corner stone structure with decorative red brick facing. The parapet wall above the stepped brick entablature contains a band of four rows of alternately recessed brick and a central brick rectangle with two, small, round arched, brick niches. The upper level, tall, narrow, double-hung sash windows with projecting brick sills are irregularly grouped but connected by elaborate, brick, semi-circular eyebrow hoods with dentils that also form a band course at the base of the arches. The side street facade is divided by two brick pilasters that help break up the horizontal emphasis of the structure. The ground level wall of the side street has been stuccoed at least since the 1920s and the storefront display windows and entry have been replaced by aluminum framing but retain the original storefront character and signage.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #6)

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VISUALLY INTRUSIVE STRUCTURES:

- 1 and 2. 232-228 W. Main: 1902-1903, two stories, brick buildings remodelled in 1970s by application of concrete panels to form columns of windows with overhanging, flat, entablature. Although the use of new material detracts from its historical integrity, the location of the building at the end of the historic district and the common set back and roofline helps distinguish the district from nearby buildings and blends visually into the streetscape.
3. 226 W. Main: 1903-1907, one story, brick building, remodelled in 1970, as two one-story concrete storefronts, but due to the scale of the buildings, they do not detract drastically from the historical integrity of the district.
7. 102 and 104 W. Main: 1898-1902, one story, yellow brick building with red brick bordered frieze and stepped roofline. Western storefront remodelled by adding concrete panels and oval-arched recessed entry.
10. Champion Building, 2 and 4 W. Main: 1950s, two stories, beige brick, low profile office building replacing structure destroyed in storm. The low profile of this building matches the rooflines of neighboring buildings and the use of a high concrete stringcourse (also the lintels) and the repetition of upper level 3x2 windows, helps blend the structure into the streetscape.
12. West side of Caddo Street South of Main: 1960s, one story prefabricated metal building with brick-faced wall below windows. The building is recessed from the Main streetscape by a parking lot on the Main Street facade and thus, is not visibly part of the Main Street historic district.
24. North side of Main east of C Street, originally two story brick and 3 story brick buildings, remodelled in 1960s as one story metal clad structures. Due to the common setback, this building is visually part of the historic district, bordering the newer construction with deeper setbacks of the buildings west of the district.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" 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 1895-1924

Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ardmore Historic Commercial District is an important example of the impact of railroads on settlement patterns in Oklahoma. The town developed as commercial center with businesses extending east and west along Main Street from the railroad depot, the hub of its existence. The prosperity and commercial vitality resulting from the railroad is visually reflected in the architecture of the midwestern commercial buildings. The impressive, six block district of red brick with late Victorian Romanesque detailing in a variety of one to three story structures is reflective of Ardmore's historic and continued role as the major commercial center for south-central Oklahoma since 1887.

The town was established in 1887 as a railroad station when the tracks were laid for the Santa Fe Railway, which was the first railroad through the central part of the Indian Territory, connecting Texas with Kansas, and replacing the cattle trails and wagon roads with faster, more efficient transportation for the cattle and cotton going to eastern markets. Prior to statehood in 1907, Ardmore became the largest inland cotton center in the United States, shipping an average of 25,000 bales of cotton annually by rail, helping insure the commercial viability of the town. In 1890, the importance of Ardmore expanded further when the first federal district court inside Indian Territory was established in Ardmore. After statehood, the town's role as a governmental center continued when it became the county seat of Carter County. The discovery of the Healdton Oil Field nearby in 1911 led to an economic boom for the town as a railhead for much of oil and gas from the field.

In 1895, following a fire that destroyed 131 businesses in Ardmore, the town had rebuilt, widening Main Street and replacing wooden structures with the more fire resistant, substantial, one to three story, brick and stone buildings that still form the core of the central business district. On September 27, 1915, cashinghead gas leaking from a tank car sitting near the depot exploded, killing fifty people, injuring hundreds more, and damaging many of the buildings in the central business district. When the damage was assessed, much of the district east of the tracks had been destroyed, but most of the businesses west of the depot survived. As a result, by 1918 the central business district had shifted west of the tracks, (the nominated area) and the dominant appearance of the extant business district along Main Street had been established.

The character and prosperity of the present district west of the tracks was well established between 1895 and 1924 with the Victorian Romanesque, Late Victorian, and Plains Commercial structures of red brick and sandstone. Boundaries have been chosen using these criteria: visual cohesiveness, historical integrity, architectural characteristics, and contiguous association. The buildings of the business district form a cohesive visual unit extending west for six blocks along Main Street from the railroad yard to C Street. Beyond the boundaries of the nomination, newer construction, open spaces, and residential structures predominate.

The buildings nominated in the district have had few structural alterations and are in good condition. Included within the district are several significant historic structures:

- (1) The Hardy Von Keller Sanitarium, the first hospital in the region that was housed on the second floor of a building that also served as a drug store, saloon and gambling hall;
- (2) The Little Building that housed the first offices of the Independent Petroleum Producers of American.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 19 acres

Quadrangle name Ardmore West, Okla.

Quadrangle scale 7.5 min.

UTM References

A	<u>14</u>	<u>672240</u>	<u>3782840</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<u>14</u>	<u>672200</u>	<u>3782680</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<u>14</u>	<u>672760</u>	<u>3782500</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D	<u>14</u>	<u>672820</u>	<u>3782140</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

(See continuation sheet)

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Karen Bode Curths Supervised by Mary Ann Anders

organization Okla. Preservation Survey date Feb. 1982

street & number 502 Math Sciences telephone 624-5678

city or town Stillwater, Okla. 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 *C. Metcalfe* 11/23/82

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

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

Linda McClelland date 3/14/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: *Patrick Anders* date 3/14/83

Chief of Registration

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(3) The first federal courthouse and jail west of Fort Smith, Arkansas. The district also includes some excellent examples of Victorian Romanesque, brick commercial structures:

- (1) The arcaded storefronts on the west side of Washington.
- (2) The Masonic Building.
- (3) The present Collier's Furniture building.
- (4) The building currently housing Dorisanne's shop.

The visual variety typical of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century architecture is also represented by the presence of the Classical Revival First National Bank building and the Italian Renaissance Revival Little Building.

There are few intrusions of buildings since 1918. The Champion Building replaced a much older structure destroyed in a storm in the 1950s. While historically non-contributing, the low profile of simple brick facade and roofline blends with neighboring buildings. The other few structures designated on the sketch map as built after 1918 are compatible in scale, design, and materials with the older buildings and contribute to the essential visual character of the business district by filling in vacant spaces and providing a visual continuity to the streetfronts. The structures near C Street are pre-1924 buildings that have been remodelled with recent stucco and metal facades. Less than 10 percent of the buildings in the district have been either built or structurally remodelled since 1924, but because of their scale, design, coloring, and signage, these post-1924 facades are not blatantly distracting to the early nineteenth century architectural character of the district.

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Verbal Boundary Description:

Area encompassing all properties along Main Street from "C" St. W. east to the main track of the Santa Fe Railroad; from the intersection of Main and "C" St. W. south to Hinkle Ave. S. W. (also known as the alley between Main and 1st St. S.W.) and thence east on Hinkle to 50 feet east of "A" St. S. E. (also known as Caddo St.) thence south 100 feet thence east to the main line of the Santa Fe Railroad thence northerly along the track to a point 150 feet north of the alley between Main and Broadway thence west to a point 100 feet east of Caddo Street thence south 150 feet to the alley between Main and Broadway thence west on the alley to N. Washington and north to the north side of Lot 3, Block 325 thence west to "A" St. N.W. and south to the alley between Main and Broadway thence west to "C" St. W. and south to Main St. to point of origin. (see sketch map for boundaries).

Boundaries were chosen after a windshield survey and historical research that indicated that these boundaries form a visual unit along Main Street and incorporate most of the original business district established by 1895 and in use before 1924. Beyond these boundaries, later architectural features dominate.