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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Humphreys Drugstore Building
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 106 E. 2nd N/A not for publication
city, town Grandfield N/A vicinity
state Oklahoma code OK county Tillman code 141 zip code 73456

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	_____ objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. 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. N/A See continuation sheet.
Blake Wade May 8, 1992
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.
Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain:) _____
Melanie Byrum 6/18/92
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCIAL STYLE

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT
other Wood-storefront

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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Summary

The Humphreys Drugstore Building, built ca. 1914, is a one-story, twenty-five-foot wide, brick commercial building in downtown Grandfield. Located on one of the two blocks which make up the Central Business District, it is sited between two one-story brick buildings, which also retain their original openings. It is an excellent example of a small-town, early-twentieth-century commercial establishment, and the exterior and interior both possess an unusually high degree of integrity.

Description

The Humphreys Drugstore Building is a one-story, buff brick building, built circa 1914. Simply designed, the architectural style of the building is referred to as Early Commercial. The front facade of the building consists of a recessed entry with two large display windows and a centered entrance. The entry to the store is formed by a pair of wooden entry doors with side-lights. The doors are original with a glass panel above and a recessed wooden panel below. The entire facade exists between two, capped brick pilasters. On either side of the building are almost identical facades of the same period, each of the three buildings constructed by different owners.

The five transom windows above the entry doors are clear glass with the word DRUGS spelled out in gold letters. The floor of the recessed entry is covered with gray and white octagonal tiles and completely banded in red, white, gray and black square tiles. The window panels below the display windows are white ceramic tile and have been painted a dull, chalky white.

The original flat, wooden canopy covers the entry way. Clerestory windows are located above the canopy. The clerestory windows are pink tinted prism glass. Prism glass was often used to throw the light farther back into the building. Of the twenty-two original lights, two have been replaced with clear glass and one is missing.

Directly above the clerestory is a raised panel of brick traditionally used as a sign board or name plate for the building. A row of corbeled brick in alternating rows of red and buff is located between the cornice and the name plate. The cornice of the building is plain and capped with two rows of bricks.

At the rear of the building, the original red brick has been stuccoed. Two single windows with segmented arches have been filled with concrete and are no longer operational. The original rear wooden double-doors have been replaced with a large, metal door. The segmental arch and transom window above the rear door has also been filled in with concrete. A concrete stoop with three steps is in front of the rear entrance.

Interior

The interior of the Humphreys Drugstore Building has had few changes over the years and remains as it was originally designed: a large open space for retail activity with an office and storage in the rear. The original ceiling is pressed tin with a decorative pressed tin cornice. The floors are oak. The walls are lined with solid wood cabinets made in Kansas City specifically for this building and shipped to the site. These cabinets were installed in 1920 by a workman from the company where they were fabricated.

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On the east wall is a complete soda fountain with the original back bar and the original counter. Unused for over ten years, the original fountain equipment remains. A large mirror is centered behind the counter with cabinets on either side. The stained glass cabinet doors have a floral pattern. The back bar with its mirror and stained glass cabinets is one unit. On either side of the back bar are cabinets with solid wood doors on the bottom and glass doors on top.

On the west wall is a series of cabinets used both for drugs and for displaying items related to the jewelry and clock repair shop, which was also operated in the same building.

Alterations/Additions

The building's exterior is original from the time of construction (ca.1914), with the exception of the rear door and rear windows. That door has been replaced with metal and the window openings filled with concrete (ca. 1940). The interior of the building remains as it was in 1920 when it was converted for use as a pharmacy, soda fountain, and jewelry store. The building possesses a high degree of historical integrity.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Significant Person

N/A

Period of Significance

1914-1941

Significant Dates

1914

1920

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

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
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property less than one (1) acre

UTM References

A

1	4	5	2	9	2	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing	

3	7	8	7	6	2	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing	

C

Zone		Easting				Northing	

B

Zone		Easting				Northing	

D

Zone		Easting				Northing	

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property occupies Lot 22 of Block 22 of the Original Townsite of Grandfield, Oklahoma.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the city lot that has historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Maryjo Meacham
 organization Meacham & Associates date November 15, 1991
 street & number 709 Chautauqua telephone 405 321 6221
 city or town Norman state Oklahoma zip code 73069

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Summary

The Humphreys Drugstore Building is significant for the role it played in the commercial life of downtown Grandfield. It is also significant as an excellent example of the Early Commercial style of architecture, particularly the interior, which remains completely intact. Constructed ca. 1914, the building is surrounded by similar buildings built between 1909 and the early 1920's. The period of significance extends from 1914, the year the building was constructed, until 1941. Humphreys Drugstore continued to operate until the early 1970's.

Historical Background

In December of 1906 the Big Pasture was opened by sealed bids, marking the last large region in Oklahoma to be settled. Grandfield, located in the middle of the Big Pasture, was platted in 1908 and incorporated on January 10, 1909. The downtown businesses initially served the farm community, but as early as 1911 the discovery of oil also influenced the growth of the town. The early tests did not prove to be too successful, but in 1917 a second surge of interest and drilling resulted in a oil boom for Grandfield. The town became crowded with oil field workers and speculators. The next year the first oil refinery was built and it was followed by six more. All but one, the Union Oil Refinery, eventually shut down before the early 1930's. Bell Oil and Gas Refining Company eventually acquired the Union Oil Refinery and operated it in Grandfield until the early 1960's. The remaining commercial establishments in Grandfield continue to serve the surrounding agricultural community.

Downtown Grandfield

The Grandfield Central Business District is approximately two blocks long and is spread east and west along Second Street between Simpson Street and Taylor. The one- and two-story brick commercial buildings which make up downtown Grandfield were constructed between 1908 and 1940. Typical of small rural communities, businesses of almost every type were represented. One of the more common types of commercial establishments which played an important role in the life of the city was the drugstore. Generally the drugstore fulfilled a variety of needs including a place to purchase medicine and personal items, and often the drugstore was the location of a soda fountain.

Commercial Significance

Humphreys Drugstore Building, one of three drugstores in Grandfield between 1908 and 1941, played an important role in the commercial life of the downtown. Built in 1914, it became a drugstore and jewelry store in 1920 and continued to operate in this capacity until the early 1970s.

Originally built as a hardware store, the building operated as a drug store and a jewelry store from 1920 until 1972. Two brothers, Grover and Audrey Teeter, were the pharmacists. Their brother-in-law, Herbert E. "Pete" Humphreys, was the jeweler. The Teeters operated this business until 1972 when they closed.

To accommodate the dual business of drug and jewelry store, Humphreys and the Teeters ordered a brand new set of furnishings for the interior when they bought the building in 1920. Especially designed for their business, there were cabinets to accommodate drugs, display cases for jewelry, and a complete soda fountain. The interior

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was ordered from Kansas City and a factory representative came to Grandfield with the cabinets and soda fountain to supervise the installation. The installation of the soda fountain instantly made the drugstore a local gathering place and a social center for members of the Grandfield community. The cabinets and the soda fountain remain unchanged.

Of the three drugstores located in downtown Grandfield between 1908 and 1941, the Humphreys Drugstore is the only remaining drugstore which has maintained its historical integrity. The First National Bank Building, the site of a drugstore from approximately 1923 until the 1940s, has a stronger association to its original function as a bank and does not retain any features related from the period it served as a drugstore. The third drugstore, which was also located downtown, was destroyed by fire in July of 1930. The exterior storefront of Humphreys Drugstore, and the interior with its original wall cabinets and soda fountain, continue to maintain a high degree of historical and architectural integrity.

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Architectural Significance

The Humphreys Drugstore Building is architecturally significant as an excellent local example of commercial architecture from the 1910s and 1920s. The interior, which is completely intact and original, maintains a high degree of architectural integrity.

Commercial buildings constructed in small towns at the turn of the century were generally built as a single building or in groups with party walls. Downtown lots were often twenty-five-feet in width and one-hundred-and-forty-feet in length. Sometimes the building covered the entire lot, but many times it was only half or three-quarters deep, leaving room in the back for small storage buildings, stables, and later, parking. The Humphreys Drugstore Building was constructed by one owner and is located between two almost identical buildings.

The plan seldom varied: a display area was located directly behind the storefront; a large open area served to display the goods for sale; and a space in the rear was often separated for use as office and storage space.

While each building facade varied with the use of different materials and architectural elements, the basics were the same. A recessed entrance was either centered or off-center with large, deep display windows on either side accessible from the interior through small wooden doors. A panel of wood or brick was directly below the display windows, and clerestory windows, necessary to let natural light reach the rear of the store, were located above both the door and the display windows. Above the clerestory of a one-story building was often a name plate, brick friezes, and cornices of either brick or pressed tin. The Humphrey's Drugstore Building is the quintessential example of this idiom in Grandfield.

Although the City of Grandfield had approximately three drugstores in the downtown between 1908 and 1940, the Humphreys Drugstore remains and is the only drugstore with both the original exterior and original interior. One drugstore was located across the street from Humphreys in the First National Bank Building. Apparently, when the bank closed in 1923, a drugstore moved into the empty space. A third drugstore was located on the middle of the 100 block of West Second Street (Main Street). This store was destroyed by the 1930 downtown fire which leveled the entire block, except for the First State Bank at the east end and the Tillman County Bank at the west end.

While several of the downtown buildings located within the two block business district have remained relatively unchanged over the years, the Humphreys Drugstore Building is the best example. The plaster walls, the pressed tin ceiling, the wood floors, the location of the back wall which separates the store from the storage room, and the interiors of the display windows remain unaltered. Moreover, the wooden cabinets and the soda fountain, although considered furniture, are intact.

The Humphreys Drugstore Building is an excellent example of a one-story, downtown commercial building and includes all of the above characteristics. The exterior and interior possess a high degree of architectural integrity.

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