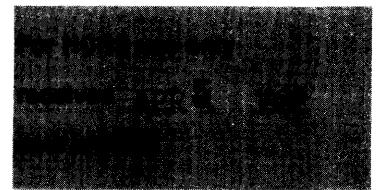


**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific R.R. Depot

and/or common Ringling Road Station

2. Location

street & number N. Washington and N.E. 3rd

NA not for publication

city, town Ardmore vicinity of congressional district 003

state Oklahoma code 040 county Carter code 019

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
district	public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	museum
structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	commercial
site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	educational
object	<i>NA</i> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	entertainment
	<i>NA</i> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	industrial
			military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: American Legion

4. Owner of Property

name City of Ardmore

street & number 1st and B SW

city, town Ardmore vicinity of state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Carter County Court House

street & number 1st and B SW

city, town Ardmore state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Comprehensive 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered		<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed				

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Built in a Western Commercial style, the Ringling Road Depot in Ardmore consists of a main, two-story section and a one-story extension used for freight storage. It is a rectangular building of red brick construction 185' by 32'. A concrete entablature encircles the building near the roofline. The north and south elevations have paired, double-hung, sash windows with connecting stone lintels and sills. The second story on the east side has three, double-hung sash windows with a continuous stone lintel.

The main two-story section has five bays on the north and south sides. This section has at the first floor level a bay-like projection on the north which served as a ticket window. The main entrance is located on the east end of the depot. Between the first and second stories is a deep wooden eave with massive supporting brackets, which extends around the perimeter of the building. This eave has asphalt shingles.

The single-story freight section has freight doors located on the north and south elevations. The building has a narrow concrete foundation. Decorative elements include tie-rod endings and a stone insert in the front of the building with the words Ringling Road Station.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian				
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater				
X 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		X other (specify)				

Specific dates 1915

Builder/Architect N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Ringling Road Depot in Ardmore is significant because it is the only building in Oklahoma directly associated with John Ringling of Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

John Ringling's railroad building efforts led directly to the establishment of three towns in southern Oklahoma: Ringling, Wilson, and Healdton, as well as the Healdton oilfield.

Ringling and the city of Ardmore built this depot in 1915, with Ringling's Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific Railroad Company. Construction of a line west from Ardmore had been begun in 1913 and was supposed to reach Lawton, Oklahoma. By the time builders finished the depot, the line extended 25 miles to the west, the present site of Ringling, Oklahoma. The depot built there no longer exists.

The Ringling Road never extended further west than Ringling because of the discovery of oil at Healdton, Oklahoma. The oilfield at Healdton was vital to the Allied effort in World War I. It supplied 50% of all the oil the Allied powers used during the war. The Ringling Road made this output possible.

The Santa Fe Railroad Company purchased the Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Pacific Railroad from Ringling in 1926. Santa Fe used the line until 1976, when they closed the 25-mile stretch. They sold the depot to the city of Ardmore, which leased it to the local American Legion.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Robinson, Gilbert L. "Transportation in Carter County, 1913-1917," Chronicles of Oklahoma 19 (1941): 368-376.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Ardmore west

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A	1 14	6 712	6 1610	3 17 813	1 1010
	Zone	Easting	Northing		
C					
E					
G					

B							
	Zone	Easting	Northing				
D							
F							
H							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Block 246, Lot 5. Original City of Ardmore.

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Blane Mays	Supervised by	Mary Ann Anders
organization	Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey	date	December 1, 1981
street & number	Oklahoma State University	telephone	(405)624-5678
city or town	Stillwater	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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Cem Metcalf

title

date 3-29-82

For HCRS use only

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

date

3/30/82

J. Bell Grosvenor
keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration