

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 16 1985
date entered

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

NOV 14 1985

1. Name

historic Canadian County Jail

and or common Canadian County Jail

2. Location

street & number 300 S. Evans n/a not for publication

city, town El Reno n/a vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Canadian code 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Office/stor

4. Owner of Property

name Canadian County

street & number Canadian County Courthouse

city, town El Reno n/a vicinity of state Oklahoma 73036

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Canadian County Courthouse

street & number S. Evans at W. Rogers

city, town El Reno state Oklahoma 73036

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Landmark Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date January, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Soc.

city, town Oklahoma state Oklahoma 73105

7. Description

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

The Canadian County Jail, built in 1906/1907, is a unique masonry structure of two stories. Designed by Solomon Andrew Layton, Early statehood architect, Later to be recognized as one of Oklahoma's leading professionals and a prolific designer.

The Building, though small, is of unusual character with masonry walls of alternating courses of rustic faces and units of smooth wide surfaces. These horizontal bands are interrupted only by the vertical openings of windows and entrances. A base of smooth stone terminates about four feet above ground level with a water table and supports the banded stone wall just described. The main entrance of two doors is embellished with a doric column at each side, capped with a pediment and entablature. Layton separated the upper tenth of the column with a 1" joint and included the remaining portion of the column with the capital. This created a new capital, of sorts, which was typical of his own innovative ideas.

Major wall openings contain tall wood framed windows and are covered with iron bars while windows surrounding the main entrance are not. Upper windows have diagonal muntins, including the special window over the pediment. Roof overhangs are now trimmed with plain fascia boards. But originally the fascias were very ornate productions with a metal anthemion attached at each rafter tail.

Today the roof is covered with composition shingles and penetration of the surface with a brick chimney hasn't changed over the years. However, the condition of the chimney reveals it has suffered over the years and needs repair.

Alterations have occurred through the past which do not enhance the historic appearance of the Jail. Air conditioning units hang out of three windows, one installation resulting in the destruction of original material. An addition in the 1970's connected the Jail with an earlier building referred to as the carriage house. Other alterations include window screen and iron bar removal. All exterior masonry has been painted, believed to have occurred also in the 1970's. Open soffits show that a good deal of electrical wiring and lighting has been done with little or no damage to the structure.

A vent pipe passes through the pediment window, affecting only a pane of glass which had to be removed. Signage attached to the building has caused minimal damage, about the same as the penetrations made to fasten attachments for early day awnings.

The floor plan is symmetrical, "T" shaped and roughly 47' by 58'. In use since march, 1907, the twelve cells remain in very good condition. The cell block is two level with rivited ceiling, four metal fold-up bunks per cell, six cells per level and a cat-walk on the upper level. Central to the first floor is a sallyport/

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

Specific dates 1906/1907 **Builder/Architect** Soloman Layton/W.H. Riley, Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Canadian County Jail is historically and architecturally significant because it is the oldest county government structure in Canadian County, and it is one of the first works of Solomon Andrew Layton, Oklahoma's leading architect of the time.

S.A. Layton was one of the most important and influential architects in early twentieth century Oklahoma. From 1902 to 1907, Layton was in partnership with W.H. (Bill) Riley in the practice they established in El Reno, county seat of Canadian County. It was during that time that Layton designed the Canadian County Courthouse (February 12, 1903-1964). Plans for a new jail began shortly after the courthouse was completed. Construction of the jail began in the fall of 1906 and concluded in March 1907, just a few months before Oklahoma statehood. The jail was quite modern facility, boasting space for 24 prisoners, a separate detention room for boys, a women's ward, and upstairs offices. The masonry structure stood amid dirt streets and frame buildings. Today, a few residences Layton designed still remain in El Reno as acknowledgement of his contribution to the community.

The Canadian County Jail is the only one of Layton's public structures remaining in El Reno, and it is the oldest county government structure still intact in Canadian County.

An ordered symmetrical plan and elevations are characteristic of Layton's work, as are superb masonry classical columns, orders and a central pediment, all evidenced in the Canadian County Jail.

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name El Reno, OK

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	1 1 4	5 9 4 7 1 0	3 9 3 2 7 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
E			
G			

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
F			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 12 and 13, Block 58, Original Town, El Reno

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Coover-Clark

organization FKW, Inc.

date 7/12/85

street & number 900 N.W. 63rd

telephone (405) 848-2297

city or town Oklahoma City

state Oklahoma 73116

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. Emery

9/30/85

title

date

For NPS use only

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

William P. Bushong
Keeper of the National Register

date

1/14/85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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date entered

Continuation sheet 1

Item number 7

Page 1

booking area with the womens cell to one side and the juvenile area on the opposite. The latter area being most affected by alteration with removal of the cell, building a connecting doorway through an exterior wall, and dropping a ceiling to accomodate a storage room above. This room was originally 15' Tall.

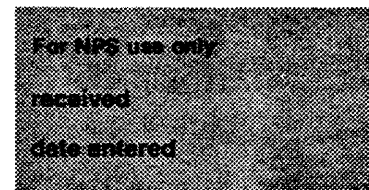
Second floor offices still have their first wood floors and the space for a sleeping compartment. An observation window permits visual checking of the second level cells.

A small basement below the detention/office area on the first floor provides mechanical and plumbing space. But, it also has the added feature of a jailer's escape tunnel in case of a riot, leading to two escape hatches in the sidewalk above which appear to be manhole covers.

The Canadian County Jail, despite having been painted and with other minor alterations, retains practically all of its turn-of-the century equipment and special architectural character of its exterior.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9.

Page 2

1. "Jail Plans Drawn" El Reno Democrat, Thursday, August 16, 1906, No. 28, p.2.
2. "Jail Opening" El Reno Democrat, Thursday, April 4, 1907.
3. "New Jail" El Reno American, Thursday, April 4, 1907.
4. Young Men's Club. El Reno, Oklahoma - In Word and Picture, El Reno, 1912.
5. Nelson, Mary Jo, "The Buildings of Solomon Andrew Layton," Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: Historical Society, 1978.
6. Woods, Merle, El Reno Historical Society, interview, November, 1984.
7. Nelson, Mary Jo, Daily Oklahoman, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Interview. May 4, 1985.
8. Runkel, Alice (granddaughter of S. A. Layton), Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Interview. May 4, 1985.

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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OCT 30 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCE CENTER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

historic name Canadian County Jail and Stable [supplemental documentation]

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 300 North Evans not for publication N/A

city or town El Reno vicinity N/A

state Oklahoma code OK county Canadian code 017

zip code 73036

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form
Canadian County Jail and Stable
Canadian County, Oklahoma

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Page 2
INTERAGENCY COORDINATION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official

25 October 1995
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): additional

Additional Documentation Accepted

Documentation approved

[Signature]
for Signature of Keeper

12/14/95
Date

of Action

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> buildings
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> sites
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> structures
<u> 0 </u>	<u> 0 </u> objects
<u> 1 </u>	<u> 0 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: GOVERNMENT Sub: correctional facility
OTHER stable

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: OTHER Sub: non-commercial storage

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Italian Renaissance

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof ASPHALT
walls STONE:Limestone
BRICK
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1906-1945

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8. Statement of Significance (Continued)
=====

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
 N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Layton, Solomon A., architect
 Kreipke, A. C., builder

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: _____

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>14</u>	<u>594710</u>	<u>3932710</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
2	<u>N/A</u>	<u>See continuation sheet.</u>		4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Cynthia Smelker, Preservation Research Assistant

organization State Historic Preservation Office date March 1995

street & number 621 N. Robinson, Ste. 375 telephone 405/521-6249

city or town Oklahoma City state OK zip code 73102

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage
or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Canadian County

street & number 301 North Choctaw telephone _____

city or town El Reno state OK zip code 73036

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NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

001 30 1995

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

INTERAGENCY RESOURCE CENTER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Canadian County Jail and Stable
name of property
Canadian County Oklahoma
county and State

Roof Material (continued) : METAL: Tin

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The Canadian County Jail and Stable represent an atypical example of a turn-of-the-century county incarceration facility and outbuilding. The Canadian County Jail, designed by Solomon A. Layton, one of Oklahoma's premier architects, is an unusual example of the Italian Renaissance style applied to a normally utilitarian building. The Canadian County Stable also exhibits several characteristics of the Italian Renaissance style. Constructed several years prior to the stable in 1906, the jail is built of stone. The stable, constructed between 1908 and 1913, is red brick. The jail is currently painted white. Until recently the stable was also painted white but since February 1995 the paint has been removed. The buildings remain in their original location, although the general setting has evolved somewhat differently. Originally located to the north of the Canadian County Courthouse in an essentially residential area, the current setting is primarily modern government buildings with only a few residences remaining. Although some alterations have occurred on both buildings, overall they retain their integrity.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION OF THE CANADIAN COUNTY JAIL

The Canadian County Jail was designed with an imposing facade clearly demonstrating its governmental function; yet, massed in such a way as to harmonize with the residential character of the immediate area. The building measures approximately 47' X 58', not much larger than the original houses that surrounded it. The jail has an asphalt covered, hipped roof with two dropped cross hips and a front hipped dormer. The T-shaped, symmetrical building has broadly overhanging eaves with brackets, which are painted red, and a water table. Although giving the appearance of a one-story building, an illusion reinforced by the full length windows, the jail is two-stories. The building also contains a small basement, located towards the front of the building. In this area are the necessary mechanical and plumbing units, as well as a jailer's escape tunnel leading to two escape hatches in the sidewalk above. The walls of the jail are constructed of stone with a concrete foundation. The walls are unusual in that they are distinguished by large, smooth blocks broken by smaller bands of rusticated stone. A cast concrete chimney, in severely deteriorated condition, is located on the south elevation. The building has been painted white, the chimney red. The

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Canadian County Jail and Stable
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majority of windows in the building are large, one-over-one, wooden, double hung windows with bars and screens. The screens are a red mesh, which along with the eaves and chimney, provide a striking contrast to the otherwise white building.

The west elevation serves as the focal point of the building and as its primary elevation. In addition to the dominant entry porch, this elevation contains nine windows and a hipped dormer. The stately facade is created by the entry porch topped with a classical pediment and supported by substantial columns. The overall classical element of the porch is reinforced by the archetypal pediment and entablature which possesses the standard cornice, frieze and architrave. The columns, however, are not truly classical, having no real capitals or bases. Near the top of the shaft, is about a one inch, concave incision. These incisions sever the shafts in such a way as to emphasis the solidity of the tapered columns and create an unusual illusion of a capital. Although previously painted red to match the eaves and windows, the columns are currently painted white. The entrance contains double, nonoriginal, wood, slab doors with single lights and has concrete stairs. Flanking the entrance are two narrow, wood, one-over-one, double hung windows with slightly shorter windows immediately above. Centered over the pediment is a fixed, rectangular, wood window. All of the second story windows have diagonal muntins, the only windows to do so. Located to the outside of the facade on the hipped roof wings on either side are paired windows. All four windows are one-over-one, wood, double hung windows with bars and screens. The first story window to the immediate north of the entrance has been partially altered. The lower section of the window has been widened to accommodate an air conditioning unit, which necessitated the shortening of the screen as well. Another air conditioning unit was placed in the inner window on the south side of the west elevation. This, however, required alteration to only the bars and screen.

In conforming with the subdued residential character of the surrounding area, the nearly identical north and south elevations contain little ornamental detail. Both elevations possess three long, one-over-one, wood, double hung windows in the rear cell area. Towards the front in the hipped wing, the north elevation has two small, fixed, wood windows. The westernmost small window contains an air conditioning unit. The south elevation, in contrast, has two long, one-over-one, wood, double hung windows which match the other windows on the elevation. The south elevation is further distinguished by the cast concrete slope chimney and an infilled doorway in the hipped wing. The chimney, painted red, is in

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deteriorated condition. The nonoriginal doorway provided access to an addition constructed in the 1970s, when the jail was still in use. The 1970s addition was constructed along the south wall of the jail and was removed from the building in 1991. The door has since been filled with concrete blocks. Construction of this addition also required the infill of the back windows on the south elevation with concrete block. The concrete block in these windows has since been removed with screens matching the other elevations reinstalled.

The east elevation of the building, the rear, contained only two long windows. An addition constructed between about 1954 and 1960 directly connected the jail to the stable. The addition, which was removed along with the 1970s addition in 1991, provided extra office space. Due to the construction of the addition, the rear windows in the jail were infilled with concrete block, which currently remains in the windows.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION OF THE STABLE

Built between 1908 and 1913, the stable is constructed of red brick. The square, two-story building has an asphalt covered, hipped roof with broadly overhanging eaves. Located on the east elevation is a gable with returns and a hay hook. The eaves are currently metal with drop ornaments on all four corners and on the gable returns. The building originally had a cupola but the only remaining evidence of such is the flattened roof ridge. Currently the building has two entrances and multiple windows. One of the entrances has been boarded over. The windows are not uniform in size. The north elevation windows are smaller than those on the remaining elevations. Several alterations have occurred to the building regarding the various openings. Many of the windows have been infilled or otherwise altered, while several of the entrances have likewise been altered. Nonetheless, the stable retains its integrity.

The south elevation faces on to West Rogers, thus it is the only elevation which has direct street access. In 1923, a double door was cut into this elevation to facilitate entry into and exit from the building by the sheriff department's motor vehicles. The new door with its extended stone lintel was situated off-center, disrupting the otherwise symmetrical design of the south elevation. Since approximately 1954, the wooden double doors were partially infilled with concrete and a large, sliding, display window. The lintel remains in place, although it is currently painted to match the building. In addition, the south elevation

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Canadian County Jail and Stable
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contains two second story, wood, double hung, one-over-one windows with brick arched hoods and stone sills; one first story window with an arched hood and stone sill which has been covered with wood; and one wood slab door. The entrance on this elevation has been altered. The door's arched brick hood which matched the window hoods has been squared off. Additionally, the bars have been removed from the windows and an air conditioning unit has been placed in the west second story window. The placement of the air conditioning unit, however, did not change the historic configuration of the window.

The east elevation of the building was the primary elevation prior to the 1923 alterations. The elevation is highlighted by a centered gable with returns and drop ornaments. The hay hook, located high in the gable, is still in evidence. This elevation originally had a large second story window with a brick, arched hood. Although the brick hood remains in evidence, the window has been partially infilled with brick; creating a single second story window matching in size to those on the south and west elevations. The smaller window has an arched brick hood just below that of the former window and is one-over-one, wood, double hung. Both of the first floor openings have been infilled but remnants remain evident in the brickwork. A single door with a brick hood was located on the south side, while the north portion of the wall was a large door opening suitable for horses.

The north elevation of the building is slightly asymmetrical. The windows on this elevation are smaller than those of the other elevations with an unusually deep recess. All windows are wood with arched brick hoods and stone lug sills. The lower three windows are centered. The upper two are slightly off-center towards the west. The east window on the first floor and the west window on the second floor both still have iron bars. The bars in the other three windows are missing.

The west elevation contains two bricked in openings and one covered entrance. The second story centered window with arched brick hood has been infilled, as has a centered entrance. Similar to the window, the door had an arched brick hood. In the lower north corner of the west elevation, a square, probably nonoriginal door has been covered with plywood painted to match the building.

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

As noted in the 1985 National Register nomination, the Canadian County Jail and Stable were then connected by two nonhistoric additions. The first one-story

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addition was constructed approximately between 1954 and 1960. The cinder block addition, occupying the former vacant area between the two buildings, connected the jail and stable together without providing a direct passageway. The addition was constructed as supplementary office space for the increasingly inadequate county jail. The second addition, constructed in the mid-1970s, provided a corridor between the jail and the 1950s addition. In constructing the earlier addition, no passageway was created from the jail into the addition. The 1970s addition consisted of basically a hallway from the southeast side of the jail to the older addition.

Both additions were removed in 1991 due to their dilapidated. However, the additions resulted in the infill of many openings on both buildings, as well as the creation of new openings. The windows on the south and east elevations of the jail were infilled as a result of the additions. Since 1991, the infill in the south elevation windows has been removed. However, the concrete blocks remain in the rear windows. Additionally, the doorway from the jail into 1970s addition, located in the hipped wing on the south elevation, has been infilled with concrete block. On the stable, the 1950s addition caused the infill of the openings and the probable construction of a nonhistoric door in the north corner of the west elevation. Since removal of the additions, the door has been covered with plywood.

Other alterations to the jail are restricted to the modifications caused by the placement of air conditioning units in two of the front windows and use of asphalt shingles for roof covering. In keeping with the Italian Renaissance style of the building, the original roof was slate.

The stable has undergone slightly more extensive alterations. The majority of these alterations are related to the modernization of the building in 1923 to expedite the sheriff department's motor vehicle access from the stable to the street, thus they occurred within the building's period of significance. These modifications, however, resulted in the reorientation of the primary elevation from the east elevation to the south elevation, with openings created and eradicated as necessary on both elevations. The large window on the second story of the east elevation was reduced to approximately half-size to match the other windows on the building. Furthermore, the original large entrance in the north portion of the east elevation was infilled with little evidence save a slight difference in brickwork to mark its location. The infill of the first story

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Canadian County Jail and Stable
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window on the east elevation also possibly occurred at this time as it is done with brick rather than cement block. To facilitate access to the stable, a new double door with a stone lintel was constructed slightly off-center on the south elevation, facing on to Rogers Avenue.

Subsequent alterations to the stable include the changes resulting from the 1950s addition, as well as removal of the cupola and the bars from the second story windows on the south elevation and three of the five windows on the north elevation. Additionally on the south elevation, the double door constructed in 1923 has been reduced to a sliding display window and the entrance located to the immediate west of the former double door has been squared off.

Although the alterations to the stable are more substantial than those occurring to the jail, the more consequential modifications occurred within the building's period of significance, thus they do not impeach the building's historic integrity. The construction of the two additions did adversely impact both buildings, however, the removal of the additions has mitigated much of the damaging effect. The Canadian County Jail and Stable both continue to maintain their integrity of location, workmanship, design, materials, and convey the feeling of their past environment.

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SUMMARY

The Canadian County Jail in El Reno, Oklahoma, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985. At that time, due to the attachment of the buildings by two additions constructed in the mid 1950s and 1970s, the stable was included in the nomination as part of the jail. In 1991, the additions connecting the jail and stable were removed, creating two separate contributing resources. The buildings continue to maintain their historic association. Additionally, both buildings are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. The Canadian County Jail and Stable played a crucial role in the early government of Canadian County by providing the necessary facilities to incarcerate criminals, as well as furnishing the central location for the sheriff's department. Furthermore, the jail and stable are both architecturally significant. The jail, designed by Solomon A. Layton, is an unusually high style example of a county jail. The stable, while more functional in style, nonetheless, is unusual. Constructed of brick with Italian Renaissance influenced elements visually tying it to the jail, the stable is atypical of turn-of-the-century stables. The buildings are also the oldest county government buildings remaining in Canadian County.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Oklahoma's first land run on 22 April 1889 opened roughly the eastern half of Canadian County to non-Native American settlement. The majority of the remaining land opened to Euro-American settlement three years following in the 19 April 1892 land run. Additional land was added to the southwest corner of the county as a result of the 1901 land lottery. El Reno, established in June 1889, was quickly a thriving town with railroad connections provided by the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway. Within a year, the town had been designated as the county seat of Canadian County.

Population flourished during Canadian County's first fifty years. Within a year of the opening, Canadian County boasted a population of 7,158. At the turn-of-the-century, the population more than doubled to reach 15,981. By the time of Oklahoma statehood in 1907, the county population stood at just over 20,000. The county continued to grow over the next three years, gaining over 3,000 new residents to bring the total population to 23,501. By 1920, Canadian County

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population experienced a minor decline, falling to 22,288 citizens. The roaring Twenties, however, proved beneficial to the county, bringing the population to 28,115 by 1930. The depression years brought only a slight decrease in county population, dropping to 27,329 in 1940.¹

Critical to the growth of any county was the enforcement of law. Central to that was the construction of a suitable building in which to hold prisoners. During Canadian County's early years, county prisoners were held in cells in the Canadian County Courthouse. At that time, the courthouse was a simple frame building. The first county jail was built in Canadian County in 1893. The jail, located on East Wade Street near the Carnegie Library (NR 1980) contained four large cells, a sheriff's office and jailer's bedroom. However, within a year, the El Reno Democrat was calling for a new jail as "Three and four people contained in one little cage that never was intended for but two, makes it quite unhealthy."²

Concrete plans for a new jail did not materialize for over a decade. In March 1905, the Commercial Club submitted a petition to the County Commissioners requesting a new county jail. At that time, it was proposed that the jail be built closer to the county courthouse, with the current jail site being acquired by the Library for expansion purposes. It was not until August of 1906, however, that the County Commissioners purchased the land for the new jail. Located north of the County Courthouse, the site covered two lots on the corner of North Evans Avenue and West Rogers.³

Architect Solomon A. Layton drew plans for the Canadian County Jail as early as 1905. In 1906, the El Reno Democrat predicted that "perhaps with few changes, those plans will be used for the building." The building was to be as modern as possible with steam heat, bath and toilet rooms, steel cages, a separate female ward, a spacious office for the sheriff and a "jail-proof retiring room" for attorneys and their clients. Additionally, the jail was to be as escape proof "as possible to make a building."⁴

Construction of the building was undertaken fairly rapidly as the old jail was considered "not only unsafe but ... a disgrace to the county." Bids were accepted from contractors until 1 October 1906. Within three days, the Canadian County Board of Commissioners awarded the contract to local contractor A. C. Kreipke. The total building was to cost 18,000 dollars, payable in four installments of

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4,500 dollars. Construction work was nearing completion by early April 1907, as the cages from the old jail were removed to be partly used in the new jail. At the end of May, 1907, officials from Fort Worth, Texas, inspected the presumably complete jail. Declaring that the new jail "suits them to a dot," the delegates further stated they would recommend the Canadian County Jail as a model.⁵

With the completion of the new jail, the county was able to provide adequate facilities to house prisoners brought in by the sheriff's department. However, the county still lacked the necessary building to accommodate the essential means of transportation for the sheriff. To meet this need, the county undertook construction of a stable between 1908 and 1913. The stable, constructed of brick with bars on the windows, was unusually well-built for the time. In 1923, due to the changing needs of the sheriff's department, the stable was converted to a more modern garage. To ease entry and exit from the garage, the primary elevation was moved from the east elevation to the south, allowing access directly to West Rogers.

At any level of government, the administration of law is of primary concern. Without the means to effectively enforce the law of the city, county, state or nation, there is no government. The Canadian County Jail and Stable provided the necessary facilities to allow for effective implementation of law within Canadian County. With the isolation of the criminals from the majority of population, the jail provided an effective barrier to societal unrest and discontent. The county jail held all types of criminals, from murderers to forgers to horse and car thieves from its construction in 1906 until 1984 when a new jail was constructed.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Canadian County Jail and Stable represent an atypical example of a turn-of-the-century incarceration facility and outbuilding. Many of the early jails and stables in Oklahoma, as elsewhere, were simple frame buildings. However, Canadian County constructed an unusually high style, stone jail with an uncommon brick stable, which also exhibits definite stylistic influences. The use of the Italian Renaissance style created a distinctive jail. The style, while effectively conveying the intended governmental purpose of the building, also harmonized well with the original domestic nature of the jail's environs. The stable, although

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not as stylized as the jail, possesses several Italian Renaissance influenced features which enhances the unity of the two buildings. Both buildings were built to withstand human manipulation as well as the effects of time.

The jail is further architecturally significant as an early example of Solomon A. Layton's work in Oklahoma. Layton established his first Oklahoma architectural office in El Reno in 1902. Layton remained in El Reno until 1907, when he moved to Oklahoma City where he continued to practice until his death in 1943. Layton is considered "one of the most important and influential architects in all of Oklahoma's history." Although there is no complete record of the buildings he designed, he is credited with more than one hundred educational, public and commercial buildings statewide. Layton and his various partners designed among other buildings, the Oklahoma State Capitol (NR 1976), the Braniff Building (NR 1980), Oklahoma High/Central High School (NR 1979), the India Temple Shrine Building (NR 1980), the Oklahoma Publishing Company Building (NR 1978), the Skirvin Hotel (NR 1979), the Oklahoma County Courthouse (NR 1992), as well as fifteen other county courthouses and numerous school and private buildings.⁶

Layton's design of the Canadian County Jail, while overshadowed by much of his later work, nonetheless represents an unusual development in his architectural career in Oklahoma. The Canadian County Jail is fairly unique due to the building's overwhelmingly utilitarian nature. However, Layton utilized a rather elaborate architectural style which, while blending with its surroundings, further contained an element typically associated with government at any level regardless of function, and present in the majority of Layton's governmental buildings and many of his commercial buildings -- the Classical style porch with pediment, entablature and columns. Layton did not prescribe completely to the Classical elements of the porch in the jail's design, instead slightly modifying the standard components to add a contemporary air to the building.

Designed in 1905, the jail was not the first building planned by Layton in El Reno. The Canadian County Courthouse, constructed in 1903, was designed by Layton and W. J. Riley. The Canadian County Courthouse, however, was demolished between 1962 and 1964 as it was considered structurally unsound. Consequently, the Canadian County Jail and Stable are also architecturally significant as the only extant historic county buildings in Canadian County.

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ENDNOTES

1. History of Canadian County Oklahoma, (El Reno, OK: Canadian County History Book Association, Inc., 1991), 356.
2. El Reno (Oklahoma) Eagle, 22 September 1893. See also El Reno (Oklahoma) Democrat, 26 April 1894.
3. El Reno Democrat, 5 March 1905 and 16 August 1906.
4. El Reno Democrat, 16 August 1906. See also El Reno (Oklahoma) American, 4 October 1906.
5. El Reno Democrat, 4 October 1906; 30 May 1907. See also El Reno American, 4 April 1907.
6. Mary Jo Nelson, The Buildings of Solomon Andrew Layton, (Oklahoma City, OK: Historic Conservation Programs, Oklahoma Historical Society, n.d.), 1.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 12 and 13, Block 58, Original Townsite, City of El Reno, Oklahoma.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the property that historically has been associated with the jail and stable.