ARCHITECTURAL/HISTORIC INTENSIVE LEVEL
SURVEY OF PORTIONS OF SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA

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I. ABSTRACT

Under contract to the Oklahoma State Historic
Preservation Office, Principal Investigator George O. Carney
and two Research Assistants Matthew Winston and Steve
Buchholz, all from the Oklahoma State University Department
of Geography, conducted an Intensive Level Survey of
Shawnee, Oklahoma during the 1993-94 fiscal year. That
survey included two areas: (1) a thirty-seven block
residential area, and (2) a twenty-three block (thirteen
full blocks and twenty partial blocks) commercial area.
Survey Area 1 was bounded as follows: starting at initial
point of Dill and Kickapoo, south to Highland, east to
Union, north to Bruce, west to Broadway, south to Dill, and
west to initial point. Survey Area 2 was defined as Main
and Ninth Streets, bounded by Kickapoo on the west and the
west curb line of Tucker on the east. Almost 1,000
properties were minimally recorded and photographed
including completion of the Historic Preservation Resource
Identification Form and two elevation photographs for each.
This document includes an extensive narrative that furnishes
an historical context for the two study areas, maps that
illustrate the areas surveyed, a research design for the
project and the methodology used to implement it, an
annotated bibliography pertinent to the study areas, and,
most important, the results of the intensive level survey.
Among those results are a discussion of the different types
of properties encountered in the field, an identification of
individual properties and historic districts that meet National Register criteria, an examination of areas and properties that warrant further study, and an analysis of those areas and properties that fail to meet National Register requirements and should receive no further consideration. An evaluation of the architectural significance of the properties is provided by Professor Jeffrey Williams of the School of Architecture, Oklahoma State University.
II. INTRODUCTION

The unique federal-state-local partnership for the identification, evaluation, and protection of significant prehistoric and historic resources was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 with later amendments. As outlined in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines of 1983, the various stages of cultural resource planning build upon the results of the other. Each state determines where program emphases will lie and defines major goals. This, in turn, dictates the shape that the identification effort will take. Upon completion of the identification phase, usually in the form of reconnaissance and intensive level surveys, evaluations for eligible properties to the National Register of Historic Places occurs. The next stage includes the National Register nomination process for those properties that meet the various criteria. Listing in the National Register gives those properties the limited protection which accompanies inclusion. Should the owner of a listed property seek available investment tax credits, the results of the comprehensive plan are incorporated in the treatment procedure. Throughout the entire identification, evaluation, and nomination process, data gaps as well as new areas and properties warranting further attention and study are revealed; all of which are included into future planning. Moreover, those properties and areas that lack age or integrity requirements are incorporated into the future planning process. The latter two phases have proved to be as important as the first in the overall comprehensive planning procedure for various management regions and local communities
throughout Oklahoma. In short, the comprehensive preservation planning process is a series of interrelated and continuous steps.

At the core of the comprehensive planning process is the historic context. This document groups information about cultural resources according to their shared theme, chronological period, and geographic area. It provides the necessary background which, when applied with the National Register Criteria for Eligibility, makes possible a meaningful determination of a property's significance to the broad patterns of our historical, architectural, and archaeological past. The context thus serves as a vital link between the property as it remains today and the past which gives it special meaning.

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office has divided the state into seven management regions and identified twelve major historic themes. Using this system, Oklahoma's historic contexts each pertain to a specific theme as it applies to one of the management regions. More specialized needs are addressed by narrowing the geographic area, as in the case of this project on two study areas in Shawnee, or considering a sub-theme related to one of the twelve major ones. This assures that even very localized historic contexts relate to wider regional or state trends.

The historic context document produced for the Intensive Level Survey of portions of Shawnee falls into the latter category. Rather than focusing on a single theme and management region, it details the many historical forces which influenced the community's development, and, thereby its extant cultural resources. Preparation included consultation of the various contexts already completed for Management
Region Five, in which Shawnee is located. All contributed to a better understanding of the city's origin and evolution in a general sense.

The architectural/historic survey of the two study areas in Shawnee, including its historic context, demonstrates the cyclical implementation of Oklahoma's comprehensive planning process. The context provides the necessary background for making an evaluation of the significance of historic resources within the two study areas. Initial windshield surveys helped predict the kinds of resources located in the study area. All this information helped guide the survey component of the project. Field surveyors entered the study areas knowledgeable of the community's history and with an understanding of the extant resources associated with important historical trends, i.e., agriculture, railroads, and petroleum. The results of the intensive level survey identifies individual properties and districts which (1) meet eligibility criteria for the National Register, (2) warrant further study for inclusion in the National Register, and (3) are ineligible for the National Register and require no additional consideration. In accomplishing these tasks, this project exemplifies the comprehensive planning process at its best. It furthers the area of the state surveyed at an intensive level. It identifies and evaluates historic resources in the commercial and residential areas of Shawnee which have experienced considerable change in the recent past. Finally, it provides needed data for making sound cultural resources management policy and city planning decisions, complies with federal agency laws and regulations, and establishes a solid foundation for the registration and treatment of significant cultural and historic resources.
Completion of the project was a collaborative effort. Dr. George Carney, Professor of Geography at Oklahoma State University, served as principal investigator for the grant and coordinated the survey. Research assistants Matthew Winston, Steve Buchholz, and Mark Weeks, graduate students at Oklahoma State University, served as principal field surveyors and made valuable contributions to the overall completion of the project. Jeffrey K. Williams, AIA and Associate Professor in the School of Architecture, Oklahoma State University, acted as Architectural Consultant. All work was performed under a contract from the Oklahoma Historical Society (40-93-80052.023) using funds from the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service.
III. RESEARCH DESIGN

The research design of the Intensive Level Survey of portions of Shawnee followed the standard practices used in the disciplines of history and geography. At the outset, the principal investigator focused on documentary evidence including both primary and secondary sources. Primary materials included fire insurance maps, Pottawatomie County and City of Shawnee local histories, and city directories from the period. Secondary sources were consulted to place the primary source information into the proper historical frame of reference. Archival research was followed by field work or actual site visits to all the properties in the two Shawnee study areas. More specifically, the principal investigator followed the procedures used in previous survey projects completed for OK/SHPO. Included were:

(1) Developed a list of historic properties in the designated portions of Shawnee that had been placed on the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory and the National Register of Historic Places. This helped in the identification of existing buildings/structures/objects which would have the potential of meeting eligibility requirements for individual National Register properties or would be contributing resources to a potential historic district.

(2) Evaluate previous historic surveys of Shawnee such as the Shawnee, Oklahoma: Forgotten Hub of
Central Oklahoma, 1895-1930 completed by Oklahoma Baptist University and the 1984-85 Historic Resources of Shawnee National Register Nomination materials.

(3) Identified existing local histories, especially city and county materials, that were used in the preparation of the historic context.

(4) Conducted an on-foot survey of all properties in the two study areas using the Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form.
IV. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The fundamental objective of the Intensive Level Survey of Shawnee, Oklahoma was to identify those individual properties and potential historic districts in a designated residential and commercial portion of the city, because of construction prior to 1945 and retention of historic and architectural integrity, warrant additional study to determine eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In achieving this objective, all standing structures were recorded at a minimum level of documentation in order to provide information for making cultural resource management decisions regarding future investigation of the two study areas. The project also sought through the recording of all properties to increase the amount of area inventoried in the state at an intensive level as a part of the ongoing Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey Program. An additional objective included the identification and characterization of those portions of the two study areas which because the properties lacked sufficient age or integrity warrant no further consideration for inclusion on the National Register. Finally, the project provided an historic context for the two study areas and identified all reference material relevant to the study areas in order to complete future National Register nominations of individual properties and historic districts.
V. AREA SURVEYED

The area surveyed included two sections of Shawnee, Oklahoma:

(1) A thirty-seven block residential area bounded as follows--starting at initial point of Dill and Kickapoo, south to Highland, east to Union, north to Bruce, west to Broadway, south to Dill, west to initial point.

(2) A twenty-three block (thirteen full blocks and twenty partial blocks) commercial area defined as Main and Ninth Streets, bounded by Kickapoo and the west curb line of Tucker.

(3) Boundaries indicated included both sides of streets except as otherwise described.
VI. METHODOLOGY

The methodology implementing the research design followed professional historical and geographical standards. Initially, the principal investigator compiled an extensive bibliography on material pertinent to the historical development of Shawnee as well as Pottawatomie County. Materials were gathered from the Santa Fe Depot Museum, Shawnee Public Library, City of Shawnee Planning Department, the Oklahoma Historical Society Archives, and the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University. Unavailable sources were ordered through interlibrary loan from the University of Oklahoma Library.

Once a bibliography had been assembled, the principal investigator read the primary and secondary materials. This lent considerable insight into the significance of the two study areas and their historic importance to the development of Shawnee. On the basis of this reading, the principal investigator prepared an historic context for Shawnee and the relationship of the commercial and residential study areas to the overall development of the city prior to 1940.

Field work began during the fall of 1993 during times when the principal investigator and two research assistants were available. Preliminary contacts were made with the Shawnee Police Department to make it aware of the intensive level door-to-door survey; the Shawnee newspaper which published a front page story outlining the goals of the project; the Shawnee City Planning Department which
graciously offered city plat maps; and the Pottawatomie County Assessor and Clerk's offices to notify them the project staff would be using their records to verify and locate survey form data. The project staff were allowed to photocopy existing survey material in the archives of OK/SHPO which gave data on a majority of the properties in the commercial study area. These were updated by the project staff when the actual field survey of the commercial study area was begun during the Christmas/New Year's holiday time period. Those areas in the commercial area not covered by the earlier survey forms were then completed on new forms by project staff.

Photocopies of the available Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Shawnee in 1941 were made for the two study areas and mounted on cardboard as well as in the project staff office. The fire insurance maps proved to be helpful in identifying types of properties, construction materials, and dates of construction. Two elevations (5x7 B/W prints) of each commercial building were photographed prior to vegetation appearing in late Spring. Survey forms and photography of the commercial study area was completed by the end of March. Survey form data were entered into computer word processor using the OK/SHPO template provided to project staff.

Principal investigator devoted two weeks to a block-by-block analysis of the commercial study area to determine individual properties and historic districts that met
eligibility requirements for the National Register, identified areas that warranted further study, and evaluated areas that were not worthy of further investigation. Field notes were compiled on each property by two surveyors as well as the principal investigator to determine the types of commercial properties present in the study area. Six types of commercial buildings were encountered in the Shawnee commercial study area. Based on field notes, principal investigator prepared a written analysis of the commercial study area for the final document.

Photography of the residential study area was completed by May 1, 1994. Once the spring semester was completed, project staff devoted all their time to completion of the survey forms which were finished by June 15, 1994. Data from the survey forms were entered into word processor. Principal investigator completed a block-by-block analysis of the residential study area to identify potential National Register individual properties and historic districts, evaluated those areas that merited further consideration, and examined areas that were not deemed worthy of any additional analysis. Twenty different house types were identified in the residential study area.

Follow-up work was completed at the County Assessor and County Clerk's offices to determine dates of construction as well as legal descriptions for each property in the two study areas. Principal investigator prepared a written
analysis of his findings on the residential study area for the final document.

Printing of final forms and development of prints were completed and placed in the file folders. Computer-generated maps of the survey areas were prepared to include boundaries of the areas, boundaries of eligible historic districts with contributing and non-contributing status of each property identified, location of eligible properties for National Register listing, location of individual properties and districts that warranted further study for National Register consideration, and a series of separate maps illustrating historic districts coded by age.

At the conclusion of field work, library research, and organization of files, the completed file folders and final document were shared with the architectural consultant, Dr. Jeffrey Williams of the Oklahoma State University School of Architecture, for his written assessment.
VII. RESULTS

The results of the Intensive Level Survey of portions of Shawnee area are as follows:

Study Area #1 - Commercial Area

(1) The existing built environment of the commercial core of Shawnee is representative of two time periods in the city's history—the 1895-1910 era encompassing the pre-and-post-statehood period (statehood in 1907) when the more substantial brick and stone structures replaced the earlier wooden-framed buildings and the 1920-1930 period when the first skyscraper-type structures were erected.

(2) The first set of commercial buildings (1895-1910) were influenced by the agricultural/railroad economies and the second group (1920-1930) by the petroleum boom.

(3) The 1895-1910 group is generally composed of brick and native stone front buildings of one to four stories high, little ornamental detailing, and simple rooflines.

(4) The 1920s set of buildings are generally high-rise structures that reflect the wealth and prosperity of the petroleum era, expressed more elaborate architectural vocabulary, and housed functions associated with the petroleum industry such as hotels, office space for petroleum enterprises, attorneys needed for land leases and royalty business, and a new group of professionals (physicians and dentists).

(5) The extant commercial buildings from these two time periods still center on Main and Ninth Streets with Main Street more
symbolic of the 1895-1910 commercial development and Ninth Street the 1920s period.

(6) Although Main Street has retained a majority of its historic buildings, Ninth Street is dominated by gaps, vacant lots, parking lots, and new structures. This may be attributed to several factors, e.g., tornado destruction that affected Ninth Street.

(7) Ninth Street is also characterized by several older single-family and newer multi-family housing units mixed with the commercial buildings. Most of the older houses are of the bungalow type of the 1920s and 1930s. This reflects a transitional zone between the Main Street commercial corridor and the residential sections to the north of Study Area #1.

(8) Shawnee's Commercial Study Area contains historic buildings that have housed a variety of functions including theaters (Ritz and Hornbeck), banks (State National Bank), a garment factory, hotels (Aldridge and Norwood), utility companies (Bell Telephone), social organizations (Masonic Temple), and department stores (Mammoth and Kress).

(9) Six different styles of commercial architecture were found in Study Area #1 and each represent different architectural time periods. These include Brick Front Commercial, False Front Commercial, Romanesque Commercial, Second Renaissance Revival Commercial, Chicago School Skyscrapers, and Art Deco.
(10) The commercial study area included two National Register properties—one associated with the railroad era (Santa Fe Depot NR listed 1974) and one related to the petroleum boom period (Billington Building/Masonic Temple NR listed 1985).

(11) The commercial study area included one historic religious building—the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

(12) One potential historic district was identified. It focuses on a cluster of buildings constructed along North Bell between Main and Ninth Streets and includes the Billington/Masonic Temple, Aldridge Hotel, State National Bank, Garment Factory, and Bell Telephone Building.

(13) Three individual properties were identified as worthy of National Register consideration. These included a theater, bank, and church.

(14) Eleven additional individual properties were deemed to warrant further study. Again these properties were scattered throughout the study area and failed to meet eligibility criteria because of a loss of architectural integrity to some degree.

(15) Overall, Shawnee maintains its role as a county seat of Pottawatomie County although the county courthouse is located outside the commercial study area.

(16) Finally, Shawnee retains its Main Street historic character. The town plat developers chose to organize the city along two principal east-west corridors—Main and Ninth, and their north-south connecting streets. This was in contrast to the
prevalent central courthouse square plan used by many Midwestern and Southern cities of similar size.

**Study Area #2 - Residential Area**

(1) The extant built environment of the residential study area is comprised of a group of first generation neighborhood houses constructed by Shawnee residents to the north of the downtown area beginning three blocks from the commercial study area.

(2) The houses, built in the 1895 to 1940 era, appear to represent first homeowners from a wide range of socioeconomic classes. This is reflected in the small, one-story bungalows, pyramidal, and hall-and-parlor vernacular styles to the large, multistoried, elaborately detailed Queen Anne and Neoclassical styles.

(3) Two general architectural movements appear to dominate the vocabulary of the houses in the residential study area—Craftsman Era and the Eclectic Period. Construction dates of these houses coincide with the popularity of these architectural movements from the 1890s to the 1940s.

(4) The residential study area is characterized by a great diversity in house styles, especially for a neighborhood with houses built in approximately the same time period and in a relatively small area. Twenty different house styles were identified, including the classic bungalow, hipped roof bungalow, pedimented bungalow, bungalow cottage, airplane bungalow, center-gable cottage, I-House, Southern pyramidal, gable-front, gable-front-and-wing, folk Victorian, hall-and-
parlor, Queen Anne, Neoclassical, Shingle, Colonial Revival, Tudor, Spanish Eclectic, Pueblo Revival, and Prairie.

(5) Based on the survey forms, the predominate construction materials used in the residential study area were wood, brick, and stone. A majority of these houses have remained intact structurally; however, roughly 60-65 percent have been altered in some fashion to compromise their architectural integrity. Although a vast majority of these houses meet the age eligibility requirements of more than fifty years old, they fail to retain their historic appearance because of the addition of some form of siding over the original, in most cases, wood cladding. This alteration process has undoubtedly occurred in the last forty years with the siding movement beginning in the 1950s (asbestos) which continued into the 1960s and 1970s (aluminum) and into the 1980s and 1990s (vinyl).

(6) No significant cluster of homes have retained sufficient architectural integrity to be considered for the National Register.

(7) On the other hand, three historic neighborhood churches, each representing a different religious denomination, remain intact from the 1905-1915 period and have continued to serve the religious needs of the neighborhood residents for almost eighty years. They express architectural styles ranging from Gothic Revival to Neoclassical. Although religious buildings are normally not given consideration by the
National Register, these three properties either meet National Register criteria or warrant further study.

(8) The residential study area includes one commercial building that warrants further study. Built in 1907, the property was occupied by the Sunshine Grocery during its early years when it served as a neighborhood retail business.

(9) The residential study area also contains one historic educational property. Constructed in 1933 as the first Public Works Administration building in Oklahoma, the Jefferson Elementary School retains its Art Deco architecture and continues its historic function as a neighborhood school. Because of additions/alterations, it does not warrant additional study.

(10) Overall, Study Area #2 remains relatively stable as a residential neighborhood consisting of homes built prior to 1940. Highland and Kickapoo, boundary streets to the south and west respectively, have been affected by heavier traffic flow over the years. This has resulted in a decline in residential use and an increase in new commercial properties or renovated houses used for commercial purposes. Moreover, it generally appears that the housing stock in the 500 block of the north-south streets has been influenced by encroachment from the commercial core, and that the 800 block of the north-south streets as well as the easternmost streets in the study area have declined in terms of condition.
**General Results**

(1) The approximately 1,000 properties surveyed have provided minimum level documentation for use in comprehensive planning decisions at the state and local level.

(2) The project has resulted in an increase in the number of recorded properties as well as areal coverage as specified by the Oklahoma Historic Preservation Comprehensive Plan.

(3) The project has provided basic data for the registration process at the state (OLI) and federal levels (National Register). Furthermore, it has identified properties that warrant further consideration as well as excluded properties and areas from additional investigation.

(4) The project has furnished the necessary information for evaluation of properties under the review and compliance program of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
VIII. KINDS OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES PRESENT IN THE SURVEYED AREAS

The Architectural and Historic Intensive Level Survey of Portions of Shawnee identified several kinds of historic properties in the two study areas.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Approximately 95 percent of the properties in the commercial study area (Survey Area #2) are classified as commercial. The early commercial buildings, located near the railroad tracks along East Main, were built around the turn of the century and housed a variety of retail businesses ranging from cafes to groceries. They are small, one-and-two story buildings that are primarily of brick construction with the remainder of native sandstone. Decorative detailing is minimal with most of it confined to upper-story window treatments and roofline ornamentation. Examples of early commercial buildings built during the railroad era of Shawnee include the C.J. Addington Grocery at 409 East Main and the McArthur Grocery at 418-420 East Main. During the Statehood Era, commercial properties were constructed to the west along Main Street. A majority of these were larger and taller than those near the railroad tracks, ranging from three to five stories. These commercial properties included more ornamentation than those near the railroad tracks, e.g., bracketed cornices, arched window treatments, and stepped parapets. During the oil
boom era of the 1920s, several commercial properties reached skyscraper-like heights and featured the Chicago Commercial Style architecture. They are rectangular with flat roof and terminating cornice. Windows fill a great proportion of the wall space and large display windows occupy the ground floor. Examples of the three-to-five story commercial buildings constructed around the Statehood Era include the Kress Department Store building (c. 1907) at 109 East Main, Drummond/Bishop Building (1903) at 216-218 East Main, and the Leap/Unzner Building (1903) at 214 East Main. An example of the skyscraper-type commercial property constructed in the 1920s is the State National Bank at 2-4 East Main.

TRANSPORTATION PROPERTIES

Because of Shawnee’s central location in Oklahoma, it became an early railway center. The Choctaw, Oklahoma and Gulf was the first to lay tracks through Shawnee in 1897. It was later absorbed by the Rock Island in 1902. The Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe entered Shawnee in 1904. The Rock Island and Santa Fe railroad lines achieved greater significance in the 1920s when Shawnee became the focal point for the Seminole Oil Field. Both the Rock Island and Santa Fe established repair shops in Shawnee. By the 1920s, the railroad repair shops in Shawnee were reported to be the largest in Oklahoma and employed nearly 1,000 workers. Within the commercial study area, two properties associated with the transportation history of Shawnee remain -- the
Santa Fe Railroad Shops Building at 406-410 East Main and the Santa Fe Depot at 600 East Main (NR listed in 1974).

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

Industrial properties related to agriculture were the most common in the early period of Shawnee’s economic history. Cotton gins and flour mills were constructed between 1900 and 1920 because of cotton and wheat production. At one time, Shawnee had seven cotton gins and three flour mills; however, only one has survived -- the Shawnee Milling Company. It is located outside the two survey areas of this project. An example of an early day industrial property within the commercial study area is the Shawnee Garment Factory which manufactured overalls, pants, and dress shirts. It is located at 113 North Bell in Study Area #2.

GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES

The construction of government-related buildings was an important indicator that a community had established itself sufficiently to gain the federal, state, or county government’s recognition of its stability and prosperity. The only remaining example of a government-related property in either of the two study areas is the Shawnee Post Office building (1922) at 202 North Bell.

EDUCATIONAL PROPERTIES

One of the first priorities in the settlement of early Oklahoma towns was education. Examples of education-related properties which remain intact in the two study areas are
the Shawnee Vo-Tech High School at 412 West Ninth (Study Area #2) the Jefferson Elementary School at 810 North Louisa, and the former Shawnee High School (currently the Shawnee Middle School) at 513 North Union (both in Study Area #1).

RELIGIOUS PROPERTIES

Religion has played an important role in Shawnee, not only in individual spirituality and the establishment of an accepted moral code, but also in community involvement and social life. A church is not a place of worship alone; it is where people come together to socialize and organize to benefit the community. Study Area #2 (commercial) includes the 1917 First Methodist Episcopal Church at the northwest corner of Ninth and Philadelphia. Four religious properties are located in Study Area #1 with the best examples being the Emmanuel Episcopal Church (1909) at 501 North Broadway and the St. Benedict’s Catholic Church (1906) at 632 North Kickapoo.

RECREATIONAL AND CULTURAL PROPERTIES

Boom towns such as Shawnee needed recreational and cultural outlets for its growing population. The types of properties usually associated with recreation and culture in the first half of the twentieth century varied widely from theaters and concert halls to bowling alleys and poolhalls. Shawnee’s Main Street cultural properties included an opera house (no longer extant), and the Becker, Bison, and Ritz Theaters. The Becker (no longer extant) had 808 reserved
and 400 general admission seats. The Bison was located at 221 East Main. The Ritz, built in 1897-99, is an outstanding example of a cultural property. Located at 10-12 West Main, it is reported to be the oldest continuously operated theater in Oklahoma. Also within the commercial study area is the Hornbeck Theater (1947) at 123 North Bell.

SOCIAL PROPERTIES

Social organizations are usually established very early in the development of a town like Shawnee. Although they were often housed in downtown commercial buildings, sharing space with banks or retail stores, the organizations were sometimes prosperous enough to construct their own buildings such as the Masonic Temple Building in Shawnee's commercial study area. Built in 1929, it is located at 23 East Ninth (NR listed in 1985).

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

Within the commercial study area of Shawnee, the growth of the central business district has displaced all but a few single dwellings; however, several multiple dwellings exist. The residential study area of Shawnee contains approximately 95 percent single dwellings.

A. Single Dwellings

Within the residential study area, one can find a variety of single family homes. They vary in style, quality, and scale. They range from the larger Prairie School and Neoclassical style of homes of prominent business families to the modest Bungalow and Folk
Victorian styles of the working class. Examples include the Kerfoot Mansion (NR listed 1983) at 740 North Beard and the Governor’s Mansion (NR listed 1983) at 618 North Park for the larger, more ornate single dwellings. Examples of the smaller, more modest single family homes include the Bungalows in the 800 block of North Market and the Folk Victorian house at 224 West Highland.

B. Multiple Dwellings: Apartments

Apartments were constructed early in the development of cities the size of Shawnee in order to house singles, couples, and families. These residential properties were located near the central business district for easy accessibility to the workplace. Examples of this type of multiple dwelling are the Emerson and Sunny Apartment buildings located at 221 and 225 East Ninth in the commercial study area of Shawnee.

C. Multiple Dwellings: Hotels

Hotels were built in the downtown area to house visitors to the area as well as traveling business people. These kinds of multiple dwellings in Shawnee are located in the commercial study area and were constructed either during the railroad era of the early 1900s or during the oil boom period of the 1920s. Examples of the railroad era hotels are the Katy Hotel (1907) at 522 East Main and the Norwood Hotel (1903) at 110 North Broadway. An example of the oil boom period
hotel is the Aldridge (1927-29) at 202-212 East Ninth Street.
IX. SPECIFIC PROPERTIES IDENTIFIED AND TECHNIQUES OF INFORMATION COLLECTION

During the course of the Intensive Level Survey of Shawnee, some 878 properties were identified in the two study areas (183 in the commercial area and 695 in the residential area). Information for each property was obtained through various collection methods including Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, city directories, personal interviews, county assessor and county clerk files, and on-site property-by-property surveys.

Introduction

The Architectural and Historic Intensive Level Survey of Shawnee (Survey Area #1 - Residential and Survey Area #2 - Commercial) identified several different kinds of historic properties in both study areas.

Survey Area #2 is representative of the one-part and two-part commercial block type of composition used in small and medium-sized buildings throughout the United States. The two-part commercial block is generally limited to buildings of two to four stories and is characterized by a vertical division into two distinct zones. The two-part division reflects the differences in interior functions. The single-story lower zone at street level indicates public spaces such as retail stores, bank lobbies, and hotel lobbies. The upper zone suggests more private spaces including offices (usually professional), apartments, or meeting halls. The one-part commercial block has only a
single story, treated in much the same manner as the lower zone of the two-part commercial block. The facades consist of little more than plate glass display windows and an entry surmounted by a cornice or parapet. In both the one-and-two-part commercial block compositions, street frontage is narrow with the most common dimensions 25’x 100’. Also found in the commercial district of Shawnee is the one to two story, freestanding shop detached from any other buildings.

A. Types of Commercial Buildings

(1) Commercial Style

The most dominant of commercial building types found in the Shawnee commercial area is the Commercial Style. It is one to four stories high, rectangular in shape, 3-5 bays wide, and possesses a flat roof with parapet. It may be a free-standing building or one with party walls up to a block in length. Brick wall cladding is used. The facade’s first floor features large display windows with transoms as well as recessed entryways that may be on or off center. Within the recessed entrances are either single or double panel and glass doors. Upper floor spaces are occupied by different functions than the first floor retail shops, e.g., storage, apartments, offices, and meeting rooms. Decorative elements
include a moderately projecting cornice with corbelling and dentils. Pilaster strips often separate bays at upper levels and semicircular or triangular pediments are used at cornice level.

(2) **False-Front Commercial**

From a design point of view, the false-format type simply extends the facade so that the building seems larger than it is. The false portion extends the facade vertically and horizontally so that the roof over the main body—most often flat or gable—remains hidden from view. In most cases, the false front has been integrated into the facade so that columns or pilasters are carried up the front, panel divisions align with display windows below, and centered pediments align with the entrance. This integration is more evident on two-story fronts whether they screen a half-story or extend a second-story wall. This type may be one-two stories high and 2-4 bays wide. Brick cladding was used after the turn of the century. Recessed entrances are common with single or paired panel and glass doors. Multipane display windows are present in the first floor. Decorative features include a variety of pediments such as semicircular, stepped gable, and triangular.

(3) **Romanesque Commercial**
Romanesque commercial buildings were designed in brick and stone, one material serving as trim for the other, e.g., Kib Warren Building, while others were done entirely in brick. The characteristic feature of this type was the round arched opening. Brick examples are two-four stories high with a flat roof and parapet. Fenestration varies by floor level. Art glass or small panes of colored glass often appeared in the Romanesque commercial design. Often applied to banks and public buildings, storefronts and corner business blocks were also Romanesque. Decorative features included elaborately corbeled brick cornices, string courses, and a decorative brickwork frieze.

(4) **Second Renaissance Revival Commercial**

This style was usually applied to large multistory public or commercial buildings from 1890 to 1920. Use of cast iron for classical ornamentation was discarded by the time this style was launched. Order and simplicity in design were present as a reaction to the High Victorian period preceding it. Polished stone surfaces are used for pilasters separating the window bands as well as for cornices at lower and upper levels. Rooflines featured balustraded railings topped at the corners by ornamental decoration, e.g., State National Bank. This type was often found at the
four corners section in the central business
districts.

(5) Chicago School Skyscrapers
By the 1920s, tall commercial buildings of five to
twenty stories were constructed, e.g., Aldridge
Hotel and Billington Building/Masonic Lodge.
Rectangular in dimensions, these flat-roofed
buildings featured a terminating cornice and a
grid of intersecting vertical piers and horizontal
spandrels. Large display windows are present at
the ground floor level with windows filling a
great proportion of the wall space in the upper
levels. Several of the Chicago Style skyscrapers
are given a Sullivanesque treatment with more
elaborate and boldly projecting cornices often
with foliated and linear enrichments.

(6) Art Deco
This style features a linear or angular
composition and verticality is emphasized. Low
relief ornamentation is located around door and
window openings. Ornamental detailing is often
executed in the same material as in the building
or in the form of colored glazed bricks or mosaic
tile giving a polychromatic look. Stepped
frontispieces, floriated patterns, and iron grille
work are also common elements. An example of Art
Deco applied to a commercial building is located at 130 North Louisa (Norton Building).

B. **Types of Dwellings**

The dominant house type in the residential section under study is the bungalow. Because of so many variations of this type, they are often referred to as the bungalowoid group. A majority of bungalows were constructed during the Craftsman Movement in the United States, a period of eclectic houses built from 1905-1930 (McAlester and McAlester, 453).

(1) **Classic Bungalow**

The classic bungalow includes a variety of features that are characteristic of all the variations:

a. one story
b. low horizontal lines
c. exposed rafters/purlins
d. wide projecting eaves
e. porch that extends across facade
f. porch columns, usually tapered on brick piers

The classic bungalow consists of gently-pitched, broad gable roofs where the lower gable covers the porch and the large gable covers the house. Cladding varies from shingles to stucco to brick, or a combination of materials. Porches may be open, enclosed, or screened. The porch columns in the classic bungalow have tapered columns on
piers. Additional features often found in the classic bungalow include heavy bargeboards supported by brackets, end-wall chimneys, bay windows in a side elevation, and shed or gable dormers. Examples are found in the 800 Block of North Market-(West Side) of the proposed residential historic district.

(2) **Hipped Roof Bungalow**

Retains the classic bungalow features; however, this type is characterized by a hipped roof over the body and porch, although some have a separate porch roof. This type may have different claddings ranging from clapboard to brick. The porch extends across the facade and includes tapered porch posts on pedestals. The hipped roof bungalow generally has a central front hipped dormer, occasionally a pedimented dormer, and flared eaves. Examples are located at 665 North Beard and 607 North Beard of the proposed historic district.

(3) **Pedimented Bungalow**

This type retains classic bungalow characteristics with gently-pitched gable roof parallel to street, one-story high, and exposed rafters. It is different because a pediment marks the entrance (usually triangular or curvilinear). Porch posts are of wood set on brick or stone piers. The
porch extends across the facade. Siding varies, but clapboard is most common. Examples are at 706 North Beard and 615 North Market of the proposed historic district.

(4) **Bungalow Cottage**

This type deviates from the classic bungalow in that it is 1 1/2 stories high with the half-story retaining the compact bungalow shape. Other variations from the classic bungalow include a large shed dormer and a bay in the facade or side elevation. Retains the broad gable roof with ridgeline parallel to street and porch posts resting on brick or stone pedestals. An example is located 652 North Market in the proposed historic district.

(5) **Airplane Bungalow**

This type is characterized by a partial second story (used for bedrooms) which accents the vertical. Combinations of cladding are used. Retains bungalow features such as overhanging eaves, battered piers and porch columns, and low-pitched multiple gable roofs. An example is at 802 North Park in the proposed historic district.

In addition to the bungalow and its variations, several other vernacular (folk) house types are present in the Shawnee residential section.

(6) **Center-Gable Cottage**
This type is 1 1/2 stories high, 3 to 5 bays wide, and includes a porch that extends across the facade. The characteristic feature is a gabled dormer that dominates the roof. Entrance doors may be on or off center. Fenestration is symmetrical and consists of double hung sash windows. Examples are located at 704 North Beard and 533 North Bell in the proposed historic district.

(7) **I-House**

This type is characterized by two full stories in height, minimum of two rooms wide, one room deep, and sideward facing gables. Cladding may include clapboard, brick, or stone. Porches and rearward extensions vary. Decorative elements range from the simple to highly ornate including Greek Revival, Italianate, and Gothic Revival embellishments. Placement of chimney varies, but end wall is most common. An example is at 639 North Market in the proposed historic district.

(8) **Southern Pyramidal**

Approximately square floor plan with four symmetrical rooms, this type features a pyramidal (equilateral hipped) roof. May be one or two stories in height. Front porch usually spans full width of facade. The most common finishing materials are clapboard and board-and-batten. The
roofs are medium to steep pitch. May have from none up to two chimneys and usually has paired doors and windows. Stylistic detailing may include Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Prairie, or Tudor Revival features. Examples are at 512 North Park and 619 North Beard in the proposed historic district.

(9) **Gable-Front**
This type is characterized by rooflines with intersecting gables, but the front gable is always perpendicular to the street. The cross gable(s) in rear runs parallel to the street giving an overall asymmetrical T-shape or L-shape floor plan. This type is a large 2 1/2 to 3 story dwelling. An example is at 726 North Beard in the proposed historic district.

(10) **Gable-Front-And-Wing**
An additional side-gabled wing is added to the gable-front plan to give a compound, gable-front-and-wing shape. The gable-front portion may be two stories while the wing may only be one story in height. More commonly, the entire structure was built with a roof ridge of uniform height either as a one-story or a two-story unit. A porch was typically placed within the L made by the two wings. Gable-front-and-wing examples are
found at 529 North Market and 718 North Broadway of the proposed historic district.

(11) Folk Victorian

Identifying features of this type consist of porches with spindlework detailing (turned spindles and lace-like spandrels). It may also have flat, jigsaw trim. Victorian decorative detailing is applied to the porch and cornice with Queen Anne type-turned spindles or square posts with beveled corners the most common. Additional features include balustraded porch railings, brackets under eaves, one or two stories, and boxed or open roof-wall junctions. Subtypes are based on roof shape and placement, and include front-gabled, side-gabled, or gable front and wing. Examples are located at 222 West Highland and 656 North Beard in the proposed historic district.

(12) Hall-and-Parlor

This folk house type is a simple side-gabled plan comprised of two rooms wide and one room deep, and usually only one-story in height. Cladding is usually wood clapboard, although it may vary. Additional features may also vary including chimney placement, porch size, and rear extensions to enlarge interior space. An excellent example
is present at 533 North Louisa in the proposed historic district.

In addition to the folk (vernacular) house types, eight high-style (academic) architectural styles are prevalent in the proposed historic residential district of Shawnee. Two of these fall under the general category of Victorian houses that were popular during the later part of the nineteenth century and extended into the early part of the twentieth century.

(1) **Queen Anne**

This style is characterized by a steeply-pitched roof of irregular shape with a dominant front-facing gable and an asymmetrical facade with partial or full-width porch. Approximately one-half have turned porch supports and spindlework ornamentation which occurs in porch balustrades. Other common features include wall materials of different textures, patterned shingles in the gables and in the horizontal bands between floors, and towers of round, square, or polygonal shape. Examples of the Queen Anne style are located at 664 North Market, 632 North Broadway, and 811 North Broadway in the proposed historic district.

(2) **Shingle**

In this Victorian style, wall cladding and roofing of continuous wood shingles is present, although shingled walls may occur on the second story only
and the original wood roof shingles have now been replaced by composition shingles in most examples. Moreover, the Shingle style features an asymmetrical facade and towers are found in about one-third of the examples. The latter often appear as boldly projecting or partial bulges such as the Kerfoot Mansion located at 740 North Beard. Porch supports in the Shingle style may vary with the Kerfoot Mansion having slender, unadorned double columns. Dormers are common, ranging from gabled to shed. Arched, leaded-glass windows are found in the Kerfoot example. Another example of the Shingle style is located at 602 North Bell.

The residential section of Shawnee is characterized by a multitude of eclectic house types. According to McAlester and McAlester, the Eclectic Movement began in the late nineteenth century and peaked around the turn of the century; however, different phases emerged in the twentieth century up to c. 1940. The Eclectic Era consisted of a myriad of architectural traditions ranging from Classical to Modern and drew upon influences from the English, Dutch, French, and Mediterranean Period houses. Those eclectic styles found in the Shawnee residential district include:

1. **Colonial Revival**

   The major characteristics of this style are an accentuated front door with decorative pediment, doors with overhead fanlight or sidelights,
symmetrically balanced facade, and windows with double-hung sashes. Nine principal substYLES can be distinguished based on roof shape, symmetry, and number of stories. The most common in the residential area of Shawnee are the hipped roof with full-width porch (sometimes called the Classic Box), side-gabled roof (simple, two-story rectangular blocks), and the gambrel roof, or Dutch Colonial Revival subtype. Examples of the Colonial Revival in the proposed historic district are at 627 North Broadway and 540 North Broadway.

(2) **Neoclassical**

Identifiable features of this style include a full-height porch supported by classic columns crowned by Ionic or Corinthian capitals, balustrated balconies, two-story bays on the side, rectangular-shaped windows, and an occasional porte cochere. The most common subtype found in the Shawnee residential section is the full-height entry porch with multiple columns topped by Ionic capitals. The best examples of this style are at 730 North Beard and the proposed Governor's Mansion at 614 North Park. Both are located in the proposed historic residential district.

(3) **Tudor Revival**

The facade is dominated by one or more cross gables and massive chimneys crowned with
decorative pots. Brick cladding is commonly used and often contrasted with stucco, stone, or wood claddings on principal gables or upper stories. An example in the proposed historic district is at 705 North Louisa.

(4) **Spanish Eclectic**

This style is characterized by red tile roof covering of either Mission or Spanish tiles. Additional features include low-pitched roof, prominent arches above entry door or principal window, and stucco wall surface. The examples found in the Shawnee residential area are the two-story subtype with low-pitched hipped roofs and brick cladding. An example of the Spanish Eclectic is located at 604 North Market in the proposed historic district.

(5) **Pueblo Revival**

Distinguishing elements of this style are the flat roof with parapeted wall, rounded edges, and stucco wall surface. An excellent example in the proposed historic residential district is at 648 North Park.

(6) **Prairie School**

Features of this style consist of a low-pitched hipped roof with widely overhanging eaves; massive, square porch supports; eaves and cornices emphasize horizontal lines; and two stories in
height. The most common subtype found in the Shawnee residential area is the hipped-roof symmetrical with front entry, often referred to as the Prairie Box or American Foursquare. It has a simple square or rectangular floor plan, low-pitched hipped roof, and symmetrical facade. Hipped roof dormers and full-width single-story front porches are also common. Examples in the proposed historic residential district are at 616 North Market and 616 North Beard.
### House Styles in Residential Section

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STYLE</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bungalow</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Classic, Pedimented, Hiped Roof, and Airplane)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk Victorian</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Queen Anne</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prairie School</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gable-Front/Gable-Front-And Wing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonial Revival</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Southern Pyramidal, I-House, Spanish Eclectic, Pueblo Revival, Neoclassical, Hall-and-Parlor, and Tudor Revival)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>A C H Hospital</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Masonic Temple Building</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Rehabilitative Services</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Salvation Army Building</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Emerson Apt. Building</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Salvation Army Thrift Store</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Whiteway Garage</td>
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<td>Architects &amp; Attorneys Bldg.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>101 West 9th</td>
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<td>110 West 9th</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>O G &amp; E Building</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Cecil's Auto Service</td>
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<td>Shawnee District Bell Credit Union</td>
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<td>314 West 9th</td>
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<td>20.</td>
<td>Shawnee Battery &amp; Electric</td>
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<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>Nix and Snyder Meat Market</td>
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<td>22.</td>
<td>Gentry Motor Company</td>
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<td>23.</td>
<td>P.W. Congdon Laundry</td>
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<td>Petroleum Building</td>
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<td>Seward's Meat Market</td>
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<td>Shawnee Gas &amp; Electric</td>
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<td>28.</td>
<td>Hornbeck Theater</td>
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<td>Campbell &amp; Edwards Photography</td>
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<td>Bell Telephone</td>
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<td>Norwood Hotel</td>
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<td>Charles Unzner Hardware</td>
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<td>103 North Kickapoo</td>
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<td>41.</td>
<td>Lyday's Light House</td>
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<td>Air Conditioning Service</td>
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<td>43.</td>
<td>113 North Louisa</td>
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<td>44.</td>
<td>115 North Louisa</td>
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<td>45.</td>
<td>Raley's Auto Parts</td>
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46. Raley’s Auto Parts Machine Shop 119 North Louisa
47. 121 North Louisa 121 North Louisa
48. R & R Contractors, Inc. 126 North Louisa
49. Norton Building 130 North Louisa
50. Roebuck Building 1 East Main
51. State National Bank 2 East Main
52. Sanders’ Shoes 3 East Main
53. Tierman’s Chili Parlor 5 East Main
54. Owl Drug 6 East Main
55. Oden Theater 7 East Main
56. McKay Cigar Co. 8 East Main
57. 10-12 East Main 10 East Main
58. M.W. Brown Tailor 12A East Main
59. Shoshone’s Building 14 East Main
60. Halley White Tailor 16 East Main
61. Mammoth Department Store 17 East Main
62. Federal National Bank 18 East Main
63. Woolworth’s Dept. Store 101 East Main
64. Dexter Building 102 East Main
65. J.W. Carter Dry Goods 105 East Main
66. Star Grocery 106 East Main
67. S.H. Block Building 107 East Main
68. Wheeler Dry Goods 108 East Main
69. Kress Dept. Store 109 East Main
70. Bramle Building 110 East Main
71. Fraunthal Brothers 112 East Main
72. McNeil & Smiley Grocery 113 East Main
73. Lion Drug Store 114 East Main
74. Greene’s Ready-To-Store 115 East Main
75. Moody’s Bargain Store 116 East Main
76. Hockaday Building 117 East Main
77. Boyd’s Confectionary Store 118 East Main
78. J.C. Penny’s 120 East Main
79. Hickey Brothers Dry Goods 121 East Main
80. Union Street Station 200 East Main
81. Sears Building 201 East Main
82. Choctaw Building 207 East Main
83. Keller Feed Store 208 East Main
84. Baptist Building 209 East Main
85. Longmire Drapery 210 East Main
86. J.F. Leap Building 214 East Main
87. Tipton Jewelry 215 East Main
88. P.T. Drummond-T.M. Bishop Bldg. 216 East Main
89. M & P Grocery 217 East Main
90. Swain Building 219 East Main
91. Warren Building 220 East Main
92. Bison Theater 221 East Main
93. Shawnee Public Library 302 East Main
94. Grand Cafe 313 East Main
95. Whitten’s Barber Shop 319 East Main
96. King’s Kitchen Restaurant 321 East Main
97. Hamburger King 322 East Main
98. Johnson Grocery 323 East Main
99. Richard’s Drug 324 East Main
100. Pioneer Service Station 401 East Main
101. Shawnee Seed and Feed 402 East Main
102. Santa Fe Railroad Shops Bldg. 406 East Main
103. C.J. Addington Grocery 409 East Main
104. Kenyon Auto Supplies 411 East Main
105. Ginden Clothing Store 412 East Main
106. Gilbert & Cantrell Cafe 413 East Main
107. Oscar Hick’s Clothing 414 East Main
108. Sherman Spence Cafe 415 East Main
109. Pritchard Barber Shop 417 East Main
110. McArthur Grocery 418 East Main
111. Farmer’s Kitchen Cafe 421 East Main
112. Ida’s Shawnee Cafe 423 East Main
113. Fruit Stand and Grocery 424 East Main
114. City Market 425 East Main
115. Blue Bird Ball Room 501 East Main
116. White’s Confectionery 505 East Main
117. Joseph’s Restaurant 506 East Main
118. Wall’s Bargain Center 507 East Main
119. Baptist Sporting Boat Sales 521 East Main
120. Wellington Bldg., Santa Fe Hotel 522 East Main
121. Tractor Repair 620 East Main
122. Gibson’s 1 West Main
123. Ruby’s Broadway 2 West Main
124. Union State Bank 4 West Main
125. Palace Billiard Parlor 6 West Main
126. Ritz Theater 8 West Main
127. Leeman Hardware 9 West Main
128. Senate Bar 14 West Main
129. Stone Hardware 15 West Main
130. Beaver’s Barber Shop 16 West Main
131. Bain Grocery 17 West Main
132. Yost’s Chili Parlor 19 West Main
133. Chrisney Building 22 West Main
134. B. Carrol Dry Goods 23 West Main
135. Maxey Building 102 West Main
136. Goodyear 105 West Main
137. New State Transfer 106 West Main
138. Wood’s Produce 107 West Main
139. Modern Motors Garage 108 West Main
140. Modern Motors 112 West Main
141. Tag Office 114 West Main
142. Werrell Lowe Oldsmobile 118 West Main
143. Click’s Grocery 200 West Main
144. Standard Food Market 201 West Main
145. Shawnee House Repair 202 West Main
146. Shawnee Dairy Co. 208 West Main
147. Hardesty Plumbing & Heating 211 West Main
148. Gunter Auto Repair 213 West Main
149. Big A Auto Parts 214 West Main
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>151</td>
<td>Lyman Grocery</td>
<td>218 West Main</td>
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354. St. Benedict's Catholic Church
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700 North Kickapoo
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X. INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES AND HISTORIC DISTRICTS THAT MEET NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA

Introduction: Commercial Area

Originally an agricultural-oriented community, Shawnee experienced two later stages in its economic development. The first change in the city's function occurred when it became a substantial hub for the railroad industry. The second stage in its economic function was a result of the oil boom of the 1920s. The phenomenal growth in population and wealth that resulted from these two economic stages dramatically affected the commercial core (central business district). From the earliest function based on goods and services to the surrounding agriculturalists Shawnee moved toward an economy based on a growing industrial sector (transportation and petroleum). The resulting prosperity and increased population influenced the type of commercial properties found in the central business district as well as expanding the commercial core. Wood-framed store fronts quickly changed to the more permanent and substantial brick, stone, and masonry buildings.

The early commercial buildings located along Main Street and Ninth Street, the principal commercial corridors, varied from small, one-story properties to larger, three-four story buildings which filled an entire block. This style of architecture displays little decorative detail which is mostly confined to upper-story window treatments and roofline ornamentation. Later, during the oil boom of
the 1920s, oil companies, suppliers, and visiting business people needed buildings from which they could conduct their business and large-scale hotels to accommodate out-of-town guests. This in turn created the need for supporting commercial establishments to meet the demands of a thriving community. The architecture of these properties reflected the aspirations, wealth, and achievements of the local merchants and entrepreneurs.

Proposed National Register Districts in Commercial Study Area: Evaluations and Recommendations

In evaluating possible National Register Historic Districts in the commercial study area of Shawnee, the project staff conducted a thorough on-foot analysis following the completion of the survey forms. We offer the following observations and recommendations concerning the commercial study area:

1. A group of contiguous buildings of similar scale, construction materials, age, and historic function is located in the 400 block of East main Street. They are one-story in height, built with either brick or sandstone materials, and constructed in the 1900-1925 pre-and-post statehood era. All housed a variety of retail businesses which provided goods and services to the surrounding agriculturalists and railroad workers prior to the oil boom of the 1920s. However, only six of the sixteen buildings in this block are contributing resources (37.5%), a low contributing rate, and only
one property (Wellington Building/Santa Fe Hotel at 522-524 East Main) is deemed to warrant further study. Because of significant alterations and overall quality of the buildings, the project staff does not recommend that this area be considered for National Register District status either at the present time or in the future.

(2) Project staff recommends that a group of commercial buildings in or near the 100 block of North Bell Street be considered for National Register Historic District evaluation in 1997. Constructed between 1900 and 1950, this group of buildings are historically associated with the influence of the petroleum boom period of the 1920s. The proposed district covers primarily the 100 block of North Bell, but extends to a set of buildings on both sides of the street in the 200 block of North Bell, three buildings on East Ninth, and two buildings on East Main that have side walls that face South Bell Street. Currently, eight of the sixteen buildings in this area are contributing resources (50%) and do not meet National Register District criteria at the present time. However, two additional properties (Hornbeck Theater, built in 1947, and Federal National Bank, built in 1947) will meet age eligibility requirements in 1997. Because of their historic and architectural integrity, this will make a total of ten of the sixteen buildings as contributing resources, a 62.5%
contributing rate. This should strengthen the possibilities for a National Register Historic District. The current contributing resources consist of one property listed in the National Register of Historic Places -- Billington Building/Masonic Temple (NR listed 1985) -- and five properties listed on the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory including the Aldridge Hotel, Mammoth Department Store, ACH Hospital, Bell Telephone, and Shawnee Garment Factory. Adding to the historic character of the proposed district for 1997 is the only brick paved street which remains in the commercial core.

(3) Project staff recommends that rehabilitation of the commercial buildings in the 00 block of West Main and the 100 block of North Broadway be strongly encouraged in order to link these historic buildings with the proposed historic district along Bell Street. This area includes two properties individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Ritz Theater at 8-12 West Main and the State National Bank at 2-4 East Main and 107-111 North Broadway -- west side) as well as several properties recommended for further study including the Downtown Video building at 2 West Main (northwest corner of Main and Broadway), Norwood Hotel (108-112 North Broadway), and Benton's Cafe (126 North Broadway). With proper restoration, two additional buildings in this area could possibly be
connected to the proposed historic district — Bivins Music and Office Supply at 4 West Main and the Chrisney Building at 22-24 West Main.

Proposed Bell Street Historic District for 1997

West Side of Bell Street and Portions of East Ninth and East Main

(1) **Aldridge Hotel** (Corner of East Ninth and North Bell/202-212 East Ninth) — Built in 1927-29.

This nine-story skyscraper commercial building was constructed during the oil boom period in Shawnee by local petroleum entrepreneur Hilton A. Phillips and was originally called the Hilton Phillips Hotel. Its 200 rooms, bake shop, laundry, dining and banquet rooms, and ballroom on the ninth floor was considered the finest of its type east of Oklahoma City. The hotel also housed a number of petroleum company offices, Shawnee Chamber of Commerce, and KGFF, the only radio station in Shawnee. Architecturally, the building is significant because it is representative of the Commercial Style skyscraper (Whiffen 183-190), especially the upper seven stories which reflect the characteristics of this vocabulary including straight front, slight projections, flat roof, and lack of ornamentation. The bottom two stories embody several Neoclassical features such as the sandstone Tuscan order columns and entablature framing the East Ninth
entryway. Contributing resource because of both its historic and architectural significance.

(2) **ACH Hospital** (14-16 East Ninth) - Built in 1929.

Built during the oil boom period by three physicians (Anderson, Carson, and Hughes), this three-story commercial building served as Shawnee's only commercial core hospital from 1929 to 1967. Architecturally, the building retains its historic appearance and integrity of its 1920s construction date and features a semicircular keyed arched entryway and a combination segmental arched and stepped parapet. Contributing resource because of its historic importance and its architectural integrity.

(3) **Billington Building/Masonic Temple** (23 East Ninth and 126-132 North Bell) - Built in 1929.

Listed in National Register of Historic Places in 1985. Contributing resource to the proposed historic district as it has retained its integrity.

(4) **Salyn Securities** (124 North Bell) - Built in 1905.

One-story commercial building that is a noncontributing resource because of stuccoed panels added to facade.
(5) **Shawnee Gas and Electric/Gierhart, Jones, and Ingram-Attorneys Building** (122 North Bell) - Built in 1900.

Built at the turn of the century and was occupied early on by the Shawnee Gas and Electric Company, this one-story commercial building is a noncontributing resource because marble facing has been applied to the entire facade.

(6) **Seward's Meat Market** (120 North Bell) - Built in c. 1900.

Noncontributing resource because of partially stuccoed facade.

(7) **Petroleum Building** (116 North Bell) - Built in 1914.

This one-story brick front commercial building originally served as offices for petroleum companies. A noncontributing resource because of significant alterations to its facade (rock and stucco coverings).

(8) **Federal National Bank** (112-114 North Bell) - Built in 1907 and 1947.

This six-story white brick front commercial building housed one of the first banks in downtown Shawnee-Federal National Bank. The bank first occupied this building in 1902 when it was a two-story property. Remodeled in 1919 and upper four stories added in 1947, the building reflects an overall continuity because of similar construction materials and design. A noncontributing resource to the proposed historic
district at present time, but deserves reevaluation in 1997.

(9) **Mammoth Department Store/Neal’s Home Furnishings** (17-23 East Main) - Built in 1907.

This Statehood Era four-story Commercial Style building was the largest property on Shawnee’s Main Street during the first decade of the twentieth century and served as the commercial and retail anchor for Main Street. Considered one of the best retail outlets for clothing in central Oklahoma, the Mammoth brought special lines of clothing from the East Coast. In architectural terms, the building is significant because it retains many of its features from the 1907 period including the original entrance on Main Street and the Bell Street entrance, the original bracketed cornice on Main and Bell Street facades, stepped parapet, and brick pilaster strips separating the bays on Main and Bell Street walls. A contributing resource to the proposed historic district because of both historic and architectural significance.

**East Side of Bell Street and Portion of East Main**

(1) **U.S. Post Office/U.S.D.A. Building** (202-204 North Bell) - Built in 1922

This one-story brick front building was the first United States post office in Shawnee constructed of substantial masonry materials. An addition was completed to the rear (east wall) in 1958; however,
similar construction materials were used. Occupancy changed in the 1980s. It is a noncontributing resource because of addition.

(2) Bell Telephone/Shawnee Chamber of Commerce (131-133 North Bell) -- Built in two stages 1916 and 1927. Excellent example of Colonial Revival vocabulary applied to a two-story brick front commercial building. Keyed flat arches over second story openings, modestly projecting cornice, pedimented frontispiece with decorative pilasters, and bracketed smooth masonry belt course dividing first and second stories. Housed telephone company offices for more than fifty years. Contributing resource because of both its historic and architectural significance.

(3) Campbell and Edwards Photographers (127-129 North Bell) - Built in c. 1900. This one-story brick front commercial building is a pre-statehood property that housed photography studios until 1946. Although brick front has been painted, the building is a contributing resource because of its date of construction and condition.

(4) Hornbeck Theater (123-125 North Bell) - Built in 1947. On this site were small retail establishments prior to 1947 when the three-story theater was constructed. The property remains in excellent condition, but is a noncontributing resource because it does not quite reach the age eligibility requirements.
(5) **119-121 North Bell** - Vacant Lot.

(6) **Shawnee Garment Factory** (115-117 North Bell) - Built in 1910.

This three-story brick front commercial building is historically significant because it housed one of the longest continuously operating garment factories in the state and reflects the early industrial character of Shawnee. The company produced Roundhouse Overalls (painted sign in brickwork can still be seen on third floor north wall). Architectural features include a modest cornice with dentils, pilaster strips crowned with classical capitals, and a stepped parapet. Although clerestory is partially covered with shingled awning, the building is a contributing resource because of its historic significance.

(7) **Alley**

(8) **Dexter Building** (101-113 North Bell/102-104 East Main) - Built in 1895.

This two-story commercial brick front building was occupied by a number of small retail outlets since its construction in 1895. A noncontributing resource to the proposed historic district because of significant alterations to both Bell Street and East Main walls.

(9) **Woolworth's Department Store** (101-103 East Main/101-111 South Bell) - Built in 1900.

This two-story brick front commercial building constructed in the pre-statehood period in Oklahoma
Territory was occupied by Woolworth's Department Store throughout much of its 94-year history. The brick has been painted grey and new awnings have been added; however, it is a contributing resource because alterations are minimal and retention of commercial role in downtown Shawnee.
X. INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES WITH NATIONAL REGISTER POTENTIAL
   - COMMERCIAL AREA

(1) **Ritz Theater** (8-12 West Main) - Built in 1897-99.
   Originally a dry goods store when constructed in the late 1890s, the Ritz Theater is reported to be the oldest continuously operated facility of its type in Oklahoma having opened in 1910. Moreover, it is the oldest commercial building located along Main Street in Shawnee. Architecturally, the building embodies several decorative elements including a semicircular pedimented roofline with stone urns accentuating the corners, stone eagle centered within the pediment, brick pilaster strips separate the six sets of 18-paned windows with smooth masonry lintels and sills, corbelled brickwork frieze on west wall roofline, a mosaic tiled entry floor, and a marquee that dates from the 1920s. It remains in unaltered condition other than the brick has been painted.

(2) **State National Bank** (2-4 East Main and 107-111 North Broadway) - Built in 1927
   This 1920s commercial building is historically significant because it is the best remaining property from the oil boom era in Shawnee and it was the principal multistoried building that anchored the four corners intersection of Main and Broadway, the chief arteries of downtown Shawnee. The six-story skyscraper-like building features narrow pilasters
strips of masonry separating the bays, each crowned with miniature capitals; an ornate balustraded railing along roofline topped with masonry urns and floriated spandrels detail the corners; plain masonry cornices divide the lower two stories from upper four stories; and pilaster strips flank the openings in the first two stories.

(3) **First Methodist Episcopal Church** (Ninth and Philadelphia Streets) - Built in 1917. This late Gothic Revival style church building is the only property of its type that remains in the commercial core of Shawnee. It should be considered for the National Register of Historic Places because of architectural significance. Polychromatic brick is used on the arched main entrance door surrounds. The facade and adjoining walls have stepped parapets. The most outstanding elements are the semicircular polygonal towers crowned with capped battlements. Decorative string courses separate the battlements from the body of the tower. Each wall contains a large multilight window of stained glass crowned with a semicircular arch of polychromatic brick. The use of the Tudor arch in the facade and quoining of the stained glass window surrounds are also outstanding features. It remains in pristine condition.
X. INDIVIDUAL PROPERTIES WITH NATIONAL REGISTER POTENTIAL—RESIDENTIAL SECTION

(1) **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** (501 North Broadway)—Built in 1909

One of the early churches located near Shawnee's commercial core, this religious building features a large central gable with side gabled entryway. The entryway's focal point is a triangular pediment with stuccoed inset. Additional decorative features include centered spire with cross adorning the central gable on the Broadway Street facade, stepped wall buttresses, pointed (lancet) arches over openings, a circular leaded glass window (rosette motif) in upper central gable end (west wall), and stained glass windows. The property reflects many Gothic Revival elements and should be considered because of its 85-year continuous function as a church and its architectural significance.

(2) **St. Benedict’s Catholic Church** (632 North Kickapoo)—Built in 1906

This center-steepled church of red brick wall cladding has served the religious needs of Shawnee Catholics since before Oklahoma statehood in 1907. The central steeple dominates the facade. It has a square tower with polygonal spire that terminates with a cross. The tower is pierced with pointed (lancet) arched openings. The pedimented gable entryway features smooth masonry
columns with scrolled capitals. Additional decorative elements include stepped wall buttresses, corbelled brickwork frieze, miniature steeples at corners of the facade, round window above entrance, corbelled chimney cap, double paneled wood doors, and leaded/stained glass windows throughout. Because of its historic and architectural significance, the St. Benedict's Catholic Church has National Register possibilities.
NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICTS - RESIDENTIAL STUDY AREA

Following the survey, the principal investigator conducted a property-by-property analysis of the Shawnee residential study area. After consultation with the OK/SHPO staff, the principal investigator cannot recommend that a National Register Historic District be proposed for any portion of the residential study area based on the following evaluations and recommendations:

(1) Neither the residential study area as a whole nor any portion of it possess a dominant theme that meets National Register criteria A, B, or C to give an overall cohesiveness to be considered a National Register Historic District. The thirty-seven block study area is comprised of some twelve different additions (Woodland Park, Fruit, W.J. Estes, Dexter, Morning View, Quiett, Blaise, Sam Penn, Wallace Mann, Estes Orchard, North Park, and Dill). Moreover, the architectural styles range from the ornately-decorated Queen Anne and Neo-Classical high style to the vernacular Bungalow and Folk Victorian.

(2) The contributing rate of resources is low (40-65%) even in the best-preserved group of homes in the 700 blocks of North Louisa, North Park, North Market, and North Beard.

(3) This contributing rate is based on a total where approximately one-half of the homes in order to be
counted have non-historic exterior materials, additions to the rear or side, porch piers replaced with wrought iron (Bungalows), and attached carports.

(4) The noncontributing resources lack integrity for a variety of reasons including enclosed porches, replacement of porches, brick/rock veneer applied to facades and other types of partial siding, and decorative elements covered with siding.

(5) Finally, it is recommended that a proposed National Register Historic District in the residential section (Study Area #1) be delayed until intensive level surveys can be conducted for other neighborhoods in Shawnee, e.g., the 600-700 blocks of South Louisa, South Park, and South Market (Washington School Neighborhood), 1000-1300 blocks of East Main and East Ninth (Horace Mann School Neighborhood, and the section of homes south of the Rock Island tracks and east of Broadway (African-American Neighborhood). Based on a recent windshield survey, these three neighborhoods exhibit many of the same working-class neighborhood characteristics, varied architectural styles, and construction dates (1895-1920) as the residential study area addressed in this project.
XI. AREAS EXAMINED THAT DO NOT MEET ELIGIBILITY

REQUIREMENTS AND JUSTIFICATION - COMMERCIAL SECTION

Introduction:

In an intensive level survey of the commercial areas that fail to meet eligibility requirements, the principal investigator makes the following observations after walking the entire area three times and compiling a block-by-block analysis:

(1) Main Street, the major east-west commercial artery in the study area, contains the most intact historic buildings that meet age eligibility requirements; however, a high percentage of the original brick and stone facades have been covered with various materials that compromise their integrity. Materials include vinyl, aluminum, stucco, wood paneling, glass paneling, and new brick. Other original red brick facades have been painted various colors ranging from grey to yellow. Also detracting from the historic character of the buildings on Main Street are the use of unattractive shingled and metal awnings of various sizes and shapes. Most of the buildings appear to be in reasonably good structural condition and could be returned to their original appearance with the proper removal of facade coverings.

(2) Ninth Street, the other east-west corridor in the commercial section study area, is dominated by recently-constructed buildings, vacant lots and gaps,
parking lots, and buildings in poor condition. West Ninth is an area that consists of a mixture of single- and multiple-family buildings as one moves north from the central business district into the first generation of residences. Apparently, the 1970s tornado that swept through downtown Shawnee cut a wide swath along Ninth Street and may account for major gaps and recent construction.

(3) As a general trend when one proceeds to the east or west along Main and Ninth and away from the original four corners area of Main and Broadway, the buildings house functions generally not associated with a stable economy. These include pawn shops, flea markets, second-hand clothing stores, junk dealers, vacant buildings, and unused storage warehouses.

(4) The major north-south streets in the commercial study area (Bell, Broadway, Market, and Beard) contain viable business establishments housed in buildings of structurally sound condition; however, other than Bell, a majority of these buildings have been given artificial facade treatments that compromise their integrity and detract from the historic appearance of the buildings. The north-south arteries, especially to the east including Philadelphia, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Union, and Tucker, contain few buildings in original condition and possess large parking lots and gaps in the form of vacant lots. The area to the east around
the Santa Fe Depot (National Register-1974) at East Main and North Minnesota Avenue includes only one other building contributing to the historic character of the railroad track section—the Wellington Building/Santa Fe Hotel built in 1907.

(1) **600 Block of East Main**—East and west sides contain three buildings, two of which are concrete block and one altered brick building. Does have brick sidewalks still intact (Coffeyville brick).

(2) **500 Block of East Main**—North side includes Wellington Building (1907) and one rock-faced one-story building as well as two parking lots. South side of the block is covered by Wall’s Bargain Center which has shingled awnings, boarded-over windows, and brick painted.

(3) **400 Block of East Main**—North side includes two unaltered brick buildings, one of which is the Santa Fe Railroad Shops Building (1909) and the other is a polychromatic brick building that originally housed McArthur’s Grocery. South side contains four brick buildings in unaltered condition and six properties that lack integrity because of major alterations to facade.

(4) **300 Block of East Main**—North side of block is dominated by the new city library and two commercial buildings with facades that have been covered with aluminum and other materials. South side is dominated by the Celebration of Life park (takes up one-half of the
block) with grassy area and benches. The remaining space is occupied by commercial buildings with wood-covered facades and shingled/metal awnings.

(5) **200 Block of East Main-North side** contains a series of four historic buildings and one aluminum covered building. The historic buildings are Brooks-Callahan, Bishop, Drummond, and Leap properties dating from 1900-1907 period. The south side is dominated by Baptist's Store which has new brick facade. Other properties have stucco facades, wood coverings, and aluminum over facades.

(6) **100 Block of East Main-South side** includes Kress Building and Woolworth's Store; however, the remaining properties have either aluminum or stucco facades as well as shingled awnings. Brick painted on many of these buildings. North side also has stuccoed and aluminum coverings over brick, shingled and metal awnings, and new brick covers over old brick.

(7) **000 Block of East Main-North side** includes two historic buildings (Bancfirst and State National Bank); however, the remaining properties have aluminum covers and metal awnings. One gap has been converted into a minipark. South side has one historic building (Mammoth Department Store/Neal's Home Furnishings), but the remaining properties have rock-facing or stuccoed facades. One gap which is a vacant lot.
(8) **000 Block of West Main-North side** includes the Ritz Theater, Chesney Building, and Bivens Music Store; all of which retain some integrity. The other buildings have either stucco or aluminum facades and shingled awnings. The south side is dominated by the Shawnee Flea Market with stuccoed facade. Other buildings have wood or vinyl coverings.

(9) **100 Block of West Main-North side** buildings have cement, stucco, or new brick facades. Also contains a parking lot. South side includes two parking lots, a vacant lot gap, and stucco or rock-faced buildings.

(10) **200 Block of West Main-North side** contains six original one-story brick front commercial buildings with boarded-over windows and brick painted. Remainder of buildings have new brick facades or wood coverings. South side has major gap and buildings with stucco or new brick facades.

(11) **400 Block of West Ninth**-Includes vacant lots, parking lots, and the north wall of the Norton Building and south wall of the Shawnee Vo-Tech High School (Lamar Industries).

(12) **300 Block of West Ninth**-North side includes two bungalow style houses and south side contains two bungalow style houses as well as vacant lots.

(13) **200 Block of West Ninth**-North side has new apartment house and a two-story Victorian house. The south side is dominated by two new brick buildings—Oklahoma State
Employment Service and the Shawnee Credit Union—and their parking lots.

14. **100 Block of West Ninth**—North side includes two large buildings—new OGE and CPA properties. Both are of stucco and brick. South side is an attorney’s building with new brick and stucco facades.

15. **300 Block of West Ninth**—North side consists of the new city fire station and city hall. South side has new brick facade buildings and three-story stuccoed building as well as a parking lot.

16. **500 Block of East Ninth**—North side includes the new American National Bank and its drive through facility, a parking lot for the bank, an alley, and two buildings (ACH Hospital and Aldridge Hotel) included in the Bell Street historic district. The south side includes a parking lot and the Masonic Temple listed in National Register in 1985.

17. **100 Block of East Ninth**—North side contains U.S. Post Office addition (Federal Building) and a parking lot while the south side includes the north wall of the Chamber of Commerce building, a stuccoed facade property (Rehab Services), and a parking lot.

18. **200 Block of East Ninth**—North side consists of the new Salvation Army Community Center building and a vacant lot, whereas the south side includes an aluminum building (Shawnee Studio), a drive through area, a parking lot, and two apartment buildings (Sunny and
Emerson) which have retained their architectural integrity.

(19) **300 Block of East Ninth**-The north side includes the historic First Methodist Episcopal Church (Reigning Victory), a religious pre-school in a house, and the aluminum-covered Salvation Army Thrift Store.

(20) **400 Block of East Ninth**-North side has the concrete block Mills Machine factory and an aluminum-covered addition as well as vacant lots, while the south side consists of a stucco-covered garage building and the Davis Auto, a brick building.

(21) **500 Block of East Ninth**-Vacant lots on both sides of street.

(22) **200 Block of North Park**-West side dominated by Central Plastics building of stucco and brick. Also includes vacant lots. East side contains two commercial buildings covered with aluminum or brick painted as well as one house and a parking lot.

(23) **100 Block of North Louisa**-East side includes two small deteriorating houses, an aluminum building, and a parking lot. West side includes the historic Norton Building and vacant lots.

(24) **100 Block of North Market**-East side contains two one-story commercial buildings and a parking lot, while the west side has two commercial buildings, one house, and an aluminum covered building.
(25) **100 Block of North Beard**—East side contains the west wall of the historic Chesney Building, two one-story brick front commercial buildings, a major gap, and the new fire station. The west side contains a concrete block building (NAPA), a gap, and east walls of the Attorney’s Building and CPA Building.

(26) **100 Block of North Broadway**—East side includes the west wall of the historic State National Bank and a sizeable parking lot. The west side is a vital component of the CBD, but only the Norwood Hotel maintains its integrity. The other buildings have aluminum, stuccoed, or new brick facades.

(27) **100 Block of North Bell**—Proposed Bell Street Historic District.

(28) **100 Block of North Union**—West side of the block is all parking lot, while the east side is the new Gaskill’s Funeral Chapel and Shawnee Studio, an aluminum-covered building.

(29) **100 Block of North Philadelphia**—West side contains east wall of Shawnee Discount Drugs, grassy vacant lot gap, and east wall of the Sunny Apartment building. The east side features the west wall of the new Shawnee Public Library and a huge parking lot.

(30) **100 Block of North Oklahoma Avenue**—West side contains east wall of Richard’s Drugs and a parking lot. East side has a aluminum building and a grassy vacant lot.
(31) **100 Block of North Minnesota—East side** has a parking lot, Walls Warehouse with new brick facade, a gap, new brick over facade of one-story building, and a vacant lot, while the west side has a concrete block building, a vacant lot, and the east wall of the Davis Garage.

(32) **100 Block of North Tucker—West side** contains two houses and a concrete block building.

(33) **100 Block of North Kickapoo—East side** has aluminum building and a native sandstone service station.