

SURVEY REPORT

INTENSIVE-LEVEL SURVEY OF NORTHEAST OKMULGEE EAST OF HIGHWAY 75

Prepared by
Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office
2023

Acknowledgments

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Abstract

This report represents the findings of the intensive-level survey of northeast Okmulgee east of Highway 75. The survey was conducted to develop an inventory and evaluate the survey area for potential eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a historic district. This report discusses the common building types and architectural styles surveyed, provides a historic context of northeast Okmulgee, and assesses the survey area's historic significance and integrity. The survey was conducted by Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff between 2021 and 2023. A total of 325 properties were surveyed and evaluated for potential eligibility to the National Register based on their historical significance and integrity. SHPO recommends the survey area is not eligible for listing in the NRHP as a historic district. Of the properties surveyed, SHPO recommends ten (10) are individually eligible for the NRHP.

Introduction

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) conducted this intensive-level survey at the behest of local residents to address an important “gap” in survey data concerning Okmulgee both geographically, due to a lack of documentation of numerous properties within the survey area, and culturally as part of a determined effort to document a mid-to-late twentieth century historically Black neighborhood.

Three architectural surveys were previously conducted by the SHPO in Okmulgee, which is the county seat of Okmulgee County and located in eastern Oklahoma within the Muscogee (Creek) Reservation. An intensive-level survey of downtown Okmulgee was completed in 1990. This survey documented over one hundred properties within Okmulgee’s downtown commercial core, which was subsequently listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Okmulgee Downtown Historic District (NRIS #92001693).¹ The following year saw the completion of *From Creek Freedmen to Oklahoma Oil Men: The Black Heritage and Architectural Legacy of Okmulgee (1879-1929)*, a thematic survey that provided a historic context and intensive-level documentation of individual properties significant to Okmulgee’s African American history.² In 1993, a reconnaissance-level survey of Okmulgee completed by Dr. Mary Jane Warde provided minimal documentation of residential areas adjacent to Okmulgee’s downtown commercial core, with a particular focus on properties constructed between 1900 and 1935.³ Altogether, these reports documented almost 40 properties within or adjacent to the current survey area. Of the properties previously documented, all were constructed before 1945 and the majority were located on East 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th streets.

The objectives of the *Intensive-Level Survey of Northeast Okmulgee East of Highway*

¹ *Architectural/Historic Survey of Certain Parts of Downtown Okmulgee*, prepared for the City of Okmulgee Historic Preservation Commission by Maryjo Meacham & Associates (1990), accessible online at <https://www.okhistory.org/shpo/docs/HSoFDTOkmulgeeCP.pdf>.

² *From Creek Freedmen to Oklahoma Oil Men: The Black Heritage and Architectural Legacy of Okmulgee (1878-1929)*, prepared for the city of Okmulgee Historic Preservation Commission by Terri Myers (1991), accessible online at <https://www.okhistory.org/shpo/docs/OkmulgeeLegacy.pdf>.

³ *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma*, prepared for the City of Okmulgee and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office by Mary Jane Warde, Ph.D. (1993), available online at <https://www.okhistory.org/shpo/docs/HSoFOkmulgeeParts.pdf>.

75 were as follows:

1. Conduct an inventory of all properties within the survey area, regardless of construction date, and input all survey data into the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI).
2. Evaluate the survey area for potential eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a historic district.
3. Create a historic context to assist in evaluating properties for potential NRHP eligibility, either individually or as part of a potential historic district.

This survey project was created as a team effort by the Oklahoma SHPO staff: project guidance and oversight came from Lynda Ozan and Matthew Pearce; Marcus Young and Michael Mayes conducted all fieldwork, including photography, mapping, and data entry; Matthew Pearce and Michael Mayes provided research and drafted the survey report; and Michael Mayes drafted the historic context. This report and survey data can help facilitate community historic preservation initiatives among the City of Okmulgee and local residents and will assist the Oklahoma SHPO and Muscogee (Creek) Nation in planning processes pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

Research Design

Residential development within the survey area occurred over several phases beginning in the late 1910s. The survey was conducted to identify historic-age resources (meaning resources over fifty years of age) and assess the extent of demolition and new construction in the area. Approximately 65% of resources within the survey area are over fifty years of age (208 out of 324 total resources). Regardless of age, all resources were evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places, both individually and as part of any potential historic districts. Research and evaluation methodology occurred in accordance to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Identification* and guidelines provided by Oklahoma SHPO's *Architectural/Historic Resources Survey: A Field Guide* (updated 2013). All properties were surveyed between 2021 and 2022 through site visits and photographs. A historic context was developed by relying on primary and secondary sources provided by the Oklahoma Historical Society Research Center in Oklahoma City. A review of Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, historic aerial photographs, and local newspapers helped to establish dates of construction for each property. This research occurred concurrent with field survey work and data review in order to fully document the strong relationship between the history of northeast Okmulgee and the evolution of its built environment. Documentation of each property was uploaded to the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI) and includes the property's physical address, latitude/longitude coordinates, historic and current functions, date of construction, architectural style, exterior materials, a brief resource description, and photographs. Documentation in the OLI is publicly available through the Oklahoma SHPO website (www.okhistory.org/shpo).

Project Objectives

This survey had the following objectives:

- Identify and record each property within the survey area on the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI).
- Assess each resource's potential eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as part of a historic district.
- Prepare a historic context for the survey area.

Area Surveyed

The area surveyed includes an irregularly shaped section of northeast Okmulgee, Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, bounded roughly by East Chicago Street to the north, North Wilson and North Miami avenues to the east, East 3rd Street to the south, and US Highway 75 (North Wood Drive) to the west (Figure 1). Properties adjacent to and west of US Highway 75 were included in the survey boundaries. Due to the proximity of the Okmulgee Black Hospital (NRIS #84003387), the survey area was extended west of US Highway 75 along East 3rd Street to North Comanche Street to document properties that may have had a historic association with the hospital. Several multi-family complexes located east of North Miami Avenue and south of East Randolph Street were excluded from the survey boundaries due to their being less than 45 years of age. In total, the survey area comprises 325 properties.

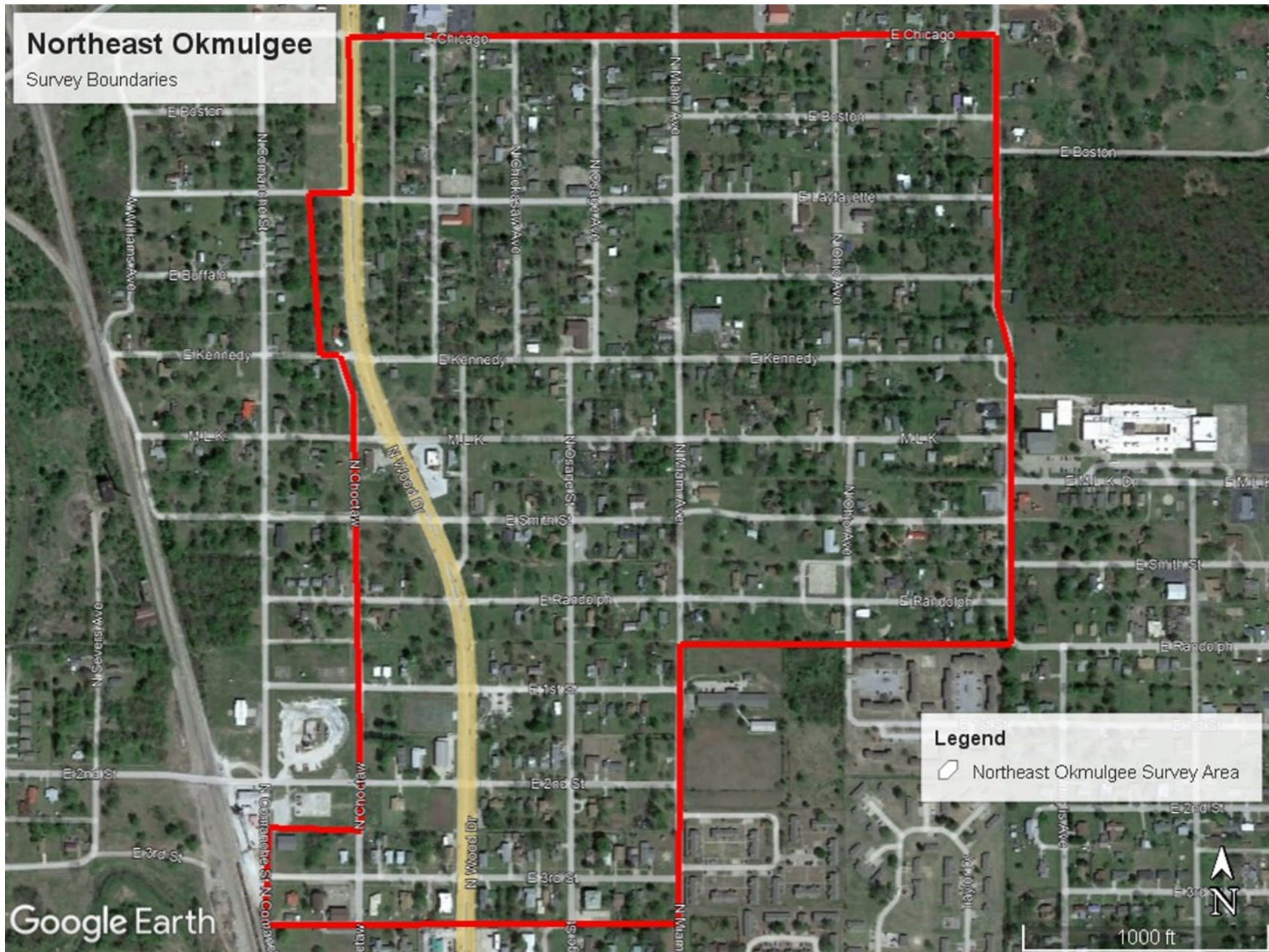


Figure 1: Northeast Okmulgee East of Highway 75 survey boundaries (outlined in red)

Methodology

Survey methodology occurred in accordance to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Identification* and Oklahoma SHPO's *Architectural/Historic Resources Survey: A Field Guide*, as discussed in greater detail below.

Field Work and Data Entry

SHPO began the Northeast Okmulgee Survey project in the spring of 2021 with the initial task of delineating the survey boundaries in ArcGIS and preparing a field survey to document and photograph each individual property. The GIS-based map included the boundary of the survey area and parcel lines and addresses that were included in the previous survey reports from the early 1990s. The initial field survey was conducted in May 2021 with photo documentation of the survey area's resources from the public right-of-way, including each resource's characteristics being recorded for entry into the SHPO's Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI). OLI database entries detail each individual property's characteristics including function, architectural style, materials, condition, and any observed alterations. A minimum of two photographs were taken of each resource for inclusion in the OLI database.

The gathering of historical information pertaining to the survey area began in the Fall of 2022 and utilized information available from the Okmulgee County Assessor, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for the City of Okmulgee (available digitally via the Oklahoma County Metropolitan Library System), Okmulgee City Directories available at the Oklahoma History Center Research Center and the Okmulgee Public Library (available editions dated 1936 – 1975), aerial photographs (available through historicaerials.com, Google Earth, and Oklahoma Corporation Commission Aerial Photo Viewer), and materials available in the Oklahoma History Center including *A History of Okmulgee County* published through the Okmulgee County Historical Society, and The Oklahoma Historical Society's online research center which includes links to Ancestry.com, Newspapers.com, fold3.com, and The Gateway to Oklahoma History.

Resources within the survey area associated historically with Okmulgee's Black community were identified using Sanborn maps, city directories, aerial photographs, available library and research center materials, and online sources through the Gateway to Oklahoma History. These resources also provided a basis for identifying dates of construction and demolition for resources within the

survey area. Additional resources used for this survey report include the two previous architectural surveys that covered the Northeast Okmulgee Survey Area: *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma*, by Mary Jane Warde, Ph.D. (August 1993), and *From Creek Freedmen to Oklahoma Oil Men: The Black Heritage and Architectural Legacy of Okmulgee (1878-1929)*, by Terri Myers (December 1991).

Oklahoma SHPO staff conducted a second field survey of the area on November 30, 2022, to document properties that were missed in the initial fieldwork and to confirm previously collected data. Additional resources west of U.S. Highway 75/North Wood Drive and along East 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets were also identified and documented at this time.

Determining National Register Eligibility

In the “Description of Significance” field for all properties documented in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory (OLI), Oklahoma SHPO staff indicated whether a property (1) contributes to a historic district (and name of district); (2) does not contribute to a historic district, along with the justification for that status; (3) is individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, along with the criteria it meets; or (4) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If there was insufficient information available to assess potential significance, staff can indicate that a property warrants further study to determine National Register eligibility.

Established under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is the catalog of buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture. National Park Service regulations (36 CFR Part 60, as amended) govern the NRHP evaluation and nomination process.

A resource must retain *historic integrity* and have *historic significance* at the local, state, or national level in order to be determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Historic integrity is defined by seven aspects: *location, design, setting, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association*. While a resource may retain some aspects of integrity to a higher degree than other aspects, it must retain sufficient characteristics of each aspect in order to convey historic significance and meet the National Register’s eligibility requirements. Even within a historic district,

where individual resources might lack distinction, those resources must retain their integrity in order to be considered contributing to the district. Typically, contributing resources within a historic district retain moderate to high degrees of integrity. Because individual resources must convey unique aspects of their significance, they must retain a high degree of integrity in order to be considered individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to maintaining historic integrity, a resource eligible for the National Register of Historic Places must possess at least one of the following:

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

Criterion A, B, and C are most applicable to this study. The survey team did not anticipate Criterion D to apply, as all work was concerned with the built environment and all documented resources were constructed during the twentieth or early twenty-first centuries. Of the seven criteria considerations, only Criteria Consideration A, B, and G are considered to have possible application in this study. Criteria Consideration A allows an exemption for a resource owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes. Criteria Consideration B allows an exemption for a resource relocated from its original location. Criteria Consideration G allows an exemption for properties achieving significance within the last fifty years if they are of exceptional importance.⁴

⁴ U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, *National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* (1990; rev. 1997).

Survey Results

Resources Observed

In total, 325 resources were documented in the survey area (see Table 1). The overwhelming majority were single-family dwellings (92%, or 299 resources). No multi-family dwellings were recorded, even though Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps indicate that this was a common property type in parts of the survey area historically.⁵ One social facility and numerous religious buildings were documented. One educational facility, the former Attucks Elementary School at 1201 Kennedy Street, is within the survey area. Commercial properties within the survey area were concentrated along US Highway 75/North Wood Drive. Two properties within the survey area are currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places: the Okmulgee Black Hospital (320 North Wood Drive, NRIS #84003387), and Eastside Baptist Church (219 North Osage Street, NRIS #84000306).

Table 1: Historic Function of Resources within Survey Area

Use	# of Resources
Domestic: Single Dwelling	299
Commerce/Trade	6
Social	1
Education	1
Religion	16
Health Care	1
Entertainment/Recreation	1
	325

Dates of construction within the survey area vary widely. The earliest dates of construction documented in the survey area were circa 1920. New construction, defined as occurring between circa 1995 and 2020, is widespread within the survey area due to the demolition of numerous historic-age structures.

⁵ The property at 1014 East Randolph was a duplex originally and converted to a single-family dwelling by 1949.

Residential Properties (Domestic: Single Dwelling)

Residential properties within the survey area reflect a range of architectural styles and building types. The most common architectural styles among historic-age residences include National Folk, Craftsman/Bungalow, and Minimal Traditional.⁶

National Folk housing, prominent between 1850 and 1930, was built using inexpensive, mass-produced materials, most commonly lumber. The most popular designs of wood-framed Folk houses are front-gabled or side-gabled single-story dwellings designed to comfortably suit families setting up permanent residences in the community. Typical Folk housing within the Northeast Okmulgee survey area are single-story dwellings with low-profile gabled roofs and modest exteriors with little-to-no decoration (Figure 2).



Figure 2: This house at 1101 East 1st Street is an excellent local example of a cross-gabled, Folk-style residence. Note the shed-roofed porch within the “L” of the two gabled wings. Two entrances are under the porch roof. Notable exterior materials include painted wood siding and a stone foundation.

Two Folk-style dwellings categorized under the gable front, or “shotgun,” subtype were documented within the survey area: one at 1116 East 3rd Street and the other at 1210 East Kennedy Street. The house at 1116 East 3rd Street appears to have been

⁶ The following discussion of popular housings styles within the survey area is derived largely from Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, rev. ed. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2019). Also see Brian L. Schulz, *Historic Preservation Survey of Folk Housing in Oklahoma* (Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, 1994).

moved to its current location sometime between 1949 and 1956 based upon a review of available Sanborn maps and aerial photographs. The dwelling at 1210 East Kennedy Street was constructed or moved to this location at an unknown date and has a shed-roofed addition along the west elevation. The addition was constructed at an unknown date.

Craftsman/Bungalow houses, the most common architectural style for residences within the survey area, typically consist of low-pitched gabled roofs with wide, unenclosed eaves and expose rafters (Figure 3). Front porches with tapered columns, sometimes with stone or brick pedestals, are another noticeable feature. Craftsman/Bungalow-style houses are located throughout the survey area. Most are one-story.



Figure 3: Several common exterior modifications were observed throughout the survey area, including replacement exterior materials, windows, and doors. This c. 1960 Craftsman/Bungalow-style single-family dwelling at 1118 East 3rd Street retains most of its historic exterior materials but has a significant rear addition that was constructed sometime between 1995 and 2003.

Most popular between 1935 and 1950, the Minimal Traditional style exhibits a low- or intermediate-pitched hipped or gabled roof (Figure 4). Often one story, these dwellings are notable for their modest footprint and overall lack of added detail. This style appears sporadically throughout the survey area, and commonly replaced earlier Folk or Craftsman/Bungalow dwellings. Some Minimal Traditional-style dwellings were subsequently demolished and replaced with modest, New Traditional-style houses.



Figure 4: *This one-story single-family dwelling at 1100 East 1st Street retains a high degree of integrity and displays several features indicative of the Minimal Traditional style, including a modest, square-shaped footprint, intermediate-pitched hipped roof, and modest exterior detailing. The property is also notable for having a detached, one-car garage (right).*

Other residential architectural styles such as Prairie or Ranch are not well represented. The few properties within the survey area that reflect elements associated with these movements lack individual distinction or have been modified. Notably, the William Shealey House at 1022 East 2nd Street that was identified in a previous survey as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register as an example of the American Foursquare house type recently underwent significant alterations (Figure 5).



Figure 5: *The William Shealey House at 1022 East 2nd Street was previously identified as an important local example of the American Foursquare house type. Note the non-historic siding, windows, and altered front porch.*

Most new construction within the survey area falls under the New Traditional architectural style. Identifying features include a concrete slab foundation, front-facing garage, shallow porches that sometimes feature columns or other Classical elements, and side elevations containing few (if any) windows (Figure 6). New Traditional-style houses became a popular choice for infill in older neighborhoods by the late twentieth century, often as a replacement to previous housing stock. Northeast Okmulgee is no exception to this trend. The New Traditional style has quickly become a common architectural style, especially within the north section of the survey area.



Figure 6: This c. 2010 single-family dwelling at 1028 North Osage Avenue is typical of new construction within the survey area.

Residential properties throughout the survey area are in varied states of condition and integrity. Many have sustained one or more modifications. The most common alterations include the installation of replacement siding (typically vinyl or weatherboard), windows, and doors. In many instances, window openings have been modified from their original size and configuration to accommodate aluminum- or vinyl-framed replacement units. Enclosed front porches were observed on several Craftsman/Bungalow-style houses. Rear or side additions are common. Several properties have non-historic garages or outbuildings.

Commercial Properties

The few commercial properties within the survey area are concentrated along US Highway 75/North Wood Drive between East 2nd Street and East Kennedy Street. These properties convey no distinctive architectural styles. Most are less than fifty years of age and replaced single- or multi-family dwellings. The typical commercial property is one-story with a gabled or flat roof. Common exterior materials include vinyl siding, brick veneer, or metal. Most have an associated paved or gravel lot and signage (Figure 7).



Figure 7: This c. 1975 commercial building at 811 North Wood Drive was modified in c. 2021, when it became a donut shop. Notable modifications include new stone veneer and alterations to the roofline and storefront windows.

Social Properties

The Haygood-Shepherd American Legion Post at 800 North Wilson Street was the only property documented in the survey area with a historic social function (Figure 8). Built circa 1960, the one-story building is of concrete block construction with a gabled roof. Aerial photographs indicate that the building was originally T-shaped. The east-facing façade was modified to its current configuration by 1980.



Figure 8: The Haygood-Shepherd American Legion Post (800 North Wilson Street) has a concrete block exterior and cross-gabled roof. The east (front) elevation was modified to its current configuration by 1980.

Education Properties

The former Attucks Elementary School at 1201 Kennedy Street is within the survey area. Built in 1922, this school was among the oldest Black elementary schools in eastern Oklahoma. The school remained in operation until the late 1970s. Original sections of the building were demolished by the early 1990s, leaving only a circa 1969 addition intact. The property is currently documented in the Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory and was vacant at the time of this survey.

Religion Properties

The 1993 reconnaissance-level survey of Okmulgee by Dr. Mary Jane Warde first noted the predominance of “[s]mall historic neighborhood churches” in northeast Okmulgee.⁷ These religious facilities range in scale, style, and date of construction from the National Register-listed Eastside Baptist Church (219 N. Osage, 1922) to Greater Jones Chapel (1226 E. Smith, c. 1960) to New Salem Missionary Baptist Church (1300 E. Lafayette, c. 1995). The majority of historic-age religious buildings within the survey area reflect modest Modern Movement architectural style influences (Figure 9). Most are one-story and concrete block construction with

⁷ *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee*, 12.

cross-gabled roofs clad in seam metal or asphalt shingles. Several active congregations are within the survey area, but some documented religious buildings are currently vacant.⁸



Figure 9: Greater Jones Chapel at 1226 East Smith Street displays some modest Modern Movement-style influences, most notably tall vertical window openings at the gable ends.

Health Care Properties

The National Register-listed Okmulgee Black Hospital is the only healthcare facility within the survey area. Constructed in 1922-23, the Okmulgee Black Hospital operated as a segregated healthcare facility for Okmulgee's African American community until 1956. Some nearby houses are associated with doctors or staff who worked in the facility.

Entertainment/Recreation Properties

D. P. Lilly Park, located at the northwest corner of East Randolph Street and North Ohio Avenue, is the only entertainment/recreation resource within the survey area. The site comprises of a concrete slab large enough for two regulation-size basketball courts. A chain link fence lines the south side of the courts. A turf lawn and some park benches and light poles are arranged around the courts.

⁸ Notable vacant religious buildings include 1328 East Lafayette Street (built c. 1956) and the former Franklin Chapel United Methodist Church at 1001 East 3rd Street (built 1909).

Aerial photographs from 1956 and 1969 indicate a rectangular-shaped pool and bathhouse at the park. The pool and bathhouse were removed by 1980. The existing basketball courts were installed by 2003.

National Register Evaluation

Each building documented within the survey area was evaluated for National Register eligibility, both individually and as part of a historic district. A property must have local, state, or national significance and retain sufficient integrity to convey the time period for which they are significant. All evaluations for National Register eligibility adhered to the methodology laid out in National Register of Historic Places Bulletin 15: *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation*. To be eligible under Criterion A, a property must reflect an important trend in the development of a community or represent an important event. With an understanding of the survey area's historic development by Okmulgee's African American community, the survey team evaluated properties for significance under Criterion A for Ethnic Heritage/Black and Community Planning and Development.⁹ To be eligible under Criterion B, a property must be associated with the life and contributions of a significant person. The survey team conducted research in an attempt to uncover individuals who lived in the survey area and exerted an important influence in the community's identity or gained recognition for their work outside the neighborhood. As a suburban area, research was also conducted to uncover information about any potential developers who platted subdivisions or built houses within the survey area.

To be eligible under Criterion C, a property must represent an important example of a distinctive type, period or method of construction, reflect the work of a notable architect, or embody high artistic value. Properties eligible under Criterion C can also represent design principles that were important to the development of landscapes and communities. Last, a collection of resources can be eligible under Criterion C as a district if they represent a distinct entity through their design and construction and/or their association with significant persons or events. For proper

⁹ The National Park Service associates Ethnic Heritage with properties significant to "[t]he history of persons having a common ethnic or racial identity." Community Planning and Development is associated with properties significant to "[t]he design or development of the physical structure of communities." National Register Bulletin 16A, *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form* (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1991), 40.

evaluation of the survey area as a historic district under Criterion C, the team worked to discern any distinct periods of development and identify any collection of properties that might convey significant associations to an event, person, or design/construction. Special attention was also paid to identifying individual properties that best conveyed any significant associations to events, persons, or design/construction.

This report recommends that the survey area is **not eligible** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a historic district due to a lack of significant association and loss of historic integrity. Development within the survey boundaries was fragmented since the early twentieth century as the area gradually transformed from a rural to suburban area. Lot sizes, setbacks, and house designs vary greatly. Streets are generally arranged in a grid, but the construction of US Highway 75 through the survey area in 1954 and its subsequent expansion to five lanes (four traffic lanes plus a center turn lane) represents a significant intrusion.¹⁰ These various phases of development and construction were influenced by local settlement patterns, Okmulgee's boom-and-bust oil economy, and racial segregation. Staff research was unable to discover a specific builder or company credited with developing the entire area. In addition, many resources have been altered, relocated, or demolished since their initial construction. For example, of the 24 properties within the survey area that were documented previously in the 1993 *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee*, 12 (50%) are no longer extant.¹¹ Demolition and new construction persist. Further, the survey area will likely be affected by the development of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex north of East Chicago Street.

If there is the potential for a historic district within the survey area eligible under Criterion A for Ethnic Heritage/Black, such efforts should focus on the area along East 3rd Street between North Comanche Street and North Miami Avenue and continue north along East 2nd and East 1st streets between U.S. Highway 75/North Wood Drive and North Miami Avenue. This area already comprises the Okmulgee

¹⁰ "State Starts Work On Detour Road," *The Okmulgee County News*, September 23, 1954.

¹¹ Among those properties significantly altered include the William Shealy House, 1022 East 2nd Street (built 1915) and Uganda Martyrs Catholic Church and School, southwest corner of East 3rd Street and North Choctaw Avenue (built 1927, 1945). The third story of the Uganda Martyrs school building was lost in a fire in 1975, and the main entrance to the church was recently modified to accommodate a porte cochere.

Black Hospital and Eastside Baptist Church, which are each currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Other notable community resources, including Uganda Martyrs Catholic Church and School, are in this area. It provides a representative example of popular housing types and styles, as it was among the earliest areas developed within the survey boundaries and remains the least affected by demolition and new construction (unlike the northernmost portions of the survey area). Preliminary research and conversations with local residents have revealed that several properties in this area have a historic association with doctors or staff who worked at the Okmulgee Black Hospital. However, additional research is necessary to confirm these associations, discern a possible period of significance, and recommend potential eligibility criteria.

This report recommends the following ten (10) properties are individually eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at this time:

- 1100 East 1st Street, built c. 1940.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion C.
- 1101 East 1st Street, built c. 1920.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion A and C.
- 908 East 3rd Street (Mack Brown House), built c. 1922.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion C.
- 916 East 3rd Street, built c. 1920.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion C.
- 1014 East 3rd Street (W. F. Haygood House), built c. 1920.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion C.
- 1101 East 3rd Street (Melvina Roper House), built c. 1910.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion A and C. Criterion Consideration B may apply (exemption for a relocated resource).
- 1005 North Sioux Avenue, built c. 1930
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion C.
- 1031 North Sioux Avenue (Macedonia Baptist Church), built 1973 – 1978.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion A. Criteria Consideration A applies (exemption for resource owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes). Criteria Consideration G also applies (exemption for property achieving significance within the last fifty years).

- 1226 East Smith Street (Greater Jones Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church), built c. 1960.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion A and Criterion C. Criteria Consideration A applies (exemption for resource owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes).
- 800 North Wilson Street (Haygood-Shepherd American Legion Post 103), built c. 1960.
 - Recommended eligible under Criterion A.

All of the above properties are recommended eligible for the National Register at the local level of significance (Figures 10-11).

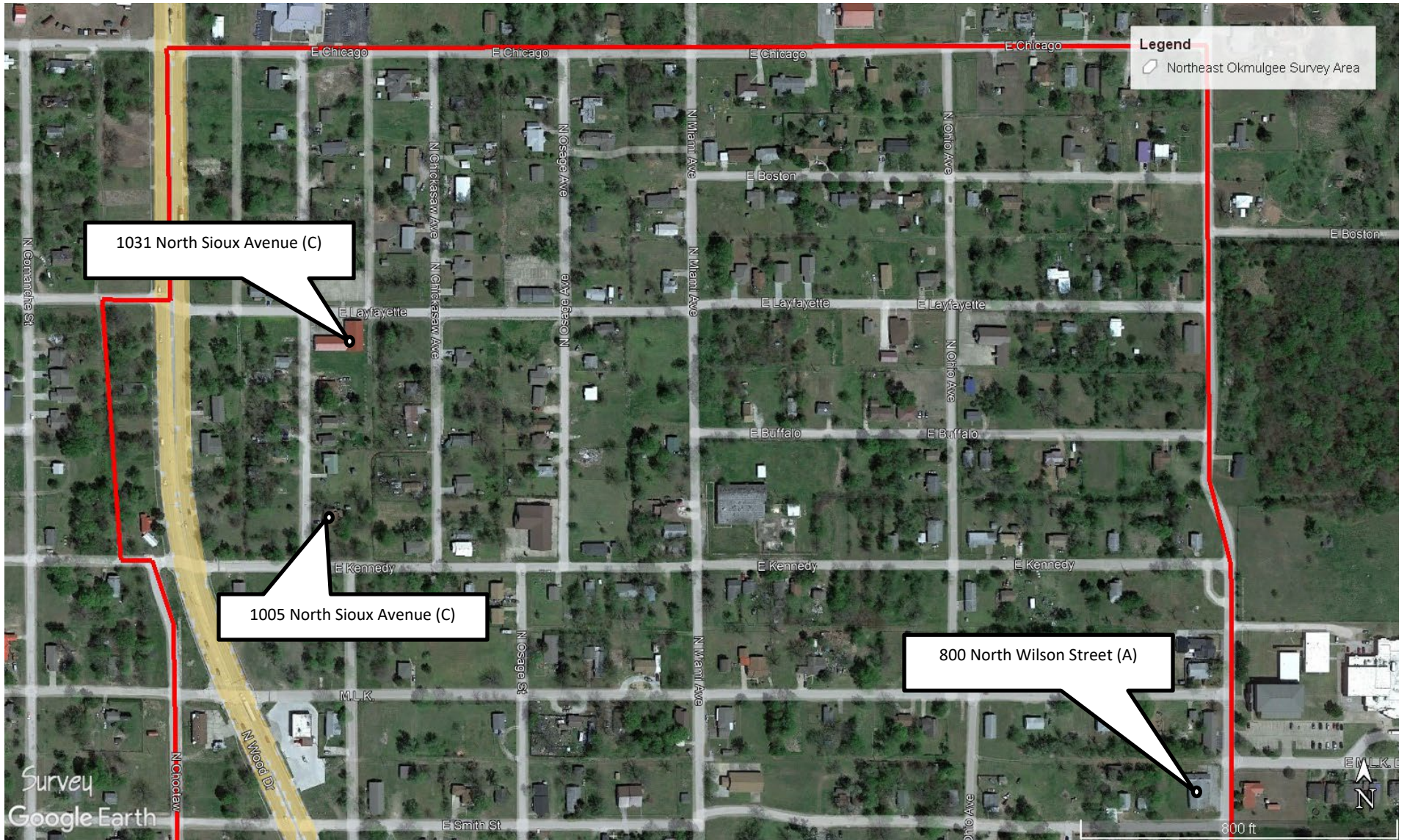


Figure 10: Location of recommended eligible properties within the north section of the survey area (outlined in red). Eligible properties are indicated by address and National Register eligibility criteria.

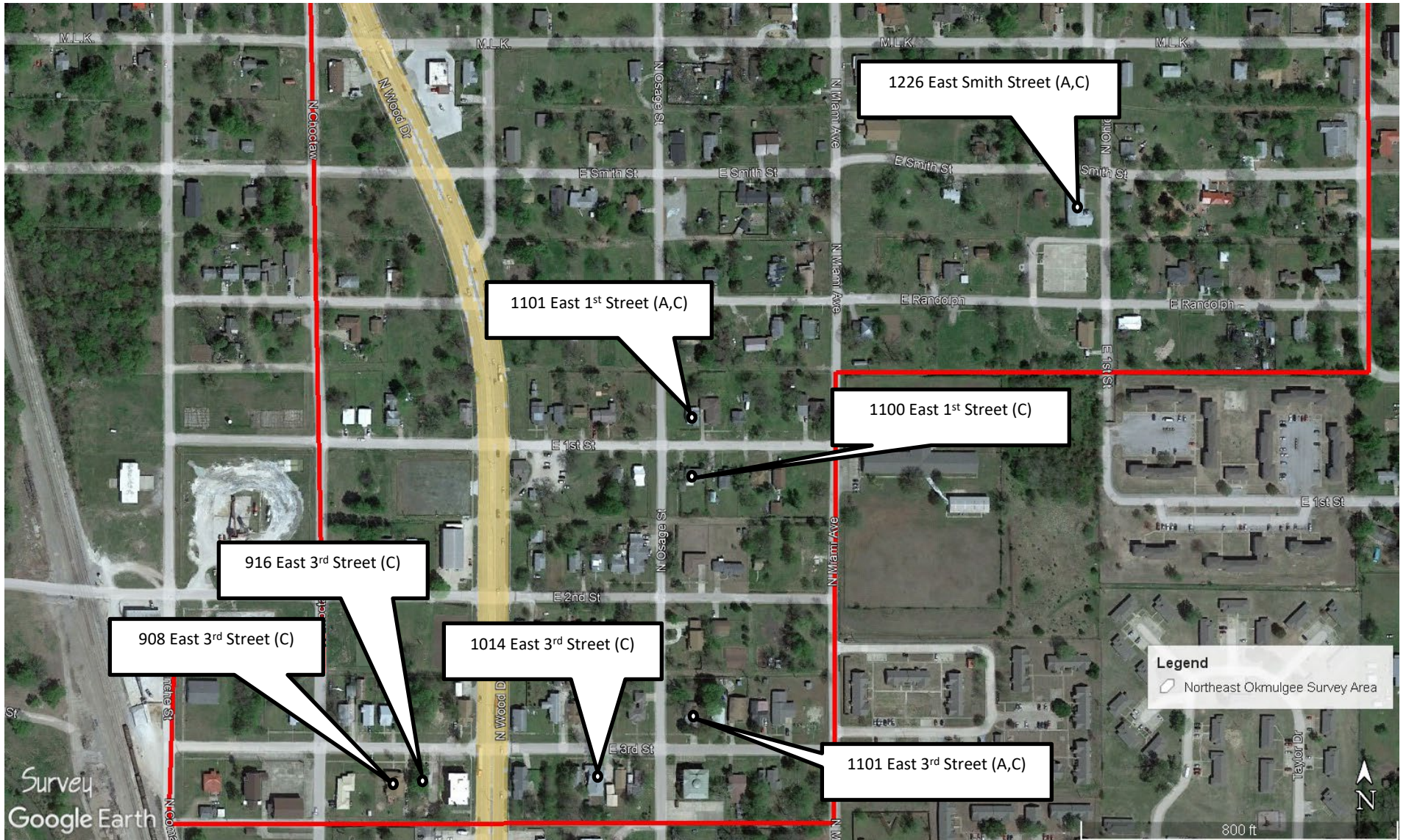


Figure 11: Location of recommended eligible properties within the south section of the survey area (outlined in red). Eligible properties are indicated by address and National Register eligibility criteria.

Historic Context

The City of Okmulgee is situated within the Muskogee (Creek) Nation and the original homelands of the Wichita and Caddo tribes. By the mid-1750s, bands of the Osage tribe occupied much of what became known as Indian Territory until they were forced to sell their claims to the United States in 1825. On April 22, 1826, the area comprising present-day Okmulgee County was ceded to the Poarch Band of Muscogee (Creek) Indians, setting in motion the eventual ceding of ancestral Muscogee (Creek) lands and forced removal to Indian Territory through the late 1830s. Upon the establishment of a new tribal constitution following the Civil War, the National Council selected present-day Okmulgee as a new capital. The Creek National Capitol (NRIS #66000632), originally a two-story log building was constructed in 1868. This building was replaced by the existing two-story stone building in 1878.¹² By the early 1900s, Okmulgee consisted of a series of brick commercial buildings and frame dwellings in proximity to the national capitol.¹³

County histories show one of the first houses in Okmulgee as belonging to a Black man named, “Uncle Muchie”. Uncle Muchie would also be joined by another of Okmulgee’s residents, a blacksmith named Silas Smith assigned to repair agricultural equipment belonging to the Muskogee Creeks. Smith, a White man, benefited from the Muskogee (Creek) Nation’s tolerance of interracial marriages. Smith became a prominent figure in the development of Okmulgee and would later be elected as Alderman in one of the city’s first municipal elections. Smith was married twice, both times to a Muskogee (Creek) Freedwoman.¹⁴

¹² Oklahoma State University Libraries, Tribal Treaties Database, *Treaty With The Creeks*, 1826, <https://treaties.okstate.edu/treaties/treaty-with-the-creeks-1826-0264>; National Park Service U.S. Department of Interior, *Ocmulgee Mounds, Muscogee (Creek) Removal*, chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/learn/historyculture/upload/Accessible-Muscogee-Creek-Removal.pdf; Theodore Isham and Blue Clark, “Creek (Mvskoke),” *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=CR006>; Maxine Bamburg, “Okmulgee,” *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=OK092>; National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, “Creek National Capitol, Okmulgee, Okmulgee County,” NRIS #66000632.

¹³ Mary Jane Warde, Ph.D., *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma*, Submitted to the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, August 1993, 2. The Creek National Capitol (Creek Council House) is a National Historic Landmark and now serves as a museum for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

¹⁴ Terri Myers, *From Creek Freedmen to Oklahoma Oil Men: The Black Heritage and Architectural Legacy of Okmulgee (1878 – 1929)*, Prepared for the city of Okmulgee Historic Preservation Commission, December 1991, 36.

By 1901 the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company made its way to Okmulgee and coincided with the discovery of oil near Tulsa, both of which would contribute to the sudden rise in population to the area. Development in the early 1900s brought Okmulgee County thirty miles of paved road, three railways, trolley service, residential telephone and utility services, a \$1 million municipal water supply, three public schools, a public library, an airport, and the most productive oil and coal fields in the nation. Okmulgee as a town saw its economy flourish under the coal and oil industries with the discovery of the Morris and Lucky oil pools, along with a booming agriculture industry that produced everything from corn, cotton, feed grains, truck farming, dairying, and poultry raising. By 1918, Okmulgee became a manufacturing center with facilities including three foundry and machine shops, three glass factories, and daily newspapers including the *Okmulgee Daily Times*.¹⁵

The railroad ushered in numerous White and Black residents, with the latter typically establishing residency in what is now the eastern part of Okmulgee.¹⁶ Many newly arrived Black families built houses east of the tracks along East 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets, including the Roxanna and Arta Sneed house listed at 1102 East 2nd Street (nonextant), and the Hiram and Ada Key House in the 1000 block of East 3rd Street (nonextant).¹⁷

Racial segregation in Okmulgee became enshrined into law shortly after statehood in 1907 with the passing of Senate Bill 1, also known as the “coach law,” that stated every railway company, urban or suburban car company, street car or interurban car or railway company was to provide separate coaches or compartments according to race.¹⁸ With Okmulgee expanding into a twenty-block square around the Creek Council House, many in the African American community began constructing their homes east of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad lines and just north of the downtown district which they so prominently helped develop.¹⁹ Okmulgee’s local policies set North Central Avenue as the demarcation line separating the races, while much of eastern Okmulgee (including most of the survey area) remained outside city limits.²⁰

¹⁵ Dianna Everett, 1115 – 1117.

¹⁶ Terri Myers, 42-44.

¹⁷ Terri Myers, 7, 28, 53, 62.

¹⁸ Oklahoma Historical Society, *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, Senate Bill One, <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=SE017>.

¹⁹ Okmulgee County History, *History of Okmulgee County, Oklahoma*, Okmulgee Historical Society, Heritage Society of America, 1985, 236.

²⁰ Mary Jane Warde, 5.

Restrictive housing policies associated with Jim Crow racial segregation spread across the nation by the early 20th century through restrictive covenants barring the sale of housing to those who were deemed non-whites, including African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, and Jews.²¹ Such restrictions in Okmulgee were reflected in 1923 when the *Okmulgee Daily Times* sponsored a “Times Bungalow Giveaway” promoting interest in their “Buy in Oklahoma” campaign to encourage home ownership. This raffled home was built by local architect and contractor Boone Varley and is located in the 600 block of E. 20th St. in the new Southridge Addition. Advertisements noted the house was built using union workers and constructed of dark chocolate matte-faced brick from the Francis Vitric brick company located down the road in the nearby all-Black town of Boynton, Oklahoma. The May 9, 1923, advertisement also noted that Southridge was a “restricted addition” designated for whites only.²² This restricted addition sheds light on the racial boundaries of Okmulgee, as residential additions were developed exclusively for Whites south and west of downtown while residential areas designated for Okmulgee’s Black community were in the north and east sections.

Okmulgee’s population in 1910 is listed at 4,176. By the time of the 1920 census, that population had increased 317.4% to 17,430, with 19% of the total population listed as Black.²³ Residential properties within the survey area were first developed during this time. Notable additions included the Monticello 1st Addition in 1918, Tiger Hill and Kenler additions in 1920, Cary Acres in 1921, and the Monticello 2nd Addition established in 1923 (Figures 12-13).²⁴ A 1918 advertisement in the *Okmulgee Chieftain* shows lots for sale through William Parin (W. P.) Morton. Available records indicate Morton as mulatto or Muscogee Creek, and an obituary indicates that Morton acquired a significant amount of farm and city property during Okmulgee’s oil boom.²⁵

²¹ Edmond History Museum, *Jim Crow Laws in Edmond*, <https://www.edmondhistory.org/jim-crow-laws-in-edmond/>.

²² *Okmulgee Daily Times*, May 9, 1923

²³ National Archives, [archives.gov/research/census](https://www.archives.gov/research/census).

²⁴ Terri Myers, 45, 56, 98.

²⁵ According to the 1993 *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma* survey, Morton resided at 319 North Seminole Avenue, roughly two blocks north of downtown Okmulgee.



Figure 12: An advertisement for the Monticello Addition by W. P. Morton published in the *Okmulgee Chieftain*, April 25, 1918.

Between 1910 and 1920, many Folk-style houses in the southern portion of the survey area, particularly along East 1st, 2nd, and 3rd streets were replaced with popular Bungalow/Craftsman style homes.²⁶ Notable Craftsman/Bungalow-style residences that remain extant include the W. F. Haygood home at 1014 E. 3rd St. and built c. 1920, the Mack Brown house located at 908 E. 3rd St. built c. 1922, and the Melvina Roper Simpkins residence at 1101 E. 3rd Street built c. 1910. Melvina Roper Simpkins's father, James Roper was Okmulgee's first postmaster and, according to the 1930 census, James resided with Melvina at 1101 East 3rd Street. Census records identify James, his wife, and his daughters as mulatto, while Richard Herman Jenness, who replaced Roper as postmaster in 1902, identified him as Black.²⁷ According to Terri Myers, the Melvina Simpkins house was moved to its current location circa 1925.²⁸

²⁶ Portions of the 1924 and revised 1949 Sanborn maps of the survey area indicate numerous single-family dwellings that are no longer extant. These single-family dwellings are depicted as narrow and rectangular in style which could indicate shotgun-style dwellings that have since been replaced with larger single-family dwellings.

²⁷ Okmulgee Historical Society, *History of Okmulgee County, Oklahoma*, 872.

²⁸ Terri Myers, 14.

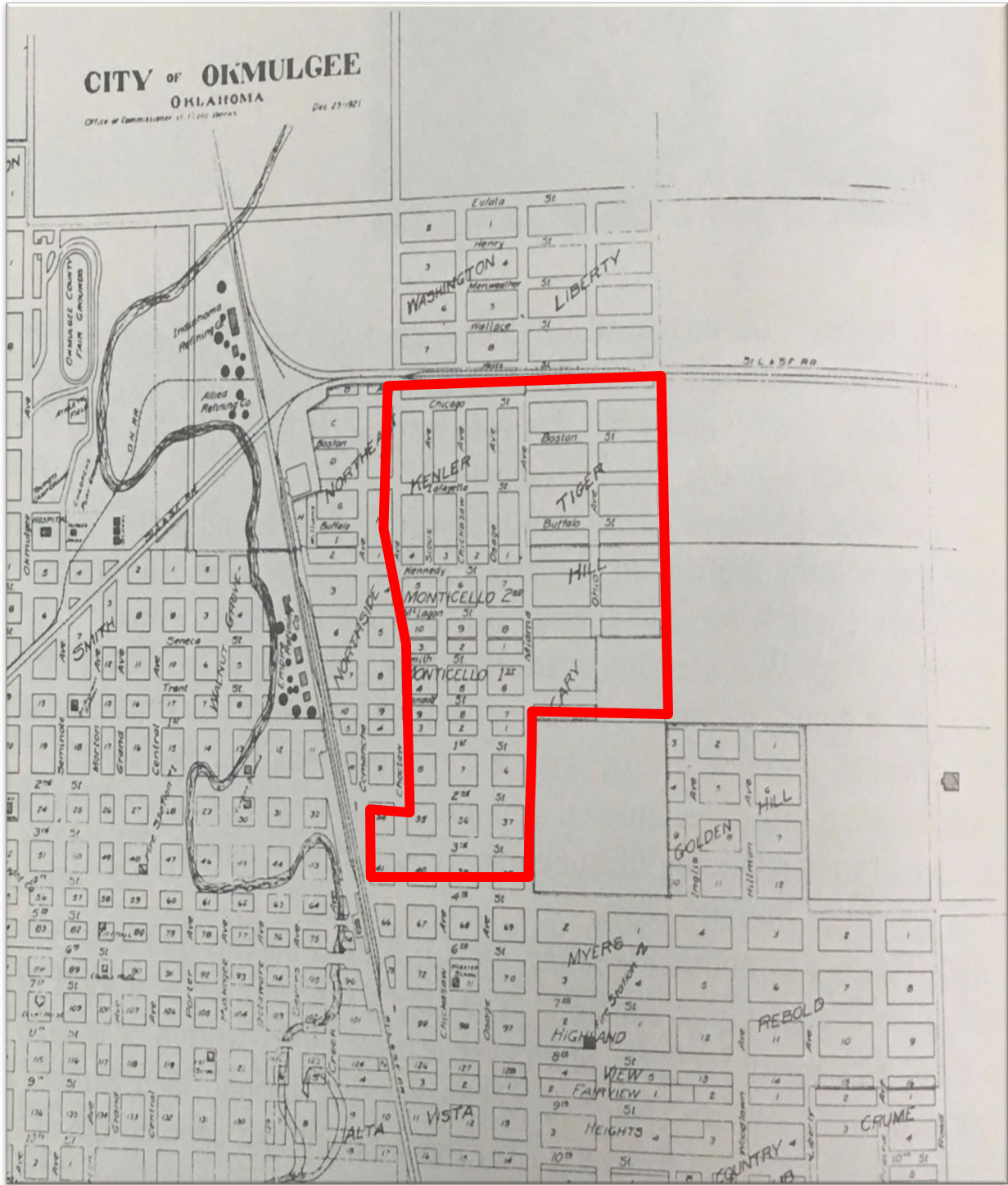


Figure 13: Housing additions in northeast Okmulgee by 1921. Survey boundaries are indicated in red. Note the absence of U.S. Highway 75/North Wood Drive. Image reprinted from Okmulgee Historical Society, *History of Okmulgee County, Oklahoma*, 1985, page 252.

Several notable religious buildings were also constructed in northeast Okmulgee by the 1920s. These include the Church of the Living God at 920 E. Smith Street (non-extant), and the Osage Avenue Christian Church at 1101 East Smith Street (built c. 1920). Franklin Chapel United Methodist Church, located at 1001 East 3rd Street, was an even earlier structure built circa 1909. Eastside Baptist Church (originally Zion Bethel Baptist Church), located at 219 North Osage Avenue, was built circa 1921. Uganda Martyrs Catholic Church was established at its current location in 1925 with a small, wood-frame building, followed by the construction of a three-story school building and convent in 1927.

Okmulgee's population started to level off between 1920 and 1940, with census records showing 17,097 residents in 1930 and 16,051 by 1940.²⁹ Numerous factors for Okmulgee's slight population decrease included the oil bust following the city's "golden decade" of 1907 to 1918 and the shutting down of two of its five glassmaking plants.³⁰ Despite racial segregation and the fluctuating economy, Okmulgee's Black community continued to thrive during this time and housing stock improved. Many replaced smaller, Folk-styled dwellings with Craftsman or Bungalow-style homes. Those who moved into newer additions in the northeast section of the city such as the Monticello 2nd and Kenler additions chose more Minimal Traditional-style housing, showcasing typical gable or hipped-roof dwellings with modest detailing that reflected a growing standard of living.

The increase in residential structures in northeast Okmulgee was accompanied by new services such as schools and hospitals. Attucks Elementary School was constructed in 1922 at 1201 East Kennedy Street.³¹ Children also had the option of attending classes at the Uganda Martyrs Catholic School (built in 1925) administered by the Choctaw Sisters of the Holy Ghost. Dunbar High School, located at the corner of 2nd Street and Muskogee Avenue, served all Black students in grades 7 – 12. The school consisted of 12 classrooms and 26 teachers who taught standard courses as well as industrial subjects such as elementary electricity, woodworking, mechanical drawing, carpentry, painting, tin smithing, and machine work. Home Economics was

²⁹ National Archives.

³⁰ Angie Debo, *The WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma*, University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, 182.

³¹ The original school building was demolished in the early 2000s, leaving only a c. 1969 classroom addition. Although this addition was once incorporated in Okmulgee's Head Start program, it currently appears to be vacant.

taught in a separate building on campus.³² The Okmulgee Black Hospital, located at the corner of East 3rd Street and North Wood Drive, was constructed in 1922. Due to segregation laws requiring separate municipal facilities, funds for the hospital's construction had to be raised through donations from private citizens.³³ Reav Roper, daughter of Okmulgee's original postmaster, was the first nurse who worked at the hospital. The facility went on to employ several prominent Black citizens until it closed in 1956, including Dr. R. Kyle and his assistant Dr. A. L. Wallace, Dr. Stanley Daigle, Dr. K. James Guess, and Dr. James White.³⁴

Like the rest of the country, however, Okmulgee's prosperity came to a halt after the stock market crash in 1929. Three million Americans were unemployed by the spring of 1930, and overproduction drove oil prices to almost nothing. In June 1935, the Works Progress Administration (WPA) located an office in Okmulgee to focus on projects covering Okmulgee, Creek, Okfuskee, Hughes, Seminole, Pottawatomie, Lincoln, and Payne counties. Mayor Dan C. Kenan organized the one-percent club to help alleviate some of the economic downturns by donating one percent of all earnings to funds for the unemployed.³⁵ Okmulgee produced its first junior college during this time, noting that despite the ongoing economic depression and the current rendering of education as "inadequate", higher education was the surest means for social and economic order. Okmulgee Junior College coordinated college credit hours toward time spent working in the three surrounding oil refineries and referenced that of the 450 skilled and semi-skilled workers employed at the refineries, about 10% of those workers were being replaced each year.³⁶

For entertainment during the Great Depression, Okmulgee offered forty segregated restaurants, four radio stations, one bowling alley, and several theaters which were also segregated. There were also five parks in city limits with wading pools, picnic grounds, and baseball fields. Douglas Park provided recreation to whites with money

³² James Bruce, *Okmulgee Separate Schools*, Federal Writers Project Collection of Okmulgee, Located at the Oklahoma Historical Society, Apr 28, 1936. Dunbar High School was demolished in 1969 shortly after its last graduating class.

³³ Terri Myers, 56 – 57.

³⁴ According to the 1936 Okmulgee City Directory, Dr. Daigle resided at 913 East 3rd Street.

³⁵ Okmulgee Historical Society, 286.

³⁶ Clara B. Hudspeth, *Okmulgee Junior College*, Federal Writers Project Collection of Okmulgee, Located at the Oklahoma Historical Society, May 25, 1936.

the White population with money who preferred to relax at a privately owned facility.³⁷ Simons Park, also known as Bullock's Park, lies slightly outside of the survey area at the southwest corner of North Muskogee Avenue and East 1st Street and was built by James and Lillie Bullock as the only park designated for the Black community. Unfortunately, the park no longer retains its full-sized swimming pool, miniature golf course, or recreation hall and concessions building.³⁸ D. P. Lilly Park on the corner of East Randolph Street and North Ohio Avenue is the only park facility within the survey boundaries. A pool and bathhouse were constructed at this location by 1956, only to be demolished by 1980.

Okmulgee's depression-era population dropped from 17,097 in 1930 to 16,051 in 1940.³⁹ Like numerous towns across the state, Okmulgee saw a significant decrease in oil production during this boom-to-bust period in Oklahoma. The economic downturn resulted in the growth of Okmulgee's residential districts coming to an end, and widespread development did not return until the mid-1950s. Baby Boomers increased the city population from 16,051 in 1940 to Okmulgee's largest population since 1920 at 18,317 in 1950. Although resources are limited in narrowing down exact build dates in northeast Okmulgee due to the lack of information from the county assessor, Sanborn maps, and aerial photographs, an estimated 80 residential properties within the survey area were constructed between 1940 and 1956. An estimated 77 residential properties were constructed between 1960 and 1970.

A lack of proper drainage in the survey area is a noticeable detriment that has plagued the community. Newspaper articles refer to several floods that occurred without a response from the local government. A 1964 comprehensive plan for the City of Okmulgee by Erling Helland Associates highlights this negligence. The plan, which was developed through a public questionnaire on how Okmulgee should grow and develop, consists of several maps, one of which details a storm drainage and flood prevention plan. This map reveals the overall lack of stormwater infrastructure within the survey area. Moreover, the map makes clear that the development of such infrastructure within northeast Okmulgee was not a priority (see Figures 14-15).⁴⁰

³⁷ Okmulgee Historical Society, 332.

³⁸ Terri Myers, 27.

³⁹ National Archives.

⁴⁰ Erling Helland Associates, *City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma Comprehensive Plan, February 24, 1964*.

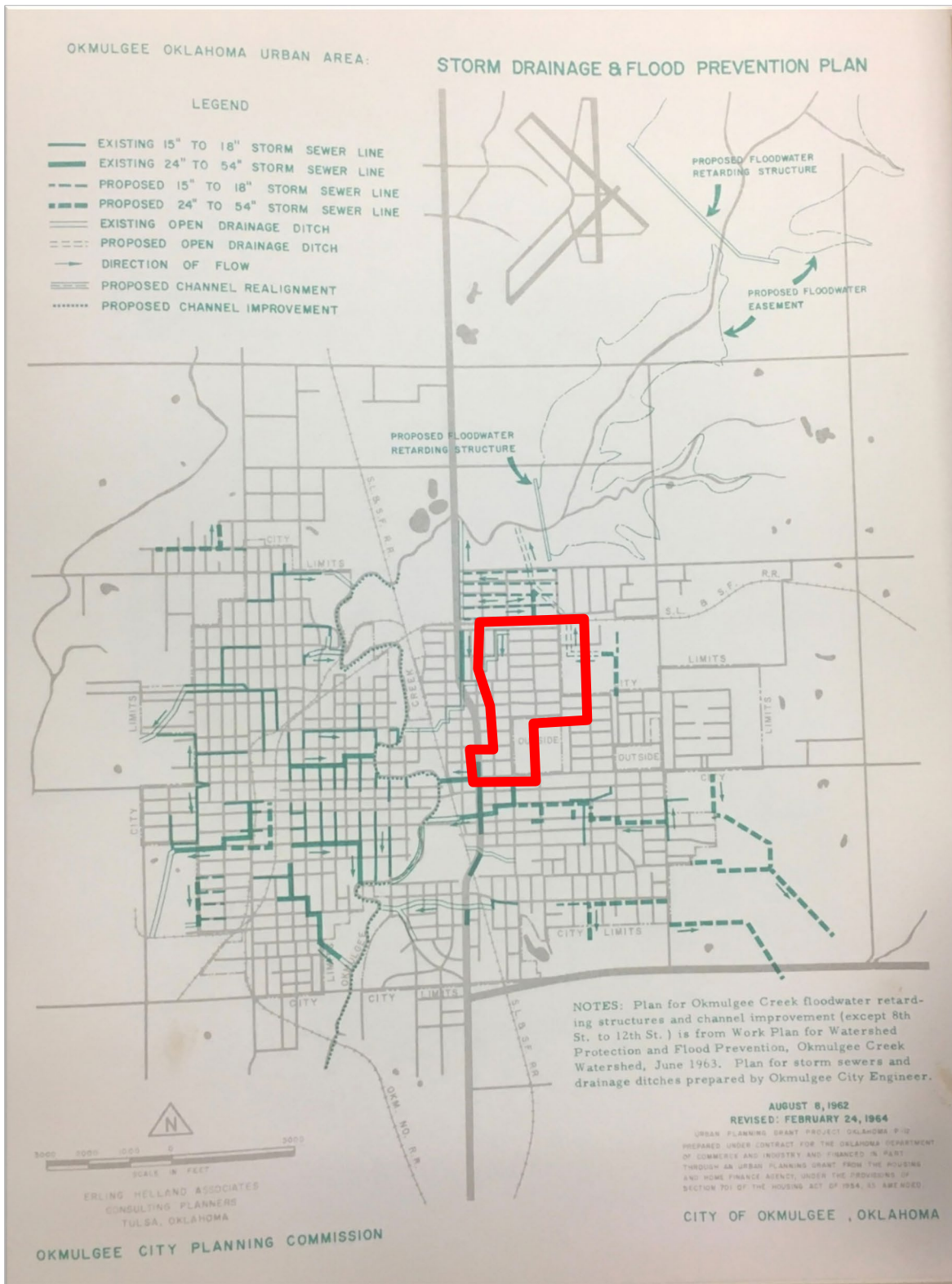


Figure 14: Comprehensive Plan of Okmulgee showing a proposed flood prevention plan. Existing and proposed storm sewer lines are indicated by solid or dashed green lines, respectively. The survey area is

outlined in yellow. Erling Helland Associates, City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma Comprehensive Plan, February 24, 1964.

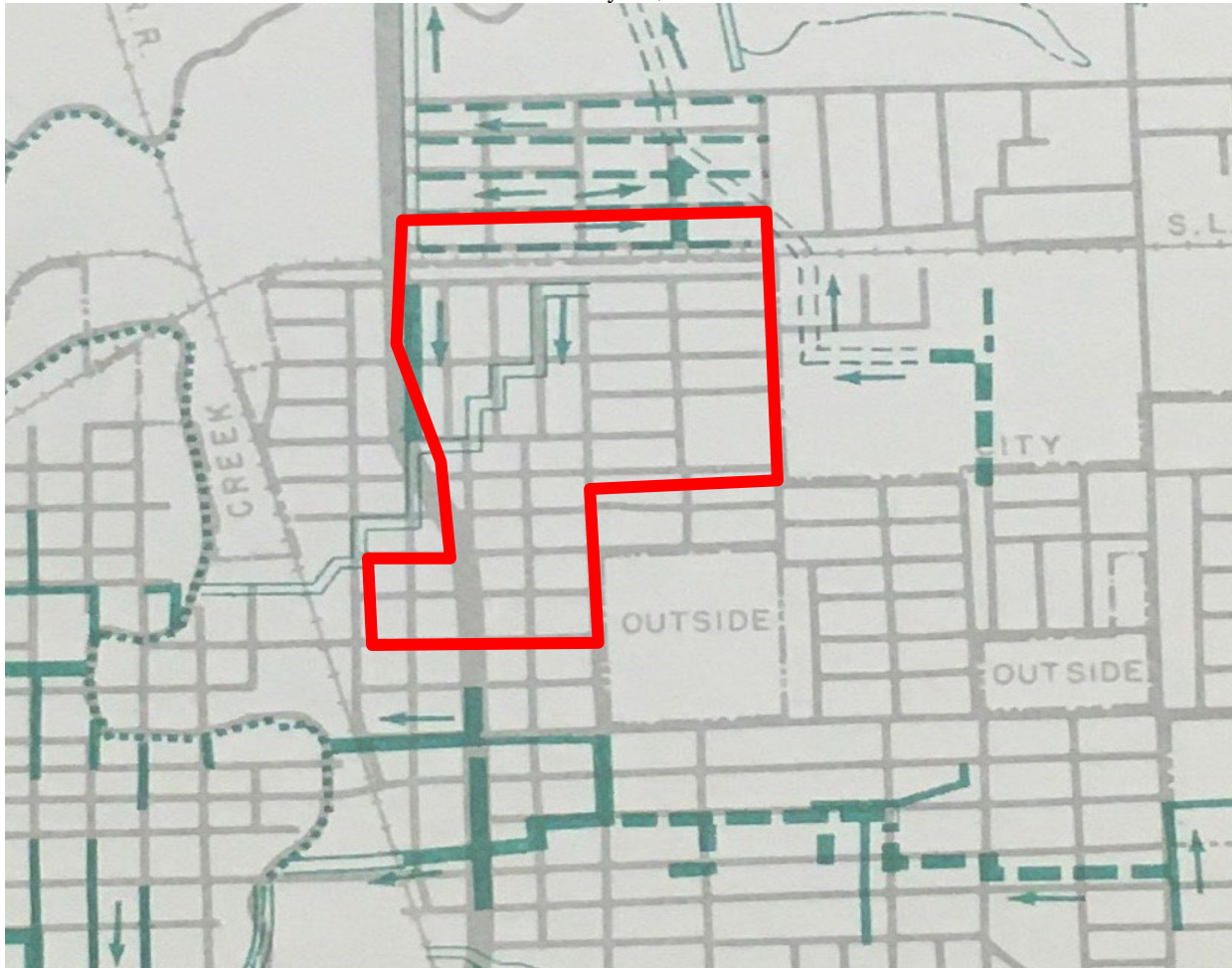


Figure 15: Close up view of 1964 Comprehensive Plan of Okmulgee. Solid green lines indicate existing storm sewer lines. Dashed green lines indicate proposed storm sewer lines. Note the overall lack of storm sewer infrastructure within the survey area (outlined in red). Erling Helland Associates, City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma Comprehensive Plan, February 24, 1964.

Widespread removal or demolition of historic-age resources has also plagued the community since the late twentieth century. Roughly 155 buildings within the survey area indicated on the 1949 Sanborn map are no longer extant.⁴¹ This includes the Church of the Living God at 920 East Smith Street (demolished circa 2014, see Figures 16).

⁴¹ The 1949 Sanborn is the last edition for Okmulgee that was available to researchers.



Figure 16: Google Street View of Church of the Living God (920 East Smith Street) in 2012. Previous surveys identified this property as potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, but it was demolished circa 2014.

As indicated in Table 2 below, the majority of buildings were removed between 1995 and 2010.

Table 2: Buildings removed from northeast Okmulgee since 1980

Years	# of Buildings Removed
1980 to 1995	28
1995 to 2010	65
2010 to Present	14

The moving or demolition of dwellings within the survey area appears to have been initiated by the City of Okmulgee, despite complaints or opposition from area residents. Many of the buildings noted in the table above appear to have been concentrated along East Randolph and East Buffalo streets. Scraped lots were observed throughout the area, and demolitions were scheduled to occur even while this survey was underway.⁴²

⁴² For example, a Craftsman/Bungalow-style dwelling at 929 East 1st Street was documented during initial field visits in 2021. However, the building was demolished in 2022 following a fire.

Annotated Bibliography

African American Registry, The “Shotgun House”, Black Architecture and Heritage, <https://aaregistry.org/story/black-architecture-still-standing-the-shotgun-house/>.

Okmulgee’s cultural heritage is rooted in both former slaves of the southern United States and the Muskogee Creek Freedmen tribe who settled the area. The former slaves and Freedmen brought with them shotgun style housing that was developed in the southern states and the Caribbean as a cheap, affordable and quick means of shelter. Most shotgun style housing has disappeared from the Northeast Okmulgee survey area, however the few that remain are an important link to the beginnings of Okmulgee’s Black community.

Bruce, James., *Okmulgee Separate Schools*, Federal Writers Project Collection of Okmulgee, Located at the Oklahoma Historical Society, Apr 28, 1936.

As part of the Federal Writers Project Collection, James Bruce’s primary account of Okmulgee’s segregated school system obtained through interview with the Board of Education and High School principal W.E. Anderson provides detailed insights into Okmulgee’s colored schools and is a valuable asset in understanding and identifying the mostly non-extant school buildings in the Northeast survey area.

Debo, Angie., *The WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma*, University Press of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.

Angie Debo is one of the most important authors and historians when researching the history of Oklahoma. Mrs. Debo’s work detailing the Work Projects Administration in the state of Oklahoma as compiled by the Writers’ Program was developed at a time when the memories of early settlement were told through the first generation of the state’s first settlers. Mrs. Debo’s WPA Guide to 1930’s Oklahoma provided a brief over-view of Okmulgee’s economy for this survey report.

Edmond History Museum, *Jim Crow Laws in Edmond*, <https://www.edmondhistory.org/jim-crow-laws-in-edmond/>.

Jim Crow laws were established across the country in the late 19th and early 20th centuries in America. The Edmond History Museum provides an excellent explanation as to the effect the laws had in Oklahoma communities.

Erling Helland Associates, *City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma Comprehensive Plan*, February 24, 1964. Prepared for the Okmulgee City Planning Commission.

The 1964 comprehensive plan study for the City of Okmulgee was established to set forth a vision and goals for the city's future while providing the overall foundation for all land use regulation in the city. This comprehensive plan showed estimates for the city's expansion due to perceived population growth and residential density. Interestingly, the plan estimated an increase of population between 1960 and 1970 at roughly 3,000 people. Okmulgee's population decreased by almost 800 people during this decade. This comprehensive plan is important in showing the future plans for northeast Okmulgee from the early 1960s and in detailing the city's lack of proper water drainage in the survey area.

Everett, Dianna., Wilson, Linda D., O'Dell, Larry., & May, Jon D., *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture, Volume 2 M-Z*, Oklahoma Historical Society Publishing, 2009.

The Oklahoma Historical Society produced this two-volume set of encyclopedias in 2009 to provide multiple references on the history of Oklahoma, including its people, towns, and historical events.

Historicaerials.com

Historicaerials.com is a free website that allows researchers the ability to see aerial photos of particular regions. These aerial maps are important when establishing build dates or events including the removal of certain buildings of a survey area. For this survey, the aerial maps helped establish dates between 1956 to 2019.

Hudspeth, Clara B., *Okmulgee Junior College*, Federal Writers Project Collection of Okmulgee, Located at the Oklahoma Historical Society, May 25, 1936.

A second article from the Federal Writers Project Collection, Clara B. Hudspeth's 1936 writings are based off two primary sources as references; *The College Journal*, October 1934 as found in the Oklahoma City University library, and the *Bulletin of the Okmulgee Junior College* interview with Dr. Tibbetts, Oklahoma City University Head of the Department of Education. Hudspeth's article is important in establishing the demographics of Okmulgee's Junior college and the economic factors of the Depression during this period in Okmulgee.

Legaspi, Rexy., *The Plan Collection, The Foursquare Home: Evolution of an American Architectural Style*, May 15, 2022.

<https://www.theplancollection.com/blog/evolution-of-the-foursquare-style-home-in-america>

There are only two foursquare styled homes in the Northeast Okmulgee survey area. They are both, however, tied to important aspects of the community. One being the former parish house for the Uganda Martyr's Catholic Church, and the other being prominent citizen and farmer William Shealey.

Myers, Terri., *From Creek Freedmen to Oklahoma Oil Men: The Black Heritage and Architectural Legacy of Okmulgee (1878 – 1929)*, Prepared for the city of Okmulgee Historic Preservation Commission, December 1991.

Myers' work was the foundation for the Northeast Okmulgee Survey and provided a wealth of information pertaining to historical facts and provenance of the founding of Okmulgee, as well as information associated throughout E. 3rd St.

National Archives, <https://www.archives.gov/research/census>

Census records are important when researching an areas demographics, knowing who we are, and determining where to build everything from schools to hospitals and homes. Census records were vital for this survey to reference Okmulgee's cultural heritage and to help establish residency of former prominent citizens.

Oklahoma Historical Society, *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture, Senate Bill One*,

<https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=SE017>

Senate Bill One was the very first bill passed in the new state of Oklahoma on December 18, 1907, and it set the laws for segregation in the state. The House of Representatives passed the bill by ninety-one votes to fourteen. Rep. William McAdoo of Okmulgee County was one of the fourteen Republicans who voted against the bill. The African American communities of Taft and Redbird organized demonstrations in protest of the bill despite the U.S. Supreme Court upholding the law's constitutionality.

Okmulgee Chieftain. April 25, 1918.

The Chieftain was Okmulgee's semi-weekly newspaper that was published from 1901 to 1918. Newspaper notices and advertisements were instrumental in attracting settlers and migrants to the new territory at the turn of the century, and after statehood in 1907. Additions such as the Monticello described the ideal place to settle with the family next to schools, businesses, and churches.

Okmulgee Daily Times. August 18, 1920. May 9, 1923.

The Daily Times is Okmulgee's current primary newspaper and has been published since 1919. The August 18, 1920, advertisement is one of many resources available to help show the geographical changes to Okmulgee's Northeast survey area, and the numerous structural losses it has encountered over the years, including this now non-extant neighborhood grocery store. The Daily Times ran several articles and advertisements in 1923 to promote their bungalow house giveaway. The importance of the reference to May 9th, 1923, is in referencing the cities segregation policies and the preference given to White citizens over Black.

Okmulgee Historical Society, *History of Okmulgee County, Oklahoma*, Historical Enterprises, Inc. Publishing, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The *History of Okmulgee County*, located at the Oklahoma History Center research center, is one of the most complete overviews of Okmulgee and its history. The Okmulgee Historical Societies' publication provided a wealth of information on early Okmulgee settlement, prominent citizens including W.F. Haygood and James Roper, development of Northeast Okmulgee, and views into everyday life of its African American citizens that remains elusive due to the cities segregation policies and lack of resources including surviving publications of Okmulgee's Black newspapers the Okmulgee Observer and Okmulgee Light.

Old House Online, *Kit Houses from Sears, Roebuck, Jul 1, 2021*,
<https://www.oldhouseonline.com/house-tours/kit-houses/>

House kits were popular on the prairie with the pre-cut kits easily loaded onto railcars and shipped through distributors including Sears & Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and Harris Brothers. These kits would be just one of numerous possibilities for Okmulgee's citizens and the need for housing, with the development of the railroad along the Northeast survey's western boundary making them an attractive option. Many house builders during this period based their housing development from these kits, forgoing any elaborate or decorative details.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. Maps of Okmulgee for the years 1920, 1924, and 1949.

Sanborn maps of Okmulgee are helpful in making comparisons between maps of different years that depict changes in demographics and the evolving structural development of the survey area. Sanborn maps for this survey project were instrumental in showing the move from traditional shotgun housing to the current architectural styles throughout Okmulgee. Sanborn map information was however very limited in that most of the survey area was not originally mapped out by the Sanborn Fire insurance Company.

Warde, Mary Jane, Ph.D., *Architectural/Historical Survey of Portions of the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma*, Submitted to the City of Okmulgee, Oklahoma and the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, August 1993

Warde's 1993 survey of Okmulgee aided in gathering an overview of previously surveyed sections of Okmulgee. The architectural/historical survey was instrumental in locating architectural styles in the Northeast survey area and provided further resources on the historical context of Okmulgee.