



Preservation Oklahoma News



The newsletter of Oklahoma's statewide preservation community.

October 2000

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2000 Exhibit and Lecture Series reaches over 1,000 Oklahomans

The fourth in Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.'s 2000 Most Endangered List lecture series was held October 7 at the historic Knox Building in downtown Enid. Jim Gabbert, architectural historian for the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) addressed threats to historic agricultural resources in Oklahoma. The event was sponsored locally by Hiram Champlin, Chisholm Trail Broadcasting, the Garfield County Courthouse, Humphrey Abstract Company, Main Street Enid, and the Enid Symphony Orchestra.

The traveling exhibit is on display at the Garfield County Courthouse in downtown Enid through October. The series will visit Stillwater in November and Okmulgee in December.

In September, ninety-six people attended the third lecture in the series, held at the Bruce Goff designed Spotlight Theatre in Tulsa. Internationally recognized architect Rex Ball, AICP, FAIA, and former Bruce Goff student Blaine Imel, AIA, spoke on Goff's architectural legacy in Tulsa and the threats to it.

In August, Dr. Bill Bryans, head of the Oklahoma State University History Department, spoke in Guthrie on threats to Oklahoma's eighteen National Historic Landmarks, several of which have been on the Most Endangered List.

The first lecture in the series was held in Ponca City in July, where around fifty came to hear Dr. Charles Leider, a professor of landscape architecture from Oklahoma State University, speak on the 101 Ranch.

During this year's series, the traveling exhibit illustrating the properties on the 2000 list of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties has been displayed at the Ponca City Art Center, the Oklahoma Territorial Museum in Guthrie, and at Arvest State Bank in downtown Tulsa. It has been seen by over a thousand people since June.

The Most Endangered List is intended to highlight the threats to a representative cross section of Oklahoma's significant historical resources. The program is a joint project with the Oklahoma Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office. The 1999 and 2000 traveling exhibit and lecture series were underwritten, in part, by grants from Anonymous Donors, the Kirkpatrick Foundation of Oklahoma City, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the Oklahoma Humanities Council, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Local sponsors of the 2000 series have included:

Tulsa: Anonymous Donors, Arvest State Bank, the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the McBimey Mansion, the Tulsa Foundation for Architecture, the Tulsa Historical Society, the Tulsa Preservation Commission, and the Tulsa Spotlighters, Inc.

Guthrie: BancFirst, Granny Had One Restaurant, Ralph McCalmont, and the Oklahoma Territorial Museum.

Ponca City: the Ponca City Art Center and the Ponca City Historical Landmark and Preservation Commission.

Persons interested in attending any of the upcoming lectures in the series should contact Preservation Oklahoma at (405) 232-5747.

Seay's Horizon Hill still crowns Kingfisher

by Kathy Dickson

Director of Museums, Oklahoma Historical Society

A little known historic treasure stands in Kingfisher. Hidden behind many years of deferred maintenance, storm damage, and inappropriate modern additions is the official residence of Oklahoma's third Territorial Governor, Abraham Jefferson Seay. Seay received his appointment on January 5, 1892, and selected Kingfisher as his home envisioning it to be the future capital of Oklahoma. Seay purchased 15 hilltop acres for \$637.50, and named the place "Horizon Hill." Construction of this Queen Anne style home cost \$11,000. Carpenters rushed to finish the large, three-story home just in time to host the dignitaries present for the opening of the Cheyenne and Arapaho reservation. Seay presided over the opening on April 19, 1892.



Seay Mansion in 1900

on ceiling joists instead of load bearing walls. Asphalt shingles were used to replace the tile roof. The original wooden porches were torn down and replaced with concrete. The department also installed modern storm doors and windows, modifying the window frames in the turret so square storm windows could be placed over curved glass windows.

In 1991, the Seay Mansion was transferred to the operation of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Much of the past renovation work needed to be corrected, and the mansion suffered from a lack a funding for routine maintenance. The citizens of Kingfisher and surrounding communities have long recognized the historical significance of the mansion. In 1996, the residents of the county voted to dedicate 5% of a



Seay Mansion in 2000

With the election of a Democratic President, Grover Cleveland, Seay, a Republican, knew his days in office were numbered. He resigned in May 1893. Seay continued to live in the home until he fell and broke a hip in 1901. No longer able to climb the stairs, he sold the land and mansion to G.H. Logan for \$6,000. Seventeen different families have owned the mansion and at one point it became a boarding house. In 1921, a tornado struck the mansion removing its roof and most of the third floor where the ballroom was located. Rather than replace the top floor, the owners built a roof over the second story.

The State of Oklahoma purchased the mansion in 1965 for \$18,533 with the help of the Chisholm Trail Museum, Inc. The Oklahoma Industrial Development and Park Department directed a major restoration, which included reconstructing the northeast tower and restoring the original profile of the main roof. Unfortunately this roof was built over the existing roof, and some of the framing members actually bear

½-cent county sales tax toward its restoration. Using these funds, the Oklahoma Historical Society contracted with *Sikes-Abernathie, Architects* of Tulsa to develop a master plan for stabilization and restoration. The three-phase master plan identified structural problems and restoration needs, offered solutions, and provided a total project cost estimate of \$516,890. A private donor, working through the newly established Seay Mansion Society, contributed \$100,000. With this generous donation and the available county funds, phase one of the restoration is being prepared for bidding. The Seay Mansion project will receive \$300,000 from the statewide bond next spring. Private fundraising efforts are still underway. When the project is finished, visitors will once again be able to dance in the third floor ballroom.

If you have photographs of the Seay Mansion, please call Kathy Dickson at (405) 522-5231 or Renee Mitchell at (405) 375-5176.

Photographs courtesy of the Oklahoma Historical Society

Update on Statewide Preservation Challenges

THOMAS SCHOOL HANGS IN BALANCE

In Thomas, Custer County, local school district officials have reportedly put demolition plans on hold for the 1922 Classical Revival style Thomas High School. *Preservation Oklahoma News* reported in July on efforts to assist a group of concerned local citizens in persuading the school district to consider alternatives.

CALMEZ HOTEL DEMOLITION SET

In nearby Clinton, demolition will begin on the Calmez Hotel, at Third and Frisco, on October 16. A western Oklahoma landmark since 1929, the Calmez Hotel is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and was included on Preservation Oklahoma's 1995 list of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties. It has remained on the Watch List since and, despite numerous attempts to interest developers in the property, no private investor ever agreed to take on the project. Preservation Oklahoma attempted to persuade local officials that it was in the community's best interests to incorporate the Calmez Hotel into the design of a planned new downtown conference center, to be built nearby. However, this suggestion garnered little interest.

PRESERVATIONISTS WIN FIRST BATTLE OVER YMCA BUILDING

This summer, the Oklahoma City Urban Design Commission, a body created to regulate permitting in the north downtown Urban Design District, denied issuance of a demolition permit to Fifth Street Parking Partners, the owners of the Central YMCA Building in downtown Oklahoma City. Local preservationists objected to the proposed demolition due to the building's architectural significance as one of the region's best and largest examples of the International Style; however, the primary argument against the issuance of a demolition permit was that it contradicted the intent of the ordinance created to encourage reinvestment in the existing infrastructure of north downtown Oklahoma City. The owners' permit application did not attempt to support their claim that rehabilitation of the building is economically infeasible, a factor many considered key in the Urban Design Commission's decision to deny approval. As *Preservation Oklahoma News* went to press, preservationists were preparing for an October 5 appellate hearing before the Oklahoma City Board of Adjustment. Regardless of that body's decision, most involved in the case, on both sides, expect it to be appealed to District Court.

Local preservationists have been criticized for interfering with the rights of a private property owner. They consider that argument specious, since the ordinance creating the Urban Design District clearly calls for retention of existing architecture wherever possible and was in effect when the building was bought by its current owners. Indeed, Preservation Oklahoma member Michael Smith, considers the fight more than a battle to save important architecture, he believes there is a principle at stake – does the community have a right to take steps to ensure a vital urban fabric, or can those with enough money do whatever they please, regardless of how it affect the very quality of life issues employers point to when considering locating new businesses. Smith has retained a local attorney, Sandra Benischek, of Michael Minnis & Associates, to assist in the legal fight. For her part, Benischek believes plenty of case law from U. S. Supreme Court decisions supports the position taken by preservationists. "When somebody buys a piece of property or a building that clearly has an ordinance covering it restricting its usage, it makes no sense for them to cry foul when an attempt is made to enforce that regulation."

In 1996, a local entrepreneur bought the YMCA Building for less than \$50,000. Since its sale to Fifth Street Parking Partners, the building has undergone extensive asbestos abatement in preparation for demolition. The owners have offered to sell the building to preservationists for around \$4 million, a value most consider very inflated.

Preservation Oklahoma News will continue to keep you updated on this ongoing struggle.



The International Style YMCA Building in downtown Oklahoma City around 1950

National Register-listed School razed in Drumright



Washington School was a Drumright Landmark

In August, Drumright lost an important landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Washington School. Built in 1914, it was the first large masonry building constructed in what was otherwise a raw frontier boomtown. The building was considered by architects and other preservation professionals to be one of the more significant school buildings in the state. Less than a day prior to demolition, the owner offered to sell the property for in excess of \$35,000, the amount invested in it. With a deadline of 9:00 a.m. the next day, there was little opportunity to seriously attempt to meet the offer. Although there were letters to the editor from historical photographer Fred Wiemer and from Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., objecting to the planned demolition, no organized local resistance was mounted. Oklahomans are all poorer for this loss.

Moss School Gymnasium threatened with Demolition

In September, representatives of Preservation Oklahoma visited the Moss school district east of Holdenville to appraise the condition of the National Register-listed Moss School Gymnasium and ask the school board to consider alternatives to its planned demolition. At the request of concerned local citizens, Preservation Oklahoma assisted with efforts to warn the district voters that an impending bond issue included demolition funds for the building.

Constructed in 1936 as part of the Works Progress Administration's national relief program, the Moss School Gymnasium is one of the earliest examples of this type of WPA building in Oklahoma. As such, the sandstone structure holds great significance as a model for other projects locally, as an early example statewide, and as part of a successful national-local partnership to provide desperately needed economic relief. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1988.

Although efforts to inform voters of the threat to this historic resource resulted in a defeat of the bond issue, local preservationists fear future attempts to pass it will still contain demolition plans for the building, which is their sole objection to the proposal.

Preservation Oklahoma volunteer, architect Barry Williamson from Norman, considers the Moss School

Gymnasium eminently salvageable. At the September school board meeting, Williamson told district officials it was economically feasible to rehabilitate the building and incorporate its historic fabric into a structure that would both meet the needs of students and provide the community with a building of which it could be proud, a link to its past.

Just before *Preservation Oklahoma News* went to press, local citizens opposed to demolition proposed to the school board that it apply for a matching grant to hire a preservation architect or structural engineer who could give an educated assessment of the challenges faced by the building and accurate estimates of the cost of rehabilitation versus new construction.

The school board deferred a decision on attempting a new bond issue election until February, 2001. In the meantime, its representatives said they would make inquiries into potential foundation funding for rehabilitation of the building. If such funds are not available, the board plans to continue to pursue demolition. Preservationists fighting this battle complain that, by tying rehabilitation to the availability of private foundation dollars, reuse of the existing building is being forced to jump hurdles not required of new construction plans.

Nomination Forms available for 2001 Most Endangered List

Nomination forms for the 2001 list of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties are inserted into this issue of *Preservation Oklahoma News*. Readers are encouraged to participate in this important process of choosing significant historic properties to represent the threats to all of Oklahoma's historic and prehistoric resources. The form may be photocopied to allow multiple nominations. The deadline for receipt of nominations by Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., is November 10. Readers are reminded that, to be eligible for the Most Endangered List, a property must have statewide or national significance and be either listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

SHPO seeks Nominations for Preservation Awards

Nominations for the State Historic Preservation Officer's 2001 Historic Preservation Awards are now available. The Shirk Memorial Award for Historic Preservation and the SHPO's Citation of Merit are presented during a special banquet at the statewide preservation conference each May. The Shirk Award is given in recognition of contributions to the cause of historic preservation on a statewide level, and the SHPO's Citations of Merit recognize accomplishments that foster the preservation of state and local heritage. The deadline for nominations is December 1. To obtain the nomination forms and other information, contact the SHPO at (405) 521-6249.

Tulsa to host World Art Deco Congress in April 2001

The Sixth World Congress on Art Deco will be held in Tulsa, April 18 to 22, 2001, according to Congress Chairman Rex Ball, FAIA, AICP. Following a pre-congress trip to Dallas/Ft. Worth, the program will open on April 18 as a progressive dinner/walking party to many of the best-known Art Deco and other significant sites in Tulsa's central business district. On April 19, the program will move to the Philbrook Museum of Art, where the first papers will be presented, as well as opportunities for tours of the museum's collections and interesting sites off-location. On April 20, events will focus on Tulsa architect Bruce Goff. The banquet that evening will be held in the Great Hall of the Boston Avenue United Methodist Church National Historic Landmark, the Art Deco masterpiece by Goff, Ada Robinson, and the architecture firm of Rush, Endicott and Rush. The morning of April 21 will be dedicated to congress business and the afternoon to tours of sites consistent with the theme: "Deco: where did it go?" There will be visits to more recent designs, such as the Transit Authority's Denver Avenue Station, Oral Roberts University, and the 1930-60 "Brookside" Art Deco district. An evening of entertainment is planned. The final day of the congress will begin with a brunch, which members of the Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy will attend. Congress participants will visit the Price Tower, the Wright-designed high-rise in Bartlesville, which has been newly renovated. An extensive tour of the building will include the two-story Bruce Goff studio/apartment in the tower. The day's activities will conclude with a tour and reception at Wright's other major work in Bartlesville, *Hillsdale*, the home of Carolyn Price, who will greet participants and share her reminiscences of working with Wright and his successors and staff.

To get an update on plans for the Art Deco Congress, visit <http://tulsadeco.listbot.com/>.

Five New Oklahoma Listings on National Register

by Jim Gabbert, SHPO Architectural Historian

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce that five new properties from Oklahoma have been added to the National Register of Historic Places. These five properties contribute to the SHPO's goal of having 1,000 listings by the end of the year 2000. The addition of the five properties brings the current total to 961.

The properties are: the Brittain-Garvin House in Duncan, Stephens County; the Sooner Co-op Association Elevator (West) in Okeene, Blaine County; the Farmers Co-op Elevator in Hennessey, the Dow Grain Company Elevator in Okarche, and the Kiel-Dover Farmers Elevator in Dover, all in Kingfisher County.

The Brittain-Garvin House, at 411 North Ninth Street in Duncan, was nominated to the National Register for its architectural significance to the city of Duncan. Built circa 1916, it is the best example of Prairie School design in Duncan and includes a matching playhouse built in 1931.

The four grain elevators were nominated under the "Grain Storage and Processing Facilities in Western Oklahoma" Multiple Property Submission. This document recognizes properties associated with the historic role that grain production and processing had in western Oklahoma. The Sooner Co-op Association Elevator (West) and the Farmers Co-op Elevator are significant as examples of concrete country elevators and for their association with the farmers co-operative movement of the early 20th century. The Dow Grain Company Elevator and the Kiel-Dover Farmers Elevator are wood framed country elevators constructed to serve the needs of area farmers. They were privately owned and competed with the line elevators run by the railroads. All four of these properties date from the 1920's and 30's, a time when wheat farming played a dominant role in the economic life of western Oklahoma.

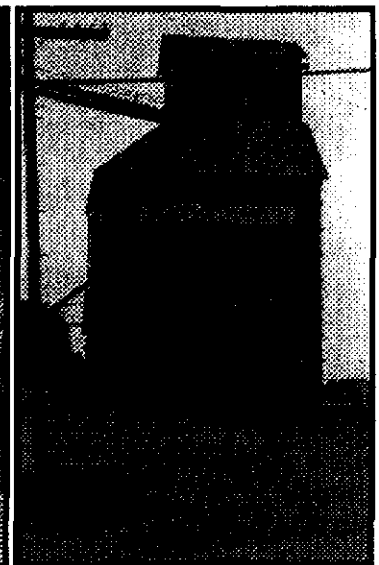
The SHPO continues to strive to gain recognition for those places significant in Oklahoma's history. For more information on these or other National Register properties, contact Jim Gabbert at (405) 522-4478, or email: jgabbert@ok-history.mus.ok.us.



The Brittain-Garvin House in Duncan



Interior of the Kiel-Dover Farmers Elevator in Dover



The Dow Grain Co. Elevator in Okarche

Calendar of Upcoming

Historic Preservation Events

Unless otherwise noted, all State Historic Preservation Office workshops will be held in the Oklahoma Historical Society Boardroom, Wiley Post Historical Building, 2100 North Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, with no registration fee required. If you desire to attend any of these events but have a disability and need accommodation, please notify the SHPO at least three (3) days before the event. For more information, call (405) 521-6249.

Oct. 31 - Nov. 5

54th National Preservation Conference in Los Angeles. For information, call: (800) 944-6847 or visit www.nationaltrust.org

Nov. 4 Endangered List Lecture Series: Dr. Bill Bryans on the Payne County Courthouse (Stillwater)

Dec. 2 Endangered List Lecture Series: Dr. Paul Lehman on the Boley Historic District National Historic Landmark (Okmulgee)

Dec. 6 SHPO Workshop - State and Local Governments as Preservation Partners in Oklahoma: the CLG Program (9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon)

Guidelines and Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings (1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Dec. 7 SHPO Workshop - The Section 106 Review Process: Introduction and Overview (9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon)

The Section 106 Review Process: Assessing and Mitigating Effects (1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Dec. 8 SHPO Workshop - Introduction to the National Register of Historic Places (9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Jan. 6 2001 Most Endangered List Announcement and Lecture Series: Fred Wiemer on OK Historic County Courthouses (Tulsa)

Feb. 3 Endangered List Lecture Series: Todd Scott, architect and preservation planner, on threats to OKC properties on the Most Endangered List (OKC)

May 17-19, 2001

Oklahoma's Thirteenth Annual Statewide Preservation Conference, Enid
Registration Fee.

SHPO Workshops scheduled

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will present its fall workshop series December 6, 7, and 8. All sessions will be held in the Oklahoma Historical Society Boardroom, Wiley Post Historical Building, 2100 N. Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City. Registration is free; however, the SHPO asks those who wish to attend to call (405) 521-6249 by 5:00 p.m., December 4, to register. Extensive handout materials will be provided to each participant. For specific workshop schedule information, see calendar inset, this page.

Staff Changes at SHPO

Vaughn-Roberson joins SHPO Staff

Dr. Glen Vaughn-Roberson joined the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff on July 17. He is the coordinator of the Certified Local Governments Program and will also work in various technical assistance and public outreach efforts of the SHPO. Vaughn-Roberson received his undergraduate degree from Northwestern Oklahoma State College in Alva and his graduate degrees in history from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. He has taught history at the college level and worked for several years in investment banking.

Vaughn-Roberson has extensive experience working with local government programs. The SHPO is pleased to have him as a new staff member. He may be reached at (405) 521-6387 or at his e-mail address: gvaughn-roberson@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

Gettys retires from SHPO Position

J. Marshall Gettys, historical archaeologist for the SHPO, retired at the end of September after over twenty-four years with the Oklahoma Historical Society. In June, 1976, he became a curator at Fort Townsend Historic Site in Choctaw County. In 1980, he assumed the historical archaeologist position with the SHPO and coordinated the Section 106 Review program and the archaeological survey program; he also participated in the SHPO's technical assistance and outreach activities. Gettys plans to work part-time for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and to pursue his many professional interests and several research projects. We wish him the very best.

Subscribe to OKSHPO ListServe

The Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is pleased to announce the creation of its new listserv and invites all readers to subscribe. OKSHPO lets you keep in touch with Oklahoma's preservation community, have access to current information about preservation issues and events, query other listserv subscribers, and post your preservation announcements. To subscribe, take the following steps:

Send an e-mail message to listproc@onenet.net

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Send the message in plain text

If you need help with your subscription, consult <http://listproc@onenet.net>.

Preservation professionals, government agency representatives, and concerned citizens will all find OKSHPO useful and informative. If you have questions, contact Melvena Heisch, Deputy SHPO, at (405) 522-4484 or mheisch@ok-history.mus.ok.us.

Department of Transportation mindful of Historic Bridges

by John Hartley, Department Archaeologist, ODOT

Before the 1980's, few people thought about our state's historic bridges. Most saw them as just a way to cross streams and rivers. At best, they were considered functional and unremarkable, at worst, eyesores or safety hazards.

Oklahoma is not blessed with geographic features requiring massive drawbridges or suspension spans and, for most of its history, the state has been unable to afford structures with the artistic or architectural embellishment common elsewhere. Most of Oklahoma's bridges date from the 20th Century and were built using standardized designs and technologies familiar to people today. Thus, Oklahoma generally does not have the types of bridges people usually associate with historical significance -- quaint wooden covered bridges, or great marvels like the Golden Gate.

Until recently, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) also saw little value in saving old bridges, especially when many were considered inadequate for modern traffic loads. When expanded federal bridge replacement funds became available in the 1970's and 80's, ODOT rushed to replace hundreds deemed too narrow or unsafe, giving little thought to whether any should be preserved as tangible reminders of our state's early development.

However, in 1989 the Department sponsored a three-year study of 1,550 Oklahoma roadway bridges built prior to 1955 to identify those most likely eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Over 90% were steel pony truss designs, with the remainder consisting of masonry and concrete arches. 171 were determined National Register-eligible. The survey found that Oklahoma contains a remarkable variety of early 20th Century steel truss designs, representing the work of many of the country's most important fabricating plants and of a few small local firms. The survey also documented a number of significant stone and concrete arches, from small bridges designed and erected by local stonemasons to major engineering projects of national import.

Due to early 20th Century population density and the prevalence of wide, permanent streams, eastern Oklahoma holds the largest concentration of historic bridges. Prime examples are the 1916 Eleventh Street Bridge in Tulsa, the 1923 Washington County Memorial Bridge in Bartlesville, the 1919 Calvin Bridge in Hughes County, and the oldest surviving highway bridge in Oklahoma, a truss built in 1896 as a railroad span and moved in 1940 to its present site on State Highway 9A in Seminole County. Western Oklahoma's significant bridges include the 1933 Route 66 bridge over the Canadian River near Bridgeport and the 1923 Newcastle Bridge in south Oklahoma City.

The preservation of historic bridges can be problematic, since most still carry traffic and few are suitable for high speeds and weights. Narrow one-lane bridges often present drivers minimal sight distances or room for error and raise public safety concerns. Many older thru-trusses on the state highway system no longer provide sufficient height clearance for larger vehicles. Thus, it is probably inevitable that many of the historic bridges in Oklahoma will eventually be replaced by modern structures.

However, bridge replacement does not necessarily exclude preservation. ODOT considers a number of

preservation options before resorting to demolition. The department prefers to build new bridges on a different alignment, bypassing historic structures and allowing them to remain for pedestrian use if possible. This requires the presence of a local entity willing to assume responsibility for continued maintenance of the historic bridge. Although lack of local support has led to the loss of several large and significant bridges, some counties are willing to consider preserving their historic bridges in this manner.

Usually, in-place preservation of historic bridges is infeasible. ODOT often consults with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to develop mitigation plans that include removal to new sites, since most historic truss bridges in Oklahoma were designed to be movable and, in fact, many were during their usage. An extreme example of this pattern is two rare double intersection Warren thru-trusses which once formed part of the 1911 Lexington-Purcell toll bridge. In the late 1930's, it was dismantled and the trusses sent to opposite ends of LeFlore County, over 180 miles from their original location in central Oklahoma. Thus, relocating truss bridges is in many ways surprisingly consistent with their historic use.

ODOT began marketing bridges for relocation in the late 1980's, usually through press releases and legal advertisements. Unfortunately, early public perception of the program was that it was rather "oddball," better suited to cute headlines than serious consideration. The Department received few serious responses and between 1988 and 1998, the statewide marketing program saved only one historic bridge, a Pratt Pony Truss in McIntosh County donated for use on the John Zink Ranch near Tulsa. Meanwhile, a number of significant historic bridges were demolished for lack of public interest.

Recently, the success rate has improved, mainly because of local governmental attempts to find innovative ways to facilitate the process themselves: Stillwater entered into an agreement to relocate an endangered historic bridge in Noble County to its city park; Washington County developed a number of contacts with local nonprofit organizations and tourism-related entities to help relocate truss bridges scheduled for replacement. Some bridges are even removed and placed in storage upon construction of new spans in order to facilitate their preservation. Comanche County is working with the town of Faxon and ODOT to relocate and preserve one of the first bridges built by the Boardman Company of Oklahoma City, the state's first steel bridge fabricating firm.

Perhaps as a result of increased public awareness of historic preservation, the statewide marketing of bridges now consistently draws serious interest. Last summer, for the first time, ODOT, SHPO, and the Federal Highway Administration had to choose from four qualified applicants for the relocation of a small pony truss held in storage by Washington County.

Like all historic preservation, success requires the active engagement of local officials and broad public support, which in turn requires increased public education and careful, non-intrusive stewardship by federal and state agencies. Historic preservation ultimately works best when people want to do it and are not just required to do it.

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Preservation Oklahoma News
Serving the Statewide Historic Preservation Community

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historic preservation network . . .

-----  JOIN PRESERVATION OKLAHOMA NOW!

Preservation Oklahoma's mission is to encourage the preservation of Oklahoma's historic places. Our strength lies in the working partnerships we have forged with people throughout Oklahoma. We welcome all people and organizations who care about the preservation of our historic and cultural resources. To join, complete the form below and send with payment to: Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., P. O. Box 25043, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0043.

Name _____ From (if gift) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone/e-mail _____

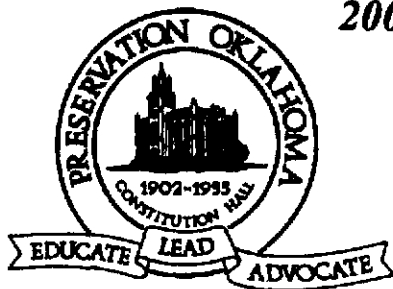
If organizational membership, how many members in your organization? _____

Heritage Club: \$1,000.00
 Sustaining: \$500.00
 Patron: \$250.00

Sponsor: \$100.00
 Organization: \$50.00
 Indiv./Family: \$25.00

Senior/Student: \$15.00

Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization. Membership contributions may be tax deductible.



2001 List of Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties

NOMINATION FORM

Deadline is November 10th!

Note: Only complete nominations will be considered.

Use reverse side if more space needed for answers.

Your Name _____

Your Mailing Address and Daytime Phone Number _____

Endangered Property Information

Name of Property _____

Name of Property Owner and Contact Info. _____

Location (Address/City/County) and Description (please enclose a color photo)

Nature of Threat to Property: _____

Why is this property historically and/or architecturally significant? _____

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|
| Is this property listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Is there a local group interested in saving the property? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Does the property have any current rehabilitation prospects? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Is it threatened with destruction from impending demolition, neglect, or vandalism? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Is the property's owner hostile to or insensitive to preservation concerns? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

Properties owned by local historical or preservation organizations are ineligible for inclusion on the list.

Please return this form to: **Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.**
P.O. Box 25043
Oklahoma City, OK 73125-0043

Oklahoma's Most Endangered Historic Properties List is a joint project of Preservation Oklahoma, Inc., and the State Historic Preservation Office.