

Agriculture has remained a consistent segment of the Stillwater economy. Within the Red Bed Plains, land is generally level with only a few hills. Soils are considered reasonably fertile. The sandy loam bottoms of Stillwater Creek and the Cimarron River were sought for farming during early settlement of the area. Thus, these areas were particularly suited for cropping, whereas above the bottoms the relatively thin soil was useful for pasturing livestock. A variety of crops were grown early on in the surrounding area, including cotton, wheat, corn, broom corn, and even some tobacco. Eventually cotton and wheat became the major cash crops until the 1920s when cotton declined in price and the soil became exhausted. From its initial stages, Stillwater was important as a farm-to-market center where agriculturists traded produce for ready-made goods as well as sought such services as banking, legal assistance, health care, and education. Stillwater remains a "central place" for the surrounding region because of its county seat status and its role as a node in the trade and service area.

The first census of **population** count for Stillwater was 480 residents in 1890. During the next decade, the town increased by 1,951 to reach 2,431 in 1900, or a growth rate of more than five times its first census. Stillwater, however, failed to increase in population as rapidly as other Oklahoma cities did during the next forty years--not passing the 10,000 figure until 1940. But the decade of the 1940s saw it more than double in population to 20,283 in 1950. A modest growth rate occurred in the 1950s indicating a populace of 23,965 by 1960. Another boost was displayed during the next decade when the 1970 census reflected an increase of 6,161 new residents. Since 1970, Stillwater's population growth was a little more than the increase in the 1970s--6,550, for a total of 36, 676 in 1990.

As to **transportation**, Stillwater's early history was unique as compared to a majority of Oklahoma communities because it was founded without the benefit of a railroad, a form of transportation that provided major impetus for the development of Oklahoma towns during their early stages. The Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe ran through Perry and Guthrie to the west, while the Santa Fe and Missouri, Kansas and Texas (M,K,&T) routes passed through Cushing to the southeast. It was more than a decade after the founding of Stillwater that the Eastern Oklahoma Railway, a subsidiary of the Santa Fe, completed trackage from Pawnee to Stillwater in 1900. Prior to the coming of the railroad, Stillwater was relatively isolated during the 1890s as all the merchandise and building material as well as people had to be transported approximately twenty miles from Mulhall, Orlando, and Perry; all of which were located on the Santa Fe to the west. The coming of paved roads and the emergence of a state and national highway system by the 1920s resulted in Stillwater's location on U.S. Highway 177, a north-south route that connects it with Ponca City to the north and Shawnee to the south. Oklahoma Highway 51, an east-west thoroughfare, connects Stillwater to Tulsa to the east.

Stillwater developed a local **industrial** base consisting of agricultural-related plants and factories. Representative of the agricultural sector of the economy were cotton gins, creameries, hatcheries, flour mills and grain elevators, cigar factories, a whiskey distillery, and a broom factory, the latter reported to be the largest in the state in the 1920s and 1930s. Additional industries included a brick plant, saw mills, and blacksmith shops.

A vibrant **commercial and professional** business district has been maintained in Stillwater from its inception to the present. Physicians, dentists, attorneys, and professors/teachers were among the first professional groups represented in the community. For example, Robert Lowry, considered the "Father of Stillwater," was an attorney. Businesses that flourished, particularly along Main Street and Ninth Avenue, included grocery stores, cafes and restaurants, bakeries, meat markets, hardwares, saloons, furniture stores, garages and auto agencies, ice plants, lumber yards, morticians, millineries and haberdasheries, dry goods stores, hotels and banks. Moreover, Stillwater possessed more than fifty newspapers at various times during its history with the **Oklahoma Standard** as the first.

Stillwater took great pride in the **public services** provided to its residents. Funds were raised, bonds were passed, and accommodations were made for paved streets and sidewalks, telephone exchanges, water plants, sewage systems, fire and police protection, and schools, including a college. According to one source, Stillwater had the first public school in Oklahoma Territory--opening on September 30, 1889. Furthermore, the town succeeded in convincing the Oklahoma Territorial legislature to locate the Agricultural and Mechanical College in it with classes begun in 1891.

Socially and culturally, Stillwater demonstrated early on that its residents were interested in more than work. A myriad of social and cultural events occurred in the early phases of the community, including the formation of a brass band and community orchestra, athletic teams, and organization of civic and fraternal groups. Stillwater boasted one of the first opera houses in Oklahoma Territory, built in 1890. It staged live vaudeville and music performances as well as lectures by such notables as William

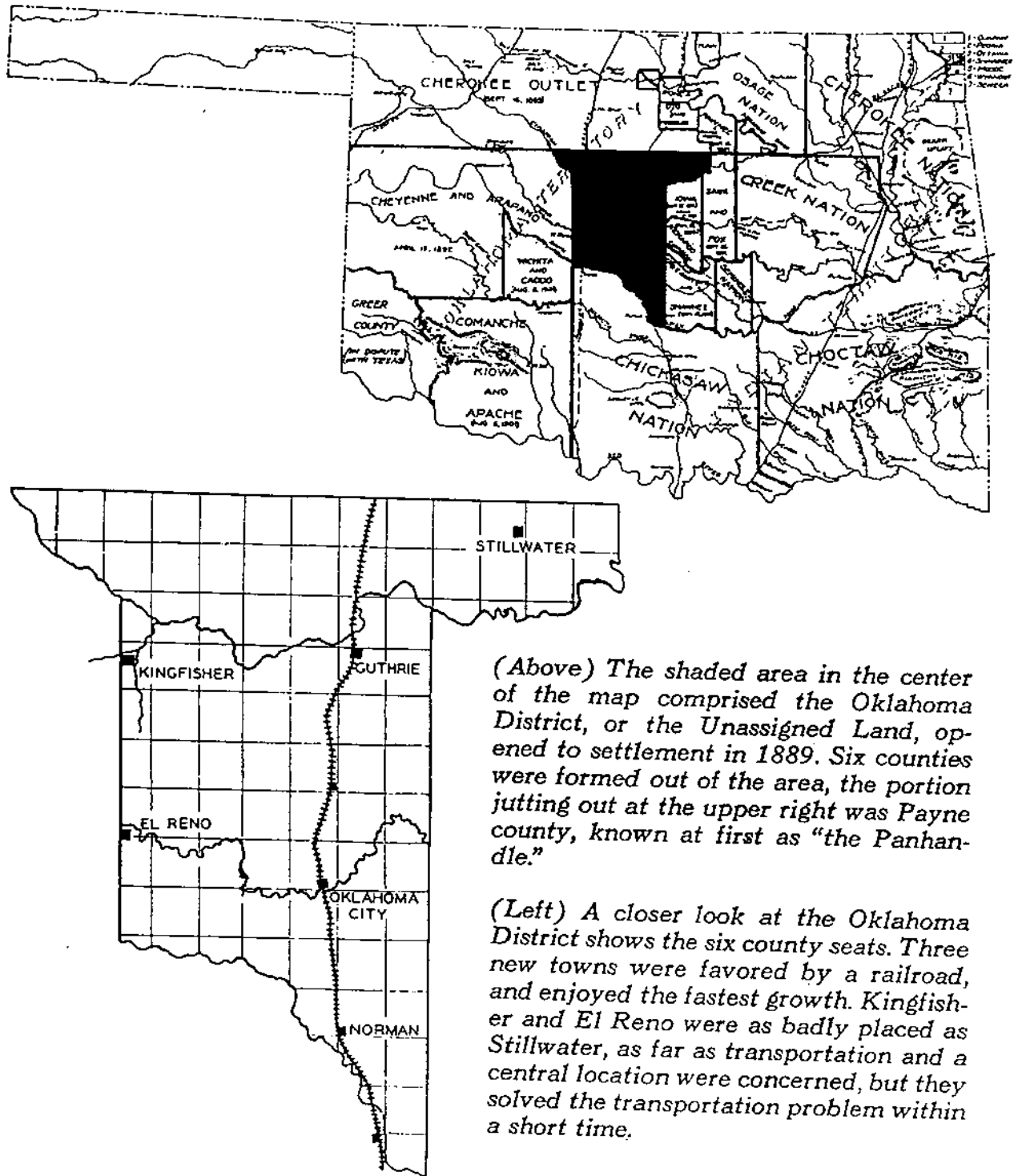
Jennings Bryan and Carry Nation. Motion pictures were first shown at the Opera House, however, movie theaters were eventually opened. Fraternal groups were well-represented in Stillwater, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, and Rebekahs. Finally, all the mainline religious denominations were organized, including Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Christian, Episcopalian, and Christian Science. Each denomination quickly organized, held services in homes and temporary quarters, and eventually constructed buildings to house congregations.

These themes are given more in-depth analysis in the following examination of Stillwater as a place in time and space.

Founding and Naming

Stillwater was located in the northeast corner (sometimes referred to as the "Panhandle") of the Unassigned Lands established on the basis of treaties with the Creeks and Seminoles in 1866 [Fig. 1]. In the treaties, the United States government was granted title to one-half of the Creek lands and all Seminole lands with the restriction that the land could still be used by the Indians and freedmen (black slaves freed by the Emancipation Proclamation). In 1889, Chief Pleasant Porter of the Creek Nation negotiated with the United States government that all restrictions would be relinquished upon the land ceded in 1866. In return the Creeks and Seminoles would receive more than \$2 million. The United States Congress appropriated the funds and the deal was finalized.

The land was thus cleared for non-Indian settlement--a total of 1,887, 796.47 acres. Known as either the Oklahoma District or Unassigned Lands, it included the major parts of six present-day Oklahoma counties--Cleveland, Oklahoma, Canadian,



(Above) The shaded area in the center of the map comprised the Oklahoma District, or the Unassigned Land, opened to settlement in 1889. Six counties were formed out of the area, the portion jutting out at the upper right was Payne county, known at first as "the Panhandle."

(Left) A closer look at the Oklahoma District shows the six county seats. Three new towns were favored by a railroad, and enjoyed the fastest growth. Kingfisher and El Reno were as badly placed as Stillwater, as far as transportation and a central location were concerned, but they solved the transportation problem within a short time.

Figure 1. Location of Stillwater in the Unassigned Lands

Source: Cunningham, Robert E. **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began.** Stillwater, OK: Evans Publications, 1979, viii.

Kingfisher, Logan, and Payne. During his third week in office, President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation opening the Unassigned Lands to settlement on April 22, 1889. On this date at noon, eligible persons were authorized to enter the area and claim land based on the Homestead Act of 1862. It is estimated that more than 50,000 made the land run on April 22, and more than 9,000 homesteads were occupied. The Santa Fe railroad already crossed the region from north to south, and immediately towns sprung up along the route, including Perry, Guthrie, Edmond, Oklahoma City, Norman, and Lexington. The new towns of Guthrie and Oklahoma City had each grown to an estimated 10,000 residents before the first rush subsided.

Prior to the Land Run of 1889, the Stillwater area had been visited by the so-called "Boomers," led by Captains David L. Payne and William L. Couch. On December 12, 1884, approximately 200 "Boomers" settled just south of the present site of Stillwater. In the fall of 1884, Captain Payne was focused on Stillwater Creek as his objective, however, during the midst of his planning, Payne died. He was succeeded by Captain Couch, who led the group to the valley of Stillwater Creek. Here they immediately began building cabins and laying out a town [Fig. 2].

In January 1885, the "Boomer" colony was warned to leave by President Chester Arthur, who later ordered a cavalry force to eject the colonists. After resistance by the "Boomers," a second detachment of 600 troops notified Couch that if withdrawal did not occur within 48 hours, they would open fire. Couch wisely yielded and the "Boomers" were escorted back to Kansas by United States Army troops, and their leaders were arrested and taken to Fort Smith, Arkansas. The settlers coming into Stillwater in 1889 named the county after Captain Payne.

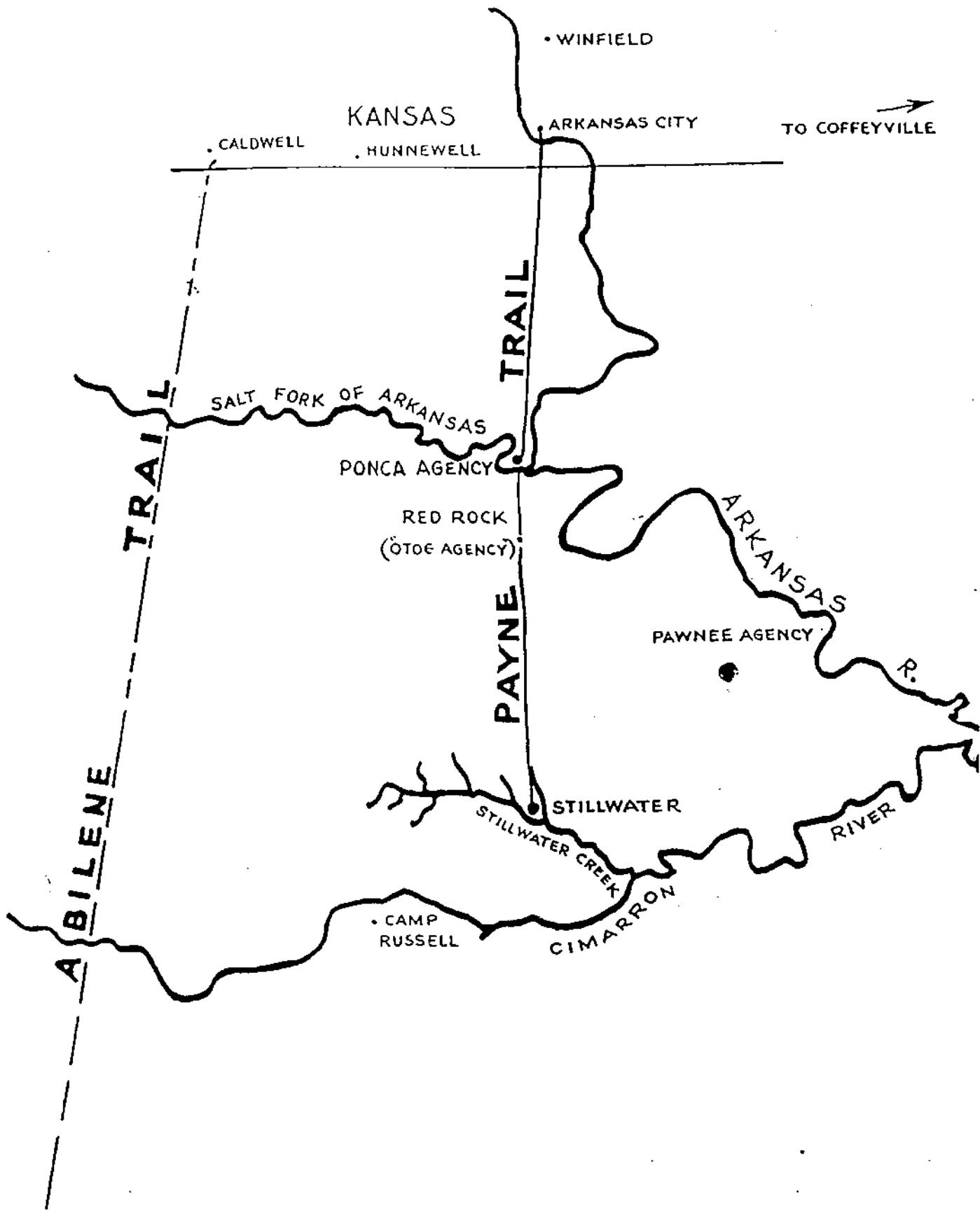


Figure 2. Stillwater and Vicinity, 1884-1885

Source: Newson, D. Earl. **Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories**. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, 1989, 47.

It is not surprising then that Stillwater was one of the first places settled during the run of 1889 because the area was known, only about two miles from the starting line, and possessed fertile soils in the bottom lands.

A townsite company was organized in Winfield, Kansas, on May 20, 1889. This company used Winfield as a model for Stillwater, organizing itself and incorporating under the laws of Kansas. Three homesteaders (Robert A. Lowry-80 acres, David Husband-40 acres, and Sanford Duncan-40 acres) contributed 160 acres to the townsite of Stillwater. The townsite company observed that an eighty-acre tract had not been claimed and urged one of its members (Garnet Burks) to file as an agent of the company. Apparently, Burks made the claim for himself in order to forestall the townsite project. The company contested Burk's intent by filing suit with the General Land Office in Washington, which cancelled Burk's claim on the basis that he had acted in bad faith [Fig. 3].

A provisional city government was organized on June 11, 1889 with an estimated 300 people on the townsite. During the summer of 1889, a city charter was written, and approved in the fall election. An orderly system of drawing for town lots was outlined by the provisional government. Members of the original townsite company were given the option of drawing two residential lots and one business lot at the rate of \$6.50 per lot. Non-members of the townsite company were then allowed to draw three lots at the rate of \$5.00 per lot. The funds derived from the sale of town lots were deposited in the city treasury for use for public improvements, such as grading streets, installing culverts, and making other needed municipal improvements. The town of Stillwater was incorporated in 1891 under the incorporation laws designated by territorial law.

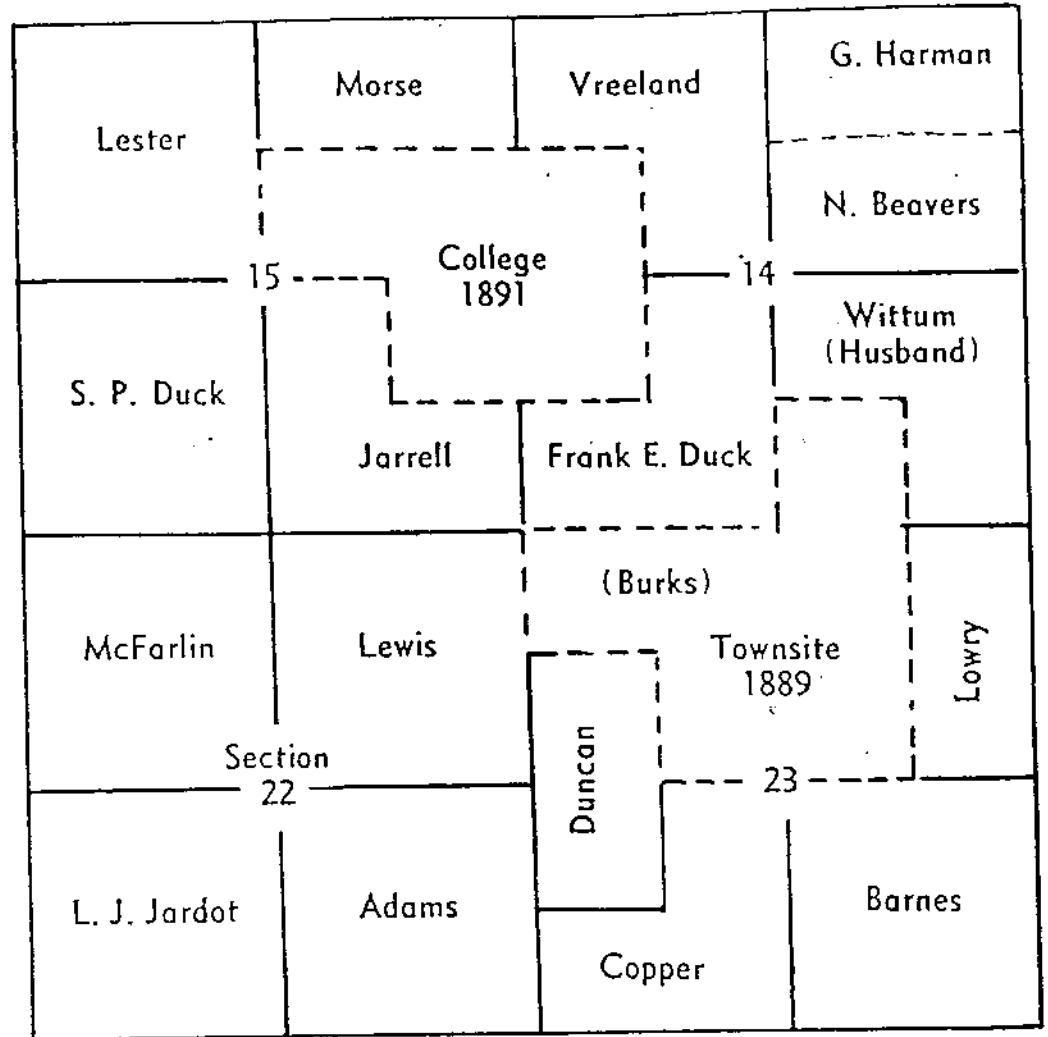


Figure 3. Townsite of Stillwater, 1889

Source: Newsom, D. Earl. **Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories**. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, 1989, 67.

Payne County became a part of Oklahoma Territory by virtue of the Organic Act of May 2, 1890. By 1900, all twenty-three counties of Oklahoma Territory were known by names and county seats were designated with Stillwater selected as the Payne county seat. Under the state Constitution of Oklahoma, ratified by the people on September 17, 1907, Payne County with Stillwater as county seat was officially recognized at the time of statehood, November 16, 1907. Thus, the Territorial name, county seat location, and defined boundaries remained intact in the new state of Oklahoma.

Conflicting theories remain concerning the naming of Stillwater. One legend has it that cowboys who drove cattle north through the Stillwater area to railroad terminals in Kansas conveyed to later cattle drovers that a creek in the north-central portion of what was to become Oklahoma was spring fed. In planning cattle drive routes, water was a crucial commodity, therefore, any water resource that cowboys found that was "still there" was considered a positive factor. Another legend states that Native Americans living in the area named the creek the Still Water because it always remained calm except during rains. Finally, a third opinion is that Captain William L. Couch and the "Boomers" in 1884 named it because of the placid spring-like qualities of the creek. Thus, they called their colony Still Water.

The earliest exploration of the area was by Washington Irving, noted traveler and author, who recorded the first description of Stillwater Creek. Irving's marvelous account of his 1832 expedition, **A Tour on the Prairies**, described the yet unnamed creek as "a deep stream running along the bottom of a thickly-wooded ravine."

A second description of the Stillwater vicinity was recorded by John H. Barnes, one of the area's homesteaders, in his memoirs. On April 21, 1889, one day before the famous land run into the Unassigned Lands, he wrote:

It seems like the promised land, grass and trees were green, and wild flowers were springing everywhere. It was just a rolling prairie with no sign of trees except around Stillwater Creek. Prairie grass, tall enough to hide a man on horseback, grew in the bottom land.

The **Oklahoma Standard**, Stillwater's first newspaper, provided a third account published in an August 3, 1889 article, "The Stillwater Valley." It opined:

Located in the northeast corner of Oklahoma Territory...is the beautiful valley of the Stillwater and in the fork made with Boomer Creek is our lovely little city...Come to Stillwater Valley...and its queen city, Stillwater (1).

Natural Resources

Stillwater never experienced the "boom and bust" cycles of many Oklahoma cities associated with the discovery of mineral resources, such as coal in the southeast, lead and zinc in the northeast, and oil and gas throughout the state. In the immediate area surrounding Stillwater, natural resources were scarce. Other than the fertility of the sandy loam soil in the Stillwater Creek bottoms, natural resources had little effect on the settlement and growth of the community. Twenty miles to the east and southeast of Stillwater lie the monumental Cushing Oil Field. The Mehan, Quay, and Yale pools of this field, closest to Stillwater, were opened in the period from around 1912 to 1920. During the peak period of these pools, Stillwater was influenced to some degree by

boomchasers and others who came to the Cushing Field, and eventually sought housing and retail services because no living accommodations existed in the boom towns of Mehan and Quay. Oil field workers filled all the hotels and boarding houses in Stillwater during this period (2).

In the 1930s, a gusher erupted on the Cecil Jones farm, approximately ten miles southeast of Stillwater, in the Mehan Field. Production continued for several days at an average of 1,464 barrels per day. This 1935 gusher quickly fizzled as production decreased as rapidly as it had begun. Three years later, Stillwater was affected by its only real oil boom. The Ramsey field was discovered on January 1, 1938, six miles southwest of Stillwater. More than 20 million barrels were produced in a short period of time. Reports indicate that approximately 2,000 people came to witness the field's production. Two boom towns, Gray City and Paradise, emerged near the field, but were short-lived. By the 1960s, the field's production declined and the wells were demolished (3).

Agriculture

Most of the early settlers in Payne County were interested in agriculture because of the potential for growing crops and raising livestock. In the bottom land lying adjacent to Stillwater Creek and its two tributaries, Boomer and Cow Creeks, was a deep, rich, sandy loam soil. Above the bottoms, the soil was fertile enough for pasture and hay, two necessities for livestock. The 1890 census, the first to include Payne County, indicated that almost 200,000 acres were devoted to farming and 1,275 farms were operational (4).

During the 1890s, a majority of farmers in Payne County had cleared sufficient land to plant crops of wheat and cotton, the two most profitable cash crops. Hard times, however, persisted because of drought, low market prices, and an economic recession.

Because the government did not provide wheat seed as a part of the relief package during the recession, the Santa Fe railroad provided seed to Payne County farmers on a loan basis. During the mid-1890s, the drought was broken. By the end of the decade, wheat yields were increasing and the price rose to 76 cents a bushel. The farmers were thus able to repay the railroad company for the borrowed wheat seed (5).

In October, 1890, the Oklahoma Territorial legislature voted to establish an Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station (O.A.E.S.) “for the purpose of conducting experiments in agriculture.” It was to be connected with the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College located in Stillwater. Two Stillwater residents, Frank E. Duck and Alfred Jarrell, each donated 40-acre tracts of land for the facility. A.C. Magruder, a professional horticulturist, was one of the first scientists hired to staff the O.A.E.S. (6). The Magruder Plots, named in honor of Magruder, were listed in the National Register in 1979.

In the years after 1900, cotton emerged as the chief cash crop in Payne County. The O.A.E.S. in Stillwater conducted research on numerous varieties of cotton suitable for growing near the 35th parallel. Scientists and farmers wanted a variety that could withstand the wind and rain. The O.A.E.S. developed Texas Storm Proof, a new variety of cotton, and began instructing farmers in Payne County as well as other farmers in the Territory on how to raise the crop (7). The emergence of cotton as a cash crop was one of simple economics. Although cotton brought only 4 or 5 cents a pound in 1900, the price rose to 11 cents a pound in 1907. Thus, a farmer could make \$25-30 an acre with cotton. At 15 bushels of wheat per acre, which sold at 93 cents a bushel, the farmer could make only \$14 per acre. Therefore, Payne County was producing 18,367 bales, and

Stillwater was becoming a cotton trade center, especially with the coming of the Santa Fe railroad in 1910 (8).

By the mid-1920s, Oklahoma was divided into two general types of farming regions commonly called the "cotton belt" and "wheat belt." Payne County fell into the transitional zone that consisted of mixed cotton and wheat production (9). By this time, Payne County had approximately 38,000 acres in cotton, while 20,000 acres were planted in wheat. Wheat had also benefited from scientific research at the O.A.E.S. in Stillwater. The development of the hard Russian wheats (Turkey Red, Kharkof, and Kanred) withstood freezes during the severe winters and proved suitable for Oklahoma (10). In addition to cotton and wheat, corn, oats, grain sorghum, and even tobacco were grown around Stillwater.

As to livestock, cattle numbers remained steady in Payne County from 1900 to 1930 at roughly 25-30,000, whereas the number of horses dropped during the period from 12,000 to 7,000, reflecting the introduction of the tractor. Hog production decreased from 45,000 in 1900 to about 13,000 in 1930, while sheep numbers increased from 300 in 1900 to 3,000 in 1930 (11).

Cotton production around Stillwater seriously declined in the 1930s because of several factors. Prices dropped to 5 cents a pound in 1931. The ten-year drought of the 1930s, resulting in the Dust Bowl, saw a 60 percent crop loss for cotton farmers. Finally, farmers realized that cotton was a soil depleting crop which subjected the land to serious erosion. Thus, cotton never recovered from these factors and continued its decline in the 1940s (12).

With the demise of cotton, farmers in Payne County devoted more acreage to wheat and pasture. Payne County wheat farms expanded in size up to 320 acres or more by the mid-1920s. Wheat farmers were able to enlarge their acreages because of the introduction of the gasoline-powered tractor which pulled all sorts of labor-saving equipment, such as plows, discs, drills, and combines; machinery that created less need for hand labor in the fields.

Although the 1930s drought and depression effectively curtailed cotton production in Payne County, local wheat and cattle farmers survived the decade and recovered in the 1940s, especially with the advent of World War II and the need for wartime food supplies.

Agriculture played a major role in the economy of Stillwater in terms of industrial development and educational services. This is reflected in the agriculture-related industries established in the community, such as cotton gins, flour mills, and grain elevators. Stillwater as the home for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College served as the statewide center for agricultural education and the cooperative extension program. Finally, the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station, based in Stillwater, was the driving force in scientific research for improvement of crops and livestock.

Industrial Activity

Industries were rare in Stillwater until the 1950s when the community formed an industrial authority. Local historians have observed that the town throughout its history was never especially known for its industrial development. The early years, however, saw a myriad of locally-owned and developed small industries, particularly related to agriculture. At the turn of the century, Stillwater boasted two cigar manufacturers

(tobacco), one grain elevator and flour mill (wheat), one creamery (milk), a ten-ton ice plant for the creamery, two cotton gins (cotton), and a distillery (corn). In addition, six blacksmith and wagon shops plus a saddlemaking facility provided services for the surrounding agriculturists. Moreover, light industries related to construction of new buildings included three brick yards, three planing mills, three saw mills, one post factory, and a marble works. Finally, the city also had a candy factory and a book bindery at this time (13).

Several sources give historical background on a number of the above named industries. Fred Stallard's Distillery supplied his own saloon located in the 800 block of South Main Street and, in all probability, provided corn whiskey to four more saloons. Thomas and Plummer Perfection Mill, established in 1894, was the first such facility in Stillwater. It later became Stillwater A&M Milling Company, owned and operated by Haskell Cudd since the 1920s. One of the cigar manufacturers was the Durham Cigar Factory, but was short-lived because Payne County tobacco producers converted to other crops. Building materials were early on supplied by three saw mills--Welty's on South Lewis Street, Milligan's on South West Street, and Hueston's on South Main Street (14).

Also at the turn of the century, two cotton gins were operational, one of which was the Abercrombie & Miller Gin, known locally as A&M, although unrelated to the A&M College. Both William Abercrombie and Peter Miller, his son-in-law, built substantial homes, both of which remain standing at 623 South Lewis Street (Abercrombie) and 424 South Duncan Street (Miller). Before the decline of cotton production in Payne County in the 1930s, seven cotton gins at various times processed the crop for local farmers. Included in this group were the aforementioned Abercrombie

and Miller Gin, W.H. Coyle Cotton Company, Clark Cotton Company, Farmers Coop, and Stillwater Cotton and Gin Company. Two of the gins remained in operation until the 1930s, when depressed cotton prices forced them to close (15). None of the cotton gins remain extant.

Louis J. Jardot, a native of France who made the Land Run of 1889 from his first American home in Wisconsin, established one of the first brick yards in Oklahoma Territory in 1891. The brickyard was originally located on the Herman Hinrichs farm along Stillwater Creek near Twelfth Avenue and Western Road. It was then moved to an area in northeast Stillwater known as "Cactus Canyon" (near South Manning and East Virginia Streets). It ceased operations in 1915. The Jardot family for three generations excelled as brick masons and constructed several Stillwater landmarks, such as The Opera House, Linden Hotel, and Alcott School. Two of the Jardot buildings remain intact--Jardot Building, which housed the Hull Motor Company, at 113-117 East Ninth and the Norwood Elementary School at 322 West Miller (16).

One of the prominent industries in Stillwater during the 1920s was the Frank Kirby Broom Factory, located on East Ninth Avenue near the Santa Fe Depot. It was reported to be the largest facility of its kind in Oklahoma during this era. It closed in the mid-1930s because of lack of demand and the 1930s Great Depression. A rather unique industry that developed later was the Billy Boy Pickle Factory, built in 1946. Located at 115 North Main, the building remains standing and is occupied by a music store.

After the Stillwater Industrial Authority was organized in 1951, several new, heavier industries located in the community, including Moore Business Forms (1966),

Mercury Marine (1973), World Color Press (1984), and Armstrong World Industries and National-Standard (1988).

Commercial Establishments

Within a year after the drawing for business lots in June of 1889, Main Street and Ninth Avenue boasted more than fifty business buildings, mostly wood frame. By 1890, the Bank of Stillwater stood at the northwest corner of Main and Ninth, which became the traditional "four corners" intersection anchoring the business district. The Swiler Brothers Hardware and Grocery Store on South Main housed Stillwater's first post office. The Tornado Store, a general merchandise business erected in 1890, was the community's first two-story building.

Four early lumber yards furnished rough and finished lumber, shingles, doors, cement, and other materials for the building needs of Stillwater. Harry Brown Bullen, a 24-year old entrepreneur, opened the first of these facilities on South Main. By 1900, three additional lumber yards were in business, including the Edwards Lumber Yard, Jackson Lumber Yard, and Spurrier Lumber Company. Along with the aforementioned brick yards (see Industrial Activity section), building supplies were readily available for the construction of business buildings, residences, churches, and schools in town and surrounding countryside.

Among the first hotels were the Globe, Myers, and Pacific, all located on Main Street. This form of housing was essential in that it served the numerous teamsters, carpenters, and masons, who came to Stillwater during the early construction boom period. Hotels also provided housing for the first teachers, ministers, and even the United States marshal. By 1900, Stillwater had several other hotels such as the Youst at 723

South Main, Commercial at Ninth and Husband, Linden at Ninth and Lewis, Nickels at Tenth and Main, and Payne (address unknown).

In addition to banks, hotels, and lumber yards, the 1890 business district of Stillwater consisted of seven grocery stores (Swiler Brothers/ Bailey & Rinker/ Eyler & Cochran/ Dupree & Higginbottan/ Wilcoxon/ Clark Brothers/ Hamilton), two barber shops (City/Evans), two dry goods stores (Metzger/ Swoops & Son), two restaurants (City Cafe/ Bradley), a bakery and confectionery (Hagar & McBride), a furniture store (Haycraft Brothers), dressmakers (Standley & Dupee), a men's clothing (Cohen & Strauss), a drug store (Varner), millinery shop (Pierce), meat market (Pullman), shooting gallery (Veatch), and a billiard parlor (Harman). These were among the types of businesses listed in the first city directory of Stillwater compiled in 1890.

By the turn of the century when Stillwater received telephone service, the first directory enumerated more than fifty businesses with no addresses. Grocery stores numbered eight with several new ones since 1890 (Alder/ Bahntge/ Benefiel/ Coverdale/ Eyler/ Hennigh/ Norris/ Stine). Additional business enterprises included five saloons (Bost/ Daniels/ Myers/ Tinsley/ Commercial), four general stores (Morrison/ Metcalfe/ Steen/ Swiler Brothers), three meat markets (Black Bear/ Palace/Steels), four hardwares (Lytton/ Shaffer & Son/ Stillwater/ Wallace), two restaurants (Blair & Thomas/ Davis), two drug stores (Hand/ Powell & Janeway), two furniture stores (Oneal/ Stevenson), five hotels (Commercial/ Youst/ Payne/ Pacific/ Pierce), three banks (First National/ National Bank of Commerce/ Stillwater National), two dentists (Atterbury/ Cage), one newspaper (**Gazette**), and sundry feed stores, liveries, and lumber yards. One of the feed and seed

stores was opened by a Pennsylvanian who came to Stillwater in 1896--William A. Frick. The Frick Home at 1016 South West was listed in the National Register in 1980.

Several businesses had constructed substantial brick and stone buildings by 1900, including the First National Bank, a two-story brick and stone building with turret; Stillwater National Bank, a sandstone building; and the Citizen's Bank, a Richardsonian Romanesque style building located at 107 East Ninth, the only extant commercial property from this era (N.R. listed 1981). The Linden Hotel is reported as the first hotel to have brick cladding, and the Youst Hotel, constructed in 1894, was an impressive three-story building on Main Street. The O.M. Eyler Grocery was also a brick building. The two hotels and grocery have been razed. The extant Lytton Hardware and Implements Building became a three-story building in 1901 when the Masons added a third floor. Located at 907-909 South Main, it is the only remaining three-story building on Main Street.

During the next decade, three two-story brick buildings were erected on Main Street. All three remain intact, including the U.S. Post Office/ Searcy Grocery at 619-621 South Main (c. 1906), J.E. Powell/ Diamond Pharmacy Building at 720 South Main (1910), and Pearson Brothers Bakery and Cafe at 811 South Main (1910).

In 1912, the Stillwater commercial district streets were paved. This improvement brought the construction of several new brick buildings. During this period, two-story brick buildings included the Purity Bakery, Horton's Quality Store, Katz Brothers Department Store, Swope Building, Model Grocery, and the State Bank of Commerce (a two-story building with canted corner). One-story brick buildings included the Charles Platt Ford Agency and the ornately-decorated Camera Theatre. Along West Seventh

Avenue were three two-story buildings erected in 1913-14--N.F. Walker, D.H. Selph, and J.P. Hoke--all of which remain intact (N.R. listed 1983).

During the prosperous 1920s, another wave of building activity occurred. Included in this group were the second Stillwater National Bank, a Classical Revival style building; second First National Bank, a two-story brick building; and four extant brick buildings--McNeff Grocery (1926) at 120-124 West Seventh, Going Hotel (1926) at 114-118 West Seventh, Jardot Building (1926) at 113-117 East Ninth, and the Harley Thomas Ford Agency (1921) at 601 South Main.

During the 1930s and 1940s, Stillwater remained a "main street" town. Commercial establishments lined the corridor of North and South Main Street as well as lateral streets, such as Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Avenues. But the drought and Great Depression caused the local economy to suffer from residents out of work and falling retail prices. Some banks and businesses were forced to close. The New Deal of the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration, however, pumped new funds into the community and allowed workers to find employment through building projects. New Deal-era Works Progress Administration (W.P.A.) buildings in Stillwater included the National Guard Armory at 315 East Ninth (1936) and the Stillwater Public Library at 206 West Sixth Avenue (1938). These intact historic properties played a significant part in the revival of the local economy (17).

During the 1940s war-time period, a War Activities Committee was formed in Stillwater. Headed by Roy T. Hoke, local businessman, and Dr. Henry G. Bennett, president of O.A.M.C., the group's objective was to convert O.A.M.C. into a war-training center. Oklahoma United States Senator Mike Monroney assisted the Stillwater

committee in bringing twelve training programs to campus that included almost 40,000 service men and women. The W.A.V.E.S. (Women's Reserve of the United States Naval Reserve) Training School had 10,783 participants, the largest contingent, while the naval training school attracted 6,700 men to O.A.M.C. The campus became a center of activity with quonset huts erected and barracks constructed along West Sixth Avenue. The thousands of men and women stimulated the local economy and helped the city through critical times as well as served as a base for a post-World War II boom period.

Enrollment at O.A.M.C. increased from 1,616 in 1944 to 8,403 in 1954, primarily as a result from the men and women veterans taking advantage of the G. I. Bill of Rights (18).

By the 1950s, the post-World War II period brought a dose of prosperity to the central business district. Stillwater's Main Street was lined with a host of new businesses and a majority of the buildings had modernized their store fronts. Main Street featured such businesses as Van Horn Drugs, McBride's Men's Store, Murl Penney's Booterie, Earnest Brothers Shoe Store, Mecca Theatre, Arneson's Parisian Store, J.C. Penney, Tiger Drug, Chenoweth and Green Music Store, and First National and Stillwater National Bank, both in their third buildings.

Education

One of the unique qualities of Stillwater as a place is its historical emphasis on education ranging from kindergarten to graduate school and from vocational-technical training to applied research. Appropriately, the first public school in Oklahoma Territory was established in Stillwater on September 30, 1889 with thirty students in attendance. Moreover, the Territorial legislature on December 24, 1890 designated Stillwater as a site for one of the first three colleges in Oklahoma Territory. Under the Morrill Act (1862)

provisions, Stillwater was selected for the Agricultural and Mechanical College, while Edmond was the location for the normal school and the University of Oklahoma was in Norman.

The first public school classes in Stillwater were held in the first floor of Amon W. Swope's bank building at the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Main Street. In 1891, a two-room wood frame building was constructed as the first school building, located on the east side of Lewis Street between Eleventh and Twelfth Avenues. A second two-room wood frame school building was erected in 1892. It was located on Main Street between Third and Fourth Avenues.

Completed in 1896, Alcott School (a Jardot building) was the first brick school building. Located on Duck Street between Eighth and Ninth Avenues, it was an impressive two-story brick building with tower. In 1910, Horace Mann School, a second brick building, was constructed alongside the Alcott School on Duck Street. From 1910 to 1921, Horace Mann housed high school students, while Alcott was used for elementary level students. Both these properties were razed in 1921 (19).

Two more brick elementary school buildings were erected prior to statehood-- Lincoln in 1898 and Jefferson in 1901. The latter was located in the 300-400 block of South Main and housed four grades. It was razed in 1970. Lincoln was remodeled in 1948 with the 1898 walls serving as part of the interior. The 1948 exterior is styled in Art Deco and remains intact at 215 East Twelfth Avenue. An auditorium was added at the time of the 1948 renovation. It currently houses a regional educational service center and the Stillwater school system bus barn is located on the grounds.

Around 1900, provisions were made for an African-American school in Stillwater. Referred to on historic maps as the "Colored School," it was a wood-frame building which served both grade and high school pupils. It was located near the corner of South Knoblock and West Eleventh Avenue. The first brick building for African-American students was constructed in 1921 at 619 West Twelfth Avenue. Known as Washington School, it was expanded in 1937 and again in 1951 because of increased enrollment consisting of approximately 200-300 students of which roughly half were elementary age and the remainder high school level. Washington School was closed in 1956 when the Stillwater school system was integrated following the Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education Supreme Court ruling in 1954. Washington School remains standing at its original site and is used for several agencies and programs, including Head Start, Action Inc., and Stillwater Nursery Center (20).

During the 1920s and 1930s, two more elementary schools were built--Eugene Field in 1922 and Norwood in 1932. Eugene Field was located on the southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and Washington Street. It was demolished in 1957. Norwood (another Jardot building) housed six grades until 1938 when it was closed and sold to the Masonic Lodge. This 1932 brick building remains standing at 322 West Miller and is still used by the Masons.

In 1919, a new two-story brick high school was erected at 1100 South Duncan. Two years later, Horace Mann was razed, and on the same site, a brick junior high building was erected (315 West Eighth Avenue). Thus, the building at 1100 South Duncan was known locally as "South High," while the building at 315 West Eighth was "North High" because they were three blocks apart.

During World War II, the West Eighth building served as the Stillwater High School and the Duncan Street building was converted to the junior high. The West Eighth building was enlarged in 1936 with a north wing, an auditorium in 1953, and a cafeteria in 1978. The Duncan Street property (South High) was closed in 1960 when a new high school complex was constructed on North Boomer Road. North High, the Eighth Avenue property, served as the Stillwater Middle School from 1960 to 1987 when a new middle school campus was constructed on Sangre Road. Old North High on Eighth Avenue currently serves as the Stillwater Community Center, while Old South High on Duncan has been incorporated into the new Stillwater Municipal Library (21).

Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (O.A.M.C.) classes began December 14, 1891 in the Congregational Church on the northeast corner of Sixth Avenue and Duncan Street. Old Central, originally called the Assembly Building, was completed in 1894 as the first permanent building on campus (N.R. listed 1971).

Stillwater competed with El Reno for the O.A.M.C. site. In a rather sinister plot, Stillwater outmaneuvered El Reno to gain legislature approval. On the day of the debate, Stillwater representatives bribed the El Reno delegate with whiskey. The El Reno delegate became so intoxicated that he failed to appear for the debate and vote. Hence, Stillwater was selected.

Stillwater promoters pledged to raise \$10,000 and donate 200 acres for the college and agricultural experiment station. After initial failure to raise the funds, Stillwater leaders and the voters of Payne County finally settled on a series of bonds and donations to reach the targeted amount. Four local leaders (Frank Duck, Alfred Jarrell, Charles

Vreeland, and Oscar Morse) donated 200 acres on the northwest edge of town for the O.A.M.C. campus.

During the 1890s, the Territorial legislature threatened several times to move the college from Stillwater because of its inaccessible location, primarily because of no railroad connections. Town leaders moved to secure a railroad, and by 1900, the Eastern Oklahoma Railway laid tracks through Stillwater, connecting it with Pawnee to the northeast and Guthrie to the southwest, thereby making both the college and town more accessible. Thus, the coming of railroad to Stillwater, in all likelihood, saved the college.

Oklahoma A. and M. College/Oklahoma State University has been the stabilizing force over the years in terms of population growth and local economy in Stillwater. With an enrollment of 144 students in 1894, O.A.M.C. students numbered 1,471 in 1914 prior to World War I. Twenty years later, enrollment reached almost 3,500 students. With the Great Depression of the 1930s and the onset of World War II, enrollment declined to 1,616 in 1944. By 1954, post-World War II prosperity and the G. I. Bill of Rights brought increasing numbers to campus, and O.A.M.C. boasted an enrollment of 8,403. During the next two decades, enrollment figures jumped to 13,214 in 1964 and 19,281 in 1974. In the 1980s, enrollment peaked at almost 21,500, while faculty members numbered more than 1,000 (22). The overall increase in students, faculty, and staff have played a significant role in the local economy with the construction of new homes and apartment complexes, consumer spending at local retail establishments, and a need for various services, such as police and fire protection, medical facilities, and electrical, sewage, and water systems.

New buildings on the O.A.M.C. campus during the 1920s created a construction boom and primed the local economy. During this decade, Thatcher Hall (1925), Hanner Hall (1925), Whitehurst Hall (1925), and Dairy Building (1925) were erected. A second building expansion occurred in the period following World War II with Stout Hall (1949), Bennett Hall (1950), Edmon Low Library (1950), Student Union (1950), Home Economics West (1951), and Classroom Building (1953) being completed. Not only did these buildings create more dollars being pumped into the local economy, but changed the appearance of the campus landscape as well (23).

Another facet of education in Stillwater is the Oklahoma State Department of Vocational-Technical Education, located at 1500 West Seventh Avenue since the 1920s. As one of the largest state agencies located outside of Oklahoma City, it coordinates a vast network of twenty-nine vocational-technical schools throughout the state with fifty-four campuses serving as branches and sixteen skill centers based in correctional facilities. In 1998, it employs more than 400 people in the Stillwater offices and approximately 3,500 instructors and field staff across the state (24).

Finally, the Indian Meridian Area Vocational-Technical School, one of the twenty-nine aforementioned regional facilities, opened in 1975 in Stillwater. Now known as the Meridian Technology Center, it serves the school districts of Stillwater, Guthrie, Glencoe, Morrison, Mulhall-Orlando, and Pawnee with twenty-six career training and development programs. A \$1.7 million bond issue was approved in 1973 for the new school that was built on a 40-acre campus just off Sangre Ridge Road in southwest Stillwater (25).

Religion

The Congregational Church, a gable-roofed wood frame building, was located on the northeast corner of Duncan Street and Sixth Avenue. It was in this modest building that the first enrollment of forty-five students of O.A.M.C. was held on December 14, 1891.

At the time of the first drawing for lots on June 11, 1889, each church was represented and was given a building site. Until congregations had sufficient funds to construct individual buildings, the Amon W. Swope Building, a two-story wood frame building at Ninth and Main, served as the first meeting place for several denominations (26).

The Presbyterians were among the first to organize on November 3, 1890 with thirteen charter members. In the town lot drawing, they received Lots 11 and 12 in Block A, however, these lots were sold and the first building was constructed in the 800 block of South Lewis. In 1924, the Presbyterians relocated to Sixth and Duncan on the lots which had originally been given to them. On these lots, a new Gothic Revival style edifice was dedicated on September 24, 1924, and remains standing at 524 South Duncan Street (27).

The Methodists were the second denomination to construct a building, a wood frame building on the southeast corner of Eighth Avenue and Duncan Street, in 1892. The original church was remodeled in 1910 with brick and stone veneer. In 1923, the present Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival building was erected at 400 West Seventh Avenue.

The Baptists organized in 1892 and constructed their first building in 1898, a wood frame building at Ninth Avenue and Duncan Street. This building was later sold and used by several other denominations, including the Dunkards, Lutherans, and Christians (Disciples of Christ). In 1909, the Baptists erected a second building at Seventh and Duncan, however, it was razed in 1929 and replaced with their third building. In 1950, the present building was dedicated at 701 South Duncan, a Colonial Revival style edifice.

The First Christian Science Church in 1895 erected the first building representing this denomination in Oklahoma Territory. Located on the southeast corner of Seventh and Duncan, it was also the first Christian Science Church west of the Mississippi River. In 1928, the Christian Scientists constructed a brick Classical Revival building at 301 West Seventh Avenue, which served its members until 1974, when it was converted to the Sheerar Cultural and Heritage Center, an extant property.

Episcopalians organized in 1893 and held services in a building at 610 South Duncan until 1922. At that time, they relocated to the corner of Third Avenue and Knoblock Street in a new church building. In 1963, they leveled the 1922 edifice and constructed the present building at 516 West Third Avenue.

The Christians erected a Carpenter Gothic style building on the northeast corner of Seventh and Husband in 1895. In 1918, a new brick building was constructed on the southwest corner of Seventh and Husband. In 1969, a new building was erected at 411 West Mathews.

Stillwater Roman Catholics from 1896 to 1899 were affiliated as a mission with the Catholic church in Perry. In 1899, the congregation constructed a Carpenter Gothic

style building on the northwest corner of Sixth Avenue and West Street. It was dedicated as St. Francis Xavier in 1901. At about the same time, a parochial school was added to the church building. In 1919, parishioners built a separate parochial school, a two-story brick building, next to the church. The school was razed in 1987. The current Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival style St. Francis Xavier Church was constructed in 1952 at 601 South West Street.

The Lutherans purchased the original Baptist church at West Ninth and Duncan in 1898. Two Lutheran church buildings remain extant--Salem Lutheran at 101 South Duck and the Zion Lutheran at 504 South Knoblock. The latter is an intact Tudor Revival style structure built in 1949, while the former was constructed in 1958.

The First Church of the Nazarene, located at 1101 South Lowry, was constructed in 1950 in the Tudor Revival style and remains standing, although used by a different religious group. The Nazarenes sold the property in 1995 and moved to a new building at 1023 East Will Rogers (28).

Three African-American denominations are historically associated with the black community of Stillwater. They were represented by the First Church of God in Christ, Mt. Zion Baptist, and Colored Methodist Episcopal. The C.M.E. Church was located on the corner of Tenth Avenue and Ramsey Street. It was destroyed by fire in the 1970s. Mt. Zion was originally the Second Baptist Church, organized in 1918. Over time, the congregation has worshipped in buildings at the corner of Seventh and Hester, Eleventh and Knoblock, and the present location, Ninth and Knoblock, completed in 1972. In 1933, the Second Baptist name was changed to Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist, and again in

1972, to Mt. Zion Baptist. The original First Church of God in Christ remains intact at 623 West Eleventh Avenue (29).

Residential Development

The first substantial housing beyond the temporary quarters was constructed on North and South Main Street and the adjacent southern blocks of the streets named after the early civic leaders of Stillwater--Robert A. Lowry, George W. Lewis, Sanford Duncan, and David Husband. Main Street, north from Fifth Avenue, was considered one of the prime residential sections with its median covered with grass and flowers as well as trees lining the thoroughfare in front of the homes. It was one of the most desirable residential areas in early Stillwater and described as a "status avenue" (30). Elaborate homes were within easy walking distance to the downtown shopping district, college campus, and most churches. Moreover, grocery and ice delivery wagons could reach homes in a matter of minutes.

During the 1890s, the three streets to the east (Lewis, Lowry, and Chester) and the two streets to the west (Husband and Duncan) of Main Street became choice residential locations. These five north-south streets were also within walking distance to the Main Street business district. Lewis, Lowry, and Chester were located close to the Santa Fe passenger depot after 1910. Extant examples of this residential area are the William Abercrombie Home built in 1892 at 623 South Lewis Street, W.H. Wilcox Home at 310 South Husband Street built in 1895, Peter Miller Home at 424 South Duncan Street erected in c. 1895, and the Franklin Bacon Home at 1116 South Chester Street constructed in 1900.

As the residential area moved westward toward the O.A.M.C. campus, Duck (named after Simon P. Duck, one of Stillwater's pioneer families) and West (directional name because it was considered the western boundary of the town) Streets became choice residential arteries. Like Main Street, Duck had a grass and flower-covered median with trees fronting the homes. It was likewise described by local historians as a "status avenue" (31).

One of the earliest homes on Duck was the Amon Swope home at 617 South Duck. Swope was one of the first bankers in the community. This home has been moved to Thomasville, a bed and breakfast village north of town. Extant residences which stand on the original lots include the James E. Berry House, constructed in 1910 at 502 South Duck (N.R. listed 1980), Harry Hoke Home, built in 1922 at 324 South Duck, M. R. Beeson Home, erected c. 1922, at 311 South Duck, and two Prairie School style homes at 323 South Duck and 239 South Duck, both built in the 1920s. These properties along Duck were included in the College Addition. Residences that remain intact from this time period on West Street are the 1903 Frick Home (N.R. listed 1980) at 1016 South West, 1910 Suman Home at 324 South West, and the 1907 Lovell Home at 1001 South West.

Over the years, commercial development has intruded into the once tree-lined Duck Street thoroughfare. The Berry House remains intact, however, the Hoke Home has been converted into a financial institution, the Beeson Home houses a consulting firm, and the Queen Anne property at 423 South Duck is now a day care center. The beautifully-landscaped median with individual street lamps was removed in 1966.

Little residential development occurred west of the campus until the 1920s when it was replatted by the Hoke family as the College Gardens First and Second Additions and the University Circle Addition. This new residential area of Stillwater was considered at that time to be its first suburb. It was to become Stillwater's contribution to the City Beautiful Movement, a national planning idea to reduce the impact of automobiles in residential areas. With increased usage of automobiles by the 1920s, urban designers sought ways to slow traffic on residential streets. By creating a street system that was not based on a grid pattern, planners and builders relied on the development of curved and circular patterns divided by small parks and islands, for example in Stillwater, University Circle, Melrose Drive, Orchard Lane, Redwood Drive, and Arrowhead Place are laid out in this fashion with Arrowhead Park as a focal point for the area. Today, the College Gardens area is roughly bounded on the east by the campus, on the north by Admiral Avenue, on the south by University Avenue, and on the west by King's Highway (32). The housing stock remains in relatively good condition, therefore, the College Gardens area is proposed as a historic residential district in Stillwater.

A small African-American residential neighborhood had developed by 1900 in Stillwater. Residences were located primarily south of Ninth Avenue, west of Duck Street, east of Washington, and north of Twelfth Avenue. The area was known locally as "South Stillwater." The Beanery, the first black-owned business in Stillwater at the corner of Tenth and Hester, and Woodley's, or "The Store," at the corner of Twelfth and Knoblock, were the social and commercial centers for this residential area. Social institutions were a key factor in the cohesion of this residential neighborhood. These

included the Washington School and three churches--Mt. Zion Baptist, First Church of God in Christ, and Colored Methodist Episcopal (33).

“Tucker Town,” an early residential neighborhood named after the Tucker Addition plat, is located south of Fourteenth Avenue and roughly bounded on the west by Main Street, on the east by Perkins Road, and on the south by Nineteenth Avenue. It boasted a neighborhood grocery and other small retail establishments. “Tucker Town” is within the Stillwater study area and remains a residential neighborhood comprised of housing stock of the 1920s and 1930s, primarily of the Bungalow/Craftsman and National Folk architectural styles. Growth along Sixth Avenue to the east resulted in another residential neighborhood in the 1930s known as “Parkersville.” Although outside the Stillwater study area, it included some small businesses. The neighborhood developed east of Perkins Road on the north side of Sixth Avenue and was bounded on the east by Stallard Street and on the north by Virginia Street (34).

During the 1940s and 1950s, Stillwater expanded to the north of the O.A.M.C. campus along Monroe, Washington, and Duck Streets. This residential area falls to the north of McElroy Street, the northern boundary of the study area. Also in the 1950s, Stillwater began its first extension to the southwest with the Zuck Addition just off Nineteenth Avenue in the southwest part of town. The housing subdivision was developed by John and Thelma Zuck. Two more housing developments were added to the southwest part of Stillwater in the 1960s. The Sangre Ridge Addition in 1963 was developed by Buel Staton and John Head, while the Quail Ridge Addition was developed by Leland Peters. These residential areas are also located outside the Stillwater study boundaries.

In addition to the southwestern expansion, two major residential developments were platted in the 1960s and 1970s in the northeastern sector of Stillwater. The Eastern Hills Addition was developed by local lumber dealer and builder, Robert Donaldson, while Park View Estates was developed by J. C. Rodgers, a local building contractor. Both are located outside the study area as Eastern Hills is off McElroy to the north and east of Perkins Road and Park View Estates is off Perkins Road and north of Airport Road (35). Because of these two developments, Perkins Road, the eastern boundary of the Stillwater study area and once nothing more than a dirt road from Stillwater to Perkins in the 1940s, had become the primary strip development by the 1970s and was made a four-lane thoroughfare in the 1980s. Because of this growth in the northeast part of Stillwater, two new elementary schools (Skyline and Richmond) and a new Stillwater Junior High School building were constructed. The southwest expansion has witnessed a new elementary school (Sangre Ridge) and the construction of the new Stillwater Middle School, both on Sangre Ridge Road. Thus, Stillwater's growth in recent decades has been to the northeast and southwest of the study area.

Cultural Events and Social Clubs

One of the first social and recreational organizations to form in the community was the Stillwater Brass Band. Consisting of more than twenty members, the band began performing concerts in 1895. The band played concerts on Main Street and, after the Opera House and Payne County Courthouse were built, performed on stage at the Opera House or on the courthouse lawn. Another musical ensemble organized around the turn of the century was the Stillwater Orchestra with thirteen pieces.

One of the first social events in Stillwater, as reported by the local newspaper, was a grand ball held in dedication of the new Swiler Brothers General Store building. The ball was held in 1897 in conjunction with the store's grand opening.

The social calendar for Stillwater residents and O.A.M.C. faculty added the President's Reception in 1901. This tradition was continued on the campus until the 1970s. At the first reception, it is reported that the O.A.M.C. Mandolin Club and O.A.M.C. Chorus of twenty voices provided entertainment for guests.

Constructed in 1900, the Opera House at 116 East Ninth Avenue became the cultural center for Stillwater. Built by Louis J. Jardot and James W. Blouin, it was an impressive three-story brick building. Jardot provided the brick from his plant and supervised construction, while Blouin financed the building and operated a furniture store on the first floor.

The Opera House featured the first talking motion pictures in 1903. Chataouqua lecturers, such as William Jennings Bryan, performances by the Stillwater Orchestra, vaudeville acts, and high school graduations appeared on the Opera House stage. Carry Nation, the noted temperance movement leader, also lectured at the Opera House.

Two major sociocultural events occurred in 1904. The Buffalo Bill and Pawnee Bill Wild West Show appeared for the first time in Stillwater. It headlined Zack and Lucy Mulhall, famous for their rope and horseback tricks, who hailed from nearby Mulhall, while Pawnee Bill (Gordon Lillie) was from forty miles northeast of Stillwater. The second major event was the first ever Payne County Free Fair held on Stillwater's Main Street.

After the introduction of talking movies, Stillwater boasted three movie houses in the downtown area--Camera, Mecca, and Alamo. In 1921, Elmer E. Swim built a two-story brick building at 520 West Elm Street, within a block of the east side of the O.A.M.C. campus. Swim opened a movie theater in the building, however, O.A.M.C. administrators frowned upon students attending movies and the closeness of the theater to campus. Administrators required faculty members to station themselves at the theater entrance and hand out demerits to students. As a result of the college protest, the Swims converted the theater building into a shop specializing in student supplies and refreshments, such as A&M Ice Cream (36). Known as Swim's Campus Shop, the 1921 building remains standing as the Cowboy Book Store.

Almost twenty years later, the Campus Theatre at 224 South Knoblock Street was constructed. Opening in 1937, the Campus, located across University Avenue south of the campus, became a popular social outlet for O.A.M.C. students. Apparently, college officials had relented on this form of recreation. The Campus Theatre, although closed in the 1970s, remains intact as an Art Deco style building. It is currently used (1998) for a local cable television studio and dining space for the Hideaway Pizza Restaurant, located next door.

Several fraternal and veterans groups were organized in Stillwater and constructed buildings which remain extant. Among these are the Masons, American Legion, and Independent Order of the Odd Fellows. During the 1890s, the Masons formed and financed the construction of the third floor added to the two-story Lytton Hardware at 907-909 South Main. From 1901 to 1938, the Masons used the third floor as meeting space. Thereafter, they met in the Norwood School building which had been purchased

from the Stillwater school district. Both the 1901 Lytton building on Main and the 1926 Norwood School at 322 West Miller, meeting places for the Masonic Order, remain standing. The property at 322 West Miller is still used by the Masons today (1998), and the Lytton Building retains the third floor name/date plate with the Masonic emblem and the year 1901.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) organized around the turn of the century. In 1934, the group erected an impressive two-story Tudor Revival style building at 502 South Main Street. The I.O.O.F. building retains its historic appearance.

The American Legion was organized shortly after World War I as Stillwater Post No. 129. Named after one of Stillwater's heroes in World War I, Carter C. Hanner, the veterans group first met in a house on South Lewis Street. By 1919, the members had raised enough funds to build a two-story brick building at 607-609 South Main that remains intact (37).

Government

Prior to statehood, Stillwater's role as county seat of Payne County was challenged by Payne Center, a town about three miles south; Perkins, some ten miles south; and Cushing, roughly twenty miles southeast. Stillwater leaders met the challenges of Payne Center and Perkins by adding townships to the north to make Stillwater the geographical center of the county. Cushing's objection to Stillwater was more formidable because their civic leaders advanced a new county boundary proposal. This plan included all of Payne County south of the Cimarron River, a strip nine miles wide from the north side of Lincoln County, and a strip twelve miles wide from the west side of Indian Territory. Under the Cushing proposal, the new county would cover 800

square miles. This concept failed at the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention when the original Payne County boundaries were retained with Stillwater remaining as county seat. Cushing again contested Stillwater in 1914 with a new county scheme. The new county was to be carved out of eastern Payne County with Cushing as its county seat and “Shaffer” as the new county’s name. Stillwater was again able to overcome this dispute because the Cushing plan failed to receive the required 60 percent of the vote. Thus, Stillwater’s county seat status remained unchanged.

Payne County court proceedings were first held in the Stillwater Presbyterian Church sanctuary, and continued there until 1893, when the first courthouse building was constructed at a cost of \$400. This two-story, wood frame, hipped roof building was destroyed by fire in 1894. A second two-story, wood frame building was erected in 1895. It was disassembled in 1918, when a new \$153,000 Classical Revival style courthouse was built. A \$995,000 bond issue passed in 1966 allowed the 1918 building to double its capacity with a west wing addition (38). The Payne County Courthouse at 606 South Husband Street was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984.

Stillwater’s first mayors up to 1890 were J. G. Evans, J. T. Brady, and John R. Clark. Among those prominent business and civic leaders who served from 1890 to 1917 were A. W. Swope, R. L. Hester (Hester Street), Charles Knoblock (Knoblock Street), W. T. Ramsey (Ramsey Street), and Fred Stallard (Stallard Street) (39). Stillwater embraced the strong mayor-commission form of municipal government in 1917 with one commissioner elected from each of the four wards and the mayor elected at-large. This type of city government prevailed until the late 1950s when Stillwater adopted the present city-manager/commission type of government with all five commissioners

elected at-large and one designated as mayor to serve as spokesperson for the city and act as dignitary for city promotional events (40).

Conclusions

Throughout its history, Stillwater has maintained its uniqueness as a place in Oklahoma. Over the years, the community has sought diversification in the local economy and image, yet it remains a “college town”—a tradition for more than 100 years. Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College became Oklahoma State University in 1957. Along with the University of Oklahoma, it is considered one of the state’s two major instructional and research institutions of higher education in the state. Because of its former role as the agricultural college and because Oklahoma’s economy retains a strong agricultural base, farmers and ranchers throughout the state still view Stillwater as the center for agricultural education and research with its College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and College of Veterinary Medicine. Affiliated with the campus are two significant agricultural-oriented agencies and programs—Cooperative Extension Program and Agricultural Experiment Station. Both offer educational and research outreach programs to residents of the state, e.g., the state network of extension centers offer a vast list of opportunities including Future Farmers of America, Future Homemakers of America, and 4-H Club, especially for rural youth. The Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station continues its extensive research on improvement of crops and livestock—a role it has played for more than a century. And the College of Veterinary Medicine is not only a teaching unit, but also provides both small and large animal diagnostic and hospital facilities for animal owners across the state.

More recently, Stillwater has been labeled an “education center” in the state. In addition to Oklahoma State University, the Oklahoma Department of Vocational-Technical Education has been located in Stillwater since the 1920s. This complex at 1500 West Seventh Avenue serves the vast network of regional vocational-technical schools within the state.

Since the 1970s, Stillwater has attracted two additional education-oriented facilities. The Indian Meridian Vocational-Technical Center was established in 1975 and serves a multi-county area for students who seek training in a variety of vocational and technical skills. Housed in the historic Lincoln School Building at 215 East Twelfth Avenue is a regional Professional Development Center which covers an eleven-county area. Its role is to provide educators at all levels with instructional materials and to promote staff development seminars and institutes.

In addition to education, Stillwater’s role as a place has been enhanced by its location as the county seat of Payne County for more than 100 years. As the political center for county government, the Payne County Courthouse at 606 South Husband Street houses all elected officials for the county, including assessor, treasurer, clerk, and sheriff. Moreover, the Courthouse contains the District No. 9 courtroom, district attorney’s offices, and associate district judge’s office. District No. 9 covers Logan and Payne County.

From a commercial perspective, Stillwater continues to be a “Main Street” town, i.e., its business district centers on one main street rather than on a town square, typical of many Midwestern and Southern towns. Even the Payne County Courthouse is located on a side street (South Husband between Sixth and Seventh) to its main street rather than in

a central courthouse square plan. Recently, Stillwater was included in the “Main Street” program of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It is a program designed for economic development and building rehabilitation of downtown areas.

Although Stillwater has never applied to become a Certified Local Government city, which includes requirements for a preservation ordinance and preservation commission, local residents individually, e.g., Robert M. Cunningham, Raymond E. Bivert, Ward Hays, and D. Earl Newsom, and the Payne County Historical Society collectively have maintained an abiding interest and invested countless hours in documenting, chronicling, and preserving its built heritage. This has resulted in a collection of local histories and historic properties of which Stillwater can be proud.

Stillwater’s preserved properties represent different slices of time in its history and they reflect a historical concern for different aspects of the community, including a cross-section of buildings from the university campus, downtown area, and residential sections.

ENDNOTES

1. The various accounts of the founding and naming of Stillwater are found in John Alley, **City Beginnings in Oklahoma Territory** (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1939), 88-95; Raymond E. Bivert, **My Town Stillwater** (Stillwater, OK: Copy and Art, 1989), 8-15; Berlin Basil Chapman, **The Founding of Stillwater** (Oklahoma City: Times Journal Publishing, 1948), 35-59; Robert E. Cunningham, **Stillwater Through the Years** (Oklahoma City: Metro Press, 1974), 1-26; Robert E. Cunningham, **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began** (Perkins, OK: Evans Publications, 1979), 1-20; John W. Morris (ed.), **Cities of Oklahoma** (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1979), 52-53; John W. Morris et al., **Historical Atlas of Oklahoma** (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986), 48-49; and D. Earl Newsom, **Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories** (Norfolk, VA: Donning, 1989), 14-15 and 40-61.
2. George O. Carney, **Cushing Oil Field: Historic Preservation Survey** (Stillwater, OK: O.S.U. Printing Services, 1981), 9.
3. Ward Hays, **Drifting Down Memory Lane** (Perkins, OK: Evans Publications, 1985), 21.
4. George O. Carney, "Historic Context for the Agriculture Theme in Management Region # 6: 1889-1930." (Report on file at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, OK, 1988), 43.

5. Stan Hoig, "The Railroad That Opened the Unassigned Lands," in Donovan L. Hofsommer (ed.), **Railroads in Oklahoma** (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977), 19-30.
6. Carl N. Tyson, "The Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station," in Donald E. Green (ed.), **Rural Oklahoma** (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977), 128-46.
7. Francis Richard Gilmore, "A Historical Study of the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station," Unpublished Ed.D.dissertation, Oklahoma State University, 1967.
8. Carney, "Historic Context for the Agriculture Theme in Management Region # 6," 50.
9. J. O. Ellsworth and F. F. Elliott, "Types-of-Farming in Oklahoma," **Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 181** (June, 1929).
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11. Ibid., 49-59.
12. James M. Smallwood and Joseph A. Stout, Jr., **Five Frontiers in Oklahoma** (Tulsa: Utica National Bank, 1978), 70.
13. Cunningham, **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began**, 127-30.
14. Ibid., 65 and 105.
15. Newsom, 212-13.
16. Personal interview, Harold Jardot, grandson of Louis Jardot, Stillwater, OK, June 5, 1998.

17. Cunningham, **Stillwater Through the Years**, 6-10, 12-13, 18-19, 22-23, 27-29, 48-54, and 67-68; Cunningham, **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began**, 65, 105, 120-23; and Newsom, 74-75, 80, 83, 87, 163-171, 175-77, and 241.
18. Newsom, 162; Bivert, 47.
19. Cunningham, **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began**, 56.
20. Ibid., 143-50.
21. Newsom, 106-12 and 115-16.
22. Bivert, 47.
23. Sanderson, J. Lewie et al. **A History of the Oklahoma State University Campus** (Stillwater, OK: O.S.U. Printing Services, 1990), 139-42, 146-47, 157, 161, 204-09, 221-24, and 233-39.
24. Personal interview, Ron Wilkerson, Public Relations Office, Oklahoma State Department of Vocational-Technical Training, Stillwater, OK, June 5, 1998.
25. Newsom, 201.
26. Ibid., 117-25.
27. **First Presbyterian Church Directory and History** (Galion, Ohio: United Church Directories, 1994).
28. Personal interview, Mark Jones, minister of the First Church of the Nazarene, Stillwater, OK, January 22, 1998.
29. Personal interview, Dr. Earl Mitchell, Vice-President for Multicultural Affairs, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, February 15, 1998.
30. Cunningham, **Stillwater Through the Years**, 58.
31. Ibid.

32. David W. Harrell, "College Gardens Historic District," Unpublished manuscript, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, December 16, 1997.
33. Personal interview, Dr. Earl Mitchell, Vice-President for Multicultural Affairs, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK, June 6, 1998.
34. Personal interview, D. Earl Newsom, local historian and author, Stillwater, OK, June 6, 1998.
35. Newsom, 198-99.
36. Newsom, 83; Cunningham, **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began**, 201-11.
37. Cunningham, **Stillwater Through the Years**, 129-35.
38. Newsom, 94-103.
39. Bivert, 27-29.
40. Personal interview, Karen Mullendore, Stillwater City Commissioner, Stillwater, OK, June 7, 1998.

XII. ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Aldrich, Gene. "Pioneers and Pioneer Life in Payne County." Unpublished Master's thesis, Oklahoma A & M College, 1938.

This thesis includes chapters on the opening and settlement of Payne County, the founding of Oklahoma A & M College, and biographies of several early pioneers.

Alley, John. **City Beginnings in Oklahoma Territory**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1939.

A special section devoted to the founding of Stillwater and the establishment of Oklahoma A & M College, pp. 88-95.

Baird, W. David and Goble, Danney. **The Story of Oklahoma**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994.

The most recent history of the state that mentions Stillwater on pp. 174, 180, 301, 303, 342, 351, 455, and 464.

Bassler, Clarence S. "Heritage Day Collections." 16 volumes. Stillwater Public Library, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

A compilation of informal stories on early day Stillwater.

Bivert, Raymond E. **My Town Stillwater: A Quick Facts Review of Stillwater, Oklahoma on its 100th Anniversary, 1889-1989**. Stillwater, OK: Vonda Evans, 1989.

Presents numerous facts on Stillwater such as Stillwater's Firsts (bank, post office, postmaster, newspaper, hospital, mayor, school, store, and church). Several other events in the history of Stillwater are outlined including the paving of Main Street and the construction of the brick and broom factories.

Bollinger, C.J. **The Geography of Oklahoma**. Chicago: Rand McNally, 1930.

Among the earliest comprehensive geographies of Oklahoma. It contains valuable information on the physical geography of the state as well as excellent maps prepared by Rand McNally, one of the best cartography companies.

Bormann, Carol. "Influence on Commercial Architecture: Stillwater, O.T., 1889-1907." **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 73 (Summer 1995), 226-39.

The author traces the development of commercial architecture in Stillwater during its first two decades and describes the changes of commercial buildings,

both inside and out. Excellent use of Sanborn maps.

Bray, A.C. "Railroads and Railroad Building in Oklahoma." Unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1923.

One of the best early accounts of railroads in Oklahoma before the Hofsommer anthology.

Brown, Kenny L. and Fischer, LeRoy H. "Old Central: A Pictorial Essay." **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 55 (Winter 1977-78), 403-23.

Authored by an Oklahoma State University professor of history and one of his graduate students, the essay offers a brief text and more than twenty photos of the oldest building on the Oklahoma State University campus.

Buchanan, James S. and Dale, Edward E. **A History of Oklahoma**. New York: Row, Peterson, and Company, 1924.

Designed and written as a textbook, this book is historically sound and one of the best brief surveys of Oklahoma history up to 1920.

Buck, Solon J. "The Settlement of Oklahoma." **Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters** 15 (1907): 325-380.

This research monograph is one of the most detailed and well documented sources on the land runs into Oklahoma and Indian Territories.

Butler, Clarence A. "Social Aspects of an Oil Community." Unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1929.

Although the focus of this thesis does not emphasize a particular oil field town, it outlines the social conditions that have occurred in oil field towns in general.

Chapel, Mary Louise Johnstone. "A Historical Study of Two Residences in Stillwater, Oklahoma: 1890-1900." Unpublished Master's Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1952.

Focuses primarily on two residences in Stillwater, Orlando M. Eyler House and Franklin N. Bacon House, but also gives information on the founding of Stillwater as well as a list of houses built between 1890 and 1900. The list includes more than 100 properties, each with street address, lot and block number, and year constructed.

Chapman, Berlin B. **The Founding of Stillwater: A Case Study in Oklahoma History.** Oklahoma City: Times Journal Publishing Company, 1983.

An exhaustive and well-documented account of Stillwater's early history from the 1884 Boomer Colony to 1900. Especially useful are the chapters on "Homesteaders" and "Stillwater Town Company."

_____. **The Early History of Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College.** Stillwater, OK: n. p., 1929.

Written by one of the Oklahoma A & M College history faculty members, this publication details the first years of the Stillwater-based college.

Clark, Carter Blue. "The Genesis of County and County Seat Contests in Oklahoma." Unpublished Master's Thesis, University of Oklahoma, 1970.

Valuable for county boundary and county seat contests including the Payne County dispute between Stillwater and Cushing.

Cunningham, Robert E. **Stillwater: Where Oklahoma Began.** Stillwater: Arts and Humanities Council of Stillwater, 1969.

Twenty-two chapters covering the 1884 Boomer Colony to Stillwater of the 1960s. Narrative is based on author's collection of Stillwater photographs while working as a journalist and graphic artist in the community.

_____. **Stillwater Through the Years.** Stillwater: Arts and Humanities Council of Stillwater, 1974.

A companion volume to the 1969 book. Twenty-three chapters center on photo essays including "Oldest Buildings and Their Builders," "Main Street Through the Years," and "Early-Time Schools and Churches."

Debo, Angie. **Oklahoma: Footloose and Fancy-Free.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949.

Authored by one of the most knowledgeable scholars on the Oklahoma story, this book chronicles more than mere political history. It gives insight to the character of Oklahomans, especially their social and cultural history. Mentions Stillwater on pp. 32, 79, 94, 183, and 219.

Development of a Historic Context for the Agriculture Theme in Management
Region # 6: 1889-1930. Report prepared by George O. Carney, Department of
Geography, Oklahoma State University, 1988. Report located at the State Historic
Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Discusses agricultural-related industries established in Stillwater, including cotton
gins, flour mills, broom factories, and two cigar manufacturers for tobacco
producers.

Doran, Michael Frank. "Origins of Culture Areas in Oklahoma, 1830-1930."
Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Oregon, 1974

This dissertation by a geographer is an exhaustive treatment of migration sources
into Oklahoma and how these migrants affected the culture regionalization of
Oklahoma.

Eddings, Anna. "The College Circle and College Gardens Historic District."
Unpublished manuscript, Department of History, Oklahoma State University,
1998.

A graduate student paper for an Oklahoma State University historic preservation
seminar. Very helpful on names of residents who occupied the various homes in
the College Circle and College Gardens Additions to Stillwater. Some useful
facts on the Hoke family who developed these two additions.

Ellsworth, J.O. and Elliott, F. F., "Types of Farming in Oklahoma." **Oklahoma
Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin No. 181** (June 1929).

This is an invaluable analysis of the state's agricultural regions up to c. 1930.
Divides the state into wheat and cotton belts.

Energy in Management Region Six, 1912-1951. Historic Context Report prepared by Bill
Bryans, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1991. Report located
at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

A list and map of Payne County oil fields is presented in this report.

Estill, Emma A. "The Openings of Oklahoma." Unpublished Master's Thesis, University
of Oklahoma, 1923.

This graduate level thesis is an invaluable source for the Land Runs of 1889,
1891, 1893, and 1895.

European Ethnic Experience in Oklahoma, 1870-1920. Region Six. Resource Protection Planning Project report prepared by Scott Baxter, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1986. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

No historic ethnic-related properties in Stillwater were included in this report.

Exploration in Oklahoma, 1540-1860. Resource Protection Planning Project report prepared by Joseph Stout, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1986. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

No exploration sites in or around Stillwater were included in this report.

Fischer, LeRoy H. **Historic Old Central**. Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University Press, 1988.

A thorough account of the oldest building on the Oklahoma State University campus. It is especially valuable on the building's architecture, pp. 257-63.

Forbes, Charles Gerald. "The Origin and Early Development of the Oil Industry in Oklahoma." Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation, University of Oklahoma, 1939.

Later converted into book form, the author traces the major oil fields in Oklahoma from 1905 to 1935.

Foreman, Grant. **A History of Oklahoma**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1942.

A standardized account of the state written by one of the most prolific authors on Oklahoma history.

Franks, Kenny A. **The Oklahoma Petroleum Industry**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

This is the best overview of petroleum history in Oklahoma.

Fugate, Francis L. and Roberta B. **Roadside History of Oklahoma**. Missoula, Montana: Mountain Press, 1991.

One of the most recent travelogues of Oklahoma. Stillwater is covered on pp. 170-171.

Gibson, A.M. **A Guide to Regional Manuscripts in the Division of Manuscripts - University of Oklahoma Library.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1960.

This guide gives several collections dealing with Oklahoma Territory in which Stillwater was located.

Gibson, Arrell. **Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries.** Norman: Harlow Publishing, 1965.

This book became the most widely-used textbook for Oklahoma history classes in the state's school system. Authored by a University of Oklahoma history professor who was the state's leading historian until his recent death.

Gittinger, Roy. **The Formation of the State of Oklahoma, 1803-1906.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1939.

A scholarly history of events leading up to the creation of the state.

Goins, Charles R. and Morris, John W. **Oklahoma Homes: Past and Present.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

This handsome collection of photographs plus introductory text categorizes Oklahoma homes by chronological period. Covers only one house in Stillwater (James Berry Home).

Gould, Charles N. **Oklahoma Place Names.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1933.

Before the Shirk book, this was the only book-length treatment of the origin of names of cities, rivers, towns, and mountains in Oklahoma.

_____. **Travels Through Oklahoma.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1930.

This source authored by a University of Oklahoma professor gives superb physical geography information, especially topography, soils, and vegetation.

Grain Storage and Processing Facilities in Western Oklahoma. National Register Multiple Property Nomination prepared by George O. Carney, Department of Geography, Oklahoma State University, 1992. Nomination on file at the state Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, OK.

None of the grain processing facilities in Stillwater covered in this study.

Green, Donald E. (ed.) **Rural Oklahoma**. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977.

This collection of readings edited by one of the state's most reputable historians consists of articles on specific crops and livestock that played an important role in Oklahoma's agricultural history. One of the chapters is on the "Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station" located in Stillwater, pp.128-146.

Guthrey, E. Bee. "Early Days in Payne County," **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 3 (April 1925): 74-80.

Discusses the possible location of the Territorial penitentiary in Stillwater and the eventual trade for the Agricultural and Mechanical College. Includes information on early Stillwater leaders including Swope, Lowry, Wikoff, Clark, and Andrews.

Hale, Douglas. **The Germans from Russia in Oklahoma**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

This book in the "Newcomers to a New Land" series features some valuable information on the settlements in Payne County, especially the Bieberdorf and Friedemann families which helped establish the Salem Lutheran Church in Stillwater, pp. 13-14.

Harlow, Victor E. **Oklahoma: Its Origin and Development**. Oklahoma City: Harlow Publishing Company, 1935.

The chapter on "Attempts to Open Oklahoma for Settlement by White Men" (Chapter 37) covers William L. Couch and the Boomers Colony on Stillwater Creek, December 12, 1884.

Harrell, David W. "College Gardens Historic District." Unpublished manuscript, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1997.

An undergraduate student paper that presented some basic information on the development of the College Circle and College Gardens Additions in Stillwater. Includes a map of the additions, but filled with several inaccurate dates and architectural style descriptions.

Hastings, James K. "Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College and Old Central," **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 11 (December 1933): 1084-1110.

One of the first historical examinations of the Oklahoma A & M campus and its most historic building.

Hays, Ward. "Early Day Stillwater in a Nutshell." **Payne County Historical Review** 2 (July 1981): 1-10.

Several early day commercial establishments are mentioned including the four hotels as well as the Jardot Opera House.

_____. **Drifting Down Memory Lane: 89 Years of Memoirs of Early Day Stillwater, Payne County, and Oklahoma.** Perkins, OK: Evans Publications, 1985.

Chapters II (Early Stillwater) and III (Oklahoma A & M College) are most helpful. Several historic photographs of early day commercial establishments.

Henderson, Arn, Frank Parman, and Dortha Henderson. **Architecture in Oklahoma: Landmark and Vernacular.** Norman, OK: Point Riders Press, 1978.

This book includes a collection of excellent photographs on a wide array of buildings and structures taken throughout the state. It is organized by chronological periods. The only Stillwater building included is Old Central on the Oklahoma State University campus (p. 99).

Hill, Luther B. **History of the State of Oklahoma.** Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1908.

An early attempt to tell the story of Oklahoma from the date of the Louisiana Purchase through the formation of the state.

Hoffine's Stillwater and Payne County Directory for 1910. Oklahoma City: Hoffine Directory Company, 1910.

An invaluable source for location and types of businesses in early Stillwater.

Hofsommer, Donovan L. (ed.) **Railroads in Oklahoma.** Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1977.

This author probably knows more about Oklahoma railroad history than any other student of the subject. This anthology provides general information as to dates of construction of the railways that influenced the development of Stillwater.

Hoig, Stan. **The Oklahoma Land Rush of 1889.** Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1984.

A well-written account that discusses the Boomer Colony, the controversy between the Stillwater Town Company and Garnett Brooks, and the homestead allocations by Husband, Duncan, and Lowry.

_____. "The Old Payne Trail and the Boomer Colony Sites." **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 58 (Summer 1980), 151-60.

A well-written account of David L. Payne's trail into the Unassigned Lands accompanied by an excellent map indicating the site of the Stillwater settlement.

Hudiburg, Everett E. **Beside the Still-Water: A Fire Protection Chronicle, 1885-1977.** Oklahoma City: Metro Press, 1977.

Covers the Fire Station and Training School on the Oklahoma A & M College campus which opened in 1939 and remains an extant property.

Johnson, Kenneth *et al.* **Geology and Earth Resources of Oklahoma.** Norman: Oklahoma Geological Survey, 1972.

A handsome booklet laced with numerous maps, charts, and graphs developed by the leading geologist of the state.

Joyce, Davis D. (ed.). **An Oklahoma I Had Never Seen Before: Alternative Views of Oklahoma History.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1994.

Several new interpretations of Oklahoma history are given in this collection of nineteen original essays.

Kamm, Robert B. *et al.* **The First Hundred Years: Oklahoma State University People, Programs, Places.** Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University Press, 1990.

A detailed compilation of photographs and text from the multivolumed Oklahoma State University Centennial Series which Kamm also edited.

Kephart, John H. "A Pictorial Study of Oklahoma A. and M. College, 1891-1942." Unpublished Master's Thesis, Oklahoma A & M College, 1942.

One of the first photo essays covering the campus.

Lowry, Robert A. "Sketch of the Early History of Payne County." Stillwater Gazette, February 1, 1918.

An informal early history of the county where Stillwater is located and serves as the county seat.

McCormick, Peggy. **Making A Home in Stillwater.** Perkins, OK: Evans Publications, 1989.

Includes biographical accounts of several prominent families in Stillwater including Walter A. Adams, James E. Berry, Melvin Flick, Jake Katz, Asa Lovell, James A. Oursler, Louis Freeman, C. C. Platt, Herb Ricker, Leslie Swim, and A. W. Swope. A number of historic photographs of the families and their residences.

McReynolds, Edwin C. **Oklahoma: A History of the Sooner State.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1954.

A detailed political history of the state written by an Oklahoma State University history professor, it became a college textbook for Oklahoma history courses.

Meredith, Howard L. and Meredith, Mary Ellen. **Of the Earth: Oklahoma Architectural History.** Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1980.

This collection of readings covers a myriad of house types, building materials, and renowned architects in the state. The chapter on "Oklahoma Territorial Building Stone" contains a map of quarries in Payne County and lists Stillwater as one of the sites for sandstone quarries (p. 68).

Morgan, H. Wayne and Morgan, Ann Hodges. **Oklahoma: A Bicentennial History.** New York: W.W. Norton, 1977.

This was the commissioned bicentennial history of Oklahoma in 1976. Authored by a husband-wife team, it is an outstanding overview of the state with some new interpretations. Mentions Stillwater on pp. 53, 109, and 148.

Morris, John W. (ed.) **Cities of Oklahoma.** Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1979.

A useful anthology that includes some information on pp. 30, 37, 149, and 151 as well as a short history of Stillwater on pp. 52-53.

Morris, John W. **Ghost Towns of Oklahoma.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977.

One ghost town is located in Payne County—Ingalls. It is located approximately ten miles east and one mile south of Stillwater.

Morris, John W. et al. **Historical Atlas of Oklahoma**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1986.

This is the best atlas of Oklahoma. It covers a variety of topics from cattle trails to railroads. The textual material accompanying the maps is brief, but informative. Stillwater is mentioned on pp. 49, 54, 55, 57, 59, 60, 68, 70, 74, 75, and 78. Maps show Stillwater's position in the Unassigned Lands of 1889 and in Oklahoma Territory from 1890 to 1899.

Murphy, Patrick M. **A History of Oklahoma State University Student Life and Services**. Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University Printing, 1988.

A helpful volume on the history of Greek social organizations and other campus activity at Oklahoma State University.

Newson, D. Earl. **A Pictorial History of Stillwater: One Hundred Years of Memories**. Norfolk, VA: Donning Company, 1989.

More than 300 photographs illustrate the history of Stillwater from the Boomer movement to the 1980s. Includes sixteen chapters and a bibliography. Useful for dates of construction and street addresses of extant buildings.

Oklahoma Almanac. 2 vols. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Publishing Company, 1930-31.

Now dated, this two-volume set is a storehouse of statistics on Oklahoma during the period from statehood through the 1920s.

Oklahoma Almanac Forty-Sixth Edition Revised. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Department of Libraries, 1997-98.

Contains a brief history of Stillwater on p. 504.

Overby, Houston. **Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College Yesterday and Today**. Jefferson City, MO: Hugh Stephenson Press, 1927.

One of the early historical accounts of the founding and development of Oklahoma A & M College in Stillwater.

Portrait and Biographical Record of Oklahoma. Chicago: Chapman Publishing Company, 1910.

Several of Stillwater pioneer names are included in this directory.

Purvis, Dan Adrian. "Empire of Shaffer: The County That Never Was." **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 64 (Fall 1986), 77-90.

An excellent account of the battle between Stillwater and Cushing over county seats and boundaries. The proposed Shaffer County, if it had been approved by voters, would have taken land from three counties—Lincoln, Creek, and Payne—with the new county seat at Cushing.

Ranching in Central Oklahoma: Region Six. Resource Protection Planning Project report prepared by Mary Ann Anders, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1985. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Two of the known historic ranch sites were located in southwestern Payne County.

Reps, John W. **Cities of the American West: A History of Frontier Urban Planning.** Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1979.

The townsite plan of Stillwater, Oklahoma for 1890 is shown on p. 653.

Rister, Carl Coke. **Land Hunger: David L. Payne and the Oklahoma Boomers.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1942.

One of the best and most scholarly treatments of Payne and the Boomers.

Roark, Michael. "Searching for the Hearth: Culture Areas of Oklahoma." **Chronicles of Oklahoma**, LXX (Winter, 1992-93), 416-31.

A useful article on settlement patterns in Oklahoma by a cultural geographer who gives source areas for migrants into the state and how they shaped its political and religious history.

Roark, Michael. "Oklahoma Territory: Frontier Development, Migration, and Culture Areas." Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation, Syracuse University, 1979.

Excellent analysis of migration, settlement patterns, and cultural regionalization of Oklahoma Territory.

Rulon, Philip Reed. **Oklahoma State University—Since 1890.** Stillwater: Oklahoma State University Press. 1975.

A comprehensive account of Oklahoma State University from 1890 to the 1970s.

Ruth, Kent and Argo, Jim. **Window on the Past: Historic Places in Oklahoma.** Oklahoma City: Western Heritage Press, 1982.

Photos and text covers Old Central (pp. 100-101) on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater.

Ruth, Kent. **Oklahoma Travel Handbook.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1977.

Compiled by one of Oklahoma's most noted historians, this is a travelogue of the state, but contains brief histories of each community including Stillwater on p. 124 discussing incorporation of the city in 1891 and the issuance of \$10,000 bonds for the construction of the Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps-Stillwater, Oklahoma

These are valuable primary sources for construction materials, types of commercial establishments, lot and block numbers, plat name, and dates of construction. A must for conducting historic property surveys.

Sanderson, J. Lewie et al. **A History of the Oklahoma State University Campus.** Stillwater, OK: Oklahoma State University Press, 1990.

An invaluable resource for dates of construction, architects, and builders of campus buildings prior to 1990.

Settlement Patterns in the Unassigned Lands. Region Six. Resource Protection Planning Project report prepared by Mary Ann Anders, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1984. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Discusses Boomer movement led by David L. Payne and William Couch as well as homesteading and town building in Region Six that includes Payne County.

Shirk, George H. **Oklahoma Place Names.** Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1974.

This is the most recent study on the origins of city and county names in Oklahoma.

Snider, L.C. **Geography of Oklahoma.** Norman: Oklahoma Geological Survey, 1917.

This study provides some excellent physical geography information on the state.

Sorey, Tom, Jr. "Sorey Hill and Sorey: Architects with a Civil Conscience." **Chronicles of Oklahoma** 71 (Winter 1993-94), 356-75.

Chronicles the architectural firm that designed several buildings in Stillwater, including the Municipal Building as well as Cordell Hall, Edmon Low Library, and Student Union on the O.S.U. campus.

Starr, Emmet. **Encyclopedia of Oklahoma**. Oklahoma City: Private Printing, 1912.

The first statistical handbook on Oklahoma following statehood.

Structures Representative of the Industrialization of the Seven Central Counties of Oklahoma, 1889-1929. Region Six. Resource Protection Planning Project report prepared by Mary Ann Anders, Department of History, Oklahoma State University. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Two properties in Stillwater are included –Thomas Plummer Perfection Mills (Stillwater A & M Milling Company) at 521 East Sixth Street, built in the 1890s, and the Frank P. Kirby Broom Company (Treat Masonry and Materials) at 411 East Ninth, constructed c. 1910.

Thoburn, Joseph B. and Wright, Muriel H. **Oklahoma: A History of the State and Its People**. New York: Lewis Publishing Company, 1929.

A four-volume set gives a detailed story on Oklahoma to the 1920s.

"Thomas J. Hoyt Remembers." **Stillwater News-Press**, August 18, 1946.

Outlines several firsts for Stillwater including water system, sawmill, sidewalk, and two-story wood frame building.

Transportation in Oklahoma to 1920. Region Six. Resource Protection Planning Report prepared by Scott Baxter, Department of History, Oklahoma State University, 1986. Report located at the State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, OK.

Five historic transportation properties are listed for Payne County with one in Stillwater—Santa Fe Depot at 400 East Tenth Street.

Wallace, Donna K. **Stillwater Walking Tour**. Stillwater, OK: Frontier Printers, 1995.

Thirty buildings are covered with photographs and brief text. Primarily covers downtown properties. It is the most recent walking tour of Stillwater.

Warde, Mary Jane. "Berlin B. Chapman's Early History of Stillwater and Vicinity." **Payne County Historical Review** 2 (July 1981): 18-22.

Lists the Chapman collection of original documents in the National Archives associated with the founding of Stillwater—located in the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Oklahoma State University Library. Includes such items as the Stillwater townsite application of August 17, 1889 and the first census of "Stillwater City" in 1890.

Webb, Madeline. **A Heritage Trail of Early Stillwater Homes**. Stillwater, OK: Arts and Humanities Council, 1975.

More than eighty historic properties are documented, mostly houses, with street addresses, dates of construction, and early occupants. Also mentions Lincoln School, Citizens Bank, Peck's Lunch Shop, Jardot Brick Yard, and Stillwater's first hospital.

Withers, Vicki Dale. "A Check List of Theses and Dissertations Relating to Oklahoma History Completed at the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University Through 1972." Unpublished Master's Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1974.

Although needs updating, this is a valuable source. Other disciplines need to follow this model. First part is organized by topic and second section is arranged by county and city names.

WPA Guide to 1930s Oklahoma. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1986.

With a new introduction by Anne Hodges Morgan, this is an updated version of the 1941 edition compiled by the Writer's Program of the Works Progress Administration. Contains an excellent section on Stillwater, pp. 198-203.

Wright, Muriel. **A Guide to the Indian Tribes of Oklahoma**. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1951.

The Iowa tribe, located in southern Payne County, is discussed.

_____. **The Story of Oklahoma.** Oklahoma City: Webb Publishing Company, 1929-30.

Chapter 26 covers David L. Payne and the Boomer movement, Chapter 27 includes material on the opening of Oklahoma Territory, and p. 304 highlights the founding of Oklahoma A & M College in Stillwater.

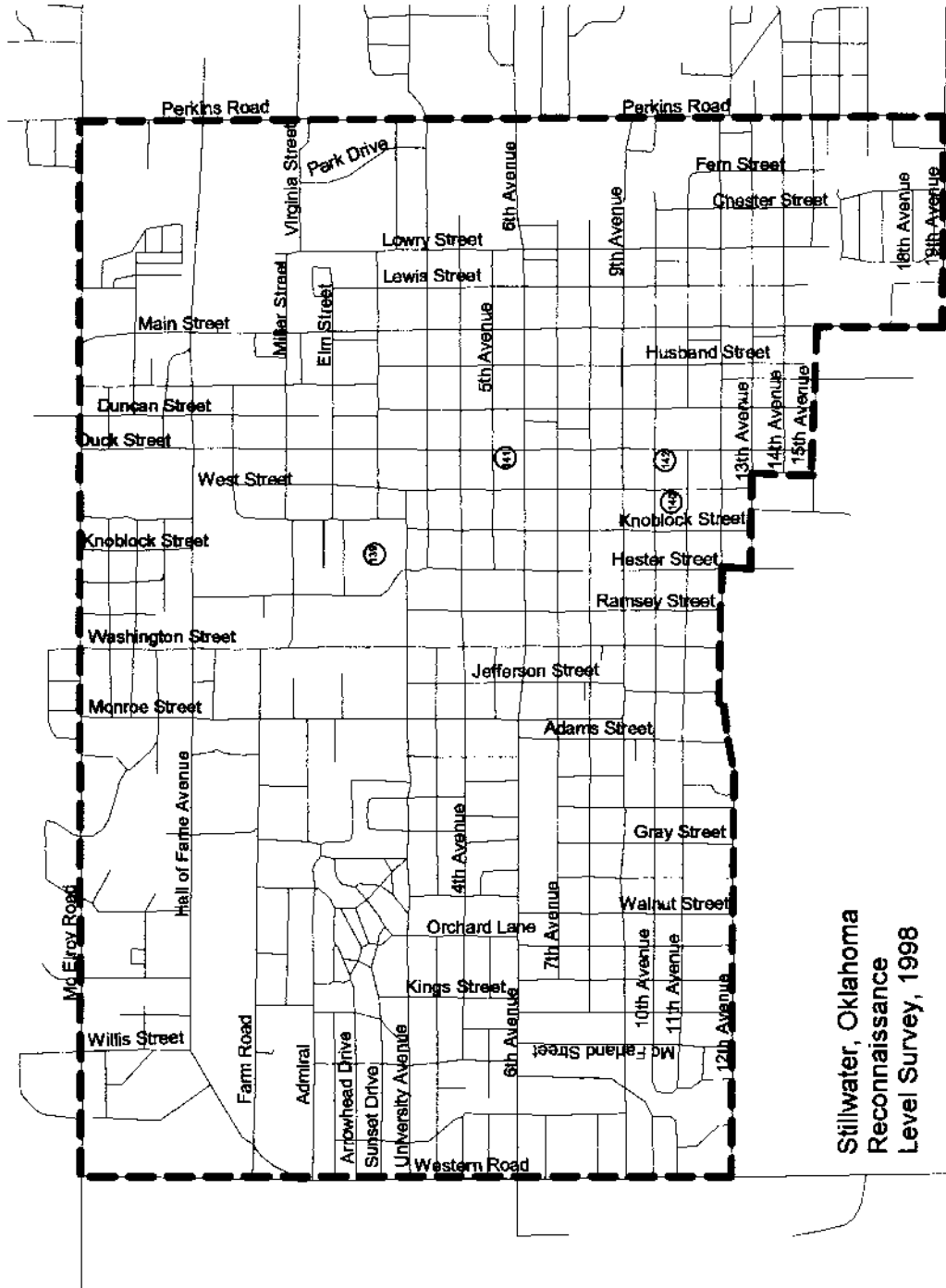
XIII. SUMMARY

The Reconnaissance Level Survey of a Portion of Stillwater, Oklahoma identified and evaluated a total of 142 properties in the study area specified by OK/SHPO. All properties were surveyed with minimum level documentation including completion of the OK/SHPO Historic Preservation Resource Identification Form and at least two 5 X 7 B/W prints.

- (1) Ten (10) individual properties were recommended for National Register consideration.
- (2) Fifty-four (54) individual properties were suggested for additional study.
- (3) Forty-eight (48) properties were surveyed as contributing resources to the three proposed districts—O.S.U. Campus District (22), College Gardens Residential District (18), and Greek Row District (8).
- (4) Four (4) National Register listed properties were surveyed and updated with form and photographs: Old Central (1971), William Frick Home (1980), James E. Berry Home (1980), and Santa Fe Depot (1980). Locations are mapped on the next page.
- (5) Thumbnail sketches for three (3) proposed districts were outlined with tentative boundaries and justifications for intensive level surveys.
- (6) Twenty-one (21) individual properties that were surveyed did not qualify for additional investigation, but are included in the 142 total number.

National Register Updates

*Map keyed to
Section IX



Stillwater, Oklahoma
Reconnaissance
Level Survey, 1998

- (7) Six (6) noncontributing resources to the three proposed districts were surveyed.
- (8) Five (5) thumbnail sketches of areas did not meet qualifications for intensive level surveys.
- (9) Approximately seventy of the individual properties surveyed were residential (single or multiple). This was by far the dominant kind of property surveyed in Stillwater.
- (10) Thirty of the individual properties in Stillwater were educational, including twenty-three college buildings, six schools, and one library. This was the second leading category in kinds of property.
- (11) Nine commercial properties were surveyed in Stillwater—the third highest number in property types.
- (12) Additional kinds of properties represented in Stillwater included religious (7), recreational (3), transportation (2), government (2), industrial (2), social (2), and defense (1).
- (13) Residential areas in Stillwater are characterized by an exceptional variety in architecture including both vernacular and high styles. Among these are National Folk (Pyramidal, Hall-and-Parlor, Shotgun, and I-House), Bungalow/Craftsman (classic and airplane), Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival, Romanesque, French Eclectic, Ranch, Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, Art Deco, Late Gothic Revival, Prairie School, and Tudor Revival.

Two general architectural movements, however, appear to dominate the vocabulary of the houses surveyed: Victorian (1860-1900) and Eclectic (1880-1940).

- (14) The commercial area in Stillwater is characterized by one-to-three-story buildings, primarily of the Commercial Style. None of the commercial buildings in Stillwater reached skyscraper proportions. A vast majority of the Stillwater commercial buildings have red brick wall cladding. Decorative elements are minimal, primarily at the upper levels.
- (15) The O.A.M.C./O.S.U. college buildings are dominated by the Colonial Revival style, however, three Classical Revival and one Romanesque are present on the campus.
- (16) Of the five schools in Stillwater, two were Tudor Revival, two were Art Deco, and one reflected no distinctive style.
- (17) Ten former or present fraternity/sorority houses were identified in the Stillwater study area—four were Tudor Revival, three were Colonial Revival, two were Classical Revival, and one Bungalow/Craftsman (Airplane Bungalow).
- (18) Seven churches in Stillwater were evaluated for their architectural significance and five architectural styles were represented, including First Nazarene and Zion Lutheran (Tudor Revival), St. Francis Catholic and First Methodist (Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival),

First Baptist (Colonial Revival), First Presbyterian (Late Gothic Revival), and First Christian Science (Classical Revival).

Overall, Stillwater possesses numerous cultural resources that meet age eligibility requirements and retain some degree of architectural and/or historic significance. An intensive level survey is endorsed for portions of Stillwater. Several individual properties and proposed districts that retain a high level of historic and architectural integrity deserve immediate attention and early nomination to the National Register, whereas other individual properties and proposed districts are in need of rehabilitation.

In terms of individual properties, several are included on a proposed endangered historic properties list for Stillwater. These are:

1. The four pre-statehood residences in Stillwater (Bacon Home [1900], Abercrombie Home [c.1892], Miller Home [c.1895], and Wilcox Home [1895]) are the oldest remaining single family dwellings in the study area. The Bacon, Miller, and Wilcox Homes need immediate rehabilitation, while the Abercrombie Home is being converted into a bed and breakfast operation with undetermined changes.
2. The Lytton Building/Masonic Lodge Hall is the only remaining pre-statehood three-story commercial building on Main Street in Stillwater. It requires rehabilitation and occupancy.
3. The Kappa Delta Sorority House at 703 West University Avenue remains intact, but has been converted into an apartment building.
4. The status of the First Methodist Church, an exceptional example of the

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival style, is uncertain. After a city-wide vote on closing Seventh Avenue was defeated last year, a concept presented by the church, church leaders currently state they will build elsewhere.

Top priority for National Register nominations that could be included in existing Thematic Resources are:

1. The two W. P. A. buildings in Stillwater (Stillwater National Guard Armory and Stillwater Public Library) should be considered for the W. P. A. Public Buildings Thematic Resources (N. R. listed 1988), although Region Six, which includes Payne County, was not included in the thematic resources nomination.
2. The Going Hotel, a commercial building on West Seventh Avenue, could be added to the Commercial Buildings in Stillwater Thematic Resources (N. R. listed 1983), consisting of three buildings (Hoke, Selph, and Walker) also located on West Seventh Avenue.

Three of the ten individual properties that have been recommended for National Register consideration deserve special attention, often because they are overlooked in the Stillwater community. First and foremost is the Thomas N. Berry Mansion at 2802 South Perkins Road. Although located outside the designated Stillwater study area, this home should be given top priority because of its outstanding Classical Revival detailing and because of its historic association with Thomas N. Berry, one of Stillwater's civic and commercial leaders in the first half of this century. Morrill Hall [1906] is the second oldest intact building on the O.S.U. campus (Morrill and Old Central are the only pre-statehood buildings that remain on the campus) and has retained its Classical Revival

architectural integrity. Finally, the I. O. O. F. Building, a Tudor Revival property, has stood in pristine condition at 502 South Main Street for the past sixty-four years.

In terms of districts, it is suggested that the O.S.U. Campus District and the College Gardens Residential District be given strongest consideration for an intensive level survey because of their high density of intact historic properties of exceptional architectural integrity and a high rate of contributing resources.

Stillwater has preserved a myriad of cultural resources representing different time periods in its history from the Territorial Era to the post-World War II period. Moreover, these resources reflect different segments of the community ranging from residences and churches to commercial and educational properties. Therefore, community leaders and citizens of Stillwater should be encouraged to emphasize properties that are representative of these slices of time and serve as historic reminders of various aspects of the community's past. It should be noted that Stillwater possesses several excellent examples of adaptive reuse, i. e., use of historic buildings for purposes other than their original function. Among those cited would be the Stillwater Public Library, which currently houses a computer software firm; Stillwater Junior High, which now serves as the Stillwater Community Center, including the Winfrey Houston Theater; Stillwater High School, which is incorporated as a section in the new Stillwater Public Library; Thomas N. Berry Mansion, which is used by the Berry Family descendants as an office complex; Connell/Swim Home, currently occupied by Eskimo Joe's International Headquarters offices; United States Post Office, converted into office space as the Postal Plaza; and Peck's Lodge, which houses a retail clothing store, barber shop, and offices. Finally, citizens interested in preservation should be encouraged to form preservation

alliances, or as a committee within the local historical society, e. g., Payne County Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, or other local organization; and to seek support and assistance from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), a division of the Oklahoma Historical Society in Oklahoma City.

XIV. ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW

It has been a long held belief that architecture is a reflection of a particular culture's values. Through the built environment one is able to see where a culture, or community as in the case of Stillwater, Oklahoma, chooses to spend its time, efforts and money. The purpose of this architectural review is three-fold:

- (1) to make observations, based upon the evidence provided by the built environment, as to the values of the early community of Stillwater, Oklahoma;
- (2) to identify the most architecturally significant properties within the study area; and
- (3) to respond to the architectural qualities of the survey itself.

As with most other communities, early development in Stillwater centered around the main source of transportation, the railroad. Located on the southeast side of town, the train depot and industrial areas are near the intersection of two creeks and at the base of a hill. Downtown grew to the west and to the north of the train depot and became the location of most businesses, early schools, and the first churches in Stillwater. The university was located further to the northwest. As an agricultural and mechanical college, this permitted connection to the rural areas for both experiments and future growth. The location of community related housing occurred primarily around the downtown with university housing clustered closer to the campus.

Community Development:

As we consider the main community of Stillwater, we can begin near the railroad tracks. Industrial facilities developed adjacent to the railroad tracks. Initial commercial development climbed the hill along Ninth Avenue. The best architectural example of this

early development is found in the Citizen's Bank building, a sandstone one-part commercial structure located near the southeast corner of Ninth and Main. Eventually the main commercial area developed north and south along the top of the hill (Main Street). This location provided a cleaner and healthier environment away from the potential flooding and industrial activities at the base of the hill. This illustrates the common Modern planning approach of separating uses during this period in history.

Downtown is comprised primarily of two-part commercial structures that are average in quality. While this is true in general, there are several structures worthy of identification as being higher-than-average in quality. Typically those occur in civic buildings, gathering facilities, and religious structures. Civic buildings contributing to this quality are the original U. S. Post Office/Searcy Grocery (a two-part commercial corner building at Seventh and Main, with fairly sophisticated brick detailing at the upper levels of the building); the larger U. S. Post Office located at 720 South Husband, a well-proportioned Classical Revival design; and the original Stillwater Public Library, a Classical Revival structure developed as part of the Carnegie Library program. The J. E. Powell/Diamond Drug Building located at 720 South Main is a two-part commercial building with very interesting brick cornice work. The McNeff Building, located at Seventh and Husband, is a brick two-part commercial structure with creative stone applique.

Gathering facilities in the downtown area are best exemplified by the W. P. A.-developed National Guard Armory at 315 East Ninth, an aggressive stone structure; the I.O.O.F. Building (Odd Fellows Hall), a two-part brick structure with very creative and energetic stone details; and the Lytton Hardware/Masonic Lodge at 907-909 South Main,

a brick three-part commercial building whose quality development occurs at the upper two levels of the building (unfortunately this structure has sat unoccupied for some time).

The Leachman Theater at 424 South Main is a rather average quality Art Deco building. Adjacent to campus, the Campus Theater (another average quality Art Deco building) and the Tudor Revival Peck's Lodge Building at 225-229 South Knoblock also fit this category.

Early religious structures are located primarily between the downtown and the campus, attempting to connect to both parts of town. The First Presbyterian Church at 524 South Duncan, an elaborate Gothic Revival structure which the survey has indicated is compromised in character because of later additions, is one of the most prominent and handsome structures in town. The First Christian Science Church at Duncan and Seventh is a high quality Classical Revival structure with very interesting interior spaces. The First United Methodist Church, a brick and tile Spanish Colonial Revival structure whose tower was specifically intended to be seen from campus, anchors the west side of downtown. On the same block, the brick Spanish Colonial Revival St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church faces away from downtown. Closer to campus the Zion Lutheran Church is a modest Gothic Revival structure with handsome proportions. Directly on campus is the Bennett Memorial Chapel, a pleasant contemporary A-frame structure.

University Development:

As stated previously, the university campus is located northwest of downtown. The campus began with the construction of Old Central (N.R. 1971). The early university campus expanded adjacent to this structure and the complex of buildings continued to orient themselves toward the town. This expansion took the form of open

squares focusing toward Old Central and beyond to the town. At this stage in the campus development, the university experimented with various architectural styles. While Old Central was a brick and sandstone structure with vernacular character, the next buildings experimented with Richardsonian Romanesque (these buildings no longer exist), Classical Revival (Morrill Hall, which is suggestive of a temple of learning), Art Deco (Gunderson Hall), and Georgian Revival (Gardiner Hall, Thatcher and Hanner Halls, and the OAMC Gymnasium/Armory). While varying in style, these buildings all contain a sense of permanence and a fairly consistent use of materials. As we will discuss later, the university ultimately adopted the Georgian Revival style as the primary image for its campus.

By this point in time, the university exhibited a great amount of foresight by understanding the need to establish a master plan in order to control the expansion of the campus. The development of this master plan was obviously perceived as an opportunity to establish an ordering system and focal point for the campus for many generations to come. Central to this concept was the strategically placed Main Library at the center of the planned campus, thus establishing it as the symbol of learning at the heart of the university. In addition to this prominent siting, the building was developed as an imposing physical structure and given a tower taller than all other campus structures and an architectural style that varied slightly from other campus development (exaggerated scale, grand arches and entry, etc.). Planning concepts of this master plan followed those of the City Beautiful Movement, with its powerful open axis, which focuses on the library and links the university to the city, as well as the series of secondary squares which link groupings of structures to this main axis. These squares become spaces

around which Georgian Revival buildings are focused. This can be seen in the square bordered by Whitehurst Hall and the Biology Building (Life Sciences East) as well as the square bordered by the Engineering Building (Engineering South), Home Economics East (Geography Building), and the Classroom Building. The quality of proportions and detailing of these central groupings of buildings are some of the finest on campus.

Supporting this core are a series of dormitory structures which occur around the periphery. These also are handsome Georgian Revival structures. This architectural style was particularly suited to the building type because of the many individual rooms requiring daylight and the linear building elements which were used to access this daylight. These linear building elements resulted in building plan configurations which fit massing and roof configuration needs of this style quite well. The best examples of these dormitory structures occur at Cordell Hall, Willard Hall, and North and South Murray Halls.

These planning concepts and building developments have established the character and identity of the Oklahoma State University campus. They have been strong enough to withstand poor landscape development as well as extremely poor subsequent planning. University planning concepts since the 1960s have moved away from these City Beautiful planning concepts and followed more orthodox Modern planning concepts and/or no planning at all, resulting in the haphazard placement of high rise dormitories, uncontrolled growth, large masses of parking, unidentified and scaleless spaces, and a lack of planning priorities. This severe departure and its resultant physical evidence illustrates the importance of the previous planning, which is the focus of this study, thus pointing out the need for its recognition and preservation. In addition, current university

development trends encourage encroachment on other areas of this study (especially the College Gardens Residential Area) with the result being the razing of these areas as a means of developing more university surface parking.

Residential Development:

Stillwater's residential developments can also be organized along the lines of community and university. Community housing developed around the core of downtown. Lower quality housing developed on the southeast, south, and southwest portions of town. These developments obviously were located adjacent to industry and away from the university. Middle class housing developed to the west, northwest, and northeast. Upper class housing developed to the northwest, helping to connect campus and downtown. Obviously the highest quality construction and design occurred in this upper class housing. Several architectural vocabularies can be seen in this area. The most common are the Queen Anne and Italianate Styles. Good examples of the Queen Anne style are the C. Ray Smith Home (324 South Knoblock), the Peter Miller House (424 South Duncan, currently in poor condition), the J.H. Connell/Swim Home (516 West Elm), Suman House (324 South West Street), 324 South Knoblock, and the house at 402 South West Street. An anomaly to this pattern is the Queen Anne style William Frick Home at 1016 South West Street (N.R. 1980). Examples of the Italianate Style are the James E. Berry House (502 South Duck, N.R. 1980), the Harry Hoke Estate (324 South Duck), and the Corbin Home (239 South Duck Street). In addition to these styles, good examples of the Spanish Colonial Revival Style (Beeson Home at 311 South Duck Street) and the Craftsman Style (Briggs Home at 416 South Duck Street, Robison Home at 238 South Duncan, Brock Home at 403 South West Street, and 802 South Knoblock)

also exist in this area. A small but quality example of the Shingle Style exists in the duplex at 316 South Knoblock.

Housing related to the university occurs in the dormitories mentioned previously, the boarding houses adjacent to campus (none worthy of mention architecturally), the fraternity and sorority housing adjacent to the southern edge of campus, and faculty/administration housing adjacent to the west and southwestern edges of campus.

The sorority and fraternity housing is typically large in scale and occurs in a variety of styles. The best of the early Greek structures are the Kappa Sigma House at 228 South Hester Street, a brick Federal Revival design, and the Kappa Delta House at 319 South Ramsey, a modest two-story Craftsman Style design. As this type of housing developed, the architectural character became more refined. The best of these later developments occur in the Gothic Revival Sigma Nu House at 913 West University Avenue and the Kappa Alpha Theta House, a Gothic Revival structure located at 1323 West University. While there are quality examples of this housing type, the majority of this housing is quite average architecturally, with styles applied to structures with little regard to proportion and/or detail.

Faculty and administration housing occurs primarily in the College Gardens Residential Area which is located to the west and southwest of campus. This area is quite interesting both in its planning and its architectural character. Obviously this location was chosen for the convenience of its adjacency to campus. It was possible to develop this area at this point in time because the automobile had emerged as a common source of transportation, thus making it possible for these residents to maintain a linkage to the community. The planning configurations of this area are romantic and intentionally

control traffic, both being suggestive of an environmentally healthy (semi-rural) development. These issues and planning ideas are consistent with Garden City and Decentrist philosophies of planning of the early part of this century. The architectural character of the buildings themselves also followed these romantic objectives.

Interestingly, the architectural styles vary from other parts of town, and the houses are more modest than the upper class homes of the townspeople. Dominant styles in this part of town are the Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival, with a few Spanish Colonial Revival and Shingle Style buildings as well. By far the majority of structures in this area are of the Tudor Revival Style. Most of these are executed in brick, however, some incorporate stone and/or half timbering. The largest homes in this area are often of the Colonial Revival Style. The best examples of the Tudor Revival Style occur in the Tarver Home (140 Orchard Lane), 1816 West Arrowhead and along University Circle (the Roy Hoke Home at 32 University Circle as well as 37 and 45 University Circle) and Melrose Drive (135, 132, 127, and 104-116). Examples of the Colonial Revival Style occur at the Oliver Willham Home (120 Orchard Lane), the Carl Blackwell Home (124 Orchard Lane), the Colvin Home (134 Orchard Lane), 222 South Kings Street, 1712 West University, and 1814 West University. The best example of the Shingle Style occurs at the Harry Orr Home at 41 University Circle. There are quality housing areas that have also developed southwest of the College Gardens Residential Area, although this area has typically taken a more eclectic approach to its architectural development. The exception of this eclecticism is a very high quality, albeit modest design, which is located at 1802 West Third Avenue (c. 1940), and which was inadvertently omitted from the survey. This Modern brick structure is exquisitely and simply detailed, and possesses

a very unique approach to its site development and building placement. It is sited with its building mass located at the western edge of the site, thus taking advantage of the sun for both daylighting and energy considerations. It is surrounded by a modest brick wall which screens vehicular traffic effectively yet permits pedestrian views into its large open yard, thus connecting it with the neighborhood. All views of the house focus into this courtyard, thus maximizing the resident's investment in landscaping. Its choice of materials, hip roof forms, gentle contact with the street and general building scale permit this building to easily blend into its context, and its anonymity from a vehicular point of view causes it to be unnoticed by most vehicular traffic. It is a very good example of how the freedom of Modern design concepts can create an exceptional living environment while also being totally compatible with its context (not an easy thing to do)!

Conclusions:

Following the thesis of this architectural review, one can conclude from these observations that the early community of Stillwater was first and foremost interested in establishing itself as a permanent settlement. As this was accomplished it gradually became more sophisticated in its appreciation of architectural design. This is most clearly exhibited by the developments of the community housing (especially the upper class housing along Duck Street) and by the dramatic improvements in civic buildings. The community clearly valued its religion for these were buildings in which the community invested large amounts of funds and their architectural designs were some of the most elaborate in the community. The pattern of university development followed a similar trend. In addition, however, there appears to be a more intentional manipulation

of this sophistication which attempts to add layers of symbolic meaning to its architecture. A similar manipulation of the built environment can be seen in the College Gardens Residential Area, thus indicating the values and educational level of its initial residents and developers. Finally, the Greek areas adjacent to campus, while including several good architectural examples, in general indicate the users/owners of these structures were more interested in the general impression of the structure and less interested in the architectural quality of the structure. Their designs may also indicate a lack of knowledge of the issues involved in quality design.

As a result of these architectural observations, I strongly agree with the recommendations of this survey to conduct intensive level surveys of the Oklahoma State University campus and College Gardens Residential Area. From a purely architectural perspective, the Greek area has a strongly identifiable concentration of buildings with a few architecturally significant buildings among them. Finally, the extensive architectural descriptions and documentation of individual properties throughout this survey are done with great care and appear to be quite accurate.