



## FACT SHEET #1: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES



Vannerson Homestead, Erick vicinity, Beckham County



Manitou Jail, Manitou, Tillman County

The National Register of Historic Places (National Register, NRHP, or NR) is the nation's catalogue of buildings, structures, sites, districts, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture, maintained by the Secretary of the Interior under authority of the National Historic Preservation Act. National Park Service (NPS) regulations 36 CFR Part 60 governs the NRHP nomination process. The National Register is the foundation of the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) programs, and the complete list of Oklahoma's NRHP listings is found in "Oklahoma's National Register Handbook," available in print from the SHPO or at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrhandbook.htm>. Listing in the NRHP recognizes the significance of these special places, provides limited protection for them, and, in some cases, extends financial incentives for their preservation.

### National Register Criteria for Evaluation

The National Register Criteria for Evaluation guide states, federal agencies, and the Secretary of the Interior to determine which properties qualify for listing in the National Register. The criteria is provided in its entirety below.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Ordinarily, cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years shall not be considered for the National Register. Such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- a. a religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- b. a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- c. a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
- d. a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- e. a reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as a part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- f. a property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance; or
- g. a property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.



Eastern Oklahoma Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Talihina, Latimer County

## **Proposing National Register Nominations in Oklahoma**

Anyone can submit a nomination for any property. The SHPO recommends that a nomination sponsor first request a preliminary opinion on the property's eligibility before submitting a formal nomination. This step can save the nomination sponsor time and effort if the property is clearly ineligible. Also, the SHPO can provide important guidance for preparation of successful nominations for properties that appear to meet the criteria (<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nrprelim.htm>).

A National Register of Historic Places Property Documentation Form must be completed and submitted to the SHPO to propose a property for nomination (<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/nr/nrmanual.pdf>). The SHPO staff reviews each nomination received, provides comments to the nomination sponsor/consultant about the results of the review (generally within 45 days of receipt), and schedules acceptable quality nominations for the Historic Preservation Review Committee's (HPRC) consideration.

Nominations must be in acceptable form at least sixty days in advance of the HPRC meeting at which they will be considered. The HPRC meets at 1:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of January, April, July, and October in the Oklahoma Historical Society Boardroom, unless otherwise announced, to formulate recommendations to the SHPO about nomination of properties to the NRHP and to provide other advice as appropriate. The HPRC annual meeting schedule is posted in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act (<https://www.sos.ok.gov/>) and announced through press releases, newsletter articles, and other means. Meeting notices and agendas are posted each quarter at <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/hprc.htm> and <http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/spevents.htm>, as well as at the Oklahoma History Center.

After receiving the HPRC's recommendation, the SHPO decides whether or not to nominate the property to the National Register. When the SHPO nominates a property, the nomination is forwarded to the Keeper of the Register, NPS, and within 45 working days, the Keeper either, lists the property in the NRHP, finds it ineligible, issues a formal Determination of Eligibility, or returns the nomination for revision. The Keeper posts nomination review results at <https://www.nps.gov/nr/nrlist.htm>, and the SHPO informs property owners, nomination sponsors, elected officials, and the public of NRHP listings.

## **Priorities for Processing National Register Nominations in Oklahoma**

If the SHPO receives more nominations than can be processed in accordance with NPS regulations (36 CFR Part 60), they will be reviewed and scheduled for HPRC meetings in accordance with these priorities: 1) Properties considered to be endangered, 2) Properties that are examples of a rare type or that are surviving examples of a once common type, 3) Properties that are candidates for federal and state rehabilitation tax incentives or for grants programs, 4) Properties considered eligible for nomination to the National Register by a Certified Local Government, 5) Properties for which there is a demonstrated public concern, and 6) Other properties for which sufficient documentation exists to warrant nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Additional Information**

For additional information about the National Register and its related programs in Oklahoma, see:

“SHPO Fact Sheet #8: Oklahoma’s State Historic Preservation Office”

<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/factsheets/fs8shpo.pdf>

“SHPO Fact Sheet #11: Frequently Asked Questions about the National Register of Historic Places”

<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/factsheets/fs11nr.pdf>

*Tomorrow’s Legacy: Oklahoma’s Statewide Preservation Plan*

<http://www.okhistory.org/shpo/stateplan.htm>

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