NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

==========

1. Name of Property

==========

historic name Hotel Vinita

other names/site number N/A

==========

2. Location

==========

street & number Southwest corner of Canadian and Wilson not for publication N/A
city or town Vinita vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Craig code 035
zip code 74301

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this XX nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property XX meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Blake Wade — December 19, 1994
Signature of certifying official — Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register ____ ____
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined eligible for the National Register ____ ____
___ See continuation sheet.
____ determined not eligible for the National Register ____ ____
____ removed from the National Register ____ ____

____ other (explain): ____

____ ____ ____
Signature of Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- _X_ private
- ___ public-local
- ___ public-State
- ___ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- _X_ building(s)
- ___ district
- ___ site
- ___ structure
- ___ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) Route 66 and Associated Historic Resources in Oklahoma

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
DOMESTIC	hotel

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
COMMERCE/TRADE	business

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
roof CERAMIC TILE
walls BRICK
other STONE:Limestone

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

_XX_ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_XX_ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1930-1944

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)

Significant Dates N/A

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)
___ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
___ previously listed in the National Register
___ previously determined eligible by the National Register
___ designated a National Historic Landmark
___ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
___ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data
_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	307270	4056520	3	__	_____	_____
2	__	_____	_____	4	__	_____	_____

N/A See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Maryjo Meacham, Director, Design/Research Center; Brenda Peck, Historian
Lisa Bradley & Susan Roth, Graduate Assistants: Oklahoma SHPO, ed.

organization University of Oklahoma, College of Architecture date May 31, 1992

street & number 830 Van Vleet Oval telephone 405/325-2293

city or town Norman state OK zip code 73019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Ted Dixon Agency

street & number P. O. Box 396 telephone

city or town Vinita state OK zip code 74301

SUMMARY

The Hotel Vinita is a five-story brick hotel designed in the Spanish Eclectic style, including full-length, full story windows with arches, ornate door and window surrounds with Solomonic columns, a molded cornice, and a visor roof of clay tile, which extends the length of the parapet above the central bay. The hotel faces the original Route 66 and is located in downtown Vinita, a northeastern Oklahoma town rich with several buildings dating to the 1910s and 1920s. Hotel Vinita continues to maintain a high degree of architectural integrity.

DESCRIPTION

The Hotel Vinita is a five story brick hotel with a central bay and two end bays. The foundation is poured concrete. The central block consists of six bays of individual windows, with full length, full story windows with arches on the ground floor and double hung wooden multi-paned windows with segmental arches and keystones on the second floor. The third through fifth floors have double hung, metal windows with single panes and simple limestones sills. The cornice of the building is limestone with a row of dentils at the upper edge. Above the limestone cornice is a visor roof of red clay tile. The entry is centrally located and consists of two sets of double doors set within surrounds identical to those of the full length windows. Above the entry is a decorative metal canopy with a flat roof. It is connected to the building with three metal rods. The entire building is surrounded by a wide bank of limestone which also serves as the sill for the first floor windows. At each end of the central bay, the original five story copper guttering remains intact.

The end bays are distinguished by triplet windows with Churrigueresque limestone surrounds and Solomonic columns on the ground floor and multi-paned, double hung wooden windows on the second floor. Between the two individual second floor windows is a cartouche with a decorative carved limestone motif in a classic geometric pattern. The fifth floor windows are articulated with limestone surrounds with an arch and a wrought iron balconet. The arched, end bay parapets have a limestone coping. Between the fifth floor windows and the parapet are two decorative ornaments, carved in limestone, on either side of a centered geometric motif.

The side of the building, which faces Wilson Street, is similar to the front facade. It consists of three bays of windows, with single, double hung windows with limestone surrounds on the outside, and paired, smaller double hung windows located in the middle bay. A cornice and visor roof, similar to the ones located on the front facade, outline the top of the building. Under the outside windows on the side elevation are paired, full length windows, also identical to those located in the end bays of the front elevation. A secondary entrance, framed with a rectangular limestone surround, is centered between the full length windows.

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

The exterior of the Hotel Vinita remains unchanged and possesses a high degree of architectural integrity.

SUMMARY

The Hotel Vinita, built in 1930, is significant as a reflection of the growing awareness of the automobile as the new form of transportation. Formerly, large hotels were built near the railroad line to accommodate the passenger trains. The Hotel Vinita is an excellent example of one the few large hotels built along Route 66 to serve the growing numbers of automobile travelers who were making the trip from east to west across the United States. It is one of two hotels of such size that remain standing on the original Route 66 highway and the only one located in eastern Oklahoma. The second hotel, the Casa Grande, is located in western Oklahoma in Elk City and is similar in size and design. The Will Rogers Hotel in Claremore, Oklahoma, another multi-story hotel, was not along Route 66 until the highway was re-routed by it. The architecture of the Hotel Vinita is also significant as an excellent example of hotel design in the Spanish Eclectic style of architecture. Contextually, it relates to "Commerce on Route 66 in Oklahoma (1926-1944)" and as a property type, it relates to Cabins, Motor Courts, and Hotels.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Hotel Vinita opened its doors on May 16, 1930. There were 75 rooms in the hotel and the opening prices ranged from $1.50 to $3.00 per night. Each room was reported to have an individual bed lamp on each bed, a ceiling fan and a closet. Built by Boone Hotel Company of Kansas with the backing of Vinita businessmen, the hotel was managed by Fred E. Boone and his son Franklin Boone, both experienced in the hotel business. Other businesses which were accommodated in the building included a barber shop, a bus station, a beauty parlor, a drug store, a banquet hall, a coffee shop, a tailor shop, and an office room. George Noe originally operated the Barber Shop and Mrs. Harriet Sills operated the Youth Beauty Parlor.

To build the hotel, Vinita business associations raised money to purchase the lot and the structures previously located on the lots were demolished. It was noted in the Vinita Daily Journal that the traveling public brought with them a "sprint of progress and advancement." The paper also noted that the hotel was located on Route 66 "the Main Street of America." Located on State Highway 73 and U.S. Highway 66, the hotel was also one block from each of the two trunk line railroads which passed through the city.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In the early days of automobile travel, motorists had few places along the road in which they could rent a room. In cities, there was the conventional hotel located near the train station. Other facilities included wayside inns, left from the days of traveling by horse. The downtown hotel catered to salesmen and were often semi-formal with scrutiny given to the traveler's attire and baggage. The Hotel Vinita was one of the early downtown hotels which was built to accommodate both the railway customer and the automobile customer. Small tourist camps, camp grounds, and motor courts began to appear along the highways, generally on the outskirts of the city, and catered to travelers who were on a budget and liked to fend for themselves. At the downtown hotel, the emphasis was on accommodating salesmen who had bigger budgets and travelers who wanted more comfortable accommodations.

Newer hotels located on the edge of town and the construction of the Will Rogers Turnpike between the Missouri border and Tulsa in the late 1950s reduced the revenue of both the hotel and the restaurant and it eventually closed and was later leased for other purposes.

The designation of Route 66 in 1926 was important to every small town along the highway. Vinita took advantage of the cross-country travel and invested in a large five-story hotel which would serve this traveling population from 1930 through the mid-1960s. As one of three remaining high rise hotels along the Oklahoma portion of Route 66, the Hotel Vinita is significant for the role it played in accommodating the automobile traveler for over thirty years.

ARCHITECTURE SIGNIFICANCE

The Hotel Vinita, built in 1930, is significant because it reflects the development of urban hotels along Route 66 to accommodate the motoring traveler. It is also the only example of a large hotel in Vinita. Although hotels in both small towns and large cities continued to operate through the 1950s and early 1960s, the height of the luxury hotel was in the 1920s. The Hotel Vinita is a rather late, but excellent example of this type of establishment.

The Spanish Eclectic style was also at the height of its popularity during the 1920s and early 1930s. While stucco was often the wall covering on residential and even commercial buildings, large Spanish Eclectic buildings were often constructed with a buff colored brick. Characteristics of the style used on the Hotel Vinita include arched openings, Churrigueresque moldings, and the use of tile roof covering. The interior of the hotel continues to reflect the style with elaborate plaster rope molding and wrought iron staircase and balcony railings.

The Hotel Vinita continues to possess historical significance because it serves as a reminder of when the Route 66 traveler was the central concern of the hotel industry. It also retains its architectural significance as one of two hotels of magnitude on the eastern stretch of Route 66.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Anders, Mary Ann. "A Survey of Route 66 through Oklahoma." Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 1984.

Belasco, Warren James. Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press, 1979.

Craig County Heritage Association, ed. The Story of Craig County. Dallas, Texas: Curtis Media Corporation, 1984.

"Highway Map and Guide of Oklahoma." Aurora, Missouri: Mid-West Map Company.

Liebs, Chester H. Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1985.

Vinita Daily Journal. May 9, 1930. May 16, 1930.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

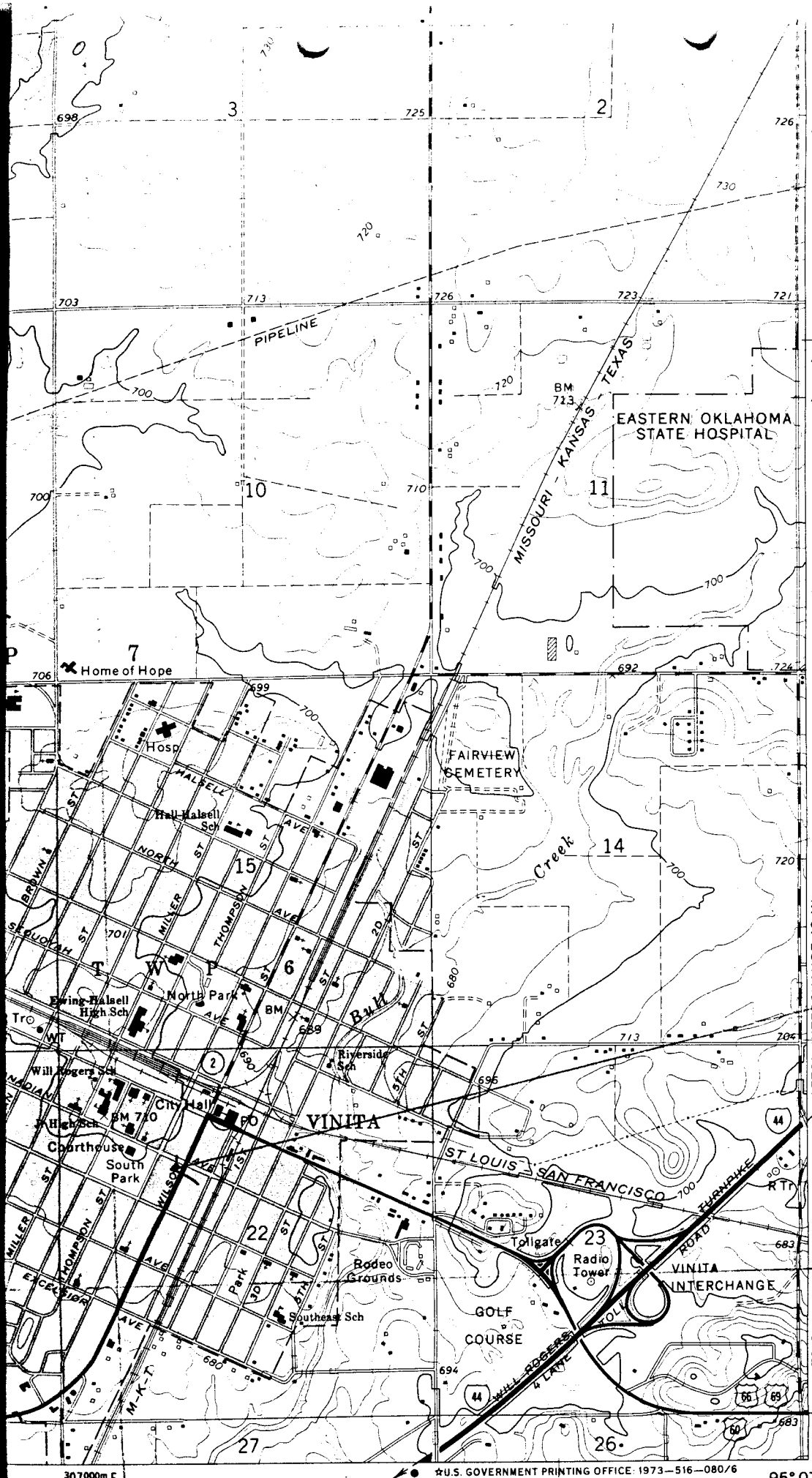
Lot 1 and north 25 feet of Lot 2, Block 71, Original Townsite of Vinita.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the entire city lots that historically have been associated with the building.

Hotel Vinita

Hotel Vinita



Hotel Vinita
Vinita
Craig County
Oklahoma
15 307 270
4056540

☆U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1973—516—080/6