

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
Bounded by McElroy Road, North Duck Street, North Knoblock Street
& West University Avenue
Stillwater
Payne
Oklahoma

HALS OK-11
OK-11

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

HISTORIC AMERICAN LANDSCAPES SURVEY

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

HALS NO. OK-11

- Location:** Bounded by McElroy Avenue to the North, University Avenue to the South, Knoblock and Duck, Stillwater, Payne County, Oklahoma
Lat: 36.122025 Long: -97.070897
- Significance:** A land-grant university founded in 1890, Oklahoma State University was designed based on a 25-year campus master plan created in 1930 by the landscape architecture firm McCrary, Culley, and Carhart out of Denver, Colorado. It is one of a small number of universities across the country to have been built based on a master plan and with a uniform architectural style which has been continued to the present day.
- History:** Architecturally, the campus buildings were designed based upon the Georgian Renaissance style which was used in the English Colonial capital of Williamsburg, Virginia, a design theme which uses red-orange brick and limestone trim. Dr. Henry Bennett, who became the President of Oklahoma A&M College in 1928, is credited with starting the initiative to create a master plan for the university. In addition, architecture professors D.A. Hamilton and Philip Wilbur influenced the decision for the Georgian Renaissance theme used for campus buildings. The library was originally intended to be the center piece of the campus design. North-South and East-West axes were to intersect at the library and provide site lines across great lawns, with buildings adjacent to the axes grouped in quadrangles. A formal landscape planting design was adopted to compliment the formal design of the buildings. Sections of campus have deviated from this formal style, such as Theta Pond on the Southwest corner of campus which is of the Romantic Naturalistic style. In addition, the site line to the north of the library is obstructed by new buildings.
- Sources:** Physical Plant Files, Oklahoma State University
Map Files, Edmond Lowe Library, Oklahoma State University
Alexander, Grace Estelle. "Preservation Plan for the Main Campus of Oklahoma State University." Master's Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1995.
Eddings, Anna Marie. "The Oklahoma State University Campus Historic District." Master's Thesis, Oklahoma State University, 1998.
Sanderson, J. Lewie, R. Dean McGlamery, and David C. Peters. A History of the Oklahoma State University Campus. Stillwater: Oklahoma State University, 1990.

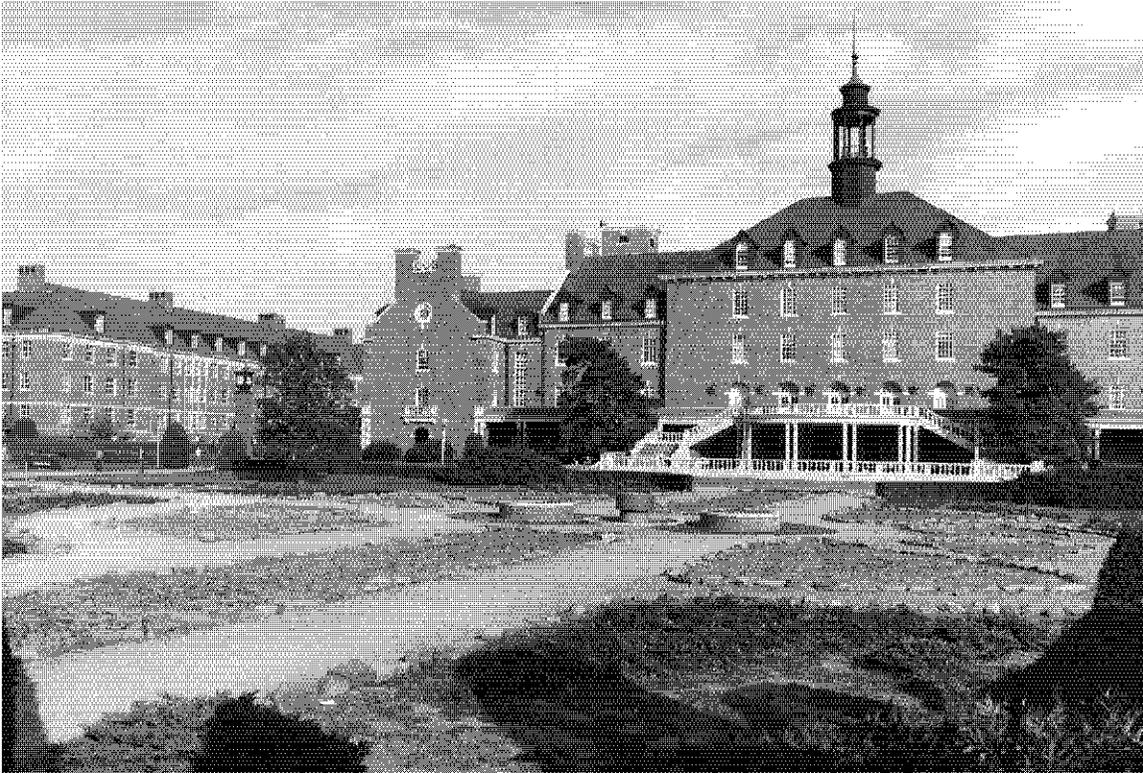
"Oklahoma State University Campus." Historic American Buildings Survey.
Library of Congress, Prints and Photograph Division, Washington, D.C. 20540,
<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/hhh.ok0059> (accessed on 2.27.2009).

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Old Central (National Register Properties in Oklahoma:
<http://www.ocgi.okstate.edu/shpo/shpopic.asp?id=71000672>, accessed March 21, 2009).



View east of the Student Union across the library lawn (Steve Eilers, 2009).