

**United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Lincoln Park Bathhouse

Other names/site number: ZooZeum

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

Street & number: 2000 Remington Place

City or town: Oklahoma City State: Oklahoma County: Oklahoma

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

   national    statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A    B    C    D

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title :

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency/bureau  
or Tribal Government

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#### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register  
☐ determined eligible for the National Register  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register  
☐ removed from the National Register  
☐ other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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#### 5. Classification

##### Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private: ☐  
Public – Local ☒  
Public – State ☐  
Public – Federal ☐

##### Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s) ☒  
District ☐  
Site ☐  
Structure ☐  
Object ☐

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Recreation and Culture: sports facility

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**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Recreation and Culture: museum

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Civilian Conservation Corps

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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#### Summary Paragraph

Located near the northwest shore of Northeast Lake, the Lincoln Park Bathhouse is currently located within the boundaries of the Oklahoma City Zoo. Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1935, it is primarily a wood and stone building stylistically typical of Depression Era government sponsored building programs. The one-story building with a tower, served as a bathhouse to those using Northeast Lake for recreational purposes. While the building has been converted to a museum on the grounds of the Oklahoma City Zoo, it maintains excellent integrity.

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#### Narrative Description

The Lincoln Park Bathhouse is a one-story building with a two-story tower constructed by the CCC. The building is clad in rusticated stone and wood. The roof is both a side gable on the main body of the building and a pyramidal on the middle section and tower. The roof has exposed rafter tails.

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As the building functioned historically as a bathhouse, it has two primary facades. The northwest elevation is how anyone entering from the neighborhood would approach the building. The building is really three distinctive sections: the center two story section; a one story wing that extends to the north at an angle; and, a one story wing that extends to the southwest at an angle. The center section has a slightly projecting one-story gable front entry. The gable roof has large wood fascia boards and large wood brackets. This one-story entry is faced with rusticated stone and has an arched entry with wood doors. The southwest elevation of this entry has a six-over-six wood double hung window. Adjacent to the entry to the north is a two-and-one-half-story tower capped with a pyramidal roof with exposed rafter tails. The tower is faced with rusticated stone. On the northwest elevation of the tower are two, rounded arched windows with stone lintels and sills. One window has eight panes while the other has eleven panes. The north elevation of the tower has one rounded arched window with stone sills and lintels. This window has twelve panes. The southwest elevation of the tower has one rounded arched window with stone sills and lintels. This window has seven panes. The two-story portion of the center section is clad with vertical wood siding. The first floor of the northwest elevation is concealed by the one-story entry and the tower. The second floor has a twelve-pane wood frame window. The north wing is clad in both rusticated stone in a stepped pattern as it extends down the northwest elevation and vertical wood siding that extends to the roof eave. Adjacent to the tower is an eight-over-eight wood double hung window. Extending along the north wing are seven square window openings framed in wood that are covered with wood siding. The southwest wing has rusticated stone at the foundation and a stone pilaster approximately two-thirds along the elevation. Between the central portion and the pilaster are seven square window openings framed in wood that are covered with wood siding. Beyond the pilaster is a vertical wood sided portion that has no openings.

The second façade is how anyone entering from the lake side would approach the building. The building is really three distinctive sections: the center two story section; a one story wing that extends to the north at an angle; and, a one story wing that extends to the southwest at an angle. The center section has a full one-story gable front entry that is clad in rusticated stone. From southwest to northeast is a six-over-six wood double hung window, a small entry door, and a double entry door. The gable end has vertical wood siding, a large fascia board and large wood brackets at the gable eaves. The southwest elevation of the one-story central section has a six-over-six wood double hung window and exposed rafter tails. The northeast elevation has both rusticated stone and vertical wood siding. A chimney is located on this elevation. The two-story central section has a six-over-six wood double hung window and exposed rafter tails. Both the north and southwest elevation of the central two-story section has a six-over-six wood double hung window. The north wing has two wood frame six-over-six double hung windows, five square window openings framed in wood that are covered with wood siding and a wood entry door. Rusticated stone is located at the foundation and a stone pilaster is located at the northeast corner. The southwest wing has three square window openings framed in wood that are covered with wood siding and rusticated stone at the foundation. The remainder has no openings.

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The north elevation is clad with rusticated masonry and has stone pilasters at each corner. There are four square window openings on this elevation that are clad with vertical wood siding. The southwest elevation is clad with vertical wood siding. It has one metal entry door.

Interior:

While the interior has been altered to accommodate the museum function of the Oklahoma City Zoo, many defining characteristics are extant. The exterior stone continues through to the interior of the bathhouse. The wooden staircase extends through the tower to the upper level that now houses the mechanical systems. The main floor space still maintains the divided spaces with each wing dedicated to specific uses and the central portion still functioning as the pass-through from one elevation to the other.

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## 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.)

- ☒ 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.
- ☐ 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 grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1935  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1935, 1950  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Civilian Conservation  
Corp  
\_\_\_\_\_



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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Lincoln Park Bathhouse is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A for its association with social history, specifically the Civilian Conservation Corps' work in Oklahoma City. Built in 1935 as a recreational facility associated with Northeast Lake, the bathhouse best represents the work being completed as part of the Civilian Conservation Corps' work at Lincoln Park.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

In March of 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sought relief for an economically depressed nation. The New Deal agenda and legislation resulted in the formation of a number of social programs including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The underlying philosophy of the CCC was to rescue the masses of young, healthy, single men, 18 to 25 years in age, from the despair of the unemployment and relief rolls, to discipline them in military style, to provide vocational training, and to rebuild their morale by creating in them a sense of worth. By May of that same year, unemployed veterans from World War I were also allowed to enroll in the CCC but under a different system of selection and standards.<sup>1</sup> At the forefront of allowing veterans into the program was US Representative John D. Nichols, of Oklahoma's 2<sup>nd</sup> district.

The standards set forth in Roosevelt's master plan to help the men was to be accomplished in two ways: one, they were to be actively involved in conservation efforts to recover and improve land usage by planting trees, sodding grass, building bridges, fighting forest fires, conducting biological surveys and building parks; a benefit not only to them but to the greater society. Two, they were to be responsible to their families by sending \$25 of the \$30 they earned per month back home.<sup>2</sup>

Most of the land for Lincoln Park was acquired by 1909 but had remained underdeveloped until the CCC offered an adequate labor force. The first Oklahoma City park plan was begun in 1923 and finished in 1928.<sup>3</sup> The work at Lincoln Park in Oklahoma City was assigned to Company 895 who operated out of two camps, SP-2 and SP-4 from 1933 to 1937.<sup>4</sup> These camps at Lincoln Park were established on October 3, 1933, only a few months after the passing of legislation

<sup>1</sup> Congressional Record, 73rd Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session. Volume 77, pt. 1, pgs. 630, 651, 701, 983.

<sup>2</sup> Reid A. Holland, "Life in Oklahoma's Civilian Conservation Corps," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 48 (Summer 1970) 224-234.

<sup>3</sup> Leslie R. Davis, "the Oklahoma City Park System," unpublished Masters of Arts Thesis, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 1955, pg. 11-13.

<sup>4</sup> *Camp Inspection Reports*, Oklahoma City (SP-2 and SP-4) October 1933 to October 1935, National Archives.

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creating the CCC. The initial members of the camps were white junior enrollees, single and non-veterans under the supervision of the National Park Service. The commanding officers of the camp included three United States Army Reservists and a supervisory staff of men trained in landscaping, agronomy, planning and other necessary skills required to work in creating Lincoln Park. Men working in this camp were paid their monthly \$5 with the remaining \$20 being sent to their family/dependents.

Work completed at Lincoln Park by the enrollees included all phases of the Lincoln Park development. The plans for the park were developed by the National Park Service and the Oklahoma City Park Department. Initially, the grounds were seeded, trees planted and roads built. Work by the CCC in Lincoln Park also included picnic table construction and an amphitheater. One significant portion of the park development was the bathhouse along the shore of the lake. The men used native stone, common in the construction of park facilities supervised by the National Park Service and the CCC.

Lincoln Park itself has changed considerably since the NPS, CCC and Oklahoma City Park first envisioned the landscape. Since the CCC's involvement, the area has been broken into three very distinctive areas: the park on the south side of the lake which incorporates the road system and picnic tables; the amphitheater to the west which has been altered significantly; and, the Oklahoma City Zoo to the north and east. Lincoln Park Bathhouse now resides in the portion of Lincoln Park that operates as the Oklahoma City Zoo.

As Lincoln Park has evolved into the Oklahoma City Zoo, the Lincoln Park Bathhouse has remained a constant. When public swimming was removed from the park function, the bathhouse remained as it was still a functioning facility. A small addition was made to the southwest wing to accommodate the engine of the train that operated in the park for repairs. The addition did not compromise the integrity of the facility. Through time the building has had multiple uses with the most recent serving at the museum for the zoo. In the building, the Oklahoma City Zoo explains and interprets the history of the CCC in Oklahoma City specifically as it relates to Lincoln Park and the Oklahoma City Zoo. Both the exterior and the interior of the facility reflect the CCC methodology of construction. The Lincoln Park Bathhouse is an excellent example of the CCC planning and construction and best represents the program's use in the development of Lincoln Park.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Congressional Record, 73rd Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session. Volume 77, pt. 1.

Davis, Leslie R. "The Oklahoma City Park System," unpublished Masters of Arts Thesis. Stillwater, Oklahoma: Oklahoma State University, 1955.

Holland, Reid A. "The Civilian Conservation Corps in the City: Tulsa and Oklahoma City in the 1930s." *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, Volume 53, Fall 1975.

Holland, Reid A. "Life in Oklahoma's Civilian Conservation Corps." *Chronicles of Oklahoma*. Volume 48, Summer 1970.

*Camp Inspection Reports*, Oklahoma City (SP-2 and SP-4) October 1933 to October 1935, National Archives.

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### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ State Historic Preservation Office
  - ☐ Other State agency
  - ☐ Federal agency
  - ☐ Local government
  - ☐ University
  - ☐ Other
- Name of repository: Oklahoma City Zoo

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 35.519006 | Longitude: -97.470850 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Located on the grounds of the Oklahoma City Zoo, the boundaries for the building include just the building itself: Starting at the southeast corner and extending 94 feet northeast to the center projecting corner; thence extending 62 feet northwest to the northeast corner; thence extending 30 feet to the northwest corner; thence extending southeast 95 feet to the center entry of the west elevation; thence extending 67 feet south to the southwest corner; thence extending 25 feet east to the point of origin.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Located on the grounds of the Oklahoma City zoo, the boundaries include only the Lincoln Park Bathhouse. The surrounding property is associated with the Zoo operations.

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### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Sherri Vance/ Museum Specialist (Lynda Ozan/NRHP coordinator edits)  
organization: Oklahoma City Zoo / OKSHPO  
street & number: 2000 Remington Place  
city or town: Oklahoma City state: OK zip code: 73111  
e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
telephone: 405/522-4478  
date: 20 July 2016

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Lincoln Park Bathhouse

City or Vicinity: Oklahoma City

County: Oklahoma

State: Oklahoma

Photographer: Lynda S. Ozan

Date Photographed: 12 January 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photograph Number	Subject	Direction
0001	Park Side Façade	Southeast
0002	Park Side Entry	Southeast
0003	Park Side Façade	North
0004	Lake Side Entry	Northwest
0005	North Elevation	South
0006	Interior of Tower	

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.