

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



**1. Name**

historic Beard Cabin

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

street & number Woodland Park \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Shawnee \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district 004

state Oklahoma \_\_\_\_\_ code 040 \_\_\_\_\_ county Pottawatomie \_\_\_\_\_ code 125

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name City of Shawnee

street & number 16 W. 9th

city, town Shawnee \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pottawatomie County Court House

street & number 300 N. Broadway

city, town Shawnee \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

date 1981 \_\_\_\_\_ federal  state \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_ local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City \_\_\_\_\_ state Oklahoma

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
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received
date entered

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Beard Cabin

Location: Woodland Park, Shawnee, Oklahoma, Congressional district 004.

Owner of Property: City of Shawnee, 16 W. 9th, Shawnee, Ok.

Location of Legal Description: Pottawatomie County Court House. 300 N. Broadway, Shawnee, OK.

Description: Excellent, unaltered, original site.

The Beard Cabin, built in 1892, is approximately 15 feet by 20 feet. It is a 1 1/2 story log structure. It has a mortared rubble stone foundation, that was reinforced with concrete when the cabin was restored in the early 1950s. The corners of the cabin are constructed with square notching. The chinking is partly original and partly concrete. The concrete chinking was put in during restoration during the early 1950s. The first story is constructed with logs, and there is weather-boarding in the gabling. There are two windows on the south side and one on the west side. They are all double-hung windows with 2 by 2 lights. The windows on the first story are covered with bars and wire mesh in an attempt to prevent vandals from breaking in. The window framing is the original. There are two doors, one on the east and one on the west. They are both plank doors. The roof is constructed with wood shingles, and is probably not the original.

Significance: 1892, exploration/settlement.

The Beard Cabin, built in 1892, is significant because it was the first house built in Shawnee. Henry Beard came to the area in the late 1800s as a trader and developer and built the cabin which is now in the middle of the town of Shawnee. Beard purchased the quarter section of land on which the cabin now stands, and developed it for the purpose of settlement. The cabin was built in 1892 and is still located on its original site. Etha Ray who later married Henry Beard participated in the run on Sept. 22, 1891, and claimed 160 acres. It was on Etha's land, as well as Henry's, that Shawnee was settled. The citizens of Shawnee, in an effort to preserve its integrity, established a municipal park around the cabin. The cabin was totally restored during the early 1950s, and is well-maintained presently. The city of Shawnee owns the Beard Cabin, but a Girl Scout Troop in Shawnee has taken the responsibility of its maintenance as a community service project. The cabin now houses a small museum containing historical artifacts of the area. The name Beard is very prominent in the town of Shawnee. There is a street in Shawnee named Beard, to honor its developer and earliest settler. The Beard Cabin is known as a landmark to the people of Shawnee, and is very important to them because it is the home of their first settler and town founder.

Bibliographical References:

- Thetford, Francis. "This is Oklahoma: Pottawatomie County." Orbit Magazine, March 6, 1960.
- Keller, Mrs. Reuban. Interview, Shawnee, OK June 2, 1981.
- Dockins, Ella. Interview, Oklahoma City, OK May 1981.
- Yates, Skeetz. Interview, Oklahoma City, OK October 2, 1981.

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Verbal Boundary Description: Block 11 of A. P. Addition, adjacent to the Court House  
in Woodland Park.

UTM: Zone: 14

Easting: 688900

Northing: 3911620



Beard Cabin

