

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic R. E. Hoy #1 Oil Well

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number

N/A not for publication

city, town Covington

vicinity of

state Oklahoma

code 40

county Garfield

code 47

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name ARCO Oil and Gas Company

street & number Rural Route #1, P.O. Box 86

city, town Covington

vicinity of

state Oklahoma 73730

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of County Clerk

street & number Garfield County Courthouse

city, town Enid

state Oklahoma 73701

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1986

federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City

state Oklahoma 73105

7. Description

Condition
 excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one
 unaltered
 altered

Check one
 original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The R. E. Hoy No. 1 Oil Well was drilled in September of 1916 on the R. E. Hoy Farm approximately five miles south of Garber and fourteen miles of Enid. It is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 25, Township 22 North, Range 4 West. The well was completed in the Hoy sand in the interval from 1138-50' for an initial production of 90 barrels of crude oil per day. The Hoy No. 1 was drilled by cable tools and completion was open hole with casing set at the top of the producing formation. It had four sets of casing which were not cemented. The well was cleaned out in 1928 and again in 1941.

The Hoy No. 1 continued under primary production until 1940 when secondary methods were employed including gas injection from 1941 to 1948 and waterflooding since 1948.

The nominated site was drilled by the Sinclair Oil and Gas Company and remained under its ownership until the late 1960s when Sinclair merged with the Atlantic Richfield Corporation.

The Hoy No. 1 currently produces approximately four barrels of oil per day and is pumped by a sucker rod pump jack unit. This unit imparts an up-and-down motion to a sucker rod string that is attached to a plunger pump submerged in the fluid of the well.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

No. of Resources

One (1)

Resource Types

Site

8. Significance

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> science |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> economics | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | |

Specific dates 1916-1928 **Builder/Architect** Harry Sinclair - Driller

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The R. E. Hoy No. 1 Oil Well is historically significant because: (1) it was the discovery well for the Garber Field, one of the most prolific production pools in Oklahoma petroleum history, (2) it was the first well drilled in Oklahoma based on findings by a geologist, and (3) its drilling resulted in a new production horizon being discovered which thereafter was known as the "Hoy Sand".

M. C. and Bert Garber, general store operators in the town of Garber, obtained some leases in 1915 in the Billings area and drilled a well that became a small producer. Stimulated by their initial success, the Garber Brothers hired Dorsey Hager, a California geologist, who had come to Tulsa seeking work in the Oklahoma oil fields. Hager began exploration work on a block of leases owned by the Garbers, one of which was on the R. E. Hoy farm, approximately midway between Garber and Covington.

Based on his geological research, Hager was certain that oil existed in the area and suggested a drilling site to Harry Sinclair in the Northeast corner of Section 25, Township 22 North, Range 4 West. Sinclair was pessimistic about the potential of the site, but was under contract to the Garber Brothers to do their drilling.

The Hoy well test came in on Sunday, September 10, 1916. About 4:00 a.m. it began flowing at ten minute intervals. From approximately 1,150' down, the oil forced its way to the surface in spouts that almost reached the top of the wooden derrick (see photocopy of historic photograph). The well was completed in a new producing horizon with an initial production of 90 barrels of crude per day. That new horizon was to become one of the eleven sand formations that eventually produced in the Garber Field and was thereafter known as the "Hoy Sand" because of its discovery on the Hoy farm. According to two sources (Clark and Franks), the Hoy No. 1 Well was the first to be discovered based on geological findings which lent considerable credibility to the geology profession and resulted in petroleum companies establishing geology divisions within their corporate structure.

The Hoy No. 1 Well ushered in the Garber Field which by late 1917 had a daily output averaging 2,000 barrels. By 1918 there were 760 producing wells in the Garber Field and in 1919 daily production averaged 8,000 barrels. The Garber Field production peaked in November of 1925 with 71,875 barrels of crude oil per day. Cumulative production by the end of 1925 had reached 16.8 million barrels.

Because of Sinclair Oil and Gas Company's success with the Hoy No. 1 Well, the Garber Field attracted several of the major companies and independent operators including Roxana Petroleum, Healdton Oil and Gas, Cosden Oil and Gas, Marland Oil, and Atlantic Petroleum. Furthermore, the Garber Field led to the establishment of the Champlin Oil Company, which was to become one of Oklahoma's most successful petroleum operations.

In summary, the discovery of the Hoy No. 1 Oil Well had a significant impact on the petroleum history of Oklahoma because it paved the way for further exploration by geologists, opened the productive Garber Field, and produced a new sand formation for future drilling.

The Hoy No. 1 Well has remained in production for more than 69 years thereby retaining its historic integrity. When Sinclair Oil and Gas merged with Atlantic - Richfield Corporation (ARCO) in 1969, the Hoy No. 1 Well became its property. ARCO maintains a great deal of pride in this historic site which is located on the grounds of the old Sinclair (now ARCO) Production Camp midway between the communities of Garber and Covington, Oklahoma.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Garber, OK

Quadrangle scale 1:62,500

UTM References

A

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| 1 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 |
| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

B

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|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

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| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

H

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|------|--|--|---------|--|--|--|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | | | Easting | | | | | Northing | | | | | | | | |

Verbal boundary description and justification At a point beginning approximately 100' south and 100' west of the center of the intersection of the north and east section line roads for Section 25, T22R, R4W, proceed due south 30', then due west 30', then due north 30', then due east 30' to the point of beginning. The nominated property lies within these boundaries.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bryan Brown Supervised by Dr. George O. Carney

organization Department of Geography date January, 1986

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater state Oklahoma 74078

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *C. E. Metcalfe* 7-23-86

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date _____

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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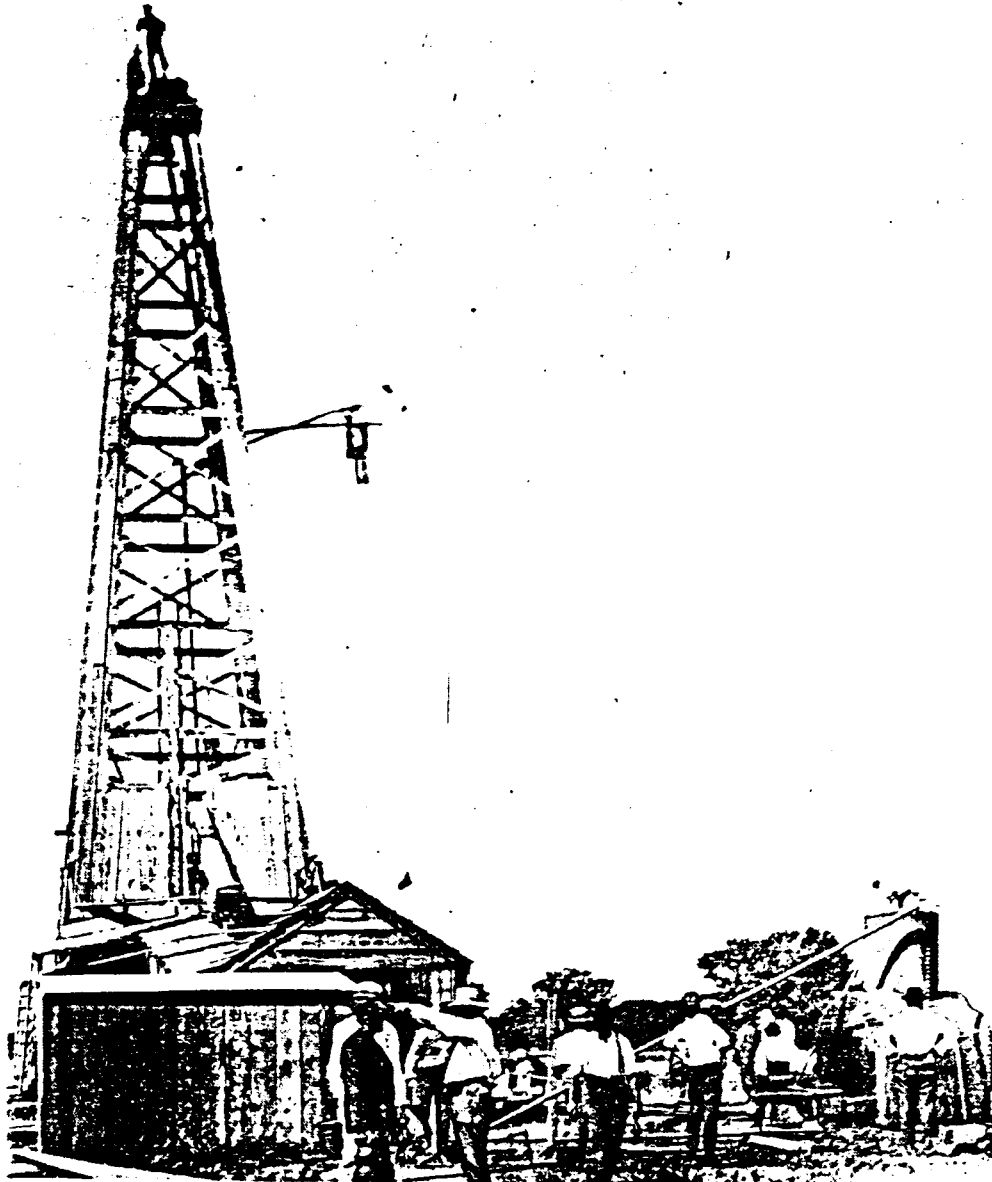
date entered

Continuation sheet

Hoy No. 1 Well

Item number 8

Page 1



Hoy Well

The wooden derrick thumping away on the Ed Hoy farm south of Garber brought plenty of curious sightseers out for a look, but it wasn't until Sept. 10, 1916 when

the oil surged out of the hole in the ground and then sightseers came by the thousands.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Clark, James A. The Chronological History of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Industries. Houston: Clark Book Co., 1963, p. 112.

Franks, Kenny A. The Oklahoma Petroleum Industry. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1980, pp. 108-109.

"Field Description and History," Unpublished ms., ARCO Oil and Gas Company, n.d.

Rister, Carl Coke. Oil! Titan of the Southwest. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1949, p. 139.

Clark, G.C. and C.L. Cooper. "Kay, Grant, Garfield and Noble Counties." Oklahoma Geological Survey Bulletin 40 (March, 1927), pp. 89-90.

Personal Interview: Hanna Long, July, 1985.