

# THIS PLACE MATTERS™ TOUR

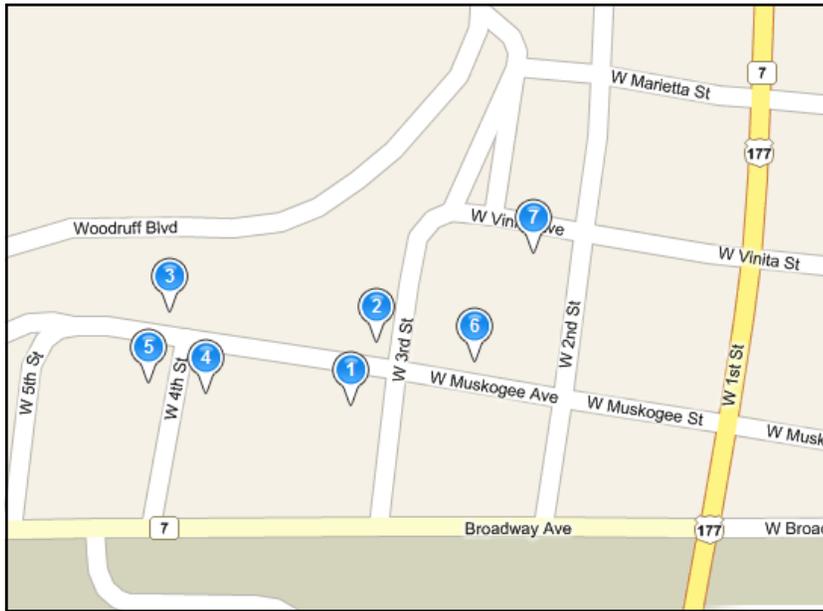
SULPHUR, OKLAHOMA



Preservation  
OKLAHOMA 

and

SULPHUR MAIN STREET, Inc.



1. Downtown Plaza (start/purchase tickets)
2. Artists of the Arbuckles Shop—  
400 W. Muskogee Avenue
3. Arbuckle Historical Society Museum  
402 W. Muskogee Avenue
4. Flower Bluff Mansion Bed and Breakfast  
329 W. Muskogee Avenue
5. First Christian Church  
401 W. Muskogee Avenue
6. Old Movie House– Carousel Theater  
212 W. Muskogee Avenue
7. Chickasaw National Recreation Area Building  
1008 W. 2nd Street

**Preservation Oklahoma, Incorporated**, is the state's only private, nonprofit membership organization that is dedicated to promoting, supporting, and coordinating historic preservation activities throughout the state. Preservation Oklahoma's mission is to promote preservation statewide. Founded in 1992, Preservation Oklahoma is a Statewide Partner with the National Trust for Historic Preservation and works on joint projects with the Oklahoma Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). For more information, contact:

Katie McLaughlin Friddle, Executive Director  
 Preservation Oklahoma, Inc.  
 405-525-5325  
[preservationok@preservationok.org](mailto:preservationok@preservationok.org)

**Sulphur Main Street, Inc.** has been a part of the Oklahoma Main Street program since 1997. Nestled at the gateway of Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Sulphur Main Street and the Sulphur Historic Downtown offers unique and exciting naturalistic experiences with one of America's first recognized federal parks. The coexistence of nature: camping, boating and hiking; as well as the opportunities of shopping, dining, and many other activities are what make the Sulphur community a popular tourist destination and wonderful place to live. Rich in history, preserved in pride, the community has protected its natural springs and created an inviting atmosphere that showcases the amenities, products and appeal of downtown for the renewed number of visitors.

Economic Development is a major focus of the Main Street approach and current investment figures top the \$3 million mark. Sulphur Main Street, Inc. works closely with the Chamber of Commerce, Economic Restructuring Committee, and the Murray Co. Industrial Authority to attract new business, not only to the Main Street district but the entire county. The organization is also a member of the Arbuckle Mountain Region Tourism Association.

For more information, contact:  
 Phyllis Myers, Program Manager  
 580-622-6246

Thank you for joining us for today's  
This Place Matters Event.

Launched in 2009, the "This Place Matters" tours and lectures are partnerships between Preservation Oklahoma, Inc. and local organizations to bring awareness and appreciation to a community's historic and cultural resources. The events share co-branding with the National Trust for Historic Preservation's "This Place Matters" campaign, an effort to help people across the nation share their stories about the places that matter to them. Event participants will be able to have their photos taken with a "This Place Matters" sign and uploaded to the campaign's, and Preservation Oklahoma's,

For additional information about upcoming This Place Matters tours and lectures, or to inquire about bringing a This Place Matters event to your community, please contact Katie McLaughlin Friddle at 405-525-5325, or visit:

[www.preservationok.org](http://www.preservationok.org).



### **Artists of the Arbuckles:**

400 West Muskogee Ave.  
(580) 622-5744

This gallery is home to local artists' collections and wares. They sponsor an annual arts show in November.



### **Arbuckle Historical Society Museum**

402 West Muskogee Avenue  
(580) 622-5593

Located within the Sulphur Downtown Historic District (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001). Originally built in 1917, the structure housing the museum was once the home of the fire and police departments and City Hall until 1999, when a new Sulphur City Complex was completed and they moved there. Since then, approximately \$100,000 has been spent refurbishing the interior and exterior of the building, with plans to install an elevator for handicapped access. The museum houses genealogical and research books from the Murray County Court House, as well as archived periodicals and school records etc.



Historic features including old court rooms, jail cells, and the original fireman's pole are still present within the museum.

### **Flower Bluff Mansion**

329 West Muskogee Avenue  
(580) 993-0644

Located within the Sulphur Downtown Historic District (listed on NRHP in 2001), and is the only residential building listed in the historic district.



This mansion was built by J.D. Ramsey, a prominent businessman who moved to the “Hot Springs” of Sulphur after building several successful businesses in Lawton, in 1924. “The Bluff” was built for Mr. Ramsey’s personal residence, though the upper apartments were rented out for weekend guests. He later became the Mayor of Sulphur. It has been taken care of with the greatest of care and attention to detail, and is now a warm and welcoming “home away from home” for visitors to Sulphur.



### **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ):**

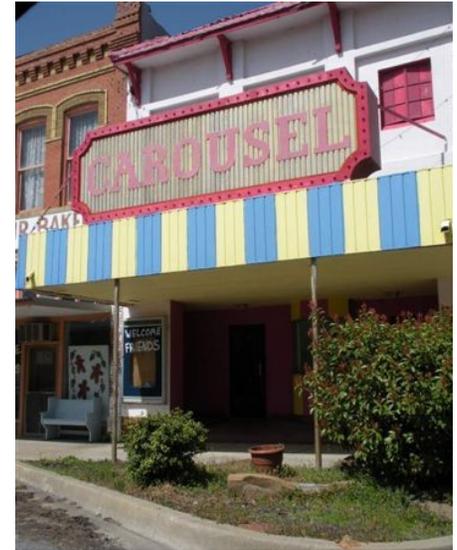
401 West Muskogee Avenue  
(580) 622-3257

This church was established in 1923 in the Late Gothic Revival style, and since then has been a thriving meeting place for worship, Sunday School services, and programs during the week. It is located within the Sulphur Downtown Historic District (listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001).

### **Carousel Theater**

212 West Muskogee Ave.

Located within the Sulphur Downtown Historic District (listed on the NRHP in 2001). Originally built in 1905 as a commercial building, it was renovated and transformed into the Ritz Theater around 1925. At some point the name was changed from the Ritz to the Carousel Theater.



The sign remains today; still a theater, there is often candy, popcorn, and snow-cones for sale in the lobby.



### **Chickasaw National Recreation Area Building:**

The Chickasaw National Recreation Area is the 7<sup>th</sup> oldest National Park in the USA! Originally established in 1902 as Sulphur Springs Reservation, it was renamed and redesignated as Platt National Park in 1906. Later in 1976 it was combined with the Arbuckle Recreation Area to become the Chickasaw National Recreation Area, which comprises almost 10,000 acres. The park area features many examples of 1930’s Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) architecture. The Recreation Area offers hiking, camping, birding, swimming, fishing, and plenty of quiet contemplation in its expanses of natural beauty.