

# The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)

ASLA Historic Preservation Professional Practice Network (HP-PPN)  
HALS Subcommittee

**In memory of Dr. Charles L. Leider, FASLA, FAICP, Professor and Director Emeritus, Landscape Architecture Program, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma**

January 31, 2019

Dear HALS Subcommittee Members,

We have received sad news that Dr. Charles L. Leider, FASLA, FAICP, Professor and Director Emeritus, Landscape Architecture Program, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma has died. Dr. Leider was a long time member of our ASLA HALS Subcommittee and a dedicated and productive friend to the HALS Program.

There is a notice piece about Dr. Leider's passing on the Oklahoma ASLA Chapter's website: <https://www.oklahomachapterasla.org/>

It is planned that his services and burial will take place next week in South Dakota. There will be a gathering and life celebration in Stillwater, Oklahoma after that. As information unfolds regarding the Stillwater event; location and time, as well as other announcements from allied organizations, OK ASLA will share info on this website. Please remember his family and loved ones at this time and remember Dr. Leider for all of his amazing accomplishments.

Below are some highlights from Dr. Leider's distinguished career.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Stevens  
Landscape Architect  
Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street NW, Room 7408  
Washington, DC 20240



Dr. Charles Leider (left) on the campus of Oklahoma State University with student Steve Eilers (right).

For more than 25 years, Dr. Leider and students in his research historic landscape preservation courses applied their research and drawing skills to produce HALS documentation for 47 historically and culturally significant sites, making the state a national leader in the documentation of historical landscapes. He was a fellow in both the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP).

Leider spent much of his career focused on the preservation of cultural landscapes, which could be known for their beauty or organization, or their significance to a person, activity or event. Over the years, students in Leider's historic preservation course inventoried and analyzed such sites as the Oklahoma Civic Center in Oklahoma City, Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa, the Thomas N. Berry Estate outside Stillwater and the 101 Ranch, a sprawling 101,000-acre property southwest of Ponca City bordered on two sides by the Salt Fork of the Arkansas River.

“Dr. Leider provided tremendous opportunities for Oklahoma State University students to learn about preservation of our state’s historic landmarks,” Oklahoma State President Burns Hargis said. “His efforts and those of his students will have a lasting impact across Oklahoma.”

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#### **Oklahoma Historical Cultural Landscape Self-Guided Driving Tours:**

Dr. Leider developed the highlights from some of the most significant HALS documentation into digital brochures for the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation for use as self-guided regional driving tours for the areas around Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Ponca City. These tours may be viewed on the Oklahoma Department of Tourism’s website: <http://www.travelok.com/listings/view.profile/id.14289>

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#### **Dr. Leider’s Published Books:**

*Great Oklahoma Historic Cultural Landscapes*

[https://www.amazon.com/Historic-Cultural-Landscapes-Oklahoma-America/dp/1467129925/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1548954110&sr=8-2&keywords=dr.+charles+leider+oklahoma](https://www.amazon.com/Historic-Cultural-Landscapes-Oklahoma-America/dp/1467129925/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1548954110&sr=8-2&keywords=dr.+charles+leider+oklahoma)

The book represents 25 years of HALS research by OSU students under Dr. Leider's direction. Over the course of 25 years beginning in 1987, he and a team of students studied, documented and drew original layouts of 18 cultural sites. The 128-page book highlights 18 cultural landscapes that were deemed significant based on nominations from design professionals and the general public.

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### ***Oklahoma State University***

[https://www.amazon.com/Oklahoma-State-University-Campus-History-ebook/dp/B01N97NCBT/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1548954110&sr=8-1&keywords=dr.+charles+leider+oklahoma](https://www.amazon.com/Oklahoma-State-University-Campus-History-ebook/dp/B01N97NCBT/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1548954110&sr=8-1&keywords=dr.+charles+leider+oklahoma)

To commemorate the OSU Centennial, the landscape architecture students in Dr. Leider's historic landscape preservation course," decided to recreate the historic 1930 Master Plan, which had become fragmented and partly lost for HALS. They were able to reconstruct the entire plan as line and interpret drawings, and present it to the university on its centennial and donate the documentation to the HALS collection. The book is highly illustrated with historic photos and plans of the Stillwater campus. It takes the reader on a 125-year tour of familiar buildings and places with brief descriptions of the people and the plans that resulted in creating one of the most attractive campuses in the nation.

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### ***OSU Professor Changes the Way Oklahoma Looks at Historic Preservation - Historic Landscapes Logged by OSU Prof***

By MICHAEL OVERALL World Staff Writer Aug 21, 2014, Tulsa World ([www.tulsaworld.com](http://www.tulsaworld.com))

Several years ago, Professor Charles Leider took a carload of architecture students to the grassy plains west of Ponca City, where they wanted to draw a site plan of the old 101 Ranch.

When they got there, an hour north of the Oklahoma State University campus, Leider and his students did not find the historic preservation project they were looking for. It was, essentially, an archeological site, with little more than crumbling traces of long-gone foundations.

"We were totally shocked," Leider recalls.

"And we didn't quite know what to do."

Since the late 1980s, Leider has taken an innovative and expanded approach to preservation, addressing not individual buildings but the "historic landscapes" that surround them.

"Sometimes the setting of a building is more important than the building itself," he explains. "The gardens. The landscaping. The topography. They're a relatively new field of historic preservation."

Over a 25-year period, with help from his landscape architecture students at OSU, Leider produced detailed site plans and measured drawings of 47 historically and culturally significant locations across Oklahoma, giving the state some of the best-documented "historic landscapes" in the country.

The body of work earned Leider the 2014 Citation of Merit Award from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office.

"It's nice for your life's work to receive some recognition," said Leider, who retired from teaching in 2012 but remains active as a consultant. "More importantly, much of this work has been put to good use."

The 101 Ranch, once a sprawling operation that became world famous for its Wild West show, was Leider's most difficult and unusual project. He eventually resorted to using old aerial photographs to reconstruct the ranch's site plan, revealing how close the Salt Fork River was encroaching on the historic area.

Leider's work led to state efforts to stabilize the riverbank, preventing further erosion.

Another project compared the modern OSU campus in Stillwater with the original master plan from the 1920s. Longtime university President Henry Bennett, whose statue now overlooks a grassy lawn on campus, envisioned a cruciform plan with the library at the center and unobstructed views stretching into the distance.

With Leider's research in mind, trees have been removed, hedges restored and sidewalks expanded to bring the central part of the campus closer to what Bennett intended.

"It's always interesting to see changes over time," he said. "The changes aren't always for the better. Sometimes the original vision is lost."

In what Leider considers his most successful project, the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa used his research to restore the historic gardens, and even added a summerhouse in 2004 that the original architect planned but did not build.

"It wasn't just a renovation," he said. "It was an improvement."

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#### Dr. Leider's HALS Documentation

<b>HALS Survey</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Library of Congress Link</b>
HALS OK-1	Creek Nation Council Oak Park	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0081">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0081</a>
HALS OK-2	Capitol Park	Guthrie	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0082">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0082</a>
HALS OK-3	Fort Gibson National Cemetery	Fort Gibson	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0084">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0084</a>
HALS OK-4	Villa Philbrook	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0085">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0085</a>
HALS OK-5	E.W. Marland Estate No. 1	Ponca City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0086">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0086</a>
HALS OK-6	Thomas N. Berry Estate	Stillwater	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0087">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0087</a>
HALS OK-7	Frank Phillips Home	Bartlesville	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0088">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0088</a>
HALS OK-8	101 Ranch	Ponca City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0089">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0089</a>
HALS OK-9	Oklahoma City Civic Center	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0090">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0090</a>
HALS OK-10	Harwelden Estate	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0091">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0091</a>
HALS OK-11	Oklahoma State University Campus	Stillwater	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0092">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0092</a>
HALS OK-12	Swan Lake	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0093">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0093</a>
HALS OK-13	E.W. Marland Estate No. 2	Ponca City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0094">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0094</a>
HALS OK-14	Honor Heights Park and the Union Agency	Muskogee	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0095">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0095</a>

HALS OK-15	H.H. Champlin Estate	Enid	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0096">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0096</a>
HALS OK-16	Will Rogers Memorial Museum	Claremore	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0097">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0097</a>
HALS OK-17	Henry Overholser Mansion	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0098">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0098</a>
HALS OK-18	McBirney House	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0099">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0099</a>
HALS OK-19	Buttram Estate	Nichols Hills	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0100">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0100</a>
HALS OK-20	Woodward Park	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0101">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0101</a>
HALS OK-21	Owen Park	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0102">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0102</a>
HALS OK-22	Tulsa Rose Garden	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0103">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0103</a>
HALS OK-23	Garrard Ardeneum	McAlester	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0104">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0104</a>
HALS OK-24	Tulsa Garden Center	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0105">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0105</a>
HALS OK-25	Thomas Gilcrease Estate	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0107">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0107</a>
HALS OK-26	Mohawk Park	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0108">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0108</a>
HALS OK-27	Sacred Heart Mission	Konawa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0110">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0110</a>
HALS OK-28	Will Rogers Park	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0111">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0111</a>
HALS OK-29	Edgemere Park Historic District	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0112">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0112</a>
HALS OK-30	Fort Towson	Fort Towson	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0113">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0113</a>
HALS OK-31	Fred Drummond Estate	Hominy	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0114">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0114</a>
HALS OK-32	Hillcrest Country Club	Bartlesville	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0115">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0115</a>
HALS OK-33	John Sinopoulo House	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0116">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0116</a>
HALS OK-34	Oklahoma State Capitol	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0117">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0117</a>
HALS OK-35	Robert A. Hefner Mansion	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0118">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0118</a>
HALS OK-36	Southern Hills Country Club	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0119">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0119</a>
HALS OK-37	Spiro Mounds Site	Spiro	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0120">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0120</a>
HALS OK-38	Terwilliger Heights Subdivision	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0121">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0121</a>
HALS OK-39	University of Oklahoma	Norman	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0122">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0122</a>
HALS OK-40	Fort Gibson	Fort Gibson	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0123">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0123</a>
HALS OK-41	City of Nichols Hills	Nichols Hills	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0124">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0124</a>
HALS OK-42	Heritage Hills	Oklahoma City	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0125">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0125</a>

HALS OK-44	Boomer Lake Park	Stillwater	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0127">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0127</a>
HALS OK-45	Couch Park	Stillwater	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0128">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0128</a>
HALS OK-46	Fort Reno	El Reno	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0129">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0129</a>
HALS OK-47	Grand Army of the Republic Cemetery	Miami	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0130">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0130</a>
HALS OK-48	Guthrie Historic District	Guthrie	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0131">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0131</a>
HALS OK-49	Kenwood Historic District	Enid	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0132">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0132</a>
HALS OK-50	Memorial Park Cemetery	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0133">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0133</a>
HALS OK-51	Mickey Mantle Boyhood Home	Commerce	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0134">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0134</a>
HALS OK-52	Perry Courthouse Square Historic District	Perry	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0135">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0135</a>
HALS OK-53	Utica Square	Tulsa	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0136">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0136</a>
HALS OK-54	Waverley Historic District	Enid	Oklahoma	<a href="http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0137">http://loc.gov/pictures/item/ok0137</a>