

Farr Center



23. Farr Center,
5283 Main Street



Farr Center as It Appeared around 1950; Small Building at Left Was Beauty Parlor of Flossie Eller

The former Onekama Farm Bureau Building and land for Farr Center were donated to the Village by Newton C. Farr in 1949. Farr made this donation in honor of his father, Marvin A. Farr; sister, Barbara Farr Chinnock; and uncle, Augustine W. Farr, who was the

first president of Onekama when Village Government was organized in 1891. Although a date for the original construction of the Farm Bureau Building has not been determined, an addition to the structure was announced in 1923 for the new poultry, egg, and cream buying station of this firm, which handled produce from local farms. The property was deeded to the Village in 1950 for use as general offices, and a Council chamber, a firehouse, and a community center. Initial alterations were made to the structure; and by the Manistee County Courthouse fire of February 23, 1950, a firetruck for use in the Village and the Township was in the building and ready for the call that was received for assistance with this major conflagration.



1950 Firetruck of Onekama Township Fire Department at Department's Fiftieth Anniversary

Several extensions and renovations of the building have occurred, including the addition of a west wing in 1965 for the Onekama Branch of the Manistee County Library. This wing was rebuilt and rededicated in 1997. After the Fire Department and Township offices moved, additional space was available for the Village.



Stone Mural Decorating the Hall of Farr Center.
Undertaken by the Clio Club in 1967 as Part of a
Community Improvement Project, It Was Inspired and
Designed by Clubwoman Anice Guimond