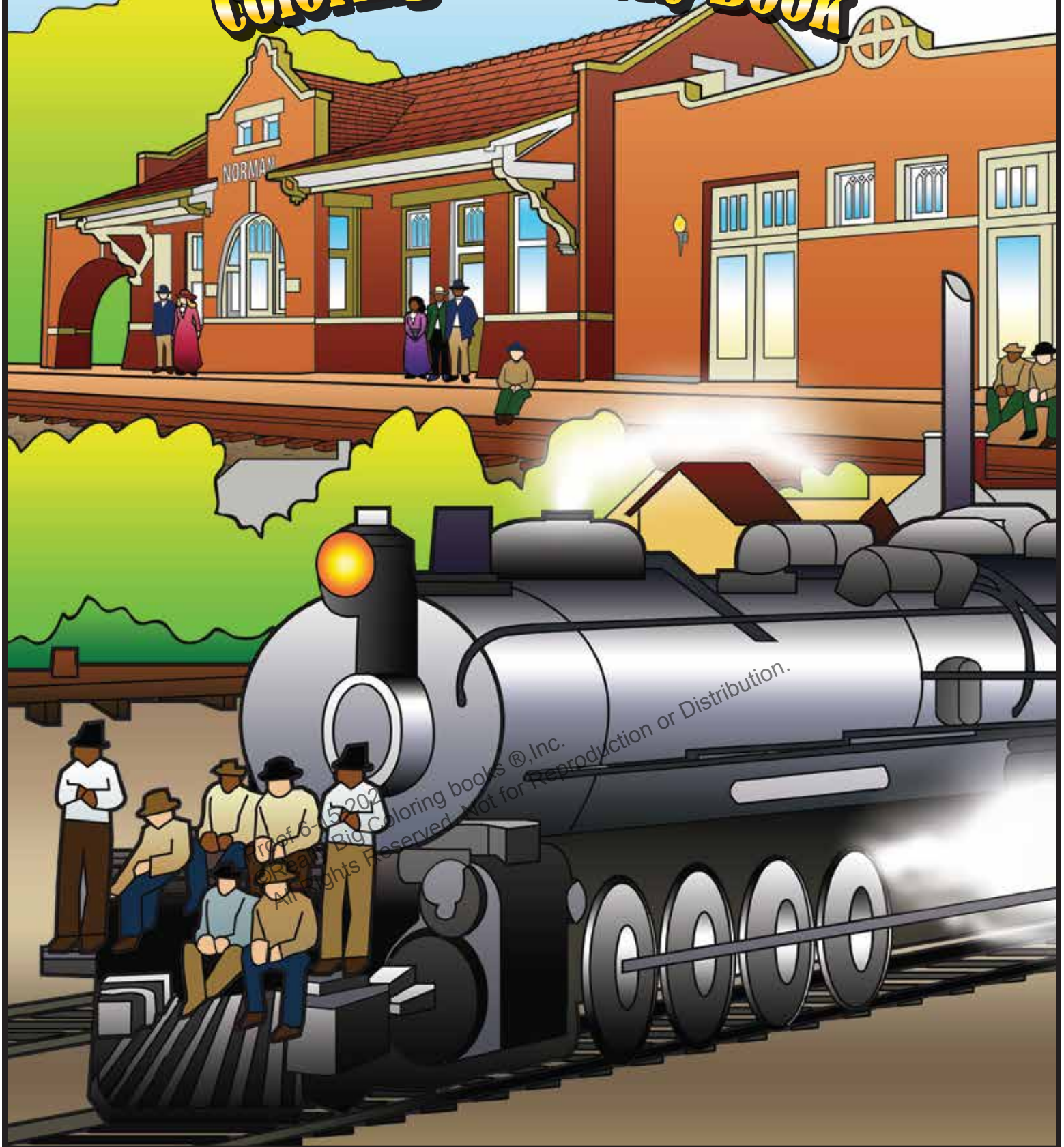


Historic Norman

Coloring & Activity Book



Historic Norman

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Welcome To
NORMAN

EST 1889

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Historic Norman

In October of 1978, three blocks of Norman's Downtown were listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Norman now has 20 listings in the National Register of Historic Places! These include 16 buildings, 2 districts, and a set of structures. A National Register of Historic Places designation indicates a structure is significant to our past and what a past Norman has!

Norman grew from a United States Land Survey crew camp along Bishop Creek in 1870 to a vibrant community of over 120,000 residents in 2021. Like other communities located along the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe rail line, the town of Norman began with the 1889 Oklahoma Land Run. Rail lines played an important role in the development of Norman. It not only brought people from all over the country and the world to this small community on the prairie, but also brought the necessary materials and goods to build and grow a community. Today the train depot and the railroad tracks are landmarks that remind us of our past.

As Norman grew, it built structures that enlivened the city including the downtown business district. Many of the structures listed in the Norman Downtown Historic District still present today were constructed after the fire of 1902 that leveled most of the structures on Main Street. Other significant structures built between 1920 and 1950 include the Sooner Theatre Building, Cleveland County Courthouse, the United States Post Office, and the Santa Fe Depot! These structures still stand today and tell of a past that helped form our community.

These structures and others in this book listed in the National Register of Historic Places tell the history of Norman!

Explore your history!

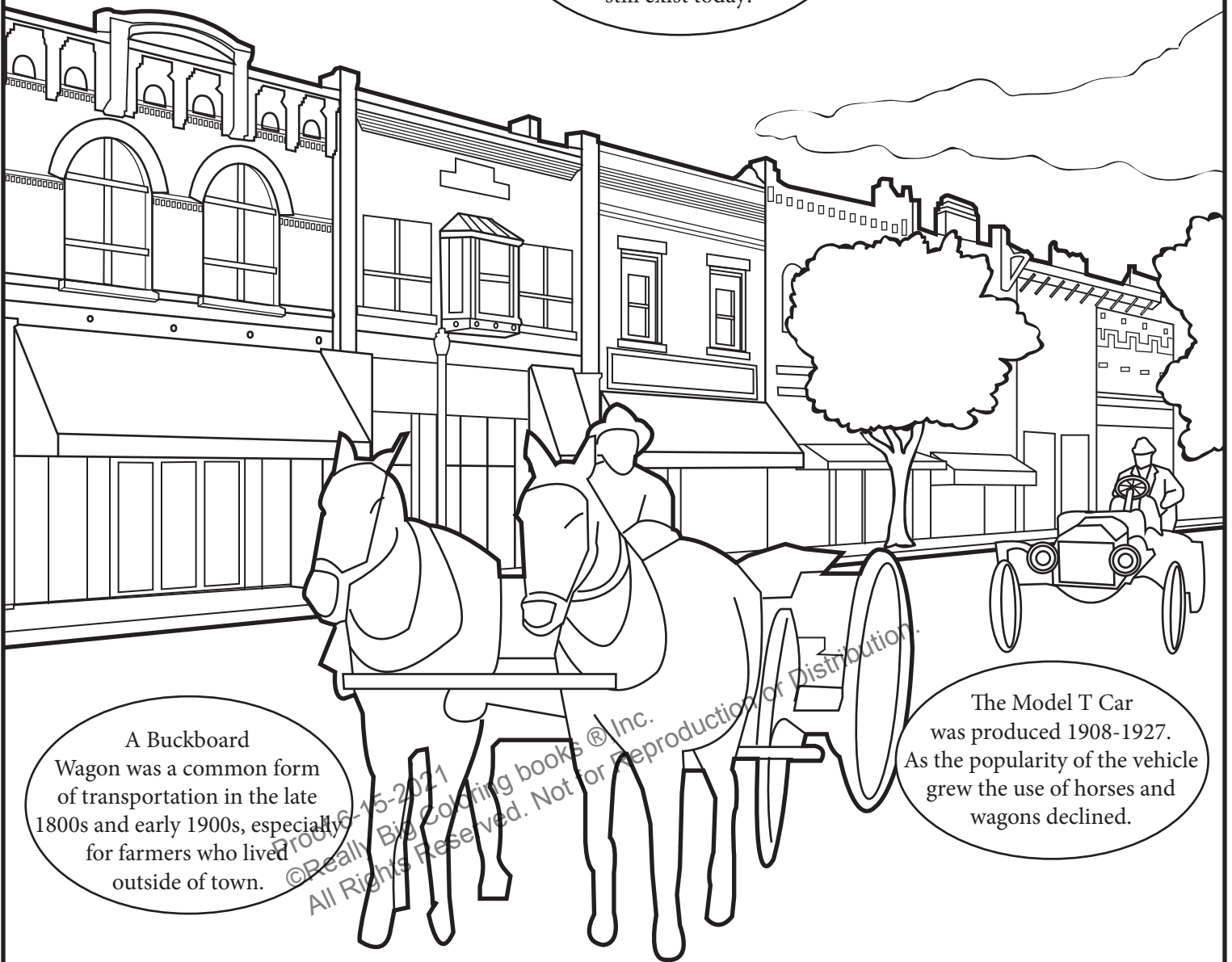


Downtown Norman picture courtesy of Cleveland County Historical Society.

Downtown Norman

Many of the buildings on Main Street were destroyed in a fire that swept through downtown in 1902!

This was considered fortunate by many, as wooden structures could be replaced by the brick and masonry buildings that still exist today!



A Buckboard Wagon was a common form of transportation in the late 1800s and early 1900s, especially for farmers who lived outside of town.

The Model T Car was produced 1908-1927. As the popularity of the vehicle grew the use of horses and wagons declined.

The historic buildings in the 100 and 200 blocks of East Main Street range in age from 1890 to 1920s. All along Main Street are examples of the most popular designs for facades during the time frame. The Downtown Norman Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 10, 1978.

Sooner Theatre

Draw the other side!

On February 10, 1929 when the Sooner Theatre first opened a movie, or “talkie” as they were called, only cost 10 cents for children!



The Sooner Theatre opened in 1929, making it the first movie theatre in the region to show “talking pictures”. It was designed by architect Harold Gimeno and features 252 hand-painted designs by Patricio Gimeno, the architect’s father. The Sooner Theatre was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 31, 1978.

Santa Fe Depot

Early Norman streets in downtown were laid out parallel to the railroad track, which ran northwest to southeast, requiring streets to “bend” as they entered downtown!

For many years the train depot was the young community’s link to the outside world!

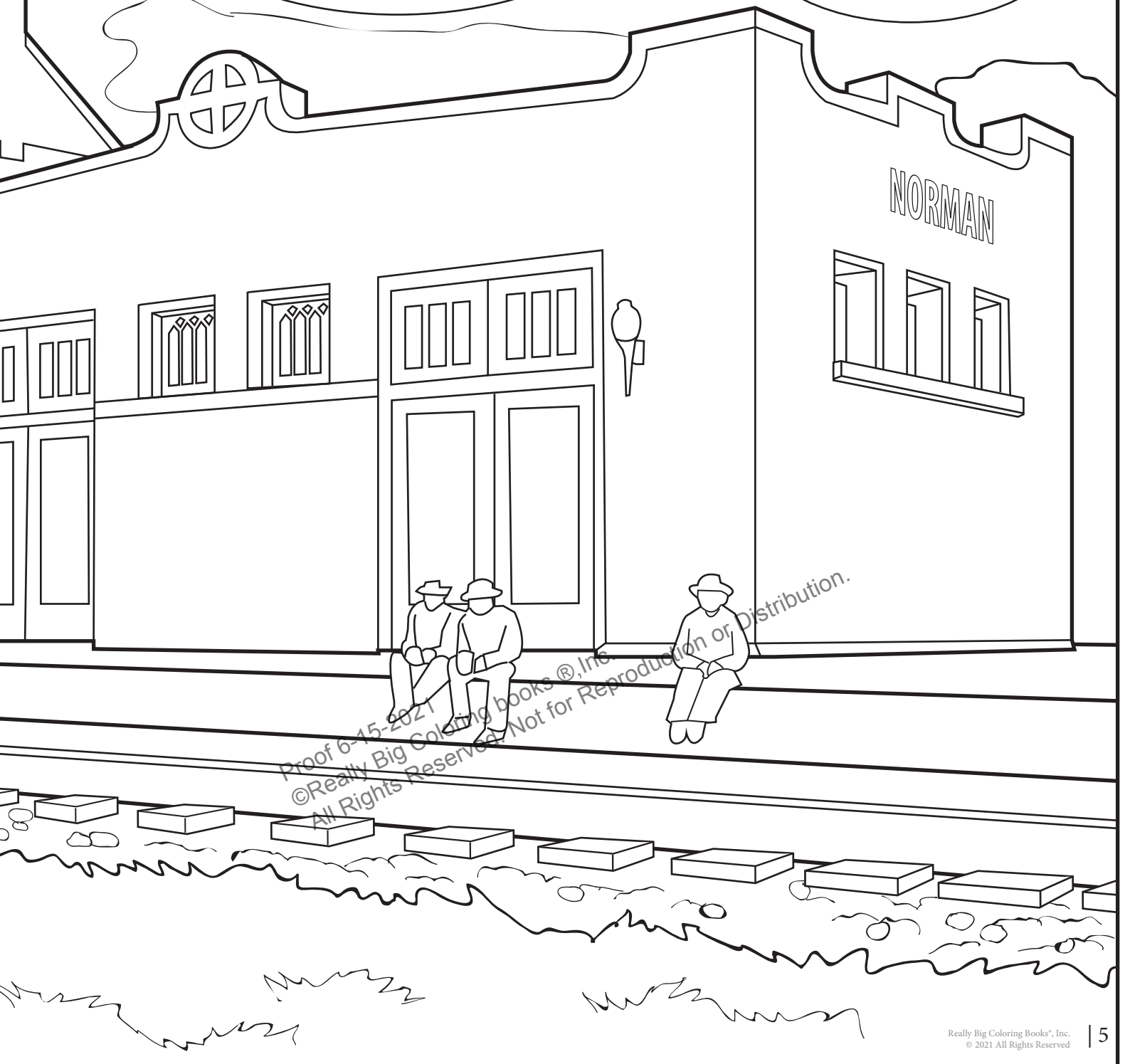
Have you ever wondered why Main Street curves as it enters the downtown area?



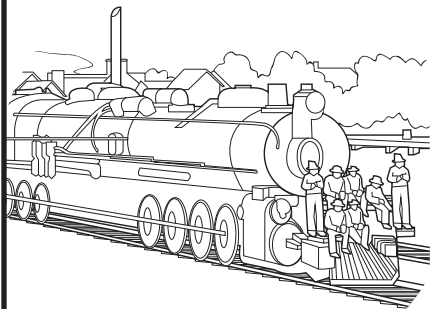
Built in 1909 and designed in Mission Revival style, the depot has a clay tile roof with parapets using the Santa Fe logo. The railway company played a major role in the establishment of Norman. The Santa Fe Depot was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 30, 1991.

In 1870, a U.S. Land Office surveying crew, led by Abner E. Norman, set up camp near Bishop's Creek near the present day intersection of Lindsey Avenue and Classen Boulevard. The crew was assigned to survey all the lands in Western Oklahoma, including the lands of Cleveland County. The surveying crew carved the name of their supervisor "Norman", into a tree by the camp. Once rail lines began to be laid, the railroad company named the rail stop "Norman".

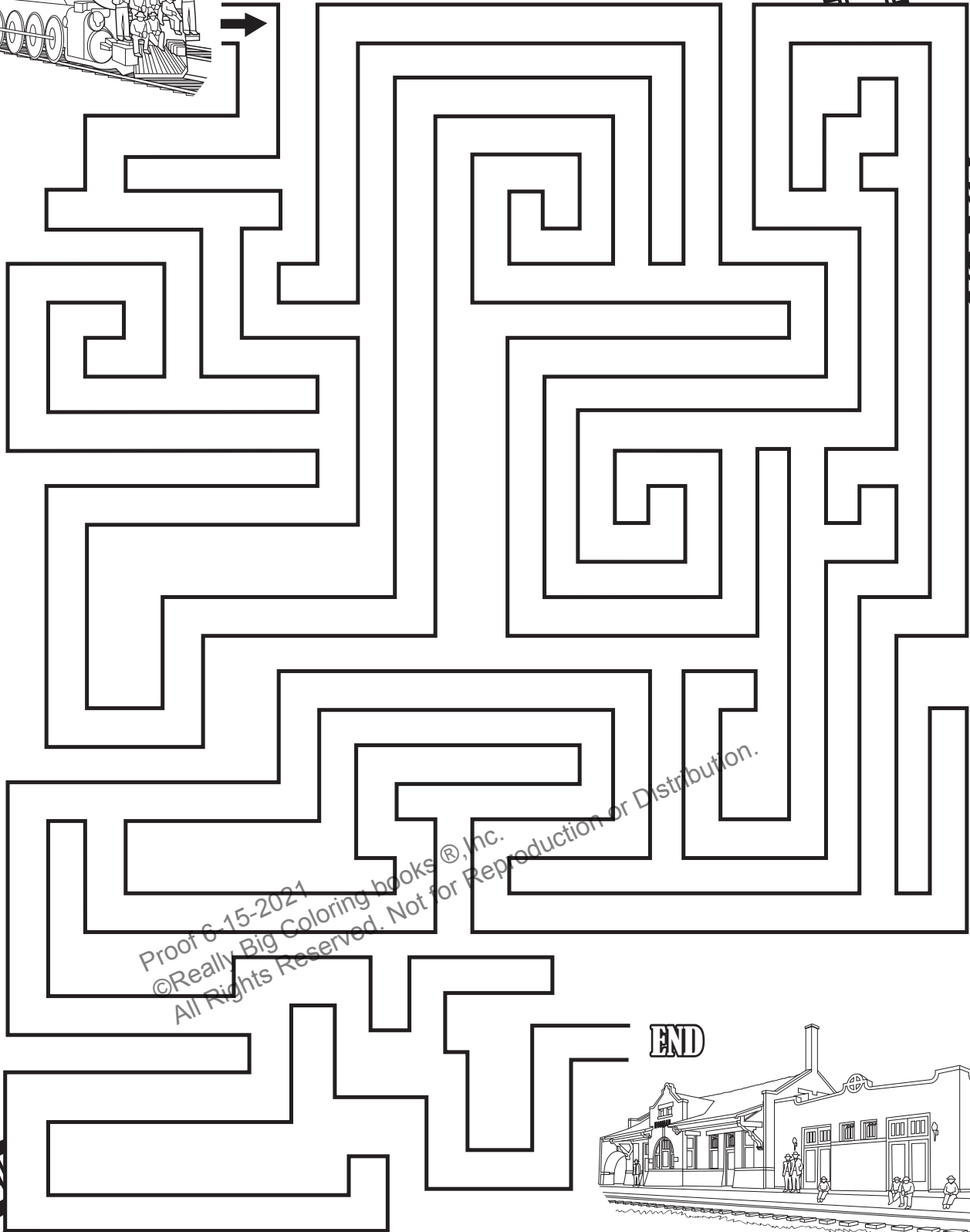
The train depot was named "Norman" before the city was founded, however, once settlers established a town, the name Norman was adopted as the town's official name.



Train Maze



START



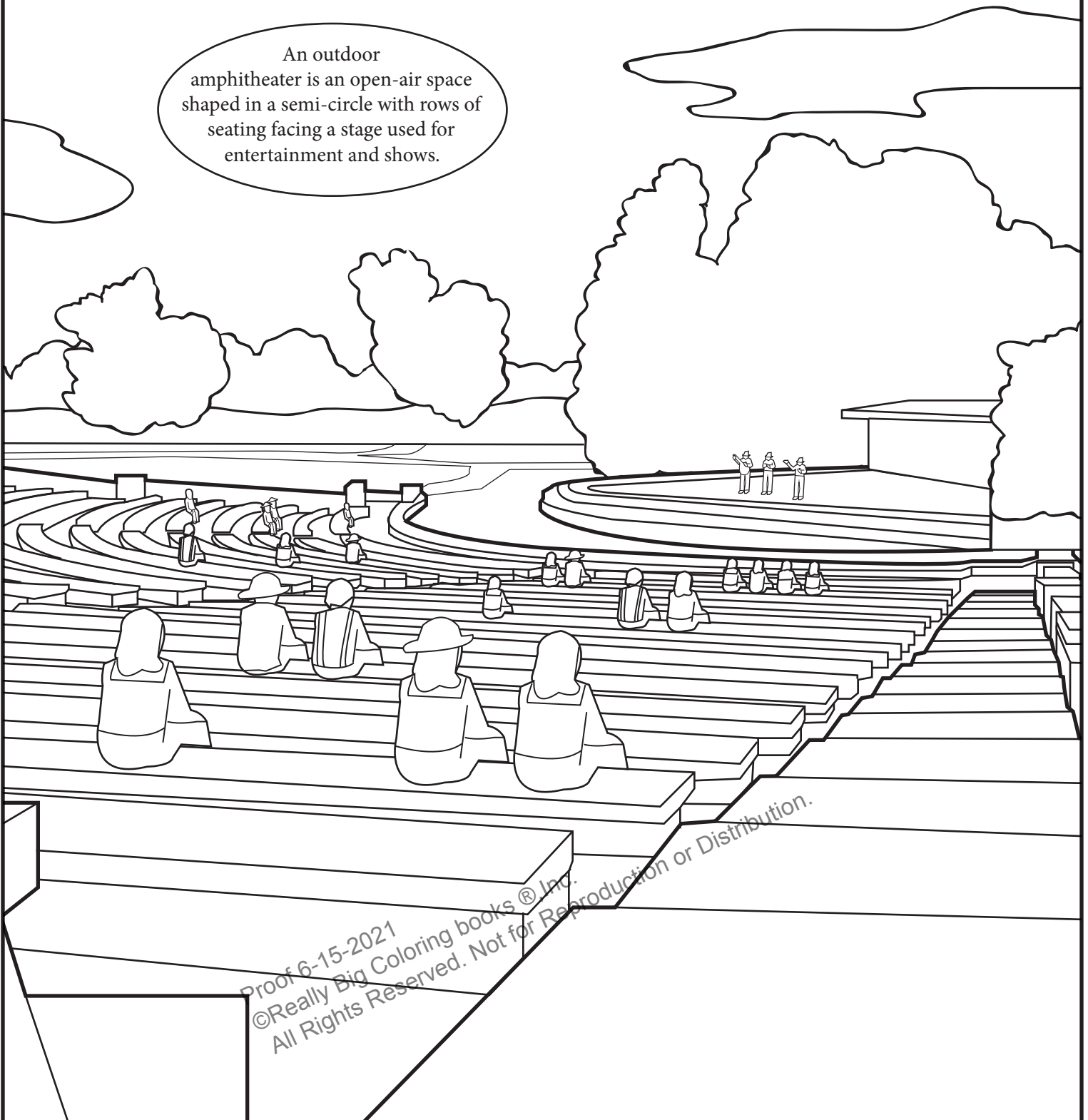
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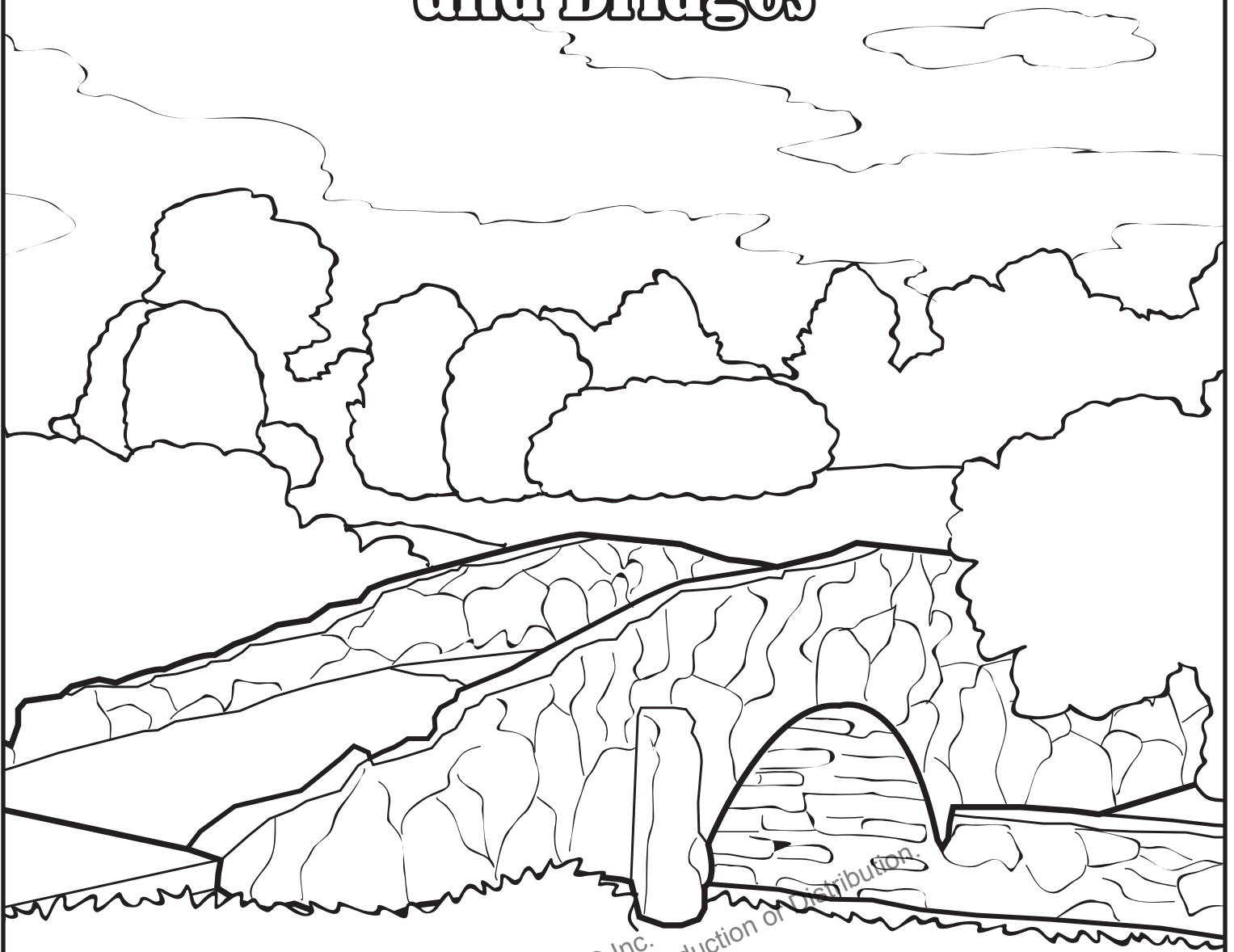
Andrews Park Amphitheater

An outdoor amphitheater is an open-air space shaped in a semi-circle with rows of seating facing a stage used for entertainment and shows.



The Andrews Park Amphitheater is the crown jewel of the park's Works Progress Administration (WPA) buildings and is located on the west side of the park. Made of native stone with rose colored concrete seating, this structure is typical of WPA constructions. It was completed in 1937. The Andrews Park Amphitheater was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2000.

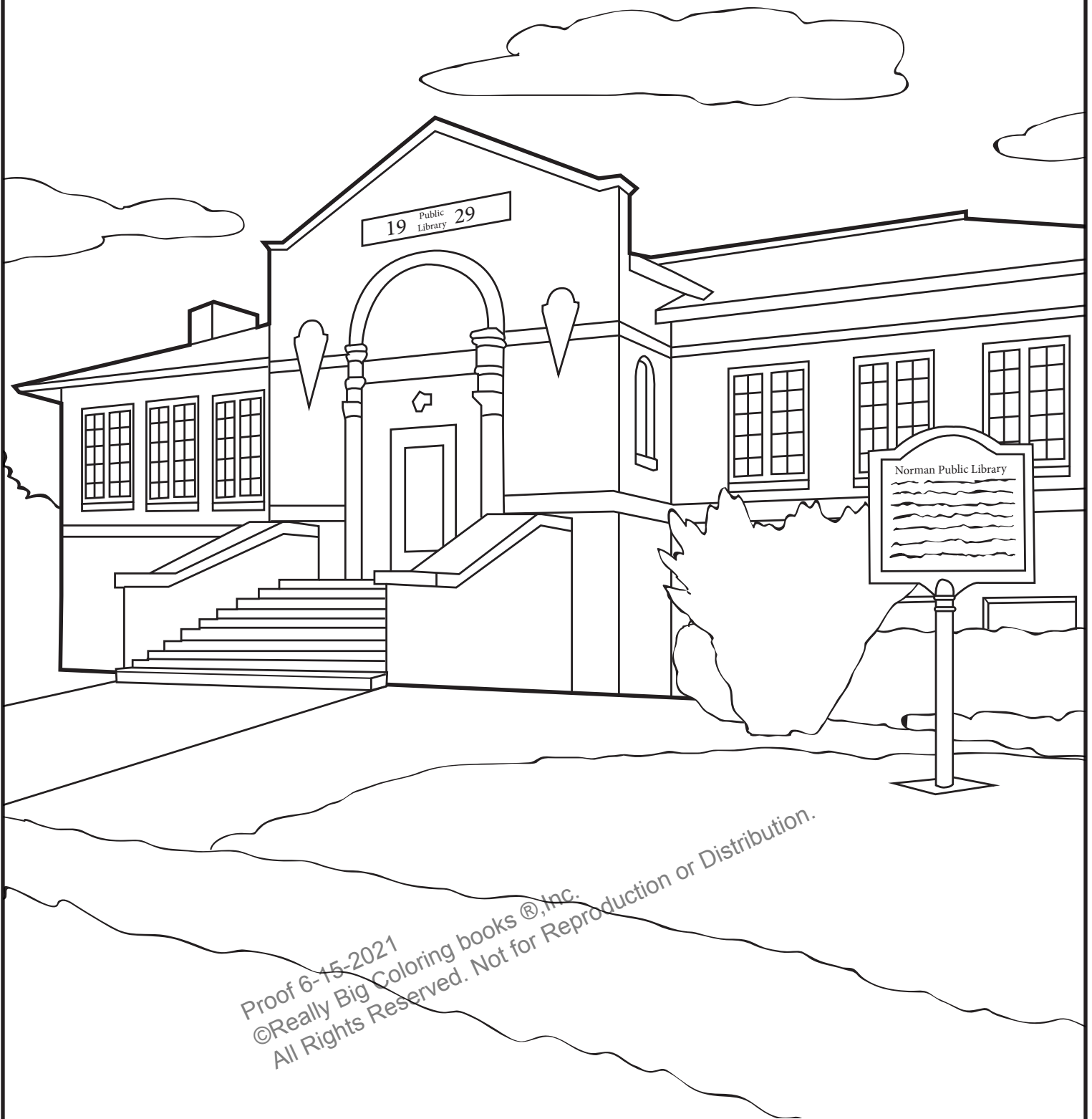
Norman's Drainage Channel and Bridges



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Built about the same time as the Andrews Park Amphitheater, the native stone and concrete drainage channel and bridges located near Downtown were built as a part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) project in 1937. The drainage channel and two native stone bridges were listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2000.

Norman's First Public Library

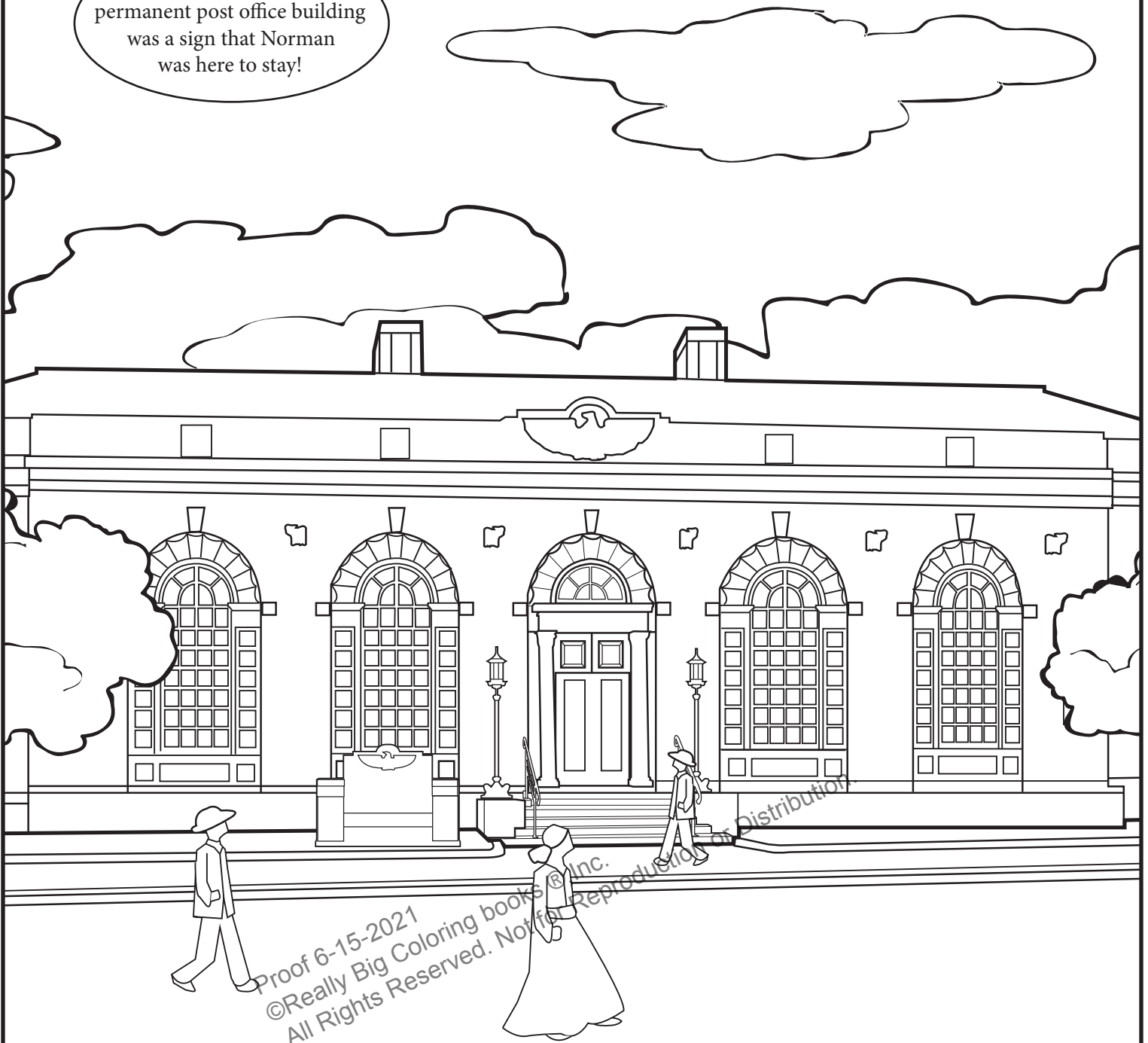


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Designed in the Italian Renaissance style and typical of early 20th century library buildings, it is a simple building that offers classical style and fine interior finish. Constructed in 1929, it served as Norman's library until 1975 and is now the Norman Senior Citizen Center. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2000.

Norman's First Post Office

The construction of a permanent post office building was a sign that Norman was here to stay!



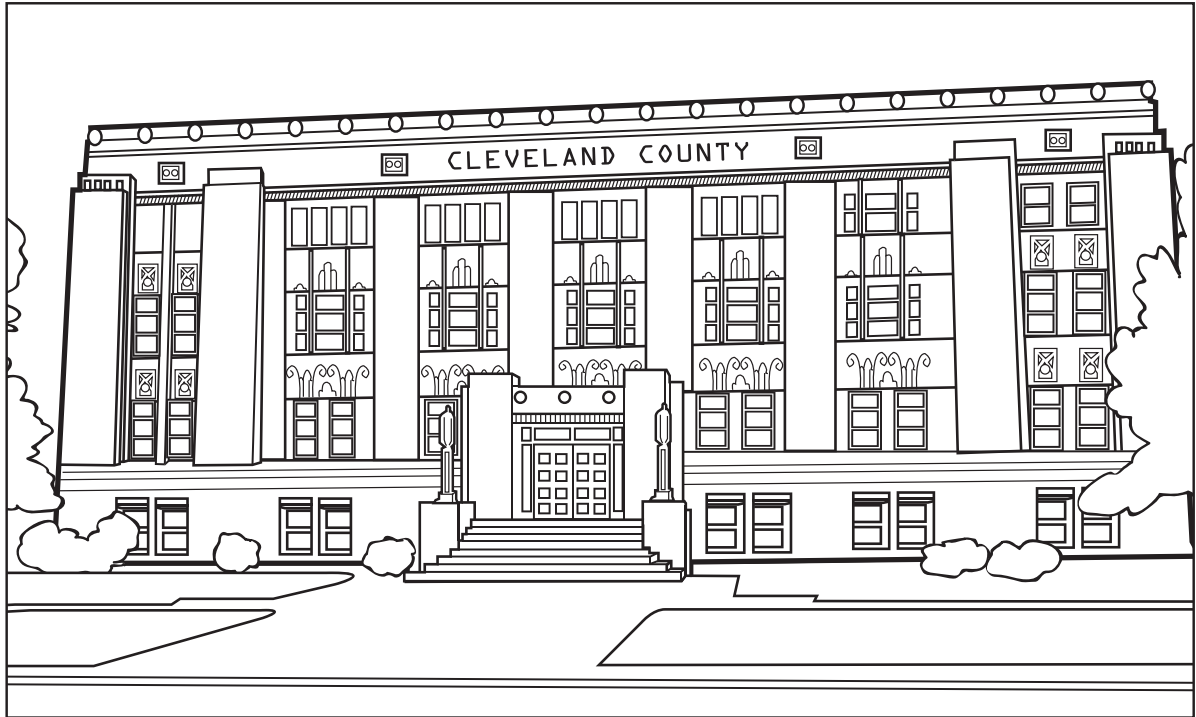
Built in 1932, the U.S. Post Office is an example of a Classical Revival style government building. It served the community as the main Post Office until 1965. This building now serves as the Norman Public School's Professional Development Center. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2000.

Cleveland County Court House

Find the Difference

Can you spot the 5 differences below?

1.



2.



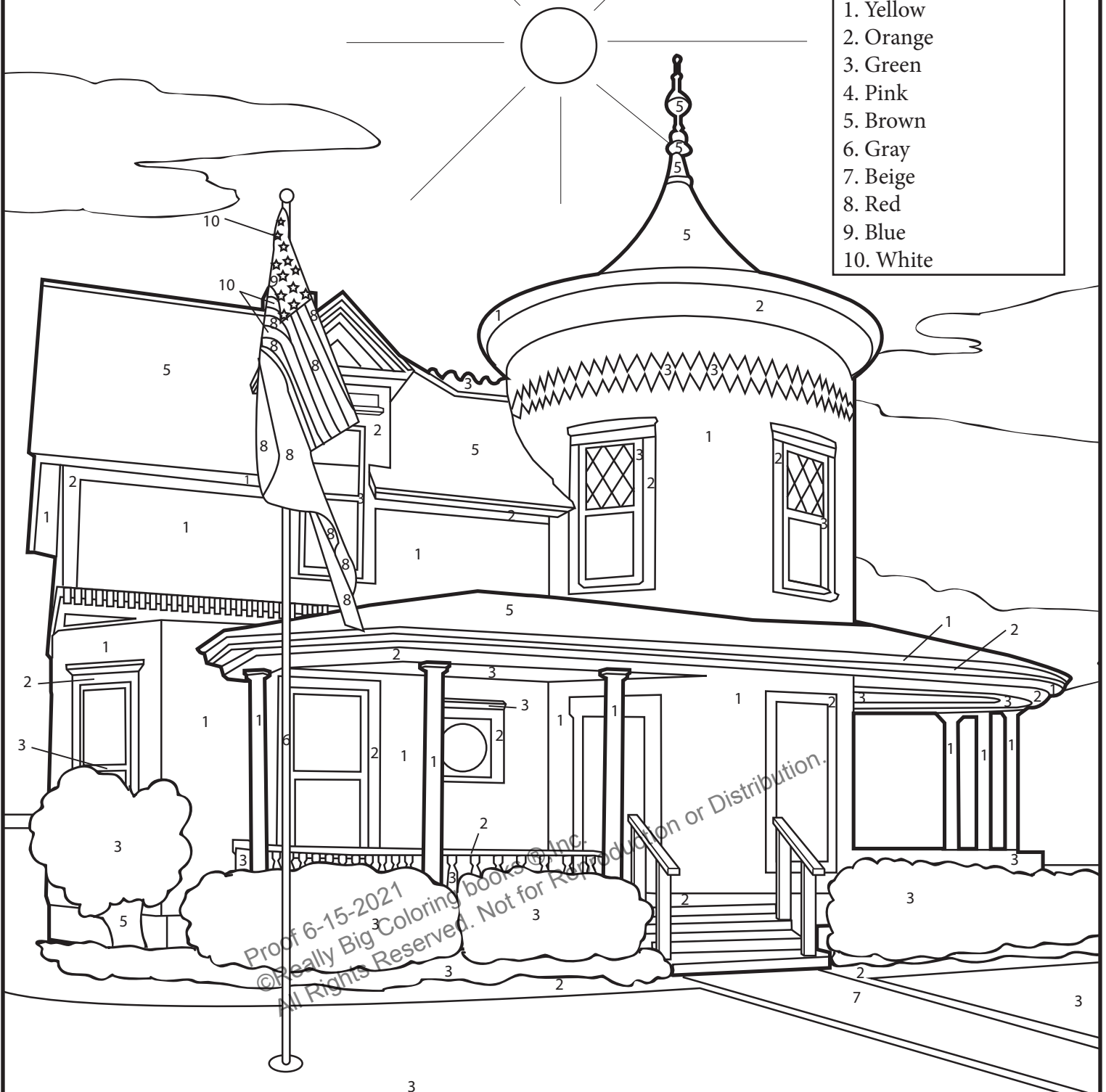
The Cleveland County Courthouse was built in 1940 and designed by Walter T. Vahlberg. It was funded by the Public Works Administration (PWA). The Courthouse is classified as Art Deco due to its Art Deco-Style decorations. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on December 28, 2000.

Moore-Lindsay House

Color By Number

COLOR KEY

1. Yellow
2. Orange
3. Green
4. Pink
5. Brown
6. Gray
7. Beige
8. Red
9. Blue
10. White



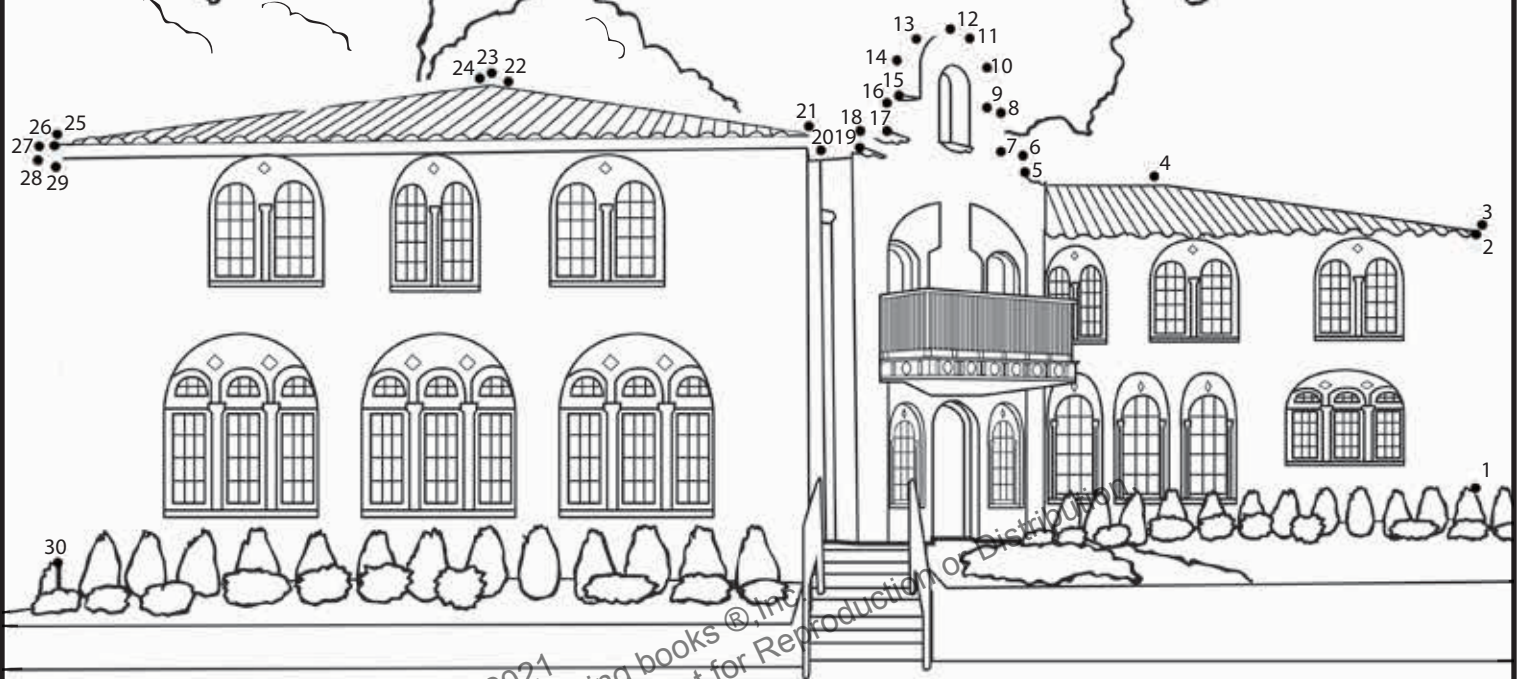
William S. Moore built this home in 1899. It is the best example of a late Victorian styled home. This home is found in an area in Norman nicknamed, "Silk Stocking Row." The home currently serves as the Moore-Lindsay Historic House Museum. The Moore-Lindsay House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 14, 1985.

Alpha Chi Omega Sorority House

Connect the Dots

Local residents commonly call this structure "Casa Blanca", which means white house in Spanish.

This structure was repurposed from a sorority house to business use several decades ago. Today Casa Blanca houses the Chickasaw Nation's student services.



When completed in 1925, the house complemented many of the Mission Revival style structures located on Campus Corner. The terra cotta tile roof is a trademark of the Mission Revival Style. The house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on February 21, 1990.

Logan Apartments

Upwards of 75 men
worked day and night to
construct this 3-story brick building
between May and September of 1929,
just in time for University of
Oklahoma students to lease
in the fall semester!



The buff-colored brick Logan Apartments located in the Chautauqua Historic District was constructed in 1929. Architecture features include a parapet that encircles the flat roof of the building and decorative elements that mark the entries on the north and west sides of the building. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 14, 2014.

Word Search

P	H	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	N	Y	B	P
K	H	I	S	T	O	R	I	C	G	G	E	K	M
D	O	W	N	T	O	W	N	Q	T	S	L	P	P
O	K	D	D	Y	X	B	X	N	U	D	V	Z	O
T	K	Z	J	T	Y	H	R	O	S	F	Q	Q	S
R	W	L	P	K	R	P	H	C	O	T	Z	L	T
K	X	I	Z	A	N	A	W	Q	O	H	Q	Y	O
C	H	B	G	A	R	L	I	N	N	E	M	N	F
H	K	R	D	X	Q	K	A	N	E	A	B	B	F
A	N	A	X	L	Z	M	G	Z	R	T	P	C	I
N	P	R	T	Y	R	N	R	Z	S	R	Y	T	C
N	X	Y	T	O	P	K	I	D	Q	E	M	K	E
E	T	H	N	M	L	L	N	V	M	Y	Z	P	R
L	V	O	K	L	A	H	O	M	A	M	T	W	D

WORD BANK

House	Library
Railroad	Historic
Park	Train
Theatre	Channel
Sooners	Norman
Post Office	Downtown
Oklahoma	

Games & Activities

Answer Key

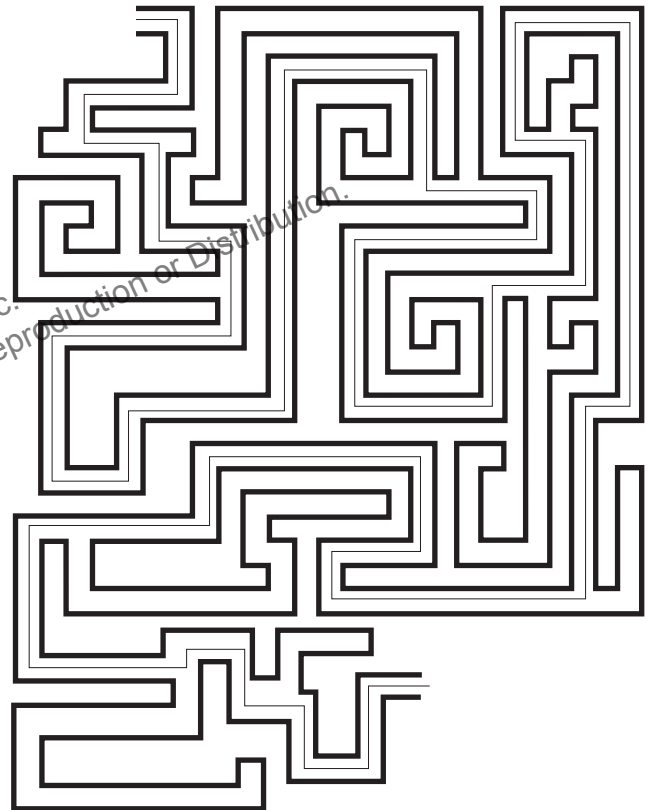
Solution to Page 11:

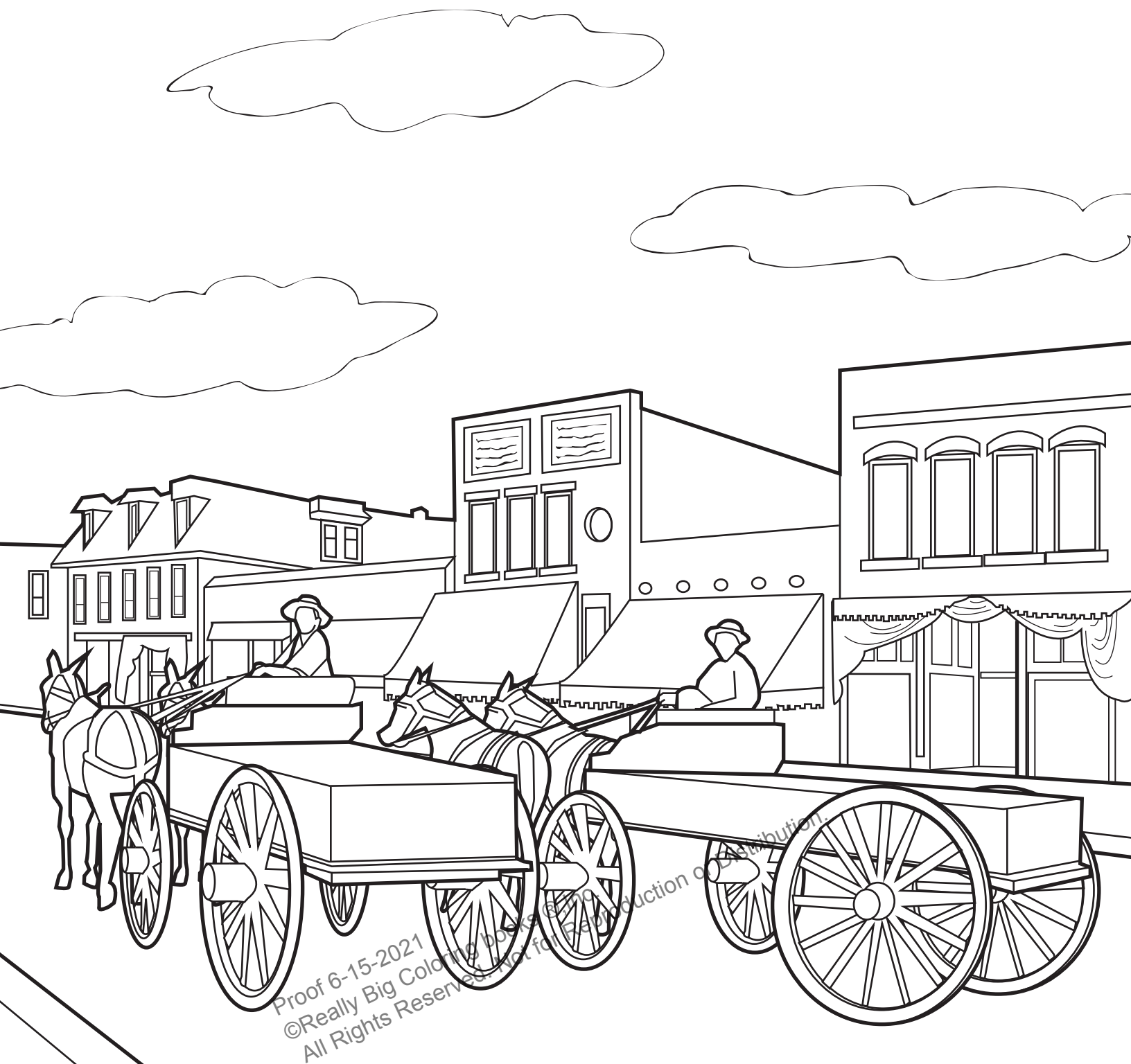
1. Bottom Courthouse has no name.
2. Bottom Courthouse has no windows on the left hand side.
3. Bottom Courthouse missing decorative lanterns on the steps.
4. Bottom Courthouse is missing decorative circles on the top of the building.
5. Bottom Courthouse has a different door.

Solution to Page 15:

P	H	R	A	I	L	R	O	A	D	N	Y	B	P
K	H	I	S	T	O	R	I	O	G	G	E	K	M
D	O	W	N	T	O	W	N	Q	T	S	L	P	P
O	K	D	D	Y	X	B	X	N	U	D	V	Z	O
T	K	Z	J	T	Y	H	R	O	S	F	Q	Q	S
R	W	L	P	K	R	P	H	C	O	T	Z	L	T
K	X	I	Z	A	N	A	W	Q	O	H	Q	Y	O
C	H	B	G	A	R	L	I	N	N	E	M	N	F
H	K	R	D	X	Q	K	A	N	E	A	B	B	F
A	N	A	X	L	Z	M	G	Z	R	T	P	C	I
N	P	R	T	Y	R	N	R	Z	S	R	Y	T	C
N	X	Y	T	O	P	K	I	D	Q	E	M	A	E
E	T	H	N	M	L	L	N	M	Y	Z	P	R	
L	V	O	K	L	A	P	Q	M	A	M	T	W	D

Solution to Page 6:





What might these men have brought to town in their wagons to sell? Or are they leaving town with items they have purchased for their farms in country? You decide - fill in the wagon with what you think they might have in their wagons!

Historic Norman

Coloring & Activity Book

Acknowledgment of Support

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This coloring and activity book was produced Summer 2021 under the direction of the
City of Norman Historic District Commission.

