



DAY TRIP TO DEPEW

From Bristow · Creek County, Oklahoma



RAILROAD AND
ROAD



Photo: Gorup de Besanez, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

LIVING TOWN · 411 PEOPLE (2020)

A small incorporated town of 411 people at the 2020 census. The newest visit we found, a dashcam drive filmed July 31, 2024, shows Main Street's brick row standing, with pickups parked along it and a Route 66 sign and mural in town. Photos from 2017 show many of the storefronts empty.

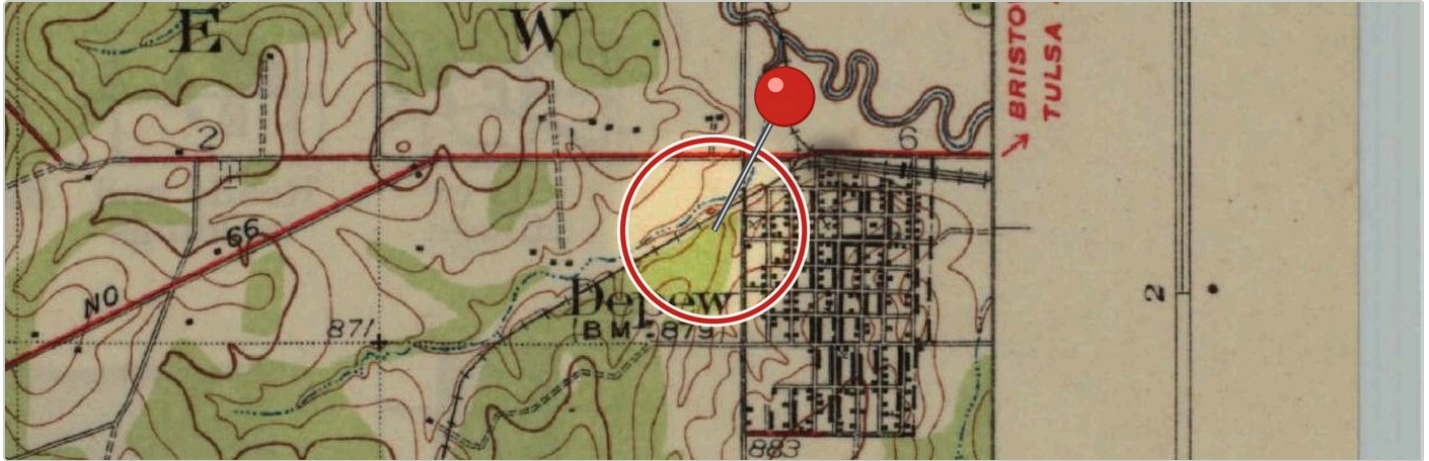
Depew makes a short stop on a Route 66 drive between Bristow and Stroud. Walk the three blocks of Main Street, find the old filling station, and look for the older roadbed on the way in or out.

A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 9:30 a.m. Leave downtown Bristow on Route 66 west. It's about 11 minutes to Depew.
- ☐ 9:45 a.m. Turn in on Flynn Avenue, the 1926 route, and park on Main Street.
- ☐ 10 a.m. Walk Main Street to Ladd Avenue and back. Stop at the filling station at Malley and Main.
- ☐ 11 a.m. Drive on west to Stroud for lunch, or back to Bristow.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **Main Street.** Stand at one end and shoot down the row of awnings to show how long the empty block is.
- **The filling station.** Get the canopy columns and the "Drive In" lettering over the bay door.
- **The old concrete.** A low angle shows the joints and curbs of the 1920s pavement.



USGS topographic map, 1931 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	7 mi, about 11 min each way from downtown Bristow. From Tulsa: 41 mi, about 50 min.
ADMISSION	None. These are buildings in a small town, seen from its streets.
TIME ON SITE	Main Street is three blocks long. An hour is enough to walk it.
FOOD AND WATER	Depew's grocery closed in 2012, and we found no restaurant listed in town. Eat in Bristow or Stroud and bring water.
FUEL	TheRoute-66.com reports a service station on Route 66 at the west entrance to town. Bristow has more.
RESPECT	Depew had 411 residents in 2020. Stay on public streets and sidewalks and out of the empty buildings.

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 35.80300, -96.50700 · 35°48'11"N
96°30'25"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/oklahoma/depew/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.