H0682853 Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AUG 2 3 1978 RECEIVED NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM DATE ENTERED SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS NAME - William J., Murphy House HISTORIC AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STREET & NUMBER 923 North 13th Street NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CITY, TOWN Fort Smith Third VICINITY OF 131 CODE COUNTY STATE Arkansas Sebastian CLASSIFICATION PRESENT USE CATEGORY OWNERSHIP STATUS _AGRICULTURE DISTRICT PUBLIC X OCCUPIED __MUSEUM X_BUILDING(S) X PRIVATE _UNOCCUPIED **X**COMMERCIAL __PARK _STRUCTURE _вотн _WORK IN PROGRESS _EDUCATIONAL X PRIVATE RESIDENCE SITE PUBLIC ACQUISITION ACCESSIBLE ENTERTAINMENT __RELIGIOUS __OBJECT X_YES: RESTRICTED __GOVERNMENT IN PROCESS _SCIENTIFIC INDUSTRIAL BEING CONSIDERED __YES: UNRESTRICTED _TRANSPORTATION MILITARY _OTHER: NO OWNER OF PROPERTY Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yearty STREET & NUMBER 923 North 13th Street (Mailing address: P.O. Box 892) CITY, TOWN Fort Smith Arkansas LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Circuit Clerk's Office STREET & NUMBER Sebastian County Courthouse CITY, TOWN STATE Fort Smith Arkansas REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE DATE __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL **DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS** CITY, TOWN STATE



CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

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__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William J. Murphy house is a three story red brick structure that reflects a late Victorian appearance. The gracious porches, including the third balcony, show a strong Classic influence.

One of the outstanding features of the house is the extensive use of granite, both for contrast to the brick and for functional use. The steps at the front and north side, as well as the original carriage entrance on the south side, are of solid granite. An unusually large smooth granite slab is a part of the front entrance walkway. The huge solid granite lintels over the doors and windows are unique because of the varied styles; some are smooth, some are curved chipped, and some with beautiful carved motifs. The back walkway of the house is very unusual in that the large square slabs are all of native sand stone.

The porticoes at each floor level are supported by columns with Ionic capitals. Ionic capital columns also flank either side of an unusually large front door. The beauty of the porches is further enhanced by a decorative carved garland trim on the facia. This feature is shown on both the front and north side porches.

The north side of the house has an impressive bay window, the width of one large room, extending two stories in height. The large center windows at each floor level are single sash-double hung windows with smaller single sash-double windows flanking each side. The interior of this impressive bay window features beautiful pilasters, from floor to ceiling, that supports a paneled wood lintel that extends across the entire width of the room.

The interior of the house is interesting because of its eleven foot ceilings and some of the original walls that are approximately twelve inches thick. The six beautiful fireplaces are unusually impressive and lend much charm to the house. The fireplaces feature tinted ceramic tile brick. The mantels are classic Greek styling. The three fireplaces on the first floor level are: one with Ionic columns, one with Doric columns, and one with Corinthian columns. The three fireplaces on the second floor are less ornate but still reflect the classical style. All of the fireplaces were coal burning and have ornate cast iron covers featuring the Aladdin lamp design.

While the interior has been converted to four apartments, much of the exterior and some of the interior remains unchanged. Two story frame additions have been added to the west side (back) but, apparently, no structural alterations were involved.

It is interesting to note the original carriage house, with its hay loft and half-doors of the horse stable, are unchanged and is now being used as a double car garage.

The William J. Murphy house is in the original city limit plat of the City of Fort Smith and is certainly worthy of preservation.

| PERIOD | AF | | | |
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| PREHISTORIC | _ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | COMMUNITY PLANNING | _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | RELIGION |
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| | | INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT T.T. Reddick (Unconfirmed)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally from Syracuse, New York, the William J. Murphy family moved to St. Louis, Missouri and then on to Fort Smith, Arkansas where in 1885 they became permanent residents.

On arrival in Fort Smith in 1885, Mr. Murphy founded the W.J. Murphy Saddlery and Harness Company a firm that for decades was the largest of its kind in the Southwest. The company began its first operation at 617 Garrison. Later, Mr. Murphy erected a part of the present building now occupied by Eads Bros. Furniture Company. (The name is still legible on this building.) In 1910 he built a larger head-quarters for his company on South Fifth Street where he continued to be recognized as a major supplier for the Southwest until his death in 1932 at which time the business was closed.

William J. Murphy was not only a widely known businessman, he was a highly respected social, cultural, civic and religious leader in the new frontier city. Mr. Murphy was a member of the Sparks Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees for twenty-five years, serving as president of that board for twelve of those years. He was a director of Merchants National Bank for thirty-five years. He was a member of the Business Men's Club and a member of the traffic bureau. At the time of his death, he was the oldest original member of the Immaculate Catholic Church where he had been one of the most active members of the parish.

Mr. Murphy because of his keen political interests, was well known by many elected local and state officials. Judge Isaac Parker, a close friend of the family, visited the home frequently as did Governors and Congressmen. Other distinguished guests entertained in the Murphy home included dignitaries of the Catholic Order, as well as two famous opera singers, Ernestine Schumann-Heink and Galli-Curci.

The home was arranged to accommodate large groups; consequently, it was the scene of many of the city's social gatherings, parties, and dances. At one time, nine dances were held within a two week period.

William J. Murphy and his wife, nee Mollie T. Durkin, had three children; two sons, Robert and William, and a daughter, Angie.

Even though Mr. Murphy had the home built (in the 1890's) as a gift for his

| MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Sebastian County Courthouse Registry of Deeds |
|--|
| Mosely Abstract Company Hempstead's "Centennial History of Arkansas" Vol. II-Page 292 S.J. Clarke Publishing Company - 1922 |
| Southwest American - May 12, 1965 Notes from personal conversation with surviving daughter of W.J. Murphy (nee Angie |
| Murphy- Mrs. R.W. Halliburton Sparks Manor, Fort Smith, Arkansas) OGEOGRAPHICAL DATA |
| ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre |
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| LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES |
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| CITY OR TOWN |
| Arkansas-72901 Arkansas |
| STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION |
| THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN TO GTATE IS: NATIONAL STATE LUCAL _X |
| As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665). I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the |
| criteria and procedures set forth by the National Pack Service. |
| STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE |
| TITLE |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE |
| DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST: DATE |
| KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER |
| GPO 892-453 |

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

1

wife, that fact was not generally known by the residents of the city. Consequently, the house was always referred to as the William J. Murphy house.

Following Mr. Murphy's death, the house was sold by his widow in 1935 to Alfred W. Pollock and Ben S. Pollock. Around the period of World War II, the house was converted by the Pollocks into apartments. The house was sold again in 1963. The third owners, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yearty are currently restoring the exterior and plan to begin restoration of the interior in the near future.

Mr. Yearty is a history teacher and both he and his wife are interested in preserving the heritage of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

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| 7 | Description: |
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| 8 | Statement of Significance: Although the property is of unquestionable significance |
| | for its associations with William J. Murphy, that is not stated specifically |
| | in Section 8. Nor is there an evaluation or presentation of the property's |
| | architectural value. Please provide that kind of summarization. |
| 6 | |
| 9 | Bibliography: |
| 10 | Geographical Data Acreage: |
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| 12 | Certification: |
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| | Other: Please provide the date on which the SHPO signed the nomination. |
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| | tions concerning this nomination may be directed to |
| on th | ne National Register staff, telephone |
| Thank | you for your attention to the above items. |
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Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The William J. Murphy House is a two-and-one-half-storey red brick structure. The plan is rectangular. The roof is a combination of hips and jerkinhead gables. A hipped dormer with double windows is located on the north elevation. On the front (east) elevation are two dormers and a pedimented jerkinhead gable. The gable contains a single doublepaned window. The window is slightly recessed, and the walls are rounded where they join the window. Centered on the front elevation is a hipped dormer which contains a recessed porch. The porch opening is divided into three sections. The middle section is wider and longer than the sides. The side sections are supported by Ionic columns. A garland frieze is located above the columns. A smaller hipped dormer is located on the north end of the front elevation. Across the front elevation is a singlestorey porch. The porch is supported by Ionic columns. The porch roof is balustraded, and its frieze is decorated with garlands. Double doors open from the second storey onto the porch roof balcony. On the north elevation is a porch which is detailed like the front porch. On the rear is a two-storey frame enclosed porch. The north elevation has a two-storey chamfered bay. The main entrance is a glazed single-panel door which is inset between Ionic columns. The columns support a stone impost which supports a dressed stone lintel. The entrance to the porch balcony is inset under a rusticated stone lintel which is supported by carved stone scrollbrackets. Windows are one over one (1/1) double hung, and they have stone lintels and sills. Windows are asymmetrically placed, The front and side steps, water table, and porch wall coping are dressed stone. The foundation is rusticated stone.

u'er

The house has eleven foot (11') ceilings, and the exterior walls are twelve inches (12") thick. There are three fireplaces downstairs. Each is detailed in a different order: Ionic, Corinthian, and Doric. The second floor fireplaces are classically styled, but they are less ornate. All of the fireplaces are coal burning, and they have cast-iron covers.

Alterations

The house has been converted into four apartments, but there is no structural damage. The top of the north bay has a skylight.

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SPECIFIC DATES

ca. 1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

T.T. Reddick (Unconfirmed)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The William J. Murphy House is a large Neo-Colonial Revival dwelling that was built in Fort Smith, Arkansas, in the 1890's. It was built for William J. Murphy, a prominent Fort Smith businessman. The building gains historical significance through its association with Murphy. The house is also architecturally significant. The stone trim around openings and the classical detailing of the porches are of particular importance.

William J. Murphy moved from St. Louis to Fort Smith, Arkansas, in 1885. In Fort Smith Murphy became a successful businessman. He founded the W.J. Murphy Saddlery and Harness Company which for decades was one of the largest such companies in the Southwest. Murphy managed the company until his death in 1935, after which date the company closed. Murphy was also a director of Merchants National Bank in Fort Smith for 35 years.

Murphy ordered the construction of the W.J. Murphy House in the 1890's as a gift for his wife, Mollie. The design for the house is attributed to local architect T.T. Reddick, but Reddick's connection with the house is not confirmed. An important design consideration was that the house be planned so that it could accomodate large social events. When completed, the building was one of the premier social centers in Fort Smith. During one two-week period, nine dances took place in the house. Among the well-known guests who were entertained in the house were Judge Isaac Parker (Fort Smith's "hanging judge") and international opera stars Ernestine Schuman-Heink and Galli Curci. Several governors and congressman were also guests of Murphy.

The large two-and-one-half-storey house is rectangular in shape. The roof is a multiple combination of hips and jerkinhead gables. Each elevation is asymmetrical. Two one-storey porches project from the house. One spans the entire length of the east elevation (facade). A balcony occupies the roof of this porch. The other porch is a small portico that is positioned on the north elevation. The portico is also topped by a balcony. A two-storey bay is also located near the rear of the north elevation. Two dormers rise from the roof on the east elevation. One is large and is centrally positioned; the other is small and is set near the northern side of the roof. Five corbelled chimneys are ranged on the roof in an irregular fashion.

A variety of facing materials were used in the construction of the Murphy House. The walls are red brick. The foundation is rusticated stone, and the lintels and sills for windows are smooth dressed stone. A weatherboarded, two-storey shed-roof addition is attached to the rear (west) of the house.

| 9 MAJOR BIBI | LIOGRAPHICAL RE | FERENCES | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|------------|
| Abstract . Mosl | Ley Abstract Company, | Fort Smith. | | |
| | Centennial History o | f Arkansas, Vol. | II. S.J. Clarke | |
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

All openings are rectangular. Windows are one-over-one (1/1) double-hung. The front entrance is centered on the east elevation. It is comprised of a single door and transom. The entrance is recessed in the brick wall. It is flanked by free-standing unfluted columns which possess Ionic capitals. The columns support stone inposts which, in turn, support a stone lintel.

Double doors open to the east elevation balcony. These doors also occupy a recess in the brick wall. The stone lintel for the balcony doors is sustained by stone scroll brackets.

The detailing for the Murphy House is classical and elaborate. Both porches are similarly detailed. Each is sustained by unfluted columns with Ionic capitals. Carved festooning decorates the frieze of each porch. The balconies which are located above the porches are balustraded. The large central dormer on the east elevation also features unfluted columns with Ionic capitals and festooning in the frieze. The columns for the dormer are diminutive in scale.

The treatment for the gable-end on the east elevation is unusual. The gable-end is shingled. Centering it is a window that is recessed back from the plane of the wall. The shingled wall curves to form this recess.

The interior of the house features eleven foot (11') ceilings and classical detailing. The most distinctive interior elements are the six classically modeled fireplaces. Three are located on the first floor, and three are on the second floor. Each of the first floor fireplaces is detailed in a different classical order: Ionic, Corinthian, and Doric. The second floor fireplaces are less elaborate. All of the fireplaces are coal burning and have cast-iron covers.

Few alterations have been made to the interior. The house is divided into four apartments. The building was not structurally damaged when it was converted into apartments. The top of the bay on the north elevation has been replaced with a skylight.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE

one

William J. Murphy House
Fort Smith
Sebastian, County

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 7 & 8, block 87, City Addition

| Property Musphy, William V., Han | se 79 000 462 |
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United States Department of the Interior - Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service



- William J. Murphy House Fort Smith, Arkansas

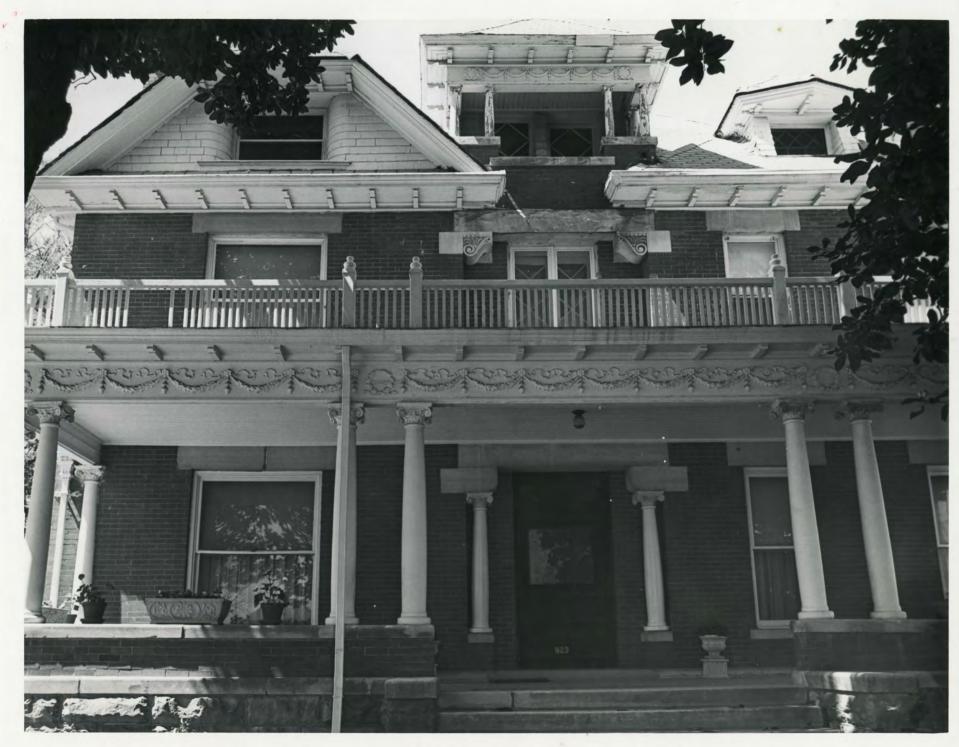
- Bob Dunn April, 1978
- Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
- viewed from the south
- photo # 1

AUG 7 1979 AUG 231978



- William J. Murphy House
- Fort Smith, Arkansas
- Bob Dunn
- April, 1978
- Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
- viewed from the east
- photo # 2

AUG 7 1979 AUG 2 3 1978



William J. Murphy House

Fort Smith, Arkansas
Bob Dunn
April, 1978

Sebastian County

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

viewed from the southeast

photo #3 of 6

AUG 2 3 1978

AUG 7 1979



1. William J. Murphy House

2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn
4. April, 1978 Sebastian County

5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

6. viewed from the northeast

7. photo # 4 % 6

AUG 2 3 1978



William J. Murphy House

Fort Smith, Arkansas

3.

Bob Dunn April, 1978 Sebastian County

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

viewed from the southwest

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William J. Murphy House

Fort Smith, Arkansas

3. Bob Dunn Sebastian County

April, 1978

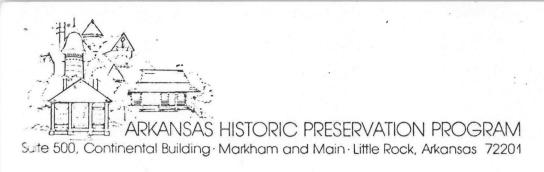
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program6. detail of ornamentation on east elevation

7. photo # 6 86

DOE

AUG 2 3 1978 7 1979 AUG

Phone: (501) 371-2763



June 21, 1978

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yearty 923 North 13th Street Fort Smith, AR 72901

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Yearty:

Mailing address: f. O. That 892 Fort Smith, arkaness 72902

We are happy to inform you that the State Review Committee of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has approved the nomination of the William J. Murphy House to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination will now be forwarded to the National Register office in Washington, D.C. where it will be evaluated by their professional staff. If they concur with the judgment of the State Review Committee, it will soon be included on the National Register.

We appreciate your assistance in preparing this nomination and your interest in historic preservation.

Sincerely,

Sandra Taylor Smith

National Register Coordinator

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

tra Daylo Smith

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Structures nominated for 'places' register Six historic houses and the Old Town building on Garrison Ave. are being considered for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in America.

The building nominations were submitted to the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program in Little Rock by the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation.

The state review board nominated the seven structures June 20. Their suggestions must be evaluated and approved by the National Park Service in Washington, D.C.

Structures being considered are the William J. Murphy house, 923 N. 13th St., owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yearty; Angus McLeod house, 912 N. 13th St., Mrs. Virginia Rush, owner; Charles (Karl Edward) Bracht House, 315 N. 13th St., Mrs. John Hohengarten, owner; Clifton F. Breckinridge House, 504 N. 16th St., Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wasson, owners;

And, Horace Franklin Rogers House, 2900 Rogers Ave., Dr. and Mrs. Ben Cabell, owners; Ferguson-Calderera House. 214 N. 14th St., Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cadlerare, owners, and Old Town building: 501-505 Garrison Ave., owned by Victor Cary: 507-509 Garrison Ave., owned by Bracken and Gardner. and 511 Garrison Ave., owned by Richard Mitchell, Albert Williams and Joe Nolte.

The presentation and accompanying research were prepared by Mrs. Douglass Yadon, a past president of the Heritage Foundation. The group was founded in July, 1970, to restore city sites.

The first house in Sebastian County nominated by the State Review Committee was the Clayton House at 514 N. 6th St., March 30, 1970. It was accepted into the National Register of Historic Places Sept. 4, 1970.

Post Office Box 892

Post Office Box 892 Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902 September 14, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh Keeper of the National Register Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service Department of the Interior Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: W.J. Murphy House 923 North 13th Street Fort Smith, Ar 72901

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Please do not think me presumtuous in asking your advice. My home, the W.J. Murphy House, at 923 North 13th Street; Fort Smith, Arkansas has been approved by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, as were five other nominations, as shown on the attached news article and the letter from Sandra Taylor Smith.

Recently, I understand all of the other owners have been notified by your office that their nominations have been received and are pending approval for the National Register of Historic Places. As yet, I have not received a notice from you and I feel the letter could have been lost in the mail. You will note on my letter from Ms. Smith the house address was used and, fortunately, I received it. However, I have a post office box mailing address and often, due to a new mail carrier or failure by the Post Office personnel to make the address change, I fail to get all of my mail. I believe this is what has happened with your notice. Will you be kind enough to check your records and, if a letter was mailed, please send me another copy.

In the meantime, I feel the W.J. Murphy House is truly worthy of preservation and will contribute to the heritage program. Please be assured, I am anxiously awaiting a favorable reply.

Incidentally, I appreciate the interest and assistance extended by Mrs. Douglass Yadon of the Fort Smith Heritage Foundation, Sandra Taylor Smith of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, et al., who have made this nomination possible.

After conferring with Mrs. Yadon, she suggested I write you concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

Gordon Yearty

encl: 2

cc.- Mrs. Douglass Yadon Ms. Sandra Taylor Smith MAILING ADDRESS:

Gordon Yearty
Post Office Box 892

Fort Smith, Ar 72902

Post Office Sox 882 Fort omith, Arkansas 7226. September 1-, 1978

Dr. William J. Aurtagh

Keeper of the National Register

Heritage Conservation and Mecreation Service Ret W.J. Marshy Found

Department of the Interior 233 North 13th Street

Washington, D.C. 20240 for four 72901

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enet: 2 cc. - Mrs. Douglass Yadon Ms. Sandra Taylor Smiti 8-23-78 hard 30 day hard FR9-5-78

> Post Office Box 892 Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902 October 10, 1978

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: William J. Murphy House 923 North 13th Street Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901 H32-NR

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 2, 1978, advising me that my home, the William J. Murphy House, has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The information enclosed with your letter is appreciated and it will be most beneficial in my efforts to restore and preserve the property.

As I mentioned in my letter to you, dated September 14, it is my opinion the William J. Murphy House is worthy of preservation and will contribute to the heritage program. Please be assured, I will be happy to comply with the standards as outlined for acceptance in the National Register of Historic Places.

Hopefully, you will be able to review this nomination in the near future and I will be anxiously awaiting your reply.

Sincerely,

Gordon Yearty
Gordon Yearty

Post Office Bax 892 Post Bmith, Arkansas 7290, October 10, 1978

Reeper of the National Register Wouldage Conservation and Recreation Services Repartment of the Interior Washington, D.C. 20240

Res William J. Murphy House 923 North tata Street Fort Swith, Arrange 25 72301 HSZ-NR

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ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered

AUG 7 1979

Name

Murphy, William J., House

Breckinridge, C. R., House

Location

Fort Smith Sebastian County

Fort Smith Sebastian County

Also Notified

Honorable Dale Bumpers

Honorable David Pryor Honorable John P. Hammerschmidt State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Joan Baldridge
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NR

Byers/bjr

8/10/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.



United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

H32-NR

AUG 3 0 1978

Dear Property Owner:

The property you own has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the government's official list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of being preserved. This nomination is pending in our office.

If your property is listed in the National Register, there are certain benefits and provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 that may apply to you. We are enclosing information about this law. Soon we will be considering whether your property should be listed, using as our guidelines the "Criteria for Evaluation" shown in the enclosed leaflet. If you wish to comment on whether your property should be listed, we would be pleased to hear from you. Send your comments within 30 days of the date of this letter to me, Dr. William J. Murtagh, Keeper of the National Register, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. If you have questions about the National Register program or the enclosed material, you should also address them to me. Please include the name and address of the property as shown on the address label on this letter.

In the enclosed material you will note references to standards for rehabilitating old buildings. These standards are a list of dos and don'ts for people who are fixing up old buildings. If the owner of a building listed in the National Register, either individually or as part of a district, wishes to take advantage of the Tax Reform Act benefits, these standards must be followed. A copy of these standards is available from Technical Preservation Services, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation, Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Questions about the standards should also be addressed to that same office.

Sincerely,

William J. Murtagh

Keeper of the National Register

Enclosures

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yearty 923 N. 13th St., P. O. Box 982 Fort Smith, AR

Re: Murphy, William J., House

TELEPHONE REPORT

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

PROJECT:

Wm. J. Murphy House

To/FROM:

Gordon Yearty

DATE: June 13, 1979

ADDRESS:

Fort Smith, AR

PHONE: 501-782-7879

STAFF MEMBER: Gale Brooks

DIVISION: NR

REPORT:

Mr. Yearty called to check status of the nomination. He was told by the Arkansas SHPO that it had been resubmitted. He is anxious to have it listed, because the eaves are in trouble and he is hoping to get a grant. He is a history teacher (very committed to historic preservation) and plans to do some of the necessary repair work on the house this summer during his school vacation, but he doesn't want to do anything that will jeopardize the listing.

Mr. Yearty also offered to provide assistance in the form of more information if it is needed. He said there are several others in Fort Smith who could also assist with this situation and others if necessary.

I told him I would check to see if it had been resubmitted and call him back WMWM after it is logged in.

Mr. Yearty called back on June 19, 1979 (because he hadn't heard from me). I told him I had checked the file the end of last week, arrived at the time I checked. I also told him that I had talked to the SHPO, and they indicated they had mailed it. After a meeting which was in progress when Mr. Yearty called, I checked the Pending file, and the nomination was logged in on June 14, 1979.

I called Mr. Yearty back and informed him of that, and the was pleased to know it was here because they had just called the Governor's office to have them check on the status. I told him I couldn't make any promises as to how soon it would be reviewed, but - in my view - it is eligible. He seemed pleased to hear that and again offered assistance if there is any problem with the nomination itself.

TELEPHONE REPORT

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

PROJECT: Breckinridge, C.R., House/Murphy, Wm. J., House

TO/FROM: Mike Shipp

DATE: 8/7/79

ADDRESS: AR Hist. Pres. Program

PHONE: 501 371-2763

STAFF MEMBER: Gale Brooks

DIVISION: NR

REPORT:

I told him that the VBD was missing on both resubmission forms, and that we need an original (and not the xerox copy we have) VBD for each nomination. He will send one for each on a Continuation Sheet.

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| 923 N. 13th St. | Fort Smith | | AR Sebas | stian | SW |
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