

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000287 Date Listed: 4/15/93

**Mulvenon Building
Property Name**

**Yavapai AZ
County State**

**N/A
Multiple Name**

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for *Antoinette Alce*
Signature of the Keeper

4/15/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

State/Federal Agency Certification: The property is evaluated at the local level of significance, as noted in Section 8, Page 1.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

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1. Name of Property

historic name Mulvenon Building

other names/site number N/A

=====

2. Location

street & number 230 West Gurley Street not for publication
city or town Prescott vicinity _____
state Arizona code AZ county Yavapai code 025 zip code 86301

=====

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James Stovner 2/26/93
Signature of certifying official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register Antoinette Lee 4/15/93
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register _____
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register _____
- removed from the National Register _____

- other (explain): _____

for Signature of Keeper Date of Action

=====

5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 1 </u>	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u> 1 </u>	_____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

 N/A

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u> Commerce/Restaurant </u>	Sub: <u> Saloon </u>
<u> Domestic/hotel </u>	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: <u>Commerce/restaurant</u>	Sub: _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

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7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century American Movements

Commercial Style

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

roof Asphalt

walls Brick

other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B. removed from its original location.
- C. a birthplace or a grave.
- D. a cemetery.
- E. a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F. a commemorative property.
- G. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Period of Significance 1901-1913

Significant Dates 1901

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation _____

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property .119 acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>12</u>	<u>364980</u>	<u>3823075</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

_____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Carol Russell, Architect / edited by William S. Collins, Intern, AZ SHPO

organization Otwell Associates Architects date June 1, 1992

street & number 121 East Goodwin Street telephone (602) 445-4951

city or town Prescott state Arizona zip code 86303

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Murphy's Inc.

street & number 230 West Gurley Street telephone (602) 445-3388

city or town Prescott state AZ zip code 86301

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SECTION 7. DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The Mulvenon Building is a 1901 commercial building located on West Gurley Street in Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona. Standing two stories in height, it is of brick construction and has a flat roof. Its commercial style is characteristic of the late territorial era. Recent renovations have helped to make this building a valuable contributor to Prescott's historic downtown.

DESCRIPTION

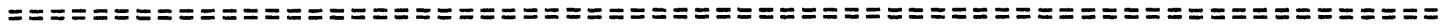
The Mulvenon Building is a fine example of a two-part commercial block characterized by a horizontal division into commercial space on the ground floor and residential above. The facade design is simple, restrained, and orderly as is typical of late territorial commercial style buildings. Unity and ornamentation are attained through the use of simple horizontal brick banding, incorporating dentil detailing. The fifty-foot wide by sixty-foot long flat-roofed building is bisected by a stairway to the second floor. On the street front, fenestration is arranged symmetrically around a prominent central arch over the entrance. The arched doorway is flanked by large storefronts. The south-facing building is located on the southern portion of a fifty-foot wide by one hundred-foot long lot on the corner of Granite and Gurley Streets, one block away from the town square.

The building features a poured concrete foundation and brick exterior walls. The flat roof is sheathed with an asphalt roofing. A parapet surrounds the top of the structure. An unexcavated crawlspace is topped

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by wood frame floor system for the first and second floors. Originally, two open commercial spaces separated by the staircase occupied the first floor. The staircase to the second floor was entered from the central arched opening.

The streetfront (south facing) elevation is constructed of a higher quality red brick than that used elsewhere in the building. The entire western (left) storefront originally was set back from the facade. Research has also shown that historically, the western storefront was open. A 1920s photograph shows a gas pump on the curb and signs for "Firestone Tires" and "Prescott Vulcanizing Works" indicating that the west portion of the first floor was probably used as a garage. In the same photograph, the east storefront advertises "Soft Drinks, Cigars and Candy." This may have originally been the saloon. On the east storefront, windows above raised wood panels stepped back to a central doorway. Aluminum storefronts later replaced the originals.

In 1983, the western aluminum storefront was replaced with a storefront roughly patterned after the historic eastern storefront--a wood raised panel. At the same time the southwest corner pier and lintel, which were collapsing, were stabilized. The eastern storefront of sandstone, plywood, and aluminum construction was replaced in 1991 with a wood raised panel storefront to match the western side when the two commercial spaces were joined together. First floor access is now afforded through the central arch.

On the second floor a single double-hung window tops the central arch with two sets of paired double-hung windows on each side. The storefronts and double-hung windows are topped with horizontal brick lintels with a dentil detail. The stepped parapet alternates the dentil detailing with a raised brick string course. The facade is painted and striped canvas awnings are located over the storefronts and second floor windows. The common red brick north and east elevations remain in nearly original condition. All double-hung windows are original and in excellent condition.

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On the second floor, a small central lobby is topped by a skylight. Originally, six hotel rooms were arranged symmetrically on the north/south axis. Later converted to apartments, additional partitions were added creating a bathroom and kitchen in each unit. The lobby, with its interior double-hung windows, wainscot and millwork is entirely intact and in excellent shape.

Adjacent to the Mulvenon Building on the east is a contemporary commercial building. The west elevation faces Granite Street. On the first floor is a door, slightly offset to the north of center. The structural openings of this door, the doors on the rear, and the windows are segmental arches with two rows of bricks in the arches. Two smaller double-hung windows are located to the north of the side door. On the second floor are four double-hung windows with awnings as in the front.

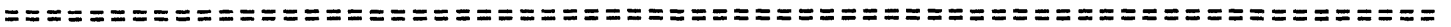
On the rear, north elevation are four doors, three on the first floor and one on the second. All have square transoms within the segmentally arched openings. The central second floor door was originally a fire exit but there is no longer an exterior stairway.

There was a double-sized window opening on the east side of the north elevation. This had a segmental arch with three rows of brick. At some point in time, the window was replaced with an air vent. The slope of the lot along Granite Street is downward from Gurley Street. While the front is on grade, old photographs indicate that the ground level of the lot in the rear was several feet below the level of the first floor doors. A porch was constructed with a corrugated metal, shed roof. The date of this construction is not known. It was from this elevation that there was access to the crawlspace below the first floor. Electrical utility meters were originally placed on this side of the building. Photographs also indicate that two chimneys were on top of the north elevation. These have since been removed.

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RENOVATION OF 1991

In 1991 the building was rehabilitated. The two first floor commercial spaces were joined by removing a portion of the common wall. All non-original partitions were removed and new restrooms and a commercial kitchen added. Handicap accessibility was provided by lowering thresholds and reversing door swings.

The northern portion of the lot and the north elevation of the building have been renovated to add outdoor space for the restaurant. The lot was filled to raise the grade to the level of the first floor doors. The porch was removed and the electrical utility meters moved. A single-story kitchen addition was constructed at the least visible location on the site, the northeast corner, and a dining patio was constructed on the remaining unused area. All original openings were maintained and doors and windows restored. The rehabilitated storefronts, although not original, are compatible with the original concept of the building.

An attempt was made to remove the paint from the street front facade in order to expose the original brick finish. However, the brick proved too unstable and the facade will therefore be painted a matching brick color. A historic color scheme will be developed and canvas awnings installed.

The 1991 remodel revealed inadequate structural framing in both the floor framing and the roof framing. Consequently, severe sagging had occurred. Additional framing members and interior footings were added. The addition of framing in the second floor structure necessitated the removal of the original plaster ceiling in the east commercial space. The ceiling in the west commercial space had been replaced with drywall at a previous time and was also removed. The ceiling finish was not replaced and the framing now is exposed.

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SECTION 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

The Mulvenon Building, built in 1901, is historically significant for its role in the commerce of Prescott during the approximately thirteen-year reconstruction period following the great fire of 1900. One of the first prominent commercial buildings constructed, it was built of local brick in the late territorial commercial style. Alterations have been minor, the building remains well-preserved and it continues to flourish in a commercial capacity today. The building is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its connection to an important phase in the development of Prescott's commercial area. It is nominated at the local level of significance.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND SIGNIFICANCE

Arizona Territory was established on February 24, 1963. Although Tucson in the southern part of the state was the only sizable settlement, the Lincoln-appointed territorial government decided against making it the capital because of its Southern sympathies. The area around what would become Prescott began attracting prospectors following the discovery of gold. The townsite of Prescott was laid out in May of 1864 along Granite Creek on the northwest slope of Bradshaw Mountains. At an elevation of 5354 feet, the climate is mild and semi-arid, with distinct seasons. The surrounding area was, and remains, heavily forested.

At the center of Prescott, which was made the territorial capital, is a central plaza on Gurley Street on which now stands the Yavapai County Courthouse (listed on the National Register in 1977). Commercial lots

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surround the plaza. The west side of the plaza, commonly known as Whiskey Row, consisted mainly of saloons and gambling halls.

The town was incorporated in 1872 and grew steadily through the remainder of the 19th century. By 1900 Prescott was a well-established community with a population of 3,750.

Started by an miner's unattended pick candle in a downtown hotel, a devastating fire swept through the downtown area on July 14, 1900. In all, the fire destroyed over eighty businesses in a four-and-a-half block area, including all the meat markets, fruit and tobacco stands, jewelry stores, and bawdy houses, twenty-five saloons, five of the largest hotels, and all but three of the dry goods stores. The damage was estimated at 1.5 million dollars. Reconstruction began immediately. Merchants set up tent shops on the plaza during the initial rebuilding. In many areas multiple-story masonry buildings rose where simple single-story frame buildings had once stood.

Many believed that the city would never recover from the disastrous fire, but the skeptics were proved wrong when the rebuilding stimulated the town to even greater growth. The city directory of 1903-04 estimated the population at 7,500 and described "new buildings and business blocks which have been erected in a modern and up to date way in every respect" and "the improvements that have been made for the city, among some of the many a new sewerage and water system, two complete telephone systems that extend throughout the county with connections at all the prominent mining camps, also a complete electric lighting system, and many other conveniences that cities of twice the size of Prescott cannot boast of." The first street cars began operating in July of 1904 and continued until 1915.

By 1913, this new construction had completely infilled the area devastated by the great fire. The period of significance, 1901-1913, for the Mulvenon Building represents its connection to this period of

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rebuilding whose legacy in Prescott's built environment remains prominent today. In this respect, the Mulvenon Building fits in well in the final period identified in the historic context of the Prescott Territorial Buildings Multiple Resource Area (listed on the National Register in 1978).

An integral part of this reconstruction and improvement effort, the Mulvenon Building was completed in August 1901, replacing a single-story frame saloon that was constructed prior to 1890. Mulvenon's Saloon was located on the first floor and furnished rooms were offered for rent on the second floor. In the 1903-04 city directory, the Mulvenon Building is listed as one of "Prescott's Prominent Business Blocks and Buildings."

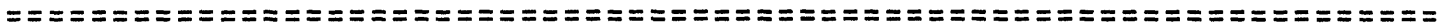
William J. Mulvenon, the owner and operator of the Mulvenon Building, was born in 1857 in Belchertown, Massachusetts. Arriving in Prescott in 1876, he worked as a stablekeeper at Peck's Mine. He later served as a deputy sheriff for four years and then was elected sheriff of Yavapai County. He distinguished himself during the bloody Tonto Basin vendetta between the Graham and Tewksbury families, known as the Pleasant Valley War. As the feud between those two families and their henchmen escalated in 1887, Mulvenon led two posses into the Tonto Basin to restore law and order. Mulvenon was one of the main organizers and stockholders of the Arizona Brewing Company, and was instrumental in establishing Crystal Ice and Fuel Company, the first ice plant in Prescott. Crystal Ice and Fuel Company provided seasonal products, ice in summer and heating fuel in winter. Mulvenon later served two terms as a state legislator from Yavapai County.

Another member of the family, A. V. (Ally) Mulvenon is listed in the 1903 city directory as the proprietor of a saloon on the northeast corner of Gurley and Granite Streets. The 1913 directory lists the Mulvenon Saloon and Furnished Rooms. A. V. Mulvenon is again listed in the 1916 directory as providing soft drinks and furnished rooms at the Mulvenon Building. The change in beverages brought about by statewide prohibition, which took effect January 1, 1915.

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ARCHITECTURE IN PRESCOTT IN THE TERRITORIAL ERA, 1864-1912†

Prescott contains one of the oldest and best preserved bodies of American architecture built in the southwestern United States during the nineteenth century. The style and construction of these buildings is an important part of the general American culture complex brought into the region during its territorial development. As an architectural tradition, the buildings are further distinguished as they pre-date completion of the transcontinental railroad across northern Arizona and they show no indication of influence from Hispanic or Indian traditions. These features are significant for they contradict the common notion that diffusion of American styles in the southwest occurred after completion of the railroad and that such styles were overlaid on preexistent Hispanic or Indian forms. While this generalization is true for much of the southwest, it must be qualified for specific areas. There was little Spanish or Mexican influence in Arizona north of the Gila River and Indian building patterns were considered by white settlers as little more than objects of curiosity. The Prescott area had no indigenous building styles that would influence settlers arriving after 1864.

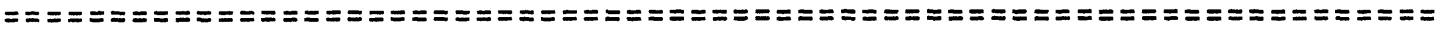
Territorial-era architecture in Prescott can be described as influenced by New England or midwestern patterns. Modern motel strips, trailer parks, and suburbs have encroached little on the core of the town and many residents work vigorously to retain the special qualities which attracted them to Prescott in the first place. The city has a number of historic districts and individual properties listed on the National Register and zoning ordinances provide some measure of protection.

†This section is derived for the historic context of the Prescott Territorial Buildings Multiple Resource Area

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While the buildings of Prescott are distinctly part of the American tradition they were initially quite peripheral to the main lines of architectural development in this country. This was due to the town's geographic isolation in its early years. High transportation costs restricted building materials to what could be made locally. Prescott's first buildings were of log, sawn lumber, and pressed brick. Examples of each survive today.

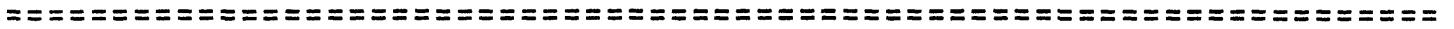
Starting in 1886, rail connections allowed importation of new building materials. New buildings were increasingly more elaborate and complex. Commercial buildings were commonly faced with imported fronts of pressed metal. The great era of construction following the fire of 1900 resulted in the raising of structures built with permanence and appearance in mind. Neo-Classical, Romanesque Revival, and Second Renaissance Revival styles became a pronounced aspect of the Prescott landscape.

Since its construction in 1901, the Mulvenon Building has continued to serve Prescott's citizens as part of the downtown commercial area. The second floor was continually operated as apartments until 1991, when the entire building was converted into a bar and restaurant. The appearance of downtown Prescott has changed little since the boom days of the early twentieth century, and the Mulvenon Building remains as a well-preserved example of a late-territorial commercial building and a reminder of the fortitude of those reconstructing the downtown area after the great fire.

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SECTION 9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. 1890, 1895, 1901. Located at Sharlot Hall
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Weiner, Melissa Ruffner. Prescott. A Pictorial History. Virginia Beach:
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SECTION 10. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Prescott Original Townsite, Block 7, Portions of Lots 22 and 24, located in Section 33, T14N, R2W, G & SRB & M. Yavapai County, Arizona.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary represents the historic and current property lines of the lots occupied by the Mulvenon Building.

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