

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	APR 5 1984

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER Various PAGE 2

Murphy Building; Museum of Pioneer History; Western Wear

Location: 717-719 Manvel, Chandler, OK, Lincoln County

Owner: Lincoln County Historical Society, Box 458, Chandler, OK 74834

Description: Condition - good, altered

The Murphy Building is actually two buildings constructed one year apart but matched so perfectly in their details as to create one unit. Made of rusticated native sandstone, the building's Richardsonian Romanesque style popular at the turn of the century is demonstrated in the six arches, three to each building. Six windows on the second floor rest on a continuous sill. A parapet above the windows provides space for a sign. A semicircular stone with the dates 1897 and 1898 tops the center of the parapet. The north half (or the 1898 building) has a projecting awning inscribed "Musuem of Pioneer History" and an entrance through the sixth arch. The south half (or 1897 building) has a modern entrance through the second arch with a single door and window in the first arch. Each of the other arches has a display window.

Significance: 1897-1898 Builder/Architect: Unknown

The double sandstone building known as the Murphy Building was constructed by A. E. Mascho who operated it as a grocery store until 1913. At that time he sold it to John Franklin and Ella Murphy who continued the grocery store. The north half now houses the Lincoln County Historical Society's Museum of Pioneer History and the south half houses a western wear store. Architect John Robinson believes the building to be "a fantastic example of pioneer and territorial architecture."

Acreage: less than one acre

Quadrangle: Chandler, Oklahoma
7.5; 1:24,000

Verbal Boundary Scale: Lots 9-10, Block 43

UTM: 14 692240 3952890

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Murphy Building Lincoln Co. Oklahoma
Territorial Commercial Buildings of Chandler TR

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION 6/24/93
APPROVAL

Alan Byers 7/15/93

Name change to Mascho Building and Public Privy

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JUN 24 1993

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Mascho Building and Public Privy (additional documentation
regarding associated public privy)

other names/site number Murphy Building

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2. Location

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street & number 717 Manvel Avenue not for publication N/A
city or town Chandler vicinity N/A
state Oklahoma code OK county Lincoln code 081 zip code 74834

=====
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (N/A See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] June 15, 1993
Signature of certifying official Date

Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO
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

=====
4. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register _____
- 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): _____

Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Sections 5, 6 Page 3

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

=====
5. Classification

Number of Resources within Property

1 Contributing Building

1 Contributing resource previously listed in the National Register

Name of related multiple property listing: Territorial Commercial Buildings of
Chandler, Oklahoma

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

OTHER: Privy

Current Functions

VACANT/NOT IN USE

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 4

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

OTHER: Privy

Materials

foundation: N/A
roof: Shake
walls: BRICK
Weatherboard

Summary

The Mascho Building, listed in the National Register in 1984 as the Murphy Building, is a two-story, Richardsonian Romanesque building constructed of sandstone. At the rear of the building is a brick privy with a wood shake roof, constructed ca. 1920. The privy is a one-story building approximately fifty-six inches square on the exterior. It is unusual because it has the original plumbing, which includes a flush mechanism. It exhibits integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Description

The brick privy occupies its original site near the west (rear) side of 717 Manvel Avenue, which is the north half of the Murphy Building in Chandler, Oklahoma. It is a low, one-story building approximately fifty-six inches square on the exterior. The brick bearing walls are seventy-eight inches high. The gabled roof is pitched at forty-five degrees and is oriented east-west. (Photo #1)

The privy exhibits a great deal of architectural integrity. The original walls, floor, and toilet are intact. The brick bearing walls are constructed of common red brick with a range of shades, including a small percentage of highly vitrified faces. Mortar joints appear to be original. Interior walls are plaster over brick. The original interior plaster has not been restored and much of the original plaster is intact. The floor is an unfinished concrete slab. The toilet fixture was reputed to have a wooden seat (not extant) that activated a flushing mechanism when depressed, and the remaining

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

plumbing hardware supports this information. (Photo #3) This type of "revolutionary seat-activated flushing device"¹ was patented by Sir Thomas Crapper in 1891 and may have been utilized for the Chandler privy. Dr. LeRoy Fischer, a historian who has conducted research on Oklahoma's historic privies for nearly a decade, states that the privy "...appears to have been the flush-type facility with the original commode still extant."²

The privy has been rehabilitated, primarily to weatherproof the building. The badly deteriorated wooden roof was replicated, and a roof covering of plywood, asphalt impregnated felt, and wood shakes was applied. The wooden plank door was replicated and door hardware reused, and a deteriorated sheet metal chimney vent stack was replaced with a new sheet metal vent stack to match the configuration of the original. A relatively new concrete block addition has been built onto the Mascho Building which obscures the north side of the privy because of its proximity.

¹Barlow, Ronald S., The Vanishing American Outhouse (Windmill Publishing Company, El Cajon, California, 1989), p. 94.

²Correspondence from Dr. LeRoy Fischer to Ms. Sally Ferrell (June 29, 1984).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 6

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: Criterion C

Area of Significance: Architecture

Period of Significance: 1897-98, ca. 1920

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Summary

The Mascho Building, constructed in two phases in 1897-98, is listed in the National Register (as the Murphy Building) for its significance as an outstanding example of territorial commercial architecture in Chandler. Ca. 1920, the brick privy was constructed at the rear of the property. The privy is significant as a rare and outstanding example of a brick privy in Lincoln County, Oklahoma. Although on the Mascho Building property, it was a detached building and likely was intended for public use, since it was the only privy in the Chandler commercial district.

Architectural Significance

The Mascho Building, constructed in two phases in 1897-98, is listed for its significance as an outstanding example of territorial commercial architecture in Chandler. It was constructed for A. E. Mascho, who operated it as a grocery store until 1913. At that time the building was sold to John Franklin and Ella Murphy, who continued to operate it as a grocery store. Ca. 1920, the Murphys constructed the brick privy at the rear of the property.

The privy is significant as the only remaining example of a brick privy in Lincoln County, Oklahoma. In 1984, historian LeRoy Fischer, Ph.D., who conducted extensive research for an article on "Oklahoma's Historic Privies,"

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 7

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

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wrote that "...for our state [it] is the only brick one still in existence."³
Subsequent to this assertion, two dilapidated brick privies were found near an
abandoned school house in Lincoln County; however, their architectural
integrity is inferior to that of the public privy behind the Mascho/Murphy
Building. Dr. Fischer's research has revealed no other brick privies extant in
Lincoln County or in other downtown settings in the State of Oklahoma.⁴

The building of the privy in 1920 likely was a product of state health
officials' recognition of the connection between safe sewage disposal and pure
drinking water, and the regulation of sewage disposal by the State Board of
Health as mandated by the Oklahoma legislature in 1917. The privy is a rare
example of physical evidence of improvements in sanitation and a manifestation
of the growing importance of infrastructure in Chandler.

³Correspondence from Dr. LeRoy Fischer to Ms. Sally Ferrell (June 29,
1984).

⁴Conversation with Dr. LeRoy Fischer (February 3, 1992).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9, 10, 11 Page 8

Mascho/Murphy Building and Public Privy
name of property
Lincoln, OK
county and State
Terr. Comm. Bldgs. of Chandler, Oklahoma
name of multiple property listing

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9. Bibliographical References

Primary Location of Additional Data: State Historic Preservation Office

References

Barlow, Ronald S., The Vanishing American Outhouse. El Cajon, California:
Windmill Publishing Company, 1988.

Fischer, LeRoy H., Correspondence to Sally Ferrell. Lincoln County Historical
Society, Chandler, Oklahoma, 29 June 1984.

Fischer, LeRoy H., Conversation with Jocelyn Lupkin, 3 February 1992.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Chandler, Oklahoma, 1914, 1920. Western History
Collections, University of Oklahoma, Norman.

10. Geographical Data

Geographical data for the resource remains the same as in the original listing,
except for the following correction of UTM References.

UTM References: 14 691760 3952860

Boundary Justification

The nominated property's boundary encompasses the entire property historically
associated with the Murphy Building and its associated public privy.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jocelyn Lupkin/Researcher; edited by Marsha Weisiger/Architectural
Historian

organization: Robison Boeck Architects date: 9/30/92

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