

PHC 501298

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUL 20 1977
DATE ENTERED	JAN 30 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Fox Hotel
AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Broadway & N.E. First

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Laverne

___ VICINITY OF

No. 6

STATE

Oklahoma

CODE

40

COUNTY

Harper

CODE

059

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC *for the public*
- PRIVATE *8-4-77*
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

The City of Laverne

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Laverne

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Harper County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Buffalo

STATE

Oklahoma

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Special Fox Hotel Survey

DATE

1974-1975

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Harper County Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Laverne

(Box 175)

STATE

Oklahoma

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Foxes planned and built their hotel in 1912 as basically a square two-story box. Of frame construction with clapboard siding and shingled hip roof, it faced south, its plainness broken only by a narrow porch with second-floor railed balcony. A few years later a smaller two-story addition was constructed on the east to give the building a roughly rectangular shape, 52 feet east/west and 42 feet north/south. An open stairway leads up from the lobby in the southwest corner of the first floor to the 10 bedrooms and two baths on the second floor. The building has 22 rooms in all.

The old hotel stands today almost exactly as it has for more than fifty years. In time a few interior walls will probably be removed on the ground floor, the better to accommodate its current use as a museum. Otherwise no changes are contemplated. The building is structurally sound and in fairly good condition.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1912 - 1961

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fox Hotel, granted, is not the Waldorf-Astoria. But, then, neither is Laverne New York City. On balance, however, the roles each has played in the community it serves are perhaps not too dissimilar. Each hostelry has met a definite need of citizens and visitor alike. Each has provided a convenient setting over the years for events of social and political importance to its service area. Each goes into the last quarter of the 20th century continuing to offer a significant community service. Only here must the Fox part company with its more illustrious companion. As of 1977, the Fox is providing a home, not for the traveling public, but for the Laverne Community Museum.

* * *

Laverne was still something of a tent city at the east entrance to the Oklahoma Panhandle when, in 1912, the railroad arrived to give the town status and stimulate a certain economic boom. Several new business buildings were planned and constructed that same year. One was a modest two-story frame hotel, built by Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Fox. Within a few years patronage was sufficient to warrant a small two-story addition. The Fox Hotel continued to serve the community - as the Fox Hotel, although the Foxes themselves gave way to several subsequent owners - until 1961. The owners that year, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Grisswell, had bought the property in 1935. After closing the hotel they lived in it until 1973, when it was purchased by the City of Laverne for use as the Laverne Community Museum.

Over the years, as indicated above, the Fox Hotel served the community in the variety of undramatic, yet important, roles demanded of a small town hostelry. In the "railroad era" of its first two decades those roles added materially to the town's confidence and well-being. They faded with the increased mobility provided by the automobile and the greater growth of other town's in the area. Still, the Fox Hotel maintained its essential physical integrity. And today, as host to a community museum, it continues to offer its important, if admittedly unspectacular, services.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Miscellaneous materials assembled by the Harper County Historical Society

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 420248 4063000
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

DATE

February 1977

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

STATE

Oklahoma

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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 Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

Harry E. Rouse M.D.

DATE

7-14-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

W. Smith
Charles H. ...

DATE

1-30-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1-24-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER