

PH 00415 99

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Arizona
COUNTY:	Pinal
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JUL 30 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
First Florence Courthouse

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Pinal County Courthouse

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Fifth and Main Streets

CITY OR TOWN:
Florence

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: **Az** CODE: **04** COUNTY: **Pinal** CODE: **021**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Unused except for apt. occupied by caretaker.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Julian Woodruff

STREET AND NUMBER:
Box 120

CITY OR TOWN:
Coolidge

STATE: **Az** CODE: **04**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Pinal Co. Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Florence

STATE: **Az** CODE: **04**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Arizona State Inventory of Historic Places

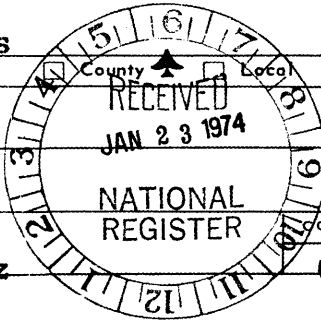
DATE OF SURVEY: **1972** Federal State

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Arizona State Parks Board

STREET AND NUMBER:
1688 West Adams

CITY OR TOWN:
Phoenix

STATE: **Az** CODE: **04**



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Arizona

COUNTY: Pinal

ENTRY NUMBER: JUL 30 1974

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DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The first Florence courthouse was built in a U-shape and contained 7 rooms on the ground floor and one room upstairs above the jail on the west wing. The downstairs rooms included a sheriff's office, a courtroom, and a judge's chamber as well as the jail. The other 3 rooms were used as offices.

The building is on the corner of Main and Fifth Streets on a poorly drained and unlandscaped lot. The courthouse itself is an outstanding example of the architecture of the territorial period and appears to be structurally sound. Much of the original millwork remains. Foundation stem walls are of fired brick, the mortar of which has disintegrated. Some of the walls appeared to be unburned adobe brick and some are rammed earth. The original interior plaster remains. The exterior plaster was applied sometime after the building was constructed.

Much of the original finish carpentry is still in place and is in excellent condition. The condition and presence of this work add greatly to the historical significance of the building.

The electrical system must be entirely replaced. There is no heating system, and the cooling system is totally unserviceable. The plumbing also must be completely replaced. Leaking pipes are apparently causing some damage to the adobe and the foundation.

There have been several later additions to the building of generally poor construction.



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6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1877 to 1970**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

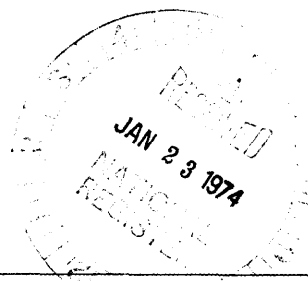
The first Pinal County courthouse was built in 1877-1878 on a lot purchased by the county for \$1100. The town of Florence was laid out in 1866 by Levi Ruggles (182-1889) who built the second house in the new town that same year. Ruggles was Indian agent 1866-1869 and later held the positions of receiver and register of the US Land Office at Florence. He was also twice elected to the territorial legislature.

Ruggles, who had had some experience as an architect and builder before coming to Arizona, drew the plans for the courthouse at a cost to the county of \$25. The building cost \$2700 to construct and became an important center of activity. Both Joseph Kibbey and Richard Sloan, who later served as territorial governors, tried and heard cases here. Sloan was district attorney in Florence 1886-1889. Kibbey went on to become the nation's foremost authority on irrigation law.

In 1891 a larger courthouse was built and the old one was used for approximately 40 years as a county hospital. At this time the porches were added, and an extension of the judge's chamber. In the 1930s the building began a 30-year career as a welfare and public health center and during this period several other rooms were added.

The Pinal County Historical Society took over the old courthouse in 1963 and used it for a museum until 1970 when it was sold to Mrs. Julian Woodruff of Coolidge. It is presently unused except for a small apartment within the building where a caretaker resides. The owner wants the building to be preserved.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baldwin, Ava S. "History of Florence, Arizona, 1866-1940." Unpub. MA thesis, University of Arizona, 1941.
 Keen, Effie R. "Arizona's Governors." Arizona Historical Review, October 1930, pp. 7-20.
 Report of Gerald A. Doyle & Associates.
 Sloan, Richard E. Memories of an Arizona Judge. Stanford University Press, 1932.
 Coolidge Examiner.
 Pinal County records

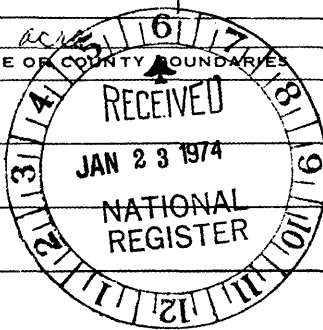
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 2' 10"	111° 23' 14"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: *Approx 1/2 acre*

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



12/462160/365-60
 6-9-74
 DM [unclear]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dorothy H. Hall, Historic Sites Preservation Officer

ORGANIZATION: **Arizona State Parks Board** DATE: **1-18-74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1688 West Adams

CITY OR TOWN: **Phoenix** STATE: **Az** CODE: **04**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *Dennis McCarthy*

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 1-18-74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

D. R. Mortenson
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 7/30/74

ATTEST:

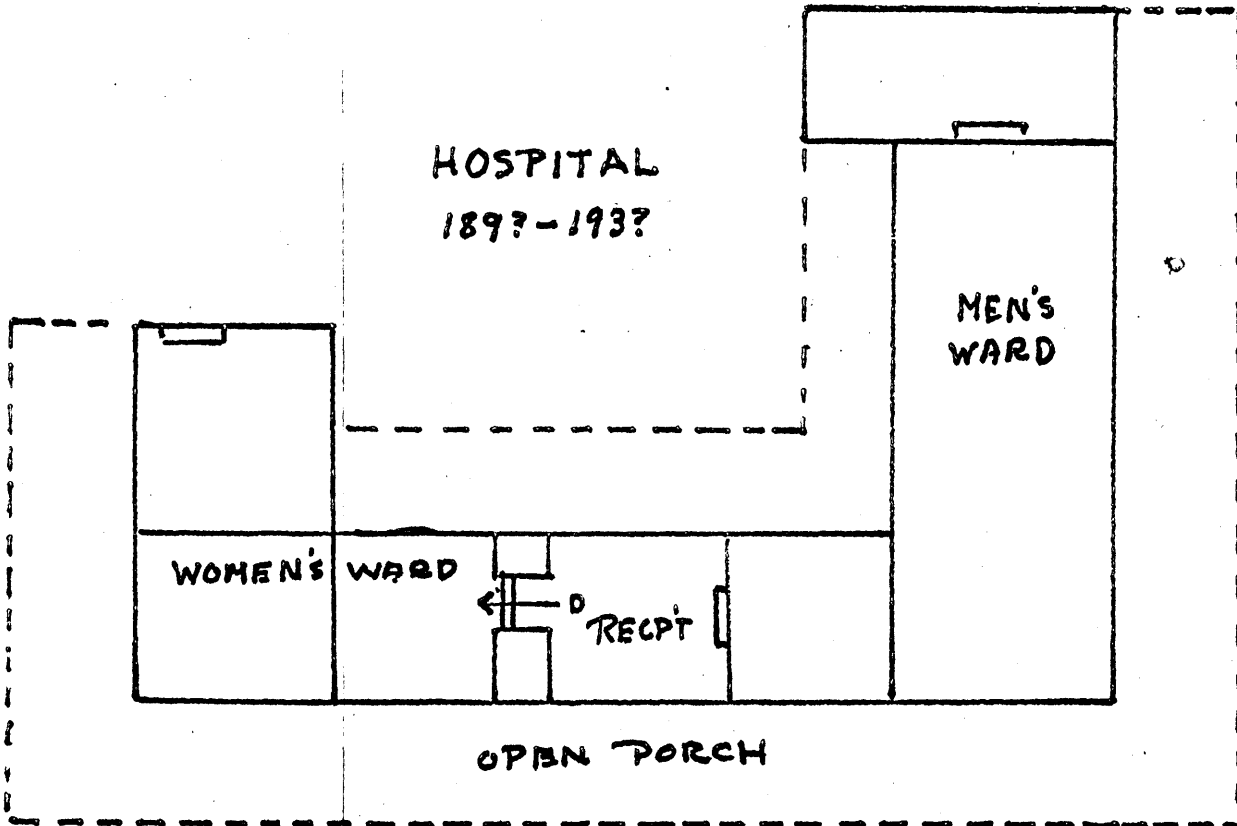
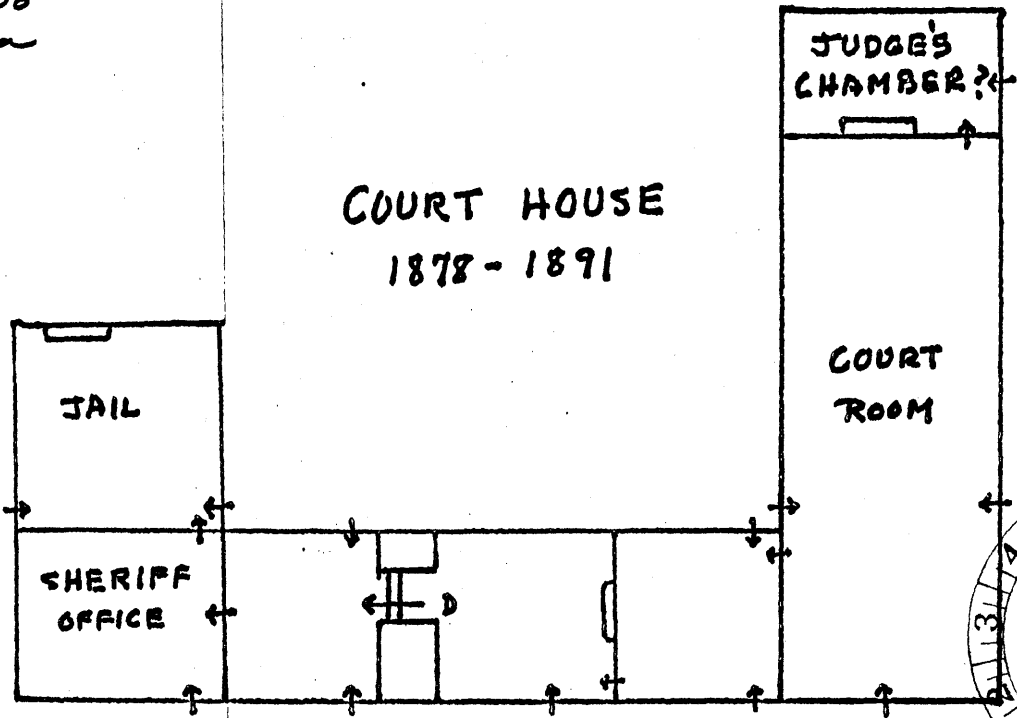
Charles Oberly
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 7-24-74

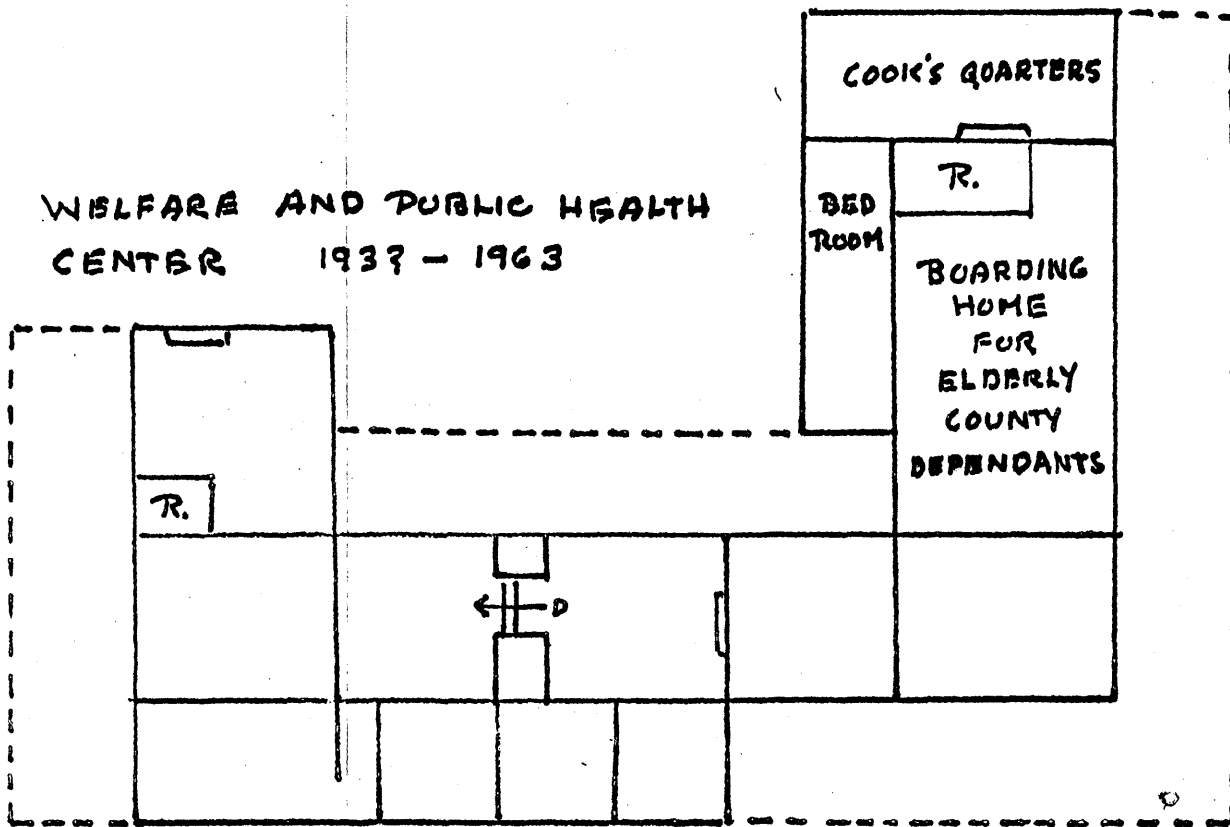
First Florence Courthouse

Pinal Co

Arizona



WELFARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH
CENTER 1937 - 1963



MUSEUM
1963 - 1970

