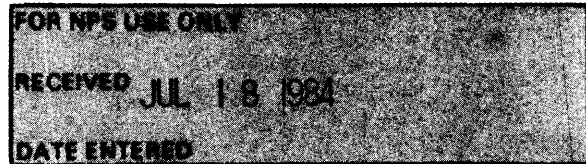


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER Various PAGE 39

Pawnee County Courthouse

Location: Courthouse Square, Pawnee, Oklahoma 40, Pawnee County 117

Owner: Pawnee County, Pawnee County Courthouse, Pawnee, Oklahoma

Description: Condition - excellent, unaltered, original site

The Pawnee County Courthouse is a three-story, buff brick building with simple, vertical lines. The rectangular building has a concrete foundation and a flat roof. Carved stone details provide decoration. Four bas-relief carved panels, two on either side of the front entrance, depict scenes of Indians and pioneers and their appropriate accoutrements. Four more similarly-carved panels ornament the rear facade of the building. The doorways are faced with wide, smooth stone posts and lintels. Above each lintel is an elaborately carved pedimental front-piece depicting a unique combination of a cow's skull, an owl, an eagle, and an open book. The cornice of the building is inscribed with the words, "Pawnee County Courthouse." It is also decorated with carved stone Indian heads wearing feathered warbonnets. The building has its original wooden doors and paired 1/1 sash windows. Grooved stone pilasters enhance the lines of the structure.

Significance: 1932; Builder/Architect: Manhattan Construction Co., Smith and Senter

The Pawnee County Courthouse is significant because of its unique architectural details and because it serves the community as the center of local, county government. One of two Oklahoma courthouses which utilizes aspects of the state's Indian and pioneer heritage in their design (the other is the Adair County Courthouse), the Pawnee County Courthouse exemplifies the commemoration of the area's rich and varied history. The building's decorations symbolize the blending of different cultures which created the state of Oklahoma.

Acreage: Approx. 1 acre

Quadrangle: 1:24,000/7.5 minute

Verbal Boundry Description: All of Block 12 of the original town of Pawnee

UTM: 14 697220 4023535

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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received MAY 24 1984  
date entered JUN 22 1984

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Mullendore Mansion

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number 910 N. Phillips St. N/A not for publication

city, town Cleveland N/A vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Pawnee code 117

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name L. A. Davis

street & number 910 N. Phillips

city, town Cleveland N/A vicinity of state Oklahoma 74020

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number Pawnee County Courthouse

city, town Pawnee state Oklahoma 74058

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Landmarks Inventory has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma 73105

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" 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 Mullendore Mansion is a 2½ story, detached dwelling built in 1910. The overall dimensions are approximately 35' x 55' and it has a hipped roof of Spanish green tile. The red brick wall finish is laid in a running bond pattern.

The facade (east side) is highlighted with a one-story red brick portico accentuated with white masonry trim. The first and second stories have a three-sided bay with one 1/1 double hung sash window in each side of the bay on both floors. The three-sided bay supports a pedimented gable within which is one fixed pane window. The main entrance is a wood paneled door with light in upper half and to the left of it is one fixed pane window. The facade openings have hood-moulds and lug sills of light-colored masonry.

The north side has a two story projecting bay with pediment at top. Within the pediment is a lunette window. The first floor of the projecting bay has two rectangular-shaped double-hung sash windows and one square fixed pane window and the second floor has two rectangular-shaped 1/1 double hung sash windows. On the north side of the first floor of the projecting gable, there is one rectangular-shaped 1/1 double hung sash window. The main wall plane of the north side first floor has two 1/1 double hung sash windows which have been enclosed to make two casement-type windows. There is also a single 1/1 double hung sash window on the second floor of the north side's main wall plane. First floor openings have masonry hood-moulds and lug sills.

The rear (west side) has a two story, flat roofed, projecting bay approximately 9' x 15'. There are entrances on all sides of the projecting bay. The entrances on west and south walls are stooped with brick railings. Fenestration in rear bay includes four 1/1 double hung sash windows in first floor of the west side and a transom above door. There are two 1/1 double hung sash windows and transom above door on south side of rear bay's first floor. Second floor windows in the bay include five 1/1 double hung sash windows in west wall and three 1/1 double hung sash windows in south wall.

The south side originally featured a two-story porte cochere with driveway leading to garage in rear. However, the first floor was enclosed in 1934 for use as a family room. The second floor of the porte cochere was not changed and it contains bands of five 1/1 double hung sash windows in west wall, four 1/1 double hung wash windows in south wall, and three 1/1 double hung sash windows in east wall. The enclosure has double door entry on first floor flanked by sidelights and topped with a modest cornice and six vertical-shaped fixed pane windows in east and west walls of the enclosure. There is also a small 1/1 double hung sash window to the left of the six fixed pane windows in west wall.

Decorative elements include several Greek Revival features emphasized by the classic temple design of the one-story portico across the entire front and the two-story projecting bays on south and rear. They typify the Greek Revival composition of rectangular blocks set against the main wall plane. The one-story portico attached to facade has three sets of four columns each which set upon square red brick pedestals. The columns are smooth-shafted with plain capitals and bases. The columns support a heavy entablature with unadorned frieze and cornice. A red brick blind rail delineates the porch areas on both first and second floors.

Pedimented gables are located above the two-story, three sided bay on facade and above the projecting bay on north side. The pedimented gable on the north has a lunette-type window. Additional Greek Revival elements include trabeated windows, use of pilasters with capitals on south and west sides, heavy entablature above porte cochere on south side, and a belt course of masonry delineating first and second floors. There are two end wall pierced chimney stacks with corbelled caps.

In 1934 the porte cochere was enclosed for use as a family room, however, similar construction materials and design for openings were employed. The only other alterations include converting three large windows into smaller ones on south wall and covering original windows with metal storm windows. None of these alterations detract from the overall character and fabric of the dwelling.

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Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

After Mullendore's death in 1938, the residence was inherited by Bessie Mullendore Johnson, one of E. C.'s daughters. The Johnsons resided in the house until 1949 and then it stood vacant for fifteen years. In 1964 the nominated property was purchased by the present owner, L. A. Davis.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** ca. 1910–1938      **Builder/Architect** Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Mullendore Mansion, built in 1910, is both historically and architecturally significant because: (1) its historic association with E. C. Mullendore, one of the most influential ranchers, bankers, and petroleum operators in north central Oklahoma, and (2) it is the best remaining example of Greek Revival architecture applied to a country dwelling in north central Oklahoma.

E. C. Mullendore migrated to Oklahoma Territory during the Land Run of 1893 which opened the Cherokee Outlet to settlement. He homesteaded land near Blackwell and, in 1897, married Jennie Berry, sister of George Berry who later became Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma. The Berry Family of Stillwater had attained considerable wealth through landholdings and banking. In 1901, E. C. and Jennie decided to sell their land near Blackwell and Stillwater, respectively, and purchase a ranch near Cleveland. Three years later, petroleum was discovered in the Cleveland area and some 1200 oil wells were in production shortly thereafter. The Mullendores made timely investments in oil leases which resulted in considerable royalties.

In 1910, E. C. and Jennie built an impressive two-story country home overlooking the Arkansas River near the town of Cleveland, Oklahoma. From 1910 to 1938, the time of E. C.'s death, he became a millionaire while living in the nominated property. With his newly-acquired wealth, he continued to invest in land, cattle, and petroleum. People who remember Mullendore say that his favorite rule-of-thumb concerning investments was: "If you just hold on to land, and pay your taxes, you don't need to worry because they're not making any more land." That philosophy converted into an accumulation of landholdings totaling several thousand acres (Mullendore always remained secretive about exact number). His ranches were located throughout north central Oklahoma and southern Kansas including those near Ponca City, Fairfax, Prue, and Pawhuska.

Investments were also made in five banks. E. C. owned stock and was on the Board of Directors of banks located at Cleveland, Cushing, Stillwater, Hominy, and Pawnee. His petroleum business also continued to flourish and he became president of his own oil and gas company, Mullendore Oil and Gas, which sold natural gas to several communities in north central Oklahoma.

At the time of his death in 1938, E.C. Mullendore had become one of the richest and most powerful men in north central Oklahoma.

The Mullendore Mansion was a country home built in 1910 on a 16-acre tract overlooking the Arkansas River. Although a country dwelling, Greek Revival vocabulary was applied to give it a feeling of formal design. The facade is highlighted with the classic temple front with a portico across the entire front. The portico is supported by three sets of four smooth-shafted columns with plain capitals and bases. The columns rise to a heavy entablature with an unadorned frieze and cornice. The pedimented gable of the facade and north side, trabeated windows, low pitch hip roof, use of pilasters on the second story of the south side, and the overall composition of the dwelling provide further Greek Revival elements. The Mullendore Mansion exemplifies the classical floor plan of rectangular blocks set against each other without transitional features.

For 73 years the Mullendore Mansion has stood as a reminder of the historic significance of the Mullendore Family in north central Oklahoma and its Greek Revival architectural detailing has remained intact.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

The Mullendore Murder Case, Jonathon Kwitney, New York: Farrar, Straws and Giroux, 1974.  
 Personal interview with Mrs. L. A. Davis, June 30, 1983, Cleveland, OK. Personal Interview: George Berry II, November, 1983; Mildred Mullendore Adams (E.C.'s daughter), December, 1983.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Cleveland, Oklahoma

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000  
 $\frac{7\frac{1}{2}''}{1''}$

UTM References

A 

1	4	7	2	7	9	3	10	4	10	2	2	0	2	5
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

C 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

D 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

E 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

F 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

G 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

H 

Zone				Easting				Northing					

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at a point at the southwest corner of the intersection of Crestview Road and North Phillips Streets of Cleveland, Oklahoma, proceed due west along the southern edge of Crestview Road 155'. Then proceed due south 120', then proceed due east 155' to the

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Claudia Ahmad Supervised by Dr. George Carney

organization Department of Geography date December, 1983

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone 405-624-6250

city or town Stillwater state Oklahoma 74078

# 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 C Metcalf 5-21-84

title date

For NPS use only

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

Beth Casvino date 4/20/84  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

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Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

western edge of North Phillips. Then proceed due north along the western edge of North Phillips 120' to the point of beginning. The nominated property stands within these boundaries.