

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED APR 21 1980

DATE ENTERED JUN 27 1980

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

Joe Ralls House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

303 South Pennsylvania St.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Atoka

VICINITY OF

003

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Oklahoma

40

Atoka

005

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 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:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Marie Ralls

STREET & NUMBER

303 South Pennsylvania

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Atoka

VICINITY OF

OK

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Atoka County Court House

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Atoka

OK

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey

DATE

1979

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Oklahoma City

OK

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Ralls House is a single story house that is an excellent example of a mid-western Victorian cottage structure. Measuring approximately 30' wide and 35' long, it stands on a native stone foundation and was framed initially by its pine siding. It's multi-gables are covered with fish-scale shingles, the front porch has carpenter gothic trim, and its two-story tower is of Queen Anne style and reminiscent of A. J. Downing's cottages. The upper lights of the first story windows are framed in stained glass panes, as are the tower windows. The exterior has been altered only by the addition in the mid-1950s of asbestos shingle-siding, a concrete porch on the east front, and a screened "back" porch on the southwest corner. The effect of these additions is muted, and they do not detract from the original character of the house.

The interior of the Ralls House has remained virtually unchanged since its construction. The original floorplan consisted of two bedrooms on the south, a large entrance foyer and study in the center, and a living room, dining room, and kitchen on the north. The study was later converted into a bathroom and a walk-in closet and the foyer is now a sitting room. The house contains 12' high ceilings, hardwood floors presently carpeted, and hardwood baseboards and door trim covered with several coats of white paint. There are two features within the structure that make it somewhat unique: sliding wood-paneled doors draw together to separate the living and dining rooms and a serving window opens between the kitchen and dining room. The interior is tastefully appointed much as it was originally, well maintained by the present occupant, and suggests a feeling of controlled elegance.

6 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/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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Indian History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1900 to Present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. D. Catlin

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ralls House is significant because of its architectural style and integrity, and because it was the home of one of Atoka's most prominent families. Completed about 1900, when the community was still a part of Indian Territory, the house was built by J. D. Catlin, at the time a Deputy United States Court Clerk and lay minister of the Presbyterian Church. A white, Catlin had married the daughter of Captain James S. Standley, one of the foremost leaders of the Choctaw Indian tribe, who provided the land upon which the house was built. The Catlin family sold the house in 1919, but in 1933 it was purchased by Catlin's nephew, Joe Ralls, Jr. Ralls acted as secretary to the national attorney of the Chickasaw Nation prior to Oklahoma Statehood, became one of Atoka's most successful attorneys, and at one time served the community as mayor. Ralls died in 1970, but his widow still occupies the family home.

The Ralls House is especially important because it is the best example of turn-of-the-century luxury housing that remains in Atoka County. Moreover, its architectural style is picturesque and pleasant, and despite more than 75 years of occupancy, its integrity is unimpeached. Indeed, the Ralls House retains almost completely its original character.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview, Mrs. Joe Ralls, Atoka, Oklahoma, July 17, 1979.
 J. B. Thoburn and Muriel Wright, Oklahoma: A History, Vol. III (New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Co., 1929), p. 214.

UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY under 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Lehigh, OK

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5'

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 7643010 38081610
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The N 175' of Lot 1, Block 48, Atoka, OK

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

W. David Baird Directed by Dr. Annetta L. Cheek

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey

DATE

April, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Oklahoma State University

TELEPHONE

405-624-5678

CITY OR TOWN

Stillwater

STATE

OK

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

Glenn Jordan

TITLE

DATE

4/10/80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

6/27/80

ATTEST: *Beth Grovener*
 CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

6/25/80