Form 10-300 (July 1969)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

DATE

	(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE 97
	NAME	Cost at .	
	COMMON:		
*	Phillips, Frank, Home		
,	AND/OR HISTORIC:		
2.	LOCATION		
	STREET AND NUMBER:		
	1107 Cherokee Avenue		
	CITY OR TOWN:		
	Bartlesville No. 2	Rep. Clem McSpadde	<u>en</u>
	STATE CODE COUNTY:		CODE
	Oklahoma 40 Washir	ngton	147
3.	CLASSIFICATION		
1	CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS A	CCESSIBLE
•	(Check One)	31A103 TO	THE PUBLIC
•	District X Building X Public Public Acquisition:	X Occupied	Yes:
)	Site Structure Private In Process		Restricted
•	Object Both Being Considered		Unrestricted
•		in progress	No
)	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)	<del></del>	
		5- 314 15	
	Agricultural Government Park	☐ Transportation ☐	omments
•	Commercial Industrial Private Residence	Other (Specify)	<del>*3/</del>
•	Educational Military Religious	- WEIVEI	7
	Entertainment Museum Scientific		
: 4		NATIONAL REGISTE	<u>,                                    </u>
•	OWNER'S NAME:	REC. ONAL	4/30/ 57
	Oklahoma Historical Society	REGISTE	
	STREET AND NUMBER:		(6) B "
1	Historical Building	(1)	
•	CITY OR TOWN:		CODE
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5.	LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION		
	COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:		<b>=</b> 0
	Office of the County Clerk		Wash
	STREET AND NUMBER:		
	Washington County Courthouse		cope to
	STATE	<u>.</u>	CODE C
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3973888	Bartlesville   Okl	ahoma	140
•	REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS		
			ENTRY
	Special Phillips House Survey  DATE OF SURVEY 1973		<del></del>
	DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	te County Lo	WAR 1
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7. DESCRIPTION				(Check On	e)	
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The Phillips Home was built in 1908 in the Green Revival style with mottled pinkish brick walls, tall wooden columns, red tile roof, and spacious porches. The exterior was highlighted by flat blocks of white sandstone and white wood trim. Designer was Walter Everman.

The interior has four levels. Main floor contains a large entrance hall paneled with Philippine mahogany, a spacious library, a music room, a gracious dining room, and a cluster of kitchen and service rooms. Off the library is a sunroom. The second floor consists mainly of five bedrooms. According to the custom of the period in which it was built, the thrid floor is a large formal ballroom. The basement houses the heating and cooling systems and -- with a nod in the direction of Oklahoma's capricious weather -- a storm shelter.

In the 1930s extensive remodeling was done to the house under the direction of Edward B. Delks and Arthur Gorman. Most of the changes, however, were on the inside. A major one was expansion of the library to accommodate Phillips' growing collection of books. But the music room, Mrs. Phillips' bedroom and bath, and Phillips' suite all received considerable attention. Fine woodwork, decorative plastering, elaborate chandeliers, imported wall papers, draperies, and silken wall coverings, mirrors and other elegant furnishings were all added to the home at this time. Additional minor modifications were made in later years. In 1954 a formal garden, sunken swimming pool, and decorative summerhouse were constructed. Immediately behind the main house is the garage, greenhouse, and servant quarters.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A)	opropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	X 20th Century
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	and Known)	1908 to the present	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check	k One or More as Appro	priate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
Architecture	★ Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	X Social/Human-	
<b>▼</b> Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	Militory	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	

Strong men and women came upon a raw land. With vision . . . They spanned rivers and prairies and mountains. With determination . . . They created schools-churches-farms-factories. They lifted great buildings to the skies. They drilled deep wells into oil rich earth. With thankfulness to their God . . . They are still pioneering - still achieving. And still exploring future frontiers. Passerby - look about you and ask this question - Where else within a single life span has man built so mightily?

The inscription is on a pioneer statue honoring the 1889 homesteaders who opened Old Oklahoma to white settlement. The statue stands at the corner of Couch Drive and Robinson in downtown Oklahoma City. Dr. Robert B. Kamm, president of Oklahoma State University, quoted it at a dinner in Bartlesville in November 1973 commemorating the dedication of the Frank Phillips Home as a state historic site. The words describe Frank Phillips, Dr. Kamm said, because of his accomplishments and the many contributions he and Phillips Petroleum Company had made to Oklahoma over the years. He cited particularly Frank Phillips' role in the fields of research and education, his interest and service in the fields of aviation, scouting, and the notable Woolaroc Ranch Museum. "Frank Phillips' tracks stretch far into the future," he said, "and we all say thank you, Frank Phillips."

Frank Phillips was born in Nebraska Nov. 28, 1873. (It was exactly 100 years later that his granddaughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Irvin, turned over the deed to the Phillips Home with its furnishings to the Oklahoma Historical Society.) At the turn of the century he was a young man learning the banking business from his father-in-law when oil was discovered in Indian Territory. Soon the lure of black gold was drawing the adventurous to the Southwest and Phillips was one of them. In 1903 he brought his wife to the Cherokee Nation, settling in Bartlesville. His financial acumen, combined with a natural intuitiveness, virtually assured his success in the brawling, booming petroleum business, then expanding rapidly into a major industry. He was joined shortly by his brother. In 1917 they pooled their resources to found the Phillips Petroleum Company (one of the industry's

9. MAJOR	BIBLIOG	RAPHIC	AL RE	FERENC	ES								
म्	Franks, Kenny A., "Frank Phillips Home Now Belongs To All Oklahoma," Antique Oklahoma, December, 1973, p. 7												
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in the	National E	Register	and c	ertify that	it has	been			1	<i>A</i> .		_	
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1	level of significance of this nomination is:								-				
10.	National State Local							Date	3/	1/3/7	5		
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z z Form 10-300a (July 1969)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Oklahoma	
COUNTY	
Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
MAR 1 9 1975	

(Number all entries)

No. 8. Significance

Phillips, Frank, Home

international giants today and still headquartered in Bartlesville).

As he began to prosper, Frank Phillips bouilt the handsome Greek Revival house on Cherokee Avenue. He and his wife, the former Jane Gibson, lived in it the rest of their lives - leaving it virtually unchanged on the outside, but remodeling the interior extensively. Funeral services for both (he in 1950, she in 1948) were held, fittingly enough, in the graciously enlarged library. Fittingly, because of the many buildings, streets, and institutions that bear his name today, perhaps none honors Phillips the man more than the important Phillips Collection of western books and manuscripts at the University of Oklahoma Library.

The home -- maintained by the Oklahoma Historical Society and open to the public daily except Mondays -- reflects the comfortable elegance in which the Phillips spent much of their life. As the home of a wealthy and influential oilman, it also served as a kind of unofficial head-quarters for an expanding economic empire. In it over the years were entertained many notables, within and outside the petroleum industry. Above all, however, it remains a classic example of the manner in which at least one successful oil pioneer lived. It will therefore be preserved by the Society as a memorial both to Frank Phillips the man and to the era of rugged individualism he represented so successfully.

United States Department of the Interior

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# RECEIVED 2280

JAN 23 2009

# National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determination for individual properties and districts. See instruction in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box of by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property				
historic name Phillips, Frank and Jan	e, Home (additional do	cumentation)	<del></del>	
other names/site number		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
2. Location				
street & number 1107 SE Cherokee A	Avenue		[N/A] not fo	or publication
city or town Bartlesville			[N/	A] vicinity
state Oklahoma code OK county	Washington	code <u>147</u>	_zip code7	74003-5027
3. State/Federal Agency Certificati	ion			
As the designated authority under the National National Register of Historic Places and meet my opinion, the property meets does considered significant nationally statew State Historic Present Signature of certifying official/Title  Oklahoma Historical Society  State or Federal agency and bureau	of eligibility meets the docum ts the procedural and profes s not meet the National Re ride ⊠ locally. ( ☐ See cont	nentation standards sional requirements agister criteria. I rec tinuation sheet for ac	for registering s set forth in 36 commend that	properties in the CFR Part 60. In this property be
In my opinion, the property   meets   does  See continuation sheet for additional com		ter criteria.		
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date	<u>,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,</u>		
State or Federal agency and bureau				
4. National Park Service Certificati	ion //			
I hereby certify that the property is:    entered in the National Register   See continuation sheet.   determined eligible for the   National Register   See continuation sheet.   determined not eligible for the	Signature of th	e Keeper		Date of Action
National Register.  removed from the National Register See continuation sheet.  other, explain See continuation sheet.	Edson VH.	Beell	2.	25.09

<u>Phillips, Frank and Jan</u>	e, Home	Washington County, Oklahoma				
Name of Property		County/Sta	te			
5. Classification						
Ownership of Property Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resour (Do not count previously list Contributing				
[] private [] public-local	[X] building(s) [] district	2	0	buildings		
X ] public-State	[ ] site [ ] structure [ ] object	0	0	sites		
	(1 )	5	11	structures		
		0	0	objects		
		7	1	Total		
Name of related multi (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a r		Number of con previously liste				
N/A		_1		_		
6. Function or Use						
Historic Function (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Fun (Enter categories from				
Domestic: single dwell		Recreation and Culture: museum				
Domestic: secondary s Landscape: object	tructure					
Agriculture/Subsistence	e: horticultural facility					
7. Description						
Architectural Classific	cation	Materials (Enter categories from	instructions)			
		· -	-			
Neoclassical		foundation	stone			
Neoclassical		foundation walls	brick			
Neoclassical						

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Phillips, Frank and Jane, Home Name of Property	Washington County, Oklahoma County/State		
8. Statement of Significance			
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark ``x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  Architecture		
[] A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Industry		
[X] B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	Periods of Significance		
[X] C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.	1908-1950  Significant Dates		
Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	1908-1909, 1917, 1930		
Criteria Considerations (Mark ``x" in all the boxes that apply.)			
Property is:	Significant Person(s) (Complete if Criterion B is marked above). Phillips, Frank		
[] A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Trimps, Trank		
[] B removed from its original location.	Cultural Affiliation N/A		
[] C a birthplace or grave.			
[] D a cemetery.	Architect/Builder		
[] E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	Walter Everman and Edward Delk, architects		
[] F a commemorative property.	Arthur Gorman, builder		
[] <b>G</b> less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.			
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Major Bibliographical References			
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more conti	inuation sheets.)		
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:		
□ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested □ previously listed in the National Register □ previously determined eligible by the National Register □ designated a National Historic Landmark □ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	State Historic Preservation Office ☐ Other State Agency ☐ Federal Agency ☐ Local Government ☐ University ☐ Other		
#75001576  recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	Name of repository: Oklahoma Historical Society/SHPO		
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		nk and Jan	e, Home	_	_		nton County, (	Oklahoma
Nam	e of Prop	erty				County/State	e	
10.	. Geogr	aphical Da	ta					
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11.	Form F	Prepared B	V			<del></del>		
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Ad	ditional	Documen	tation					
Sub	mit the f	following ite	ms with the completed	form:				
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Pro	perty C	)wner_				-		
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-	-		This information is being collected for appeties, and to amend existing listings. Rec. 470 et seq.	_				

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Phillips, Frank and Jane, Home Washington County, Oklahoma

Section number 7

Page 1

### DESCRIPTION

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home, at 1107 SE Cherokee Avenue, is a three-story with basement neoclassical style residence situated on a half city block in an older residential neighborhood of Bartlesville, Oklahoma. Originally constructed between 1908 and 1909, subsequent renovations in 1917 and 1930 added to the size and grandeur of the home. Although the estate once encompassed ten acres, the size of the grounds gradually diminished as large, revival style homes were built in the surrounding area. The grounds of the property are bounded on the north by 11<sup>th</sup> Street, on the east by SE Cherokee Avenue, on the west by residential housing along SE Osage Avenue, and on the south by 12<sup>th</sup> Street. An elaborate low wall of rock-face stone encircles the property.

The Frank Phillips Home was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places on March 13, 1975, under Criterion B for its association with Frank Phillips, for its commercial and social significance, as well as its significance in landscape architecture at the state level. The purpose of this additional documentation is to amend the nomination for the following reasons:

- 1) Jane Phillips was the sole owner of the property from the time the property was purchased until her death when it was transferred to her granddaughter. The name of the property is being amended to reflect that ownership.
- 2) Adding additional information for Criterion C to address the local architectural significance of the property.
- 3) Adding additional information regarding the property's association with oilman, Frank Phillips.

#### **EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION**

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is a three-story with basement neoclassical style residence. Specifically, the residence is an example of the full-height entry porch with lower full-width porch subtype of the neoclassical style. Clad in rose-colored brick laid in a stretcher bond, the house has decorative plain-faced stone quoins, and a rock-faced stone foundation with cast stone belt line. The tile roof of the main house is hipped with gabled dormers on each elevation. Each dormer features a triangular pediment and dentilated cornice. The dormer walls are clad in dark red clay tiles to blend in with the roof tile.

The front façade is dominated by an offset two-story entry with lower full-width porch. The two-story front portico features a triangular pediment with a dentilated cornice and is supported by six fluted lonic columns. A cameo window accents the gable end of the portico. The lower full-width portions of the front porch have a flat roof. Smaller wooden lonic columns support this section of the front porch.

The front entry has an elaborate door surround, featuring a flat pediment. Four wooden lonic pilasters, two with rectangular shafts and two with circular shafts, support the door surround. The entryway cornice is also dentilated. The glazed slab wood door is flanked by elaborate etched glass sidelights, with similar transoms above the door and above each sidelight. To the right of the entry is a large single pane picture window, with a leaded glass transom. Two identical triple windows are located to the left of the entry door in the library space. Each window is an eighteen light metal window with nine light transoms above. Each of these has a cast stone keystone lintel. Between the transom and the lintel is a large rectangular slab of black marble. On the second floor, a single one over one wood window is located above each of the window spaces on the first floor. A sleeping porch off Jane

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Phillips, Frank and Jane, Home Washington County, Oklahoma

Section number 7

Page 2

Phillips' bedroom, enclosed circa 1930, is located on the second floor under the gable end of the two-story portico. Two six over one wood windows are located in the third floor dormer. The windows on the second and third floors have cast stone sills. A metal balustrade tops the first floor front portico. There is an end wall brick chimney.

A two-story curved portico dominates the north elevation of the Phillips home. Like the front portico, it is supported by four lonic columns and has a dentilated cornice. A metal balustrade outlines the top of the portico. This elevation features a secondary entry. The north entry projects from the main building and has a flat roof. The wood framed glazed slab door is flanked by etched glass sidelights and topped by a similar transom. The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor gabled dormer features a set of single light French style doors with sidelights. There are two end wall brick chimneys on the north elevation, one located in the music room at the northeast corner of the house and one in the formal dining room. There is one, one over one window located on the first floor to the left of the curved portico. A cast stone keystone lintel accents the window. There are four windows to the right of the curved portico. Two of these windows are located on the original portion of the house and are one over one wood windows with cast stone keystone lintel. Further to the west, two additional windows are located in rear additions to the first floor. The easternmost of these windows is a single pane fixed leaded glass window. The westernmost window is a one over one wood window with no decorative lintel. Below these windows, are two hopper windows at the basement level. On the second floor, there is one, one over one window to the left of the curved portico, two above the secondary entry, and one to the right of the curved portico.

The most significant alterations to the original building are visible from the rear. The rear of the house has varying roof levels and roof types, reflective of the multiple additions. The southwest wing was added in 1917 and includes a first floor sunroom and second floor rooms designed for the Phillips' foster children. 1930 renovations included the creation of a third floor space, specifically designed for the family's Japanese butler. This third floor space is visible in two gabled dormers, separated by the brick penthouse for the elevator. Dark red clay tile serves as cladding for the walls of these 3<sup>rd</sup> floor dormers. Along the northwest corner is a single story rectangular section with a flat roof that projects out from the main house. Behind this section is a two-story section of the main house. At the far north end of this west wall on the second floor is a porch access door. To the right of the door are three one over one windows. The second floor porch runs from the NW corner of the house to the 1930s rear addition on the south. It has a metal balustrade. On the first floor below, are a single one over one wood window with cast stone sill as well as a rear entrance to the house. There is also a single hopper window at the basement level. The entryway project from the brick exterior of the house and is constructed of wood panels. It features a single paneled wood door on the right with a matching false door on the left. There is a multi-light transom above the entry. The shed style roof above the rear entry is standing seam copper. Beside the entryway is a two-story 1930s vintage addition that included additional guest and kitchen space. The addition continues the materials used on the rest of the house, with the exception of the windows, and has a flat standing seam copper roof. The second floor windows are eight pane metal casements with two light transoms above. There are three pairs of these windows on the north and south sides of the addition, with two pairs, separated by brick on the west side. The triple window has a continuous cast stone sill and the two double windows also have cast stone sills. The first floor windows in the addition are one over one, with a double window on the south side and a single window on the west. These windows also have cast stone sills, although it is not continuous. The first floor windows feature lintels similar to those on the first floor with elaborate keystones. Two hopper windows provide basement access. At the center of the rear elevation, is a two-story service area. The first floor section is screened in and provides access to the kitchen from the west. An additional entry is visible from the south, but it is no longer usable because of the placement of mechanical systems in front of the doorway. The second floor has a flat roof, and two one

### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

Phillips, Frank and Jane, Home Washington County, Oklahoma

Section number 7

Page 3

over one wood windows – appropriate for guest baths. At the far southwest corner is the two-story sunroom/children's room addition. This addition has a half hipped roof. The addition continues the materials and decorative accents found on the main house. The sunroom features eight light casements with four light transoms above. There are six pairs of these windows on the west. The casements have a continuous cast stone sill with a continuous cast stone keystone lintel. The six, second floor windows are twelve over one and these also have continuous cast stone sills. However, these windows lack a lintel. Two hopper windows provide access to the basement from the sunroom/children's room addition. A small balcony with metal balustrade extends from the northernmost window of children's room. There is a slight difference in the brick color on this addition. A third floor penthouse is visible on this elevation. The penthouse houses the mechanical systems of the elevator and has a skylight to provide light in case of repairs.

Metal casement windows are found in the sunroom addition. Two pairs of eight light casements with four light transoms above separated by a large single pane picture window with twenty light transom above form the southernmost windows of this addition. This window has a continuous cast stone sill and cast stone keystone lintel. Located beneath the window are additional hopper windows at the basement level.

Two eighteen light French-style double doors are visible at the northeast corner of the addition, separated by the end wall brick chimney. Each door has a nine light transom above. There is a small porch off the library with a shed-style weathered copper roof. The porch has a metal balustrade with two sets of steps leading down to the garden. On the second floor, there are two metal triple windows, each with single light casements that open into the bedroom of Frank Phillips. These second floor windows have cast stone sills, but no lintel. On the third floor, a large gable dormer is visible from the south. The end wall brick chimney splits the dormer. There are two six over one windows on the left side of dormer and a four over one window on the right.

### INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Frank Phillips home was designed to be a comfortable dwelling for the Phillips family, as well as a social space for entertaining guests. The interior has four levels. The main floor consists of public spaces, including an elaborate mahogany, paneled entry with grand staircase, a spacious library complete with secret compartments, a music room, a spacious dining room, a sunroom, and several kitchen and service rooms, a half-bath, and access to the elevator. Private family spaces on the second floor include the bedrooms of Frank and Jane Phillips, a large room over the sunroom for their foster daughters, two guest rooms, and multiple bathrooms. The room nearest the elevator was reserved for guests including such notables as Wiley Post and Will Rogers. The remaining bedroom on the second floor was reserved for their son John Gibson and his second wife, Mary Kate Black during their frequent visits from the Dallas area where they made their home. Both bedrooms near the elevator were reduced in size when the elevator was added in 1947. The third floor contains several bedrooms and baths, as well as a large recreational area. An administrative office, originally the son's bedroom, is also located on the third floor. The bedroom was larger when John Gibson Phillips was growing-up in the mansion. The room was made smaller when the elevator was added. The recreational area at the top of the stairs served as John's playroom and exercise room. Butler Henry Einaga's bedroom was also located on the third floor. The basement houses mechanical systems and a storm shelter, and provides access to a 1960s era bomb shelter, located under the rear driveway.

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### OTHER RESOURCES LOCATED ON THE GROUNDS OF THE FRANK AND JANE PHILLIPS HOME:

- 1. Fence and retaining wall. Contributing. Ca 1908. This low, cast stone wall provides a perimeter boundary for the property, with openings at the front of the property and on the north to provide access for pedestrian and automobile traffic.
- 2. Gazebo. Ca 1954. Non-contributing. The gazebo was one of the projects commissioned by Elizabeth Irwin, granddaughter of Frank and Jane Phillips who inherited the house after Jane Phillips's death. This simple rectangular structure has a brick foundation and a flared hipped roof covered in wooden shingles. The walls are screened in with a dark colored netting.
- 3. Greenhouse. Contributing. Ca 1946. Built as a gift for his wife, Jane, by Frank Phillips. This single-story front gabled greenhouse has a wooden knee wall, with the upper walls and roof constructed of glass.
- 4. Gardener's House. Contributing. Ca 1930. This single-story front gabled cottage is clad in wood clapboards and has a wooden shingle roof. A small addition on the north end of the building has a half-hip roof. Original one over one wood windows remain throughout.
- 5. Garage. Contributing. Ca 1930. The original detached carriage house was rebuilt in 1930 to accommodate multiple automobiles used by the Phillips family. The six bay garage with living quarters above was constructed of materials similar to the main house.
- 6. Potting Shed. Contributing. Ca 1930. This small, single-story rectangular building has a front gabled wooden shingle roof and wood clapboard siding. The original four over four hung wood windows remain.
- 7. Water Cooling Tower. Contributing. Ca 1926. (Image 300) This metal structure functioned as an early air conditioning system for the Phillips house.
- 8. Sign. Non-contributing. Ca 1976. Donated by the Jane Phillips Sorority.

#### **ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS**

At the time of construction, Frank Phillips had experienced only moderate success in the oil industry. As his wealth increased, so did the grandeur of his home. The first modifications took place in 1917 with a two-story addition at the southwest corner of the house. Rooms added include the sunroom and the foster children's room, as well as additional attic and basement space. In 1930, a large-scale renovation, under the direction of Edward Delk and Arthur Gorman, significantly increased both the size and value of the residence. The 1930 addition included extending the southeast end of the house, extending the back of the house out 12 feet and up three stories, and opening up additional space on the third floor. The roofline was completely reconfigured and dormers added. One of the main goals of the renovation was the expansion of the library. Prior to 1930, the library had been a mirror of the music room located in the northeast corner of the first floor. In 1930, the library was expanded to the south and the floor was lowered to give the room higher ceilings. At the same time, Italian marble floor trim was added, as well as additional wood and plaster moldings, Waterford crystal chandeliers, and elaborate wallpaper, draperies, and other expensive furnishings. There were extensive modifications to Mrs. Phillips' bathroom as well. In essence, the exterior of the home was in its current form by the end of the 1930 renovations.

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Renovations in the years following were small in comparison, and generally served to make the house and grounds more convenient for its occupants. Minor changes in 1938 included the installation of a new air conditioning system. In 1946, the greenhouse was built as a gift for Jane Phillips from her husband, Frank. In 1947, an elevator was added that provided easier access for the aging Jane and Frank Phillips. Following the death of Jane, their granddaughter, Elizabeth Jane (Phillips) Irwin, (John's daughter) along with her husband Henry and their children, came to live with Frank. When Frank died on August 23, 1950, Elizabeth Irwin inherited the property and implemented changes to make the house more appropriate for her family. This included the installation of formal gardens with gazebo, an in-ground swimming pool on the south lawn, as well as the addition of a brick wall with iron gates to enclose the driveway at the back of the house.

In 1973, the Irwin's deeded the property to the Oklahoma Historical Society to operate as a house museum. Using historic photographs, the interior of the house was returned, as much as possible, to its 1930 appearance. In November 1973, the house officially opened to the public on what would have been Frank Phillips's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday (Daily Oklahoman). Under OHS management, the swimming pool was removed. In 1997, the lower level of the garage building/structure was renovated to house an interpretive center. OHS personnel offices and work spaces are located on the second floor of the garage building. All original interior spaces, walls, ceilings, and floors remain intact. In 2000, the sleeping porch off of Jane Phillips's bedroom on the second floor was restored. Today, the gardener's cottage remains intact on the interior and is used as a meeting space for employees and volunteers.

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home retains a high degree of historic integrity. In terms of location and setting, the property continues to be a focal point of Southeast Cherokee Avenue. Although significant residential development has occurred in the area surrounding the house, the majority of construction dates from between 1910 and 1930. The buildings are residential and in a size and scale compatible with the Frank Phillips Home and there have not been major alterations or additions to homes in this area. The design of the property has changed significantly since its original construction in 1908-1909, but the overall architectural style, materials, and workmanship have been maintained. The residence has just expanded to meet the needs of the family over time. Also, the majority of the design changes occurred during the period of significance, at the request of Frank and Jane Phillips. An effort has been made by the Oklahoma Historical Society to remove non-historic elements, such as the swimming pool installed by the Phillips's granddaughter, and to return the property to its 1930 condition. The existence of some non-historic elements, such as the gazebo, does not affect the house's ability to convey its historic significance. In terms of feeling and association, the property appears to be historically authentic, offering visitors the opportunity to step into the world of Frank and Jane Phillips.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Frank Phillips continued to divide his time between this residence and his ranch at Woolaroc until his death in 1950. The house on Cherokee Avenue had always been in Jane Phillips's name.

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#### **SIGNIFICANCE**

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home in Bartlesville, Oklahoma was originally listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975 under Criterion B for its direct association with Frank Phillips, founder of Phillips Petroleum. However, the property is also locally significant for its architecture. The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B for its association with Frank Phillips, and under Criterion C as an outstanding local example of the neoclassical style.

### HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Frank Phillips was an early entrepreneur in the oil fields of Oklahoma who went on to create one of the largest, most influential, and iconic oil companies in the country. Born in Nebraska in 1873, Frank Phillips's family eventually settled in Iowa. In February 1897, Frank married Jane Gibson, daughter of a Creston, Iowa banker. Frank Phillips attempted several different businesses, working both as a barber and a banker. But In 1903, after hearing of vast oil deposits in Oklahoma, Frank and Jane Phillips moved to the Bartlesville area.

Working alongside his brother, L.E., Frank Phillips became involved in oil ventures throughout the area. In 1905, the Phillips brothers achieved their first success, when they "hit the first of 81 wells in a row without a single dry hole." In 1917, the brothers' Lewcinda Oil Company "struck it rich" near the present day Woolaroc Ranch in Osage County. After this success, Mr. Phillips incorporated a new company, the Phillips Petroleum Company.

The initial success of the Lewcinda Oil Company made possible the future growth and success of Phillips Petroleum. Looking to eastern investors, Mr. Phillips was able to secure financing for additional leases in the Osage Hills, allowing for further exploration and drilling. He eventually opened a small office in New York City, splitting his time between his eastern investors and operations in Bartlesville. Phillips was a "good salesman, an astute businessman, and was confident in his own abilities to secure funding for the company. He cultivated acquaintances and secured the confidence of influential people who might be of potential value to the company. He joined clubs in New York that would be advantageous to assist in his meeting the right investors. He wanted to meet the right investors who would help secure the future of the company."

Frank Phillips was not content to just drill for oil. From its inception, Phillips Petroleum was involved in petroleum innovations, coming up with new products and new uses for petroleum. During his tenure as president and chairman of the board, Phillips Petroleum found a use for the natural gas discovered while drilling for oil. Most other drillers "simply burned off the gas at the wellhead, but Phillips turned it into a valuable resource." Following up on this discovery, the company opened the first natural gasoline plant for extracting liquid byproducts from natural gas in 1917. In 1924, the company was awarded the first patent on a process for recovering natural gasoline from natural gas. By 1927 "the company was pumping 55,000 barrels a day from its more than 2,000 wells in Texas and Oklahoma."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Daily Oklahoman, August 2, 1948.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Unless otherwise noted, the following history of Phillips Petroleum is summarized or directly quoted from the following page of the ConocoPhillips website,

http://www.conocophillips.com/about/who\_we\_are/history/phillips/index.htm, March 2008.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Lewcinda was the name of Frank and L.E. Phillips's mother.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Gail Kane, Frank's Fancy (Oklahoma City, OK: Oklahoma Heritage Association, 2001), 20.

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In 1926, Phillips Petroleum founded a Research and Development division to continue seeking new innovations. 1927 also marked the year the company began marketing gasoline through the first of more than 10,000 service stations. And in that year, Phillips Petroleum also purchased its own refinery.

From early on, innovations in aviation fuel were a priority at Phillips Petroleum. An aviation department was formed in 1926. Phillips designed the first aviation refueling trucks and formulated a "new, lighter, more efficient aviation fuel that powered the first flight between the United States and Hawaii in 1927."

According to the ConocoPhillips history of Phillips Petroleum, "Phillips was the first to develop and market propane for home heating and cooking, the first to produce and sell gasoline designed to match seasonal conditions, and the first to build a long-distance multi-product pipeline. In 1930, the Phillips Petroleum Company began to increase its refining and retailing capacities when it acquired the Independent Oil and Gas Company. While the Depression affected the company, as it did others, in the late 1930s, the company developed new processes for producing butadiene and carbon black, two ingredients in synthetic rubber. In 1936, Phillips granted its first license outside of the United States, a license for a copper sweetening process used in gasoline refining. Soon after, Phillips began to income licensing its generate substantial bv patents to other foreign

1940s were a period of great innovation at Phillips, as the company continued to diversify. In 1940, scientists working in research and development "invented the HF Alkylation process, which made high-octane gas possible." This process allowed the company to produce "cold" synthetic rubber just four years later. Such inventions, along with continued advances in aviation fuel, were crucial at the time because of wartime shortages and were classified as "military" secrets. At the same time, exploration for new sources of petroleum remained a priority. Phillips was the first company to drill a well "out of sight of land," which paved the way for offshore production. In 1946, Phillips began foreign exploration, drilling its first well in Venezuela. In 1948, Phillips Petroleum formed a new subsidiary, Phillips Chemical Company. The chemical branch would be responsible for the invention of polyethylene plastics in the 1950s, and for the discovery and development of a new process to produce high-density polyethylene resins.

Frank Phillips served as president of Phillips Petroleum from its creation in 1917 until 1939. At that time, he "retired" to the position of chairman of the board of directors. In that capacity, he continued to run the company until 1949. The Frank Phillips Home is currently the only National Register listed property associated with this important figure in the oil industry. The old headquarters of Phillips Petroleum is located outside the boundaries of the listed Downtown Bartlesville Historic District and significant additions/alterations to the original building have destroyed its integrity. Other associated properties include the Woolaroc Ranch in nearby Osage County, the country residence of the Phillips Family. A National Register eligible property, Woolaroc Ranch was designed for Phillips "as a sanctuary from the business world, as a 'back-to-nature plan' to regain fundamentals necessary to a happy life, as a conservation area for the preservation of endangered western animals, and as a place to entertain, and to aid him in concluding business deals." The Woolaroc Ranch is rustic in design, a style very different from the neoclassical residence designed for Phillips in residential Bartlesville. The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is an architectural showpiece, reflective of the most productive period in the life of Mr. Phillips and of the importance of Phillips Petroleum to the community and to the state.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> *Daily Oklahoman*, November 17, 1942.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Cathy Ambler, "Woolaroc Ranch Historic District National Register Nomination," Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, OK, 2008.

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### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is an outstanding local example of the neoclassical style. Walter Everman, a local architect who designed many of the larger businesses and residences in Bartlesville during the early years of the 20th century, originally drew the plans for the Frank and Jane Phillips Home. Beyond that, little is known about his background or other contributions. The person responsible for the 1917 renovations is also unknown and there are no drawings dating to that period. The major renovations in 1930 were designed by Edward Buehler Delk, renowned Kansas City architect whose Oklahoma works include the Villa Philbrook and the Philtower for the Waite Phillips family in Tulsa, as well as the original Hillcrest Country Club and houses for H.V. Foster (La Quinta, NR Listed 7/15/1982), Paul F. Dahlgren, and John H. Kane (925 SE Cherokee) in Bartlesville. Arthur Gorman, head of a locally prominent construction firm that remains in business in Bartlesville today, was in charge of renovation construction. Although the house was significantly altered at that time, those alterations have since achieved their own historic significance. A locally notable architect designed the Frank and Jane Phillips Home, with subsequent renovations designed by a nationally known architect.

The city of Bartlesville possesses an outstanding collection of early twentieth century revival style architecture. This includes several examples of the neoclassical style, popular in the United States between 1895 and 1950. The neoclassical style homes in the Bartlesville area, the most notable are located in the vicinity of the Frank and Jane Phillips Home. These include the Phillips Home, the Keys Home at 916 SE Cherokee Avenue, and a residence at 1119 S Johnstone Avenue. The Keys home is a front-gabled roof example of the neoclassical style. This residence, built in 1915 for a locally prominent family, is an outstanding example of that subtype. However, the integrity of the property is questionable because of the apparent replacement of some or all of the historic wood windows. 1119 S Johnstone Avenue is an outstanding example of the full-height entry porch with lower full-width porch subtype of the neoclassical style, the same subtype as the Frank and Jane Phillips Home. The home was built in 1909. However, both 1119 S Johnstone Avenue and the Keys home differ substantially from the Phillips Home in terms of scale and materials. 1119 S Johnstone Avenue and the Keys home are smaller in size and more modest in materials. These homes are clad in wood siding and have fewer exterior decorative details. The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is the most outstanding local example of the neoclassical style.

<sup>8</sup> No original blueprints have been located at this time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Daily Oklahoman, March 21, 1994; For a brief discussion of the life and works of Edward Buehler Delk, see https://kclibrary.org/localhistory/media.cfm?mediaID=34795 for a brief biography by Susan Jezak Ford.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>For a more thorough discussion of architectural styles and types found in Bartlesville, see Kelli Gaston, "Bartlesville Reconnaissance Level Survey 2007," Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office, Oklahoma City, OK, 2007.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Knopf, 1984), 343.

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### **SUMMARY**

The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is a Bartlesville landmark, a legacy to the late Frank and Jane Phillips and the oil empire he created. It is also an architectural showpiece, designed by notable architects using quality materials to create a high style residence. The Frank and Jane Phillips Home is also the best, intact example of a large-scale neoclassical style home in the community. The National Register of Historic Places listing for the Frank and Jane Phillips Home should be amended to include the local architectural significance of the property.

NPS Form 10-900a (Rev. 8/86)

#### OMB No. 1024-0018

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### **GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Lots 1 to 6 inclusive Block 3 of the Pemberton Heights Addition to the City of Bartlesville.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The boundaries include all of the property historically associated with the Frank and Jane Phillips Home.

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### **PHOTOGRAPH LOG**

The following information pertains to photograph numbers 1-10:

Photographer: Kelli Gaston
Date of Photographs: February 2008

Negatives: TIFF files at OK SHPO

Printed with: Epson Ultra Chrome Printer on Epson Premium Presentation Paper

Matte

No.	Subject	Dir.	Date
0001	Façade	W	February 2008
0002	Entry Detail	W	February 2008
0003	West Elevation	E	February 2008
0004	North and West Elevation	SE	February 2008
0005	Interior Detail		February 2008
0006	Interior Detail		February 2008
0007	Gazebo	N	February 2008
8000	Gardener's House	W	February 2008
0009	Greenhouse	W	February 2008
0010	Potting Shed	E	February 2008