

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

811

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	AUG 1 1979
DATE ENTERED	OCT 4 1979

**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

Indian Citizen Building

HISTORIC

Indian Citizen (to 1905): (Atoka Citizen-Democrat Newspaper Office)

AND/OR COMMON

Atoka Citizen-Democrat

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

115 North Ohio Ave.

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Atoka

VICINITY OF

003

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Oklahoma

40

Atoka

005

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

___PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

___YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___NO

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert Bonner

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 160

CITY, TOWN

Atoka

VICINITY OF

STATE

OK

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Atoka County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Atoka County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Atoka

STATE

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

Oklahoma City

STATE

OK

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Atoka Indian Citizen building is a two-story rectangular structure of pointed red brick. Twenty-five feet wide by sixty feet long, the building is adjoined on both sides by similar buildings. The front facade consists of four 1 arched windows above two large storefront windows. The interior is cramped, and 2 dark. The first floor contains the equipment which is currently in use for newspaper production. Most of it dates from the nineteenth century. The type is all set by hand, and one press dates from 1889. The second floor houses a complete set of files and some unused equipment.

Both the interior and the exterior of the Atoka Indian Citizen retain almost perfectly the appearance and character of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1889

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. S. Standley

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Atoka Indian Citizen, founded in 1889, was the most influential newspaper in the Atoka area and was the first to espouse a Choctaw point of view. It is significant because of the information it provided to the Choctaw population and because of the longevity of that service, as well as for its retention of original equipment.

The Indian Citizen was founded by the politically influential Choctaw, James S. Standley and his son-in-law, Butler S. Smiser. Their express purpose was to represent Choctaw interests which they believed were consistently misrepresented by other papers. The Indian Citizen was first published on March 2, 1889 as an eight-page weekly. The paper printed local and United States news in both English and Choctaw. Editorial policy was strongly pro-Choctaw, and laws concerning Choctaws were published. Circulation reached over 1,000 by 1891 and over 3,000 by 1900. Contemporaries praised the Indian Citizen for the quality of its equipment and product.

In 1905, after the death of Standley, the paper was merged with the Atoka Democrat and the Atoka Citizen-Democrat was formed. Housed in the original offices, the newspaper continued to support Indian interests. B. R. Cook took over as owner and editor in 1912 and held those positions until very recently. The Atoka Citizen-Democrat survives to date and publication continues in the same building with much of the original equipment.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Foreman, Caroline Thomas, Oklahoma Imprints, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1936, p. 140
Chronicles of Oklahoma, V. 21, 1943, p. 199-201, "Necrologies: Butler Stonestreet Smiser, 1862-1942."

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Under 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Stringtown, OK

QUADRANGLE SCALE 7.5'

UTM REFERENCES 3808
 14 A 15 | 764400 | 3808460
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C | |
 E | |
 G | |

B | |
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D | |
 F | |
 H | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The S 25' of the N 65' of Lot 5, Block 26, 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

Terri Raney, Supervised by Dr. Annetta L. Cheek

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey

March, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Oklahoma State University

(405) 624-5678

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Stillwater

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

TITLE

DATE

Kerry L. Simpson M.D.

7-16-79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Alan Skell

DATE

10-4-79

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Bob Groves

DATE

10/4/79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION