

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received **JAN - 5 1984**  
date entered

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

**1. Name**

historic LANEY, J. D., HOUSE

and/or common Same

**2. Location**

*SW of Frederick*

street & number 3 1/2 mi West and 3 1/2 mi South of Sec 34, T2S, R18W not for publication N/A

city, town Frederick *vic*  vicinity of

state Oklahoma code 40 county Tillman code 141

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<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"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
	<u>N/A</u> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Roger L. and Nancy Heap

street & number Rural Route #1, Box 114

city, town Frederick  vicinity of state Oklahoma 73542

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Tillman County Courthouse

street & number Gladstone and Main Street

city, town Frederick state Oklahoma 73542

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Oklahoma Comprehensive Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date March 1, 1983  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Preservation Office, Oklahoma Historical Society

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma 73105

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent  
 good - **VAL**  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The Laney House is a one-story, stone home built in 1928 and 1929 by John David Laney as the main house on his farm. The house was built of various types of native stone including rough granite, polished granite, sandstone, and limestone. The bungalow style house has four gables on the north and south sides, a large fireplace in the northeast corner, and 18 inch thick walls. The roof is of intersecting gables with cement asbestos shingles. The gables have a return cornice design which is an unusual feature. Gable ends are closed with rock walls all the way up to the gable peaks, while the family name, Laney, is spelled out with a stone letter in the wall of each gable around the house: "L" on the Northeast gable, "A" on the base of the chimney, "N" on the northwest gable, "E" on the southwest gable, and "Y" on the southeast gable.

A stone wall of similar construction about 4 feet high and capped with limestone slabs encloses the front yard of the home. The wall has large granite cobblestones along the top approximately 20 feet apart. The main passage through the stone wall has a massive flat stone arch, the whole roughly 15 feet high buttressed each side. The sides of the passage have light colored limestone quoins which are repeated on all the corners of the main house exterior, on the chimney, and on the four stone columns that support the front porch. The windows of the house have six over one lights.

The interior of the house has much of the original floors, woodwork, fireplace, and glass doorknobs. The interior walls have been painted and roughened to resemble flagstone rocks similar to the exterior of the house. The fireplace has a central stone from Italy, engraved with a scene of a covered wagon pulled by oxen. The house has a basement with a 60 foot long tunnel leading to a concrete cellar. The work on the house and cellar was done by Mr. Laney, the concrete being mixed and poured by hand.

About 150 feet north of the house is Prairie Springs, a popular camp site of Indians and white hunters during the years before Oklahoma statehood. The spring was dammed to create a small lake before the stone house was built and this lake was used by local churches during early settlement period for picnics and baptisms. It was not uncommon for several churches to hold baptism services in different corners of this lake on the same Sunday morning.

Mr. Laney died in 1942, and the house was sold several times. About 1979 some remodeling was done on the interior walls and the back porch was closed in. However, the original appearance of the house is large identical to the original construction and the house is in excellent condition.

## 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/ 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1928–29      **Builder/Architect** J. D. Laney

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The J. D. Laney House is significant for its unusual architectural style.

John David Laney, designer and builder of the nominated structure, came to what is now southwestern Oklahoma in 1900. After years of living in a dugout and other crude structures, Laney designed this bungalow, and he and his family constructed it. The structure is best described as "folk architecture". While there are many stone houses in southwestern Oklahoma, the Laney House is quite unique because of its use of a variety of native stones, the letters worked into the gables, the use of light and dark stones for a decorative effect, and the use of round "cobble stones" to cap posts in the surrounding fence.

The house is a one-of-a-kind structure in southwestern Oklahoma and is in excellent condition.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Maxwell, Carolyn (editor)  
 1976 History of Tillman County Vol. I. Tillman County Historical Society, pp. 392-393, Frederick, Oklahoma.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property One acre approx.

Quadrangle name Frederick, Okla.-Tex 1958

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UTM References

A	<u>14</u>	<u>493250</u>	<u>3799550</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property is located in a square area in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 34, T2S, R18W, as follows: From the far SW corner of Sec 34, go 1780 ft N. to starting point. Then go 200 ft. N., then 200 ft. E., then 200 ft. S., and then 200 ft. W. to starting point.

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

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title John D. Northcutt

organization Museum of the Great Plains date March 1, 1983

street & number 6th & Ferris, P.O. Box 68 telephone (405) 353-5675

city or town Lawton state Oklahoma 73502

## 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. W. Peters date 12/15/83

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

For NPS use only

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

John Beth Grooms date 2/3/84  
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date