

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 or by entering the information requested. If any 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.

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1. Name of Property

historical name Fulbright, Thomas, House

other names/site number N/A

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2. Location

street & number 75 South Matilda Street not for publication
city or town Florence vicinity
state Arizona code 05 county Pinal code 021 zip code 82352

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

James W. Brown ASST PD 26 AUGUST 1996
Signature of certifying official Date

ARIZONA STATE PARKS
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
 National Register
 ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
 National Register
- removed from the National Register

- other (explain): _____

Paul B. Pugni 10/4/96

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

=====

5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u> buildings
-----	----- sites
-----	----- structures
-----	----- objects
<u> 2 </u>	<u> 1 </u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

 N/A

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: concrete

roof: clay tile

exterior walls: adobe with stucco finish

window type: Fenestra metal casement with screens (1929)

perimeter wall: adobe with stucco finish

interior doors: hand crafted; crystal door knobs

Narrative Description (See continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B. removed from its original location.
- C. a birthplace or a grave.
- D. a cemetery.
- E. a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F. a commemorative property.
- G. less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance 1933-1946

Significant Dates 1933-34

Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder Archie Bartlett

Narrative Statement of Significance (See continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bibliography

Conversations with Edna Fulbright and her daughter, Nancy Jones, in February 1992 by Robert Robb.

Historic Homes of Phoenix: An Architectural and Preservation Guide. City of Phoenix, 1992.

Sobin, Harris J. Florence Townsite, A.T. Report Prepared by Harris J. Sobin Associates for the Town of Florence and The Industrial Development Authority, May 1977.

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- 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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property .6 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>12</u>	<u>464200</u>	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:
Douglas Addition, Florence, Lots 6, 7, 8, Block 1
Section 1, Township 5 South, Range 9 East

Boundary Justification:
The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the residence.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Robert E. Robb (Expansion and editing by Nancy R. Smith and SHPO Staff)

organization _____ date _____

street & number _____ telephone 520-868-6752

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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Additional Documentation
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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner
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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Mr. and Mrs. Luke Brown

street & number Box 2222 telephone 520-868-5474

city or town Florence, state Az zip code 85232

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

Fulbright, Thomas, House
name of property
Pinal County, Arizona
county and State

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Section 7. Narrative Description

The Fulbright House is a modest one-story stuccoed adobe, built in 1933-34, in Spanish Colonial Revival style. Built on a rectangular plan, the house has high integrity and is one of the only examples of its style in the community and is unique in its use of site materials. Constructed on a three-lot parcel in the central Arizona town of Florence, the house was built on a poured concrete foundation, forming a three-room basement. The earth from the basement excavation was used to construct the adobe blocks for the exterior walls. All the doors and woodwork in the house were custom made on the site.

Although the house lacks some characteristic Spanish Colonial Revival features such as semicircular arches and pergolas, it has the basic stuccoed wall and red tile roof appearance of the style. Plain white exterior walls contrast pleasantly with the red-orange colored curved clay tiles of the moderate pitched gabled roof. A prominent chimney on the south side of the house rises ten feet above the roof and is topped by exposed flue tiles. Decorative round tile pipes, in groups of three, are placed in the gables for attic ventilation. The exterior steel casement windows, enhanced by period dark green awnings, have the 1929 patent seal of their Fenestra Brand construction and all the original brass and copper hardware. The front door is a heavy, thick planked batten, custom door with an oval top and original hardware.

The interior walls are framed in wood and covered with lath and plaster. There are twenty-two interior doors, all with original glass and original brass hardware. Light fixtures throughout the house are also original and are in excellent condition.

A kitchen was added to the south side of the house in 1953 with special attention to compatibility of materials and integrity of the original roof line and style. Henry Jaastad of Tucson drew the plans for the addition. Jaastad, who designed the St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson, is well known for his architectural work in Arizona.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 2

Fulbright, Thomas, House
name of property
Pinal County, Arizona
county and State

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Attached to the south side of the house and extending around the immediate back yard is a five-foot, stuccoed, adobe block wall that was constructed in the summer of 1934. On the north side of the house are two separate, single car garages. The garage closest to the house is adobe and was built at the same time the house was constructed. The newer garage is compatible in appearance and setback. The concrete driveway is also original and has an interesting feature designed by the owner for his wife: the center is slightly raised to assist her in backing the automobile out of the long driveway.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 3

Fulbright, Thomas, House
name of property
Pinal County, Arizona
county and State

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built as a private residence for a prominent attorney, the Fulbright House is historically significant under Criterion C as a fine example of the architecture, craftsmanship, and materials used in the construction of Spanish Colonial Revival style houses in Arizona in the first half of the twentieth century. Since its construction in Florence, Arizona, in 1933-34, the house has had only three owners, all preserving and maintaining the building's original materials and craftsmanship.

The county seat of Pinal County, Florence is located in the central section of the state, near the Gila River, one of Arizona's major streams. It was settled in the late 1860s after the Civil War, and was prominent during Arizona's early Territorial period. Florence began with great promise, survived a silver mining "boom and bust" period in the late nineteenth century, endured economic decline as population moved away from the Middle Gila River, and stabilized as an agricultural center after canal irrigation began. Also, Arizona Territorial Prison was relocated to Florence in 1909 and has been a major employer in the community to the present time.

For a number of reasons, Florence has retained the fabric of a Territorial town supplemented by good examples of almost every building tradition or architectural style utilized during Arizona's Territorial and early statehood days. The Fulbright House depicts in a modest way the Spanish Colonial Revival Style, one of the several period revival designs that appeared in Florence between 1913 and 1949. An elaboration of the earlier, simpler Mission style, Spanish Colonial Revival architecture was first exhibited before the American public at the 1915 Panama Pacific Exposition in San Diego. During the 1920s, it became very popular in Arizona, as well as in the other Spanish Borderland states of California, Texas, and Florida, and was a major feature of some Arizona cities. The Fulbright House is the best extant example in Florence of this important style, reminiscent of the deliberate early twentieth century attempt to link American homes to exotic places and times.

Thomas and Edna Fulbright, the first owners of the house, moved to Florence in 1929 when Mr. Fulbright, an attorney, accepted a position as deputy for Pinal County Attorney, Ernest McFarland. After Mr. McFarland was defeated in the 1932 election, he and Mr. Fulbright formed a law partnership. The new partnership received national recognition in April 1933 as the defense attorneys representing the convicted "Trunk Murderess," Winnie Ruth Judd. Judd was scheduled to be executed at the Arizona State Prison the same month as her sanity hearing. Fulbright and McFarland's defense of the alleged murderess was instrumental in having her death sentence commuted to hospitalization for insanity at the Arizona State Hospital. Over her thirty years confinement, Winnie Ruth Judd escaped numerous times from the Arizona State Hospital. She successfully lived in hiding in California for many years before her sentence was eventually commuted in 1971. The Judd case has continued to attract attention and a widely-acclaimed new book was published in 1993.

Mr. Fulbright served later as a local judge, the attorney for the Town of Florence, and headed a private law practice that was a prominent one in central Arizona. In 1968, he wrote an autobiography of his life in Arizona entitled, Cow-County Counselor. McFarland who died in 1984 is remembered as an outstanding leader, serving as Governor of Arizona, United States Senator, and Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court.

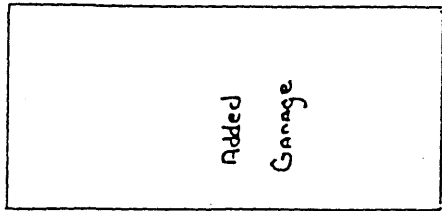
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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

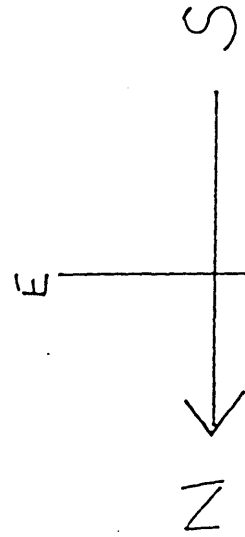
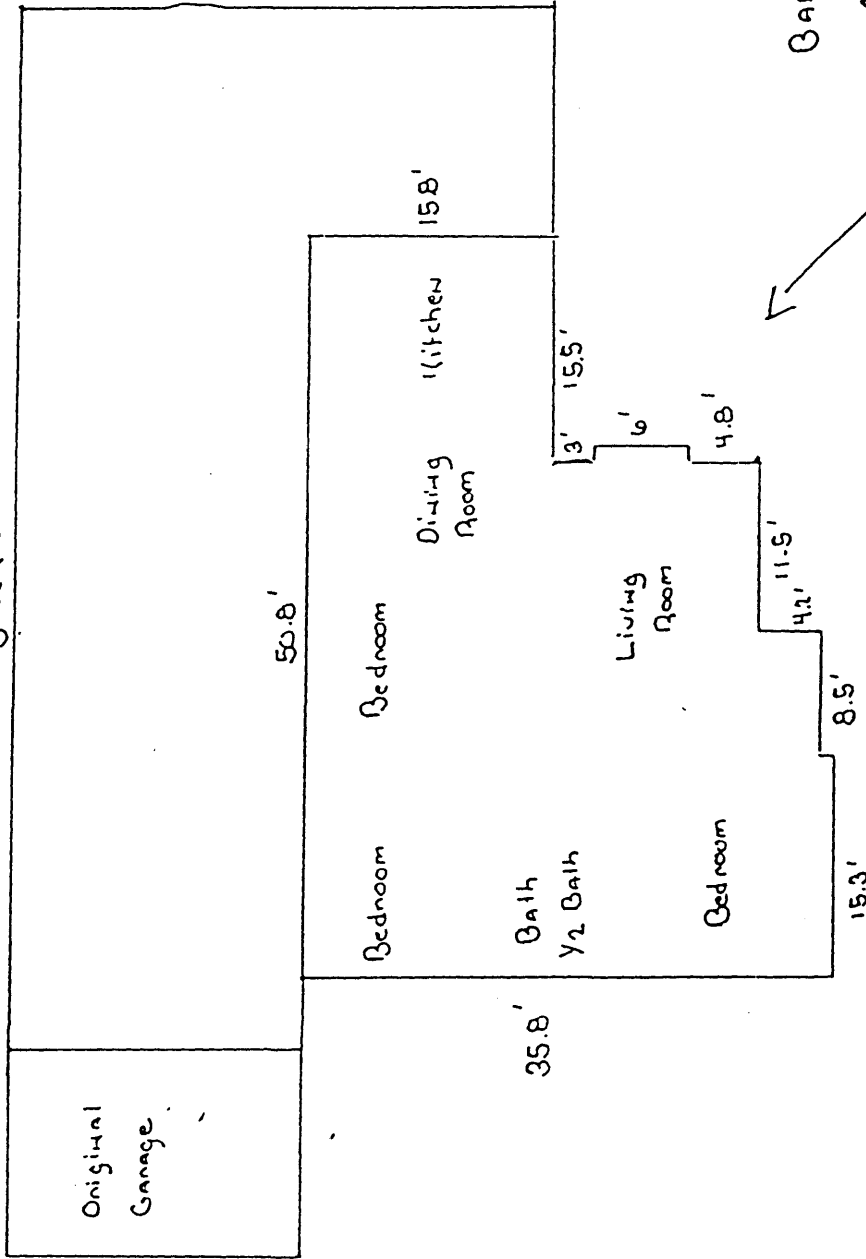
Section 8 Page 4

Fulbright, Thomas, House
name of property
Pinal County, Arizona
county and State

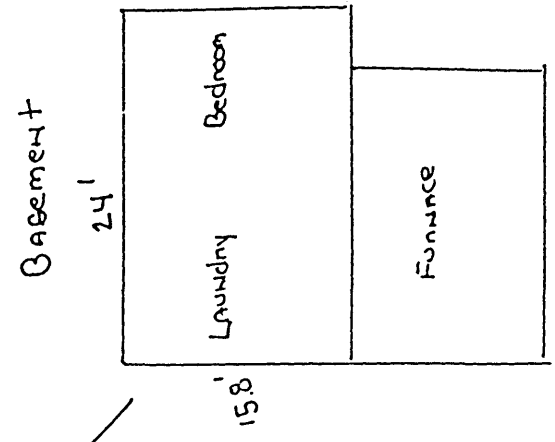
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Construction on the Fulbrights' new house began in the spring of 1933 in spite of the rigors of the Great Depression. The architectural plans had been ordered by Mr. and Mrs. Fulbright from the Architect's Small House Bureau of the American Institute of Architecture. They contracted with a local rancher and cotton farmer, Archie Bartlett, to construct the house. Later that year, after being elected Pinal County Treasurer, Mr. Bartlett transferred completion of the project to another person. The Fulbrights moved into the house on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1934.

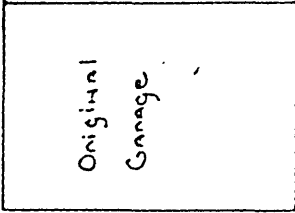
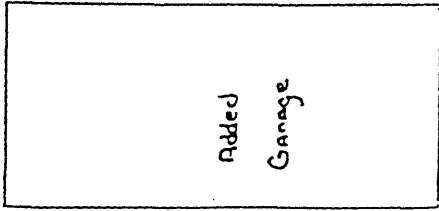


Adobe Block wall

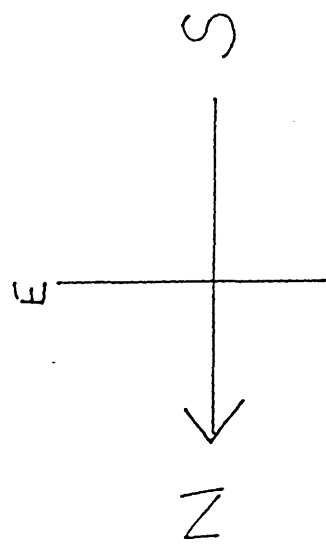
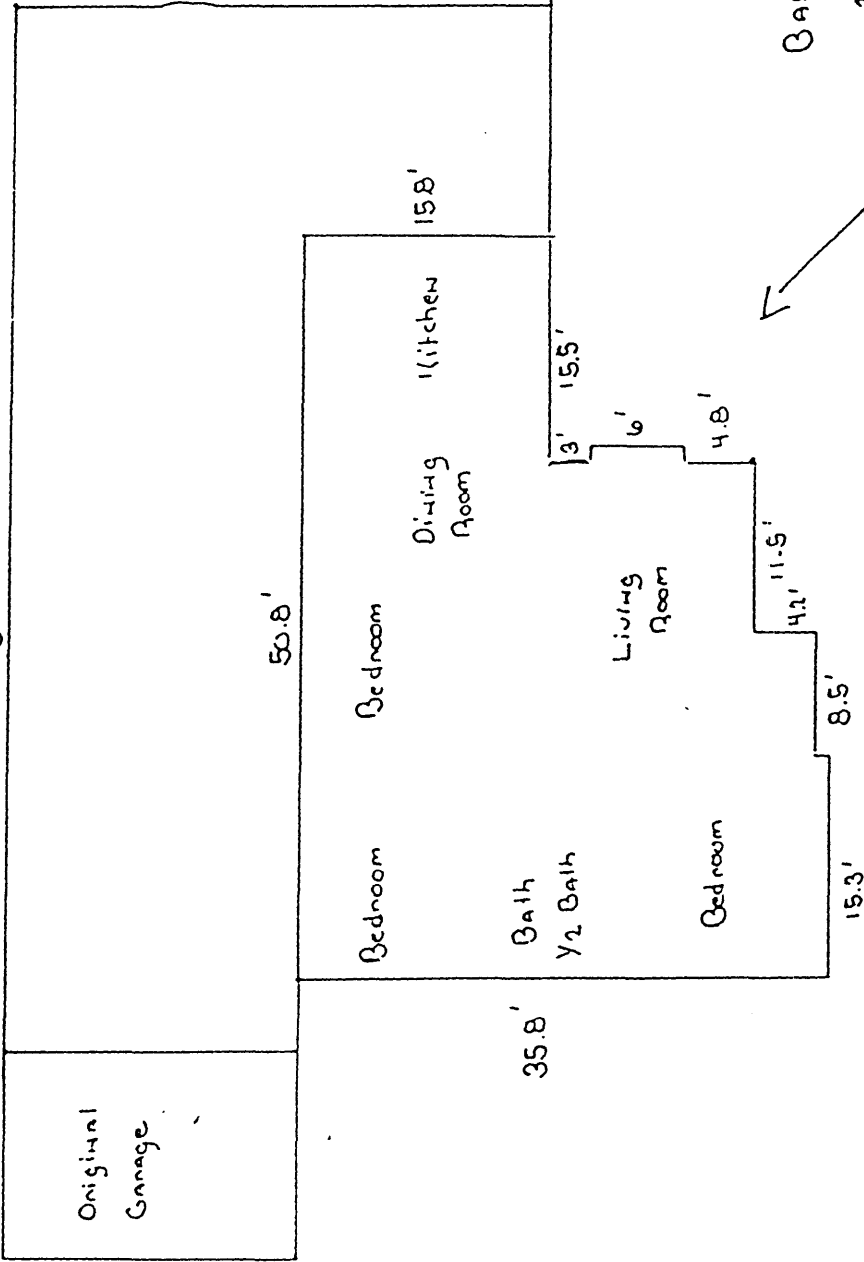


Fulbright House
Florence, AZ





Adobe Block wall



Fulbright House
Florence, AZ

