OMB NO. 1024-0010 EXP. 10/31/84

**United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** 

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only	
UN 1 3 1983	
received	
date entered	

1. Nam	le			
historic I.C	O.O.F. Building of B	Buffalo		
and/or common	Harper County Jour	mal Office		
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	110 W. Turner 5	÷,	N/A	_ not for publication
city, town	Buffalo	N/A vicinity of	congressional-district.	
state	Oklahoma cod	e 40 county	Harper	<b>code</b> 059
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _X_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition M in process UH being considered	Status  X occupied  unoccupied  work in progress  Accessible  yes: restricted  X yes: unrestricted  no	Present Use agricultureX commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
name 100F L				
	c/o George Springe			
	ation of Lega	N/A vicinity of		klahoma
	stry of deeds, etc. Count	<del></del>		
street & number	Harper County Cou			
city, town Buff			state O	klahoma
	resentation	in Existing	Surveys	
i <b>tie</b> Oklahom	a Landmarks Invento	ry has this pro	operty been determined eligi	ble?yes _X_n
1982			federal state	county loca
depository for su	rvey records Oklah	oma Historic Preser	vation Survey OSU	

Condition X excellent good	deteriorated	Check one  X unaltered altered	Check one _X_ original site moved date _	
fair	unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Description

The 100F/Harper County Journal Building is a 100' x 25' two story, red brick, plains commercial building constructed in 1917. The facade of the building is flanked by two pillaster strips extending to form part of the battlement that is outlined by a three-row, stepped, yellow brick course at the top of the building. Yellow brick is also used for other decorative details on the facade, including: 1) the squares abutting each side of the top of the second floor windows to give the appearance of eyebrow hoods with 2) the vertical yellow brick course that forms a continuous course and serves as the base of a frieze-like motif above these windows and 3) the three larger squares of brick above this band course.

Above these decorative elements is a projective red brick string course. Stepped brickwork tops the frieze-like motif above the second floor. A double hung sash window with concrete sill flanks each side of the I.O.O.F. sign on the second floor of the facade. The street level storefront of the facade has a corner recessed entry with a squared brick corner column that becomes the pilaster strip bordering the left side of the building. A clearstory extends between the two pilaster strips and caps the entry and display window. A tall, narrow, triple hung sash (2x2x2) window borders the right side of the display window to aid with ventilation. A concrete water table extends to form the floor of the recessed entry and the original brick sidewalk is still in use in front of the building. The other facades are constructed of cheaper, lighter red brick because the original planners expected the neighboring lots to be filled with businesses as the town expanded. The building has had very few alterations in its appearance except for the window air conditioners and the addition of the projecting, neon sign above the storefront, neither of which detract from the historical integrity of the building.

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## 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture X architecture artX commerceX communications	community planning conservation economics education engineering exploration/settlement	landscape architectur law literature military music philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1917–1924	Builder/Architect Unkno	own	

## Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The I.O.O.F. Building and now the offices of the Harper County Journal in Buffalo is an excellently preserved and unaltered example of the austere Plains Commercial style architecture typical of northwest Oklahoma after statehood. In addition, the building is significant as a social center with the I.O.O.F. lodge's meeting hall and as the offices for the oldest newspaper in the county, an important means of disseminating information for the early citizens of the county. As is characteristic of the rural Plains Commercial style the storefront facade is without great detailing and is functional in appearance with a clearstory for added light, a recessed entry protected from the wind and rain, and even a small triple-hung sashed window to aid in ventilation. In addition, this two-story, red brick buildings, constructed in 1917, with vacant lots flanking each side (never constructed upon), forms a prominent part of the streetscape of Buffalo's small business district. The town was established in 1907 to be the county seat (and first town) of Harper County as Oklahoma became a state. Although the other buildings in the central business district have been remodelled, this building maintains its original appearance as one of the few brick structures (and the best preserved structure) in a town originally dubbed "Stone City," for its ordinance requiring fire resistant brick and cement-stone building materials.

Also, the building has housed the local newspaper office since 1922, that due to consolidations is linked back to the first newspaper in the county, the <u>Brule Post</u>, established in 1904 (later the Buffalo Republican). By 1924, two years after a fire in the press office had forced the <u>Republican</u> to move to its new quarters in the new I.O.O.F. Building, the <u>Republican</u> bought out the other major Buffalo paper, the <u>Harper County Democrat</u> (first issued in 1907) to become the <u>Harper County Journal</u>, the present paper and one of only two in the county.

9.	Major	Bibliog	raphical	References
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"Buffalo, Okla." Sandborn Map Co., July 1930 "Fire Map of Buffalo, Harper County, Oklahoma" December, 1907. In Oklahoma Historical Society Records. Interview with Irene Page, Buffalo, June 25, 1982 **Geographical Data** Acreage of nominated property less than one acre Quadrangle name <u>Buffalo</u>, OK 1970 Quadrangle scale 7.5 min. **UMT References** Verbal boundary description and justification Lot 5, Block 127, Miller's Addn, City of Buffalo List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries N/A state code county code N/A state code county code Form Prepared By Supervised by Mary Ann Anders Karen Bode Burths name/title organization Oklahoma Historic Preservation Survey date August 1982 (405) 624-5678 Oklahoma State University street & number telephone 0k1ahoma Stillwater city or town state **State Historic Preservation Officer Certification** The evaluated significance of this property within the state is: national state 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

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

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Sage and Sod; Harper County, Oklahoma, 1885-1974. Volume II. Harper County Historical Society, 1975. pp. 76-88.