

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 28 1979

DATE ENTERED

MAR 3 1980

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Tuton's Drugstore

AND/OR COMMON

John's Grocery Store

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1st and Main

--NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Arcadia

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5

STATE

Oklahoma

VICINITY OF
CODE

40

COUNTY

Oklahoma

CODE

109

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**

DISTRICT
 BUILDING(S)
 STRUCTURE
 SITE
 OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC
 PRIVATE
 BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
 IN PROCESS
 BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED
 UNOCCUPIED
 WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
 YES: RESTRICTED
 YES: UNRESTRICTED
 NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE
 COMMERCIAL
 EDUCATIONAL
 ENTERTAINMENT
 GOVERNMENT
 INDUSTRIAL
 MILITARY
 MUSEUM
 PARK
 PRIVATE RESIDENCE
 RELIGIOUS
 SCIENTIFIC
 TRANSPORTATION
 OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Eula "Toodie" Teuscher

STREET & NUMBER

①

Route 2 Box 215

CITY, TOWN

Edmond

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Oklahoma County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

320 Robert S. Kerr

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Oklahoma County Commercial Sites Survey

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Shirk Collection, Oklahoma City University Library

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE Oklahoma

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT DETERIORATED
 GOOD RUINS
 FAIR UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tuton's Drugstore is a two-story sandstone commercial building measuring 25' x 70'. Although constructed in 1917, the structure's exterior is typical of territorial architecture once common to central Oklahoma Territory. The lower floor is symmetrically designed, with two arched doorways on the southeast corner of the building and two larger arched windows on either side. This balance is repeated on the western half of the south side, with arched windows on either side of a door. A row of symmetrically arranged rectangular windows on the south side visually draw the two sections together. Two arched windows on the second floor of the east side likewise complement the elements on the first level.

All of the windows still have the original double-hung wooden sashes. The heads and sills of the arched windows and the heads of the doors also are sandstone. The voussoirs of the arched windows and entrances are marked by extended keystones. All of the window units are in good condition. On the west end of the building is a wooden staircase leading to an apartment on the second floor. Below this landing is another door. The north side of the building is broken only by a row of rectangular windows. The sandstone is in good condition, having been cleaned in 1978.

The interior has been extensively altered. Wallboard has been placed over the plastered walls and a new ceiling has been added. The original furnishings of the old drugstore have been removed, but they are stored at the owner's house.

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 checked="" 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 **1917-1979** BUILDER/ARCHITECT **Unknown**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tuton's Drugstore is the only surviving commercial structure in the old downtown business district of Arcadia. Although leased to a grocer, the building is still owned by the descendants of the business' original owner, B. F. Tuton. When combined with the architectural value of the sandstone structure, the commercial and familial heritage of Tuton's Drugstore makes the building worthy of preservation.

The land surrounding what is now Arcadia was opened to settlers by the land run of 1889. Although situated in the fertile Deep Fork River Valley, the town of Arcadia before 1900 was merely a post office serving the farmers in the region. Not until the railroad was built to Arcadia in 1903 did the town develop a commercial district. One of the earliest businessmen was Benjamin Franklin Tuton. Tuton had made the land run of 1889, claiming and farming 160 acres of good bottom land. When the railroad connected Arcadia with Oklahoma City, however, Tuton entered the drug business with George Blake. Operating from a small frame building east of Main Street, the Blake and Tuton Drugstore prospered. In 1909 they added a fountain and began selling soft drinks and ice cream. By 1917 wartime prosperity and rising cotton prices were generating new commercial activity for merchants such as Tuton, brightening the hopes of Arcadia's businessmen.

Prompted by this economic boom, the First State Bank of Arcadia purchased the lot at 1st Street and Main for construction of a new building. In the Spring of 1917 construction workers began cutting sandstone on the Ogle farm, which was one mile west and one-quarter mile south of Arcadia. Hauling the stone by horse and wagon, the workers erected the two-story building on the west side of Main Street. The resulting structure with arched doorways and windows was typical of architectural styles which had been popular in central Oklahoma since the early 1890s.

The bank occupied the building for less than two years, however, before selling to the prospering firm of Blake and Tuton for \$3,400. By that time Tuton's two sons had returned from military service. Roy was a barber; the other son, Thomas,

(cont.)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Edmond Booster (Edmond, Oklahoma), August 12, 1976, p. 3.
Remember Arcadia (Arcadia, Oklahoma: Arcadia Reminiscence Association, 1978), throughout.
 Interview with Toodie Teuscher, granddaughter of B. F. Tuton, August 14, 1979.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM NOT VERIFIED

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Circa 1 acre
 QUADRANGLE NAME Arcadia, Oklahoma ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 4	6 5 1 6 0 5	3 9 4 7 6 8 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point 12' southeast of the building, proceed 90' west along the street to a point 10' beyond the southwest corner

(cont.)

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

Dr. Bob L. Blackburn, Project Director

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma County Historical Society

DATE

August 15, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

3801 N. Shartel

TELEPHONE

405-528-5091

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

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

[Signature]

TITLE

DATE

12/11/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature]

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

March 3, 1980

ATTEST:

[Signature]

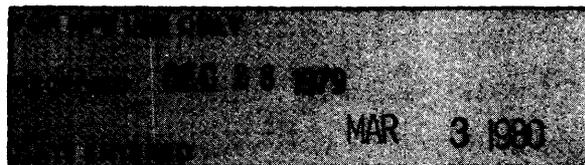
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

2/27/80

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CONTINUATION SHEET 1 ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

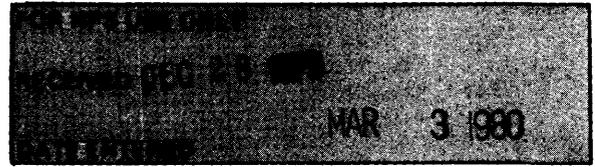
helped his father with the drugstore. In 1921 B. F. Tuton purchased Blake's half of the business, whereupon Thomas entered into partnership with his father. Thomas and his wife Ethel then moved into the apartment above the store.

In June of 1924 disaster struck Arcadia when a fire destroyed every commercial structure on the east side of town; the only permanent building in town surviving the holocaust was the Tuton and Son Drugstore. The disaster compounded problems besetting the small town, for the cotton industry had been declining since 1920 and urbanization was just beginning to take its toll. Tuton's Drugstore continued, however, operated by Thomas, Ethel, and their only child, Eula, better known as Toodie. After Thomas' death in 1934, Ethel kept the drugstore open until 1941, when the task became too great. The store sat empty until 1945 when it was leased to a grocer. Today, the store is still occupied by a leasee. Despite the demise of Tuton's Drugstore, Ethel Tuton retained ownership of the sandstone building. In 1979, at the age of eighty, she still resides in the second floor apartment. Her daughter, who now lives in Edmond, has preserved the original fountain, furniture, cash register, and scales from the old drug store, awaiting the day when the drugstore might again serve the citizens of Arcadia.

Continuous family ownership and local commercial significance are not the only reasons to preserve the structure, for it is only one of three sandstone commercial structures surviving in Oklahoma County. The practise of cutting local sandstone for commercial buildings was once common in central Oklahoma, where formations of soft sandstone appear near the earth's surface; the advent of cheap factory-fired brick, the development of more efficient transportation, and the rising cost of local labor, however, destroyed the economic incentives for using locally cut sandstone. Thus, sandstone for the past sixty to seventy years has been used rarely. The presence of this rare building material, when combined with the simple but balanced design of the structure, makes Tuton's Drugstore building worthy of preservation.

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CONTINUATION SHEET 2

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

of the building. Then proceed 45' through the backyard to a point 10' beyond the northwest corner of the building. Then proceed 90' east through a vacant lot to the curb on Main Street, which is 10' beyond the northeast corner of the building. Then proceed 45' along the curb to the point of departure.