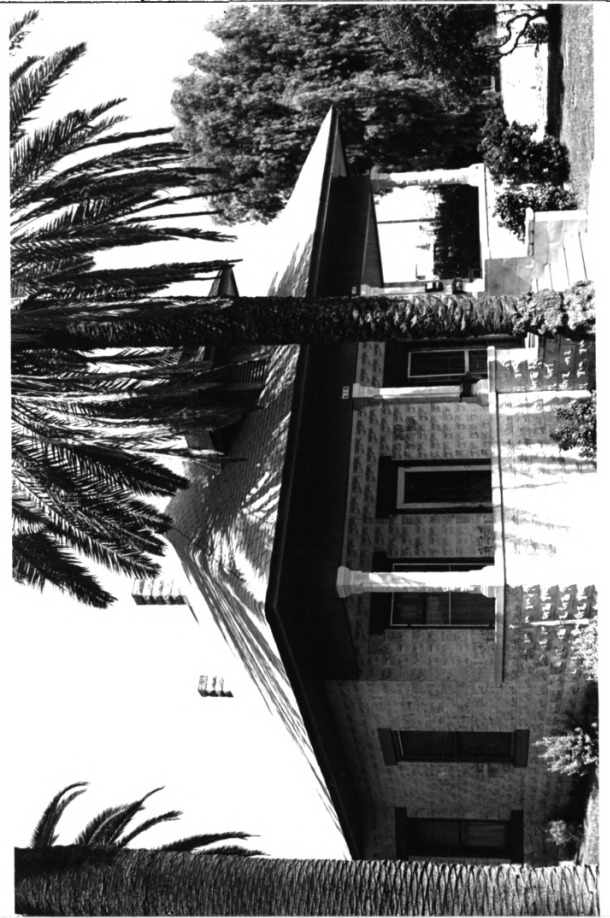


ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

HISTORIC PROPERTY NAME <i>Concrete Block House</i> ✓		COUNTY ✓ Maricopa	INVENTORY NO. BP-201 (S)
COMMON PROPERTY NAME		QUAD/COUNTY MAP Phoenix Quad	
PROPERTY LOCATION-STREET & NO. ✓ 618-- 620 North 4th Avenue			
CITY, TOWN/VICINITY OF Phoenix ✓		ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NO. 111-39-29	
OWNER OF PROPERTY Robert R. Frankeberger		PHONE 254-3512	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 763 East Moreland			
CITY, TOWN Phoenix		STATE ✓ Arizona	ZIP 85006
FORM PREPARED BY Gerald A. Doyle & Associates		DATE August 1982	
STREET & NO./P.O. BOX 4331 North 12th Street		PHONE 264-3082	
CITY, TOWN Phoenix		STATE Arizona	ZIP 85014
PHOTO BY Robert Graham		DATE August 1982	
VIEW Toward NW			
HISTORIC USE Single family residence			
PRESENT USE Multi-family residence		ACREAGE Less/Acre	
ARCHITECT/BUILDER			
CONSTRUCTION/MODIFICATION DATES Constructed ca. 1906			



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The 1½-story bungalow at 618-620 North 4th Avenue is noteworthy for its architectural design and construction materials. It has a typical bungalow plan configuration with a porch along its entire street facade. A hipped roof covers the main portion of the house and the porch. Over the porch, the roof is carried on a classical architrave, which is supported by four square columns with bases and capitals derived from the Tuscan Order. The street-side roof plane has a hipped dormer with louvered ventilators. The porch is enclosed with a solid railing and is reached by steps flanked with stepped cheek blocks. Originally a single-family dwelling, this building has been modified for multi-family use. At the rear is a jumble of wood-frame elements, parts of which probably incorporate original construction. The window and door openings are rectangular and have projecting concrete lintels; the windows have projecting concrete sills. Windows are the double-hung type, and those on the porch have diamond-shaped, beveled-glass lights. The building has Neoclassical-derived proportions and details. The mass-produced, cast concrete masonry units, made to simulate stone, are particularly noteworthy. They are used, typically, in the wall construction and are laid in a running bond. Special units, which are stacked, are utilized in the porch columns. The column capitals and bases are also precast concrete elements. Constructed in 1906, this building demonstrates an early, successful building method utilizing factory-produced elements and is an especially noteworthy element in the streetscape.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY

This cottage is architecturally significant for its use of precast concrete block simulating rusticated stone. Although the use of concrete block at the turn of the century was not uncommon, this house, and its twin at 614 N. 4th Avenue, is one of the few remaining examples of concrete block in Phoenix. Moreover, it is one of the earliest to use this construction material. The house was apparently constructed ca. 1906, although some secondary sources suggest a ca. 1901 construction date. In 1906, the Phoenix Artificial Stone and Cement Company was apparently manufacturing concrete block made to simulate rusticated stone. Other manufacturers may also have been in the area, as concrete block machines were available through the Sears, Roebuck & Company catalogue. Precast concrete block was promoted as "better and cheaper" than brick or stone and was valued for its insulating and fire resistant qualities. As many as fourteen block designs were available from Sears. The design used on this cottage was labeled "Standard Rock Face." As one of the earliest known and few extant examples in Phoenix of a house constructed entirely of concrete block, this house appears eligible to the National Register at the local level of significance.

SOURCES OF ABOVE INFORMATION/BIBLIOGRAPHY

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for the City of Phoenix Planning Department, 1979.
- Maricopa County Assessor's Records.
- Maricopa County Recorder's Records.
- Phoenix City Directories.
- Sanborn Insurance Maps.
- Schroeder, Joseph J. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 1908 Catalogue No. 117. Chicago:
Follett Publishing Company, 1969.
- Woodward, Jim. Personal communication, 1982.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA/LEGAL DESCRIPTION/VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

BLOCK E, LOT 10, BENNETT PLACE.

GENERAL COMMENTS/FUTURE PLANS FOR PROPERTY

650 North 1st Avenue
Charles H. Dunlap House
BP-61 (S)

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION (Continued)

masonry openings are rectangular. The main entrance door element is contained in an arched opening; it consists of the door proper, flanking sidelights, and a transom. The upper half of the door and the transom have a number of beveled glass lights. The building has a basement. This Mission Revival style house makes a significant architectural contribution to the street scene.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/HISTORY (Continued)

to the settlement of the arid desert. Now known as the Crystal Ice and Cold Storage Company, it is the largest ice company in the state. In 1911, Dunlap and Baker bought half interest, and later (1915) full interest, in the Phoenix Wood and Coal Company. This company played an important role in supplying the domestic fuel needs of Phoenixians. In 1913, the firm pioneered the sale of fuel oil in Phoenix. From 1916-1919, Dunlap served as Phoenix City Commissioner.

For its outstanding architectural qualities, construction material, and association with local entrepreneur Charles H. Dunlap, the house is locally significant.