

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

PH0674729

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 10 1979
DATE ENTERED MAY 11 1980

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Buffalo Lodge

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge

CITY, TOWN

Cache

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6

STATE

Oklahoma

CODE

40

COUNTY

Comanche

CODE

031

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: *(if applicable)*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Bob Karges, Manager)

STREET & NUMBER

Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge

CITY, TOWN

Cache

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma 73527

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Comanche County Court House
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Lawton

STATE

Oklahoma 73501

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge Survey

DATE

May 1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Historic Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma 73105

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Buffalo Lodge" is 42' x 25'-8" with screened porches at the south end of each living unit. The main entrance of the building is recessed and has the words "Buffalo Lodge" formed in the concrete lintel above double doors.

Exterior walls are structural cobblestone masonry which support wood roof framing. The roof deck is covered with composition shingles including the dormer roof above the main entrance. The dormer window is for the bedroom in the 1 1/2 story portion of the larger apartment.

When the building no longer served as a one family residence it was remodeled into apartments; one apartment being larger with the second level bedroom, the other being only a one bedroom unit.

Tall concrete chimneys serve each apartment while a tall brick masonry encloses the flues for the back-to-back kitchens. This structure is also unusual because of the monolithic appearance of the concrete frame evidenced by the foundations turning up into corner posts which then turn horizontally to form a frame to support roof rafters. The screened-in porches, very common in this part of Oklahoma, provided a cool space free of mosquitos, flies and other insects, and resisted attempts of raccoons, possum, skunks and other small animals to gain entry.

Sand for the concrete was taken directly from deposits in the creek-bed and consisted of coarse decomposed granite which lends a warm tone to the finished material.

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 checked="" 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 1913 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank Rush, Sr. / None

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Before Europeans reached the territory which is now Oklahoma, the Wichita people inhabited the area containing the Wichita Mountains. In the last quarter of the nineteenth century the Kiowa and Comanche tribes were moved to a reservation in this same area. As it became evident that the frontier was closing, white settlers increased their demands for the opening of Indian lands. This portion of the Wichita Mountains was not broken up for settlement, however, as the leases of the grazing land to Texas cattlemen prevented this.

At the turn of the century the efforts of the Oklahoma City Commercial Club, with its many influential civic leaders, persuaded the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation to support conservation endeavors for the Wichita Mountains. The area was proclaimed the Wichita Forest Reserve in 1901, and a National Game Preserve in 1905.

Buffalo Lodge, one of the oldest structures on what is now the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, was built by the Forest Service in 1913 by Frank Rush. It served as the Reserve-Preserve office building for many years until it was used as a residence by the Rush family. The building is located in the residential area of Refuge Headquarters among the oak and cedar trees native to the locale.

The architecture of the Buffalo Lodge is a style that was popular for this region at the time of its construction. The cobblestone was a material that was readily available from the land so its incorporation in exterior walls was extensively used by builders. Because of the cobblestones use for buildings in this area, the structures tend to strongly blend with the surroundings and become organic in their character.

Buffalo Lodge is significant because of its association with the early days of the Preserve and particularly with Frank Rush. Rush was the guiding force in re-establishing many big game animals on the Preserve, most notably the buffalo. Built in 1913, Buffalo Lodge served for many years as the Reserve-Preserve office building and later as the Rush Family residence.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard Meredith, Bill Peavler, Melvena Thurman and Richard Drass,
Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge: An Historic Conservation Survey
 (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1978)

Frank Rush III, Correspondence to Harry L. Deupree, M.D., SHPO,
 (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, February 2, 1979)

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY c. 1 acre
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 4	5 2 6 5 1 0	3 8 4 3 3 0 5	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

One-quarter mile southeast of the Headquarters Turnoff of Scenic Highway 49, immediately west of West Cache Creek and east of the street serving the residential area of the Headquarters staff. There are no fences in the area that would designate a visual boundary for the Buffalo Lodge.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Oklahoma	40	Comanche	031
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Bill E. Peavler, AIA, Senior Preservation Architect

ORGANIZATION: Oklahoma Historical Society DATE: January 10, 1979

STREET & NUMBER: Historical Building TELEPHONE: (405) 521-2491 Ext. 67

CITY OR TOWN: Oklahoma City, STATE: Oklahoma 73105

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION
 YES NO

[Signature]
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE: *[Signature]* DATE: 3/19/81

TITLE: Historic Preservation Offices

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

[Signature] DATE: 5/11/81

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: _____ DATE _____

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 14 1981
MAY 11 1981
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

Verbal Boundary Description: (cont.)

The nominated property lies within the lines described from a point on the east curb of the north-south street, just west and fifteen (15') feet north of the Lodge; proceeding east a distance of one hundred twenty five (125') feet to a point "A"; turning south 90° and proceeding fifty (50') feet to point "B"; turning west 90° and proceeding approximately one hundred twenty five (125') feet to the east curb to point "C"; then turning northerly and proceeding along the curb to the point of beginning.

