Oklahoma City

PH0503835

DATA SHEEL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FORNPS	USE ONLY		
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Oklahoma

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

AND/OR COMMON				
LOCATION	1			
STREET & NUMBER				
2210 S. Main			NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN			CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	IICT
Tulsa		VICINITY OF	<u>No. 1</u>	CODE
STATE Oklahoma		CODE 40	COUNTY Tulsa	143
CLASSIFIC		<u> </u>		
02.200.20				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	XPUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
XBUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн		X EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RES
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTA
		NO	MILITARY	X OTHER: Cul
OWNER OF	FPROPERTY	NO		
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7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK O	NE
_XEXCELLENT GOOD FAIR	DETERIORATED RUINS UNEXPOSED	XUNALTERED ALTERED	XORIGINAL	SITE DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Harwell was built in 1923. Designed by Wight and Wight of Kansas City in the style of a Tudor manor house, it sits atop a hill which slopes downward in back to form the main part of the wooded grounds. The house proper consists of three main floors, a basement, and an attic. A broad staircase connects the first and second floors. There are seven fireplaces in the house, one each in the basement club room, dining room, living room, sun room, and in three upstairs bedrooms. (Two of the latter, with the sun room fireplace, have now been coverted with gas-burning stoves. The other four are still usable.)

The house was decorated by William A. Franch and Company of Minneapolis. The company supervised the design of the interior, including paneling, plaster ornamented ceilings, and the furnishings, most of which were antiques. Some pieces were made to order. The carperts were designed especially for the house and were mostly oriental in design. Only the main staircase runners and the living room rug remain of the original carpeting. When Mrs. Harwell left Harwelden to the Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa it contained all of the original lighting fixtures, wrought iron work designed especially for the house, as well as some of the original furniture and draperies. However, the bulk of the furnishings were claimed by relatives as she had wished.

First floor of the house originally had the dining room and kitchen in a wing to the right of the large entrance foyer, with living room beyond, the library, sun room, and sun porch to the left. The second floor contained four bedrooms, a sewing room, baths, and sleeping porches. Quarters for a governess, a large playroom, and storage facilities occupied the third floor. Club room was in the basement. Interior changes made by the Council have merely provided additional office space.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC 1400-1499 1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC AGRICULTURE XARCHITECTURE XART COMMERCE	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS XEDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY	RELIGION SCIENCE SCULPTURE _XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN XTHEATER TRANSPORTATION	
X1900- SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1923 to present	LINDUSTRY LINVENTION BUILDER/ARCH	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Harwelden is strictly in the American tradition - yet another handsome fulfillment of the American Dream. Man strikes it rich ... uses his wealth to build an impressive home ... and his family, upon his death, turns over the property to a public trust to be used for the educational and/or cultural enrichment of the community.

* * *

Earl Palmer Harwell was one of many who became millionaires on the strength of early Oklahoma oil discoveries. He came to Oklahoma from Texas in 1906 at the age of 23. With two partners he formed the McMan Oil and Gas Company, which was sold in 1916 to Magnolia Petroleum Company (now Mobil) for a reported \$39,000,000, one of the largest sales in the history of the industry to that time. He continued active in the field until he died in 1950 at the age of 67.

During his 39 years in Tulsa, Harwell's career was closely tied to the University of Tulsa, to which he gave more than \$550,000 in land and money. He also was a founder and long-time supporter of the Tulsa Boys' Home. Another beneficiary of his wealth was the Presbyterian Church. All of these philanthropies were continued by Mrs. Harwell after his death.

Harwelden dates from 1923 when Mr. Harwell hired the Kansas City architectural firm of Wight and Wight to design him an appropriate home. The result was a fine 30-room mansion in the English Tudor style and the Harwells loved it. The house occupies a high, wooded, spacious site overlooking the Arkansas River, only a mile or so south of the main business section of the city just beginning to grow into its self-styled status of "Oil Capital of the World." The home's interior made liberal use of imported marble and hand-carved wood paneling. Furnishings included many original oil paintings and other art works.

After Mr. Harwell's death in 1950 Mrs. Harwell continued to live in the house and maintain the family's interests in Tulsa's growing educational and cultural activities. Following her death in 1967 a codicil to her will left Harwell to the young (1960) Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa. The Council made relatively few changes in the four-story mansion; primarily renovation involved converting bedrooms into office space. Today AHCT occupies the first and third floors, shares office space in the north wing of the second floor with the Tulsa Civic Ballet. The Tulsa Philharmonic maintains offices in the south wing of the same floor.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Miscellaneous materials gathered together by the Arts & Humanities Council of Tulsa

Information obtained through interviews with Caroline Owens Krane, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Harwell

GEOGRAPHIC		acres E	.69		
UTM REFERENCES		<u></u>	See telepha	me log	
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Harwelden

Harwelden also provides the setting for rehearsals, lectures, films, exhibits, performing arts events, recitals, committee meetings, social occasions, and organizational activities for many of AHCT's 95 member organizations. Doing so it has had a direct cultural impact on thousands of Tulsans each year and has served generally to enrich the entire Tulsa community and the northeastern corner of Oklahoma as well. Contemplated future directions for AHCT's many programs include major fund drives, multi-arts programming, mobile presentations, gallery space, film production, and broader expanded services.



