

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

SURVEY AREA NAME: Safford, Arizona
 HISTORIC NAME: O'Brien, Mathew House
 ADDRESS/LOCATION: 615 1st Ave.
 CITY/TOWN: Safford
 TAX PARCEL NUMBER: 102-27-021 / <1 ACRE(S)
 OWNER: Dietzel, Randall C. & Valerie M.
 OWNER ADDRESS: 615 1st Ave.
Safford, Arizona 85546
 HISTORIC USE: Residence
 PRESENT USE: Residence
 BUILDING TYPE: House
 STYLE: Western Colonial Revival
 CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1920
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
 INTEGRITY: Minor alterations
 CONDITION: Good

COUNTY: Graham SURVEY SITE: A0051
 USGS QUAD: Safford, AZ
 T 7s R 26e S 8 / SW 1/4 OF THE SW 1/4
 UTM 12/621050E/3633300N

Description (contd.)

ROOF TYPE: Hip roof with cross gable,..
 ROOF SHEATHING: Asphalt shingle
 EAVES TREATMENT: Projecting eaves with exposed rafters
 WINDOWS: 9/1 light wood double hung sash windows in groups of three
 ENTRY: Four light central wood door with wood screen door
 PORCHES: Full front gable roof porch supported by heavy square wood frame..
 STOREFRONTS: Not Applicable

DESCRIPTION

STORIES: 1 DIMENSIONS: (1) 30' (w) 35'
 STRUCTURAL MATERIAL: Wood frame
 FOUNDATION MATERIAL: Concrete
 WALL SHEATHING: Stucco

NOTABLE INTERIOR: Unknown
 OUTBUILDINGS: None
 ALTERATIONS: Restuccoed

APPLIED ORNAMENT: Triangular knife brace at pediment, heavy wood frame stucco square..

PHOTOGRAPH

PHOTOGRAPHER: Linda Laird & Associates
 DATE: Jan, 1987 VIEW: E, 3/4
 NEGATIVE NUMBER: R:D F:35

SKETCH MAP: See Final MRA Map



ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION/ANALYSIS (annotated form): Appl ornam contd: columns. Roof type contd: exterior brick chimneys covered with stucco. Porches contd: stucco columns, central gable with wood vent and triangular knee braces above entry.

SIGNIFICANCE: Relates to National Register Criteria: C

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: COMMERCE___ COMMUNITY PLANNING___ ECONOMICS___
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT___ GOVERNMENTAL___ MILITARY___ RELIGION___ SCIENCE___
THEATRE___ TRANSPORTATION___ TOURISM___ OTHER(specify) Architecture

HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS (be concise):

PROMINENT OCCUPANT/HISTORIC ASSOCIATION(S) Second residence in Safford of Mathew O'Brien, furniture store owner, next to Katie's Drug on Main

RELATIONSHIP TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT Relates to 1920's residential development in Safford

CULTURAL AFFILIATIONS None

ARCHITECTURAL MERIT Unusually ornate local example of Western Colonial Revival Style

MAJOR ARCH. FORM/MATERIAL None

ENGINEERING/STRUCTURAL None

DISTRICT/STREETScape CONTRIBUTION Intact, scattered site on major street

DISCUSSION AS REQUIRED: The O'Brien Home is an excellent example of an ornate Western Colonial Revival style residence in Safford. The house displays projecting eaves and rafters, full front gable roofed porch supported by heavy square wood frame piers and exterior brick chimney with stuccoed highlights. The central gable with wood vent has triangular knee braces above the entry. This was the second home of Mathew O'Brien a furniture store owner in Safford.

CONTEXT: ISOLATED/RURAL___ RESIDENTIAL STREET XXX COMMERCIAL___ CENTRAL SQUARE___
CBD:___ OTHER:___

BIBLIOGRAPHY/SOURCES: Interviews with: Celia Levy Belman, Heath Haralson, Paul Brooks and Pedro Subia; Calvin, Ross, River of the Sun; Davis, Goode P., Francaviglia, Richard, The Mormon Landscape; Granger, Byrd, Arizona Place Names; Layton, Christopher, The Diary of Christopher Layton; McClintock James, Mormon Settlement in Arizona; Mt. Graham Profiles; Ridgway, William Highlights of the Past; Talley, Eloise, History of the Safford Fire Dept. See MRA bibliography for additional references.

LISTING IN OTHER SURVEYS: 1985 Historic Resources Survey, conducted by Linda Laird & Assoc
NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS:

LISTED___ DETERMINED ELIGIBLE___ DETERMINED NOT ELIGIBLE___ NOT EVALUATED___

COMMENTS/DEVELOPMENT PLANS/THREATS:

None

SURVEYOR Linda Laird & Assoc. SURVEY DATE 5/87 DATE FORM COMPLETED 9/19/87