

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED FEB 8 1980  
DATE ENTERED MAR 10 1982

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

**1 NAME** *Stinson - Flake House*  
HISTORIC James Stinson/W.J. Flake House  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**  
STREET & NUMBER *Northwest corner of Freeman Ave. and Stinson St.* NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CITY, TOWN Snowflake CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4  
STATE Arizona CODE 04 COUNTY Navajo CODE 017

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>OWNERSHIP</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>PRESENT USE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**  
NAME Flake, Augusta  
STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 277  
CITY, TOWN Snowflake VICINITY OF STATE Arizona 85937

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Navajo County Recorder's Office  
STREET & NUMBER 300 Navajo Blvd.  
CITY, TOWN Holbrook STATE Arizona 86025

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**  
TITLE Silver Creek Survey  
DATE 1979  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Heritage Conservation Section, Arizona State Parks Board  
CITY, TOWN 1688 West Adams, Phoenix STATE Arizona 85007

# 7 DESCRIPTION

## CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

## CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

## CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The James Stinson/W.J. Flake house is a single story structure of adobe construction. Its overall shape is rectangular and measures 58 feet wide by 33 feet deep. Situated on a large lot on the northwest corner of Freeman Avenue and Stinson Street, the house faces east with its longitudinal (north-south) axis slightly askew from the street.

The major elements of the plan are two equal sized rectangular wings at the north and south ends of the house. They were originally constructed as two independent buildings separated by an open breezeway, a construction method also known as a dog trot house. The buildings have been joined by a central room which encloses the west half of the original breezeway.

Each wing is surmounted by an independently constructed gable roof, and the central room is covered with an intersecting pitched roof. The eaves have boxed cornices and returns with a plain board frieze and, at the south wing, are detailed with wood brackets. All roof planes are covered with shingles and a single central chimney straddles the roof ridge of the south wing.

The remaining portion of the original breezeway on the east side has been enclosed with a contemporary glazed wall containing a central doorway. This enclosure is covered with a shed roof which projects from below the eave of the main roof. A small shed roof porch and enclosed addition occurs at the northwest corner of the house.

A single, two-over-two double hung sash window exists at each gable wall. The north and south walls of the house each contain two independently situated double hung sash windows. All windows were originally six-over-six light sash.

The two wings were originally covered with a flat earth roof supported by exposed vigas. The roof was left in place when the gable roofs were added circa 1900. The original exposed adobe walls were covered with weatherboard siding about 1900 which has since been replaced by the existing plaster finish.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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 Constructed 1878-1880 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The James Stinson/W.J. Flake house is significant for its historic association with James Stinson and W.J. Flake, and as the oldest building in Snowflake.

Construction on the house was begun by Stinson in 1878 as the second adobe structure on his ranch. Stinson was the first permanent settler of the Silver Creek Valley, arriving in 1873. He was a cattle rancher who had the contract to supply livestock to the army at Camp Apache.

Improvements that Stinson made on his ranch included an irrigation ditch from Silver Creek (enough to irrigate about 300 acres of land), a long, five room adobe row house and a small corral (both demolished). By 1878 Stinson had begun construction of a two room adobe house covered with a flat, earth roof.

In July of 1878, William J. Flake, leader of the first group of Mormon immigrants to enter the Silver Creek Valley, negotiated the purchase of the ranch and its improvements from Stinson. The price was \$11,000, to be paid for with Utah grade cattle.

That same year, upon the advice of Mormon Apostle Erastus Snow, W.J. Flake and the other members of his party laid out a townsite on the Stinson property. It consisted of 20 blocks divided into four lots each. The new settlement was named Snowflake, after Erastus Snow and W.J. Flake.

Flake bought the two room adobe house that Stinson built and promptly replaced the flat roof with a gabled roof. Lumber was obtained from Lott Smith and the sawmill near the Mormon colony of Sunset. He built a second two room adobe building about 1880 adjacent to the first building. The north building had a flat roof until about 1900, when James M. Flake, a son of William J. Flake, had both buildings enclosed under one roof with four small rooms built between the two adobe structures. At the time this addition was made, the exterior walls were clad in weatherboard.

During the early years of the settlement the house was used as a meeting place, post office, school, and first county courtroom. For many years, students attending the Snowflake Stake Academy were housed in this building.

The house is noteworthy for its method of construction and for its historic evolution. Although perhaps not conceived as a dog trot house when Stinson built the first adobe, the construction of the second adobe by Flake gave it that form. The breezeway created between the two structures was at one time covered with a bowery of poles and cut

(See continuation sheet)



FHR-8-300A  
(11/78)

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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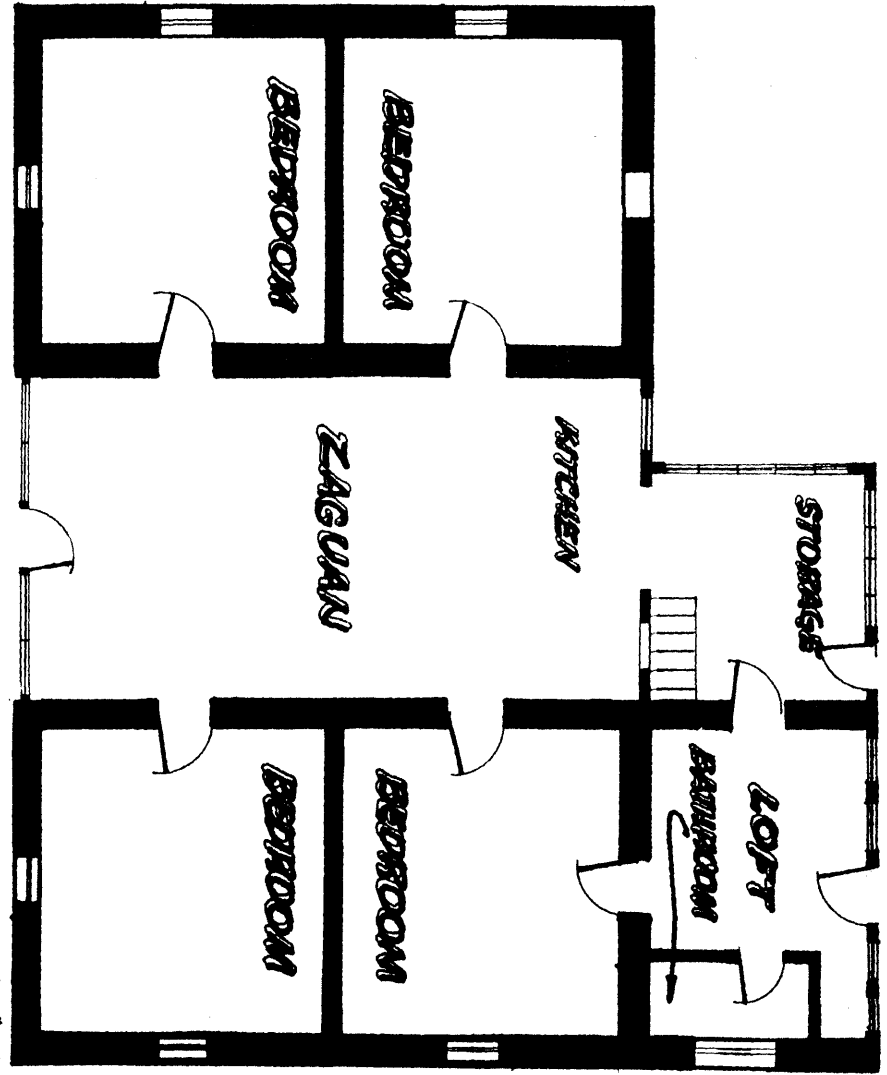
CONTINUATION SHEET

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branches. The eventual enclosure of the breezeway and other subsequent alterations do not destroy the integrity of the overall form. Rather, they are evidences of the buildings evolution through time and lend to its interpretive value. The house is also locally significant for its historic association with the settlement of the Silver Creek Valley and the early development of the town of Snowflake.



**JAMES STINSON - W.J. FLAKE HOUSE**



SCALE: 1" = APPROXIMATELY 10'-0"

