

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

979



National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Bassett House, The
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 1100 East Ninth Place not for publication
city or town Cushing vicinity
state Oklahoma code OK county Payne code 119 zip code 74023

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

[Signature]
Signature of certifying official

10-20-09
Date

[Title]
Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

12-3-09
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	1	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
2	0	structure
0	0	object
4	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
- DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

- DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
- DOMESTIC/Secondary Structure
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

- OTHER: American International
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation: STONE: Sandstone
- STONE: Sandstone; GLASS; WOOD;
- walls: METAL
- roof: ASPHALT; STONE: Granite; METAL
- other: _____
- _____

Bassett House, The
Name of Property

Payne, Oklahoma
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

See Continuation Sheets

Narrative Description

See Continuation Sheets

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Summary Paragraph:

The Bassett House, designed by the firm Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, for Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Bassett, is eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent example of American International architecture from the post-World War II period. The house is located in a residential neighborhood in south Cushing, a small oil industry town in north central Oklahoma. The building process, which used post and beam construction, poured concrete walls, and a concrete slab foundation, began in 1952 and concluded in late 1953 or early 1954. The finished residence was the Bassett family home until 2009. The generally L-shaped house has a flat roof, boxed eaves, and walls that combine flagstone, wood, and broad expanses of glass. The ground floor and partially exposed basement provide more than nine thousand square feet of space, while the carport accommodates three vehicles. The front windows frame views of lightly timbered Cottonwood Creek in adjacent Rotary Park. Designed for family living and entertaining, this Cushing, Oklahoma landmark included many conveniences and amenities that were new or unusual in most homes in the early 1950s: an intercom system, a dumb-waiter, a soda fountain and wine storage in the basement, five bathrooms for the six bedrooms, and a sunken tub in the master bathroom. Furnishings include original fixtures and custom-made furniture by Charles and Ray Eames, Edward Wormley, George Nelson, Florence Knoll, and Gilbert Rohde. These complement the American International style and enhance the 1950s feeling of the house. Alterations to this well maintained residence are minimal and mostly cosmetic. The contributing resources consist of the house, a tall free-standing television antenna, a water well, and a small garden shed, along with another small non-contributing garden shed. Therefore, the Bassett House is eligible for nomination under Criterion C as a well-preserved and outstanding example of American International architecture.¹

¹ John J.-G. Blumenson, *Identifying American Architecture: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945* (Nashville, Tenn.: American Association of State and Local History, 1982 (second edition), 75; Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses: A Pictorial Guide to Styles and Terms, 1600-1945* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1990), 477, 482.

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Narrative Description:

The Bassett House is located in Cushing, Oklahoma, a town of about 8,500 people in the north central part of Oklahoma. This town at the heart of the rich Cushing Oil Field still claims to be the "Pipeline Crossroads of the World." The architecture of the central business district and residential areas reflects its most explosive period of growth during its major oil boom from 1912 into the early 1930s. However, Cushing's post-World War II and later twentieth century neighborhoods, such as the ones surrounding the Bassett House, include a mixture of Minimal Traditional, Ranch, and other Contemporary styles. Among them, the Bassett House has been unique, a Cushing landmark since its construction in the early 1950s because of its distinctive architecture and size.²

Located in the Park Heights Addition in south Cushing, the Bassett House occupies a large space on the east side of South Highland Avenue, a main two-lane street, between East Eighth Street on the north and East Ninth Place on the south. The house is situated at the top of a low rise that slopes downward slightly to the west and more steeply to the south. Oriented toward the south, the house faces Rotary Park across East Ninth Place. The large L-shaped park is the site of community recreational facilities, most of them further north. Here in the east arm, the park is a lightly timbered, narrow green space along the valley of little Cottonwood Creek. Nearby residences include a few large late twentieth century homes as well as smaller Contemporary tract houses in well-maintained neighborhoods.

The Bassett House was the design of Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, a firm well-established by the 1950s and based in Oklahoma City. Architect Truett H. Coston and Chief Engineer W. Wally Frankfurt contracted with Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Bassett in 1951 first to build the Bassett Clinic several blocks north and then this residence at 1100 East Ninth Place. These two buildings are very similar. Both are American International in style and utilize post and beam construction, poured concrete walls, and a concrete slab. Both have a flat roof, a carport, and outer walls of wood, flagstone, and glass.³

² The estimated population in 2003 was 8,510. "Cushing, Oklahoma," n.d. <<http://www.epodunk.com/cgi-bin/genInfor.php?locIndex=15700>> (June 29, 2009).

³ Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, application materials, June 18, 1951; *ibid.*, construction documents, February 12, 1952, Bassett House, Cushing, Oklahoma. Today the firm is Frankfurt-Short-Bruza Associates.

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The Bassett House property consists of five resources: the house, a contributing garden shed, and two contributing structures—a television antenna and a water well—as well as one non-contributing garden shed. These are described separately below. The patio walls are integral to the house and are described below as parts of it. Both the walls and Garden Shed 1 were included in the architectural design; however, Garden Shed 1 was a separate structure. It, along with non-contributing Garden Shed 2, are counted here as separate resources.

The Bassett House. Contributing Building. 1953-1954.**General description:**

The footprint of the Bassett House is generally L-shaped with the broader wing of the house (the "west wing") on an east-west axis parallel to East Eight Street and the narrower wing (the "south wing") extending southward at a right angle toward East Ninth Place. A three-vehicle carport, set back from the north elevation, extends east from the juncture of the L, or the northeast corner of the house. It is one story with a basement semi-exposed on the south and west elevations, or the inside of the L. There are multiple entrances with at least one on each elevation. The main entrance is located on the south elevation of the south wing. Access to it is via a long flight of stairs from East Ninth Place. Two separate doors, providing access from the carport into the foyer, are located on the east elevation of the ground floor near the juncture of the L. There are also entrances on the north and west elevations through walled patios. On the basement level, there is an entrance near the inside angle of the L. It opens directly onto the south lawn via a short flight of steps.

Encompassing more than nine thousand square feet, the floor plan of the Bassett House provides both public and private space on both levels. (For the floor plan, see the two photographic orientation maps.) A large foyer on the ground floor connects the two wings. In the west wing, bisected by a long hallway, the south side provides space for the kitchen and two small bedroom suites, with the master suite at the west end. On the north side are the study adjacent to the master suite, a secondary entry into a small foyer, the servant's suite, and the laundry room. The south wing on the ground floor contains the dining room, with a door connecting it to the kitchen, and a sunken living room. The basement of the west wing provides space for the card room, a large powder room, two storage rooms, two bedrooms, a linen cupboard, and a large mechanical room for the heating and cooling system. The basement of the south wing contains the large sunken game room with an open-sided fireplace. The game room and card room are situated at right angles with a soda fountain and

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counter at their juncture. Stairways off the foyer and the entrance next to the study connect the two levels. A dumb-waiter connects the kitchen on the upper level and the soda fountain directly below it in the basement.

Exterior description:

The exterior walls of the Bassett House combine redwood, glass, and stone. The primary material is Arkansas flagstone, a predominantly beige sandstone. The flagstone is mostly square-cut with some rough-cut pieces. The flagstone is laid in an irregular ashlar bond veneer over poured concrete. In this house it is used for exterior and some interior walls, walkways, exterior stairs, planters, and fencing. Although the house sits on a concrete slab foundation, the only visible concrete on the exterior is a rear sidewalk and the driveway. Glass is an important component of the exterior walls, with two elevations of the ground floor south wing being almost entirely glass. The fenestration pattern is regular and balanced. Windows and glass panels are all set in aluminum frames flush with the exterior surface. Sills are generally shallow. Outside sills are flagstone, but inside sills are marble. The windows have no obvious lintels, and the frames extend up to the eave line. Exterior entrances have flush wood doors painted dark grey. Primary entrances off the ground floor main foyer have distinctive door knobs set in metal sunburst frames in the center of the door. All the doors and windows are original.

The flat roof is covered in mopped asphalt with granite chips. Five new air conditioner units are mounted near the northeast corner, and there are three metal vent pipes on the two wings. While the roof of the west wing is horizontal, the roof of the south wing slants slightly upward from north to south, with a height difference of slightly more than two feet. A narrow white painted wood fascia encircles the entire roof. Below it the eave, made of redwood painted a dark red, is boxed on all elevations and maintains the same height. The overhang is cantilevered, creating space for square recessed lights, and deeper on the south wing and west elevation to shelter entrances. Where the overhang is deep, it is supported by plain, round, white-painted metal posts. The three-vehicle carport on the east elevation is visually an extension of the roofline from the main body of the house. It continues the roof, fascia, and boxed eave and is supported on eight round, white-painted metal posts. The wide concrete driveway passes through the carport, providing access both to East Eight Street and East Ninth Place.

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The east elevation of the Bassett House includes the west wing of the house as well as the south wing and the carport. To the right of the carport the wall of the wider west wing is set back about nineteen feet and then extends north about twelve feet. It is flagstone from the ground to the eave line. Just inside the carport, this flagstone wall extends east about four feet at a right angle to the east elevation. It shelters a single wood "family door" providing access from the carport to the foyer and family quarters. To the left of this door is a wall of three large fixed ground-to-eave windows in aluminum frames. To the left of the windows, the east elevation of the south wing is set back about six feet. The south elevation of this set-back section consists of two more large fixed ground-to-eave windows. To the left of them, on the east elevation of the south wing and at the south edge of the carport, there is a second single wood door which opens into the more public dining room/living room area. Both these east elevation doors have transoms and centered knobs set in starburst frames. However, the door on the left also has a mail slot. The two doors are connected by a flagstone walkway slightly higher than the carport concrete floor. To the left of the carport is the east elevation of the south wing. A ribbon of ten fixed clerestory windows extends the full width of this elevation, gradually increasing in height. Their top edges taper to follow the upward slant of the roofline, north to south. Below the clerestory windows the east elevation wall is flagstone to ground level.

The south elevation of the south wing is primarily glass, with fixed windows set in aluminum frames above a low flagstone base. A tier of four glass panels just below the eave continues the pattern of the clerestory windows on the east elevation, but these panels are all the same height rather than tapered. Below them the three large fixed panels on the right extend down to ground level, a flagstone walkway. Set into the fourth large glass panel on the far left is a single flush wood door that opens directly into the living room. It has a centered door knob in a metal starburst frame. A low flagstone wall begins at the left of the door and wraps around the west end of the walkway to become part of the bannister for a long flight of wide, shallow flagstone steps that extend almost to the street. They end in a large rectangular landing that creates a right angle, with steps leading west onto the lawn and north toward the basement entry. The metal bannister has a plain square railing and supports. A band of flat metal panels is fixed to the outside of these supports. This bannister ends at the landing, but a second, shorter section wraps around the opposite side of the steps as they descend to ground level.

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The west elevation of the south wing includes the semi-exposed basement as well as the ground floor. Like the south elevation, the ground floor west elevation is primarily glass panels set into aluminum frames. Ten upper glass panels mirror the clerestory windows on the east elevation, but diminish in height from south to north as they follow the slanting roofline. Below them are ten large fixed glass panels above a flagstone wall that extends down to ground level. Set into this wall below the panels are three double windows that provide light and ventilation to the basement. Each window has a fixed panel above an awning window. All panes in these basement windows are the same dimensions.

To the left of the south wing and set at a right angle to it is the south elevation of the west wing of the house. This south elevation has two tiers of windows and a door, all original and with aluminum frames. All the upper level windows, which serve the ground floor, have tall fixed panels above much shorter awning windows. At the far right is a single window opening into the kitchen. To its left are three triple windows, one each for the two bedroom suites and the master suite. This pattern is repeated on the semi-exposed basement level below. The three sets of lower triple windows match the basement level windows on the south wing west elevation. Each has a fixed panel above an awning window of the same dimension. At the far right, a short flight of flagstone steps set into a flagstone retaining wall lead down to the basement entry. On the left is a single wood flush door. Adjacent to it on the right is a sidelight, a narrower fixed panel the same height as the door. At the far left of this elevation is a flight of eight flagstone steps hidden behind a five-foot flagstone retaining wall. They lead up to a walled patio and the private entrance to the master suite at the west end of the west wing.

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The west elevation of the west wing of the house is partially hidden behind a tall flagstone wall that provides privacy for the master suite. The privacy wall is an extension of the north wall of the house. It wraps around to the south and crosses the entire width of the west elevation, enclosing a small patio and lawn before a shorter section hides the steps to the south lawn. The eave on the right side of this elevation is deeper, creating an overhang that shelters a setback entry into the master suite. White-painted metal poles support the overhang, which has square recessed lights. On the right of this recess is a double window set in an aluminum frame. This window matches those on the south elevation. Each window has a tall fixed panel above a shorter awning window. Adjacent on the left of the pair of windows is a single flush wood door with a transom. It opens onto a small flagstone porch with a simple white metal railing. The wall of the porch recess is redwood, matching the eave and overhang. Four steps lead down the north side of the porch to a small landing, with two more steps on the north and west sides for access to the lawn of the walled patio. Below the porch and on the right beside the landing is a small flagstone planter box and a flagstone walkway. It leads to the stairway down to the south lawn. To the left of the recessed porch and steps, the west wall of the master bathroom extends outward. Triple windows, matching those on the right, span the remaining the space on this elevation. These windows, too, consist of tall fixed panels above shorter awning windows. Below these windows the wall is flagstone to ground level.

Only the ground floor is revealed on the north elevation, which faces East Eight Street. The main feature of this elevation is a walled patio. It spans much of the east half of this elevation. Part of the architect's original plans, the fence, about four feet high, encloses a large patio and is designed to match the house in materials and paint. The east and west ends are flagstone, integrating them into the house walls. Each of these end walls has a single gate of upright wood palings. The fence along the north side of the patio is taller and is made of wood palings set either side by side or slightly apart in a wide decorative accordion fold. The space enclosed by the fence serves as both a patio and utility area. It contains two storage structures, one of which is original, described below. Part of the enclosed space is a small grass lawn, while the rest is paved with concrete. The walls of the house on this elevation are flagstone from eave line to ground level. Toward the west end of this elevation and outside the fenced area, there is a single window, which replicates those on the west and south elevations. It has a tall fixed panel above a shorter awning window, both set in aluminum frames. Just inside the fence at the west end of the large patio, there is a single wood door. It is louvered and has a transom. Adjacent on the left is a sidelight, a single window with a tall fixed panel above a shorter awning window. The door,

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transom, and window have aluminum frames. To the left of this entrance is a triple window of the same type, tall fixed panels above shorter awning windows. At the left end of this elevation beyond the triple window is an second entry, which mirrors the one at the west end of the patio. It consists of a louvered wood door with a transom on the left and a single window on the right. It has a tall fixed panel above a shorter awning window. Both doors on this elevation have flagstone steps. Between these steps is a long, low flagstone planter box along the foundation. A concrete walkway connects the two doors.

The landscaping around the house consists of some mature trees, foundation plantings, and hedges. The only planting that appears in early photographs is the hedge at the base of the stairway from the south wing. Objects that are treated here as part of the landscaping and not as resources include a flagpole near the south wing and a line of white painted metal lamp posts that line the driveway—all added later.

Interior description:

The interior of the Bassett House strongly preserves its early 1950s design, which includes several custom features. Concrete sub-floors in the foyer, west stairwell, and central hallway through the west wing of the house retain their original black terrazzo surface. Wall-to-wall carpeting was installed in the living room and dining room when the house was constructed. The ground floor bedrooms were also carpeted, while the laundry and kitchen have their original rubber tile floors. The floors in basement utility areas are concrete. The hallway, game room, and card room had large black and white squares of rubber tile. The large basement rooms were carpeted later, but the hallway tile is still exposed. The landing of the foyer stairway is rubble flagstone, and the open risers are carpeted. The risers of the stairs to the sunken living room are also carpeted, while the original tiled stairs to the basement game room were carpeted later. Interior walls are original. Flagstone similar to the exterior walls is prominent in the foyer, dining room, and living room. The ground level hallway walls and some areas of the basement have original wood paneling. Accent walls in the study, east stairwell, and the basement game and card rooms are brick. Most other walls in the house are original plasterboard, as are the ceilings. However, the basement card room and game room have original acoustic tile ceilings. The

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master bathroom and basement powder room have original ceramic tile wainscoting and floors. Bathroom fixtures are almost all original Crane pieces. Light fixtures, pendant fixtures, and lamps are also original. The house was designed for central heating and air conditioning, so the rooms have circular vents in the ceilings. An intercom system was installed when the house was built, and every room has a speaker set into the wall. The original dumb-waiter and basement soda fountain still function, as does the small Frigidaire refrigerator under the counter. Most of the furniture in the house, some of it custom-made, is original, with pieces by Charles and Ray Eames, Edward Wormley, George Nelson, Florence Knoll, and Gilbert Rohde for leading manufacturers in the early 1950s. (See Additional Materials.) However, many rooms have built-in furniture designed by the architects and characteristic of Modern Movement and Contemporary homes.

The Bassett House was designed for both family living and entertaining. Two entries off the carport open onto the foyer, which extends almost the length of the south wing. For guests it allows ease of movement through the dining room to the sunken living room. The terrazzo flooring, clerestory windows, and flagstone walls, particularly the east wall which runs the length of the dining room and living room, visually tie these spaces together. So, too, do the original full-length white translucent curtains, custom-made in Europe in the early 1950s, on the south and west walls. A flight of four carpeted open risers connects these two rooms. Next to them is a large, square brick column with a wood planter box. This encloses the chimney for the free-standing fireplace in the basement. The column and planter create a degree of separation between the living room and dining room without the blockage of a physical wall. Likewise, the coat closet, a large rectangular wood box suspended on two metal supports, separates the "family entrance" from the more public dining room and living room areas.

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The kitchen has several custom features designed for this modern house in 1953. There is a center island with a work space on one side and a free-form desk or breakfast bar on the other. Above it is a free-form dropped ceiling. There are three walls of custom steel cabinets with formica tops. Some of the cabinets were custom-designed by the architect to store small appliances, kitchenware, and silverware. The two sets of metal double sinks are original. The east wall sink has two faucets, with one connected to the house's well water and one to city water. A door between the kitchen and dining room and a dumb-waiter providing access to the basement soda fountain facilitated service. Although some large appliances have been replaced with models very similar to the originals, the kitchen retains its double ovens and 1953 dinette set.

Five of the house's six bedrooms are small, but all, including the servant's suite, have large windows that visually expand their space. All but the two in the basement have their own attached bathrooms. The master bedroom suite includes a large walk-in closet with customized built-in storage. There is special shelving that once separately stored Dr. Bassett's laundered and folded dress shirts, and there are individual cubicles for the several pairs of shoes he believed contributed to good foot health. A large ceramic tile sunken bathtub with steps fills one corner of the master bath. A shower that can be entered from two sides connects the tub and dressing room area with Dr. Bassett's washroom. The latter is accessible from the study he sometimes used to see patients after hours. While the master suite has a private door to the small walled patio on the west elevation, these patients could use the entrance from the large walled patio on the north elevation of the house to enter the study.

The basement contains large spaces designed for entertaining, and a stairway with open risers connects them with ground floor foyer. The windows on the east and south elevations provide natural light and ventilation, while a door opens directly onto the south lawn. The space designated the game room occupies almost all of the basement beneath the south wing and, like the living room directly above it, is sunken. The primary feature is the stand-alone brick fireplace, approximately five feet square and open on four sides. Facing it, there is a built-in bench next to the short stairway that leads up to the game room in the west wing. Between the game room and the card room is the soda fountain area, which is open on three sides. It is wood paneled with a formica-topped counter that accommodates fourteen original barstools. The dumb-waiter shaft occupies the northeast corner of the counter. The wood-paneled card room is at a right angle to the game room and flows into it. Both rooms retain several pieces of original furniture.

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Additional rooms open off the basement hallway beyond the card room. These include a store room with a lockable wine cellar, a pantry, the powder room, two bedrooms, and the mechanical room. The powder room includes a toilet stall and shower. A dressing table, mirror, and vanity seats accommodate four. The Crane fixtures, ceramic tiled floor and wainscotting, as well as the furniture are original. At the west end of the central hall is a large built-in linen cupboard.

Television Antenna. Contributing Structure. C. 1954.

The television antenna appears in an early-mid 1950s photograph made soon after the house was completed. It is metal, approximately fifty-three feet tall, and about six feet wide on each side at the base. The lower half is three-sided with horizontal and vertical cross braces. It tapers gradually to about mid-height, and the pattern becomes two-dimensional to the top. A horizontal receiver is mounted on the top. There is a rectangular power box on the east side about four feet above the base. This structure appears to be in good condition.

Water Well. Contributing Structure. C. 1954.

According to an early 1950s photograph, the water well was dug soon after the television antenna was erected. The visible part of the well has a rectangular top about eight feet by six feet and two feet high. This above-ground section is concrete block. The lid is wood with a metal covering. A metal pipe on top supports several counterweights. Almost all visible parts of the well are painted white. The water well is not in use but appears to be in good condition.

Garden Shed 1. Contributing Building. 1953-1954.

Included in the Bassett House blueprints is the design for a small garden shed, or tool house, similar to this one. It is set in the northeast corner of the walled patio on the north side of the house. It is rectangular and about three feet by eight feet. It has a flat, asphalt and gravel roof that slants downward from about six feet on the south elevation to about five feet on the north. Made of upright wood planks, this garden shed has plain double doors on the south elevation and a single door on the west elevation. It has a concrete foundation slightly raised above the concrete pad in this area of the patio. Garden Shed 1 is painted to match the fascia and boxed eave of the Bassett House. It is in good condition with some warping of the south doors.

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Garden Shed 2. Non-contributing Building. C. 1990s.

Garden Shed 2 is a modern manufactured building standing in the southwest corner of the walled patio on the north side of the house. About eight feet by six feet, it has a rectangular footprint and faces east. It has a metal roof that slants from the east elevation to the west, paneled metal walls about seven feet high near the door, and double metal sliding doors on the east elevation. It sits on the concrete pad very near the house and west patio wall, nearly blocking the west entry on the north elevation. This building is non-contributing because it post-dates the period of eligibility. It is in good condition.

Alterations:

The Bassett House has experienced minimal alteration since its construction in 1953-1954. It stood vacant for four years following the death of Mrs. Bassett in 2005 and is currently undergoing rehabilitation by the new owners as of 2009. The roof has been recovered with a mopped asphalt and granite chip coating, replicating the original roof surface. Five new air conditioner units have been installed on the northeast corner of the roof, replacing the original cooling tower that stood on the front of the roof near the juncture of the west and south wings. Some windows have received a reflective coating to ameliorate summer solar heating, but the glass and aluminum frames are original, as are the exterior doors. On the interior, the primary alteration at an unknown date was carpeting the basement game room, card room, and connecting stairs over the original rubber tile. Most bathroom fixtures are original. Where necessary, the current owners have replaced bathroom fixtures and large kitchen appliances with models that replicate the originals in appearance as closely as possible. They have repainted the bedrooms in appropriate 1950s colors. Having purchased the original furniture with the house, which included Dr. Bassett's desk and some shelving from his clinic, they have done all they can to preserve the design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and associations of the Bassett House.

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Conclusion:

Even after more than fifty years, the Bassett House remains a landmark in Cushing, Oklahoma. It introduced the American International style in a residence to the town when it was constructed in 1953, and it is still distinctive for the style and quality of its architecture as well as its high degree of preservation. The firm of Coston and Frankfurt incorporated into their design for the Bassett House some hallmarks of mid-twentieth century architecture: the flat roof, post and beam construction, poured concrete walls, and a concrete slab foundation. In doing so, they maintained the Modernist goals of functionality and new uses of materials such as concrete, steel, stone, aluminum, and glass. While the Bassett House in some ways resembled the more austere International style of the earlier twentieth century, Coston and Frankfurt produced a design that demonstrated the post-World War II modifications known as the American International style. Enhanced spatial flow in the living room/dining room and the card room/game room spaces of the Bassett House were possible because there were fewer load-bearing walls. Exterior walls of wood, stone, and glass fit the house comfortably into its natural setting. Walled patios expanded the family's living space outdoors. This large architect-designed house, with its custom features and amenities, as well as the quality and complementary style of its furnishings, has been unique in Cushing for more than half a century.

Photographs show that when the Bassett House was new, it stood almost alone on its sloping lot with a few older buildings in the distance. While a later neighborhood has grown up around the Bassett House, except for the softening of mature trees, hedges, and foundation plantings, it looks very much as it did in early 1950s photographs. Nor is it out of place among its newer Contemporary-style neighbors. The exterior of the Bassett House has changed little, and interior alterations before 2009 were few and cosmetic. The presence of much of the original furnishings in the house contributes strongly to the 1950s feeling. Neither the television antenna or the water well appear to have been altered. Rather they and the matching Garden Shed 1, designed along with the walled patio for the house by the architects, enhance its original appearance. Given the scale of the property, the small non-contributing Garden Shed 1, partially hidden on the patio inside the fence, detracts very little from the integrity of the property. Therefore, the Bassett House is highly deserving of nomination to the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent and very well preserved example of the American International style of architecture.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1952-1954

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers
J. J. Bollinger Construction Company

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Period of Significance (justification)

Construction of the Bassett House began in 1952 and continued through 1953, perhaps as late as early 1954. The Bassett family moved into the house early in 1954. The television antenna and water well were added soon afterwards.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

N/A

Bassett House, The
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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria)

See continuation sheets

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance)

See continuation sheets

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

See continuation sheets

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Summary:

The Bassett House in Cushing, Oklahoma is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent and well preserved example of the American International style of architecture. This house at 1100 East Ninth Place, built in 1953-1954 and designed by Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, introduced this mid-twentieth-century architectural style in a residence to Cushing. As the Bassett family home from 1954 to 2009, it became a local landmark, not only as an example of modern residential architecture unique to Cushing but also as an important venue for the town's social life and community activities.

Narrative:

Cushing in today's north central Oklahoma had much in common with many new Indian Territory towns established in the last decade of the 1800s. The proposed townsite was part of the Sac and Fox Indian reservation opened to non-Indian settlers in a land run on September 22, 1891. These and neighboring Indian lands homesteaded at the same time then became part of Payne and four other Oklahoma Territory counties. Within two months, the townsite received approval for a post office to be named "Cushing" after the U.S. postmaster general. By 1895 Cushing, Oklahoma Territory had morphed from empty prairie into a farming community with a population of about one hundred with several business enterprises and a substantial wood frame school.⁴

⁴ The land where Cushing was founded had been leased by the Sac and Fox tribe to the Saginaw (Michigan) Cattle Company for grazing. The transfer of lands from the Indian Territory reservations to Oklahoma Territory after a land run or later type of opening followed the provisions of the Oklahoma Organic Act (1890). Arrell Morgan Gibson, *Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries* (Norman: The University of Oklahoma Press, 1981, second edition), 180; Laura Lou Wells, *Young Cushing in Oklahoma Territory* (Perkins, Okla.: Evans Publications, c. 1985), 14, 25.

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Architecture in the new town was similar to that in other frontier areas. While the homesteading farmers and Cushing townspeople were occupied creating farms and businesses, housing was fairly basic. Timber was sparse even along the nearby Cimarron River, Deep Fork River further south, and their small tributaries. However, there were soon several sawmills to meet the demand for lumber. Some builders also used sandstone quarried locally. These first-generation houses were plain vernacular buildings and small, about twelve by sixteen feet, with one or two stories.⁵

Town growth was slow at first. The population had doubled by 1900, but Cushing remained small compared to neighboring towns. It challenged and failed to win the seat of Payne County away from Stillwater several times. Cushing industries included flour and feed mills and cotton gins that targeted local corn, wheat, cotton, hog, and cattle production. Photographs from about 1900 show the main streets lined with wood false-fronted commercial buildings and residences in the contemporary national folk or Queen Anne style.⁶

The year 1902 brought major change to Cushing. Both the Santa Fe and Missouri-Kansas-Texas railroad lines reached town, boosting the population and enterprises. Local cotton farmers benefited from the improved access to markets. Gins multiplied along with compresses and cotton seed oil companies as Cushing became a "cotton town." The transformation of the commercial district accelerated with the construction of twelve new stone buildings that spring. By the end of the decade automobiles parked alongside horse-drawn vehicles in front of substantial, one-, two-, and three-story brick or stone commercial buildings.⁷

A decade after the arrival of the railroads, the town was transformed yet again with the discovery of a major oil field beneath Cushing. Significant oil production in Oklahoma was less than ten years old in the spring of 1912, when two test wells blew in just east of town. A boom began in the Cushing Field as petroleum company representatives, oil field workers, and those who followed them from oil patch to oil patch flooded into town. By September 1914 the Cushing Field was producing one-fifth of all high-grade oil in the United States. Peak production in 1915 was more than 49 million barrels from 710 wells. As the railroad center at the heart of the oil field, Cushing saw construction of nine refineries, six oil field supply companies, warehouses, tank farms, and

⁵ Wells, *Young Cushing*, 41-42, 92-93.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 97, 102-103, 111, 157, 172.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 157, 173, 184-192.

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related facilities. The newspaper reported thirty to forty new brick buildings were under construction downtown. The population increased ten-fold, creating a severe housing shortage, so oil field workers slept in tents and rented rooms in Cushing homes. The *Cushing Independent* reported on January 2, 1913 that 125 residences were under construction. Two years later about two-thirds of Cushing homes had both electric lights and natural gas.⁸ According to *Harlow's Weekly Magazine*, an Oklahoma journal, Cushing was "being rapidly transformed" into "a modern city with all the conveniences and institutions that make life agreeable....[and] an attractive place to live."⁹

That conclusion was perhaps part of the reason Dr. Clifford Bassett chose to settle in Cushing in 1933. He had received his medical degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1930 but trained further in surgery in Kansas City before choosing a location for private practice. Cushing's oil boom had peaked before 1920, and oil prices had fallen as productive new fields glutted the market. Although the town's economic base had suffered as the Great Depression set in, its sixteen oil companies, refineries, and pipelines buffered it against the nation's hard times. With more than nine thousand people, Cushing was now the largest town in the county and had an unusually prosperous citizenry. That meant it was a promising place for a new doctor. Consequently, Dr. Bassett moved into the Hotel Cushing and shared an office over a drugstore downtown. Always striving to improve his surgical skills, in 1935 he visited several major European medical schools and in 1942 was admitted to the American College of Surgeons. After Pearl Harbor, he volunteered for the Army Medical Corps and served in North Africa and Italy, commanding field hospitals and further honing his surgical skills. In 1946 he ended four years' army service as a lieutenant colonel decorated for his excellent war record. Back in Cushing, he found the town prosperous from the wartime demand for oil and growing in population. Dr. Bassett also prospered in his practice and by becoming a partner in the small but profitable Simon and Bassett Oil Company. By 1950, after twenty years in the office over the drugstore, he was ready to build a state-of-the-art clinic to provide the best possible care for his patients. The same year he married Phyllis Blackford and finally moved out of the Hotel Cushing and into a small house. With the clinic project already started, they realized they would also need a bigger house because of the child they expected the following year.¹⁰

⁸ Morgan, *Oklahoma*, 270-271; Wells, *Young Cushing*, 193-204.

⁹ Charles I. Stewart, "Cushing--The Wonder City," *Harlow's Weekly Magazine* 8 (No. 24, June 5, 1915), quoted in Wells, *Young Cushing*, 202.

¹⁰ Keith Cole, *Diamond in the Oilpatch: The Life and Times of Dr. Clifford Bassett* (Stillwater, Okla.: New Forums Press, 2004), 11, 30, 32-34, 38-40, 56-57, 68, 75-91, 99-101; Lois Hoffman, "This Doctor Really Built His Dream Office," *Medical*

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While the Bassett Clinic and home, designed by the same architectural firm and both built between late 1951 and 1954, brought the American International style of architecture to Cushing, the Bassett House demonstrated its use as a residential style. Dr. Clifford and Mrs. Phyllis Bassett chose Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, an Oklahoma City firm, to design first the clinic and then the house. Chief Architectural Designer Truett H. Coston and Chief Engineer W. Wally Frankfurt presented an impressive record of work since founding their firm in 1945. Most of their projects involved designing, remodeling, or expanding medical, commercial, industrial, educational, and religious facilities across Oklahoma. None of the projects they presented as references was residential. Their work designing buildings such as the Radio Station KOMA transmitter building in Oklahoma City (1946); Choctaw County Memorial Hospital, Hugo, Oklahoma (1947); and the Research Laboratory Building for the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma City (1949) were generally International in style. However, their design for the educational building and sanctuary for St. Luke's Methodist Church, Oklahoma City (1949) departed from the unadorned stucco or plaster wall surfaces of the International style by adding flagstone sections to accent the predominantly brick walls of the building exterior. They also used decorative supports, rather than the International-style plain metal columns, beneath the portico. This suggested Coston and Frankfurt by 1950 were perhaps moving toward the newer American International style then in vogue on the West Coast.¹¹

Their shift toward the American International style appeared more clearly in the Bassett Clinic and the Bassett House. In these two buildings Coston and Frankfurt incorporated modifications that mid-twentieth-century architects such as Richard Neutra had made to the International style in the early 1940s. Although Coston and Frankfurt included the flat roofs, boxed eaves, and clerestory windows of the International style in both Bassett buildings, like Neutra, they used wood and stone veneers along with expanses of glass for the exterior walls, creating a more organic look in harmony with the natural landscape. They also employed construction innovations based on the Usonian principles of Frank Lloyd Wright. These innovations included steel post and beam construction, poured concrete walls, and concrete slab foundations. By the 1950s these were being popularized by large-scale residential builders such as Joseph Eichler in his rapidly built and replicated California suburban homes. To erect their two buildings, the Bassetts employed the J. J. Bollinger Construction

Economics (September 1954): 137; Dr. Renee Bassett Willis, telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, Stillwater, Oklahoma, July 10, 2009.

¹¹ Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, application materials, June 18, 1951; Blumenson, *Identifying American Architecture* 75; McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, 475, 482.

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Company of Oklahoma City, contractors on large projects state-wide. However, Cushing businesses also worked on the Bassett building projects. For example, Cushing Plumbing Supply furnished the sheet metal duct work for the house.¹²

As a public building and the first finished, the Bassett Clinic attracted more and earlier attention. Erected next to the Cushing hospital, the 7,500 square-foot, one story building represented "the latest in modern, architectural design," according to the *Cushing Daily Citizen*, which devoted almost an entire edition to the open house on September 21, 1952. More than two thousand visitors, many from out of town, toured the new clinic that day. Cushing had nothing else like it then. Its generally cruciform shape and flat roof had "a winged airplane-like look," according to one reporter, while the upward slant of the south wing roof reduced "the earth-hugging appearance of many modern buildings."¹³ The Bassett Clinic received professional accolades for its design. The September 1954 edition of *Medical Economics* included an article, as well as a cover photograph, showcasing the thirty-room, half-million-dollar clinic with state-of-the-art equipment. The writer marveled that it was located in a small Oklahoma town of only about eight thousand people with about twice that number in the surrounding area. Two months later the state chapter of the American Institute of Architects named the Bassett Clinic one of the outstanding buildings constructed in Oklahoma since 1948.¹⁴

Mrs. Bassett, according to her daughter, "loved modern furniture, modern art, modern everything."¹⁵ The new clinic perhaps provided the Bassetts a chance to evaluate its American International style, decide whether it would suit them in the new home they needed, and choose the features they might want to incorporate into it. There were many similarities in the two buildings. Both used steel post and beam construction, poured concrete walls, and concrete slab foundations. The L-shaped footprint of the house somewhat resembled that

¹² Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, construction documents, February 12, 1952, Clifford Bassett House, Cushing, Oklahoma; Paul Adamson, *Eichler: Modernism Rebuilds the American Dream* (Salt Lake City, Utah: Gibbs Smith, Publisher, 2002), 51-52. The J. J. Bollinger Construction Company was also the contractor for the construction of the McMahon Memorial Auditorium in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1953. "History of McMahon Auditorium," n.d., <<http://www.cityof.lawton.ok.us/MMA/MA.htm>> (July 10, 2009).

¹³ See various articles in the September 19, 1952 issue of *The Cushing (Oklahoma) Daily Citizen*.

¹⁴ Ibid., December 19, 1954; Hoffman, "Dream Office," 134-149.

¹⁵ Dr. Renee Bassett Willis, email correspondence with Mary Jane Warde, July 16, 2009.

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of the cruciform clinic in that a series of rooms opened off the primary east-west-oriented central hallway. The south wing of the house in which the dining room and living room flowed into one another resembled the clinic's large open waiting room and business office in its south wing. Both buildings had a multiple-vehicle carport extending outward from the east end of the building. Both had flat roofs, and in both the roof of the south wing was slanted upward, although in different directions, to use or limit sunlight. Both buildings were designed to take advantage of natural light, with clerestory windows and ground-to-eave glass walls on the south wing. Both also used a cantilevered roof overhang to shade windows and shelter entrances. While the clinic exterior walls were primarily brick veneered, the Bassetts chose flagstone to veneer the primary walls of their house. However, both buildings used exterior wall materials on some interior walls, and both used redwood for the boxed eaves and trim. Interior finishes and furnishings were also similar. Both had terrazzo floors, some wood paneled walls, stainless steel cabinets, an intercom system, and a free-standing coat closet. Mrs. Bassett's was the primary voice in the interior decoration of the clinic, and she later chose the same type of sleek modern furniture for her new house.¹⁶

Construction on the Bassett House took a year, most of 1953, and the family moved in early in 1954. The house stood in the Park Heights Addition, a new area of south Cushing platted April 4, 1950. Residences later built near the Bassett House were much smaller, vernacular, and generally Contemporary in style. Mrs. Bassett used her flair for interior design to decorate the house and select draperies and furniture. The latter, some of it custom-made for the house, was by leading Modern Movement furniture companies such as Martinsville and Dunbar and by designers such as Charles and Ray Eames, Edward Wormley, George Nelson, Florence Knoll, and Gilbert Rohde. The clinic had provided a television set, still somewhat of a novelty, in the waiting room, and the Bassetts had a fifty-foot tall, free-standing television antenna erected just east of the house for reception. They also had a well dug and piped its water into the house. Two faucets at one of the kitchen sinks tapped either the well or the city water line. With its intercom, central heating and air conditioning, wall-to-wall carpeted or terrazzo floors, and other amenities, the Bassett House—architect-designed, very modern, and huge with more than nine thousand square feet—quickly became a Cushing landmark. Although very similar to the award-winning clinic, the Bassett House was unlike any other residence in town.¹⁷

¹⁶ Hoffman, "Dream Office," 134-149.

¹⁷ Ibid., 141; Cole, *Diamond in the Oil Patch*, 115.

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The Bassets had built their house as both a family home and a place for entertaining. The focus of their social life, according to Dr. Bassett's biographer, was their home, and they opened it to the community. A full-time housekeeper, who occupied her own suite, dealt with household chores. This left Mrs. Bassett free to monitor their interests in the Simon and Bassett Oil Company, volunteer untiringly in community organizations, and take an active role in the lives of the three Bassett daughters. She was president both of the Cushing Parent Teacher Association and the Oklahoma State Medical Association Auxiliary. An accomplished hostess, she opened the house to organizations such as the Geographic Club, which met in her home to plan philanthropic projects, including building the town's amphitheater. Business associates, ministers new to town, and visiting doctors were guests at the frequent large parties Dr. and Mrs. Bassett hosted. Cars of the guests filled the wide driveway and surrounding streets. Events such as the Bassetts' anniversary party drew more than two hundred guests, who could be accommodated in the large living room, dining room, and basement card and game rooms with their own entrance from the lawn. The wine storage closet, soda fountain counter that could seat fourteen, and dumb-waiter connecting it to the kitchen upstairs were also located in the basement. Formal-dress parties for the Bassetts' adult guests were often catered by Oklahoma City businesses and included elaborate ice sculptures. The basement rooms provided ample space and rubber tiled floors for dancing to the music of live bands. As her daughters grew, Mrs. Bassett welcomed their friends for Girl Scout meetings and to birthday and slumber parties. She delighted the girls by decorating the basement elaborately for hobo-, Disney-, and fairy princess-themed parties. When the girls became teenagers in the 1960s, the Bassets hosted dance parties in the basement rooms or more formal gatherings around the grand piano in the living room. Still later they welcomed their daughter Renee's friends from the University of Oklahoma. Christmas was a special time at the Bassett House, and the Geographic Club always held its December meeting there. The Bassetts opened the floor-length draperies in the south wing living room to reveal a life-sized moving Santa Claus and bear. Driving by to see them in operation became a Cushing Christmas tradition.¹⁸

Dr. Bassett's life was divided between his family and his medical practice. Although he enjoyed their social life, he also liked spending his time quietly reading, conversing with friends, and following University of Oklahoma football. He usually saw his patients at the clinic, but occasionally they entered the north door off the walled patio to consult with him in his home study after hours. He routinely grilled steaks for the family on Sunday nights, another use for the outdoor living space now common in American International homes.¹⁹

¹⁸ Cole, *Diamond in the Oil Patch*, 119-120; Dr. Renee Bassett Willis, telephone interview by Mary Jane Ward, July 10, 2009.

¹⁹ Cole, *Diamond in the Oil Patch*, 119.

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In 1974 Dr. Bassett was named Outstanding Citizen of Cushing, a year before ill health forced him to retire from his medical practice and the clinic. After his death in 1977, Mrs. Bassett retained her home until her death in 2005, making only a few cosmetic changes to the interior of the house. The Bassett House remained vacant for four years and then passed in 2009 to new owners. They appreciate its history and plan to retain its original American International style and furnishings.²⁰

Conclusion:

The Bassett House introduced Cushing, Oklahoma to the American International style of architecture used in a residence in 1953. It is believed to be the only example of this style of architecture in Cushing other than the Bassett Clinic. The Bassett House is also believed to have been the only residence designed by the award-winning firm of Coston and Frankfurt, Architects and Engineers, which continues today as Frankfurt-Short-Bruza, Architects, Engineers, Planners and which has won many national and state awards for the quality of its projects state-wide.²¹

The association of the house with the Bassett family and the community of Cushing continued from 1953 to 2009, more than half a century. The house has been well maintained by past and present owners who valued and continue to value its architectural style. Its original location, setting, materials, and workmanship have been unchanged since the early 1950s. The original external and internal design of the house has been only slightly altered, while the 1950s feeling of the house has been strongly bolstered by retention of its original furnishings. The Bassett House, then, is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C.

²⁰ Ibid., 134-137.

²¹ According to Art Austin, Frankfurt-Short-Bruza Associates, the firm has done no residential projects in the past twenty-eight years of his tenure; nor does he know of any before his tenure began. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, July 16, 2007; <<http://www.fsb-ae.com/nav.php>> (July 17, 2009).

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It has also been a landmark for generations of Cushing citizens, who recall Dr. Bassett as their doctor, the generous hospitality of the Bassett family, and the role the house played in the life of the community. Remembering her family and the house where she lived, Dr. Renee Bassett Willis recalls that her life with her sisters and parents in the Bassett House was "a true pleasure." Beyond the style of architecture that was an innovation in Cushing and the large social and community gatherings that were held in the house, she concludes, "It was just home."²²

²² Dr. Renee Bassett Willis, telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, July 10, 2009.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form)

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been Requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>14</u>	<u>702263</u>	<u>3983240</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

Lots 11, 12, 13, and the west 1/2 of lots 10 and 14, block 5, Park Heights Addition, Cushing, Oklahoma

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

These are the boundaries historically associated with this property and recorded at the Payne County Court House, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

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"History of McMahon Auditorium," n.d. <<http://www.cityof.lawton.ok.us/MMA/MA.htm>> (July 10, 2009).

<<http://www.fsb-ae.com/nav.php>> n.d. (July 17, 2009).

Interviews:

Austin, Art. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, July 16, 2007. Twenty-eight year employee of Frankfurt-Short-Bruza, Architects, Engineers, Planners.

Willis, Dr. Renee Bassett. Telephone interview by Mary Jane Warde, July 10, 2009. Daughter of Dr. Clifford and Mrs. Phyllis Bassett.

Email Correspondence:

Willis, Dr. Renee Bassett. Email correspondence with Mary Jane Warde, July 16, 2009. Daughter of Dr. Clifford and Mrs. Phyllis Bassett.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. Mary Jane Warde
organization _____ date July 31, 2009
street & number 3523 Willow Park Circle telephone (405) 377-0412
city or town Stillwater state OK zip code 74074
e-mail mary.warde@yahoo.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: **The Bassett House**

City or Vicinity: **Cushing, Oklahoma**

County: **Payne** **State:** **Oklahoma**

Photographer: **Mary Jane Warde**

Date Photographed: **See individual photographs.**

These photographs were printed on an HP 6310 printer, using HP Vivera inks 95 and 98 on Epson Premium Presentation Paper, Matte.

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

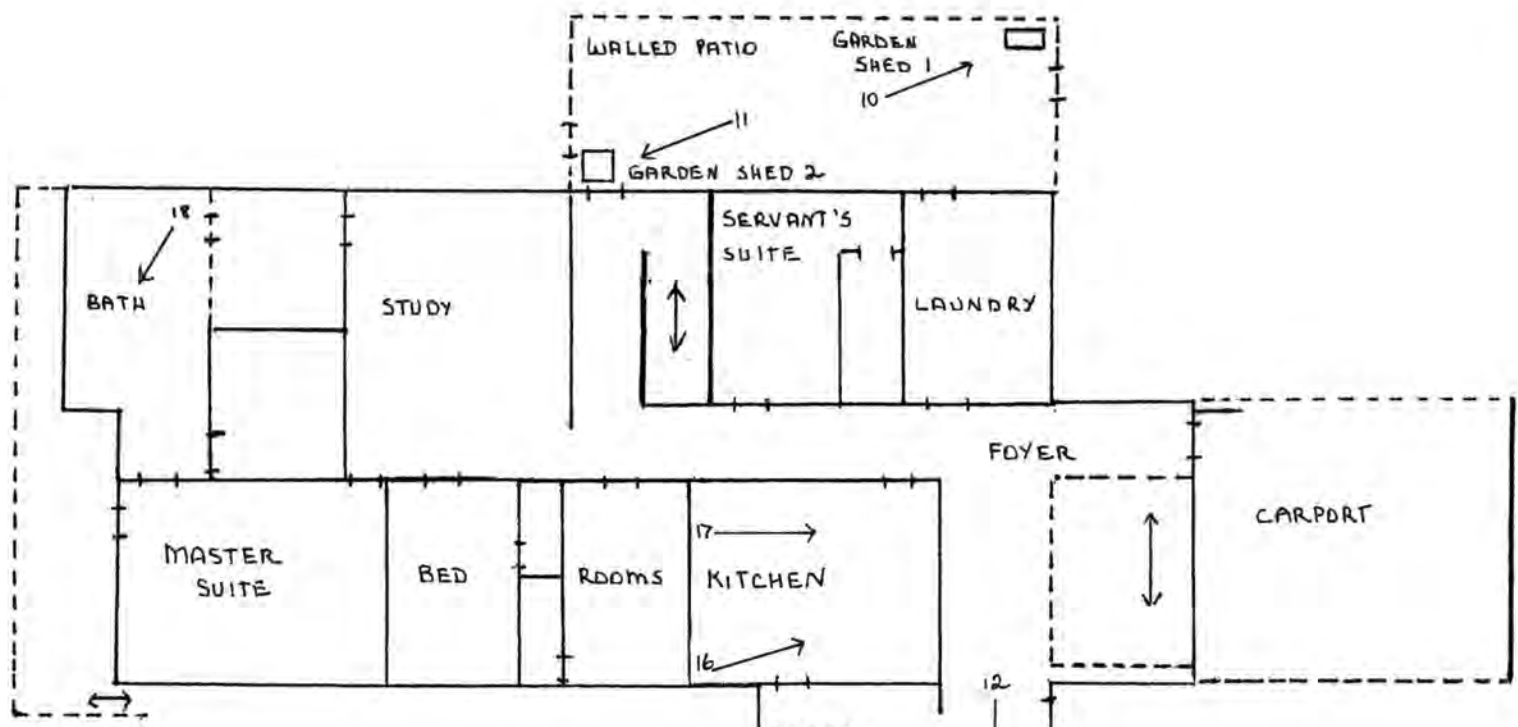
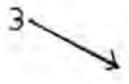
Number	Date	View	Camera Direction
1	June 21, 2009	South elevation	NE
2	June 21, 2009	West and south elevations	NE
3	June 21, 2009	North and west elevations	SE
4	June 21, 2009	East and north elevations	SW
5	June 21, 2009	South and east elevations	NW
6	June 21, 2009	East elevations, south wing and west wing	W
7	June 21, 2009	South elevation, west wing, and west and south elevations, south wing	NE
8	June 21, 2009	Television antenna and water well	N
9	June 21, 2009	Water well	NE
10	June 21, 2009	Garden Shed 1	NE
11	June 21, 2009	Garden Shed 2	SW
12	May 29, 2009	Living room	S
13	May 29, 2009	Living room	NW
14	May 29, 2009	Living room through the dining room to the foyer, south wing	N
15	May 29, 2009	Dining room	NW
16	May 29, 2009	Kitchen, island left, dumb-waiter, right	NE
17	May 29, 2009	Kitchen, island right, intercom, center	E
18	June 21, 2009	Master bath, sunken tub	SW
19	May 29, 2009	Basement game room, south wing, fireplace in the foreground, soda fountain and dumb-waiter in the background, right	N
20	May 29, 2009	Basement soda fountain, with card room, west wing, in the background	NW

Property Owner:

name Glynn and Sandra McCauley
 street & number 1100 East Ninth Place telephone (918) 225-4637
 city or town Cushing state OK zip code 74023

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. fo the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



The Bassett House
Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Ground Floor
Photographic Orientation Map
July 30, 2009

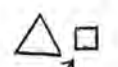
↔ Stairway
- - - Partial wall

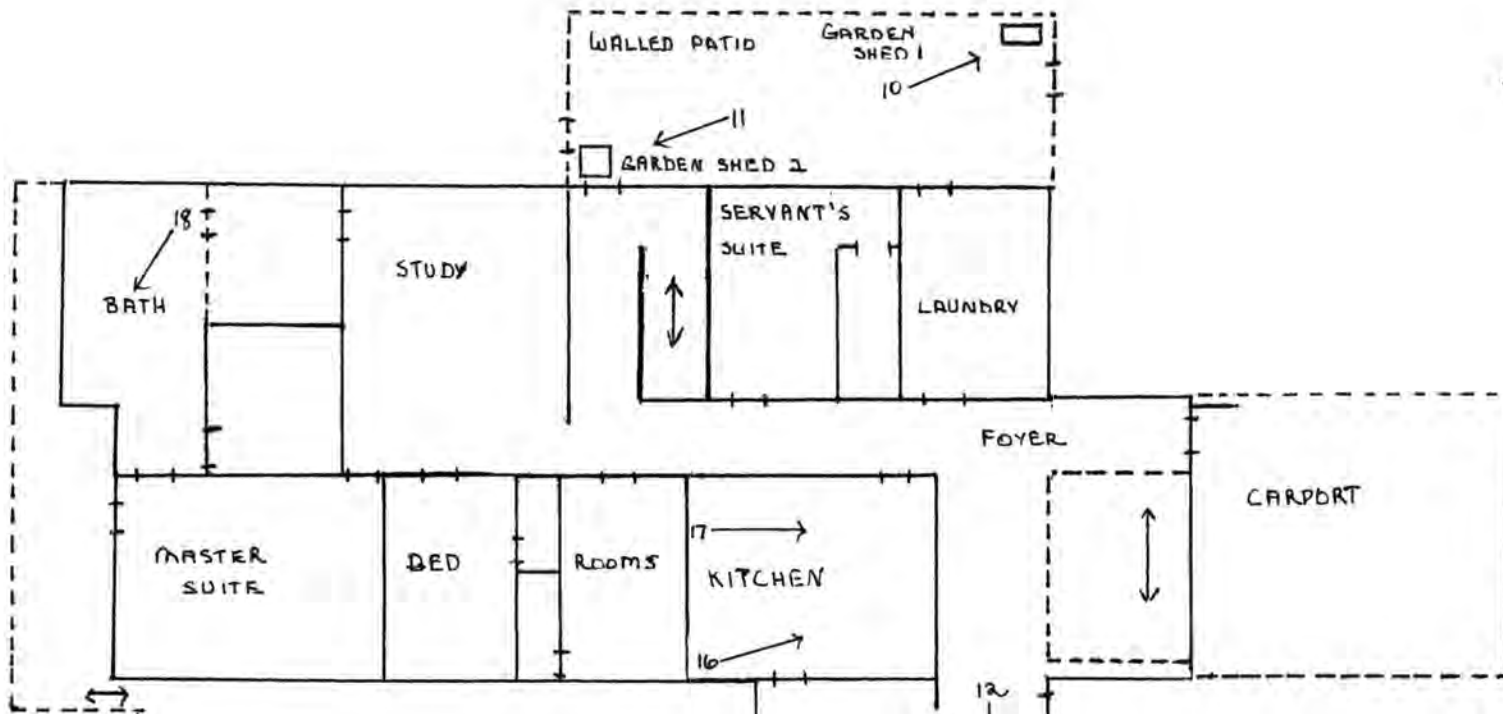
Not to Scale



WATER WELL

TELEVISION ANTENNA



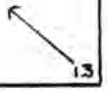
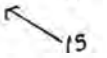
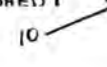
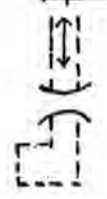
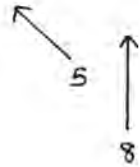
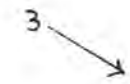
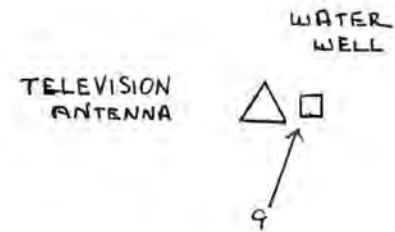


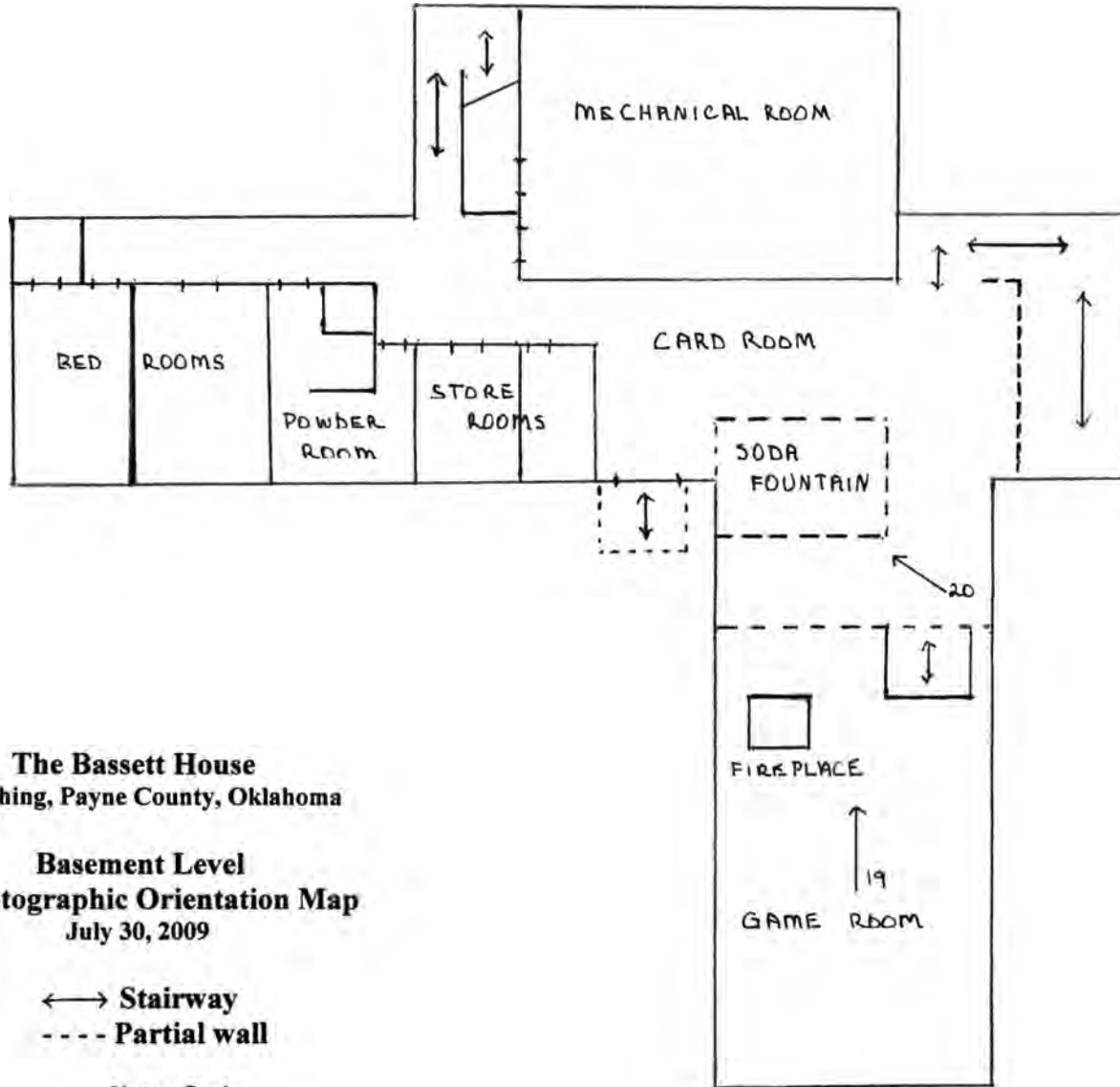
The Bassett House
Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Ground Floor
Photographic Orientation Map
July 30, 2009

↔ Stairway
- - - Partial wall

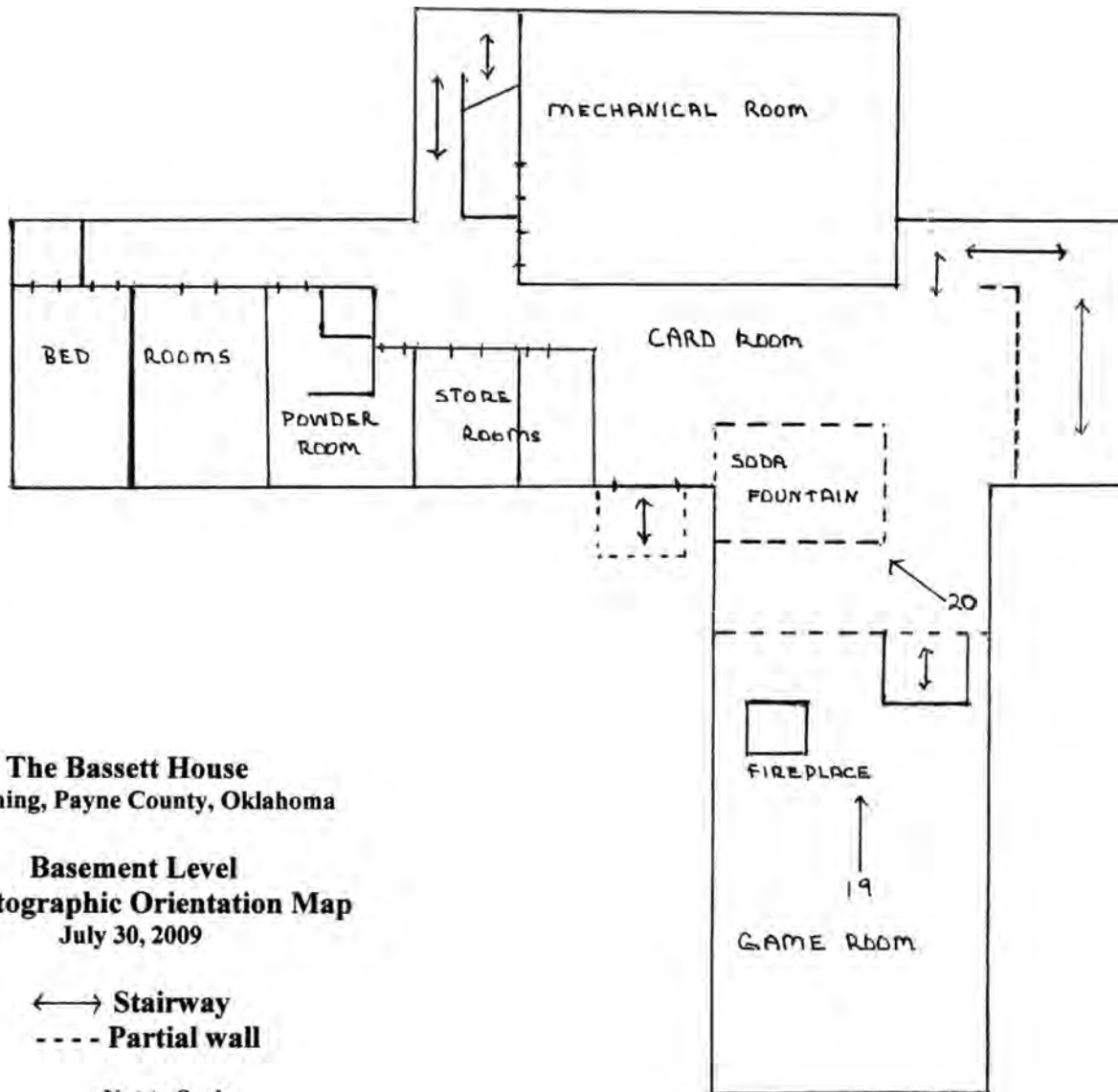
Not to Scale





The Bassett House
 Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Basement Level
Photographic Orientation Map
 July 30, 2009



The Bassett House
 Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Basement Level
Photographic Orientation Map
 July 30, 2009

←→ **Stairway**
 - - - **Partial wall**

Not to Scale

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Bassett House, The
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OKLAHOMA, Payne

DATE RECEIVED: 10/23/09 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/10/09
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/25/09 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/06/09
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000979

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12-3-09 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City,

OK 73105-7914

South elevation, facing NE

Photo #1



The Bassett House

1100 East Sixth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

West and south elevations, facing NE

Photo # 2



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK
73105-7914

North and west elevations, facing SE

Photo #3



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

East and north elevations, facing SW

Photo # 4



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City, Ok

73105-7914

South and east elevations, facing NW

Photo # 5



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

East elevation, south wing and west wing, facing W

Photo # 6



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

South elevation, west wing and west and south elevations, south wing, facing NE

Photo # 7



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

Television antenna and water well, facing N

Photo # 8



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

Water well, facing NE

Photo #9



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

Garden Shed 1, facing NE

Photo #10



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Garden Shed 2, facing SW

Photo #11



The Bassett House

1100 East Nivick Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Wardle

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Living room, facing S

Photo # 12



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Living room, facing NW

Photo #13



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird, Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914

View from the living room through the dining room to the foyer, southwing, facing N

Photo # 14



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Dining room, facing NW

Photo #15



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lind Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Kitchen: island left, double-waite right, facing NE

Photo # 16



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Kitchen, island, right, intercom center, facing E

Photo # 17



The Barrett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

June 21, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Master bath, sunken tub, facing SW

Photo #18



The Bassett House

1100 East North Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Lincoln Ave., Oklahoma City, OK
73105-7914

Basement game room, south wing, fireplace in the foreground, soda fountain and
dumbwaiter in the background, right, facing N

Photo # 19



The Bassett House

1100 East Ninth Place, Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma

Mary Jane Ward

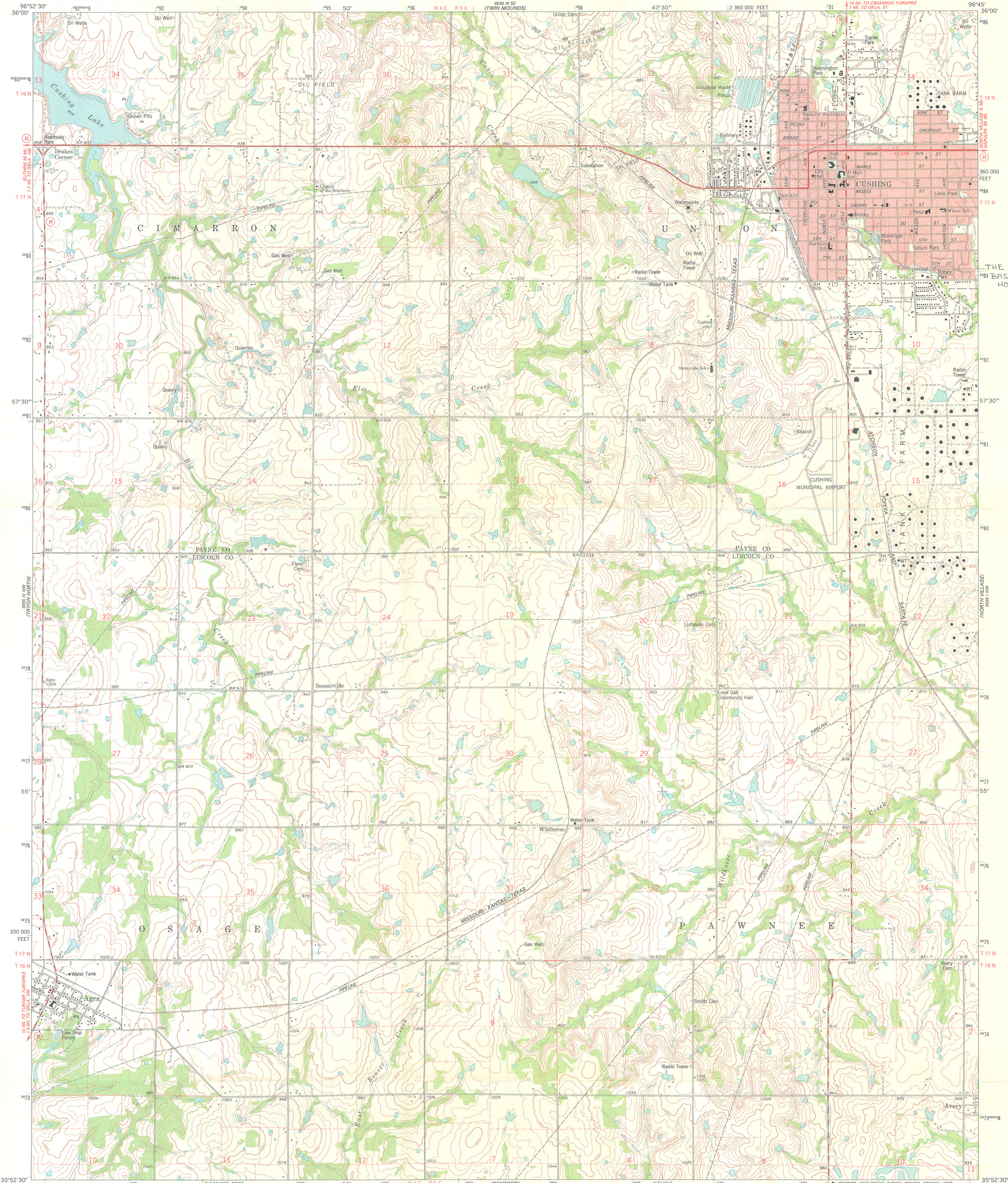
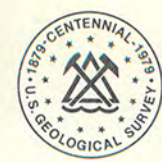
May 29, 2009

Oklahoma SHPO, Oklahoma History Center, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK

73105-7914

Basement, soda fountain, with card room, west wing, in the background, facing NW

Photo # 20



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

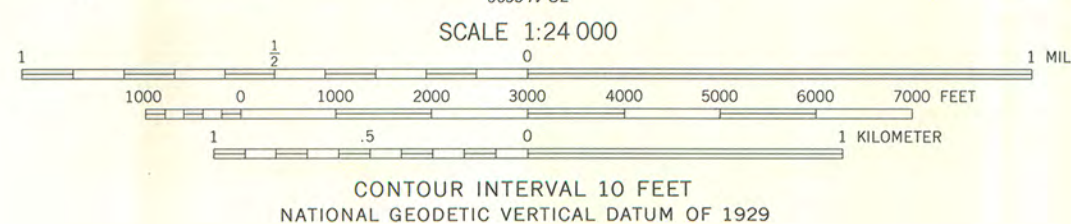
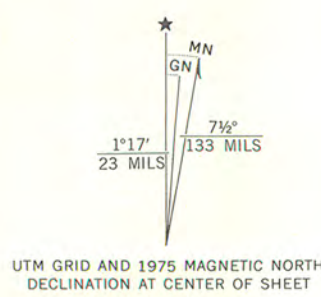
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1975

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Oklahoma coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



SCALE 1:24 000

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

CUSHING, OKLA.
NE 1/4 AGRA 15' QUADRANGLE
N3552.5 — W9645.7.5

1975

AMS 6655 IV NE—SERIES V883



Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

State Historic Preservation Office

Oklahoma History Center • 2401 North Laird Ave. • Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914
(405) 521-6249 • Fax (405) 522-0816 • www.okhistory.org/shpo/shpom.htm

October 21, 2009

Ms. Jan Matthews
Keeper of the Register
National Park Service 2280, 8th floor
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW
Washington D.C. 20005



Dear Ms. Matthews:

We are pleased to transmit six National Register of Historic Places nominations for Oklahoma properties. The nominations are for the following properties:

Ingle Brothers Broomcorn Warehouse, Shattuck, Ellis County
Irving Baptist Church, Ryan, Jefferson County
Downtown Mangum Historic District, Mangum, Greer County
Attucks School, Vinita, Craig County
The Bassett House, Cushing, Payne County
Citizens State Bank, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma County

We look forward to the results of your review. If there may be any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either Lynda B. Schwan of my staff or myself.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvena Heisch".

Melvena Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MKH:lbs

Enclosures