

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number

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✓ Governor's Mansion (Giza House) (5) (SHHTR),

✓ Location: 618 N. Park ST.

Owner of Property: Zygmund O. Giza, Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Location of Legal Description: Pottawatomie County Court House.

Description: Excellent, unaltered, original site.

The Governor's Mansion, built in 1903, is approximately 60' by 70'. The house is three stories and most of the rooms have 12-' ceilings. The house has a brick foundation and a wood plank porch. The house is decorated with a number of ionic columns on the east and south sides of the house. The front of the house has a bay window on the north end on the first and second stories, which extends into a gable on the third story. The south end of the front is rounded on the first and second stories, extending into a turret on the third story. A balcony extends from the bay window to the rounded part of the house across the second story on the front. The balcony is decorated with an open railing. The south side of the house has another bay window on the first and second floors and a balcony on the second floor. The balcony is decorated with an open railing. The porch extends around to the south side of the house and goes half way to the back of the house. The third floor of the south side has a gable similar to the one on the front of the house. The north side has a bay window on the first two stories which extends into a gable on the third story. The second story bay window is decorated with spindles. A porte-cochere supported by doric columns and decorated with two small gables extends from the north side of the house. The house has one red brick chimney stack. The windows on the house are double-hung windows, except the windows in the gables. The windows in the gables are four by six fixed windows. The eaves on the second floor are decorated with brackets. The roof is wood shingles and the house is constructed with clapboard siding. The present owner is in the process of restoring the house.

Significance: 1903 to present; politics/government.

The Governor's Mansion, built in 1903, is significant because it was chosen to be the Governor's Mansion if Shawnee was chosen to be the state capital of Oklahoma. In 1910, Governor Charles Haskell proposed that the state legislature decide on a permanent location for the state capital. The legislature passed the Ledbetter Bill stating that any city that could obtain 5,000 signatures would be put on the ballot as a possible site for the capital. A public election would be held in order to make the final decision of where the capital would be located. Oklahoma City, Guthrie, and Shawnee were the only towns able to obtain enough signatures to be put on the ballot. In an effort to persuade voters to choose Shawnee as the capital, the citizens of Shawnee stated that if Shawnee was chosen as state capital, this house would be donated to be used as the Governor's mansion. Oklahoma City was chosen as the state capital, but since 1910, the citizens of Shawnee have referred to the house as the Governor's Mansion and the house is considered a local landmark.

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Bibliographical References:

Goins, Charles R. and Morris John W. Oklahoma Homes Past and Present. Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1980.

Interviews, Keller, Mrs. Reuban, Shawnee, OK June 2, 1981. Dockins, Ella, Oklahoma City, OK May 1981.

Acreage: Less than 1 acre. Quadrangle name: Shawnee 1967. 7.5'.

Verbal Boundary Description: North 21' of lot 5, all of lots 6 & 7, of Block 1 of Quietts Addition.

UTM: Zone: 14

Easting: 688430

Northing: 3912050