

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received APR 25 1983
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic MELVIN F. LUSTER HOME

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 300 N.E. 3rd St. not for publication

city, town Oklahoma City vicinity of

state Oklahoma code county Oklahoma code

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 checked="" 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 Melvin F. Luster

street & number 300 N.E. 3rd St.

city, town Oklahoma City vicinity of state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse

street & number 320 Robert S. Kerr Blvd.

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Oklahoma Historic Research Surhas this property been determined eligible? yes no

date July 27, 1982 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historic Society: Preservation

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The house appears as it did when built in 1926. It is a two story wood (balloon frame) and masonry (brick) structure. The red brick is laid in a running bond pattern with soldier course accents. The windows are sash type with 6 over 1 lights which occur in single, paired or triple groupings.

Of particular interest is a covered porch, with arches supported by unfluted columns with unadorned capitals and base. The brick arches are accented with a limestone keystone. The house has other decorative features including dentil, Limestone sills. There are no exterior alterations.

Also on the property is the original manufacturing plant for East India Toilet Goods. It is a one story rectangular frame building which has been covered with a brick patterned rolled siding. The condition of the building is extremely poor.

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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1926 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The significance of the Luster Home is its association with a leader of the black community and his commercial endeavors. Sydney Lyons, stepfather of the current property owner, established the East India Toilet Goods Company before coming to Oklahoma in 1889. In 1909, Lyons moved from Guthrie to Oklahoma City. He sold his toiletries, primarily a hair grower from a horse and buggy. Lyons also owned and operated a grocery store on Northeast Second Street, which has been a black shopping area since the opening of Oklahoma Territory.

Lyons prospered ultimately owning much the Northeast area of Oklahoma City and in 1926 he built both a residence and manufacturing plant on one lot and increased his products to include face powder, perfume and bleach. The products were sold nationally and in many foreign countries. His product had a wide recognition.

While the manufacturing plant is important to the site its integrity and condition is poor leaving the house as the significant property associated with the black entrepreneur, Sidney Lyons. Few black businessmen were as successful as Lyons in the early twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Born Grown by Roy P. Stewart

The Blacks in Oklahoma by Jimmie Lewis Franklin

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than 1

Quadrangle name Oklahoma

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	6	3	5	4	7	0	3	9	2	6	0	4	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Verbal boundary description and justification

Phillips and Meade Addition Block 2, Lots 21 and 22.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gary Royal, President

organization Harrison-Walnut Neighborhood

date October 8, 1982

street & number 1500 N.E. 4th Suite 204

telephone

city or town Oklahoma City

state Oklahoma 73117

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

C. Ensey

4/12/83

title

date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Bob Grosvenor

date

6/7/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration