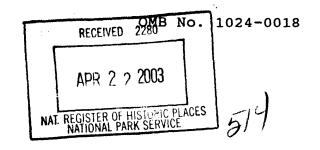
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property						
historic name <u>Cus</u>	hing American	Legion B	uilding			
other names/site	number					
2. Location						
street & number city or town stateOklahoma	Cushing			_ not for publication N/A vicinity code <u>119</u>		

3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the Na 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that determination of eligibility meets the deproperties in the National Register of Hand professional requirements set forth propertyX meets does not meet the recommend that this property be consider statewideX locally. (N/A See continual)	this <u>X</u> nomination request for locumentation standards for registering listoric Places and meets the procedural in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the line National Register Criteria. I red significant nationally
Dob Darkb	
Signature of certifying official	Date
Oklahoma Historical Society, SHPO State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets _ criteria. ( See continuation sheet f	does not meet the National Register or additional comments.)
Signature of commenting or other officia	Date
State or Federal agency and bureau	
4. National Park Service Certification	
entered in the National Register  See continuation sheet.  determined eligible for the  National Register  See continuation sheet.  determined not eligible for the  National Register  removed from the National Register	Don H. Beall 6/6/03
other (explain):	Signature of Keeper Date
	of Action

5. Classification
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)  _X_ private  public-local  public-State  public-Federal
Category of Property (Check only one box)  _x_ building(s)  district  site  structure  object
Number of Resources within Property
Contributing       Noncontributing         1       0       buildings         0       0       sites         0       0       structures         0       0       objects         1       0       Total
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register $N/A$
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  N/A

6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: SOCIAL Sub: meeting hall	
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Cat: SOCIAL Sub: meeting hall	
7. Description	
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)  LATE TWENTIETH/EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY  REVIVALS: Mission Revival  Materials (Enter categories from instructions)  foundationCONCRETE	
roundation CONCRETE roof COMPOSITION walls STUCCO other	

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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)
X 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
X 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.
Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)  SOCIAL HISTORY  ARCHITECTURE
Period of Significance 1924-1953

8. Statement of Significance (Continued)
Significant Dates 1924
Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)N/A
Cultural Affiliation N/A
Architect/Builder New, L. C., architect
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
9. Major Bibliographical References
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS) N/A  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 _X_ State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:

lo. Geographical Data
Acreage of Property <u>Less than 1 (one)</u> acre
JTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing  1 14 701100 3983630 3  2 4
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)
ll. Form Prepared By
name/title <u>Dianna Everett, Public Historian and Consultant</u>
organization date <u>3 January 2003</u>
street & number 2510 Countrywood Lane telephone (405)348-4272
city or town Edmond state OK zip code 73003-6433

Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of the	SHPO or FPO.)
name <u>American Legion Post 108</u>	
street & number 212 S. Noble	telephone (none)
city or town <u>Cushing</u>	state_OK_ zip_code_74023

OMB No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900-a (8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 9

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State

#### SUMMARY:

The Cushing American Legion Building, built in 1924 in a mixed commercial-residential area at 212 S. Noble, adjacent to downtown Cushing, Oklahoma, is a modest version of Spanish Colonial Revival/Mission architecture. The building's visual character is established by raised and shaped parapets and a colonnaded main entry with square columns rising to short towers. Other features include fired clay-tile construction, and painted stucco wall covering, and a prominent external chimney with dentil molding at the top. As with many Mission-style buildings of the era, the primary roof section is gabled, rather than flat, although an extension off the rear has a flat roof, as does the portico sheltering the main entrance. Some slight Craftsman detailing is present in open eaves with visible rafter tails and a fascia. The building retains virtually all of its original design and materials, the only alterations being one new set of windows in the north elevation, an infilled window in the east, and three new (temporary replacement) doors.

### **DESCRIPTION:**

The Cushing American Legion Building is a one-story, detached, horizontally massed building at 212 South Noble in Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma. The building is oriented with its principal elevation facing west to South Noble street; an alleyway marks the north edge of the property. The building remains in its original location, on a large lot in the South Addition, which was developed in the 1920s adjacent to downtown. The surrounding area retains its original composition of mixed commercial and residential, with a mix of older and contemporaneous residential properties to the east, west, and south and the Cushing downtown commercial district along Broadway, one block north.

The Cushing American Legion Building is a modest building with an understated design and detailing that suggest Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival style, with raised, shaped parapets, colonnaded portico, and stucco walls. The load-bearing, fired clay-tile, stucco walls are painted white. The front-gabled roof, which is not typical of Spanish eclectic buildings, has a raised and shaped Mission-style parapet on the principal, or west, elevation and a similar but less imposing parapet on the east one-third of the north elevation. The roofing material is composition shingles, in moderate repair. The overhang, present on the south and part of the north elevations, is narrow, and the Craftsman-like open eaves have rafter tails masked by a 1x6" fascia.

The building's footprint is in the shape of an L, with the long axis east-west, facing South Noble. The rear of the building, or the foot of the L, is wider, having an original, flat-roofed extension that shelters a kitchen-restroom area. The building measures 61 feet in length east-west, twenty-five feet in width

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 10

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State 

north-south in the main part of the building, and thirty-eight feet north-south across the rear (the foot of the L. On the west or main elevation, a wide, deep portico extends out eleven feet further, and a set of steps projects outward another 5.5 feet. The steps lead to the sidewalk accessing the street.

The west or main elevation gives the building its character, combining Spanish Colonial/Mission details with towers that suggest a military function. The portico is supported by four square posts (tile, faced with stucco) that have short towers projecting above the roof line. The portico roof extends outward a little further on the proper left, or north side, to shelter access to a flagpole. Two short, matching newel posts are found at the end of the step area. Matching corner posts with towers are found behind this, on the west corners of the main building and the corners of the extension. The south elevation is marked by four sets of three large windows, separated by shallow pilasters. The east, or rear, elevation is unremarkable, with no roof rake and devoid of detailing. The gable has a large vent opening. A set of steps and wooden stoop access an entry door, centrally placed under the gable, and the flat-roofed extension to the north has two window openings, one with an original, double-hung, two light, wood-framed unit and one in which the original unit has been replaced by plywood with a very small light. The north elevation is marked by irregularly placed openings. The extension wall has two slightly recessed panel areas, one of which originally had a set of triple windows, now replaced. There is an entry in the west side of the extension, accessed by a concrete-slab stoop. The north wall is marked by a tall external, battered-wall chimney that breaks the eave line. West of this, toward the front of the building, is are two more panel areas, and in the westernmost is a triple window set.

Doors and windows are a mixture of original and new units. With the exception of a replaced window unit on the east end of the north elevation, all windows are the original double-hung, single-light, wood-frame units. Of these, there are four sets of three on the south side, one set in the west end of the north elevation, and an area where once was one set in the north wall of the extension. This latter has been replaced with two small aluminum units, with the surrounding area filled by plywood. Plans are to replicate the originals when funds are available. The main entry doors were replaced at an unknown date (c. 2001) by two wood-slab doors. The door surround retains its original multi-light arrangement, with six small square lights stacked on either side and eleven small, vertical lights placed across the top. Flanking the doorway are sets of two double-hung, singlelight, wood-frame window units. The east or rear door is a new wood unit, as is the door in the west side of the extension. Original door materials are unknown.

Decoration is simple, mostly limited to the Mission-style parapets, the pilastering, and the corner elements. The south and north walls have shallow pilasters between window sets. As found in Mission buildings, in the west elevation of the building's main section and in the north wall of the extension are a convex, upwardly curving Mission-style gable in the center of the wall. On the main elevation this covers the gable end. Each projection is squared off at

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section \_\_7 Page \_\_11

Cushing American Legion Building name of property
Payne, Oklahoma
county and State

the top. The chimney is modestly enhanced by a dentil molding around the top. All of the towers and Mission-style gables are capped with a concrete band. The entire effect of the towers, projections, and banding, give the building a military appearance. An original cornerstone, actually a shallow concrete panel, is inset into the wall to the proper right of the main (west) entrance. It denotes the following: "Donaldson Walker Post 108/1924/E.P. Hinton/Donor of Site/L.G. New/Architect". This information is centered around the American Legion logo.

A few other objects are on the property. An original flagpole rises at the proper left of the portico. An original signpost is set into the concrete walk at the front curb.

The interior room arrangement remains as original and is typical of a lodge hall. There is one large, open area used as a meeting room. In the extension, or L, are the kitchen and restroom. The present ceiling, installed in 1985, is an acoustical drop-type, with new fluorescent fixtures, but above this is the original vaulted, wood-beam ceiling and original incandescent fixtures. Plans are to remove the new ceiling and restore the original. A large, stone-surround fireplace marks the center of the north wall. Above the stone mantel is a panel containing the words "Presented By Junior Chamber of Commerce 1925."

# ALTERATIONS:

Alterations, which are minimal, came c. 2001. Two windows in the east elevation were replaced. An air conditioning unit was placed in the east wall at an unknown date. Door units were replaced. Metal handrails were added to the front porch balusters.

Despite these changes, the Cushing American Legion Building retains integrity of location and setting, that being a mixed commercial-residential neighborhood. The buildings retains sufficient integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling to illustrate the historic social and architectural pattern of Cushing, Oklahoma, and to enable the buildings eligibility under Criteria A and C.

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State 

# SUMMARY:

The Cushing American Legion Building, located at 212 South Noble, in Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma, was constructed in 1924 and dedicated in 1925 by veterans of the World War. The building is significant within the social context of Cushing as an important meeting place for World War I and World War II veterans, their families, and their friends, to plan and execute social and patriotic activities. The building was the scene of planning for Armistice (Veterans) Day parades, Memorial Day observances, and Fourth of July celebrations, in addition to the regularly scheduled Legion and Legion Auxiliary meetings. Further, the building also hosted regular meetings of other local clubs and organizations throughout the 1930s through the 1940s. This part of the building's function remained important into the twenty-first century. The Cushing American Legion Building is also significant within the architectural context of Cushing. As an example of vernacular Mission Revival style, the building is the only social meeting hall of this design. Its only architectural rivals are three residential units of vernacular Spanish Colonial Revival style in the east-side residential area; one of these has been heavily altered. The Cushing American Legion building retains nearly pristine integrity of location, setting, design, workmanship, materials, feeling, and association and is well able to convey information about its past functions within the contexts. It is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, Historical Significance, and Criterion C, Architectural Significance.

# HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Cushing, Oklahoma, is located in Payne County, once a portion of the Sac and Fox Reservation. The land run into the Sac and Fox area, which took place in September 1891, was the beginning of organized settlement in the Cushing area. William Little, a land claimant, began subdividing eighty acres of his claim, and a post office was established in November 1891.(1) Cushing quickly became the center of an agricultural region and supplied various typical services for the surrounding farming community. Cotton, the principal crop, was important, and cotton buyers, cotton gins, and associated industries developed. Corn and cattle ranked second and third in production. In 1902 rail service was provided.(2) By 1910 the town boasted a population of 1,072.(3) Agriculture has remained a significant aspect of life for the area's occupants, despite economic ups and downs provided by the petroleum industry during the rest of the twentieth century.

In 1912 came an seminal event: Oil was discovered on a nearby farm by legendary wildcatter Tom Slick. Cushing experienced a boom that would forever impact the town's development and would dictate its eventual decline. Within months of the discovery the town grew to 6,000 inhabitants, some permanent, some not. With "flush production" in the pre-World War I years, Cushing became known as "the refinery city," and boasted thirty oil producers and nine refineries. Pipeline construction converged in Cushing over the next few decades, and the area came to have one of the largest tank storage farms in the nation. A common name

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

for the community was "pipeline capital of the nation."(4) By the 1950s the town's economy was supported by 179 industries, of which 112 were petroleum-related. (5) Cushing's population in 1920 was officially recorded at 6,326 and in 1930, the peak year, at 9,301, followed by a very gradual decline through 1950.(6)

Throughout the first decades of its existence Cushing developed as a typical community of the day. A commercial district developed along Main and then along Broadway and grew very large during the oil boom. Typical businesses, like all towns of the era, included groceries, drugs stores, lumber yards, banks, newspapers, and so forth. (7) Dozens of brick western commercial-style buildings were built in a several-block area to house these economic activities. Churches, schools, and theaters, parks, and social club meeting halls also met these various needs of the citizens. Public services were provided, including paved streets, water systems, and electric and telephone facilities. A large residential area developed east and south and later west of the downtown commercial district and continued to grow through the 1950s.(8)

# SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Cushing American Legion Building is historically significant within the context of Cushing, Oklahoma's social history, particularly with reference to the development of veterans' organizations following World War I and continuing through World War II and the Korean Conflict.

As Cushing developed and its population burgeoned, typical civic-service and social groups were founded in the town. (9) The Masonic Order and associated groups were present almost from the beginning. By 1917 lodges included A.F. & A.M. (Masonic) Lodge No. 11, I.O.O.F. (Odd Fellows) Lodge No. 66, and Eagles Lodge #2040. Development of other civic groups followed a national trend in which the Rotary, Lions, Women's Clubs, and other groups were founded nationally around the time of World War I. The national Rotary was established in 1905 in Chicago, and Oklahoma's first unit came in 1911 in Oklahoma City. In Cushing, the Rotary was established in 1919. The Lions International was officially established in 1917 in Chicago, but Oklahoma had units of the original, loose organization earlier than that; the state's first came about in 1916 in Oklahoma City. Cushing's men established a Lions club in 1921. Similarly, Cushing women's organizations included the Geographic Club, founded in 1921 and affiliated with the National Federation of Women's Clubs, and the Hypatia club, founded in 1902.(10)

Veterans' organizations, another form of national social and civic organization that became important in the nineteenth century and also appeared as a significant element in Cushing's social life. The Grand Army of the Republic, composed of Civil War veterans both Union and Confederate, held an annual reunion United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 14

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State

in Cushing in August beginning in the 1890s. They built a brush arbor, which burned in 1901; the facility was replaced when the G.A.R. raised the money to build a pavilion and amphitheater at 100 East Oak. Here they also showed movies, hosted traveling shows and Chautauquas, and, of course, held the veterans' reunion.(11) As the veterans' numbers were reduced by time, the event became an Old Settlers Reunion. The Veterans of Foreign Wars, established nationally around the turn of the twentieth century, found members in Cushing.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The advent of war in Europe in 1914 and the United States' subsequent entry into that conflict in April 1917 occasioned the development of more veterans' groups. More than 90,000 Oklahoma men and women served in World War I; more than a thousand were killed in action. Thousands of others were wounded and died from disease. (12) Cushing citizens responded for the call to defend the country. Of those too young or old to did serve, 170 joined a "Home Guard," that patrolled in defense of the petroleum installations. Others worked for the Oklahoma Council of Defense to deter subversive activities. Almost everyone bought Liberty Bonds and war stamps, and Cushingites set records in the amounts purchased. (13)

Many Cushing men volunteered for service immediately at war's onset. The Cushing Citizen in August 1917 noted that Cushing was "well represented in the services" and noted that Mayor Andrew Little and City Clerk L. P. Wharton had become army officers. Of the 1,000 Oklahomans certified in the first national armed services draft call, 360 were from Payne County at large, and several dozen were from Cushing. The first group of fifteen draftees left in late February 1918. An additional 65 from Cushing were drafted later in 1918 as well.(14) In July 1918 the first Cushing boy fell victim to a German bullet. Harry Rogers were seriously wounded but survived; Ralph Perry, however, died of disease in France and is the first decedent mentioned in the local news. (15) The November 1918 armistice was followed by an excited announcement on November 12 that the home-town soldiers were returning. On December 26 the community hosted a huge party for the first 29 returning veterans, who "formed up" downtown and marched out East Broadway to a party at the John Foster residence.(16) On May 29, 1919, the city celebrated Declaration Day (now known as Memorial Day) and Mayor S. P. Alles's proclamation dedicated the celebration to "the memory of our heroes of 1861, 1898, and 1918."(17) The news of mid-June declared that "Oklahoma's Boys Are All Home," having served in the 36<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> Infantry Divisions' 142<sup>nd</sup>, 357<sup>th</sup>, 358<sup>th</sup>, and 360<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments. Most had docked at Boston and Newport News. Governor J.B.A. Robertson personally went to Newport News to greet the returnees of the 358th who arrived on the Wilhelmina in June. The governor's party embarked on a small steamer and circled the ship, shouting greetings to the soldiers on board. (18)

Shortly before returning from France, in March 1919 veteran soldiers of the American Expeditionary Force organized the American Legion, and in May 1919 in St. Louis the name "American Legion" and a constitution were adopted. In September the organization was formally chartered by the United States Congress. (19) While the

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 15

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State

national movement was afoot, veterans just returned to Cushing took steps to set up their own American Legion post, and the organization filed articles of incorporation with the state of Oklahoma on July 10, 1919.(20) Post 108 was chartered by the national organization on November 6, 1919,(21) and was one of the first six posts in the state (22) (The Auxiliary, or women's affiliate, was chartered on May 5, 1922).(23) The first recruiting meetings took place in December 1919, and Post 108 began its activities just before Christmas in 1919. (24)

Post 108, soon known as the Donaldson-Walker Post, met at various places, including Cushing High School and the Express Office for the first few years. (25) Activities included Memorial Day observances, assisting veterans at Tryon and other communities in setting up posts, assisting other organizations in establishing memorials to fallen veterans, and holding an annual Armistice Day parade and banquet each November. The post also sponsored "athletic contests" in which Legionnaires with nicknames like ""Knockout" Acker, "Dough Boy" West, "Bone Breaker" Drake, and "Monkey Grip" Stokes pummeled each other or went to the mat in boxing and wrestling competitions. The group also held an annual picnic. They also assisted veterans, whether Legion members or not, in filling out and filing applications for federal compensation, an activity that continues at the present time. (26)

By 1924 Post 108 had acquired property at 212 South Noble through a land donation by a local citizen, E. P. Hinton, and in the winter the men began working on the building. In spring they began holding various activities on the grounds, and the location quickly became a social center for veterans and their families and friends.(27) In preparation, the vets helped tear down the old Grand Theater about a block away, and the materials may have been used to build the new American Legion building, or "hut," as it was commonly called. The building's cornerstone was laid on Armistice Day in November 1924, perhaps before the building was fully completed.(29) The dedication came a year later, on November 11, 1925, with appropriate ceremonies. James F. Hatcher, post state Legion commander, led the services. Hatcher noted in his address that "the ideal of every post in Oklahoma had been the erection of such a home. You made a wise investment in building."(30)

For the ensuing seven decades the Cushing American Legion Building has served the community's veterans. Over the years the post sponsored Memorial Day events such as cemetery decoration on appropriate days. From 1941 through 1945, Cushing men went off to fight in World War II, most serving in a Medical Unit of the famed 45<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. After the war veterans of both wars participated in Legion activities, sponsoring the traditional Armistice Day and Memorial Day activities for the entire Cushing community and holding such charitable events as a and a war- orphan fund drive. They sold "Buddy poppies" every year as well. (31) Post 108 also sponsored the city's first post-World War II Fourth of July celebration in 1946, with a huge parade, fireworks display, picnic, and so forth, and it became

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 16

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State

an annual event to celebrate the nation's birthday. (32) On the national front, the American Legion started a national baseball program in 1925, and the Cushing unit began participating in it in the spring of 1947, the planning being done at the "Legion hut." The Junior Legion Club played teams all around central Oklahoma from the summer of 1947. (33)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

While the Legion and Auxiliary held their meetings, banquets, dances, and other social activities at the hut, other social groups regularly used the facility as well in the 1940s and 1950s. The "meeting notices" printed in the Cushing Citizen regularly record scheduled meetings of the Round-Up Club, the Degree of Honor (a self-insurance fraternal aid society), and the American War Mothers Club (mothers of veterans) in the facility.(34) In the early 1950s Cushing High School clubs held dances and various civic clubs held "bean dinners" there. (35) The social function of the Cushing American Legion Building has continued into the present century.

### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The Cushing American Legion Building is significant within the architectural context of Cushing, Oklahoma, as the building is the city's only example of a vernacular Mission-style social meeting hall.

Cushing's architectural landscape developed along the same patterns as other towns of Oklahoma during the period. A commercial district included the "Stone Block" on West Broadway, consisting of sandstone buildings. A "brick block" of red brick buildings was also constructed there in the early part of the century. The buildings were generally designed in a Western Commercial style. (36)

Surveys of historic properties in 1981 and 1995 identified various other commercial, residential, and social buildings of potential architectural and/or historical significance in Cushing, as well as three districts that included the original stone and brick blocks. Socially significant properties included the Dunkin Theater (1926, 207 East Broadway), Cushing High School Stadium (1935, 1700 East Walnut), Rotary Park (1935, Highland and East Ninth streets), Memorial Park (1935, Second and Little streets), and the Cushing Armory (1935, 218 South Little).(37)

Residential styles of the 1900-1952 period in Cushing vary from early Victorian examples to Prairie houses and Craftsman bungalows of the 1920s to oilera mansions to small modernistic and traditional houses of the 1940s and 1950s. Significant residential properties identified in the 1995 surveys included the Jones Mansion (1927, 100 Jones Avenue), the Dunkin House (c. 1923, 309 East Broadway, the Mathias House (1929, 745 East Moses), and a district consisting of ten shotgun houses dating from the oil boom era (various blocks adjacent to downtown).(38)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 17

Cushing American Legion Building name of property Payne, Oklahoma county and State

A windshield survey of Cushing conducted in pursuit of the nomination in December 2002 revealed additional properties and style noteworthy for unusualness. In the late 1920s and 1930s, as residential areas continued to expand, three examples of vernacular Spanish Colonial Revival appeared in the east-side residential district. These included a two-story, flat-roofed example in the 600 block of East Broadway and a smaller flat-roofed, one-story example in the 1000 block of East Moses. A gable-roofed, colonnaded, and substantially altered example of vernacular Mission style exists in the 800 block of East Oak. (39) These three are Cushing's only examples of that Spanish Colonial Revival/Mission category residential style, and the only other local example is the Cushing American Legion Building, a social hall.

The Cushing American Legion Building has been used for the same purpose since its completion in 1924 and dedication in 1925. The building retains almost complete integrity, including setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It is a fitting illustration of the pattern of Cushing's social history, particulary as it pertains to veterans' activities in the twentieth century. As a representative of the vernacular application of Mission Revival architectural elements, the building also is eligible under Criterion C, Architecture, as the city's only example of that style in a social meeting hall and as one of only four of the style found in the city.

#### **ENDNOTES**

- 1. Cushing Daily Citizen, 3 October 1951; Cushing Commemorative Book Committee, Cushing, Oklahoma: The First 100 Years, 1891-1991 (Cushing: The Committee, 1992), 9-13.
- 2. "Cushing," W.P.A. Files, Archives and Manuscripts Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City; Laura Lou Wells, Young Cushing in Oklahoma Territory (Stillwater, Okla.: Frontier Printers, Inc., 1975), 131, 141, 154, 185, 204.
- 3. Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Census Figures for Oklahoma, 1890-2000.
- 4. Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City), 23 April 1939; D. Earl Newsom, The Story of Exciting Payne County (Stillwater, Okla.: New Forums Press, Inc., 1997), 50ff.
- 5. Cushing Daily Citizen, 22 August 1954.
- 6. Oklahoma Department of Commerce, Census Figures for Oklahoma, 1890-2000.
- 7. "Cushing," W.P.A. Files, Archives and Manuscripts Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City; Laura Lou Wells, Young Cushing in Oklahoma Territory (Stillwater, Okla.: Frontier Printers, Inc., 1975), 171, 182-83, 191; Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City), 23 April 1939; Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Cushing, Oklahoma, 1924.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 18

Cushing American Legion Building name of property
Payne, Oklahoma
county and State

- 8. George Carney, et al., "Cushing Oil Field: Historic Preservation Survey," Department of Geography, Oklahoma state University, 1981), 51-55; George Carney, et al., "Reconnaissance Level Survey of Four Northeastern Oklahoma Towns," Department of Geography, Oklahoma State University, 1995, 216-228, 232-43; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, Cushing, Oklahoma, 1931 and 1931/Corrected 1938/1946.
- 9. Carney, et al., "Reconnaissance Level Survey," 233-36, 239-43.
- 10. Cushing Daily Citizen, 12 June 1919; Wells, Young Cushing, 19; Cushing, Oklahoma: The First 100 Years, 75ff.
- 11. Wells, Young Cushing, 75-77.
- 12. A. M. Gibson, Oklahoma: A History of Five Centuries (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1981), 211.
- 13. Cushing Daily Citizen, 14 June 1917, 12 July 1917, 23 August 1917, 20 September 1917, 22 November 1917, 5 April 1918, 25 April 1918, 20 June 1918.
- 14. Ibid., 9 August 1917, 23 August 1917, 13 September 1917, 21 February 1918, 6 June 1918.
- 15. Ibid., 18 July 1918.
- 16. Ibid., 12 November 1918, 26 December 1918.
- 17. Ibid., 29 May 1919.
- 18. 12 June 1919.
- 19. Thomas A. Rumer, The American Legion: An Official History, 1919-1989 (New York: M. Evans & Company, Inc., 1990), 25-26, 55, 100.
- 20. American Legion Post 108, Articles of Incorporation, 10 July 1919, file, Donaldson-Walker Post 108, Cushing Oklahoma.
- 21. American Legion Post 108, Charter, 6 November 1919, file, Donaldson-Walker Post 108, Cushing Oklahoma.
- 22. Jim Hunter, former Post Commander, interview with D. Everett, 11 December 2002, Cushing, Oklahoma.
- 23. American Legion Post 108, Auxiliary Charter, 5 May 1922, file, Donaldson-Walker Post 108, Cushing Oklahoma.
- 24. Cushing Daily Citizen, 11 December 1919, 25 December 1919.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 19

Cushing American Legion Building name of property
Payne, Oklahoma
county and State

- 25. Ibid., 25 December 1919, 5 February 1920, 20 March 1924.
- 26. Ibid., 6 March 1920, 12 January 1922, 9 November 1922, 2 November 1923, 20 March 1924, 26 June 1924, 28 September 1924.
- 27. Ibid., 26 June 1924, 24 July 1924.
- 28. Ibid., 14 February 1924.
- 29. Ibid., 13 November 1924.
- 30. Ibid., 12 November 1925.
- 31. Ibid., 28 May 1928, 1 June 1928, 10 November 1937, 30 May 1947.
- 32. 4 July 1946.
- 33. Rumer, The American Legion, 205-210; Cushing Daily Citizen, 11 May 1947, 29 June 1947.
- 34. Cushing Daily Citizen, 6 May 1946, 7 May 1946, 21 May 1946, 2 June 1946, 5 May 1947, 7 July 1947.
- 35. Jim Hunter interview, 13 December 2002.
- 36. Carney, et al., "Reconnaissance Level Survey," 232.
- 37. Ibid.; Carney, "Cushing Oil Field: Historic Preservation Survey," 50-55.
- 38. Carney, et al., "Reconnaissance Level Survey," 242-43, 281; Carney, "Cushing Oil Field: Historic Preservation Survey," 50-55.
- 39. Windshield Survey, Cushing, Oklahoma, downtown and adjacent residential districts, D. Everett, 13 December 2002.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9 Page 20

Cushing American Legion Building name of property
Payne, Oklahoma
county and State

------

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Carney, George, et al. "Cushing Oil Field: Historic Preservation Survey."

  Department of Geography, Oklahoma State University, for the Oklahoma

  Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office. 1981.
- Carney, George, et al. "Reconnaissance Level Survey of Four Northeastern Oklahoma Towns." Department of Geography, Oklahoma State University, for the Oklahoma Historical Society State Historic Preservation Office. 1995.
- Commemorative Book Committee. Cushing, Oklahoma: The First 100 Years, 1891-1901. Cushing: The Committee, 1992.
- Cushing Citizen (Cushing, Oklahoma). 1917-1947.
- "Cushing." WPA File, Archives and Manuscripts Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City.
- Daily Oklahoman (Oklahoma City). 23 April 1939.
- Donaldson-Walker American Legion Post 108. Charter and Articles of Incorporation. File, Post 108, Cushing Oklahoma.
- Hunter, Jim. Former Post Commander, Post 108. Interview with D. Everett, 13 December 2002, Cushing, Oklahoma.
- Newsom, D. Earl. The Story of Exciting Payne County. Stillwater, Okla.: New Forums Press, Inc., 1997.
- Rumer, Thomas A. The American Legion: An Official History, 1919-1989 (New York: M. Evans & Company, Inc., 1990.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Cushing, Payne County, Oklahoma. 1924. 1931. 1931 Corrected to 1938/1946.
- Wells, Laura Lou. Young Cushing in Oklahoma Territory. Stillwater, Okla.: Frontier Printers, Inc., 1975.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 21

Cushing American Legion Building name of property
Payne, Oklahoma
county and State

# VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The subject property lies within the bounds of the north 75 (seventy-five) feet of Lot 13, Block 71, Eitzman's Addition to South Cushing, Oklahoma.

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:**

These are the property's boundaries as legally recorded in Book 66, Page 416, Register of Deeds, County Clerk Office, Stillwater, Payne County, Oklahoma.