Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY — NOMINATION FORM

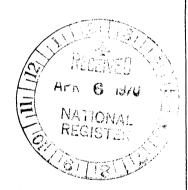
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	Oklahoma							
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Garvin								
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	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE						

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1. NAME							
Erin Springs Man	ei on			A Page 1		İ	
Erin Springs Mans	DI VII			ST AME CEIV	50		
The Frank Murray	Home in Erin	n Springs		6	150		
2. LOCATION				NA 70-19	0 -		
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(Block 18, Lots	1-7)			(0)	///	\dashv	
Erin Springs	(2 miles S of	f Lindsay)		V8TTITI	119		
STATE		CODE	UNTY:	En	COI	DΕ	
Oklahoma		35	Garvir	1	04	2	
3. CLASSIFICATION	T						
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE		
☐ District ■ Building	K Public	Public Acquisition:		Occupied	Yes:		
Site Structure	☐ Private	☐ In Process		Unoccupied			
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Cons	sidered	□ Preservation work	Unrestricte	a	
				in progress	□ No		
PRESENT USE (Check One or M	More as Appropriate)						
Agricultural G	overnment] Park		Transportation	Comments		
	dustrial	Private Residence		Other (Specify)		_	
	ilitary	Religious				-	
Entertainment X Mu	Jseum :	Scientific	-				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY		<u> </u>					<u> </u>
Oklahoma Histori	cal Society					웃	TATE
STREET AND NUMBER:	2002009					lal	ij.
Historical Build:	ing					Oklahoma	ļ
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		CODE] <u>[</u> 20	
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Office of the Con	unty Clerk			:		Garv	0000
STREET AND NUMBER:						l ∟i.	177
Garvin County Cou	urthouse		STATE			_	
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Pauls Valley			0:-1-	·		├	
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		I OKT8	homa			
TITLE OF SURVEY:							m
Theodore H. Barre	ett Survey						FO
	1872	▼ Federal	State	County	Local		z 20
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RE							R NPS USE
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7. DESCRIPTION								
	(Check One)							
CONDITION	Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Dete	riorated	Ruins	Unexposed	
CONDITION	(Check One)					(Che	eck One)	
	⊠ Alter	red	☐ Unaltered	1		☐ Moved	Original Site	
SECONDE THE DE		(:51						

Frank Murray built his "mansion" in Erin Springs in 1880 — a two-story, 14-room affair — to replace his first home, a log cabin erected on the site in 1871. It was built of native stone, quarried five miles to the south, and timbers brought in by mule team from Gainesville, Texas. Remodeling in 1902 added a dormered third story, a handsome portice on the front supported by four massive columns, stucce to the 18-inch-thick stone walls. The mansion's spacious, high-ceilinged rooms boasted massive fireplaces, fine birch, polished oak and cherry woodwork, and the elegant furniture, fixtures and furnishings demanded by the elaborately elegant tastes of the period.

Owned and maintained by the Murray family until purchased by the Oklahome Historical Society in 1968, the old home, not seriously damaged by a 1966 fire, has required no great amount of refurbishing to restore its impressive beauty. Lawn, trees and shrubs add to the appearance of gracious living. The showplace of a relatively wild frontier when erected, the mansion remains a showplace today, almost a century later.



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An ambitious Irishman who made it big in the Chickasaw Nation, that's the story of Frank Murray and the mansion he built for his growing family on the south bank of the Washita River. Born in Ireland, he came to New York in 1850, at 18. Marriage to a woman with Chickasaw blood allowed him entry to this part of what is now south-central Oklahoma.

His first child (of nine), Anita, was born at nearby Fort Arbuckle in 1869. He came to the "Elm Springs" area (for some natural springs several hundred yards east of where the house now stands) in 1871, built a log cabin beside the trail connecting Cherokeetown and Pauls Valley to the east and newly established Fort Sill to the west. While primarily interested in farming, he opened a store to take advantage of the east-west traffic flowing past his home.

The settlement began to grow. A post office was established, on March 14, 1875, called Edgewood. Frank Murray's fortunes as rancher and merchant began to grow, too, and on November 3 of that year Edgewood became Erin Springs, for his infant son Erin. By 1880 he was able to have building materials freighted up from Texas, combine them with stone quarried near by to replace his simple log house with a genuine "mansion." In 1885 the Reverend Father Hilary Cassal noted in his journal, Missionary Tour in the Chickasaw Nation, that he had visited Erin Springs, "a nice little town located near the Washita river - the home of Mr. Murray, a wealthy cattleman who has fenced in over 20,000 acres of land." Before his death in 1892, Murray's holdings were vast and for many years his Erin Springs ranch was said to be the largest farm under cultivation in Indian Territory.

When the railroads built on the north side of the Washita — the Santa Fe in 1902, the Rock Island in 1903 — the town of Lindsay was born and Erin Springs was doomed to remain Father Cassal's "nice little town." Fittingly enough, however, the new town was laid out on the 400—acre farm of Lewis Lindsay—whose wife, Anita, he had married in the old Murray Mansion in 1880. Mr. Murray died in 1892, Mrs. Murray in 1924. Six years later, after her own husband had died, Mrs. Lindsay moved into the old family home, which had been extensively remodeled in 1902. She lived there until her death, at 93, in 1962.

9.	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES														
	Cassal, Rev. Father Hilary, "Missionary Tour in the Chickasaw Nation," (The Chronicles of Oklahoma, Vol. 34), pp. 398-399 Shirk, George H., Oklahoma Place Names (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1965), p. 74 Thetford, Francis, "Many Memories for 'Grand Lady'," (The Daily Oklahoman, Sept. 13, 1959), p. 44 Wilson, Madeline, "Erin Springs," (The Daily Oklahoman, Nov.2, 1947)														
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	As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is: National State Local Name							Nationa Chief, C	Register (L)	hat this process of the cology	OM/A	ralle			
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Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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FOR NPS USE C	NLY
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(Continuation Sheet)

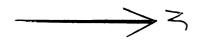
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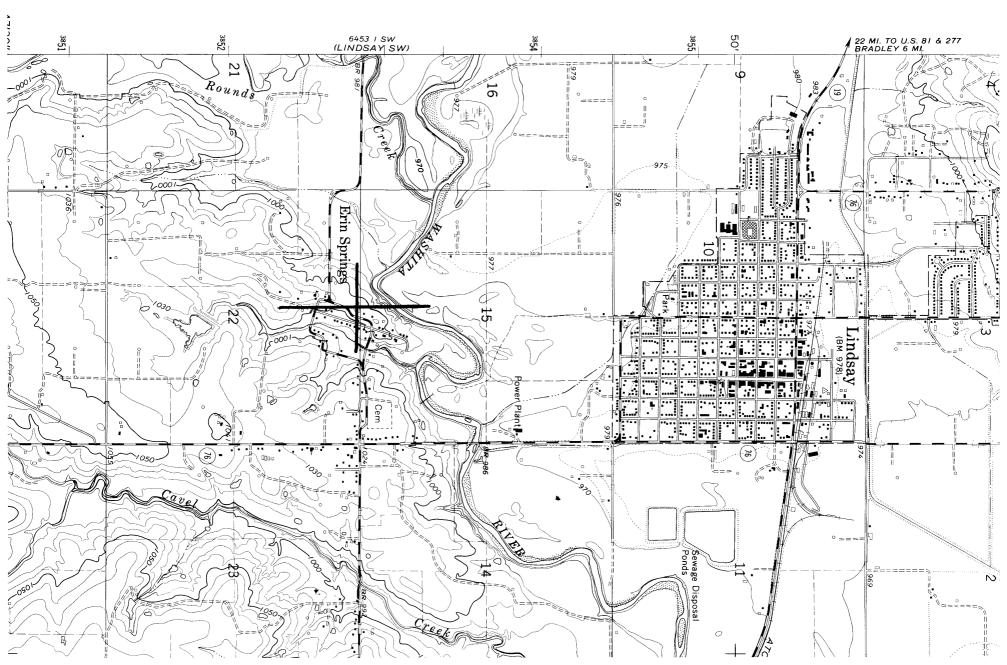
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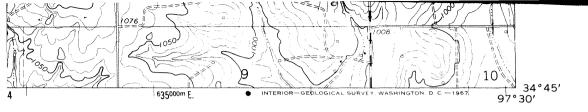
8. Significance

The handsome mansion was purchased by the Oklahoma Historical Society in 1968. It is now being refurbished and will be opened to the public shortly as a magnificent symbol both of gracious living and the soil-based affluence that supported it, familiar enough in the slave-holding "plantation country" of the Southeast, but far less common in the more Spartan Southwest - particularly in the Indian Country.

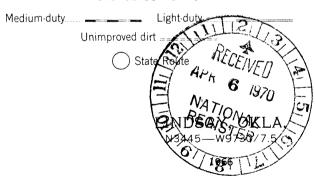








ROAD CLASSIFICATION





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Form	10-30
(Dec.	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE Oklahoma COUNTY Garvin FOR NPS USE ONLY

S	(Type all entries - attach to or en	close with map)	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE	
Z	1. NAME	• /	70.6.35.0002	6/22/	
0	common: Erin Springs Mansion				
	AND/OR HISTORIC: The Frank Murray Ho	m^			
-	2. LOCATION	me			
U	STREET AND NUMBER:				
_	(Block 18, Lots 1-5)				
\supset	CITY OR TOWN:				
α	Erin Springs (2 m. S of Lind	sav)			
\vdash	STATE:	CODE COUNTY:		CODE	
S	Oklahoma	35 Garvin		049	
z	3. MAP REFERENCE	~~~	_	047	
<u></u>	SOURCE:		(3)		
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	2. North arrow.			Í	
	Latitude and longitude reference.	61181			
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