United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

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.

1. Name of Property Historic name: Chisholm Springs Springhouse Other names/site number: 34PT67 Name of related multiple property listing: N/A (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple pro-	operty listing
2. Location Street & number: City or town: Asher State: Ok Not For Publication: x Vicinity: x	klahoma County: Pottawatomie
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Histor I hereby certify that this nomination request the documentation standards for registering propertically Places and meets the procedural and professional recommend that this property meets does not recommend that this property be considered significally level(s) of significance: national statewide locally Applicable National Register Criteria:	est for determination of eligibility meets es in the National Register of Historic quirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. not meet the National Register Criteria. I ant at the following
ABCD	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Go	overnment
In my opinion, the property meets doe criteria.	s not meet the National Register
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government



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Site

Structure

Object

NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Chisholm Springs Springhouse Pottawatomie, Oklahoma Name of Property County and State 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 of the Keeper 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

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Chisholm Springs Springhouse Pottawatomie, Oklahoma Name of Property County and State **Number of Resources within Property** (Do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Noncontributing buildings sites 1 structures objects Total Number of contributing resources previously in the National Register _____0 6. Function or Use **Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.) DOMESTIC: Secondary Structure AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: Springhouse

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

OTHER: Trading Post/Home Site

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Chisholm Springs Springhouse Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma Name of Property County and State 7. Description **Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions.) NO STYLE **Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.) Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE: Sandstone **Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.) **Summary Paragraph** Located roughly two miles east of Asher, the Chisholm Springs Springhouse is in a rural area along Chism Creek in Pottawatomie County. The surrounding property was overprinted by a now abandoned mid-twentieth century farmstead occupation. The stone springhouse is the only remaining feature of the mid-nineteenth century Chisholm Springs Trading Post, established and occupied by Jesse Chisholm from 1847 until 1861. Although the springhouse structure is in poor condition, it still maintains historic integrity including location, design, materials and workmanship.

Narrative Description

1) Springhouse, structure, circa 1846

The Chisholm Springs Springhouse is a simple, single-story, flat-roofed sandstone masonry structure constructed against the southeast-facing wall of a stone bluff. The structure has a sandstone and concrete foundation and was built over the spring, which continues to flow year-round. The sandstone masonry walls are between five and six feet in height, due to the slope of the terrain. The southwest-facing façade is sandstone masonry with a single opening (measuring two and a half feet in width for the full height of the walls) near the southern corner that serves as a doorway. The southeast side elevation is sandstone masonry with a single central opening (measuring five feet in width by two feet in height) that serves as a window. The northeast side elevation is sandstone masonry and contains no designed openings. Several stones in the lower

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courses, near the center of this elevation, have shifted or fallen. The northwest wall is sandstone masonry; this wall is only visible from the interior of the structure as it was constructed against the face of the natural stone conglomerate bluff. The height of the springhouse matches the height of the bluff at this location and the roof of the structure flows directly out from the top of the bluff.

The structure's original roof would likely have comprised log rafters and shake shingles; however, in 1958 the property owner (at that time) replaced the roof, adding a concrete support beam, two-inch by four-inch rafters, and tin sheathing. At the same time, much of the sandstone was repointed, a concrete foundation was added under the north and south walls, and a concrete lining was added around the spring.

Entering the structure through the entry opening in the southwest façade the interior face of each of the four unfinished sandstone walls are visible. In the northwest wall, which is not visible from the exterior of the structure, there is a small opening in the center of the wall at the base. This opening accommodates the spring. Portions of a wooden frame remain in place at this opening; other portions have become dislodged and are visible in the flooded interior of the springhouse. The interior walls in the northern corner of the structure are in the poorest condition, and the stones and the spring opening are being impacted by tree roots and cypress knees.

2) Archaeological Features, date undetermined.

Three archaeological features are present outside the springhouse structure itself. These include the following: (a) remnants of sandstone masonry along the portion of bluff face that extends south from the springhouse; (b) a low sandstone wall set out several feet from the base of the bluff that runs parallel to the bluff for sixteen feet then makes a ninety degree angled turn eastward and outward from the bluff for four additional feet before disappearing; and (c) one or more subterranean tanks immediately south of the springhouse's southern façade. The area southwest of the springhouse, including the subterranean tank, is flooded and has been impacted by the growth of cypress knees, but the rectangular shape of the tank is visible in the linear pattern of bright green moss that marks its edges. The construction dates and functions for each of these features are unknown.

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G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

F. A commemorative property

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ne of Property	
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from i	nstructions.)
EXPLORATION/SET	
Period of Significance	
_1846-1861	_
Significant Dates	
<u>1846, 1847, 1861</u>	
Significant Person	
(Complete only if Criter	rion B is marked above
N/A	_
Cultural Affiliation	
Cherokee and Anglo-A	American_
Architect/Builder	
Chisholm, Jesse	

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Chisholm Springs Springhouse is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for its association with Exploration and Settlement as the last remaining property associated with the mid-nineteenth century Chisholm Springs Trading Post. It is also eligible under Criterion D for its potential to yield information regarding springhouse construction and use in early settlement times in Oklahoma Territory. The period of significance aligns with the occupation of the Chisholm Springs Trading Post, extending from the date Jesse Chisholm constructed the springhouse in 1846 and established this trading post at the site in 1847, and ending when Chisholm closed the trading post and relocated to Kansas following the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Chisholm Springs, named for Jesse Chisholm, is situated one mile north of the South Canadian River at the site of a spring that runs year-round to this day. The availability of cold, fresh water provided by the spring would have been critical in the selection of this site. Springhouses are a form of vernacular architecture and served both as a source of fresh water and a means of refrigeration as the water from the spring would maintain a constant, cool temperature inside the structure.

Criterion A

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The Chisholm Springs Trading Post represents the earliest American town and community settlement in Pottawatomie County and was the first of several trading posts established by Jesse Chisholm during the mid- to late-nineteenth century (Mooney 1971; McIntyre 1985; Hoig 1988). During the 1840s Jesse Chisholm, a man with Cherokee and Scottish ancestry, a frontiersman, trader, and polyglot, served as a guide, an interpreter, and a peacemaker for the United States government in Indian Territory (Hoig 1988, McIntyre 1985). Chisholm resided in a log cabin on the property; the Chisholm cabin was still standing in 1938 but is no longer extant at the site (Taylor 2014). The Chisholm Springs Trading Post included the trading post store, an adjoining blacksmith shop, and the springhouse (Mooney 1971).

In addition to its role as an early regional trading post, Chisholm Springs was also a stop along the 1849 California Road, the southern route used by gold rush settlers to reach California. Jesse Chisholm, himself, participated in negotiations with the Comanches in order to allow gold rush settlers safe passage through western Oklahoma (McIntyre 1985).

In 1861, following the outbreak of the Civil War, Jesse Chisholm closed the Chisholm Springs Trading Post and relocated to Kansas. He did not return to Chisholm Springs after the war

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(Mooney 1971; McIntyre 1985). The Chisholm Springs Springhouse is the only remaining structure at the site of this early settlement.

The period of significance for the Chisholm Springs Springhouse is the property's fifteen-year period of occupation and use as a trading post beginning in 1846 with the establishment of Chisholm Springs and the construction of the springhouse, and ending in 1861, when Chisholm Springs was closed following the outbreak of the Civil War.

Criterion D

United States Department of the Interior

Although the larger property, surrounding the springhouse, has been overprinted and considerably disturbed by the twentieth century occupation at the site, the springhouse remains intact, and relatively undisturbed. A series of features extending south from the springhouse serve to highlight the intact nature of the property.

Archaeological investigations of the Chisholm Springs Springhouse can address multiple questions regarding nineteenth century springhouses.

- What is the orientation of tanks/reservoirs at the south end of the springhouse? And how does this orientation compare to other known springhouses in Indian Territory?
- How does the form/construction of the springhouse compare to other contemporaneous springhouses in Indian Territory?
- How was the Chisholm Springs Springhouse utilized during the nineteenth century occupation?

The Chisholm Springs Springhouse also has the potential to contain intact archaeological deposits in the immediate area of the springhouse that could provide important information regarding the nineteenth century trading post and homestead occupation.

- What was the purpose/function of the masonry along the bluff?
- What was the purpose/function of the sandstone wall?
- What kinds of goods were available or exchanged at the Chisholm Springs Trading Post?
- What communities were being served at this site?
- How do the types of artifacts at this site compare to other contemporaneous trading posts along the South Canadian River?

In conclusion, the Chisholm Springs Springhouse is the last remaining property associated with the Chisholm Springs Trading Post, the earliest American settlement in Pottawatomie County. Despite maintenance and modifications to portions of the structure in the 178 years since its construction in 1846, the Chisholm Springs Springhouse maintains integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship, and is eligible for listing in the National Register at the regional level under Criterion A for its association with Exploration and Settlement and under Criterion D for its potential to yield archaeological information regarding springhouse construction and use in early settlement times in Oklahoma Territory.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Chisholm Springs Springhouse Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma Name of Property County and State 9. Major Bibliographical References **Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) Cushman, Ralph B. Jesse Chisholm: Texas trail blazer and Sam Houston's trouble-shooter, Eakin Press, Austin, Texas, 1992. Hoig, Stan. Jesse Chisholm, Ambassador of the Plains, University Press of Colorado, Niwot, 1991. Hoig, Stan "Jesse Chisholm: Peacemaker, Trader, Forgotten Frontiersman," The Chronicles of Oklahoma 66 (Winter 1988-89). "Jesse Chisholm," Vertical File, Research Division, Oklahoma Historical Society, Oklahoma City. Ludwig, Wayne. "What We Know About the Ol' Chisholm Trail." Wayne Ludwig - Accessed 4/14/2024. https://www.historynet.com/know-ol-chisholm-trail/ McIntyre, Glen. "Unknown Famous Man," Westview: A Journal of Western Oklahoma, Vol. 5, Issue 2, 1985. Mooney, Charles W. Localized History of Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma to 1907, Thunderbird Industries, Midwest City, Oklahoma, 1971. Taylor, Thomas Ulvan. Jesse Chisholm, Frontier Times, Bandera, Texas, 1939.

Taylor, T.U. "In the Land or the Chisholms," Frontier Times Magazine Blog post, July 20, 2014, Accessed April 14, 2024. https://www.frontiertimesmagazine.com/blog/in-land-chisholms-by-tu-taylor-austin-texas

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 Registerdesignated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

Chisholm Springs Springhouse

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Pottawatomie County,	
Oklahoma	
County and State	

	Oklahoma
ame of Property	County and State
Duimanu la sation of additional data.	
Primary location of additional data:	
X State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency	
Other state agency Federal agency	
Local government	
University	
Other	
Name of repository:	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):	
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 0.19 acres	
Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates	
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates Datum if other than WGS84: (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the prope	erty.)

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Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The above-described boundaries contain the springhouse structure and the visible archaeological features recorded at the property; these boundaries also represent the revised boundaries for archaeological site 34PT67.

state: OK	zip code: 73015
	state: <u>OK</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Chisholm Springs Springhouse

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Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma

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City or Vicinity: Asher Vicinity

County: Pottawatomie State: Oklahoma

Photographer: Kristina Wyckoff; Michael Mayes (OKSHPO)

Date Photographed: March 12, 2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo Number	Description	Camera Direction
0001	Exterior: showing roof of springhouse extending out from bluff, on approach from the West.	East
0002	Exterior: Northeast side elevation of springhouse.	South-southwest
0003	Exterior: Northeast side elevation, right. East side elevation, left.	Southwest
0004	Exterior: Southeast side elevation.	West-northwest
0005	Exterior: Southwest-facing façade, left. East side elevation, right.	Northwest
0006	Exterior: Southwest-facing façade.	Northeast
0007	Exterior: Southwest-facing façade.	Northeast
0008	Exterior: Rock wall and masonry along bluff edge.	West-northwest
0009	Exterior: Rock wall.	Southwest
0010	Exterior: Detail of platformed stones at southwest corner of rock wall.	Southwest
0011	Interior: View of northeast wall of springhouse. Concrete support beam, top left. Concrete foundation under North wall, bottom center. Concrete sill, right.	North-northeast
0012	Interior: Detail of spring opening.	West-northwest
0013	Interior: Detail of roof structure.	Northwest

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 100 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. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Figure 4, 1931
Chisholm Spring house with Chisholm Trading Post above. Alvin Rucker Collection, Oklahoma Historical Society Research Division.

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OK_Pottawatomie County_Chisholm Springs Springhouse_0002

Chisholm Springs Springhouse		
Name of Property		
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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)		

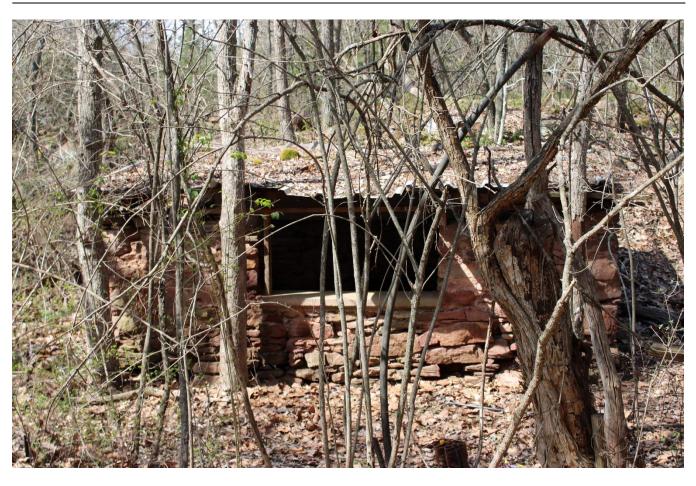
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Chisnoim Springs Springhouse
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OK_Pottawatomie County_Chisholm Springs Springhouse_0005

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Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

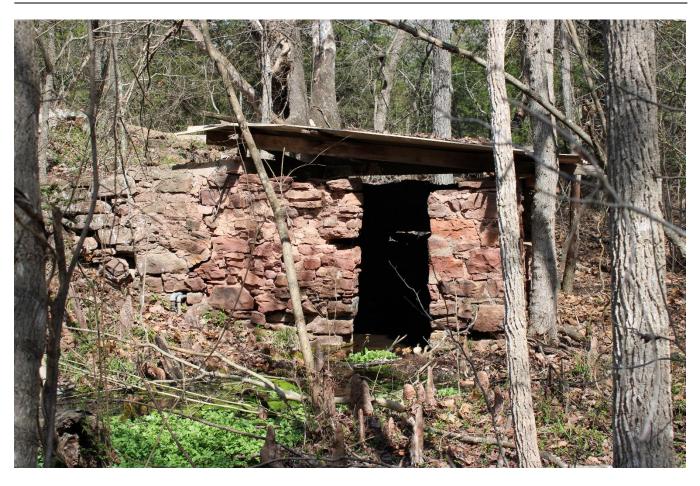
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	Chisholm Springs Springhouse		
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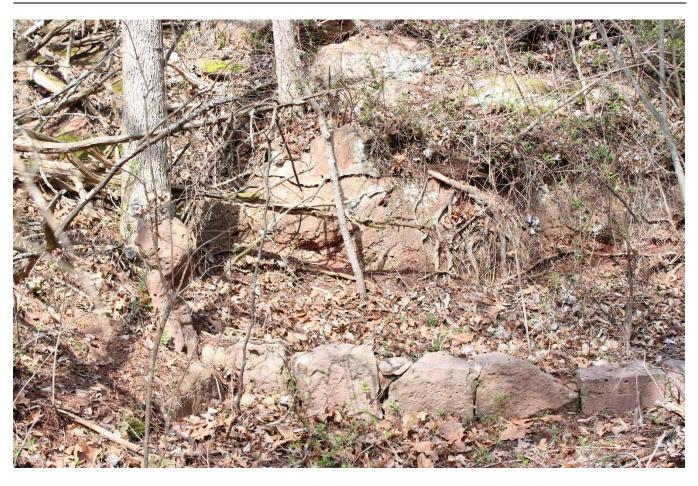
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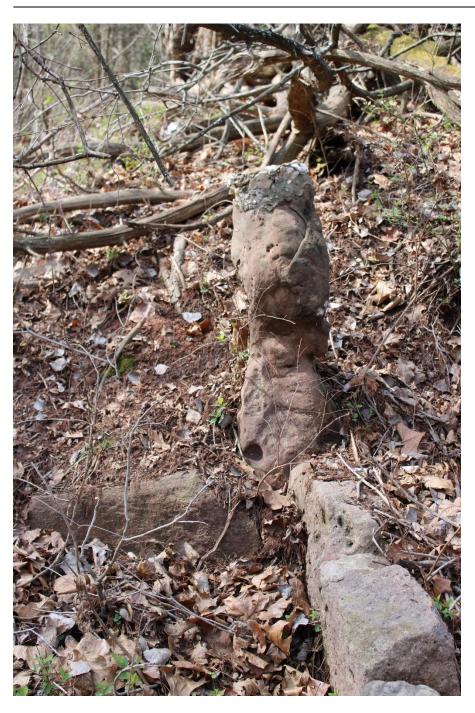
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