

File
Galloway, OK

FACT SHEET: ED GALLOWAY'S WORKSHOP AND PARK, FOYIL, OK

(Prepared by: SPACES, 1804 North Van Ness, Los Angeles, CA 90028)

Nathan Edward (Ed) Galloway was well-known in his hometown of Foyil, Oklahoma, as a woodcarver and retired teacher of carving to boys at the Charles Page Home in Sand Springs. His craftsmanship is still seen in his hand-built worksite: an octagonal workshop decorated indoors and out with his own sensitive carvings of plants, animals, and American Indian figures. In the park area adjoining the workshop, Galloway constructed concrete and carved trees, and a 90-foot totem pole elaborately decorated with intricate figures and shapes.

After Galloway's 1962 death, the family cared for the site. In 1967, the house and workshop were vandalized and many of the carvings stolen. Since that time, Galloway's son has died and the family is now offering to turn the site over to any non-profit group willing to restore and maintain the property.

The workshop, a collection of carefully-saved carvings, and the totem pole (which rests on the back of an enormous carved tortoise) remain of Galloway's art. Preservationists in Oklahoma are urging that the site be named a national monument, and that it be repaired and maintained for public viewing. One person taking the initiative in that preservation movement is Mary Ann Anders, Ph.D., of Oklahoma Historical Preservation. Dr. Anders can be contacted for more information at 2216 University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, 74074.

The loss of Ed Galloway's workshop and park would be a loss not only to Oklahoma, but to American art history.