National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



NATIONAL

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property	Medical test		
historic name Clarke-Harrel other names/site number N/A	l-Burson House		
other names/site number 14/21			
2. Location		SCHEEBOARES	valo omoteli um umaesti seno.
street & number 603 Parkvie	W		not for publication N/A
city, town Van Buren		A 1	vicinity N/A
state Arkansas coo	e AR county Craw	ford code Al	R 033 zip code 72596
3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Res	sources within Property
X private	X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	district	4	buildings
public-State	site		sites
public-Federal	structure	1	structures
	object		objects
		5	0 Total
Name of related multiple preparty	listing		tributing resources previously
Name of related multiple property N/A	iistirig.		ational Register N/A
11/21		listed iii tile ive	ational negister
Signature of certifying official Arkansas Historic Pr State or Federal agency and burea	eservation Program		Date Date Decontinuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other of	fficial		Date
State or Federal agency and burea	ı		
5. National Park Service Cert	ification		
I, hereby, certify that this property	is:		
entered in the National Register See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register.	onal Any Fede	'n man	5/14/91
removed from the National Reg other, (explain:)			
	Signa	ture of the Keener	Date of Action

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions) Domestic/Single Dwelling
119 ohotelii Yanalalaan langu
Materials (enter categories from instructions)
foundation Stone
walls Wood/Weatherboard
roof Asphalt
other

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Summary

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is a single story, braced frame residential building designed in the vernacular Greek Revival that was typical throughout Arkansas in the first half of the nineteenth century. Its design includes the common floor plan for this style: a central hallway flanked by two large, identical rooms, with an intersecting gable roof ell projecting from the back of one room and a small, enclosed shed room on the back of the other (originally there was also the typical open gallery that ran around the back of the house and down the side of the ell; this has since been enclosed). Two brick chimneys rise through the combination gable/hipped roof in the main, western section of the house.

Elaboration

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is a single story, braced frame residential building designed in the vernacular Greek Revival that was typical throughout Arkansas in the first half of the nineteenth century. Its design includes the common floor plan for this style: a central hallway flanked by two large, identical rooms, with an intersecting gable roof ell projecting from the back of one room and a small, enclosed shed room on the back of the other (originally there was also the typical open gallery that ran around the back of the house and down the side of the ell; this has since been enclosed). Two brick chimneys rise through the combination gable/hipped roof (the northern end is gabled while the roof ends in a hip to the south) in the main, western section of the house. The roof is covered with asphalt shingle, the walls are weatherboarded and the entire structure rests upon a continuous stone foundation.

The western or front elevation is symmetrically-arranged around the central, pedimented porch. The projecting, gable roof porch is supported by two flaring wood box columns and two attached pilasters, all of which are now supported upon a concrete deck (the original wood deck was replaced in the relatively recent past). The pediment is recessed behind restrained box cornice trim and filled with horizontal boards. The ceiling of the porch is constructed of board-and-batten. The entrance below consists of a single broad, pegged door that is surrounded by half-sidelights and a transom. The wall to either side of the entrance is sheathed with flush plank to the edge of the porch roof. Two large, six-over-six wood sash windows flank each side of the porch, though they are currently covered with tinted storm windows (scheduled to be removed).

The northern elevation is fenestrated with but one large six-over-six wood sash window to the west and a smaller six-over-six wood sash window to the east, in the shed roof room. The southern elevation is lighted with four large six-over-six wood sash windows, as its wall is continued by the rear ell.

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The eastern elevation consists largely of the back of a later rear porch (c. 1930) that is lighted with a row of six-over-six wood sash windows on all sides. It is accessed via a single-leaf door placed toward the north.

The significant exterior details are minimal, consisting solely of the large six-over-six wood sash windows and the projecting, pedimented front porch. Otherwise the design features little detail, a characteristic typical of rural Greek Revival designs during this period.

The interior features one original fireplace mantel (in the southern room), though the mantel in the northern room is historic. Original pegged wood doors and original wood window and door trim also survive in places. The original 12-foot plaster ceilings and the plaster walls have also been preserved.

The only exterior alterations of note are the addition of the small, shed roof room on the rear of the house (scheduled to be removed), the replacement of the wood porch deck with a concrete deck, and the enclosure of the original open gallery on the north side of the rear ell to create a kitchen. Inside, the original rear entry to the central hall (that matched the form of the front entry) was removed and filled when the gallery was enclosed.

To the rear or east of the house are several associated outbuildings and structures included in the nomination. The original kitchen, although in an advanced state of disrepair, still stands directly behind the house. The kitchen is a gable roof, wood frame structure clad with weatherboard, the roof of which is covered with tin sheets over the original cedar shakes. Two doors with six window panes each in the western and southern elevations provide access. A later shed was attached to the rear of the kitchen. To the northwest of the kitchen stands a small frame gable roof building that was used to store equipment and to milk cows. An older dug well lined with stone is located within. Southwest of the kitchen lies a goldfish pond constructed of stone in a style similar to that of the dug well. A shed roof WPA-constructed privy is located to the rear of the detached kitchen. The privy features cypress construction with a poured concrete base.

8. Statement of Significance	4	OTROPHOCIALIC TOPIN
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property nationally s	y in relation to other properties: tatewide \times locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria A XB XC	X D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D DE DF G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Communications Architecture Archeology/Historic - Non-Aborginal	Period of Significance c.1841-1905	Significant DatesN/A
	Cultural Affiliation Rural American	
Significant Person Clarke, George W.	Architect/Builder	evioletica documentation or prefinate organistical basedoen resolution in the

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

	yllanding
	X See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	See continuation sheet
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register	Primary location of additional data: State historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings	Local government University
Survey #	Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Specify repository:
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property Less than one	
UTM References A	B Zone Easting Northing D
	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description Beginning at the point form the eastern edge of State Route 59 with a perpent of Parkview Street, proceed easterly along said line a perpendicular line funning along the eastern elevation grain line to a point formed by its intersection the northern elevation of the wellhouse; thence proceed by its intersection with a perpendicular line eastern edge of State Route 59; thence proceed so Boundary Justification This boundary includes all the property historically	dicular line running along the northern edge ne to a point formed by its intersection with vation of the privy; thence proceed northerly oin with a perpdenicular line running along coceed westerly along said line to a point ne See continuation sheet running along the outherly along said line to the point of beginning
	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Patrick Zollner, National Register Histo	
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program street & number 225 East Markham. Suite 300	date3/11/91 telephone(501)324-9346
city or town Little Rock	state Arkansas zip code 72201

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Summary

Criteria B, C, and D, local significance

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is being nominated under Criteria B, C, and D with local significance. This house is significant under Criterion B for its association with George W. Clarke, editor of the Arkansas *Intelligencer*. Under Criterion C, this house is notable as an excellent example of a 19th century vernacular Greek Revival house. The structure is further distinguished as the first frame and weatherboard house built in Logtown, a community at that time of log homes exclusively. The house and surrounding property is also eligible under Criterion D as a relatively intact example of a small subsistence farmstead associated with the occupation of all three of the families that have owned the property since the buildings were constructed.

Elaboration

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is locally believed to have been constructed in 1841-1842. In 1840 the land on which the house stands was granted to John B. Powell from the United States. The next available property deed reveals that in 1855 Reverend John Harrell purchased Lot 3, containing ten acres, and a fractional portion of Lot 6 of Powell's original land from James and Patience Woosley for \$1800. Although a few newspaper articles attribute the building of the house to Harrell, the *History of Crawford County, Arkansas* by Miss Clara B. Eno states that the house was built for George W. Clarke, the editor of the Arkansas *Intelligencer*. An article in the Van Buren *Press Argus* ascribes to this version as well. Harrell's purchase price of \$1800, a princely sum at that time for less than twenty acres of land, appears to establish the prior existence of a house on the property despite the lack of conclusive property titles attributing ownership to Clarke.

George Washington Clarke was born in the District of Columbia in 1812. At age twenty, he came to Arkansas and became an associate editor of the Van Buren, Arkansas *Intelligencer* in July 1843. The Arkansas *Intelligencer* was the first newspaper in Arkansas to be published west of Little Rock. It was established by Francis M. Van Horne and Thomas Sterne with the first copy being issued on January 22, 1842. In March of 1844 Clarke became the sole proprietor and editor of the paper. Previously, the *Intelligencer* had been politically neutral, but under Clarke's control the newspaper advocated the Democratic party's political philosophy. Thomas Sterne responded to this political change in his old paper by founding the *Western Frontier Whig* in May of 1844. A heated editorial war ensued between Clarke and Sterne's partner and chief editor, John S. Logan.

In addition to their political differences, the two rival editors' personalities were likewise at different poles. Clarke was described as being brilliant, impulsive, and forceful, whereas Logan was seen as calm, imperturbable, and self-possessed. The personality dissimilarity

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coupled with an intense political rivalry eventually culminated in an incident described by Judge Jesse Turner which went beyond simple editorial bashing. Clarke initiated the conflict by referring to Logan as "Big Mush," the name of a certain comical Indian chief. Logan responded by labeling Clarke with the equally devastating insult of "Toady." The Rubicon had been crossed and honor could now only be satisfied with blood. A duel with rifles at sixty paces was decided upon. Two shots were exchanged on the "field of honor" near Fort Smith, but the smell of powder and bad marksmanship led to a rather sudden reconciliation.

The bitter editorial war was soon over as the Western Frontier Whig moved to Victoria, Texas sometime in 1845. Also, in April of 1845 Clarke left the Intelligencer for two years. He resumed ownership on March 21, 1847 and continued his editorial duties until 1853 when he received an appointment as Indian Agent for the Pottowatomie Indians in the Kansas Territory. Besides being an editor, Clarke was elected to the Arkansas State Senate in 1850. It was in the Senate that he first took an active interest in the affairs of the Indian Territories. Although the biography of the irrepressible Clarke extends until December 19, 1880, only the ten year period from 1843 to 1853 is relevant for the purposes of this nomination. Despite the lack of conclusive records, one can assume that Clarke resided in his frame house in Logtown throughout his Intelligencer years up until his Indian Agent appointment.

As previously mentioned, the Reverend John Harrell purchased the Clarke home in 1855. Born in North Carolina in 1806, John Harrell was licensed to preach at age seventeen. After being transferred to the Missouri conference in 1831, he became a charter member of the Arkansas conference when it was formed at Batesville in 1836. In 1845, Harrell was a delegate to the Louisville convention where the Methodist Episcopal Church, South was organized. Aside from being elected a bishop or general secretary, the greatest honor that a Methodist preacher can attain is to be elected a delegate. Reverend Harrell served in this capacity eight times, three times from Arkansas and five times from the Indian Territory conference, each time being the first man elected. Harrell was transferred to the Indian Territory in 1850.

According to Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas, Reverend Harrell was among the first of the Methodist Church representatives to work in the Van Buren/Fort Smith area arriving there about 1836-1837. For many years he filled different positions of circuit and station preacher and presiding elder. From 1850 to 1854 Harrell was in charge of the Fort Coffee School; from 1854-55 he was presiding elder of the Choctaw District and for seven years (1855-62) of the Cherokee District. Harrell was Superintendent of Army Missions for the next three years, and the Presiding Elder of the Cherokee District the following year 1865-1866. From 1866 to 1869 he served as Superintendent of Missions of the Indian Mission conference which entailed traveling from one district to another throughout the Indian Territory. In 1869 Harrell limited himself to Presiding Elder of the Choctaw District. The next year he became Superintendent of Asbury Manual Labor School at Asbury Mission.

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Under his leadership the school buildings, which had previously burned, were rebuilt. In 1871-1872 Harrell was Presiding Elder of the Creek District, and he filled the same position at the Cherokee District from 1873-1876.

In 1876 Reverend Harrell and his wife, Eliza Williams Harrell, moved to Asbury, Oklahoma after he was again appointed Superintendent of Asbury Manual Labor School. Mrs. Harrell died later that year in November. Reverend Harrell lived only a month longer. Despite Harrell's twenty-six years of service in the Indian Territory, the family maintained their home in Clarke's old house in Logtown until their final migration in 1876. Because of this Harrell remained involved in affairs east of the border. Earlier, in 1853, Harrell was instrumental in raising the funds for a new Methodist church in Fort Smith. The chapel was named after Harrell, and he became the church's first pastor. The residents of Van Buren, just down the hill from Logtown, were probably more familiar with another member of the Harrell family. One of their three daughters, Miss Lucetta, taught a little private school in Van Buren.

After the Harrell's moved to Oklahoma in 1876, the next available property deed discloses that Edmund F. Burson purchased the land and home from Philemia De Witt in 1887. A Union soldier during the Civil War, Dr. Burson came from Illinois in 1887 and practiced dentistry in Van Buren until his retirement in 1905. The house has remained in the family ever since and is now owned by Douglas Gautier.

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is also significant under Criterion C as the finest example in the area of a 19th century vernacular Greek Revival house. This house also has the distinction of being the first braced frame and weatherboard house in Logtown, a community of log houses. Logtown was an old settlement dating from the arrival of the widow Powell in 1828. Among the first settlers were Dr. Collins and his family. It is believed that he built the first house there as the community was known as Collinsville for a short time. However, due to his unpopularity the name was changed to Logtown on account of the concentration of log houses there. The settlement was renamed City Heights in the early 1900's and is now a part of Van Buren.

Under Criterion D, the site with its associated outbuildings and structures - an original detached kitchen, a dug well lined with stone and later covered by a small shed which was used to milk the cows, a WPA-constructed privy, and a goldfish pond constructed of stone - possesses great potential to reveal further information concerning 19th and early 20th century rural/small town farmsteads in Van Buren and, more specifically, the historic settlement of Logtown. The fact that such smaller farmsteads existed in communities of all sizes throughout Arkansas is well-known; however, a relatively small number of such have survived with a substantial number of significant original outbuilding and structures intact. These intact farmsteads are of potentially great archeological value through their preservation of both the plan and evolution of the farmstead, thereby providing a record of the occupation and use of

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the site during its extensive period of significance. In particular, the Clarke-Harrell-Burson House and its surrounding property retain the potential to reveal further information about the adaptation of a native Easterner to the demands of frontier living on the edge of the Indian Territory in the early nineteenth century; about his social and commercial interactions with the Indians, and which tribes; about the evolution of the farm over time and the concomitant introduction of new farming technology; and lastly, about the true extent of the change in the fundamental character of the farm from the nineteenth century to the twentieth century. Such landscape features as the original kitchen and the stone-lined well are typical of farmsteads for which subsistence and food processing was the primary emphasis, while the later, stone-lined decorative fish pound reveals a concern with decorative landscaping and adapting the natural environment for more recreational and aesthetic purposes. The surrounding site that connects these resources (which appears to contain an intact midden with no disturbance of any kind) retains the potential to reveal substantial information about these questions for which there is no other known surviving documentation.

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Bibliography

Deed Abstracts. Personal files of Douglas Gautier, Van Buren, Arkansas.

Williams, R.L. "Rev. John Harrell." *Chronicles of Oklahoma*. vol. XI. Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society. pp. 743-745.

Eno, Miss Clara B. History of Crawford County, Arkansas. Van Buren, Arkansas: The Press-Argus, 1949. pp. 82-83, 306-307, 375-377.

The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas: History of Crawford County, pp. 482-602. History of Sebastian County, pp. 790-792. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889.

History Commission, Research Project #79-007, George W. Clarke.

Personal Interview with Lisa and Cora Gautier, 10/11/90.

Press-Argus. Van Buren. May 15, 1952.

Southwest Times Record. Fort Smith. April 14, 1928, p.12.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINA	TION			
PROPERTY ClarkeHarrel	lBurson Ho	ıse		FUNCTION
MULTIPLE NAME:				
STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS	, Crawford			
DATE RECEIVED: 4/09, DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/10, DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:			ING LIST:	
REFERENCE NUMBER: 910005	82 has JoonS-			
NOMINATOR: STATE				
REASONS FOR REVIEW:			dasab	
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: OTHER: N PDIL: REQUEST: N SAMPLE:	N PERIOD:	N PROG T: Y NATI	THAN 50 YE RAM UNAPPRO ONAL:	ARS: et N dmoo
COMMENT WAIVER: N	Y I		nificance t	justificatio relating sig context
ACCEPTRETURN ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS		lon	TDATE 10	relationship other
				GEOGRAPHICAL DA
			verbal	sprotor
		/PRESENTA		
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RECOM./CRITERIA_BC,D				
REVIEWER Amy Federman \ Ja DISCIPLINE DATE 5-14-91	in Tumsend			
DOCUMENTATION see attached	d comments Y	/N see att	ached SLR Y	(N) beauties

CLASSIFICATION
countresource type
STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION
FUNCTION
historiccurrent
DESCRIPTION
architectural classificationmaterialsdescriptive text
- CANADAY - CANA
SIGNIFICANCE
Period Areas of SignificanceCheck and justify below
Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)
summary paragraphcompletenessclarityapplicable criteriajustification of areas checkedrelating significance to the resourcecontextrelationship of integrity to significancejustification of exceptionother
BIBLIOGRAPHY
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA
acreageverbal boundary descriptionboundary justification
ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION
sketch mapsUSGS mapsphotographspresentation
OTHER COMMENTS
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to
Phone
Signed Date

COMMENTS: Clarke-Harrell-Burson House, Case-Shiras-Dearmore House, Loy Kirksey House, and Glaser-Kelly House

BY: Jan Townsend, Archeologist

On April 9, 1991, this office received the above nominations. A claim for significance under Criterion D, in addition to other criteria, is made for all of them.

The Clarke-Harrell-Burson House is significant under Criterion D and should be listed in the National Register under this criterion. The supporting evidence presented on the nomination form includes the presence of what appears to be an intact midden; the presence of original outbuildings, which in conjunction with the house can be used to evaluated spatial patterning and the evolution of farmsteads; and discussion of the topics under which research questions can be asked and, at least partially be answered, through further study of the Clarke-Harrell-Burson House property.

The Case-Shiras-Dearmore House, Loy Kirksey House and Glaser-Kelly House nominations, on the other hand, are being returned--adequate information justifying listing under Criterion D is not provided on these nomination forms. In addition, there are some problems with regard to period of significance and other evaluation criteria. These comments only address the Criterion D issues; the other comments can be found on the enclosed evaluation/return sheets.

Except for the cellar/basement (which may or may not be filled with artifact-bearing deposits), there is no indication of intact archaeological deposits associated with the Case-Shiras-Dearmore House. Data sets that would link the site to research questions are not identified. Additionally, the spatial patterning of just two existing structures is unlikely to yield important information.

Insufficient information to justify listing the Loy Kirksey House under Criterion D is provided. There is mention of "much of the original cleared land that served as both tilled and pasture land" remaining, which suggests that archaeological deposits may be present. The outbuildings themselves (a c. 1920 livestock barn and c. 1910 log feed crib/livestock shelter) are unlikely to yield important information about local, regional or international commercial networks/manufacturing as suggested on the nomination. Archaeological data sets that could are not identified.

The case for significance under Criterion D is insufficiently justified for the Glaser-Kelly House. There is no mention of intact archaeological deposits, and the case for important information being obtained through spatial analysis of the extant buildings is not made. Known or expected data sets at the site are not identified or linked to research questions. Although the statement is made that the property "possesses great potential to reveal further information concerning 20th century urban farmsteads in Sheridan," there is no discussion of this general topic and appropriate research questions that may be addressed through study

of the property.

Note that none of the above properties has been determined "not eligible" under Criterion D. The issue is that insufficient justification has been presented for the Case-Shiras-Dearmore, Loy Kirksey, and Glaser-Kelly houses. As a general rule, a justification of Criterion D needs to identify

 the presence of sufficiently intact below-ground archaeological deposits and/or above-ground evidence of features or structures of sufficient integrity and horizontal patterning,

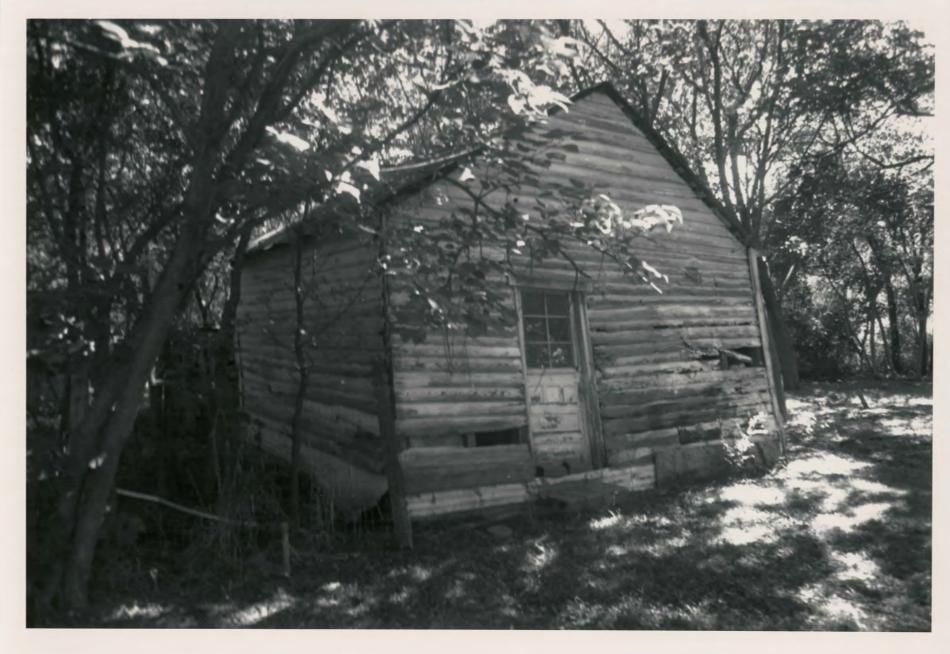
known or expected data sets (based upon existing evidence) retained by the property,

relevant research topics and questions, and

the link between the data sets and the research questions.



Clarke-Harrell-Burson House Van Buren, Arkansas Crawford Co. Photographed by Patrick Zollner October 1990 Negatives on file at AHPP View from northwest



Clarke - Harrell - Burson House Van Buren, Arkansas Crawford Co. Photographed by Patrick Zollner October 1990 Negatives on file at AHPP View of Kitchen from the east



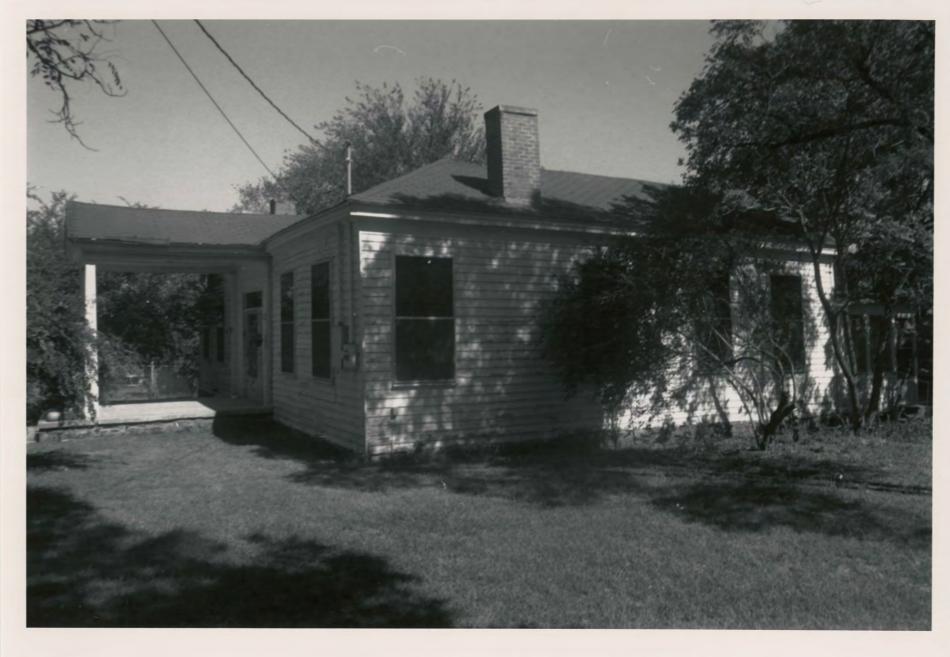
Clarke-Harrell-Burson House
Van Buren, Arkansas
Crawford Co.
Photographed by Patrick Zollner
October 1990
Negatives on file at AHPP
View from the west



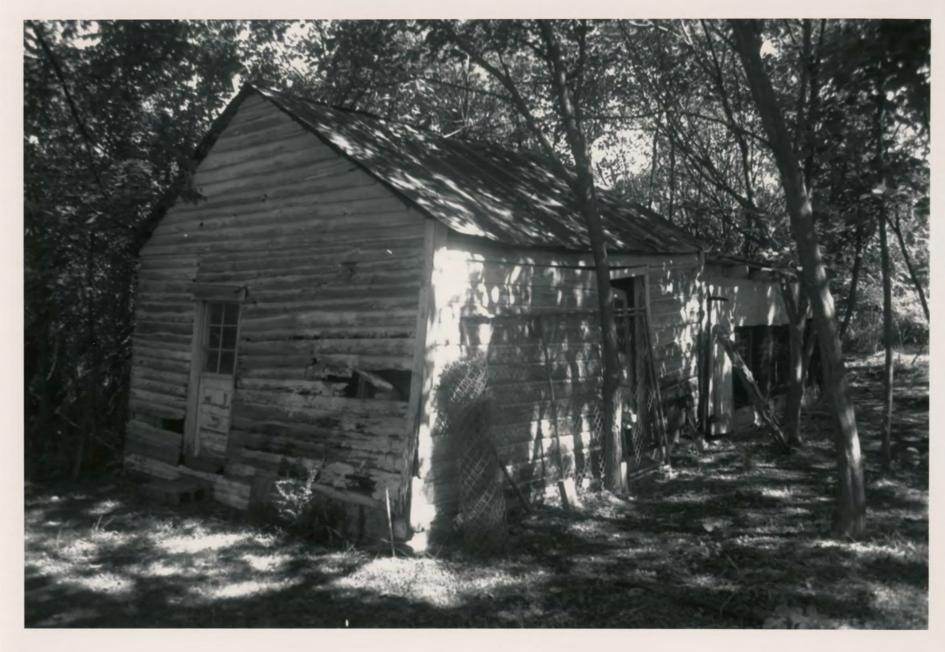
Clarke-Harrell-Burson House
Van Buren, Arkansas
Crawford Co.
Photographed by Patrick Zollner
October 1990
Negatives on file at AHPP
View of goldfish pond



Clarke-Harrell-Burson House
Van Buron, Arkansas
Crawford Co.
Photographed by Patrick Zollner
October 1990
Negatives on file at AHPP
View of foundation from the north.



Clarke-Harrell-Burson House
Van Buren, Arkansas
Crawford Co.
Photographed by Patrick Zollnen
October 1990
Negatives on file at AHPP
View from the Southwest



Clarke-Harrell-Burson House
Van Buren, Arkansas
Crawford Co.
Photographed by Patrick Zollher
October 1990
Negatives on file at AHPP
View of Kitchen from South west



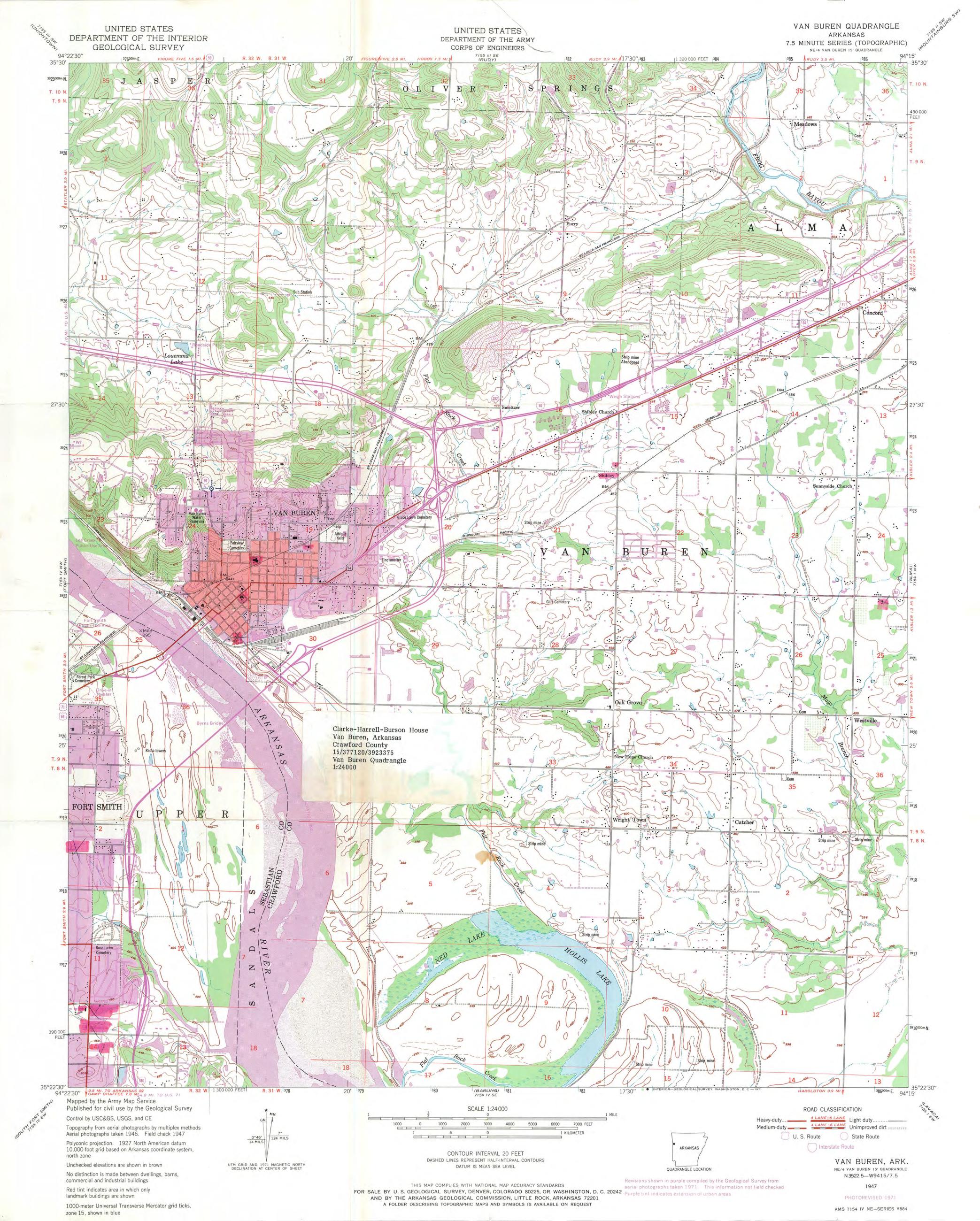
Clarke - Harrell-Burson House Van Buren, Arkansas Crawford Co., Photographed by Patrick Zollner October 1990 Negatives on file at AHPP View of living room



Clarke- Harrell-Burson House Van Buren, Arkansas Crawford Co. Photographed by Patrick Zolher October 1990 Negatives on file at AHPP View of dining room.



Clarke-Harrell-Burson House Van Buren, Arkansas Crawford Co. Photographed by Patrick Zollner October 1990 Negatives on file at AHPP View of Front entrance





ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION **PROGRAM**



NATIONAL REGISTER

April 2, 1991

Carol D. Shull Chief of Registration United States Department of the Interior National Register of Historic Places National Park Service 1100 "L" Street, NW Washington, DC 20240

Clarke-Harrell-Burson House

Van Buren - Crawford County, Arkansas

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford

State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:kg

Enclosures

