

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0667625

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 25 1978

DATE ENTERED JAN 23 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Clinton-Hardy House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

1322 S. Guthrie

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Tulsa

VICINITY OF

No. 1

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Oklahoma

CODE

40

COUNTY

Tulsa

CODE

143

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Robert B. Hardy

STREET & NUMBER

1322 S. Guthrie

CITY, TOWN

Tulsa

VICINITY OF

STATE

Oklahoma

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Tulsa County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Tulsa

STATE

Oklahoma

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Special Clinton-Hardy House Survey

DATE

1977

FEDERAL  STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Oklahoma Historical Society

CITY, TOWN

Oklahoma City

STATE

Oklahoma

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clinton-Hardy House is essentially (cf. No. 8) Georgian Colonial - a white-painted frame structure with some 5,500 feet of floor space on four levels. It sits on a wooded, slightly elevated site and from its top floor the Arkansas River and West Tulsa beyond may still be seen. A brick retaining wall surrounds the property on three sides. The house has some 14 rooms. The basement contains boiler room, coal bin, wine/canning cellar, large storage area, and laundry (complete with porcelain wash tubs and gas stove for making soap).

The main floor contains a large entry foyer, highlighted by a handsome oak staircase with gently curving banister. To the right is the dining room, a feature of which is a maid-call button on the floor beneath the table. On beyond is one of the house's three porches, still retaining its wicker ceiling-suspended swing and ceiling fan for stirring a cooling breeze on hot days. Behind the dining room and beyond the butler's pantry is the kitchen. Unusual features here include a marble topped plate warmer and the Annunciator, an oak covered device that shows by button which doorbell is being rung.

To the right of the entrance foyer is the living room, 29 x 16 feet in size and featuring a five-foot-tall carved wood fireplace with marble inserts. (The rose colored marble was selected to match that in Clinton's Union Bank lobby.) Beyond the living room is the sun room. Its fireplace features white Georgian marble from the old Hotel Tulsa, built in 1912 and the site of many early Tulsa oil deals. (J. Paul Getty retained a suite of rooms in the Tulsa.)

Second floor of the Clinton house contains four bedrooms and two baths. Features of these are four-level, steam-heated towel warmers. The third floor, reached by separate staircase, is a full-height, floored attic.

The house has a number of other unusual features, inside and out. When built in 1919-1920, Tulsa had a relatively poor water supply and system. Clinton therefore installed an auxiliary system with a 140-foot-deep well and 200-gallon storage tank. It was electrically operated, using a pump with a cypress piston shaft and leather bellows. It is still in place. Inside the house is a brass intercom system, manufactured by the Connecticut Telephone Company. Also in working order today, it is electrically operated, consists of speaking trumpets and ear receivers much like those of the old crank-type telephones.

Noteworthy interior features also include hand-painted cornice boards (painted canvas ceilings on the first floor have been covered by ill-conceived decorating attempts of the second Mrs. Clinton in recent years) and custom light fixtures. Living room sconces are solid pewter. Ceiling lights in the entrance foyer and second floor hallway are crystal and silver plate. The dining room sconces are also silver-plated.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1919 to present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

George Winkler

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Two features keep the Clinton-Hardy House from being a fine example of Georgian (New England) Colonial architecture; the porte cochere and a fan-lighted entryway of pre-Civil War vintage from New Orleans' French Quarter. But if they were in no way contemporaneous with the 18th century flavor Architect George Winkler was trying to create, they were at least characteristic of the pioneering, frontier-oriented individualism of Builder Lee Clinton. Mrs. Clinton wanted both features. And her husband figured she might as well have them, especially as he was paying the bills ... in cash! The Clinton-Hardy House is thus, unwittingly, yet another monument of sorts to the frontier and the men who contested successfully with it to build a new state and a major city.

\* \* \*

Lee Clinton was born in 1875 on a ranch south of the Arkansas River in what is now West Tulsa. It was then Red Fork, Indian Territory. His father was white, his mother half Creek Indian. In 1896 he became a bookkeeper at the Tulsa Banking Company, the first bank in Tulsa, which then had a population of around 1,300. (That institution later merged into what is now the First National Bank of Tulsa.) In 1906 Clinton became vice president of the Bank of Commerce, which he helped organize with his brother-in-law, James H. McBirney. In 1916 he founded the Union National Bank of Tulsa and he remained in banking, and real estate, the rest of his life. He housed his Union Bank in the Clinton Building, which he had built in 1913. Designed by Winkler, this 8-story "skyscraper" (Tulsa's first fireproof building) and the nearby Daniel office building combined with a pair of first class hotels to lure oil executives from other northeastern Oklahoma and help to make Tulsa the self-styled (with more than a little justification) ~~the~~ Oil Capital of the World. (He retained his interest in ranching and the cattle industry, however, and was president and co-founder with W. G. Skelly of the Tulsa Stockyards.)

Clinton's involvement in real estate spread to development of a prestige sub-division to be located on a series of modest hills running along the east bank of the Arkansas a dozen blocks or so south of downtown Tulsa, but then on the city's outskirts. Childers Heights was platted in 1918. Clinton had Winkler design his new house for the highest point on the bluffs. A half-block away is the far more pretentious mansion built by his brother-in-law. (The McBirney House was placed in the National Register in 1977.) If more modest in size and general appearance, the Clinton house nevertheless incorporated many of the built-in niceties that made life both more convenient and more gracious (cf. No. 7). Significance of these architectural features can be better appreciated when one remembers that Tulsa, for all its new-found oil wealth, was still a struggling, infant city with a poor water system (Clinton supplemented it with his own spring and a well) and a not too dependable electric system (against the breakdowns of which Clinton installed a gasoline-powered emergency generator).

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Leach, Tani, "Old Clinton Home . . ." Tulsa Daily World, Nov. 30, 1975

Miscellaneous Materials researched by Robert B. Hardy

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	2, 3, 0	<sup>430</sup> <del>4, 3, 9</del>	4, 0, 3	7, 5, 1	B					
	ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING			ZONE	EASTING		NORTHING	
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kent Ruth, Deputy

ORGANIZATION

Oklahoma Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

Historical Building

CITY OR TOWN

Oklahoma City

DATE

February 1978

TELEPHONE

405/884-5456

STATE

Oklahoma

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL     

STATE     

LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE

*Harry L. Deupree, Jr.*

DATE

4-10-78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*William Klovich*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE 1/23/79  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

1/16/79

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Oklahoma	
COUNTY Tulsa	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

No. 8 Significance

Page 1

Clinton-Hardy House

The Clintons were active socially. The Skellys, McBirneys, and others prominent in oil and banking were frequent guests in the house. One noteworthy out-of-state guest: Amelia Earhart, classmate and friend of Dorothy McBirney, Clinton's niece. . . .Susan Clinton died in 1951, Lee Clinton in 1958. The house remained in possession of the second Mrs. Clinton until 1972, when it was purchased by its present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Hardy. Only minor restoration was required to bring it back to the handsome graciousness built into it in the 1920s ... porte cochere and fan light to the contrary notwithstanding!



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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

No. 8. Significance - Supplemental Information

Clinton-Hardy House

The Clinton-Hardy House has a strong New England flavor. The exterior lapped siding, simple rectangular shape, gable roof, and exterior trim work all evoke an image of 18th century colonial America. The symmetrical main block of the house carefully directs the eye to a Georgian entrance with flanking Doric columns, arched pediment, and dentil trim. The entrance door, sidelights, and fan light (as noted in the regular form) are actually older than the house itself, having been brought to Tulsa from a pre-Civil War residence in the French Quarter of New Orleans while construction was under way.

The house has added significance for its role in the development of Tulsa, specifically its influence in directing Tulsa's growth to the south of the downtown district. The Clinton house was one of the first two of any size to be built on the bluff overlooking the Arkansas River south of the business area. Prior to its construction the more "socially prominent" built their homes either to the north of downtown or to the near southeast. The result of Clinton's move was the completion of Galveston and Guthrie Avenues with several other period houses of some architectural importance.

The other nearby streets are primarily smaller ones, their homes generally two-story residences of the 1905-through-1925 era. One, however, the Ferryman home, dates back to about 1882.