

3-59-11300-61

NR 12-4-75

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Casey House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Fairgrounds

CITY, TOWN Mountain Home

STATE Arkansas

VICINITY OF CODE 05

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Three

COUNTY Baxter CODE 005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: not in use

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Baxter County

STREET & NUMBER Baxter County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Mountain Home

STATE Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER Baxter County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN Mountain Home

STATE Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Casey House in Mountain Home is a well-constructed frame dog-trot built circa 1858. Though styled like many pioneer homes in Arkansas, the Casey House is unusual in the materials used in its construction. In contrast to the rough-hewn logs used in most dog-trot style houses, the Casey House is sheathed in clapboard siding with wide flush-board lining the central breezeway. The rustic refinement is continued on the interior with wainscoting used in both rooms.

The rectilinear floor plan of the Casey House contains two rooms separated by an open breezeway. This typical dog-trot style structure has a wide verandah across the front (east) elevation. A wood-shingled gable roof covers the house and extends into a shed roof over the front verandah. Some additions made to the house after it was constructed have been removed, thus restoring the house to its original rectilinear shape.

The facade is symmetrical and divided by the central breezeway. Each of the two rooms has a single front entry with a transom over the paneled door. Double hung sash windows with nine over six lights flank both entrances. A simple wood moulding surrounds the doors and windows on the facade and the two doorways opening off either side of the breezeway. Like the front entries, the breezeway entries also have a transom above a single paneled door.

Twin chimneys once flanked the north and south elevations, rising above the ridge line of the gable roof. The north chimney is no longer standing, but the south chimney is still in place. This cut stone exterior chimney covers about one-third of the south elevation.

The interior of the Casey House has single-tier paneled wainscot in both rooms. The wall surface above the wainscot was probably covered by wallpaper when the house was constructed, and will be refinished as the restoration of the house continues. Though damaged in some spots, the original wide plank flooring is still in place. Opposite the breezeway entry in the south room is a large stone fireplace. Built of cut stone like the chimney, this fireplace has a rectangular shape with a wide keystone over the hearth.

The Casey House has been unoccupied for a number of years and is in a somewhat deteriorated condition; however, Baxter County has recently purchased the property and county funds are being used to repair and restore the house. Work accomplished thus far consists of removing the ell addition on the north rear elevation, re-roofing the structure with wood shingles, rebuilding the porch floor on the verandah, and replacing some of the porch posts. Further restoration work will be carried out as funds become available.

The Casey House is located on its original site, which is now a part of the Baxter County fairgrounds. Colonel Casey's store, which was originally located about thirty feet southeast of his house, is no longer standing and there are no visible remains of the structure. A chain link fence encloses the tree shaded

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a medical doctor and the first postmaster in Mountain Home, the younger Casey was also an important figure in early Baxter County history.

The store which Colonel Casey operated was quite successful, as is evidenced in the official Marion County records. In 1860 Randolph Casey identified himself as a merchant and valued his real and personal estates at several thousand dollars. Ten years earlier he had registered as a farmer in the 1850 Tennessee census and valued his real estate at \$2,000.00. Thus, his move to Arkansas brought immediate financial success. Casey continued to operate his store in Mountain Home until he sold out and retired in 1885.

According to Goodspeed, Colonel Casey enlisted in the fourteenth Confederate Arkansas Infantry in 1861. After serving in Captain Adrian's Company, he was honorably discharged at Corinth, Mississippi. In the years following the Civil War Casey became involved in local politics. When Baxter County was formed in 1873, Colonel Casey became its first representative to the state legislature.

The Casey House, built more than a century and a quarter ago, remains in good condition. Though architecturally important as a good example of a dog-trot structure, the primary significance of the Casey House lies in its associations with persons and events in early Baxter County history. Within the past decade the descendants of Colonel Casey have sold his home to Baxter County. When fully restored the house will be a meaningful monument to Mountain Home's first citizen.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Goodspeed Brothers Publishers. A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region.
Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1890.
- Hall, C. G. Historical Report of the Secretary of State, 1958. Little Rock:
publisher unknown, 1958.
- Messick, Mary Ann. History of Baxter County, 1873-1973. Mountain Home, Arkansas:
Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce, 1973.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	55,54,5,0	4,01,98,4,0	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

Dianna Kirk, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

September 9, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

300 West Markham

TELEPHONE

501-371-1639

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

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.

~~NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER~~ SIGNATURE Gene Richardson

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE September 9, 1975

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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lot on which the house rests and protects it from vandalism. Structurally, the house is in fairly good condition, thus facilitating its restoration.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input 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 c. 1858

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Casey House is the most important historic structure in the north Arkansas town of Mountain Home. About 1858 Colonel Randolph D. Casey built this two-room dog-trot house for his family. On the same lot Colonel Casey built a frame store, the first commercial structure in the Mountain Home area. This small store also housed the first post office in Mountain Home and was the site of the first court ever held in Baxter County. (Court records show that the county paid Colonel Casey \$7.00 rent per month for the use of his store.) Though the old store has long since disappeared, the nearby Casey House still stands as a reminder of the early days in Mountain Home's history.

Architecturally, the Casey House is unusual in the use of construction materials for its particular style. The house is constructed as a dog-trot with two large rooms on either end separated by an open breezeway through the middle. Across the facade is a long verandah supported by simple square posts. Most pioneer homes built in this style were constructed entirely of rough hewn logs; however, the Casey House was built with milled lumber over the log framing. Clapboard siding covers the exterior walls with flush-board lining the open breezeway. The interiors are lined in flush-board over paneled wainscot. Transoms over the paneled doors add to the refinement of the antebellum Casey House.

This architecturally interesting residence was built about 1858 in the Rapp's Barrens community. In 1855 Colonel Randolph D. Casey had moved his family from their home in Hardeman County, Tennessee, to Marion County, Arkansas. Colonel Casey opened the first store in the community and later built his home nearby. Though the house and store remained unaltered, the community and even the county around them changed. Rapp's Barrens became Mountain Home, and in 1873 Baxter County was formed from parts of Marion and three other counties.

Randolph D. Casey was one of the eldest of a dozen children born to Hiram and Catherine DePriest Casey. At age eighteen Randolph Casey married and began farming in western Tennessee. In 1838 he was elected colonel of the 124th Tennessee Militia, a title he carried throughout his life. As a part of the Tennessee Militia, Casey was involved in moving the Cherokees to the Indian Nation.

Colonel Casey was elected clerk for Hardeman County in 1844, but in the next decade moved his family west to Arkansas. Settling at Rapp's Barrens in 1855, Casey was accompanied not only by his wife and children, but also by his mother, Mrs. Catherine Casey, and his youngest brother, John M. Casey. As

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Shiras, Frances H. History of Baxter County. Mountain Home: Shiras Brothers
Print Shop, c. 1940.

U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Seventh Census of the
United States, 1850. Population Schedule for Hardeman County, Tennessee.
Microfilm, Arkansas History Commission.

U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Eighth Census of the
United States, 1860. Population Schedule for Marion County, Arkansas.
Microfilm, Arkansas History Commission.

