

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NR 9/19/07

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Bryant-Lasater House  
other names/site number Kirksey Maternity Hospital, Site #CW0243

2. Location

street & number 770 North Main Street  not for publication  
city or town Mulberry  vicinity  
state Arkansas code AR county Crawford code 033 zip code 72947

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination   
request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic  
Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets   
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant

nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews 2/5/07  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bryant-Lasater House

Name of Property

Crawford County, Arkansas

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property  
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing                      Noncontributing

1	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling \_\_\_\_\_

HEALTH CARE/hospital \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

VACANT/NOT IN USE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Plain Traditional \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

foundation CONCRETE \_\_\_\_\_

walls WOOD \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

roof ASPHALT \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

LOCAL

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

HEALTH/MEDICINE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1900, 1945-1957

Significant Dates

c.1900, 1945-1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other

Name of repository:

Bryant-Lasater House  
Name of Property

Crawford County, Arkansas  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one.

**UTM References**

(See additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>404652</u>	<u>3929671</u>	3	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	4	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date May 21, 2007  
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787  
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Mulberry  
street & number 207 N. Main Street telephone             
city or town Mulberry state AR zip code 72947

**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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### SUMMARY

The Bryant-Lasater House is located at 770 North Main Street in Mulberry, a small community in Crawford County in western Arkansas. The wood-frame house is one and one-half stories tall and is built on a continuous foundation of molded concrete blocks. The walls are covered in wood siding, and a large pyramidal roof covered in asphalt shingles tops the house. Each elevation of the roof is also pierced with a hipped-roof dormer. A large hipped-roof porch spans the front façade of the building.

### ELABORATION

The Bryant-Lasater House is located at 770 North Main Street in Mulberry, a small community in Crawford County in western Arkansas. The setting around the house is open given that the location is just south of Kirksey Park, the location of the Crawford County Fair.

The wood-frame house is one and one-half stories tall and is built on a continuous foundation of molded concrete blocks. The walls are covered in wood siding, and are fenestrated with wood-frame, double-hung windows, mainly with an eight-over-one or six-over-one light pattern.

The house is topped by a large pyramidal roof covered in asphalt shingles. Each elevation of the roof is also pierced with a hipped-roof dormer that increases the space on the second floor and provides additional light and ventilation. A large hipped-roof porch spans the front façade of the building.

### Front/West Façade

The front façade of the Bryant-Lasater House is dominated by the full-width front porch. The porch is built on a concrete-block foundation and has a concrete floor. A set of two concrete steps leads up to the porch level. The porch is supported by four square wood columns with projecting columns and bases. The porch is covered with a hipped roof that ties into the roof of the main house.

The façade is symmetrical around the central entrance. The front entrance has a wood-frame door with a single pane of glass, a metal screen door, and a transom window above. On either side of the entrance is a single wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one window. The portion of the façade with the entrance and flanking windows is slightly recessed from the façade's main plane. The main plane of the façade, on either side of the entrance, is fenestrated by a single wood-frame, double-hung, eight-over-one window.

The façade of the front dormer is fenestrated with a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one windows.

### Side/South Façade

The left side of the south façade projects out from the rest of the side façade. The projecting section of the façade is fenestrated by a single wood-frame, double-hung, eight-over-one window. Proceeding along the recessed portion of the façade to the east, it is fenestrated by a single wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one window followed by an entrance with a wood-frame door with a single window pane in the top of the door

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and a metal screen door. A shed-roofed awning supported by knee braces shelters the entrance. To the right of the entrance is a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, one-over-one windows.

As on the front façade, the façade of the dormer is fenestrated with a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one windows.

### Rear/East Façade

The left three-quarters of the rear façade projects from the main plane of the façade, and mostly represents an open porch that was enclosed at some point. Beginning at the left edge of the façade, it is fenestrated by a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, one-over-one windows, followed by an entrance with a wood door with recessed horizontal panels and a metal screen door, and a single wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one window. The façade's main plane is fenestrated by a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, four-over-four windows.

The façade of the dormer, like those on the other façades, is fenestrated with a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one windows, although the top sash of the left window has been replaced by a board.

### Side/North Façade

The right side of the south façade projects out from the rest of the side façade. The projecting section of the façade is fenestrated by a single wood-frame, double-hung, eight-over-one window. Proceeding along the recessed portion of the façade to the west, it is fenestrated by a single wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one window. Towards the rear of the house is a group of four wood-frame, double-hung, four-over-four windows, although the bottom sash of the right window has been removed and sided over.

As on the building's other façades, the façade of the dormer is fenestrated with a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, six-over-one windows.

### Integrity

The Bryant-Lasater House retains a high degree of integrity. The largest modification to the property is the enclosing of the rear porch, although it appears to be an historic alteration. The building retains its original siding and windows. In addition, the setting around the property retains the rural feel on the edge of a small town that it would have had when it was built in the early twentieth century.

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### SUMMARY

The Bryant-Lasater House, which was built c.1900, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its significance as an unusually large and elaborate example of a pyramidal-roofed house in Mulberry. Pyramidal-roof houses developed in the first part of the twentieth century in the south as a replacement for the smaller hall-and-parlor house type. The Bryant-Lasater House is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with health care in Mulberry. The Bryant-Lasater House has been home to the practices of several doctors in the community, including Dr. O. J. Kirksey, who operated the Kirksey Maternity Hospital in the house beginning in 1945.

### ELABORATION

Crawford County was created by an act of the Territorial Legislature on October 24, 1820, only two years after David Boyd, the first white settler, arrived in Van Buren. The new county, which was named for William H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury under James Monroe, encompassed most of the land now occupied by Yell, Logan, Johnson, Franklin, Scott, and Sebastian counties. The first county seat was temporarily located at the house of John Jay on the south side of the Arkansas River near the site of Crawford Old Court House. The county seat was eventually moved several times, ending up in Van Buren in 1838.<sup>1</sup>

Initially, the Arkansas River played a large role in the settlement and commerce in Crawford County. However, in the second half of the nineteenth century, the railroad became the supreme mode of transportation in the area. The Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad, which was organized in 1853, acquired a vast amount of land in the area, including "alternate even sections for six miles on each side of the track." Work began on the line in 1869 and by August 1871 120 miles of track were completed. Finally, on June 24, 1876, the first train entered Van Buren.<sup>2</sup>

The community of Mulberry, which was on the line of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad, was originally known as Crawford Courthouse (or Crawford Old Court House, depending on the source) and had a post office established in 1832. By 1839, it was located on the main road between Ozark and Van Buren. The name of the community was changed to Pleasant Hill in 1838 and it also became a part of Franklin County at the same time. In 1877, the community's name was changed once again, to Mulberry, and in 1896, the community went back to Crawford County.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas*. Chicago, Nashville, and St. Louis: The Goodspeed Publishing Co. 1890, pp. 495 and 498.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, pp. 502-503, and *Maps showing the Connections of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad and its Land Grant*. Map. New York, G. W. & C. B. Colton & Co., 1873.

<sup>3</sup> Baker, Russell Pierce. From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1971. Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988, pp. 54, 156, and 178, and Burr, David. H. *Map of Mississippi, Louisiana & Arkansas exhibiting the post offices, post roads, canals, rail roads, &c.* Map. London: J. Arrowsmith, 1839.

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The arrival of the railroad also helped Mulberry's development, not only in bringing people to the area, but also in selling off land, which encouraged development. The land that is occupied by the Bryant-Lasater House was deeded to E. B. Bryant by the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway on January 7, 1882. Although it is not known exactly when the house was built, it was built prior to February 19, 1908, when the property was deeded to their daughter, Annaliza Lasater.<sup>4</sup>

Given the fact that the house was built as a pyramidal-roofed house indicates that it was likely built c.1900. The pyramidal-roofed house, at least in the south, developed in the first decades of the twentieth century as a replacement of the hall-and-parlor type, which was often a smaller house. The pyramidal roof was ideal for homes with a square or nearly square plan, since it was a less expensive roof type to construct. The roof type required more complex framing, but fewer long-spanning rafters, which accounted for the cheaper cost. Many rural examples of the house type remained simple with little detailing, although urban examples did use detailing from the popular styles of the day including Colonial Revival, Neoclassical, Prairie, Tudor or Craftsman.<sup>5</sup>

The Bryant-Lasater House is an unusually large example of a pyramidal-roofed house, especially in a small town like Mulberry. In addition, the large front porch and the four large dormers that turned the upper floor into usable space, were also an unusual feature on a pyramidal-roof house.

Towards the middle of the twentieth century, the house became associated with the town's health care community. In 1945, Dr. O. J. Kirksey, who had begun his practice in Mulberry in the 1920s, purchased the house and transferred his Kirksey Maternity Hospital to the building. (He was one of several doctors who have had their practice in the house, either alone or as part of an association, although definitely the most prolific.) By the time that Dr. Kirksey died in 1966, it was believed that he had delivered approximately 4,700 babies in his career.<sup>6</sup>

In recent years, the property has been acquired by the City of Mulberry. Although it is currently vacant, the community is hoping to restore the building for community use. However, the Bryant-Lasater House remains a good example of an early-twentieth-century pyramidal-roofed house and an important part of Mulberry's medical history.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bryant-Lasater House, which was built c.1900, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** for its significance as an unusually large and elaborate

<sup>4</sup> Feller, Betty. Mayor of Mulberry. E-mail to the author. 29 January 2007.

<sup>5</sup> McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A Knopf, 1994, p. 100.

<sup>6</sup> Feller, Betty. Mayor of Mulberry. E-mail to the author. 29 January 2007.



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example of a pyramidal-roofed house in Mulberry. Pyramidal-roof houses developed in the first part of the twentieth century in the south as a replacement for the smaller hall-and-parlor house type. The Bryant-Lasater House is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with healthcare in Mulberry. The Bryant-Lasater House has been home to the practices of several doctors in the community, including Dr. O. J. Kirksey, who operated the Kirksey Maternity Hospital in the house beginning in 1945.

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

*Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas*. Chicago, Nashville, and St. Louis: The Goodspeed Publishing Co. 1890

Burr, David. H. *Map of Mississippi, Louisiana & Arkansas exhibiting the post offices, post roads, canals, rail roads, &c.* Map. London: J. Arrowsmith, 1839.

Feller, Betty. Mayor of Mulberry. E-mail to the author. 29 January 2007.

McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A Knopf, 1994.

*Maps showing the Connections of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad and its Land Grant*. Map. New York, G. W. & C. B. Colton & Co., 1873.

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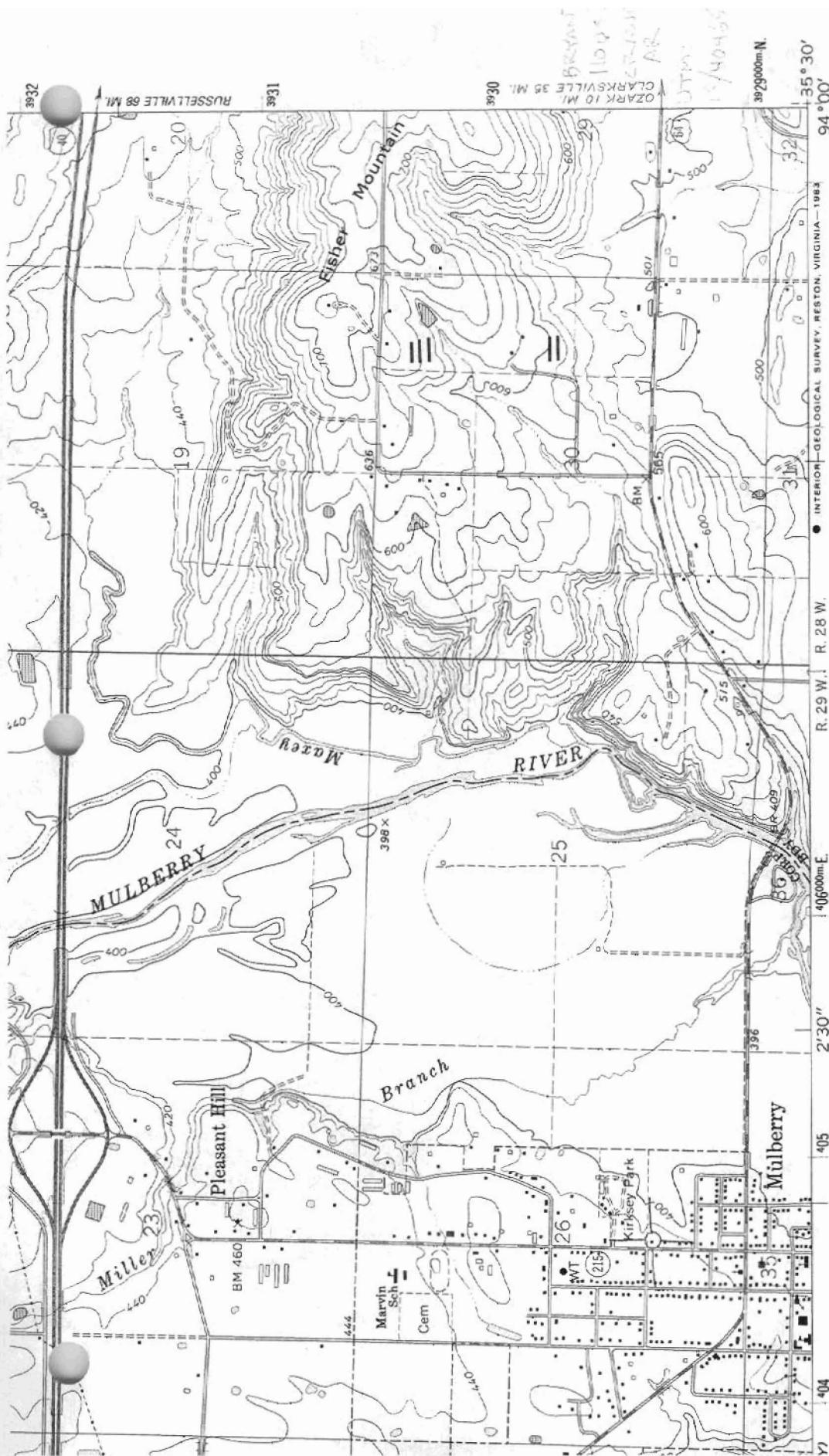
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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From a point on the east side of Main Street adjacent to the southwest corner of the West 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Main Street intersection, proceed easterly parallel to the south side of West 8<sup>th</sup> Street for 415 feet, thence proceed southerly parallel to Main Street for 415 feet, thence proceed westerly parallel to West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, thence proceed northerly along the east side of Main Street for 165 feet to the point of beginning.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Bryant-Lasater House.



**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, all weather, Light-duty road, all weather,  
 hard surface \_\_\_\_\_ improved surface \_\_\_\_\_  
 Secondary highway, all weather, Unimproved road, fair or dry  
 hard surface \_\_\_\_\_ weather \_\_\_\_\_

○ Interstate Route    ◻ U. S. Route    ○ State Route

000  
 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET  
 1 MILE  
 1 KILOMETER

L 20 FEET  
 AL DATUM OF 1929

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 LORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 I, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204  
 SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**MOUNTAINBURG SE, ARK.**  
 N3530—W9400/7.5

1969  
 PHOTOREVISED 1983  
 DMA 7155 II SE—SERIES V884



(CECL)  
 7254 IV NW

3932 3931 3930 3929000m N 35° 30' 94° 00'

R. 29 W. 1 R. 28 W. 2' 30" 405 404

4000m E

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1983

