

*Book Copy*

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

JUL 19 1996

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: O. L. Dunaway House

other name/site number: FA0407

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2. Location

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street & number: 920 Center Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Conway

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Faulkner code: AR 045 zip code: 72032

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>      </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

O. L. Dunaway House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR  
County and State

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Slatu Signature of certifying official Date 6-4-96

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification
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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
removed from the National Register
other (explain):
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

O. L. Dunaway House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR  
County and State

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Current: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

Prairie

Other

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: American Foursquare

Materials:	foundation	<u>Brick</u>	roof	<u>Asphalt</u>
	walls	<u>Brick</u>	other	<u>N/A</u>

Describe present and historic physical appearance. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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**Summary**

Located at 920 Center Street, the O. L. Dunaway House is a two-story, brick masonry residence designed in the vernacular style known as American Foursquare, but with relatively strong Prairie style influences. The broad, almost square plan of the main house block is augmented only by a small, single story gable roof projection near the house's rear or eastern elevation, a non-historic window bay projection on the eastern elevation, and the single story, hipped roof wrap-around porch that extends across the western or front elevation and wraps around to the northern elevation. A single exterior brick chimney rises through the roof's southern slope. The hipped, asphalt shingle roof and brick walls rest upon a continuous brick foundation.

**Elaboration**

The O. L. Dunaway House is a two-story, brick masonry residence designed in the vernacular style known as American Foursquare, but with relatively strong Prairie style influences. The broad, almost square plan of the main house

Block is augmented only by a small, single story gable roof projection near the house's rear or eastern elevation, a non-historic window bay projection on the eastern elevation, and the single story, hipped roof wrap-around porch that extends across the western or front elevation and wraps around to the northern elevation. A single exterior brick chimney rises through the roof's southern slope. The hipped, asphalt shingle roof and brick walls rest upon a continuous brick foundation.

The front or western elevation features a full-width covered porch which wraps halfway around the northern side of the house. The roof is supported over the porch by five brick columns on the front, and one on the northwest elevation, and is accessed by two concrete steps. A centered single-leaf six panel door provides the main entrance, opening directly into the living room. Two sets of three-over-one double-hung triple windows flank the front door and illuminate the dining and living rooms. The upper story is fenestrated by a pair of similar windows lighting the upstairs sitting room and triple windows lighting the master bedroom.

The southern elevation is lighted on the first and second stories by two pairs of single three-over-one double-hung windows that flank the fireplaces. A pair of similarly-constructed windows light the downstairs bedroom, while a set of triple windows light the upstairs office. The northern elevation is illuminated by a set of double-hung three-over-one triple windows off of the dining room, and a similar pair of windows off the breakfast room. A wood door of nine-pane rectilinear design opens into the breakfast room from the wrap-around porch. On the second story, two pairs of three-over-one double-hung windows light the nursery and the northwest bedroom, respectively.

The rear or eastern elevation is fenestrated on the first story by a single three-over-one double-hung window which lights the breakfast room. A similarly-constructed pair of windows provide light to the downstairs bedroom. A small one-over-one double-hung window lights the bathroom off the downstairs bedroom. The kitchen is illuminated by a bay window consisting of five one-over-one windows, as well as a nine-light steel panel door accessed by two concrete steps. On the second story, a band of four double-hung three-over-one windows provide light to the sleeping porch. Three similar single windows of varying size illuminate the stairway, upstairs bathroom and nursery.

The interior retains much of its original detail, including several multi-pane French doors, original door and window trim, and a tapestry brick, bracketed fireplace.

The O. L. Dunaway House remains largely intact, the most significant alteration being the addition of a modern bay window on the rear elevation to provide more light to the kitchen.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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certifying official has considered the significance of this property in

O. L. Dunaway House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR  
County and State

Relation to other properties: Locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1923

Significant Dates: 1923

Significant Person(s): N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

**Summary** Criterion C, local significance

The O. L. Dunaway House is locally significant under Criterion C by virtue of its status as the best known example of an American Foursquare with strong Prairie style influences. Though the plan of the main house block is fundamentally square, the low, spreading roofline, the wrap-around porch and the heavy brick porch columns all lend the design the heavy, horizontal emphasis that was a defining feature of the Prairie style.

**Elaboration**

The town of "Conway Station" was laid out and platted by Colonel Asa Peter Robinson, a Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad official who in 1871 was granted a section of land of his own choice by the railroad on which to build a town. By 1873 Conway became the Faulkner County seat and a prosperous railroad town (now served by the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad after the demise of the Little Rock and Ft. Smith Railroad) in the midst of rich farming country. It was incorporated on October 9, 1875, and

O. L. Dunaway House

Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR

County and State

quickly grew into a bustling city, primarily due to its being an important regional hub for the surrounding farmers. Conway served the regional agricultural community both as a transportation center for selling and conveying their crops to an international marketplace and as a mercantile outlet where local farmers could purchase various staples and commodities. Over time the Conway merchants adjusted to the seasonal nature of this form of commerce and built a thriving commercial center that continues to be economically vital. By the early twentieth century Conway also became an educational center in the state, being the host to both the Arkansas State Normal School (later the Arkansas State Teachers College, now the University of Central Arkansas) and Hendrix College.

The oldest residential neighborhood of the city -- in which the O. L. Dunaway House is located -- largely reflects the architectural styles popular in the first decades of the twentieth century, when Conway experienced such dramatic growth. The lots upon which the O. L. Dunaway House was built were part of the original plat for the town of Conway as laid out by Colonel Asa P. Robinson himself.

Oscar Lee Dunaway was born in the nearby community of Beryl on February 14, 1872, the grandson of John D. Dunaway, Sr., who had served as a member of the Arkansas Constitutional Convention in 1874 and as a state senator between 1886 and 1890. O. L. received two degrees from Hendrix College: a bachelor of philosophy degree in 1897 and later a bachelor of arts. He went on to earn a master's degree from George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee in 1919. He returned to Arkansas to teach school and to serve as superintendent of schools in Prescott, Texarkana, Texas, and Hot Springs. He moved to Conway in 1922 to accept a job with the Keystone View Company (of Meadville, Pennsylvania), a dealer of school supplies.

O. L. Dunaway also served as a founder and superintendent of the Arkansas Christadelphian Bible School, reputedly the first such school in the world, which initially convened on July 18, 1923 in Martinville, Arkansas. This school was eventually attended by residents of 31 states and Canada, with an average annual enrollment of approximately 500 students. The Arkansas Christadelphian Bible School was described as not centering on preaching repentance. Rather, it was literally a bible school, focusing on the Scriptures and the building of faith. O. L. also worked as a traveling speaker for the Christadelphians, delivering lectures sponsored by that organization.

He married Blanch Scanlan, originally of Bee Branch, Arkansas, on February 17, 1903. Their union produced six children, five of whom survived to adulthood and attended college in Conway.

Built in 1923, the O. L. Dunaway House is locally significant under Criterion C by virtue of its status as the best known example of an American Foursquare with strong Prairie style influences. Though the plan of the main house block is fundamentally square, the low, spreading roofline, the wrap-around porch and the heavy brick porch columns all lend the design the heavy, horizontal emphasis that was a defining feature of the Prairie style. As

O. L. Dunaway House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR  
County and State

Such it is locally-significant under Criterion C.

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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*Abstract of Title.*

Faulkner County Historical Society, "The Arkansas Christadelphian Bible School," *Faulkner County: Its Land and People*, Conway: FCHS, 1986.

Faulkner County Historical Society, "The Isaiah Dunaway Family," *Faulkner County: Its Land and People*, Conway: FCHS, 1986.

Faulkner County Real Estate Tax Book, 1922, pg. 312.

Faulkner County Real Estate Tax Book, 1923, pg. 350.

Gatewood, Robert L, *Faulkner County Arkansas: 1778-1964*.

Interview, William Dunaway, May 29, 1995.

Interview, James Parrish, May 29, 1995.

Interview, Mary Nell Ryan, May 29, 1995.

*Log Cabin Democrat*, Obituary. Mr. O. L. Dunaway, March 27, 1958.

*Log Cabin Democrat*, Obituary. Mrs. O. L. Dunaway, October 23, 1963.

Minton, Hubert Lee, *The Evolution of Conway, Arkansas*, Chicago: University of Chicago, 1939.

Robinson, Corinne, "The Arkansas Christadelphian Bible School," *Facts and Fiddlings*, Conway: FCHS, 8:3:63-65.

Robinson, Corinne, "The Dunaway Family History," *Facts and Fiddlings*, Conway: FCHS, 9:3:74-85.

Ross, Margaret Ann, "Early Camp Meetings in Faulkner County, Arkansas," *Facts and Fiddlings*, Conway: FCHS, 3:1:46-49.

Sanborn Map Company, Map of Conway, Arkansas, 1919 and 1926. University of Central Arkansas Torreyson Library, Microfilm.

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

O. L. Dunaway House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR  
County and State

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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Geographical Data  
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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>15</u>	<u>550600</u>	<u>3883030</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	<u>15</u>	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Lot 7 and the northern half of Lot 8, Block 25, Robinson's Plan of Conway, Faulkner County, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

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11. Form Prepared By  
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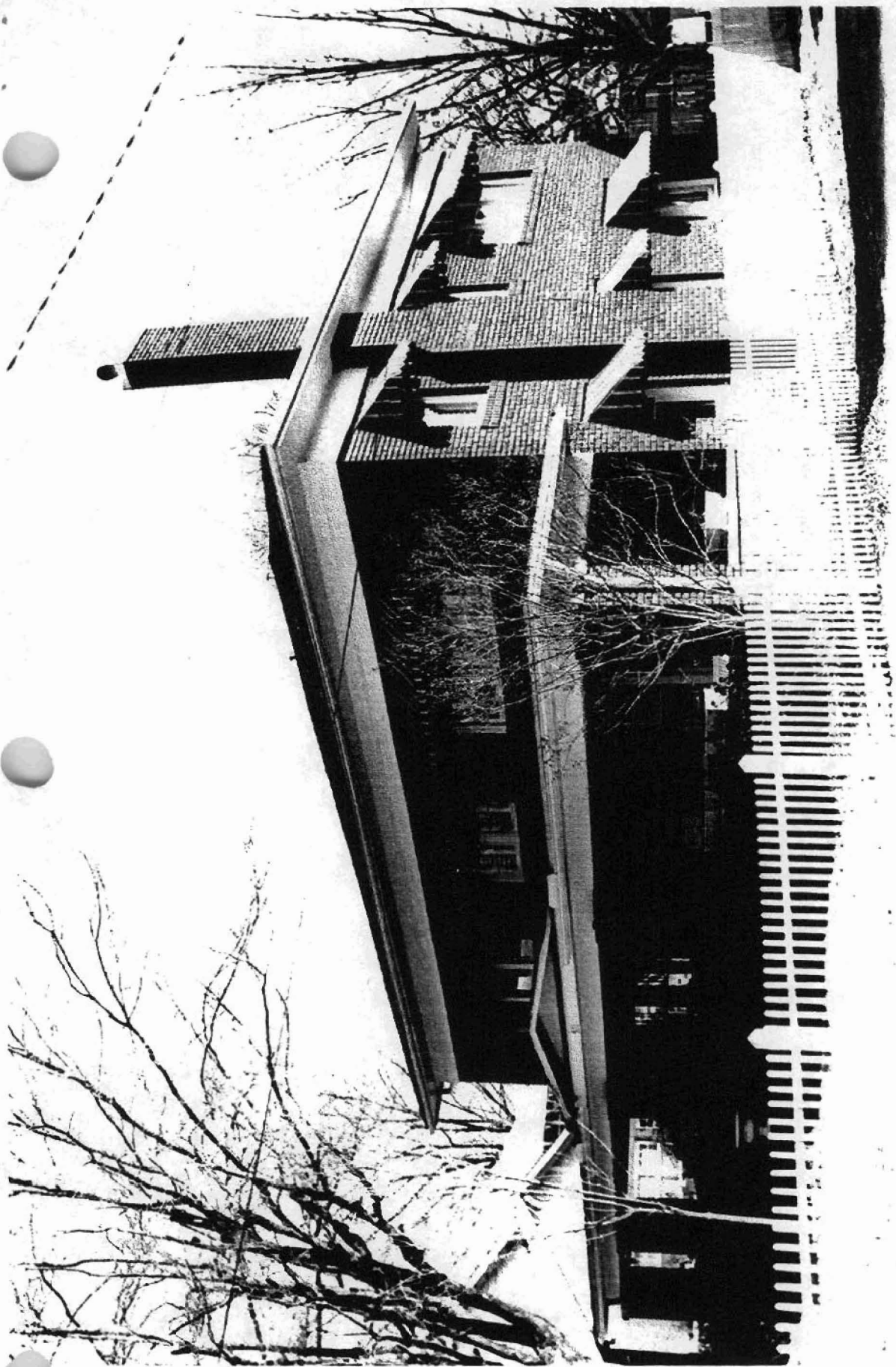
Name/Title: Ken Story, National Register/Survey Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 06/03/96

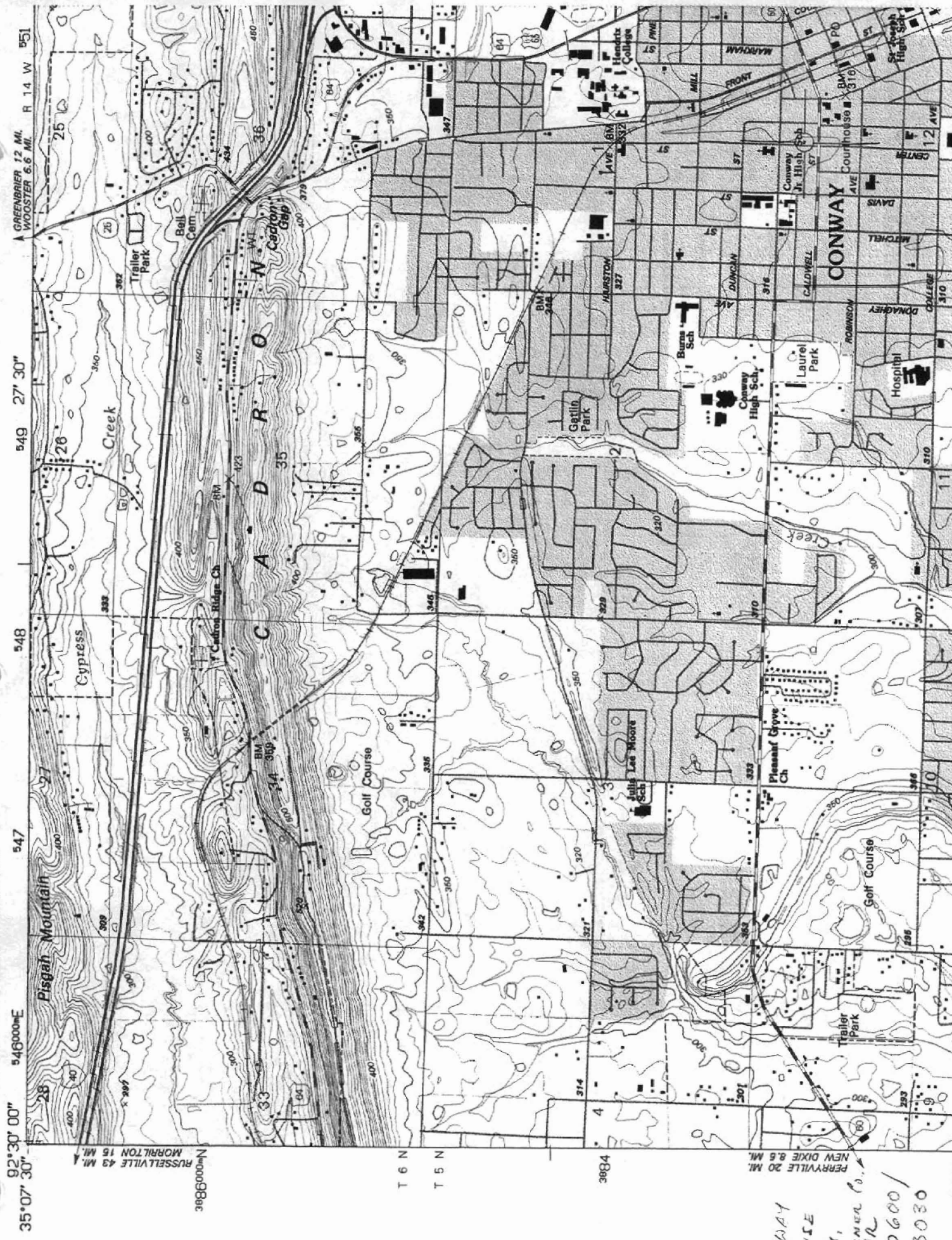
Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201





UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



GREENBRIER 12 MI.  
WOOSTER 6.6 MI.

549 27° 30"

548

547

5460000E

92° 30' 00"  
35° 07' 30"

RUSSELLVILLE 43 MI.  
MORRILLTON 15 MI.  
38860000mN

T 6 N  
T 5 N

3884

PERRYVILLE 20 MI.  
NEW DIXIE 8.5 MI.

O.K.  
DUNAWAY  
HOUSE  
CONWAY,  
FAULKNER Co.,  
AR  
15/550600/  
3883030