

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Fletcher, Adrian, Residence

Other names/site number: WA0834

Name of related multiple property listing:

The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect 1950-1997

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

2. Location

Street & number: 6725 Huntsville Road

City or town: Fayetteville State: Arkansas County: Washington

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

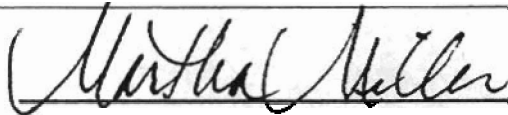
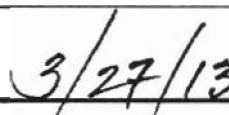
I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national X statewide ___ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B XC ___D

	
<p>Signature of certifying official/Title: _____ <u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u> State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	
<p>Date: _____</p>	

<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<p>Signature of commenting official: _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>
<p>Title : _____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE, WOOD

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Adrian Fletcher Residence is situated on 80 acres of land about 5 miles east of Fayetteville, Washington County, AR. The house sits above East Huntsville Road (AR-16) with a slightly meandering driveway coming north from the house to meet the road. The majority of the 80-acre lot is comprised of wooded lands with about thirty percent of the acreage in meadow. The main façade of the house faces northeast toward the road and looks out over a small pond. The 1-story house is made of natural materials like stone and wood and sits on a concrete foundation. The pitch of the roof is very shallow. The house is comprised of a carport and central living area with an open floor plan. There is also a rectangular outbuilding immediately to the southeast of the main house.

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Narrative Description

Front/Northeast Façade

The front of the Adrian Fletcher Residence can be seen from East Huntsville Road. The house appears, from this side, to be made up of two distinct sections separated by a breezeway and chimney in the middle. The part of the house to the right of the chimney, and about 1/3 of the total width of the façade is the house's carport. To the left of the chimney are the main living areas of the house. The front façade of the living area of the house is dominated by a screened-in projection. The projection sits on top of native stone covering a concrete foundation. The stone runs the length of the façade, projecting past the house as a retaining wall on the left side of the façade. Centered under the screened projection is a short, vertical wood door. Also, visible through the screened projection are the doors and windows that enter into the house. From right to left, these are a large stationary window, a set of double doors, two large stationary windows, a second set of double doors, and finally a large stationary window. Visible on this façade are a few key house details. One of these details is a pair of brackets on either side of the screened in projection extending parallel to the house eaves. The brackets are made of wood, with three-part construction. The lower half has two bracket pieces, while the top has one. Together, this gives the appearance that the bracket could be folded up like a pocket knife, with the upper portion of the bracket collapsing into the lower portion.

Side/Southeast Façade

This façade is largely devoid of details. There are no window or door openings on this side of the house. On the right side of this façade is the screened-in sunroom projection which shows the depth of the projection. The rest of the façade is dominated by a stone exterior wall. There is one small decoration in the wall. Where the southeast façade wall meets the apex of the shallow-pitched gable roof there is a four-sided opening in the wall shaped like a downward-pointing arrow, filled with a wood window. This particular design carries through the central bathroom core in the house. There are also projecting roof supports on this façade with two on either side of the gable. They are all wood topped with metal. There is also a large decorative bracket visible at the front of the screened projection on this façade. Finally, there is a wood screen built to the left of the stone wall for privacy.

Rear/Southwest Façade

The rear of the living section of the Adrian Fletcher House can be broken down into three sections. These sections are totally symmetrical. The first section on the right is made up largely of glass. There is one large, wood stationary window, and a set of double doors with full glass in this section. This area allows access to the rear of the house from inside. To the right of the stationary window, is a small wood seating area that is the same size as the wood screen visible on the previous façade. The next section is dominated by a stone wall that extends from the rear patio up to the eaves. The wall is constructed of native stone, and provides for storage space behind the kitchen inside. The wall separating the stone wall from the deeper-set wood doors is covered with vertical wood boards. The third section is also mostly glass and directly mirrors the first section. There is a double set of doors providing access to the rear patio and one large glass full-length wood window.

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Side/Northwest Façade

This façade is dominated by the house's chimney. The chimney of the Adrian Fletcher Residence is square, but rotated forty-five degrees. The first details visible on this façade are an entrance door and a multi-pane sidelite next to it. These features are found just off the center of the house to the right, positioned beside the stone chimney. To the right of the door and connecting to the corner is a wall covered with vertical wood siding. The door is made of solid wood, and has a screen door on the outside. To the left of the door is a nine-pane sidelite that is anchored into the chimney. The chimney has two angled portions on this wall, meeting to form a "V." The chimney, as many aspects of the home, is built from native stone. To the left of the chimney is a small portion of vertical wood-covered wall, followed by the front screened projection.

Connected Carport

In front of the carport, and separated from it by a small concrete entrance path, is a native stone retaining wall. This wall extends from the chimney near the center of the house past the entrance to the carport. The wall is approximately four feet high, and is set high enough to obscure the entrance path behind it. To the left of the carport is a separation between the carport and the main house, though the roof does continue over this portion. After the breezeway, a portion of the chimney is visible. The carport has a gabled roof that is set about one foot lower than the gable for the main body of the house, creating a separation between the two portions of the building. There are two exposed projecting roof supports seen at the northwest end of the carport, again topped in metal. On the rear of the house, the breezeway separating the house proper from the carport is again visible. Finally, there is a rear wall supporting the carport which is made of native stone. There are two important details to the carport. The first is the screen on the front façade. Above the native stone band at the bottom of the carport is a long wood-slat screen. It has 12 main slats, with four slats between each main one. This screen supports the beam extending from the chimney to the end of the carport. The carport also has some storage space. Along the back wall are four vertical wood doors that open for outside storage. The entire floor in the carport is concrete, with aluminum paneling on the ceiling.

Interiors

Like the rest of the house, the interiors of the Adrian Fletcher Residence continue to have a high degree of integrity. The house was built to have a very open floor plan, and nothing has been done to change that. There are five "rooms" in the house. When entering from the carport, the first "room" is the kitchen. While redesigned for a later occupant by Jones, the kitchen is still open with the utilities near the center of the house. Additional kitchen space is found in a large space hidden by a curtain against the northwest wall. All woodwork throughout the house is unpainted. The bar on the front of the kitchen extends into the open living room. This space has two main features. One of these is the massive native stone fireplace. The other is an "L"-shaped built-in couch located just below the kitchen bar. Above the bar are two shelves, which back the central bathroom core.

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The living room is connected to an open space between the screened porch and the master bedroom. At the time the house was featured in *House Beautiful* magazine this was a bedroom space for the Fletcher's daughter. The second bedroom is separated from the master bedroom by a set of cabinets that are about five feet tall that do not connect to the ceiling. The rear wall of both of these spaces is the same native stone that is visible on the exterior of the house on the southwest side. There are two sets of double doors, one in the second bedroom, and another in the living room that connect the house to the screened porch.

In the center of the home is the bathroom, with the only four interior walls in the house. The arrowhead shape that is visible on the southwest façade is carried through the two walls in the bathroom that parallel the exterior. There is also a small ledge that circles the central bathroom providing additional storage space. Further discussion of the interior is found in Section 8 below.

Site Features

In the front of the house the sunroom looks down toward East Huntsville Road. It also looks across a small pond near the road. There are also a few site features in the rear terrace. Stepping away from the house are two levels of terracing (**contributing**). The terrace walls are braced with stone similar to the stone found throughout the house. The house is also surrounded by a new fence (**non-contributing**), built by the current owners to increase security on the property. While it is quite sympathetic to the design of the house, it is too new to be considered contributing.

Outbuilding/Machinery Shed – Non-contributing

Outside the backyard terrace there is an outbuilding 20 feet to east of the Fletcher residence on the site. This outbuilding appears to have been constructed after 1957 but nonetheless has complementary form and structure to the Fletcher residence. The building consists of a garage or barn and although unknown, it is doubtful whether Fay Jones had any hand in the design of this structure. Still, the foundation of the outbuilding is constructed of native stone. Also, the roof shares the same pitch with similar fascia details and skylight. The exterior of this outbuilding is constructed of cedar siding and has one traditional back door and two barn doors for its main opening which could easily accommodate a farm tractor.

Integrity

The Adrian Fletcher Residence continues to retain integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The house is very much intact and has had virtually no changes from Fay Jones' designs. Materials are the same throughout the house, except for a few hardware changes. The house retains its open floor plan, with the only interior walls surrounding the central bathroom. Due to its high degree of integrity, the Adrian Fletcher Residence continues to convey its significance as an early house that shows the important aspects of Fay Jones' designs.

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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.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1957

Significant Dates

1957

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Jones, E. Fay, Architect

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Adrian Fletcher Residence is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with statewide significance. It is being nominated under the context, "The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect." Fay Jones had a long and illustrious career, and the Adrian Fletcher Residence is a stand-out example of his early residential work. The period of significance for this property is 1957, the year of its construction.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The Adrian Fletcher Residence is significant as a prototypical early work of master architect E. Fay Jones. The home is situated on a large tract of land at the outskirts of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas. As one crosses from the east over the middle fork of the White River into Fayetteville city limits along State Highway 16, the natural landscape opens to the south against a pastoral view-shed of expansive grassland transitioning into forested peaks of the Ozark Plateau. The Adrian Fletcher Residence is the first home encountered against this natural scenic backdrop. The period of significance relates to the period in which the home was designed and constructed by Fay Jones culminating in the home's Honor Award for design in 1961.¹ This home was also the first Fayetteville home of the 42nd President of the United States, Bill Clinton, where he lived in 1973-1974 when he first came to Fayetteville to work as a professor of law at the University of Arkansas, before marrying Hillary Rodham.^{2,3}

Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fletcher were the first owners of the property and commissioned Fay Jones to design their home in 1956 on land that they owned on the middle fork of the White River. It was constructed just one year after Fay Jones' personal house, which was the first of his designs that was completed after he was officially an architect.⁴ Fay Jones in his 2002 interview with Roy Reed, recalled that the design process for the Fletcher's home came together quickly, completing the preliminary concept drawings in a matter of hours.⁵ Fay Jones was legendary for

¹ *House and Home*, p. 108. The Fletcher Residence was actually the first of two Fay Jones homes for which the architect received Honor Awards in this same publication in two different design award categories. The Sam and Helen Walton Residence was recognized in the large home category. According to book *In Sam We Trust: The Untold Story of Sam Walton and Wal-Mart, the World's Most Powerful Retailer* by Bob Ortega, this home burned in a lightning strike fire in 1972 and was subsequently rebuilt.

² Smith, Stephen. "E-mail Communication to Stephanie Dzur," (March 26, 2011). In personal Email correspondence, Dr. Stephen Smith, indicates that Bill Clinton lived in the Fletcher Residence from August 1973 until December 1974.

³ Bill Clinton. *My Life*. (New York: Random House, 2005), p. 202.

⁴ Cheryl Nichols and Helen Barry. *The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones 1956-1997 Report* prepared for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Little Rock, AR, p.6.

⁵ Reed. Fay Jones' conversation with Roy Reed is suggestive of a masterful design process in which the Fletcher residence concept drawings came to life in the course of a four hours.

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the focus and dedicated attention he put in his design work.⁶ The final plans, which were finished on Christmas Eve of 1956, testify to this rapid design process and what Fay Jones called in the case of the Fletcher Residence, a "... kind of thought-built thing."^{7,8} The Fetters were interested in a home that would be "more open than" Fay Jones' own home.⁹ Within two years of construction, the innate appeal of the Fletcher Residence with its open design and skilled integration of architectural design with natural landscape setting would become recognized nationally.¹⁰ Fay Jones would make repeated use of these design techniques throughout his architectural career and the Fletcher Residence would be among one of the first of these works to reach a national audience.

Although Fay Jones works initially gained notice in home-building related magazines, such as *House Beautiful*, the Fletcher Residence would ultimately win Fay Jones national recognition at a professional level with one of his first architectural design awards.^{11,12} The home was built in 1957 and in May 1959, Maynard L. Parker, photographer for *House Beautiful* magazine, came to Fayetteville to photograph the house.¹³ The house photos published in the March 1960 edition of *House Beautiful* exemplify the characteristic style of Fay Jones organic architecture. They also showcase Maynard Parker's unique imagery and use of lighting for which Parker became well-known as a premier photo documentarian of American housing in the modern post-war era.¹⁴ Nearly a year later, these same photos would also grace the pages of the June 1961 edition of *House and Home* magazine honoring the architecture of Fay Jones and his craft of integrating this residence to its natural landscape.

The Adrian Fletcher Residence displays Jones' early influence from Frank Lloyd Wright. The house employs several design aspects that are common to many of Jones' early works. They are the importance of horizontal lines, the organic growth of the house from its site, the feeling of connectedness between exterior and interior, and the open floor plan of the house.

Built in 1957, the mid-century home is an early example of Fay Jones's distinctive brand of organic architecture.^{15,16} The stone foundation, walls and chimney are made from native

⁶ Larry Foley and Dale Carpenter, Producers. *Sacred Spaces: The Architecture of Fay Jones, The life of AIA Gold Medal-winning architect Fay Jones.*

⁷ Jones, Plan for Car Port Sectional.

⁸ Reed.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Nichols and Barry, p. 8. This source documents many of the key features of Fay Jones' open design and natural landscape integration that would be highlighted in many of the early magazine articles about his work.

¹¹ Nichols and Barry, p. 9. Indicates that the Fletcher Residence published in the June 1961 *House and Home* magazine won Fay Jones a "Homes for Better Living" Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA).

¹² *House and Home*, p. 108.

¹³ Maynard L. Parker, "Adrian Fletcher Residence," Huntington Digital Library, (May 1959).
<http://hdl.huntington.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15150coll5/id/12199/rec/1>

¹⁴ Watts Jennifer A., ed., with contributions by Bosley, E. R.; D. P. Gregory; C. Hawthorne; E. T. May; M. Penick; C. Phoenix; D. J. Waldie; S. Watters. *Maynard L. Parker: Modern Photography and the American Dream.* (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2012).

¹⁵ Nichols and Barry, p. 8 http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/pdf/publications/faye_jones.pdf This source indicates the Fletcher home was built in 1960, however, contrary evidence suggests that the home was built in

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Arkansas field stone selected on site work, and they in concert with a low (2x12) pitched gabled roof to blend the home into its natural surroundings situated in a typical Ozark Mountain scene between characteristic oak-hickory forest and the grassland dominated White River floodplain.^{17,18} The direct ties that the Fletcher home exhibits within the landscape persist in the first sentences published about the home in the March 1960 *House Beautiful* magazine article:

This house has a sense of generosity and bigness about it, even though in enclosed floor area it is a small house. This quality comes from its bold simplicity together with the sweeping horizontal lines of the roof and the stone foundation wall that tie it to and extend it into the landscape.¹⁹

A "car shelter" is attached to the house structure, which is set back from the main highway on a gently sloping grassy pasture between a small quarter acre pond and the abandoned railroad bed of the old St. Paul Branch of the Fayetteville & Little Rock Railroad.^{20,21,22,23} The extensive use inside and out of the home of natural materials such as stone and wood combined with glass help to permeate the home with warmth and natural light. The home's interior, essentially a single rectangular floor plan of open space, adds unity of design in its cohesive application of natural wood materials throughout in flooring, custom cabinetry and paneling. These simple materials as well as the open and integrated design qualities of the home garnered it one of Fay Jones first national awards for design in a long and distinguished architectural career.²⁴ The site includes

1957. For example, University of Arkansas Special Collections contains drawing for the home dating from, December 24, 1956.

¹⁶ United States. Department of Interior. Geological Survey. Elkins Quadrangle, Arkansas—Washington Co., 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic). USGS, (1958). The 1958 USGS quad map, field checked in 1957, was published near the time of construction of the Adrian Fletcher home and pre-dates the construction of the Lake Sequoyah Dam project which also occurred nearly simultaneous to the construction of the Adrian Fletcher home. The map compiled from 1957 aerial photography indicates the presence of the home on the site at that time.

¹⁷ Curtis Besinger, "A House Tailored for Leisurely-Paced Living." *House Beautiful* (March 1960): 119.

¹⁸ E. Fay Jones, "Project Details for Adrian Fletcher Home: Various drawings, plans and sketches." Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (1956-1957). Section Through the Car Shelter.

¹⁹ Besinger, p. 118.

²⁰ E. Fay Jones, "Project Details for Adrian Fletcher Home: Various drawings, plans and sketches." Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (1956-1957). Section Through the Car Shelter.

²¹ Fayetteville History, Map of the Month. "Fayetteville Railroads." (Nov. 2009)

<http://www.fayettevillehistory.com/maps/2009/11/fayetteville-railroads.html>

²² Kim Allen Scott, "A Printer Comes to Pettigrew", *Ozarks Watch* (Summer 1993)

<http://thelibrary.org/lohist/periodicals/ozarkswatch/ow701f.htm> According to this article the train service along the line to the community ended in 1937. Further evidence in: Farewell to St. Paul Branch. By Zillah Cross Peel (From the *Northwest Arkansas Times*, July 31, 1937) although it seems that rail service between Fayetteville and Elkins may have continued for a time after 1937.

²³ Washington County, Arkansas. Assessor. "Real Estate Mortgage for Arkansas." (14 Nov. 1956)

<http://www.co.washington.ar.us/Information/Chronicle/ChronicleDocumentSearch.asp> Former railroad right of way running across the property referenced in the legal description of the mortgage on the property from FHA. Grantee: FHA, Grantor: Fletcher, Adrian; Washington County Property Search Land Record Search 1834-1991.

²⁴ Besinger, p. 118.

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the original acreage at the time the home was constructed and remains substantially in original condition, preserving the harmonious balance of the home with its natural surroundings in keeping with Fay Jones original design principles.

Designed for Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Fletcher, the home sustains the sophistication of Fay Jones' organic design principles even within the confines of a \$10,000 budget.²⁵ The home is oriented facing northeast with a 36-foot long screened balcony running along the home's primary longitudinal axis and cantilevered 7 feet over its natural stone foundation.²⁶ The natural stone foundation of the home below this porch is built up above the natural and finish grade of the site with the back of the home meeting the natural grade where the home is nestled against the base of the toe slope of the northernmost extent of a mountain known as Robinson Mountain.²⁷ The continuous 72' long roof incorporates a car shelter, which is the main entry point to the structure at the end of a curving 400-foot pine tree-lined gravel drive.²⁸ The car shelter integrates the home's key design elements and includes a native stone half-wall that serves as a divider between the car shelter and loggia as well as a footing in support of one of the four exposed beams protruding out from under the roof overhang and running the length of the home. The pattern of multiple sets of vertical supports to this beam provides both a visual screen that divides the car shelter space and a pattern recurring in regular spacing of wood trim under the roof eaves. The roof originally composed of tar and gravel material was replaced (date unknown) with rolled torch down roofing material. Decorative fascia using 3/8" saw-cuts at 4-inch centers is repeated around the entirety of the home and is exemplary of Fay Jones architecture signature quality of using such repetition in geometric design elements.²⁹ These small-scale design elements in the fascia complement the irregular spacing between the natural rockwork found throughout the home in the walls and foundation. The front entrance of the home is bounded on one side by a massive stone chimney protruding from the house under the roof in a v-shape form. Douglas fir exterior wall paneling joins the chimney and continues on the other side of the entrance to complete the exterior wall under the car shelter.³⁰ Exterior paneling and fascia material while originally colored in natural stain was subsequently painted dark brown (date unknown) and remains in excellent condition. Plate glass walls form two sides of the home with each wall containing two sets of glass double doors; one set providing access to the screened balcony and the other set passage to the backyard terrace. The glass walls invite the outdoor setting or feeling of the site indoors and provide a source of extensive natural light to complement other natural light elements of the home. The back wall of the home is built from native rock and a small v-shaped opening filled with glass at the center peak of the roofline is the only break in its structure. This v-shape opening at the wall, a design technique also utilized in

²⁵ "28 AIA Award-Winning Homes for Better Living." *House and Home* 18, No. 6 (June 1961): p. 108.

²⁶ E. Fay Jones, "Project Details for Adrian Fletcher Home: Various drawings, plans and sketches." Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (1956-1957). Section Through the Car Shelter.

²⁷ United States. Department of Interior. Geological Survey. Elkins Quadrangle, Arkansas—Washington Co., 7.5 Minute Series (Topographic). USGS, (1958).

²⁸ "28 AIA Award-Winning Homes for Better Living." *House and Home* 18, No. 6 (June 1961): p. 108.

²⁹ E. Fay Jones, "Project Details for Adrian Fletcher Home: Various drawings, plans and sketches." Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. (1956-1957). Section Through the Car Shelter.

³⁰ Besinger, p. 118.

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the living room area of Fay Jones' own home, allows for additional diffuse natural light to enter the home and in the case of the Fletcher home, functions as a unifying element of geometric design found elsewhere including both the home's fireplace and its only interior walls.

The home's interior is completely open with no other walls or partitions in the space except for the center bathroom area. In fact, Fay Jones recalled that the Fetters were interested in a design for their home that would be even more open than his own home. A budget conscious design element, this center core planned in the shape of a smaller rectangle at the center of the home echoes the primary pattern of the main rectangular floor plan.³¹ The walls of this center core bathroom area are covered in stained douglas fir paneling and also repeat the glass v-shape pattern at the point where the vaulted ceiling meets the interior peak of the gabled roofline. These v-shaped light openings at the tops of these walls not only repeat geometric pattern but also allow for incoming natural light from skylights located above both this bathroom core and over the kitchen. The exposed beams run through the interior section of the home on either side of the v-shaped design elements and continue out to the exterior beyond the roof overhang. Decorative wooden battens on the ceiling used in a functional manner to cover ceiling joints are more narrowly spaced in the area between the beams.³² The battens are more widely spaced in the area from the beams to the side exterior wall and match the spacing pattern and provide continuity with the wood trim battens found under the eaves and screened balcony. This early design prototype would later be repeated in other Jones designs, including "Stoneflower."³³ A lighting ledge or alcove encircles the central core and reinforces the home's rectangular plan. This wooden lighting ledge is composed of compound miter joints angled upward at about a forty-five degree slope in a manner similar to the angles found on the exterior fascia. As with the exterior fascia, the wooden ends along the entire length of the lighting alcove are meticulously cut with regular notches of varying depth in a repeating pattern. Taken together, the interior wood trim detailing adds an element of symmetry and a stylistic unity with many of the home's exterior design elements.

Located against the interior central core, the kitchen design takes advantage of this proximity to primary utility core for water and uses the wall space against the center core for collocated custom-designed cabinetry. Although Fay Jones developed a kitchen remodel design for a subsequent owner, Dr. Chester (date unknown, likely between 1975 and 1980), the open design concept and original arrangement of the kitchen amenities or appliances remained essentially unaltered.³⁴ In this remodel, however, the counter material was changed from tile to laminate. Also modified from the original cabinetry design, the remodeled custom plywood cabinetry with vertical pulls replaced the prior hardware pull-knobs. Nonetheless, the configuration of the high backsplash and counter space maintained a bar level serving ledge or counter around the length

³¹ Roy Reed. Interview. Tape recorded interview with E. Fay Jones. Fayetteville, AR, 22 Jul. 2002. Fay Jones Collection, Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

³² *House and Home*, p. 111.

³³ "Ideas in Houses: Part 16: A tree dwelling, half cave and half treehouse." *Life* 60, No. 25 (June 24, 1966): p. 108. The cover photo of the "Stoneflower" home showcases the characteristic use of the expressed structure of wood trim patterning under the roofline from eave to eave continuing inside against the vaulted ceiling, a technique used earlier in the Fletcher Residence.

³⁴ Jones, Plan for Dr. Chester Kitchen Remodel.

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of the kitchen space. Fay Jones designed seating options surrounding the kitchen. On one side of the kitchen counter, opposite the sink, a built-in seating sectional follows from the center core and turns in analogous fashion with the length of the kitchen as it extends away from the center core. The remaining portion of the kitchen counter turns away from the living area to complete the u-shaped enclosed kitchen. Fay Jones also designed this open length of kitchen countertop frontage available for bar seating for the home. A linear ladder design pattern found on the sides of the bar stools (4) between their legs helps relate these pieces to other design elements in the home like the screen doors with this similar pattern. Both sets of screen doors opening to the backyard terrace exhibit wood craftsman-like features within the screen grille details.

The main living area is open from the kitchen toward the fireplace. In the space directly in front of the kitchen near the front entrance is a dining area and immediately across from this space toward the screened balcony is the fireplace. The fireplace protrudes out from the wall in a triangular shape with a raised hearth that is framed by wide native stone edging measuring more than one foot across and composed of only two massive slabs. The elevated stone edging using these massive pieces in the fireplace confers a gravity-defying impression that the fireplace is floating out above the floor despite its obvious mass. Above the hearth is a characteristic Fay Jones concrete header. The fireplace stonework is built upward to the ceiling providing structural support to the home. The cave-like fireplace dimensions and the design elements in the fireplace truly make it a centerpiece focus of the entire living space in harmony with multiple other design elements of the home including the abundant natural stone, v-shape lights, and cantilevered porch.

The open floor plan in front of the fireplace continues for 36 feet without interruption the length of the house along the glass wall bordering the cantilevered screened balcony. The screened balcony provides added living space to the main home interior space. Two sets of glass doors opening to the screened balcony provide parallel structure with the backyard terrace doors on the opposite side of the home. Window covering draperies (in 72" panels) for the glass wall areas are attached to sliders in tracks embedded within custom woodwork above the plate glass windows and doors. The bedroom area at the rear of the home is divided by a set of "higher-than-your-head" wood wardrobes designed to be mobile, providing flexibility to change the size of the bedroom areas as desired.³⁵ The wardrobe cabinets extend out from the back wall and stop short of the central core maintaining the home's sense of open space yet at the same time creating a division and sort of pseudo hallway space providing entrance to the far back bedroom and bathroom area. The bathroom (including the tub area) is decked with the same wood paneling used throughout the rest of the home and is equipped with all original ceramics (sink, toilet and tub). The water tank, in fact, has a stamping from 1956 in its lid, lending further support to the age of the home dating to 1957. Framed by the central bathroom core, the wardrobe and especially the native rock wall, the far bedroom has a protected feeling providing a sense of serenity. The glass walls around the bedroom reinforce the connection of the house to nature and the glass doors provide direct access out through a set of wood screen doors to a wood deck and the backyard terrace.

³⁵ Roy Reed.

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The Fletchers used the home in their retirement and when they both passed their daughter Adrienne, a social friend of Bill Clinton, inherited the home.³⁶ In his autobiography, President Bill Clinton writes about the Fletcher house, noting its distinguished architectural lineage:

I found the perfect place to live, a beautiful little house designed by the famous Arkansas architect Fay Jones, who's stunning Thorncrowne Chapel in nearby Eureka Springs won international awards and accolades.³⁷

In July 1974, the house and land (approximately 80 acres) were transferred to Dr. Robert L. Chester.³⁸ This period in which Bill Clinton occupied the Adrian Fletcher Residence is also notable in that he lived on the property at the same time that he ran for his first political race for U.S. Congress (Arkansas' 3rd Congressional District) seat against long-time incumbent Republican John Paul Hammerschmidt. During this tumultuous first campaign in which he nearly unseated the incumbent the home played a special role, for Bill Clinton, in providing tranquility in the course of the race.³⁹ Recounting the special meaning of the Fletcher home during this period, Bill Clinton himself wrote, "The house proved to be a godsend of peace and quiet, especially after I started my first campaign."⁴⁰

Dr. Steve Smith recalled regular campaign meetings held at the Adrian Fletcher Residence and that Bill Clinton drafted his State Democratic Convention speech on the screened porch.⁴¹ The home's integration with the natural environment was important to Bill Clinton as he noted that: "I loved to sit on the porch and near the fireplace, and to walk in the field by the river with the cattle." Additional evidence of Bill Clinton's time at the property is supplied in a letter dated October 15th, 1974 on Clinton for Congress stationary. In this letter, written by Hillary Rodham, the frenzied pace of the election is recognized as one of the factors attributing to the late rent payment of rent to Dr. Chester. In 1974 Bill Clinton celebrated his 28th birthday with friends and campaign staff in the Adrian Fletcher Residence.⁴² Bill Clinton called the Fletcher Residence the "Spiderhouse" due to its numerous arachnid residents.⁴³

³⁶ Reed. In Roy Reed Interview with E. Fay Jones, 22 July 2002, Fayetteville, AR, Fay Jones recalls that the Fletcher's daughter was about the same age as Bill Clinton.

³⁷ Clinton, p. 202.

³⁸ Washington County, Arkansas. Assessor. "Real Estate Mortgage for Arkansas." (10 July, 1974) <http://www.co.washington.ar.us/Information/Chronicle/ChronicleDocumentSearch.asp> Warranty Deed executed July 10th 1974, filed and recorded in deed book 873 page 285, Washington County Arkansas Property Records Search. Deed conveys 82.08 acres to Dr. Chester.

³⁹ Clinton, p. 202.

⁴⁰ Clinton, p. 202.

⁴¹ Stephen A. Smith. *Preface to the Presidency Selected Speeches of Bill Clinton, 1974-1992*. (Fayetteville, AR: The University of Arkansas Press, 1996). The convention speech written on the screened balcony of the Fletcher Residence is the first speech presented in the book.

⁴² Photo. "Bill Clinton celebrating 28th birthday in Fletcher Residence." (16 Aug. 1974). Clinton Museum Collection, Fayetteville, AR. Photo documents Bill Clinton and friends with birthday cake in the kitchen of the Fletcher residence.

⁴³ Johnson, Kate. "E-mail Communication to Stephanie Dzur," (Oct. 17, 2012). In personal Email correspondence, Kate Johnson, Director of the Clinton House Museum notes that Bill Clinton called the Fletcher Residence the "Spiderhouse."

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Statement of Significance

Through the attention to detail given to every aspect of the house and the many design elements of Fay Jones' signature style, the Adrian Fletcher House stands out as an example of Jones' early work. A few of the particular elements seen in the house are its organic, of-the earth, design, its low-slope roof, and the use of exterior and interior materials to create a sense of connectedness with the outside and a sense of open space. The house is a part of the beginnings of Fay Jones' career, and, as his first home to receive an AIA award, is very significant in his work. The Adrian Fletcher Residence is both a forerunner and a foundation for the designs for which Fay Jones came to be widely lauded. As a result, it is being nominated under Criterion C with statewide significance.

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Photo of Bill Clinton celebrating 28th birthday in Fletcher Residence. 16 Aug. 1974. Clinton Museum Collection, Fayetteville, AR.

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Washington County, Arkansas. Assessor. Warranty Deed. 10 Jul. 1974. Book 873 Page 285.
<http://www.co.washington.ar.us/Information/Chronicle/ChronicleDocumentSearch.asp>

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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: University of Arkansas Special Collections

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): WA0834

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 80 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.045138° | Longitude: -94.063403° |
| 2. Latitude: 36.045138° | Longitude: -94.056983° |
| 3. Latitude: 36.034978° | Longitude: -94.056983° |
| 4. Latitude: 36.034978° | Longitude: -94.063403° |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Survey Description

A PART OF THE SOUTH HALF OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 29 WEST, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT A POINT WHICH IS S87°25'09"E 372.19' FROM THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 21 AND RUNNING THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 2463.36' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N33°28'03"W 440.10', THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1388.01' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE N46°27'10"W 610.90' TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF VAN HOOSE DRIVE, THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 2341.74' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N54°52'07"E 47.68', THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY N°51'13'20"E 269.53' TO THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY #16, THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY AND ALONG SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1688.01' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S44°16'08"E 646.93', THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS 2163.36' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S36°59'17"E 676.08', THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY N87°25'09"W 422.40' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 8.19 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF RECORD.

A PART OF THE SOUTH HALF OF SECTION 21 AND A PART OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 28 ALL IN TOWNSHIP 16 NORTH, RANGE 29 WEST, WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 21 AND RUNNING THENCE ALONG THE SOUTH LINE THEREOF N87°25'09"W 400.00', THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH LINE N02°34'51 "E 100.00', THENCE N87°25'09"W 100.00', THENCE S02°34'51 "W 100.00' TO SAID SOUTH LINE, THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE N87°25'09"W 162.86' TO THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST HALF OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 21, THENCE ALONG SAID WEST LINE N02°43'13"E 520.68' TO THE SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY OF VANHOOSE DRIVE, THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 495.14' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N51°50'00"E 160.80', THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 2341.74' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF N58°17'29"E 232.01', THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTH RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 1388.01' FOR A

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CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S46°27'10"E 610.90', THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 2463.36' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S33°28'03"E 440.10', THENCE S87°25'09"E 422.40' TO THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY#16, THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY ALONG A CURVE TO THE LEFT HAVING A RADIUS OF 2163.36' FOR A CHORD BEARING AND DISTANCE OF S51°11 '09"E 392.75', THENCE CONTINUING ALONG SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY S56°02'49"E 165.33', THENCE LEAVING SAID SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY S15°20'20"W 1028.08', THENCE S18°01'15"W 1370.40' TO THE SOUTH LINE OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 28, THENCE ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE N87°20'36"W 660.00' TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 28, THENCE ALONG THE WEST LINE THEREOF N02°23'51 "E 1320.67' TO A FOUND STONE MARKING THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 21, THENCE ALONG THE WEST LINE THEREOF N02°44'07"E 1320.31' TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 70.87 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY OF RECORD.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries selected represent the original parcels comprising roughly the original acreage owned by the Fetters at the time the Fletcher Residence was designed and built. Fay Jones notes in his interview with Roy Reed that the house was designed for the land which the Fletcher's owned along the Middle Fork of the White River. Significantly, Bill Clinton, too in his autobiography even recalls that the home was situated on more than eighty acres of land.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Robert and Stephanie L. Dzur edited by Benjamin Harvey

organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

street & number: 323 Center St.

city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201

e-mail: ben@arkanasheritage.org

telephone: (501) 324-9789

date: 1/28/2013

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Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Adrian Fletcher Residence
City or Vicinity: Fayetteville
County: Washington State: Arkansas
Photographer: Benjamin Harvey
Date Photographed: 1/31/2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 28 – Entrance to Adrian Fletcher Residence, facing south
- 2 of 28 – View of house from Huntsville Road, facing south
- 3 of 28 – Entrance gates to house, facing south
- 4 of 28 – View of house across pond, facing west
- 5 of 28 – Approach to house, facing south
- 6 of 28 – Northwest façade, through carport, facing southeast
- 7 of 28 – Northeast façade, facing southwest
- 8 of 28 – View of eave details and chimney, facing southwest
- 9 of 28 – Detail of eave bracket, facing southwest
- 10 of 28 – Southeast façade, facing west
- 11 of 28 – Detail on southeast façade, facing northwest

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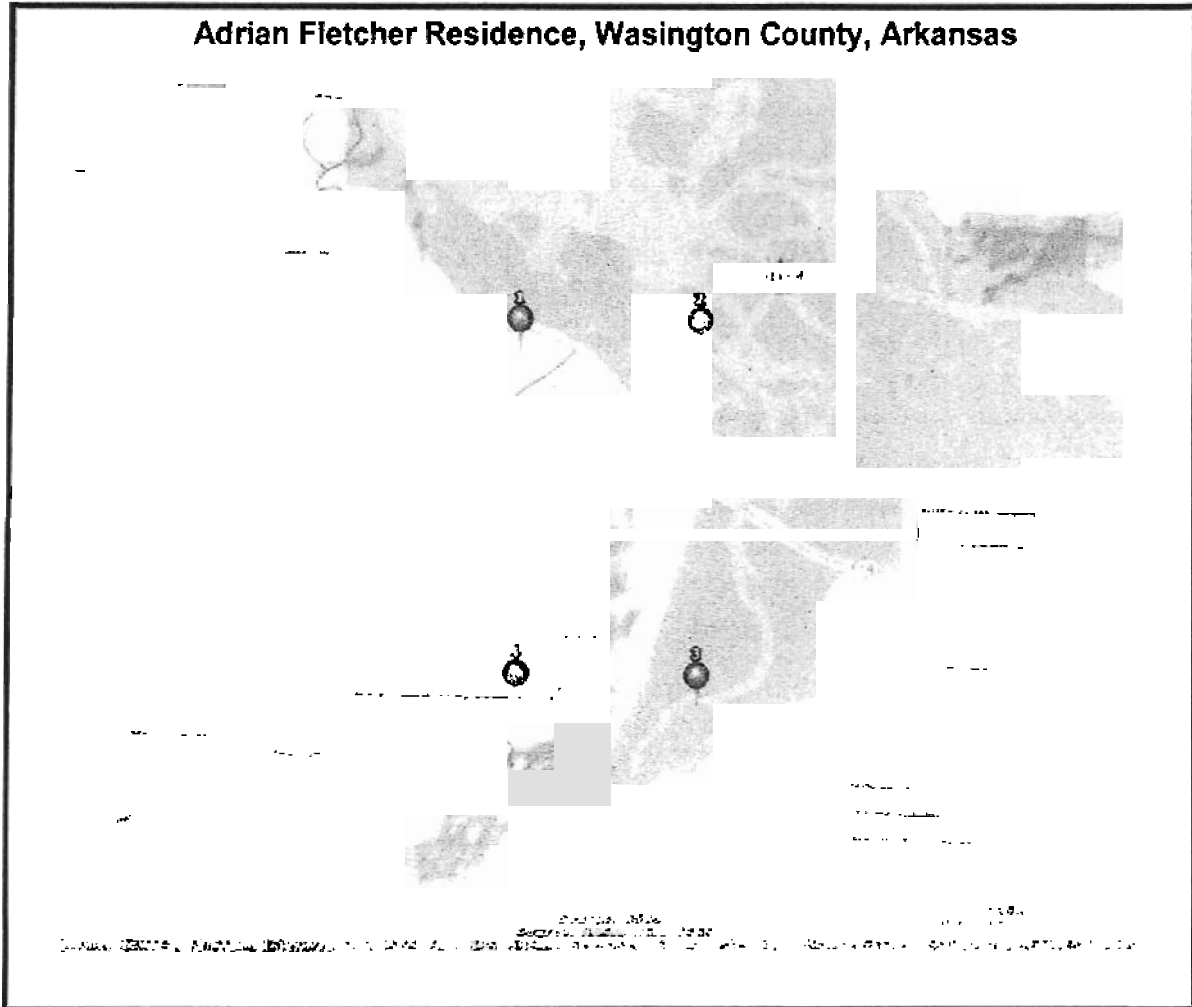
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- 12 of 28 – Detail on southeast façade, facing northeast
- 13 of 28 – Southeast and southwest facades, facing north
- 14 of 28 – Detail of southwest façade, facing northeast
- 15 of 28 – Detail of southwest façade, facing northeast
- 16 of 28 – Southwest façade, facing east
- 17 of 28 – Carport detail, facing southwest
- 18 of 28 – Carport detail, facing northeast
- 19 of 28 – Interior, chimney detail, facing northwest
- 20 of 28 – Interior, porch detail, facing southeast
- 21 of 28 – Interior, kitchen and living room, facing southeast
- 22 of 28 – Interior, door detail, facing southwest
- 23 of 28 – Interior, V-shaped detail, facing southeast
- 24 of 28 – Interior, southeast wall, divider between two rooms, facing southwest
- 25 of 28 – Outbuilding/Machinery Shed, facing southwest
- 26 of 28 – View toward Huntsville Road of additional acreage, facing north
- 27 of 28 – View toward hillside of additional acreage, facing west
- 28 of 28 – View of pond on additional acreage, facing southwest

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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Adrian Fletcher Residence, Wasington County, Arkansas

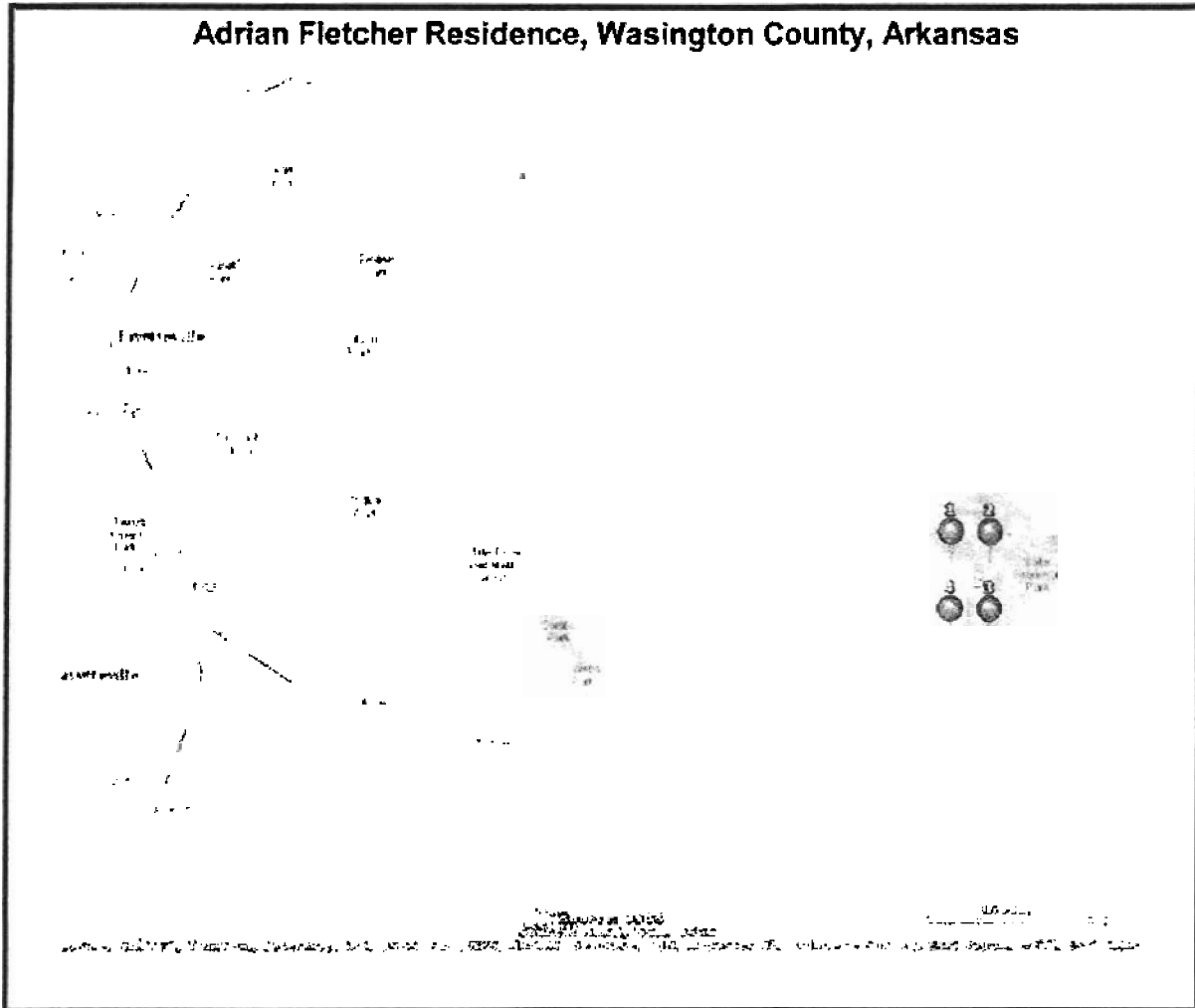


WGS 84

- 1) 36.045138°, -94.063403°
- 2) 36.045138°, -94.056983°
- 3) 36.034978°, -94.056983°
- 4) 36.034978°, -94.063403°



Adrian Fletcher Residence, Wasington County, Arkansas

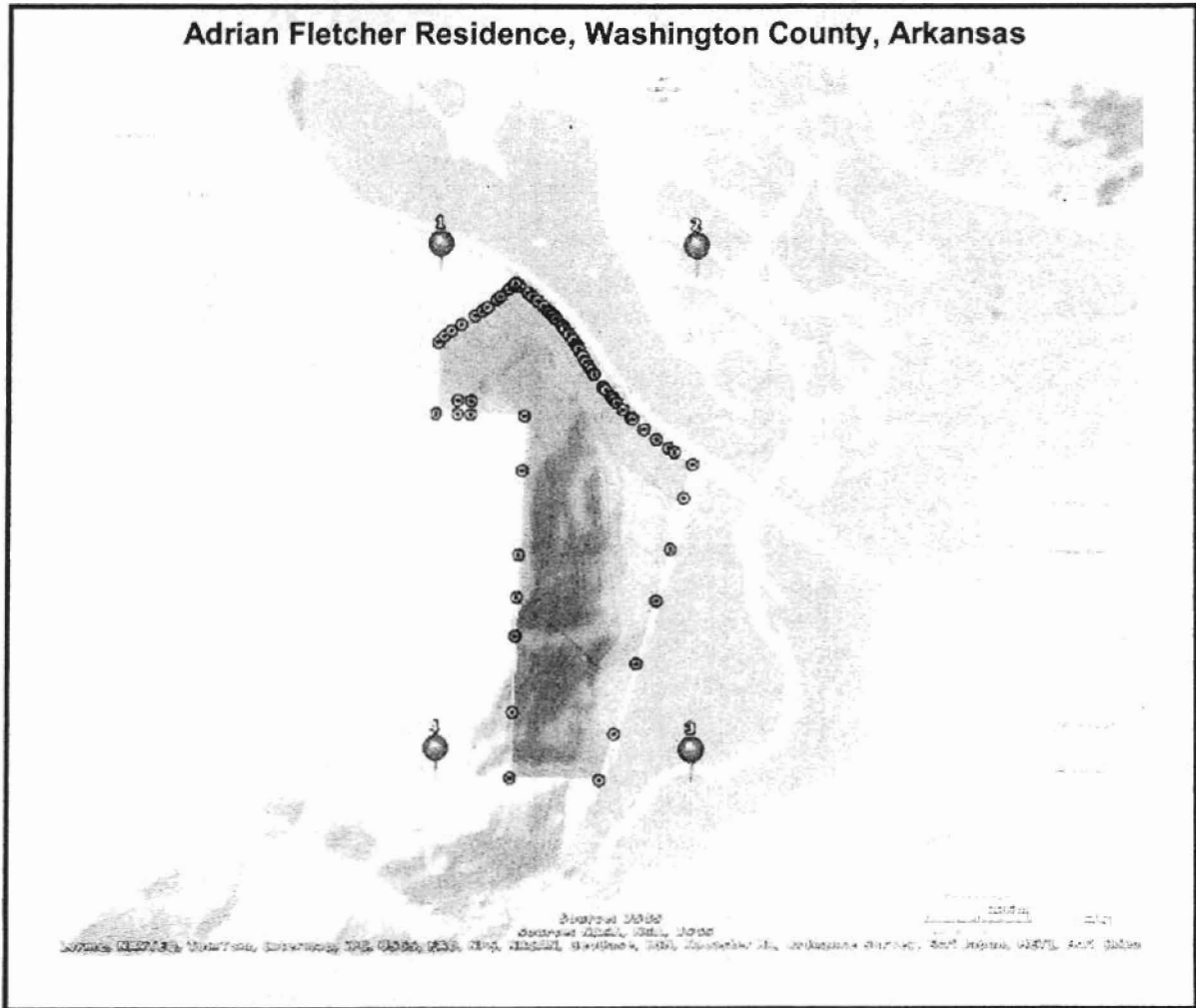


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- 4) 36.034978°, -94.063403°



Adrian Fletcher Residence, Washington County, Arkansas



WGS 84

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- 4) 36.034978°, -94.063403°





