

**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 *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 Clinton House  
other names/site number Taylor-Swanson-Gifford House, Clinton House Museum / Site # WA0979

**2. Location**

street & number 930 South California Boulevard  not for publication  
city or town Fayetteville  vicinity  
state Arkansas code AR county Washington code 143 zip code 72701

**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.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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

Clinton House  
Name of Property

Washington County, Arkansas  
County and State

**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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
2	0	structures
0	0	objects
3	0	Total

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

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/Museum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls BRICK  
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.

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

STATE

LOCAL

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

LAW

**Period of Significance**

1931, 1975-1976

**Significant Dates**

1931, 1975-1976

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Clinton, William Jefferson

Clinton, Hillary Rodham

**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Clinton House Museum, Fayetteville, AR

Clinton House  
Name of Property

Washington County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u> Zone	<u>394279</u> Easting	<u>3991595</u> Northing	3	<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> 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 Marilyn Johnson Heifner, Executive Director, Fayetteville Advertising and Promotion Commission; Edited by Van Zbinden, National Register Historian

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 19 June 2009

street & number 323 Center Street, 1500 Tower Building telephone (501) 324-9880

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 University of Arkansas, Facilities Management

street & number 521 South Razorback Road telephone           

city or town Fayetteville state AR zip code 72701

**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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## Summary

The Clinton House is a one story brick residence designed in the Tudor Revival style and built circa 1931. The home reflects this style in the cross-gabled, sloped roof with flared eaves. The windows are six-over-six double hung wood and eight-over-eight wood casements with brick sills. The raking stretcher bond wall of vitrified, clinker brick and the inglenook, which contains the fireplace, is a prominent feature of the home as are the arched openings that connect some of the rooms. Located at 930 South California Boulevard in Fayetteville, Arkansas, the Clinton House is a good example of the English Tudor Revival style of architecture.

## Elaboration

Hillary Rodham Clinton reminisces in her autobiography, *Living History*, that at the end of teaching law her first year at the University of Arkansas, in the summer of 1975, she decided to take a trip to Chicago and the East Coast to visit family and friends. On the way to the airport she and Bill passed “a red brick house near the university with a ‘FOR SALE’ sign out front.” She says, “I casually mentioned that it was a sweet-looking little house and never gave it a second thought” (H. Clinton, 74). After dropping Hillary off at the airport Bill returned to investigate this “jagged brick house set back on a rise with a stone wall bracing up the front yard” (B. Clinton, 233).

### Bill remembers:

It was a one-story of about eleven hundred square feet, with a bedroom, a bathroom, a kitchen with breakfast nook attached, a small dining room, and a gorgeous living room that had a beamed ceiling half again as high as the others in the house, a good looking offset fireplace, and a big bay window. There was also a large screened-in porch that could double as a guest bedroom for most of the year. The house had no air-conditioning, but the big attic fan did a good job. (B. Clinton, 233)

He purchased the house with a down payment of \$3,000.

Bill and Hillary’s little jagged brick house at 930 South California Boulevard was built for Homer Harry “Scotty” Taylor, an oil producer and newspaper man who owned the *Fayetteville Daily Leader*. The property itself had a long lineage of owners dating to 1836 and was until the 1930s woods and open farmland. The Taylor-Swanson-Gifford House was constructed around 1931 in the English Tudor Revival style.

This 1,650 square foot, one story frame building was constructed as a side gabled structure with a dominant front, cross-gable. A massive chimney anchors the front elevation of the asymmetrical home. The exterior brick walls are vitrified clinker brick set in a raking stretcher bond. The uneven exterior gives the elevation a natural, aged feeling. The uneven mortar joints and staining of the bricks by mortar also give the

appearance of a simply built wall and resemble the brick work of sixteenth or seventeenth century bricklayers.

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All fenestrations in the home are set upon brick, rowlock course sills. The brick walls rise to very shallow eaves clad in weatherboard and the pediments of the cross gables are clad in weatherboard as well. In two places the wall is topped by brick corbel table to support the flair of the roof. The cross gable roof is clad in asphalt shingles and features flared peaks. on the brick corbelling along the cornice line and are supported by a continuous cast concrete foundation.

A small porch on the front of the house is to the west of the fireplace and provides the main entry on the south side of the dwelling.

The home site has an ancillary detached wood frame garage with clapboard siding and front gable roof with composition shingles. There is also a garden shed of frame construction with novelty weatherboard siding. The sloping site features a stone retaining wall at the front and back and a brick walkway at the rear of the house.

### Front/Southeast Façade

The southeast façade of the house is the front of the house and faces South California Boulevard. The façade is comprised of three bays, two of which are readily visible from the road. The first bay is at the southwest corner of the home and is set back from the main bay of the façade. The large chimney to the right overpowers this bay and to an extent this bay is lost. The bay is fenestrated with a pair of eight-light, casement windows.

To the northeast is the main frontispiece of the home. This central bay is comprised of the dominant architectural elements of this façade: the chimney and the front cross gable. Both of these architectural features are typical features of the residential Tudor Revival form. The chimney, like the home, is made of clinker brick. Front facing and tall, the chimney offsets are rowlock, but the chimney is still almost five feet wide at its cap. To the northeast of the chimney is the front entrance to the home. The elevation of the site requires that the entry be accessed by way of five brick stairs to a small porch. The front door opens into a small foyer. The prominent front cross gable is fenestrated with a four-part, wood, casement window; each part with eight panes. The window sits on a rowlock, brick sill. The brick rises well into the gable on this façade though there are three rows of weatherboard at the peak. The peak of the roof above the gable is flared.

The third bay is that of the southeast wall of the screened in porch. This porch sits on a beige, common brick foundation. It has a hipped roof and exposed rafters; a Craftsman touch also seen in the flared roof peaks at the gables. The porch is no longer screened and was enclosed, in the 1980s, to provide additional year-around living space for the family.

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Enclosing the porch included siding the exterior walls with vinyl siding. This vinyl has a low profile similar to wood weatherboard. The slope of the yard keeps this southeast facing bay from being readily visible from the road.

### Side/Northeast Elevation

The northeast elevation is an asymmetrical elevation comprised of three bays. Fenestrated with two double-hung, six-over-six wood windows, and one glass block fenestration that maintains privacy in the bath. This bay's brick wall carries directly to the roof line. Where the bay extends under the northeastern roof of the front gable the brick wall is topped by a brick corbel table supporting the roof. Where the side gable rises above this bay's brick wall, the gable is clad in weatherboard and is supported by false, exposed roof beams.

The central bay of this elevation is the northeast facing wall of what was the screened porch. This elevation is not fenestrated. Because of the slope of the yard this wall's exposure is only about five feet.

The northernmost bay of this northeast elevation is fenestrated by two double-hung, six-over-six windows.

### Rear/Northwest Elevation

Due to the slope of the site the rear of the home sits below the grade of the backyard. A stone retaining wall extends along the northwest elevation of the home allowing room for a brick walk at the base of the elevation. This elevation is comprised of two bays.

The northeastern bay is that of the screened porch. Here the brick foundation is readily visible and the vinyl siding clad wall is fenestrated by two double-hung, six-over-six vinyl windows. It is on this rear elevation that the vinyl siding and profile of the vinyl windows have the most dramatic visual impact.

On the southwest elevation of the bay the vitrified, clinker brick wall rises to a hipped roof. The bay is fenestrated with three six-over-six, double-hung windows and one door.

### Side/Southwest elevation

There are three bays on the southwest elevation. The northwest bay of the elevation has two windows, both double-hung, six-over-six. The southernmost of these windows is smaller, a result of the placement of the kitchen sink and an exterior reflection of inner form. The second bay of the elevation is inset from the other two. This elevation is fenestrated by paired, double-hung, six-over-six windows.



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The final bay on the southwest corner of the home features a large box-bay window, providing natural light into the living room of the home. The rough hewn wooden clad window extends outward from the elevation and is supported by a brick table. Six casement windows of eight panes each comprise the almost fifteen foot tall window. The window is topped by the sloping roof of the clipped gable. This serves, as the only place on the home, to give the appearance of a thatched roof. The sloping gable roof toward the northwest and southeast is flared.

#### **Interior**

One enters the home into a small foyer. The foyer leads into the expansive living room. The room features a high ceiling with exposed wooden beams. A small inglenook on the south side of the living room houses the fireplace. The inglenook still has the tile the Clintons laid. It was one of the few changes the Clintons made to the home while they lived here. Bill Clinton tried to wallpaper the small kitchenette and said later that's when he knew he wasn't cut out for manual labor. When Hillary visited the museum in 2008, she commented on the tile work in the inglenook. She mentioned that it was a weekend project that turned into a month-long one, "but at least it got done!"

From the living room one enters the dining room. This dining room is connected to both the kitchen and the hall. The hall leads to the one bathroom, with intact original fixtures, to the bedroom that now serves as the museum's projection room, and to the rear rooms. These rear rooms serve as the museum office and gift shop. Though the screened porch was enclosed it still has the feel of a porch and serves as the museum's gift shop.

#### **Garden Shed**

On the northeast corner of the property is a small frame garden shed, original to the home. This rectangular structure sits on a stone foundation and is clad in wood novelty siding. The side gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. There are two windows in the structure, one each on the northeast and southwest sides. This small six-light window provides light into the single room of the structure.

#### **Garage**

A two car garage sits to the northwest of the home. This frame structure sits on a concrete foundation and is clad in wide profile, wood weatherboard. The home's concrete drive comes directly to the two, paneled wood doors on the southeast elevation of the garage. Above the doors is a decorative, but functional, dovecot under the clipped gable roof. On the northeast and southwest elevations of the garage a stationary, six-light window is located in the center of the elevation. The rear elevation is not fenestrated.

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### Integrity

The home retains excellent integrity not only to the period when the Clintons lived in the home but to the period of the home's construction. There has been only one exterior change to the home, that being the enclosure of the screened porch. The screened porch was enclosed in the 1980s. The exterior is clad in vinyl siding and has vinyl windows. As was mentioned previously the visual impact of this change is minimal from the front where the slope of the yard helps conceal the wing. However, the visual impact is dramatic on the rear of the home where the mass of white vinyl detracts from the natural look of the brick and the vinyl windows stand out because of their different profile.

Though Tudor Revival was extremely popular in the United States through the 1920s and early 1930s this house is one of but a few examples on the south side of Fayetteville. Other examples in the Washington-Willow Historic District (NR 5/23/80, boundaries increased 03/28/95) on the east side of downtown Fayetteville, or the Waterman-Archer House (NR 06/25/1999) on the west side of Fayetteville show elements of English or Tudor Revival architecture but the Clinton House is an unusual example of the style in Fayetteville in that it was constructed with clinker brick. Additionally the house is unique on this side of town. Adjacent homes in this area along California Boulevard are mid-century modern and late 1960s and early 1970s ranch homes. To the north the encroachment and development of the University has removed some of the historic residential fabric.

The home is a good example of Tudor or English Revival architecture and an unusual example with clinker brick veneer. It has some eclectic elements that more properly could be called Craftsman but that reflects the vernacular nature of architecture in Arkansas. As the only Tudor Revival style home, a style widely popular in the 1920s and early 1930s, in this neighborhood, the home reveals that this area of town was sparsely developed in the early twentieth century.

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### Summary

The Clinton House was the home of many people and families that were influential in local, state, and national events. As the one time home of both William Jefferson Clinton, III (Bill), and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

William Jefferson Clinton, III, purchased the house in August 1975. Bill, as he is commonly known, was a professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Arkansas at the time. It was here that Clinton and Rodham were married in October 1975. Exhibiting her keen grasp of law, Rodham joined the staff of the law school at Fayetteville in August of 1974. They lived in the home while Clinton reorganized from a failed political campaign for the U. S. House of Representatives and while he operated an ultimately successful campaign for Attorney General of Arkansas.

Given the home's diverse and unique ownership and the impact that the various owners had on local, state, and national events the home is being nominated under **Criterion B** with **State Significance**. As it is also being nominated in connection with both Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton it is being submitted with **Criteria Consideration G**.

Additionally, the home is the only home in the neighborhood to exhibit the Tudor Revival style of architecture. The house's flared eaves, steeply-pitched roofs, casement windows, and picturesque massing are trademark characteristics of the style. Many of the other houses along California Boulevard date from the 1950s up through the 1970s and were designed in mid-century modern and ranch styles. When the Clinton House was built in the early 1930s, development south of the University of Arkansas campus was sparse, indicating it was one of the first houses built in the Oak Park Place Subdivision. As a rare example of this highly popular 1930s style on the south side of Fayetteville, the home is being submitted under **Criterion C** with **local significance**.

### Elaboration

The property was that of the Territory on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 1835. The land was purchased by Wilson D. and Martha (his wife) Hart and Joseph M. and Mary (his wife) Hoge. On February 23, 1836, George H. Jefferson purchased the property for \$150.00.

Arkansas became the 25<sup>th</sup> state on June 15, 1836. On November 9, 1837, George and Elizabeth (wife) Jefferson sold the property to John P. Moore for \$300.00. John Moore died and the property was left to Samuel Moore (John's son and sole heir) and Jane Moore (his wife). On October 9, 1850, Samuel and Jane

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Moore sold the property to Martin D. Frazier for \$198.46 at 10% interest. On September 25, 1867, David Walker purchased the property for \$215.25.

William McIlroy purchased the property in 1873 at a sale for non-payment of taxes. In September of 1886, William McIlroy died, leaving the property to his widow Martha and 5 children (William H., James J., Charles D., Anna May, and Kate). Ten years later on November 21, 1896, James H. McIlroy and his wife Sallie A. paid \$7500.00 to Anna May McIlroy, Charles D. McIlroy, and Kate McIlroy Allen. On February 4, 1925, James and Sallie McIlroy sold the property to E. M. Ratliff for \$2,700.00.

E. M. Ratliff sold the property back to James H. McIlroy on July 17, 1927. The property changed hands again on December 10, 1929, when E. M. Ratliff and Marion L. (his wife) and M. B. and Irma (his wife) Slade brought the property. They bought lots 105 and 106 from J. H. McIlroy for \$6,700. The abstract states that "no part shall be conveyed to any person of Negro blood" and no residence or dwelling constructed at a cost of less than \$3,500. The Ratliffs and the Slades sold the property to *Fayetteville Daily Leader* on December 10, 1929, for \$1,625.00.

### **William Jefferson Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton**

In the fall of 1964, Bill Clinton attended Georgetown University in Washington, D. C., where he excelled academically and made his first direct contact with the world of politics by working for U. S. Senator J. William Fulbright during his junior and senior years. He won a Rhodes Scholarship to study in Oxford, England, where he spent the next year. He then returned to the United States to study for the bar at Yale Law School. In 1971, Bill Clinton met Hillary Rodham at the Yale Law library. In 1972, both worked on McGovern's Presidential campaign.

In the summer of 1973, Bill Clinton proposed to Hillary Rodham on the shore of Lake Ennerdale in England. She told him she loved him, but was not ready to say "yes" quite yet. He did, however, persuade her to visit Arkansas and take the Arkansas bar exam (just in case). Both passed the test.

In 1973, Bill relocated to Fayetteville, Arkansas, so that he could accept a position teaching constitutional law at the University of Arkansas Law School. Hillary went to Massachusetts to work for the Children's Defense Fund. Bill immersed himself in the community and its activities including joining the Jaycees. He immediately was put to work as chairman of a community project – construction of a pavilion at Lake Wilson. After a successful plan and some unexpected challenges, the pavilion was completed and something to be proud of. Bill comments in his autobiography that he enjoyed teaching. His first courses were Agency and Partnership and Antitrust. As he notes, "Antitrust law is rooted in the idea that the government should

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prevent the formation of monopolies as well as other noncompetitive practices in order to preserve a functioning, fair free-market economy” (B. Clinton, 203).

While at the university Bill strove to make himself readily accessible to his students both in office and on campus; he was constantly encouraging legal discussions among students. He writes in his autobiography that he loved writing exams. His theories on grading show a strong proclivity toward fairness, to the point that some say he graded too easily. This sense of fairness led him to see his students and their work with an empathy of one who was once in their position. He set up tutoring sessions for his underprivileged students who showed an understanding of law but failed in grammar and spelling. These students went on to have very successful legal careers and this lesson certainly played a role in his decisions regarding affirmative action following the *Adarand Constructors, Inc v. Pena* decision in 1995. This sense of openness and equity also led to Bill’s urging that the law school faculty pursue more pro bono work—this during departmental policy meetings where Bill says he learned a great deal about academic governance and politics—and place additional emphasis on classroom teaching and nurturing students’ academic and professional relationships.

Bill’s pro bono work during this period included working with students who had need and working toward increasing the ability of the underprivileged to receive health care. During this time he also wrote a brief for Arkansas Attorney General Jim Guy Tucker for a U. S. Supreme Court case regarding credit cards and interest rates—during the 1970s the attorney general’s office was consistently understaffed, when Bill took office in 1977 there were only twenty-five attorneys.

At the end of that first semester Bill notes that he “felt completely at home there,” and that he loved teaching (B. Clinton, 208). That Christmas Hillary came to visit Bill. That Christmas turned out to be the first of many busy Christmas seasons. In January, after discussing the issue with Hillary, Bill decided to run against longtime Congressional incumbent John Paul Hammerschmidt (H. Clinton, 65).

He was also asked by John Doar to take a leave of absence from the University and serve the House Judiciary Committee’s inquiry into President Nixon’s impeachment. Bill declined so that he could run for Congress but suggested Hillary and a couple of fellow Yale graduates. Scheduled to teach Criminal Procedure and Admiralty in the spring semester, Bill offered to teach the classes and run a campaign. With permission from Dean Wylie Davis, Bill began what was admittedly an uphill campaign but one in which he met valuable supporters and made lifelong friends.

After announcing his intention to run in February 1974 he had three opponents in the primary: State Senator Gene Rainwater, David Stewart, and Jim Scanlon. During the election Bill continued to teach classes. He would make campaign appearances during the day and return to Fayetteville in the evenings. “It was hard, but I enjoyed it,” he says (B. Clinton, 220). While traveling for the campaign Bill lost five of his student’s

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Admiralty exams. As he says, he was “mortified” and the loss of the exams led him to take a leave of absence for the general election. In the June 1974 Democratic primary for Congress, Bill won the primary with 69% of the vote against Senator Gene Rainwater. In the election Bill lost to Hammerschmidt by a narrow margin and in January 1975, he returned to teaching.

After talking with Bill in January 1974, John Doar called Hillary and asked her to serve on the House Judiciary Committee’s investigation staff. Doar met both Bill and Hillary while they were at Yale and knew them both well. Hillary describes the opportunity as one that she “couldn’t refuse” (H. Clinton, 66). The work was demanding, often seven days a week. This group of forty-four lawyers reviewed vast amounts of evidentiary material and reviewed legal precedent. In July 1974, they ultimately presented articles of impeachment against President Nixon. Nixon resigned office in August 1974, an act that Hillary calls “a victory for the Constitution and our system of laws” (H. Clinton, 68-9). She further states that many of the staff who worked on the Judiciary committee “came away from the experience sobered by the gravity of the process” (H. Clinton, 69).

That August, Hillary suddenly found herself without a job and little idea of what direction to pursue with her life. In the spring of 1974, Hillary met Wylie Davis while visiting Bill one weekend. Davis spent the evening talking with Hillary and Bill and as the party came to a close he told Hillary to call him if she ever decided to teach. “With the unexpected end of my work in Washington, I had the time and space to give our relationship—and Arkansas—a chance” (H. Clinton, 69).

Classes began the day after she arrived in Fayetteville. Hillary notes, “I had never taught school before and was barely older than most of my students, younger than some” (H. Clinton, 70). Her first classes that semester were Criminal Law and Trial Advocacy. Over the course of her short tenure at the University Hillary also taught Criminal Procedure and worked in the Prison Project. One of her lasting contributions was founding the legal aid clinic and supervising students in that class every semester.

The legal aid clinic and the prison project both were designed to provide legal counsel to the poor and incarcerated through student involvement. However, through this legal aid clinic Hillary was also able to continue her work for equal rights for women and the work she began at the Children’s Defense Fund.

While Bill was busy campaigning for Congress in the fall of 1974, Hillary worked closely with Diane Blair, a professor of political science, on arguing for the Equal Rights Amendment to the Arkansas Constitution. She also worked diligently to change the attitude of local sheriffs, county judges, and local court judges that women were certainly capable of being highly qualified lawyers. It was also at this time that Hillary, working with Ann Henry, on establishing the state’s first rape hotline.

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Hillary Rodham lived on Grey Ave. She would pass by a brick cottage on California everyday on her way to work. Following the spring semester of 1975, Hillary was traveling home to Chicago to visit friends and family for a few weeks. As Hillary noted, “I still wasn’t sure what to do with my life” (H. Clinton, 74). As Bill drove her to the airport, they passed the brick cottage that was now for sale. Hillary remarked, “that it was a sweet-looking house” but never “gave it a second thought” (H. Clinton, 74). Bill Clinton purchased the house on August 11, 1975, for \$17,200.00 while Hillary was on her trip.

In his book, telling the story of the house purchase, Bill says, “When Hillary came back from her trip, I said, ‘Remember that little house you like so much? I bought it. You have to marry me now, because I can’t live there alone.’ I took her to see the house. It still needed a lot of work, but my rash move did the trick” (B. Clinton, 233). Bill and Hillary were married in the living room of the home on October 11, 1975. Hillary was wearing a lace-and-muslin Victorian style dress that she purchased only the night before. The museum today houses a replica of the wedding dress that Hillary wore that day.

There were a few home improvement projects that the Clintons made – one of which remains today. The inglenook still has the tile the Clintons laid. When Hillary visited the museum in 2008, she commented on the tile work. She mentioned that it was a weekend project that turned into a month-long one, “but at least it got done!” Bill Clinton tried to wallpaper the small kitchenette and said later that’s when he knew he wasn’t cut out for manual labor.

In the fall of 1975 the Clintons took a trip to Haiti and as Bill notes, “by the time we returned from Haiti, I had determined to run for attorney general” (B. Clinton, 238). Though still intensely interested in politics, Bill wanted to stay in Arkansas. His work for Attorney General Tucker in 1973 piqued his interest in the attorney general position that Tucker was vacating. The house served as the northwest Arkansas campaign headquarters for his political campaign. The dining room was turned into the “war room”. Bill also maintained a Little Rock campaign office as he noted, “Besides being the capital city, it is in the center of the state and has both the biggest vote and the largest fund raising potential” (B. Clinton, 238).

In May 1976, Bill Clinton won the primary—running against Democrats George Jernigan, Secretary of State, and Clarence Cash—for attorney general and was unopposed in the November general election.

In the summer of 1976, Bill was asked to head Jimmy Carter’s election campaign in Arkansas. Hillary took a position as a field coordinator for the Carter campaign in Indiana; that summer and fall was busy with the Clinton’s traveling for the campaign and teaching. Bill ended his tenure at the University of Arkansas teaching Constitutional Law and Admiralty. Bill notes that, “In three years and three months I had taught eight courses in five semesters and a summer session, taught two courses to law-enforcement officers in Little Rock, run for office twice, and managed the Carter campaign. And I loved every minute of it,

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regretting only the time it took me away from our life and friends in Fayetteville, and that little house at 930 California Drive that brought Hillary and me so much joy” (B. Clinton, 243).

After the attorney general election in 1976, which Hillary calls anticlimactic, the Clintons prepared to move to Little Rock in January 1977. “We had to leave the house we had been married in,” she notes (H. Clinton, 79). “I couldn’t keep teaching at the university which saddened me because I enjoyed my colleagues and my students” (H. Clinton, 78). By 1978, they moved into a house at 5419 L Street in Little Rock, which they remained in until 1980 when they moved into the Governor’s Mansion at 1800 Center Street (Little Rock City Directories).

These later years of the 1970s, while Bill was at the University of Arkansas, mark the beginnings of his political ascendancy to the White House. It was during these years, in campaigns and through his legal work, that Bill met the people of Arkansas, some who would play important roles in his later political career and some from whom he learned valuable lessons. In the congressional election of 1974, Bill lost to John Paul Hammerschmidt, but only by three percent. During these elections Bill remembers that he was made aware of the people of the Arkansas River Valley fighting for proper health care after working years in the coal mines. Along with health care came the issues of environmental protection to which Clinton was introduced during this period. He carried these ideas throughout his political career fighting for the environment during his tenure as attorney general and Governor.

As has been said it was during this period that Bill was introduced to the people who would later influence his political career. It was during these years that he met Jim Guy Tucker, Attorney General for the state of Arkansas. After seeing his work on the interest rate case Tucker urged Bill to run for Attorney General—Tucker was leaving the post to run, successfully, for Congress. During his tenure as professor in the law school he met Steve Smith. Smith served as advisor and consultant in the congressional race against Hammerschmidt and was later chief of staff when Clinton became attorney general. Lottie Shackelford, one time mayor of Little Rock, remembers that she met Clinton during his 1974 campaign. “I was part of a group in a campaign rally,” she remembers. “I started hearing about this person who was young and very dynamic and very progressive.” Shackelford later recalls that this progressive nature led Clinton to involve “more blacks in his government than any other Arkansas governor” (Kearney, 260).

Rodney Slater attended the University of Arkansas law school after the Clinton left to become Attorney General. He remembers, “all I heard about was this threesome they called the ‘Mod Squad.’ They were referring to Hillary Rodham, Bill Clinton, and a black law professor by the name of George Knox.” “I think they had left over a year earlier but people were still talking about these young idealistic professors and how they could communicate with students unlike any law professors before” (Kearney, 262). Slater became assistant Attorney General for the state of Arkansas under Governor Frank White. Clinton would appoint

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Slater to several positions in the state government and again in the United States federal government making him the first African American director of the Federal Highway Administration and later Secretary of Transportation.

One of the important trends that Clinton maintained through his political career was a desire to improve education. Bill learned through teaching and being at the university that there were deficiencies in Arkansas's educational system. Students entering the law school were sometimes under qualified as a result of their local schooling. John L. Kearney, a student of Clinton's at the law school noted, "I noticed that he had a knack for identifying students having academic difficulties, and I watched him go about trying to help many of them. He attended a number of study sessions with students and made himself available to answer questions" (Kearney, 139). As governor he passed a series of laws improving education in the state. As president he continued working for improvement of education culminating in the passage of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994.

Although the time that the Clintons spent in the house in Fayetteville was a short period, it was a critical period in influencing their later success on the state and national political stage. It was the beginning of Bill's political career at the state level, something that would be critical to his later national success. According to Jim Guy Tucker, the congressional race that Clinton ran just prior to buying the house was critical to his later success, even though he lost the race. The contacts he made during that campaign and afterwards while living in Fayetteville, gave him statewide recognition, not just on a name level, but on a personal level. Tucker indicates that Clinton "had an aura of academia, rather than being 'just a lawyer,'" which gave him a different level of respect in the political realm. Furthermore, his time teaching at the University allowed him to meet people, including students, from all over Arkansas, which helped to give him the personal recognition on the statewide level. The fact that he was young and attractive also appealed to a wide audience around the state (Tucker, 16 November 2009).

Clinton's time as a law professor at the University of Arkansas also helped him to gain respect not just with the public, but with other politicians in Arkansas. For example, Jim Guy Tucker went to Clinton to write the brief for the U.S. Supreme Court case regarding credit cards and interest rates because he was bright, was a law professor, and had the credentials to adequately do the work (Tucker, 16 November 2009).

Clinton's attitude towards government, which was evolving during this time, also helped him to gain respect and influence politically. Even though Clinton was young at the time, he had a deep knowledge on how government worked. Clinton was seriously interested in government and governing well as opposed to some politicians who saw political office as a personal tool for advancement. It was these characteristics that gave Jim Guy Tucker and other people in Arkansas a high regard for Clinton and influenced Tucker to urge Clinton to run for Attorney General. Tucker saw Clinton as being a lot like himself – part of a generation of

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politicians that was influenced by the Kennedys, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, and the Vietnam War (Tucker, 16 November 2009).

Clinton's time as Attorney General was also influential on his later political career. Clinton was instrumental in carrying out a major evolution of the Attorney General's office, which included establishing the Consumer Protection Division of the office, increasing the office staff of the agency to adequately handle the needs of the people of Arkansas, and helping to raise the pay of the Attorney General. (At the time, the Attorney General was paid \$6,000 while some local prosecutors were paid \$35,000.) Some of the issues that Clinton worked on while Attorney General were also issues that were significant later on in his career. For example, Clinton's work on utilities litigation, including trying to avoid Arkansas paying for the costs of power plants, became a significant issue later on while Clinton was governor. Clinton's time as Attorney General also showed that he was able to run a public office effectively, something that also gained him respect politically and would be critical to his future political success (Tucker, 16 November 2009).

The time that the Clintons lived in the house in Fayetteville was not only important to Bill's political future, it was also important to the future success of Hillary. Although Hillary is very competent and extremely intelligent, her marriage to Bill gave her the national exposure later on that she might not have gotten otherwise. This national exposure has helped her to have the success that she has had as First Lady, during her presidential campaign, and currently as Secretary of State. Although it is unknown what she may have accomplished on her own, the marriage to Bill in the house in Fayetteville was definitely an important watershed event in her life and future success (Tucker, 16 November 2009).

This was not Clinton's only home during his years in Fayetteville, but it was the only one he owned and the home which is closely tied to the infancy of their political careers. Over time the home has become synonymous with the activities of both Bill and Hillary while living in Northwest Arkansas. It was here that Bill met the common Arkansans who influenced his political philosophy. It was here too that he met the Arkansans whose support, political, financial, or otherwise, made his political ascendancy possible.

Prior to the Clintons occupying the house on California Boulevard, several other families called the building home.

### **H. H. "Scotty" Taylor**

Homer Harry Taylor, nicknamed Scotty, was, by all accounts, a colorful man. He made his fortune in the oil booms of the early twentieth century only to lose that fortune in the Great Depression. His commercial investments in Fayetteville, his birthplace and boyhood home, amounted to over half a million dollars by the time of his death.

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Taylor was born April 26, 1891, and was educated in the public schools of Fayetteville and the University of Arkansas. As a teenager, he worked for D. C. Ambrose of the Fayetteville *Evening News* and the Fayetteville *Republican*, where he seems to have acquired a lasting love for printer's ink.

His first employment was in the roadmaster's office of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. He left the railroad after only one year to become the manager of the Sapulpa Oilers baseball team. The Webb City Webfeet became the Oilers in 1909 when they moved from Webb City. The Western Association team was short lived as the league went bankrupt in June 1911. In 1912, Taylor went to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was hired as a cub reporter for the *Tulsa World*. Taylor's short career with the Oilers gave him the insight into sports reporting necessary to be a successful journalist and he was soon promoted to Sports Editor for the *Tulsa World*.

After his short stint at the *Tulsa World*, Taylor decided, in 1915, to enter the oil production business. As an independent producer he began promoting and drilling oil wells. Soon Taylor was able to acquire some acreage in the Greater Seminole Oil Fields. These fields, discovered in the mid-1920s, would be the largest oil field in the world by 1928. On November 16, 1916, H. H. "Scotty" Taylor was married in Tulsa to Margaret Helen Perkins, daughter of Frank L. Perkins, Vice President and Superintendent of Production of the Tidewater Oil Company.

It was Taylor's connection to Harry F. Sinclair that induced him into the oil business. Sinclair's help in getting Taylor started in the industry was repaid handsomely when a lease Taylor sold to Sinclair for \$4,400 dollars earned the company \$8,000,000 dollars in ten years. During his most successful period in the industry Taylor was earning \$8,000 dollars a day.

Overproduction in newly discovered oil fields across the Southwest combined with the economic downturn of the Great Depression severely impacted the oil industry of 1929 and the early 1930s. Taylor lost substantially and returned to the newspaper industry in the autumn of 1929. He started the *Fayetteville Daily Leader* which lasted only until 1931 and proved to be a costly experiment. The printing plant for Taylor's new paper featured the most modern equipment and the paper was a daily of 6 to 8 pages, served by International News Service and with the best available features. On January 31, 1931, the *Leader* suspended publication; and sometime after that the plant was shipped to Cushing, Oklahoma, where Taylor owned an interest in a weekly paper.

On April 22, 1930, Taylor, who was the sole owner of the *Fayetteville Daily Leader*, and his wife Margaret Taylor, purchased the property at 930 California Drive for \$4,500.00. Losses suffered during the Great Depression and a debilitating stroke left Taylor unable to attend to his business and his new home. On September 6, 1932, Kelly Brothers Lumber Co., put a lien against the property for \$760.00 for lumber and

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building materials. Two years later, after he put up a bond of \$5,000, Paul Lewis took charge of the inventory and all assets of Mr. Taylor. On November 18, 1935, the Fayetteville Building and Loan Association intervened when the Taylors defaulted on the \$4,500.00 loan and property was sold to the Fayetteville Building and Loan for \$4,000.00.

When the house was built, the use of the Tudor Revival style was not surprising. After World War I particularly, influences on American architecture were coming from several parts of Europe, including England. As soldiers returned to the United States, they had houses designed and built that were influenced by the picturesque manors and cottages that they had seen in cities and towns throughout England. Although some English influence was seen in the early 1900s, the Tudor or English Revival exploded on the scene in the 1920s. The rise in popularity at the same time of using a masonry veneer meant that even a modest house could exhibit brick and stone techniques similar to English cottages (McAlester, 358.).

The Clinton House is a textbook example of the Tudor Revival style. Its flared eaves, steeply-pitched roofs, casement windows, and picturesque massing are trademark characteristics of the style. In addition, the use of clinker brick, something that was unusual in the Fayetteville area, added to the house's picturesque qualities and helped to give it an aged appearance.

Although the use of the Tudor Revival style was common in the 1930s, its use was uncommon on the south side of Fayetteville, since the Clinton House was also one of the early houses in its area. Although the Oak Park Place Subdivision and California Boulevard were never covered by Fayetteville's Sanborn maps, the Putman Addition to the east was. (In fact, the Oak Park Place Subdivision was apparently platted sometime after 1928, meaning that the Clinton House was more than likely one of the first if not the first house in the neighborhood. [Campbell, 34].) In 1930, the area was sparsely built with only a few houses occupied the blocks with several vacant lots between them. Although some construction had taken place by 1948, the last year that Sanborn maps were done for Fayetteville, there were still several vacant lots in the area. As a result, the area had a much more suburban feel. With respect to California Boulevard, most of the houses around the Clinton House date from the 1950s up through the 1970s and were designed in mid-century modern and ranch styles. As a result, the Taylor-Swanson-Gifford House stands out among its neighbors and is notable for the area (Sanborn Maps).

### **Gilbert C. and Roberta (Bo) Swanson**

Gilbert Carl Swanson was the son of Carl. A. Swanson, a Swedish immigrant. Gilbert was sent to Fayetteville in 1929 from Omaha, Nebraska, to manage his family's Jerpe Dairy Products Corporation plant. The business, Jerpe Commission Co., specialized in butter production and poultry. The business included a 700 employee chicken processing plant that was later sold to Campbell Soup.

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Roberta (Bo) Epperson Fulbright was born April 2, 1911. She and her twin sister Helen Stratton were the last two children of Jay and Roberta Waugh Fulbright, publisher of the *Northwest Arkansas Times* newspaper. They joined four other children including J. William Fulbright, later president of the University of Arkansas who also had a distinguished 30 year career in the U. S. Senate. The twins attended the University of Arkansas and were members of the Pi Beta Phi sorority. Bo served for a time as manager of the Fulbright-owned radio station KUOA. On March 16, 1936, she married Gilbert Carl Swanson.

Gilbert C. and Roberta Swanson purchased 930 California Drive on October 6, 1937, for \$3,000.00 at 6% interest. Gilbert Swanson was transferred back to Omaha, Nebraska, in 1939 to the family's main Swanson plant.

Gilbert and his brother Carl were hard workers and innovative thinkers. They are both credited with the creation of the frozen Chicken Pot pie in 1951. Both men saw that American society was changing and that increasingly women were entering the workforce. That was the impetus for the creation of a line of frozen convenience foods. The marketing idea came to them to sell them as a meal to have while watching TV. The boxes in which these frozen meal trays were packaged were designed to look like wood-grain television sets, complete with graphic representations of television volume and channel dials on them. Where the TV tube was, there was a picture of the meal inside.

The meals went on sale as TV dinners at the start of 1954 for 98 cents each. Customers got turkey, buttered peas, sweet potato and cornbread stuffing. At the time, there were 33 million TV sets in America. However, television programming was only available three or four hours a day, so if you had a set, you watched it during those hours. Since most of the programming was on in the later afternoon and early evening, that's when people gathered around their sets. The Swanson's idea was to create a portable meal that people could carry into their living rooms to eat. The Swanson TV dinner was the first widely available frozen dinner. Swanson authorized a first run of 5,000 frozen dinners, but within 10 months, they'd sold 10 million of them. By the end of 1954, they sold over 25 million of them.

Though Swanson lived in Fayetteville for only a short time, the company remained an important factor in the agricultural and food production economy of Northwest Arkansas. They also remained closely connected to the local society. Following World War II, Fayetteville's economy boomed and its population doubled. The public library's cramped quarters in the City Administration building were strained to the limit, and the decision was made to build a new library. In 1959, Gilbert Swanson donated two lots at 21 E. Dickson, Fayetteville, then valued at \$35,000, if the library board agreed to name the building for his mother-in-law, Roberta Waugh Fulbright (publisher of the *Northwest Arkansas Times*) and his wife Bo. The building dedication was June 4, 1962.

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### Dr. Warren Gifford

The Swanson's sold the California Drive property to Warren and Rebecca Gifford on August 4, 1942, for \$2,400.00 at 6% interest. Warren Gifford came to Fayetteville in 1939 to serve as Professor and Head of the Department of Animal Industry and Veterinary Science. Long time residents remember he would go to work on the campus by way of his horse-drawn carriage down California Drive.

Gifford had a long history of service to the animal sciences in the fields of teaching, research, and extension and in the administration of these programs. He was an Instructor in Dairy Husbandry at West Virginia University from 1922 to 1925; Assistant Professor, Dairy Department, University of Missouri from 1926 to 1934; Marketing Specialist, Agriculture Adjustment Service, USDA from 1934 to 1936; and Extension Dairyman, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Missouri from 1936 to 1939.

Gifford was hired to be the Head of the Department of Animal Industry and professor in that department in 1939. When he arrived there were only seven staff members in the department. The University's cattle herds had brucellosis and had to be disposed of so he started everything from scratch. As head of the Department of Animal Industry he was responsible for the development of the University's herds and flocks. The department was later enlarged and became the Department of Animal Industry and Veterinary Science. At the time of his retirement on June 30, 1964, there were 36 full-time staff members in the department.

Gifford's research helped to dramatically improve livestock management in not only Arkansas but the United States. While at the university Gifford initiated several research projects that have significantly contributed to livestock improvement. He initiated a beef cattle breeding project in 1939 to evaluate beef cattle performance. This work ultimately led to his participation in the South Region Beef Cattle Breeding Project, or S-10, during the 1950s. S-10 was a study conducted with the United States Department of Agriculture and ten other agricultural stations to prove cattle breeding a scientific process rather than a subjective visual art. He served as the project's Technical Committeeman from Arkansas and later as Chairman of the committee. He also initiated a swine breeding project in 1939 that became a part of the Southern Region Dairy Cattle Breeding Project S-3 and its successor, S-49. He was author and co-author of over 40 publications in the fields of animal breeding and animal production.

In 1947, in cooperation with dairy leaders in Arkansas, he was instrumental in organizing and putting into operation the Arkansas Dairy Breeders Cooperative. This organization served some 32 counties of Arkansas with artificial breeding service. He first bred animals artificially in the University of Arkansas Dairy Herd in 1940.

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He was an inspiring teacher and taught the senior course in animal breeding from 1939 to 1964. He was also instrumental in securing financial support and planning for the Savoy farm and Animal Science Center, now home to the swine, beef cattle, and boiler chicken research units of the University's Dale Bumpers College Department of Agriculture. Early in his career, he served as a coach of dairy judging teams at the National Dairy Show.

Dr. Gifford was responsible for initiating the Animal Industry Club (a student organization) on the U of A campus. He served as President of the Southern Section of Animal Science and was named "fellow" of Animal Science Association of Scientists. Dr. Gifford was department head from 1939 until 1964. He left the University of Arkansas in 1964 and taught in British Columbia for a couple of years.

Gifford was named Man of the Year in Agriculture in Arkansas by the Progressive Farmer in 1945. He was a member of the American Dairy Science Association, American Genetic Association, and the American Society of Animal Science. He served as Secretary, Vice-President, and President of the Southern Section of American Society of Animal Science and as a national director of that organization. After retiring he sold the family home on California Drive as he said, "to a couple of hippie law students," Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham.

### Statement of Significance

The Clinton House was the home of many people and families that were influential in local, state, and national events. Though the Clintons lived here for a very short period it has become associated with the entire period in which they lived in Fayetteville and taught at the University of Arkansas School of Law.

William Jefferson Clinton, III purchased the house in August 1975. Bill, as he is commonly known, was a professor of Constitutional Law at the University of Arkansas at the time. It was here that Clinton and Rodham were married in October 1975. Exhibiting her keen grasp of law, Rodham joined the staff of the law school at Fayetteville in August of 1974. They lived in the home while Clinton reorganized from a failed political campaign for the U. S. House of Representatives and while he operated an ultimately successful campaign for Attorney General of Arkansas.

Given the home's diverse and unique ownership and the impact that the various owners had on local, state, and national events the home is being nominated under **Criterion B** with **State Significance**. As it is also being nominated in connection with both Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton it is being submitted with **Criteria Consideration G**.

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Additionally, the home is the only home in the neighborhood to exhibit the Tudor Revival style of architecture. The house's flared eaves, steeply-pitched roofs, casement windows, and picturesque massing are trademark characteristics of the style. Many of the other houses along California Boulevard date from the 1950s up through the 1970s and were designed in mid-century modern and ranch styles. When the Clinton House was built in the early 1930s, development south of the University of Arkansas campus was sparse, indicating it was one of the first houses built in the Oak Park Place Subdivision. As a rare example of this highly popular 1930s style on the south side of Fayetteville, the home is being submitted under **Criterion C** with **local significance**.



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## Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 105, 106, and 107 in the Oak Park Place Addition to the City of Fayetteville.

## Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all the land historically associated with the Clinton House.