## NIZ 12-12-76

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### TIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Andrew Hunter House

AND/OR COMMON

Hunter-Dearborn House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Highway 5

CITY, TOWN Bryant

X VICINITY OF CODE

05

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Second

> COUNTY Saline

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CLASSIFICATION

Arkansas

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

STATE

X\_BUILDING(S)

\_\_STRUCTURE \_\_SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP PUBLIC

X\_PRIVATE

\_\_BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION** 

\_IN PROCESS

\_\_BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

XOCCUPIED \_\_UNOCCUPIED

\_\_WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

XYES: RESTRICTED

\_\_YES: UNRESTRICTED

.NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE \_\_MUSEUM

\_\_COMMERCIAL PARK

\_\_EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE \_\_RELIGIOUS

CODE

125

\_\_ENTERTAINMENT \_\_GOVERNMENT

\_\_SCIENTIFIC

OTHER:

\_INDUSTRIAL MILITARY

\_TRANSPORTATION

OWNER OF PROPERTY

Mr. and Mrs. John Dearborn

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4, Box 358

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Saline County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY TOWN

Benton

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_FEDERAL \_\_STATE \_\_COUNTY \_\_LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE



#### CONDITION

\_\_EXCELLENT
X\_GOOD
\_\_FAIR

\_DETERIORATED

\_\_RUINS

CHECK ONE

X. ALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Andrew Hunter House on Highway 5 near the intersection of Highway 183 in Saline County is a one-story, rectangular, three-bay, frame house with hipped roof. Fronting almost the entire length of the facade is a porch with four Tuscan columns. A central pedimented pavilion supported by Tuscan columns projects from the porch. Classical details in the cornice line, exterior molding, and original symmetry constitute the most outstanding features of the house.

The symmetrical facade of the original section of the house features uniform the fenestration with full-length window moldings, double-leaf entrace door with sidelights and trabeated transom, and black shutters on the two outer windows. The house originally had two outside-end chimneys, but an addition onto the north elevation covers the chimney on the north elevation. All chimneys are capped.

Numerous changes have been made to the 1870's house since its construction. The original breezeway has been enclosed and the front porch has been reconstructed. An addition onto the north elevation disrupts the original symmetry of the house. The west elevation has received an added carport, a long sunroom and a utility room, the latter two in the 1920's. The columns have been replaced, and the balusters with rails which were on the porch when the Dearborns obtained the house in 1950 have been removed. Composition shingles now cover the once wood-shingled roof. Interior walls are sheetrocked, but the original rooms still have the high, board-and-batten ceilings. Some of the pine floors have been replaced, but an attempt was made to match the new floors as closely as possible with the old floors. Only two old windows have survived the years and negligence, but the Dearborns had the replacements made to match the original windows.

The house remained untenanted for a period of ten years in the 1940's because of a dispute over ownership. Due to the vacancy, the house fell into a serious state of disrepair. The present owners, Mr. and Mrs. John Dearborn, who also occupy the house, have attempted to restore and/or renovate the house. Today it stands as a stately tribute to the eminent Dr. Hunter, whose association with the house makes it historically significant.

The Hunter House was not constructed by Reverend Hunter. When he acquired the land in 1872, the house stood on it. The abstract of the property lists the first owner as William Field (or Fields) in 1836, as a result of a Federal land grant. Field sold only small parcels of the original grant, and in 1872 Andrew Hunter became the owner of the property. In all probability the house was erected by Field, and some maintain that part of the house may have been constructed in the late 1830's. However, the house as it now appears does not reflect an 1830 structure, but rather an 1870 house with early 20th century modifications. Additionally the house's primary significance lies in its association with Hunter who acquired it in 1872.



'OD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
STORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X.RELIGION
_1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW .	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	XEDUCATION .	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X_1800-1899	COMMERCE	XEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY _	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

ca. 1870

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Andrew Hunter House located at Bryant near the intersection of Highways 5 and 183 is significant because of its association with a man very prominent in Arkansas history, the Reverend Andrew Hunter. Andrew Hunter came to Arkansas ca. 1836, and he remained a devoted citizen for the duration of his long and productive life.

Andrew Hunter pioneered the early development of the Methodist Church in Arkansas. He has been called the "patriarch of Arkansas Methodism... the most influential man ever among us."

Not only did he serve as an early patriarch of Methodism, Reverend Hunter also pioneered the way over much of Arkansas' sparsely settled hinterlands, providing a path not only for the Methodist Church, but also for permanent settlers. Hunter served as President of the State Senate in 1866. While in the Legislature, Hunter was elected to the U. S. Senate, but a dispute over the oath of office prevented him from serving his term. In 1873 some leaders of the Democratic Party in Arkansas asked him to consider seeking the nomination to the Governor's Office against Baxter, but he refused to leave his ministry.

Andrew Hunter was born in Ireland on December 26, 1813, to John and Rachel Hunter. The Hunters immigrated to York County, Pennsylvania, two years later. He moved to Missouri to attend college, but he attended classes for only a short time. In 1835 he began teaching at a small school in Manchester, Missouri.

While teaching in Missouri, he replied to a letter plea from the South Indian Missionary District asking for teachers for the Indian schools. Hunter received his assignment to Hitchity Town, near Muskogee, Oklahoma. In early 1836 he was licensed to preach by the Methodist Quarterly Conference composed almost entirely of Indians. Hunter was received in absentia by the Arkansas Methodist Conference in Batesville in November, 1836, after his successful work among the Choctaw Indians in northwest Arkansas.

During Hunter's long tenure as a Methodist minister, he occupied every position in the conference from Circuit Rider to Acting Bishop. Dr. Hunter represented Arkansas at the famous New York City Conference in 1844 which separated the Methodist Church into northern and southern sections.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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Dr. Hunter served almost every segment of the state at one time or another during his active ministry. He worked at Little Rock, Batesville, Fayetteville, Camden, Arkadelphia, Tulip, Pine Bluff, Pleasant Grove and Benton, plus other towns located within these stations. He seldom remained at one station longer than one or two years. As a result, his influence was felt statewide. Several counties claim the illustrious minister as a pioneer, including Saline County.

In a sense, because of his work, Dr. Hunter had no permanent home. Of all the places he resided, however, his homestead near the old Collegeville community probably was the closest to a permanent home. The History of Methodism in Arkansas lists Collegeville as Dr. Hunter's home. Dr. Hunter's wife died at the old Saline County homestead in 1896. He lived with his son in Little Rock after her death until his own death in 1902. He was buried beside his wife in Oaklawn Cemetery in Little Rock.

Andrew Hunter's contributions to Arkansas were varied and wide-felt. He was very instrumental in establishing the Methodist Church in Arkansas. His early pioneering efforts also served to open up areas for settlement throughout the state. In addition Dr. Hunter became influential in Arkansas politics and was considered a very prominent citizen throughout the state. He was instrumental in the founding of numerous schools and seminaries, and worked among the Indians to promote education, as well as religion.

The only remaining structure associated with Dr. Hunter is the Hunter House in Saline County. For this reason the Hunter House is historically significant to Arkansas.

- 1. James A. Anderson. Centennial History of Arkansas Methodism (Benton:
- L. B. White Printing Company, 1935), p.59.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES	
Anderson, James. Centennial History of Arkansas Metho	odism. Benton: L. B. White
Company, 1935.	
Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. I, "Papers of Emin	
, Vol. II, Graves of Emin	nent Men." p. 269.
, Vol. III, 1945. Benton Courier, Centennial Edition.	
Bellton Courter, Centennial Edicion.	
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Maria Lember 1	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING	STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE CODE COUNTY	CODE
STATE CODE COUNTY	, CODE
FORM PREPARED BY	^ ^
NAME / TITLE	
Donna DuVall, Historian	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	9-14-76
STREET & NUMBER 300 West Markham	TELEPHONE 501-371-1639
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Little Rock	Arkansas
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER (	
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WI	ITHIN THE STATE IS:
NATIONAL STATE	LOCAL
As the desirence of State Misterio Bresseration Office for the National Misterio Bresseration	
As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation normal Register and certify the	
criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.	nat it has been evaluated according to the
1/-	M
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley	me Da XI Can
TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer	DATE 9-14-76
	J.,,,, J.14.,0
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL R	REGISTER
THEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL R	REGISTER
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST:	

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PAGE 1

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"Sketch of Dr. Andrew Hunter." General Conference Clippings. On file at Arkansas History Commission.

Telephone interview. Mrs. John Dearborn. May, 1976.

Telephone interview. Mrs. Ted Boswell, Sr., May, 1976.

Telephone interview. Mrs. Margaret Ramsey, May, 1976.

Washington Telegraph. Excerpt from Mr. Carrigan's file. On file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

NAME

HISTORIC Andrew Hunter House

AND/OR COMMON

Hunter-Dearborn House

**LOCATION** 

CITY, TOWN Bryant

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Saline

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE 1:24,000

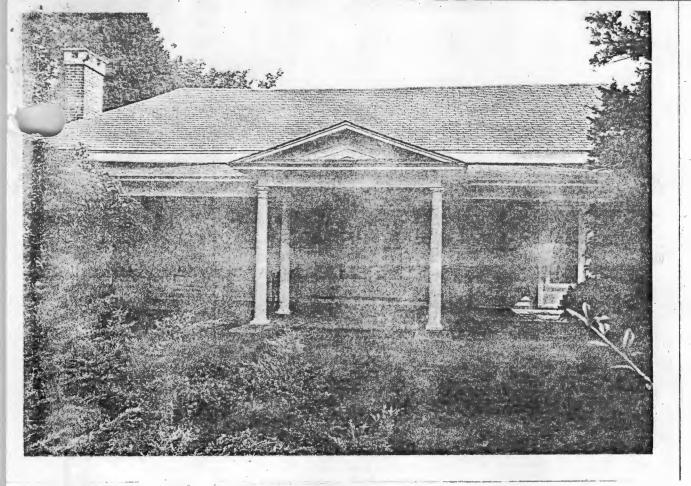
DATE 1961

**4** REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 3464-75



Form No. 10-301a

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### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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NAME

HISTORIC

Andrew Hunter House

AND/OR COMMON

Hunter-Dearborn House

LOCATION

CITY. TOWN Bryant

X VICINITY OF

COUNTY Saline STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Jack Doss

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program NEGATIVE FILED AT

**IDENTIFICATION** 

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

East Elevation

PHOTO NO.

