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: _Adams, John and Hazel, House_____________
   - Other names/site number: _N/A_____________________________
   - Name of related multiple property listing: _Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma________

2. **Location**
   - Street & number: _108 Fairmont Road____________________
   - City or town: _Vinita_  State: _Oklahoma__ County: _Craig__
   - Not For Publication: [N/A]  Vicinity: [N/A]

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    ___ statewide    _X__local
   - Applicable National Register Criteria:
     ___A    ___B    _X__C    ___D

   __________________________________________________________________________
   Signature of certifying official/Title: ______________________________          Date
   State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
   __________________________________________________________________________
   In my opinion, the property __ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.
   __________________________________________________________________________
   Signature of commenting official: ________________          Date
   Title: _______________________________  State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
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 ___
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Craig County, Oklahoma

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
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Number of contributing resources previously in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling
7. Description
Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
OTHER/Organic

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE

Foundation: Concrete
Roof: Asphalt
Walls: Concrete, Wood, Stone/Limestone

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
Designed by architect Bruce Goff, the John and Hazel Adams House is located in Vinita, Craig County, Oklahoma. The house has a twelve-sided polygonal plan with a recessed area around a fireplace at its center. Skylights, wrapped around the chimney, illuminate the interior with natural light. The ceiling is constructed of tongue-and-groove wood decking and exposed blue-painted beams. Recessed triangular windows occur at each corner of the twelve-sided house. Exterior walls are clad in a rough-faced limestone combined with concrete faux stone. The built-up roof combines a flat roof over a private, perimeter zone with a pitched roof over the central public zone. The fascia is white with an exaggerated, spike-like scupper above each window opening. The Adams House is in good condition and retains a high degree of architectural integrity.

Narrative Description

Exterior

The John and Hazel Adams House is located at 108 Fairmont Road in Vinita, Craig County, Oklahoma, in a modest, post-World War II suburban neighborhood comprised mostly of Ranch-styled houses. The site grade is generally level and characterized by a turf lawn and several
mature trees. A non-historic chain link fence demarcates parts of the north and east sides of the property.

Designed by Bruce Goff in 1961, the one-story house has a polygonal plan with its interior volume defined by a vertical axis (Photograph 1). On the exterior, each face of the twelve-sided plan is articulated by recessed triangular windows at their joints set in deep reveals. Further emphasis is given to the juncture of these elements by battering the side walls of each of the twelve components to form an angled pattern. It is this rhythm of articulated joints that enriches the simple geometric form (Photographs 2 – 5). Exterior walls of the components are clad with a combination of gray limestone and concrete faux stone that are mixed together and laid in an irregular pattern. The components, each defining one face of the polygon, have a sense of massiveness for each appears as a deep angled pylon that is truncated. And each is separated from the other by transparent angled planes of glass. The cornice of the flat built-up roof overhangs the reveals and the juncture of each is emphasized by an exaggerated, spike-like scupper (Photograph 3). The open carport spanning the concrete driveway is attached to a freestanding angled pylon of stone, which contains a small storage closet (Photographs 6 – 7). A metal chimney, rising from the center of the polygon, is surrounded by a continuous skylight. Both the chimney and skylight are enclosed with a twelve-sided pyramid of wire mesh.

**Interior**

The interior of the house is organized in concentric layers around a dominant vertical axis at the center of the polygon (Photographs 9 – 10). This axis is enriched by a variety of elements, which include a recessed area with built-in seating, raised hearth faced with stone, and a suspended cylindrical chimney with a flared hood. Built of metal and painted blue, the chimney is surrounded by a twelve-sided skylight. This element is further enriched by the radial pattern of twelve wood beams, also painted blue, which are framed to a compression ring circling the chimney. The roof enclosing this centralized public area of the house has a steep pitch while the roof of the perimeter area is flat. Ceiling surfaces throughout the house are exposed structural wood decking with a clear, natural finish.

The perimeter layer of the polygon accommodates a variety of other activities and the distinction between the inner public zone and the outer private zone is magnified by the change in the pitch of the roof and a ring of interior columns. Both the flat roof and columns give definition to space for entry, kitchen, dining, bedrooms, and bathrooms. Some are open to the inner space, one is closed, and others can be modified by opening or closing the accordion-style/folding wood partitions. The elements at the outside edge of the perimeter zone—defined by the exterior wall—are either closets or alcoves (Photographs 11 – 12).

**Noncontributing outbuilding**

A noncontributing outbuilding is set on the northeast edge of the property (Photographs 6, 8). This one-story, studio/office is set on a concrete slab foundation, has a rectangular plan, and features painted, board-and-batten walls and a shed roof with wide eaves. The roof eave extends
past the west-facing façade to form a wide porch supported by two metal columns. Triangular windows are set at each corner of the building except for on the east (rear) elevation, acknowledging the design elements of the neighboring house. Constructed sometime after 1999, the outbuilding is a noncontributing resource to the property because it was built after the period of significance.

*Alterations/Integrity*

The house retains excellent historic integrity with few alterations. Flat portions of the roof have been given a slight pitch to facilitate drainage. This modification is minor and does not compromise the integrity of the original design. The fascia was originally white-painted wood and featured a decorative motif of applied triangles that followed the perimeter of the house and carport. This feature was removed sometime after 1999. The fascia is still white, but the material has changed.
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.
- [x] 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
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1961

Significant Dates
1961

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
GOFF, BRUCE/ARCHITECT
Adams, John and Hazel, House                   Craig County, Oklahoma
Name of Property                               County and State

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 John and Hazel Adams House, built in 1961 in a post-World War II suburb of Vinita, Oklahoma, represents Bruce Goff’s interest in centroidal design. The major architectural significance of the Adams House is the interior. The exterior is modest and gives little indication of the drama of the interior volume. Defined by a centroidal plan configuration, the twelve-sided house is zoned on the interior by an inner public space surrounded by a perimeter layer of private space. The central feature of the public area is an arrangement of elements that define a vertical axis. These elements include a sunken conversation area, fireplace, hood, and skylight that are visually engaged with a radiating pattern of wood beams supporting the pitched roof. The composition also incorporates other elements of Goff’s design pattern, such as a reliance on geometry as an ordering device, folding wood partitions to either open or close bedrooms, and a restriction of views to the exterior. Moreover, the alternating surfaces of the façades—opaque and transparent—reveal Goff’s propensity to articulate components of the design. In the Adams House, it is the closets that define perimeter walls. The Adams House is a good example of the post-World War II architecture of Bruce Goff and is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C, as the work of a master architect (see Section E of “Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma”).

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

NOTE:
A draft National Register nomination for the Adams House was originally prepared in 1999 by Professor Arn Henderson, FAIA, Professor Emeritus of the University of Oklahoma Christopher C. Gibbs College of Architecture, to accompany submission of the “Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma” Multiple Property Listing (NRIS #64500490). However, the draft nomination was not submitted for review to the State Historic Preservation Review Committee and it remained on file at the OK/SHPO office.

A renowned scholar, designer, and historic preservationist, Professor Henderson passed away on June 27, 2019. The Narrative Description, Narrative Statement of Significance, and respective summary paragraphs and bibliography derive from the 1999 draft nomination. The research and writing is credited to Professor Henderson, with technical edits and updates completed by Evelyn Moxley of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Historical Background

The John and Hazel Adams House was constructed from the third design Goff developed. The initial design of 1959 had an affinity with the Gutman House of Gulfport, Mississippi, designed the same year, for both had a triangular plan and both were raised above the ground. When John
Adams first contacted Goff, he was apologetic that his site was adjacent to a radio broadcasting tower that he owned. But that feature appealed strongly to Goff and the design he developed employed structural masts anchored by cables. Adams decided he wanted another site and purchased a conventional lot in a suburban neighborhood known as the Fairmont Road Subdivision.

The Fairmont Road Subdivision was established west/northwest of downtown Vinita in 1955 on the original land allotment of Mary Weaver, enrolled as a Delaware Cherokee by the Dawes Commission (Dawes Roll No. 5). In the late 19th century (and until Oklahoma statehood in 1907), Vinita was in Indian Territory and is located in the Cherokee Nation (Figure 18).¹

Goff redesigned the house, giving the plan a polygon shape with cylindrical storage units projecting from the corners. Bids were excessive; therefore, Goff simplified the scheme and made it smaller. It was this revised scheme that was built in 1961 (Figures 13 – 17). After construction was completed, it was home to John Quincy and Hazel Jean Adams until their divorce in 1967. The house was then sold to Frederick D. and Mary Anne Whiting—the latter of whom owned the home until her death in October 2022.

Architectural Significance

The plan organization of the Adams House is derivative from a hypothetical design of 1922. This earlier centroidal scheme defined the public area as an inner zone that was layered by a zone of private spaces at the perimeter. It was a theme Goff turned to many times, with numerous variations. In the Adams design, the centroidal theme was combined with another thematic concept, one of giving independent expression to the service components. It is the band of closets that articulate the exterior wall, much like the Frank House of 1955. In both designs, windows are deeply recessed and establish a rhythm of alternating elements, which define the façade.

The Adams House has been ignored by most architectural historians and writers as it is a modest, low-cost design. However, it is the only surviving, intact residential example in Oklahoma where the design, in its entirety, is based on a centroidal plan organization.² The interior of the Adams House illustrates with remarkable clarity Goff’s ability to achieve a dynamic spatial composition by zoning for different activities with a plan based on centroidal geometry.³

The exterior of the Adams House is subdued and reveals little of the spatial drama of the interior. It is the continuum of elements that define the vertical axis in the public space that becomes the

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¹ Abstract of Title, Prepared by Smith Brothers Abstract & Title Co., LLC, Vinita, Oklahoma, 2023.
² Professor Henderson went on to write the following sentence in the draft nomination: “In the U.S., only seven other extant designs by Goff rely on this mode of plan organization.” We presume this statement was in reference to Section E, Page 42 of the “Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma” Multiple Property Listing, where he mentioned several other notable properties that relied on a centroidal plan, including Hopewell Baptist Church in Edmond, Oklahoma County (NRIS #020001018).
³ For more information on Goff’s utilization of centroidal geometry, refer to Section E, Pages 42-43 of the “Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma” Multiple Property Listing.
focus of attention. For many elements are linked together: the floor plane is modulated by recessing it and covering it with carpet to form built-in seating; the raised circular hearth provides a platform for fire; the form of the blue metal hood and chimney pipe, suspended and floating in space, is amplified by light as it penetrates the large skylight above but it is also integrated with the composition by the radiating pattern of blue-painted beams framing to its collar. The arrangement of all of these elements, contained by a pitched roof creating a larger volume, clearly delineate the public area of the house. By contrast, the flat roof enclosing the private and more intimate activities of living magnifies the zoning pattern. And there are other characteristics defining Goff’s compositional pattern: views to the exterior are quite restricted; bedrooms can be either opened or closed by folding wood partitions; and the crystalline dodecahedron-shaped plan reveals the importance of geometry in Goff’s aesthetic.

The John and Hazel Adams House is a good example of the post-World War II architecture of Bruce Goff. It is important because it was a low-budget design that effectively illustrates the concept of a centroidal plan configuration in its most direct interpretation. The house is eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion C as the work of a master architect under the “Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma” multiple property listing.
9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

**Books**


**Journal Articles**


**Other**


Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property

Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State

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:

  X State Historic Preservation Office
___ Other State agency
___ Federal agency
___ Local government
___ University
___ Other
  Name of repository: ________________________________

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): ___

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  less than 1 acre

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: 36.642169  Longitude: -95.174140

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

Block 2, Lot 2, Fairmont Road Subdivision, Vinita, Oklahoma (S16 T25N R20E).
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the property historically associated with the John and Hazel Adams House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: _Professor Emeritus Arnold “Arn” Henderson, FAIA (edits by Evelyn Moxley)_
organization: _____Oklahoma Historical Society________________________________
street & number: __800 Nazih Zuhdi Drive ____________________________________
city or town: _Oklahoma City________ state: ___OK________ zip code: __73105__
email: ___Evelyn.Moxley@history.ok.gov_____________________________________
telephone: ___405-474-1220________________________________________________
date: ___July 7, 2023  _____________________________________________________

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:  John and Hazel Adams House

City or Vicinity:  Vinita
Adams, John and Hazel, House  
Name of Property

County: Craig  
State: Oklahoma

Photographer: Evelyn Moxley

Date Photographed: July 3, 2023

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

**Photo 0001:** Front (north) elevation, camera facing south.
**Photo 0002:** Northeast elevation with side porch depicted, camera facing southwest.
**Photo 0003:** Southwest elevation, camera facing northeast.
**Photo 0004:** Rear (southeast) elevation, camera facing north/northwest.
**Photo 0005:** East elevation, camera facing west.
**Photo 0006:** Front (north) elevation, camera facing south. Wider shot to depict location of noncontributing building.
**Photo 0007:** West/northwest elevation, camera facing southeast.
**Photo 0008:** West elevation, camera facing east/southeast. Detail of noncontributing building.
**Photo 0009:** Interior, view of central fireplace. Camera facing northeast.
**Photo 0010:** Interior, view of central fireplace, living area, and kitchen. Camera facing west/northwest.
**Photo 0011:** Interior, view of built-in storage closets in bedrooms. Camera facing north.
**Photo 0012:** Interior, view of front door and entry. Camera facing northwest.

Additional items:

**Figure 0013:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect (Page 1 of 5).
**Figure 0014:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect (Page 2 of 5).
**Figure 0015:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect (Page 3 of 5).
**Figure 0016:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect (Page 4 of 5).
**Figure 0017:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect (Page 5 of 5).
**Figure 0018:** Plat Map of allotments in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. Depicts the town of Vinita and surrounding area. Township 25 North, Range 20 East.
The John and Hazel Adams House is located in Vinita, Craig County, Oklahoma. Downtown Vinita is approximately one mile east. US Highway 60 / Oklahoma Highway 66 is approximately one mile south.
The John and Hazel Adams House is located at 108 Fairmont Road, Block 2, Lot 2 of the Fairmont Road Subdivision in Vinita (approximate property boundaries indicated in red). The property includes one contributing building (the Adams House) and one noncontributing outbuilding.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)
**Figure 13:** Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect. Sheet 1 of 5. Plot Plan and Heating & A.C. Layout.
Figure 14: Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect. Sheet 2 of 5. Foundation Plan.
Figure 15: Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect. Sheet 3 of 5. Floor Plan and Elevation.
Figure 16: Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect. Sheet 4 of 5. Details and Section.
Figure 17: Architectural Plan for the Adams House by Bruce Goff, architect. Sheet 5 of 5.
Specifications.
Figure 18: Plat Map of allotments in the Cherokee Nation, Indian Territory. Depicts the town of Vinita and the surrounding area (Township 25 North, Range 20 East of the Indian Meridian). The Mary Weaver allotment is outlined in red.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 0001: Front (north) elevation, camera facing south.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 0002: Northeast elevation with side porch depicted, camera facing southwest.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 0003: Southwest elevation, camera facing northeast.
Adams, John and Hazel, House  
Name of Property  
Craig County, Oklahoma  
County and State  
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma  
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number  Photographs  Page  4

Photo 0004: Rear (southeast) elevation, camera facing north/northwest.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number  Photographs  Page  5

Photo 0005: East elevation, camera facing west.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 0006: Front (north) elevation, camera facing south. Wider shot to depict location of noncontributing building.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Photo 0007: West/northwest elevation, camera facing southeast.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photographs Page 8

Photo 0008: West elevation, camera facing east/southeast. Detail of noncontributing building.
Photo 0009: Interior, view of central fireplace. Camera facing northeast.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number  Photographs  Page  10

Photo 0010: Interior, view of central fireplace, living area, and kitchen. Camera facing west/northwest.
Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photographs Page 11

Adams, John and Hazel, House
Name of Property
Craig County, Oklahoma
County and State
Resources Designed by Bruce Goff in
Oklahoma
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Photographs Page 12

Photo 0012: Interior, view of front door and entry. Camera facing northwest.