

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Alcorn-Pickrel House

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 200 North 10th Street

City or town: Ponca City, State: OK County: Kay

Not For Publication: x Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

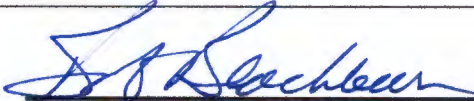
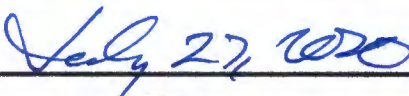
I hereby certify that this X nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

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

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X 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

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<p>_____ Signature of commenting official:</p>	<p>_____ Date</p>
<p>_____ Title :</p>	<p>_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

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

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Prairie School

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stucco

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

The Alcorn-Pickrel House at 200 North 10th Street in Ponca City, Kay County, Oklahoma is a two-story stucco Prairie School style residence. It resides on the northwest corner of North 10th Street and East Cleveland Avenue, across from a former golf course. A newer housing development has been built on the former golf course, thus altering the historic setting of the neighborhood. Built in 1918 for John S. Alcorn, the house has an attached two car garage along with a separate carriage house. Kansas City, Missouri architect Elmer Boillot designed the house for Alcorn. The high style residence retains a high degree of historic integrity both inside and outside.

Narrative Description

Site

The Alcorn-Pickrel house resides on the southeast corner of North 10th Street and East Cleveland Avenue. The square block is bounded on the north by East Chestnut Avenue, on the south by East Cleveland Street, on the east by North 10th Street, and on the west by North 9th Street. The square block is populated by homes of similar scale and age with detached garages. The residence sits on a grassy corner lot with large deciduous trees and foundation plantings. It is

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surrounded by foundation shrubbery with the north end of the lot demarcated by a continuous hedge row. Neighborhood streets are paved with vitreous brick.

East Façade

The two-story Alcorn-Pickrel house has a shallow hipped roof capping a truncated “T” shaped floorplan. The residence is clad with stucco and painted white. The main entrance or front door is at the north end of the east façade and is sheltered by a projecting shallow hipped roof supported by heavy square columns. Large, shallow circular planters rest on top of broad stucco pedestals flanking the main entry steps. The porch roof over the main entry door has a very wide overhang. A concrete porch deck extends across the east façade and is surrounded by a stucco knee wall partially encloses the porch and open terrace. A shallow roof projection extends above the window lines over the terrace. With minimal detailing, and sheltered by foundation shrubs, the porch is minimally visible. Just south of the main entry doors on the east façade is a set of paired multi-light French doors with side lights that access the porch/terrace from the living room. A set of three, three-over-three, hung windows is at the south end of the façade. The second story is demarcated by a beltcourse that runs the perimeter of the residence. The beltcourse is located approximately two-thirds of the way up the façade which contributes to the horizontal feeling of the architectural style. This is further enhanced by the shallow hip roof with wide overhanging eaves. The second story windows are set in recessed panels on this façade. A total of eight windows punctuate the wall with a three-over-three and four-over-four light configurations.

South Elevation

The south elevation shows the T-shaped floor plan with an “L” projecting from the center bay of the house. Two sets of three hung windows the east end of the south elevation are composed of three-over-three lights. One grouping faces south and the second grouping faces west but wraps around the front bay of the house. Remaining fenestration on this elevation consists of paired lights. The paired windows are double hung with an unusual configuration of four-over-four lights. However, each light has the horizontal muntin at the top quarter of the top sash and the bottom quarter of the bottom sash, expressing an asymmetrical window configuration. There is a recessed area at the west end with a pair of small, modern, six-over-six, hung windows with a flower box below. The area appears to be same height as the historic windows and coincides with the expanded kitchen. A series of horizontal banding on this elevation contributes to the horizontal feeling of the Prairie style. A double horizontal band at the foundation, another double band above the first-floor windows and a band below the second story windows, along with recessed panels add to the texture and complexity of the elevation. A path leads from the sidewalk to the backyard at this side of the residence. The top of a chimney penetrates the roof in roughly the center of the main bulk of the elevation.

West (Rear) Elevation

The west elevation is the back of the house and this area of the residence includes the kitchen. A pedestrian door with adjacent rectangular window along with two windows on the second floor punctuate this elevation. A small balcony with stucco pony wall caps a projecting kitchen bay. The balcony is accessed by a tall double hung window from a second story bedroom. Also in the west elevation are paired paneled garage doors. The two-car garage projects from the north

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elevation. Automobile doors on both the east and west sides of the garage allowed the driver to enter from the east off of Tenth Street, drive through and exit on the west curving around and onto Cleveland Avenue.

North Elevation

The relatively blank side of the attached garage is punctuated only by a group of three hung windows with a six-over-one light configuration. The north elevation of the main body of the residence has a stucco clad chimney that projects above the roofline. Fenestration along this elevation consists of three units on the west side of the chimney on the second floor, one on the east side, and two six-over-six hung windows in the west end of the first story; one smaller and one of the typical size. The first story is mostly consumed by the garage and the side of the front porch.

Interior

Throughout the interior of the house, an abundance of original historic features remains. Original blueprints of the building identify the first-floor spaces as the living room, sunroom, dining room, kitchen, and maid's room. The attached garage and terrace are original to the property. A fireplace in the living room retains its tile surround and wood mantel. The larger fireplace in the formal living room on the first floor has applied molding in a leaf swag and urn detail with stepped trim work while the second fireplace in the upstairs sitting room has a simpler, less ornamented mantel. The kitchen at the back of the house has been expanded to incorporate the former maids' quarters into a more modern, functional workspace. However, throughout the first-floor porcelain and metal light fixtures remain, original woodwork is intact, and built-in cabinetry is found throughout. Wood trim around doors, crown molding, and baseboards has all been painted white. Original glass doorknobs abound throughout the interior. The trim and applied detail in the mantel is documented in the original blueprints. Paired wood and multi-light French doors lead onto the front terrace and back patio. The original stairs with railings and balusters remain in good condition with stylized pineapple finials.

Three bedrooms and a sitting room occupy the second floor. The northwest guest bathroom has original subway tile walls, bathtub, and fixtures. The master bath has the original tub and sink. A second fireplace is located here, and though less formally ornamented than the first-floor fireplace, retains a simple grace that fits the period of the house. Details of the woodwork, trim, fireplace mantel, windows and doors are all documented in the original plans. Built-in cabinetry in the second-floor bedrooms is copious and all original baseboards and crown molding remain in place.

The most significant alteration to the interior of the residence is the expansion of the kitchen at the back of the house. This area historically was used for a maid's quarters but has since been incorporated to a modern kitchen.

The house retains a high degree of physical integrity throughout the interior and exterior. It is in excellent condition and its physical condition expresses its historic significance as an excellent example of Prairie School construction in Ponca City. Though the setting is slightly altered as the

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house historically overlooked a golf course that has since been converted to housing, the residential nature of the neighborhood is intact.

Outbuilding

A historically associated outbuilding resides in the northwest corner of the backyard, near the fence line. The simple building has a rectangular footprint with pyramidal roof. The roof eaves overhang the body of the building with exposed rafter tails. A single entry door at the east elevation accesses the interior. One double hung window (one-over-one) is at the north elevation. The south elevation has two windows. One truncated, smaller scale under the eave line and one full-height at the east end of the elevation. These are both one-over-one, wood, double hung windows. Stucco and wood clapboards with vertical corner posts complete the façade. This outbuilding is contemporary to the construction of the house and is considered a contributing resource.

Conclusion

The Alcorn-Pickrel house exemplifies many of the significant design features of the style. The low-pitched hipped roof, stucco cladding, porch and terrace spaces, and horizontal banding all speak to the features that define the style. The window and built in cabinetry inside the house provide surviving examples of the Prairie School interior design elements. It provided one of Marland Oil's top vice president's a modern and modest home and has retained a high level of integrity both on the exterior and interior.¹

Though Prairie School style is not uncommon in Ponca City, the Alcorn-Pickrel House represents one of the best examples of the style applied in a more academic and high style form. It is also one of the only documented architect designed Prairie School residences in the city. Nine architectural surveys have been conducted in Ponca City, two of which were downtown surveys. Prairie School residences are present in most, but not all of those surveys. In the *Gateway Historic District Intensive Level Architectural/Historic Survey* Prairie School was identified as one of the most popular styles in the neighborhood. However, throughout Ponca City, the Prairie School was mostly seen applied to the standard American Foursquare or Prairie Box house type. Details in the shape and configuration of the columns, front porch massing, low pitched roof with overhanging eaves, and window configurations all contributed to influencing a style through applied details on a simple house form. Architect Solomon Layton designed a residence at 402 North Sixth Street in the Gateway neighborhood that is classified as Prairie Style, but it has influences of several other styles. With a red clay tile gabled roof and smooth stucco finish, the two-story residence has strong Mediterranean overtones in its stylistic details.²

Boillot's work on the Alcorn-Pickrel House seems more strongly influenced by designs like Frank Lloyd Wright's residences. Boillot clung to the tenants of the style throughout the exterior,

¹ McAlester, *A Field Guide*, 440.

² Marlys Bush Thurber. *Gateway Historic District Intensive Level Architectural/Historic Survey*. (Ponca City, Oklahoma), September 2001.

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in the fenestration design, roof configuration and massing, leaving a pure example of Prairie School architecture that is unparalleled in the city.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

Ca. 1918

Significant Dates

Ca. 1918

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Elmer Boillot

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

The Alcorn-Pickrel house is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion C for its Prairie School architectural style. John S. Alcorn hired Elmer Boillot to design a modern home. Influenced by the Prairie School style that was popular in the early twentieth century, especially in the Midwest, Boillot designed a two-story home on the lot. The house exhibits architectural features common to the Prairie School style outside and inside. In the little over 100 years that the building has existed, very little changes have occurred to the exterior and interior of the home, thus the home retains its architectural integrity. The period of significance is 1918 covering the construction of the house, which coincided with the coincided with the oil boom of Ponca City and Oklahoma.

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

Context History/ Early History of Ponca City

The City of Ponca City began as part of the settling of Indian lands in the late nineteenth century. The northern strip of land west of the 96th meridian began as what was known as the Cherokee Outlet. This stretch of land contained six million acres of prime grazing land. After removing the Cherokees to Indian Territory in the 1830s, the government assigned the tribe land for hunting purposes.³ The continued demand for the land by whites distressed the tribes and the federal government. In 1893, the government made a deal with the Cherokee. It would remove all intruders from Cherokee lands in Eastern Oklahoma and would allow the Cherokee to establish claims in the outlet if the tribe permitted the government to open it for white settlement. On August 19, 1893, President Grover Cleveland issued a proclamation opening the Cherokee Outlet to white settlers.⁴

The lure of the land in the newly opened Oklahoma territory lured many people like Burton Seymour Barnes. Barnes, a native of Michigan headed to Arkansas City, Kansas for the opening of the Cherokee Outlet. Barnes located the perfect site for a town and on September 21 begin selling lots for \$2.00 each. On September 21, after settling the various claim disputes, the founder held a drawing among the 2,300 people who purchased lots and new town of Ponca was born. That evening, the new citizens of Ponca elected Barnes their first mayor.⁵

³ Louis Seymour Barnes, "The Founding of Ponca City," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 34 no. 2(1957): 154; Alvin O. Turner, "Cherokee Outlet Opening" *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History* www.okhistory.org/pubhistory/enc/entry.php accessed 2/23/2019; Mary Jane Ward, "Report on the Intensive-Level Survey of The Historic Churches in Ponca City," August 2012, 8; C. D. Northcutt, William C. Ziegenhain and Bob Burke, *Palace on the Prairie*, Ponca City, OK: Marland Mansion, Inc., 2005): 26.

⁴ Barnes, "The Founding of Ponca City," 154; Turner, "Cherokee Outlet Opening"; Ward, "Report on the Intensive-Level Survey," 8; Northcutt, *Palace on the Prairie*, 23, 26.

⁵ Barnes, "The Founding," 154, Turner, "Cherokee Outlet"; John Brooks Walton and Kathy Adams. *Historic Homes of Ponca City and Kay County*. (Tulsa: J.B.W Publications, 2004): 11.

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Like most of the land run boom towns, Ponca City proliferated. Within the first two months, the city boasted a two-room schoolhouse and a Methodist church. Barnes knew that for the town to continue to thrive, it would need a railroad stop. The business leaders of the city successfully petitioned for a railroad spur into the town. On December 19, 1893, Ponca City officially incorporated and three months later the city held its first municipal elections.⁶ Ponca City became vital to Kay county's success because it became the county's commercial center. By 1910, the town featured a beautiful city hall and 4,000 people claimed it as their home.

Discovery of Oil and the Economic Boom of Ponca City

It was the discovery of oil and natural gas that brought an economic boom to Ponca City. Oil exploration began in Indian Territory in the 1890s. Quickly, explorers struck oil in Chelsea in 1889, Muskogee in 1894 and near Bartlesville in 1897. Because the land belonged to the native tribes, little could be done to further production until the Dawes Commission allowed individual Indians to lease their properties. In 1904, drillers struck oil in Red Fork and a year later at Glenn Pool. These ushered in the oil boom. By statehood in 1907, Oklahoma produced forty-three and half million barrels of oil.⁷

It was during this time that Ernest Whitworth Marland came to Oklahoma in search of opportunities in oil and gas. In 1895, Marland purchased an oil interest and coal mining leases in Pennsylvania. He quickly found success in oil and coal. In 1907, Marland lost everything in the economic panic that hit the nation. Arriving in the Cherokee Outlet in 1908, Marland visited the Miller Brothers, who in the early 1890s, began operating the 101 Ranch (NRIS #73001560), a large and successful cattle ranch that stretched across 110,000 acres near present-day Ponca City.⁸ In February 1909, the future oilman staked the location of his first test well and struck oil a year later.⁹

Quickly, Marland formed the 101 Ranch Oil Company. Marland's success rested on his use of geology and science to locate the oil. This was a first in oil history. In 1912, the oilman began constructing a refinery in Ponca City and formed the Marland Oil Company which took over the 101 Ranch Oil operations. The new company operated over twenty wells. By 1913, E. W.

⁶ Barnes, "The Founding," 159; Walton, "Historic Homes," 12.

⁷ Faulk, Odie B. and William D. Welge, "Oklahoma: A Rich Heritage," (California: American Historical Press, 2004), 186.

⁸ "Ponca City History" www.poncacity.com/history accessed 1/12/2019; Mary Jane Ward, "Report on the Intensive-Level Survey Of The Historic Churches in Ponca city," August 2012, 8.

⁹ John Joseph Matthews, E. W. *Marland: Life and Death of an Oilman*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1974): 18-20; Northcutt, "Palace on the Prairie," 17, 30, 33-35; "William H. (Bill) McFadden," www.kaycountyinfo/ncoha/legends.htm accessed September 18, 2019; "Ponca City History,"

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Marland's Kay County Gas company became one of the world's most significant natural gas suppliers.¹⁰

The discovery of oil and the formation and construction of Marland's oil company and refinery led to an economic boom in Ponca City. By 1916, the population of the city tripled. The refinery itself included a tank farm, a six-story office building, and 1,000 houses. With the fortunes being made in oil, Marland and his executives began investing in real estate and construction throughout the city. As their fortunes amassed, the city's amenities grew to include public swimming pools, parks, and schools. Marland's success and interest in developing the town he called home, led him to construct over 400 homes in the city. Often, he brought in professional architects like John Duncan Forsyth to design houses and structures. Marland also purchased land to build a free golf course for the community. It was along the golf course that he built homes and sold land to his top executives, such as John Alcorn. By 1920, Ponca City's population reached 7,000 people and averaged one house a day completed construction.¹¹

In 1928, John Pierpont Morgan took control of Marland Oil Company and forced Marland out of his own company. The former oil executive turned to politics. In 1932, Oklahomans elected him to the U. S. House of Representatives, and in 1934, they elected him as their tenth governor. Conoco Oil merged with Marland Oil and continues to impact the community¹²

John Alcorn

John S. Alcorn arrived in Oklahoma around 1915. Like Marland and so many others, the lure of the oil-rich land brought him to the former Cherokee Outlet area. Alcorn began drilling in the area east of present-day Ponca City in Osage County. The field became known as the Burbank Oil Field. After successfully drilling wells, Alcorn formed the Alcorn Oil Company. In May 1920, E. W. Marland drilled a well that produced 150 barrels a day. To capitalize on the oil industry, he had begun purchasing smaller oil companies in the area. As a result, in 1917, Alcorn Oil became a subsidiary of Marland Oil. Marland kept the heads of the companies he purchased, and this included John S. Alcorn. Alcorn became Vice President of the Land Department.

In 1917 John Alcorn purchased the land along Tenth street overlooking golf course from E. W. Marland. The wealth obtained from oil spurred many luxuries in Ponca City, included the ability to hire prominent architects to design custom style homes. Alcorn hired Kansas City architect Elmer Boillet to design his new home on Tenth Street. In 1928, upon hearing of the meeting between E. W. Marland and John P. Morgan, John Alcorn resigned from Marland Oil believing that the merger was a bad idea. In 1930, John S. Alcorn became the director of Southland Royalty Company and three years later the comptroller for Wirt Franklin Petroleum in Oklahoma

¹⁰ John Joseph Matthews, *E. W. Marland: Life and Death of an Oilman*, (Norman: University of Oklahoma, 1974): 18-20; Northcutt, "Palace on the Prairie," 17, 33-35; "Lew Wentz," www.kaycountyinfo/ncoha/legends/htm accessed September 19, 2019; "Ponca City History,"

¹¹ Northcutt, "Palace on the Prairie," 35-42; "Our History," www.conocophillips.com/about-us/ourhistory/1910-1929.htm Accessed March 11, 2019. "Ponca City History,"

¹² "Our History," "Earnest Whitworth 'E.W.' Marland" www.marlandmansion/history.html accessed September 21, 2019.

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City, where he moved. Eventually, Alcorn became an independent oil operator.¹³ Alcorn built a country home with stables outside of Ponca City and in 1928, sold his house on 10th Street.

Fred Pickrel

Fred Pickrel, a native of Jackson, Ohio and a naval academy graduate moved west to Wichita in 1907. In Wichita, Pickrel became involved in managing theaters and booked some of the most famous acts of the time such as Pavalowa and Mordkin, the first Russian dancers to appear in American theaters. In 1918, Pickrel moved to Oklahoma City to manage theaters and to distribute motion pictures across Oklahoma, Texas, and Arkansas. In 1923, he moved to Ponca City to manage three theaters-the Ritz, the Poncan and the Murray. At first, Pickrel, who also managed theaters in Oklahoma City, traveled back and forth from Oklahoma City to Ponca City. His wife, Ferne, wanted a suitable home that would also provide space for live-in help. In 1928, Pickrel purchased Alcorn's home at 200 North 10th Street. The theater manager worked to bring in top acts that were traveling the country to Ponca City. Often as they passed from one large town to another, Pickrel enticed them to stop at one of his theaters. During his time as a manager, he brought John Phillips Sousa's band, actress Eugene Leontovich, and native Oklahoman Will Rogers, among many others. In 1929, keeping up with the times, the theater manager added motion pictures to the theaters. In May 1931, he sold the theaters to a chain operator- Griffith Amusement Company. Pickrel and his family continued to live in the house on 10th Street until 1971, when his widow passed away. Pickrel's granddaughter Bayard Casey inherited the home and continues to live in it.¹⁴

Criteria C

E. W. Marland built not just his own two houses in Ponca City, but numerous other houses and structures. He purchased land and developed subdivisions as well as public buildings. Wanting only the best for the town and people Marland brought in architects from Tulsa, Kansas City, and Oklahoma City. The oilman rewarded his executives, or "lieutenants" as he called them" with land and homes. The beautiful land over-looking this public golf course on 10th street became home to many of his executives. This included John S. Alcorn. In June 1917, E. W. Marland sold four lots along 10th Street and the corner of Cleveland Avenue to John S. Alcorn for \$650.00.¹⁵

¹³ "The Marland Oil Refinery in Ponca City, Oklahoma," *Oil Weekly* November 23, 1922): 92; Bobby D. Weaver, "Burbank Field," *The Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture*, <https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=BU008>; "Our History," www.conocphillips.com/about-us/ourhistory; Walton, "Historic Homes," 86.

¹⁴ "The Ponca City Theaters," Scrapbook, Bayard Casey, Ponca City, Oklahoma; "Pickrel Buys Out Ponca Theaters," Scrapbook, Bayard Casey, Ponca City, Oklahoma; Bayard Casey, Oral interview by Stacy W. Reaves, February 21, 2019, Ponca City, Oklahoma; Walton, "Historic Homes, 63; "Our History," www.poncacity.com; "The Poncan Theater," www.poncantheater.org accessed 2/28/2019.

¹⁵ Kay County Land Deeds, Book 49. Kay County Clerk, Kay County, Oklahoma; "Ponca City History," www.poncacity.com

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Alcorn hired Kansas City architect Elmer Boillot to design his new home. The architect, born in 1881 in Bonnets Mill, Missouri, first worked for the firm of Shepard, Bernard, and Miser in Kansas City. As an apprentice there, he honed his skills in residential architecture. In 1912, Boillet formed his own architectural firm with partner Jessie F. Lauck. The company focused primarily on residential dwellings in the Kansas City area and was responsible for the design of the Sedalia Air Force Base in Missouri and twenty-three homes in the Coleman- Highlands division in Kansas City.¹⁶

Boillot designed a two-story prairie school style home for Alcorn in the Prairie School architectural style. Frank Lloyd Wright and architects in the Chicago area made the style popular and it became prominent in the Midwest. Wright's work on properties like the Robie House became national examples of the style. Unlike previous design eras, Prairie School style buildings emphasized the horizontal with long, low profiles. Dominant horizontal lines rather than vertical elements are a keynote of the style. Even on multi-story buildings the emphasis on flat or shallow hipped roof lines, bands or rows of windows, wide overhanging eaves, and beltcourses across building elevations could achieve the sense of a low horizontal building profile. Prairie School style buildings often incorporated simple but strong massing that often included large chimneys, brick or stucco cladding materials, open floor plans, connected indoor and outdoor spaces, minimal applied ornamentation, and nature inspired details incorporated into woodwork or other interior design features.¹⁷

The Alcorn-Pickrel house exemplifies many of the significant design features of the style. The low-pitched hipped roof, stucco cladding, porch and terrace spaces, and horizontal banding all speak to the features that define the style. The window and built in cabinetry inside the house provide surviving examples of the Prairie School interior design elements. It provided one of Marland Oil's top vice president's a modern and modest home and has retained a high level of integrity both on the exterior and interior.¹⁸

¹⁶ Tom Taylor, "They Built Kansas City: Elmer Boillot and Jessie Lauck" www.flatlandkc.org/people/Tomtaylor accessed 2/18/2019. Alcorn House Blueprints, Bayard Casey, Ponca City, Oklahoma.

¹⁷ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1992):440.

¹⁸ McAlester, *A Field Guide*,440.

Alcorn-Pickrel House
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9. Major Bibliographical References

Primary

Kay County Land Deeds- Kay County Clerk- Newkirk, Oklahoma
Kay County Tax Assessor Records- Newkirk, Oklahoma
Ponca City Democrat- Ponca City Library
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Barnes, L. S. "Founding of Ponca City," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* (Vol. 34, no. 2): 154-162.
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"Our History," www.conocphillips.com/about-us/ourhistory accessed 02/19/2019.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

Alcorn-Pickrel House
Name of Property

Kay, Oklahoma
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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: 36.704700° Longitude: -97.072489°

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting: Northing:

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

The Alcorn-Pickrel property occupies all of lot 20 in block 24 of Ponca City. The house is fronted by 10th street and the south side by E. Cleveland street. Neighboring houses and blocks are on the North and West sides.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries were selected according to the legal property description that encompasses all the contributing features.

Alcorn-Pickrel House
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Stacy W. Reaves, Sr. Historian, Melissa Gengler- Architectural Historian
organization: Reaves Research and Consulting, LLC
street & number: 921 W. G St
city or town: Jenks state: Ok zip code: 74037
e-mail: Reavessw@gmail.com
telephone: 918-527-0514
date: 31 May 2019

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.)

Alcorn-Pickrel House
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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: Alcorn-Pickrel House

City or Vicinity: Ponca City

County: Kay State: Oklahoma

Photographer: Stacy W. Reaves

Date Photographed: 21 February 2019

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

Photo No.	Description	Camera Direction
0001	East Façade	Northwest
0002	South Elevation	North-Northeast
0003	Partial North Elevation	South-Southeast
0004	Garage West Elevation	East
0005	East Façade Entry	West
0006	Close Up of Front Porch and Terrace	South-Southwest
0007	Interior Staircase	North

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Alcorn-Pickrel House

Name of Property
Kay County, Oklahoma

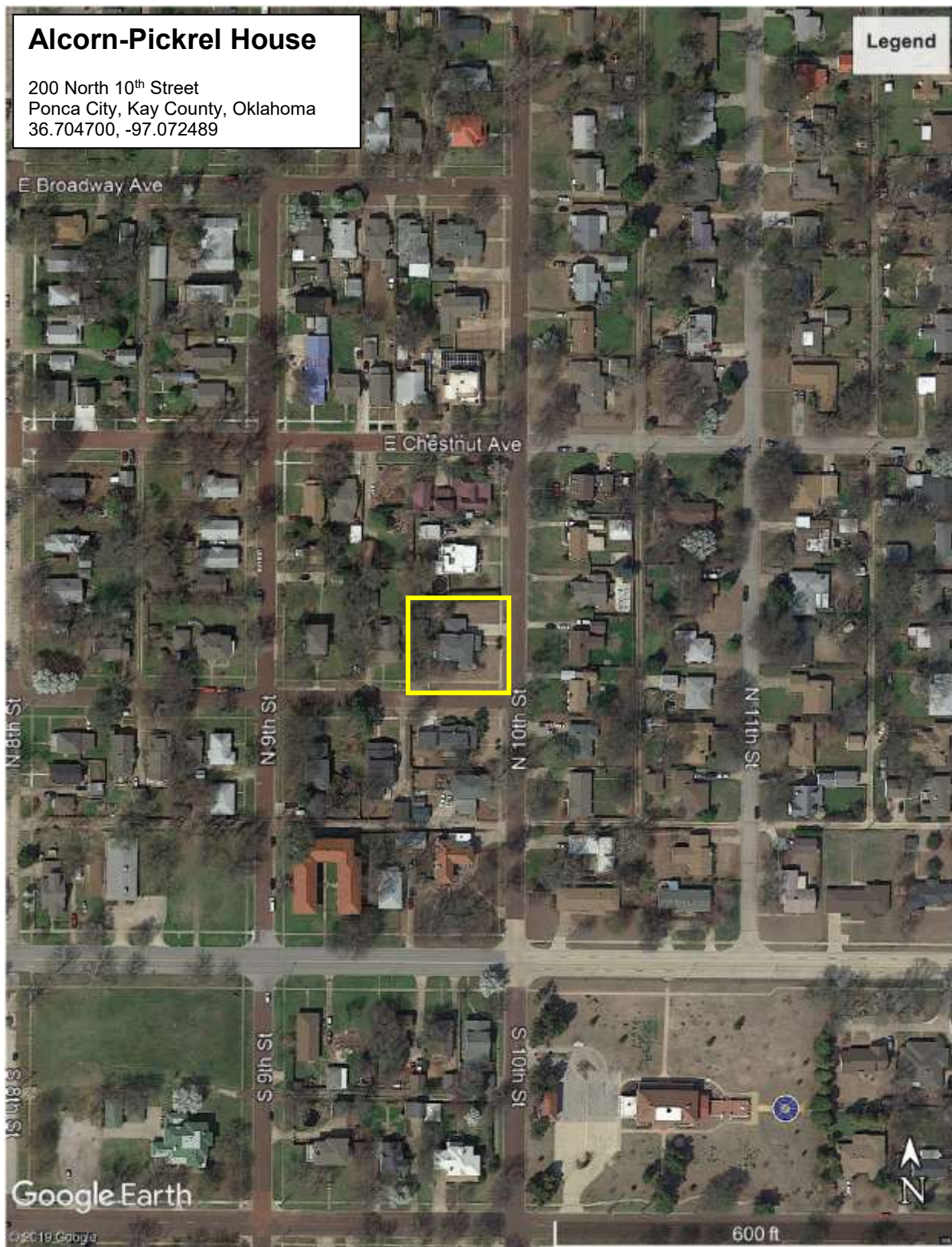
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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Alcorn-Pickrel House

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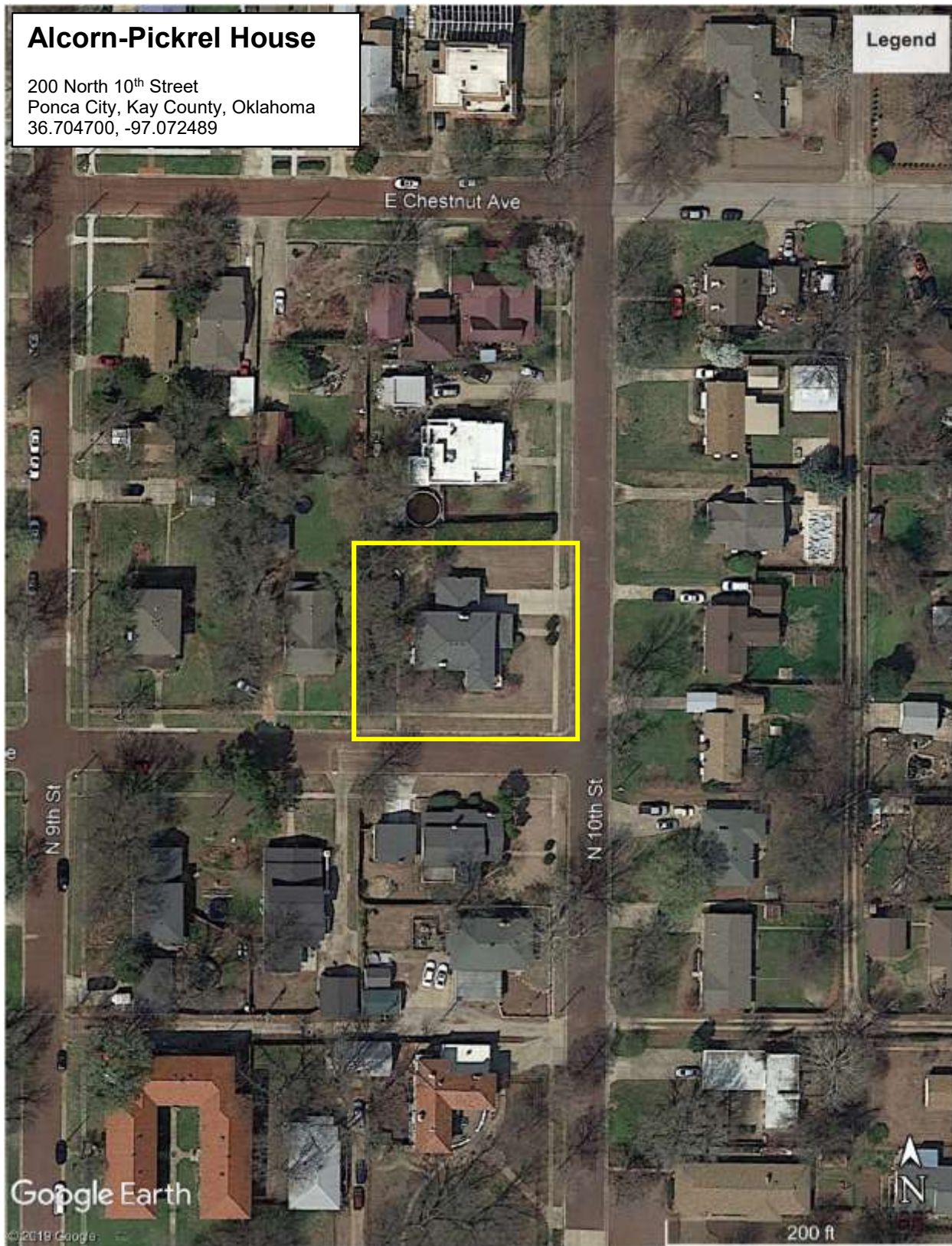
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

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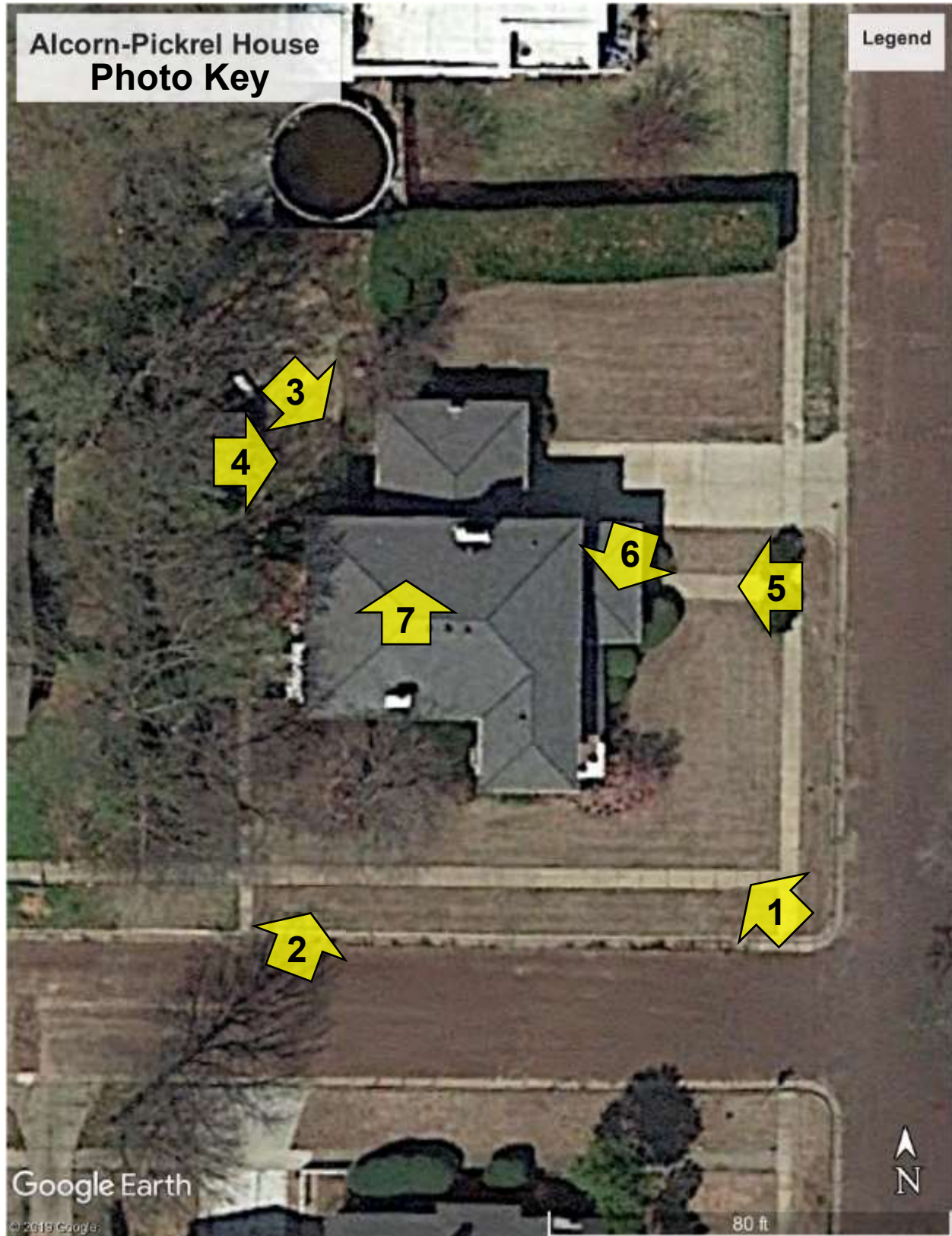


United States Department of the Interior
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N/A
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