**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** Moore, Arthur W., House  
**other names/site number** Rockhaven

### 2. Location

**street & number** 299 Sunset Drive  
**city or town** Horse Shoe  
**state** North Carolina  
**code** NC  
**county** Henderson  
**code** 089  
**zip code** 28793

### 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 forth 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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature of certifying official/Title</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State of certifying official/Title</td>
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| State or Federal agency and bureau |

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<th>In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. (□ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)</th>
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<td>Signature of commenting official/Title</td>
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<td>State or Federal agency and bureau</td>
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### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:) ________

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Signature of the Keeper</th>
<th>Date of Action</th>
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**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

**NPS Form 10-900**  
**(Oct. 1990)**  
**OMB No. 10024-0018**
### Moore, Arthur W., House

#### 5. Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)</th>
<th>Category of Property (Check only one box)</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</th>
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<td>☑ building(s)</td>
<td>Contributing 2 Noncontributing 2</td>
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<td>☐ structure</td>
<td>objects 0</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Total 3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

n/a

**Name 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

#### 7. Description

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

other: Craftsman-influenced

**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)

- foundation: stone
- walls: stone
- roof: asphalt
- other: shingle

**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.
- [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.)

Property is:
- [ ] 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.
- [x] 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.

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:
- [x] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:
Western Office, Archives & History
Moore, Arthur W., House

Henderson, North Carolina

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.84 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

3W

Easting
Northing

Zone
1 1,7
3 6,1
1 9,0
3 3,9
1 1,7
7,0

2

4

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 Sybil Argintar Bowers

organization Bowers Southeastern Preservation date July 25, 2000

street & number 166 Pearson Drive telephone (828) 253-1392

city or town Asheville state NC zip code 28801

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 William A. Gray, Jr.

street & number P.O. Box 2136 telephone (828) 891-7288

city or town Hendersonville state NC zip code 28793

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. 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 20503.
The Arthur W. Moore House, later called Rockhaven, is an excellent, highly intact example of a Craftsman influenced cottage. Built as a summer residence for the Moore family of Dade County, Florida, it is located just west of Laurel Park, on the north side of Highway 64, in the vicinity of Horse Shoe, North Carolina, in the western part of Henderson County. It is the most intact of four river rock houses built in the Brightwater Farm area developed by S. J. Childs, most of which were probably built by local builder Albert Drake. The nominated tract of approximately 2.84 acres is bordered by Sunset Drive on the west and Sunrise Drive on the east, the two main roads of the Brightwater Farm development. It consists of the original one-acre parcel bought by Arthur W. Moore from S. J. Childs in 1937, and the additional parcel to the south of the house purchased by William A. Gray, Sr., the subsequent owner, in 1948. The house sits on a large lot, on a slight rise above the driveway located to the south. There is a series of stone terraces which drop away from the house to the south, and an extensive rock garden located to the rear of the house. The nominated property consists of three contributing resources (the main house, the rock garden landscape, and the storage shed), and two non-contributing resources (the carport and the treehouse).

1. **Arthur W. Moore House. Contributing. 1936.**

The Craftsman influenced, one-story house is a U-shape configuration, of solid masonry construction (see Exhibit A, floor plan). The foundation is a combination of stone and brick. The floor of the front porch is tile. The front central portion of the house joins the two side wings on the east and west sides. A covered terrace at the rear of the house connects the east and west wings. The exterior is all river rock, with evidence in many places of two stonemasons working side by side. Some of the mortar is recessed, and some is beaded. The roofline is steeply pitched multi-gable with shingles in the gable ends. Windows are multi-light casement, except for the six-over-six windows in the finished attic space on the east side. A shed roof dormer was added on the east side, above the garage, when the attic space was finished in the late 1940s. One of the windows facing onto the front porch was changed from a casement window to a fixed pane. The only other change occurred in the late 1940s with the addition of the fieldstone front porch and roof, where originally the curving front steps led to an open terrace. The porch is compatible with the original materials and detailing of the house.

Inside, the house exhibits a highly intact use of materials and detailing typical of the Arts & Crafts style. The wide front door is beaded boards with iron strap hinges and original hardware. A monumental stone fireplace with a massive oak shelf stands on the west side of the living room, with vents up the stone sides to distribute the heat. The ceiling in the living room is an exposed truss system, with a small loft on the east side. Cove lighting is located around the perimeter of the living room. The dining room in the east wing of the house also has a stone fireplace. The ceiling, here and in most of the rooms in the house, is paneled boards. Walls throughout the house are either knotty pine or poplar paneling. Casement windows in most cases
have their original turn crank hardware. Also in the east wing is a den, a kitchen, and a servant's suite. The kitchen was modernized in 1980 with the addition of knotty pine cabinets. A porch, on the east side of the kitchen, runs almost the full width of the house. Enclosed steps to the finished attic space are located within this porch, along with a separate entrance to the servant's quarters. All rooms have cross-ventilation, with exterior doors onto the rear terrace. Typical doors are either five horizontal lights or beaded board, with original hardware. Floors in the living room and in part of the east wing are pegged, with terrazzo in the dining room and adjoining sunroom, and in the entry to the west wing bedrooms. Floors in the west wing are oak tongue and groove. The west wing is comprised primarily of a large suite with a very large bath/dressing area between two bedrooms. Walls and floors in the bath area are the original tile (see Exhibit A, floor plan).

2. **Rock Garden Landscape.** Contributing. 1936. 
To the south of the house, extending down the hillside, are the remains of several stone retaining walls which are original, and boxwoods which line the driveway. Original stone drainage ditches are still evident on the west side of the house. The stone entrance piers at the driveway have been added. Stone pathways and additional stone steps lead from the driveway on the east side of the house to the kitchen entrance and around to the front of the house. An extensive terraced rock garden, including stone drainage ditches, a bird bath, stone steps, and a privacy fence, is located to the north (rear) side of the house (see Exhibit B, site plan).

One-story, gable-roof building located at the end of the driveway on the east side of the house.

4. **Storage shed.** Contributing. ca. 1942. 
Small, one-story wooden building with a shed roof. Originally was part of a chicken coop built by Arthur W. Moore, a portion of which has been torn down.

Open-air pavilion on a raised platform, constructed of wood with a gable roof. It is located at the northwest corner of the property.
Summary
The Arthur W. Moore House was built in 1936 in the Brightwater Farm community near Horse Sho, North Carolina for use as a summer residence, continuing a trend which began in the county in the 1880s of the construction of summer homes for wealthy Floridians. Built by local builder Albert Drake, the house is an example of a highly intact Craftsman influenced house exhibiting excellent craftsmanship, use of materials, and elaborate rock garden landscaping which, in contrast to other rock landscapes in the area, has remained intact through the years. The house is significant due to the fact that it was unusual for a house and garden this elaborate to be built in western North Carolina in the Depression years of the 1930s. The Arthur W. Moore House is eligible for listing under National Register Criterion C for architecture and landscape architecture.

Historic Background
Arthur W. Moore built his summer residence in 1936 on land he purchased from S. J. Childs. Both men lived in Florida in the 1920s to 1930s, Moore in Dade County and Childs in Pinellas County. Childs was one of many Florida developers who bought land in Henderson County in its boom time from the 1880s to the mid-1920s, and Moore was one of the many Florida residents who spent part of the year in the North Carolina mountains. Childs purchased the land which he later developed into the Brightwater Farm community between 1922 and 1925 from John and H. H. Ewbank. The Ewbanks were local real estate developers, and had already platted a subdivision, located between Laurel Park and Horse Sho, along the Brevard Highway (Highway 64) by 1920. Childs bought the majority of the subdivision and called it Brightwater Farm. On the south side of the Brevard Highway Childs kept the broad, open valley land as a farm, but on the north side, with a more hilly terrain, he developed a small community of summer rental cottages in the 1920s and 1930s. The railroad skirted the south edge of the farm property, providing access to his development for the summer visitors, who could take the train to the nearby Horse Sho station. Childs' cottages were rustic in design, built of round logs with saddle-notched corners like many other summer cottages in Western North Carolina. The development included Sunset Drive on the west and Sunrise Drive on the east. Most of the cottages were built along Sunrise Drive, with individual homes, including the Moore house, built

1Gray family papers include a petition to the Board of County Commissioners of Henderson County from 1938 requesting that an old wagon road be closed to the public. In this petition it notes that Arthur W. Moore built his house in 1936, although the deed for the land from Childs to Moore was apparently not recorded in the courthouse until 1937 (Henderson County Deed book 221, p. 19, August 11, 1937). A survey completed in August of 1937 (apparently when the deed was recorded) indicates the house as already built (Gray family papers).
2Henderson County deed records.
3Henderson County deed indexes, Founding of county to 1948.
4Henderson County Plat Book 1, p. 17.
The Moore house was built by local Hendersonville contractor Albert Drake. Since it was becoming a rare material, special permission was needed to use river rock for the construction. The Moore house apparently was the last one in the area to be built of river rock. Other contractors who worked on the property included T. M. Huggins, a carpenter, and Robin Clayton. The identity of the stonemasons remains unknown, but from the details of the mortar joints (some beaded and some recessed), it appears there were two different masons.

Arthur W. and Marie Hale Moore sold their home to William A. Gray, Sr. and Hilda Francesca Gray on July 16, 1946. William A. Gray, Sr. (1900–1987) was an investor and real estate developer with property in Texas and Florida. His family was associated with First National Bank in Texas, one of the original investors in the start-up of Texaco Oil. Hilda F. Gray (1903–1977) was originally from Kansas, but later moved to New York. Hilda Gray, before her marriage to William A. Gray, Sr. in 1937, traveled around much of Europe with her mother, who was an opera singer. The Grays named the house "Rockhaven" and lived there in the summers only. Gray bought some additional acreage to the south of the house from S. J. Childs in 1948. The house has remained in the Gray family since 1946, being purchased in 1974 by William A. Gray, Jr.

Architecture and Landscape Architecture Context
In addition to the Arthur W. Moore House, there were two other river rock houses built in the Brightwater Farm area on the north side of Highway 64 along Sunset Drive. These were also probably built by Albert Drake, for the Woodruff and the Douglas families. Neither are as intact
architecturally as the Moore house. Both originally had elaborate rock terraces in the landscape like the Moore house, but these elements are also mostly gone. Original stone drainage swales are still in place along the narrow paved lanes of Sunrise and Sunset Drives. Childs built his own home on the farm side of the development, where it remains high on a hill at the corner of Highway 64 and Turley Falls Road. Built of river rock with a tile roof, it was also probably built by Drake. Of the four houses, the Moore and Childs houses appear to have been the most elaborate and have undergone the least number of changes. The river rock houses, while built within the Brightwater Farm development, were much more elaborate than the log summer rental cottages along Sunrise Drive which Childs built. These one-story cottages, built around a recreational lake, line both sides of Sunrise Drive and the adjacent gravel roads. They are much more rustic in design than the river rock houses, with round logs, wide chinking, shingled gable ends, stone chimneys, stone foundations, and rustic porches built of tree limbs. Newer subdivision houses are mixed in with these cottages, and with the river rock houses along Sunset Drive. There are also a few ca. 1920s to 1930s, one-story, shingle cottages along Sunset Drive, also much less elaborate than the river rock houses. The land to the west of Sunset Drive has been developed into a modern subdivision called Brightwater Heights.

The Craftsman influenced river rock houses built by Albert Drake are representative of a general trend in western North Carolina in the first decades of the twentieth century which utilized the idea of naturalistic or organic architecture and its blending into the surrounding landscape. Gustav Stickley, in many of his design philosophies, noted that rock was a particularly suitable material for "...joining structures with the earth".14 Rockwork in the landscape of course continued this connection from house to landscape, especially in a rugged setting, such as the Moore house and other structures in the mountains of western North Carolina. Downing, another proponent of the idea of unifying the house and landscape, noted that rockwork could be a "...compositional element that could be introduced and manipulated, fashioned into naturalistic groupings, or enhanced by plantings...", as it was at the Moore house.15 Through the use of natural materials in these houses, often elegantly crafted as in the Moore house, and the use of these same materials into the surrounding landscape, the building and landscape became one element. Some examples of the use of this building style include the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, the High Hampton Inn in Hendersonville, and Snowbird Mountain Lodge near Robbinsville. All of these buildings utilized natural materials to blend the indoors and the outdoors, and to fit within the context of the mountain setting.16

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15Ibid, p. 25.
Another example of the use of this rustic or organic building trend is the William Nelson Camp, Jr. House in Fairview, in Buncombe County. This house, built of log and frame construction, is surrounded by wooded areas and stone retaining walls, and is carefully placed within the landscape so as not to disturb the natural topography. In comparison, the Moore house is also placed on the high point in the natural topography, with stone retaining walls used to terrace the land to the south, and to create a flattened area for the driveway. A low stone wall is used to frame the rear porch entrance at the kitchen, extending the rock of the walls of the house out into the landscape. River rock stairs are also located here as well as within the garden to the rear (see Exhibit B, site plan). While the Camp house does not have as much of a formal historic landscape, the Moore house, with its extensive rock garden to the rear, displays a highly intact example of the use of natural stone to create a garden space that blends beautifully with the materials of the house. The covered terraces at the rear of the house, supported by river rock square columns and low stone retaining walls, also help to create this blending of the indoors and outdoors by serving as a transition area from the house to the garden.

Landscaping trends in the first decades of the twentieth century often included a return to elaborate designs built to enhance the house, serving as an aesthetic addition rather than merely a utilitarian component of gardens of the early to mid-nineteenth century. Often, homes built by the wealthy included these elaborate gardens to complement the architecture. The use of boxwood as a landscape-defining feature continued into the twentieth century garden, as it did at the Moore house. Terracing was often utilized in the garden, especially in the hilly terrain of a mountain setting, and the Moore house was no exception to this either. While the use of stone as a landscape element, especially in the use of retaining walls, was common in many western North Carolina communities, it is unusual to find a formal rock garden such as exists at the Moore house which has retained much of its original integrity of design.

Major Bibliographical References
City directories, Hendersonville, 1926 – 1949.
Gray family papers, in possession of Bill Gray, Jr.
Henderson County Deed Records.
Boundary Description
The boundaries of this nomination are indicated on the accompanying county tax map.

Boundary Justification
The property associated with the Arthur W. Moore House includes the original one-acre parcel purchased by Moore from S. J. Childs in 1937, and an additional parcel purchased by William A. Gray, Sr. in 1948. Both of these parcels are historically associated with the property.
Arthur W. Moore House Photographs

The following information applies to all of the photographs.

Name of Property: Arthur W. Moore House
299 Sunset Drive
vic. Horse Shoe
Henderson County
North Carolina

Photographer: Sybil Argintar Bowers
Date of photos: October 1999
Location of original negatives: Division of Archives and History
One Village Lane
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

1. Front elevation, view north.

2. same.

3. Rear elevation, view south.

4. Stone stairs, view west.

5. Stone drainage ditch.

6. Front porch, view west.

7. Bedroom, west wing, view northwest.

8. Bedroom, west wing, view southwest.

9. Typical ceiling, west wing.