

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." Do not check the box for "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 Parker House

other names/site number LI0078

2. Location

street & number HC 64 Box 5

☐ not for publication

city or town Star City

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Lincoln code 079 zip code 71667

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathy H. Slater  
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-24-00  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

6-2-00  
Date of Action

Parker House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 5. Classification

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

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

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

0

Total

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

N/A

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

N/A

## 6. Function or Use

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

Domestic: Single dwelling

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

Domestic: Single dwelling

## 7. Description

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

International

Mediterranean

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

roof Tar

other

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**SEE CONTINUATION SHEET**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

### SUMMARY

The Parker House is located on U.S. Highway 425 approximately two miles south of Star City. The house is sited on a slight rise up a dirt drive from the highway. The rural setting of the home makes its unique architectural style all the more striking. Constructed in 1927 by the home's owner, Robert Preston Parker, it is a blend of the International style with Mediterranean influences. The Parker House is composed of stucco over cypress framing. Its flat roof features wide, overhanging boxed eaves. The wooden eaves are currently sheathed in aluminum. Ribbons of plate glass awning and casement windows fenestrate the house. Another feature out of character for most homes in Star City is a full basement. The current owner comments that they never have trouble with flooding, which is an unusual circumstance for most homeowners. A courtyard garden to the rear of the house was enclosed to provide an extra room in 1958 and a wooden balustrade spanning stout concrete corner posts on the roof of the house was removed in 1966. Despite these changes to the house the original intent of the architect is still evident. It is thought that perhaps the overwhelming influence was Mediterranean due to the presence of Tuscan columns on the front porch and the rooftop balustrade, however with the removal of the railing the primary style leans toward the International style.

### ELABORATION

Originally constructed in an H-plan the house is now more U-shaped. The front, western facade is lit by a ribbon of three one-light windows each topped with small awning transoms at the northern corner of the home. The center awning window is wider than the two surrounding casement openings. The concrete floored front porch is recessed under a flat roof supported by two Tuscan columns. Tuscan pilasters flank the two columns. A one-light door with sidelights faces north onto the porch. A ribbon of three one-over-one double-hung windows light the living room from the western wall, and a second one-light door with sidelights opens from the south wall of the porch. A second ribbon of three windows with awning transoms fenestrates the southern corner of the house. The flat-roofed second-story is centered above the first floor and is slightly wider than the front porch. Fenestration consists of two six-light casement windows flanking a pair of horizontal six-light casement windows. Stuccoed half-walls extend approximately three feet from the wall onto the roof beneath the two casement windows at the north and south corners. A stuccoed interior chimney with metal hood is placed at the south end of the upper floor roof.

A pair of one-light casement windows lights the southern elevation at the southwest corner. The center section of this elevation is stepped forward approximately three feet. Fenestration on the west wall of the extension consists of

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National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

a single one-light window. The southern wall of the projection features two small one-light casement windows on either side of a ribbon of three casement windows topped with awning transoms. The southeast corner is lit by a second similar ribbon of three windows. The upper story contains a pair of short six-light casement windows at the southeast corner.

The eastern, rear elevation is fenestrated at the southeast corner by a ribbon of three windows and two small evenly spaced one-light casement windows. The center of this elevation once contained a courtyard garden. Now enclosed, the wall of the former courtyard is slightly recessed and is protected by a wide, flat overhang. The roof of the enclosed section is slightly lower than the surrounding wings to the north and south. A single-leaf wooden door flanked by two six-over-one double-hung windows of frosted glass is centered in this section. The northeast corner of the home is fenestrated by a single one-light casement window with a transom, and a pair of small, one-light casement windows adjacent to a fifteen-light French door. The upper floor mirrors the front facade with four casement windows. A tall, slender stucco interior chimney rises from the roof of the first floor at the northeast corner.

The basement is revealed on the northern elevation by the presence of a one-light hopper window and a coal chute in the foundation. The first floor is fenestrated at the northeast corner by three evenly spaced one-light casement windows. A single-leaf door with one-light is reached by three concrete steps. The door abuts a central projection stepped forward three feet as seen on the southern elevation. A ribbon of three windows with transoms is centered in this section. A single small window lights the western wall of the central extension. A one-light door flanked by sidelights opens into the northwest corner of the house. Stuccoed half-walls surround a wide staircase of four concrete steps leading to the door. The second-story contains a pair of six-light casement windows in the northwest corner.

## Interior

The interior of the home features hardwood floors and original moldings on doors and windows. A central courtyard has been enclosed to provide den space to the rear of the house. The den is accessed from the living room via a pair of fifteen-light French doors flanked by sidelights. The focal point of the living room is a large paneled mantelpiece that dominates the southern wall. The upper-floor contains a small kitchen, two rooms and a bath. This floor does not feature decorative molding and was used as separate living space for the extended family that occupied the house with the Parkers.

Parker House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

### Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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

Local

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

Architecture

### Period of Significance

1927

### Significant Dates

1927

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

N/A

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

N/A

### Architect/Builder

Robert Preston Parker

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**SEE CONTINUATION SHEET**



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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

### SUMMARY

The Parker House is a unique example of the International style with Mediterranean influences in Star City. Most homes in the town are Folk Victorian, Craftsman or Modern so the Parker House stands out in comparison to the styles more common to Star City. The house has undergone few alterations and is close to its original plan executed by the home's owner, Robert Preston Parker.

### ELABORATION

Robert Parker was born in Lynchburg, Virginia in 1868. He attended Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and graduated with a degree in civil engineering. He later joined the scores of immigrants to Alaska during the gold rush, living there from 1898 to 1903.

In 1905, as chief engineer for the Arizona railroad, Parker surveyed a proposed rail route into the Grand Canyon. However it was considered too expensive to pursue at the time. He also served as chief engineer on railroads in Texas, Arkansas, and Tennessee. In that capacity he moved to Star City in 1916, returning to Jackson, Tennessee with Illinois Central Railroad in 1918. Two years later he returned to Star City only to depart in 1923 for San Antonio, Texas. In 1925 he came back to Star City yet again as part owner of the Gould Southwestern Railroad.

Mr. Parker surveyed Star City and was in charge of naming most of the streets. In the 1940s and 1950s he oversaw the installation of the city's sewer lines and water works, and the construction of roads to Gould in Lincoln County and Monticello in Drew County.

After Parker's last move to Star City he began work on his house in 1926 and completed it in 1927. The plans were ordered from California and only the best building materials were used. Parker called upon his engineering background as the architect of several buildings in Star City. Two structures he designed are the Wynn House in Star City and the Alsobrook House located three miles south of town. These two houses remain standing but have been altered by the application of brick sheathing over original stucco. In addition to residential properties Mr. Parker designed the old First Baptist Church, (destroyed approximately twenty years ago) and several commercial buildings that have also been destroyed.

At one time four generations of the Parker family occupied the Parker home, thus the need for the second-story apartment. Ann Nobles, daughter of Robert Parker said her grandmother always lived with them. Three of Mrs. Nobles' children, Penney, Pamela, and Parker were born during the time the family occupied the house. In 1955 the Parkers sold the house to the Jack Atkinson family. Mr. & Mrs. Atkinson were active in the community and the

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Section number 8 Page 2

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First Methodist Church. Mr. Atkinson owned the Plymouth/Dodge dealership in Star City for many years and Sue Atkinson was an insurance agent. In 1997 the Atkinson's third child, Detri and her husband Gary purchased the home.

### SIGNIFICANCE

The Parker House constructed in 1927 is an unusual example of the International and Mediterranean styles in Star City. Very few houses built in a similar fashion can be seen in the southeastern area of the state. The Parker House is thought to be the only largely unaltered structure designed by Robert Preston Parker, remaining in Star City. Its unique architectural style by a local architect is being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion C.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Materials submitted by Detri McGehee, Star City, 2000.

Ann Nobles, Memphis, Tennessee. Interview by Detri McGehee, February 2000.

#### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

#### Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_



Parker House  
Name of Property

Lincoln County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Five acres.

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	606580	3753100
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Degrees 13 minutes 40 seconds west 165.0 feet; thence south 89 degrees 3 minutes 35 seconds east 200.0 feet; thence north 00 degrees 3 minutes 40 seconds west 62.33 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue north 00 degrees 13 minutes 40 seconds west 41.75 feet; thence west 506.4 feet to the east right of way of U.W. Highway no. 425; thence continue along said right of way south 19 degrees 15 minutes 01 seconds west 147.14 degrees 00 minutes east 167.2 feet to the point of beginning.

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

This nomination includes all of the property historically associated with the Parker House, Star City, Arkansas that retains its integrity.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Detri McGehee/Edited by Holly Hope

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

date 03/06/00

street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street

telephone 501 324-9880

city or town Little Rock

state

AR

zip code 72201

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Parker House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lincoln

DATE RECEIVED: 5/05/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/17/00  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/19/00  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000607

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 6.2.00 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N





Parker House  
Lincoln Co. AR  
Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View from North  
01/23/2000





Parker House  
Lincoln Co, AR  
Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View from west  
01/23/2000







Parker House

Lincoln Co, AR

Photo by: Amy Bennett

Negative on file at AHPP

View from South

01/23/2000





Becker House  
Lincoln Co. AR

Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View from east

01/23/2000





Parker House  
Lincoln Co, AR  
Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of porch support  
01/23/2000





Barker House  
Lincoln Co, AR  
Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of mantelpiece

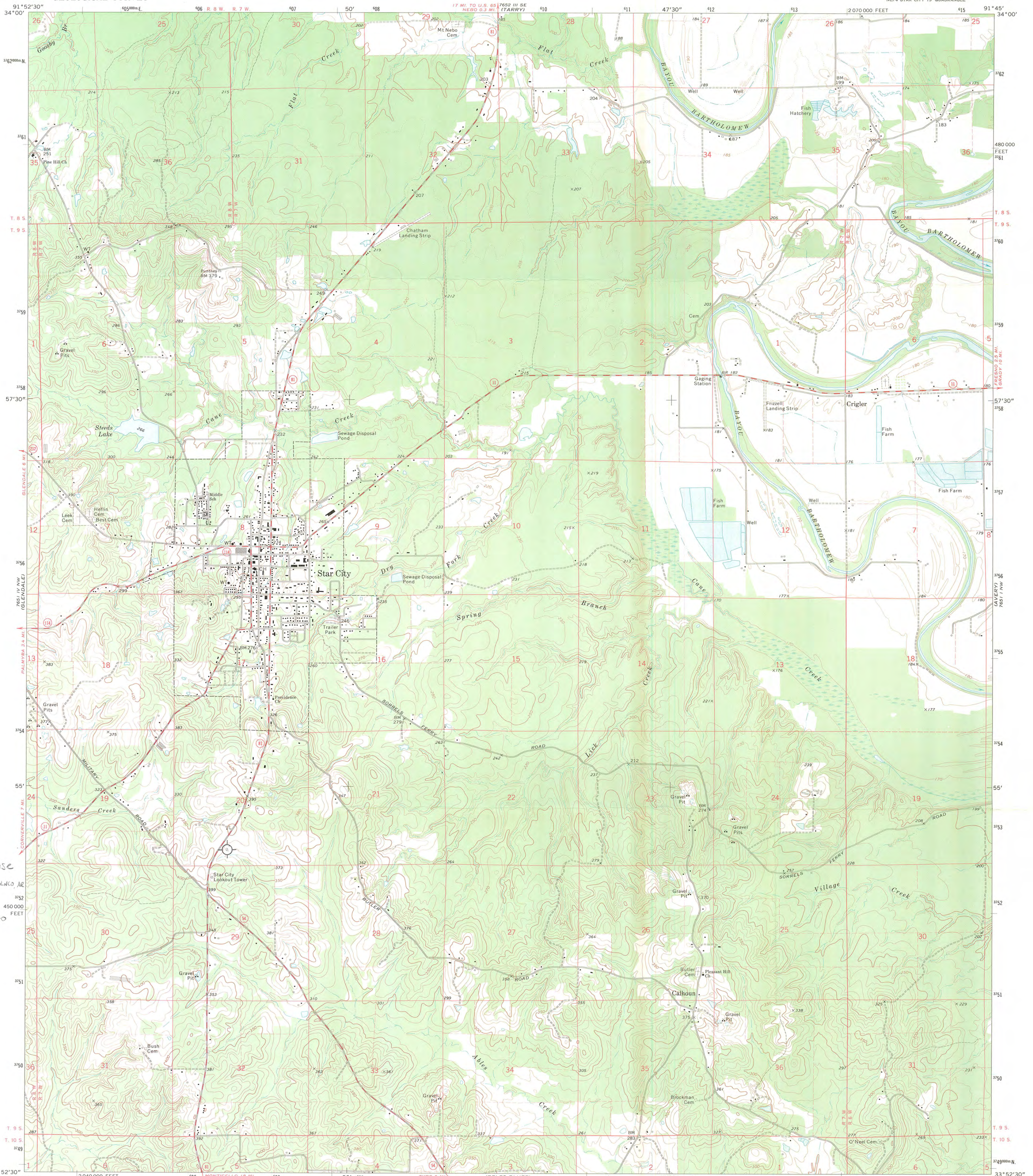
01/23/2000





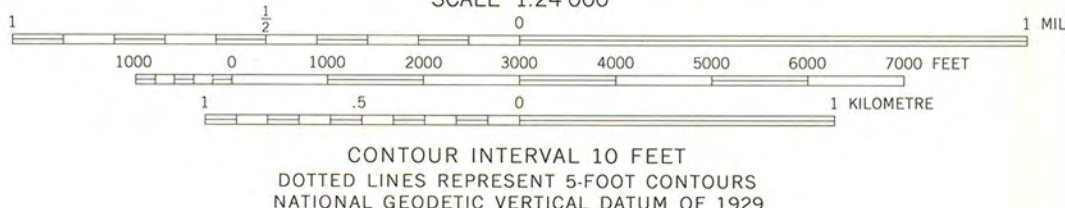
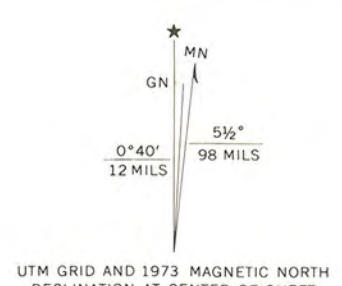
Parker House  
Lincoln Co, AR  
Photo by Amy Bennett  
Negative on file at AHPP  
View of Woodwork on Interior  
01/23/2000





Parker House  
Star City, Lincoln Co., AR  
UTM:  
15W/39N  
3752240

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973  
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate  
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, hard surface  
Secondary highway, hard surface  
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface  
Unimproved road  
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

STAR CITY, ARK.  
NE 1/4 STAR CITY 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3352.5—W9145.7.5

1973

AMS 7651 IV NE—SERIES V884

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST





# The Department of Arkansas Heritage

April 24, 2000

Mike Huckabee

Governor

▪

Cathie Matthews

Director

Carol D. Shull

Chief of Registration

United State Department of the Interior

National Register of Historic Places

National Park Service

800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250

Washington, D.C. 20002

Arkansas  
Arts Council

RE: Parker House – Star City, Lincoln County.

Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program

Dear Carol:

Arkansas  
Natural Heritage  
Commission

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Arkansas  
Territorial Restoration

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Delta Cultural Center

Sincerely,

Old State House Museum

Cathy Buford Slater  
Deputy Director, Heritage Resources  
State Historic Preservation Officer



1500 Tower Building  
323 Center Street  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
(501)324-9150  
fax: (501)324-9154  
tdd: (501)324-9811

Enclosures

e-mail: [info@dah.state.ar.us](mailto:info@dah.state.ar.us)  
website: [www.heritage.state.ar.us](http://www.heritage.state.ar.us)  
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