

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 21 1975

DATE ENTERED

JUN 5 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Steamboat House

AND/OR COMMON

Cooper House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

601 North Front Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Dardanelle

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Yell

CODE

149

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Robert E. Cooper

STREET & NUMBER

601 North Front Street

CITY, TOWN

Dardanelle

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk's Office, Yell County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Union and Front Streets

CITY, TOWN

Dardanelle

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

___EXCELLENT

X GOOD

___FAIR

___DETERIORATED

___RUINS

___UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

___UNALTERED

X ALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE

___MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cooper House on Front Street is the most architecturally interesting house in Dardanelle, a small port city on the Arkansas River. According to local tradition the architecture of this late nineteenth century house was inspired by river steamers, and in some ways it does resemble a grounded steamboat. The bay windows and porch protrusions on either side of the entry resemble steamboat prows. The second storey facade has three small balconies centered over the entry and each bay. These flat roofed balconies are reminiscent of captain's bridges. A third "steamboat style" feature is found in the two round windows which flank the center balcony. These circular windows resemble portholes, thus adding a final touch to the nautical effect of the house.

The basic floor plan of the Cooper House is ell shape with the east facade across the long leg of the ell. The front portion of the house is two stories high while the rear extension is only one and one-half stories. About 1940 a one storey addition, enclosing part of the original back porch, was made at the rear of the house. At the same time a screened porch was added to the south elevation of the front portion of the house. A cross gable roof with several gabled dormers covers the white frame structure.

The most interesting features of the Cooper House are displayed on the facade. A one storey flat roofed porch extends across the facade, protruding on either side of the main entry. The porch cornice has pointed dentils and a row of spindle work below the frieze. Ornamental brackets are paired at each angle of the irregularly shaped porch.

A double door entry and two bay windows are covered by the porch. Each three sided bay has three separate windows, with the center window almost twice as wide as the narrower side windows. A transom-like light surrounded by colored glass fills the top of each center window. Pilasters similar to the turned porch posts and horizontal panelling under each window further decorate the bays.

The second storey features three small balconies centered over the downstairs entry and bay windows. Except for a plain railing over crossed strips of wood, these balconies are trimmed much like the porch below. The door opening onto each balcony contains small square and rectangular lights of colored glass surrounding a clear pane. Circular windows with stained glass separate the three balconies.

From the irregular roof line of the house project eight gables, seven of which are trimmed with bargeboard and spindlework in the gable ends. Exterior window and door surrounds are uniformly plain.

The ornate trim on the exterior of the Cooper House is repeated to a lesser extent on the interior. The central hallway is lined with narrowly panelled

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wainscot. Decorative features on the curved stairway include turned balusters, a round panelled newel post and scroll cut woodwork trim. Wide grooved woodwork is used in baseboards and window and door surrounds.

The Cooper House rests on a corner lot facing the Arkansas River. Still in very good condition, it displays the skill of the unknown carpenter/craftsman who fashioned the house in the 1890's.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cooper House in Dardanelle, Arkansas displays an architectural style described by local residents as "steamboat Gothic." The facade does indeed have several features reminiscent of a steamboat, including prow-like protrusions of the first floor window bays and porch, and captain's bridge balconies and porthole round windows on the second storey. The multi-gabled roof and the porch trim of spindle work and scroll cut brackets give the house its Victorian Gothic appearance.

The existence of several structures apparently built about the same time and with features similar to the Cooper House indicates that a single highly skilled craftsman was responsible for a number of houses in Dardanelle. The Cooper House is the most architecturally impressive house in the area and is an important local landmark.

In 1889 John C. Brooks bought lots one and three in Brearly's Addition of Dardanelle, the lots on which the Cooper House now stands. Mr. Brooks probably built the present house soon after he purchased the river front property.

The 1880 census lists John C. Brooks as a thirty-five year old farmer with a wife and five children; however, the present owner of the Cooper House states that in the 1890's Brooks owned and operated a sawmill. This would have greatly facilitated the construction of any house, but especially a house as heavily decorated with woodwork as the Cooper House.

In 1905 Brooks sold the property to E. A. Jones for \$1,000.00. Three years later the property again changed hands when Jones sold it to Joe T. Bray, owner of a buggy and saddle shop. The Bray family retained the house till mid-century, and during their ownership the house received its only major alterations. In the 1940's a screened porch was added to the south elevation and a one storey room was added to the rear of the house.

This architecturally interesting house has a quaint charm expressed through its unusual combination of architectural features. The small proportions of the house give it a cottage-like quality found rarely in an Arkansas house of this period. Its "steamboat Gothic" style is reminiscent of the era in which the Cooper House was built - an era when Dardanelle was an active river port for steamboats on the Arkansas River.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Arkansas Gazette, August 16, 1964.

Cooper, Mrs. Robert E. Interview at Cooper House, Dardanelle, Arkansas,
January 31, 1975.

Scott and Goodeer, Attorneys. Abstract of Lots 1 and 3 in Block 29, Brearly's
Addition, Dardanelle, Arkansas.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 1 5 4 8 5 7 1 0 3 8 9 7 9 3 0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dianna Kirk, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET & NUMBER

300 West Markham

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock,

DATE

3-11-75

TELEPHONE

(501) 371-1639

STATE

Arkansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL x

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE William E. Henderson

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-11-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

6/5/75

ATTEST:

DATE

JUN 4 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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PAGE one

U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. Tenth Census of the United States, 1880: Population Schedule for Yell County, Arkansas. Microfilm, Arkansas History Commission.

Property

Steamboat House

Yell Co.

State

Arkansas

Working Number

4.21.75.735

75000470

TECHNICAL

Photos

2

Maps

1

CONTROL

cm

OK 4.23.75

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LEBOVICH
4-30-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

ACCEPT
M. BARNES
30 Apr 75

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ACCEPT
COLZ
4/30/75

BRANCH CHIEF

ACCEPT
HUNT
6.3.75

KEEPER

JUN 4 1975

National Register Write-up

8-5-75

Send-back

Entered JUN 5 1975

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Steamboat House

AND/OR COMMON

Cooper House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Dardanelle

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Yell

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO

1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

facade, viewed from the east

PHOTO NO.

1

#1082

#1082

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-74)

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Steamboat House

AND/OR COMMON

Cooper House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Dardanelle VICINITY OF COUNTY Yell STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
rear (west) elevation

PHOTO NO.
2

#2002

#2002

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Steamboat House

AND/OR COMMON

Cooper House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Dardanelle X VICINITY OF COUNTY Yell STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

SCALE 1:24000 DATE 1972

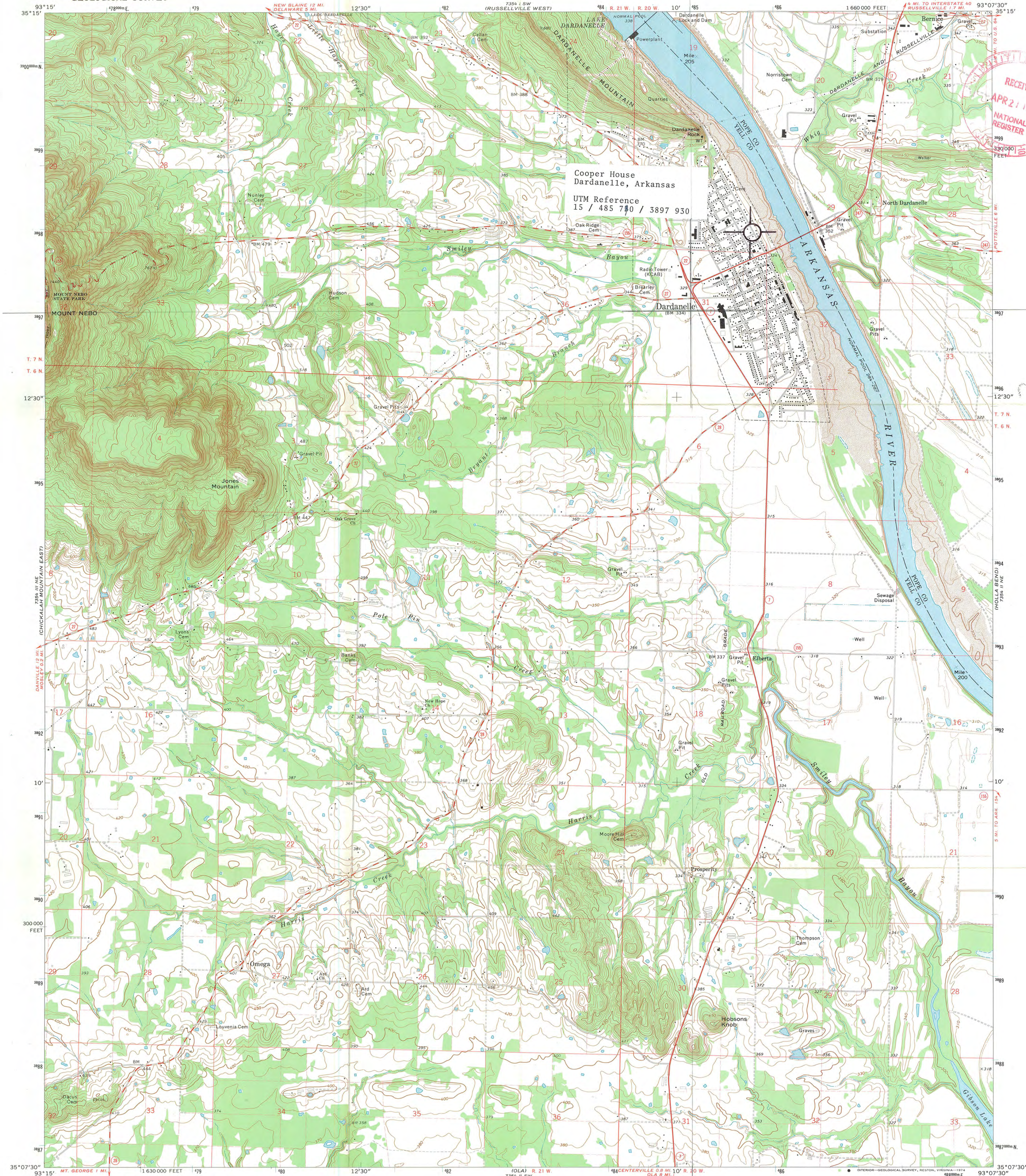
4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DARDANELLE QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



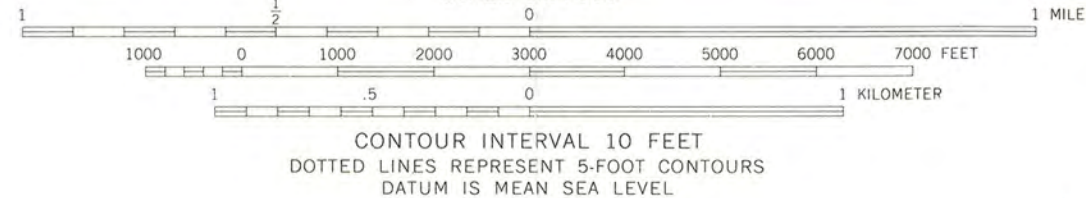
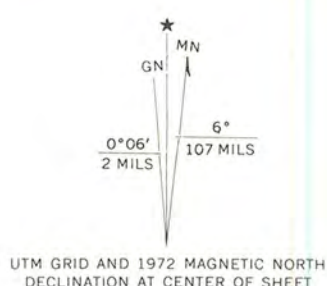
Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic) 1000-meter 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



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



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

DARDANELLE, ARK.
N3507.5-W9307.5/7.5

1972

AMS 7354 II NW-SERIES V884

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered JUN 5 1975

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Steamboat House	Dardanelle Yell County
Yeas, Colonel Jacob, Building	Chester Crawford County
Knox, R. M., House	Pine Bluff Jefferson County
Plum Bayou Homesteads (Wright Plantation)	Wright Jefferson County
Shiloh Church	Springdale Washington County

	<u>Also Notified</u>
Hon. John L. McClellan	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Dale Bumpers	Mr. William E. Henderson
Hon. John P. Mammarschmidt	Director, Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism
Hon. Ray Thornton	State Capitol
Regional Director, Southwest Region	Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: **Steamboat House** 2 OTHER NAMES: **Cooper House** 3 date of entry: **6-5-75** 4 county code: **149**

5 LOCATION street & number: **601 N. Front St.** city / town: **Dardanelle** vicinity of: **AR** state: **AR** county: **Yell** 6 NPS REGION: **SW**

7 OWNER ☒ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☐ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☐ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name): 8 ADMINISTRATOR: _____

9 EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ NABS ☐ NAER ☐ NHL 10 FUNDED? ☒ YES ☐ NO 11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: **3** 12 SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL (if state who prepared form?) _____

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☒ YES, NAME: _____ 14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☒ YES, NAME: _____ 15 ACREAGE: **< 1** ☐ LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION ☐ deteriorated ☒ altered ☒ original site ☐ excellent ☐ ruins ☐ unaltered ☐ moved ☒ good ☐ unexposed ☐ reconstructed ☐ unknown ☐ fair ☐ unexcavated ☐ excavated

17 features: ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☒ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ UNKNOWN-5 ☐ UNKNOWN-6 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-8 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS ☒ YES-Restricted ☐ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown 19 ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☒ NO 20 SAVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO 21 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ yes ☒ no

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☐ POLITICS/GOVT.-21 ☐ RECREATION-28 ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ COMMERCE-6 ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ LAW-16 ☐ RELIGION-22 ☐ SETTLEMENT-29 ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ COMMUNICATIONS-7 ☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ URBAN PLANNING-31 ☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ MILITARY-18 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY) _____ ☒ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ECONOMICS-9 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 ☐ MUSIC-19 ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25 ☐ ART-5 ☐ EDUCATION-10 ☐ INVENTION-14 ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20

22 CLAIMS: explain 'first' ☐ 'oldest' ☐ 'only' ☐

23 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: **Residence** 24 dates at initial construction: **1890s** 25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION _____

26 architectural style(s): **Eastlake** 27 architect: _____ 28 master builder: _____ 29 engineer: _____

30 landscape architect / garden designer: _____ 31 interior decorator: _____ 32 artist: _____ 33 artisan: _____ 34 builder/contractor: _____

35 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: **John C. Brooks - original owner - sawmill operator.**

EVENTS:

INSTITUTIONAL:

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP **Frame, clapboarding; 2 stories, L-shaped, gabled & cross-gabled roof sections, interior chimneys, front center glazed double-door entrance, flanking polygonal bays, 1-story full-width entrance porch with elaborate spindlework and 3 surmounting spindlework balconies, center flanking 2nd-story roundels, stylized sunburst bargeboards; 1-story side screened porch, 1-story spindlework rear ell porch; interior features paneled wainscot & curved stairway; 1-story rear addition, 1940. Unusually exuberant example of Eastlake styling for area; built for John C. Brooks, believed to have been a sawmill operator.**