

PH 0046795

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

Arkansas

COUNTY:

Pulaski

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

JUN 28 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

Arkansas State Capitol

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Fifth and Woodlane Streets

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Two

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY:

Pulaski

CODE

119

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

- ☐ District ☒ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☒ Public
☐ Private
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
☐ Restricted
☒ Unrestricted
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☒ Government ☐ Park
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

- ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
☐ Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

State of Arkansas

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Pulaski County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF SURVEY: September, 1971 ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☒ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:

Suite 1030 - Plaza West Building

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUN 28 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)
☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed(Check One) (Check One)
☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered ☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

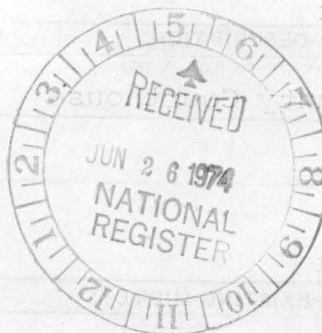
Begun in 1899 the Capitol of the State of Arkansas resembles the United States Capitol and should be considered one of the finer examples of classical design of Ionic order in the Nation. It is located atop a prominent hill which makes it visible at a great distance to all who approach it.

The Capitol measures 420 feet long and has an average width of 150 feet. A grand stairway leads from ground level to the entry level. Six copper-bronze doors made by Tiffany of New York grace the entrance to the grand rotunda.

The Capitol's imposing dome over the rotunda is quite similar to that of the United States Capitol. It rises to 230 feet above ground and is covered in twenty-four carat gold leaf. Two minor rotundas flank the larger one and contain the House and Senate chambers. The Governor's offices and other government offices are located within the building.

The inherent beauty of the classical design of the State Capitol is supplemented by the attractive stones used. White native stone called "Batesville marble" and Indiana limestone are used on the exterior. Offices and interior woodwork are of quarter sawn oak wood and complement the fine interior details of Alabama marble.

Few alterations have been made to the Capitol other than maintenance repairs and landscape work. It remains a prominent architectural edifice, striking in the beauty of its classical proportions and design.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☒ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☒ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ losophy☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ itarian☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As the State of Arkansas grew, so its needs for legislature facilities expanded. Arkansas outgrew the ability of its old State House of 1840 to supply the larger, more complex needs of the state legislature. Consequently, the year of 1899 saw the formation of a commission to build a new state capitol.

The first chairman of the commission and untiring devotee to the construction of the Capitol, George W. Donagney, remarked in his recounting of the building of the capitol:

The State of Arkansas began one of the greatest physical tasks in her history when she undertook to build a new Capitol. This undertaking was destined to make and unmake political fortunes and to wreck the homes and happiness of many of its citizens. The building of her new Capitol would result, before its completion, in changing the dignified cloth worn by some statesmen into convict stripes; it would cause the state to tremble from end to end; and it would bring about a realignment and readjustment of her political customs. It would cause the defeat and total annihilation of certain political factions and would set up political creeds new in thought and practice.

Indeed, the ultimate construction of the State Capitol was to be overseen by four building commissions in seventeen years of construction, involve the State in numerous legal suits with a disgruntled contractor, and see two different architects of noted reputation come to the task of building the Capitol.

H/3
13-
3844970
565090

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Daniel, Jean H., and Daniel Price, Executive Mansions and Capitols of America, New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1969.
Donaghey, George W., Building A State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas, Parke-Harper Company, 1937.

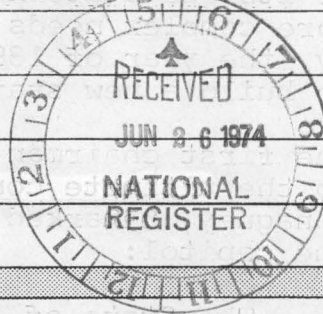
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		34 45 47.1	92 17 26.4	
SW	° ' "	° ' "			20	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than 10 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>Anthony S. Riddle, Architect</u>	
ORGANIZATION <u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	DATE <u>May 21, 1974</u>
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Suite 1030, Plaza West Building</u>	
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Little Rock</u>	STATE <u>Arkansas</u>
	CODE <u>05</u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☒ Local ☐
(Changed to National, 8-8-79, see letter).

Name William E. Henderson
William E. Henderson

Title State Historic Preservation
Officer

Date June 11, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 6/28/74

ATTEST:
William J. Murtagh
Keeper of The National Register

Date 6-28-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Pulaski	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUN 28 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (State Capitol - Page 2)

The Arkansas Capitol as originally planned by the architect, George R. Mann of Missouri, was to be nearly five hundred (500') feet long with a great central dome over a rotunda and two flanking domes over each legislative chamber. It underwent numerous changes during construction, though the overall integrity of the original design was maintained.

At one point faulty workmanship required the complete gutting of the interior of the Capitol and its reconstruction. A new Architect, Cass Gilbert, was employed to direct the reconstruction of the Capitol and remained with it until its completion. He was highly regarded nationally for the quality of his work and had considerable experience with design of institutional buildings. Significant progress was made under his direction, and the Capitol was completed.

Arkansas' State Capitol would most likely have not been completed without substantial loss to the State if it had not been for the ceaseless efforts of one man, George W. Donaghey. A contractor and member of the first commission, Mr. Donaghey remained stalwart in his efforts to see the completion of the Capitol accomplished. On numerous occasions he rose to caution the state government of impending difficulties with the project. He was elected governor of the state on a platform to see that the Capitol building was finished. He accomplished that by the end of his terms in office in 1913.

While of immense significance to the State, Arkansas' Capitol is also one of the finer examples of classical architecture in the Nation. In a smaller way it embodies the character and pride of the people and remains as a statement of their energies and progressive outlook.



PROPERTY Arkansas State Capital STATE Ark.

WORKING NUMBER 6.26.74.1031 Pulaski CO.

TECH REVIEW
PHOTOS 1
MAPS 1

state request
apportionment
6/26/74
74000494

CONTROL REVIEW Very incorrect

cm
6.26.
74

HISTORIAN description brief, fraud into incomplete, but
OK
Accept
W.R. Luce
6/26/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN Arch description minimal for such a large
bldg. Political sign. not supported in #8. ACCEPT
I guess.
Hugand 6/27/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF
Accept
Cole
6/27/74

BRANCH CHIEF
Accept
Hugand
6/27/74

KEEPER
cm
6/28/74

National Register Write-up Aug 16, 1974
Federal Register entry August 6, 1974

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____
Entered JUN 28 1974



Arkansas
Pulaski County
State Capitol

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

East Facade viewed from the Southeast

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME COMMON		AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS) JUN 28 1974
Arkansas State Capitol			
2. LOCATION STATE		COUNTY	TOWN
Arkansas		Pulaski	Little Rock
STREET AND NUMBER Fifth and Woodlane Streets			
3. PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT		DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Robert Dunn		May, 1974	AHPP
4. IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

East facade viewed from the southeast

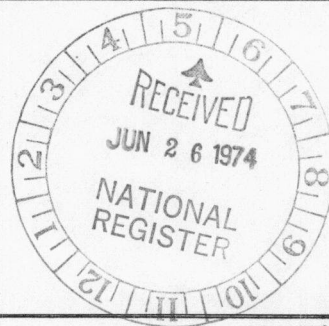


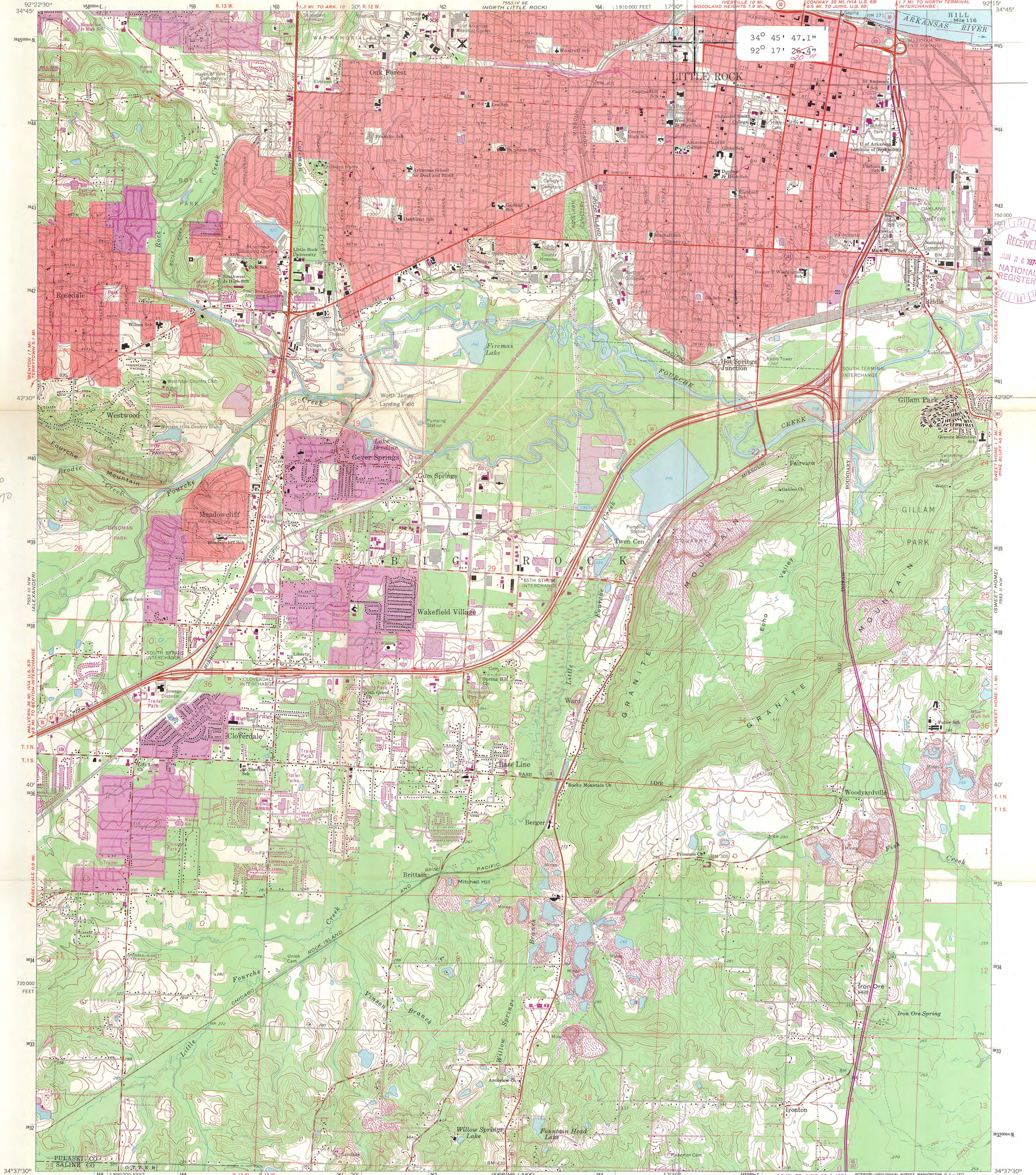
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i>
Arkansas State Capitol		JUN 28 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Arkansas	Pulaski	Little Rock
STREET AND NUMBER		
Fifth and Woodlane Streets		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. Map, Little Rock AR, 7.5 minutes	1961	1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW:





RECEIVED
JUN 26 1974
NATIONAL REGISTER

HB
15/565090
3844970

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

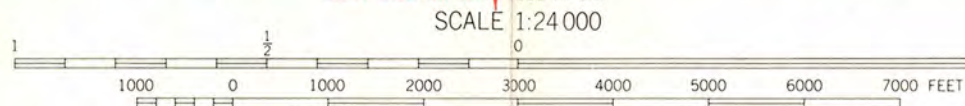
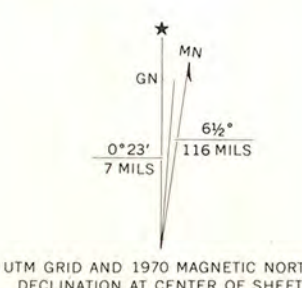
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1961

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

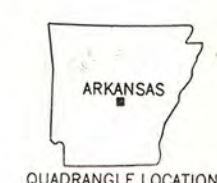
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1970. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
NE/4 ALEXANDER 15' QUADRANGLE
N3437.5—W9215/7.5
1961

PHOTOREVISED 1970
AMS 7553 III NE—SERIES V884

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered JUN 28 1974

Name

Location

Arkansas State Capitol

Little Rock
Pulaski County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. J.W. Fulbright
Hon. Wilbur D. Mills
Regional Director, Southwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. William E. Henderson
Director
Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism
State Capitol-Room 149
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

PR

MMott/row

6/28/74

*file - National
Historic
Landmark*

7801

FEB 12 1979

February 7, 1979

Ms. Lois Wygant
Office of the Arkansas
Secretary of State
Arkansas State Capitol Building
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Ms. Wygant:

This responds to Ms. Sandra Taylor Smith's January 31, 1979, request for information concerning the process involved in obtaining National Historic Landmark status for the Arkansas State Capitol.

In order for a property to be considered eligible for National Historic Landmark status, it must be found nationally significant. The State Historic Preservation Officer, in 1974, determined that the capitol had State significance and not national significance (See Item 12 of Nomination Form). For the building to be considered for National Historical Landmark status, a letter from the State Historic Preservation Officer to the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation should request the building be reviewed for National Historic Landmark designation.

We appreciate your interest in the National Historic Landmark Program. The nomination form and photograph are enclosed for your files.

If we can be of future assistance, do not hesitate to contact me. My telephone number is (505) 766-3720.

Sincerely yours,

~~MILDRED L. SANCHEZ~~

Mildred Sanchez
Outdoor Recreation Planner

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Sandra T. Smith
National Register Coord.
Arkansas Historical Preservation Program
500 Continental Building
Main and Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

CROMWELL
NEYLAND
TRUEMPER
LEVY &
GATCHELL
ARCHITECT ENGINEER

3 CROMWELL FAIA CROMWELL NEYLAND TRUEMPER LEVY & GATCHELL INC ARCHITECT ENGINEER ONE SPRING STREET LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-2900

file - Paul G

February 22, 1979

FEB 22 1979

Ms. Joan Baldridge
Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Continental Building, Suite 500
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

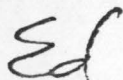
Dear Joan:

When the First State Capitol and the Arkansas State Capitol were nominated for the Register, the importance and significance of the buildings was apparently stated as being "state-wide". I believe I might have been on the site selection committee at that time and don't remember the details, but now wonder why we didn't establish the importance as being national both for historical and architectural significance.

It is the opinion of some with whom I have discussed this that the significance of these buildings should be re-examined to determine if they should be of national significance, and of National Historic Landmark designation.

By copy of this letter to George Reynolds and Parker Westbrook for the historical importance and to Cy Sutherland for the architectural significance, I am asking their opinions on this, too, and ask that it be put on your agenda for your next meeting.

Sincerely,



Edwin B. Cromwell, FAIA

EBC/mh

cc: The Honorable Paul Riviere

MAR 8 1979

file - Pul Co.

GEORGE M. REYNOLDS
WINROCK GRASS FARM BUILDING
PETIT JEAN MOUNTAIN
MORRILTON, ARKANSAS 72110

AREA CODE 501
375-0749
727-5461

March 5, 1979

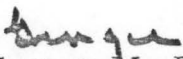
Ms. Joan Baldrige
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Continental Building, Suite 500
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Joan:

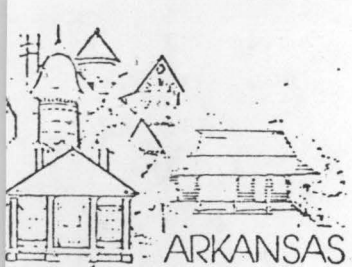
You received a letter from Edwin B. Cromwell dated February 22 concerning the First State Capitol and the Arkansas State Capitol.

Cromwell raises the question of whether or not we should not try to get these buildings listed as of national significance. I think he is right, and hope that there is a means of re-opening the matter so that we can get the changes made. I would be glad to see this on the agenda at our next meeting.

Sincerely,


George M. Reynolds

GMR:gb



Sandra

file - 1st 6

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

500, Continental Building · Markham and Main · Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 371-2763

March 6, 1979

Mr. Edwin B. Cromwell, FAIA
Cromwell, Neyland, Truemper,
Levy & Gatchell, Inc.
One Spring Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your letter of February 22 concerning the possible National Landmark designation of the First State Capitol and the Arkansas State Capitol. I appreciate your taking time to bring these issues to my attention.

In checking with the National Register staff, I find that contact has been made with the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service regional office in Albuquerque about these designations. There are a number of factors to consider, and we are gathering as much data as possible.

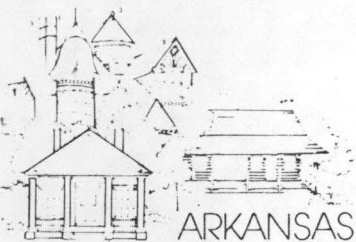
Both buildings will be discussed at the March 13 State Review Committee meeting with the goal in mind of nominating one or both as National Landmarks.

Thank you again for your interest.

Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldridge, Director
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

JWB/lg



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

ite 500, Continental Building · Markham and Main · Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 371-2763

April 12, 1979

Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Office Of Archeology and
Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: National significance status:
Old State House
Arkansas State Capitol

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

After reviewing the National Register nominations of the Old State House and Arkansas State Capitol, I have concluded that both have national significance. On March 13, 1979, the Arkansas State Review Committee discussed changing the level of significance from "state" to "national". The Committee voted unanimously in favor of "national" significance status to the Old State House and the Arkansas State Capitol. If you concur, please make the change on both nomination forms.

Because I feel both these properties, the Old State House and the Arkansas State Capitol, have national significance, I would like for them to be considered for designation as National Historic Landmarks. Please review the nominations of both properties to determine their eligibility as National Historic Landmarks.

Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldrige
State Historic Preservation Officer
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

JWB/DK/kt



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

500, Continental Building · Markham and Main · Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 371-2763

April 23, 1979

Mr. John Danner
Executive Assistant
to the Governor
Governor's Office
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear John:

Thank you for informing me of Secretary of State Paul Riviere's interest in having the Arkansas Capitol designated as a National Historic Landmark. I believe that it was his interest that initiated the efforts of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program staff and the State Review Committee to have it so designated.

As I indicated to you on the phone, my staff's evaluation of the chances for designation are not at all good. Our capitol is important to us as Arkansans; but that, in and of itself, is not sufficient justification for National Historic Landmark designation. There is enough of a chance to warrant a request for designation by the Keeper of the National Register, and I have done that.

Attached are copies of all relevant correspondence to date. Rose Crane and I are to meet with Secretary Riviere next week to discuss this matter in depth.

Thank you again for your interest and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldrige
State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/lg

cc: Rose Crane
Kay Kelly
Paul Riviere

Enclosures

Sheffield 8-13-79
Brooks 8/13/79
Shull
8-13-79

661

AUG 10 1979

Ms. Joan Williams Baldridge
State Historic Preservation Officer
Arkansas Historic Preservation
Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock Arkansas 72201

Dear Ms. Baldridge:

Thank you for your letter concerning changing the level of significance of two National Register properties, the Old State House and the Arkansas State Capitol, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

In accordance with your request, our records have been changed to indicate a level of national significance for both properties. We have also provided copies of the documentation to the National Historic Landmarks staff for consideration of the eligibility of the Old State House and the Arkansas State Capitol for Landmark designation.

If we can be of further assistance to you, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Charles A. Herrington (Sgd.)

Charles A. Herrington
Acting Keeper of the National
Register

bcc: Director's Reading File
FHR: S Sheffield:ggk:343-6401:8/13/79
BASIC FILE RETAINED IN NR