

PH0069817

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

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: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 2	1972

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt
Third Congressional District

1. NAME

COMMON:
The Ridge House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
The Cory-Ridge-Pettigrew House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
230 West Center

CITY OR TOWN:
Fayetteville

STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05 COUNTY: Washington CODE: 143



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>used as</u> <u>apartments</u>
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Washington County Historical Society, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
118 East Dickson Street

CITY OR TOWN: Fayetteville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Washington County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Corner of College and Center Street

CITY OR TOWN: Fayetteville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Inventory of Historic Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: August, 1971 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Arkansas History Commission
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:
1023 West Markham

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

SECTION 1 SEES

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
ENTRY NUMBER	NOV 2 1972
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
DATE	

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

CONDITION

Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

Altered Unaltered

Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The structure as it exists today represents a composite of various additions and repairs performed over the years to the original log structure which perhaps pre-dates the Ridges' arrival. This original structure is identified as the residence of M. H. Clark, an early-day physician. Mrs. Ridge purchased the land in 1840 and documentary evidence testifies that the substantial log house she occupied was the incorporated into a more modern residence. From actual physical evidence remaining, one can safely assume that the original log house was a one-storey, dog-trot house which was later incorporated into a Georgian house plan with chimneys flanking the gable ends (east and west elevations). The log house was clad with boards and the central dog-trot enclosed to form a central hall. An entrance portico was provided perhaps at this time. Later the house was given an additional floor with the chimneys being enlarged to accommodate the additional height and the portico extended as well. The present chimneys reveal evidence of growth and addition and appear to be original to the house.

A lean-to on the north side has been added at a later date not yet established thus completing the salt box form.

A later contemporary, one-storey lean-to has been added to the north elevation.

The present condition of the house is extremely poor and well necessitate rehabilitation for adaptive use. Evidence of a log structure within the walls has been found.

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)

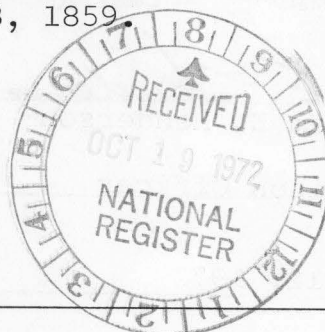
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | <u>environmental</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. The property on which the house is located is part of the original town plat of February 27, 1835.
2. The house is believed to be the oldest residential structure in the city still standing.
3. Architecturally it is one of the few remaining examples of a New England, salt box type house left in northwest Arkansas.
4. Its environmental significance cannot be overlooked as the loss of this house would create an open parking lot in the cities' oldest remaining block of historic homes and thus deteriorate the scale and historic ambiance of the downtown area.
5. Its association with the prominent Cherokee Ridge family is an issue of more than local significance. Sarah B. N. Ridge, a native of Connecticut and wife of John Ridge, a Cherokee chief, came to Fayetteville with her children after her husband had been assassinated in 1839 for his part in signing the treaty of removal which ousted the Cherokees from their lands in the east and started them on the Trail of Tears.

The property upon which the house now stands was purchased by Mrs. Ridge from Joseph M. Shepard in 1840. Her son Aneas E. Ridge subsequently purchased the property and lived in the house until his death on August 28, 1859.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Flashback-August 1971 Fayetteville Arkansian
 Various references throughout Flashback
 Washington & Benton County Court records
 Marian Tibbetts Banes diary published
 serially in Flashback 1968 (continous
 publication)
 Contemporary record of Fayetteville
 Arkansas Gazette
 Ft. Smith Record

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	° ' "	° ' "		36° 03' 45.8"	94° 09' 22.5"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Rene Diaz, Assistant Professor

ORGANIZATION: University of Arkansas, Department of Architecture DATE: _____

STREET AND NUMBER: _____

CITY OR TOWN: Fayetteville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

Name: William E. Henderson
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: October 12, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/2/72

ATTEST:
William E. Henderson
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 10-31-72

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 2	1972

(Number all entries)

8. Significance Continued:

Miss Sophia Sawyer who accomanied Mrs. Ridge and her children later started the Fayetteville Female Seminary. Miss Saywer is credited by the late W. J. Lemke, Wash- ington County historian, as providing the influence which led to the establishment of the University of Arkansas. An extension of this thinking would make the Ridges the spiritual founders ofthe University of Arkansas, a legacy completely in keeping with their unfailing support of education of the Cherokees.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 2 1972

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References Continued:

Cherokee Tragedy by Thurman Wilkins

Cherokee Cavaliers by Everett Dale

Cherokees of the West by Grace Woodward

Chronicles of Oklahoma--Oklahoma Historical Society

Trail of Tears by Marion Starkey

Indian Removal by Grant Foreman



PROPERTY

The Ridge House

STATE

Ark

Working number

10.19.72.1581

TECH REVIEW

Photos 1

Maps 1

REVIEW

I don't feel that the map properly identifies where the Ridge House is.

10/19/72

HISTORIAN

Obay. S. S. 10/19/72

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

BRANCH CHIEF

Map is OK but justification is skimpy. OK
R. J. P. 10/24/72

EDITORIAL REVIEW

Is this really a ~~old~~ salt box type house, Ar? We should have dates for the various alterations. Not much of original house left.

Rowland 10-19-72

KEEPER

Shutters need also to be removed, as well as gas lamps.

W. H. 10.31.72

National Register write-up

Acknowledge 10/19/72

Federal Register entry

12-5-72

Send-back

Re-submit

Register no.

NOV 2 1972



Front facade, viewed from south

Photo

00

(2)

NPS Num

Title:

Loc.

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)

STATE	
COUNTY	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	NOV 2 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: THE RIDGE HOUSE			
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Cory-Ridge-Pettigrew House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
230 West Center			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Fayetteville			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Arkansas	05	Washington	143
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Martha Dellinger			
DATE OF PHOTO: October 1, 1971			
NEGATIVE FILED AT:			
Fayetteville, Arkansas			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Front Facade, view from the south.			



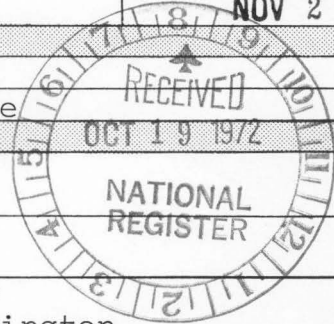
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 2	1972



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: THE RIDGE HOUSE
AND/OR HISTORIC: The Cory-Ridge-Pettigrew House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
230 West Center
CITY OR TOWN:
Fayetteville

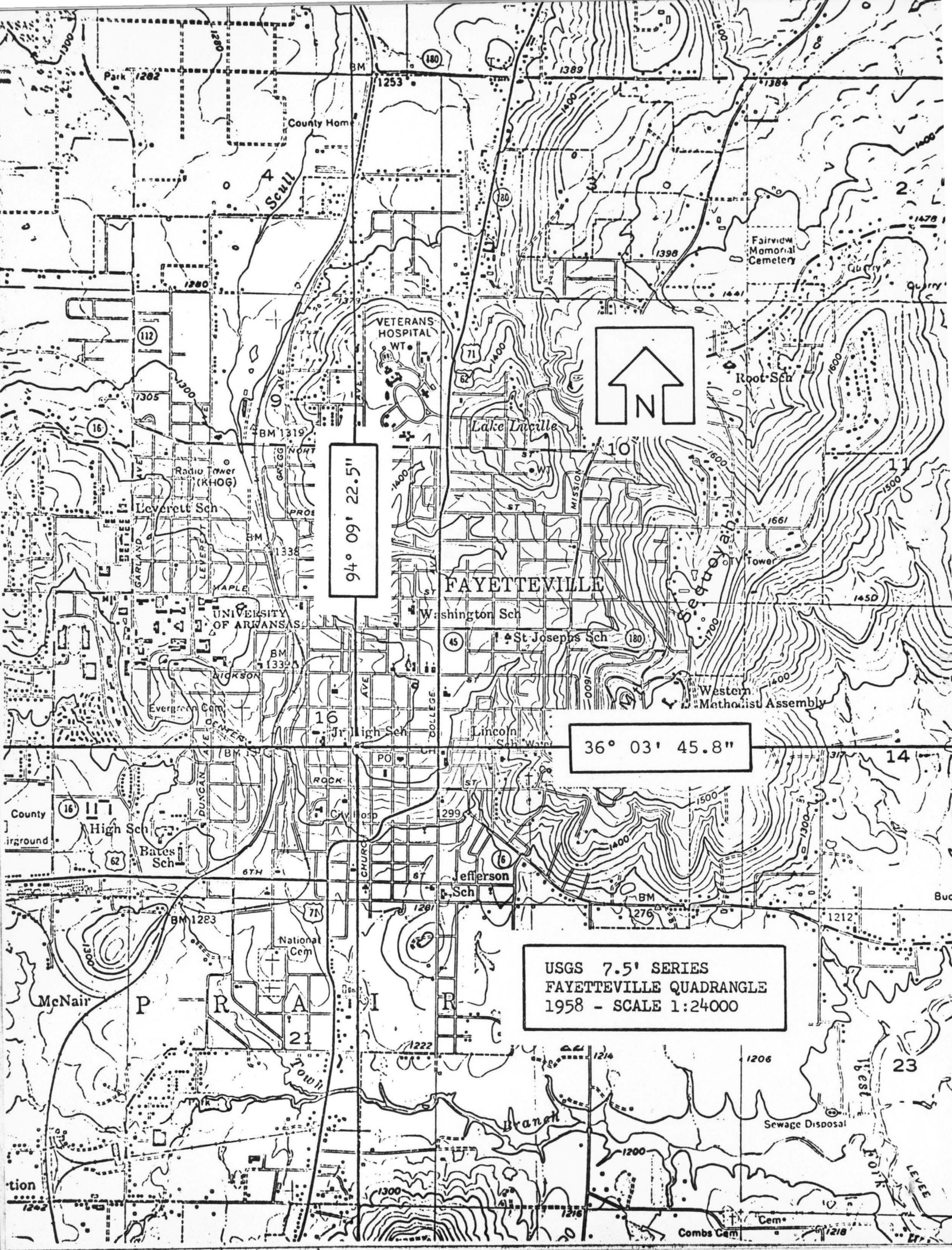
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Arkansas	05	Washington	143

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
United States Geological Survey
SCALE: 1:24,000
DATE: 1958

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



94° 09' 22.5"



36° 03' 45.8"

USGS 7.5' SERIES
FAYETTEVILLE QUADRANGLE
1958 - SCALE 1:24000



PLATE 100 700

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

HOME ADDRESS:
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
437 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
PHONE: 225-4301

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

September 15, 1972

COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC WORKS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT
ROADS
FLOOD CONTROL
RIVERS AND HARBORS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
COMPENSATION AND PENSION
HOSPITALS
HOUSING

Action Office FNP
For info only

Honorable Rogers C.B. Morton
Secretary of the Interior
Interior Building
Washington, D.C. 20240

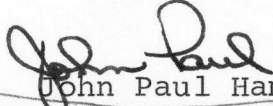
Dear Mr. Secretary:

With great pleasure I have noted the Arkansas
Historic Committee has advised the residents of Fayetteville
of the nomination of Ridge House to be included in the
National Register of Historic Sites.

Rog, I urge that this be expedited so that this
fine community may enjoy the advantages which result from
such designation, as soon as possible.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


John Paul Hammerschmidt
Member of Congress

JPH:cja

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
SEP 18 5 55 AM '72
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CL-1911



FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

P. O. DRAWER F

72701

(501) 443-4301

September 26, 1972

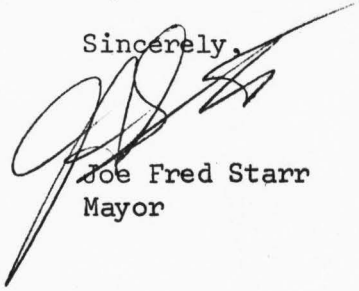
The Honorable John L. McClellan
United States Senator
Federal Office Building
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Senator McClellan:

It is with great pleasure that I have learned that the Ridge House in Fayetteville is to be included in the National Register of Historic Sites. This means that it could be eligible for federal funding in order to renovate and preserve this important structure.

I urge you to contact the Honorable Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of the Interior, with your personal endorsement and the encouragement that the register include the Ridge House.

Sincerely,



Joe Fred Starr
Mayor

JFS/cf

SEP 26 1972

Hon. John Paul Hammerschmidt
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hammerschmidt:

Secretary of the Interior Morton has asked us to acknowledge your inquiry concerning the nomination of the Ridge House in Arkansas to be included in the National Register.

The Secretary appreciates your interest in this matter and we will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Hartzog, Jr.

Director

P.S. If you need to contact someone further concerning this matter, please call the Division of Legislative Services on code 183, extension 38067, or Area Code 202, 343-8067.

cc:
LOS (2) w/inc.

FNP:CRBraxton:lbb:9-25-72

(CL-1911)

JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK., CHAIR

WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.	MILTON R. YOUNG, N. DAK.
JOHN C. STEVENS, MISS.	MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
JOHN O. PASTORE, R.I.	ROMAN L. HRUSKA, NEBR.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV.	GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA.	NORRIS COTTON, N.H.
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MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT.	HIRAM L. FONG, HAWAII
WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WIS.	J. CALEB BOGGS, DEL.
JOSEPH M. MONTOYA, N. MEX.	EDWARD W. BROOKE, MASS.
DANIEL K. INOUE, HAWAII	MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, S.C.	TED STEVENS, ALASKA
BIRCH BAYH, IND.	

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS Section Office 7NP
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 For info only

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, COUNSEL

October 11, 1972

The Honorable Rogers B. Morton
Secretary
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I have recently received from the Honorable Joe Fred Starr, Mayor of Fayetteville, Arkansas, advising me that the "Ridge House in Fayetteville is to be included in the National Register of Historic Sites."

As a final determination has not yet been rendered, I would, therefore, greatly appreciate your consideration of this matter at such time a review is held on this proposal.

Thanking you in advance for your kind attention, I am

Sincerely yours,

John L. McClellan
John L. McClellan

DEPT. OF INTERIOR
LMcClellan
Enc:
Oct 17 9 23 AM '75
OFF. OF THE SECRETARY

800 20005

CK-2567

BRAND
Sarles
Muetagh
Wiley

OCT 13 1972

T. G. Wood / 10/16

H34-PHR

Whitaker 10/16
Crellin for PH 10/16

Washington

Hon. John Paul Hammerschmidt
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hammerschmidt:

Secretary of the Interior Morton has asked us to thank you for your letter endorsing the nomination of the Ridge House in Fayetteville, Arkansas, to the National Register of Historic Places.

This nomination has not been received by the National Park Service. When it does come in, we will be pleased to expedite our professional review and to let you know as soon as a decision has been reached.

We appreciate your interest in the National Register program.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Robert M. Linn

Acting Associate Director

cc:
Mr. William E. Henderson
Director, Arkansas Department
of Parks and Tourism
State Capitol-Room 149
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201)w/cy inc.

CL
Director, Southwest Region)w/cy inc.
LI-Mr. Winge
PHR)
LOS)
FNP:FBSarles:dvt:10-5-72

10-5
Wing

✓ (BASIC FILES RETAINED IN PHR)

(CL-1911)

OCT 20 1972

Hon. John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

Secretary of the Interior Morton has asked us to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of the Honorable Joe Fred Starr, Mayor of Fayetteville, Arkansas, concerning the nomination of the Ridge House to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Secretary appreciates your interest in this matter and we will provide you a reply at our earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Hartzog, Jr.

Director

P.S. If you need to contact someone further concerning this matter, please call the Division of Legislative Services on code 183, extension 38067, or Area Code 202, 343-8067.

cc:
LOS (2) w/c of inc.

FNP:CRBraxton:lbb:10-20-72

(CL-2567)

mt

WHITE HOUSE, CONGRESSIONAL, OR SECRETARIAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO: PHR

FROM: Division of Legislative Services (LS)

SUBJECT: Preservation-~~of~~ Southwest

CONTROL NUMBER: CL-2567

SUSPENSE DATE: ~~October 30~~, 1972 *11/2/72* *11/20*

The attached correspondence is forwarded for the preparation of a draft reply. In the event the above suspense date cannot be met, please furnish me an interim draft reply on or before that suspense date, and include reasons for the delay and an estimate as to the date a final reply may be expected.

All draft replies must be surnamed by the Chief of the Division preparing the draft. It will be optional with that Division Chief as to whether his Assistant Director should also surname the draft.

For NPS signature XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 For Secretarial signature _____

Ira Whitlock
 Ira Whitlock

PLEASE LEAVE THIS MEMO ATTACHED TO THE CORRESPONDENCE

DRAFT: JLROGERS:mdt 11/2/72

11/3

H34-PHR

Hon. John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

Thank you for your inquiry in behalf of the Honorable Joe Fred Starr, Mayor of Fayetteville, Arkansas, concerning the Ridge House in Arkansas.

We are pleased to advise that the Ridge House was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on November 2, 1972.

We appreciate your interest in the programs of the National Park Service.

Sincerely yours,

Director

cc:

Mr. William E. Henderson, Director, Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism, State Capitol - Room 149, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 w/c inc.
Director, Southwest Region w/c inc.
LI, Mr. Winge
LOS, w/c inc.
PHR, w/c inc.

BASCC FILE RETAINED IN PHR

CL-2567

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered NOV 2 1972

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
The Ridge House	Fayetteville Washington County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. J. W. Fulbright
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt
Director, Southwest Region

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

PHR NRowland:mm 11/3/72

Washington Co.

Beaton
Bradford Joe
Muehlagh
Ullay
Rogers
Wood
11/7
Whitcomb

H34-PHR

NOV 8 1972

Hon. John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

Secretary of the Interior Morton has asked us to thank you for your inquiry in behalf of the Honorable Joe Fred Starr, Mayor of Fayetteville, Arkansas, concerning the Ridge House in Arkansas.

We are pleased to advise that the Ridge House was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on November 2, 1972.

We appreciate your interest in the programs of the National Park Service.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Utley

Director Office of Archeology
and Historic Preservation

cc:
Mr. William E. Henderson
Director, Arkansas Department of
Parks and Tourism
State Capitol - Room 149
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201) w/c of inc.

CL
Director-SWRegion)
LI-Mr. Winge)
PHR)
LOS)
FNP:JLRogers:crb:11-6-72

(CL-2567)

(BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PHR)

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



"THE OLD STATE HOUSE" 300 WEST MARKHAM

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
TELEPHONE - 501 371-1639

Mott

*Nov. 2, 1972
Washington, Co.*

June 4, 1975

Mr. Charles E. Hoffman, Administrator
Community Development Program
Post Office Drawer F
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This letter is written in response to your inquiry of March 25, 1975, concerning restoration of the Ridge House in Fayetteville, Arkansas. The outline of your planned preservation efforts seems in order, and your ultimate goal to restore this historic and architecturally significant structure is to be commended.

A copy of your outline for restoration of the Ridge House has been forwarded to the National Register office to be filed with the nomination form for the house. A copy will also be filed in our Program's information files on the Ridge House. Please keep us posted on the progress of this restoration in order that we may update our information and the information we have filed with the National Park Service.

We are most pleased to learn of your restoration plans and look forward to hearing of your progress.

Sincerely,

William E. Henderson
State Historic Preservation Officer

WEH:cm

cc: National Park Service ✓

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW

Community Development Program

PROJECT: Ridge House

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Project includes the archaeological survey of the complete structure. Repair of the foundation and superficial repairs to the structure. The latter work is designed to prevent further deterioration of Ridge House as it presently stands until funds are available to make a more complete project of the restoration.

EXISTING CONDITIONS: Ridge House has been vacant for some years and has had little or no maintenance performed and lacked the important preventive maintenance programs so necessary to insure long life of the structure. This is the oldest home in the City of Fayetteville and was owned by John Ridge, a member of the Cherokee nation. The facility was acquired by the Historical Society of Fayetteville in 1971. The roof has been temporarily covered completely with roofing material to arrest a leaking condition that was felt to have a tendency to further deteriorate the roof plus the structure members supporting the roof.

CRITERIA OF EFFECT:

1. This project has a positive effect on the historical structure. The work to be accomplished under this project will further preserve the life of the structure and prevent the ravages of time and weather from destroying some of the earliest history of the City of Fayetteville. History which is retained in the form of a public edifice can be used as a physical memorial to the early history of the nation, the American Indian, and this City.
2. The nature of the work is being accomplished in a means other than that which would be normal. However, the CD Program could not accept the full cost of preserving and restoring Ridge House in a single program year. Therefore, the Community Development Committee and the Board of Directors approved the expenditure of \$15,000 per year for a 3-year period to accomplish this much needed work. The phased program consists of:

Phase I - An archaeological review of the entire structure, repairs to the foundation and temporary repairs of the total structure so as to preclude any further deterioration until the follow-on work can be accomplished.

Phase II - Will address the repair and replacement of exterior walls, construction lumber and siding, plus repair of the roof.

Phase III - Will accomplish repair of the interior of Ridge House and the installation of mechanical and electrical systems that will further add to the preservation of this structure.

IMPACT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

1. The archaeological and architectural quality of Ridge House will be perfected and preserved. Ridge House represents some of the earliest forms of architecture and construction techniques used in this part of the country. It had its intent and basis in an architectural concept of self-preservation. Thus, the structure was originally a log cabin, and then further expanded to take care of the size of Ridge's family, and finally covered with siding to further the life of the structure.
2. The proposed project is the epitomy of effort to preserve a house of distinctive historic value to the City of Fayetteville and the Nation. The home dates back to 1835-1836 and represents a significant link with the past in the development of the City of Fayetteville. The simple lines and structural systems represent architectural and construction techniques of an era the City of Fayetteville cannot recapture. The preservation of Ridge House offers a significant contribution to the history of the City as it grows into a City of considerable importance to the State of Arkansas.