# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received DEC 15 1983

date entered

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	—complete applicable se	ctions		
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and/or common	Turk Hess Place	. 131. 2. 0. 358.005		CAST CAST CAST
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city, town Mar	cella	N/A vicinity of		
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3. Clas	sification	an man and an end of the pro-	albera et Bereza	and the formation of the second
Category district _X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered N/A	Status  X occupied  unoccupied  work in progress  Accessible  X yes: restricted  yes: unrestricted  no	Present Use  X agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park X private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Proper	ty	no mo resident	41 1 .4 . 5 4
name Ewel	1 G. Hess		1.81	N-3 <sup>15</sup> - 5,74 **/
street & number	2150 Bearette	August Turiseand in	30	Character i
city, town Ba	tesville	N/A vicinity of	state	Arkansas
5. Loca	ation of Lega	l Descriptio	n	or conficto on E
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc. Stone	County Courthouse		
street & number	Courtsquare			1.00 1.00
city, town	Mountain View		state	Arkansas
6. Rep	resentation i	n Existing S	urveys	temporary and
title Hist. & A	Arch. Survey of Stone	e Co. has this prop	erty been determined e	eligible?yesno N/
date Sept.	1982-July 1983		the faire and deep	ate X countylocal
depository for su	urvey records Arkansas	Historic Preservati	on Program	
	Little Rock			Arkansas
6. Reputitle Hist. & Addate Sept.	resentation in Arch. Survey of Stone 1982-July 1983	e Co. has this prop	erty been determined e	eligible?yeslo

### 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	unaltered X_ altered	X original site moved date

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### SUMMARY

The Thomas E. Hess House is an ecellent example of an I-House; two-story, single-pile structure with two rooms on each floor and a central hall. A one-story rear ell contains the dining room and kitchen. The frame house has a cedar-shingled gable roof and native sandstone foundation. The two-story, centered front porch with hip roof features jigsaw wooden lace ornamentation and balusters of native walnut. The L-shaped back porch has been enclosed. The foundation, which originally consisted of piers, is now continuous. Behind the house are ten outbuildings typical of the types of structures necessary to a small working farm. These include two storage sheds, two barns, a corncrib, two chicken coops, a garage, a pumphouse, and a storm cellar. A large garden is situated beside the house, but the land behind the outbuildings has grown up in woods.

#### ELABORATION

The Hess House faces State Highway 14, which serves as Marcella's main street. The front yard is delineated by a decorative woven-wire fence. A concrete sidewalk leads up to the house, and the name "T.E. Hess" is spelled out in block letters in the first square inside the gate. The house is relatively plain in appearance with corner boards capped with molding, simple decorative moldings above the two over two windows, and a transom above the front door with its applied wreath on the lower panel are the only decorations besides rather restrained jigsaw work and turned balusters on the front porch. The interior is similarly simple. The hall and stairwell have wainscoting of beaded boards, which also make up the ceiling. The staircase has an attractive free-standing walnut newel post, balusters identical to those on the porch, and scalloped strings.

The front parlor which is to the left of the entance features the house's only mantel, a simple composition of pine boards with minimal millwork. The original sandstone fireplace front was lightly worked by a stonemason using a toothed chisel to produce a grooved band at the edge of the opening. Recently a wood stove fireplace insert has been installed here. This room has been panelled and the ceiling lowered. The woodwork has been painted. The bedroom across the hall retains the original woodgraining.

The dining room, immediately behind the parlor, has beaded board wainscoting and originally had walls of horizontally-applied beaded boards. These have been covered with panelling. The ceiling has been sheetrocked.

The kitchen is behind the dining room and has been similarly panelled. Also, a door which once opened into the side yard has been closed. A double window above a kitchen sink has been installed in approximately the same space.

The L-shaped back porch has been enclosed. First, the part behind the bedroom was enclosed to provide a bathroom and a room for the safe where Mr. Hess kept the money and the accounts for his store and his farm. This room now houses a second bathroom. The remainder of the porch was enclosed more recently with horizontal boards and windows.

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The two upstairs bedrooms have horizontal board walls which were canvassed and papered. Floors are painted; ceilings of beaded boards were papered. The original woodgraining is extant on all doors, window and door frames, and baseboards. Attic space is located above the rear ell and above the main pile.

In addition to the parlor fireplace, wood stoves were used to heat the house.

Immediately behind the house are a stone and concrete storm cellar, a frame pump house, a storage shed which is half box construction and half frame with stone veneer, and a large box smokehouse with storage. Behind these buildings are the remains of the fence which once separated the yard from the animal lots. Located behind this fence are a frame garage, a chicken coop, a transverse crib barn, a log corncrib, another barn, and an abandoned chicken coop.

The transverse crib barn has an open central aisle with four stalls to the right and a small granary and larger corncrib to the left. This central portion has hewn log sills. A shed on the left appears to be an animal shelter while a smaller shed on the right was apparently for equipment storage. Floored areas above the stalls and cribs held loose hay. The corncrib, now in deteriorated condition, has hewn log walls joined with square notching. The traditional door is composed of vertical boards joined with two chamferred horizontal boards. About fifteen feet square, the building was originally located on a neighboring farm, where it served as the first school building in the area. The Hess children went to shool there, and Thomas E. Hess purchased it about 1905 and moved it to its present location for use as a corncrib.

These second barn follows no traditional pattern but contains two cribs, probably for feed storage; othere stalls, and a floored area under the roof for hay storage.

The buildings are representative of a collection of the various types needed in the early twentieth century to support a small farm. They illustrate the major building techniques employed in the area in the time period--balloon frame, box and log.

### 8. Significance

1500-1599 1600-1699 1700-1799 1800-1899 X 1900-	X agriculture X architecture art commerce communications	economics education engineering exploration/settlement industry invention	literature military music philosophy politics/government  omas M. Hess (father	sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Period prehistoric 1400–1499	archeology-historic	community planning conservation	landscape architectur	science

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### SUMMARY

Thomas E. Hess was the grandson of William Hess, the first white man to settle on the west bank of the White River in present-day Stone County after the departure of the Cherokees in 1828. The Hess family remained the dominant farmers and merchants in the area for three generations, each generation moving a little farther inland. The Thomas E. Hess House has dominated the hamlet of Marcella since its construction in 1900. Other structures on the 6.4 acre plot include a stone cellar, a washhouse and well, a smokehouse, a barn, and a log corncrib. The log corncrib was once a schoolhouse which originally stood on the old Evetts Place on Wallace Creek. It was the first school building in the neighborhood. Abandoned, it was purchased about 1905 by T.E. Hess and moved to its present location. The farmstead is significant both because of its association with the influential pioneer Hess family and because of the collection of bulidings still on the site.

#### **ELABORATION**

William Hess settled on the west bank of the White River in 1828 on land only recently vacated by the Cherokees. He built a log house and store near the ferry landing serving the area's main road to the west. His son, Thomas M. Hess, continued his father's enterprises, transforming the old log house into a general store and moving into a new log house on the ridge above the river before the Civil War. As other families moved in, the settlement on the river became known as Hesstown. Hess's farms prospered too, and in 1869 he and his brother built frame homes a little further up the road. Nearby Hess built a new store and a distillery, becoming increasingly involved in the growing riverboat trade on the White River.

By the time Hess's children were grown, he was prosperous enough to give each one some land and to build each a house. These formed the nucleus of the little village which he named Marcella. In 1899, his only son, Thomas E. Hess, married Nellie Knight, and in 1900 Thomas M. Hess gave them a house on 6.4 acres of land; the largest house in Marcella.

Except for four years spent in Batesville so that his children could attend school, Thomas E. Hess (known as Turk) spent his entire life within a quarter mile of the hosue where was born, most of those years in the house his father gave him. Turk Hess died in 1973 at the age of 100. His house and the associated outbuildings remain as they have always been and the farmstead remains in the Hess family.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

GPO 894-785

Lankford, George E. Unpublished materials on the Hess family and the development of Marcella. Arkansas College, Batesville, AR. Luther, Edwin. "Hess Story," <u>Heritage of Stone</u> 1, no. 4 (Spring 1973), 3-7.

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For NPS use only I hereby certify that this	property is included in t	he National Registe	and the set has been a great
Allowis Bre	Ent	ered in the lonal Register	date $\frac{2}{21/83}$
Keeper of the National Re	gister	neglater	1 /21/00
Attest:			date
Chief of Registration			

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Page 1

Massey, Melissa Loy. "History of Marcella," <u>Heritage of Stone</u> 1, no. 4 (Spring 1973), 21-22.

"Celebrates 100th Uear," Stone County Leader, 25 January 1973.

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**Page** 

1

then S 82  $\frac{1}{2}$  W 1035 links; then S 572 links; then E 770 links to the beginning, containing six and 40/100 acres, more or less.

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

☐ dates

boundary selection

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Walnuturg 15 day turg

				Cherry
Hess, Thomas E., House				P
Stone County				
ARKANSAS			Working No. DEC 15	1983
			Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5	5-85,
			Date Due:	1/29/84
		line for	Action:ACCEPT_	
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nomination by person or local government	t	Watton	d Register REJECT_	Mental Jersen Harriston
owner objection			Federal Agency:	ASSESSED TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE
☐ appeal				
Substantive Review:  sample	request	appeal	☐ NR decision	4
Reviewer's comments:				
			Recom./Criteria	
			Reviewer	
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			see continuation she	eet
Nomination returned for:technical corr	rections cited belo easons discussed be		Asset	ap bakedings to sign or execution
1. Name		,	company and out	en underland desertion
2. Location				
3. Classification				
Category Ownership Public Acquisit	ion	Status Accessible	Present Use	
4. Owner of Property		The state of	of nearly inside, and to es	Presidente properties a en
5. Location of Legal Description		TEST	197	TROCHENT
6. Representation in Existing Surveys			managar managag	otto recess 2 navelle e. e.
Has this property been determined eligible?	□ yes [	□ no		
7. Description				TENTO Y
Condition		k one	Check one	
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good ruins	L a	Itered	moved dat	e
fair unexposed				
Describe the present and original (if known) p	hysical appearance	e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e		
summary paragraph				
completeness				
☐ clarity				
alterations/integrity				

3. Significance	ASMITTANDE SETATE ESTIMON TO TO THE SEMISHOR THE SETATE OF	
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below		
Specific dates Builder/Architect		
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)		
summary paragraph		
completeness clarity 888 3 1 030		
applicable criteria		
justification of areas checked		
relating significance to the resource context		
relationship of integrity to significance		
☐ justification of exception		
other other		
9. Major Bibliographical References		
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of nominated property		
Quadrangle name		
UTM References		
Verbal boundary description and justification		J
11. Form Prepared By		
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification	Currier Currier Course	
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:		
nationalstatelocal		
State Historic Preservation Officer signature		
494		
title date		
13. Other	100	
Maps		
Photographs		
Other		
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to		
Signed Date _	Phone:	



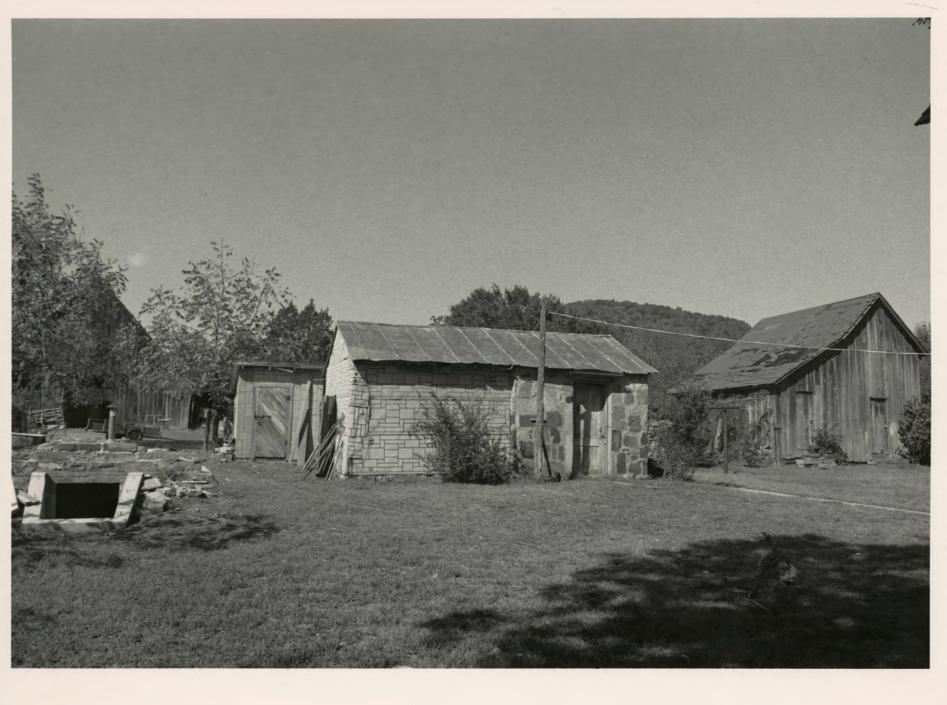
Thomas E. Hess House
Marcella
Stone County
Photographed by Don Brown
October, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the East



Thomas E. Hess House
Marcella
Stone County
Photographed by Don Brown
October, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast



Thomas E. Hess House
Marcella
Stone County
Photographed by Don Brown
October, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Rear elevation
Viewed from the West



Thomas E. Hess House
Marcella
Stone County
Photographed by Don Brown
October, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Outbuildings





ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

December 9, 1983

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Thomas E. Hess House Marcella Stone County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Thomas E. Hess House in Stone County. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

We are respectfully asking that the 45-day commenting period be waived on the Hess House and that it be listed as soon as possible. The family wishes to donate an historic facade easement during the current year. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will begin the administration of the easement program this month and we wish to have this building as one of the first on which we accept an easement. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated. Some action is necessary by the end of this month.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles

State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/AJ/ss

Enclosure/s



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