

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only
received **JUL 22 1983**
date entered

1. Name

historic Clover Bend High School

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Arkansas Highway 228 N/A not for publication

city, town Clover Bend N/A vicinity of congressional district

state Arkansas code 05 county Lawrence code 075

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other: Community Ctr.

4. Owner of Property

name Clover Bend Historical and Preservation Association

street & number Route 1, Box 67-A

city, town Hoxie N/A vicinity of state Arkansas 72433

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Lawrence County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Walnut Ridge state Arkansas 72476

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no N/A

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Constructed between 1937 and 1938, the Clover Bend High School is one of several educational structures built by the Farm Security Administration as part of the Clover Bend Project. Since its construction, the building has functioned as the educational and social center of the community. Typical of federally sponsored agricultural settlement projects of the 1930's, Clover Bend provided small farmers, hard hit by the Depression, the opportunity to live and work in a cooperative community.

ELABORATION

The Clover Bend Project of 1936 consisted of developing fertile farm acreage, formerly part of the Clover Bend Plantation, into individual farm plots of approximately forty acres each. In 1937 a school complex was constructed to serve the educational needs of the families participating in the Project. Originally the complex was composed of a high school building, an agriculture building and a home economics cottage. Later a gymnasium, elementary building, cafetorium and two houses for school administrators were added. Soon after the first buildings were completed, the school became known as the Clover Bend Community Center.

The Clover Bend High School is a simple one story wood-sided structure with a T-shaped plan, the rear wing of which contains an auditorium. The symmetrical building has a hipped roof with two gabled projections at each corner of the front facade. The two projections, each with five windows and a fan-shaped louvered vent, flank a central entrance on either side of which are five windows grouped identically to those of the end projections. Throughout the building, windows are double-hung with nine-over-nine configurations. The recessed entrance is simply detailed with an architrave moulding with corner blocks surrounding the double doors and twelve light transom. Each of the two front doors has a paneled wood bottom above which are nine glass lights. Simple fluted pilasters flank the entry. In addition to the front entrance, five others provide access to various parts of the building. Two entrances to the auditorium wing have six light transoms and bracket-supported hoods. Entrances at each end of the two classroom wings are recessed. Interior walls are covered with the same wood novelty siding as found on the exterior. Throughout the interior, the siding above the chair rail is laid vertically, while below it is horizontal. A central corridor off of which classrooms are located is parallel with the front facade and divides the interior space. Windows with six lights each are positioned just below the cornice line between the corridor and the classrooms, thus providing ventilation throughout the building. A stage, flanked by fluted pilasters, is located at the end of the auditorium wing. The only alteration to the building is a small square pyramidal roof addition at the rear.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1937–38 **Builder/Architect** Builder - Buford Bracy

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Clover Bend High School is a pivotal structure in what was once a thriving and successful planned farming community. The Clover Bend community in rural Lawrence County was a product of the wide-spread socio-economic programs developed by the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration to help combat the problems faced by Americans during the depression of the 1930's. This particular project was geared specifically toward upgrading the life of the Southern tenant farmer who was locked into a cycle of borrowing against earnings on one crop in order to put in a new one. The formation of an agricultural community with each farmer working his own plot of land and with a school as the center was perhaps the first major alternative to established farming practices offered to the area's tenant farmers in generations.

ELABORATION

In 1936, the United States government purchased a large portion of the Clover Bend Plantation in southeast Lawrence County. This large farming operation was established in 1840 by Samuel Robinson. Captain T.W. Tucker of Canton, Massachusetts purchased the plantation from the Robinson estate in 1870 and maintained it until 1918.

The Clover Bend Community Project was originally administered by the Resettlement Administration and was part of a national experiment in rural rehabilitation. However, in 1937, administrative duties were assumed by the Farm Security Administration. Under this federal agency's jurisdiction were the approximately ninety farmsteads which made up the original project. Each of these consisted of a one-story white frame house, a barn, a smokehouse, poultry house, garden, orchard, and toilet. Each yard was fenced and each family farmed approximately forty acres.

At the very core of this agricultural project was the local school which the government built to provide educational opportunities for the children of the participating farmers who, for the most part, had received little if any schooling themselves. The Clover Bend High School was constructed in 1937–38 and opened for classes in 1939. Other buildings making up the Clover Bend educational complex that were constructed at the same time include an agricultural building and home economics building. Later a gymnasium, elementary building, cafetorium, and two houses were added. The high school is the major structure in the complex, being the largest and most imposing.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Baldwin, Sidney. Poverty & Politics: The Rise & Decline of the Farm Security Administration. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1968.
Johnson, Charles S.; Embree, Edwin R.; and Alexander, W.W.; The Collapse of Cotton Tenancy. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.. 1935.
Arkansas Gazette, The Clover Bend Project. Little Rock: July 21, 1940.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one
Alicia, Arkansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 1 5 6 7 2 4 1 0 3 9 8 3 8 2 0
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification Section 33, Township 16 North, Range 1 West

The boundaries of the nominated property extend 50 feet from each exterior wall of the building.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code
-------	-----	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Don House (ed. by staff of AHPP)

Clover Bend Historical and Preservation
organization Assoc.

date June 1983

street & number 319 E. Main

telephone 886-9604

city or town Walnut Ridge

state Arkansas

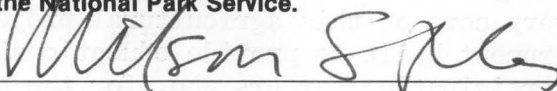
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state X local

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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date July 19, 1983

For NPS use only

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

Patrick Andrus

date 8/17/83

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

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date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

The Clover Bend High School served as the center of a highly successful agricultural project. Following the end of the federal government's participation in the community, the high school continued to function and graduated many of the area farmers' children. It closed its doors at the end of the 1983 school year with a graduating class of three. The Clover Bend High School played a prominent role in this worthwhile and far reaching agricultural project and continued to play a vital role long after that.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Ibid. July 26, 1940.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Clover Bend High School
Lawrence County
ARKANSAS

Substantive Review

Working No. JUL 19 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84
Date Due: 8/18/83 9/2/83
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 8/17/83
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal

☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Historically significant for association with
Depression era program aimed at improving the
lives of tenant farmers - this bld. was ~~then~~ an important
element of the government designed to ~~improve~~ farm cooperatives*

Recom./Criteria accept A
Reviewer Patrick Andrus
Discipline Historian
Date 8/17/83
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

✓ 1. Name

✓ 2. Location

✓ 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

✓ 4. Owner of Property

✓ 5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☒ summary paragraph
☒ completeness
☒ clarity
☒ alterations/integrity
☒ dates
☒ boundary selection

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☒ summary paragraph
- ☒ completeness
- ☒ clarity
- ☒ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☒ relating significance to the resource
- ☒ context
- ☒ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☒ justification of exception
- ☐ other

Education would have been appropriate as an area of significance.

→ exceptional significance is discussed in SHPO letter of July 19, 1983

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



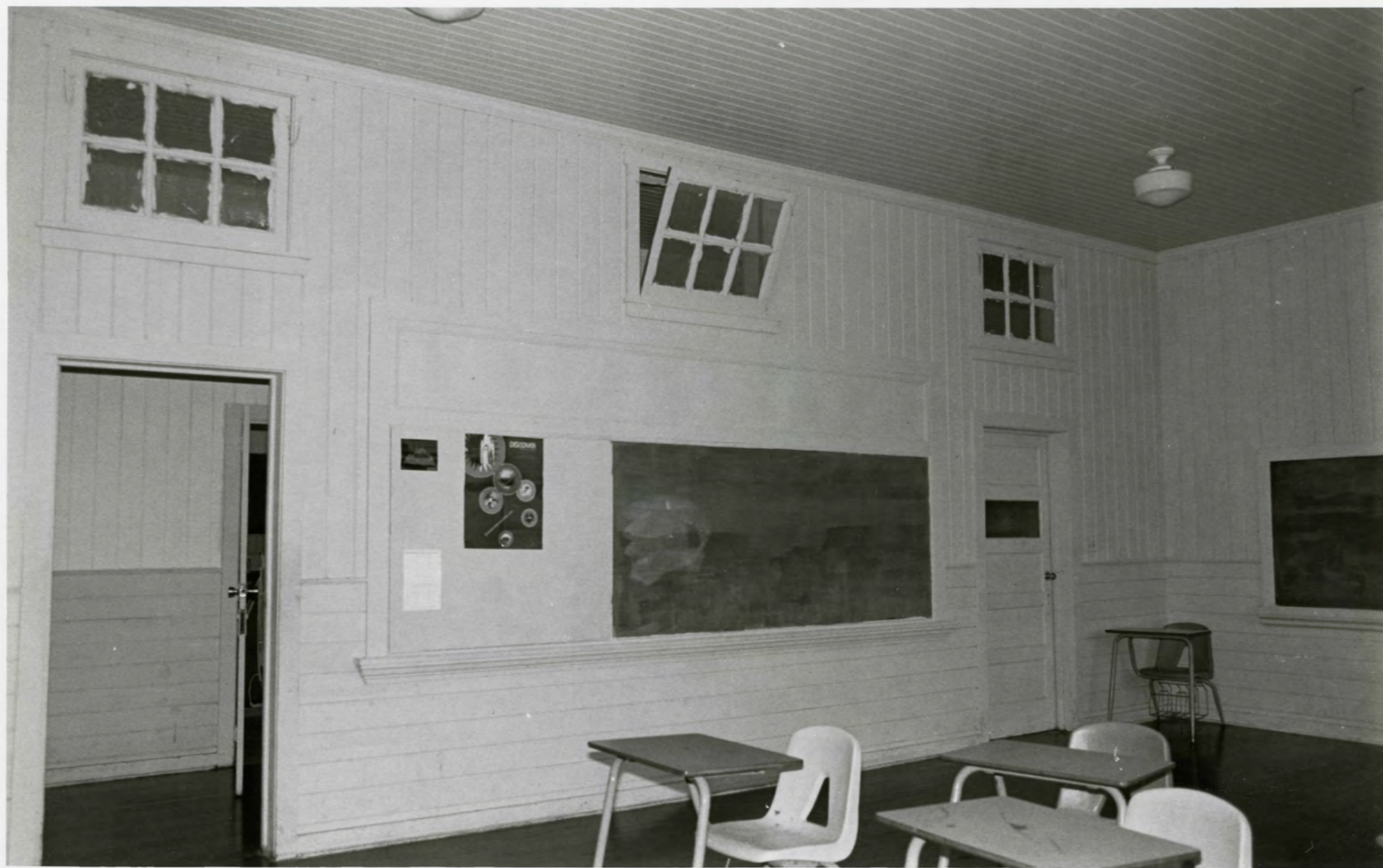
Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend, Arkansas
Lawrence County
Alice Jones, photographer
June, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest



Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend, Arkansas
Lawrence County
Alice Jones, photographer
June, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast



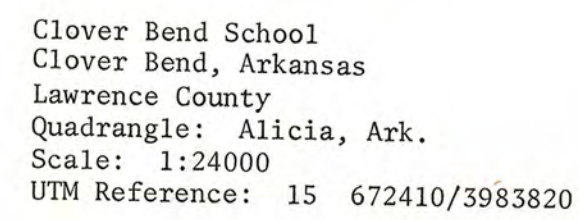
Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend, Arkansas
Lawrence County
Alice Jones, photographer
June, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the Northwest



Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend, Arkansas
Lawrence County
Alice Jones, photographer
June, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Interior (classroom)



Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend, Arkansas
Lawrence County
Alice Jones, photographer
June, 1983
Negative on file at AHPP
Interior (auditorium)

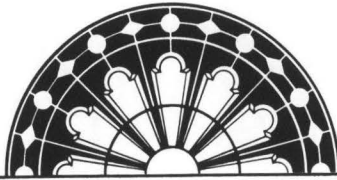


UTM GRID AND 1980 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



ALICIA, ARK.
NE/4 ALICIA 15' QUADRANGLE
N3552.5-W9100/7.5
1980
DMA 7755 I 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 ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

July 19, 1983

Ms. Carol Schull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 L. St. N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

RE: Clover Bend High School
Clover Bend
Lawrence County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review a nomination for the Clover Bend High School in Lawrence County. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

As you can see, the building is less than fifty years old. However, we feel that the age criterion should be waived in this case because of the building's significance as part of an important national cultural movement. In Arkansas projects of this type were extremely important to a large group of citizens who were poor dirt farmers. The importance of these planned communities in Arkansas has been recognized by listings in the National Register of Lake Dick, Plum Bayou Homesteads, and the Dyess Colony Center all which represent government farming projects begun during the Great Depression. Each of these properties was placed in the Register prior to becoming fifty years of age.

We would appreciate expeditious handling of this nomination as one of the most preservation minded state legislators we have in Arkansas has been actively involved in the research and preparation of the nomination. He is a farmer in the community and is a graduate of the school. We are anxious to have this building listed and would be appreciative if there is some way to have it done so by August 17th.

If you have any questions about this nomination, please call Alice Jones of my staff at (501) 371-2763. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles
State Historic Preservation Officer

