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CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Craighead	
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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (II known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Frierson House presently appears to have been remodeled and altered several times during its existence with the last remodeling probably having taken place in the early 1900's. large two-storey frame house with hipped roof and three dormers has a two-storey gallery on the west or front side with a one-storey gallery along the north and east sides of the house. The front twostorey gallery is supported on four Ionic sytle columns with a balustrade rail of turned individual balusters on both first and second floors with a third balustrade crowning the flat roof of the gal-The one-storey gallery on the side and back of the house is supported on simple Roman Doric style columns, also with a balustrade railing. The entablature of the main house is punctuated at widely spaced intervals with simple brackets with a bracket spaced on either side of the upstairs windows which join this entablature. entablature around the front gallery has brackets also, two spaced over each of the outer columns and three spaced above each of the two inner columns. The ceilings of both the upper and lower front galleries are paneled in an unusual and deliberately irregular pattern. The main front entrance is recessed, being simple in basic design with a three segment transom and sidelights. This entrance is recessed with convex curved paneling reaching from two simple pilasters on either side back to the face of the entrance itself. The side and rear gallery has evenly spaced brackets with a simple beaded ceiling. All of the windows are single light, double hung sash with the windows on either side of the main entrance being wider than the rest used in the house. A matching entrance to the one below is located on the second gallery of the west front of the house with two large windows, one on either side. An open terrace with a wood balustrade rail connects the west front two-storey gal-115 ery at the main floor level with the side one storey gallery.

The interior of the house is presently laid 3 1973 out in a typical fashion used primarily before MATIONAL the Civil War, i.e., with center hall and two normSTER opening on either side of the center hall. The

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

COUNTY	
Craighead	
FOR NPS USE ON	ILY
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(Number all entries)

7. Description Continued:

U-shaped main stair is located at the east back end of this main center hall with a single landing half-way up on which is located a large stained glass window. This is the only stained glass window located in the house and is of art nouveau design. The fireplaces in the two north rooms are in the corner of each room, back to back, while the fireplaces for the two south rooms are located back to back in the center of the wall between them. The rear ell. contains a butler's pantry and kitchen on the southeast corner of the house with a small porch at the far end. The one-storey gallery also runs along the north side of this kitchen connecting with the gallery running along the east side of the house. The second floor contains four large bedrooms plus several smaller rooms. The interior woodwork is mainly natural varnished wood with hardwood floors. The mantels are natural finished wood with those on the main floor having beveled edge mirrors incorporated into the overmantel. Some of the woodwork in the back part of the house has been painted. The four main downstairs rooms of the house have combination gas and electric lighting fixtures, still complete with the gas shades and smaller electric shades.

The Frierson House is a good example of a home that reflects the varying tastes and needs of the families and occupants who have lived there over a period of years. In spite of the fact that the house has been altered, apparently any numer of times, it nevertheless has a well coordinated appearance in its present state. The large tree studded grounds add immeasurably to the overall impression and create a perfect setting for a gracious old home that has served its past occupants well and can serve still future occupants in large measure. Any

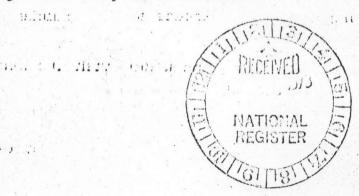
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While the Frierson House has only marginal architectural and historical significance State-wide. It is locally one of the most imposing residences in the Jonesboro, Arkansas area.

It is impossible to date the construction of this house by using either architectural research or by other accepted research methods. The only thing that can be stated with any degree of accuracy is that the house has undergone several extensive alterations and was constructed about 1900.

The only event of historical significance which occured in the house was the use of its library by Francis Cherry as a radio studio from which to broadcast his "breakfast talkathons" which contributed to his successful campaign for the governorship of Arkansas.



The Latest State

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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 William E. Henderson Title State Liaison Officer			Natio	nal Regis	ter.	roperty is include		
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9. MAJOR BID APHICAL REFERENCES

ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

Craighead

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References Continued:

Hempstead, Fay. <u>Historical Review of Arkansas</u>. 3 vols. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Co., 1911.

Herndon, Dallas T. (ed.) <u>Centennial History of</u>
<u>Arkansas</u>. 3 vols. Chicago, Little Rock:
<u>S. J. Clark Publishing Co., 1922</u>.

Jonesboro Daily Tribune, February 1, 1940.

Jonesboro Sun, July 18, 1971.

Stuck, Charles A. The Story of Craighead County. Jonesboro: The Hurley Co., 1960.

Williams, Harry Lee. The History of Craighead County. Little Rock: Parke-Harper Company, 1930.



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Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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county:
Craighead
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Frierson House is a large two-storey frame house with hipped roof and three dormers, a two-storey gallery on the west or front side with a one-storey gallery along the north and east sides of the house. The front two-storey gallery is supported on four Ionic style columns with a balustrade rail of turned individual balusters on both first and second floors, with a third balustrade crowning the flat roof of the gallery. The one-storey gallery on the side and back of the house is supported on simple Roman Doric style columns, also with a balustrade railing. The entablature of the main house is punctuated at widely spaced intervals with simple brackets with a bracket spaced on either side of the upstairs windows which join this entablature.kThe entablature around the front gallery had brackets also, two spaced over each of the outer columns and three spaced above each of the two inner columns. The ceilings of both the upper and lower front galleries are paneled in an unusual and deliberately irregular pattern. The main front entrancelis recessed, being simple in basic design with a three segment transom and sidelights. This entrance is recessed with convex curved paneling reaching from two simple pilasters on either side back to the face of the entrance itself. The side and rear gallery has evenly spaced brackets with a simple beaded ceiling. All of the windows are single light, double hung sash with the windows on either side of the main. entrance being wider than the rest used in the house. A matching entrance to the one below is located on the second gallery of the west front of the house with two large windows, one on either side. An open terrace with a wood balustrade rail connects the west front two-storey gallery at the main floor level with the side one-storey gallery.

The interior of the house is presently laid out in a typical fashion used primarily before the Civil War, i.e., with center hall and two rooms opening on either side of the center hall. The U-shaped main stair is located at the east back end of this main center hall with a single landing half-way up on which is located a large stained glass window. This is the only stained glass window located in the house and is of art nouveau design. The fireplaces in the two north here rooms are in the corner of each room, back to back.

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Craighead	
FOR NPS USE ON	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

7. <u>Description Continued</u>:

while the fireplaces for the two south rooms are located back to back in the center of the wall between them. rear ell contains a butler's pantry and kitchen on the southeast corner of the house with a small porch at the far end. The one-storey gallery also runs along the north side of thiskkitchen connecting with the gallery running along the east side of the house. The second floor contains four large bedrooms plus several smaller rooms. The interior woodwork is mainly natural varnished wood with hardwood floors. The mantels are natural finished wood with those on the main floor having beveled edge mirrors incorporated into the overmantel. Some of the woodwork in the back part of the house has been painted. The four main downstairs rooms of the house have combination gas and electric lighting fixtures, still complete with the gas shades and smaller electric shades.

The Frierson House is a good example of a home that reflects the varying tastes and needs of the families and occupants who have lived there over a period of years. In spite of the fact that the house has been altered, it nevertheless has a well coordinated appearance in its present state. The large tree studded grounds add immeasurably to the overall impression and create a perfect setting for a gracious old home that has served its past occupants well and can serve still future occupants in large measure.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as A	ppropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	X 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Chec	ck One or More as Appropriate	e)	
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It is impossible to accurately ppin-point the date of construction of the house, either by documentary or architectural evidence. There are no surviving documents which would provide a clue as to when the house was built and the architectural style is such that it could have been built anywhere from 1870 to 1910. Local informants

state that the house was built in the 1880's. Some architectural details, however, point to a later date. These details, admittedly, may have come into being during the course of later day alterations.

The house, as it stands now, is an excellent example of the type of town house that was being built in the growing commercial cities of the Post Civil War Period. The development of share-cropping as an economic necessity immediately after the Civil War meant the death of the plantation system and the "main house". As the larger landowners prospered, in the two decades following the Civil War, they often built a new house in town and moved there with their families. In most cases the old plantation homes were razed and even the old "house lot" put under cultivation. The Frierson House is an excellent example of the "town house".

The Frierson House is important to the people of the city of Jonesboro. To them it is a nostalgic link with their past, which exists in a city that modern day living and a growing State University complex is rapidly changing.

Historically its significance is slight. Governor Francis Cherry was a resident and conducted his successful political campaign from the old house; an event which adds to the local associations, but does not imbue it

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Craighead	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	·
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Number all entries)

8. Significance Continued:

with any special state or national distinction. The importance of the house, to the local people, is perhaps only symbolic. Symbolic of a social phase in their history which they would like to retain.



Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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- 9. Major Bibliographical References Continued:
- Hempstead, Fay. <u>Historical Review of Arkansas</u>.

 3 vols. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Co.,
 1911.
- Herndon, Dallas, T. (ed.) <u>Centennial History of</u>
 <u>Arkansas</u>. 3 vols. Chicago, Little Rock:
 S. J. Clark Publishing Co., 1922.

Jonesboro Daily Tribune, February 1, 1940.

Jonesboro Sun, July 18, 1971.

Stuck, Charles A. The Story of Craighead County.
Jonesboro: The Hurley Co., 1960.

Williams, Harry Lee. The History of Craighead County.Little Rock: Parke-Harper Company, 11

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Craighead Co.

Phone: (501) 371-2763

January 3, 1980

Ms. Carol Shull Acting Keeper of the National Register Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service Department of the Interior Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Mrs. Margaret Frierson Cherry (Mrs. Francis Adams Cherry), former owner of the Frierson House in Jonesboro, Arkansas, (listed in the National Register of Historic Places, 4-24-73) recently forwarded information to our office concerning that property which we feel should be included in the original nomination. Hopefully this additional data will supplement and reinforce the description and statement of significance of the Frierson House. Please find enclosed the appropriate continuation sheets.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Joan Williams Baldridge

State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/JTD/1g

Enclosures

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Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY		
RECEIVED		
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE

Regarding alterations to the Frierson House, photographic evidence indicates that the Ionic columns supporting the galleries were added no later than 1903. Several stained glass windows, some of the woodwork (the stairway, for example) and other minor modifications were undertaken prior to 1912 by Judge and Mrs. Allen Hughes, aunt and uncle of Mrs. Margaret Frierson Cherry, former owner of the property. When the home was purchased in 1912 by Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Diamont, the new owners added a furnace and hardwood floors on the first floor and updated the kitchen and bath facilities. Mrs. Cherry's father bought the home in 1924. No major renovations were made after that date.

Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE

The Frierson House was constructed in 1883-1884 by Mr. and Mrs. James G. Frierson. Mr. Frierson served as a captain in the Confederate Army, practiced law and, in 1870, was elected to the Arkansas Senate. His wife, Emma Davis Frierson, was a leading educator in the Jonesboro area and, for a period of time, operated the only institution of learning in Jonesboro. This school, a private subscription school, was located in the Frierson House. Members of the Frierson and Cherry families who have resided in the Frierson House have consistently made notable contributions on the local, state and federal level. Two members of these families have served in Arkansas constitutional conventions, three in the Arkansas State Legislature, one as mayor of Jonesboro, three as state judges, three as city attorneys and one, Francis Cherry, as Governor of the State of Arkansas

Form No. 10-300a (Hev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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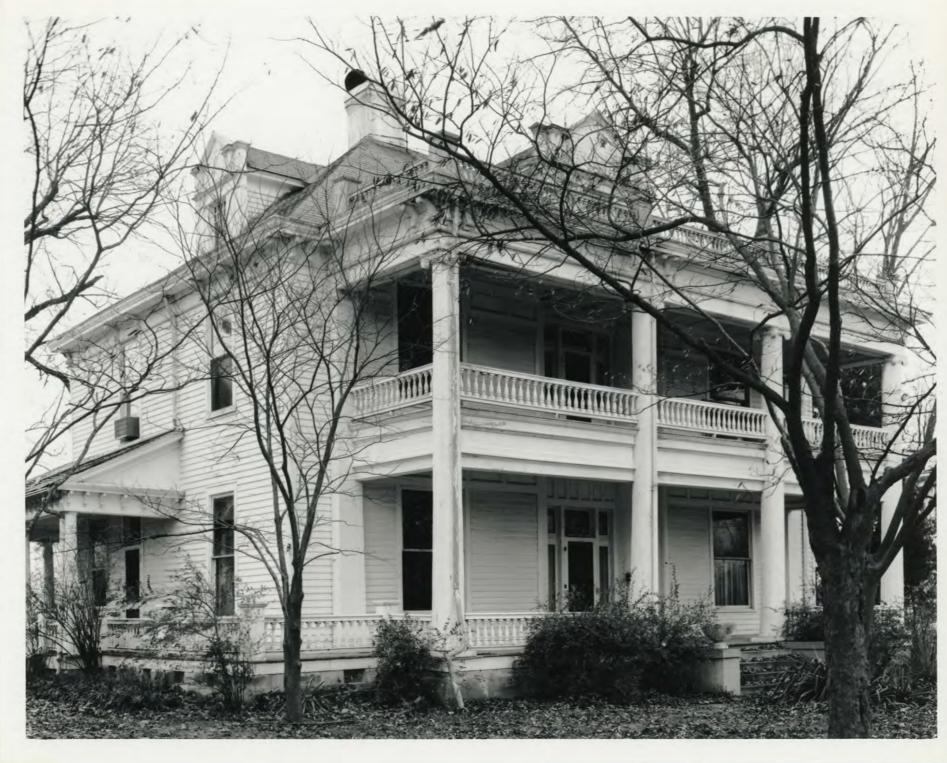
PAGE 2

Frierson, Charles D. "Mrs. Emma Davis Frierson." <u>Craighead County Historical Quarterly</u>. Pp. 17-23.

Letter, Margaret Frierson Cherry to Joan Williams Baldridge, October 18, 1979.

Letter, Camille Hughes Jones to Margaret Frierson Cherry, no date.

Photograph of Frierson House, taken in 1903.



NPS Tit] UNITED STATES TO THE INTERIOR NATIO PARK SERVICE FORM 10-301 A NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) Loc 1. NAME COMMON AND/OR HISTORIC NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS) FRIERSON HOUSE APR 2 4 1973 2. LOCATION STATE COUNTY Arkansas TOWN Craighead STREET AND NUMBER Jonesboro 1112 South Main Street 3. PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT Arkansas Historic DATE NEGATIVE FILED AT Preservation Program 1971 Arkansas History Com. 4. IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View from the west.

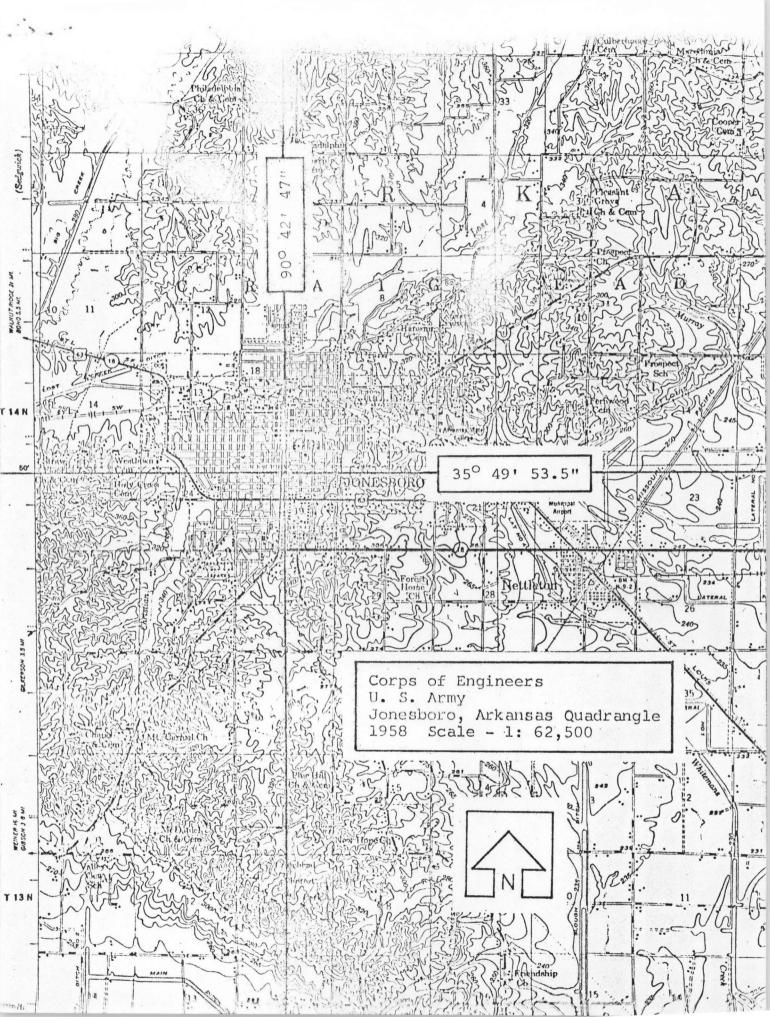
Form 10-301 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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Form 10-301 STATE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR (Dec. 1968) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Arkansas COUNTY NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Craighead PROPERTY MAP FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) I. NAME FRIERSON HOUSE COMMONI AND/OR HISTORICE 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER! 1112 South Main Street CITY OR TOWN: Jonesboro STATE: COUNTY: CODE CODE 031 05 Craighead Arkansas 3. MAP REFERENCE SOURCE: Arkansas State Highway Commission SCALE: 1:1000' ш 1970 DATE: 4. REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow.

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H34-PHR

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

Dear Mr. Henderson:

We are returning your nomination of the Frierson House in Jonesboro, Pulaski County. Given the lukewarm statement of significance, our staff cannot justify the inclusion of this building on the National Register of Historic Places, since your staff characterizes it as having "only marginal architectural and historical significance" at the state level. If it does possess local significance, please give us more to go on than a statement calling it "one of the most imposing residences in Jonesboro."

If you elect to rewrite and resubmit the nomination, we would like clarification of the difficulties encountered in dating the house. Are there no tax records which would indicate an approximate construction date? Could not tax records also indicate dates of additions or extensive changes?

Our apologies for this regrettable decision, but until we are given further justification, we cannot enter this house on the National Register. We welcome your comments.

Sincerely yours,

151

Jerry L. Rogers Chief of Registration National Register

Director, Southwest Region w/cy inc
LI-Mr. Winge
PHR
PHR-Mrs. Mott w/cy inc
JLROGERS:so-p 1/9/73 BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PHR

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

1023 WEST THIRD STREET

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

501 374-0375



March 29, 1973

Dr. William Murtagh Keeper of the National Register U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

After a reappraisal of the Frierson House nomination, it is the professional staff's recommendation that this nomination be resubmitted to the National Register. This recommendation has been unanimously approved by the State Review Committee. Therefore, I am resubmitting the attached Frierson House nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

William E. Henderson State Liaison Officer

Enclosures

WEH: 1ka



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered APR 2 4 1973

Name

Location

Old Randolph County Courthouse

Pocahontas Randolph County

Frierson House

Jonesboro Craighead County

Hon. John L. McClellan Also Notified

Hon. J.W. Fulbright

Hon. Bill Alexander

Director, Southwest Region

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

PHR NRowland:lmp 5-1-73