

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEPH 0685674
FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

OCT 10 1978

DATE ENTERED

DEC 4 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

The Morris House

AND/OR COMMON

Conley Siler residence

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route #1

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bradford

VICINITY OF

Second

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Arkansas

05

White

145

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

___PUBLIC

___OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

☒ BUILDING(S)☒ PRIVATE☒ UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

☒ YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

___NO

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Morris-Siler Corporation

STREET & NUMBER

Route #1

CITY, TOWN

Bradford

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas 72020

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

White County Court

CITY, TOWN

Searcy

STATE

Arkansas 72020

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ DETERIORATED
☐ GOOD ☐ RUINS
☒ FAIR ☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Morris House is a wood frame, double-pile, central-hall structure built in 1860. A kitchen addition on the rear (northeast) makes the house ell-shaped in plan. An ell-shaped porch runs across the rear of the house and the kitchen wing. The roof is gabled with a native rock exterior end chimney on the northwest. The southeast chimney has been removed. The structure has a five-bay front with entrance articulated by transom and sidelights. Exterior windows are four over four (4/4) lights and have pedimented window molds. There is a dentiled cornice.

Interior walls are flush boarding. The ceiling is plank with a half-round cornice mold. Interior windows are pedimented. Doors are four paneled throughout the house. The mantel in the parlor is stepped.

Alterations include: removal of the southeast chimney, the front portico, interior board walls on the second story southeast side, replacement of the original kitchen wing, and central hall stair.

At the rear of the property is a log barn which predates the house.

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 type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1860 BUILDER/ARCHITECT J. T. Ransom

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built along the military road connecting St. Louis and the southwest, the Morris House is an architecturally significant structure which is tied with the early settlement of White County.

Henry Morris moved to Arkansas from Puttman County, Virginia in the 1840's. In Arkansas he married Sarah Thomas Howerton of Searcy, also in White County, and then purchased the land surrounding the Morris House, which he farmed. Since its construction, the home has remained with descendants of Morris.

The Morris House was built by carpenter, J. T. Ransom, for Henry Morris at a cost of over \$200.00. In the bill of sale, which outlined work to be done in construction, Ransom promised to build the structure in "good and decent style." The end product was a frame, two-story, four-room, rectangular house that bears such Greek-Revival touches as a dentiled cornice and pedimented window molds on both the exterior and interior. Originally, a two-story portico spanned the facade (west elevation), but this has since been removed. The entrance to the building is a single-panel flanked by lights, and windows along the front of the structure originate at the floor. The interior plan on both floors is two-room, central-hall. One chimney on the north elevation has been removed and the original stairway was replaced in the 1920's. When built, the house was one of the finest in the area.

Some years after the construction of the house a three-room kitchen wing was attached to the southeast portion of the building and a rear one-story porch was screened. Some Victorian jigsaw work is found on the porch.

Resting approximately 60 feet to the rear (east) of the house is a one-story log cabin which is said to predate the house.

The old military road which runs in front of the house is still unpaved and the rural location of the dwelling remains isolated. One rose bush brought by the original settlers from Virginia survives and is located on a corner of the kitchen wing. The house is one of the oldest surviving, rural structures in the area, and the current owners wish to insure its continued preservation.

DATE		DATE	
DATE		DATE	
DATE		DATE	

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract to Property.

Bill of Sale for materials used in construction of house.

Family Records.

Siler, Euna Morris and Conley. Interview with last family members to occupy the house, August 1978.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Steprock, AR

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 524700 3927400

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

1 acre surrounding house located in West $\frac{1}{2}$ of Northeast $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 22.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Arkansas		White	
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mrs. Gene Street, Member of Morris-Siler Corporation

White County Historical Society

Edited by: Mike Shinn, Frezil Miller

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET & NUMBER

Suite 500, Continental Bldg., Main & Markham Streets

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

DATE

8/28/78

TELEPHONE

501-371-2763

STATE

Arkansas 72201

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

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

James Bartley 10/3/78
SHPO

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

12/4/78

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

12-4-78

Property

~~WMA~~ Morris House

78000641

State

Ark

Working Number

10.10.78.4227

TECHNICAL

Photos

9

Maps

1

CONTROL

OK ^{ye} 10.11.78

HISTORIAN

Apparently not nominated for historical associations --
except as house is one of few surviving from early settlement
period.

Defer to architects on whether structure illustrates style and
craftsmanship of period sufficient to warrant nomination.

Sheffy

11-30-78

?

The Greek Revival house has been heavily altered. The front portico and an end chimney have been removed and the kitchen wing and stair have been replaced. However, the surviving detail (dentiled cornice, pedimented interior and exterior window molds and four paneled doors) is of superior quality than most in the state. The house still evokes a sense of time and those altered or removed elements could be restored.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Buggan accept 12/1/78
ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

Recommend listing on basis of
qualities mentioned in form - summarized
by architectural historian.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Sheffy for T

12-4-78

accept

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

2-6-79

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

DEC 4 1978

Federal Register Entry

INT:2106-74



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978
Mike Shinn
AHPP
west elavation
photo 1

DEC 4 1978

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978

DEC 4 1978

Mike Shinn
AHPP
East elevation
photo 2

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978

DEC 4 1978

Mike Shinn
AHPP

No rth elevation
photo 3

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978

Mike Shinn
AHPP

south elevation
photo 4

DEC 4 1978

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR

DEC 4 1978

1978

Mike Shinn

AHPP

Barn at rear of property
photo 5

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR

1978

Mike Shinn

AHPP

interior, second storey, south room
photo 6

DEC 4 1978

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978

Mike Shinn
AHPP

first storey, south room

photo 7

DEC 4 1978

OCT 10 1978



Morris House
Bradford, AR
1978

Mike Shinn
AHPP
interior door

photo 8

DEC 4 1978

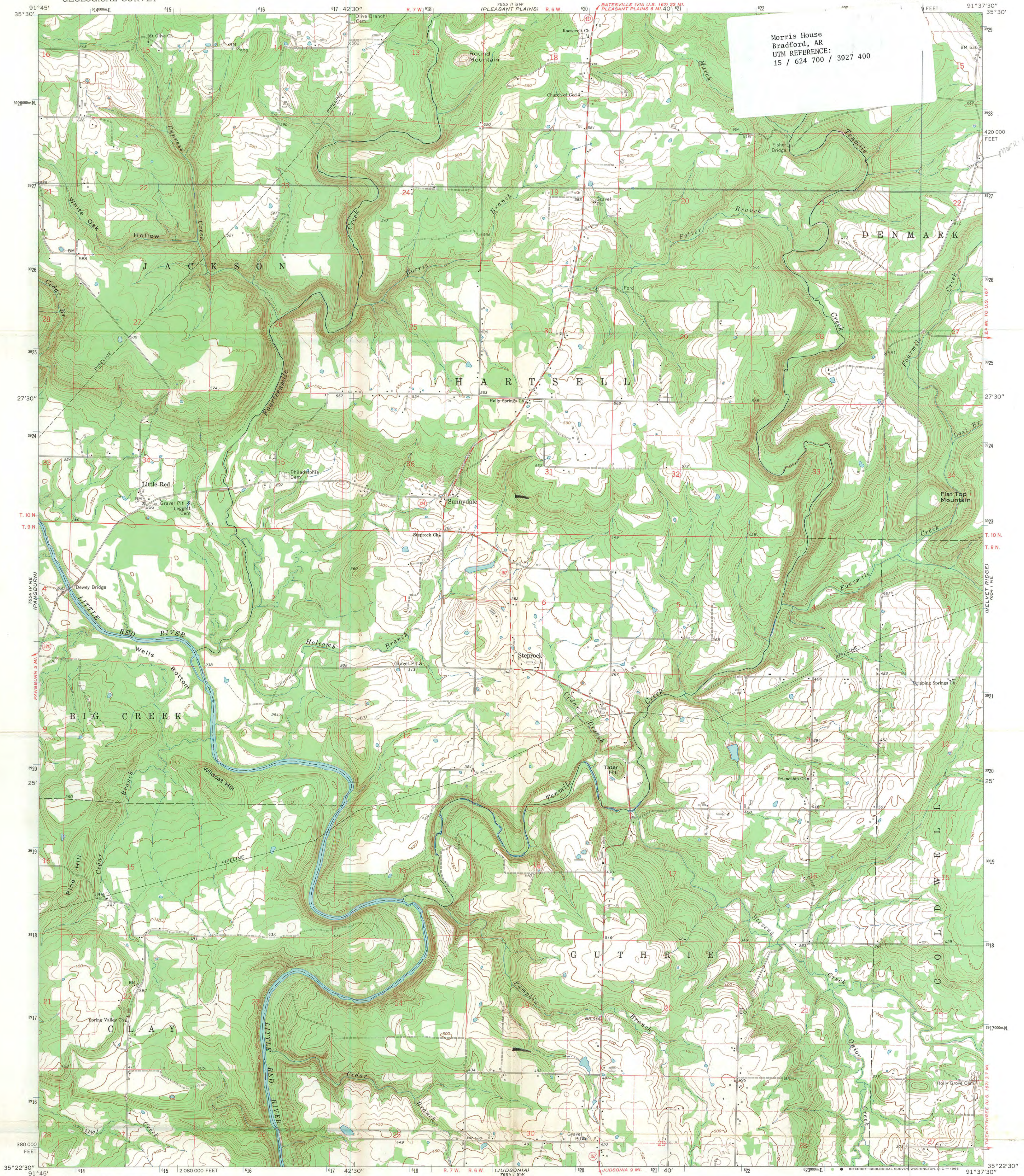
OCT 10 1978



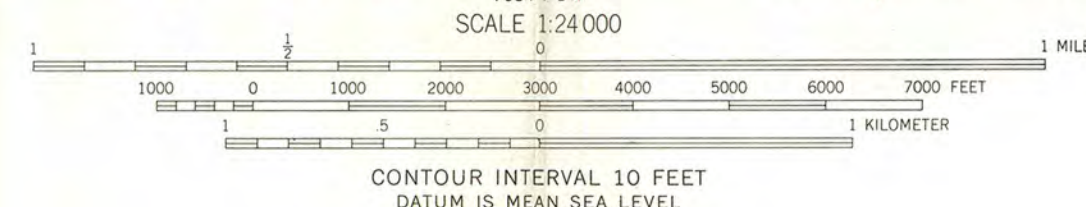
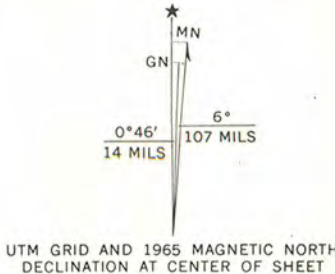
Morris House
Bradford, Ar
1978
Mike Shinn
AHPP
interior window
photo 9

DEC 4 1978

OCT 10 1978



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1965
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



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
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Unimproved dirt ———
State Route —○—

RECEIVED
OCT 10 1978
NATIONAL
REGISTER

QUADRANGLE LOCATION
ARKANSAS

STEPROCK, ARK.
NW 1/4 BALD KNOB 15' QUADRANGLE
N3522.5—W9137.5/7.5
1965
AMS 7654 1 NW—SERIES V884



RAYMOND C. MORRIS
RT. 1 BOX 189
BRADFORD, ARK.
72070

AUG 18 1978

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

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

Phone: (501) 371-2763

August 11, 1978

Morris-Siler Farm
The Siler Corporation

Route 1 *Box 189*

Bradford, Arkansas 72020



Re: The Morris House, Bradford
White County

Dear Sir:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the above-captioned property which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their September 12 meeting. If approved, the nomination will be submitted to the National Register office in Washington for final consideration.

The National Register of Historic Places is a listing of historic sites, buildings, objects and districts from all across the country that are worthy of preservation. Entry in the National Register is an honor which places no obligation on a private owner. It does, however, provide protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from federally financed, assisted or licensed projects that might affect a National Register property.

On October 4, 1976, the President signed a Tax Reform Act of which Section 2124 refers to tax incentives for historic properties. Enclosed you will find an information sheet on that tax act.

If you have any questions concerning the program or this property's nomination, please contact Mike Shinn of our staff.

Enclosed are two copies of this letter. Please complete the form below, sign and return the original to our office. The copy is for your files. We would appreciate receiving any comments you might have concerning the nomination of this property. If we do not hear from you within 30 days your approval will be assumed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Woodard

Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

I approve of the nomination of the above property to the National Register of Historic Places ✓ Yes No

Comments:

aug 16, 78
Date

Raymond C. Morris
Signature
President

MORRIS-SILER FARM *inc*

ROUTE 1 - BOX 189

BRADFORD, ARK. 72020

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered DEC 4 1978

Name

Location

Bethell, Bedford Brown, House

Des Arc
Prairie County

Morris House

Bradford
White County

Memphis, Paris, & Gulf Depot

Mineral Springs
Howard County

Also Notified

Honorable Dale Bumpers
Honorable Kaneaster Hodges, Jr.
Honorable James G. Tucker, Jr.
Honorable Ray Thornton

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NR Byers 12-22-78

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Morris House		2 OTHER NAMES: Conley Siler Residence		3 date of entry: DEC 4 1978		4 county code: 145	
5 LOCATION street & number Rte. 1		city / town Bradford		vicinity of AR		state White	
6 OWNER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL (agency name)		7 ADMINISTRATOR:		8 NPS REGION: SW			
9 EXISTING SURVEYS <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NHL		10 FUNDED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT 2		12 SOURCE of NOMINATION <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL	
13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? <input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input type="checkbox"/> NO		15 ACREAGE		16 if state who prepared form? <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE ORGANIZATION	
16 CONDITION <input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> unexcavated <input type="checkbox"/> altered <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> excavated <input type="checkbox"/> original site <input type="checkbox"/> moved <input type="checkbox"/> unknown		17 features: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> INTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-4 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-7 </div> <div> EXTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-5 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-8 </div> <div> ENVIRONS <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-6 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-9 </div> </div>					
18 ACCESS <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No Access <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		19 ADAPTIVE USE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		20 SAVED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES		21 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	
21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:		22 CLAIMS: explain					
<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE-3 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE-4 <input type="checkbox"/> ART-5		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE-6 <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS-7 <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION-8 <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS-9 <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION-10		<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING-11 <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT-26 <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-12 <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH-27 <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY-13 <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION-14		<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 <input type="checkbox"/> LAW-16 <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE-17 <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY-18 <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC-19 <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY-20	
		<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVT.-21 <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION-22 <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE-23 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION-25		<input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION-28 <input type="checkbox"/> SETTLEMENT-29 <input type="checkbox"/> URBAN PLANNING-31 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> 'first' <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 'oldest' <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> 'only' <input type="checkbox"/>	
23 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		24 dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:				25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION	
26 architectural style(s):		27 architect:		28 master builder:		29 engineer:	
30 landscape architect / garden designer:		31 interior decorator:		32 artist:		33 artisan:	
						34 builder/contractor:	
35 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:							
36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP							