PH0506826

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

TABHE ATA

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED 1 4 1977

DATE ENTERED

MAR 29 1978

NAME	**			
HISTORIC	Wilson House			
AND/OR COM			To the latter of the latter	According to
LOCAT				
	971. Boot Cth St			
STREET & NUM	MBER		NOT FOR PUBLICATION	
CITY, TOWN	Russellville	VICINITY OF	congressional dist	
STATE	Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY	CODE 115
CLASSI	FICATION			
				11156
CATEGO		STATUS		SENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
		UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUR		WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	E PRIVATE RESIDE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITIO	X	ENTERTAINMENT	and the second
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	MILITARY	TRANSPORTATIO
	R OF PROPERTY	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	MILITARY	
NAME W	R OF PROPERTY	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO	MILITARY	
NAME WS	R OF PROPERTY illiam Robert Thurlby an MBER 214 East 5th Russellville	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO ad Camille Adams Thurlb VICINITY OF	MILITARY	OTHER:
STREET & NUM CITY, TOWN	R OF PROPERTY illiam Rebert Thurlby an MBER 214 East 5th Russellville	YES: UNRESTRICTEDNO ad Camille Adams ThurlbVICINITY OF CRIPTION	MILITARY	OTHER:
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CONDITION

__EXCELLENT __GOOD __FAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED _XALTERED **CHECK ONE**

XORIGINAL SITE

_MOVED DA

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wilson-Kemp House was constructed in 1902-1903 in Russellville, Arkansas. This two storey, red brick home is noted for its massive front portico which is supported by two large, round columns with Doric capitals. This pair of columns extends from the second storey portico down to a foundation of locally quaried stone. The upper balcony extends across the front and around one half of the east side of the house. It is guarded by a wooden railing with square pitch-pine balusters, painted white.

The house sits on a beautiful corner lot surrounded by massive oak and elm trees which were planted in the early 1900's by the original owner, Judge R.B. Wilson. The sidewalk leading from the house to the street is of hand quaried stone hauled to the site by mule team and wagon. Original hitching posts of the same rock, capped by steel rings, stand to the east and north of the house.

A decorative brick wall surrounds the porch on the first floor level. Seven smaller columns support the porch. Access to the porches is provided by central entries on each storey accented by a transom and sidelights of beveled glass. An oval stained glass window enhances the beauty of the portice's center gable.

The back of the house is embellished by a two storey porch running the entire width of the house. Original ornamental woodwork and tongue and groove flooring still exist. Latticework screens the lower back porch. The original servants quarters, which was a two-room frame cottage, still stands at the back of the house.

The entrance features a massive center hall with built-in settee at the base of the stairs. The center hall is flanked by large rooms and a feeling of openness exists there due to ten foot doorways between the rooms. However, sliding wall panels permit privacy, when desired.

The original house had six upstairs bedrooms placed on either side of a long hall. When the house was sold in 1963, these were changed into two upstairs apartments. The present owner intends to return the house to a one-family dwelling. When the house was built, wall-to-wall carpeting, an innovation for 1903, was installed. A portion of this original carpet remains in the upstairs hall.

There are two fireplaces in the house. The living room fireplace is of decorative cast iron and features a central beveled mirror flanked by two small beveled mirrors. The second fireplace is constructed of geometrically arranged red tile.

The original well house remains attached to the southwest corner of the house. It is now being used as a den with the original brick walls exposed and the pump and cistern still useable and prominently displayed.

PERIOD

X1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION

_INDUSTRY

_INVENTION

__COMMUNICATIONS

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

_OTHER (SPECIFY)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SPECIFIC DATES

R.B. Wilson, born May 26, 1850, in Tennessee, moved to Arkansas with his family and made a name for himself as a lawyer, circuit judge and planter. He became known throughout Arkansas for his many philanthropic endeavors at enhancing the cultural qualities of his adopted state. In 1878, while serving as Pope County Judge, he was instrumental in making the decision to move the County Seat from Dover to Russellville, a very controversial issue at that time.

Judge Wilson felt that women had suffered greatly as a result of the Civil War. This attitude prompted his gift of land for a U.D.C. Park in Russellville to the United Daughters of the Confederacy. It was his hope that this land could be made into a local recreational area. The judge, who died in 1928, was most instrumental in bringing Arkansas Tech to Russellville.

In 1902, Judge Wilson began construction of an imposing two-storey brick structure. Maborate, even for a period of history penowned for architectural embellishments, it soon became an attraction. Judge and Mrs. R.B. Wilson and their five children moved into the house in 1903. The address was 408 Franklin Street and later would be changed to 214 East Fifth Street.

The exterior of the house remains unaltered since its early twentieth-century construction. The massive portice is supported by a pair of round Deric-capital columns. There are two-storey porches on the front and back of the house. The interior woodwork is of fine-grained pine with lovely heart of pine flooring.

The family of W.B. Wilson lived in the house until 1963 at which time a duplex was built on the grounds which formerly served as an orchard. At that time, Miss Adalissa Wilson and her brother R.B. Wilson, JR. moved into the duplex and sold the house to Mr. and Mrs. Lear Kemp. The Kemps remodeled the lower floor of the house and turned the upstairs into two apartments. In 1974, the Kemps left the home and it remained for sale until 1977. At that time, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Thurlby purchased it and intend to restore the house, as much as possible, to its original condition.

The Wilson-Kemp house with its two-storey massiveness, is one of the most architecturally interesting structures in Russellville. Built by a successful businessman about the turn of the century, the home illustrates the tastes of a financially important figure in Pope County's past.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Arkansas ^Ga zette. April 22, 1973. Courier Democrat. August 21, 1963. Early History of Pope County. by David L. Vance Wilson, Mrs. R.B. Wilson Jr. personal interview at the Wilson-Kemp house, July, 1977 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre UTM REFERENCES A 1, 5 4 8 1, 0, 0 3, 9, 0, 3 All of lots 1,2, and 3 and the north 40 feet of Lots 10,11, and 12, all in block 66, J.L. Shinn Addition, Russellville, Arkansas. LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE CODE COUNTY CODE FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Mrs. William Robert Thurlby ORGANIZATION DATE September 14, 1977 STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE 214 East 5th Street 501-968-3280 STATE Arkansas CITY OR TOWN Russellville STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: NATIONAL_ STATE 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 Anne Bartley TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS NCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

GPO 892-453

Property Wilson Har	use Rope to.	78000618
State Ask. Worki	ng Number 11.14.77.1861	
TECHNICAL Photos Maps	Late messing	OK 11.15.77
		HISTORIAN Accept Franklin 2.7.78
		CTURAL HISTORIAN
		accept Bravham 12.22.77
		ARCHEOLOGIST
		OTHER
		HAER
		Inventory
	R	EVIEW UNIT CHIEF
		マルグ/78 BRANCH CHIEF
		KEEPER
National Register Write-up Federal Register Entry 5.2	Send-back Re-submit	



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED MAR 2.0 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

Wilson House

Wilson-Thurlby House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Russellville

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Viewed from the north



Wilson House

Rassellville Pope Co., Ark.

Deanna Kirk, 1977

AHPP

northeast view

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1	NAME
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HISTORIC

Wilson House

AND/OR COMMON Wilson-Thurlby

2 LOCATION

CITY. TOWN
Russellville

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pope STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO

1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Northeast view

PHOTO NO.



Wilson House
Russellville
Pape Co., Ank.
Dianna Kirk, 1977
AHPP
South east vie.

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MAR 29 1978

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Wilson House

AND/OR COMMON

Wilson-Thurlby House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Russellville

___VICINITY OF

Pope

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Southeast view

PHOTO NO.



Wilson House
Russellville
Pope Co., Ark.
Dianna Kirk, 1977

AHPP

mantle, southeast parlor

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

MAR 29 1978

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2 LOCATION

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_VICINITY OF

Pope

STATE

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO 1977

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4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Mantlepiece, southeast parlor

PHOTO NO.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED NOV 1 4 1977 MAR 29 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

NAME

HISTORIC

Wilson House

AND/OR COMMON

Wilson-Thurlby House

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Russellville

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Pope

DATE ENTERED

STATE

Arkansas

MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U. S. Geological Survey, Russellville West Ouadrangle

SCALE

1:24,000

DATE 1963

REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRA

Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham RECEIVED
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Telephone: (501) 371-2763



August 5, 1977

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Thurlby 214 East 5th Russellville, AR 72801 NOV 1 4 1977
NATIONAL'
REGISTER

Re: Wilson-Kemp House Russellville, Pope County

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thurlby:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the Wilson-Kemp House which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their September 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 Dianna Kirk 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, 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:

8/15/77 Date Mry Mrs. W. Robert Thurlley

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered MAR 29 1978

Name

Location

Wilson House

Russellville Pope County

Also Notified

Hon, Dale Bumpers

Hon. Kaneaster Hodges, Jr. Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt

880

Mott/js

4/5/78

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

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

NAME as it appears on federal register	er: . 2º	OTHER NAMES:	A 820 V.		MAR 2 9 1978
Wilson House		Wilson-Thurlb	-		
5 LOCATION street & number	city / town	vicinity of	state	county	6)NPS REGION:
214 E. 5th St.	Russellville		AR	Pope	SW
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BACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ☐ YES-Unrestrict	ed No Access Unknown 19	ADAPTIVE USE YES NO	SAVED? TYES	IS PROPERTY	A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no
ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2 COMMERCE - 8 S ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1 COMMUNICATIONS - 7 S AGRICULTURE - 3 CONSERVATION - 8 S ARCHITECTURE - 4 ECONOMICS - 9	ENTERTAINMENT-26	- 15		*GLAIMS 'first' 'oldest' 'only'	S: explain
□ ART-5 □ EDUCATION-10 □	INVENTION - 14 PHILOSOPHY - 20	☐ TRANSPORTATION - 25	_	_	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		dates of initial construction major alterations; historic events;			ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION
architectural style(s):	architect	:	master builder	. 6	engineer:
andscape architect/garden designer:	interior decorator:	artist:	33 artisan:	3 builde	er/contractor:
NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:					
MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP					
Warrough Hadisten MMIE-OF					

reviewers initials date IF ADDITIONAL SPACE NEEDED, NUMBER & PUT ON REVE