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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 01 1991

NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Robertson Drugstore
other names/site number Resource #WH2020

2. Location

street & number Spring and Arch Streets not for publication N/A
city, town Searcy vicinity N/A
state Arkansas code AR county White code 145 zip code 72143

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic and Architectural Resources of White County, Arkansas
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Boyd 5-13-90
Signature of certifying official Date
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Patrick W. Andrews 9/13/91
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade /

Specialty Store

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade /

Specialty Store

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Commercial Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls brick

roof asphalt

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

Commercial buildings of the Development Era (1835-1870) mirrored current architectural trends. Builders during this period in White County did not construct many high-style buildings; they instead used architectural details from these styles to elaborate their basically vernacular buildings. The Robertson Drugstore is no exception to this.

Located on the southwest corner of Spring and Arch Streets, and on the courthouse square, the Robertson Drugstore is located in what was once the economic heart of Searcy. The building is two-stories tall, rectangular in shape with a chamfered corner, and constructed of brick. Even though it was built in c. 1860, it is still in good condition. The storefront windows along Arch St. have been replaced by single-pane fixed frame windows while the windows facing Spring St. have been boarded over. A metal awning which protects the storefront is the only other modern alteration.

Original elements on the ground-floor include cast iron columns framing the windows and supporting the second floor of the chamfered corner. A dentilated belt course separates the first and second floors. While none of the second floor windows are original, they are still framed by decorative brick hood molds with keystones. The flat with parapet roof has a dentilated cornice and a one-bay gabled portion which rises up from the center of the main elevation's roof line.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

Period of Significance

c. 1860

1860-1880

Significant Dates

c. 1860

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Robertson, Dr. P. A.

Architect/Builder

Brundidge, Stephen, Sr.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

Significance

When this building was constructed, c. 1860, it was one of several businesses which fronted the courthouse. It is the only one of these buildings which has survived the ravages of time. Not only was it the first drugstore in town, it is also the oldest, extant, commercial building in the county.

Robertson Drugstore was built by Stephen Brundidge, Sr., a Searcy bricklayer who migrated to the area from Alabama. With his portable brickmaking machine and oven he built several other buildings in the area. Each one of the bricks was made from river bank clay which was carted to the site and then shaped and baked. Brundidge's legacy was carried on not only through his high quality brick buildings but through his son as well. Stephen Jr. was an Arkansas State Representative for Congressional District 6 between 1897 and 1909.

The building is named after Dr. P.A. Robertson who was the original occupant of the structure and was a druggist from Memphis. His store offered not only the usual drugs and elixirs found in drugstores of the day but other items as well. Robertson had the only glass-cutter in town and he also sold household supplies such as oil, paints, and window panes.

Robertson was important to the community not only for the goods and services his store offered but also for his role in the development of the community. In 1871, he was selected to be the Public Grounds Committee Chairman. This group was responsible for regulating the use, upkeep, and growth of Spring Park which was a popular bathing area and mineral spring. The following year he was appointed secretary of the Searcy Branch Railroad which was responsible for the construction of a wooden, horse-drawn, rail-line which connected Searcy with the Cairo & Fulton Railroad.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Acreage of property: Less than one

UTM References:

A 15/614835/3901290

Verbal Boundary Description:

The eastern 23 feet, 1 1/2 inches of Lot 5, Ten Acre Donation to the Town of Searcy.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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White County MPS
ARKANSAS

Date Listed

Section number	Description	Review Status	Date Listed
91001276	Missouri--Pacific Depot	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001277	Moody House		7/20/92
91001210	Moore House	Substantive Review	9-5-91
91001332	Morris Institute Dairy Barn		7/20/92
91001178	National Guard Armory Building	Substantive Review	9-5-91
91001356	Neaville, J.A., House		7/22/92
91001331	New Mt. Pisgah School	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001360	Nimmo Clubhouse		7/22/92
91001286	O'Neal, Howard, Farm	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001290	Pangburn, Austin, House		9-5-91
91001203	Paschall House		9-5-91
91001292	Patman House		9-5-91
91001255	Pemberton House		9-5-91
91001305	Pence--Carmichael Farm, Barn and Root Cellar	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001247	Plummer House		7/22/92
91001249	Powell Clothing Store		9-5-91
91001307	Prince House		7/22/92
91001361	Ransom, Edward, Farmstead, Livestock and Equipment Barn		7/22/92
91001213	Rascoe House		9/23/92
91001296	Ray, Sam, House		7/23/92
91001343	Rhew, J. C., Co. Packing Shed		7/23/92
91001231	Rialto Theater	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001245	Robertson Drugstore	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001221	Robertson House		9-5-91
91001195	Rock Building		7/23/92
91001230	Rodgers, Porter, Sr., House		9-5-91
91001219	Rogers, Bob, House	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001346	Roper House		9-5-91
91001271	Russell Jail		7/23/92
91001306	Scott--Davis House	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001227	Searcy City Hall		9-5-91
91001200	Searcy Post Office		7/20/92
91001208	Sears, Dean L. C., House		7/20/92
91001261	Sellers House		9-5-91
91001257	Shue House		9-5-91
91001299	Shutter, John, House	Substantive Review	9-5-91
91001367	Siler, Luther, Gin	Substantive Review	7/20/92
91001342	Simpson, Stanley, Farmstead Picking Sled		9-13-91
91001218	Smith House		9-5-91
91001223	Smith, A. J., House		9-5-91

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91001245

Date Listed: 9/13/91

Robertson Drugstore
Property Name

White
County

ARKANSAS
State

Historic and Architectural Resources of White County
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Patricia Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

9/30/91
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination was amended to show the period of significance as extending from 1860 to 1939.

The amendment was confirmed by phone with the Arkansas SHPO (9/18/91).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Robertson Drugstore

MULTIPLE NAME: White County MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, White

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/91
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/91
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/15/91

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91001245

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT

9/13/91 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

This building, on the courthouse square in the town of Searcy, is the oldest extant commercial building in White County. While its 1st floor storefronts have been altered, it maintains a high degree of integrity elsewhere. It is also significant for its association with P.A. Robertson, the first druggist in Searcy & an important man in the town.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept/B & C
REVIEWER Harper
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 9/13/91

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y/N)

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Quattlebaum MUSIC

6

FNB
First National Bank
DENVER
268-4211

STOP

ST

ROBERTSON DRUGSTORE white c

SEARCY, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. DEPOSE

NOVEMBER, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM NORTHEAST

Quattlebaum **MUSIC**

PIANOS
ORGANS

ROBERTSON DRUGSTORE White C

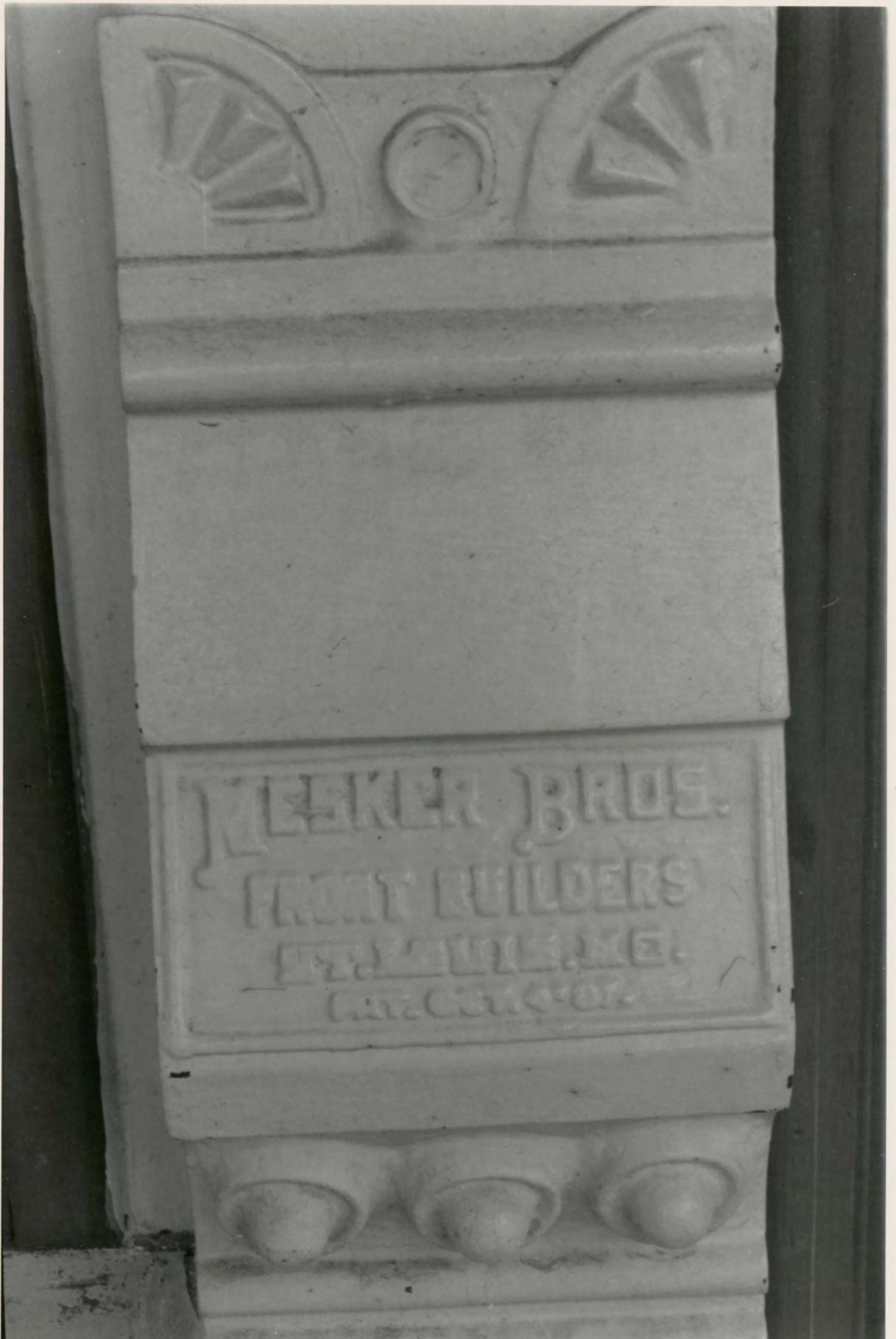
SEARCY, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. DE ROSE

NOVEMBER, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM NORTH



LEIKER BROS.
FRONT BUILDERS
FRONT BUILDERS
FRONT BUILDERS

ROBERTSON DRUGSTORE
SEARCY, ARKANSAS White
PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. DE ROSE
NOVEMBER, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
DETAIL OF CAST IRON COLUMN

MEIKER BIRDS.
FRONT BUILDERS
EST. 1888
CINCINNATI

ROBERTSON DRUGSTORE

SEARCY, ARKANSAS white cu

PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. DE ROSE

NOVEMBER, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

DETAIL OF CAST IRON FACADE MANUFACTURER NAMEPLATE

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500033