

RECEIVED  
AUG 01 1991United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Registration FormNATIONAL  
REGISTER

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 Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

other names/site number WH1668

## 2. Location

street &amp; number Hwy 167

☐ not for publication N/A

city, town Doniphan

☐ vicinity N/A

state Arkansas

code AR

county White

code AR 145

zip code 72143

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

## Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
7	1 buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
7	1 Total

## Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic and Architectural Resources of White County, AR

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.

Signature of certifying official

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

7-26-90  
DateIn 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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Industry/ Manufacturing Facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Industry/Manufacturing Facility

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: Cast Concrete Industrial

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Concrete

Metal/Steel

roof Concrete

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

☒ See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1Description

The diversity of style and scale found in the structures and landscape features at the Doniphan Lumber Mill belies their common importance in the operation of the plan. The majority of the structures are of cast concrete, one-story tall, have either monitor or shed roofs, cast concrete pilasters, interiors which have not been drastically altered, and were constructed about 1905. They all contribute to the integrity of the site; there is only one non-contributing structure within the boundaries of the district (a metal and wood frame lumber storage building). There are eight contributing structures and one landscape feature included in this district which covers approximately sixty-five acres. They are the Machine Shop, Dry Kilns, Millwork Building, Boiler Room, and two storage buildings. Other structures found at the site include a water tower and drag line piers. The tower is supported by steel trusses and was fabricated by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works of Chicago, Illinois in 1907. The two drag line piers, constructed out of cast concrete, are all that remain of the system used to hoist logs from the Little Red River, which lies three hundred feet to the north, up the thirty foot incline into Doniphan Lake. This lake is the only surviving landscape feature found at the site and is located west of the main portion of the plant. Logs were stored here until they were milled at the factory.

Machine Shop Building (#1)

The Machine Shop, built c.1905, is located on the eastern edge of the complex. It is eight bays long by two bays wide, one-story in height, and constructed of cast concrete with cast concrete pilasters. It has a flat roof with a parapet which wraps around three sides of the structure excluding the north elevation. An unglazed, wooden, double-door enters the east elevation while single, unglazed, wooden doors enter the south and west elevations. There are two openings in the building which might have originally housed windows; these are no longer present. The openings are located in the upper portion of the westernmost bay on the south elevation and in the upper portion of the southernmost bay on the west elevation. There is evidence of a belt-driven drive-shaft in the upper portion of the building's interior. The building is in good condition but is currently used for storage.

Dry Kiln Building (#2)

Approximately fifty feet southwest of the Machine Shop is the Dry Kiln Building which was also constructed c.1905. This building is still in operation and in good condition. It is a rectangular, one-story building constructed of cast concrete. The building has a flat roof with a parapet, cast concrete pilastered walls, and five cast concrete chimneys. These are located at the southwest corner of each of the kilns. Each kiln has a pair of sliding metal doors, one



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set of which is located on the north elevation of the building while the other is on the south elevation. A pair of steel rails leads to each of the sets of doors. Approximately thirty yards to the northeast of the Dry Kiln Building is a small, cast concrete storage building (#3) which was built at the same time as the Dry Kiln Building. It is square in shape, one-story tall, and has a cast concrete shed roof. It is still used for storage and is in good condition.

Water Tower (#4)

A water tower is located approximately one hundred feet southwest of the Dry Kiln Building. This structure was fabricated by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works of Chicago, Illinois in 1907. It is approximately sixty feet tall and is supported by steel trusses. While the truss work is structurally sound, the water tank leaks.

Mill Work Building (#5)

The Mill Work Building is located approximately five hundred feet west of the Dry Kiln Building. It is irregularly shaped, one-story tall, and has a stepped, monitor roof. When this building was constructed (c.1905) it had cast concrete walls. While some of the walls still exhibit this material, the rest have been covered with corrugated metal. The upper portion of the monitor roof houses one-over-one double-hung sash windows while the lower has single light windows which have been covered with fiberglass. The west elevation has windows which are three-panes wide and four panes long and house six-pane awning windows. There are nine double doors on the north elevation of the building which open onto a covered railroad car loading dock. This building is in fair condition and is still in operation.

Boiler Room Building (#6)

Approximately twenty feet northeast of the Mill Work Building is the Boiler Room. Also constructed c. 1905, it is irregularly shaped, one-story tall, and has a monitor roof. It has cast concrete, pilastered walls and all windows have been either filled with brick or boarded up. There is a large, corrugated metal addition on the west elevation. About one hundred feet to the northwest of this structure is small storage building (#7). It is exactly the same as the one located near the Dry Kiln Building.

Doniphan Lake (#9)

Doniphan Lake is located approximately three hundred feet west of the Mill Work



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Building. It is roughly eight hundred yards long and two hundred yards wide. The two cast concrete pillars which remain from the original drag-line (#8) are situated between the lake and the Little Red River to the north. These pillars are approximately three feet wide, five feet long, and three feet tall.

## 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

Period of Significance

c. 1905

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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

☒ See continuation sheet

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See "Historic and Architectural Resources of White County, Arkansas," Section H.

☐ See continuation sheet

### Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data map 10 + 19

Acreage of property \_\_\_\_\_

### UTM References

A 

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

C 

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

B 

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

D 

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description \_\_\_\_\_

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification \_\_\_\_\_

☒ See continuation sheet

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe DeRose, Survey Coordinator

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date July 24, 1990

street & number 225 E. Markham, Suite 200 telephone (501) 371-2763

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201



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Significance

The Doniphan Lumber Mill complex is significant because it is the only large scale, historic mill plant still in operation, which in the county survives intact. Prior to the construction of this plant, lumber operations in the county were small scale enterprises which provided lumber for just the local market. The Doniphan Mill complex is representative of the importance of the growing lumber industry in White County at the turn of the century. The mill was originally owned by the C.J. Carter Lumber Co. of Kansas City, Missouri. They brought in their own workers and, in addition to the factory structures, built a company town. Some of the structures they built included approximately sixty, five room, double box houses, a commissary, hotel, and a railroad (of which only the factory structures remain). All of the houses burned in the 1940's.

The modern community of Doniphan, however, can trace its history back to this early industrial development. The aforementioned railroad extended from the mill to the Iron Mountain tracks in Kensett and was later extended to Searcy. Mr. Carter also had an agreement to use the Missouri & North Arkansas as his own branch railroad to Letona, and because of this the company was able to extend its operations into the Ozark Plateau. Now the plant not only received lumber which was floated down the Little Red River-the usefulness of which was prey to fluctuations in water levels-but millions of board feet of lumber were shipped to the plant via this new, more reliable, rail extension.

This plant originally processed rough-cut pine timber. The trees came from land that the company owned, mainly in Cleburne and Independence counties. Employees worked at logging camps in these areas and shipped the logs via railroads to the mill. One camp alone was responsible for cutting almost 3,000,000 feet of logs. Just prior to the onset of World War I, the best timber had been logged off and the company had to seek other ways in which to turn a profit.

About this time, the name of the company was changed to the Carter Bloxonend Flooring Co. As the name suggests, the company produced a new type of floor material. The blocks were end pieces of two-by-four's which, when cut and placed together, formed a new type of floor material. This new venture, however, was not lucrative enough so the company added another product. They now produced oak and hickory wheel spokes for the ever increasing automobile industry. By the late 1920's, this market had shriveled up as well with the onset of metal spoked wheels. The Carter Bloxonend Flooring Co. went into bankruptcy by the early 1940's. Company holdings were bought by the Laird Lumber Co. of Little Rock. During the war, the mill produced detonator crates for the Jacksonville Ordinance Plant. After the war, the Lindner Corp. bought the mill and produced hardwood flooring until 1960, when the Thompson Co. bought them out. They operated the plant for just a few years when, they too, were bought out by the current owners, the Searcy Flooring Co.

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Continuation SheetSection number 10 Page 1Acreeage of property: Approximately 65UTM References:

A	15/620600/3901860	B	15/620380/3901810
C	15/620220/3901100	D	15/620320/3901070
E	15/620510/3901240	F	15/620590/3901460
G	15/621030/3901470	H	15/621020/3901620

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point on the southern bank of the Little Red River 100 feet directly north of the drag line piers (#8), proceed southwesterly for a distance of 750 feet to the northwestern point of the low water line of Doniphan Lake; thence proceed southerly, and thence easterly, and thence northerly, proceeding along the low water line of Doniphan Lake, to a point formed by its intersection with a line running easterly along the southern elevation of the non-contributing storage building; thence proceed easterly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern elevation of the water tower (#4); thence proceed northerly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the southern elevation of the Dry Kiln Building (#2); thence proceed easterly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern elevation of the Dry Kiln Building; thence proceed northerly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the southern elevation of the Machine Shop Building (#1); thence proceed easterly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern elevation of the Machine Shop Building; thence proceed northerly along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a line running along the low water mark of the southern bank of the Little Red River; thence proceed northwesterly along said line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.



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White County MPS  
ARKANSAS

Date Listed

COVER Substantive Review

9-12-91

91001350	Abington, William Thomas, House	Substantive Review	7/11/92
91001322	Ackins House	Substantive Review	7/11/92
91001186	American Legion Hall	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001253	Andrews, Col. Ralph, House		9-5-91
91001187	Arnold Farmstead	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001239	Baldock House		9-5-91
91001228	Bank of Searcy		9-5-91
91001251	Beebe Jail		9-13-91
91001265	Beebe Theater		9-5-91
91001201	Bell House		9-5-91
91001262	Berry House		9-5-91
91001192	Big Four School	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001176	Bloom House		9-5-91
91001363	Blunt House Livestock Barn	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001298	Boggs, James William, House		9-5-91
91001275	Bone, Luke, Grocery--Boarding House		9-13-91
91001202	Booth, Green, House		9-5-91
91001345	Booth--Weir House		9-5-91
91001217	Brooks House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001268	Brown House	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001338	Brown, Joe, House and Farmstead	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001337	Burnett House	Substantive Review	7/11/92
91001347	Caldwell House		9-5-91
91001280	Campbell--Chrisp House		9-5-91
91001293	Cary House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001310	Chandler House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001349	Childers Farmstead	Substantive Review	7/11/92
91001301	Churchill--Hilger House		9-5-91
91001209	Cobb, Pattie, Hall		9-5-91
91001282	Cooley, Sam, Barn	Substantive Review	7/11/92
91001229	Coward House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001320	Cremane House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001333	Critz, Col. John, Farm, Springhouse	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001259	Cross House	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001225	Cumberland Presbyterian Church	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001179	Cypert, Jesse N., Law Office	Substantive Review	7/10/92
91001196	Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District	Substantive Review	9-13-91
91001264	Doss House	Substantive Review	7-10-92
91001302	Doyle, David, House No. 2		9-5-91



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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 91001196

Date Listed: 9/13/91

Doniphan Lumber Co. Mill H.D.  
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.

Patrick Andrews  
Signature of the Keeper

9/30/91  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 3

The count was amended to show 4 contributing buildings, 4 contributing structures (2 storage buildings, a water tower and the drag line) and 1 contributing site (the lake).

The period of significance is amended to c. 1905-c.1907.

These changes were 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: Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: White County MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, White

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/91  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/15/91  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 91001196

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:

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT DATE 9/13/91

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

This early 20-th century industrial complex is the only intact surviving lumber mill in the county. It is historically significant as a demonstration of the importance of lumbering during this period & of the technology employed in the industry.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept/C  
REVIEWER Hopper  
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  
\_\_\_UTMs      \_\_\_boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_sketch maps      \_\_\_USGS maps      \_\_\_photographs      \_\_\_presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





MACHINE SHOP, DONIPHAN ~~ARK~~ LUMBER MILL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
DONIPHAN, ARKANSAS white a

PHOTOGRAPHED BY V. DE ROSE

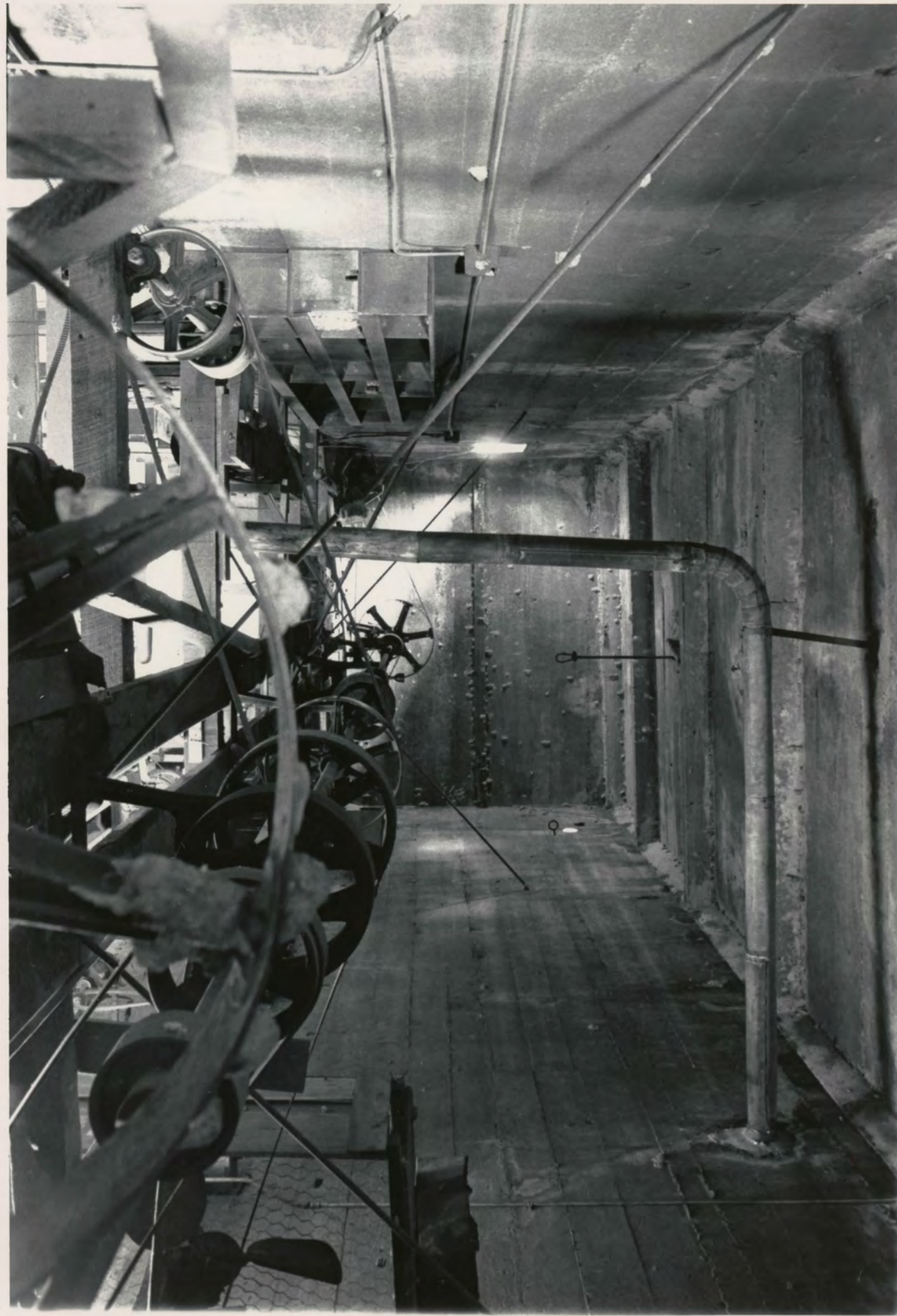
JULY, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM EAST

# 1







Machine Shop, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Interior

# /





Machine Shop, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Southwest elevation

#1





Machine Shop, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Southeast elevation

#1





Dry Kilns, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

white

Doniphan, Arkansas

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

North elevation

#2





Dry kilns, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

*white*

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Northwest elevation

#2







Storage Building #1, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

South elevation

#3



Water Tower, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

View facing northwest

# 4





Mill Work Building, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Interior

#5







Mill Work Building, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Southwest elevation

#5



Millwork Building, Doniphan Lumber Mill

Doniphan, Arkansas

whiteco

Photographed by Joe De Rose

July, 1988

Negative on file at AMPP

View from the North

#5





Boiler Room, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District  
*white*

Doniphan, Arkansas

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

North elevation

# 6







Storage Building #2, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District  
Doniphan, Arkansas

white co

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

Southwest elevation

# 7





Drag-line pier, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white c

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

View facing south

#8





Spillway, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

*white*

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

View facing southeast

#9





Doniphan Lake, Doniphan Lumber Mill Historic District

Doniphan, Arkansas

white

Photograph by Steve Mitchell

July, 1988

Negative on file at AHPP

View looking west

#9





Doniphan Lumber Mill *white*

Doniphan, Arkansas

Photographed by Joe De Rose

July, 1988

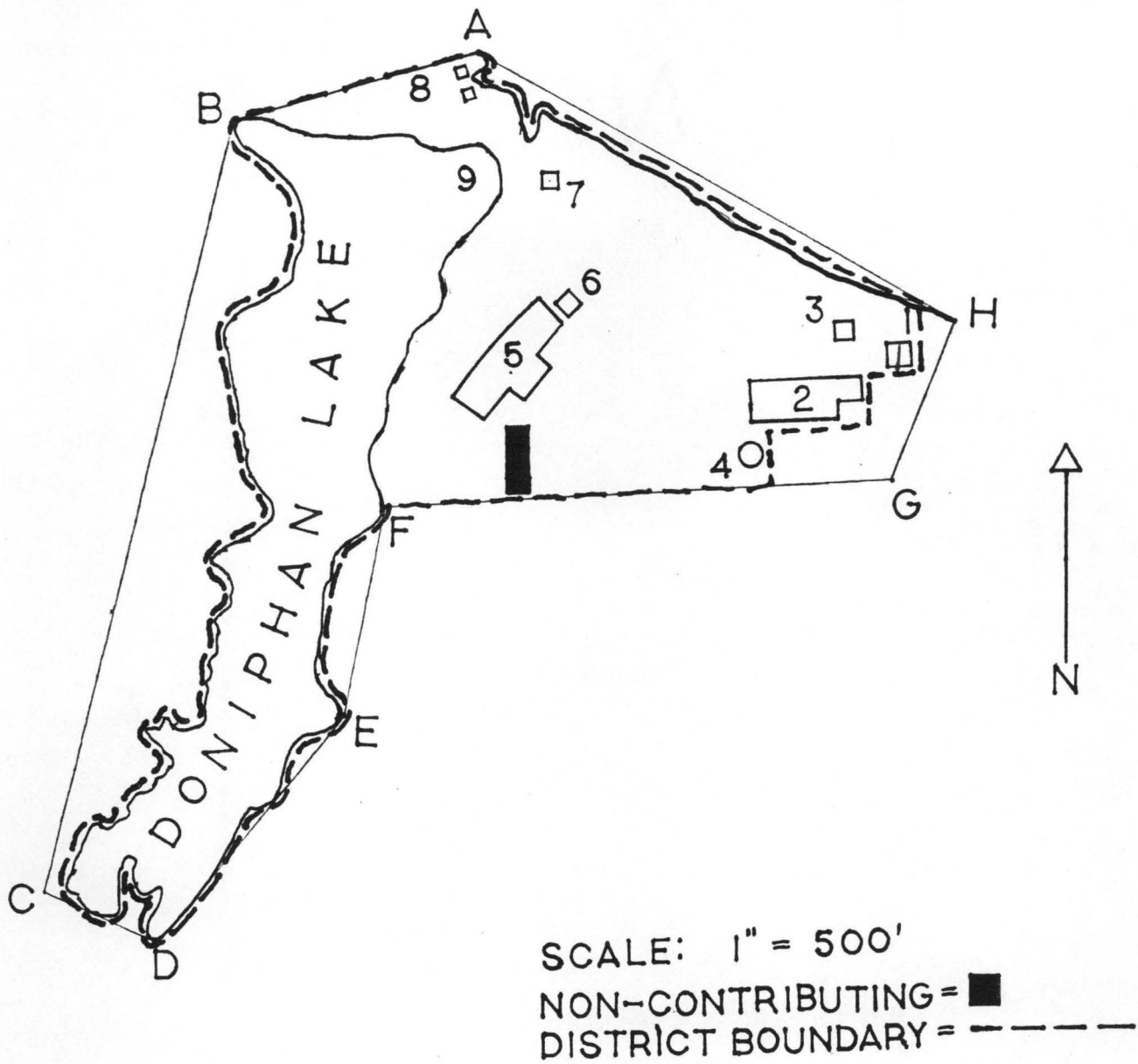
Negative on file at AMPP

View of complex from the Southeast (OVERVIEW)



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500033



DONIPHAN LUMBER MILL HISTORIC DISTRICT  
DONIPHAN, WHITE COUNTY, ARKANSAS