

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Cotton, Thomas James, House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 405 South Third Street

☐ not for publication

city or town Dardanelle

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Yell code 149 zip code 72834

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

3/22/01
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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): _____

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

5.10.01
Date of Action

Thomas James Cotton House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

2	2	buildings
0	0	sites
0	1	structures
0	0	objects
2	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Craftsman/Bungalow

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls WOOD: Weatherboard

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
(See Continuation Sheet)

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Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

Located at 405 South Third Street in Dardanelle, Arkansas, the Thomas James Cotton House is an early example of a Craftsman style home in its area of the state. The original portion of the home was constructed in 1898. In 1916 an extensive remodeling took place concealing all exterior elements of the original structure giving the building the Craftsman appearance it retains today. Thomas James Cotton was owner of the original home, but to accommodate his growing family he had the small house remodeled into a two-story Craftsman style home. The house features an asymmetrical front porch with large brick columns placed at each corner flanking the entrance to the home. The facade features distinctive Craftsman elements including exposed rafter tails, decorative wood bracketing, a blend of novelty and lap siding and a large second story dormer matching the massing of the house. The building rests on a brick pier foundation and is topped by an asphalt shingle roof that is penetrated by two prominent brick chimneys, symmetrically located forward of the clipped gable on the front facade.

Elaboration

The Thomas James Cotton House in Dardanelle is an early example of a Craftsman style home in Yell County, Arkansas. The home was built circa 1898 but was extensively remodeled in 1916 concealing all original exterior features. The house features distinctive Craftsman elements such as exposed rafter tails, decorative wood bracketing and a large second story dormer. The two story building sits atop a brick pier foundation that has been infilled with bricks and is topped by an asphalt shingled clipped gable roof. Although the building has two modern additions, both are located on the rear of the building and are not visible from the front. The unobtrusiveness of the additions allows the building to maintain its original appearance from all sides but the rear.

West Elevation

The façade of the building fronts west toward Third Street. The west facade features a full front porch supported by large brick piers. The elevation is very symmetrical. The centrally located front entryway is flanked on each side by a prominent one-over-one window. Each of the two first story one-over-one windows is flanked with two pane sidelights. This configuration compliments the front entrance with a full glass door and sidelights and transom. The dormer features six single-pane casement windows along with decorative wood bracketing and exposed rafter tails.

South Elevation

The south elevation is fenestrated with a total of seven one-over-one windows along the first floor corresponding to room configuration. Near the front of the home is a large exterior brick chimney flanked by one-over-one windows on the first floor and by a single casement window on the second floor. Moving east down the wall is a pair of windows on the first level with two individual windows located caddy corner to them on the upper level. A single window follows this on the lower story and a casement window on the upper story. The last fenestration on the south elevation is a pair of first floor windows.

East Elevation

The east elevation of the residence makes up the rear of the building and is the location of two modern additions. The additions are barely visible from anywhere but the rear of the building and do little to detract from its historic

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National Park Service

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appearance. Each addition is clearly a modern addition with casement and stationary aluminum windows and wider siding. The northernmost addition was at one time a screened in porch, but was enclosed and incorporated into the house. The visible rear of the original structure features a single one-over-one double hung window located on the south end of the eastern elevation. On the second floor is a dormer that is a little larger in size than the dormer on the west elevation. This dormer is fenestrated with eight one-over-one windows in the front and single casement windows in the both sides.

North Elevation

The north elevation is fenestrated with two transom lights that originally had a large window in the middle. The center window has been enclosed to allow for the installation of an air conditioner. Moving to the west, there is a small window space that has been extended outward and converted to a window garden. Continuing on, the elevation is fenestrated by a wooden door with a storm door on the outside that provides side access to the house. The north elevation's main feature is a central bay on the first level featuring a central window with sidelights. There are matching windows on each side of the bay. The bay is crowned with a pair of centrally located one-over-one windows on the second story. A casement window is located off each corner at the location where the roof of the prow meets the exterior wall of the house on the second story. A pair of double hung windows is located near the western corner of the house.

Outbuildings

There are four outbuildings associated with the house. The smokehouse is the only one that is historic and it is located directly behind the southeastern corner of the residence. This structure is of very simple construction with only one opening, which is the entrance. The entire structure is covered with board and baton siding and has a metal roof in the form of a gable. This structure is now used for storage.

The three non-historic outbuildings on the property consist of a gazebo, a garage and a metal storage building. The gazebo is located north of the residence in an open portion of the lot. The garage is located at the end of the driveway on the northwest end of the residence. The small metal storage building is located immediately to the rear of the historic smokehouse.

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1898, 1916

Significant Dates

1898, 1916

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: Bliss, James H.

Builder: McKenzie, Barney

Narrative Statement of Significance

(See Continuation Sheet)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

#

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Summary

The Thomas James Cotton House located at 405 South Third Street in Dardanelle, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** as the best example of a two story Craftsman home in its part of Dardanelle. The Cotton House has served as a residence to one of the town's oldest families and has remained a longstanding fixture in Dardanelle. It has remained in the same family for four generations, and the family is currently planning to restore the building for the use of the community.

Elaboration

When James and Myrtle Cotton were married in 1898 they moved to a small three room dwelling in Dardanelle. With there growing family and prosperity came the need for a more spacious dwelling. In 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Cotton and their six children Anna Gayle, Margaret, Sarah Frances, Elizabeth, Thomas, and Rebecca Jane moved into their new home at 405 South Third Street in Dardanelle, Arkansas. The home was built around the original three-room house. Mr. Cotton hired a architect and the home was renovated in a manner that totally concealed the original smaller home. The house was one of only a few in the Dardanelle area at that time to be designed by an architect. James Bliss from Little Rock was hired to design the home. Barney McKenzie of Dardanelle was hired as contractor for the project. Mr. McKenzie built several homes and buildings in the Dardanelle area including the Dardanelle First Presbyterian Church that is now in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Cottons were early pioneers and settlers of Dardanelle and were affluent businessmen and landowners. Thomas James Cotton, Sr. is a descendant of John Cotton, Puritan Minister of Boston's North Church (circa 1632); Thomas Cotton, Captain of North Carolina Militia (1780) during the Revolutionary War; and Jesse Hackney Cotton who came to Dardanelle from Cottontown, Tennessee, in the 1850s just as Dardanelle was being platted. Jesse Cotton was Yell County Surveyor in the 1860s following J.H. Brearly who platted the city of Dardanelle in 1851. The Cotton House still contains the compass by which Dardanelle was platted. Jesse Cotton's father's house (Moore Cotton House) in Cottontown, Tennessee, near Gallatin and Nashville (Sumner County) and the Bridal House were placed in the National Register of Historic Places (circa 1980). In Tennessee the Cotton's had a horseracing track with President Andrew Jackson. The Cotton men boasted that because of all the Cotton votes, Andrew Jackson won the election of the Presidency.

Thomas James Cotton, Sr. and Thomas James Cotton, Jr., Grandson and Great Grandson of Jesse Hackney Cotton, were farmers, landowners, and businessmen who owned cotton gins in Dardanelle, Atkins and Pottsville. They also opened a commissary for their employees and were considered to be honest and caring men quoted as saying, "We are put here on earth to help our fellow man, and if we do not, we are a sorry lot." Thomas Cotton, Sr., and his son Thomas Cotton, Jr., were avid sportsmen who raised fine bird dogs. Many dignitaries from the Little Rock area and as far away as Pennsylvania visited and were entertained in the Cotton home when they came to Yell County to hunt game.

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Mrs. Rebecca Cotton Garner was the only child of six children to be born in the Cotton home. She is the only living child of Thomas and Myrtle Cotton and now resides in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, as a retired high school teacher, college professor (Ouachita Baptist University and Henderson State University) and Supervisor of Home Economics (State Department of Education).

Today Margaret Cotton Hillyard and Elizabeth Cotton own the home. Both are teachers in the River Valley area and are the daughters of Thomas and Selma Cotton. They are currently in the process of restoring their eighty-four year old ancestral home. Plans are to continue sharing the home with the community of Dardanelle as a meeting place for non-profit organizations.

Significance

The Thomas James Cotton House in Dardanelle, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance** as the best example of a two story Craftsman style home in the town. Although the house has had two small additions added to rear, it remains the best extant example of its style building in its surrounding area of the town. The original portion of the house was a smaller three-room home built before 1898. The extensiveness of the alteration totally concealed any exterior details of the original home, therefore it is being nominated for its 1916 Craftsman architecture.

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

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Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography:

Barger, Carole Cotton. "Descendants of John Cotton and an Account of Cotton Related Families", Fort Smith, AR, June 1999.

Bliss, Jas. H. Architectural Blue Prints, Little Rock, AR, 1916.

Cotton, John Sr. "Genealogy of the Cotton Family", Dallas, TX, 1960s.

Garner, Rebecca Cotton, Personal Interview, Arkadelphia, AR, 1999.

McKenzie, Barney. Record of Homes Constructed in Yell County Area, Dardanelle, AR, 1964.

Mahan, Larry. Lqn Mahan Appraisals, Russellville, AR, 1999.

Old North Church, Boston, MA, 1997.

Smith, Frances Cotton. Personal Interview, Dardanelle, AR, 1985.

Yell County Heritage, Yell County, AR, 1997.

Thomas James Cotton House

Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 485810 3897260
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
4 _____

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Lot 7 Block 66 of the Town of Dardanelle, Yell County, Arkansas

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes all land Historically associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Margaret Cotton Hillyard and Todd Ferguson Edited by: Zac Cothren

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

date 3/7/01

street & number 1500 Tower Bldg. 323 Center St.

telephone 324-9789

city or town Little Rock

state AR

zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Cotton, Thomas James, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Yell

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/20/01
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/06/01 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/19/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 01000483

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 5-10-01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



1. Cotton, Thomas James House
2. Yell Co., AR
3. The Cotton
4. August 2000
5. AHPP
6. West Elevation - looking East
7. 1



1. Cotton, Thomas James House
2. Yell Co., AR
3. Zac Coturen
4. August 2000
5. A HPP
6. South Elevation, Looking North
7. 2



1. Cotton, Thomas James House
2. Yell Co., AR
3. Zue Cothren
4. August 2000
5. AHP
6. East Elevation, looking west
7. 3



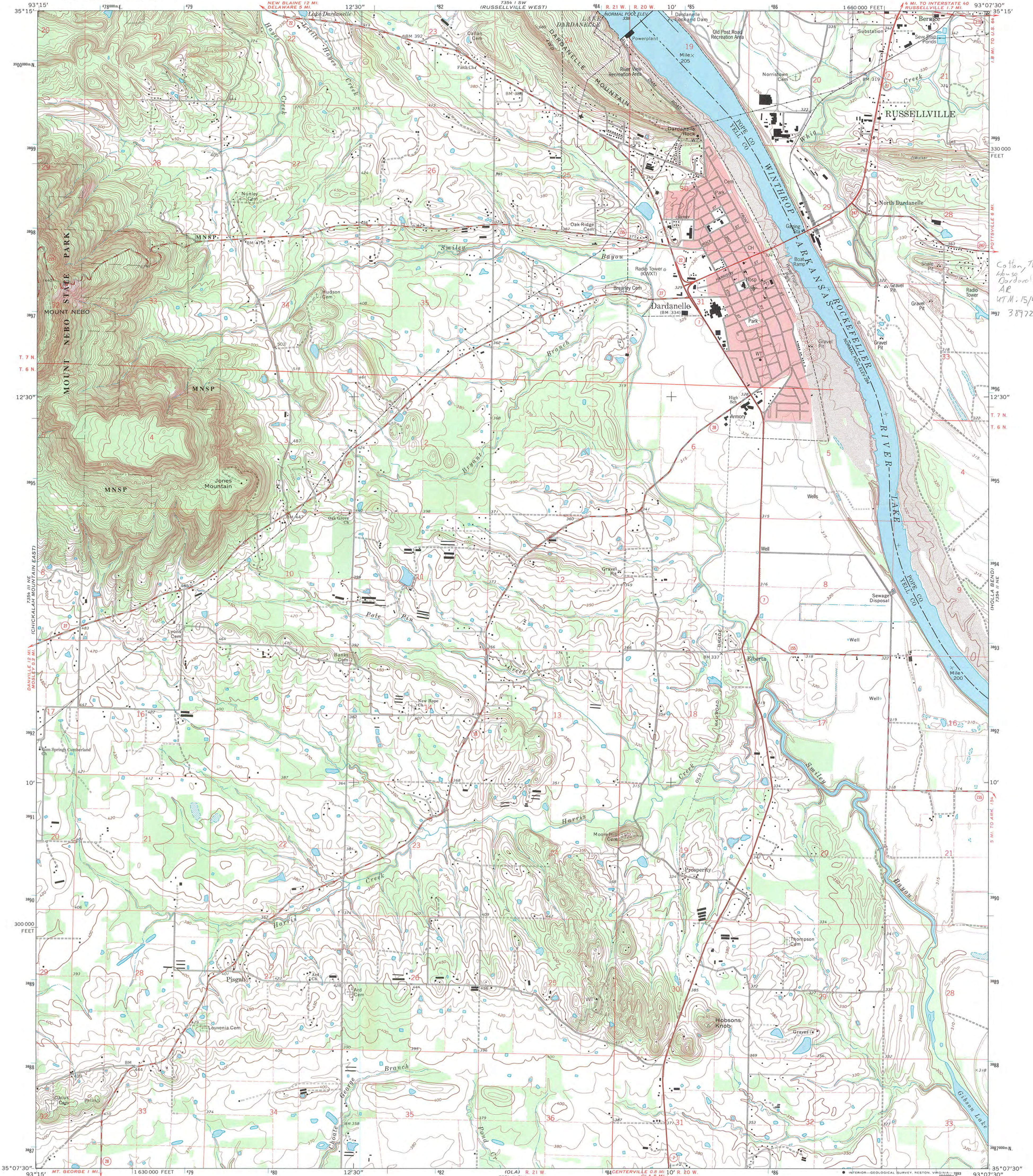
1. Cotton, Thomas James House
2. Yell Co, AR
3. Zac Cuthren
4. August 2000
5. AHPP
6. North Elevation, Looking South
7. 4



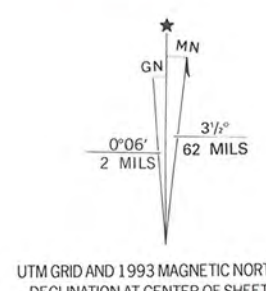
1. Cotton, Thomas James Hase
2. Yell co., AR
3. Zac Cothren
4. August 2000
5. AHPP
6. Smokehouse
7. 5

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DARDANELLE QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1971. Field checked 1972. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1989-90. Field checked 1992. Map edited 1993
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



SCALE 1:24 000
1 000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 5 0 5 10 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
COMPLIES WITH U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY STANDARDS FOR SPATIAL ACCURACY - CLASS 2
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

DARDANELLE, ARK.
35093-B2-TF-024
1993
DMA 7354 II NW-SERIES V884



The Department of
**Arkansas
Heritage**

**WE LOVE TO TELL
THE STORY.**

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

■

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

■

Arkansas Territorial Restoration

■

Delta Cultural Center

■

Old State House Museum



**Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program**

1500 Tower Building

323 Center Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501)324-9880

fax: (501)324-9184

tdd: (501)324-9811

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

March 21, 2001

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1849 C St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Thomas James Cotton House, Dardanelle, Yell County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above-referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews,
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:zc

Enclosures

An Equal Opportunity Employer

