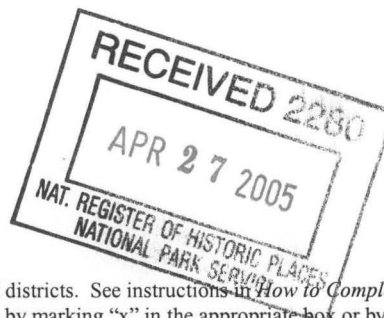


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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 Tucker School

other names/site number Site #JE0576

2. Location

street & number Vandalsen Drive

☐ not for publication

city or town Tucker

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Jefferson code 069 zip code 72168

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)

Casimir M. Adams  
Signature of certifying official/Title

4/25/05  
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

6/10/05  
Date of Action

Tucker School  
Name of Property

Jefferson 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
1	buildings
	sites
	structures
	objects
1	Total

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

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

## 6. Function or Use

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

## 7. Description

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN  
MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)  
foundation BRICK  
walls WOOD  
  
roof ASPHALT  
other

**Narrative Description**  
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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### SUMMARY

The Tucker School is a one-story, wood-framed school built c.1915 in the Community of Tucker, which is located approximately twenty miles north of Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas. The building rests on a foundation of brick piers, and is sheathed in weatherboard. The roof, which is a combination of a gable and hipped roof, is covered with asphalt shingles.

### ELABORATION

The Tucker School is located in the community of Tucker, approximately twenty miles north of Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas. The one-story, wood-framed structure was built c.1915 and contains four classrooms. It is located on Vandalsen Drive one block west of Arkansas Highway 15. A separate cafeteria building was also located on the property southwest of the school, but only the concrete foundation remains today.

The school sits on a brick pier foundation. The walls are sheathed in weatherboard and the roof, which is partially gabled and partially hipped, is covered in asphalt shingles. One brick chimney pierces the roof in the center of the building. Most of the large original windows remain, although they have been boarded up. A small porch in the center of the west façade shelters the building's main entrance while a second entrance is located on the building's east side.

### Front/West Façade

The front façade of the building can be divided in half around a central entrance. The left half of the façade has a gable front roof, and projects outward from the main façade. It is fenestrated by a pair of windows that is boarded up. Above the windows, in the gable peak, are two square, louvered attic vents.

The building's central entrance, which is the main entrance, is sheltered by a porch. The porch's roof is a continuation of the front façade's gable roof, and is supported by a wood column at the corner. A concrete sidewalk leads to the entrance from Vandalsen Drive, and a sidewalk also branches off to the south leading to the foundation of the cafeteria building. The entrance consists of a pair of wood doors with a single diamond-shaped window towards the top of each. In the roof's main gable peak, which is located above the main entrance, there is a rectangular, louvered attic vent. Decorative gingerbread work is located in the peak in front of the vent.

There is no fenestration on the right half of the façade.

### Side/South Façade

The south façade of the building, towards the west end, is fenestrated by a pair of windows followed by a single window followed by another pair of windows. Although all of the windows towards the west end are boarded up, they are visible on the inside and are double-hung, wood-framed, two-over-two windows.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Another group of boarded up windows, likely a group of five, is located towards the eastern end of the façade.

### Rear/East Façade

The rear façade's fenestration is symmetrically oriented around the central entrance. The rear entrance door is a wood-panel door. On either side of the entrance are two evenly-spaced windows that are double-hung, wood-framed, two-over-two windows. As on the front façade, a rectangular, louvered attic vent, is located in the roof's main gable peak

### Side/North Façade

The north façade of the building is fenestrated by two sets of windows. The eastern set of windows is composed of at least four wood-framed, double-hung, two-over-two windows, although all of the windows in the group are boarded-up. The western set of windows is composed of eight wood-framed, double-hung, two-over-two windows. All of the windows except the fifth from the left are boarded-up.

### Interior

The interior layout of the building consists of a central hallway that runs almost the entire length of the building with the classrooms opening up off of the hallway. The classroom on the north side of the building is the largest and has a stage area at the eastern end, and it also appears that the room may have had a movable partition wall in the center. The other rooms on the south side of the building are smaller classrooms.

The interior finishes of the building, consist of hardwood floors, and beadboard paneling on approximately the lower third of the walls. The rest of the walls and ceilings are finished in painted wood paneling with raised boards covering the seams between the panels. A water fountain, which appears to be original to the building, is located on the hallway's south wall just inside the front door.

### Integrity

Overall, the Tucker School has excellent integrity. It appears that very little of the building has been modified so that it retains its original interior and exterior finishes as well as its original plan. Although most of the windows have been boarded up, the original windows do remain and are visible from the inside of the building. Since the late 1800s when Tucker was established as a cotton plantation community, it has been a small rural community, and the current setting of the Tucker School still reflects its early twentieth-century appearance as a small plantation community.

## 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 birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ 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.

### Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 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  
# \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering  
Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

LOCAL

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

## EDUCATION

ETHNIC HERITAGE/Black

### Period of Significance

c.1915-1955

### Significant Dates

c.1915-1955

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)**Architect/Builder**

**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

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

## SUMMARY

The Tucker School is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with education in the Tucker area and Jefferson County. The Tucker School is the last remaining school building in Tucker, and is a good example of an early twentieth century school building.

## ELABORATION

The Tucker community was named after John Woodfin Tucker, who came to Jefferson County in 1867 or 1868 and settled on Plum Bayou. In the vicinity of his house, Tucker also constructed a frame warehouse or commissary building. However, when the Cotton Belt line was constructed through the area c.1887, he moved the building to the small settlement at the rail line, which became known as Tucker when the post office was established. The Tucker community has always been tied to the Tucker plantation, and has been an agricultural community focused on cotton production in the area.

The Tucker School was built c.1915 to serve the white students in the Tucker community. Tucker did have a Rosenwald School (built 1925) and shop building (built 1929) to serve the area's African-American students. However, those buildings, which were located where the community park is now, were closed after the 1968-1969 school year, and were vandalized and demolished c.1972.

Although the Tucker School had four classrooms, only two teachers were employed at the school. A principal also served the school and Mildred Blair was one of the principals.

It is likely that the building was used by the community for more than just a school. The fact that the school features an auditorium space indicates that it may have also been used as a community center. Some educators, including Samuel Smith, who worked on school designs for the Rosenwald Fund, felt that, "the best modern school is one which is designed to serve the entire community for twelve months in the year...whenever possible a good auditorium, large enough to seat the entire community, should be erected in connection with every community school. If there are not sufficient funds for an auditorium, two adjoining classrooms with movable partitions may be made to serve this purpose." The Tucker School was not large enough for a separate auditorium, but appeared to have adjacent classrooms with a movable partition.

It is unknown when the building was last used as a school, but the topographic map of the area indicates that the building was being used as a church by 1963. It is believed that the school closed just prior to being used as a church. Currently, the building is vacant and has been for several years.

Schools along with churches were often the centerpieces of a community, and it was no exception in Tucker. Located in the heart of the Tucker Plantation complex, the Tucker School was the center of life in this

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

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community not only while it was a school, but for several years after. Although it is currently vacant, the Tucker School is a rare and tangible reminder of early twentieth century education in Tucker.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tucker School is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with education in the Tucker area and Jefferson County. The Tucker School is the last remaining school building in Tucker, and is a good example of an early twentieth century school building.

Tucker School  
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas  
County and State

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Information on Tucker, Arkansas, compiled by Everett Tucker, Jr., May 1977. In the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Evans, Lucreasia A. Interview with the author. 15 April 2005.



Tucker School  
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 1.25 acres.

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 595945 3810742  
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.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date January 20, 2005  
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787  
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 Adams Enterprises, Inc.  
street & number 511 E. Homan Street telephone  
city or town England state AR zip code 72046

**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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From the Vandalsen Drive and Arkansas Highway 15 intersection, proceed westerly along the north side of Vandalsen Drive for 250 feet to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning proceed westerly along the north side of Vandalsen Drive for 145 feet, thence proceed northerly along the east side of Vandalsen Drive for 390 feet, thence proceed easterly along the southern edge of Vandalsen Drive for 145 feet, thence proceed southerly for 390 feet to the point of beginning.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Tucker School.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Tucker School  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 4/27/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/26/05  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/10/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/10/05  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05000538

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 6/10/05 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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the  
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.





TUCKER SCHOOL

JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR

ZAC COTHREN

JANUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

EAST FACADE, LOOKING WEST





TUCKER SCHOOL

JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR

ZAC COTHREN

JANUARY 2007

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

NORTH FACADE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST





TUCKER SCHOOL  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR  
ZAC COTHREN  
JANUARY 2003  
ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
WEST GABLE DETAIL, LOOKING NORTHEAST





TUCKER SCHOOL  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR  
ZAC COTHREN  
JANUARY 2003  
ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
SOUTH FACADE, LOOKING NORTH



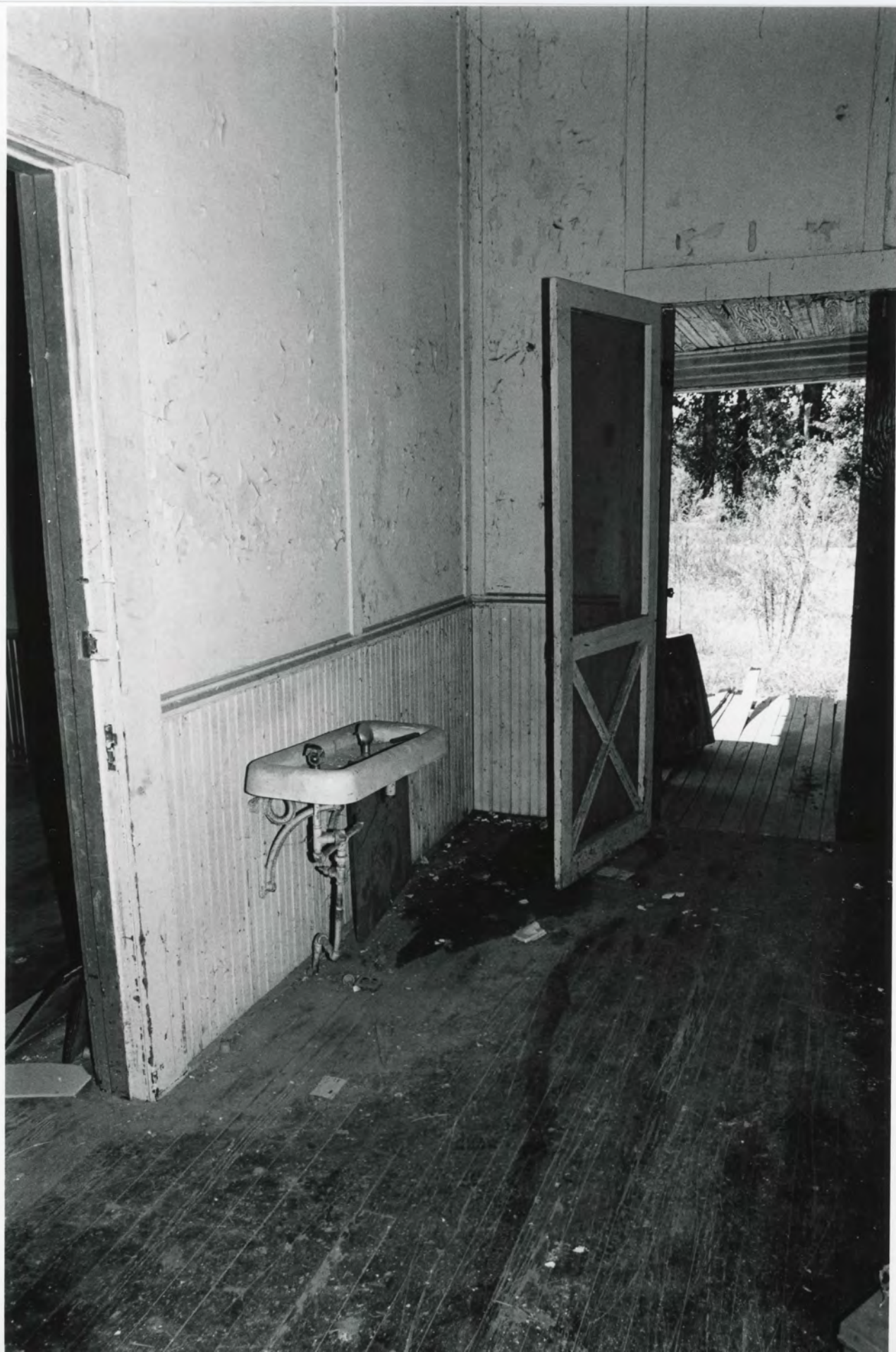


TUCKER SCHOOL  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR

ZAC COTHREN

JANUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
WEST AND SOUTH FACADES, LOOKING NORTHEAST





TUCKER SCHOOL

JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR

ZAC COTHREN

JANUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

WATER FOUNTAIN IN THE CENTRAL HALL, LOOKING SOUTHWEST





TUCKER SCHOOL  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, AR

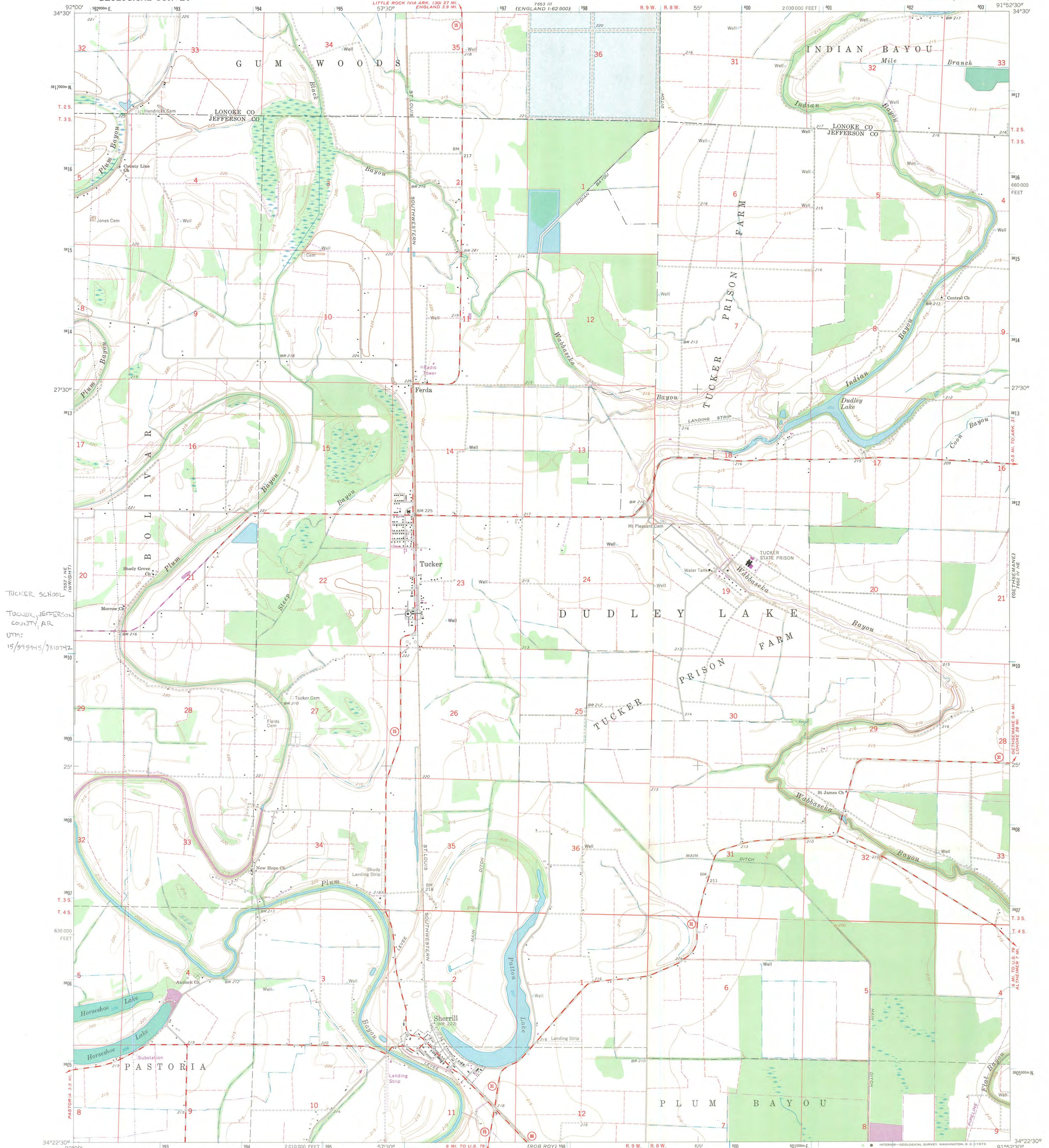
ZAC COTHREN

JANUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

AUDITORIUM SPACE, LOOKING EAST





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1962. Topography by planetable surveys 1963  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south 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  
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1971. This information not field checked

UTM GRID AND 1971 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

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 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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

SHERILL, ARK.  
N 3422.5—W 9152.5/7.5

1963

PHOTOREVISED 1971  
AMS 7652 IV NW—SERIES V884





## The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



### Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail:

[info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)

website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.org](http://www.arkansaspreservation.org)

An Equal Opportunity Employer



April 22, 2005

Carol D. Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005



RE: Tucker School – Tucker, Jefferson County, Arkansas

Dear Carol:

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

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure