

1249

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

OCT 28 1993

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Rapillard House

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 123 W. 7th Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: North Little Rock

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Pulaski code: AR 119 zip code: 72114

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>      </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

=====

#### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. \_\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Robert H. Slater  
Signature of certifying official

10-6-93  
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): \_\_\_\_\_

entered in the  
National Register

Guyl M. Lapsley 11/19/93

for Signature of Keeper Date  
of Action

=====

#### 6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: DOMESTIC

Sub: Single dwelling

Current: COMMERCE/TRADE

Sub: Professional

=====

## 7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

English Revival

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>Brick</u>	roof	<u>Asphalt</u>
	walls	<u>Brick</u>	other	<u>Wood porch</u>
				<u>columns and</u>
				<u>brackets</u>

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====

## 8. Statement of Significance

=====

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1927

Significant Dates: 1927

Significant Person(s): N/A

\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

---

**Summary**

The Rapillard House is a two-story vernacular interpretation of the English Revival style. The house features characteristic steep gables and textural diversity through the use of brick and stucco wall materials.

**Elaboration**

Constructed in 1927, the Modeste Rapillard House is a two-story, brick veneer, vernacular English Revival building. The rectangular plan is topped by a composition-shingled gable roof. An exterior end chimney is found on the west elevation and a small exterior brick chimney is located on the east section of the rear elevation.

The southern or front elevation features a prominent two-story cross gable bay with rough stucco facing in the gable end. Pairs of double hung six-over-one windows are found on the first and second story levels of this bay. Two small dormers with diamond shaped window lites are located in the steep slope of the main gable roof over the entrance area.

Although a slightly inset porch has been enclosed to accommodate office space (c. 1967) the facade remains much as original. Slender Doric columns support the recessed porch area. The original heavy paneled entry door is flanked by sidelights.

The eastern and western elevations are dominated by the steep stucco clad side gable ends above the second story level. A small side porch on the eastern elevation is covered with a shed roof supported by wood brackets. The western elevation features the house's main chimney which is centered and decorated with terra cotta chimney pots.

The rear elevation (north) features a small brick chimney on the eastern end and is lighted with four small six-over-one double hung windows and a pair of regular size double hung six-over-six windows on the first floor.

The Rapillard House interiors have been modified to accommodate office space. The nomination also includes an original single story, gable roof brick garage building just to the east of the residence.

Although not an elaborate version of the English Revival style, the Rapillard House, with its steeply pitched gable roof echoed in the two small dormers on the south facade, and brick and

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

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

---

stucco wall materials remains one of downtown North Little Rock's finer English Revival residences.

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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

---

**Summary**

**Criterion C, local significance**

The Modeste Rapillard House, located at 123 W. Seventh Street in North Little Rock, is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as one of the best examples of the English Revival style of architecture in the downtown area of that city. The Rapillard House is a significant representation of the contributions to the development of commerce in the city of North Little Rock by an individual businessman.

**Elaboration**

Modeste Rapillard followed one of his older brothers to the railroad town of Argenta, Arkansas from a village near Geneva, Switzerland in the 1890s. Pamphlets distributed throughout Europe in the late 19th Century touted the opportunities of lands in the United States and the Rapillard's were attracted by the industrial and railroad-linked jobs offered in the central Arkansas area. Although his brother decided to return to Switzerland, Modeste Rapillard settled in Argenta (North Little Rock) and established a successful grocery and general mercantile business on the town's Main Street.

At the time Modeste Rapillard settled in Arkansas, Argenta (North Little Rock) was emerging as an important industrial city with the base of its growth centered around the railroad industry. Although the town of Argenta had been officially established in 1871 with the opening of a post office, in 1890 the City of Little Rock annexed the community to its boundaries, making it the eighth ward of Little Rock.

Despite the lack of services and city support while being Little Rock's eighth ward, Argenta continued to prosper and grow, and business along Main Street flourished with the increasing numbers of railroad laborers moving to the town.

In 1903 a group of foresighted businessmen managed to separate Little Rock's eighth ward from that city's boundaries and join it with an area north of its boundaries called North Little Rock. Argenta citizens voted to secede from Little Rock and become part of the incorporated town of North Little Rock. In 1906 the city of North Little Rock and its annexed former eighth ward of Little Rock officially changed its name to Argenta.

During the early years of the 20th century Argenta flourished with expanded railroad industry and manufacturing interests. Main Street businesses prospered as did that of Modeste Rapillard's grocery at 707 Main. The Rapillard grocery, which in the early years provided



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

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

---

delivery of groceries by horse-drawn wagons, remained a strong business in its original location on North Little Rock's Main Street through the 1940s.

Modeste Rapillard met and married Mary Heim whose parents were from Bavaria. In 1927 the successful business owners built a residence facing West 7th Street in the same block as their grocery.

At the time of the construction of the Rapillard House the city of North Little Rock was still experiencing an economic boom. The imposing two-story red brick Rapillard House is located on a prominent corner lot at the intersection of Seventh and Maple Streets. The majority of the homes constructed in downtown North Little Rock during the early part of the 20th century were Colonial Revival or Craftsman. Only a few homes in the area were designed in the English Revival style. And only a few homes in the area were as large and impressive as the Rapillard House.

After the death of Modeste Rapillard in the mid 1950s, Mary Rapillard continued to reside in the home. In the 1960s the Rapillard House was converted to an attorney's office and continues to be used in such capacity.

The Modeste Rapillard House remains one of the finest examples of English Revival period architecture in downtown North Little Rock. The popularity of "period revival" architectural design in the 1920s did not have much effect on downtown North Little Rock. Only a very few buildings exhibit any period revival influence and all of these are influenced by the English Revival design. Located in a neighborhood filled with Colonial Revival and Craftsman style residences, the Rapillard House is unique in its representation of the English Revival style. In spite of the enclosure of a section of the facade (south) porch in 1967, the original details of the English Revival influence remain. Located on a highly visible corner at West 7th and Maple Streets, the Rapillard House remains an architecturally distinctive representation of a family whose business was a local landmark in downtown North Little Rock for over fifty years.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

X 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:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>15</u>	<u>566950</u>	<u>3846580</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	<u>15</u>	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Lot 12, Block 12, Clendennin Addition to the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/06/93

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

---

**Bibliography**

Adams, Walter M. A History, *North Little Rock, The Unique City*. (Little Rock: August House, 1986).

Berry, Betty, Interview by Sandra Taylor Smith, July 30, 1993.

Graham, Mrs. Joe, Interview by Sandra Taylor Smith, August 3, 1993.

Little Rock City Directories 1890-1970.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Little Rock and North Little Rock, 1913 and 1939.

The Times. *North Little Rock, A Pictorial History*. (North Little Rock: The Times, 1991).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Rapillard House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 10/22/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/02/93  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/18/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/06/93  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93001249

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 11/19/93 DATE **entered in the National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_





Modeste Rapihard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Cty., Arkansas  
photograph by Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
negative on file AHP  
view from south





modeste Rapiillard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Cty., Arkansas  
photograph By Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
negative on file AHPP  
view from southwest





modeste RAPILLARD HOUSE  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Cty., Arkansas  
photograph By Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
NEGATIVE ON FILE AHPD  
View from SouthEast







modeste Rapillard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Cty., Arkansas  
photograph By Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
negative on file AAPD  
View from west



Modeste Rapillard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Co., Arkansas  
photograph By Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
negative on file AHPP  
view from North



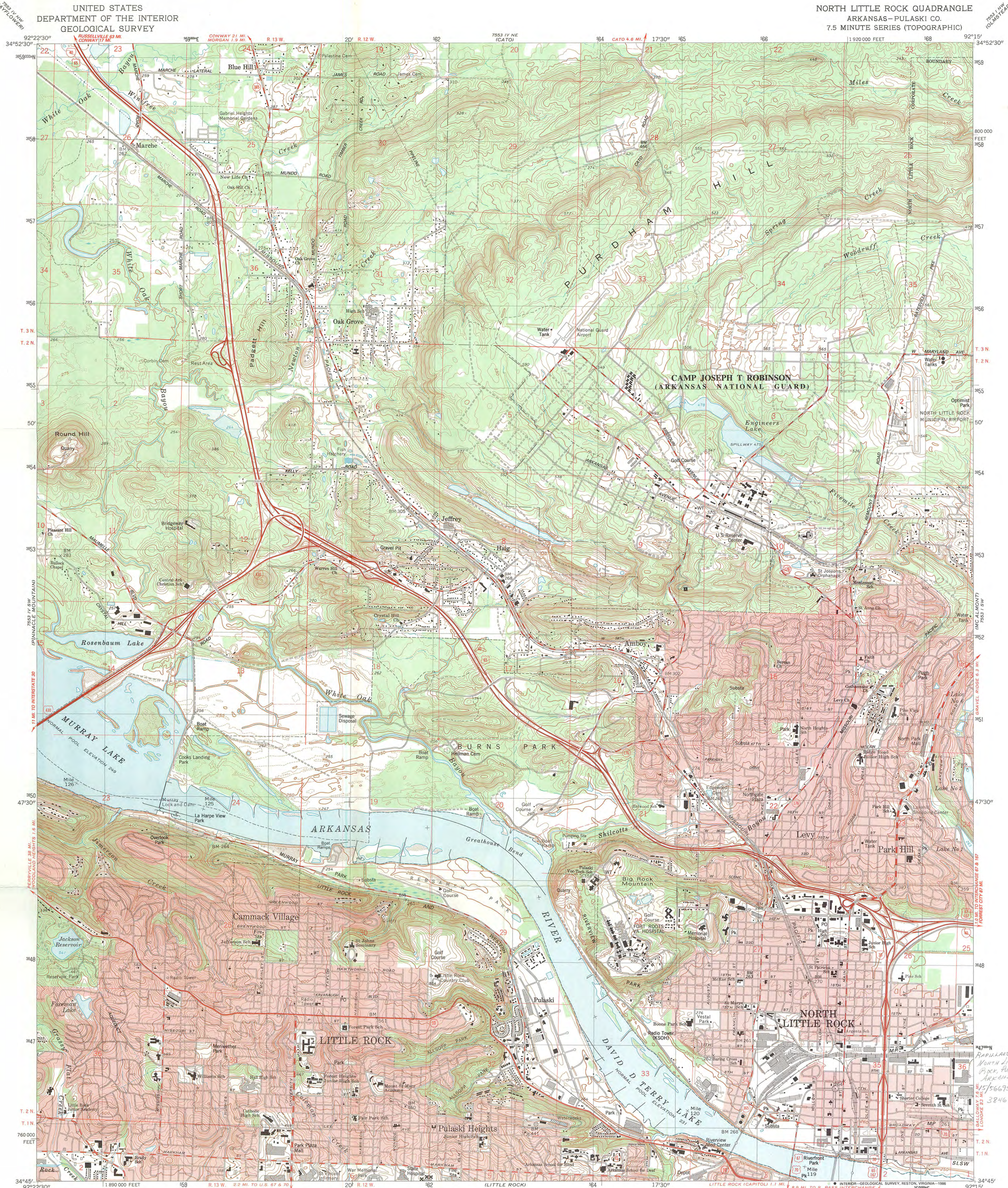


modeste Bapillard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Cty., Arkansas  
photograph by Sandra Taylor Smith  
August, 1993  
negative on file AHPD  
View from southwest  
B-GARAGE



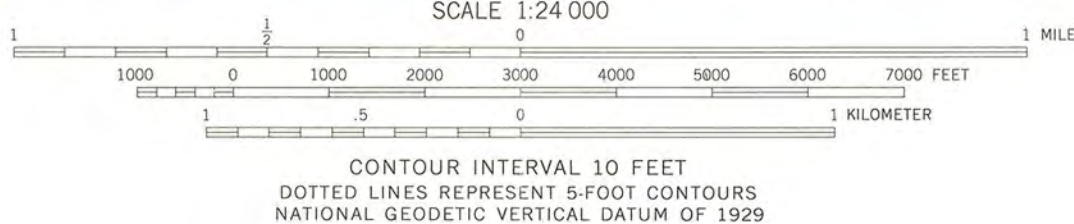
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

NORTH LITTLE ROCK QUADRANGLE  
ARKANSAS-PULASKI CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1960. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1984  
Field checked 1985. Map edited 1986  
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate  
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15  
1927 North American Datum  
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,  
move the projection lines 7 meters south and  
14 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks  
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of  
the National or State reservations shown on this map  
Red tint indicates areas 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

UTM GRID AND 1986 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 RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



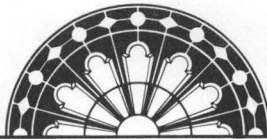
ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———  
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK.  
34092-G3-TF-024

1986

DMA 7553 IV SE-SERIES V884





ARKANSAS  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM

October 7, 1993

Carol D. Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250  
Washington, DC 20002

RECEIVED

OCT 22 1993

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

RE: Rapillard House  
North Little Rock, Pulaski 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,

Cathy Buford Slater  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:kg

Enclosures

