United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received SEP 2 5 198

See instructions in How to Complete National Register Forms
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries	s—complete applicable se	ections		
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historic	Union Life Building	ertoelands not <mark>ac</mark> Diocelas en comp		His Tolling St.
and/or common	Providential Place			
2. Loca	ation			
street & number	212 Center Street		de la	not for publication
city, town	Little Rock	vicinity of	congressional district	Second
state	Arkansas code	05 county	Pulaski	code 119
3. Clas	sification			
Category  districtX building(s) structure site object	Ownership public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	Status X occupied unoccupied X work in progress Accessible yes: restricted X yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture _X commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Proper	ty		
name street & number	c/o Jim Guy Tucker	, Agent for the Owr	ty Regime (See conti ners First National Build	
city, town	Little Rock	vicinity of	state	Arkansas
5. Loca	ation of Lega	l Description	on	
courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Pula	aski County Courtho	ouse	laine edi exilina
street & number	405	West Markham	grafica yang ba	
city, town	Lit	tle Rock	state	Arkansas
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depository for su	urvey records Arkansas	Historic Preservat	tion Program	
city, town	Little R	ock	state	Arkansas

## 7. Description

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fair unexpo	sed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### SUMMARY

The Union Life Building is situated in downtown Little Rock on Center Street, which, at the time of the building's construction, marked the western edge of the city's financial district. Although construction of the building commenced in 1911, then planned as the People's Life Insurance Building, the site was abandoned in early 1912 leaving the building only partially complete. The structure remained unfinished until 1916 when the property was acquired by the Grand Lodge Ancient Order of United Workmen and was completed at a cost of \$250,000. Designed by prominent architect George R. Mann, the "T"-shaped eleven-story office building juxtaposes the compositional elements of the "Chicago Commercial Style" popularized by Louis Sullivan with decorative motifs from the vocabulary of Gothic architecture. Combined in the Union Life Building, these features enabled the architect to explore a "modern" design accentuating the verticality of the new office tower building type while referring to the historical imagery of eras past. Considered by its early owners, "the most beautiful building in the South," the Union Life Building still stands as a distinctive element in the contemporary Little Rock skyline.

#### ELABORATION

Structurally, the "T"-shaped, eleven-story office building is comprised of a concrete encased steel frame with 12-inch brick masonry curtain wall construction on the north, south and west elevations. Forming the leg of the "T", the north and south elevations have four bay spans. Pairs of one-over-one double-hung rectangular windows pierce each bay of the curtain wall with the exception of the fourth bay of the south elevation which is slightly recessed to articulate the elevator core. The windows of the eleventh story of the building's side elevations are small square single pane openings. The three bay west elevation forms the base of the leg of the "T". Its fenestration consists of pairs of one-over-one double-hung windows along the center axis of the building flanked by one window on either side. The tenth floor west elevation has five windows while three small windows light the eleventh floor. The horizontal member of the "T" is formed by the slightly projecting two bay eastern ends of the north and south elevations and the principal (east) facade.

Unlike the brick curtain wall of the Union Life Building's other elevations, its principal facade has a three bay span finished in white glazed terra cotta tile cast in an active array of Gothic motifs. As dictated by the Chicago Style, this facade is penetrated by three slightly recessed segmental arched openings with an overhanging canopy at one-story height articulating the principal entrance of the building which occupies the central archway. Banding accentuates the arch surrounds, appearing much like carved stone portals, and quatrefoils and crests embellish the exterior expression of the second floor structure as it penetrates each arch. The building's seven-story shaft is composed of bay windows, often referred to in this structural context as "Chicago windows", set between engaged columns which rise from Gothic ornamented brackets almost uninterrupted to the building's parapet. More

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only SEP 4 1981 received date entered SEP 2 5 1981

Continuation sheet

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Item number

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1

restrained Gothic decoration embellishes the horizontal structural members. The engaged columns emphasize the vertical expression of the facade and complement the Gothic character of the building's decorative scheme. Originally, the building was capped by a two-story element consisting of a range of narrow, trefoil-shaped arched surmounted by a decorative parapet enlivened with spires and battlements.

In 1943, the Union Life Insurance Company acquired the building and in 1958 conducted a major renovation. During this renovation a twelfth floor penthouse and mechanical rooms were added at the unfortunate cost of the loss of the building's parapet. A later renovation in 1977 saw the original metal sash windows on the east and west elevations replaced by bronze aluminum windows. Fortunately, these are sensitively identical in scale and proportion to the original windows. The interior of the building, historically less significant than the exterior, has undergone many changes, retaining little of its original fabric.

United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Continuation sheet

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Page

1

In December of 1980, the Union Life Building (AOUW Building) was purchased by Office Building Associates, Inc. (OBA) and renamed Providential Place. Immediately after its purchase and conversion to condominium by OBA all units, representing 100% of the basic value of the condominium, were sold, in varying portions, to the following: Providential Life Insurance Company, Center Street Company (together known as the Providential Place Horizontal Property Regime), a partnership consisting of James L. Holsted, Brucy Wayne Holsted, David Parr, William Daniel Thomas, Jr., James Guy Tucker, Jr. and Betty Tucker, his wife, and William Daniel Thomas, Jr. and Johnnie Nell Thomas, his wife.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric  archeology-historic  agriculture  architecture  art  commerce  communications		g landscape architectur law literature military music	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1911 - 1917	Builder/Architect G	George R. Mann	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The work of prominent architect George R. Mann, the Union Life Building is unique among Little Rock's early twentieth-century office towers. The building is a fine example of the Chicago Style of commercial architecture pioneered in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries by Louis Sullivan and Burnham and Root. Clearly derived from the Sullivan skyscraper, the Union Life Building's principal facade is organized into a base, curtain-walled shaft and definitive crown with fluent ornament applied only to emphasize and enhance the power and direction of the building's structure. Especially noteworthy is the abundant Gothic inspired terra cotta ornament that enriches the principal facade. The use of the Gothic vocabulary adds to the unusual and innovative architectural character of the building. It is the only Little Rock building that truly depicts the decorative potential of the early skyscraper form. In spite of a 1958 alteration that cost the structure its original Gothic-ornamented parapet, the compositional and proportional components that convey the essence of the Chicago style survive intact. The Union Life Building also warrants recognition as an important example of the work of its architect. Recognized as one of Arkansas' most significant early twentieth-century architects, Mann was responsible for the design of a wealth of important, largely Classical, structures throughout the state, including the Pulaski County Courthouse (1912, NR listed 18 October 1979), the Fordyce Bathhouse (1914, NR listed 14 November 1974), the Arkansas Gazette Building (1908, NR listed 22 October 1976), and an early design for the Arkansas State Capitol (c. 1900-1912, NR listed 28 June 1974). As a result of his training with William R. Ware at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his practice with Beaux Arts trained Edward Jacques Eckel, Mann's background was firmly rooted in Classicism. In this building, his pleasing adaption of Gothic motifs is testimony to his design adroitness and flexibility. The magnificently designed and detailed Union Life Building remains an architecturally significant landmark in the Little Rock skyline and a tribute to the many facets of its designer's expertise.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Arkansas Gazette, November 5, 1917; January 1, 1918; February 28, 1918.

10. Geogra	aphical Data	Amag and	A MOLLET	Abundi no pini
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rganization Roark, Pettreet & number 713 We	erkins & Kennedy - Ar est Second Street	chitects	telephone (50)	er 22, 1981 1) 372-0272
ity or town Little	Rock	alma des	state Arka	ansas
	distoric Pres	ervatio	n Officer	Certification
he evaluated significant	ce of this property within the	state is:		introdución de la company
natior		X local		
			Historic Preservation	on Act of 1966 (Public Law 89–
65), I hereby nominate ti	his property for inclusion in and procedures set forth by	the National Regi	ster and certify tha	at it has been evaluated
ilson Stiles tate Historic Preservatio	on Officer signature			lulomon
tate Historic Pres tle	Servation Officer	Na.	da	ate Sept 2, 190
For HCRS use only				
	t this property is included in	the National Reg	ister	
Beth Groser			da	ite 9/25/8/
Keeper of the National	Register			
Attest:			da	ate
Chief of Registration				

Working Number 9.4.81.315	<u>;</u>	Fed Nom or l Federal Regi	Request—Agency ster Date 2.2.82
Nomination Determination of Eligiblity On Nomination Form  Maps Photos 5		Bldg(s) Site Object Structure District	Within:  Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group
_ State Staff _ Local	tion: ACCEPT RETURN REJECT	9/25/81	Check if Appropriate: State Request for Review Keeper's Decision to Review 2nd Return
I. Evaluation of Resource (cont. on	back if ne	cessary)	
			accept - eriter. Grosvena Historian 9/25/81
and the second s	No. 10 September 1997		
II. Evaluation of Nomination		quate oor	Comments
1. Descriptive Statement Short FormatYes No			
2. Significance Statement Short Format Yes No		there is only	me journegraph, but it should have into a concise appening summa paragraphs. Info is good, the of
3. Concepts/Integrity		w/ subsequent	paragraphs. Info is good, though
4. Concepts/Criteria			
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6. Contextual Evaluation			
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National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior



UNION LIFE BUILDING Py ASKO Count 212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR

Photographer: Bob Dunn

Photographer: Bob Dunn
Negative filed at: AR Hist. Pres. Program
Date of Photograph: 1 September 1981

Principal (East) Elevation Photographs #1 of Photographs



UNION LIFE BUILDING Pulaskocomy 212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR

Photographer: Bob Dunn
Negative filed at: AR Hist. Pres. Program
Date of Photograph: 1 September 1981

Detail, Principal (East) Elevation Photograph #2 of Photographs SEP 4



UNION LIFE BUILDING Pulaska County
212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR

Photographer: Bob Dunn

Negative filed at: AR Hist. Pres. Program

Date of Photograph: 1 September 1981

North Elevation viewed from the Northeast Photograph #3 of 5 Photographs
SEP 25 SEP 4



UNION LIFE BUILDING
212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR
212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR
214 Count

Bob Dunn Photographer:

Negative file at: AR Hist. Pres. Program Date of Photograph: 1 September 1981

View from the Northwest Photograph #4 of 5 Photographs SEP 2 5 1981



UNION LIFE BUILDING

212 Center Street, Little Rock, AR

Photographer: 74 Bol

Negative filed at: AR Hist. Pres. Program

Date of Photograph: 1 September 1981

South elevation viewed from the Southeast Photograph #5 of 5 Photographs EP 4 1981

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

#### TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL AM

OFFICE

		PM
1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)	2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if	needed)
3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.		
4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION	. /	.//
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TITLE

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

# DATE 4/6/8/

	1	
TIME	OF	C

#### TELEPHONE REPORT

Yim Tucker

1. CALL TO; FROM (Name)

AR: 501-372-3382

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Providential Place (Old Union hige Bldg) questions about historic easements: 2112 Contes St., Little Rock, AR

purchased blog. 12/17/80 granted essement to state on 13/30/86

Quest. @ new reguirements ander 13/17/80 TRA extension: does it have to be on the NR by the time they take benefits? They want to take benefits for tax year 1980. He also wanted name + number of someone at 1RS -> Steve Smell, 546-3288

They are also doing rekets work which will not egypty to 1980 tax return. they may or may not take accelerated despreciation (TRA) - the work is mostly to interior systems i electrical, polumbing, etc. They du repolacing windows, however. I suggested they call TPS you quidance, on this him become an important issue (ie: window theatment).

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL	TITLE	OFFICE
Grosvena	Historian	



Phone (501) 371-2763

May 6, 1981

Jim Guy Tucker, Agent Prividential Place Horizontal Property Regime 2148 First National Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Tucker:

The State Review Committee of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will consider on June 9, 1981 the eligibility of The Union Life Building for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Enclosed is the official notification letter along with a form for you to indicate your concurrence with the listing of the property on the National Register. I personally find the official letter confusing, but I am required to send it nevertheless. If Ethel Goodstein or I may answer questions about the letter or the form, please feel free to contact either of us.

The National Register of Historic Places is still in a state of transition. The required new regulations which will govern the listing of properties on the Register have not yet been issued. I do not anticipate substantive changes in the criteria for determining National Register eligibility and therefore do not anticipate that the State Review Committee will be required to reconsider the decisions it makes in June when the new regulations are finally issued. I do, however, anticipate that some of the mechanics and procedures will be changed. For example, I may be required to send you another notification letter before I can forward the nomination of your property to Washington.

During this time of transition the Washington Office of the National Register is NOT reviewing properties for listing. The review of your property by the State Review Committee in June is as far as the process can go at this time.

I will appreciate your signing the enclosed owner's concurrence form and returning it to this office at your earliest convenience. We must receive it before the Committee meets June 9.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this transition period. Allow me to reiterate that either Ethel or I will be glad to address any questions you have about this process.

Sincerely,

1801 A 972 + C-Joan Williams Baldridge State Historic Preservation Officer

Bailar Gerre

JWB/fb

Enclosure

A Division of the Department of Natural & Cultural Heritage An Equal Opportunity Fmalow

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Phone: (501) 371-2763

Jim Guy Tucker, Agent c/o Tucker and Stafford, Attorneys 2148 First National Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mr. Tucker:

The Union Life Building will be considered by the State Review Committee' for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the Federal Government's official list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of preservation. Enclosed is a copy of the criteria under which properties are evaluated.

Listing in the National Register makes private property owners eligible to be considered for Federal grants-in-aid for historic preservation and provides limited protection through comments by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on the effect of federally financed, assisted, or licensed undertakings on historic properties.

If the property is depreciable and is listed in the National Register, there are also certain provisions of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 that may apply. Section 2124 of the Tax Reform Act of 1976 encourages preservation of historic depreciable structures by allowing favorable tax treatments for rehabilitations. In addition, it discourages destruction of historic buildings by eliminating certain otherwise available Federal tax benefits both for demolition of historic structures and for new construction on the site of demolished historic buildings.

If the property contains coal resources and is listed in the National Register, certain provisions of the Surface Mining and Control Act of 1977 make it less likely that surface mining of the coal will be permitted by the State or Federal Government.

If you wish to comment on whether the property should be nominated to the National Register, send your comments to Joan Williams Baldridge, State Historic Preservation Officer, Suite 500, Continental Building, Markham and Main Streets, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. Comments must be received before the State Review Committee considers this nomination on June 9, 1981. A copy of the nomination is on file in our office and will be made available to you upon request.

Sincerely,

Barbara Heffington

Joan William Baldridge

State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/fb

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Phone: (501) 371-2763

The Honorable Webster Hubbell Mayor of Little Rock City Hall Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Mayor Hubbell:

The Union Life Building will be considered by the State Review Committeefor nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the Federal Government's official list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of preservation. Enclosed is a copy of the criteria under which properties are evaluated.

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Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldridge

State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/fb



Phone: (501) 371-2763

The Honorable W. E. "Bill" Beaumont Pulaski County Judge Pulaski County Courthouse Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Judge Beaumont:

The Union Life Building will be considered by the State Review Committee for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the Federal Government's official list of historic buildings and other cultural resources worthy of preservation. Enclosed is a copy of the criteria under which properties are evaluated.

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Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldridge

State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/fb



## United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE SOUTH CENTRAL REGION 5000 MARBLE AVENUE, N.E., ROOM 211 ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87110

8 1981

#A . . .

Mr. Jim Guy Tucker c/o Tucker and Stafford, Attorneys 2148 First National Building Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Mr. Tucker:

This is in reference to: Historic Preservation Certification Union Life Building 212 Center Street Little Rock, Arkansas Project No. 0035-81-AR-81-0041

Thank you for your submission of the "Historic Preservation Certification Application -- Part I". The Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service, South Central Region, has determined that the Union Life Building, 212 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas meets the National Register criteria. It is our understanding that the Union Life Building is currently being nominated as an individual property to the National Register of Historic Places. Therefore, this is a "Preliminary Certification of Significance" pending National Register listing.

This determination is made pursuant to your request in Part 1 of the Historic Preservation Certification Application, received in this office on April 24, 1981. Part 2 of the application is currently being reviewed by our office. You will be notified of the Part 2 determination in a separate letter.

Sincerely,

Margaret Pepin-Donat

Assistant Regional Director

Cultural Programs

The injuring Oraco Source Department of the source of the

Mr. Jim Guy Tucker C/o Tucker and Stafford, Attorneys 2148 First National Building Little Rock, Arkandas 72201

Dear Mr. Tucker:

This is in reference to: Historic Proservation Centification
Union Life Soliding
212 Center Street
Little Rock, Arkanese

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v arangi

Margaret Pepin-Dopat Assistant Regional Director Cultural Proprass

Phone (501) 371-2763

June 18, 1981

Mr. Jim Guy Tucker, Agent
Providential Place Horizontal
Property Regime
c/o Tucker and Stafford, Attorneys
2148 First National Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Union Life Building Little Rock, Pulaski County

Dear Mr. Tucker:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the State Review Committee of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has approved the nomination of your property to the National Register of Historic Places. As this recognition indicates, the Union Life Building is one of our state's outstanding historic resources. We appreciate your efforts in preserving this structure and in pursuing its nomination to the National Register.

As was mentioned in our last letter, federal regulations have not been developed to implement the recently revised National Register Program, resulting in a temporary lapse in the review of properties nominated to the National Register. We have proceeded as far as we can with the nomination process at the state level. Let me assure you that the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will forward the nomination of your property to the National Register office in Washington, D.C. as rapidly as possible once the new regulations are in place. We will, of course, let you know when some definitive action has been taken on the nomination of your building.

If you have any questions, or wish to check on the progress of the nomination process, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wilson-Stiles

State Historic Preservation Officer

. WS/fb

As was mentioned in our last letter, federal regulations have not been developed to implement the recently revised vational Register Program, resulting in a temporary lagse in the review of properties nominated to the Mational Register. We have proceeded as far as we can with the momination process at the state level. Let me assure you that the momination process at the state level. Let me assure you that the remained in Frogram will forward the momination of your property to the Mational Register office in Massington, E.C. as repidly as possible once the new regulations are in place. We will, or course, let you know when some deficitive action has been taken on the momination of your building

If you have any questions, or wish to check on the progress of the nomination process, please feel free to contact me.

SEP 4 1981

- District of the Department of Northell & Cultural Hear

#### TUCKER AND STAFFORD

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JIM GUY TUCKER
L. SCOTT STAFFORD
STEPHEN K. CUFFMAN

#### MEMORANDUM

2148 FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-3382

TO:

Tim Haake

Congressman Heftel's Office

FROM:

Jim Guy Tucker/6/

RE:

Inadvertent Denial of Deductions for Gifts of Historic Easements Arising From Certain Delays in the Department of Interior Resulting

From 1980 Amendments to the Tax Code.

DATE:

June 25, 1981

Facts: Due to administrative delays within the Department of Interior, federal regulations have not been developed to implement the revised National Register of Historic Places Program resulting in a temporary lapse in reviewing properties for inclusion on the National Register. Taxpayers' application for registration may be delayed for so long that they will be denied their deduction for calendar year 1980.

Issue: How can the law or IRS or Department of Interior regulations be amended to avoid denial of taxpayers' deduction in the desired year solely as a result of DOI administrative problems?

Background: Taxpayers purchased a building on December 16, 1980. Taxpayers, by gift, granted an easement on the facade of a building to the Arkansas State Commemorative Commission (the "Commission") on December 31, 1980.

Prior to December 18, 1980, the taxpayers' gift would have been effective and deductible for federal tax purposes in calendar year '80 on approval by the Commission and the recording of the Deed on or before January 1, 1981.

However, effective December 17, 1980, IRC Sec. 170 was amended by the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 to "extend" the treatment of charitable facade deductions.

Prior to December 17, 1980, the law allowed a charitable deduction of a facade which would accomplish "the preservation of historically important land areas or structures". The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 changed the statute to read "the preservation of an historically important land area or a certified historic structure". The important change to note is "a certified historic structure" as opposed to a "historically important structure" as used in the old law.

A certified historic structure for this purpose means any building, structure, or land area which is:

a) Listed in the national register, or

TUCKER AND STAFFORD

Memorandum June 25, 1981 Page Two

b) Is located in a registered historic district as defined in IRC. Sec. 191(d)(2) and is certified by the Secretary of Interior as being of historic importance to the district.

The code section further states that a building qualified if it satisfied one of the two preceding conditions at the time of the gift or on the due date (including extensions) for filing the tax return of the person who made the gift. In this case, a partnership made part of the gift and the individuals who purchased floors made the balance of the gifts.

Although the narrowing of the availability of this deduction was an unpleasant surprise for taxpayers, they were not prejudiced since:

- a) the structure in question has considerable historic value and probably would be listed on the register; and
- b) extensions of the due date for taxpayers' returns would be obtained to allow time to obtain the listing.

On April 13, 1981, taxpayers filed a request for registration of the property on the National Register. Preliminary approval from the Regional Office of the Department of Interior in New Mexico was received on May 8, 1981.

On June 9, the State Review Committee made its formal nomination of the property and notified taxpayers by letter dated June 18. Taxpayers obtained extensions of time for filing their return on April 15 and June 15.

Taxpayers believe their property qualifies for registration and will be accepted in due course. However, taxpayers may be denied their deduction for calendar year 1980 solely as a result of the fact that the Department of Interior has (a) a deep backlog of applications, and (b) a review underway of all regulations for the National Register Program and, thus, is not processing applications.

Of course, it is possible that the regulations will be revised in a manner that disqualifies the property altogether. But, under current regulations and the new law, and due to the October I deadline for filing returns, taxpayers are threatened with the loss of the deduction in the desired year solely as a result of an inability of DOI to process applications.

Please note the marked paragraphs of the attached letters dated June 18, May 8, and May 6.

JGT/ljk

Attachments

Tucken

### TUCKER AND STAFFORD

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JIM GUY TUCKER
L. SCOTT STAFFORD
STEPHEN K. CUFFMAN

2148 FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-3382

July 10, 1981

Congressman Richard A. Gephardt Room 218 Cannon (H.O.B.) Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Attention: John Crosby

Dear Dick:

I have discussed the enclosed memorandum with John Crosby and with Tim Haake in Cecil Heftel's office.

Because the Department of Interior is not processing applications for the National Register and due to the fact the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 became effective with the President's signature on December 17, 1980, those few of us who granted an easement in the last two weeks of 1980 will not be entitled to our deduction in that year.

I would hope it might be possible to amend either the Act or the section in question so that the effective date would be January 1, 1981, and all taxpayers who made gifts in 1980 would be treated the same.

Thanks for your review of this. I hope you can help.

Sincerely

Jim Guy Tucken

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Tim Haake

RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

3D DISTRICT, MISSOURI

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE
BUDGET COMMITTEE
CHIEF OF TASK FORCES
DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 218 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 PHONE: (202) 225-2671

> DISTRICT OFFICE: 3470 HAMPTON AVENUE ST. Louis, Missouri 63139 PHONE: (314) 351-5100

August 20, 1981

Ms. Sally Oldham National Register of Historic Places Pension Building 440 G Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20243

Dear Sally:

As per our conversation last week regarding the tax treatment of certain charitable easements granted during the last two weeks of 1980, but unfortunately after the enactment and effective date of the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980, I am enclosing correspondence that we have received from former Congressman Jim Guy Tucker of Arkansas which explains the problem.

You are very kind to review this matter for us and I certainly hope that Mr. Tucker's application can be processed prior to the expiration date applicable to the tax year 1980. If not, any advice as to how he can expedite matters would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks again. Best regards.

Yours very truly,

John B. Crosby

Administrative Assistant

JBC:of

Enclosure

AUG 2 1 1981

CICHARD A GEPLARDT

AND MEANS COMMITTE EUROPY COMMITTEE OF IET OF TABLE FORCES DEMOCRATIC STELLING AND

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013

STECTURES REPORT OF SECURIOR PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATION OF SECURIOR SECURI

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August 20, 1981

Ms. Sally Oldnam Mational Redister of Mistoric Places Pension Building 440 G Street, M.M.

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lany thanks again. Best recards.

Yours very cruly,

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Enclosure

THE	NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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### TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL AM

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Eve Shacklefrel	AR: 501-371-2763
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4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION	<b>/</b>
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#### TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

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NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL TITLE	OFFICE

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3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.		
Union Life Blog, Little Rock Ax	R - levement	
4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION		
I explained what we need to	list it:	
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waiver letters from	: mayor county official owner	
		support listing
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His extension apparently suns out in Oct, so this must be done st. away.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL	TITLE	OFFICE	
Grosvenor			

TIME OF CALL AM

#### TELEPHONE REPORT

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)	2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)
Eve Shelklefnol	AR 501-311-2763

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Union Life Blog. - Little Rock

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Owner's waiver letter most also include a statement that he (they) accept responsibility of any sponcedural shortcomings or any challenge to the procedures

SHPO has letter from owner as all other requirements except waive of sprocedure and above requirements a responsibility, land shall has already called yet. Tracker - Eve should get back in touch of him.

There is ma mayor at mos, but she will find out who's acting.

The will also include in the socumentation acopores of the May '81 motions to the owner of officials about RB consideration, and also a copy of the Part I Preliminary Contification application which was approved.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL	TITLE	OFFICE	
Grovens			

Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 "G" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County

Arkansas

Dear Mr. Rogers:

The Union Life Building in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

I understand the consequences of National Register listing and support the nomination of this property. Additionally, I waive all rights regarding notification and comment as are required or will be required by federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980.

Sincerely,

Mayor

City of Little Rock

Date

SEP 4 1981



Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

> Re: Union Life Building Little Rock, Pulaski County,

Arkansas

Dear Mr. Rogers:

My property has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

I understand the meaning of listing and that under the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980, as a private property owner, I have the right to concur in or object to the listing of my property in the National Register of Historic Places. I believe that my property should be included in the National Register of Historic Places and I support and concur in the listing.

I waive all rights regarding notification and comment as are required or will be required by federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980.

Additionally, I accept all responsibility for any procedural deficiencies or challenges which may result from the inclusion of the Union Life Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Owner of Record William Daniel Thomas, Jr.

Thomas / Owner of Record

Date

Date

SEP & 1981

SEP 4 1981

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JIM GUY TUCKER
L. SCOTT STAFFORD
STEPHEN K. CUFFMAN

September 1, 1981

2148 FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-3382

Ms. Carol D. Shull Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 "G" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Madame:

We have served as counsel for the purchasers and present owners of the referenced property since the date of their purchase on December 16, 1980, have examined the property ownership records of Pulaski County, Arkansas, and are of the opinion that at September 1, 1981, the following entities or individuals are the only owners of the referenced property:

William Daniel Thomas, Jr. and Johnnie Nell Thomas;

James L. Holsted and Joyce P. Holsted;

Bruce Wayne Holsted and Tara White Holsted;

James Guy Tucker, Jr. and Betty Tucker;

J.W. Benafield and Dena Benafield;

Providential Life Insurance Company; and

Center Street Co., a Partnership.

We have also examined the records of Center Street Co., a partnership, and are of the opinion that at September 1, 1981, the following are the only members of that partnership:

James Guy Tucker, Jr.

David L. Parr

William Daniel Thomas, Jr.

Bruce Wayne Holsted

J.W. Benafield;

James L. Holsted

Sincerely,

TUCKER AND STAFFORD

By

Jim Guy Tucker

SEL V 1881

4 1981 SEP

Memorandum September 1, 1981 Page Two

- a) the structure in question has considerable historic value and the owners were convinced the property probably would be listed on the register; and
- b) extensions of the due date for taxpayers' returns could be obtained to allow time to obtain the listing.

On April 13, 1981, owners filed a request for registration of the property on the National Register. Preliminary approval from the Regional Office of the Department of Interior in New Mexico was received on May 8, 1981.

On June 9, the Arkansas State Review Committee made its formal nomination of the property and notified owners by letter dated June 18. Owners obtained extensions of time for filing their return in April, June and August. Owners will not be able to extend the due date of their tax returns beyond October 1, 1981. If the property is not listed by that date, taxpayers will have completely lost a principal financial incentive that attracted their purchase and renovation of this fine property.

Taxpayers believe their property qualifies for registration and will be accepted in due course. However, taxpayers may be denied their deduction for calendar year 1980 solely as a result of the fact that the Department of Interior has (a) a deep backlog of applications, and (b) a review underway of all regulations for the National Register Program and, thus, is not processing applications. But, under current regulations and the new law, and due to the October 1 deadline for filing returns, taxpayers are threatened with the loss of the deduction in the desired year solely as a result of an inability of DOI to process applications.

Please note the marked paragraphs of the attached letters dated June 18, May 8 and May 6.

JGT/1jk

Attachments

SEP 4 1901

## PULASKI



## COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE, W. E. "BILL" BEAUMONT • PULASKI COUNTY COURTHOUSE ROOM 100 LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 374-4805

September 1, 1981

Mr. Jerry Rogers
Acting Keeper of the National Register
440 "G" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20243

Lev 1, 1981

RE: Union Life Building Little Rock, Pulaski County Arkansas

Dear Mr. Rogers:

The Union Life Building in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas, has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

I understand the consequences of National Register listing and support the nomination of this property. Additionally, I waive all rights regarding notification and comment as are required or will be required by federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980.

Yours very truly,

W. E. Beaumont County Judge

WEB/kg

1881 4 1981



Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County,

Arkansas

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My property has been nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

I understand the meaning of listing and that under the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980, as a private property owner, I have the right to concur in or object to the listing of my property in the National Register of Historic Places. I believe that my property should be included in the National Register of Historic Places and I support and concur in the listing.

I waive all rights regarding notification and comment as are required or will be required by federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980.

Additionally, I accept all responsibility for any procedural deficiencies or challenges which may result from the inclusion of the Union Life Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

Owner of Record James L. Holsted

Owner of Record

Joyce P. Holsted/ Owner of Record

9-1-81 Date

Date 9-1-81

To Jerry Rogers

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And G. Streets N. C.

Washington, D. 20246

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SEP 4 1981



Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

> Re: Union Life Building Little Rock, Pulaski County,

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Additionally, I accept all responsibility for any procedural deficiencies or challenges which may result from the inclusion of the Union Life Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Owner of Record Bruce Wayne Holsted

Date

Tara White Holsted/

Owner of Record

Date 9-1-81

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Dear Mr. Roderst

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SEP 4 1981

Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

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Little Rock, Pulaski County,

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Additionally, I accept all responsibility for any procedural deficiencies or challenges which may result from the inclusion of the Union Life Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Owner of Record James Guy Tucker, Jr.

Date

Betty Tucker/ Owner of Record

Date 9

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Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

> Re: Union Life Building Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

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Sincerely,

Owner of Record J. W. Benafield

9-1-81

Date

Dena Benafield / Owner of Record Date 9-1-81

SEP A 1981



Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County,

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Sincerely,

PROVIDENTIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Owner of Record

Secretary

By:

W. Jerry Ang Str Got Let Me not net the National Resister. 110 % Street, A.W. Josephington D.C. 2020

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Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 G. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County,

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Sincerely,

CENTER STREET CO., a Partnership	9-1-81
Owner of Record	Date ,
William Daniel Thomas 2.9-1-81	Naviel L San?-1-8
William Daniel Thomas, Jr./Partner	David L. Parr Partner
fully that .	Buffel
James Guy Tuckey, Jr./ Partner	Bruce Wayne Holsted / Partner
James L. Holfston / Partner	Ja Sen Jund J. W. Benafield / Partner
A Division of the Department of Natural & Cult	ural Heritage
An Equal Opportunity Employer	

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SEP 4 1981

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JIM GUY TUCKER
L. SCOTT STAFFORD
STEPHEN K. CUFFMAN

2148 FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-3382

#### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Ms. Carol D. Shull

Acting Keeper of the National Register

FROM:

TUCKER AND STAFFORD

RE:

Union Life Building

DATE:

September 2, 1981

<u>Facts</u>: Due to administrative delays within the Department of Interior, federal regulations have not been developed to implement the revised National Register of Historic Places Program resulting in a temporary lapse in reviewing properties for inclusion on the National Register. Owners' application for registration of the referenced property may be delayed for so long that they will be denied their deduction for a charitable gift of a facade easement for calendar year 1980.

<u>Background</u>: The owners purchased the property on December 16, 1980. The owners, by gift, then granted an easement on the facade of a building to the Arkansas State Commemorative Commission (the "State Commission") on December 31, 1980.

Prior to December 17, 1980, the taxpayers' gift would have been effective and deductible for federal tax purposes in calendar year 1980 on approval by the State Commission and the recording of the Deed before January 1, 1981.

However, effective December 17, 1980, IRC Sec. 170 was amended by the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 to "extend" the treatment of charitable facade deductions.

Prior to December 17, 1980, the law allowed a charitable deduction of a facade which would accomplish "the preservation of historically important \* \* \* structures". The Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980 changed the statute to read "the preservation of \* \* \* a certified historic structure".

The new code section states that a building qualifies if it is listed at the time of the gift or on the due date (including extensions) for filing the tax return of the person who made the gift. In this case, a partnership made part of the gift, a corporation made part of the gift, and the individuals who purchased floors made the balance of the gift.

Although the narrowing of the availability of this deduction was an unpleasant surprise for the owners they were not prejudiced at the time of the gift since:

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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SIAM FINST WATIOF AL BUILDING

MEMBER TO A

TO: Ms. Carrol D. Shull

Anting Keeper of the National Register

FROM: TURKER AND STAFFORD

RE: "Jointife Brithing

DATE: Seniamino 2. 198

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Acceptable of the owners purchased the property on December 18, 1980. The consers, by qilt, the quented an essement on the facade of a building to the Arkansas State Commission") on O comber 31, 1980.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

JIM GUY TUCKER
L. SCOTT STAFFORD
STEPHEN K. CUFFMAN

2148 FIRST NATIONAL BUILDING LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 (501) 372-3382

September 2, 1981

Ms. Carol D. Shull Acting Keeper of the Records 440 "G" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

RE: Union Life Building

Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Madame:

Our firm represents 100% of the owners of the referenced property. The purpose of this letter is to review the circumstances that cause our clients to ask for an immediate listing of the property on the National Register of Historic Places and to agree to accept responsibility for any procedural short comings which may arise as a result of the listing occurring at this time.

As a result of the continuing review of regulations affecting historic structures now underway by the Department of Interior, the owners of the property will be denied a principal financial incentive that attracted their original purchase and renovation of this fine property.

In order for the owners' gift of a facade easement on the property to qualify for a charitable deduction in 1980, the property must be listed on the National Register by the due date of the owners' federal income tax returns for 1980. Owners have obtained repeated extensions for the due date of their returns in April, June, and August of 1981 while waiting to have the review of their application for registration completed. Owners will not be able to extend the due date of their tax returns beyond October 1, 1981 and, thus, if the property is not listed by that date will totally lose the 1980 deduction which they sought. This will cause a financial loss to the owners in an amount well in excess of \$50,000.

Our clients are in a unique position in that only those persons in the country who made their gift during the fourteen day period between December 17, 1980, and January 1, 1981 could be similarly disadvantaged. If owners' gift had occurred prior to December 17, 1980, their gift would have qualified for a deduction in 1980 by virtue of the fact the property was found to be an "historicaly important \* \* \* structure" by the Arkansas State Commemorative Commission.

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Ms. Carol D. Shull September 2, 1981 Page Two

If owners had sought their financial incentive in a 1981 deduction, this request would not be necessary because April 15, 1982 would be the earliest date by which the national listing would be required; and we assume the Department of Interior would have its new regulations affecting listing of historic structures in place by that date. However, it is the 1980 deduction that was sought and expected.

The owners received their preliminary approval for listing from the Regional office of the Department of Interior on May 8, 1981. They will lose their 1980 deduction unless the Department of Interior can find some method to take final action on their application for listing prior to October 1, 1981. Based on the unique circumstances of the owners and the considerable financial loss the owners may suffer as a result of this unusual situation, we hope you can be of assistance. Attached is a more detailed summary of the background of this request.

Very truly yours,

TUCKER AND STAFFORD

By:

Jim Guy Tucker

JGT/1jk

Attachment

4 1981



Mr. Jerry Rogers Acting Keeper of the National Register 440 "G" Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: Union Life Building, Pulaski County Arkansas

Dear Mr. Rogers:

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program requests that the National Register nomination for the Union Life Building be processed and that the structure be included in the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination was passed by the Arkansas State Review Committee on June 6, 1981.

The unique circumstances which have necessitated this request are set forth in Mr. Jim Guy Tucker's letter of September 2, 1981, to Ms. Carol Shull, which is enclosed. The request is made on the basis of the considerable financial loss which will result if the Union Life Building is not officially included in the National Register of Historic Places by October 1, 1981.

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program concurs in Mr. Tucker's explanation and feels that this case does indeed call for extraordinary measures to be taken by the Department of the Interior to include the Union Life Building in the National Register of Historic Places.

In addition to Mr. Tucker's letter of September 2, also enclosed please find:

- 1. A memorandum, with pertinent documents attached, setting for a detailed summary of the background facts which gave rise to this request;
- 2. Owners letters of concurrence and waiver;
- 3. Letters from the County Judge and Mayor;
- 4. Notification letters; and
- 5. The National Register nomination for the Union Life Building.

As State Historic Preservation Officer, I recommend that an exception be made in the case of the Union Life Building and that the Department of the Interior take the appropriate steps to list the structure on the National Register of Historic Places by October 1, 1981.



Mr. Jerry Rogers Page 2 September 2, 1981

If you have any questions regarding the nomination please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/ES/fb

Enclosure

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#### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

SEP 25 1981

Date Entered

Name

Location

Union Life Building

Little Rock Pulaski County

### Also Notified

Honorable David H. Pryor Honorable Dale Eumpers Honorable Ed Bethune Southwest Region, NPS

State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Wilson Stiles Director, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Suite 500, Continental Building Markham and Main Streets Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NR For further information, please call the National Register at (202) 343 6401.

272-3504