# United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property					
Historic Name: Richardson-Turner House					
Other Name/Site Number: (PH0288)					
Celler Name, bree Namber. Arrestor					
2. Location					
=======================================					
Street & Number: 1469 Hwy 1 North					
Not for Publication: $N/A$					
City/Town: <u>Lexa</u> Vicinity: <u>N/A</u>					
State: AR County: Phillips Code: AR107 Zip Code: 72355					
state. Ak country. Hillips code. Aktor sip code. 12333					
3. Classification					
=======================================					
Ownership of Property: private					
Category of Property: <u>building</u>					
Number of Resources within Property:					
Contributing Noncontributing					
2 buildings					
sites					
structures objects					
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National					
Register: N/A					
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A					

Phillips County, Arkansas

County and State

Richardson-Turner House

Name of Property

Richardson-Turner House  Name of Property	Phillips County, Arkansas County and State			
6. Function or Use				
Historic: DOMESTIC	_ Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>			
Current : VACANT/NOT IN USE	Sub:			
7. Description	=======================================			
Architectural Classification:  LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne				
Materials: foundation <u>BRICK</u> walls <u>WOOD/weatherboard</u> otl				

### Summary

Surrounded by cotton fields, the picturesque Richardson-Turner House is located off of Arkansas Hwy 1 North in the rural town of Lexa. The singlestory farm house was built around 1894, but in the late 1930s, the attic was enlarged to make an extra half story of living space. Also during the late 1930s, a tower, situated to the east of the kitchen, was removed. Although the conservative central hall plan of the interior would seem to classify this house as Folk Victorian, the emphasis on decorative wall surfaces, and complexity of fenestration place it in the Queen Anne Noteworthy exterior features include a "key hole" entry with rounded sidelights and transom, massive turned spindle columns on the front porch, chamfered columns on the side porch, and four gabled bay projections with elaborate imbrication. Outstanding interior details include two historic mantel pieces with decorative tile, decorative jigsawn screen, pocket doors, transoms over all doors opening to the hallway, and an attic level cistern, along with many other historic elements. Also included in this nomination is a historic barn. Although the barn has been enlarged over time, the central section dates to the construction of the house.

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

#### Elaboration

The Richardson-Turner House is a one-and-a-half story frame residence constructed in the Queen Anne style around 1894. The house rests on a brick pier foundation, is roofed with composition shingles and has a rectangular plan with bay projections. There are two extant interior brick chimneys. In the mid 1940s, the other chimneys were capped, and their fireplaces removed. The majority of windows are one-over-one, and two-over-two, double-hung, wood windows, except for the attic story which is fenestrated by six-over-six, and three-over-one, double-hung windows. The attic level also retains the wood frame that once held a metal cistern tank. This cistern allowed for a limited supply of indoor running water, when this luxury was uncommon in most of the surrounding rural areas.

The front, or northern, elevation is asymmetrically arranged, with a projecting gabled bay on the eastern corner, and a hip-roofed porch on the western corner. The first level of the bay is fenestrated by a stationary square glass window flanked by two, one-over-one windows. Above these windows in the attic story are a pair of small square windows. Wall ornamentation includes, decorative brackets supporting the cornice returns, fishscale shingles, a half-timbered flattened arch, beaded board applied at diagonals, and lattice work at the apex of the gable. The wood floored porch to the west of this projection is supported by six, paired, spindlework, columns with jigsawn brackets.

The porch is further accentuated by matching newel posts on either side of the stairs, a beaded spindlework balustrade, and a beaded spindlework frieze. Beneath the porch is a truly impressive front entrance. A door with nine wood panels and a rectangular beveled glass light is flanked by horizontal, fully arched sidelights, and a segmentally arched transom. The presence of these around a rectangular door is recognizable as a "key hole" shape. Further, the centers of both sidelights are decorated by four, small panes of glass to which an overall red tracery pattern is applied. Another decorative feature is a turned spindle that separates the door from the transom. To the viewed right of this very interesting door, is a one-over-one window. Above the porch is a gabled dormer with square window capped by a sunburst window.

The western elevation is dominated by two bay projections. The bay to the north of this elevation is similar to the bay on the front elevation. Unlike the front elevation, this bay does not contain a square window in its center and its imbrication is less elaborate. A one-over-one window is featured in the middle of the bay, three wood-louvered vents are rest above a half timbered, flattened arch, and a corbelled chimney punctures the crest of the gable. Unlike this bay, its neighbor to the south has square corners, is fully pedimented, and contains a twenty-four light, stationary window that is capped by a triangular lattice. Recessed between these bays

are two, evenly spaced, four-over-four windows. Atop the roof is a shed-roofed dormer, fenestrated by a ribbon of three, six-over-six windows. Included on the southern corner of this elevation is a portion of the enclosed back porch, that is fenestrated by a six-over-six window.

The rear, or southern, elevation is the most altered of all the elevations. Beneath the shed roof of the enclosed back porch, the wood cladding changes from weatherboard to drop siding. A aluminum door and vernacular stairway provide entry. An ell protrudes from the eastern section of the elevation. The roof of this gabled projection is as steeply pitched as the bays, however it lacks cornice returns and imbrication. Fenestration for the ell is composed of a one-over-one window on each of the three sides. However, scars in the wood clearly show that once two windows lighted each side. The most noticable portion of the low pitched, attic addition sits atop this elevation. The addition is fenestrated by a three-over-one window, a small, one-over-one window, and is sheathed in hexagonal composition shingles.

The other side, or eastern, elevation contains a porch that is recessed between a square-cornered bay and the remainer of the bay on the front elevation. The porch is supported by three, chamfered posts accentuated by four, arched brackets. Unlike the round bead balustrade on the front elevation, this balustrade has square beading. Once there were three doors that opened out to this porch, but now a floor length window infills one of the doorways. The fenestration is composed of three windows. Above the porch is a section of attic addition sheathed in drop siding. Fenestration consists of three pairs of six-over-six windows.

Outstanding interior details include two historic mantel pieces with decorative tile, decorative jigsawn screen, pocket doors, transoms over all doors opening to the hallway, and an attic level cistern. Many other historic elements remain including a built-in, china cabinet with decorative door knobs and hinges, furniture from all periods of the house's history and historic door bells. Also included in this nomination is a historic barn. The barn's two story center is contemporary to the c. 1894 construction of the house.

Name of Property	County and State
8. Statement of Signifi	.=====================================
	s considered the significance of this property in erties: local
Applicable National Rec	gister Criteria: <u>C</u>
Criteria Considerations	s (Exceptions): N/A
Areas of Significance:	ARCHITECTURE
Period(s) of Significar	nce: <u>c. 1894</u>
Significant Dates: c. 1	894
Significant Person(s):	N/A
Cultural Affiliation: 1	J/A

Phillips County, Arkansas

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

Architect/Builder: N/A

#### Summary

Richardson-Turner House

The Richardson-Turner House was built around 1894. Despite the removal of the tower, the 1930s enlargement of the attic, removal of several chimneys, and the enclosure of the rear porch, this house remains one of the most exuberant Queen Anne-styled farm houses in the Phillips County. For this reason, the Richardson-Turner House is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C with local significance.

#### Elaboration

Willis Moss Richardson, M. D., was born July 21, 1853 in Monroe County, Mississippi, the son of Colonel Bardine Richardson and Sarah Ann Liddell

Richardson. Dr. Richardson was a graduate of the University of Mississippi, the University of Louisville School of Medicine in Kentucky, and he served his intership at Mr. Sinai Hospital in New York City.

Richardson came to Phillips County around 1882 with his father and brother, and lived at Latour, where he practiced medicine and farmed. He represented Phillips County in the state legislature for two terms, and was a member of Governor Fishback's staff to the World's Fair in Chicago. He was also a member of the Phillips County Medical Society.

In February 1894, Dr. Richardson married Annie Sue Keesee, the daughter of Captain John William Keesee and John's second wife, Susan Reynolds Johnson Keesee. Around this time, he built the Queen Anne-styled house in Lexa, and Mrs. Ermer became Dr. Richardson's housekeeper. She and her husband, Henry, lived in a small house on the plantation. In 1905, Dr. Richardson sold the house and plantation to Tom Buchannon. Buchannon's grandnephew Roy Turner and his wife Josephine Turner (whose grandparents incidentally were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ermer) would later become the owners of the house until their deaths in the mid-1990s.

The house is now owned by their son Leslie E. Turner.

The list of the noteworthy architectural features of the Richardson-Turner House is quite lengthy. Perhaps the most outstanding feature is the "key hole" front entrance, however the massive turned spindle columns, chamfered columns, and elaborate imbrication are all quite impressive. Outstanding interior details include: historic mantel pieces with decorative tile, a decorative jigsawn screen, pocket doors, transoms over all doors opening to the hallway, and an attic level cistern. For these reasons the Richardson-Turner House is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C with local significance as an excellent example of a Queen Anne farm house.

Richardson-Turner House	Phillips County, Arkansas
Name of Property	County and State
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	
_ preliminary determination of individed requested previously listed in the National Repreviously determined eligible by the designated a National Historic Landar recorded by Historic American Building recorded by Historic American Engine	egister ne National Register nark ngs Survey #
Primary Location of Additional Data:	
<pre>x State historic preservation office _ Other state agency _ Federal agency _ Local government _ University _ Other Specify Repository:</pre>	
10. Geographical Data	=======================================
Acreage of Property: approximately thr	ee acres
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description:

W 1/2 N 1/2, NW 1/4, Section 26-1S-3E

A 15 702870 3829160 B \_\_ \_\_\_\_ C \_\_ \_ D \_\_ \_\_\_

Boundary Justification:

This boundary contains all of the buildings historically associated with this property.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

### 11. Form Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_

Name/Title: Amy Bennett, Survey Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: April 15, 1998

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

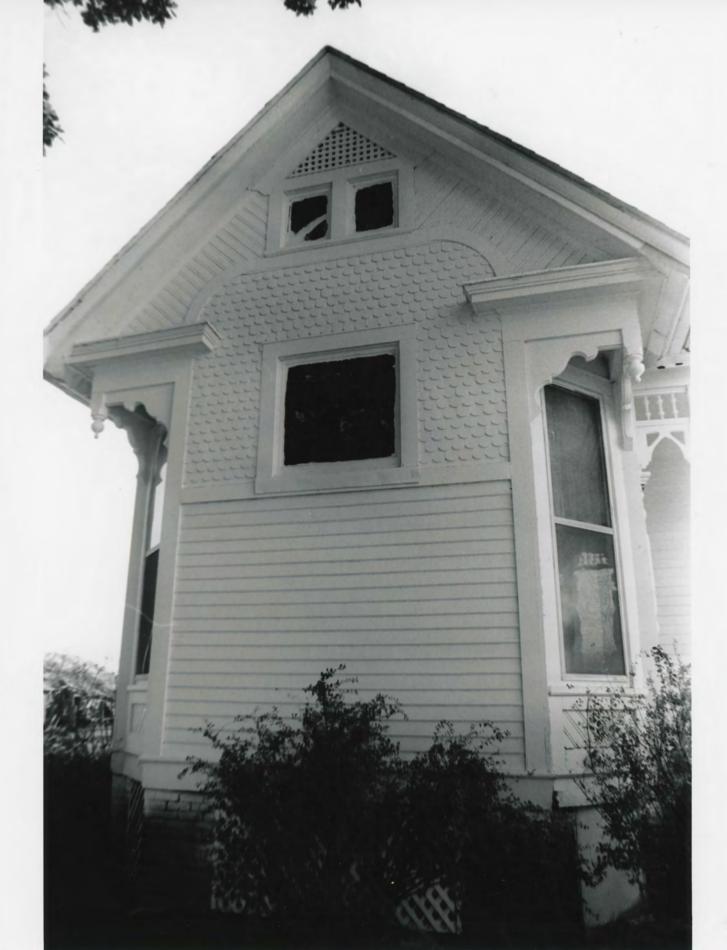
## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Ri	ichardsonTur	ner Hous	е		
MULTIPLE NAME:					
STATE & COUNT	TY: ARKANSAS,	Phillip	S		
DATE RECEIVED DATE OF 16TH DATE OF WEEKI	D: 5/01/ DAY: 5/29/ LY LIST:	<sup>'</sup> 98 <sup>'</sup> 98	DATE OF	PENDING LIST: 45TH DAY:	5/13/98 6/15/98
REFERENCE NUM	MBER: 9800058	33			
NOMINATOR: ST	TATE				
REASONS FOR F	REVIEW:				
APPEAL: N I OTHER: N I REQUEST: N S	DATA PROBLEM: PDIL: SAMPLE:	N LANDS N PERIC N SLR D	CAPE: NOD: NORAFT: N	LESS THAN 50 Y PROGRAM UNAPPH NATIONAL:	YEARS: 1 ROVED: 1
COMMENT WAIVE	ER: N			1 / /	
ACCEPT	ER: NRETURN	REJEC	=5/	29/99DATE	
ABSTRACT/SUMM	MARY COMMENTS:		/	(	
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			DISCIPLIN	E	
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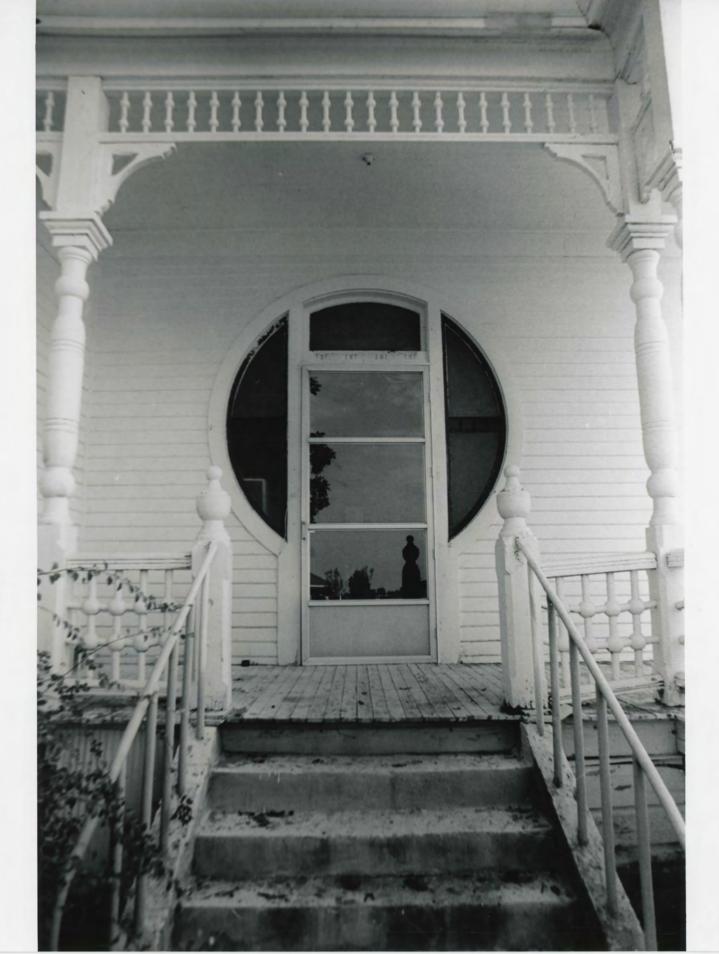
Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997, Negative on file at AHPP
Photograph by Holly Hope
North facade, looking south east



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope, Negative on file at AHPP
Closeup of front elevation bay,
looking south



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Negative on file at AHPP
Westsideelevation, looking south east.



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Negative on file at AHPP
Close up of front elevation door, looking
South



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Hally Hope
Interior screen, looking south



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Negative on file at AHPP
Rear and westside elevations, looking
north east



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997,
Photograph by Holly Hope
Negative on file at AHPP
Interior pocket doors, looking west



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Negative on file at AHPP
Interior front door, looking north



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Interior diningroom built-in, looking
north west



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
Dotober, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Interior doors, looking west



Richardson-Turner House
Phillips County, Arkansas
October, 1997
Photograph by Holly Hope
Interior upstairs, looking south east



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

April 20, 1998

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

RE: Richardson-Turner House-Lexa, Phillips County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nominations 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:br

**Enclosures** 

