

PH 0075817

Form 10-300
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Arkansas	
COUNTY: Cleveland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 701-03-0002	DATE 1/21/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Marks' Mills Battle Field Park
AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Marks' Mills

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Junction of State Highways 8 and 97, near Fordyce, Arkansas			
CITY OR TOWN: New Edinburg			
STATE Arkansas	CODE 03	COUNTY: Cleveland	CODE 025

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

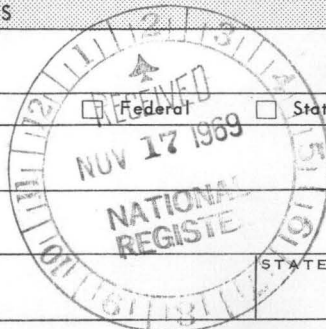
OWNER'S NAME: State of Arkansas - Publicity and Parks Commission		
STREET AND NUMBER: Capitol Building		
CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock	STATE: Arkansas	CODE 03

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Cleveland County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Rison	STATE: Arkansas	CODE 03

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY:			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

94 0052810

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marks' Mills battle site is located about 10 miles southeast of Fordyce, Arkansas on the road to Warren, and near the town of New Edinburgh. It is located where the road from Kingsland forms a junction with the Warren-Fordyce road.

The site is an irregular quadrilateral with its longest side (northeast boundary) on the Kingsland Road (State Highway 97). The side opposite forms the southwestern boundary on the Fordyce Road (State Highway 8).

The area in which the Civil War Battlefield Memorial Park is located is, of course, only a portion of the area over which the battle was fought. It does, however, occupy the road junction at which the Confederate forces chose to deny the Federal troops further progress on their march from Camden to Pine Bluff.

The Marks' Mills Battle Field Park is a simple roadside park with picnic benches and other facilities shaded by pine and oak trees. There are two markers identifying the battle sites; one a metal marker erected by the Arkansas Commemorative Commission, and the other of granite, erected by A.P. Banks of Fordyce, Arkansas.

Except for the fact that the roads are now paved and that the virgin timber around the site has been cut and replaced with second growth timber, the area is, in all probability, very much like it was in 1864. Accounts of the battle describe the terrain as being heavily wooded and with thick underbrush that impeded the movement of troops. These conditions exist today.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) April 25, 1864

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Phi-☐ Other (Specify)☒ Historic☐ Industry☐ Philosophy☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Science☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Sculpture☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Social/Human-☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ itarian☐ Communications☒ Military☐ Theater☐ Conservation☐ Music☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"The Red River Expedition, most ambitious of Union offensives west of the Mississippi River, ground to an embarrassing halt early in April, 1864. Union General Nathaniel P. Banks fell back when repulsed near Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, and his counterpart in Arkansas, Major-General Frederick Steele, had felt the wrath of the Confederates at Poison Spring. The Louisiana phase of the expedition no longer posed a serious threat, and Steele in Arkansas had entrenched his 13,000 troops in the easily defended city of Camden on the Ouachita River. From a military point of view the Poison Spring affair had left Steele's army unshaken and still possessing the qualities of a formidable adversary. His army had not been defeated nor had it lost its fighting trim, yet certainly recent developments had altered the complexion of the entire campaign. The most pressing problem confronting Steele at the moment was lack of forage -- a need intensified by the capture of the large train at Poison Spring. A regular Federal supply train arrived in Camden from Pine Bluff on April 20 easing somewhat the desperate plight, but the scarcity of food worried Steele and only time would tell if it would lead to further complications.

.....

When the Federal supply train from Pine Bluff entered Camden on April 20, Steele began preparations to return the empty wagons to Pine Bluff for fresh supplies. Provisions to be brought back by the train would provide the army half-rations for ten days Forage for animals remained scarce. Such circumstances dictated quick action, and on April 21 a brigade of cavalry scouting for Rebel horse soldiers east of the river returned. Penetrating to within a few miles of the Saline River, the patrol reported no enemy activity thus apparently clearing the way for the return of the wagon train. On April 22 the empty convoy departed from Camden enroute to its home base on the Arkansas River. Only 150 wagons had made up the incoming train, but it now numbered 240 or slightly larger than the ill-fated column lost at Poison Spring."¹

¹ Ira Don Richards, "The Engagement at Marks' Mills," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, XIX (Spring, 1960) 51-55.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (Washington: 1880-1901), Series I, Vol. XXXIV, pt. I, pp 653-849.

Bearss, Edwin C., Steele's Retreat From Camden, Little Rock: Pioneer Press, 1967.

Ferguson, John L. (ed.), Arkansas and the Civil War, Little Rock: Pioneer Press, 1964.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	33° 47' 00"	92° 15' 26"				
NE	33° 47' 00"	92° 15' 19"				
SE	33° 46' 50"	92° 15' 19"				
SW	33° 46' 50"	92° 15' 26"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6.2

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
Jack E. Porter, Administrator, Historic Preservation Program	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Arkansas Planning Commission	9/16/69
STREET AND NUMBER:	
Game and Fish Building	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Little Rock	Arkansas
	CODE
	03

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name John M. Peterson
John M. Peterson

Title Executive Director
Arkansas Planning Commission

Date 10/27/69

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JAN 21 1970

Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Smutsky
Keeper of The National Register

Date JAN 15 1970

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Cleveland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-103-5009	11/21/70

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

For an escort General Steele had provided the Second Brigade of General Frederick Salmon's Third Division. The brigade was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Drake and consisted of 1200 infantry, 240 cavalry and four cannon.

While Federal cavalry had been unable to discover any Confederate troops between the Ouachita and Saline Rivers on April 21, Confederate Major-General James B. Fagan had moved into the area on April 24, with 4,000 men. By the morning of April 25, General Fagan had placed his troops between the Union wagon train and Pine Bluff. The place of contact was the road junction at Marks' Mills.

The Confederates launched a poorly coordinated attack, but despite this the Union commander had little chance to save either his command or the wagon train. The responsibility of protecting a long line of wagons hindered the Federals in concentrating their numbers. This battle followed the pattern of the one fought at Poison Spring.

General Fagan won an impressive victory at Marks' Mills. General Steele had lost an infantry brigade, 240 wagons and four cannon. This loss -- and the shortage of supplies -- forced Steele to withdraw from Camden and to attempt the retreat to Little Rock.



1/30/70

CONTROL SHEET
National Register
Inventory-Nomination Forms

Cleveland Co.

70000119

ARK.
NPS Number

Marki Mills Battle Field 70.103.002

RECEIPT

SIGN OFF

Date of Receipt	Yes	No	Number
11/17/69	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Page	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Photo(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Photo Description(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Map(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2
Map Description(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Logged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Acknowledged	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Map-Photos: 11/17/69

Have arrived

REVIEW

Historian Comments

Architect Comments

OK

Chambers.
11/2/69If checked
et. to
Berk

/ / Chief Architect / / Chief Archeologist / / Chief Historian

Keeper Comments

OK

Cdr 1/15/70

ENTRY

Chief, OAHF Comments

OK

EOD
1-26-70

Date of Entry

Registry Clerk Yes No Date

Assign NPS No.

Acknowledgement Sent

EDITORIAL PROCESSING

Editor

Date

Federal Register Entry

Annual Edition Entry

OK Do nominated
area big
enough??

FILE

FILE

FILE

WORKING NO.

11/17/69:3

X
NO.
4-E 24-74

CLEVELAND COUNTY BATTLE OF MARK'S MILL

THE BATTLE OF MARK'S MILL, FOUGHT
HERE ON APRIL 25, 1864, WAS A COMPLETE
CONFEDERATE VICTORY. GENERAL JAMES F.
FACANS' CONFEDERATE CAVALRY HAVING
SURPRISED AND CAPTURED A UNION ARMY OF
2,000 MEN AND 2400 WAGON LOADS OF
SUPPLIES. GENERAL POWELL OLAYTON, THE UNION
COMMANDER, NARROWLY ESCAPED CAPTURE BY
FLIGHT WITH A HANDFUL OF HIS CAVALRY.

1865 ARKANSAS CENTENNIAL COLL.

ARKANSAS HISTORY COLL. 1960

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Cleveland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-1-03 0003	DATE 1/21/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Mark's Mills Battle Field Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Mark's Mills			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Junction of State Highways 8 and 97, near Fordyce, Arkansas			
CITY OR TOWN: New Edinburg			
STATE: Arkansas	CODE 03	COUNTY: Cleveland	CODE 025
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: J.E. Porter, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program			
DATE OF PHOTO: 11/28/69			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Arkansas History Commission			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. The historical marker which has been marking the site since 1936. You will note that it is in error regarding the number of wagons in the train and the presence of General Clayton. Clayton was not present. Site authentic....information incorrect.			



#1



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Cleveland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 101-03-0003	DATE 1/21/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Mark's Mills Battle Field Park

AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Mark's Mills

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Junction of State Highways 8 and 97, near Fordyce, Arkansas.

CITY OR TOWN:

New Edinburg

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

03

COUNTY:

Cleveland

CODE

025

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: J.E. Porter, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF PHOTO: 11/28/69

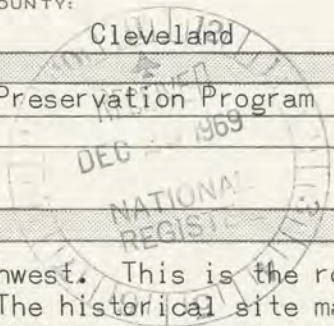
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Arkansas History Commission

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View of the park, looking to the northwest. This is the road junction at which the battle was fought. The historical site marker can be seen at the park entrance. The picnic shelter is immediately behind.



Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Cleveland	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-1-03-0002	DATE 1/21/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Marks' Mills Battle Field Park
AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Marks' Mills

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Junction of State Highways 8 and 97, near Fordyce and New Edinburg

CITY OR TOWN:

New Edinburg

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

03

COUNTY:

Cleveland

CODE

025

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

Surveyor's map (photocopy in two parts)

SCALE:

1" : 50'

DATE:

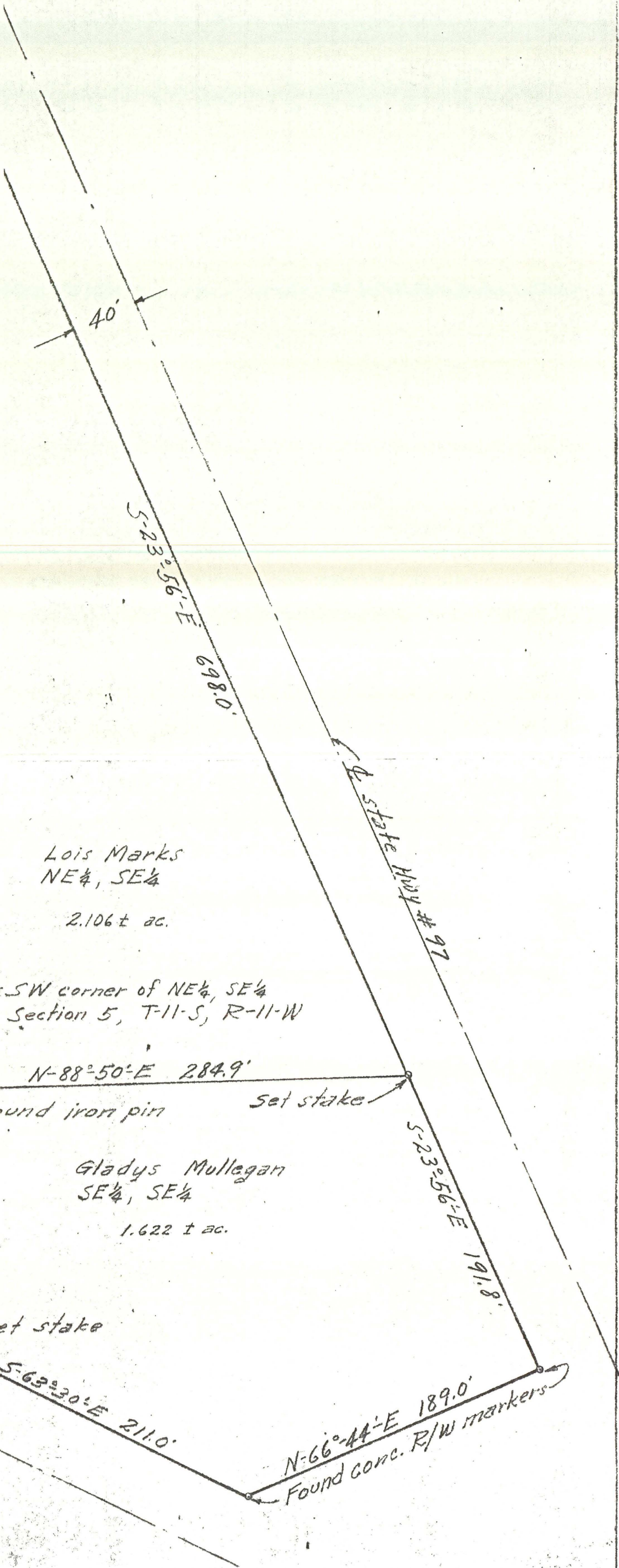
June 15, 1962

4. REQUIREMENTS

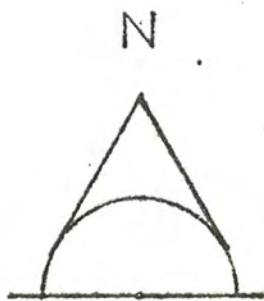
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.





Set stake →



Scale 1"=50'
June 15, 1962

5-24°10'-W 705.9' (Calculated)

W. H. Harris
NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$
2.136 ± ac.

North 644.0'

Set stake
N-88°50'-E 289.0'

International
Paper Company
SW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$

5-63°30'-E 323.0'
0.325 ± ac.

North 150.0'

40'
State Hwy #8

MARKS MILL STATE PARK

By
M.T. Bond P.E.

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE

Arkansas

COUNTY

Cleveland

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

10.1.03.070 21/21/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Marks' Mills Battle Field Park

AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Marks' Mills

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Junction of State Highways 8 and 97, near Fordyce and New Edinburg

CITY OR TOWN:

New Edinburg

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

03

COUNTY:

Cleveland

CODE

025

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Quadrangle, "Kingsland, Ark."

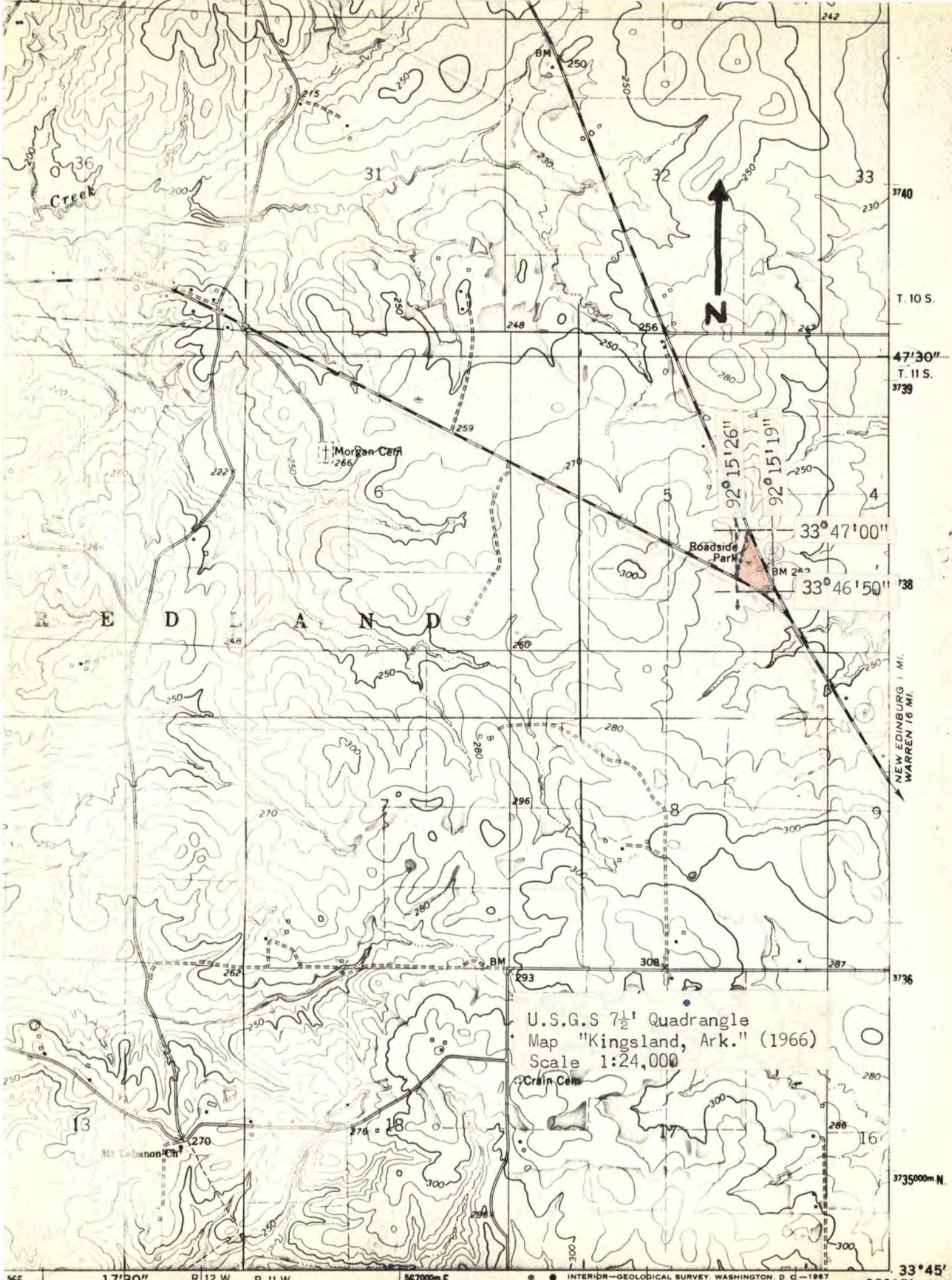
SCALE: 1:24,000

DATE: 1966

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



U.S.G.S 7 1/2' Quadrangle
Map "Kingsland, Ark." (1966)
Scale 1:24,000

Crain Cem

NEW EDINBURG 1 MI.
WARREN 16 MI.

T. 10 S.

47°30"

T. 11 S.

37°39'

33°47'00"

33°46'50"

138

37°36'

37°35'00" N

33°45'

92°15'

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. - 1967

JAN 22 1970

H34-HR

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Hon. John I. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Arkansas and have been entered into the "National Register of Historic Places." Senator J. W. Fulbright and appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest Allen Connally
Chief, Office of Archaeology
and Historic Preservation

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

cc:

Dr. John M. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkansas Planning Commission,
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Duplicate letters sent to:

Hon. J. W. Fulbright

Hon. David Pryor

Hon. William Vollic (Bill) Alexander, Jr.,

1/21/70

HR
Rumbleman

cc:
Regional Director, Southeast Region
T-Mr. Butterfield
DAL-Mr. Melvin

2
JAN 22 1970

H34-MR

Properties added to the National Register of Historical Places

ARKANSAS

Marks' Mills Battle Field Park (New Blinnburg, Arkansas)

Jenkins' Ferry Battleground (Leola, Arkansas)

Jacksonport State Park (Jacksonport, Arkansas)