NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service NATIONAL

REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property	
historic name: Smithville Public School Building	
other name/site number: <u>LW0033</u>	
2. Location	
street & number: State Highway 117	
	not for publication: N/A
city/town: Smithville	vicinity: N/A
	AR 075 zip code: <u>72466</u>
3. Classification	
Ownership of Property: Public-local	
Category of Property: <u>Building</u>	
Number of Resources within Property:	
Contributing Noncontributing	
Number of contributing resources previously list Register: $\underline{N/A}$	ted in the National
Name of related multiple property listing: Pub. Ozarks, 1920-1940	lic Schools in the Arkansas

========		====		
4. State/F	rederal Agency Certification			
of 1986, a request for standards Historic F set forth does sheet.	signated authority under the Nas amended, I hereby certify to retermination of eligibility for registering properties in Places and meets the proceduration 36 CFR Part 60. In my opin not meet the National Register	that to meet the the the the the the the the the	this <u>X</u> nomination the documentation of the National Register of the professional requestation of the property <u>X</u> iteria. See control of the property See control of the	n on of irements meets ontinuation
Cara	of certifying official		8-2-9z Date	
Signature	of certifying official		Date	
	Historic Preservation Program Federal agency and bureau			4
In my opir Register o	nion, the property meets criteria See continuation	n she	does not meet the	National
Signature	of commenting or other offici	al	Date	
	Tederal agency and bureau			
I, hereby	certify that this property is	:====: ::		
entered determined to the control of the contro	ed in the National Register See continuation sheet. cmined eligible for the ional Register See continuation sheet. cmined not eligible for the ional Register ved from the National Register (explain):	-		
			ignature of Keeper	Date of Action
6. Function				
	EDUCATION		0-11	
Current:	GOVERNMENT	Sub:	Fire station	

·
7. Description
Architectural Classification:
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS Craftsman
Other Description: Plain Traditional
Materials: foundation <u>Stone</u> roof <u>Asphalt</u> walls <u>Stone</u> other <u>N/A</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: <u>Locally</u> .
Applicable National Register Criteria: A
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A
Areas of Significance: EDUCATION SOCIAL HISTORY
Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1940
Significant Dates: N/A
Significant Person(s): N/A
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Architect/Builder: Works Progress Administration
State significance of property and justify criteria criteria

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

X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References
See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.
See continuation sheet.
Previous documentation on file (NPS):
<pre>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 #</pre>
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: Approximately two
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A 15 652580 3993950 B C D
See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.
Block 27, Original Addition to the City of Smithville.
Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.
This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surroundin property known to have been historically associated therewith that retain its integrity.
11. Form Prepared By
Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 1992
Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346
City or Town: Little Book State: AP 7TP: 72201

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

AUG 7 1992

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number7	Page1	

### **Summary**

The Smithville Public School Building is a single-story, T-shaped structure built in 1936 by the WPA and designed in the Plain Traditional style. The building is constructed of structural field-stone walls on a continuous stone foundation. The elements are repelled by a composition-shingled gable roof with Craftsman exposed rafters that are now hidden by rain gutters. An interior brick chimney protrudes from the roofline.

#### Elaboration

The central projecting cross-gable bay dominates the southern or front elevation. Originally fenestrated by six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows, the bay now contains only two original windows with the remainder having been boarded over. The pediment is stuccoed and otherwise contains only a triangle-shaped louvered attic vent. On both sides of the cross-gable bay, southern-facing, double-leaf doors with twelve-pane transoms provide access to the classrooms. The entrances are accessed by a stoop with nine concrete steps and are covered by shed roofs that are supported by ornate wood brackets. A set of two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows are located near both corners.

The western elevation is not fenestrated. The pediment is identical to the one in the southern elevation. The northern elevation is lighted by two sets of six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows and a smaller nine-over-nine window near the eastern corner. The eastern elevation is identical to that of the western elevation with the exception of an open foundation access and the boarding over of the triangular louvered vent.

There is a stage in one of the classrooms. The building is currently unoccupied.

%P8 Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

AUG 7 1992

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number8 Page	1
----------------------	---

### Smithville Public School

In the 19th Century, the Lawrence County seat of Smithville had been a prosperous and thriving community, an inland distribution center serving an intensively farmed hinterland. However, shifts in agricultural patterns from the uplands to the lowlands, as well as the loss of the county seat with the creation of Sharp County from western Lawrence County, all resulted in the community's relative decline. By the mid-1930's, virtually all that remained of Smithville was a gin, a grist mill, and a struggling bank. The Works Progress Administration's construction of the Smithville Public School in 1936 was an attempt to revitalize the fading community and the failing economy.<sup>1</sup>

The Smithville Public School Building, constructed during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks*, 1920-1940, is a representative example of a small stone school building constructed for a rural school district. Its documented construction by the W.P.A. and its use during this period as a local school building clearly identify it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the W.P.A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Carol W. Dougan, <u>The Developing and Changing Frontier: A Historical, Industrial, Agricultural, and Cultural Survey of Lawrence County, Arkansas</u> (Jonesboro, Arkansas: By the Author, 1978), 21n.

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION PROPERTY Smithville Public School Building NAME: MULTIPLE Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS NAME: STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lawrence 8/07/92 DATE RECEIVED: DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/21/92 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/06/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/21/92 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001219 ns NosdO--samedilingid to seed NOMINATOR: STATE REASONS FOR REVIEW: APPEAL: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REOUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: relating significance to the COMMENT WAIVER: ACCEPT VRETURN ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Phones. See attached comments. RECOM./CRITERIA REVIEWER DISCIPLINE M. HOLDE DOCUMENTATION see attached comments (Y)N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION	MALK SERVICE	LANCITAN		
count	resource type			
STATE/FEDERAL	AGENCY CERTIFICATION	HO DIMULANA		
FUNCTION		MOTRALI	MOM HOUSE	
historic	current			
DESCRIPTION	294 (10)	ols in the Oss	Public School	
architectur materials descriptive	al classification			
	ATE OF FENDING LIST:			
SIGNIFICANCE	VAG HTSE HILLIAN	1 22,303	EKLY LIST:	BUTTO STAC
Period A	reas of Significance	Check and just	cify below	
Specific dates		r/Architect		
Statement of S	significance (in one par	ragraph)		
<pre>clarityapplicablejustificati</pre>	criteria MONTAN V TTM on of areas checked gnificance to the reson		ARU 44-5	REPORT N
relationshi	p of integrity to sign: on of exception	ificance		
other				
			tooned c	
BIBLIOGRAPHY			3 3179 350 10	
GEOGRAPHICAL D	ATA			
acreage UTMs	verbal boundary de boundary justifica			
ACCOMPANYING D	OCUMENTATION/PRESENTAT	ION		
sketch maps	USGS mapspho	otographs	_presentation	
OTHER COMMENTS	5		2.1	
Questions conc	erning this nomination	may be direct	ted to	
Morrhy	1 M. Harper	Phone 2	202-343-95	-46
Signed Ma	111. 110	pad comments	_	DOCUMENTAT

### Smithville Public School Building Lawrence County, ARKANSAS

### Reviewer's Comments

There is a significant discrepancy between the photographs submitted with this nomination and the description of the property in Section No. 7. The description indicates that the windows are boarded over, there are exposed rafters supporting the roof and that there is an interior chimney. The photographs seem to show that the windows have been repaired or replaced, there are no visible exposed rafters, and there is no sign of a chimney. The steps leading to the entrance to the left of the front gable seem to have been replaced with a handicapped ramp. Since there are construction trucks and equipment in the photos, it looks like the building may have been in the process of being adapted for some new use when the photos were taken (January 1990).

Please clarify this discrepancy; the photos and the description must both show the current appearance of the property. If the building is being used, please indicate its new function. If it is still in process of being renovated, it can be shown as "Work in Progress."

Marilyn M. Harper Historian 9/18/92 NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

DEC 2 2 1992 AUG 0 7 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

	•
	***********
historic name: Smithville Public School Buildin	ng
other name/site number: LW0033	
street & number: State Highway 117	
	not for publication: N/A
city/town: Smithville	vicinity: N/A
state: AR county: Lawrence code:	
3. Classification	
Ownership of Property: <u>Public-local</u>	
Category of Property: <u>Building</u>	
Number of Resources within Property:	
Contributing Noncontributing	
buildings sites structures objects Total	
Number of contributing resources previously list Register: $N/A$	sted in the National
Name of related multiple property listing: <u>Pul Ozarks</u> , 1920-1940	blic Schools in the Arkansas

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation	
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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meet does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuations	ents
Signature of certifying official Date	
Signature of certifying official Date	
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program State or Federal agency and bureau	
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the Nation Register criteria See continuation sheet.	onal
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	1/14/9
National Register See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain):	
	Action
6. Function or Use	
Historic: EDUCATION Sub: School	
Current: GOVERNMENT Sub: Fire station	

7. Description
Architectural Classification:
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS Craftsman
Other Description: <u>Plain Traditional</u>
Materials: foundation <u>Stone</u> roof <u>Asphalt</u> walls <u>Stone</u> other <u>N/A</u>
Describe present and historic physical appearance. $X$ See continuationsheet.
8. Statement of Significance
Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: <u>Locally</u> .
Applicable National Register Criteria: A
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A
Areas of Significance: EDUCATION SOCIAL HISTORY
Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1940
Significant Dates: N/A
Significant Person(s): N/A
Cultural Affiliation: N/A
Architect/Builder: Works Progress Administration
State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria

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 Smithville Public School Building is a single-story, T-shaped structure built in 1936 by the WPA and designed in the Plain Traditional style. The building is constructed of structural field-stone walls on a continuous stone foundation. The elements are repelled by a composition-shingled gable roof.

#### Elaboration

The central projecting cross-gable bay dominates the southern or front elevation. Originally fenestrated by six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows, the recent restoration of the building has either refurbished or replaced in-kind all of these windows, thus retaining its original appearance and pane configuration. The pediment is stuccoed and otherwise contains only a triangle-shaped louvered attic vent. On both sides of the cross-gable bay, southern-facing, double-leaf doors with twelve-pane transoms provide access to the classrooms. The eastern entrance is accessed by a stoop with nine concrete steps and the western entrance is now accessed via a concrete handicapped-access ramp; both are covered by shed roofs that are supported by ornate wood brackets. A set of two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows are located near both corners.

The western elevation is not fenestrated. The pediment is identical to the one in the southern elevation. The northern elevation is lighted by two sets of six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows and a smaller nine-over-nine window near the eastern corner. The eastern elevation is identical to that of the western elevation with the exception of an open foundation access and the boarding over of the triangular louvered vent.

There is a stage in one of the classrooms. The building currently functions as a fire station office.

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

AUG 7 1992

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Pag	ge <u>1</u>
----------------------	-------------

#### Smithville Public School

In the 19th Century, the Lawrence County seat of Smithville had been a prosperous and thriving community, an inland distribution center serving an intensively farmed hinterland. However, shifts in agricultural patterns from the uplands to the lowlands, as well as the loss of the county seat with the creation of Sharp County from western Lawrence County, all resulted in the community's relative decline. By the mid-1930's, virtually all that remained of Smithville was a gin, a grist mill, and a struggling bank. The Works Progress Administration's construction of the Smithville Public School in 1936 was an attempt to revitalize the fading community and the failing economy.<sup>1</sup>

The Smithville Public School Building, constructed during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks*, 1920-1940, is a representative example of a small stone school building constructed for a rural school district. Its documented construction by the W.P.A. and its use during this period as a local school building clearly identify it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the W.P.A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Carol W. Dougan, <u>The Developing and Changing Frontier: A Historical, Industrial, Agricultural, and Cultural Survey of Lawrence County, Arkansas</u> (Jonesboro, Arkansas: By the Author, 1978), 21n.

9. Major Bibliographical References
See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.
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: Approximately two
UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A <u>15 652580 3993950</u> B C D
See continuation sheet.
Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.
Block 27, Original Addition to the City of Smithville.
Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.
This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.
11. Form Prepared By
Name / Mithles Manually Change National Designation Coordinator
Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 1992
Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

## Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS ARKANSAS

		Date Listed		
92001195	Liberty School Cafeteria	9/10/92		
92001107	Locust Grove School	9/4/92		
92001124	Luber School Substantive Nevies	9/4/50		
92001199	Maxville School Building	9/18/82		
92001201		9/10/92		
92001103 lle	Men's GymnasiumUniversity of Arkansas, Fayettevi	9/4/92		
92001109	Moorefield School	9/4/92		
92001207	Mountain View School	9/10/9,2		
92001216	Mountainburg High School	9/10/92		
92001218		9/16/92		
92001220		9/10/92		
92001211 ity	Physical Education BuildingArkansas Tech Univers	9/10/92		
92001193	Plumerville School Building	9/10/92		
92001198	Poughkeepsie School Building	9/10/92		
92001111		9/4/92		
92001126		9/4/92		
92001127		9/4/92		
92001219				
92001119		9/4/92		
92001104	Student Union BuildingUniversity of Arkansas, Fa	9/4/92		
yetteville				
92001108	Thida Grove School	9/4/92		
92001117	in foliation from the first of the foliation of the first of the firs	9/4/92		
92001204		9/10/92		
92001105	Walker, Vol, LibraryUniversity of Arkansas, Faye	9/4/92		
ttevil	Williamson Holl Ambangas Mach Hairrangi Milliamson Holl			
92001208 92001209	Williamson HallArkansas Tech University Re	vlew		
92001209	WIISON Hall-Arkansas rech University Substantiversay	ew		
	Wetional Registr	10/8/92		
93001255	Big Flat School Gymnasium			
9301461	Solomon Grove Smith-Hughs Boilding Entered in the	12.9.94		
	National Register	12		

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Smithville Public School Building

NAME:

MULTIPLE Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS

NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lawrence

DATE RECEIVED:

12/22/92

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

2/05/93

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001219

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

ACCEPT

RETURN

REJECT

//93 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Good. Intact prample of WPA school construction. detrug from 1936, designed to revive the fortunes of the declining Smithville community.

Concerns rarged in earlier return have been addressed.

RECOM./CRITERIA/ACCEPT/A
REVIEWER HOTDER
DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN
DATE 1/14/93

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SCHVICE

	ISTORIC PLACES	NATIONAL REGISTER OF H
CLASSIFICATIO		EVALUATION/RETUI
count	resource type	REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION
STATE/FEDERAL	AGENCY CERTIFICAT	PROPERTY Smithville Public School Bu <b>MOI</b> NAME:
FUNCTION	ame	MULTIPLE Public Schools in the Ozarks M
historic	current	NAME:
DESCRIPTION		STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lawrence
	ral classification 2 YAG HTTA HOVE 70 text	
		REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001219
SIGNIFICANCE		NOMINATOR: STATE
Specific date	es Bu	DETAILED EVALUATION: Y uilder/Architect ne paragraph) RETURN ACCEPT RETURN
summary pa	ess	ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
justificat	cion of areas checkersignificance to the	resource partial mailtantant)
relationsh justificat other	cion of exception	significance
		Emiporité communist.
tezzy .	refur nave	Concerns rossed on cortier
BIBLIOGRAPHY		.64225-1660
GEOGRAPHICAL	DATA	.912,77
acreage UTMs	verbal boundary just	
ACCOMPANYING	DOCUMENTATION/PRESI	ENTATION
sketch map	osUSGS maps	RECOM./CRInoitatneserqadquiredequephotographsREVIEWER
OTHER COMMENT	TS .	DISCIPLINE BISTORICA CONTROLLE INVITARIA
		DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached comments Y/N see attached comments Y/N see
Signed		Date



### ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

DEC 2 2 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER

December 14, 1992

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

RE: Smithville Public School Building

Smithville, Lawrence 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

State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:kg

**Enclosures** 







MITHVILLE PUBLIC VCHOOL PMITHVILLE, LAWRENCE CO., ARKANSAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY K. STORY VANUARY, 1990 NEGATIVE ON FOLE AT AHPP VIEW FROM POUTHEAST



VMITHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL SMITHVILLE, LAWRENCE CO., ARKANSAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY K. STORY VANUARY, 1990 NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP VIEW FROM EAST



PMITHUILLE PUBLIC PCHOOL SMITHUILLE, LAWRENCE CO., ARKANSAS PHOTOGRAPHED BY K. STORY VANUARY, 1990 NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP VIEW FROM SOUTH

