

PH 0076058

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Arkansas
COUNTY: Jefferson
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 30 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Trinity Episcopal Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
St. John's Parish

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Third and Oak Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
Pine Bluff

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Four

STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05      COUNTY: Jefferson      CODE: 069

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

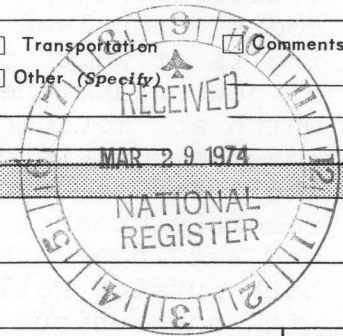
**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Trinity Parish

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Third and Oak Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
Pine Bluff

STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05



**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Jefferson County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Main and Court Streets

CITY OR TOWN:  
Pine Bluff

STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF SURVEY: 1971       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Suite 1030, Plaza West, McKinley and Lee

CITY OR TOWN:  
Little Rock

STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUL 30 1974

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input 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

On June 8, 1870, Bishop Henry Niles Pierce described Trinity Episcopal Church in his personal diary: "... the Church is one hundred [100'] feet in length and about thirty-eight [38'] feet wide. It is of brick, beautifully proportioned, and no show work about it. Take it all in all it will be the most beautiful Church edifice found in Arkansas. Its cost will be about \$18,000."

The exterior of this rust colored brick, Gothic style, 19th century church has not been changed to any appreciable extent since it was completed in 1870. Buttressed masonry walls support a roof having two pitches, steep over the nave and shallow over the aisles. A small vestibule has been added to the front entrance of the church, and a large extended bell tower dominates the southeast corner of the building. Both of these additions were made soon after the construction and are in harmony with the simple architectural style of the original church.

A trifoil window is centered above the carved entrance doors which lead from the vestibule to the nave. The ceiling is of white painted planks with exposed beams. Rows of pews flank the center aisle, along with support posts which are moulded, bracketed, and beveled cut. These posts extend into arches with quatrefoil ornamentation. The interior brick walls are plastered and painted to resemble dressed stone of varied shades of brown and beige and set in a random pattern. The Gothic windows along both outside walls contain beautiful stained glass panels, with each unique window dedicated as a memorial to some early member of Trinity Church.

An altar of sculptured white Carrara marble is the focal point of the chancel. It was carved in Florence, Italy, by Antonia Frilli, and contains lifesize figures in high relief of Christ, Moses and Saint Paul. Some of the nineteenth century furnishings include a marble baptismal font, an elaborately carved walnut pulpit and a brass processional cross.

The chancel is especially significant among Arkansas churches in that it is built above a tomb. While this practice is rather common in European churches, it is rare in America, and unique in Arkansas. Buried beneath the chancel is Cornelia Bell Roane. Before her death in 1862, she had requested that her remains be interred under the altar of the proposed church. The request of this faithful member was granted, and her unique tomb has lain undisturbed for over a hundred years.

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)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian            | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

With the foundation finished in 1866 and the building fully completed in 1870, Trinity Episcopal Church of Pine Bluff is the oldest Episcopal Church building in Arkansas. Religious services have been continually conducted since Christmas Day, 1870.

In 1838 Arkansas was added to the extensive Episcopal missionary field which covered several states and territories. Many different clergymen served the unorganized congregation of Pine Bluff Episcopalians until March 25, 1860, when Reverend Robert Trimble arrived from Kentucky to establish St. John's Parish. Before Reverend Trimble left to serve the Confederacy as a chaplain for the First Arkansas Regiment, he had led in raising more than \$4,000 to be used to construct a church building.

Late in 1860 Reverend Trimble visited Episcopal headquarters in New York for permission, advice and assistance in building a church in Arkansas. In response to this appeal Trinity Parish in New York provided valuable architectural suggestions, along with generous financial assistance. In appreciation St. John's Congregation changed its name to Trinity Church.

The foundation was begun before the outbreak of the Civil War; however, all construction efforts and worship services ceased from 1862 until 1865. At that time the church was reorganized, services reestablished, and interest in a church building renewed. In 1866 the foundation was completed and the granite cornerstone laid and later confirmed in a traditional Masonic ceremony. A square cavity in the cornerstone was filled with several objects, including a Bible, newspapers of the day, membership lists, and coins. Unfortunately, when the cornerstone was uncovered in 1971, only the coins remained intact with all the papers having disintegrated.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Goodspeed, Weston A., ed. Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889.

Jacob Brump Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons. Minutes of the Meeting, December 27, 1866. (Typewritten.)

McGaughy, James P. "A History of Trinity Episcopal Church," Pine Bluff, 1972. (Photocopied.)

McGaughy, James P. "Trinity Episcopal Church Book of Remembrance," Pine Bluff, 1970. (Photocopied.)

Pine Bluff Daily Graphic, May 11, 1912.

HB 15 / 591210  
3738630

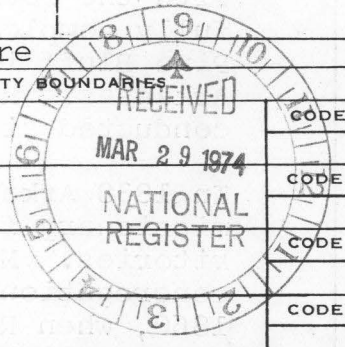
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	34°	13'	40"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	92°	00'	36.1"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Dianna Kirk, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program DATE: 10/20/73

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Suite 1030 - Plaza West

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

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: William E. Henderson  
Title: State Historic Preservation Officer  
Date: March 8, 1974

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

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

A. R. Montanese  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/30/74

ATTEST:  
Wm. Montanese  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7-26-74

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 30 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Continued - Page 2)

Though Trinity Church was the scene of a fashionable wedding in 1868, the first worship service in the completed church was not held until Christmas Day, 1870. It was consecrated on May 24, 1871. For over a century this church building has been the scene of many events of religious, social and community importance. The beautiful stained glass windows, each placed in memory of a nineteenth century individual, attest to the significant membership rolls of the church.

Several of Arkansas' early leading citizens were actively involved in the affairs of Trinity Church. Judge Samuel Calhoun Roane was a circuit judge and president of the first Arkansas Senate. Judge and Mrs. Joseph W. Bocage, whose home is now on the National Register of Historic Places, were pioneer settlers; their 1840 wedding was the first Episcopal marriage ceremony in Arkansas. While Colonel Marcus Lafayette Bell served with distinction in the Confederate army, his wife, Juliet Roane Bell, stayed in Pine Bluff to cooperate with the use of their large home as a hospital and as a Confederate troop headquarters. Following the war Colonel Bell and Judge Bocage together entered the contracting business and constructed Trinity Church.

Architecturally, Trinity Church is significant as one of the first and few examples of simple Gothic architecture in Arkansas. Except for the early addition of the vestibule entrance and bell tower, the church exterior remains the same as when it was first constructed. Other than the sculptured altar of white Carrara marble installed in 1931, the most significant furnishings in the interior of the church were added in the late nineteenth century.

Trinity Episcopal Church is significant because it is the first Episcopal church building in Arkansas, because of the important role its members played in making nineteenth century Arkansas history, and because of its simple Gothic architecture.



PROPERTY Trinity Episcopal Church STATE Arkansas

WORKING NUMBER 3, 29, 74, 487 Jefferson Co.

74000 479

TECH REVIEW  
PHOTOS 1  
MAPS 1

CONTROL REVIEW  
OK

cm  
4.2  
74

HISTORIAN  
Accept  
W.R. Luce  
6/24/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN  
Accept  
Jan Thorman  
7/2/74

ARCHAEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF  
Accept  
Cole  
7/24/74

BRANCH CHIEF  
Accept  
Henry  
7-25-74

KEEPER  
Lynn  
7/26

National Register Write-up 8/14/74

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Register entry Sept. 3, 1974

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered JUL 30 1974



Church  
W. A. S. DODD  
W. A. S. DODD  
W. A. S. DODD  
AFTER  
W. A. S. DODD  
W. A. S. DODD  
1874

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

<b>1. NAME</b>		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Trinity Episcopal Church	Saint John's Parish	JUL 30 1974
<b>2. LOCATION</b>		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Arkansas	Jefferson	Pine Bluff
STREET AND NUMBER		
Third and Oak Streets		
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Robert Dunn	February, 1974	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Front and side elevations viewed from the west.



GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Trinity Episcopal Church



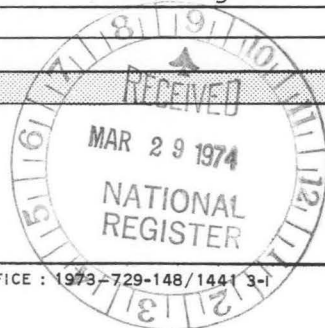
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

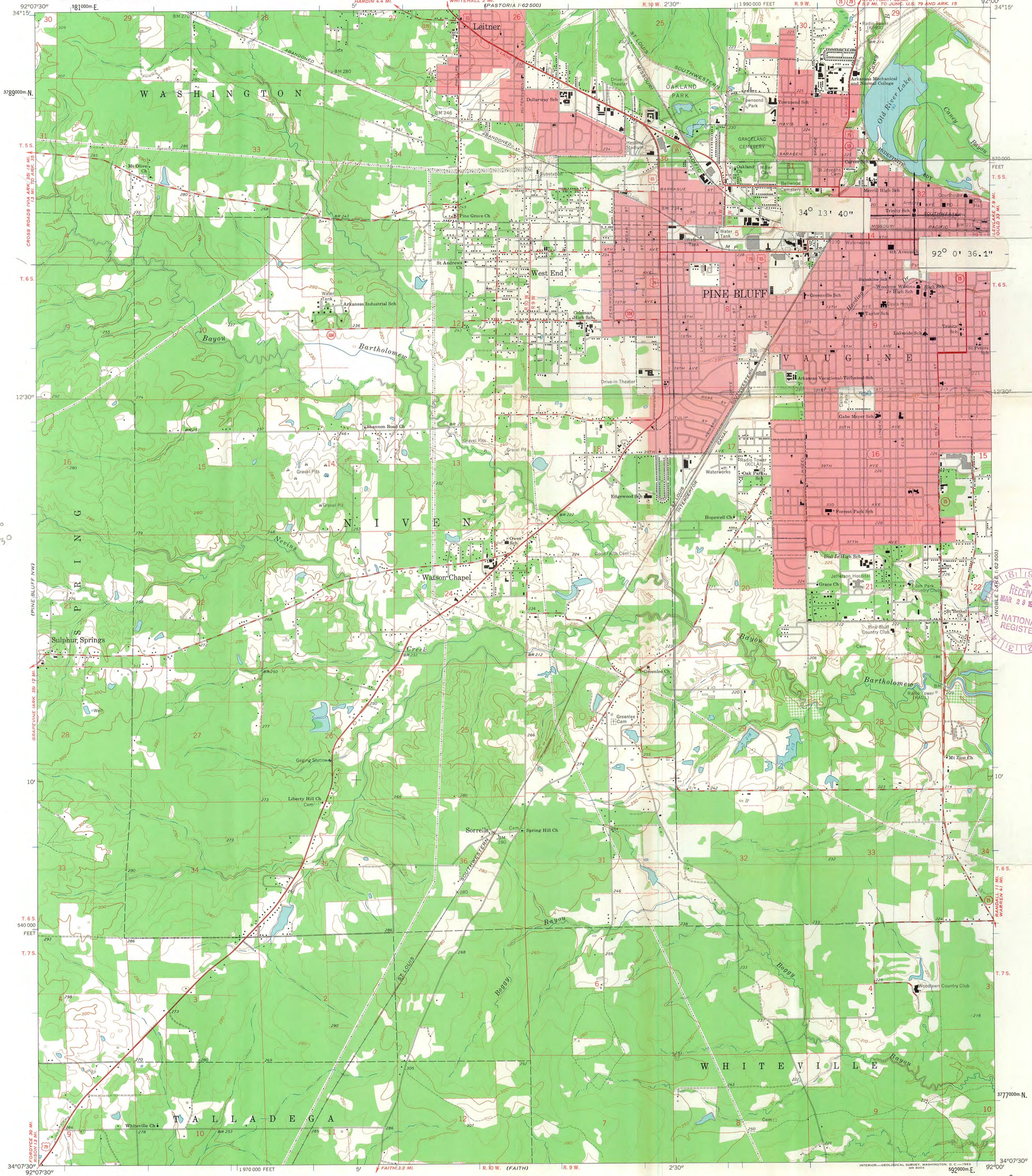
*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JUL 30 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Trinity Episcopal Church			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Saint John's Parish			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: Third and Oak Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Pine Bluff			
STATE: Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY: Jefferson	CODE 069
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series, Pine Bluff Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24000			
DATE: 1962			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



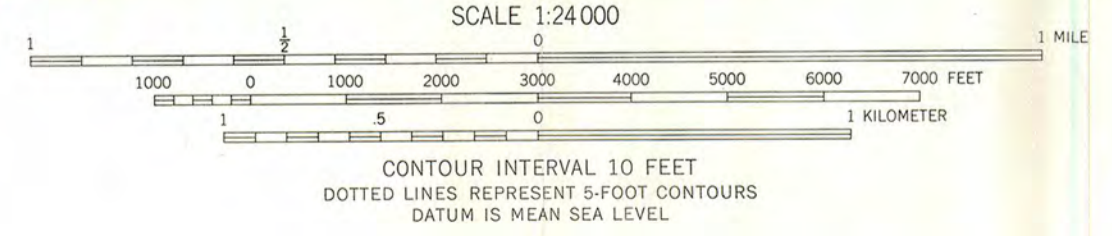


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15/59120  
3787630

RECEIVED  
MAR 28 1974  
NATIONAL REGISTER

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1961. Topography by planetable surveys 1961-62  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

APPROXIMATE MEAN  
DECLINATION, 1962



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt - - - - -  
U. S. Route (circle with number) State Route (circle with number)

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER 25, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.  
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PINE BLUFF, ARK.  
N 3407.5—W 9200.7.5  
1962

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered JUL 30 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Hornibrook House	Little Rock Pulaski County
Trinity Episcopal Church	Pine Bluff Jefferson County
Rohwer Relocation Center Site	Rohwer Desha County
Capital Hotel	Little Rock Pulaski County
Barkman, James E. M., House	Arkadelphia Clark County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan  
 Hon. J. W. Fulbright  
 Hon. Wilbur D. Mills  
 Hon. Ray Thornton, Jr.  
 Regional Director, Southwest Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
 Mr. William E. Henderson, Director  
 Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism  
 State Capitol - Room 149  
 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

PR MMOTT: pl 8/1/74