

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 14001199


Date Listed: 1/27/2014

Property Name: Hope Girl Scout Little House

County: Hempstead

State: AR

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

1-27-2014  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

The nomination is hereby amended to change the period of significance to c. 1938-1940.

This coincides with the time that the local Girl Scouts were involved in the planning, fundraising, and eventual occupation of the building. Its continued use does not necessarily represent continued significance as it relates to either the New Deal or the "development" of Girl Scouts In the area.

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

#### DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file**

**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

1199

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Hope Girl Scout Little House

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

"An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943."

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: Northwest corner of Jones Street and Fair Park

City or town: Hope State: Arkansas County: Hempstead

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

\_\_\_ national \_\_\_ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D

<u>Martha Miller</u> <b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b> <u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u> <b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	<u>12/3/14</u> <b>Date</b>
In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official: _____	Date _____
Title : _____	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

1-27-2015  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL: civic

SOCIAL: clubhouse

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

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER: rustic

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wooden Logs, Native Stone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

The Hope Girl Scout Little House is an excellent example of a vernacular rustic log cabin building constructed in Hope, Arkansas, between 1938-1939. While a fine example of this type of vernacular construction, it also relays the story of both the work of the WPA in Arkansas and the beginning of the Girl Scout movement in Arkansas. Located in Hope, Arkansas, within Fair Park, the Hope Girl Scout Little House was constructed using local materials. This small, one and a half story, log building with stone foundation was built between 1938 and 1939, and is the only remaining cabin built by the WPA for the Boy and Girl Scouts of Hope, Arkansas. The Boy Scout cabin that was built just prior to the Hope Girl Scout Little House fell into a deteriorated state and subsequently razed between 1955 and 1961. When completed and formally opened, the Hope Girl Scout Little House, was a spectacular building both for the City of Hope and the Girl Scout Community.

The site on which the Hope Girl Scout Little House is located is generally set on the northwest corner of Jones Street and Fair Park access road. Surrounding the building on the north side is an empty playing field. Located to the east side of the building is the Fair Park access road which

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separates the Hope Girl Scout Little House from the Hempstead County Rodeo Arena. To the South is a small nondescript building that houses football equipment, while to the west is the current Boy Scout Building. Hope Girl Scout Little House offers a remarkable contrast to the other nearby buildings, which are more modern utilitarian buildings with little ornamentation.

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## Narrative Description

### Front Façade (Southwest Elevation)

The front façade of the Hope Girl Scout Little House faces southwest and is visually broken into three bays. The three bays are broken up by roof alignments, with two of the three bays breaking up a partial wraparound front porch. The southeast corner of the building consists of one part of a wraparound porch which extends along the southwest and southeast elevations. The porch is constructed using brick with local stone cladding for the foundation, while a cast-concrete cap is located on top of the foundation. The gable roof over the first portion of the porch extends in a southeasterly direction off the main gable roof, and is supported by two log beams. The second bay consists of another portion of the wraparound porch and the front door. A small concrete sidewalk extends northeast from Jones Street to the wraparound porch. Like the first portion of the porch, it is constructed using local stone and a concrete cap. The gable roof is supported by two log beams. The gable end is constructed using a long log beam header with other small logs strung vertical between the header and the rafters. The porch steps were constructed using cast concrete with a stone buttress on each side of the front steps. Located beneath the small front-facing gable porch roof is a vertical veneer tongue and groove plank door with the letters "L" and "H" cut into the planks.<sup>1</sup> The actual structure of the door is not the vertical planks visible from the exterior, but the horizontal tongue and groove planks located on the inside of the door. A small three-foot section of log exterior is located between the front entranceway and the southeast corner of the building.

### Northwest Elevation

The northwest elevation emphasizes the buildings one and a half story footprint. Like the rest of the building, this elevation also is constructed using locally harvested pine logs for the walls and locally collected stones for the foundation. This elevation is focused on the wide, tall centrally located stone chimney. Like the front façade, this elevation is also broken into three bays. The central bay consists heavily of the chimney structure and a one-story gable porch, which provides cover over the elongated bar-b-que pit which is an extension off of the central chimney. The porch roof is supported by four small stone pillars with a pine log on top to support the roof of the porch. The front facing gable contains a similar design to the front porch with a pine log header and twenty-three vertical smaller logs creating a lattice effect on the front gable. The bay to the right of the chimney contains no ornamentation on the first floor. To the left of the chimney there is a small stone porch with concrete cap steps. A shed roof is supported by a

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<sup>1</sup> The letters "L" and "H" stand for Little House.

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single pine log. The small porch provides access to a single entrance way with a screen door and vertical board door similar to the front entrance door. The second floor still contains the central chimney with a single six-pane stationary window on either side of the chimney. Near where the roofline meets the chimney there are shadow lines from where the roof partially wrapped around the chimney but it has deteriorated and fallen off. What is also visible on this elevation is the double decked roof system. There is 2 1/2" wide decking, then an air gap space and then another layer of decking. This was probably done to allow the original wood shingle roof to breathe.

### **Northeast Elevation**

The northeast elevation also contains little ornamentation with the exception of window placements. The building contains identical materials as the other elevations. The only difference is the placement of two foundation vents evenly spaced in the center of the foundation. The windows are placed so that the first series of four, six-over-six, single-hung windows is placed from the center of the elevation to the right. To the left of the centermost window, there is a shutter<sup>2</sup> and small louvered vent which corresponds to the restroom on the interior. To the left of the small louvered vent, is another shutter corresponding to another series of two, six-over-six, single-hung windows. To the left of the two windows is another corresponding shutter. Near the open cornice the log rafter tails are visible.

### **Southeast Elevation**

Moving right to left the southeast elevation consists of a small shutter in the far right corner of the elevation. To the left of the shutter is another six-over-six, single-hung window, followed by another wooden shutter. To the left of the second shutter are three, six-over-six, single-hung windows and another partial shutter that has begun to deteriorate. Also below these windows are two foundation vents similar to those found on other elevations. To the left of the windows is the extension of the front wraparound porch described previously. The front facing portion of the porch on this elevation is similar in design and materials to the other front-facing gables found on the building. The second story of this elevation contains three centrally located, six-over-six, single-hung windows beneath the ridgeline of the building.

### **Integrity**

Though this building has sat vacant, the building retains a great amount of integrity. Though the porch and windows are in need of repair, there is willingness to restore these materials to their original functionality. The only other alteration that has been done to the "Little House" is the removal of the cedar shake shingles and the addition of a three-tab asphalt shingle at an unknown time. Other than a general lack of maintenance for a number of years, the property does retain its original integrity for the building.

<sup>2</sup> The shutter which would otherwise be located to the right of the series of four windows has deteriorated and fallen off.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years



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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

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**Period of Significance**

c. 1938-1964

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**Significant Dates**

c. 1938

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**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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**Cultural Affiliation**

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**Architect/Builder**

WPA, Builder

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Hope Girl Scout Little House in Hope, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of Girl Scouting in Arkansas and its association with the Works Progress Administration. The Hope Girl Scout Little House is a well-preserved example of a one and a half-story log cabin in Hope, Arkansas, constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) for the local Girl Scout Troops in Hope. This building provides an outstanding example of “New Deal”-era construction in Southeast Arkansas. Though log cabins are nothing new in this region of Arkansas, the use of this “New Deal”-era program to construct this wonderfully designed building with its craftsmanship, goes to show how a community can pull together during a time of need and help shape the lives of both the men that helped construct the “Little House” and the morals and lessons learned through the Girl Scout Program. The building is also being nominated under the multiple property listing, “An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943.”

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

When the City of Hope, Arkansas, was founded in July 1873, it was situated at the junction of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad and the Arkansas and Louisiana Railroad<sup>3</sup>, within the present boundary of Hempstead County. Hempstead County is situated on the southwest corner of Arkansas. Hempstead County was established on December 15, 1818, and was named after Edward Hempstead who was the “the first delegate to Congress from the Missouri Territory.”<sup>4</sup> It was also with the legislation that established Hempstead County, that both Arkansas and Pulaski counties were created.

The original county seat for Hempstead County would reside in Washington, Arkansas, from the county’s inception through 1938. In 1938, the county seat was moved to Hope, Arkansas, which was beginning to gain both population and economics due to the further development of the railroad. The City of Hope was “laid out in July, 1873, by Chief Engineer Morley, of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad and a sale of lots was had in August.”<sup>5</sup> The City was named “in honor of Miss Hope Loughborough, a daughter of Maj. Loughborough, a director of the Cairo & Fulton Railroad”<sup>6</sup> and incorporated March 26, 1875.

<sup>3</sup> Goodspeed Publishing Company, *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas* (Chicago: Goodspeed Brothers, Publishers, 1890; reprint, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1978), 385 (page citations are from the reprint edition).

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, 385.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

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In the early years of the city's incorporation, it was widely known for the manufacturing of building materials including lumber and bricks. Several of the early lumber companies included the Hope Lumber Company, Spring Hill Lumber Company, while several of the other building material companies included the Hope Foundry and other brick manufacturers owned by S.W. Brundridge.<sup>7</sup> Other early financial gains for the City of Hope included the organization of the Southwest Arkansas Fair Association which was organized and held its first exhibit in the fall of 1888 on a small forty-acre plot of land on the south side of the city.<sup>8</sup>

With the fair a popular attraction, the City of Hope developed Fair Park around the Fair Association property to create a larger community oriented setting that included playing fields and the fairground, which includes stables, sheds and other suitable buildings.<sup>9</sup> Little in the way of facilities had been constructed until 1938, when the "amateur softball association with 12 teams and 200 players installed an electric lighted softball diamond and paid for all equipment without cost to the city government."<sup>10</sup> Following the layout and development of the softball field, the city took over the property to develop a recreational center in late 1938 and early 1939.<sup>11</sup>

While the downturn in the economic sector had hit the City of Hope by 1930, other organizations felt the rise and fall of the good economic times as well. One of those organizations was the Girl Scouts of America. The Girl Scouts of America was founded in Savannah, Georgia, in 1912, by Juliette "Daisy" Gordon Low. Mrs. Low held a meeting for eighteen young girls, which would be the first chapter of the Girls Scouts. "She patterned her first troop after the scout troops in England founded by Lord Baden Powell."<sup>12</sup> Following this first meeting held by Mrs. Low, the organization began to expand throughout the Savannah area and eventually throughout the United States. Though the organization was able to stem the tide of the economic roller-coaster that would be the 1920s and 1930s, they were able to come out of the Depression a little better than when it started.

By the late 1930s, there were four local Girl Scout Troops located within Hope, Arkansas, Troops 1-4, with Troop #4 known as "Baby Troop 4."<sup>13</sup> It is at this time that the Girl Scout Troops had few formal areas in which to meet and have meetings. With the Depression still holding down economic growth, there were few options for the construction or rental of formal areas for meetings. However, the one option that was available was the use of the New Deal era programs to help in the construction of building for the organization. The Girl Scouts of Hope would join the trend of constructing or rehabilitating buildings to be used by their organization. This became a national trend that would be known as "Little Houses".

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid*, 386.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>10</sup> "Courthouse Will Help Interest in City-Owned Park," *Hope Star*, 21 February 1939,6.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>12</sup> "Girl Scout Week Is Proclaimed Here," *Hope Star*, 15 March 1938.

<sup>13</sup> Laseter, Mary Anita. "A Backward Look of 25 Years When the Girl Scouts of Hope Built "Little House," *Hope Star*, 7 March 1964.

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The Girl Scout Little House, is a “center especially set aside for Girl Scout activities...A Girl Scout Little House is a separate building, accessible and available to all Girl Scouts in a community and used by the girls for general program activities and as a meeting center.”<sup>14</sup> It is noted that when “contemplating the acquisition of a Girl Scout Little House, the local council should make sure that a house will fit in with the needs of the development of the program and the neither the initial cost nor the annual upkeep will place so great a strain on the budget to curtail”<sup>15</sup> the organization’s needs. Though it was possible for the local Girl Scout troop to own the building, they were also able to borrow or rent a property. In 1936 alone, “44 per cent were owned, 43 per cent were borrowed, and 13 per cent were rented.”<sup>16</sup> So when the Girl Scouts started to build their Girl Scout Little House in Fair Park<sup>17</sup>, the property was borrowed from the City of Hope, yet it still had to meet the standards for a Little House, which included “a clubroom large enough for active games, dramatics, and parties; a lavatory; and an ample store room.”<sup>18</sup>

The first Girl Scout Little House was located in Washington, D.C., built by Architect Donn Barber for the Better Homes of America organization and General Federation of Women’s Clubs, as part of the Better Homes Demonstration. The Better Homes Demonstration Week took place between June 4 -10, 1923, and the home built for the Women’s Club was located just behind the United States White House.<sup>19</sup> The Home constructed was a “well-equipped small House for the American family of average size and moderate income.”<sup>20</sup> When the Demonstration ended in 1923, the houses needed to be moved off of the government property to a new location. It is at this time that the General Federation of Women’s Clubs donated it to the Girl Scouts National Council. The Girl Scouts National Council accepted the house under the ideas and principals found within their constitution that states that the Girl Scout Organization is founded “to help girls to realize the ideals of womanhood, as a preparation for their responsibilities in the home and their services to the community.” This Little House would become one of many houses used by the Girl Scouts for this purpose between 1923 and the late 1950s.

By the time of the economic downturn in the 1930s, the newly formed Girls Scouts in Hope were looking for a place to move into. Multiple New Deal projects were already underway throughout the City of Hope including the construction of a garage at the Hope High School, a Boy Scout

<sup>14</sup> Girl Scouts, Inc., *The Girl Scout Little House*, (New York: Girl Scouts Inc., 1939), Girl Scout Museum and Archives, National Historic Preservation Center, Girl Scout Headquarters, New York, New York.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>17</sup> Not all of the Girl Scout Little Houses were built specifically for that purpose. In many cases, the Little House was remodeled from a previously constructed building to accommodate the Girl Scouts. (*Ibid.*)

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.* It is noted that the National Headquarters (of the Girl Scouts) has no architectural plan for the Little House, but is glad to offer suggestions with consideration of a local council’s needs.

<sup>19</sup> National Girl Scout of America, *Girl Scouts Keep House in Washington*, (New York: Girl Scouts Inc., c.1932), Girl Scout Museum and Archives, National Historic Preservation Center, Girl Scout Headquarters, New York, New York.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*

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Cabin,<sup>21</sup> a municipal swimming pool and an amphitheater<sup>22</sup> located on the Hope Fairground, while a new fire station at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Laurel was also constructed.<sup>23</sup> The Boy Scout Hut or cabin, built by the NYA was dedicated on March 4, 1937, though the electrical wiring had yet to be installed.

Following the dedication of the Boy Scout cabin in Fair Park there began to be a push for a Girl Scout cabin to also be built within Fair Park. The first mention of the Girl Scout building fund that has been found so far is a small article about Girl Scout Troop No. 1 having a rummage sale to support the building fund.<sup>24</sup> Still the Girl Scouts were actively promoting their need for a building near the Hope fair grounds and were taking an active role in this community. With the Boy Scout cabin completed, the girl scouts took full advantage of the Boy Scouts hospitality, because as the fall fair approached, the Girl Scouts used the Boy Scout cabin as a babysitting location while the fair was going on for free, while also checking parcels for people at the fair for a nickel a parcel.<sup>25</sup> The push for the cabin became even stronger in February 1938, when the Girl Scout troops of Hope tried to form a council, with the main goal for the year was to construct a cabin in Fair Park.<sup>26</sup>

Though the background of how the Girl Scout Little House was finally developed is still absent, what is known is that with all of the hard work and saving that the local troops did, they were able to begin construction on the Girl Scout Little House on March 18, 1938,<sup>27</sup> through the help of the Works Progress Administration (WPA), "for the use and pleasure of all the girl scouts of Hope and this area."<sup>28</sup> Like all of the WPA era projects, the Little House Project had to have a sponsor. The Sponsor was obligated to forward their proposal to the State WPA office for approval, but once approved, it was responsible for a portion of the cost of construction project.<sup>29</sup> The sponsor of the Girl Scout Little House was the "Girl Scout Council with Mrs. Bob Campbell as chairman, and Mrs. Ched Hall chairman of the building committee."<sup>30</sup> The Little House was officially under construction on March 18, 1938, following a set of the Girl Scouts performances at the Hope High School. After the performances, the troops marched to Fair Park where they proceeded with the ground breaking ceremony. At the time of the ground breaking ceremony

<sup>21</sup> "School Garage Is NYA Project Here," *Hope Star*, 22 February 1937.

<sup>22</sup> "\$17,000 Swimming Pool is Proposed as a Park Project," *Hope Star*, 20 July 1938. and "Swimming Pool Is Given Approval by Hope City Council," *Hope Star*, 5 October 1938.

<sup>23</sup> "Will Receive Bids for Construction New Fire Station," *Hope Star*, 1 December 1938. And "December 16 Deadline for Receiving Bids," *Hope Star*, 2 December 1938. And "New Fire Station to Be Two Stories in Mission Style," *Hope Star*, 21 February 1939.

<sup>24</sup> "Rummage Sale Saturday Planned by Girl Scouts," *Hope Star*, 31 May 1937.

<sup>25</sup> "S.W. Fair Is Opened," *Hope Star*, 21 October 1937, 1-2.

<sup>26</sup> The object of creating a council seems to have failed, but the push to construct the cabin was on-going. "Society," *Hope Star*, 7 February 1938, 3.

<sup>27</sup> Though one article states that the project will start on the March 17 1938, the Girl Scouts actually did the ground breaking on March 18, 1938. "Magnolia College band to Give Two Concerts Friday: Girl Scout Program Is Also Planned Here Friday," *Hope Star*, 17 March 1938.

<sup>28</sup> "Girl Scout Week Is Proclaimed Here," *Hope Star*, 15 March 1938.

<sup>29</sup> United States Federal Works Agency, *WPA Final Report: 1935-1943* (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947), 9.

<sup>30</sup> "Girl Scout Week Is Proclaimed Here," *Hope Star*, 15 March 1938.

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most of the materials to construct the Little House were said to have been donated by supporters of the Girl Scout movement.<sup>31</sup>

Yet, while the Little House was still under construction, the girls busily kept trying to raise money and awareness for their new house. Only a month after the ground breaking the girls were out baking cookies to sell as a fundraiser for the building project. Of the four troops located within Hope, all of the girls were also preparing for rummage sales that each of the four troops would have over the month of May 1938.<sup>32</sup> The idea of cookie sales to help pay off the indebtedness was something that went on throughout the construction of the Little House. Another city wide cookie sale was scheduled for the first week of October 1938 in the hope of selling enough boxes of cookies to pay off the remaining debt, the Girl Scouts figure that they would have to sell at least 2500 boxes of cookies to reach their goal.<sup>33</sup> Still as the Little House came to completion by the WPA in January 1939, there was still \$300 in debt on the Little House with only a \$23 balance in their account. Due to the furnishing of the Little House the debt rose slightly to \$400, though by February 1940 the debt was down to \$172.<sup>34</sup>

With the completion of the Girl Scout Little House, the council brought in two members of the Girl Scout National Staff to help with the dedication. Those two members were Miss Mary Brooks, Birmingham, Alabama, and Miss Ray Mitchell, also of Birmingham, Alabama, both of whom were associated with the Dixie Region of the Girl Scouts.<sup>35</sup> Consequently, the dedication had to be postponed due to unsettled weather that caused the delay of the speakers at the dedication. Miss Ray Mitchell cancelled entirely, while Miss Brooks was delayed until Monday February 6, 1939. Even though Miss Brooks had arrived, the Little House was yet to be completed. As of March 9, 1939, it is stated that the building was nearly completed and would be open to the public in the near future. The interesting thing that was discussed at a recreational meeting on March 8, 1939, was that Mrs. Bert Webb, of the girl scouts, asked the committee if they could arrange a matron to stay at the house so that "the 100 girls scouts here could have use of the buildings at all times, especially for overnight stays."<sup>36</sup> At this time it is unknown if the committee went ahead with this arrangement or allowed the girl scouts to monitor their own activities. However, in the following weeks, the dedication of the Girl Scout Little House was set for April 2, 1939, at 3:00 p.m.

Though the dedication of the Little House was promoted as a large celebration for the community, it drew only a few spectators and the local Girl Scout troops. The ceremony started with the blessing of the Girl Scout Little House by R.E. Jackson, Lieutenant of Troop No. 1, followed by a history and presentation of the Little House key by Mayor Albert Graves, which

<sup>31</sup> "Magnolia College band to Give Two Concerts Friday: Girl Scout Program Is Also Planned Here Friday," *Hope Star*, 17 March 1938.

<sup>32</sup> "Girl Scout Meet Is Held at City Hall," *Hope Star*, 29 April 1938.

<sup>33</sup> "Hope Girl Scouts Plan Cookie Sale to Pay Off Last of Indebtedness on Their Picturesque Log Hut in Fair Park," *Hope Star*, 6 September 1938.

<sup>34</sup> "Scout Council in Annual Meeting," *Hope Star*, 1 February 1940.

<sup>35</sup> "Scout Leaders to Visit Hope," *Hope Star*, 31 January 1939.

<sup>36</sup> "\$5,000 Field House Proposed for Hope," *Hope Star*, 9 March 1939, 3.

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was accepted by Carolyn Trimble. Following the acceptance of the key there was a group sing, then the dedication of the Little House by Little Rock Council Director, Miss Alyse Nelson, followed by the Friendship Song, sung by the Girl Scouts.

Even though the building was greeted with little fanfare, the Hope Girl Scouts began using the building immediately. In only a short time, the Girl Scouts were already planning activities at their new Little House, because in the spring of 1940 they were celebrating the Girl Scout National Holiday with tea at the house. Due to the building's purposes as a meeting location, it was immediately thrust into the roll as instruction center also because on November 5, 1940, the building housed the training seminar for local Girl Scouts. There would be no change in the use of the building throughout the next 15 to 20 years. Over that time period the Little House was home to meetings, parties, after school programs, and voluntary service gatherings for the troops during World War II.

Still as activity at the cabin began to wane vandalism to the property began to take place throughout the 1950s. It is stated that...

"Vandals, evidently young ones, can't seem to leave the "Little House," Girl Scout Cabin in Fair Park alone...another break-in was reported and this time apparently a first class pillow fight took place...several times each year someone breaks into the cabin and leaves it in total disorder along with some damage..."<sup>37</sup>

Though the building remained in the Girl Scouts hands, their activity level at the Little House started to waver. Even through this time of wavering, the Girl Scouts still retained a building fund for the upkeep of the Girl Scout Little House as shown through an old record auction put on by the Girl Scouts on February 6, 1971. The Girl Scouts auctioned off 78 RPM records on the KXAR radio station in Hope. The Girl Scouts hoped to sell at least 1,200 records in three hours. In a previous attempt at selling records they had a net profit of \$514 for the building fund. In this second attempt they hoped to collect \$750 for Little House repairs.<sup>38</sup>

Even with a small repair budget, the Girl Scouts eventually lost interest in the Little House and the house reverted to city control around 2010 - 2011. With the Girl Scouts retaining their Girl Scout Little House, they are one of the few who have continually used the Little House. Other Little Houses built throughout Arkansas were located in Camden (c.1953)<sup>39</sup>, Fayetteville (1951)<sup>40</sup>, and Blytheville (October 29, 1939),<sup>41</sup> and possibly one in Hot Springs known as the Radford Little House. Of these sites, only the Blytheville Little House and the Radford Little House still exist. The house in Camden has since been demolished or moved, the exact history of

<sup>37</sup> The Star Staff, "All Around the Town," *Hope Star*, 9 February 1955.

<sup>38</sup> The Star Staff, "All Around Town," *Hope Star*, 3 February 1971.

<sup>39</sup> "Basic Training Course for Scouters," *The Camden News*, 17 October 1953, 4.

<sup>40</sup> "Dedication of Girl Scout Little House Scheduled Sunday," *Northwest Arkansas Times*, 18 May 1951, 6.

<sup>41</sup> "Opening of "Little House" to Mark Girl Scout Week Here," *Blytheville Courier News*, 28 October 1939,

Hope Girl Scout Little House

Hempstead County,  
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Name of Property

what happened to the house is still unsettled. The Little House in Fayetteville, Arkansas, was demolished c. 2010 according to planning maps provided by the City of Fayetteville.

With the loss of these buildings over time, the Girl Scouts are once again losing their once well-known meeting or office places. These places were not just about meetings and offices, but were also about the activities associated with the Girl Scouts, whether it was arts and crafts or homemaking. This Little House provided a place of developing morals and leadership skills that has been carried on by every Girl Scouts that has been associated with the Little House and the Girl Scouts of America. Still the idea of having a location for the Girl Scout troops to come to for meetings and other social activities has generally been lost on the newer generation of Girl Scouts and Girls Scout Leaders. Therefore, the Girl Scout Little House in Hope, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under **Criterion A** its association with the development of Girl Scouting in Arkansas and its association with the Works Progress Administration. While also being nominated under the multiple property listing, "An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943."



Hope Girl Scout Little House

Hempstead County,  
Arkansas  
County and State

Name of Property

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Girl Scouts, Inc. *The Girl Scout Little House*. New York: Girl Scouts Inc., 1939, Girl Scout Museum and Archives, National Historic Preservation Center, Girl Scout Headquarters, New York, New York.

Goodspeed Publishing Company. *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*. Chicago: Goodspeed Brothers, Publishers, 1890. Reprint, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1978.

Hope Star. 1937-1973.

Girl Scouts of the United States of America. *Girl Scouts Keep House in Washington*. New York: Girls Scouts Inc., c.1932. Girl Scout Museum and Archives, National Historic Preservation Center, Girl Scout Headquarters, New York, New York.

United States Federal Works Agency, *WPA Final Report: 1935-1943* (Washington D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1947), 9.

Hope Girl Scout Little House

Hempstead County,  
Arkansas  
County and State

Name of Property

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** HE0966

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** <1

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Hempstead County,  
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Name of Property

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

**Or**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 443733 | Northing: 3724482 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

At the southeast corner of the Girl Scout Little House, located along Fair Park Street, go to UTM 15 443735E 3724460N. Go west to UTM point 15 443417E 3724420N. Then go north to UTM point 15 443728E 3724499N. Then turn east to UTM point 15 443749E 3724488N. Then return to the original UTM point at UTM 15 443735E 3724460N.

Hope Girl Scout Little House

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**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the remaining land and buildings historically associated with the building.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Travis Ratermann (Survey Historian)  
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
street & number: 323 Center St. Suite 1500  
city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201  
e-mail Travis@arkansasheritage.org  
telephone: 501-324-9874  
date: December 4, 2014

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Hope Girl Scout Little House

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### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Girl Scout Little House

City or Vicinity: Hope

County: Hempstead

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Travis Ratermann

Date Photographed: January 15, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0001)  
South elevation of the building. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #2 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0002)  
Detail photograph of the concrete located around the former flag pole stating it was constructed by Troop #2. Camera facing north.

Photo #3 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0003)  
West elevation of the building. Camera facing east.

Photo #4 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0004)  
Detail of the exterior fire and bbq pit located on the west elevation. Camera facing southeast.

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Photo #5 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0005)  
North elevation of the building. Camera facing south.

Photo #6 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0006)  
Perspective of the southeast corner of the Hope Girl Scout Little House. Camera facing northwest.

Photo #7 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0007)  
Interior photograph of the fireplace and chimney. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #8 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0008)  
Detail photograph of the fireplace and its ornamentation. Camera facing west.

Photo #9 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0009)  
Interior photograph of staircase leading to the overhead loft. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #10 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0010)  
Interior photograph of the loft area on the second floor. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #11 (AR\_HempsteadCounty\_Hope Girl Scout Little House\_0011)  
Interior photograph of the lavatory. Notice the shower head coming out the ceiling and the drain in the floor. It was an all in one room. Camera facing north.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

# Hope Girl Scout Little House, Hope Hempstead County, Arkansas



Google earth

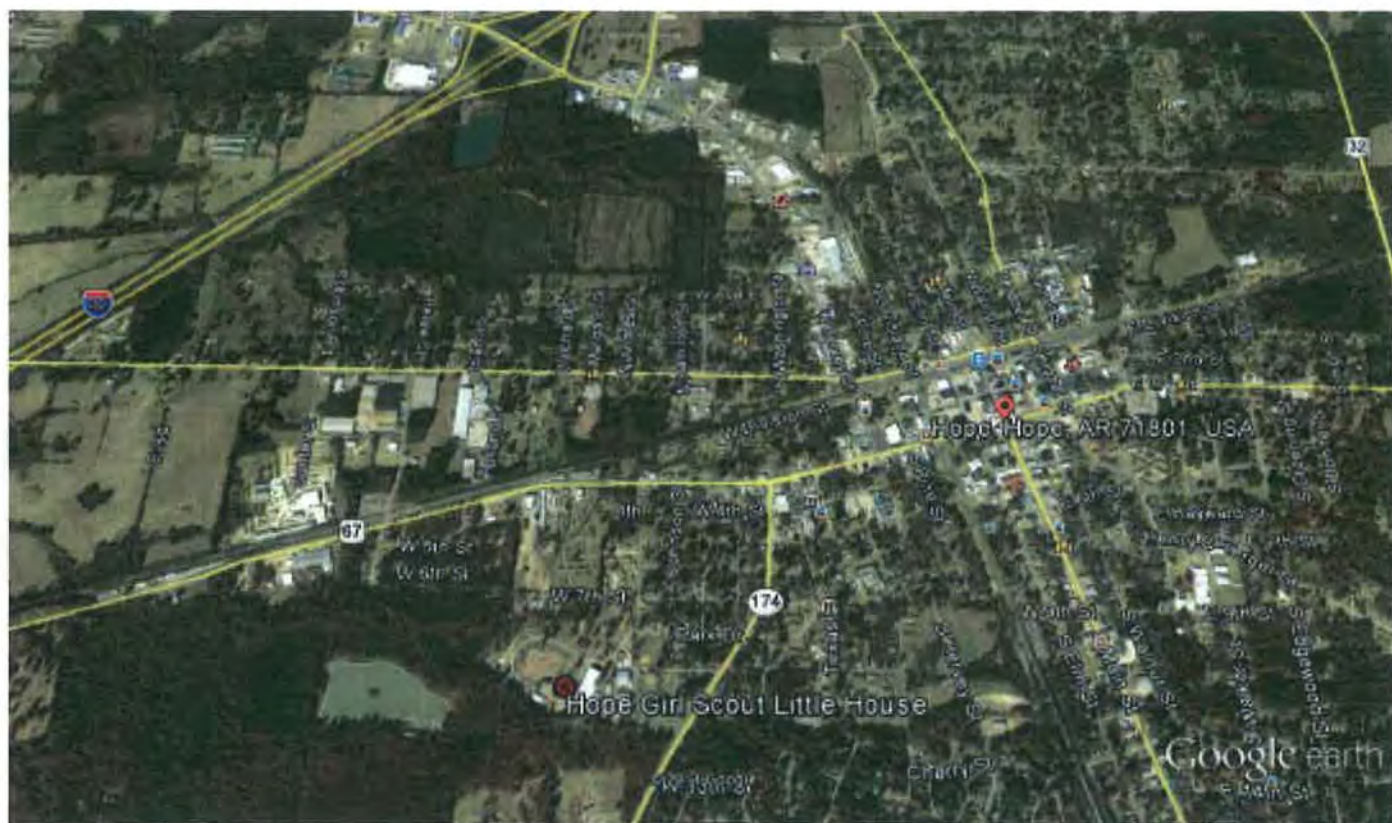


UTM

15 473733 3724482

NAD83

# Hope Girl Scout Little House, Hope Hempstead County, Arkansas



Google earth



UTM

15 473733 3724482

NAD83





GIRL SCOUT  
LITTLE HOUSE

LH



11 11

1000 P









THE LITTLE HOUSE













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Hope Girl Scout Little House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE New Deal Recovery Efforts in Arkansas MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Hempstead

DATE RECEIVED: 12/12/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/27/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001199

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1-27 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Nice example of Rushe Architecture built by the WPA for  
the local Girl Scouts.  
Meets MPS Reg. Requirements*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER J Gubler DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/ see attached SLR /N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS  
**HERITAGE**

December 3, 2014



Mike Beebe  
*Governor*

Martha Miller  
*Director*

Ms. Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Hope Girl Scout Little House – Hope, Hempstead County,  
Arkansas

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Arkansas Arts Council  
\*  
Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission  
\*  
Delta Cultural Center  
\*  
Historic Arkansas Museum  
\*  
Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center  
\*  
Old State House Museum

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Dear Ms. Shull:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Travis Ratermann of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Martha Miller  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MM:tar

Enclosure

Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program



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