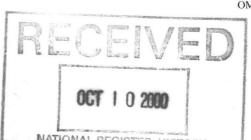
**United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** 

### **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**



1319

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking with the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." A For Auntitions, Parchitectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

. Name of Propert	ty								
istoric name Ru	ussellville Public Lib	rary							
ther names/site num	nber N/A								
. Location									
treet & number	114 East Third Stree	t						not for	publication
ty or town Russ	ellville	<del></del>							vicinity
tate AR	code	AR con	inty	Pope		code	115	zip code	72801
State/Federal Ag	gency Certification								
- Care	e hacet				1 8 / 2				
State or Federal age In my opinion, the pr comments.)	Historic Prese	ervation I		ll Register criter		ontinuatio	n sheet fo	or additional	
Arkansas State or Federal age In my opinion, the pr	Historic Prese	ervation I		ll Register criter	Date  ia. ( See Co	ontinuatio	n sheet fo	or additional	
Arkansas State or Federal age In my opinion, the pr comments.) Signature of certify State or Federal age	Historic Prese	ervation I		ll Register criter		ontinuatio	n sheet fo	or additional	
Arkansas State or Federal age  In my opinion, the pr comments.)  Signature of certify  State or Federal age  National Park Services certify that the pr entered in the Na See cont determined eligib National Regist	Historic Prese	ervation I		ll Register criter			n sheet fo	or additional	Date of Action

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)
Contributing Noncontributing  1 buildings sites structures objects
1 Total  Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions) VACANT/NOT IN USE
Materials (Enter categories from instructions) foundation CONCRETE walls BRICK
roof ASPHALT other

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) (See Continuation Sheet)

Russellville Public Library	Po
Name of Property	Co

Pope County
County and State

#### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number	7	Page	1	
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#### SUMMARY

Built in late 1936 and early 1937, the old Russellville Public Library is a one-story frame construction building with brick veneer; it is roofed with asphalt shingles over the original wooden shingles. The Colonial Revival-style structure, located at 114 East Third Street, was the City of Russellville's sole public library facility for 39 years. The library has been used for storage since 1976. There are currently plans to restore the building for use as a community meeting room and for community library programs.

#### **ELABORATION**

Built in late 1936 and early 1937 in the 100 block of East Third Street, the old Russellville Public Library is a one-story Colonial Revival-style building. The building stands on a continuous brick foundation on a 30X 50foot lot. The building served as the city's sole public library facility until April 1976 when a new library building opened next door at 116 East Third Street. O.S. Nelson, a local contractor, drew up plans for the Old Russellville Public Library. Leon Reed was the construction supervisor. Exterior dimensions of the building are 26 feet 4 ½ inches by 47 feet 2 inches (1,244 square feet). It is a Works Progress Administration funded building of frame construction with brick veneer. It is roofed with wooden shingles, with at least two layers of asphalt shingles that have been installed over the original wood shingles.

#### North/Front Elevation

The front or north elevation features a typical Colonial Revival entryway with supporting pilasters. Access to the building is gained through a six-paneled wooden door. The doorway is crowned by a single-pane transom light, which is covered by a non-historic metal awning. The original wooden door has a book return drop slot above the bottom two panels of the door. The doorway is accented on each side by historic lamp fixtures and also a bronze WPA plaque with the date 1936 on the western side of the door. There has been an addition of a metal screen door (date unknown) in front of the original wooden one. Near the apex of the roof there is a concrete inset that reads "RUSSELLVILLE/ PUBLIC/ LIBRARY". The concrete steps are flanked by a wrought iron railing, which leads up to the doorway. On each side of the entrance there are two double hung wooden windows on the front elevation. Each window has a nine over nine- pane configuration.

#### West/ Side Elevation

The west elevation features five original twelve over twelve-pane windows. It also features the base of the original red brick chimney, however the top part is no longer remaining and the date of its removal is undocumented.

#### South/Rear Elevation

The windows on the south elevation differs from those on the west and east elevations. The south elevation is fenestrated with three, six over six light windows.

Russellville Public Liberry

Pope County, AK

#### **East/Side Elevation**

The east elevation faces the new library and is very similar to the west elevation. There are five, twelve over twelve light windows located on this side. This elevation and all others maintain original windows.

#### Interior

The interior of the building consists of one large room with two smaller rooms – a restroom and a reading/work area both located at the rear. Located to the side of the entrance there are two plaques. One plaque lists the library's founding members and the other plaque is dedicated to Sue Catherine Deaton whose family donated the land for the building in her honor. The interior walls display their original wall material and are covered with plaster. The trim around the ceiling and floor base is constructed of wood and is in excellent condition. The floor finish is vinyl tile laid directly on the 1x12-inch floor sheathing. The ceiling tile is fiber composition fastened directly to the underside to the roof joists.

The sink and stool in the restroom are both vintage with steel piping above the floor. The buildings lighting is provided by historic wall- mounted adjustable reading lamps. There are also florescent pendant-type office light fixtures that hang from the ceiling that were added at a later date. The original electrical wiring was installed according to the accepted standards of 1936 and does not meet the building code requirements of today.

The lower chimney support is not very deep, leading to the assumption that the chimney was used as a vent for a coal stove. The stove was replaced by a heating unit (date unknown), that is located in the building crawl- space with air delivery through a network of floor vents.

#### Integrity

Although there have been some minor alterations to the building, the basic plan of the library's exterior and interior remains the same as when the building was completed in 1937. The exterior of the building displays its integrity with the excellent condition of the brick and also the original door and windows. The condition of the brick veneer is generally very good. The window ledges are in good condition showing very little chipping of the mortar or brick. Of the foundation vents, five are original units, the remaining spaces are covered with sheet metal but new louvers have been installed in the two front vent spaces. The original construction included a chimney, which was removed (date unknown). There has also been an addition of a non-historic awning over the entryway. Other than these few alterations the exterior of the building still stands in its original form. The interior is also very intact with the exception of the stove being removed and the addition of florescent lighting. This building stands not only as a wonderful example of Colonial Revival architecture, but also an excellent example of a WPA building and the American public's desire for knowledge.

Russellville Public Library	Pope County, Arkansas
Name of Property	County and State
8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Degister Cuitaria	Loyals of Significance (loyal state actions)
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property	Levels of Significance (local, state, national)  Local
For National Register listing.)	Local
To reaconal register issuig.)	
A Property is associated with events that have made	
a significant contribution to the broad patterns of	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
our history.	A (OTHER)—Association with Works Progress Administration
☐ <b>B</b> Property is associated with the lives of persons	C—ARCHITECTURE
significant in our past.	C—ARCHITECTURE
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	Period of Significance
individual distinction.	1937-1950
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield,	
information important in prehistory or history.	
Criteria Considerations	Significant Dates
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	1937
Property is:	
A owned by a religious institution or used for	
religious purposes.	CimiGaard Parson (C. 14 (CC))
<b>B</b> removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked) N/A
B removed from its original location.	IVA
C moved from its original location.	
	Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)
D a cemetery.	N/A
<b>E</b> a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
F a commemorative property	
	Architect/Builder
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Nelson, O.S., local contractor  Reed, Leon, construction supervisor
within the past 50 years.	Reed, Leon, construction supervisor
Narrative Statement of Significance	
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheet	(5.)
(See Continuation Sheet)	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography	The state of the s
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on o	one or more continuation sheets.)
(See Continuation Sheet)	Primary location of additional data
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:  ☑ State Historic Preservation Office
preliminary determination of individual listing (36	Other State Agency
CFR 67) has been requested  previously listed in the National Register	Federal Agency
Previously determined eligible by the National	Local Government
Register	University
designated a National Historic Landmark	Other
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Name of repository:

#	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	7	
Record #		

Russellville	Public	Library
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Name of Property

Pope County
County and State

### **United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8	Page 1
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#### **SUMMARY**

The old Russellville Public Library building at 114 East Third Street is being nominated with local significance under **Criterion A** for its association with the Works Progress Administration and under **Criterion C** for its Colonial Revival Architecture.

#### **ELABORATION**

P.C. Holledger built the first house in the area around present day Russellville, which at that time was called Prairie. The town was named Russellville after Dr. Thomas Russell, an English doctor who purchased the home in 1835. By 1842 the village had grown and been named for Dr. Russell. Russellville, incorporated in 1870, and became the county seat of Pope County in 1887. Russellville begin its modern day improvements around 1908 with the building of concrete sidewalks, paved streets and street lamps. At that time there were three weekly papers, coal mining companies, a small electric light plant and the railroad. By 1920 Russellville was a thriving town with a population above five thousand. The city was home to the largest horse and mule market in the state; Russellville also had three banks, a modern creamery, a large foundry and iron works, roller flour mill, a modern hospital, city band and handsome well-kept homes. Russellville was considered a metropolitan area of the state. However, there was no public library building.

From July 1885 to 1924, the town's public library consisted of a collection of books ranging in number from less than 100 to more than 500. The books were housed in private homes and unused space in downtown business buildings. The library effort begin in 1885 when the Excelsior Club, a group of civic minded young men, began a fund-raising drive to raise money for a small collection of books. The books were checked out for a fee of 5 cents a week and the money raised was used to purchase additional books. In 1889 Professor A.E. Lee, superintendent of Russellville schools, purchased books for the high school and combined these with the Excelsior Club collection.

After Lee's tenure had expired the books were put into private homes and could be checked out by anybody. A Public Library Association was organized in May 1899 to oversee thew collection of books. The collection was moved to a room above a downtown business and Luther Turnbow became the first librarian. The library opened the first week of June 1899. In 1904 the collection was moved to Wiggs Drug Store.

By March of 1905 the San Souci Club, a group of local women, had taken over the library. The club furnished a librarian who was on duty every Tuesday from 3-5 P.M. This arrangement lasted until December of that year when the books were moved to the home of James A. Miller. Shortly later the collection, now more than 600 books, was moved to the home of Library Association President Mrs. W.L. Oates.

Russellville Public Library

Pope County, AR

In 1906 efforts were made to obtain a Carnegie Library. This plan failed when the amount of money needed to buy land for the building could not be raised. The books continued to be moved from place to place until the start of World War I.

Russellville had no public Library collection during the World War I years, 1917-1919, when the Russellville Public Library collection was added to books collected in the county that were all sent to Camp Pike (Pulaski County) for the benefit of the soldiers. The books were returned after the war with the addition of other books that had been donated to the Camp Pike collection. Upon their return the books were stored for several months before finally being placed in a room at the Central Presbyterian Church.

In 1923 Reverend Robert Hodgson started a drive for a public library building. On February 8, 1924 a small building (no longer in existence) on the Central Presbyterian Church property at West Main Street and North Denver Avenue begin use as a public library building. The library was open Monday-Saturday and staffed with volunteers.

By 1936 public demand for a larger, more permanent facility had grown. Local citizens turned to the help of the Works Progress Administration. The Works Progress Administration furnished \$6,000 of the construction costs. Community fund-raising events raised an additional \$2,151 for construction and furnished the building.

Relatives of a former Russellville mayor, Jeremiah Munday, carried out his spirit of public service and donated the 30x50-foot lot where the library building was constructed. The children of Mrs. Sue Munday Deaton, the former mayor's sister, donated the land for the library in her honor. The building was designed by O.S. Nelson a local contractor. Another local, Leon Reed acted as construction supervisor. The building was started in 1936 and was completed in October 1937.

Mrs. M.C. Hickman was the first paid librarian. She retired in 1958 and was replaced by Mrs. Wetzel, who was the first trained librarian at the library. Each reader was charged \$1 a year for reading privileges until December 1957 when Pope County became part of the Arkansas River Valley Regional Library System. In 1985 the library pulled out of the regional system to start an independent county system.

The building was used as a library until 1976 when demand outgrew the small building and a new library was built next door at 116 East Third Street. Since that time the old Russellville Public Library has been used as storage for the new one.

Russellville has grown and prospered in the 166 years since that first house was built. The city is today a major industrial, business, transportation, and educational hub with a population of about 30,000 people. Arkansas Tech University is located in Russellville and serves as a major institution of the city.

#### Significance

The Old Russellville Public Library building is being nominated with local significance under both **Criterion A** for its association with the Works Progress Administration and **Criterion C** as a Colonial-Revival style public building.

Russellville Public Library	Pope County
Name of Property	County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number	9	Page	1	

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Brown, Mattie, "History of Public Libraries in Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas." Pope County Historical Association Quarterly, Volume 5, Number 4 (1971): Pages 62-64

Pope County Historical association of Russellville, Arkansas, "History of Pope County, Arkansas" Volume 1, Published 1979, Hunter Publishing Co., Winston Salem, North Carolina

"Russellville Libraries,' Russellville Centennial 1870-1970, from book "Arrows to Atoms," Russellville Public Library, Russellville, Arkansas.

Name of Property	County and State			
	County and State			
10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre				
UTM References				
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)				
1 15 487880 3903410	3			
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing			
2	4			
	See continuation sheet			
Verbal Boundary Description				
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) A part of Lot Five (5), in block Sixty-one (61), of J.L. Shinn's Ac	ddition to the Town (now City) of Pussellville Arkansas may			
particularly described as beginning at the northeast corner of said				
feet; thence West Thirty (30) feet; thence North Fifty (50) feet; th				
<b>Boundary Justification</b>				
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation she				
The boundary includes all land historically associated with the lib	brary.			
11. Form Prepared By				
11. Form Frepared by				
name/title Laura L. Schull, Heritage Room Assistant				
organization Pope County Library System	date June 23, 2000			
street & number 116 East Third Street	telephone (501) 968-4368			
city or town Russellville	state Arkansas zip code 72801			
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:				
Submit the following items with the completed form.				
Continuation Sheets				
Maps	roperty's location			
	roperty's location			
Maps				
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pr A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havin				
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Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the pr A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havin Photographs	ag large acreage or numerous resources.			
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A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the properties having the properties have the	ng large acreage or numerous resources.			
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having Photographs  Representative black and white photographs of the proceed of the SHPO of FPO for any additional items.)  Property Owner  (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)  name Pope County Library System	ng large acreage or numerous resources.			

**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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

#### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number	Page	

#### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS	Reference	Number:	00001319	Date	Listed:	11/	/20/	00
LILLE	Treit chec	TIMBLEDOLE	00001517	Dutt	LIBUU.	4.4/	-01	UU

Property Name: Russellville Public Library County: Pope State: AR

Multiple Name: N/A

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

Date of Action

#### **Amended Items in Nomination:**

An amendment is made to add the Areas of Significance **Politics/Government** and **Social History** for the property's association with the Federal Works Project Administration (WPA) program of the 1930s. The WPA partially funded this building which was the first permanent public library in the community of Russellville, Arkansas.

This information was confirmed with Kara Mills of the Arkansas SHPO.

#### **DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET
REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Russellville Public Library NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pope
DATE RECEIVED: 10/10/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/23/00 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/08/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/24/00 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 00001319
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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N
ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11 20 00 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
The Russellville Public Library is eligible for the
Hional Register under Criteria & and C for architecture,
Hional Register under Criteria & and C for architecture, suities/government, and social history. Partially fundal through
into the construction of the arrange
over is a good local example of the colonial kental and
as been continuosly used by the local community in different capacities since its construction.
RECOM./CRITERIA A.C.
REVIEWER Sarah Pope DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE 202/343-9534 DATE 11/20/00
DOCIMENTATION see attached comments V/N see attached SLR (V/N



1. Russellville Public Library
2. Pope Co., AR
3. Zac Cothren
4. July 2000
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. North Facada. (View from South)



1. Russellville Public Library
2. Pope Co, AR
3. Zoc Cothren
4. July 2000
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6 WPA plaque North elevation. view from South



1. Russellville Public Library 2. Pope Co., AR 3. Zac Cothren 4. July 2000 5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program 6. Light fixture beside front door North elevation 7. 2 (view from south)



1. Russellville Public Library
2. Pope Co. JAR
3. Zae Cothren
4. July 2000
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. West Facede - View from East



1. Russellville Public Library
2. Pope Co., AR
3. Zac Cothren
4. July 2000
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. East Facade - View from the West
7. S



1. Russellville Public Library 2. Pape Co. JAR 3. Zac Cothren 4. July 2000 5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program 6. Interior of entry way



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

WE LOVE TO TELL THE STORY. September 28, 2000

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

Mike Huckabee, Governor Cathie Matthews, Director

RE: Russellville Public Library- Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas.

Arkansas Arts Council

Dear Carol:

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission 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.

Arkansas Territorial Restoration

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathernachura

Cathie Matthews

State Historic Preservation Officer

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

CM:zc

Enclosures

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Little Rock, AR 72201

(501)324-9880 fax: (501)324-9184

tdd: (501)324-9811

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