Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# GISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

	DATA	A SHEET
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_в	EING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION
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#### CONDITION

X\_EXCELLENT DETERIORATED \_GOOD RITINS \_FAIR \_UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE \_UNALTERED

XALTERED

**CHECK ONE** 

X ORIGINAL SITE \_MOVED

DATE

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Joseph's Orphanage is a massive three-storey structure of pressed brick resting on a foundation of cut stone. In addition to the three storeys, the eighty-room building contains a full attic and basement. St. Joseph's Orphanage was constructed in 1910 at a cost of \$ 150,000, which amount was furnished by the Little Rock Catholic Diocese. The building is self-sufficient, containing the original electric plant and water system installed in 1910.

The building is topped with a hipped, red-tile roof, which features unusual miniature dormers with circular-shaped air vents. Four tall, slender chimneys project from the roof on its front slope. Rows of finial-like projections extend from the roof along the ridge lines.

St. Joseph's Orphanage consists of a large, recessed center section and a projecting wing on either side. Two-storey wooden porches are found on the extreme east and west elevations of the building. The upper levels of each porch are supported by one-storey Doric-capital columns and feature very slender turned balusters. The roof of each porch features a deck surrounded by a railing.

The building is surmounted by a cupola, which rests on a square base set into the ridge line at the center of the building. A wooden railing with starshaped designs surrounds the round-roofed cupola. The cupola is topped by a white cross.

The four corners of the two projecting wings are marked by quions. A string course follows the third-storey line. The third-storey brick is laid in such a way as to give the appearance of wood planks.

Windows are rectangular, with cast stone lugsills. First- and second-storey windows in the center of the facades of the projecting wings are marked by brickwork in a segmental-arched pattern.

The most distinctive feature of the building is the main entry, located in the center of the facade. The projecting entry is set under a wooden semicircular arch. The bay containing the main entry is of cast stone with brick trim. It features rectangular pilasters resting on paneled bases. Set above a multi-lite window over the double entry doors is a rounded, multilite fanlight. The entry doors are flanked by rectangular pilasters, over which is a semi-circle with keystone.

The projecting wing on the north of the building contains the chapel which was completed a few months later than the other sections of the building. The focal points in the chapel are the tall, arched, stained-glass windows and, inside, the altar, which is set into an arched bay.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEG 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

1

Interiors of the building utilize black veined marble in floors and walls. Oak woodwork abounds. Mantels feature engaged columns and brass hearth covers.

There have been no major alterations or additions to St. Joseph's Orphanage. Minor alterations include the replacement of the original oak double doors in the entry with modern glass doors and the addition of screening to the second-storey porch on the west elevation.

St. Joseph's Orphanage rests on the crest of a hill overlooking North Little Rock and Little Rock. The building remains well preserved and is in excellent condition.

#### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	X_RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<b>XARCHITECTURE</b>	EDUCATION	MILITARY	X_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799 1800-1899 X_1900-	ARTCOMMERCECOMMUNICATIONS	ENGINEERINGEXPLORATION/SETTLEMENTINDUSTRY	MUSICPHILOSOPHYPOLITICS/GOVERNMENT	THEATERTRANSPORTATIONOTHER (SPECIFY)
		INIVENTION		A 3 (10) 10 = 3 10 A 11 12

SPECIFIC DATES

PERIOD

1910

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

From many points in the cities of North Little Rock and Little Rock, the three-storey St. Joseph's Orphanage may be seen commanding the crest of a hill on the edge of North Little Rock. Built in 1910, St. Joseph's Orphanage has long been an architectural and historical landmark in the area. The edifice is constructed of pressed brick and cut stone and is surmounted with a red-tile roof. The building is topped by a cupola, from which rises a white cross, signifying the Christian basis of the Orphanage. The function of the building as an orphanage makes it representative of the humanitarian aspect of life in America. Orphanages have played a vital role in the American social system. As a religious institution, St. Joseph's Orphanage has achieved distinction in its duration and success. The establishment of St. Joseph's Orphanage was a direct result of the efforts of Bishop John B. Morris of the Little Rock Catholic Diocese. Bishop Morris was one of the most important figures in Catholicism in this country.

John Baptist Morris was born in 1866 in Hendersonville, Tennessee. He attended St. Mary's College in Kentucky and American College in Rome, Italy. Morris was ordained to the priesthood in 1892 and was appointed pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1901 he was made Vicar-General of the diocese in Nashville. In 1905 Pope Pius X elevated him to the rank of Domestic Prelate. In 1906 Morris was consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Little Rock diocese. In 1907 he was appointed Preconized Bishop of Acmonia and Coadjutor - Bishop of Little Rock.

The appointment of Morris as Bishop of the Little Rock Diocese marks an era of enterprise in the diocese. Bishop Morris is credited with the establishment of Little Rock College in 1908 and, in 1920, the opening of the first normal school for Catholic teachers. In 1921 Bishop Morris organized the Catholic Lay Council of Arkansas, an organization of all the Catholic laity of the state for the purpose of developing Catholic organizations in outlying parts of the state. Bishop Morris was responsible for opening a Protectory for Boys in White County in 1921. Under Bishop Morris' direction St. Mary's Academy was completed and St. Vincent's Infirmary was expanded.

A part of the religious philosophy of Bishop Morris was "No church can hope for permanent success or growth that does not actively identify itself with works of charity." This philosophy is reflected in Morris' establishment of St. Joseph's Orphanage. On July 1, 1907, Bishop Morris bought 720 acres

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAP	HICAL REFERENCES	
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	11, 1954.	
Tuno 16 1017	The Guardian, Vol. VII, No. 13	
Brockman, Sister Jane Fra	ances. Interview at St. Joseph	n's Home. North Little Rock
Arkansas, October	3, 1975.	IBUTOSTHORAZC eser oce
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Sandra Taylor ORGANIZATION	r, Historian	DATE
	coric Preservation Program	12-9-75
STREET & NUMBER	Don in Westwille, Termosee.	TELEPHONE
300 West Mark	kham	(501) 371-1639
CITY OR TOWN		STATE
Little Rock	AN A PARK TON TOWNS OF THE SERVICE AND THE SERVICE OF THE SERVICE	Arkansas
2 STATE HISTORIC PR	ESERVATION OFFICER C	ERTIFICATION
THE EVALUAT	ED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WIT	HIN THE STATE IS:
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As the decignated State Historic Proce	rvation Officer for the National Historic Preser	vision Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665) L
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criteria and procedures set forth by the		Catholic of the a
		, X
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE	R SIGNATURE Anne Bartley	ane se
TITLE State Historic Pre	eservation Officer	DATE 12-9-75
OR NPS USE ONLY		
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PRO	PERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL RE	EGISTER ,
Acting /	No A	DATE 5/4/26
DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLO	OGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE 0/1/4
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS U	SE UNI	9 19	75		
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**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

of land four miles north of North Little Rock (then called "Argenta"). A few frame buildings were on the land, and orphans were housed in them immediately. The Benedictine Sisters of Shoal Creek, Arkansas, took charge of the operations. The Sisters established a school there for the orphans and for children of neighboring families.

In July, 1908, construction of St. Joseph's Orphanage was begun and in April, 1910, was completed. The cost was \$150,000. The sole source of the money was diocesan funds.

Bishop Morris believed that the atmosphere of a farm was the best situation in which to live. Thus, he kept over three hundred acres in cultivation. The government maintained an agricultural experiment station on the land for a number of years. Ninety acres is still devoted to a fruit orchard.

St. Joseph's Orphanage (the building) has been in continuous operation since its construction in 1910. For three years during World War I the building was turned over to the United States Army for housing Camp Pike (now Camp Robinson) military personnel. Bishop Morris relocated the children at another site for the duration.

Today the orphanage is still serving in the capacity for which it was constructed. St. Joseph's Orphanage stands as a monument to Bishop John B. Morris. It is also one of Arkansas' finest symbols of the humanitarianism which has ennobled life in America. The grand design and hill-crest prominence of St. Joseph's seem in accord with the nobility of the building's purpose and of its builder.

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

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**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

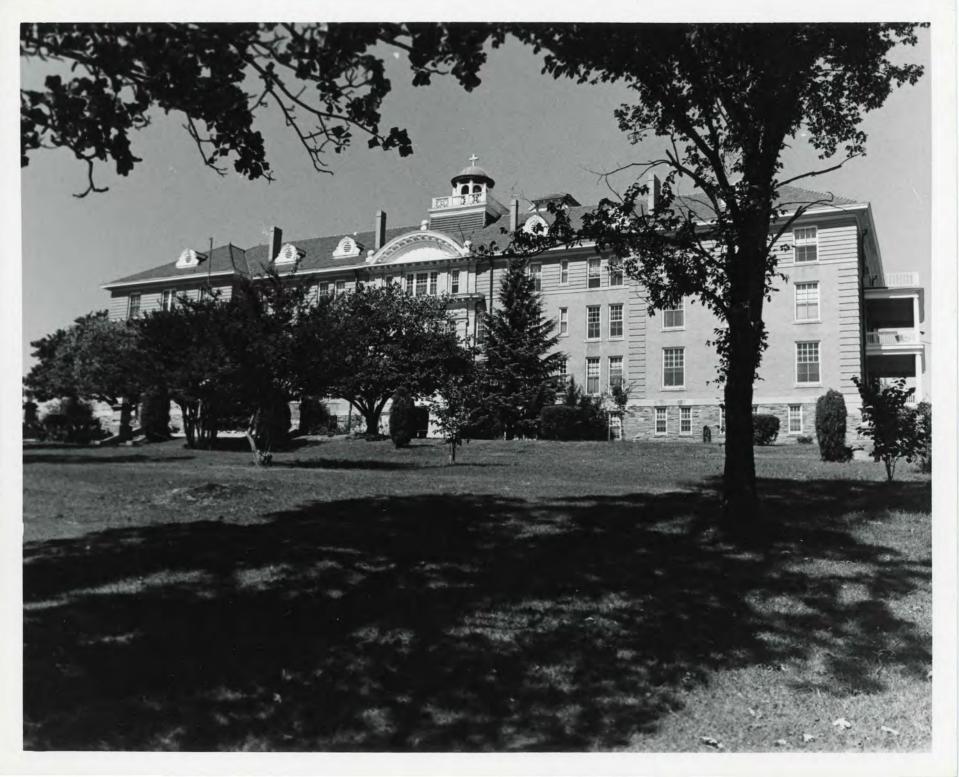
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PAGE 1

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National Register Write-up Send-back	Entered
Federal Register Entry 6-1-76 Re-submit	



1. St. JOSEPHS HOME PULASKI COUNTY, AFKANSAS FACALE, WIEWED from the south

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

#### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY RECIEVED DEC 2 9 1975 1976 DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

LOCATION

CITY. TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

COUNTY Pulaski

North Little Rock

PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

**IDENTIFICATION** 

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET Facade viewed from the south

PHOTO NO.

1 45



2. St. JOSEPH'S HOME PULASKI COUNTY, ACKANSAS NORTH ELEVATION, VIEWED From the NORTHWEST

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

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1	NAME
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HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

### LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

North Little Rock

Arkansas

Pulaski

#### **PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

**NEGATIVE FILED AT** Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

## IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET North elevation, viewed from the northwest

PHOTO NO.

2 1/5

GPO 892-454

MARILL 246



3. St. Joseph's HOME PULASK; COUNTY, ARKANSAS EAST ELEVATION, VIEWED from the EAST

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

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

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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RECIEVED

DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

2 LOCATION

CITY. TOWN
North Little Rock

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

COUNTY Pulaski

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE** 

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET East elevation, viewed from the east

PHOTO NO.

3 4 5

GPO 892-454



4. St. JOSEph'S HOME POLASKI COUNTY, ANKANSAS ENTRY, VIEWED From the South

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

\_\_VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

North Little Rock

Arkansas

Pulaski

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Entry, viewed from the south

PHOTO NO.

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GPO 892-454

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Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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NAME

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

North Little Rock

Arkansas

Pulaski

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

**IDENTIFICATION** 

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET Mantel with brass hearth cover

PHOTO NO.

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MHANTEL DIECE WITH BRASS HEARTH COVER PULMSKI COUNTY, HAKANSHS 3 MOH 2 MG 320 C. +2. 6 Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

RECEIVED DEC 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 4 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

St. Joseph's Home

AND/OR COMMON

St. Joseph's Orphanage

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

North Little Rock

Pulaski

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

SCALE

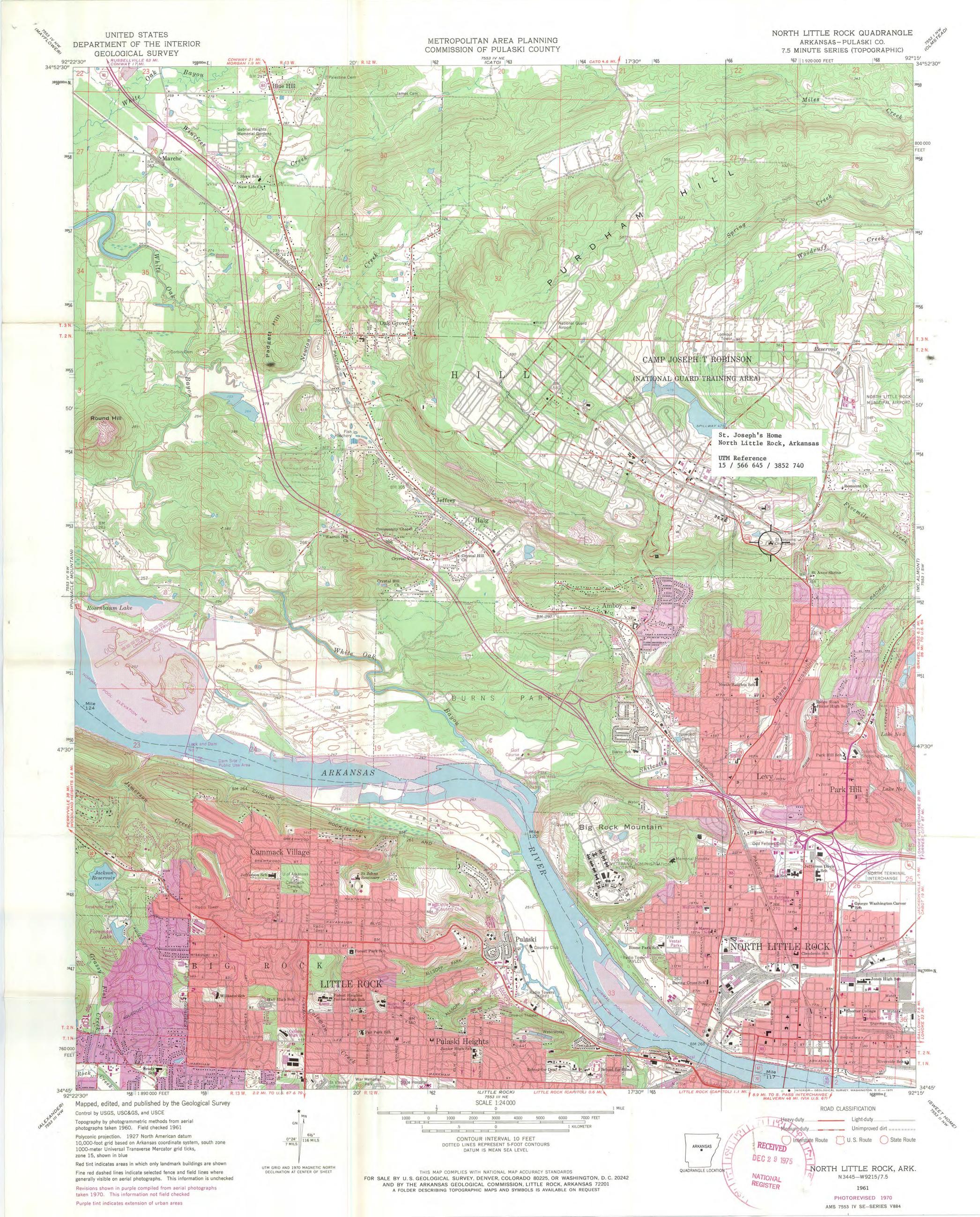
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DATE 1961 (photo revised 1970)

**4** REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES



#### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered MAY 4 1976

Name

St. Joseph's Home

Palmer House

McRae, K.G., House

First Presbyterian Church

Dunn House

Elizabeth Hall

Russey House

Location

North Little Rock Pulaski County

Blackton Vicinity Monroe County

Hope

Hempstead County

Nashville Howard County

Hampton Vicinity Calhoun County

New Blaine Logan County

Center Point Vicinity Howard County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan

Hon. Wilbur D. Mills

Hon. Bill Alexander Hon. Ray Thornton

Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt

Regional Director, Southwest Region

PR:M Mott:coc 5/10/76

State Historic Preservation Officer

Ms. Anne Bartley

Acting Director

Department of Natural and Culture

Heritage

The Old State House

300 West Markham

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

INT: 2950-75

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INAME it appears on federal register St. Joseph's Home		St. Joseph's		EC.	5.4-76 (19
© LOCATION street & number Camp Robinson Rd. off AR	176 North Lit	vicinity of	state	as ke	®NPS REGION:
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WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: OPPHANAGE CURRENTLY: DITTO	6	dates of initial construction major alterations: historic events:	1910		ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION
earchitectural style(s): Eclectic	architec	£:	master builder:	@e	ngineer:
andscape architect/garden designer:	minterior decorator:	artist:	@artisan:	@builder	contractor:
NAMES give role & date  PERSONAL:  EVENTS:  INSTITUTIONAL:					
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