

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Lincoln County Courthouse

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 300 South Drew Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Star City

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Lincoln code: AR 079 zip code: 71667

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Bethryn A. Slater
Signature of certifying official

1-18-94
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
_____ other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 3/7/94
Entered in the
National Register

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: Government

Sub: courthouse

Current : Government

Sub: courthouse

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Art Deco

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Brick roof Asphalt
walls Brick other _____
Limestone

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1943

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Wittenberg & Deloney

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: Four

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>606790</u>	<u>3755860</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

All of Block 25 in the original town of Star City.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity as well as the noncontributing jail.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 01/13/94

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

Constructed in 1943, the Lincoln County Courthouse is a two-story buff-brick and limestone government building with a full basement that was designed by the firm of Wittenberg and Deloney. The interior remains largely intact, although the courtroom has suffered from the addition of some imitation wood paneling and a dropped, acoustical ceiling. Also included in the nomination is a noncontributing jail that was constructed in the 1950's.

Elaboration

The Lincoln County Courthouse in Star City is a two-story buff-brick and limestone government building with a full basement that was designed by the Little Rock firm of Wittenberg & Deloney and constructed in 1943. It is covered by a flat roof behind a parapet and contains one brick chimney.

The front, or western, elevation is defined by a central two-story section that is taller than the flanking two-story wings and faced primarily with limestone. Four two-story limestone pilasters, which are triangular and stepped to give the appearance of fluting, divide this elevation into five bays. The first story contains a central entrance with double-leaf aluminum-frame doors. The original wood doors on all exterior entrances began to deteriorate by the 1970's and were replaced in 1978. Likewise, the original flat metal canopy roof has been supplanted by one of recent vintage (1992) that appears to match the size and placement of the original. There are two ten-pane metal-frame awning windows on each side of the entrance, which is accessed by two tiers of concrete steps with brick parapets. Buff brick is used between the first-story windows and the second story, which contains five sixteen-pane metal-frame awning windows that are 11' 2 1/2" in height (compared to 7' 1 3/8" for the first-story windows). The wall above the second-story windows and pilasters is completely faced with limestone with "Lincoln County Court House" inscribed in Art Deco-style lettering (interestingly, the original plans reflect Roman lettering).

A limestone watertable separates the first story from the short portion of the basement that is visible on this elevation. The basement is covered with brick and fenestrated by small one-over-one double-hung windows of metal-frame construction (indeed, all exterior windows on the building have metal frames and were manufactured by the Truscan Steel Co.). The flanking wings, which project 5' 3 1/2" from the main section, are identically composed with a center bay triple window on each floor and basement. Both the first and second-story windows are comprised of three one-over-one double-hung windows with an integrated awning pane below

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

(which gives the appearance of one-over-one-over-one). The basement windows omit the awning portion of the sash. There is also a narrow, one-over-one double-hung window on each story of the respective north and south elevations of the wings which face inward.

The northern elevation is also divided into five window bays with a central double-leaf entry. A new metal roof covers a glass-enclosed porch with another set of new aluminum-frame double-leaf doors. Above, a single double-hung/awning window is placed between floors for staircase lighting. Eight identical windows are used on both stories to either side of the center bay. The basement, which is largely obscured by shrubbery, is fenestrated by four small one-over-one windows.

As in the front elevation, the rear, or eastern, elevation is symmetrically arranged; however, it lacks the decorative effect provided by the limestone facing and triangular pilasters. The aluminum-frame double-leaf entrance and canopy duplicates that found on the front, but the elaborate T-shaped brick staircase and stoop is different. Likewise deviating from the front elevation are the first-story windows, which are of the same dimensions but have a multiple-pane security-type sash. Sixteen-pane awning windows are continued on the second floor. The flanking wings only project 1'3" on this elevation, but otherwise their composition is identical to that described on the front elevation. Interestingly, the rear of the building is the elevation that is perhaps viewed most often as it faces the north-south U.S. Route 425.

The southern elevation is basically identical to the northern elevation although an entrance was not provided for in the original blue prints. This elevation is distinguished from its counterpart by an open breezeway covered by a flat roof that connects the courthouse to the rectangular, one-story jail that was constructed in the 1950's. The brick walls of the jail are without fenestration.

The majority of the interior is undisturbed with original wood doors, trim, and transoms remaining. The second-story courtroom has suffered a lowered, acoustical-tile ceiling and some imitation-wood paneling, which obscures the original balustrade and judge's bench. It does retain, however, most of the historic folding-chair, theater-style seating that features Art Deco detailing on the ends.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Lincoln County Courthouse at Star City is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example of an Art Deco-styled building of this size and scale in the county.

Elaboration

Lincoln County was created in 1871 from parts of Arkansas, Bradley, Desha, Drew, and Jefferson Counties and named in honor of the late president. On October 14, 1871, a special election held concerning the removal of the county seat from the Cane Creek Church to a more geographically central location. The proponents of the removal won, 582-213, and three commissioners were appointed to select the new site. On December 11th, they reported that the northwest quarter of Section 11, Township 9, Range 7 would be most suitable and suggested the name of Star City for the new county seat. On April 16, 1872, a courthouse was authorized to be constructed on the public square at a cost of no more than \$10,000 in Lincoln County Bonds.

The resulting two-story frame courthouse was used until 1911 when it was replaced by a substantial two-story brick courthouse with a clock tower. This building stood until 1962 when it was razed.

The current courthouse was erected in 1943 on a city block to the south of the existing courthouse square. Under the administration of Judge W. A. Fish, the county entered into an agreement with the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg & Deloney on February 12, 1941. Construction was begun in mid-1941 and the courthouse was officially dedicated on August 5, 1943. The county sold \$75,000 in bonds for the construction of the courthouse and also received assistance from the Works Progress Administration. Wage records reveal that the WPA paid for the work of eleven men, most of them believed to have been from Lincoln County.

Under Criterion C, the Lincoln County Courthouse is locally significant as the best, and perhaps only, example of the Art Deco style in the county. The influence is restrained to be sure, and is seen largely in the massing and, more dramatically, in the "Lincoln County Court House" inscription and the triangular pilasters.

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

A History of Lincoln County, 1871-1983. Published by the Lincoln County Historical Committee, 1983.

Information submitted by Lincoln County Judge J. T. Moncrief, July 1993.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lincoln County Courthouse

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lincoln

DATE RECEIVED: 2/03/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/15/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/03/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/20/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000141

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/7/94 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View of chair detail in
courtroom

LINCOLN COUNTY COURT HOUSE



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View of the front elevation
from the west



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at ANPP
View from the northwest



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View of courthouse and jail
from the southwest



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zolner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the southwest



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the northeast



Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the east

• LINCOLN COUNTY COURT HOUSE •

DEDICATED AUG. 5 1943

BUILT UNDER ADMINSTRATIONS OF
W. A. FISH AND G. J. MATTHEWS
COUNTY JUDGES

TEBO COGBILL, SHERIFF

VICTOR FELLE, CO. CLERK

JOHN ONEEL, CIR. CLERK

E. G. BROCKMAN, TREAS.

J. W. HELLUMS, ASSESSOR

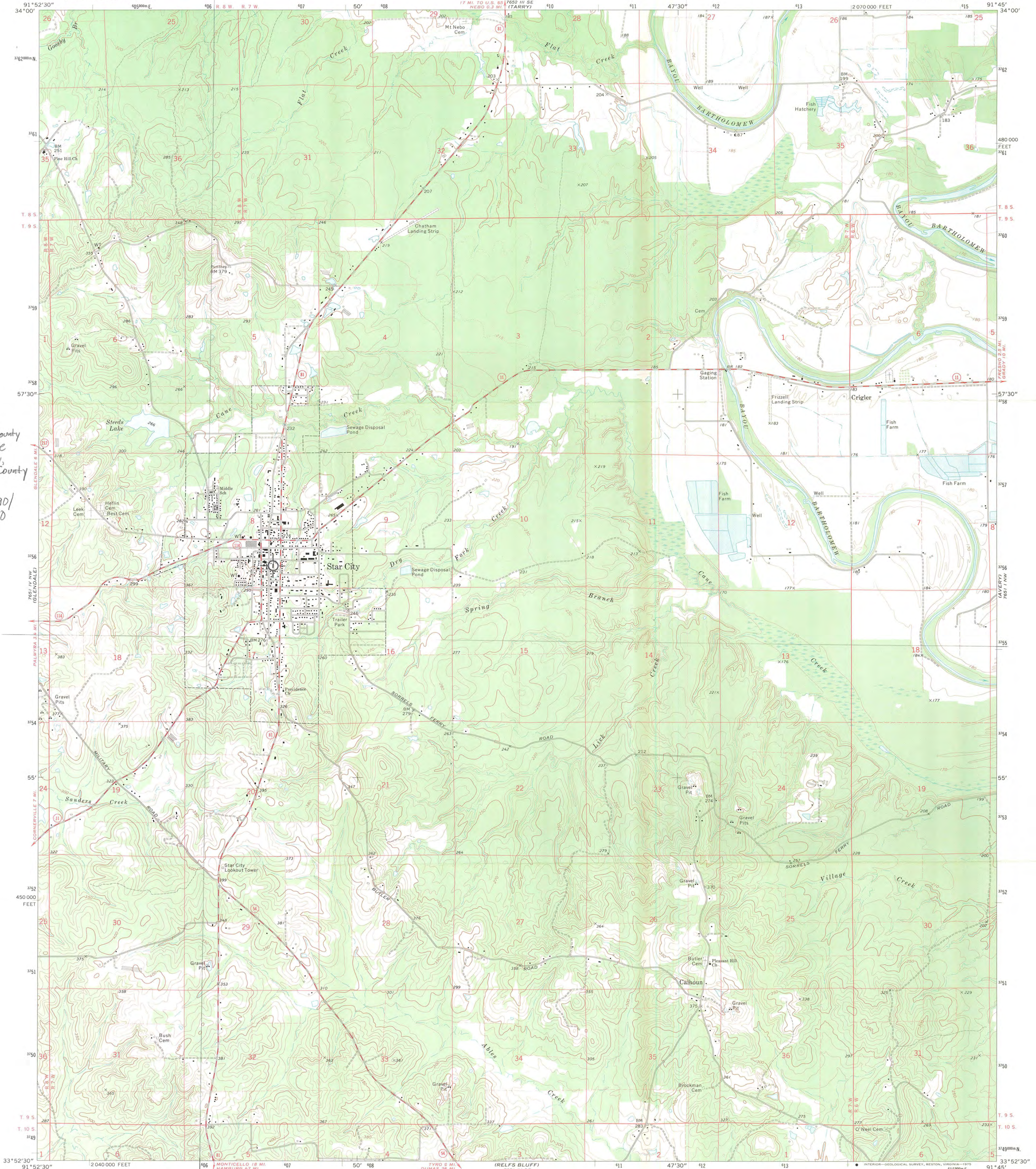
T. S. LOVETT JR., SENATOR

ALLEN TARVER, REPRESENTATIVE

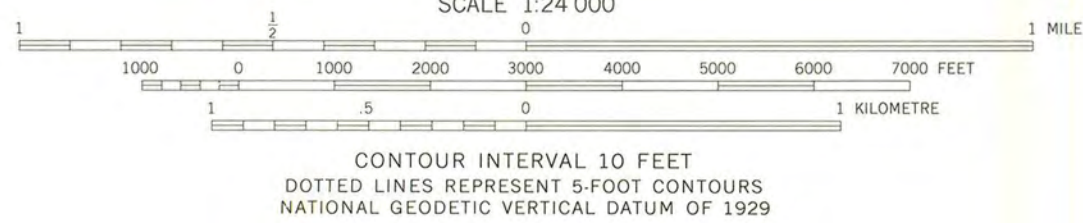
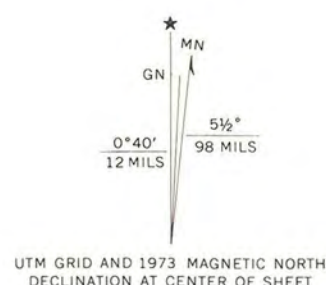
• WITTENBERG AND DELONY, ARCHITECTS •

Lincoln County Courthouse
Lincoln County, Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
October 1993
Negative on file at AHP
View of interior plaque

Lincoln County Courthouse
Star City,
Lincoln County
UTM:
15/606790/
3755860



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1972. Field checked 1973
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue. 1927 North American datum
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

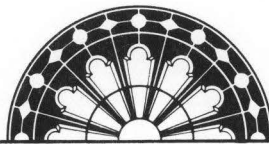
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route



STAR CITY, ARK.
NE 1/4 STAR CITY 15' QUADRANGLE
N3352.5—W9145/7.5

1973

AMS 7651 IV NE—Series V884



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED

FEB 3 1994

NATIONAL
REGISTER

January 19, 1994

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

RE: Lincoln County Courthouse
Star City, Lincoln County

Dear Carol:

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

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:kg

Enclosures

