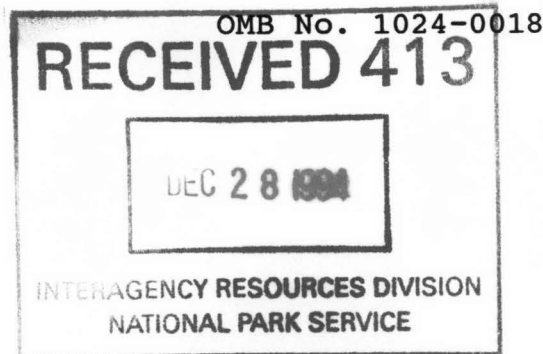
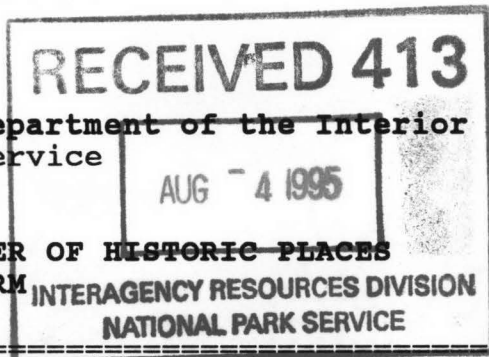


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF ~~HISTORIC PLACES~~
REGISTRATION FORM INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



1. Name of Property

historic name: Lake Wedington Historic District; Ozark-St. Francis National Forest

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: Intersection of State Highway 16 and O-SF Forest Service Road #1750

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Savoy

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Washington code: AR 143

zip code: 72701

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Federal

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>14</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> sites
<u>3</u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>18</u>	<u>2</u> Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Lake Wedington Historic District
Ozark-St. Francis National Forest
Washington County, Arkansas

Section number _____ Page _____

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 for additional comments.)

Erwin L. DeBois 4-16-95
Signature of certifying official Date

Forest Service Federal Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): _____

Cal R. Ferguson 9/11/95

Signature of Keeper Date of Action

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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.

Evan J. DeShors
Signature of certifying official

4-17-95
Date

Forest Service
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Anthony A. Slater
Signature of commenting or other official

9-20-93
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
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): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Outdoor recreation

Current : RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Outdoor recreation

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Other _____

Other Description: Rustic _____

Materials: foundation Stone/Concrete roof Asphalt
walls Stone/Wood other _____

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: Locally _____.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY _____

ARCHITECTURE _____

CONSERVATION _____

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1943 _____

Significant Dates: 1936-37 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

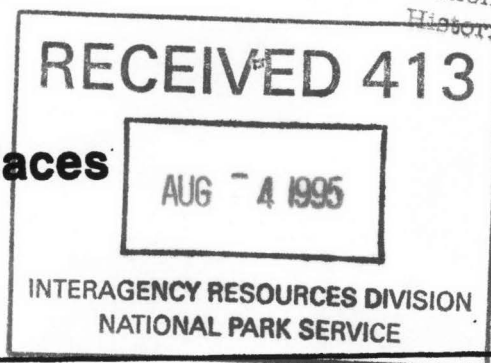
Architect/Builder: Young, Paul/ _____
Works Progress Administration _____

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1



Summary

Located to the south of State Highway 16 in the northwest corner of Arkansas's Ozark Mountain region, the Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) is composed of a CCC-constructed recreational and camping area located around a man-made lake also constructed by the CCC. Counting the lake itself as a site, the district contains a total of 20 resources, 18 of which are contributing and 2 non-contributing.

Elaboration

Located to the south of State Highway 16 in the northwest corner of Arkansas's Ozark Mountain region, the Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) is composed of a CCC-constructed recreational and camping area located around a man-made lake also constructed by the CCC. The site was chosen for the suitability of its natural declivities for a lake basin, the dependability of the water sources that drain them, and the beauty of the surrounding mountains. The camping area is located on the southern side of the lake, and the recreational facilities and associated buildings are on the opposite shore. It was designed to provide a clean, pleasant and scenic overnight camping site for residents and visitors to this section of the Ozark Mountains. The contributing resources include six stone masonry and wood frame overnight cabins (WA0753-WA0758), a combination gable/clipped gable roof, stone masonry and wood frame bathhouse (WA0759), a gable roof, wood frame boathouse (WA0760), a gable roof, wood frame and stone masonry lodge building for meetings and social events (WA0761), the hipped roof, wood frame forest ranger's office and associated shop building (WA0762 and WA0762A), a hipped roof, wood frame and stone masonry concessionaire's residence and associated storage building (WA0763), a gable roof, stone and wood frame picnic shelter (WA0764), a gable roof, stone masonry pump house (WA0765), a stone masonry diving platform (WA0766), an earthen and stone dam and spillway (WA0767), and a sunken stone trash receptacle (WA0769). The non-contributing structures are limited to a small gable roof storage building to the south of the ranger's office and a modern picnic pavilion located just to the east of the concessionaire's residence. Counting the lake itself as a site, the district contains a total of 20 resources, 18 of which are contributing and 2 non-contributing.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of
Historic Places

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest) is eligible under Criteria A and C with local significance. It is considered significant under Criterion A by virtue of its direct associations with both the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) -- the federal agency for which the project was constructed -- and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Depression-era public works agency that actually supervised the construction and provided the labor to build it. Under Criterion C it is significant as one of the few Depression-era building construction projects carried out under the auspices of the SCS in northwest Arkansas and the only known recreation area.

Elaboration

The creation of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area was but one of several projects carried out in Arkansas with the involvement -- or under the direct supervision -- of the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Organized in 1935 during the first administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the SCS owed its existence to President Roosevelt's vision regarding the threats posed to both the American landscape and American agriculture by erosion and outdated farming techniques that depleted the soil. Though the magnitude and seriousness of this problem was no more dramatically illustrated than during the dust storms of 1934 and 1935 that literally carried thousands of tons of drought-parched soil from the Great Plains states eastward, creating the infamous "Dust Bowl," the first incarnation of this federal agency was actually created a year previous with the creation of the Soil Erosion Service, organized under the Department of the Interior. By 1935, Congress passed the Soil Conservation Act, formally establishing the Soil Conservation Service as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In carrying out the various conservation projects with which they were charged, both agencies made use of Civilian Conservation Corps labor, with the SCS supervising as many as 454 CCC camps nationwide by 1936.

The Soil Conservation Service's legacy in Arkansas did not actually begin until 1937. In February of that year, President Roosevelt sent a letter to all state governors requesting the passage of state legislation authorizing the establishment of soil conservation districts as political subdivisions of the state. The Arkansas General Assembly happened to be in session at the time, and Governor Carl E. Bailey's office drafted legislation to respond to President Roosevelt's request. On March 3, 1937, Governor Bailey signed the bill into law and by November of that year four soil conservation districts had been drawn and approved. Thereafter, SCS embarked on a number of conservation projects aimed at erosion prevention and soil enrichment throughout

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of
Historic PlacesNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2

these initial four districts, with the construction of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area premier among them.

The actual decision to construct a dam in the basin that would become Lake Wedington actually occurred prior to the involvement of the SCS, as it has been documented that construction on both the dam and spillway began in the summer of 1936; and though the early history of this project is unclear, it is likely that it was begun by the WPA (due to the fact that the projects of different public works agencies frequently overlapped and were often shifted to other agencies when it seemed appropriate, this is not particularly surprising). The construction of the various buildings within the recreation area was carried out by local men hired by the WPA and occurred largely within the year 1937, as the official dedication of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area took place on April 24th of 1938. Paul Young, a local Fayetteville architect who had completed the construction drawings for several Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) construction projects within the state was assigned to supervise the design scheme at Lake Wedington, and his designs here clearly reflected that experience. The CCC construction around the state -- and indeed, throughout the Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas region -- typically favored the Rustic style, an aesthetic that emphasized the organic relationship of rural buildings to their sites, usually through the use of battered walls, spreading eaves, and a reliance upon local natural building materials that both blended in with the surrounding natural color scheme and gave the overall impression of "growing" from the ground. Virtually all the cabins, and all the administrative and recreational buildings at Lake Wedington were designed in some variant of this style.

As noted above, the actual construction of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area was supervised by the Works Progress Administration. The onset of the Great Depression in 1929 and the subsequent advent of such federal public works programs as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) brought this new recreation area to this section of northwest Arkansas by 1937. The WPA -- an organization that hired unemployed adult men and women to work on a variety of public projects throughout the nation -- was established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his administration as part of the federal response to the dire economic circumstances brought upon the American people by the Great Depression. The WPA was but one of many such public works organizations instituted by the Roosevelt Administration and managed under the aegis of the umbrella agency in charge of all such public works efforts, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA); other agencies under its direction included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the short-lived Public Works and Civilian Works Administrations (PWA and CWA), and such regional projects as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Rural Colonization Projects in Arkansas established at such places as Dyess, Clover Bend and Plum Bayou. Among its various other projects, the WPA constructed or repaired several rural

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

recreational facilities throughout the state, and the Lake Wedington Recreation Area was constructed as part of this statewide effort.

The Lake Wedington Recreation Area served northwest Arkansas as one of the few local camping and swimming areas developed exclusively for recreational use; it continues to function in that capacity today. Through its associations with the fledgling Soil Conservation Service and the Works Progress Administration, and as the only local recreation area of its type constructed during this era, the Lake Wedington Historic District is eligible under Criteria A and C.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Harrison-Stone, Lori, "Lake Wedington Has Served the Area for Over 50 Years," *The Grapevine*, Vol. XXII, Number 46, Friday, July 19, 1991, p. 1.

Interview with Paul Young, Jr., Summer, 1989.

Shiloh Museum, *History of Washington County, Arkansas*, Springdale, Arkansas, 1989.

___ 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: Approximately 170

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>375990</u>	<u>3994740</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>376530</u>	<u>3995380</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>377640</u>	<u>3994460</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>375760</u>	<u>3993790</u>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Roughly bounded by State Highway 16 on the north, the high water mark of Lake Wedington on the east, Forest Service Road #1750 on the south, and the associated picnic shelter road, the high-water mark of Lake Wedington, and the northern section of Forest Service Road #1750 on the west (see attached sketch map).

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the historic resources historically-associated with the recreation area and a representative amount of the historically-associated surrounding property.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 09/10/93

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 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
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

RECEIVED 413

AUG - 4 1995

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lake Wedington Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 12/28/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/11/95
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/27/95 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/11/95
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001612

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

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 1.19.95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The nomination is being returned at this time for the reason(s) cited below:

Federal Agency Certification. The nomination requires the signature of the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO).

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan
DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN
DATE 1/19/95

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
 UTMs boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Paul Lusignan

Phone 202.343.1628

Signed [Signature]

Date 1/19/95

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Lake Wedington Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/95

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

9/18/95

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001612

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9.11.95 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Lake Wedington Historic District is significant under National Register Criteria A and C, in the areas of Conservation, Social History and Architecture. The resources represent distinctive local examples of Rustic-style stone masonry construction and reflect the important work of the Works Progress Administration in western Arkansas during the period 1933-1942. The Depression-era construction project was particularly distinctive because of the local involvement of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusk

DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 202-343-1618

DATE 9/11/95

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



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

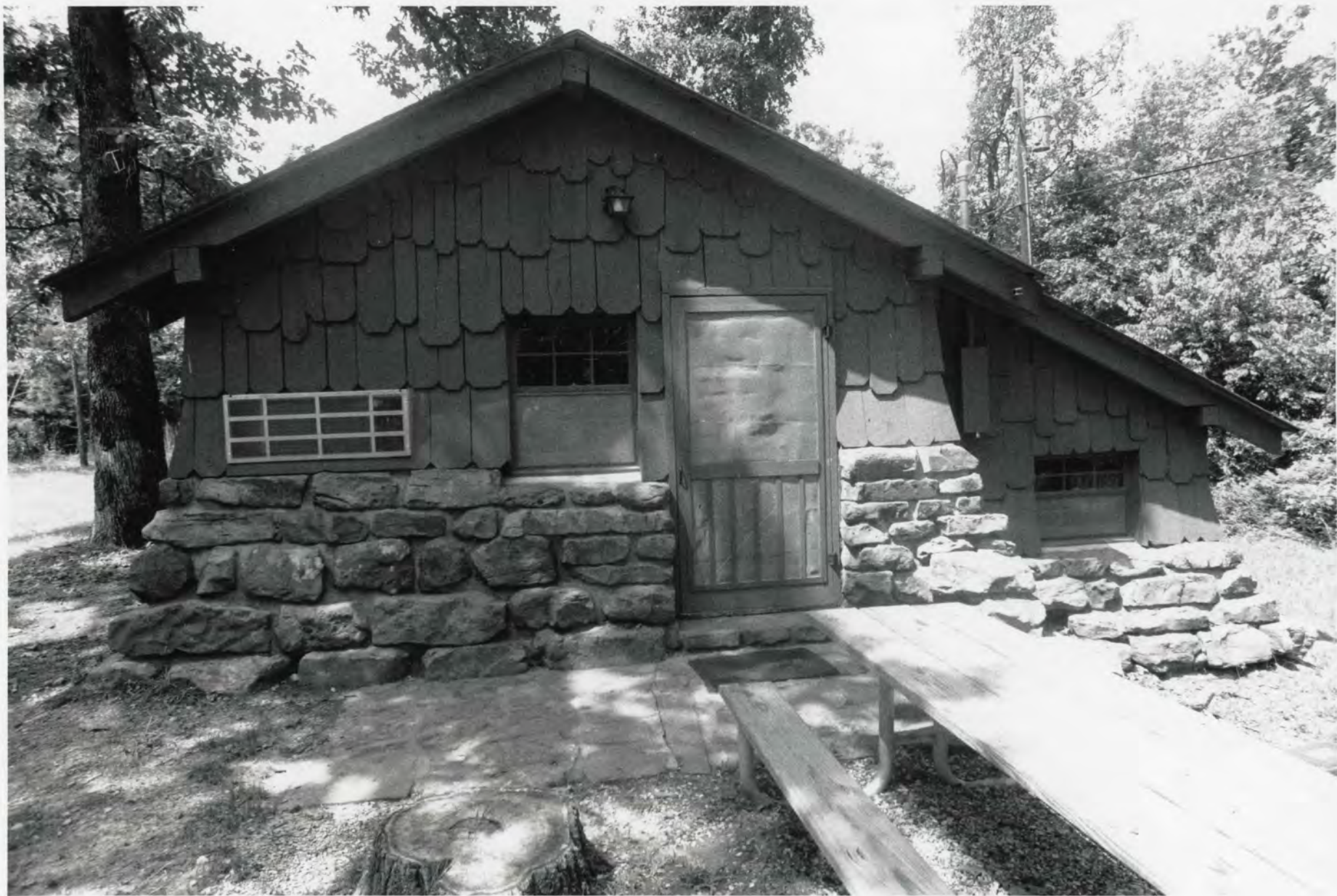
PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP

CABIN # 7; VIEW FROM NORTH

WA0753



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

CABIN #6; VIEW FROM EAST

WA 0754



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK - ST. FRANCIS N.F.)
NAVY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON
JULY, 1993
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
CABIN #5; VIEW FROM SOUTH
WAO 755



LAKE WEDDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

CABIN #4; VIEW FROM SOUTH

WAO 756



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

PAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

CABIN #2; VIEW FROM EAST

WAO 757



LAKE WEDINGTON ~~STATE~~ HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-^{ST.} FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP

CABIN #1; VIEW FROM EAST

WAO 758



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK - ST. FRANCIS N. F.)
SAVOY VIC, WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON
JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ARDP
BATHHOUSE; VIEW FROM WEST
WA0759



LAKE WEDDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK - ST. FRANCIS N.F.)
SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON Co., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

~~CABIN~~ BOAT HOUSE; VIEW FROM SOUTH
WAO 760



LAKE WERDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)
SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT SHPP

LODGE; VIEW FROM SOUTH

WA 0761



LAKE WEDINGTON Historic District (OZARK - St. FRANCIS N.F.)

PAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP

PARK RANGER'S OFFICE; VIEW FROM NORTH

WA0762



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC, WASHINGTON CO, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

CONCESSIONAIRE'S RESIDENCE; VIEW FROM WEST

WA0763



LAKE WEDDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N. F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

PICNIC PAVILION; VIEW FROM EAST

WA 0764



LAKE WEDDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK - ST. FRANCIS N.T.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

PUMP HOUSE; VIEW FROM NORTH

WA0765



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

PAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP

VIEW OF DIVING PLATFORM FROM NORTH

WA0766



LAKE WEDINGTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (OZARK-ST. FRANCIS N.F.)

SAVOY VIC., WASHINGTON CO., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY T. FERGUSON

JULY, 1993

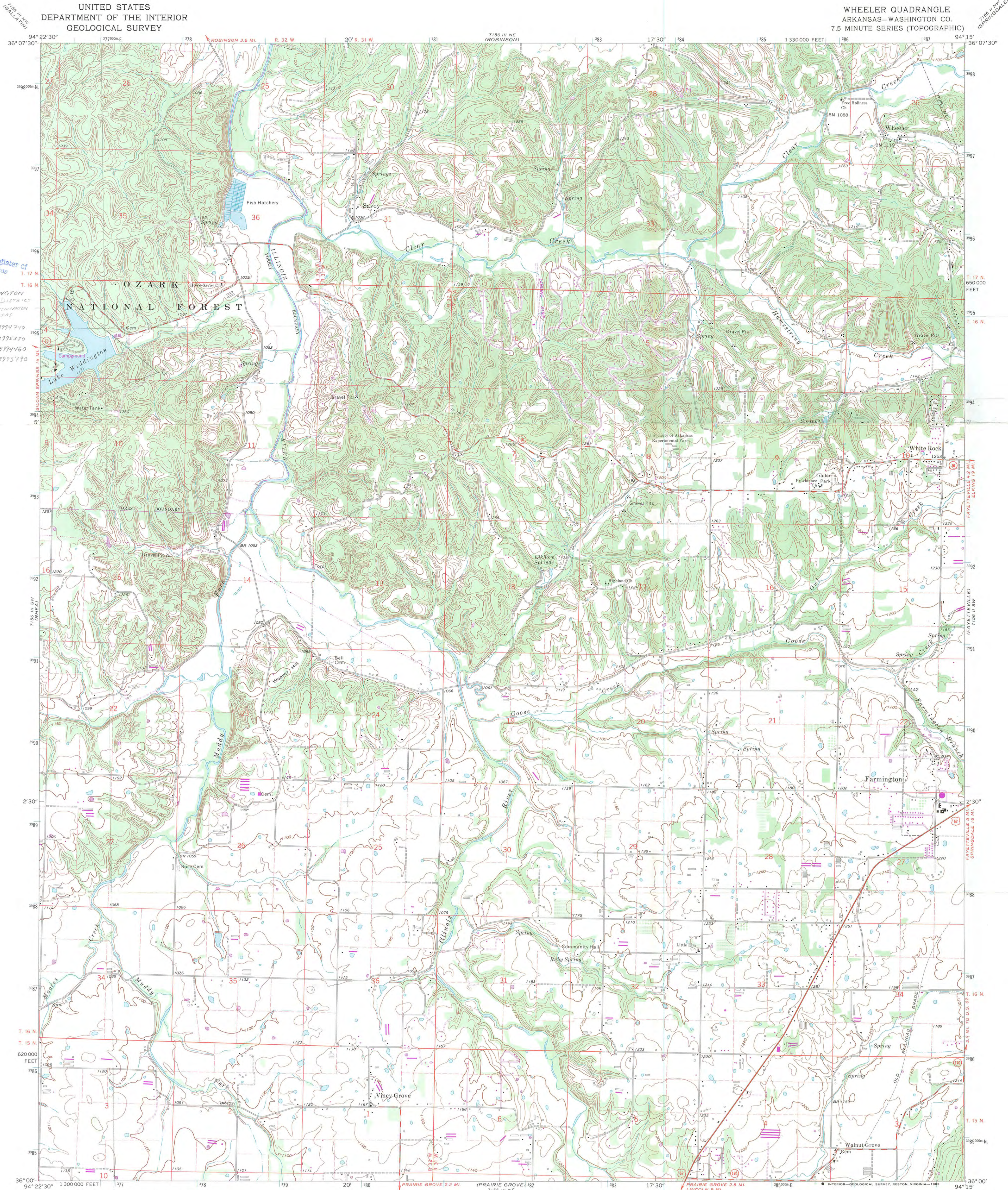
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

DAM + SPILLWAY; VIEW FROM WEST

WA 0767

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WHEELER QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS—WASHINGTON CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

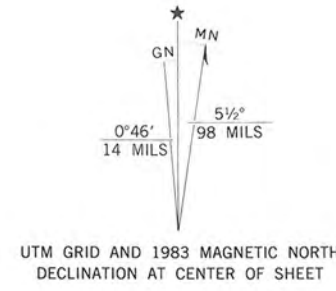
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970

Polycyclic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 5 meters south and
18 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with
U. S. Forest Service from aerial photographs taken 1980 and other sources
Partially field checked by U. S. Forest Service. Map edited 1983



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

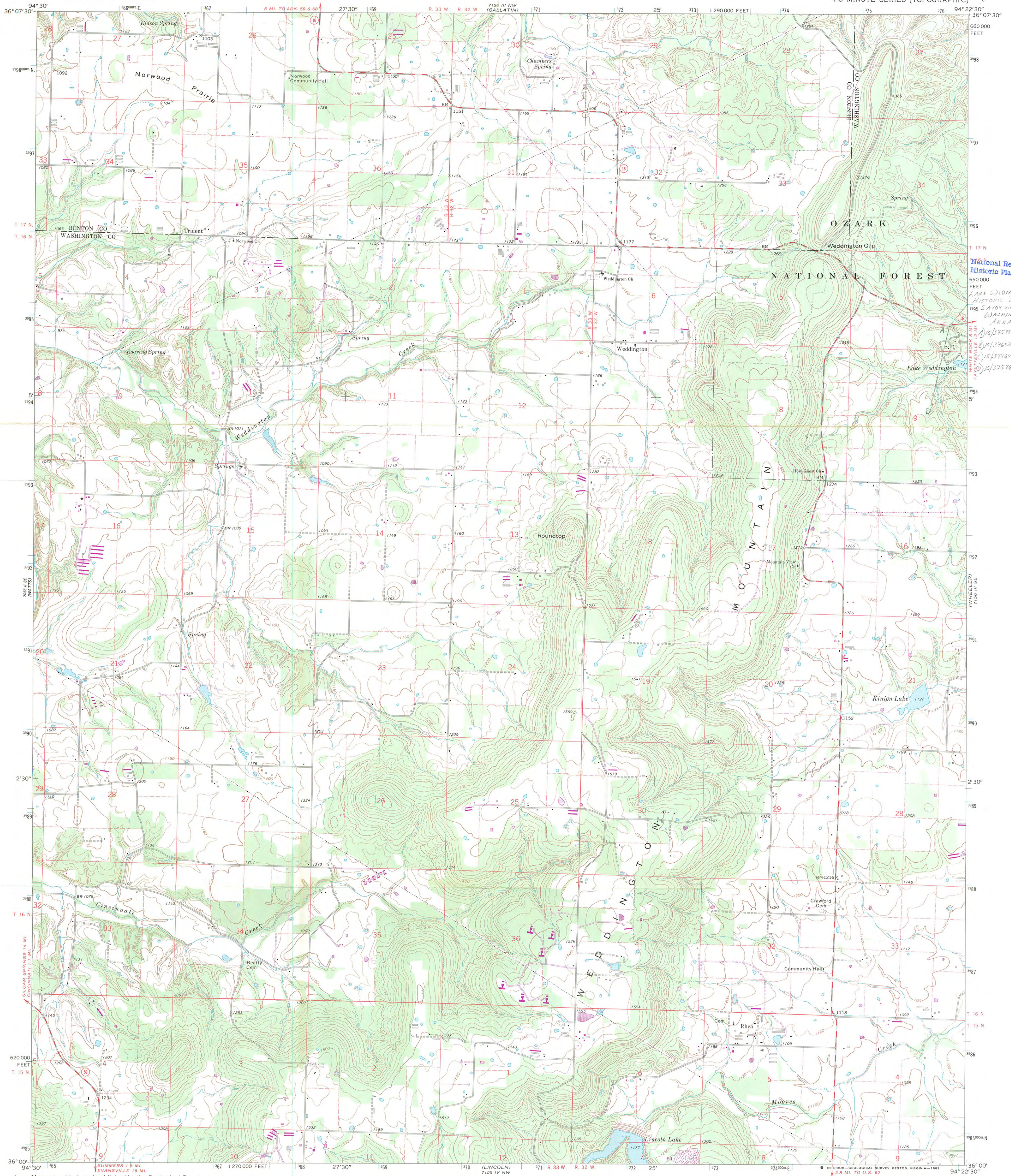
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, all weather. Light-duty road, all weather,
hard surface. Improved surface.
Secondary highway, all weather. Unimproved road, fair or dry
hard surface. weather.
U. S. Route. State Route.



WHEELER, ARK.
N3600—W9415/7.5

1970
PHOTOREVISED 1983
DMA 7156 III SE—SERIES V884



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

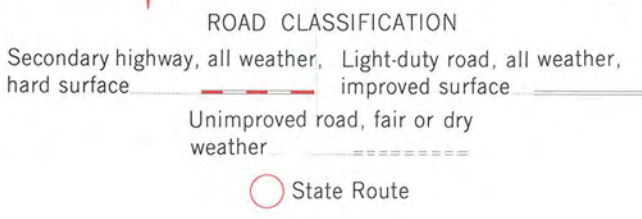
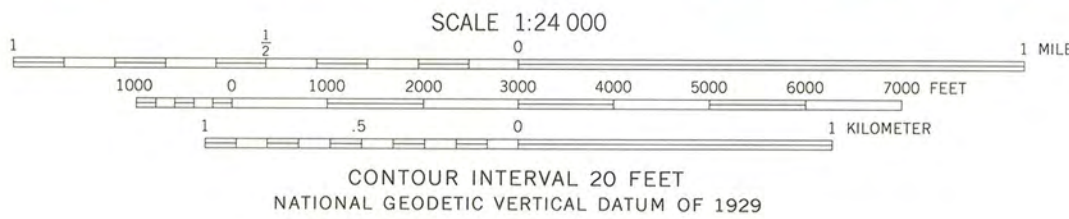
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1968. Field checked 1970

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 5 meters south and 18 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with U. S. Forest Service from aerial photographs taken 1980 and other sources Partially field checked by U. S. Forest Service. Map edited 1983



RHEA, ARK.
N3600-W9422.5/7.5

1970
PHOTOREVISED 1983
DMA 7156 III SW-SERIES V884

Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark-St. Francis National Forest)
 Savoy vic., Washington County, Arkansas

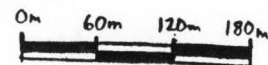
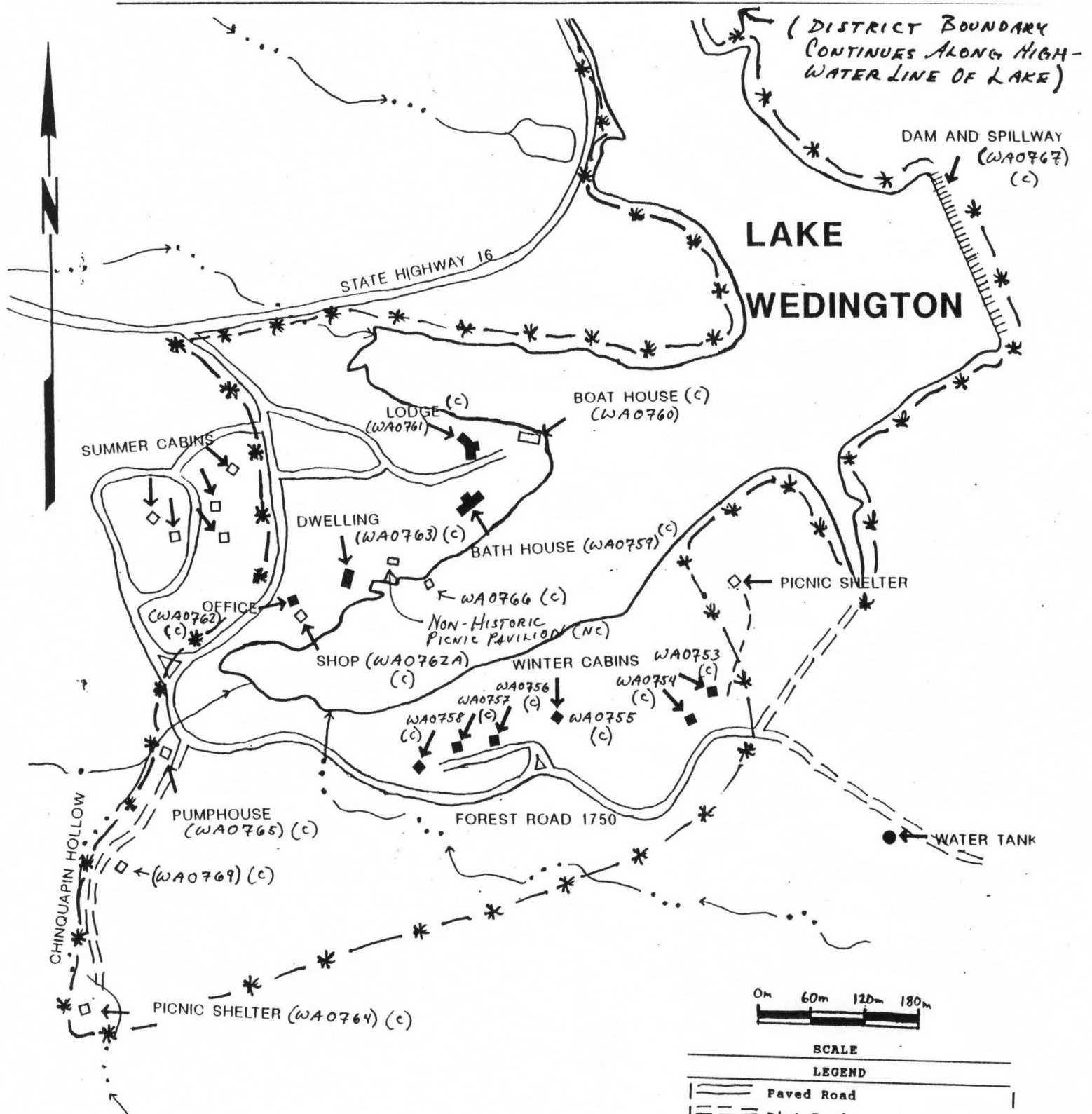
National Register of
 Historic Places

Approximate Scale: 1 cm = 60 m

Boundary: - * - * - * - * -

Contributing Resources: (C)

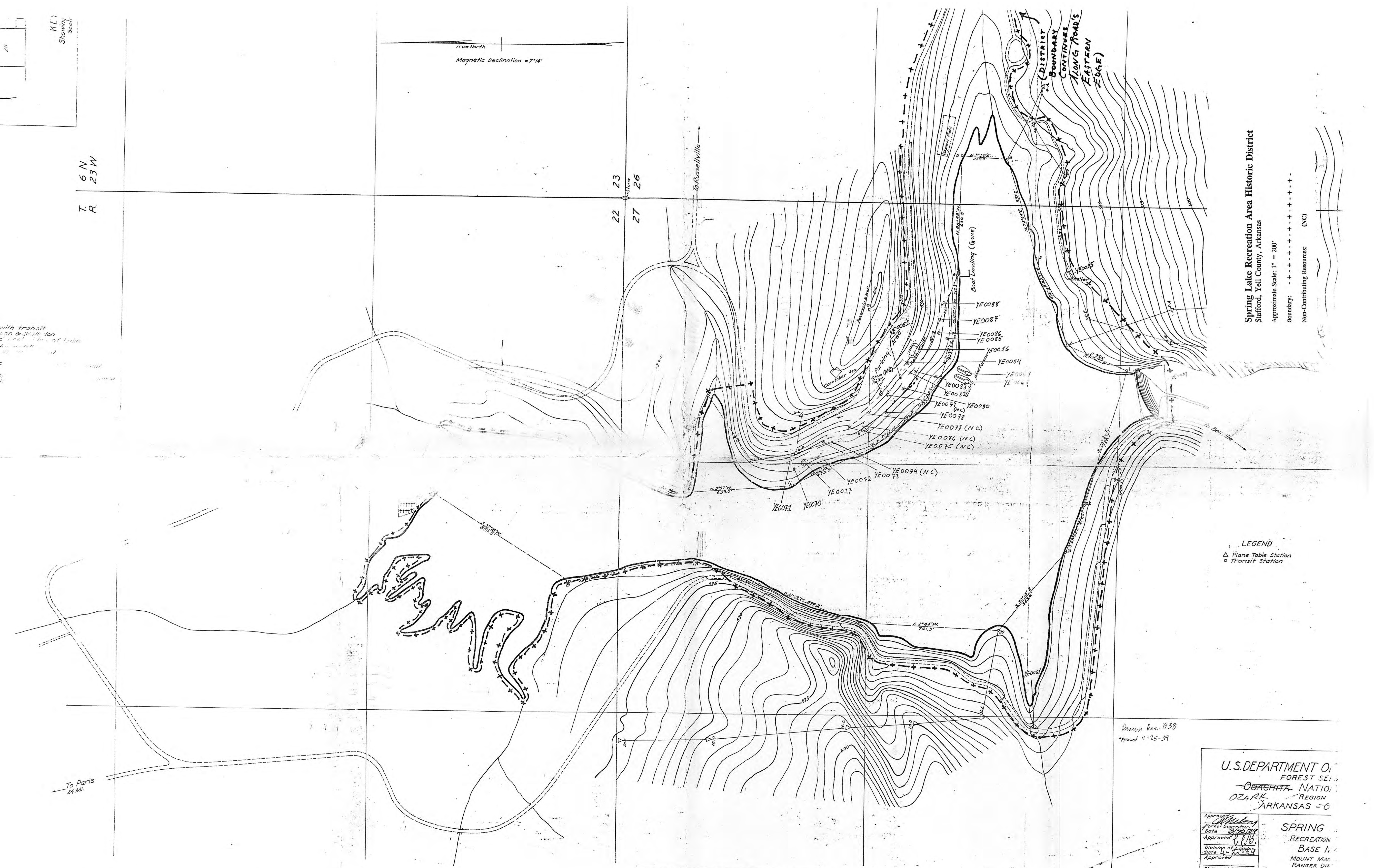
Non-Contributing Resources: (NC)



SCALE

LEGEND

	Paved Road
	Dirt Road
	Foot Path
	Dam and Spillway
	Structure, Building
	Water Tank
	Intermittent Drainage
	Perennial Drainage



with transit
Jan 27 & 28
of lake
to north

To Paris
24 Mi.

To Russellville

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
FOREST SERVICE
OZARK NATIONAL FOREST
OZARK REGION
ARKANSAS

Approved: [Signature]
Forest Supervisor
Date: 3/20/39
Approved: [Signature]
Division of Appraisement
Date: 4-11-39
Approved: [Signature]
Division of Engineering
Date: [Blank]
Approved: [Signature]
Division of Operation
Date: [Blank]

SPRING
RECREATION
BASE NO. 1
MOUNT MAC
RANGER DISTRICT

Scale in feet
0 200
Contour Interval 20

National Register of
Historic Places

Magazine, District
District Forest Ranger
Engineering
Supt. Improvements

Revised Dec. 1938
approved 4-25-39



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Historic Arkansas Museum

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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30 December 2002

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Suite 400
800 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, DC 20002



RE: Additional Documentation, Lake Wedington Recreation
Area Historic District; Ozark-St. Francis National Forest -Savoy,
Washington County

Dear Carol:

We request that the above-referenced District be amended to make changes to Sections 7 and 8. The 1995 nomination stated that the recreation area was built by CCC workers. It has come to our attention that the area was actually built by WPA workers. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable procedures and requirements in the process.

If you need further information, please call Wendy S. Perkins of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:wsp

Enclosure

An Equal Opportunity Employer



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

Located to the south of State Highway 16 in the northwest corner of Arkansas' Ozark Mountain region, the Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark – St. Francis National Forest) is composed of a Works Project Administration – constructed recreational and camping area located around a man-made lake also constructed by the WPA. Counting the lake itself as a site, the district contains a total of 20 resources, 18 of which are contributing and 2 non-contributing.

Elaboration

Located to the south of State Highway 16 in the northwest corner of Arkansas' Ozark Mountain region, the Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark – St. Francis National Forest) is composed of a WPA – constructed recreational and camping area located around a man-made lake, also constructed by the WPA. The site was chosen for the suitability of its natural declivities for a lake basin, the dependability of the water sources that drain them, and the beauty of the surrounding mountains. The camping area is located on the northern side of the lake, and the recreational facilities and associated buildings are on the opposite shore. It was designed to provide a clean, pleasant and scenic overnight camping site for residents and visitors to this section of the Ozark Mountains. The contributing resources include six stone masonry and wood frame overnight cabins (WA0753-WA0758), a combination gable/clipped gable roof, stone masonry and wood frame bathhouse (WA0759), a gable roof, wood frame boathouse (WA0760), a gable roof, wood frame and stone masonry lodge building for meetings and social events (WA0761), the hipped roof, wood frame forest ranger's office and associated shop building (WA0762 and WA0762A), a hipped roof, wood frame and stone masonry dwelling and associated storage building (WA0763), a gable roof, stone and wood frame picnic shelter (WA0764), a gable roof, stone masonry pump house (WA0765), a stone masonry diving platform (WA0766), an earthen and stone dam and spillway (WA0767), and a sunken stone trash receptacle (WA0769). The non-contributing structures are limited to a small gable roof storage building to the south of the ranger's office and a modern picnic pavilion located south of the recreation area parking lot. Counting the lake itself as a site, the district contains a total of 20 resources, 18 of which are contributing and 2 non-contributing.

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National Park Service

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Summary

The Lake Wedington Historic District (Ozark - St. Francis National Forest) is eligible under Criteria A and C with local significance. It is considered significant under Criterion A by virtue of its direct associations with United States Department of Agriculture Resettlement Administration, Division of Land Utilization, the agency which supervised the land acquisition and development and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) – the federal agency to which the project was transferred on November 1, 1938– and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Depression-era public works agency that provided the labor for the project. Under Criterion C it is significant as one of the few Depression-era building construction projects carried out under the auspices of the two above-mentioned federal agencies in northwest Arkansas.

Elaboration

The creation of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area was but one of several projects carried out in Arkansas with the involvement of the federal government. The Soil Conservation Service (SCS) was organized in 1935 during the first administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the SCS owed its existence to President Roosevelt's vision regarding the threats posed to both the American landscape and American agriculture by erosion and outdated farming techniques that depleted the soil. Though the magnitude and seriousness of this problem was no more dramatically illustrated than during the dust storms of 1934 and 1935 that literally carried thousands of tons of drought-parched soil from the Great Plains states eastward, creating the infamous "Dust Bowl," the first incarnation of this federal agency was actually created a year previous with the creation of the Soil Erosion Service, organized under the Department of the Interior. By 1935, Congress passed the Soil Conservation Act, formally establishing the Soil Conservation Service as part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In carrying out the various conservation projects with which they were charged, both agencies made use of WPA and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor, with the SCS supervising as many as 454 CCC camps nationwide by 1936.

The Soil Conservation Service's legacy in Arkansas did not actually begin until 1937. In February of that year, President Roosevelt sent a letter to all state governors requesting the passage of state legislation authorizing the establishment of soil conservation districts as political subdivisions of the state. The Arkansas General Assembly happened to be session at the time, and Governor Carl E. Bailey's office drafted legislation to respond to President Roosevelt's request. On March 3, 1937, Governor Bailey signed the bill into law and by November of that year four soil conservation districts had been drawn and approved. Thereafter, SCS embarked on a number of conservation projects aimed at erosion prevention and soil enrichment throughout these initial four districts, with the construction of the Lake Wedington Recreation Area premier among them.

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Section number 8 Page 2

The actual decision to construct a dam in the basin that would become Lake Wedington occurred some years prior to the involvement of the SCS. It has been documented that plans for acquiring the sub marginal farm land in the project area was underway by early January 1935 with the Agricultural Resettlement Administration working in cooperation with the Arkansas Rural Rehabilitation Corporation from offices in Springdale. When construction began in 1936 the labor was provided by the WPA, with the people who had been farming the purchased land, be they owners or tenants, given first chance at the much sought after jobs. The construction continued throughout 1936 and 1937 with the dedication occurring on April 30, 1938. The project manager, C. B. Wiggans, hired Paul Young, a local Fayetteville architect who had completed the construction drawings for the buildings constructed at nearby Devil's Den by the CCC. Young's designs clearly reflected his experience at Devil's Den. The CCC & WPA construction around the state – and indeed, throughout the Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas region – typically favored the Rustic style, an esthetic that emphasized the organic relationship of rural buildings to their sites, usually through the use of battened walls, spreading eaves, and a reliance upon local natural building materials that both blended in with the surrounding natural color scheme and gave the overall impression of “growing” from the ground. Virtually all the cabins, and all the administrative and recreational buildings at Lake Wedington were designed in some variant of this style.

As noted above, the WPA provided the actual construction labor for the Lake Wedington Recreation Area. The onset of the Great Depression in 1929 and the subsequent advent of such federal public works programs as the Works Progress Administration (WPA) Brought this new recreation area to this section of northwest Arkansas by 1937. The WPA – an organization that hired unemployed adult men and women to work on a variety of public projects throughout the nation – was established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his administration as part of the federal response to the dire economic circumstances brought upon the American people by the Great Depression. The WPA was but one of many such public works organizations instituted by the Roosevelt Administration and managed under the aegis of the umbrella agency in charge of all such public works efforts, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA); other agencies under its direction included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the short-lived Public Works and Civilian Works Administrations (PWA and CWA), and such regional projects as the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Rural Colonization Projects in Arkansas established at such places as Dyess, Clover Bend and Plum Bayou. Among its various other projects, the WPA constructed or repaired several rural recreational facilities throughout the state, and the Lake Wedington Recreation Area was constructed as part of this statewide effort.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Harrison-Stone, Lori, "Lake Wedington Has Served the Area for Over 50 Years," *The Grapevine*, vol. XXII, no. 46, (Friday, July 19, 1991): p. 1.

Shiloh Museum, *History of Washington County, Arkansas*. Springdale, Arkansas, 1989.

Fayetteville Daily Democrat, June 30, 1936.

Springdale News, January 17, 1935; April 22, 1937; February 1940.

Interviews:

Ada Lee Smith Shook (daughter of William Carl Smith, Project Engineer)

Jean Spies Crone (daughter of Chester Spies, Project Landscape Architect)

Ann Wiggans Sugg (daughter of C. B. Wiggans, Project Manager)

Paul Young, Jr., Summer 1989.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lake Wedington Historic District

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 1/03/03 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/17/03
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94001612

NOMINATOR: FEDERAL

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 2/14/03 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

Edna Beall

DISCIPLINE

Historian

TELEPHONE

DATE

2/14/03

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