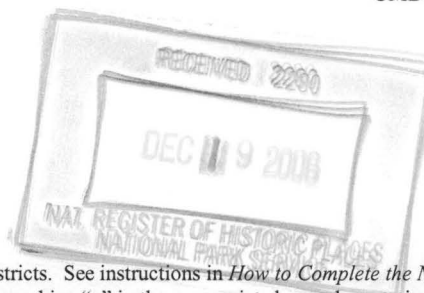


1315

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in 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." For functions, architectural 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.



1. Name of Property

historic name School Addition Historic District

other names/site number Sites #IN0245-IN0252, IN0437, IN0662-IN0679

2. Location

street & number 560-770 Water, 210-293 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, 709-897 Rock, 215-280 N. 8th

☐ not for publication

city or town Batesville

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Independence

code 063

zip code 72501

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐  
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Carrie Matthews  
Signature of certifying official/Title

11/15/06  
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 for additional  
comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official/Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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  
Signature of the Keeper

2-1-07  
Date of Action

School Addition Historic District

Name of Property

Independence, Arkansas

County and State

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)  
☒ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

24

3

buildings

sites

structures

objects

24

3

Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

2

**6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Domestic/Secondary structure

Education/School

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Domestic/ Multiple dwelling

Domestic/Secondary structure

Commercial/Business

**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial

Revival

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman

OTHER/Minimal Traditional

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone, brick,

walls Weatherboard, brick, field stone, stone veneer,

synthetic siding

roof Asphalt

other

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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### Summary

The School Addition Historic District exemplifies the growth and development of Batesville, Arkansas, especially following the Civil War and up through the mid-twentieth century. Mainly comprising smaller homes, the neighborhood developed gradually, with most construction occurring between 1870 and 1930 to provide homes for tradesmen, craftsmen, and other middle-class families typical of Batesville's status as a regional trade center. Located between Main Street and Poke Bayou, north of the large homes of the town's leading merchants, professionals, and political leaders, Water and Rock Streets parallel Main and are crossed by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> streets in the relevant area. Growing over the course of a century, the district contains an array of historic architectural styles including grand versions of the traditional I-house, later bungalows, and finally the "ranch" style. All were built as single-family homes, and even now, almost half a century after the last new construction, only one is divided into apartments. Almost 90% of the 27 properties in the district contribute to its historic significance, and two of the three non-contributing buildings are also historic but have seen alterations which obscure their original appearance to varying degrees, while the third non-contributing house is simply too new, having been constructed in 1959. Two of the contributing properties are individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places: Glenn House, 623 Water; and Wycough-Jones House, 683 Water. Another contributing property is eligible for individual listing, having been constructed by Governor Elisha Baxter as his home after he left the governorship.

### Elaboration

The School Addition Historic District is a residential area encompassing just over six blocks in the northwest corner of the School Addition, platted in 1849, when part of the 16<sup>th</sup> section of Township 13 Range 6 was sold and developed to raise money to support public education in Batesville. Its streets extend and continue the pattern established by the 1821 plat of Old Town, which it adjoins, a typical 19<sup>th</sup> century grid, although oriented on a diagonal roughly paralleling Poke Bayou, which flows into the White River near the westernmost end of Main Street. The terrain rises gently up terraces from the White River bottoms, with the area of the District relatively level. The District contains 27 original residential structures and a smaller number of secondary structures, typically garages.

### 1850-1880

Only two houses survive from this time period, both traditional I-houses in their form (2 rooms flanking a central hall; two stories) but with varying degrees of elaboration in their extensions, additions, and trim. These are the two National Register-listed properties.

One property, the Glenn House (623 Water), was built about 1850 as Soulesbury Institute, a Methodist school that closed during the Civil War. It has been a private home since 1873, the original space having been enlarged by additions of a large two-story bay on the west end and a two-story rear ell. The present

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modest central front porch replaced an extensive columned veranda added in the late 19th century. Relatively simple in its decoration, the house has a vaguely Italianate feel based on the single bay porch and bracketed eaves.

The Wycough-Jones House at 683 Water, built in 1872, also follows the basic I-house plan, but its exterior decorations are much more exuberant, placing it firmly within the Queen Anne style. Originally distinguished by an array of Victorian towers and dormers, the roof burned after 1913 and was replaced with a more modest bungalow-influenced roof. Its façade features turned posts, fretwork, sunbursts, stained glass, a central second-story porch, and bays with shinglework and decorative woodwork on both floors.

### 1881-1900

Three residences in the District survive from this period: a third elaborated I-house, and two smaller one-story L-shaped cottages with rear additions.

The I-house is the Governor Elisha Baxter House at 253 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, constructed in 1888 after the former Reconstruction governor returned to his law practice in Batesville. A plain façade features arched windows in the left and right upper bays, with paired windows and a cross gable in the center, and bays flanking the central door on the first story. The present porch spans the façade and is supported by four columns, a recent alteration replacing earlier 20<sup>th</sup>-century bungalow-style trapezoidal columns on masonry piers.

The two cottages, located at 709 and 749 Rock Street, are also associated with Baxter. Constructed for John W. Glenn (Glenn House) about 1881 as rental property, they were purchased by Baxter in 1893 and left to his sons Edward and Millard on his death in 1899. The Edward Baxter Cottage (709) still retains its decorative shinglework in the front gable and flattened, pointed window trim along with eaves returns. The Millard Baxter Cottage (749), originally a mirror image, displays bungaloid/craftsman updates in its front door, sidelights, and porch columns on brick piers.

### 1901-1910

Houses constructed within this decade include a small plain traditional three-bay cottage (Hugh Wright House, ca. 1910, at 293 N. 7<sup>th</sup>), more elaborate Queen Anne cottages, and two American Four-Squares.

Both the Samuel T. Finley House (1908) at 897 Rock and the Maxfield Cottage (1909) at 560 Water exemplify the widespread Queen Anne cottage influenced by the Colonial Revival style. Both began as one-story structures with pyramidal roofs, gabled projections, and large wrap-around porches with classical columns. In both, the projecting portions of the main façades have clipped corners, presenting a bay-like appearance. The Finley house was later enlarged, a Craftsman style roof replacing the pyramid roof.

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The Martin-King House (1905) at 255. N. 8<sup>th</sup> is a substantial American Four-Square, with a bay window in the left bay of the second story, a centered dormer with a string of four small windows, and a wide porch extending along one side from the front. The ca. 1905 Hail-Myers House at the next corner (787 Rock) is also a typical Four-Square, although it was remodeled and bricked in 1962 and no longer contributes to the significance of the District.

### 1911-1920

It was during this decade that the bungalow appeared in the district, although at least one older type, the Jessie Moore House at 245 N. 7<sup>th</sup> was constructed in 1912. A vernacular T-shaped cottage, this house was built for the mother-in-law of John Martin (Martin-King House) immediately behind the slightly earlier Martin home on 8<sup>th</sup>.

The newer bungalow style is exemplified by the Hail Bungalow (1913) at 215 N. 8<sup>th</sup>, McAdams House (1918) at 809 Rock, and Sweet House (1919) at 771 Rock. All are in the Craftsman style, one-and-a-half stories, with gabled roofs running parallel to the front façade, porches extending across the entire front, supported by columns sitting on piers, and centered dormers with gabled roofs and two or three windows. The Hail Bungalow, which John Martin built for his daughter next door to his own home, illustrates ornament created by structural members, with knee braces at the eaves and a screen of vertical members on a horizontal base in the gables. The porch features a red brick knee wall, brick piers for the trapezoidal columns, and trim of Batesville limestone. With its retention of its original distinguishing features and its corner siting, this Craftsman bungalow contributes to the historic appearance of the district.

### 1921-1944

Two smaller bungalows were built next door to each other in the district ca. 1925, replacing a larger home that burned around 1920. The Rogers-Shirrell House at 274 N. 7<sup>th</sup> is a one-story rectangular bungalow, with a hipped roof, centered dormer, and full-width front porch with columns resting on brick piers. It also features shaped rafter ends and wide weatherboarding on the lower third of its north and south facades, with narrow weatherboarding above. The Gathright-Parks House at 292 N. 7<sup>th</sup> is also a one-story rectangular bungalow. Rather than featuring a hipped roof like the house next door, its façade features a two-bay gabled porch projecting from the main body of the house, which also presents its gable to the street, with both gables featuring knee braces on each side and at the gable peak. The projecting porch has stuccoed masonry piers. The original columns have been replaced with wrought iron. The weatherboarding here is all narrow, with a rounded edge, and the foundation is also covered with stucco.

Fieldstone veneer made its first appearance at the end of the 1930s. It first appeared on a small, rectangular, hip-roofed frame cottage built at the southeast corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Water, at the back of the large lot belonging to a Victorian home facing Main Street. The locally-abundant sandstone is laid in the regionally-distinctive

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“Ozark Giraffe” pattern, a term popularized by *Old House Journal*. About the same time, a plain/traditional frame house was constructed next door, also using Ozark Giraffe stonework as veneer. Romantic revival influence on this house is seen in the front center exterior chimney and projecting gables at both ends of the façade, suggesting the English cottage style popular at the time.

### 1945-1960

With the end of World War II, four modest plain/traditional homes were constructed on vacant lots in the district, at 210 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St., 243 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St., 668 Water St., and 748 Rock St. The first of these is the only example in the district of use of the attractive local limestone. Three of them, the 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Water Street examples, are basic rectangles with gabled roofs and a front-gabled porch or small ell containing the front door. The Water Street house, which is non-contributing because of alterations, has a shed extension of the main roof over the small front porch, which is adjacent to a front ell, with the gable end toward the street. All are typical of the small homes being built across America to house returning servicemen and their families. The 1950s saw the trend continue, as two more small homes were constructed facing each other at 770 and 771 Water and mirroring the looks of the smaller late 1940s houses, with the house at 770 looking much like an elongated version of the one at 243 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, and the one at 771 Water a mirror image of 668 Water.

The Ernest Jones House, constructed in 1947 at 729 Rock St., is an early example of the major house type of the mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century, the ranch-style house. With its long, low profile, decorative wrought iron, and horizontally-oriented sandstone veneer, this structure reflects the styles featured in popular magazines such as *Better Homes and Gardens*. The builder was a local contractor whose house reflected his ability to construct desirable, up-to-date homes. The ranch house continued to develop with two other examples in the district, the Massey House, built in 1955 at 280 N. 8<sup>th</sup> and the Methodist Parsonage (non-contributing due to its date) built in 1959 at 608 Water. The Massey House, with columns supporting a flat roof over a centered front porch, uses the same kind of sandstone as the earlier Jones House but achieves a more traditional look with decorative shutters emphasizing the windows and wide framing outlining the front door—a “colonial” version of the ranch house. The later ranch house, long and low, faced in red brick, would look at home in any 1960s-1970s subdivision.

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<i>Resource Number:</i>	<i>Property Address:</i>	<i>C/NC:</i>
IN0245	210 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0246	243 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0247	245 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0248	274 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0249	292 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0250	293 N. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0251	215 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0252	253 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0437	683 Water Street	Individually Listed
IN0662	255 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0663	280 N. 8 <sup>th</sup> Street	C
IN0664	560 Water Street	C
IN0665	608 Water Street	NC
IN0666	623 Water Street	Individually Listed
IN0667	668 Water Street	NC
IN0668	706 Water Street	C
IN0669	708 Water Street	C
IN0670	770 Water Street	C
IN0671	771 Water Street	C
IN0672	709 Rock Street	C
IN0673	729 Rock Street	C
IN0674	748 Rock Street	C
IN0675	749 Rock Street	C
IN0676	771 Rock Street	C
IN0677	787 Rock Street	NC
IN0678	809 Rock Street	C
IN0679	897 Rock Street	C

**8. Statement of Significance****Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B.** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C.** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

Local

**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Development

**Period of Significance**

1850-1957

**Significant Dates**

1850-1957

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)**Architect/Builder**

Wyssel & Fitzhugh, Smauel T. Finley, Ernest Jones, Builders

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**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

Name of repository: Old Independence Regional Museum, Lyon College Regional Collection, Indep. County Historical Society

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Summary

The School Addition Historic District is a mid-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century residential district located in the north central Arkansas city of Batesville. Sitting on the eastern edge of the Ozark Mountains region and in the second tier of counties below the Arkansas-Missouri line, Batesville owes its existence to early 19<sup>th</sup> century transportation, trade, and settlement patterns. The School Addition Historic District encompasses a neighborhood that developed as expanding trade and growth required the town to grow from its original location beside the confluence of Poke Bayou and White River to fill the triangle of land between the two streams. The architectural significance of the District lies in its containing examples of typical residential structures ranging from a few substantial homes associated with leading citizens to numerous smaller homes exemplifying a range of architectural styles popular in the United States during the hundred-year time period. The neighborhood has a long association with education, and its proximity to different schools helps account for families' choosing to build or purchase homes in this area. The School Addition Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C with local significance.

### Elaboration

Batesville, Arkansas, is one of the state's oldest surviving towns, with a few houses, probably log, and a trading post standing by 1812 on the point where Poke Bayou ran into the White River. In January 1819, Henry Rowe Schoolcraft stated in his *Journal* that the little village marked the point where he returned to civilization after weeks of traveling through the wilderness of the Ozarks. The town grew rapidly and was platted in 1821. By the 1830s it had an academy, a jockey club, and two newspapers. According to Josiah H. Shinn's *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas*,

*For more than twenty years Batesville was the leading town in Arkansas, excelling every other in population, wealth, cultivation, schools, and regard for law. Each and every one of its first settlers had been in the territory since 1815, and each and all centered their endeavors on the development of a great and thriving town. (p. 115)*

Growth ceased during the disruptions of the Civil War, which saw both Union and Confederate armies occupying the town, with sympathizers of both persuasions among the citizens. In fact, the last Reconstruction Governor of Arkansas, Elisha Baxter, came from Batesville, where he had raised some of the more than 800 Union troops originating in the county. The 1872 Arkansas gubernatorial race pitted Baxter, originally from South Carolina but a longtime Batesville resident, against Joseph Brooks, a former Methodist minister and native of Ohio. Both sides alleged graft and fraud in the voting, with Baxter out-polling Brooks by 8,000 votes. Animosity continued between the two men and their supporters, until Brooks finally appealed to the courts to overturn the election in his favor. When the courts complied, Baxter refused to step down. Both men appealed to President Grant for federal support, which was not forthcoming, and in April 1874 the opposing governors raised some 600 troops each and fought it out on the streets of Little Rock, as

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well as out in the countryside. With another 1,400 or so men joining his side, by May Baxter confirmed his control, and the state Legislature met to validate his status. The so-called Brooks-Baxter War lasted approximately one month. Following an unsuccessful attempt in 1878 to regain the governorship, Baxter returned to Batesville, eventually building his last home and law office within the School Addition Historic District. In 1893, he also purchased two existing houses around the corner from his new home, adding to his stock of Batesville rental property. At his death, he left these houses, at 709 and 749 Rock Street to his sons, Edward and Millard Baxter.

At the time Baxter built his home, only a few homes stood in the District, including the two properties already listed individually in the National Register, Soulesbury Institute/Glenn House and the Wycough-Jones House, both on the 600 block of Water Street, so named because at its eastern end it ran along Poke Bayou and was lined with warehouses to accommodate the extensive steamboat trade that made Batesville a commercial center. Soulesbury Institute was a Methodist school established before the Civil War and later enlarged after its purchase in 1873 by Mrs. W. W. Glenn. The Glenns were a prominent planter family with extensive holdings in Independence County. M. A. R. Wycough was a Confederate veteran who also owned a great deal of farmland. Active in local politics, he served as deputy sheriff, county tax collector, and county clerk. This house has been home for many years to the family which owns the *Batesville Daily Guard*, the only locally-owned daily newspaper still operating in Arkansas. Tenant houses for servants stood at the back of these properties on the slope leading down to Poke Bayou until the 1960s, when they were demolished.

The 1870s and 1880s saw a building boom resulting from growing trade, mining, lumbering, and agriculture. Already the last reliably navigable steamboat port on the White River, Batesville became the terminus of the first railroad into the area in the 1880s, maintaining that status for over 20 years. With the arrival of mechanized lumber mills, extravagant decoration became part of the building tradition, and greater differences arose between the homes of the town's wealthiest citizens (located largely on Main and Boswell Streets, just to the south of the School Addition Historic District) and those of the average man. New neighborhoods began to grow to the north and south of the major streets, as well as across Poke Bayou in what became known as "West Side."

By 1890, Batesville's population was 2,150, increasing over the next decade to 3,339. In 1905, lumberman John Martin built a Queen Ann cottage on 8<sup>th</sup> Street but soon thereafter expanded it into the two-story American Four-Square with Colonial Revival touches still seen today. Martin, like others in the region, moved to Batesville from a smaller outlying community as he became prosperous. He built two other houses, one a rather plain T-shaped house on 7<sup>th</sup> Street behind his home for his mother-in-law, Jessie Moore, and another, an attractive Craftsman bungalow next door to his own home for his daughter Helen when she married Fitzhugh Hail in 1913. Tragically, both Helen's husband and first child died within a year of the marriage. She remained close to home, however, eventually moving into her parents' home with her second husband, Dr. Harry King, who was Academic Dean of Arkansas (now Lyon) College. After his death, Mrs.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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King maintained her connections with the college by offering a home to a series of students.

While World War I disrupted families lives, it also brought prosperity as farm prices rose, mining of manganese expanded, and wages increased. Although prices and wages dropped at war's end, Batesville still saw improvements, with both the municipal water and light systems upgraded and the first bridge across White River completed in 1928. Following the nation's fortunes, times were hard during the 1930's and through World War II, reflected in the School Addition Historic District by the construction of only four small houses during this period. Two of these, typical frame bungalows, reflect the continuing importance of Batesville as a regional trade center even during hard times. Over the years these bungalows were home to families that owned a local printing company (the Shirrells at 292 N. 7<sup>th</sup>) and a downtown hardware store (the Parks family at 274 N. 7<sup>th</sup>).

The later 1940s brought the nation's post-war prosperity to Batesville. Industrialization reached the city with construction of the International Shoe Company plant after the war, with other manufacturing businesses following through the 1960s. With this prosperity came popular new housing styles in the district. In the late 1940s a young optometrist built a limestone-veneered, modified Cape Cod home at the south end of the block containing the Shirrell and Parks bungalows. Then came the newest houses in the district, ranch-style houses bringing to the city the most recent styles popular across the country at the time. The Ernest Jones House at 729 Rock Street was the first "modern" house built in the neighborhood (ca. 1947), and rightly so, for its builder owned a local lumber and construction company. His low-profile, sandstone-veneer house showed the town what he could do in the way of building an up-to-date home like those featured in popular house-and-garden magazines of the day. Family members still operate a successful construction business. Like the Jones House, the Massey House, built in 1955 at 280 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St., features sandstone veneer, but with a more traditional look. The families of the builders (Y. M. and Betty Hail Massey) both have deep Independence County roots. The couple operated Hail Dry Goods, a leading wholesale operation, Betty Massey being a descendent of a prominent Batesville merchant and county judge, Stevadson Hail. All three of these "new" homes reflect Batesville's continuing growth as a business and professional hub in north central Arkansas.

Since the 1960s, the city has remained stable, and the School Addition Historic District has remained stable with it, providing homes to a mixture of city business, political, agricultural, and organizational leaders as well as small tradesmen, craftsmen, service workers, teachers, and retirees.

The name of the district is tied to its location in the northwest corner of the School Addition to Batesville, platted in 1849. This addition comprised the northwest quarter of Section 16, reserved for the benefit of township schools. Although not required to be located within the 16<sup>th</sup> section, at least three schools have direct connections to the School Addition Historic District: first came the private Soulesbury Institute, a Methodist school in operation by 1850 in what would eventually become the Glenn House; the first public

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school in Batesville was the Freedman's School, constructed in Block 62 of School Addition (at approximately the present location of the McAdams house at 809 Rock) during Reconstruction to serve African American children; and property immediately adjacent to the Historic District has housed Batesville High School, the junior high (after the high school relocated), and finally the middle school (after the junior high also moved). The construction of this school building in the mid-1950s was financed by pledges from families in the city, with leadership from the Chamber of Commerce, after an earlier vote on a tax increase failed. In addition, Arkansas College, the oldest private institution in the state still operating (as Lyon College) under its original charter, opened in 1872 just three blocks from the School Addition Historic District. Batesville had sought to become the location of the University of Arkansas the previous year, but lost out to Fayetteville. Local leaders then banded together to open the Presbyterian-related private college. The first location of Batesville's public high school for white children, and now the location of one of the city's three elementary schools, was just another block to the south of the college campus. Proximity to schools has made and continues to make homes in the District desirable.

The Freedman's School connection is of special interest. A brick building, 30 x 40 feet, was constructed in 1867-68 and remained under the control of the Freedman's Bureau until 1878, when control passed to the Batesville school district, which opened the first public school for whites in another location in that year. The district found that 108 black students were eligible to enroll in the former Freedman's School, while 196 white children were eligible to attend their own school. Classes for African-American children continued in the brick schoolhouse until 1892, when the trustees refused to allow its further use, based on complaints from white property owners, whose numbers in the neighborhood had increased since the building was originally constructed. Black education continued in rented quarters elsewhere until a new school was constructed on Oak Street, where several African American families lived, in 1905.

Nevertheless, the Freedman's School's location may help explain the presence of a newer African American neighborhood just to the north of the district. In fact, the Finley House at 897 Rock (in the same block as the school property) was constructed by Samuel Finley, an African American master stonemason as a home for his family, which included seven children. Much of the stone work on commercial buildings on Main Street and on the original National Guard Armory, now the Old Independence Regional Museum, was supervised by Finley, who passed his skills along to other African Americans in the community. He saw to it that all his children received a college education—quite an accomplishment during a time when Batesville's segregated schools went only through 8<sup>th</sup> grade for "colored" students.

In the last 10 years, interest in preservation, originally focused on the substantial homes located on Main and Boswell Streets, has spread into some of the adjoining neighborhoods, including the School Addition Historic District. During this time, six homes in the District have been extensively renovated (Elisha Baxter, Martin-King, Finley, Maxfield, Moore, and Rogers-Shirrell houses), two are currently being worked on (Gathright-Parks and Edward Baxter houses), and all others are well-maintained. Water Street sees heavy traffic at the beginning and end of the school day, but this situation may change after the Batesville School

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

District completes a planned reorganization, with new construction elsewhere, that will convert the present middle school to the east of the Historic District into school district offices and a pre-school center. It is also possible that the school district will choose to sell off what will become excess land at the location for development. Recognition of the historic character of the existing neighborhood will help it withstand future development pressures.

### Statement of Significance

The School Addition Historic District is a mid-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century residential district located in the north central Arkansas city of Batesville. Sitting on the eastern edge of the Ozark Mountains region and in the second tier of counties below the Arkansas-Missouri line, Batesville owes its existence to early 19<sup>th</sup> century transportation, trade, and settlement patterns. The School Addition Historic District encompasses a neighborhood that developed as expanding trade and growth required the town to grow from its original location beside the confluence of Poke Bayou and White River to fill the triangle of land between the two streams. The architectural significance of the District lies in its containing examples of typical residential structures ranging from a few substantial homes associated with leading citizens to numerous smaller homes exemplifying a range of architectural styles popular in the United States during the hundred-year time period. The neighborhood has a long association with education, and its proximity to different schools helps account for families' choosing to build or purchase homes in this area. The School Addition Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C with local significance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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### Bibliography

*A Guidebook to Historic Homes of Batesville, Arkansas.* Batesville Preservation Association, Batesville, Arkansas, 1994.

Britton, Nancy and Diane Tebbetts, *Nineteenth Century Homes of Batesville.* *Independence County Chronicle* XX:2, January 1979.

Fagg, Jane B., "From Rock Street to Oak: The Relocation of the Batesville Black School 1892-1905." *Independence County Chronicle* XXV:3-4, April-July 1984, pp. 16-23

Lawson, Curtislene, *The History of Black Education in Batesville, 1867-1875.* *Independence County Chronicle* XXI:2, January 1980.

McGinnis, A. C., *A History of Independence County, Arkansas.* *Independence County Chronicle* XVII:3, April 1976.

Owings, Richard, "The Brooks-Baxter War." [www.oldstatehouse.com/general\\_information/history/brooks-baxter.asp](http://www.oldstatehouse.com/general_information/history/brooks-baxter.asp).

Shinn, Josiah, *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas.* Genealogical and Historical Publishing Co., Little Rock, Arkansas, 1908.

School Addition Historic District  
Name of Property

Independence, Arkansas  
County and State

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Approximately 10 acres.

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	622260	3959785
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	15	622258	3959597

3	15	622043	3959453
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	15	622080	3959651

☐ See continuation sheet

### Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator / Dr. Diane O. Tebbetts		
organization	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	date	September 18, 2006
street & number	1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street	telephone	(501) 324-9787
city or town	Little Rock	state	AR
		zip code	72201

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

### Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name			
street & number		telephone	
city or town		state	
		zip code	

**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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

### Verbal Boundary Description

In the School Addition to Batesville, Arkansas, Lot 5 of Block 10; Lots 4-10 of Block 12; Lots 1-5 of Block 13, Lots 1-5 of Block 24; Lots 1-10 of Block 25; Lot 1 of Block 26; Lots 6-10 of Block 62; and Lots 6-10 of Block 63, as shown on the Charles Cole Plat Map of the City of Batesville. This area includes one home at the southwest corner of the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> and Water, along with homes on both sides of Water Street from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, both sides of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> between Water and Rock, both sides of Rock Street from 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, and the north side of Rock Street from 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Boundary Justification

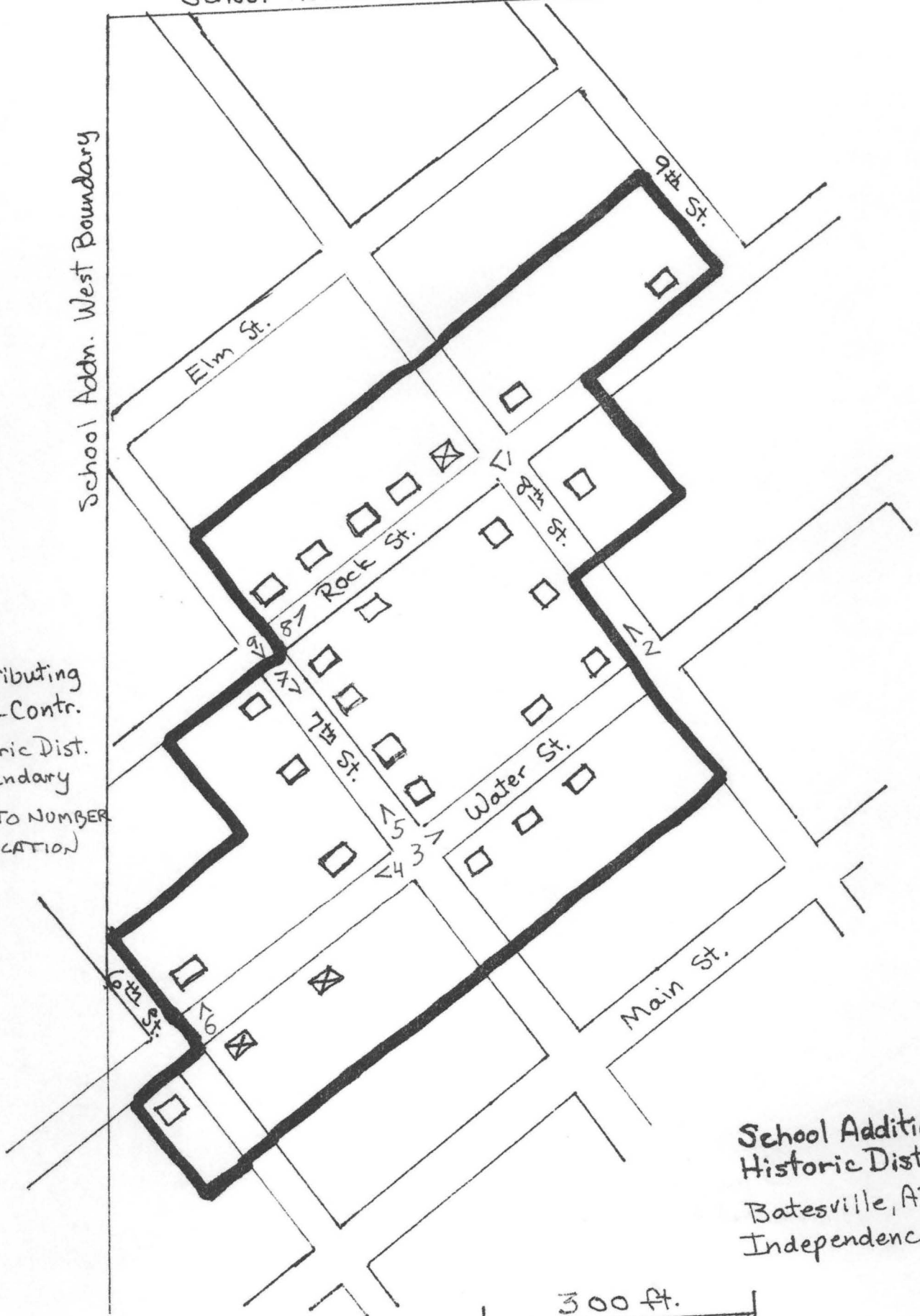
The boundaries of the proposed district were determined after an informal survey by staff from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. At the southern boundary lies the East Main Historic District, comprising large homes of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century business, agricultural, and political leaders. On its north is a small collection of later 20<sup>th</sup> century homes. To the west, a C-1 commercial area marks the edge of the downtown business district, while on the east and partially to the south are the grounds of the Batesville Middle School. The boundaries selected contain a coherent collection of residences mainly serving middle class families of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> to mid-20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

School Addn. North Boundary

School Addn. West Boundary



- Contributing
- ⊠ Non-Contr.
- Historic Dist. Boundary
- < | PHOTO NUMBER & LOCATION



School Addition  
Historic District  
Batesville, AR  
Independence Co.

300 ft.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY School Addition Historic District  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Independence

DATE RECEIVED: 12/19/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/09/07  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1/24/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/01/07  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06001315

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 2.1.07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW SOUTHWEST ON ROCK ST. FROM 8TH ST.

#1



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW NORTHWEST ON 8TH STREET FROM WATER ST.

#2



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
VIEW NORTHEAST ON WATER ST. FROM 7TH ST.

#3



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW SOUTHWEST ON WATER ST. FROM 7TH ST.

#4



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW NORTHWEST ON 7TH ST. FROM WATER ST.

#5



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT  
INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR  
RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
VIEW NORTHEAST ON WATER ST. FROM 6TH ST.

#6



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR  
VIEW SOUTHEAST ON 7TH ST. FROM ROCK ST.

#7



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW NORTHEAST ON ROCK FROM 7TH

#8



SCHOOL ADDITION HISTORIC DISTRICT

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY, AR

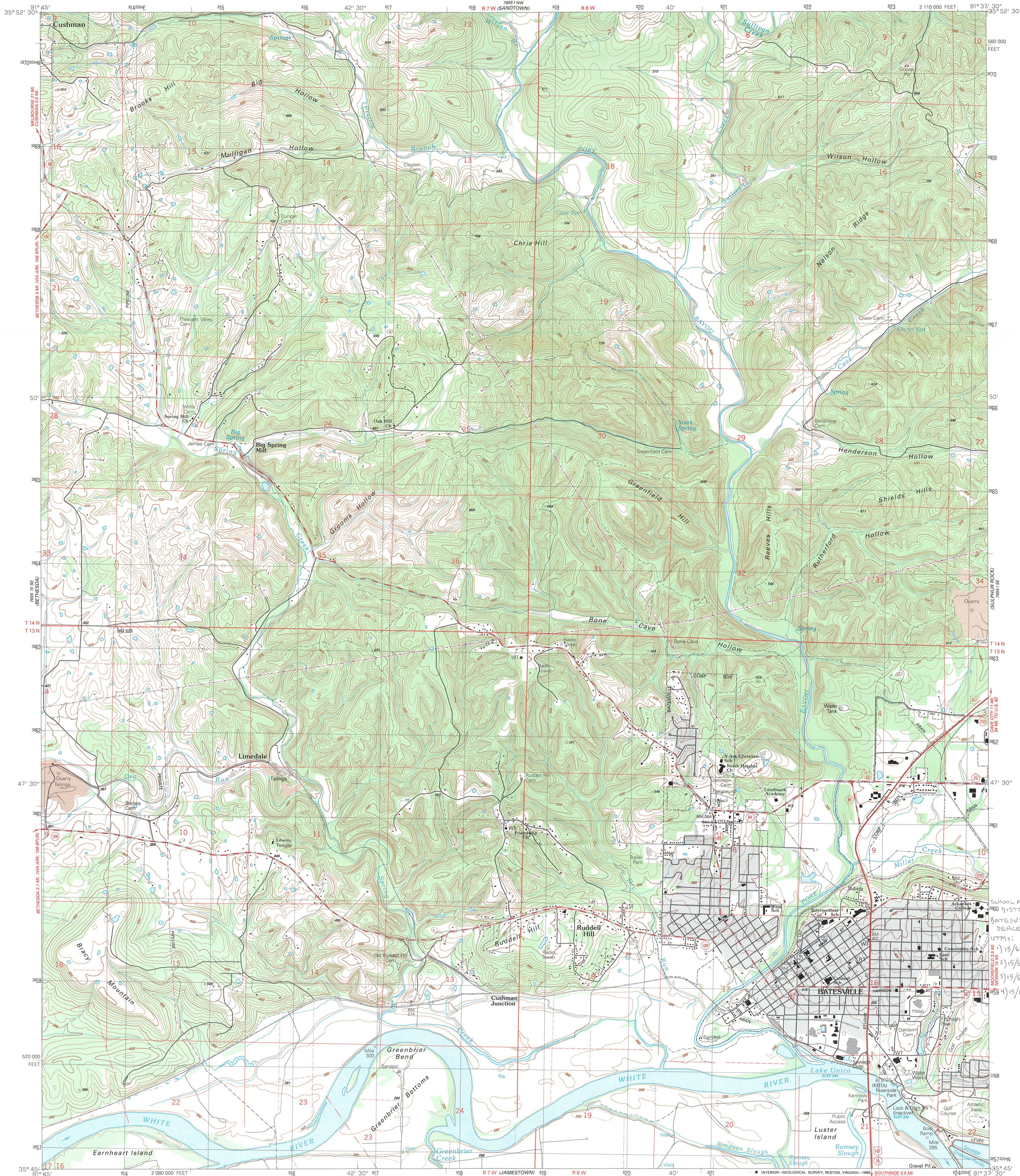
RALPH S. WILCOX

NOVEMBER 2006

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW SOUTHEAST ON ROCK FROM 7TH

#9



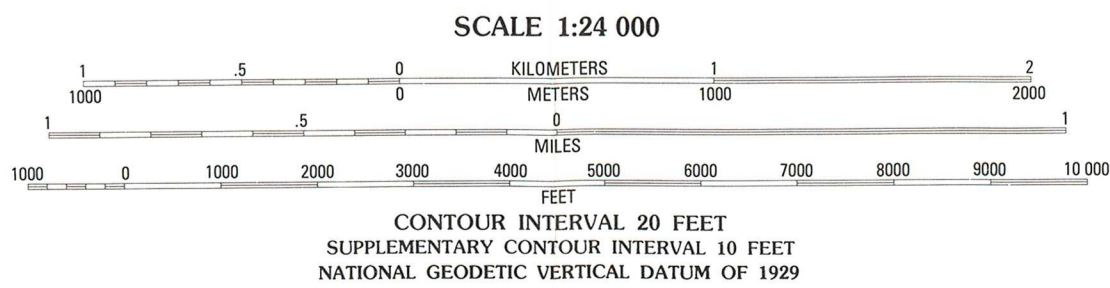
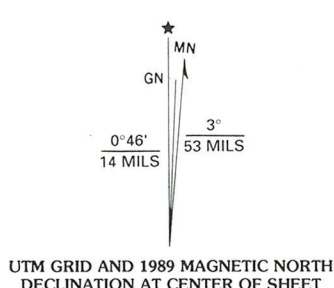
Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
taken 1986. Field checked 1987. Map edited 1989  
Supersedes Batesville map dated 1943

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate  
system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15  
1927 North American Datum

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

Gray tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



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

BATESVILLE, ARK.

35091-G6-TF-024

1989

DMA 7655 1 SW-SERIES V884

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



## The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor  
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage  
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars  
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



### Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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website:

[www.arkansaspreservation.org](http://www.arkansaspreservation.org)

An Equal Opportunity Employer



December 6, 2006

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

RE: School Addition Historic District – Batesville, Independence  
County, Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

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

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure