

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 21 1975

DATE ENTERED

MAY 29 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Bird Kiln

AND/OR COMMON

3DA12

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

6 mi SW of Leola off AR 9

CITY, TOWN

Leola

☒ VICINITY OF☐ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Arkansas

CODE  
05COUNTY  
DallasCODE  
039**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☒ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Harvey Voss

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Leola

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clerk's Office

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Dallas County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Fordyce

STATE

Arkansas

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☒ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

Presently the kiln is situated in pasture and has possibly partially collapsed. It originally was apparently a groundhog type kiln, excavated into the side of a hillslope overlooking a tributary of the west fork of Tulip Creek.

Spoil piles of broken pottery have been removed from the area of the kiln by modern clearing activities. The ruins of the kiln itself however, contain some crockery and handmade kiln furniture.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD

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

|   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC    | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE            | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE           | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                    | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE    | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY    | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

### SPECIFIC DATES

### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bird Kiln was originally built in 1843 by William Bird, a member of a family of potters who were responsible for the industry in this portion of Arkansas. The Birds trained a series of apprentices, most notably John Welch, who continued the trade into the early 20th century.

The William Bird Kiln was begun in the first year of pottery making in Dallas County. It was operated until 1851 or 1852 when it was abandoned for a new site located closer to the growing commercial center of Princeton.

Historically the Willian Bird Kiln appears from present records to have been the first pottery industry in Arkansas. Using clay locally available in Dallas County, the Bird Brothers and their apprentices produced salt glaze wares in traditional utilitarian forms - jugs, crocks, churns, flower pots - for various markets in south Arkansas. The Bird kiln was the first member in what became an important industry in the state during the middle and late 19th century. Today the industry, for all practical purposes, is extinct.

\*See National Register nominations of Welch Pottery Works and Wommack Kiln, Dallas County, Arkansas.



## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Greer, Georgeanna. "Preliminary Information on the Use of Alkaline Glaze for Stoneware in the South, 1800-1900." The Conference on Historic Site Archeology Papers, (1970), Vol. 1, Part 2.
- Sibenthal, C. E. "The Geology of Dallas County." Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Arkansas (1891), Vol. II, p. 317.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre  
UTM REFERENCES

A | 1,5 | 5,2,9 | 8,1,0 | 3,7 | 7,6 | 1,2,0 |  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C | | | | | | |

UTM OK  
HL  
B | | | | | | |  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ann Early

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Archeological Survey

STREET & NUMBER

Box H-2661

CITY OR TOWN

Arkadelphia

DATE

3-11-75

TELEPHONE

(501) 246-7311

STATE

Arkansas

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE William E. Henderson

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-11-75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

5/29/76

ATTEST:

Charles A. Herring  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

5.23.75

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |             |
| RECEIVED         | APR 21 1975 |
| DATE ENTERED     | MAY 29 1975 |

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE one

Smith, Samuel D. "Arkansas Kiln Sites," Arkansas Archeological  
Society Fieldnotes, #95 (November, 1972).

Property

Bird Kiln

DALLAS CO.

75000381

State

Arkansas

Working Number

4.21.75.733

## TECHNICAL

Photos 1Maps 1

Photos too small

## CONTROL

cm

Atherness OK 4.23.75

## HISTORIAN

## ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept  
Sebovich  
4-23-75

## ARCHEOLOGIST

Accept  
M. Barnes  
23 Apr 75

Being the first pottery industry in  
Arkansas makes this an important  
site. #7 is brief and should  
be expanded if you send back.  
for larger photos.

## OTHER

## HAER

Inventory Photo 16/11/75Review Accept 5/79

## REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept  
Cole  
5.13.75

## BRANCH CHIEF

## KEEPER

Henry  
Jr. Montoye  
5.22.75

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

MAY 29 1975

INT:2106-74





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 21 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 29 1975

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Bird Kiln

AND/OR COMMON

3DA12

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Leola

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Dallas

STATE

Arkansas

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Ann Early

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Archeology Survey

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

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

remnants and crockery at kiln site

PHOTO NO.

1

# 1061  
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

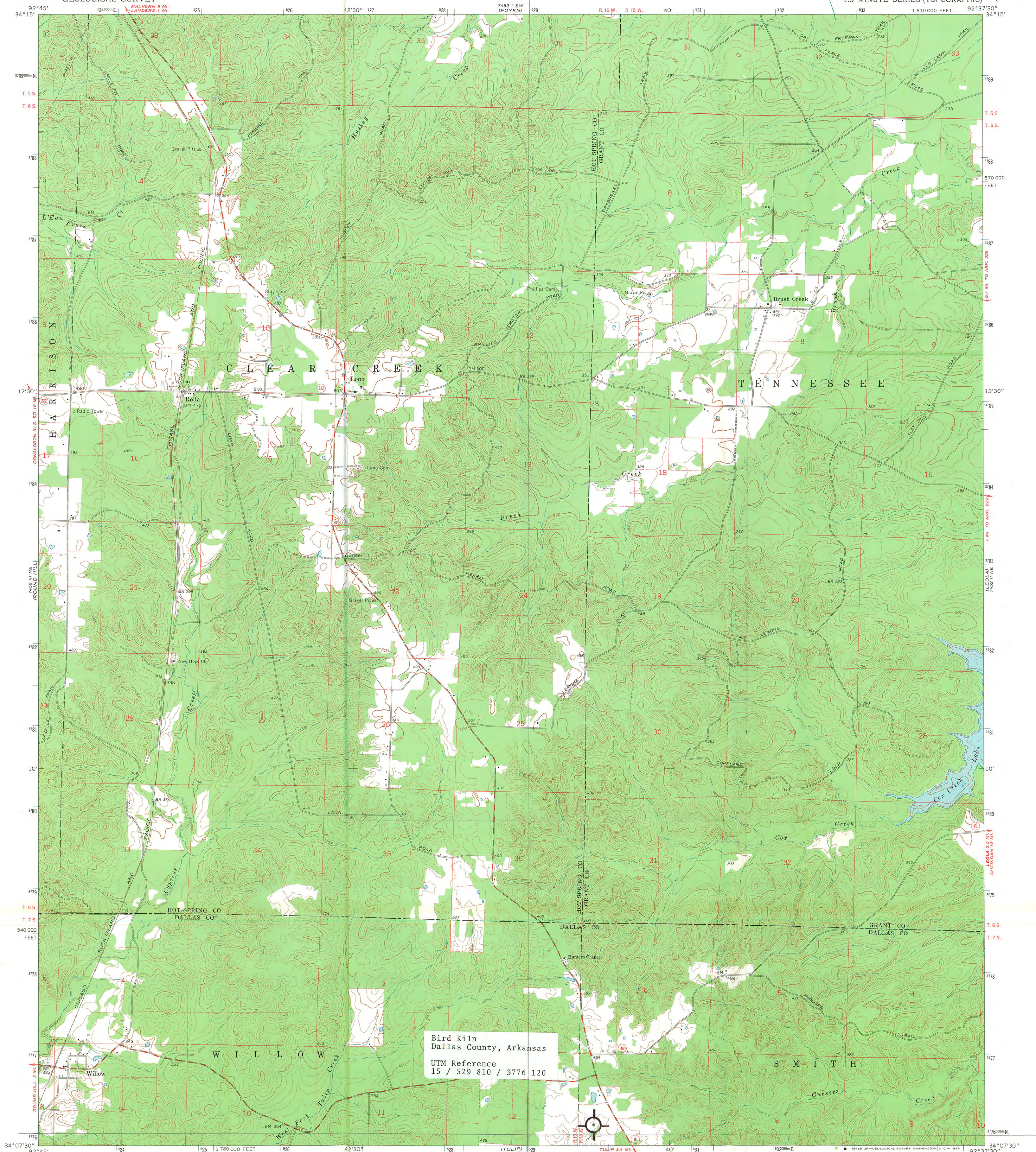


7452 II NW  
(MALVERN 102 500)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

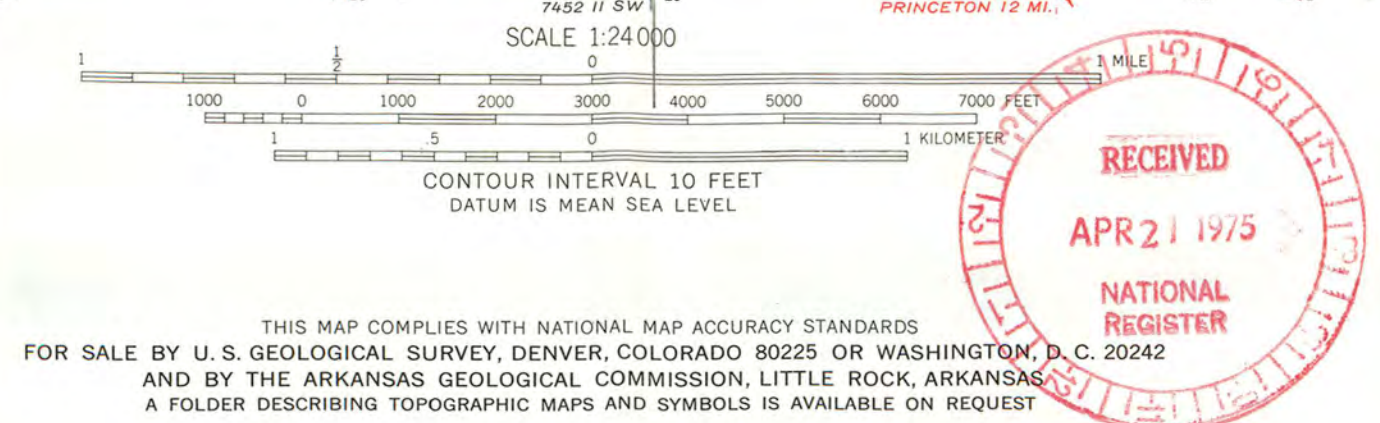
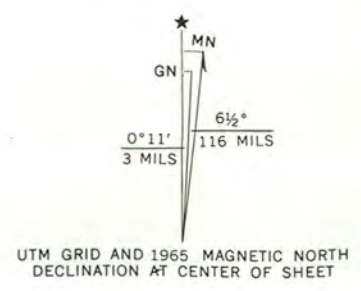
WILLOW QUADRANGLE  
ARKANSAS  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

Bird Kiln  
7452 II SE  
(PRATTSVILLE)



Bird Kiln  
Dallas County, Arkansas  
UTM Reference  
15 / 529 810 / 3776 120

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1961. Field checked 1965  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Medium-duty ——— Light-duty ———  
Unimproved dirt ———  
State Route ———

WILLOW, ARK.  
N3407.5—W9237.5/7.5

1965  
AMS 7452 II NW—SERIES V884



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      ARKANSAS

Date Entered      MAY 29 1975

Name

Location

Gulbertson Kiln

Princeton  
Dallas County

Bird Kiln

Leola  
Dallas County

Also Notified

Hon. Dale Bumpers  
Hon. John L. McClellan  
Hon. Ray Thornton

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. William E. Henderson, Director  
Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism  
State Capitol  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Regional Director, Southwest  
Region

PR

CAshton/cha

5-30-75

# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

|   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| ① NAME as it appears on federal register:<br>Bird Kiln  |  | ② OTHER NAMES:<br>3DA12   |  | ③ date of entry:<br>5-29-75  |  | ④ county code:<br>039  |  |
| ⑤ LOCATION street & number<br>6 mi. SW of Leola off AR 9  |  | city / town<br>Leola  |  | vicinity of<br>Leola   |  | state<br>AR  |  |
|   |  |   |  | county<br>Dallas   |  | ⑥ NPS REGION:<br>Southwest   |  |
| ⑦ OWNER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL (agency name)  |  | ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS <input type="checkbox"/> HABS <input type="checkbox"/> HAER <input type="checkbox"/> NHL   |  | ⑩ FUNDED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO  |  | ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT<br>4  |  | ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STATE <input type="checkbox"/> FEDERAL  |  |
| ⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?<br><input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO  |  | ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?<br><input type="checkbox"/> YES, NAME <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   |  | ⑮ ACREAGE<br>c. 1  |  | ⑯ LOCAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE ORGANIZATION <input type="checkbox"/>   |  |
| ⑰ CONDITION<br><input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> fair <input type="checkbox"/> unexcavated  |  | ⑱ ALTERED<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> moved <input type="checkbox"/> reconstructed <input type="checkbox"/> unknown <input type="checkbox"/> excavated |  | ⑲ FEATURES:<br>INTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-4 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-7                                       |  | EXTERIOR <input type="checkbox"/> SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT INTACT-0 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN-5 <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE-8  |  |
| ⑳ ACCESS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES-Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> YES-Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No Access <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown   |  | ㉑ ADAPTIVE USE <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO  |  | ㉒ SAVED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   |  | ㉓ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no   |  |
| ㉔ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:<br><input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE-6 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS-7 <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE-3 <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE-4 <input type="checkbox"/> ART-5 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING-11 <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT-26 <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION-12 <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH-27 <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS-9 <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION-10     |  | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 <input type="checkbox"/> LAW-16 <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE-17 <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY-18 <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC-19 <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY-20 |  | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVT.-21 <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION-22 <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE-23 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION-25 |  |
|   |  |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION-28 <input type="checkbox"/> SETTLEMENT-29 <input type="checkbox"/> URBAN PLANNING-31 <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)  |  | ㉕ CLAIMS: explain<br>'first' x kiln in pottery industry in AR<br>'oldest' <input type="checkbox"/><br>'only' <input type="checkbox"/>  |  |
| ㉖ functions<br>WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT:<br>CURRENTLY: industrial agricultural   |  | ㉗ dates of initial construction: 1843<br>major alterations:<br>historic events:   |  | ㉘ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION   |  |  |  |
| ㉙ architectural style(s):   |  | ㉚ architect:  |  | ㉛ master builder:<br>William Bird  |  | ㉜ engineer:  |  |
| ㉝ landscape architect / garden designer:  |  | ㉞ interior decorator:   |  | ㉟ artist:  |  | ㊱ artisan:   |  |
|   |  |   |  |  |  | ㊲ builder/contractor:  |  |
| ㊳ NAMES give role & date  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| PERSONAL:   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| EVENTS:   |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| INSTITUTIONAL:  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |

## NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP

Remnants of a groundhog type kiln cut into hillside, operated by Bird family until 1852 when it was abandoned for new location. was First kiln in pottery industry in State, and used to train a series of apprentices including

John Welch, Unexcavated.