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

## National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 12/31/84

received AUG \_ 9 1983

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### 7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### SUMMARY

The Coolidge House, built in 1880 in Helena, is a well-preserved example of a Queen Anne cottage. Many decorative details typical of the period were judiciously applied to the irregular floorplan and elevations, resulting in a decorative, yet restrained dwelling of modest proportions.

#### DESCRIPTION

Built in 1880 for S. C. Moore as a gift for his daughter, Anna Leslie Moore, on the occasion of her marriage to Charles Coolidge, Jr., the Coolidge House in Helena is an excellent example of a Queen Anne cottage. Located at the corner of Perry and Poplar Streets, it was built in the section of Helena referred to on the city plat map as "Old Helena". Laid out by Nicholas Rightor in December 1820, "Old Helena" was a fashionable residential neighborhood at the time of this building's construction.

The Coolidge House, a one-and-a-half story frame structure with weatherboard siding, is elevated approximately one-and-a-half feet above grade. With its asymmetrical floorplan, it has three steeply pitched hipped roofs from which seven gables extend, Four tall interior brick chimneys with decorative banding pierce the roofs, with two extending above the roof line. The front elevation (south) features a wide wooden porch that extends across three-quarters of the front facade and curves around the west corner. Slender turned posts support the porch roof and sawn brackets support decorative spindles along the porch frieze. The porch railing is composed of turned balusters and continues down either side of the front steps. A pedimented gable extending from the sloped porch roof is embellished with a cornice and grid patterned typanum. Supported by scroll brackets, this pediment is positioned above the front entrance. Sidelights above wooden panels flank the front door, above which is a six-light transom. Throughout the Coolidge House, windows are one-over-one double-hung with simple surrounds, with the exception of a fixed leaded paned window on the east elevation that illuminates the dining room. Characteristic of the Queen Anne style is the three-sided projection with a shingled gable at the east corner of the front elevation. Directly above the porch pediment is the building's only dormer, with two windows and a bellcast hipped roof.

The interior of the Coolidge House is centered around a wide central hall that is divided by a pair of double doors. The hall area beyond the doors is smaller than that inside the front door, and contains the stairs to the attic. On the east (right) side of the hall, at the southeast corner of the house is the parlor which is joined by a wide doorway with the dining room. Both rooms have seven sides and corner fireplaces with classically ornamented mantels and tile facings. Architrave mouldings with corner blocks and wood paneled door heads surround the doorways throughout the house. Located on the opposite side of the hall are three bedrooms, two of which have fireplaces.

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Continuation sheet Item number 7 Page 1

Alterations to the Coolidge House are few and have been restricted to the rear of the building. In 1919 a bedroom, bath and enclosed porch were added to the rear. In 1959 the kitchen, which was originally separated from the main house by a porch, was connected to the house by converting a butler's pantry and the porch to a family room connected directly to the kitchen. In the same year, the kitchen and bath were modernized. At some point, the attic was converted to additional bedrooms.

At the rear of the property is a one story carriage house consisting of three large stalls and a storage room. There is evidence to suggest that in later years this carriage house was used as a servants quarters. The carriage house and main house, both of which are excellently maintained, have recently been painted historically correct colors by the current owners.

#### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C — archeology-prehistoric — archeology-historic — agriculture — X architecture — art — commerce — communications	community planr conservation economics education engineering	ning landscape architecture law literature military music ement philosophy politics/government	religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1880	Builder/Architect	Unknown	esonaneleR TMU

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Coolidge House in the riverport of Helena is an excellent example of a Queen Anne cottage. Its restrained decorative detailing gives it a quietly dignified appearance in what was a rather fanciful mode. The house was constructed in 1880 for S. C. Moore who presented it to his daughter Anna upon her marriage to Charles Coolidge, Jr. The Coolidge Family was quite prominent, having extensive land holdings in Phillips County. Helena in the 1870's and early 1880's was a town still recovering from the hardships of the Civil War. Its recovery was quicker than most, however, because of its strategic location on the Mississippi River. It was a regular stop for packet boats as well as elegant passenger By 1880 there were two railroads going through the town. These two important methods of transportation provided ample means to ship the cotton and lumber which were so abundant in the area. While Helena was a tough river town it also had its share of cultural institutions including an excellent Catholic girls school and an opera house. The current trends in fashion and taste were quick to reach this community. This fact is apparent in the tastefully rendered Queen Anne cottage built for a young bride.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

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organization Phillips Co. Foundation for H	distoric dat	te 7-28-83
street & number 804 Columbia	tele	ephone 338-3607 or 338-7401
city or town Helena	sta	te Arkansas
12. State Historic Prese	ervation C	Officer Certification
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As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for 665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the	he National Register a	and certify that it has been evaluated
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For NPS use only		
I hereby certify that this property is included in the	Interes .	0/0/82
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Keeper of the National Register	- 2001	
Attest:		date

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For NPS use only received date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

9

Page 1

Abstract of Titles, Hornor-Morris Abstract Co., 711 Walnut St., Helena, Ark.

Phillips County Historical Quarterly, Issue #4, Sept. 1966, pages 36, 37, 38.

"Life on the Mississippi" by Mark Twain,, 1882.

"Down the Great River" by Capt. Willard Glazier, 1881.

"A Graphic Description of Missionary Life in Eastern Arkansas." by Denis A. Quinn, a Catholic priest (about 1887).

Dale P. Kirkman, a local historian.

Various members of the Moore, Coolidge families.

Excerpts from May C. Allin's scrapbook - 1886, Phillips County Library, Helena.

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

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

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Cookings House

Collidge House

Phillips County

ARKANSAS

boundary selection

Phillips County ARKANSAS			
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			Working No
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Coolidge House
Helena, Arkansas
J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers
November, 1982
Negative on file at AHPP
Parlor



Coolidge House Helena, Arkansas J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers November, 1982 Negative on file at AHPP Mantel



Coolidge House
Helena, Arkansas
J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers
November, 1982
Negative on file at AHPP
Hallway



Coolidge House
Helena, Arkansas
J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers
November, 1982
Negative on file at AHPP
Carriage House
Viewed from the South



Cooldige House
Helena, Arkansas
J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers
November, 1982
Negative on file at AHPP
Viewed from the Northwest



Coolidge House Helena, Arkansas J. Carfagno & A. Jones, photographers November, 1982 Negative on file at AHPP Viewed from the South





#### ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

July 29, 1983

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Coolidge House

Helena

Phillips County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Coolidge House in Phillips County. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely

Wilson Stiles

State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/AJ/sg

Enclosure/s

Reca AUG 9 1983