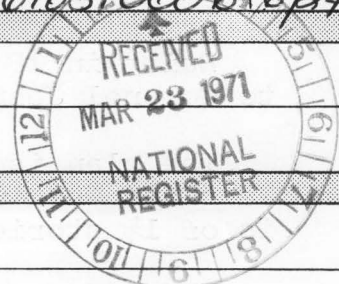


PH 0076155

Form 10-300
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Arkansas	
COUNTY: Ouachita	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 716.051.0006	DATE 6/24/71



1. NAME	
COMMON: McCollum-Chidester House	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 926 Washington Street, N.W.			
CITY OR TOWN: Camden			
STATE Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY: Ouachita	CODE 103

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Ouachita County Historical Society	
STREET AND NUMBER: 926 Washington Street, N.W.	
CITY OR TOWN: Camden	STATE: Arkansas
	CODE 05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Ouachita County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Camden	STATE: Arkansas
	CODE 05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: Arkansas Landmark Commission	
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Arkansas Commemorative Commission	
STREET AND NUMBER: Old State House - 300 West Markham	
CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock	STATE: Arkansas
	CODE 05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

716.051.0006 6/24/71

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1847 by Peter McCollum, this home was sold to Colonel John T. Chidester around 1857.

The plan is rectangular with smaller wings on the East and West wing of the main house. The main house is one and one-half stories.

Of wood frame construction, the house is raised on brick piers with pierced brick underpinning between the perimeter piers. The structure is finished with horizontal, beveled siding.

A veranda which extends the width of the main house, is supported by massive columns that reach to the underside of the cornice. The flat architrave and frieze are recessed slightly behind the column face. The columns, with moulded bases, rest on square pedestals.

The roofs of both smaller wings and of the main house are gabled with plain, close rakes.

The main windows are double hung sash, with a pattern of 9 x 9 lights, and have flat surrounds with corner blocks. They are shuttered with louvered blinds.

The entrance doors are double with glass lights, with moulded surrounds and within a moulded architrave containing sidelights and transom. The light refractions caused by the variations in thickness of this glass add an interesting visual effect.

The two main chimneys are stucco covered brick and are outside ended. One is offset left, the other is offset right.

The scale and visual strength of this home are impressive. The rooms have 12 foot high ceilings and the main house is over twenty feet high from ridge to ground.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

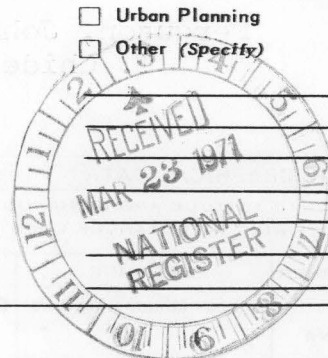
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1847

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Education☐ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Philosophy☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ Science☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Sculpture☒ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Social/Humanitarian☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Theater☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ Transportation☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Conservation☐ Music

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McCollum-Chidester house is one of the finest and best preserved examples of ante-bellum architecture in Arkansas.

Although the Greek Revival style appeared to predominate Arkansas architecture in the second quarter of the 19th Century, this home was a refreshing departure from the rule. It is more characteristic of plantation homes found in Southern Maryland and Virginia in the late 1700's and early 1800's. The strength of its columns, its surprising scale and its quiet symmetry create an atmosphere of beauty and dignity.

John T. Chidester was born in New York City on December 1, 1818. He moved to Georgia when a young man and became engaged in carrying the mail overland. After operating mail stage lines in Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, Chidester moved to Camden, Arkansas in 1857. Since his business required his presence in Washington, D. C. frequently, he became acquainted with such prominent political figures as Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, and Daniel Webster.

During the Civil War Chidester continued to carry on his business, or business of some sort. There is no proof that he ever served in the Confederate Army, in fact, his obituary and the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies imply that he did not serve in any military capacity.

In the Spring of 1863, Chidester was engaged in an attempt to effect an exchange of Confederate cotton for Federal provisions and supplies. Several Arkansas members of the Confederate Congress approached Secretary of War James A. Seddon in Richmond about the matter. On March 12, 1863 Seddon signified his approval of the plan in a letter to General E. Kirby Smith, even though such

(continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Guide Series, Arkansas, A Guide to the State,
New York: Hastings House, 1941.

Camden News, December 21, 1937.

Ferguson, John L., "A Biographical Sketch of Colonel John
T. Chidester," Arkansas History Commission, MS.

(see continuation sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		33° 35' 5"	92° 50' 32.2"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>Staff</u>	
ORGANIZATION <u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	DATE <u>3-12-71</u>
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>1023 West Third Street</u>	
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Little Rock</u>	STATE <u>Arkansas</u> CODE <u>05</u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

George M. Reynolds

Title

State Liaison Officer

Date

March 12, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Cunningham
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

JUN 24 1971

Date

ATTEST:

William M. Montfort
Keeper of The National Register

Date

APR 13 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Arkansas
COUNTY	Ouachita
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71,605,006	6/24/71

Page 2

(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE, continued

trading with the enemy was ordinarily forbidden. Chidester was described as "reliable, loyal, and of adequate means, having peculiar facilities, from his position as a former planter on the river and his past connections and business, to accomplish successfully the ends proposed." Chidester, as the official contractor, stood to make a handsome profit from this deal with the Yankees.

Very soon after the end of war Chidester secured permission from General Orme, U.S. Treasury Agent in Memphis, to collect Confederate cotton in the Camden area for delivery to Federal authorities. One-fourth of the cotton in pounds, or a fourth of its value when sold, was to go to Chidester for his services. Brigadier-General G. F. McGinnis, in command at Camden, regarded Chidester and his kind as thieves and swindlers. On June 9, 1865 McGinnis wrote to Colonel John Levering, Assistant Adjutant General of the Department of Arkansas, that "Chidester . . . is quite notorious as a former Government mail contractor in this country. I presume you have heard of him. If not, the Attorney-General can give you all the information in regard to him. I think the whole thing is wrong, and in Chidester's case I have determined that he shall not touch a bale of Government cotton . . . The appointment of these outsiders is a regular swindle. Chidester tells me that he can make \$100,000 out of it in sixty days."

Chidester secured his fattest government contract in 1878 when he became president and general manager of the Arkansas, Texas and Pacific Mail Company. Some 300 men, 2000 horses, 60 Concord coaches and a cavalry detachment were required to carry the mails from Ft. Worth, Texas, to Ft. Yuma, Arizona Territory, a distance of over 1500 miles. Out of this operation came the famous Star Route Fraud cases in 1881, a scandal which almost wrecked the administration of President Garfield and carried over into the Arthur era. Apparently Chidester did not figure as one of the principals in the defense, but his obituary refers to him as the "Star Router". He died in Camden on March 6, 1892.

McCollum-Chidester House

Ouachita County

71000127

RECEIPT

PROPERTY

STATE ARK.

DATE OF RECEIPT 3/23/71

DATA PAGE

PHOTO (S)

PHOTO DESCRIP (S)

MAP (S)

MAP DESCRIPTION (S)

LOGGED

ACKNOWLEDGE 3/25/71

RESUBMIT

REGISTER NUMBER 71.6.05.0006 6/24/71

REVIEW

Are these columns all so "massive" as they say?

HISTORIAN

Al, what's your verdict?

OK, but wonder why they didn't check other areas of significance.

ARCHITECT

They only check local signif., and I think it's bound to be at least that.

ASST. KEEPER

KEEPER

ENTER

CHIEF, CAMP

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR

Federal Register Entry

Annual Edition Entry

Logged Card

COMPUTER



8/3/71

6/24/71
6/24/71

Date

WORKING NUMBER

323.71.1

OK
Levy
4/14/71

OK
Levy
5/4/71

OK
Manning
4/20/71

OK
Chambers
4-26-71

OK
Wm
4/23/71

OK
CD
5/3/71



NPS Number

71-6-05-0006

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE

Arkansas

COUNTY

Ouachita

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

71-6-05-0006 6/24/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:

McCollum-Chidester House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

926 Washington Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Camden

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY:

Ouachita

CODE

103

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT:

Ouachita County Historical Society

DATE OF PHOTO:

1969

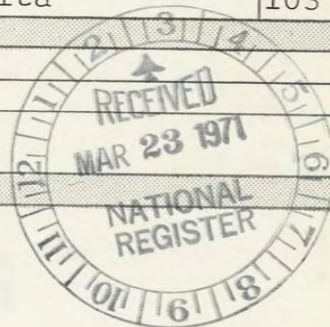
NEGATIVE FILED AT:

Ouachita County Historical Society

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

Front View (south)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS


Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

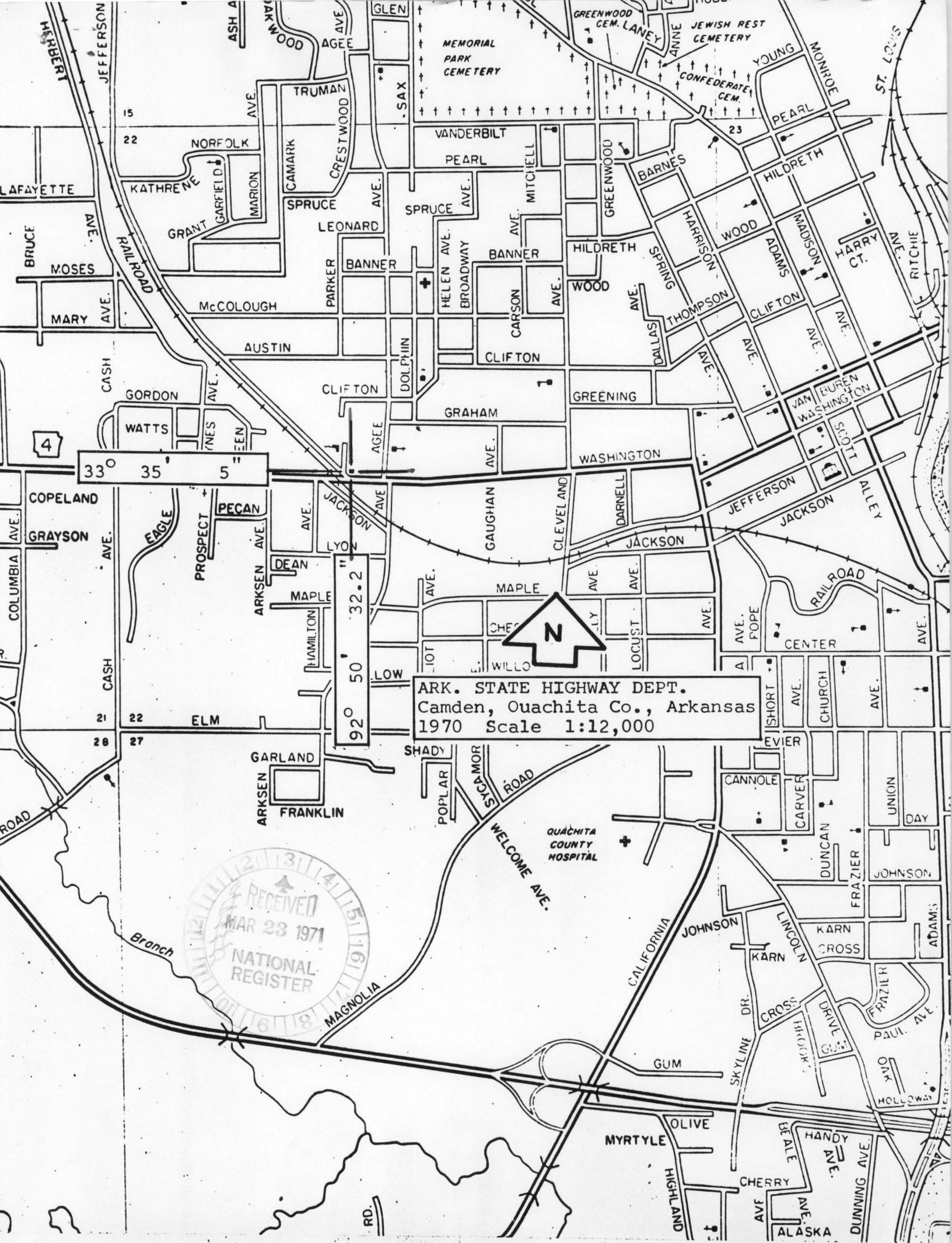
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Ouachita	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71605-0006	DATE 6/24/71



1. NAME			
COMMON: McCollum-Chidester House			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 926 Washington Street, N.W.			
CITY OR TOWN: Camden			
STATE: Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY: Ouachita	CODE 103
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Arkansas Highway Department			
SCALE: 1: 12,000			
DATE: 1970			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Property boundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference. 			



ARK. STATE HIGHWAY DEPT.
Camden, Ouachita Co., Arkansas
1970 Scale 1:12,000

RECEIVED
MAR 23 1971
NATIONAL
REGISTER

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

1023 WEST THIRD STREET

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

501 374-0375



March 17, 1971

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
801-19th Street NW
Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

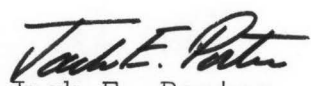
Attached are National Register Nominations for
the following properties:

Drennen-Scott Home
Garrott House
Du Bocage
Hudson-Grace-Borreson House
Grandison D. Royston House
McCollum-Chidester House
Headquarters House

These Nominations have been approved by a majority
of the State Review Committee.

Sincerely,

George M. Reynolds
State Liaison Officer

BY: 
Jack E. Porter
Administrator

JEP/hp

Attachments

MAR 22 1971



5
JUN 29 1971

H30-HR

Hon. John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Arkansas and have been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senator J. W. Fulbright and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Dr. George M. Reynolds, Chairman, State Review Committee, Old State House, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed),

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

cc: Dr. George M. Reynolds, Chairman, State Review Committee, Old State House,
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Also notified: United States Senate
Hon. J. W. Fulbright

House of Representatives
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt
Hon. David Pryor
Hon. Wilbur D. Mills

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

PDHerrick:naf

cc: Director, Southeast Region

6/16/71

HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

ARKANSAS

Headquarters House

Washington County,
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Hudson-Grace-Borreson House

Jefferson County,
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Du Bodge

Jefferson County,
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Garrott House

Independence County,
Batesville, Arkansas

McCollum-Chidester House

Quachita County,
Camden, Arkansas

H30-HR

JUN 29 1971

Dr. George M. Reynolds
Chairman
State Review Committee
Old State House
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Dr. Reynolds:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators John L. McClellan and J. W. Fulbright and the appropriate Representatives are being informed. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed for each of the property owners. Please withhold any publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

JUN 24 1971

cc:

HR

6/18/71

PDHerrick:naf

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

ARKANSAS

Headquarters House

Washington County,
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Hudson-Grace-Borreson House

Jefferson County,
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Du Bocage

Jefferson County,
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Garrott House

Independence County,
Batesville, Arkansas

McCollum-Chidester House

Ouachita County,
Camden, Arkansas