

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000094

Date Listed: 3/15/93

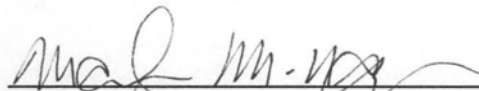
Argenta Historic District
Property Name

Pulaski
County

ARKANSAS
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for 
Signature of the Keeper

4/21/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination is amended to show that significance is claimed for the district under Criterion A (as is shown in the text), rather than under Criterion C.

This change has been confirmed by phone with the Arkansas SHPO (4/21/93).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000094

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Argenta Historic District
Property Name

Pulaski
County

AR
State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Paul R. Ryan
Signature of the Keeper

9.16.96
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Resource Count/Significance:

The property at 413 W 5th Street (PU4084) is considered a contributing resource within the Argenta Historic District.

[The two-story brick veneered O'Kelly House is an example of American Foursquare design and contributes to the significance of the district as a cohesive inner-city residential neighborhood associated with the dramatic upbuilding of the community of North Little Rock/Argenta during the early twentieth century. Built by local businessman Owen O'Kelly during the district's period of significance, the property at 413 W 5th Street retains integrity of location, scale, setting, materials, and association.]

This information was confirmed with the Arkansas SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

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JAN 29 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Argenta Historic District

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: Commercial district: roughly bounded by Broadway, West 6th Streets, and the unnamed alleyways that run behind each of the commercial blocks; Residential district: roughly bounded by Melrose Circle, North Broadway, West 4th Street and Orange Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: North Little Rock

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Pulaski code: AR 119 zip code: 72114

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>89</u>	<u>77</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>89</u>	<u>77</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 6

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

=====
4. State/Federal Agency Certification
=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Calvin A. Byrd _____ 1-25-93
Signature of certifying official 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.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====
5. National Park Service Certification
=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register _____ 3/15/93
_____ See continuation sheet. Ma J. M. [Signature]
 determined eligible for the _____
National Register _____
_____ See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the _____
National Register _____
 removed from the National Register _____
_____ other (explain): _____

for Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Multiple dwelling</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Specialty Store</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Department Store</u>
Current: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>Single dwelling</u>
<u>DOMESTIC</u>	<u>Multiple dwelling</u>
<u>COMMERCE/TRADE</u>	<u>Specialty Store</u>

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Bungalow/Craftsman
Colonial Revival
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/
Commercial Style

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Brick roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Weatherboard other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
COMMERCE

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1890-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

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Boundaries

Boundary determinations of the Argenta Historic District are based upon information contained in a comprehensive survey of all buildings (277) in an area of downtown North Little Rock roughly defined on the east by the alley east of the 300 block of Main Street, W. Ninth St. on the north, Melrose Place Addition on the northwest corner of the area, N. Broadway on the west and W. Fourth St. on the south. The survey and subsequent district National Register nomination was produced by the North Little Rock History Commission in compliance and within the guidelines of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program requirements.

A Determination of Eligibility review of each property in the surveyed area led to the definition of National Register District boundaries. The area of downtown North Little Rock hence referred to as the "Argenta Historic District" is composed of 172 buildings within two discontinuous districts. A commercial district encompasses the 300, 400 and 500 blocks of Main Street. A residential district on the westernmost streets of the surveyed area is bounded by W. Fourth St. on the south, N. Broadway and the alley west of Willow St. on the west, Melrose Place Addition on the northwest, the 300 block of W. Eighth St. on the north and Orange St. on the east.

Although the boundaries of the commercial and the residential historic districts are discontinuous, they are historically linked in their development. As defined for the purposes of National Register, the Argenta Historic District contains three blocks of North Little Rock's oldest commercial vein -Main Street- and its most intact and contiguous historic downtown residential neighborhood.

The areas of the original survey not included in either of the nominated districts are centered around Maple Street, which has historically and continues to be a major traffic thoroughfare, and has suffered a significant amount of decay, alteration, demolition and non-historic construction.

Urban Renewal projects in the 1960's virtually eliminated all of the historic buildings south of the Argenta Historic District. Currently this area contains large expanses of green space, modern office complexes, and a few multi-story office buildings. A park and picturesque Riverfront Drive and park have been constructed along the river.

Summary

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Located within the city limits of North Little Rock, Arkansas, the Argenta Historic District is actually composed of two discontinuous districts: a residential district running along Willow Street between 4th Street and the historic Melrose Place addition, and a commercial district running along both sides of Main Street between Broadway and 6th Street. Both sections are composed of contributing structures the construction dates of which range roughly from 1890 to 1942. The residential district, though largely vernacular in nature, reflects the influence of the principal architectural styles in vogue during the early twentieth century: the Craftsman, the English Revival, and the Colonial Revival. The commercial district, though also vernacular, tends to reflect the simple, panel brick commercial style that was popular throughout the country for such construction during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as well as such other influences as the Colonial Revival, the Classical Revival, and the Spanish Revival.

The two discontinuous districts which comprise the Argenta Historic District lie three blocks north of the Arkansas River. Downtown Little Rock is directly across the river and the two cities' downtowns are linked by a Main Street bridge, Broadway Street bridge and an Interstate-30 bridge.

The downtown of North Little Rock is laid out in a grid pattern. (with the exception of the Melrose Place Addition, which is curvilinear.) Although there are eight buildings dating from the 1890's in the Argenta Historic District, the majority of the development occurred between 1900 and 1940. Sixty-seven percent of the buildings in both districts were constructed in the 1920's. Located within the two discontinuous districts are a total of 172 buildings.

The commercial district includes the 300 through 600 blocks of Main Street. A total of 32 buildings are located within this district. The number of historically contributing buildings in this district is 18 (56%). Of the 18 contributing buildings, 6 have previously been individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Fourteen non-contributing buildings are located in this district (seven of the non-contributing are less than 50 years old).

The residential district contains 140 buildings, of which 77 (55%) are contributing historic buildings, 60 are non-contributing historic buildings, and 3 are non-contributing buildings less than 50 years old. Seventy-five percent of the buildings in the residential district were constructed between 1920 and 1930.

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Elaboration

The Argenta Historic District consists of two discontinuous districts, a commercial district and a residential district. Since the 1960's the area has been in transition. With the massive changes in the southern blocks of downtown North Little Rock including demolition of many historic buildings, the perimeters of the downtown area have taken on a different appearance. New traffic patterns designed to alleviate congestion exposed areas of the residential section to high traffic accompanied by deterioration of the historic streetscape. Between 1950 and 1960, as the city of North Little Rock grew northward and more businesses, residences and churches were built, the downtown began to decline.

There are 26 original commercial buildings, two public buildings and four residential buildings in the historic commercial district. Although most of the commercial district buildings are vernacular adaptations of a national style, there are several outstanding examples of architectural design.

North Little Rock City Hall at 300 Main St. (PU0001), listed on the National Register 8-6-75, is a visual anchor in the commercial district. The Neo-Classical Revival design of this outstanding building has been maintained with pride by the city and continues to function in its original capacity as the center of North Little Rock city government. One other public building, the two story Colonial Revival North Little Rock Post Office located at 420 Main (PU0012) is listed on the National Register within the Charles L. Thompson Thematic Group. The site was a city park until construction of the post office in 1931.

The Faucette Building at 400 Main (PU0011) and the Old Central Fire Station at 506 Main (PU0021) are both individually listed on the National Register based on their historic significance to the city of North Little Rock. Both buildings reflect vernacular commercial design in their construction. The Faucette Building has been restored to near original exterior appearance. Currently the Old Central Fire Station remains abandoned and in poor condition.

The other two previously listed National Register properties within the commercial district boundaries are the Baker House at 109 W. 5th (PU3227) and the Barth Hempfling House at 507 Main (PU0022). Located on the same block, these residential buildings are a striking contrast. The c.1899 brick Baker House is one of the few remaining Queen Anne style residences in North Little Rock and features a three-story round turret and decorative spindlework. The 1886 Hempfling House represents an earlier and more common vernacular design with folk Victorian detailing and is more representative of the type of

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residence indigenous to the area.

Two other residences are included in the commercial district boundaries. The c. 1920 Dornell House at 115 W. Broadway (PU 3913) is a good example of the influence of English "period" revival popular in the 1920's. Three pronounced gables mark the facade (south) of this house which is basically unaltered on the exterior. The c. 1920 J.A. Martin House at 416 Maple (PU 3918) is a basic brick bungalow with front facing gable. Both the Dornell House and the J.A. Martin House have been used for commercial purposes for over forty years.

Other buildings in the commercial district that are contributing include the two story c.1900 building at 314 Main (PU0004) with its arched second story windows, 316-318 Main (PU0005), a one story, virtually unaltered, small two storefront building with classical columns flanking each entry, the Argenta Drug Co. building at 320-324 Main (PU0007) and the Argenta Drug Co. Annex at 104-110 E. 4th (PU0006).

Small vernacular examples of contributing commercial buildings include the Malnik (PU0015), and McPherson (PU0014) buildings in the 400 block of Main Street. The building at 413-415 Main (PU0016), constructed c. 1929 features some modest Art Deco detailing.

Italianate influence is seen in the 1885 Street Building at 417-419 Main (PU0018). Here a projecting cornice with paired brackets, decorative brickwork and windows with crowns remain. Although similar in style and age, the building next door at 421-425 Main (PU0019) has a drastically altered first floor, and upper story details, although present, are obscured.

The lone example of Spanish Revival style in either of the districts is the 1928 Owens Funeral Home Building at 500 Main (PU0020). Textured stucco walls, balconets, wrought iron details and red tile roof characterize this architecturally significant building.

There are seven non-contributing historic buildings in the commercial district. All have been altered significantly with the placement of aluminum panels on facades as seen in the J.C. Penney Department Store Building at 304 Main (PU0002), the E.O. Manees Building at 313-315 Main (PU0008) and the building at 405-07 Main (PU0013). Although historic, major alterations have been made on 312 Main (PU0003), 421-425 Main (PU0019) and 508-510 Main (PU3894).

A particularly historically significant commercial building in the district, The Vogel Grocery

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Building at 321-323 Main (PU0010) has been stuccoed over brick, windows enclosed, storefront windows replaced and a large wooden storefront awning erected.

Seven of the non-contributing buildings in the commercial district are non-historic. Of these 401 Main (PU3893), 514 Main (PU3897), 515 Main (PU3898), 521 Main (PU3899) and 512 Main (PU3895) were constructed in the 1940's. The Otasco Building at 301 Main (PU3892) was constructed c. 1972 and the now-abandoned gas station at 524 Main (PU3896) was constructed c. 1950.

Similarly, the residential historic district significantly expresses a solid working class neighborhood. The tree-lined streets are laid out in a grid pattern. The exception to the grid is Melrose Place Addition which is circular with a dividing street in the center. Scattered about the neighborhood are a few "grand" homes, but the majority of residences are, like the commercial district, vernacular expressions of a particular style.

Located within the residential district are 140 buildings of which 77 are contributing historic buildings, 60 are non-contributing historic buildings and 3 are less than fifty years old.

Of the 77 contributing historic buildings there are three apartment buildings. The 1927 Lynch Apartments at 523 Orange (PU3946) is a vernacular application of English Revival design as seen in its steep hip roof, eyebrow dormers and arched entries. The Grange Apartments at 809 Orange (PU3966) also modestly employs English Revival characteristics in its two story fieldstone porch with arched openings. The Leonard Apartments at 810 Willow (PU3998) is a traditional building constructed in the mid-1930's.

The remaining 74 contributing homes in the Argenta Residential Historic District can be broadly grouped into architectural style categories parallel to what was being built across the nation in the early part of the 20th century.

Among the earliest buildings in the residential district are the eleven Colonial Revival influenced houses. Originally all four houses on the East side of the 400 block of Willow had identical floor plans. The houses at 414 Willow (PU3967) and 416 Willow (PU3968) feature an eclectic blend of Colonial Revival characteristics. The other two Colonial Revival homes on the block have had porches removed and are sided in wide aluminum.

More vernacular versions of the Colonial Revival style were found on the houses in the 300 block of W. 7th (PU4126, PU4127, PU4128, and PU4129). These houses have been altered through porch and window replacements and non-original siding. Although currently

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sheathed in asbestos, the Farmer-Brooks House at 623 Orange (PU3950) is an excellent example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style. Constructed c. 1915 the house is characterized by its front facing gambrel roof and shed roof dormers. The design of the Mosley-Zimmerman House at 410 W. 5th (PU4093) is a period revival of the Colonial Revival style popular in the 1920's with its two story side gable roof and symmetrical facade with classical entry.

The vernacular folk house is commonly found in the residential district. There are 19 houses in the district defined as vernacular in style. The shotgun house such as the one at 510 Willow (PU3973) was constructed in this neighborhood from the late 19th century through the 1920's. A Craftsman detailed shotgun house is located at 611 Willow (PU3987) and two shotgun houses were joined in the mid 1920's at 306 W. 8th (PU4141).

The 700 block of Orange (PU3954, PU3955, PU3956, PU3957) features a row of contributing vernacular houses. Virtually identical, these four small frame rental houses appear unaltered from their original appearance.

The influence of the Craftsman style is well expressed in eleven houses in the Argenta Historic Residential District. The earliest Craftsman house in the district is the Mobley-McAninch House at 417 W. 4th (PU4061). Constructed in 1915, the Craftsman influence is seen in wide eaves with triangular knee braces and a two story shed roof bay. Another early Craftsman vernacular form is found in the house at 301 W. 7th (PU4121). A heavy gabled roof, broad eaves and classical columns on brick piers distinguish this transitional vernacular adaptation to Craftsman design.

The most outstanding example of the Craftsman style in the district is the c. 1917 house at 415 Willow (PU3971). This unaltered house is an excellent example of Craftsman detailing with its side gable roof with wide eaves and triangular knee braces, gable roof dormer also with knee braces, shed roof bay and battered columns on piers. Although not as intricately detailed, two other houses are similar in their Craftsman plan and are located at 400 W. 5th (PU4090) and 404 W. 5th (PU4091). The Starnes House at 521 Willow (PU3978) is a two story version of Craftsman design. The Freedman-Zimmerman House at 409 W. 5th (PU4082) (although non-contributing due to application of asbestos siding) is a Craftsman form unique to the area featuring a gabled roof with notched rafter ends, granite columns and balustrade on the recessed porch and rear two story hip roof section.

By 1920 development in the western section of downtown North Little Rock was proceeding at a rapid pace. Clearly the largest growth period in the area was 1920-1930 when 75% of

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the houses in the residential district were constructed.

There are 85 (61%) Craftsman Bungalow houses in the residential district. Of these 47 are contributing. The 38 non-contributing Bungalows have, for the most part, been sided in non-original material and some have window and/or porch alterations.

Versions of the Craftsman Bungalow are found throughout the area, but the largest concentrations are located along W. 5th, Willow and in the Melrose Place Addition. Small one story versions of the Bungalow such as houses at 415 W. 5th (PU4085) and the Solon Humphries House at 601 Willow (PU3984) are common to the area. The district's only "Airplane Bungalow" is located at 505 W. 5th (PU4087).

The Melrose Place Addition contains 52 small bungalow houses, all fairly similar in plan and scale. Although only 22 of the Melrose Place bungalows remain unaltered (most of the non-contributing have been covered in synthetic siding) the continuity of this circular addition and its streetscape remain intact. Generally, the brick bungalows have retained their historic integrity while the frame versions have been covered in asbestos or other synthetic siding. Only one non-historic house has been built in the Melrose Addition (PU4008).

The outstanding example of English Revival period design is seen in the Owens House at 401 W. 4th (PU4057). This two story house was constructed in 1927 by the family who owned and built the Owens Funeral House at 500 Main (PU0020). Steep gable roof lines with half timbering and the texturing achieved through the use of brick and stone add to the distinctiveness of this high styled house.

Three houses contribute to the residential district in their c.1940 Minimal Traditional design. The duplex at 305-307 W. 5th (PU4075), and the house at 618 Willow (PU3983) feature the characteristic close eaves and rake with minimal detail typical of the houses built in the late 1930's through 1940's. The McDermott House at 413 W. 4th is a two story brick version of the Minimal Traditional design with a one story flat roof porch with decorative roof balustrade.

It is in the residential area of downtown North Little Rock that the most change has occurred. This historic residential district has always catered to railroad workers with boarding houses and apartment buildings. However, the decades since the 1960's have seen an even greater increase in transient residency. Once well-maintained large family homes have been converted to rooming houses and apartments; many have deteriorated. Many of

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the homes in the residential district which were originally covered in frame exterior wall material have been covered in non-original materials. Some have been sheathed in asbestos, and some in aluminum.

The majority of the buildings in the Argenta Historic District are in fair to good condition. There are a few, particularly in the residential area, which have fallen into deteriorated condition. Absentee ownership has created many problems for the neighborhood as those properties are sometimes not well maintained and/or tenants are not carefully screened. As with many downtown commercial districts, false metal fronts have been placed on first floor facades of some of the buildings. Yet in both the residential and commercial districts, the streetscape consistently remains intact.

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Summary

Criterion A, local significance

The Argenta Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A as the two groups of historic structures most directly associated with the historic community of Argenta, the earliest settlement north of the Arkansas River at this location that later became what is now known as North Little Rock. More than any other residential area in North Little Rock, the Argenta Historic District represents a continuum of the city's development. The era between 1890 and 1940 is the period when North Little Rock established itself as a city of the first class and emerged as an industrial center. At the crux of the development of North Little Rock was the strong role the railroad played in the city's economic base and its effect on the industrial nature of the city. The process by which North Little Rock grew from a small settlement to a city of the first class is an important part of the development of central Arkansas' urban center. The foresight and ingenuity of early leaders in North Little Rock is a significant example of community planning and development.

The relatively high number of non-contributing structures belies the fact that the vast majority thereof are historic structures that have been artificially-sided in an historically-inappropriate manner; the residential and commercial storefront pattern of both sections has remained largely intact.

Elaboration

The area along the north bank of the Arkansas River did not parallel the development of Arkansas's capitol city across the river, Little Rock. It is thought that as early as 1810 there were white settlers across from "the little rock". The area was referred to as "Opposite Little Rock" on early maps. In 1845 an army officer named Richard DeCantillon Collins who surveyed roads and rivers in Arkansas for the government registered with the Pulaski County clerk's office eight square blocks for sale on the north bank of the Arkansas River. The first name given to the area was DeCantillon.

Another early settlement in the area called Huntersville is believed to have been named for Capt. R. L. Hunter who surveyed a route for the Little Rock-Fort Smith railroad. The first rail route built in Arkansas was the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad. Completed in 1862, the railroad ended at a depot on the north river bank "opposite Little Rock" from where passengers were ferried across the river to Little Rock. In 1871 the Arkansas Gazette published an editorial in an attempt to clear general confusion about the name of the town "opposite Little Rock". This editorial explained that during the Civil War the military

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superintendent of the north side depot was William Hunter and the location was known as the military post of Huntersville. By 1872 what was left of the Huntersville settlement had been destroyed by fire. Yet another development on the north side, though not as well known as DeCantillon, Huntersville or Argenta, was the town of Quapaw. In 1865 William E. Woodruff advertised riverfront lots adjacent to "Huntersville" but there is no evidence of any deeds recorded.

In 1866 the town of Argenta was surveyed and platted (Argentum is Latin for Silver). Folklore says that silver had been discovered about ten miles north of the town site (in actuality, "Kellogg's Diggins" was a lead mine which was intermittently mined through the 1920's and did indeed yield some silver). Another version of how Argenta was named centers around a Frenchman named A.J. Burnett who built a two story hotel called the Argenta before the Civil War. It is said that the area around the hotel and the town of DeCantillon were combined and named Argenta.

Although a post office was established in Argenta in 1871, the town had not incorporated. In 1873 the completion of the Baring Cross bridge across the Arkansas River just to the west of downtown Argenta, connecting it with Little Rock and the southwest, heralded the beginning of a long period of growth for the city of Argenta. By the late 1870's Argenta was a major railroad line crossing. As the railway related shops, warehouse and workforce increased so did the town of Argenta. Additions to the west of the Original Town of Argenta were platted in the 1880's including DeCantillon Addition, Hudson's Addition and Clendenin's Addition. It was common for a large portion of railway labor to be migratory and large numbers of these "boomers" as they were called passed through Argenta. The railroad people who settled in one place were called "homeguards". With a rapidly growing population and little organized means of enforcing the law the disorderliness of the town inspired an article in the Arkansas Gazette in December 1880 encouraging the town of Argenta to incorporate for the purpose of obtaining control of the "lawless conditions".

However no steps were taken to establish Argenta as an incorporated city until 1890 when an incorporation petition was filed. The Little Rock city attorney advised the City Council that the boundaries of the cities of Little Rock and Argenta extended to the middle of the Arkansas River between them and therefore considered Argenta contiguous to Little Rock. In an election in April, 1890 Little Rock voters decided to annex lands contiguous to their city. Argenta was made the eighth ward of the city of Little Rock. Although C.L. Vogel (Vogel Grocery 323 Main-PU0010) challenged the legality of the election in the Supreme Court of Arkansas, it was affirmed that the annexation was legal.

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At the time of its annexation to Little Rock, Argenta was still considered a "rough" town (Argenta was "off limits" even to soldiers stationed at nearby Fort Roots Military Base). Saloons and gambling houses filled the buildings along Argenta's primary street, Newton Avenue (later changed to Main St.). There were no paved streets, no water system, plank sidewalks, a small police force, and only bucket-brigade fire protection. Low lying streets with no drainage system often flooded, leaving Argenta a muddy mosquito infested area. Although a "free" wooden bridge was constructed across the Arkansas River in the late 1890's, little improvements were made in Little Rock's Eighth Ward.

The name Faucette is synonymous with the history of North Little Rock. Brothers William C. and James P. Faucette were foresighted businessmen who played a significant role in the independence and development of Argenta/North Little Rock. After settling in Argenta in 1878, both men had worked on the Little Rock-Fort Smith Railway. As an early business venture the Faucette brothers operated a boarding house which catered to railroad workers (Faucette Building 400 Main-PU0011). Later they bought land in downtown Argenta and built a private electric light plant.

As one of the first aldermen elected from the Eighth Ward of Little Rock, William Faucette pushed for improvements in the swampy Eighth Ward. In 1901 a group of men from the Eighth Ward led by the Faucette brothers secretly organized for the purpose of separating Argenta from Little Rock. An area immediately north of the Argenta town site (what is roughly today 15th St. on the south, 23rd St. on the north, Main St. on the east and the railroad tracks on the west) was incorporated as the "Town of North Little Rock" in 1901. The Faucette brothers paid the filing fee for the incorporation of North Little Rock and Frank O. Cook was elected the first mayor.

The group from the Eighth Ward then manipulated a bill through the Arkansas Thirty-fourth General Assembly in 1903. Prepared by state senator James P. Clarke, this bill was written to permit the annexation or consolidation of one municipal corporation located within one mile of any other municipal corporation. The act was called the "Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill" and the men from the Eighth Ward paid a lobbyist from Walnut Ridge to ascertain its passage. There was little attention paid to this piece of legislation by the General Assembly as it was thought to have been a special interest bill written to permit the cities of Hoxie and Walnut Ridge to consolidate. The Hoxie-Walnut Ridge bill was signed into law in March, 1903. On May 1, 1903, the day after the legislature adjourned, William C. Faucette announced that he had a petition signed by Argenta property owners asking to be annexed to the incorporated town of North Little Rock under the provisions of the Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill. A special election was held in July 1903 and the citizens of North

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Little Rock and Argenta voted to secede from Little Rock and become part of the incorporated town of North Little Rock. Frank O. Cook resigned as mayor and the city council elected William Mara the second mayor of North Little Rock.

The annexation of Argenta by North Little Rock was in dispute in the courts for over a year but in February, 1904 the Arkansas Supreme Court decided in favor of the North Little Rock-Argenta annexation. William Faucette was elected mayor in the city's first general election. In addition to the mayoral position, a full slate of city officers were elected and the city was divided into four wards. With a population of 6,500 and an established city government North Little Rock became a city of the first class.

William Faucette was re-elected mayor in 1905 and 1907. James Faucette was selected to fill the unexpired mayoral term of the city's second mayor, E.A. Ramsey in 1910 and was re-elected mayor in 1911. It was the Faucette brothers who set up improvement districts which included paving streets and installing a drainage system. The privately owned Faucette Brothers Bank (established in 1901) changed their name to Twin City Bank with James Faucette as president and then incorporated as a public bank. Manufacturing and railroad business expanded and the city began to flourish.

On October 26, 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt visited the city and gave a short speech at the City Park (located at 5th & Main where the North Little Rock Post Office (420 Main-PU0012) stands). It is said that Roosevelt remarked "Mr. Faucette, I am delighted to meet the mayor of Argenta". In January, 1906 a city ordinance was passed changing the name of the city to Argenta.

Argenta was experiencing an economic boom in the first decade of the 20th century. Four railroads were located in the city. Cotton oil mills and the lumber industry provided a strong economic base for growth. In 1910 Justin Matthews, a local businessman and real estate developer, built a two story building with full basement (razed by Urban Renewal in the 1960's) which covered an entire block. Other local businessmen built brick buildings along Main Street, including the Manees family (313-315 Main-PU0008, 317-319 Main-PU0009) and Solon Humphries, a real estate developer (318 Main-PU0005, 324 Main-PU0006 104-110 E. 4th-PU0007). Argenta High School (razed) was an impressive brick building constructed in 1912 and the first school on the north side of the river to offer twelve grades.

The Faucette brothers were the force behind construction of a new city hall building in 1914 (PU0001) which remains an outstanding architectural and governmental anchor in the

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National Park Service

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Section number 8 Page 5

commercial district.

There were approximately 15 saloons and gambling houses in the downtown area at the turn of the century. When Arkansas went dry in 1916, these establishments were forced to close and the face of Main Street began to change as stores and businesses replaced the saloons.

The name remained Argenta until 1917 when it was changed to North Little Rock and has remained as such since (in 1958 there was an unsuccessful campaign to change the name back to Argenta). The 1917 name change to North Little Rock was fostered by James P. Faucette after a trip to California where he saw the economic benefits to a small town close to Hollywood after changing its name to "West Hollywood". J.P. Faucette was convinced that changing the name of Argenta back to North Little Rock would be a financial boost to the city.

As the city's business section grew, its residential area was changing west of Main Street. Although additions had been platted, there was little building in most of the area west of Main St. Orange and Willow Streets were occupied by black families. At least two black churches were once located on Orange Street. In the early years of the century, white and black families often lived on the same blocks. By 1915, however, most of the downtown residential neighborhood was occupied by white local business owners and workers and railroad employees. Within the district are business buildings and the residences of those businessmen.

In 1923 the Broadway Bridge over the Arkansas River was dedicated. A key force in the construction of this bridge was Justin Matthews. The "free bridge" built in the 1890's was replaced in 1924 by a Main Street bridge. Replacement of a dangerous wood viaduct over the railroad tracks at 9th and Main by a new concrete viaduct in 1927 accessed the areas north of downtown for further development. The city had a streetcar system in its downtown and was in such good financial condition that a banner was placed on the eastern edge of town reading on one side "Locate in North Little Rock- A City Without Indebtedness" and "Welcome to North Little Rock, The Industrial City of Arkansas" on the other side.

Both the commercial and residential districts of downtown North Little Rock remained viable through the 1960's. In the latter part of the 1960's Urban Renewal projects cleared a two block wide path along the Arkansas River. Commercial buildings in the first two blocks of Main Street were razed and two modern bank buildings were constructed in the 200 block of Main.

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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Buildings in the first two blocks of Maple, Orange and Willow were also cleared as a part of the Urban Renewal projects. To the east of the Argenta Historic Commercial District, construction of Interstate 30 interrupted that portion of the historic downtown neighborhood. West of the residential district, more "improvements" and rerouting of traffic arteries opened once serene streets to heavy use.

Although the fabric of the Argenta Historic District has been confined to a small core area, within the two discontinuous districts a sense of the original historic character of the neighborhood remains.

The architectural character of the Argenta Historic District is based on the simple vernacular nature of the area's historic buildings which were built between the early 1890's and 1940. It features a broad selection of architectural styles including the elaborate Queen Anne style Baker House at 109 W. 5th (PU3227, NR-listed 1976), simple shotgun houses such as the one located at 510 Willow (PU3973), Colonial Revival as seen in 414 and 416 Willow (PU3967, PU3968), English Revival as in the Owens House at 401 W. 4th (PU4057), and Craftsman Bungalows as exemplified in the Simons-Ivy House at 710 Willow (PU3990). The Owens Funeral Home Building at 500 Main (PU0020) is the district's lone example of Spanish Revival design.

The wide range of interpretations and vernacular adaptations of the style influences represented in the district is significantly reflective of the development of the city of North Little Rock with its working class foundations. As a city whose economic base was the railroad industry, the character of North Little Rock developed as a much different city from Little Rock. An advertisement for the sale of lots and houses in Argenta at the turn of the century boasted "even the poorest workman can easily own his own home by practicing a little self denial and economy".

The Melrose Place Addition, located on the northwest corner of the Argenta Historic Residential District is a 14.21 acre tract of land bought by North Little Rock's Twin City Bank in the early 1920's. Twin City Bank platted the subdivision in 1924 and constructed 53 small Craftsman bungalow homes between 1925 and 1929 (one historic home has been razed and one ranch house c. 1960 has been constructed). A large span of vacant land on the north of Melrose Place was never developed and was commonly used by railroad workers as walking access to the railroad yards just to the north of this green space, and prior to construction of the new high school in 1929 was used as a football practice field. Most of the houses in the Melrose Place Addition are frame front-facing gable roof bungalows. A few are faced in brick (116 Melrose Circle-PU4003, 120 Melrose Circle-

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 7

PU4004, 144 Melrose Circle-PU4009, 230 Melrose Circle-PU4016, and 117 Melrose Divide-PU4045). One house, which was originally frame, was faced in fieldstone in the early 1940's (113 Melrose Circle-PU4028). Several of the houses have been covered in synthetic siding and have had other alterations. Although only 22 of the homes in the Melrose Place Addition are considered contributing, the historic cohesiveness of the streetscape remains intact.

Despite the fact that the neighborhood has deteriorated considerably, the character of the Argenta Historic District clearly is derived from its early 20th century buildings. The alteration of many of these structures has been an adaptation to a changing economic base and growth away from downtown. As early as the 1920's many of the larger homes were divided into apartments or opened for boarding houses. As with many inner city neighborhoods throughout the country, absentee landlord problems with maintenance and general neighborhood deterioration have grown. Many of the frame houses have been sided with synthetic materials in an attempt to reduce maintenance costs. Some commercial buildings have been stuccoed or faced with aluminum panels. Despite these changes the historic aggregation in the two districts remains.

Crime in the downtown area of North Little Rock increased dramatically in the decade from 1980 to 1990 and threats to the stability of the neighborhood do exist. A strong neighborhood organization organized in 1991 is aggressively seeking preservation of the area. The Boosters For A Better Downtown North Little Rock which is comprised of residents, business owners, city officials and other interested people has brought the needs of their historic neighborhood to the forefront. Bright street lights have been placed in the neighborhood and police protection has been greatly increased. An "Argenta Community Development Corporation" has been formed and plans are underway to renovate several homes in the area. The North Little Rock city government is taking an active role in the effort to save its historic downtown area. The hope is that through interpretation of this area's historic significance to the city, the neighborhood can be revitalized as a commercial center and historic residential neighborhood.

Although many changes have occurred in and surrounding downtown North Little Rock, the discontinuous commercial and residential historic districts retain their historic ambiance. Containing a total of 172 buildings (of which only 10 are less than 50 years old), the Argenta Historic District documents the development of North Little Rock from a muddy, rough settlement to a city of the first class.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: 33 (residential: 22; commercial: 11)

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>566540</u>	<u>3846690</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>566800</u>	<u>3846740</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>566710</u>	<u>3846140</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>566560</u>	<u>3846170</u>
E	<u>15</u>	<u>566980</u>	<u>3846360</u>	F	<u>15</u>	<u>567110</u>	<u>3846360</u>
G	<u>15</u>	<u>567100</u>	<u>3846010</u>	H	<u>15</u>	<u>566960</u>	<u>3846010</u>

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

The boundaries for both of the discontinuous districts that together form the Argenta Historic District are shown as the dotted lines on the accompanying sketch map entitled "Argenta Historic District, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 1992."

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property associated with the history of downtown Argenta that retain sufficient architectural integrity.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 9 Page 1

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Zimmerman, Mrs. Glenn. Interview by S. T. Smith, February 19, 1992.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Sandra Taylor Smith, Historical Consultant/AHPP Staff

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 01/21/93

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201



300 - 324 MAIN, Argenta Historic District

Pulaski, ARKANSAS

Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

ARKANSAS Historic Preservation Program

view Looking Northeast from 3rd MAIN STREETS

Photograph #1 - PU0001, PU0002, PU0003, PU0004, PU0005, PU0007



324, 318 & 314 MAIN ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photographed by Sandra Taylor Smith

NOVEMBER, 1992

negative at ARKANSAS Historic Preservation Program

view Looking southeast

photograph #2 - PU0007, PU0005, PU0004



Argenta Drug Co. Annex - 104-110 E. 4th St. Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

Photographed by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Negative at ARKANSAS Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

Photograph #3 - Q40006



321-23, 317-319, 313-15, 301 MAIN ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

Photographed By Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Negative At ARKANSAS Historic Preservation Program

View looking southwest

photo #4 - PU0010, PU0009, PU0008, PU3892



Faucett's Bldg - 400 Main & NRR Post Office 420 Main Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

Photographed by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

View looking NE from 4th + Main

Photo # 5 - PU0011, PU0012



North Little Rock Post Office, 420 Main Argenta Historic District

Pulaski, Arkansas

Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Looking Northeast

Photo #6 - PU0012



409, 411, 413-15, 417-19, 421-25 Main

Arbenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photographed by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Looking northwest

photo#7 - PU0015, PU0014, PU0016, PU0018, PU0019



417-19 & 421-25 MAIN

ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photographed by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking west

photo # 8 - PU0018, PU0019



500, 506, 508-10, 524 MAIN

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative AT-AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northeast from 5th & Main

photo #9 - PU0020, PU0021, PU3894, PU3895



Baker House - 109 W. 5th (NR 12-6-78)

ARGENTA Historic District

Polaski Cty. Arkansas

photo By Sandra Taylor Smith

April, 1972

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

looking northwest

photo # 10 - PU 3227



115 BROADWAY · ARGENTA Historic District

Polaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by SANDIA Taylor Smith

February, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northeast

photo # 11 - PU 3913



Lynch Apts. - 523 ORANGE - Argenta Historic District

Polaski Co. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

photo # 12 - PU 3946



623 Orange, 304, 306, 308 W. 7th - ARGENTIA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest from W. 7th & Orange

photo # 13 - PU 3950, PU 4127, PU 4128, PU 4129



717, 719, 721, 723 Orange ARBENT Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

Negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo # 14 - PU 3954, PU 3955, PU 3956, PU 3957



Grange Apts. - 809 Orange

ArbentA Historic District

Polaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

March, 1992

negative located at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking west

photo # 15 - PU3966



415 Willow (rear) 400 W. 5th

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

NEGATIVE at AR Historic Preservation Program

VIEW looking northwest

photo # 16 - PU 3971 , PU 4090



508, 510, 512, 518 Willow

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Co. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northeast

photo # 17 - PU3972, PU3973, PU3974, PU4762



510 Willow

Argenta Historic District

Polaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southeast

photo # 18-PU3973



509, 511, 517, 521 Willow Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by SARDIA Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

View looking southwest

Photo # 19 - PU 3975, PU 3976, PU 3977, PU 3978



601, 605, 607, 611, 615 Willow = Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

photo #20 - PU3984, PU3985, PU3986, PU3987, PU3988



801-03, 805, 807 Willow - Arcadia Historic District

Pulaski Co. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo #21- PU3995, PU3996, PU3997



113, 117, 125 Melrose Circle

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo #22 - PU4028, PU4029, PU4030



100, 104, 108, 112, 116, 120 Melrose Divide - Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Co. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

NOVEMBER, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

View looking northeast

photo # 23 - PU 4046, PU 4047, PU 4048, PU 4049, PU 4050, PU 4051



101, 105, 109, 111 MELROSE DIVIDE -

ARGENTA HISTORIC DISTRICT

PULASKI CTY. ARKANSAS

photo by SANDRA TAYLOR SMITH

November, 1992

negative at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo #24 - PU4041, PU4042, PU4043, PU4044



242, 258, 254, 250, 246 Melrose Circle

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski City, ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

photo #25 - PU4024, PU4023, PU4022, PU4021, PU4020



Owens House - 401 W. 4th ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Co. ARKANSAS

photo by SANDRA TAYLOR Smith

MARCH, 1992

negative AT AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo #26 - PU4057



413, 415, 417 W. 4th Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Co. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking north

photo # 27 PU 4059, PU 4060, PU 4061



401, 405, 409, 411, 413 W. 5th

ArbentA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. Arkansas

SANDRA Taylor Smith, photographer

October, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo # 28 - PU4080, PU4081, PU4082, PU4083, PU4084



Freedman-Zimmerman House - 409 W. 5th Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty, Arkansas

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AK Historic Preservation Program

view looking northwest

photo # 29 - PU 4082



505, 501, 515 W. 5th

Argenta Historic District

Pulaski Co. ARKANSAS

photo by SANDIA Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking north east

photo #30 PU 4087, PU 4086, PU 4085





509, 507, 505, 501, 415 W. 5th

Arbenta Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking north east

photo #31 - PU4089, PU4088, PU4087, PU4086, PU4085



410, 412, 500, 502 W. 5th

ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

photo #32 - PU 4093, PU 4094, PU 4095, PU 4096



400, 404, 406 W. 5th

ARGENTA Historic District

Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS

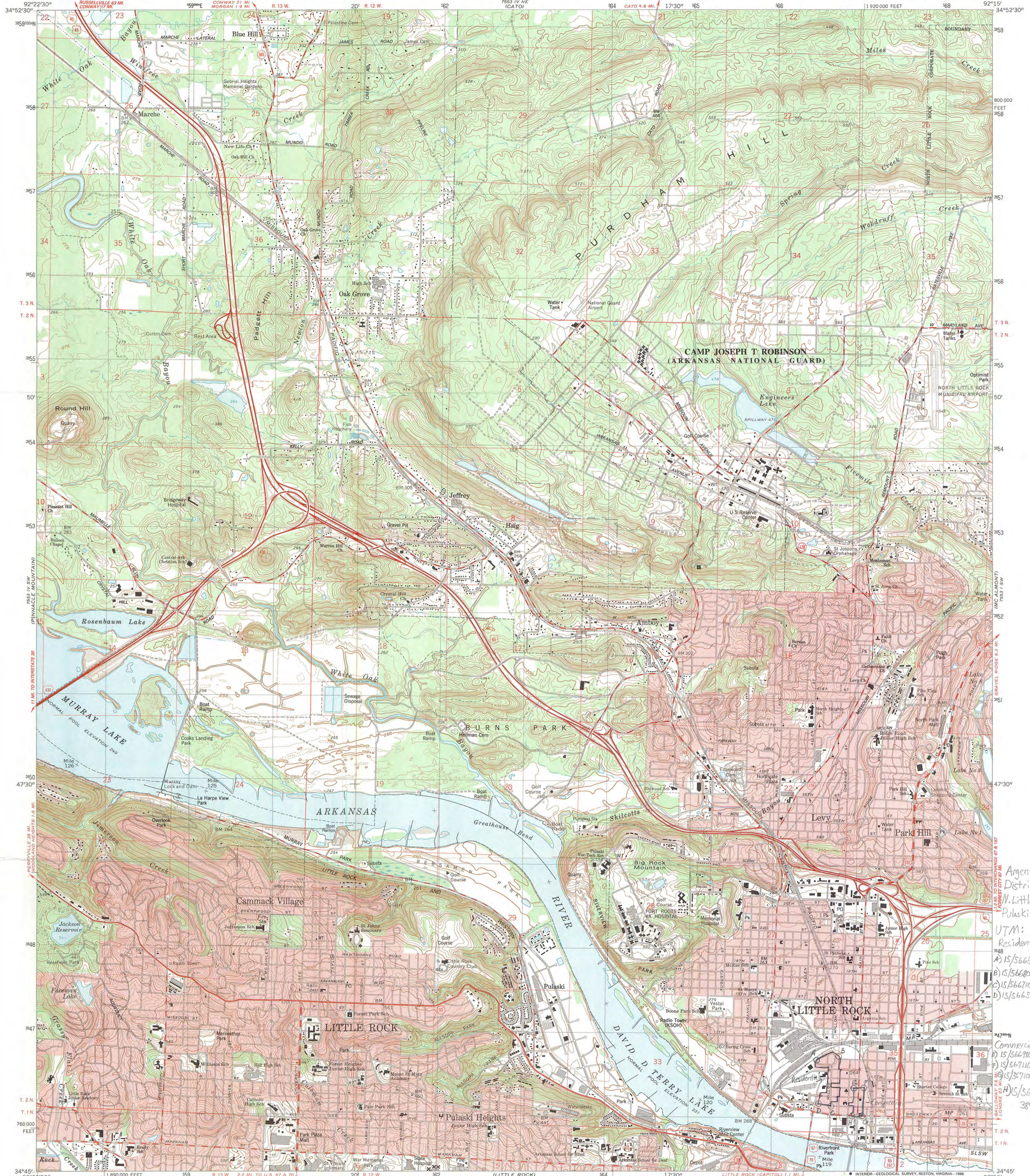
photo by Sandra Taylor Smith

November, 1992

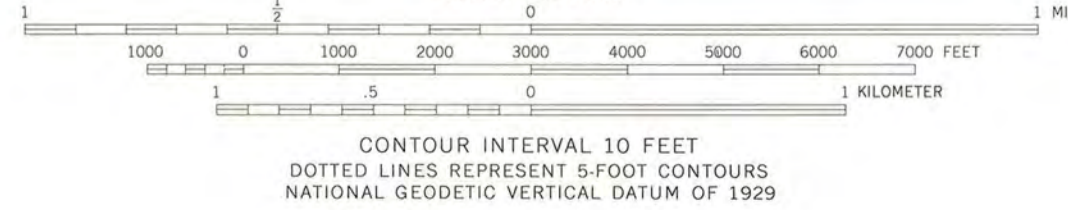
negative at AR Historic Preservation Program

view looking southwest

photo # 33 - PU4090, PU4091, PU4092



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1960. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1984. Field checked 1985. Map edited 1986
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, south 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 7 meters south and 14 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
Red 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

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate	U.S. Route
	Slate Route

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

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
34092-63-TF-024

1986

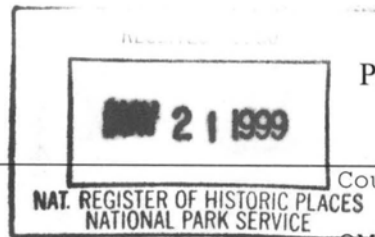
DMA 7553 IV SE-SERIES V884

Argenta Historic District
N. Little Rock,
Pulaski Co., AR
UTM:
Residential:
A) 15/566540/384670
B) 15/566800/3846740
C) 15/567100/3846140
D) 15/566560/3846170
Commercial:
E) 15/566900/3846360
F) 15/567100/3846366
G) 15/567100/3846010
H) 15/566960/
3846010

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 1999



Name of the Property _____

County, State _____

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AD
93000094

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 1,2,3,7,8,9 **Page** _____

We are requesting that the Argenta Historic District Nomination be amended to include the following nine buildings as contributing structures: The William B. Carson House at 607 Willow, The Inda rental cottage at 616 Willow, The Peter Inda House at 620 Willow, 108 Melrose Circle, 177 Melrose Circle, 213 Melrose Circle, 250 Melrose Circle, The Owen O'Kelly House at 413 West Fifth, and The Cook Building at 421-423-425 Main. At the time the original nomination was prepared these nine structures were considered non-contributing within the district because of unsympathetic additions/alterations. Since then, the structures have been restored (The Cook Building is still under construction) to their historic appearances.

Section 1, Name of Property and Section 2, Location:

- William B. Carson House, 607 Willow Street
- Inda Rental Cottage, 616 Willow Street
- Peter Inda House, 620 Willow Street
- Melrose Circle House #1, 108 Melrose Circle
- Melrose Circle House #2, 177 Melrose Circle
- Melrose Circle House #3, 213 Melrose Circle
- Melrose Circle House #4, 250 Melrose Circle
- Owen O'Kelly House, 413 West Fifth Street
- Cook Building, 421-423-425 Main Street

Section 3, Classification: Privately owned buildings; original count of contributing buildings in district--89, original count of non-contributing buildings in district--77; new count of contributing buildings in district--98, new count of non-contributing buildings in district--68.

Section 7, Description and Section 8, Statement of Significance:

William B. Carson House

Description: The house located at 607 Willow Street in the Argenta Historic District is a one-story Craftsman Bungalow constructed C. 1920. A side-gable roof with wide overhanging eaves and extended rafter tails is supported by

triangular knee-braces. Similarly, a front facing gable roof porch displays Craftsman detailing. The porch covers three quarters of the front of the house and is supported by square brick columns. The porch features a brick balustrade and low brick piers flanking the centered steps. The house is of frame construction and exterior walls are sheathed in narrow weatherboard. Gable ends are stuccoed and feature small rectangular windows. Main windows on the house are double-hung with four vertical panes over a single sash. Small casement windows flank the wide brick chimney located on the north elevation.

The house was covered in asbestos in the early 1950s. In a complete renovation of the house in 1998, the asbestos siding was removed and the original weatherboard was repaired and painted.

Significance: Located in North Little Rock's Argenta Historic District, the house at 607 Willow was constructed c. 1920 during the period of the greatest growth of the neighborhood. The Craftsman style is displayed in the design of this house through its wide, overhanging eaves with extended rafter tails. The one-story house also features Craftsman elements in the use of textures in combination of brick, wood and stucco wall materials. The house's low horizontal emphasis blends with the other Craftsman style bungalows constructed along Willow Street in the early 1920s.

The house at 607 Willow was constructed for William B. Carson, who occupied the residence for over sixty years. The Carson House was turned into rental units from 1980 through 1998. In 1998 the house was purchased by a local non-profit group, the Argenta Community Development Corporation and renovated for sale as a single-family home. During this renovation asbestos siding which had been added to exterior walls in the early 1950s was removed and the original weatherboard was repaired and painted.

Inda Rental Cottage

Description: The house at 616 Willow Street is a square-shaped, one-story frame structure capped by a pyramidal roof. Extended rafter tails under wide eaves and square brick columns on brick piers supporting the porch indicate a Craftsman style influence. Constructed c. 1915 this house is unique to the Argenta Historic District in its small, square shape with pyramid roof. In 1994 a local non-profit housing group who completed an extensive renovation purchased the boarded and abandoned house.

Significance: Located in the Argenta Historic District, this small pyramidal roof cottage was constructed c. 1915 by Peter Inda who owned and occupied another house on the same block. Members of the Inda family lived in the house at 616 Willow until the early 1950s.

The small cottage at 616 Willow was rented for a number of years, then eventually abandoned and boarded. Demolition of the house was slated before a local non-profit housing corporation purchased it. Following renovation the house was sold and is occupied by the new owner.

Peter Inda House

Description: The Peter Inda House located at 620 Willow Street in the Argenta Historic District occupies a prominent visual point in the neighborhood at the intersection of Willow and West Seventh Streets. The one-story frame house was constructed about 1900 and originally faced West Seventh Street. During the 1994 renovation of the house, evidence was revealed that the original c. 1900 structure might have been a long, narrow "shotgun" form. Research indicates that the hipped roof southern portion of the house was added around 1909.

The Inda House is comprised of a narrow gabled roof section on the north adjoined by a steeply pitched hipped roof addition on the south. A portion of the hipped roof extends over a small porch and is supported by a single narrow square wood post. Original windows remain in the house and are one-over-one double-hung sash. Front (west) windows are taller two-over-two double-hung sashes.

During the 1930s the Inda House was divided into two living spaces and a porch was added to the north side. The house was covered in asbestos in the 1950s. Renovation of the house in 1994 returned it to its c. 1909 appearance.

Significance: The property at the corner of West Seventh and Willow Streets in downtown North Little Rock's Argenta Historic District was purchased by Peter and Frances Inda in 1899 from the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad Co. It is believed that the Indas constructed a portion of the existing house around 1900. The early portion of the house was a long, narrow "shotgun" form, which faced West Seventh Street. In 1909 the Indas took out a small mortgage and added the southern-hipped roof portion of the house.

One of the earliest remaining structures in the Argenta Historic District, the Peter Inda House is representative of the role the railroad industry played in the development of the neighborhood. Peter Inda, a watchman for the Iron Mountain Railway Co. purchased the land from the railroad and constructed the house at 620 Willow as well as the small square cottage at 616 Willow for family members.

The Inda House at 620 Willow was converted into two living spaces in the 1930s, with one facing West Seventh Street and the other Willow Street. During the 1950s the house was sheathed in asbestos siding, ceilings were lowered and interior spaces were significantly altered. The Inda House was renovated in 1994 by a local non-profit housing group and converted back to

its 1909 appearance facing Willow Street. It is now a single-family, owner occupied home located on a visually prominent corner in the Argenta Historic District.

108 Melrose Circle House #1

Description: The house located at 108 Melrose Circle is typical of the fifty-two remaining small Craftsman Bungalows constructed between 1926 and 1930 in the Melrose Place Addition of the Argenta Historic District. The house is characterized by a front-facing gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and extended rafter tails. Similarly, the front facing gabled roof porch features wide eaves, extended rafter tails, triangular knee-braces and is supported by square brick columns. A tapered brick chimney flanked by small double-hung windows denotes the north elevation of the house.

Homeowners occupied this house until the 1970s when it was converted to three rental units. The house suffered much deterioration and alteration as numerous additions were added to accommodate the rental units. In 1994 it was purchased by a local non-profit housing group and renovated for single-family occupancy.

Significance: The Melrose Place Addition in the Argenta Historic District was a planned development platted in 1924 by the leading local financial institution, Twin City Bank. Melrose Place Addition was marketed to railroad workers as the railroad repair shops were nearby. Originally fifty-four small frame Craftsman Bungalows were constructed in the addition. Although fifty-two of these original houses remain, deterioration and alterations in the neighborhood is evident. Many of the houses became rental units in the 1970s and 1980s. By the early 1990s the house at 108 Melrose Circle had been condemned and slated for demolition. A number of poorly constructed additions to the rear of the house had partially collapsed and the house was considered uninhabitable.

A complete renovation of the house to a single-family residence has returned it to a viable and representative part of the historic fabric of the Argenta Historic District.

177 Melrose Circle House #2

Description: The house located at 177 Melrose Circle is typical of the fifty-two remaining small Craftsman Bungalows constructed between 1926 and 1930 in the Melrose Place Addition of the Argenta Historic District. It is characterized by a front-facing gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and extended rafter tails. Similarly, the front facing gabled roof porch features wide eaves, extended rafter tails and triangular knee-braces. Square brick columns support the porch roof. A tapered brick chimney flanked by small double-hung windows denotes the west elevation of the house.

This house was converted to rental units in the 1970s. At that time many alterations unsympathetic to its Craftsman style were made such as the enclosure of the front porch and the addition of a metal stairway to the side of the porch.

A 1997 renovation of the house returned it to the original appearance by removing non-original exterior wall material, re-opening the front porch and removing a non-historic rear addition.

Significance: The Melrose Place Addition in the Argenta Historic District was a planned development platted in 1924 by the leading local financial institution, Twin City Bank. Melrose Place Addition was marketed to railroad workers as the railroad repair shops were nearby. Originally fifty-four small-frame Craftsman Bungalows were constructed in the addition. Although fifty-two of these original houses remain, deterioration and alterations in the neighborhood is evident. Many of the houses became rental units in the 1970s and 1980s.

A complete renovation has returned the house at 177 Melrose Circle to a viable and representative part of the historic fabric of the Argenta Historic District.

213 Melrose Circle House #3

Description: The house located at 213 Melrose Circle is typical of the fifty-two remaining small Craftsman Bungalows constructed between 1926 and 1930 in the Melrose Place Addition of the Argenta Historic District. A front-facing gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and extended rafter tails characterizes the house. Similarly, the front facing gabled roof porch features wide eaves, extended rafter tails and triangular knee-braces. Square brick columns support the porch roof. A tapered brick chimney flanked by small double-hung windows denotes the west elevation of the house.

Asbestos siding was applied to the exterior walls of the house in the 1950s. During the 1980s the house was rented to numerous occupants and eventually abandoned and boarded. Vagrants using the house for shelter in the winter of 1993 started a fire, which partially burned the west side of the house.

The 1994 renovation of the house at 213 Melrose Circle returned it to its original appearance by removing non-original exterior wall material and reopening the front porch that had been screened.

Significance: The Melrose Place Addition in the Argenta Historic District was a planned development platted in 1924 by the leading local financial institution, Twin City Bank. Melrose Place Addition was marketed to railroad workers as the railroad repair shops were nearby. Originally fifty-four small frame Craftsman Bungalows were constructed in the

addition. Although fifty-two of these original houses remain, deterioration and alterations in the neighborhood is evident. Many of the houses became rental units in the 1970s and 1980s.

Following years of neglect and use as a rental unit, a complete renovation of the house at 213 Melrose Circle to single-family has returned it to a viable and representative part of the historic fabric of the Argenta Historic District.

250 Melrose Circle House #4

Description: The house located at 250 Melrose Circle is typical of the fifty-two remaining small Craftsman Bungalows constructed between 1926 and 1930 in the Melrose Place Addition of the Argenta Historic District. The house features a front-facing gabled roof with wide, overhanging eaves and extended rafter tails. Similarly, the front facing gable roof porch features wide eaves, extended rafter tails and triangular knee-braces. Square brick columns support the porch roof. A tapered brick chimney flanked by small double-hung windows denoted the north elevation of the house.

This house was occupied by a series of homeowners until the 1970s when it was converted to rental units. The house suffered much deterioration and alteration and was partially burned in 1995. It was purchased by a local non-profit housing group and renovated for single family occupancy.

Significance: The Melrose Place Addition in the Argenta Historic District was a planned development platted in 1924 by the leading local financial institution, Twin City Bank. Melrose Place Addition was marketed specifically to railroad workers as the railroad repair shops were nearby and within walking distance. Originally fifty-four small frame Craftsman Bungalows were constructed in the addition. Although fifty-two of these original houses remain, deterioration and alterations in the neighborhood is evident. Many of the houses became rental units in the 1970s and 1980s. In the mid-1990s a local non-profit housing corporation purchased the house at 250 Melrose Circle. It had been abandoned and partially burned. A complete renovation of the house has returned it to a viable and representative part of the historic fabric of the Argenta Historic District.

Owen O'Kelly House

Description: The Owen O'Kelly House at 413 West Fifth Street in the Argenta Historic District is a two-story American Foursquare style with hipped roof. The house is of frame construction with brick veneered exterior walls. A hipped roof dormer is located on the front or south elevation. A one-story shed roof porch with brick balustrade and square brick columns spans the front width of the O'Kelly House.

Although the house remained occupied by members of the O'Kelly family, it was divided into several apartments during the 1970s and 1980s. Extensive interior and exterior alterations obscured the historic character of this house. The original front porch was removed and an additional front door was added.

The house was condemned by the city's Code Department a number of times in the 1980s and early 1990s, but managed to remain occupied. Damage from a fire on the second floor in the early 1990s was left un-repaired.

The house was purchased and renovated in 1997. An historic photograph of the house was obtained and used in reconstruction of the front porch.

Significance: The Owen O'Kelly House at 413 West Fifth Street in the Argenta Historic District was constructed in 1920. Its American Foursquare design is prominent on West Fifth Street, which is largely comprised of one-story Craftsman-style Bungalows. The house was owned and occupied by descendants of the O'Kelly family through the mid-1990s. However, it had been converted into apartments, interiors significantly altered, the front porch removed and had suffered considerable deterioration.

The 1997 renovation and return of the house to single-family occupancy was guided by an historic photograph of the house. The shed roof, full-front porch with brick balustrade and columns was reconstructed. The original Craftsman-style front door and sidelights were repaired and reopened. A non-original front opening was infilled and original windows were repaired.

The O'Kelly House at 413 West fifth Street is an outstanding example of the many homes in the Argenta Historic District, which suffered alteration and decay and were doomed for demolition, but have been saved and returned to a viable part of the neighborhood.

Cook Building

Description: The building located at 421-423-425 Main Street in the commercial corridor of the Argenta Historic District is a two-story structure with late nineteenth century characteristics in its detailing. The building containing the 423 and 425 Main storefronts is believed to have been constructed around 1891. The building at 421 Main was constructed in 1895. Cast iron columns are visible on the first floor storefronts. A decorative metal cornice spans the width of the building. Bands of dentiling are located above window bays.

Research indicates that in 1929 the building was covered in stucco. Storefront alterations occurred in the late 1940s and are in the process of being returned to original appearance.

A complete renovation of the building interior and exterior is planned. In addition to the renovation of the Main Street Storefronts, second story windows will be opened and repaired and the metal cornice will be restored.

Significance: The building located at 421-423-425 Main Street, commonly known as the Cook Building for the family who owned it since the 1940s, is representative of the earliest commercial construction remaining in North Little Rock's downtown. Although the building had deteriorated considerably, it is in the process of being renovated and returned to viable retail space.

Section 9, Bibliography:

Little Rock City Directories 1896-1975.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Little Rock and North Little Rock. 1893, 1913, 1939, and 1947.

Deed Abstracts and Abstracts of Title, Melrose Place Addition, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

State Certification:

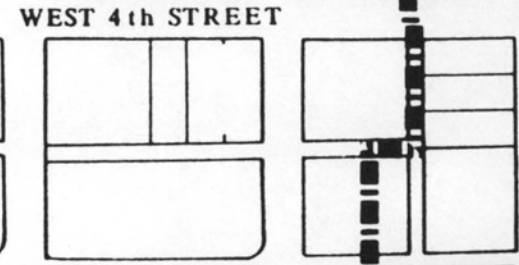
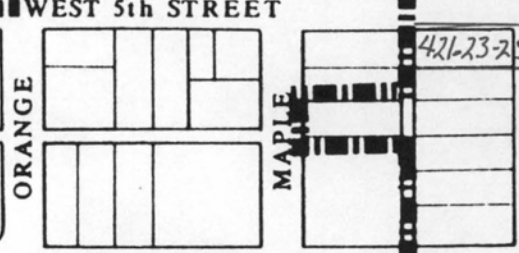
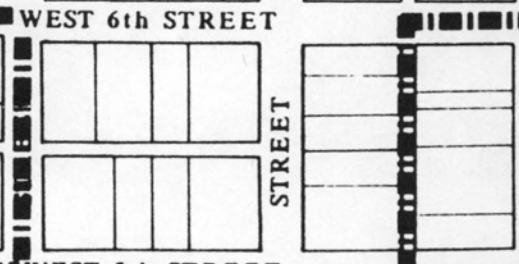
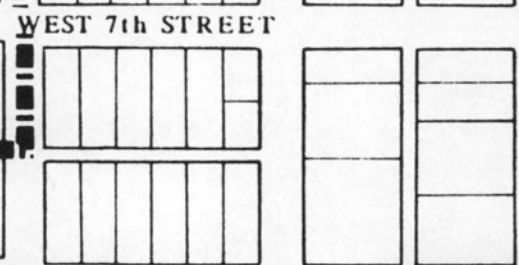
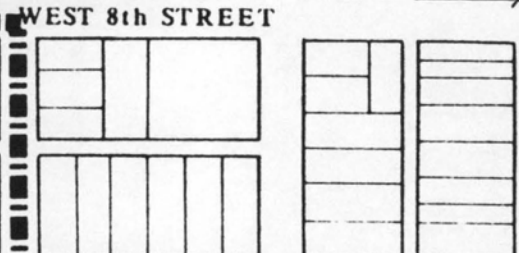
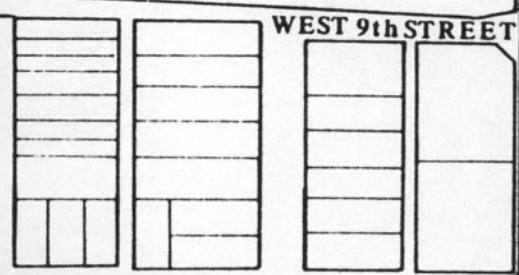
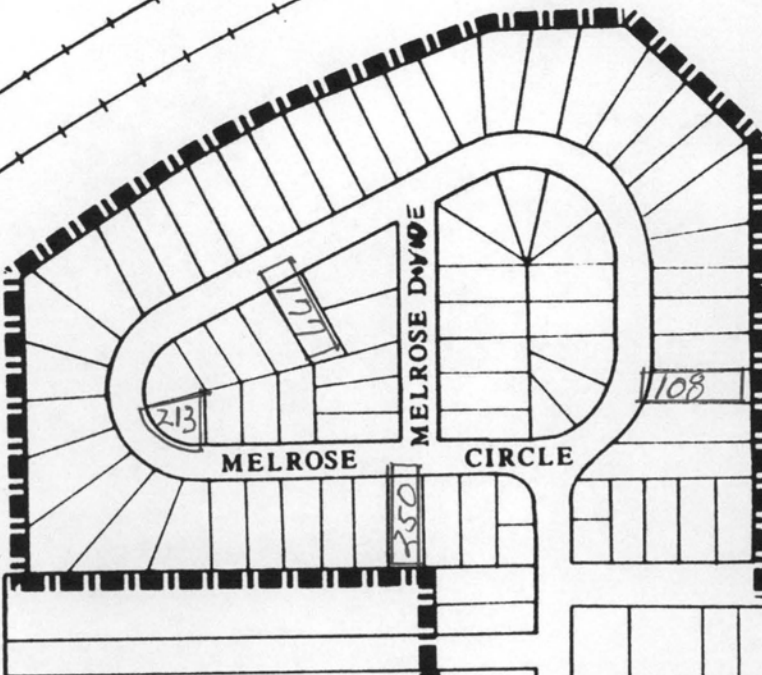
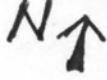
Cathryn A. Slata
Signature of certifying official

5-6-99
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State agency

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

ARGENTA Historic District



RAILROAD SHOPS

NORTH BROADWAY

STREET

WILLOW

STREET

ORANGE

STREET

MAPLE

STREET

MAIN

WEST 3rd STREET

BROADWAY



1. CARSON HOUSE - 607 Willow Street
2. Pulaski County, ARKANSAS
3. photo By SARDIA Taylor Smith
4. 1015-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. View from NORTH EAST



2. Pulaski County, Arkansas
3. photo by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from west



1. View of main house - 620 Willow Street
2. Pulaski Cty., Arkansas
3. Photo by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from northwest



1. 100 MEADOW CIRCLE HOUSE
2. Pulaski Cty., ARKANSAS
3. Photo By Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHAP
6. View from southwest



1. 1777 Melrose Circle House
2. Pulaski Cty., ARKANSAS
3. photo by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. View from west



1. 213 MELROSE CIRCLE HOUSE
2. Pulaski County, ARKANSAS
3. photo by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPD
6. view from south



1. ALSO MECKOSE CIRCLE HOUSE
2. Pulaski Cty. Arkansas
3. photo By Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from north



1. OWEN O'Kelly HOUSE - 413 W. 5th ST.
2. Pulaski Cty. ARKANSAS
3. photo By SARDA Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from south



WRONG WAY

DO NOT ENTER

DO NOT ENTER

ONE WAY

SALVAGE

1. COOK Building - 421-423-425 MAIN ST.
2. PALASKI Cty., ARKANSAS
3. photo by SANDIA Taylor SMITH
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from north east



ONE WAY
→

423

1. COOK Building -421-423-425 main St.
2. Pulaski Cty., ARKANSAS
3. photo By SANDIA Taylor Smith
4. 10-15-98
5. negative on file AHDP
6. view from EAST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Argenta Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 5/21/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/05/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000094

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 6/21/99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

TELEPHONE

DISCIPLINE

DATE

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

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2000

93000094

Argenta Historic District
Name of Property

Pulaski, AR
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 1, 2, 3, 5 Page 1



AD

We are requesting that the Argenta Historic District Nomination be amended to include the following four buildings as contributing structures. At the time the original nomination was prepared these four structures were considered non-contributing within the district because of unsympathetic additions/alterations. Since then, the structures have been restored to their historic appearance.

1 & 2 Name of Property & Location:

historic name Argenta Historic District (Amendment – changing 4 non-contributing properties to contributing)
David Holland House, 320 West Eighth Street
House at 518 Willow Street
House at 512 Willow Street
House at 718 Willow Street

city or town North Little Rock vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Pulaski code 119 zip code 72114

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.)

Cathy A. Slater 4-10-00
Signature of certifying official Title Date
AR 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.)

Cathy A. Slater 4-10-00
Signature of certifying official Title Date
AR Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. Classification

Privately owned buildings; count of contributing buildings in district after the 1999 amendment – 98, count of non-contributing buildings in district after the 1999 amendment – 68. New count of contributing buildings in district – 102, new count of non-contributing buildings in district – 64.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SECTION 7: PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

At the time the original nomination was prepared these four structures were considered non-contributing within the district because of unsympathetic additions/alterations. Since then, the structures have been restored to their historic appearance.

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 320 West Eighth Street

The David Holland House at 320 West Eighth Street in the Argenta Historic District was constructed in 1929. The frame house is a long, horizontal-shaped structure with a steep cross gable roof and one-half front porch covered by a flat roof. Three brick chimneys rise from the roof of the house. A low shed roof room addition is situated on the rear (south) of the house. An original shed roof rear west elevation porch has been enclosed.

The house rests on a foundation of brick piers infilled with sections of corrugated metal. The front (north) porch rests on a continuous brick foundation. Original weatherboard walls were sheathed in roll asphalt siding from the 1950s to late 1999. Windows are tall wood double-hung, two-over-two. Glass transoms are located over main entry doors on the front (north).

The front (north) porch features a flat roof supported by a single square brick column. A low brick pier to the right of the three concrete steps to the porch has been removed. The porch appears to be the only Craftsman era feature of the exterior.

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 518 Willow Street

Constructed c. 1910, the house located at 518 Willow Street is a shotgun form structure with Craftsman detailing, distinguishing it from the two adjacent shotgun style houses on the same block. The house is a one-story simple horizontal plan typical of the shotgun folk form with a rear portion which slightly projects from the north side and extends past the south elevation wall to form an ell. Of frame construction, the original wood clapboard exterior walls have been covered in asphalt shingles. The house rests on brick piers and the foundation has been filled with corrugated metal between piers.

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Section number 7 Page 2

The roof of the shotgun style house at 518 Willow is a clipped gable which distinguishes it from the simple gable roofs on the other shotgun form houses on the block. The roof is covered with composition shingles and forms a hip on its rear (east) end. A brick chimney rises from the center of the main portion of the house and a tall brick chimney rises from the rear room of the house.

Two tapered wood posts on granite piers support the hipped roof of the front (west) porch. The porch is accessed by one concrete step. The entry door is wood with a glass light in the upper half and is situated on the southern edge of the porch. Thin metal posts support the rear (east) hipped roof porch.

Windows are double-hung wood frame with four-over-one lights. The north elevation features three sets of pairs of windows, while the southern elevation contains two single double-hung windows and one pair of windows on the rear room.

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 512 Willow Street

The house located at 512 Willow Street in North Little Rock's Argenta Historic District was constructed circa 1910. It is a folk form house often referred to as "Shotgun" style characterized by its long and narrow shape. The house is one story tall, one room wide, and several rooms long. The gable roof of the house faces toward the front (west). The house is of frame construction and rests on brick piers. Sheets of corrugated metal have been used to infill between brick piers.

The original exterior wood clapboard walls were covered in composition shingles in the early 1950s and removed in late 1999. Original one-over-one wood windows have been replaced with metal two-over-two windows. The flat roof front porch is supported by wood posts on masonry piers. A low masonry pier in the center of the porch flanks the step to the entry door which is located on the south end of the narrow façade.

North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 718 Willow Street

The house located at 718 Willow Street in North Little Rock's Argenta Historic District (NR 03-15-93) is a one-story rectangular-shaped structure of frame construction. The house is capped by a front-facing gable roof from which three brick chimneys rise. The roof's wide eaves and extended rafter ends lend Craftsman style characteristic to the house. The house rests on brick piers with corrugated metal infill.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

A single square brick column supports a front southwest corner recessed porch. A low shed roof addition on the rear (east) extends past the wall of the house on the south rear corner.

The original wood weatherboard exterior walls were sheathed in roll asphalt siding from the early 1950s to 1999. Windows on the house are tall; two-over-two double-hung of wood construction. Two entry doors are located in the inner corner of the recessed front porch. An exterior door on the rear north elevation is accessed by two concrete steps and covered with a projecting shed roof. Another two exterior doors are located on the rear (east) shed roof addition.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SECTION 8: HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 320 West Eighth Street

The David Holland House at 320 West Eighth Street in the Argenta Historic District is a one-story, long and irregularly rectangular-shaped structure covered by a cross-gable roof. Research indicates Missouri Pacific Railroad switchman David Holland constructed the house on its present site in 1929.

The form and detailing is characteristic of pre-1929 architectural styling. Tall double-hung wood windows with two-over-two lights, the steeply pitched cross-gable roof and irregular shape are typical of the type of small house constructed in the 1910s spanning the transition from Queen Anne style to Colonial Revival style. Although unsubstantiated, the possibility that this house was constructed at another location around 1910 and moved to its present site in the late 1920s would account for its pre-Craftsman period architectural characteristics.

David Holland only resided in the house through the 1930s. Since the 1940s the house has been occupied by many residents, most of whom only lived there for one or two years.

The construction of the David Holland House at 320 West Eighth Street is indicative of the large amount of construction which took place in the neighborhood during the 1920s to meet the demand for housing close to Missouri-Pacific Railroad repair shops and yards. It was during the 1920s that the neighborhood now known as the Argenta Historic District saw the most growth. The construction of the David Holland House at 320 West Eighth Street represents this period of the district's development, from which its present character is derived.

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 518 Willow Street

The shotgun form house located at 518 Willow Street in North Little Rock's Argenta Historic District was constructed circa 1910. The row of shotgun style houses on the east side of the 500 block of Willow Street represents the type of small housing constructed in great numbers in the first two decades of the twentieth century in this neighborhood. Only a few shotgun style houses remain in the district, either replaced by a construction boom in the 1920s or destroyed during the Urban Renewal program of the 1960s.

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Section number 8 Page 2

The house at 518 Willow Street was, as many others of its type in the neighborhood, occupied by a series of short-term residents in its early years. Many of the early occupants of the house were employed by the Missouri-Pacific Railroad, whose repair shops and yards were located within walking distance of the house.

In the early 1930s the Emmitt Putman family moved into the house. The Putmans were associated with Vogue Cleaners, located in North Little Rock's downtown, as was the Joseph Ollie family who lived next door at 512 Willow. The Putman family occupied the 518 Willow Street house through the early 1960s.

In the late 1960s, the house was purchased for rental income and was sporadically occupied by a series of temporary residents until 1999 when it was purchased by a local non-profit housing corporation who is in the process of renovating it.

Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 512 Willow Street

The "Shotgun" style house located at 512 Willow Street in the Argenta Historic District was constructed circa 1910. As was often the case in North Little Rock's historic Argenta neighborhood, this house was built to directly respond to the urgent need for housing near the Missouri-Pacific Railroad yards and repair shops, the major employer in the city from 1900 through the 1950s.

After its construction around 1910, a different resident occupied the small house each year. Beginning in 1919 the Thomas Crumley family moved into the house and remained there through the late 1930s. Originally spelled 'Krumley', the family was headed by Konstantia Krumley, widow of Jesse Krumley. Sons John, who was employed by the city's fire department, and Thomas, a railroad employee, apparently changed the spelling of the name to "Crumley" around 1919.

Joseph Ollie was the second resident to be long-term associated with the house at 512 Willow Street. The Ollie family moved into the house in the late 1930s. Ollie was a cook for one of the large hotels in downtown Little Rock. His wife, Margaret, worked in a clothing cleaners located on North Little Rock's Main Street. Joseph Ollie died in the early 1950s and his widow remained in the house at 512 Willow Street through the end of the 1960s.

After the death of Mrs. Margaret Ollie, the house was purchased for rental income and occupied by a series of residents until 1999 when it was purchased by a local non-profit housing corporation who is in the process of renovating this house along with the other three folk form houses surrounding it.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

The house at 512 Willow Street is a significant representation of the early development of the residential area of North Little Rock's downtown. The early years of the twentieth century saw a great influx of construction in the area, much of which were rows of "shotgun" style houses. Only a few clusters of these shotgun form houses remain in the district. The 512 Willow Street House is one of the examples of this type of affordable housing which was once common in the Argenta Historic District.

North Little Rock, Arkansas
Pulaski County
Property: 718 Willow Street

The house located at 718 Willow Street in the Argenta Historic District is a one-story rectangular shaped structure of frame construction. It was constructed on the site circa 1929 to respond to the need for housing near Missouri-Pacific railroad repair shops and yards. According to research sources, the house has always been rental property, occupied by a series of temporary residents.

Neighborhood folklore indicates the house consists of two army barracks relocated from Camp Pike, north of the city. Although there is no historic evidence to substantiate this theory, it is a well-known fact that structures from Camp Pike were offered to the public for relocation after the camp slowed operations following the end of World War I. The tall two-over-two double-hung windows and interior detailing such as bull's eye door and window moldings and exceptionally tall ceilings would indicate stylistic details not particularly common to the late 1920s.

The house at 718 Willow Street has been occupied as a multi-family unit off and on since its construction in the Argenta neighborhood. City Directories in the 1930s and 1940s indicate a series of railroad employees resided in the house.

Although it remained occupied through late 1999, the house at 718 Willow Street has suffered from neglect and progressive deterioration. The property has been purchased by a local non-profit housing corporation and is slated for renovation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 33

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 15 566540 3846690
Zone Easting Northing

C 15 566710 3846140
Zone Easting Northing

E 15 566980 3846360
Zone Easting Northing

G 15 567100 3846010
Zone Easting Northing

B 15 566800 3846740
Zone Easting Northing

D 15 566560 3846170
Zone Easting Northing

F 15 567110 3846360
Zone Easting Northing

H 15 566960 3846010
Zone Easting Northing

SEE ATTACHED QUAD MAP.

Verbal Boundary Description

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

The boundaries remain the same as they were at the time the Argenta Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in March of 1993.

The boundaries for both of the discontiguous districts that together form the Argenta Historic District are shown as the dotted lines on the accompanying sketch map entitled "Argenta Historic District."

SEE ATTACHED SITE MAP.

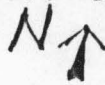
Boundary Justification

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

This boundary includes all of the properties that historically have been associated with the district that retain their integrity

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD

ARGENTA Historic District



MELROSE

MELROSE D'YME

CIRCLE

WEST 9th STREET

WEST 8th STREET

718
320

WEST 7th STREET

AIRROAD SHOPS

WEST 6th STREET

518
512

WEST 5th STREET

NORTH BROADWAY

WILLOW STREET

WEST 4th STREET

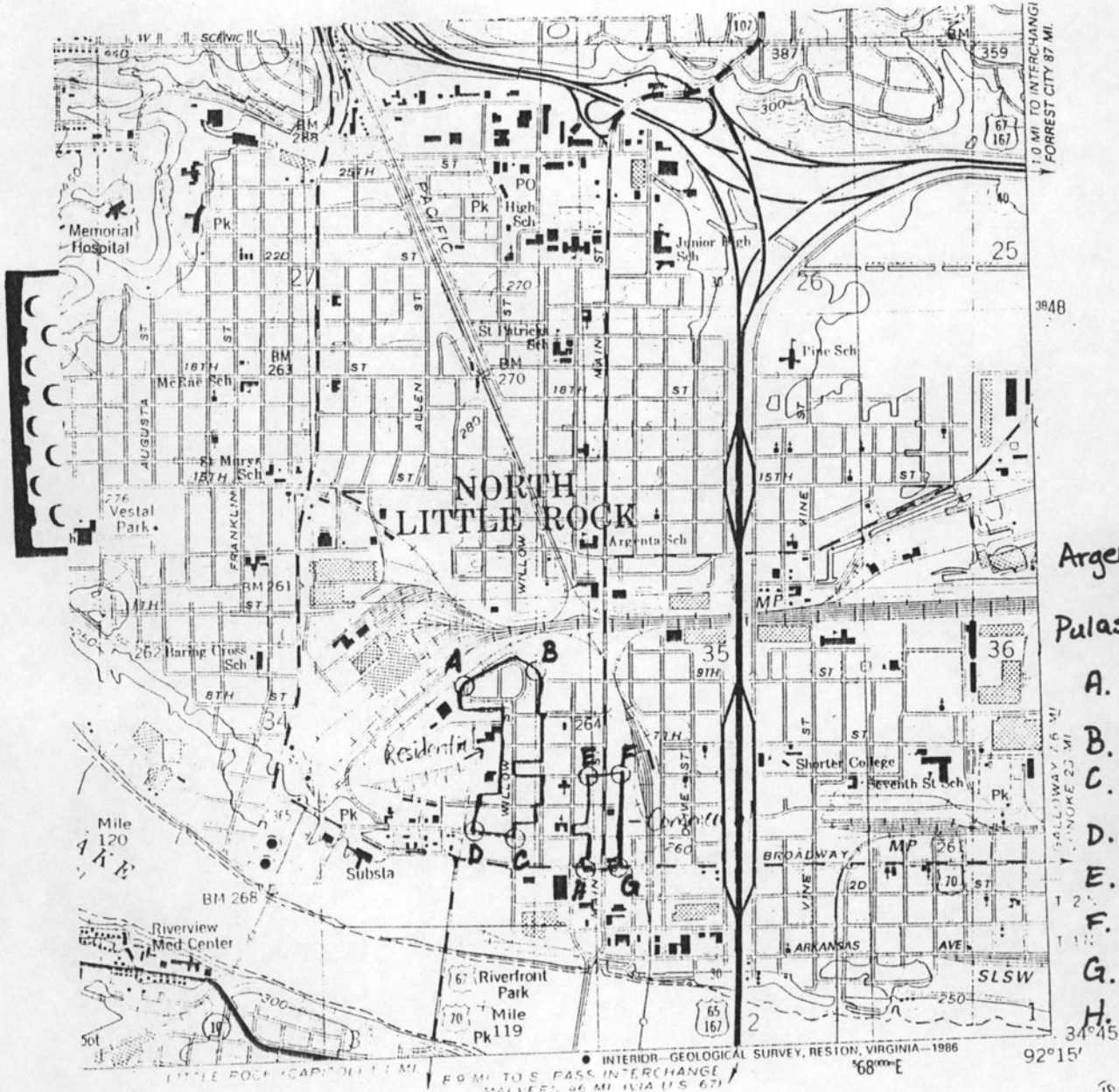
ORANGE STREET

WEST 3rd STREET

MAPLE STREET

MAIN STREET

BROADWAY



Argenta Historic District
Palaski Co., AR

- A. 15/566540/3846690
- B. 15/566800/3846740
- C. 15/566710/3846140
- D. 15/566560/3846170
- E. 15/566980/3846360
- F. 15/567110/3846360
- G. 15/567100/3846010
- H. 15/566960/3846010

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty		Light-duty	
Medium-duty		Unimproved dirt	
	Interstate Route		U. S. Route
	State Route		



NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
34092-G3-TF-024

1986

DMA 7553 IV SE-SEPIES V884

(SWEET HOME)
7553 II NW



1. Argenta Historic District
2. Pulaski City, AR
3. photo By Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 02-03-00
5. negative at AHPP
6. 512 Willow Street (P43974) view from southwest



1. Argenta Historic District
2. North Little Rock Pulaski City AR
3. Photo By Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 02-03-00
5. negative at AHPP
6. 518 Willow Street (PU 4767) view from southwest



1. PULASKI HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. Pulaski Cty. AR
3. photo by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. 02-03-00
5. negative at AHPP
6. 320 W. 8th Street (PU4142) view from the North



1. Historic District

2. North Little Rock Pulaski Cty. AR

3. Photo By Sandra Taylor Smith

4. 02-03-00

5. negative AT AHP

6. 718 Willow Street (P43989) view Looking Northeast

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Argenta Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 5/02/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/16/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000094

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA *Accept*

REVIEWER *Edson Beal*

DISCIPLINE *Historian*

TELEPHONE _____

DATE *6/6/00*

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

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2015

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 14 2015

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

Section number 5 Page _____

The revised resource count for the Argenta Historic District is:

	Contributing	Non-contributing
Buildings	201	45
Sites		
Structures		
Objects		
Totals	201	45

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page

In the original nomination for the Argenta Historic District, the W. H. Koehler Building at 709 Main Street (AHPP Resource Number PU3910), Koehler Building at 711 Main Street (AHPP Resource Number PU0025), and the Koehler Building at 713 Main Street (AHPP Resource Number PU0026) were considered to be non-contributing to the District, due to the installation of corrugated metal slipcovers on the upper parts of the buildings. However, the properties should now be considered to be contributing resources since the metal slipcovers have been removed. As a result, the buildings are considered to be contributing resources in the Argenta Historic District.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Page 1
 Documentation

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Koehler Buildings at 709, 711, and 713 Main Street

City or Vicinity: North Little Rock

County: Pulaski County State: Arkansas

Photographer: Ralph S. Wilcox

Date Photographed: July 27, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 5 . View of the east façades of the buildings at 709, 711, and 713 Main Street, looking northwest.
- 2 of 5 . View of the east façade of the building at 709 Main Street, looking west.
- 3 of 5 . View of the east façades of the buildings at 711 and 713 Main Street, looking west.
- 4 of 5 . View of the east façades of the buildings at 709, 711, and 713 Main Street, looking southwest.
- 5 of 5 . View of the west façades of the buildings at 709, 711, and 713 Main Street, looking east.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Page 2
 Documentation



W. H. Koehler Building at 709 Main Street, c.1955. (Photo courtesy of the North Little Rock History Commission.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Page 3
 Documentation



Koehler Buildings at 709, 711, and 713 Main Street, c.1955. (Photo courtesy of the North Little Rock History Commission.)



19-WHKOEHLER-46

Foxy's Den
FULL SERVICE SALON

EVENTS URBAN CENTER

AlteraGraphics SIGNS & MORE



M. RAPILLARD
1909

State Farm
501-791-1100

707
MAIN STREET - ARGENTA

Charlotte Potts
Agent
Providing Insurance and Financial Services

19-WHKOEHLER-46

Boarded up window and door area with plywood and a white sign.

Foxy's Den
FULL SERVICE SALON

EVENTS URBAN





Foxy's Den
FULL SERVICE SALON

EVENTS URBAN CENTER

seal

AlturaGr
AlturaGraphics
BUSINESS & EDUCATION TRAINING
MARKETING - VIDEO DESIGN

State Farm
501-791-1100

W. KOEHLER

Foxy's Den
FULL SERVICE SALON

EVENTS URBAN CENTER





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Argenta Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000094

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 9-29-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9-29-15

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.

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Argenta Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 1/29/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/09/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/25/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/15/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000094

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/15/93 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Discontiguous commercial & residential districts -
last intact remains of town of Argenta.
Significant as example of development of
community & as remaining examples of
commercial & residential building types.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept/A&C
REVIEWER H. Apple
DISCIPLINE Historian
DATE 3/15/93

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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- ___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone

Signed Date



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

JAN 29 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

January 25, 1993

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, DC 20002

RE: Argenta Historic District
North Little Rock, Pulaski County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. 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.

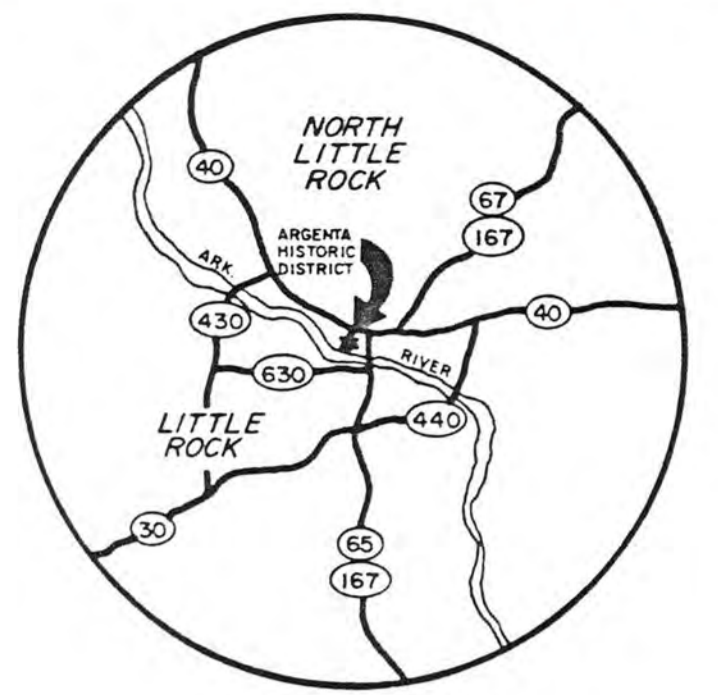
Sincerely,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:kg

Enclosures



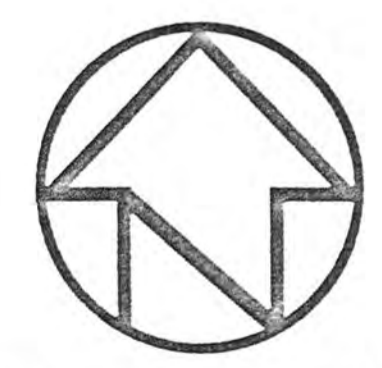


VICINITY MAP



ARGENTA HISTORIC DISTRICT

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



SCALE: 1"=200'
1992

REVISIONS

- Key: ● CONTRIBUTING
▲ NATIONAL REGISTER
--- DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF THE ARGENTA HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Argenta Historic District consists of two discontinuous groups of historic structures associated with the historic community of Argenta, the earliest settlement north of the Arkansas River at this location that later became what is now known as North Little Rock. The Argenta Historic District represents a continuum of the city's development. The era between 1890 and 1940 is the period when North Little Rock established itself as a city of the first class and emerged as an industrial center. At the crux of the development of North Little Rock was the strong role the railroad played in the city's economic base and its effect on the industrial nature of the city. The process by which North Little Rock grew from a small settlement to a city of the first class is an important part of the development of central Arkansas' urban center. The foresight and ingenuity of early leaders in North Little Rock is a significant example of community planning and development.

The area along the north bank of the Arkansas River did not parallel the development of Arkansas's capitol city across the river, Little Rock. It is thought that as early as 1810 there were white settlers across from "the little rock". The area was referred to as "Opposite Little Rock" on early maps. In 1845 an army officer named Richard DeCantillon Collins who surveyed roads and rivers in Arkansas for the government registered with the Pulaski County clerk's office eight square blocks for sale on the north bank of the Arkansas River. The first name given to the area was DeCantillon.

Another early settlement in the area called Huntersville is believed to have been named for Capt. R.L. Hunter who surveyed a route for the Little Rock-Fort Smith railroad. The first rail route built in Arkansas was the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad. Completed in 1862, the railroad ended at a depot on the north river bank "opposite Little Rock" from where passengers were ferried across the river to Little Rock. In 1871 the Arkansas Gazette published an editorial in an attempt to clear confusion about the name of the town "opposite

Little Rock". This editorial explained that during the Civil War the military superintendent of the north side depot was William Hunter and the location was known as the military post of Huntersville. By 1872 what was left of the Huntersville settlement had been destroyed by fire. Yet another development on the north side, though not as well known as DeCantillon, Huntersville or Argenta, was the town of Quapaw. In 1865 William E. Woodruff advertised riverfront lots adjacent to "Huntersville" but there is no evidence of any deeds recorded.

In 1866 the town of Argenta was surveyed and platted (Argentum is Latin for Silver). Folklore says that silver had been discovered about ten miles north of the town site (in actuality, "Kellogg's Diggins" was a lead mine which was intermittently mined through the 1920s and did indeed yield some silver). Another version of how Argenta was named centers around a Frenchman named A. J. Burnett who built a two story hotel called the "Argenta" before the Civil War. It is said that the area around the hotel and the town of DeCantillon were combined and named Argenta.

Although a post office was established in Argenta in 1871, the town had not incorporated. In 1873 the completion of the Baring Cross bridge across the Arkansas River just to the west of downtown Argenta, connecting it with Little Rock and the southwest, heralded the beginning of a long period of growth for the city of Argenta. By the late 1870s Argenta was a major railroad line crossing. As the railway related shops, warehouses, and workforce increased so did the town of Argenta. Additions to the west of the Original Town of Argenta were platted in the 1880s including DeCantillon Addition, Hudson's Addition and Clendenin's Addition. It was common for a large portion of railway labor to be migratory and large numbers of these "boomers" as they were called passed through Argenta. The railroad people who settled in one place were called "homeguards". With a rapidly growing population and little organized means of enforcing law



*North Little Rock and Little Rock, June 25, 1913.
Photograph taken from atop the MoPac Railroad grain elevator.*

the disorderliness of the town inspired an article in the *Arkansas Gazette* in December 1880 encouraging the town of Argenta to incorporate for the purpose of obtaining control of the "lawless conditions".

However, no steps were taken to establish Argenta as an incorporated city until 1890 when an incorporation petition was filed. The Little Rock city attorney advised the City Council that the boundaries of the cities of Little Rock and Argenta extended to the middle of the Arkansas River between them and therefore considered Argenta contiguous to Little Rock. In an election in April, 1890, Little Rock voters decided to annex lands contiguous to their city. Argenta was made the eighth ward of the city of Little Rock. Although C.L. Vogel (owner of Vogel's Grocery at 323 Main) challenged the legality of the election in the Supreme Court of Arkansas, it was affirmed that the annexation was legal.

At the time of its annexation to Little Rock, Argenta was still considered a "rough" town. (Argenta was "off limits" even to soldiers stationed at nearby Fort Roots Military Base). Saloons and gambling houses filled the buildings along Argenta's primary street, Newton Avenue (later changed to Main St.). There were no paved streets, no water system, plank sidewalks, a small police force, and only bucket-brigade fire protection. Low lying streets with no drainage system often flooded, leaving Argenta a muddy, mosquito infested area. Although a "free" wooden bridge was constructed across the Arkansas River in the late 1890s, little improvements were made in Little Rock's Eighth Ward.

The name Faucette is synonymous with the history of North Little Rock. Brothers William C. and James P. Faucette were foresighted businessmen who played a significant role in the independence and development of Argenta/North Little Rock. After settling in Argenta in 1878, both men had worked on the Little Rock-Fort Smith Railway. As an early business venture the Faucette brothers operated a boarding house at 400 Main Street which catered to railroad workers. Later they bought land in downtown Argenta and built a private electric light plant.

As one of the first aldermen elected from the Eighth Ward of Little Rock, William Faucette pushed for improvements in the swampy Eighth Ward. In 1901 a group of men from the Eighth Ward led by the Faucette brothers secretly organized for the purpose of separating Argenta from Little Rock. An area immediately north of the Argenta town site (what is roughly today 15th St. on the south, 23rd on the north, Main Street on the east and the railroad tracks on the west) was incorporated as the "Town of North Little Rock" in 1901. The Faucette brothers paid the filing fee for the incorporation of North Little

Rock and Frank O. Cook was elected the first mayor.

The group from the Eighth Ward then manipulated a bill through the Arkansas Thirty-fourth General Assembly in 1903. Prepared by state senator James P. Clarke, this bill was written to permit the annexation or consolidation of one municipal corporation located within one mile of any other municipal corporation. The act was called the "Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill" and the men from the Eighth Ward paid a lobbyist from Walnut Ridge to ascertain its passage. There was little attention paid to this piece of legislation by the General Assembly as it was thought to have been a special interest bill written to permit the cities of Hoxie and Walnut Ridge to consolidate. The Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill was signed into law in March, 1903. On May 1, 1903, the day after the legislature adjourned, William C. Faucette announced that he had a petition signed by Argenta property owners asking to be annexed to the incorporated town of North Little Rock under the provisions of the Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill. A special election was held in July 1903 and the citizens of Argenta voted to secede from Little Rock and become part of the incorporated town of North Little Rock.

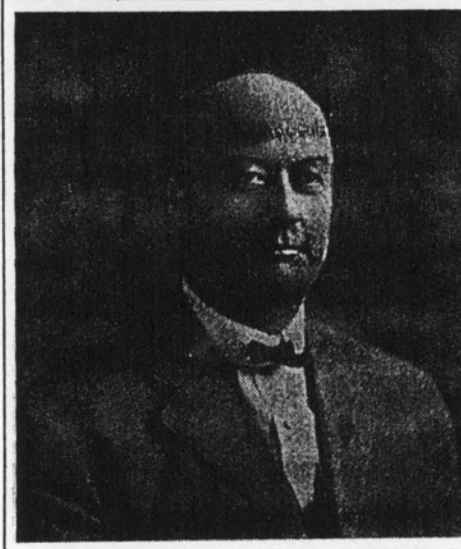
The annexation of Argenta by North Little Rock was in dispute in the courts for over a year but in February, 1904 the Arkansas Supreme Court decided in favor of the North Little Rock-Argenta annexation. William Faucette was elected mayor in the city's first general election. In addition to the mayoral position, a full slate of city officers was elected and the city was divided into four wards. With a population of 6,500 and an established city government, North Little

Rock became a city of the first class.

William Faucette was re-elected mayor in 1905 and 1907. James Faucette was selected to fill the unexpired mayoral term of the city's second mayor, E. Ramsey in 1910 and was re-elected mayor in 1911. City improvement districts were established which included paving streets and installing a drainage system. The privately owned Faucette Brothers Bank (established in 1901) changed its name to Twin City Bank with James Faucette as president and then incorporated as a public bank. Manufacturing and railroad business expanded and the city began to flourish.

On October 26, 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt visited the city and gave a short speech at the City Park (located where the North Little Rock Post Office stands at 420 Main). It is said that Roosevelt remarked "Mr. Faucette, I am delighted to meet the mayor of Argenta". In January, 1906, a city ordinance was passed changing the name of the city to Argenta.

Argenta experienced an economic boom in the first decade of the 20th



*William C. Faucette
First elected mayor of the first-class city.*

*Taken from the book: A History of
North Little Rock, The Unique City*

century. Four railroads were located in the city. Cotton oil mills and the lumber industry provided a strong economic base for growth. In 1910 Justin Matthews, a businessman and real estate developer, built a two-story building with full basement (razed by Urban Renewal in the 1960s) covering the entire east side of the 200 block of Main Street. Other local businessmen built brick buildings along Main Street, including the Manees family (313-315 Main and 317-319 Main) and Solon Humphreys, a real estate developer (318 Main, 324 Main and 104-110 E. 4th).

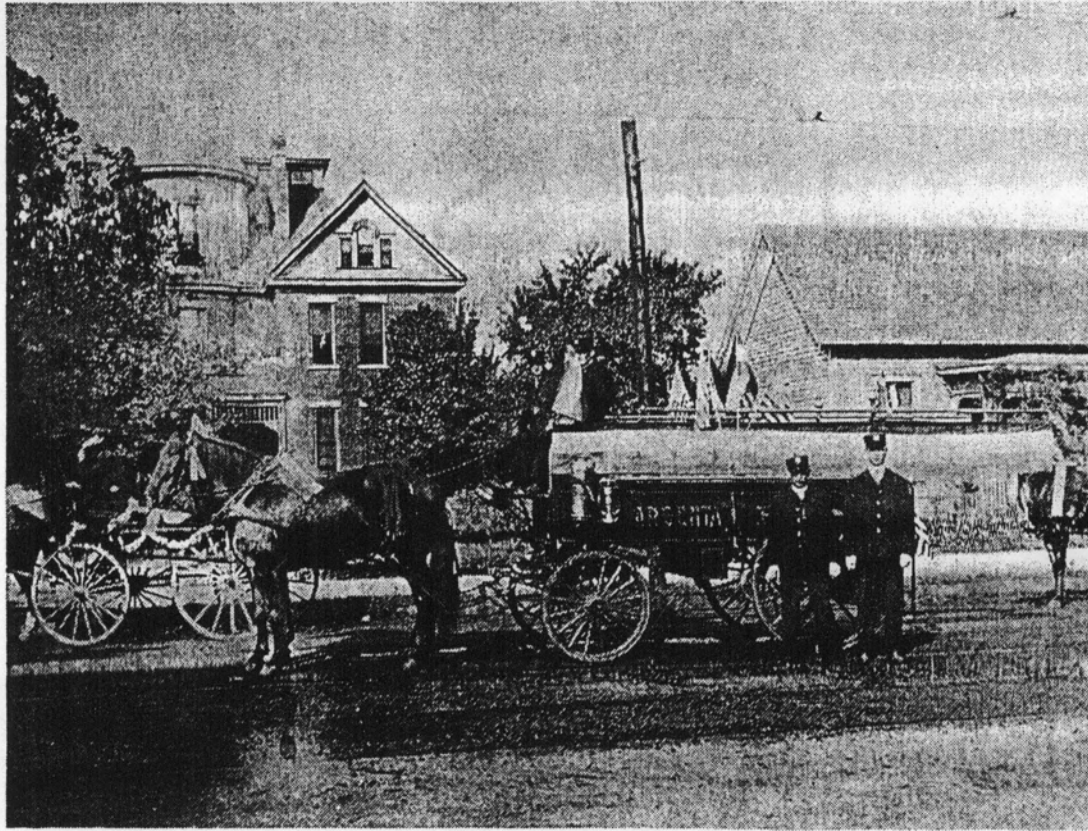
The Faucette brothers were the force behind construction of a new city hall building in 1914 which remains an outstanding architectural and governmental anchor in the commercial district.

The name remained Argenta until 1917 when it was changed to North Little Rock and has remained as such since (in 1958 there was an unsuccessful campaign to change the name back to Argenta). The 1917 name change to North Little Rock was fostered by James P. Faucette after a trip to California where he saw the economic benefits to a small town close to Hollywood after changing its name to "West Hollywood". J.P. Faucette was convinced that changing the name of Argenta back to North Little Rock would be a financial boost to the city.

As the city's business section grew in the early years of the 20th century, its residential area was changing west of Main Street. Although additions had been platted, there was little building in most of the area west of Main Street. Orange and Willow Streets were occupied by African-American families. At least two African-American churches were once located on Orange Street. In the early years of the century, white and black families often lived on the same blocks. By 1915, however, most of the downtown residential neighborhood was occupied by white local business owners and workers and railroad employees.

In 1923 the Broadway Bridge over the Arkansas River was dedicated. The "free bridge", built in the 1890s, was replaced in 1924 by a Main Street bridge. Replacement of a dangerous wood viaduct over the railroad tracks at 9th and Main Streets by a new concrete viaduct in 1927 accessed the areas north of downtown for further development. A streetcar system existed in the downtown and the city was in such good financial condition that a banner was placed on the eastern edge of town reading on one side "Locate in North Little Rock- A City Without Indebtedness" and "Welcome to North Little Rock, The Industrial City of Arkansas" on the other side.

Both the commercial and residential districts of downtown North Little Rock remained viable through the 1960s. In the latter part of the 1960s Urban Renewal projects cleared a two block wide path along the Arkansas River. Commercial buildings in the first two blocks of Main Street were razed and two modern bank buildings were constructed in the 200 block of Main. Buildings in the first two blocks of Maple, Orange and Willow were also cleared as a part of Urban Renewal projects. To the east of the Argenta Historic Commercial District, construction of Interstate 30 interrupted that portion of the historic downtown neighborhood. In western areas of the Argenta Historic Residential District, more "improvements" and rerouting of



Fire truck outside of the Baker House at 109 W. 5th and the Hempsfling House at 507 Main Street that now houses the North Little Rock Historic District Commission offices.

Courtesy of the North Little Rock History Commission

traffic arteries opened once serene streets to heavy use.

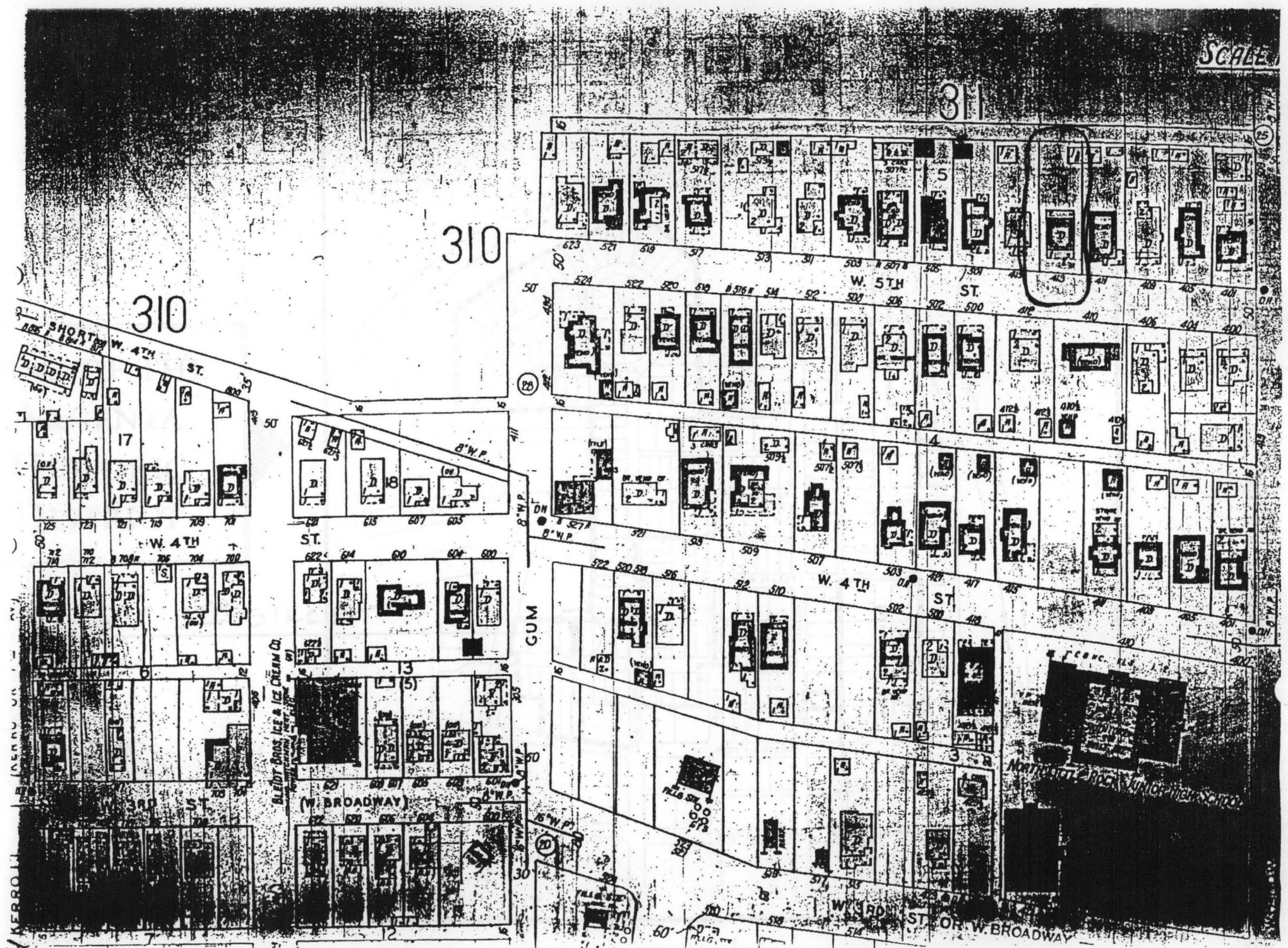
Although the fabric of the Argenta Historic District has been confined to a small core area, within the two discontinuous districts a sense of the original historic character of the neighborhood remains. Containing a total of 172 buildings (of which only 10 are less than 50 years old), the Argenta Historic District documents the development of North Little Rock from a muddy, rough settlement to a city of the first class.

31

310

310

1934

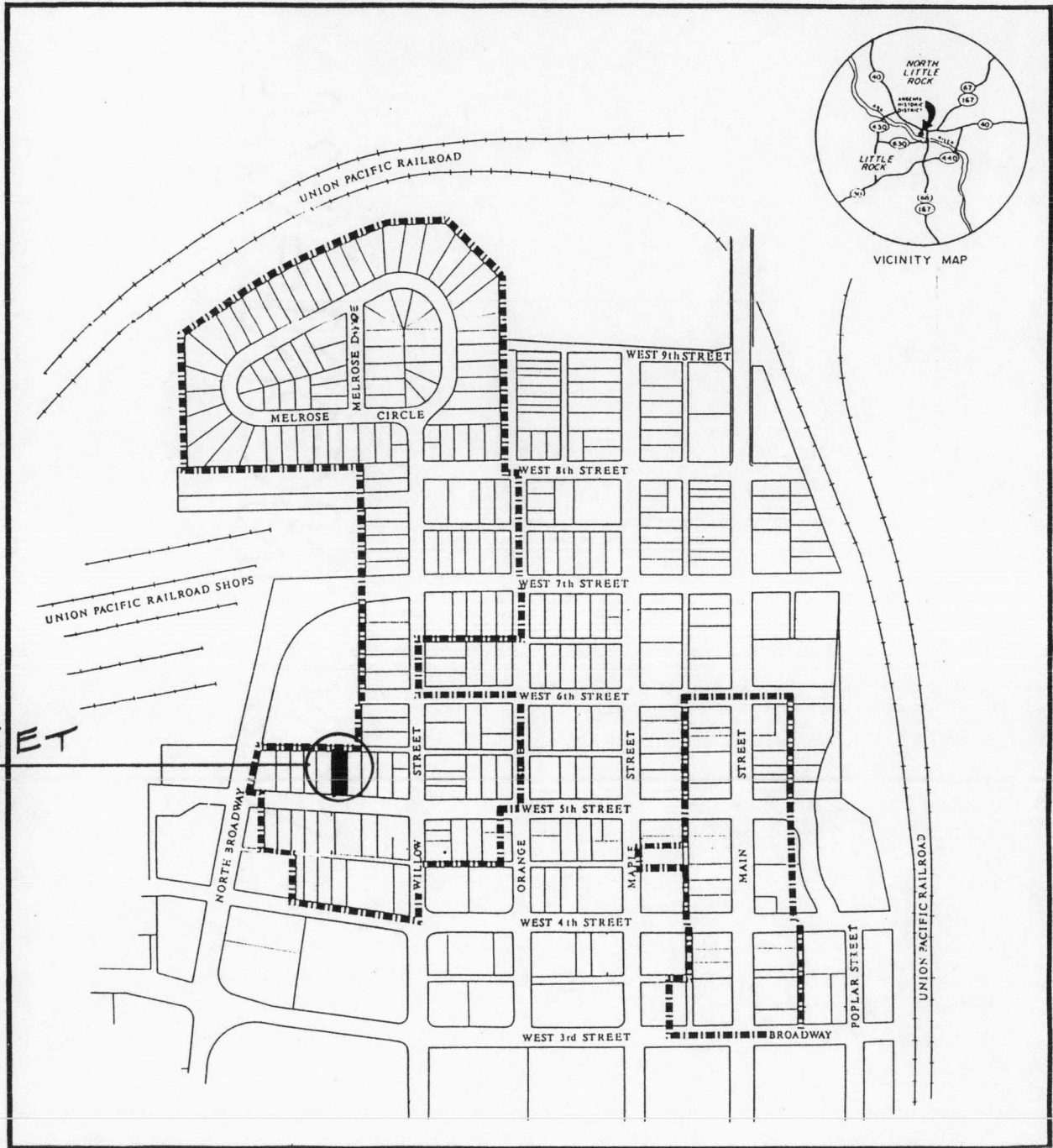


1934 SANDBORN MAP

434 KERROLL

MAP OF THE
ARGENTA
HISTORIC
DISTRICT

413 WEST 5TH STREET



PROJECT LOCATION

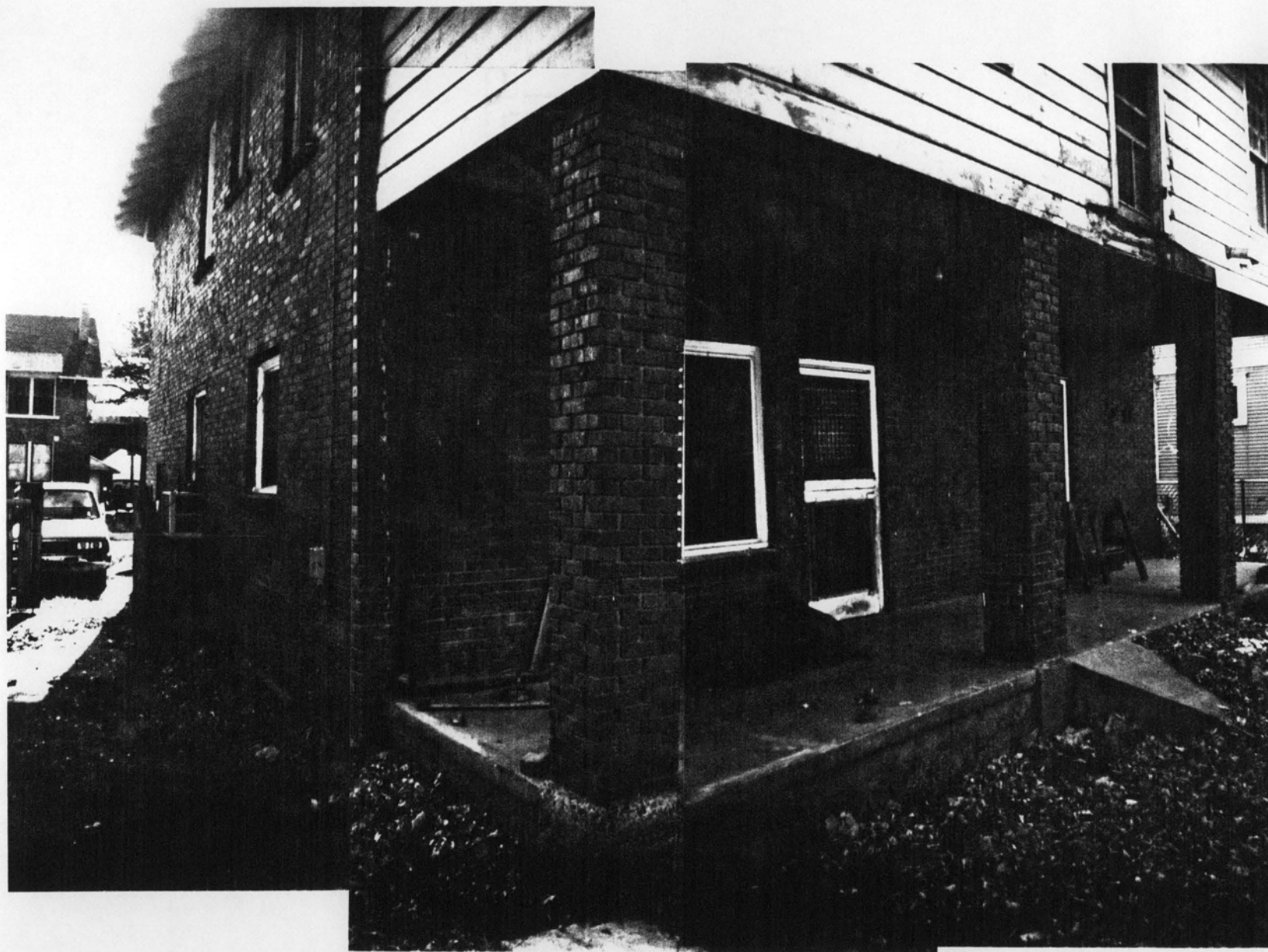
8



SOUTH (FRONT) ELEVATION

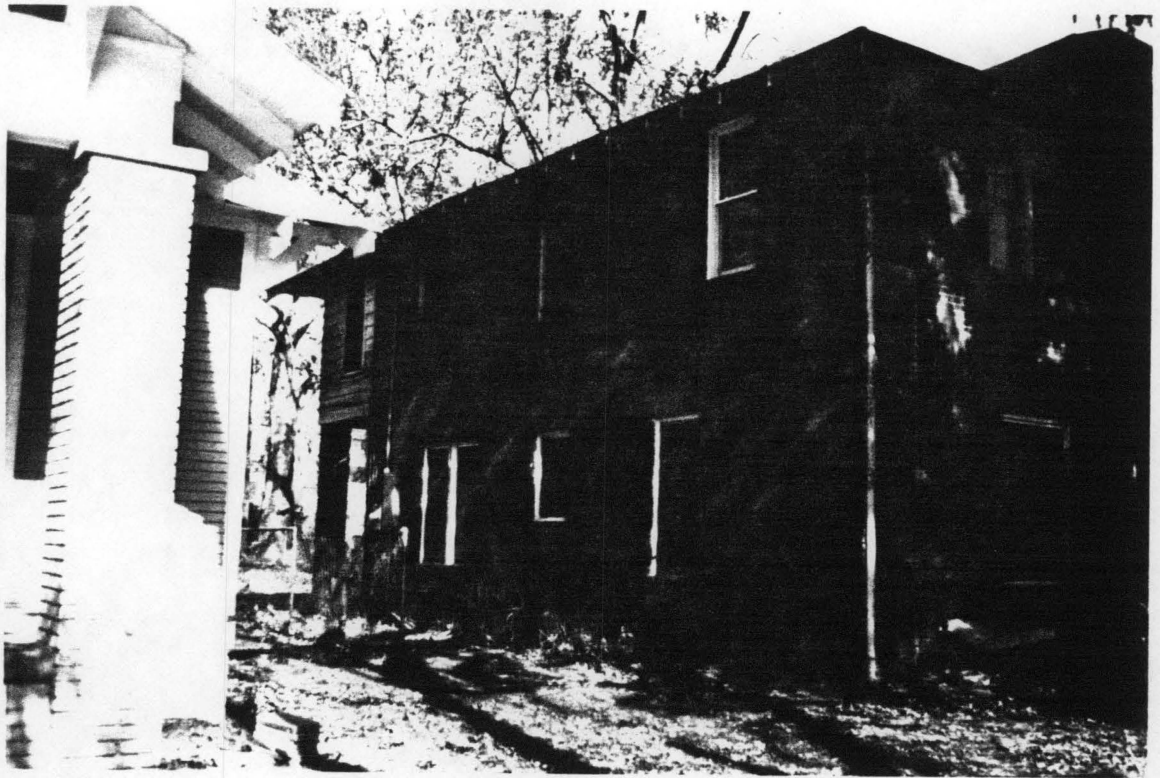


NORTH ELEVATION



8

EAST & PARTIAL NORTH ELEVATIONS



WEST ELEVATION



DETAIL OF REMOVED PORCH



DETAIL OF REMOVED PORCH



DETAIL OF REMOVED PORCH



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H30(2255)

August 29, 1996

Memorandum

To: Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
From: Guy Lapsley, Heritage Preservation Services
Subject: Request for a Supplementary Listing Record

A "Historic Preservation Certification Application--Part 1" for the O'Kelly House, Argenta Historic District, was recently submitted to this office through the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office. The owner requests certification of the building. However, the National Register documentation cites the building as a non-contributing resource within the historic district.

Enclosed please find copies of the Part 1 application, State Review Sheet and photographs of the property. We believe this building does contribute to the significance of the Argenta Historic District. Since the SHPO has no plans at the present time to revise the National Register documentation, our office requests a Supplementary Listing Record be issued, revising the National Register nomination and listing this building as a contributing resource. We will then be able to act on the owner's application for certification of significance, as recommended by the SHPO.

Thank you.

Attachments

cc: AR-SHPO

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REVIEW SHEET
Historic Preservation Certification Application--Significance

Property: O'Kelly House, 413 West Fifth Street, North Little Rock, Pulaski County, AR 72113 Project No.: 6306-920-AR (448)

Historic District: Argenta Historic District
2/20/96 date initial application received by State 3/14/96 date(s) additional information requested by State
7/8/96 date complete information received by State 5/14/96
7/19/96 date of this transmittal to NPS 6/21/96
Inspection of property by State staff? no yes date(s): 12/12/95, 5/14/96

There is adequate documentation enclosed to evaluate the historic character and integrity of this property.
 There is insufficient documentation to evaluate the property adequately. The application is missing the following items:

Reasonable efforts have been made to obtain this information. Copies of the information requests are enclosed.

NUMBER
1

This property involves:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive loss of historic fabric | <input type="checkbox"/> Obscured or covered elevation(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substantial alterations over time | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved property |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary determination of listing
<input type="checkbox"/> for district | <input type="checkbox"/> State recommendation inconsistent with NR
documentation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> for individual property | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation different from the applicant's
request |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significance less than 50 years old | |

NUMBER
2

Complete item(s) below as appropriate.

- (1) The documentation on file with the National Register cites the period(s) of significance of this historic district as 1890-1940
- (2) The property contributes does not contribute to the historic significance of this registered historic district in:
 location design setting materials workmanship feeling association
 Property is mentioned in the NR or State or local district documentation in Section, , page .
- (3) For properties less than 50 years old:
 the historical merits of the district (the periods and areas of significance) are documented in the National Register form or district documentation on file as less than 50 years old, justifying the certification of this property contribution.
 the exceptional historic or architectural significance of this property as described in the National Register form or district documentation on file justifies its certification as contributing.
 there is insufficient justification to consider this property as contributing to the district from its individual exceptional architectural or historical significance or the district does not extend to the last 50 years.
- (4) For preliminary determinations:
A. The status of the nomination for the property/historic district:
 Nomination has already been submitted to State review board, and nomination will be forwarded to the NPS within months. (Draft nomination is enclosed.)
 Nomination was submitted to the NPS on .
 Nomination will be submitted to the State review board within twelve months.
 Nomination process likely will be completed within thirty months.
 Other, explain:
- B. Evaluation of the property:
 Property is individually eligible and meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation.
 Property is located within a potential registered district that meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation: A B C D
Criteria Considerations: A B C D E F G
- (5) The property is located in a registered district, is outside the period(s) or area(s) of significance as documented in the NR form and:
 appears to contribute to the expanded significance of the district. Enclosed is the revised nomination documentation.
 does not appear to contribute to the period(s) or area(s) of significance of the district.

NUMBER
3

Describe and evaluate the physical characteristics of the property, its integrity, and its significance within the context of the historic district (or individually for preliminary determinations of individual listings).

Built in 1920 by Owen and Grace O'Kelly, the O'Kelly House is a two-story, frame-constructed expression of the American Four Square with brick veneering. Detailing includes Craftsman style moldings, exposed rafter tails, multi-pane windows, and an attic dormer on the front facade. Despite the solid appearance of the brick veneer, the house is in advanced stages of deterioration due to termite and wood rot damage. While the structure is in need of intervention, it is very significant to the Argenta Historic District. The house was built for Mr. O'Kelly who was the store manager for a local department store. The style and character of the structure, along with its associations with the O'Kelly family, exemplify the significance of the historic district during the late teens and twenties as noted in the National Register nomination.

The O'Kelly House was initially determined as a non-contributing structure to the Argenta Historic District in North Little Rock due to the removal of the front porch and the structure's state of deterioration. Since that initial determination, the property has been purchased by the current owner who is an architect that often works with historic structures. He is a member of the North Little Rock Historic District Commission and has worked with the AHPP on several significant projects. The structure will under-go a complete rehabilitation. With historic documentation, oral testimony of one of the original occupants, and architectural investigation, the owner has submitted plans for this rehabilitation to the AHPP which the staff has approved as being in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Upon completion of the rehabilitation (particularly the reconstruction of the front porch), this structure will be submitted to the State Review Board (12/96) to officially change its status from non-contributing to contributing to the Argenta Historic District.

NUMBER
4

State Official Recommendation:

This application for the above-named property has been reviewed by Lynne Braddock Zollner, a professionally qualified architect, architectural historian, or historian on my staff.

The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.

The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.

The property does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

The property appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.

The property does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated.

The property appears to contribute to the significance of a:

potential historic district which appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.

registered historic district but is outside the period(s) or areas of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS. Revised nomination or district documentation is enclosed.

The property should be denied a preliminary determination that it could qualify as a certified historic structure.

Insufficient documentation has been provided to evaluate the structure.

Detailed NPS review recommended

Precedent-setting case

Forwarded without recommendation

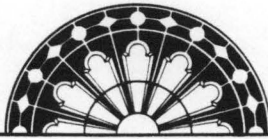
1-19-96

Date

Cathryn A. Slater
State Official Signature

See attachments:

NPS Comments:



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

~~June 13, 1996~~ July 9, 1996

Tax Incentives Program
Heritage Preservation Services (2255)
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

**RE: Historic Preservation Certification, Part 1-Evaluation of Significance
O'Kelly House, 413 West Fifth, North Little Rock, AR 72113**

Dear Tax Act Reviewer:

Enclosed please find Part I (Evaluation of Significance) of the "Historic Preservation Certification Application" for the above referenced project.

If you have questions regarding this transmittal, please contact me at (501) 324-9880.

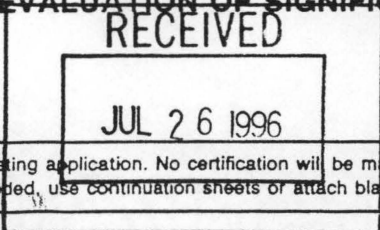
Sincerely,

Lynne Braddock Zollner
Planning and Technical Services Coordinator



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE



NPS Office Use Only

NRIS No:

93000094

NPS Office Use Only

Project No:

0306-96-AR (448)

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Type or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. Name of property: THE O'KELLY HOUSE

Address of property: Street 413 WEST FIFTH STREET

City NORTH LITTLE ROCK County POLASKI State ARKANSAS Zip 72113

Name of historic district: ARGENTA HISTORIC DISTRICT

National Register district certified state or local district potential historic district

2. Check nature of request:

- certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- certification that the structure or building and, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
- certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
- preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
- preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
- preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

range
who per
one call
through
2996
ml

3. Project contact:

Name GARY CLEMENTS

Street 724 WEST D STREET City NORTH LITTLE ROCK

State ARKANSAS Zip 72116 Daytime Telephone Number 501-758-7443

4. Owner:

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the property described above. I understand that falsification of factual representations in this application is subject to criminal sanctions of up to \$10,000 in fines or imprisonment for up to five years pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Name GARY W. CLEMENTS Signature Gary W. Clements Date 2/16/90

Organization N/A

Social Security or Taxpayer Identification Number 431-08-7772

Street 724 WEST D STREET City NORTH LITTLE ROCK

State ARKANSAS Zip 72116 Daytime Telephone Number 758-7443

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines that the property:

- contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
- contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
- does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
- does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
- does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

Date

National Park Service Authorized Signature

National Park Service Office/Telephone No:

See Attachments

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION—
PART 1

Office Use Only

Project Number:

O'KELLY House

Property Name

413 W. 5th ST., NLR, AR

Property Address

5. Description of physical appearance:

THE HOUSE IS A TWO STORY BRICK "AMERICAN FOUR SQUARE". IT IS PRESENTLY IN ADVANCE STAGES OF DETERIORATION. DUE TO ROT, TERMITES, FIRES, & FOUNDATION SETTLEMENT. THE FRONT PORCH HAS BEEN REMOVED.

THE HOUSE WAS SUBDIVIDED INTO 3 APARTMENTS AND THE INTERIOR IS SEVERELY DAMAGED.

PRESENTLY, IT IS THE "WORST" HOUSE ON THE BEST STREET IN THE HISTORIC DISTRICT.

Date of Construction: 1920 Source of Date: ABSTRACT & MAPS

Date(s) of Alteration(s): 1950'S APTS. & 1980'S PORCH

Has building been moved? yes no. If so, when? _____

6. Statement of significance:

THIS 1920'S AMERICAN FOUR SQUARE WAS BUILT FOR OWEN O'KELLY, A LOCAL DEPARTMENT STORE MANAGER. O'KELLY DEEDED THE HOUSE TO HIS BLIND DAUGHTER AFTER HE SUBDIVIDED IT INTO APARTMENTS TO PROVIDE HER INCOME. THE HOUSE REMAINED IN FAMILY OWNERSHIP UNTIL PURCHASED BY THE APPLICANT IN 1995.

THE HOUSE IS LOCATED WITHIN THE ARGENTIA HISTORIC DISTRICT. LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN NORTH LITTLE ROCK. IT IS SURROUNDED BY CONTRIBUTING HOUSES, BUT TO THE ABSENCE OF ITS FRONT PORCH IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE NON-CONTRIBUTING.

7. Photographs and maps.

Attach photographs and maps to application.

Continuation sheets attached: yes no



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

May 5, 1999

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D. C. 20002

RE: National Register Nomination Amendment to the Argenta Historic District: 607 Willow, 616 Willow, 620 Willow, 108 Melrose Circle, 177 Melrose Circle, 213 Melrose Circle, 250 Melrose Circle, 413 W. 5th, and 421-423-425 Main, Pulaski County, North Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the amendment for the above referenced properties. 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,

Cathy Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosures





ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

April 7, 2000

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United State Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: Argenta Historic District, North Little Rock, Pulaski County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the amendment to the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable procedures and notification requirements associated with amending National Register nominations.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:km

Enclosures



93000094

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 14 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

August 5, 2015

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

RE: Argenta Historic District Additional Documentation – North
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

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,

Stacy Hurst
State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:rsw

Enclosure

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



323 Center Street, Suite 1500
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: 711

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

An Equal Opportunity Employer

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY Argenta Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000094

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 9-29-15 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept

REVIEWER Edson Beall

DISCIPLINE History

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 9-29-15

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.