

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Richard and Mettie Ealy House

other names/site number FA1240

2. Location

street & number 280 Solomon Grove Road

☐ not for publication

city or town Twin Groves

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Faulkner code 045 zip code 72039

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.)

Cecelia Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

9/12/05
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

for Daniel J. Vixie
Signature of the Keeper

9/30/05
Date of Action

Richard and Mettie Ealy House
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing Noncontributing

| | |
|---|------------|
| | buildings |
| | sites |
| 1 | structures |
| | objects |
| 1 | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

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

"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry
Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955"

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single-family dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single-family dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICAN
MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STONE

BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 on Soloman Grove Road in Twin Groves, Arkansas. The house has an open arcaded porch on the front façade which displays a Mediterranean influence on the design of the home. The arcade is a trademark of the work of Silas Owens. The home has a rectangular plan with a combination cross-gable and gable-on-hip roof plan.

This home exhibits many of the techniques Silas Owens repeatedly used. The house utilizes the three-in, three-out brick pattern around all entrances (including doors, windows, louvers, and porch entries), brick quoins at every corner, and the above mentioned arcaded porch.

ELABORATION

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 when the wood frame home that the family previously occupied was destroyed by fire. Silas Owens was related to the Ealy family, and helped them with the construction of their new home. Since the time of its construction the house has changed very little. The exterior of the home is in tact with the exception of the soffit and windows. Richard Ealy Jr. had them replaced in March of 2002 due to deterioration and rot. However, the configuration of the roofline, entrances and windows, and stonework are original to the home. This building has enough integrity to justify its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Southeast Elevation – Front

The front of the Ealy House faces southeast toward Soloman Grove Road. The front wall is rocked from the roofline to the ground. There are two arches on the south corner that open to a covered porch. The arches are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern. Four concrete steps lead up to the poured concrete porch floor. The porch has a painted wood ceiling with a small centrally located light fixture. A single modern vinyl double-hung window is on the recessed southeast wall and covered by the porch. The window opening is trimmed in the three-in three-out brick pattern and has a concrete sill and lintel. A southwest facing door accessed from the porch is the main entrance to the house. The porch is integrated into the building so that it shares the house roofline. A small gable above easternmost arch is an architectural clue indicating is as the entrance to the home. Three windows comprise the remainder of the southeast façade. The windows are modern vinyl double-hung and set in a single opening trimmed in patterned cream brick on the sides and concrete lintel and sill on the remaining sides. Beneath the window there is access to a crawlspace. The opening is presently covered with sheet metal, but was constructed with a concrete lintel.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Northeast Elevation – Right Side

The northeast side of the building is a single plane with five window openings along the length of the elevation. The different roof framing techniques are visible on this façade. The east end has a gable profile, while the portion extending to the north displays the side of the gable-on-hip roofline. Beneath the gable peak is a vent opening. The opening is trimmed in patterned cream brick and presently sealed with a sheet of vinyl siding. All window openings on the northeast elevation are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern with concrete sills and lintels. The first three openings, from left to right, each have two modern vinyl double-hung windows. The last two openings look onto a mud room, and there are currently no windows in the openings.

Northwest Elevation - Back

The back of the house is rocked from the roofline to the ground. The gable-on-hip roof is visible as it slopes down to the northwest and the gable peak is centered on the hip. The gable peak has wood weatherboard siding and a small rectangular wood slat vent. There are three openings along the northwest wall. From left to right, there is a door and two window openings. All are trimmed in cream brick. However, all the trim around the door and trim the left side of the middle window is strictly headers, while the remaining trim is laid in the three-in three-out pattern. The window and door on the far left share a single concrete lintel. Both windows are modern vinyl double-hung and have concrete sills.

Southwest Elevation – Left Side

The southwest side of the building is a single plane with four window openings along the length of the elevation and an arch open to the front porch at the south corner. The different roof framing techniques are visible on this façade. The southernmost end has a gable profile, while the portion extending to the west displays the side of the gable-on-hip roofline. Beneath the gable peak is a fixed four pane window, the only remaining original window on the house. All window openings on the southwest elevation are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern with concrete sills and lintels. The openings on this elevation each contain a modern vinyl double-hung window. The arch is trimmed in patterned cream brick.

INTEGRITY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House, built in 1942, retains its integrity despite its loss of most original windows and application of vinyl to the soffits. The building remains in its original rural setting in Twin Groves and still expresses its use as a small home for a family living in a small agricultural community. Most importantly, the artistry of Silas Owen's stonework remains in excellent condition.

Richard and Mettie Ealy House

Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1942

Significant Dates

1942

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens Sr.-Mason

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 in Twin Groves, Faulkner County. The house is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under **Criterion C** as the best example of a Silas Owens home in the Twin Groves vicinity. The Ealy house is representative of Owen's proclivity toward the Mediterranean style. The house features a large porch with a double arched entry. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House represents several Silas Owen's trademarks including the herringbone pattern, cream brick quoins at the corners, and cream brick around the windows and doors in the three-in, three-out pattern. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is being nominated under the multiple property listing "**A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955.**"

HISTORY

Richard Sr. and Mettie Ealy commissioned Silas Owens to build them a new home in 1941. They previously owned a wood home on Soloman Grove Road. However, the original family home was destroyed by fire. In an effort to prevent a similar tragedy from occurring, Richard Ealy Sr. asked his first cousin, Silas Owens, to build him a new rock home in place of the burned one. Silas Owens completed the home in 1942, and the Ealy family moved in.

Richard and Mettie had a son, Richard Jr. Richard Jr. was the first mayor of the town of Twin Groves. He and several other community members were upset when they were unable to obtain county funds to fix their roads. Their solution was to join the adjacent communities of Zion Grove and Soloman Grove, which they incorporated as the town of Twin Groves in 1991. Richard Ealy Jr. was a vital part of the process and served as the first mayor of the town.

Richard Ealy Jr. lived in the Silas Owens home that his father built until 1987 when he built himself a new home across the street. Over the years he has maintained his childhood home. He replaced the windows and trim due to rot, however, the stonework remains in its original condition. Since vacating the home in 1987 he has used it as a rental property and a center for family gatherings. Richard Jr. hosts a Fourth of July party for his family at the house each year.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is located in Twin Groves, Faulkner County. The house is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under **Criterion C** as the best example of a Silas Owens home in the Twin Groves vicinity. The Ealy house is representative of Owen's proclivity toward the Mediterranean style. The house features a large porch with a double arched entry. The home was built in 1942. The Ealy House represents several Silas Owen's trademarks including the herringbone pattern, cream brick quoins at the corners, and cream brick around the windows and doors in the three-in, three-out pattern. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is being nominated under the multiple property listing "**A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955.**"

Richard and Mettie Ealy House
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Oral History as told by Silas Owens, Jr., Personal Interviews by Special Projects Historian Holly Hope from January 2002, through January 2004.

Oral History as told by Ealy, Richard Jr. Owner of house. Interview by National Register Historian Elizabeth A. James, May 24, 2005.

Richard and Mettie Ealy House
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------|---|------|---------|----------|
| 1 | 15 | 550226 | 3907631 | 3 | | | |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
| 2 | | | | 4 | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth A. James, National Register Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date June 22, 2005
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9789
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

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

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name Richard Ealy
street & number 285 Solomon Grove Road telephone 501-335-7756
city or town Damascus state AR zip code 72039

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From a point at the intersection of Soloman Grove Road and Doc Lane proceed westerly 247.5 feet along Soloman Grove Road to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning proceed westerly 144.3 feet, thence proceed northerly 144.3 feet, thence proceed easterly 144.3 feet, thence proceed southerly 144.3 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

This boundary includes the Richard and Mettie Ealy House and its immediate setting.

**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: 05001069

Date of Listing: September 30, 2005

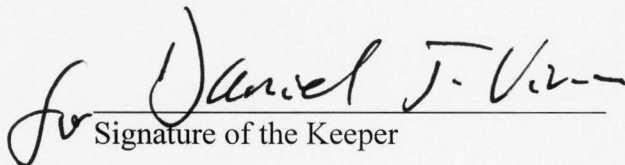
Property Name: Richard and Mettie Ealy House

County: Faulkner

State: Arkansas

The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955
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.


Signature of the Keeper

September 30, 2005
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 5. Classification

The number of resources within property is hereby changed to one (1) contributing building, for a total resource count of one (1) contributing building.

[This change was made in consultation with and approved by the National Register staff of the Arkansas SHPO.]

The Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file

Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Ealy, Richard and Mettie, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr. MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Faulkner

DATE RECEIVED: 8/17/05 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/13/05
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/28/05 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/30/05
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 05001069

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 ☐ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is locally significant as an example of the distinctive mixed-masonry craftsmanship of Silas Owens, Sr. Built in 1942, this Mediterranean-influenced house displays many features typical of Owens's work. The facades are rough-faced stone laid in a herringbone pattern, and the window and door surrounds and faux quoins are made of cream-colored brick. The house also features a large porch with a double-arched entry. Today, the house reflects the architectural history of Faulkner County and retains integrity from its period of significance.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER Daniel Vician

TELEPHONE (202) 354-2252

DISCIPLINE Historian

DATE 9/30/05

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.



RICHARD AND METTIE EALY HOUSE

FAULKNER COUNTY, AR

HOLLY HOPE

MARCH 2002

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

SOUTHEAST FACADE, LOOKING NORTHWEST

#1



RICHARD AND NETTIE EALY HOUSE
FAULKNER COUNTY, AR

HOLLY HOPE

MARCH 2002

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR
SOUTHWEST FACADE, LOOKING NORTHEAST

#2



RICHARD AND METTIE EALY HOUSE
FAULKNER COUNTY, AR

HOLLY HOPE

MARCH 2002

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR
NORTHWEST FAÇADE, LOOKING SOUTHEAST

#3



RICHARD AND METTIE EALY HOUSE

FAULKNER COUNTY, AR

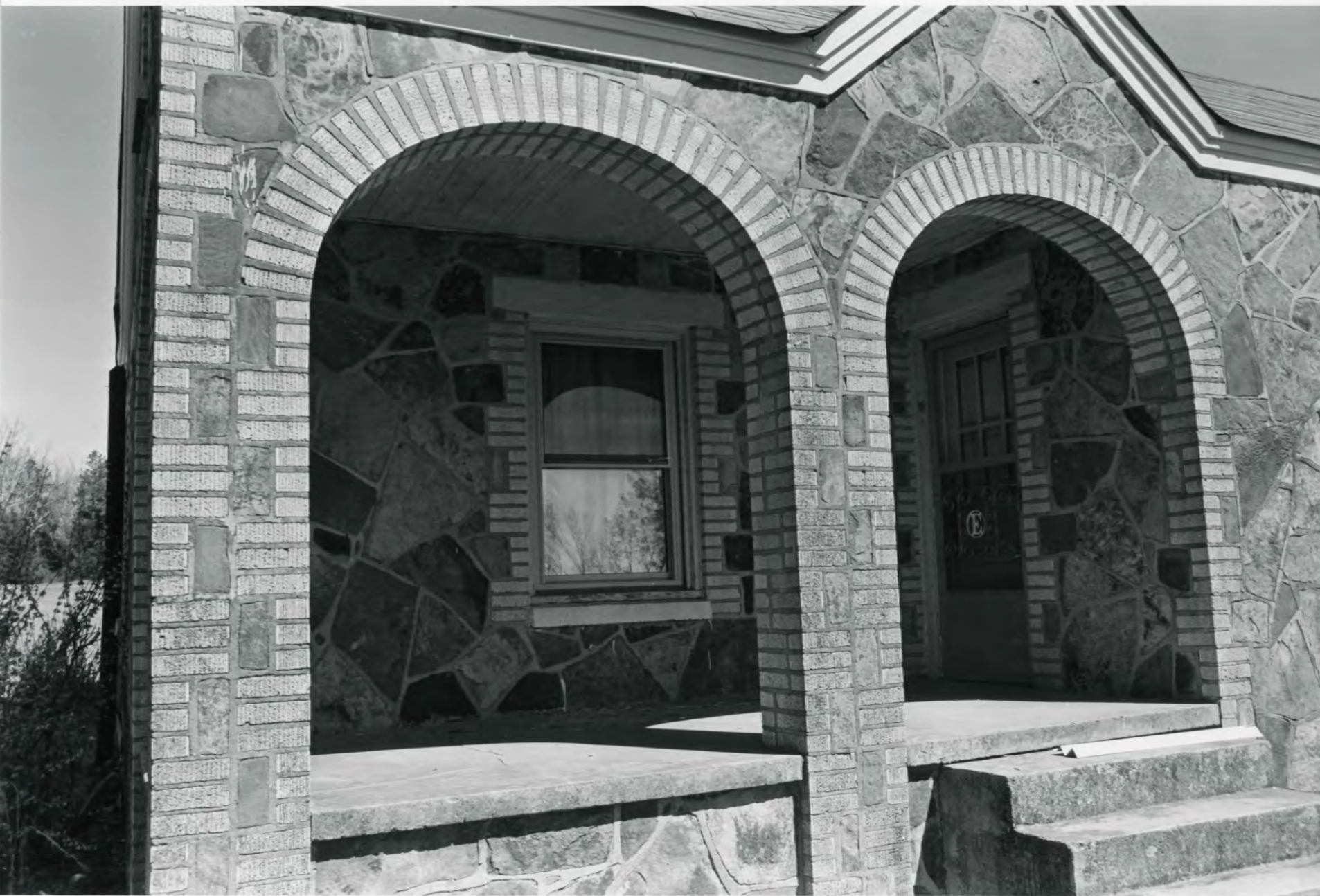
HOLLY HOPE

MARCH 2002

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

NORTHEAST FACADE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

#4



RICHARD AND METTIE EALY HOUSE

FAULKNER COUNTY, AR

HOLLY HOPE

MARCH 2002

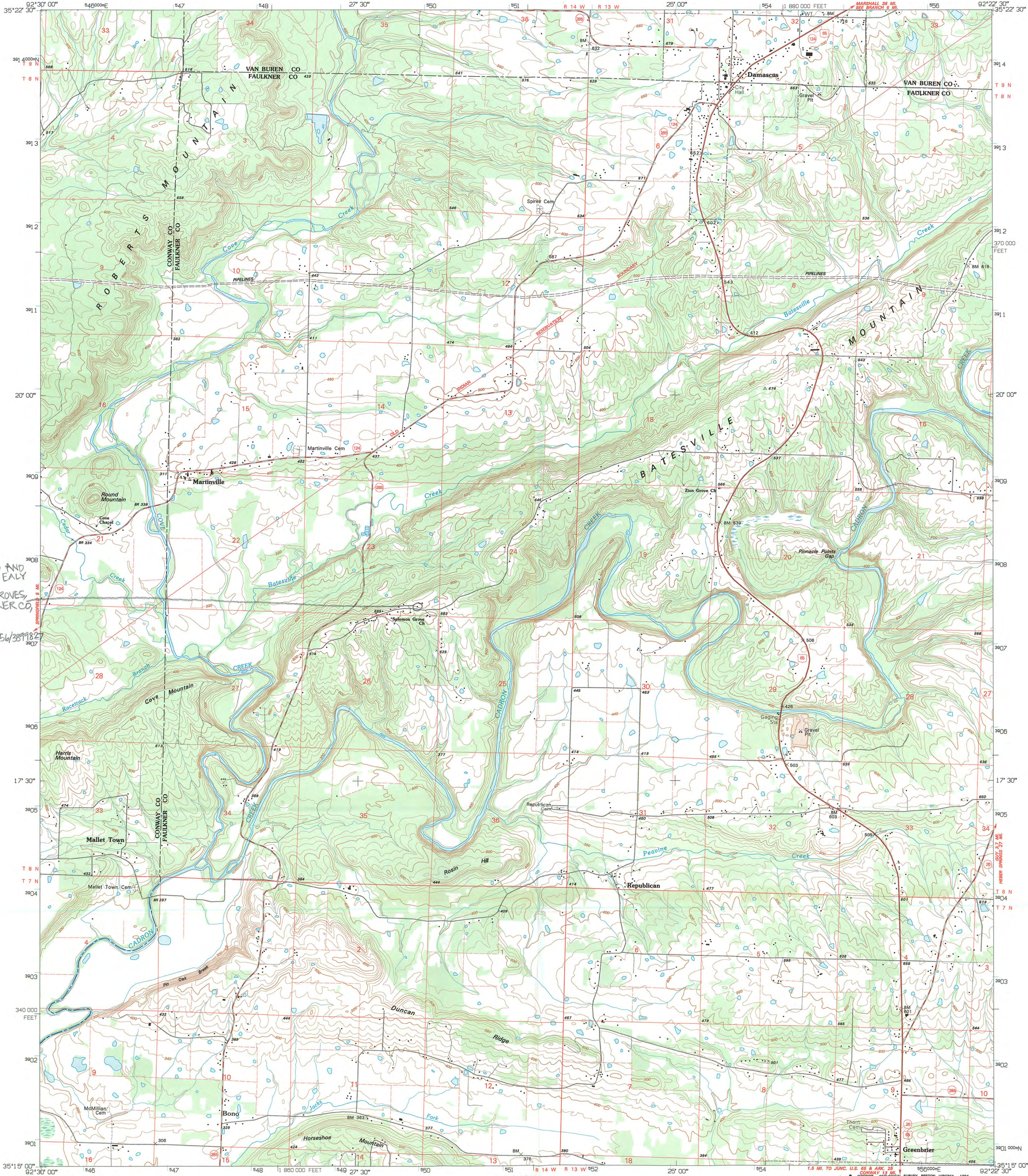
ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

STONE AND PORCH DETAIL SOUTHEAST FACADE, LOOKING NORTH

#5

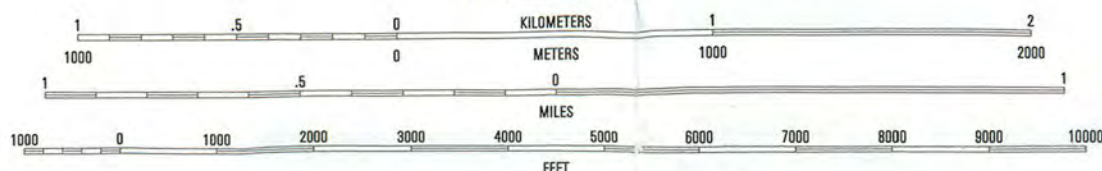
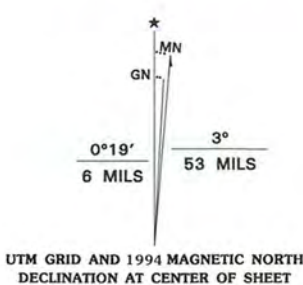
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DAMASCUS QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



CHARD AND
ETTIE EALY
OUSE
WIN GROVES,
FAULKNER CO.
AR
T.M.
3/5/1995/389182

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1958. Field checked 1961. Revised from aerial photographs
taken 1989-90. Field checked 1993. Map edited 1994
Universal Transverse Mercator projection
10,000-foot grid ticks; Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute
intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 |

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway
hard surface
Secondary highway
hard surface
Unimproved road

Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

DAMASCUS, ARK.
35092-C4-TF-024
1994
DMA 7554 IV SW-SERIES V884

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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tdd: (501) 324-9811

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info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer



August 3, 2005

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

RE: Ealy House – Twin Groves, Faulkner County

Dear Dr. Matthews:

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

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

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure

