Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SHEETPH0290769

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

JUL 8

RECEIVED

1975

DATE ENTERED

OCT 2 1 1975

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STATE	Benton	CODE	Second	CODE	
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CLASSIFIC	CATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP				
DISTRICT	X.PUBLIC X.PUBLIC	OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	X _{MUSEUM}	
X BUILDING(S)	PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK	
STRUCTURE	ВОТН	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDEN	
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS	
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC	
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATION	
	FPROPERTY	Supplied on Crystal	E.un coor und a	niido) uduena	
NAME	City of Benton (Unde	er jurisdiction of	Saline Co. Public	c Library Boa	
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TITLE					
DATE	FEDERALSTATECOUNTYLOCAL				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS					
CITY, TOWN			STATE		

CONDITION

_EXCELLENT

_FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED

CHECK ONE

X.ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

In 1893 Dr. Dewell Gann, Sr. built a three room building in Benton, Arkansas for his office. The building, constructed of sawn bauxite blocks which were mined in the Benton area, rests on a granite foundation. Patients who were unable to pay for professional services rendered them by Dr. Gann supplied the labor to construct the office.

A distinguishing feature of the building is it five gable roof which is a product of the Gothic Revival and High Victorian style of architecture. The gables are decorated with wooden imbrication and brackets with pendants. Small ornate brackets also decorate the cornice.

The front elevation is perfectly symmetrical. The porch is supported by three slender turned columns with brackets to each side and has a serpentine-like saw cut frieze. Centered in the twin front gables are small round three-section windows of stained glass. Symmetrically placed, ornately milled front doors feature segmental arched windows with alternating border panes of frosted, blue, and purple glass set in wooden mullions. The original patterned brass door knob and escutcheon plate remains on one of the front doors. The top sections of the windows centered between the doors also have stained glass borders of red, yellow, and green glass.

The two identical front waiting rooms (one for women and the other for men) are connected by a plain arched doorway and have ceilings of ornate pressed tin. Each room has a separate entry to the examining room at the rear of the building. Beaded woodwork surrounds the doors and windows. The window aprons are unusual in that they have mitered corners and are a continuation of the same pattern as that of the window and door trim. Machine carved floral designs decorate the corner blocks and their crowns. Turned spindle-like designs are applied to the plenth blocks.

In 1946, Dr. Dewell Gann, Jr. gave the building to the City of Benton as a library. At that time the original slate roof was replaced with asphalt shingles and the cresting along the ridge of the roof was removed. A 25' X 45' concrete block addition was added to the rear as a reading room. This addition changed the floor plan of the building from T-shape to rectangular. The base of the T was absorbed into the addition but the original exterior rear doorway and window of the building are still intact as is the exterior bauxite walls of the rear room. Through the years window guards have been added and wire mesh has been installed behind the glass in the front doors. Also the original three-color scheme as evidenced in a photograph taken in the 1890's has been covered by white paint.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __COMMUNITY PLANNING _RELIGION __PREHISTORIC _ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC XSCIENCE IAW _1400-1499 _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC CONSERVATION _LITERATURE SCULPTURE __ECONOMICS _AGRICULTURE _1500-1599 XARCHITECTURE __MILITARY _SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN __EDUCATION _1600-1699 __MUSIC _1700-1799 __ART __ENGINEERING THEATER EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY _TRANSPORTATION _COMMERCE 1800-1899 _INDUSTRY __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _OTHER (SPECIFY) _COMMUNICATIONS _1900-

X INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

1893

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gann Building, the only bauxite building known to be in existence, was built in 1893 for the office of Dr. Dewell Gann, Sr. by patients who could not afford to pay for services he had rendered them. The soft stone used in the construction was dug from the ground of a farm nearby, sawn into blocks with a handsaw and allowed to harden for six weeks.

Dr. Gann, Sr., born March 31, 1859 in Atlanta, Georgia, graduated from Emory University in 1886. After studying in New York briefly, he came west to Sheridan, Arkansas where he began the practice of medicine with B. W. Mason. In 1889 he married Martha Harding Whitthorne. The following year the couple moved to Benton, Arkansas. After establishing a successful medical practice in Benton, Dr. Gann helped to organize the first Saline County Medical Society.

On September 14, 1890, Dr. Dewell Gann's only son, Dewell Gann, Jr., was born. Following his father's profession he graduated from Indiana University in 1913 with his medical doctorate degree. He then returned to Arkansas to join his father's practice. An extremely learned man, Dr. Gann, Jr. introduced the therapeutic use of radium into Arkansas in 1916. From 1919 until 1924 he was attending surgeon at Little Rock General Hospital. During this time he invented a new resusciator which helped to restore circulation as well as respiration in asphyxia or drowning. In 1925 he was chosen Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. This honor had been given to less than ten men in the entire United States at the time it was presented to Dr. Gann, Jr.

In 1946 the Gann Office was given to the City of Benton to be used as a library. At this time an addition was built onto the rear of the building and shelving was installed for the books. The building remained a library until 1967 when a larger facility was obtained. At this time the building was designated by the city to be used as a museum for the City of Benton and for Saline County.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUL 8 1975

DATE ENTERED OCT 2 1 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

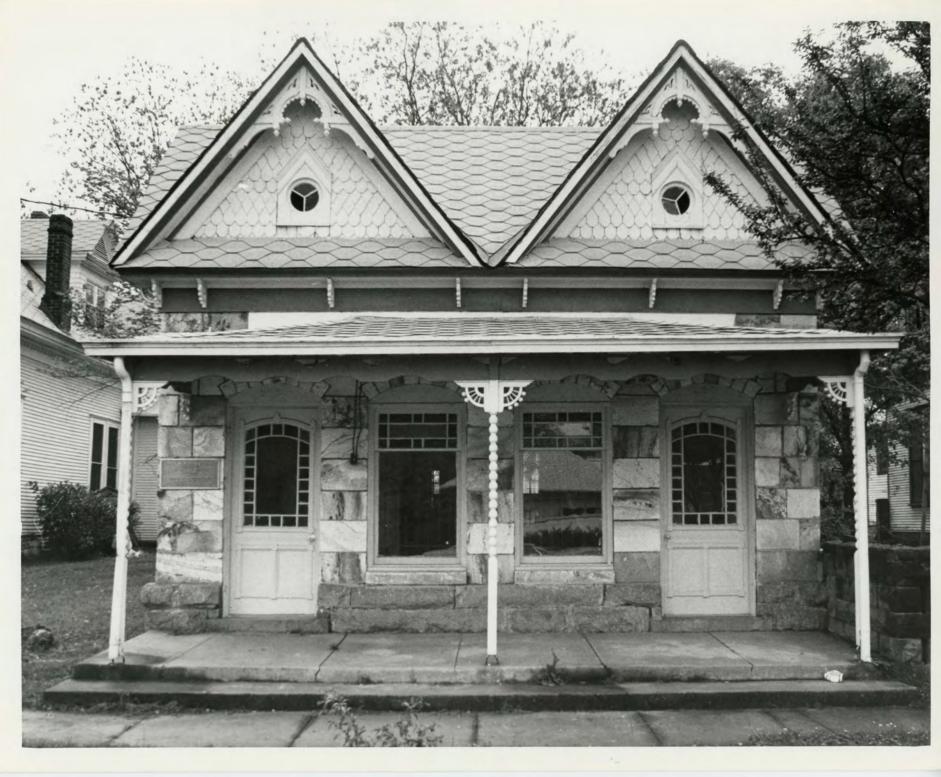
9

PAGE one

Centennial History of Arkansas. Little Rock: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1922.

Demuth, David. Personal interview at Gann Building, Benton, Arkansas, April 25, 1975.

Property Gann Building Saline Co.	7500060
State Arkansas Working Number 7.8.75. 1261	
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Photos Maps	OK 1.17.75
	HISTORIAN
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National Register Write-up Send-back	Entered OCT 2 1 1978
Federal Register Entry 12-2-75 Re-submit	INT:2106-74



O Front elevation Gann Building Bentop Saline P- N-+

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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OCT 2 1 1975

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC Gann Building

AND/OR COMMON

Gann Memorial Library, Bauxite Building

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Benton

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Saline

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

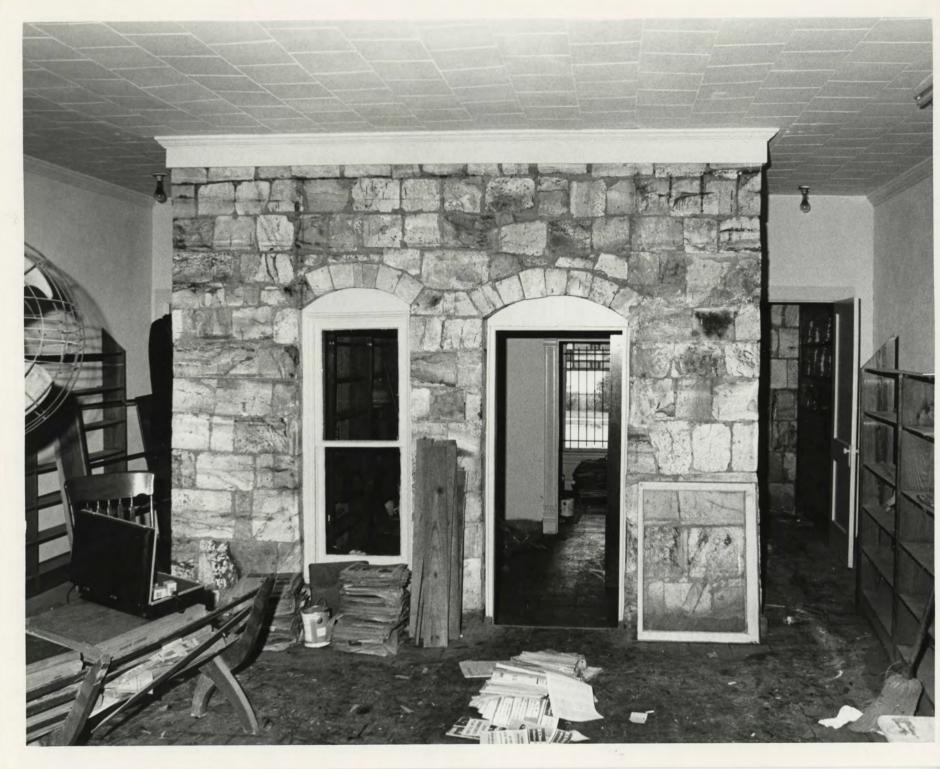
NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

Front elevation



Original rear elauation as seen from inside addition Building

Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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2 LOCATION

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COUNTY

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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DATE OF PHOTO 1975

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4 IDENTIFICATION

Original rear elevation as seen from inside addition

PHOTO NO.



3 Interior window trem. Bann Building

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTEXTOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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HISTORIC

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Benton

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Interior window trim

PHOTO NO.



4) Side view of contemporary Bann Building Benton, Saline Co., Act.

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTE. OR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY JUL 8 1975 RECEIVED DATE ENTERED OCT 2 1 WE

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

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AND/OR COMMON

Gann Memorial Library, Bauxite Building

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Benton

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Saline

Arkansas STATE

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

IDENTIFICATION

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PHOTO NO.

Side view of contemporary addition



Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

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STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

1890's photograph of Dr. Gann's office

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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DATE ENTERED OCT 2 1 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Gann Building

AND/OR COMMON

Gann Memorial Library, Bauxite Building

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

Saline

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey

SCALE

1:24,000

Benton

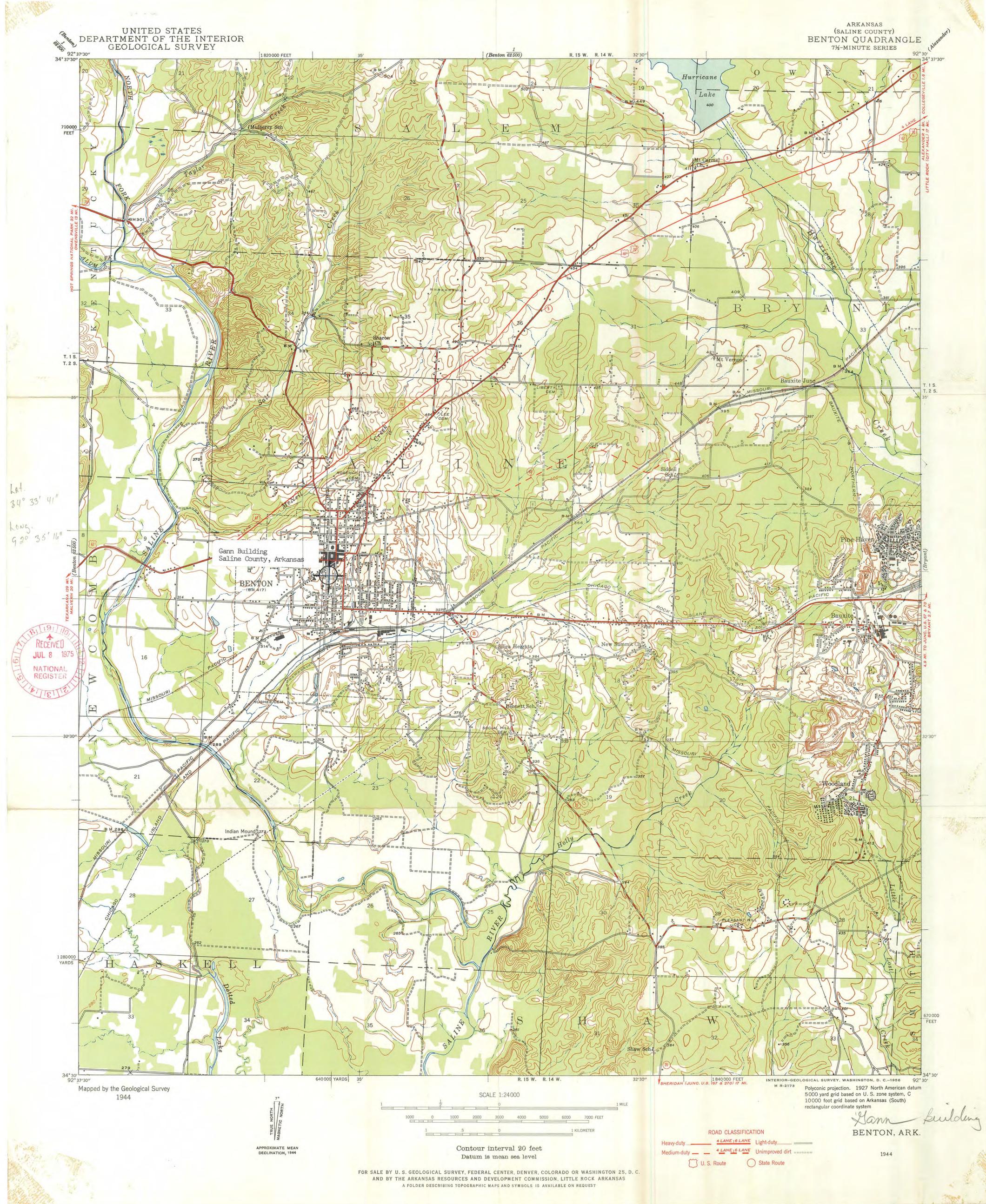
DATE

1944

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

023 WEST THIRD STREET LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS 72201 501 374-0375



"THE OLD STATE HOUSE" 300 WEST MARKHAM

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 TELEPHONE - 501 371-1639

June 27, 1975

Ms. Kate Cole National Register Office National Park Service 18th & C Streets Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Cole:

Enclosed are the two maps which we discussed over the telephone today. As I explained there are no maps for this particular area on which we can figure UTM References. As I am unfamiliar with the method of figuring longitude and latitude coordinates, I would like to accept your offer of having the National Register office figure these two maps. Most all areas of Arkansas are mapped with UTM References, and so we anticipate that this problem will not arise again.

As you suggested, I am also enclosing the written nomination form and photographs for these two properties. The geographic location will need to be added to the nomination form. The exact location of each property has been marked, and each map is labeled. Please transfer these nominations to the appropriate authorities when you are finished with them. I look forward to receiving a copy of the final maps.

Though your office does not have available any written instructions on how to figure longitude and latitude, perhaps you know of some publication we might order which would contain this information. With proper instructions we could complete the maps ourselves.

Thank you for your assistance. Please contact me at (501) 371-1639 if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Dianna Kirk, Historian

DK:cal

Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered OGT 2 1 1975

Name

Location

Gann Building

Benton Saline County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. Dale Bumpers
Hon. Wilbur D. Mills
Regional Director, Southwest
Region

Region

PR

MMott/row

10/24/75

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Gene Richardson
Acting Director, Department of Natural
and Cultural Heritage
The Old State House
300 West Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

() /	AL REG	/	DATA	S	
TNAME as it appears on federal re	egister:	GANN Memoria	1 librani Bay	uxite.	3) date of entry: 4) county code: 125
(5) LOCATION street & number 218 S. Market St.	Benton	vicinity of	state	county	®NPS REGION:
OWNER PRIVATE STAM MUNICIPAL COUN				ADMINISTRAT	OR:
WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?	FUNDED? TES THE CONGRESS DIS	LANDMARK?	(B) ACREAGE	STATE FEBERI	ite who prepared form?
□excellent □ruins ★good □unexposed □fair □unexcavated	>altered ★original sit □unaltered □moved □reconstructed □unknown □excavated	NOT	INTACT-O Q NOT NOWN-4 UNI APPLICABLE-7 WO NOT	STANTIALLY INTAC INTACT-O (NOWN-5 APPLICABLE-8	T-2 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 SOUNCE INTACT-0 SOUNKNOWN-6 SOUNCE APPLICABLE-9
BACCESS XYES-Restricted TYES-Unr	estricted No Access Unknown	B ADAPTIVE USE YES □NO O			HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2 COMMERCE - 6 ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1 COMMUNICATIONS - 9 AGRICULTURE - 3 CONSERVATION - 8 ARCHITECTURE - 4 ECONOMICS - 9 ART - 5 EDUCATION - 10	☐ ENGINEERING - 11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARC ☐ ENTERTAINMENT - 26 ☐ LAW - 16 -7 ☐ EXPLORATION - 12 ☐ LITERATURE - 17 ☐ HEALTH - 27 ☐ MILITARY - 18 ☐ INDUSTRY - 13 ☐ MUSIC - 19 ☐ INVENTION - 14 ☐ PHILOSOPHY - 21	☐ RELIGION-22 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30	URBAN PLANNING-31 -20 OTHER (SPECIFY)	'first'□ 'oldest'□ 'only' × existence	Bauxite bldg. ni
(2) functions		dates of initial construction	1093		ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: MEDICAL OFF CURRENTLY: Library MUSEUM		major alterations : historic events :			ASSOCIATION
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library Museum architectural style(s):	rice Garchite	major alterations : historic events :	master builder:	89	engineer:
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library / Museum architectural style(s): Eastlake Elements alandscape architect/garden design	archite	major alterations : historic events :	1	9	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library / MUSEUM CONTRIBUTION AL: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTS: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Medical Off Currently Museum Museum Strain	ner: minerior decorator:	major alterations: historic events: ot: artist: ewell gam, Jr	master builder: artisan: Saeutist, in	Builder	engineer:
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library Museum architectural style(s): Eastlake Elements landscape architect/garden design NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Dewell Gam, Sr prov EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL: WATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-I	ner: minerior decorator: ninerior physician - / De Dressed BAUXITE, GRANIT	major alterations: historic events: ot: artist: E POUNDATION; 1/2	master builder: artisan: Saeutist, in STOPIES, PECTANO	Duilder Ventor.	engineer: //contractor: ABLED KOOF WITH
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library Museum architectural style(s): Eastlake Elements landscape architect/garden design NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Dewell Gamm, Sr provents: INSTITUTIONAL: NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-I CROSS-GABLED PROJECTIONS, TO	Dressed BAUXITE, GRANIT	major alterations: historic events: ot: artist: E POUNDATION; 1 1/2 E ENTRANCES, 1-57	master builder: artisan: Saeutist, in stopies, pectane ory full-width a	Duilder Ventor.	ABLED PROF WITH
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library Museum architectural style(s): Eastlake Elements landscape architect/garden design NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Dewell Gamm, Sr provents: INSTITUTIONAL: EVENTS: CROSS-GABLED PROJECTIONS, TO GABLES HAVE ROUNDELS AND E	Dressed BAUXITE, GRANITE WIN GLAZED PRONT SIDE BARKEBOARDS, BRACKETE	major alterations: historic events: ot: artist: E POUNDATION; 1 1/2 E ENTRANCES, 1-51 D BOXED EAVES;	master builder: artisan: Scientist, in Stopies, rectand ory full-wioth a REAR CINDER B	SULAR, GENTRANCE	ABLED ROOF WITH PORCH, PROJECTING ITION, 1946. EAST-
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: Medical Off CURRENTLY: Library Museum architectural style(s): Eastlake Elements landscape architect/garden design NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Dewell Gamm, Sr provents: INSTITUTIONAL: NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-I CROSS-GABLED PROJECTIONS, TO	DRESSED BAUXITE, GRANITE WIN GLAZED FRONT SIDE BARGEBOARDS, BRACKETE VITURE BUILT OF B	major alterations: historic events: ot: artist: E POUNDATION; 1 1/2 E ENTRANCES, 1-51 D BOXED EAVES; SAUXITE BLOCKS;	master builder: artisan: Scientist, in STOPIES, RECTANGORY FULL-WIOTH E REAR CINDER B BUILT FOR PR	SULAR, GENTRANCE	ABLED ROOF WITH PORCH, PROJECTING ITION, 1946. EAST-

reviewers initials Geoff date 10-17