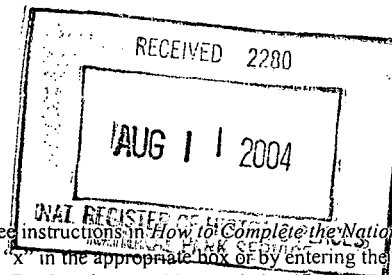


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 First Presbyterian Church

other names/site number Site #LN0117

2. Location

street & number 304 South Center Street

☐ not for publication

city or town Lonoke

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Lonoke code 085 zip code 72086

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 M. Hatcher
Signature of certifying official/Title

7/7/04
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
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Daniel J. Vira 9/23/04

First Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lonoke 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

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/Religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor

Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls 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

First Presbyterian Church is located on South Center Street, the main north-south street in Lonoke, two blocks south of the commercial area of downtown. The Tudor Revival-style building, which was built in 1919, is built on a continuous cast-concrete foundation and has brick walls that are laid in a running bond pattern. The gable ends of the building, however, are currently clad in asbestos shingles. The high-pitched gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. The wood-framed windows in the building, which are a mixture of clear and stained glass, feature diamond-shaped panes, a characteristic of the Tudor Revival style.

ELABORATION

First Presbyterian Church is located in the small town of Lonoke, Arkansas, the county seat of Lonoke County. It is located two blocks south of the main commercial district of the community and four blocks south of the courthouse on Center Street. The brick building was built in 1919 in the Tudor Revival style and designed by an unknown architect.

The building rests on a continuous cast-concrete foundation, and features brick walls laid in a running bond. The gable ends of the building, although originally clad in decorative half-timbering, are currently clad in asbestos shingles. The windows, which are wood-framed and a mixture of clear glass and stained glass, feature diamond-shaped panes. The high-pitched gable roof, with a modified jerkinhead on the east elevation and dormers on the north and south elevations, is sheathed in asphalt shingles.

Although the church complex features a manse, built in 1956, and an education building, built in 1951 with an addition constructed in 1959, they are not included in the nomination.

East/Front Elevation

The first floor of the east elevation has a central recessed entrance with a segmental-arched lintel and double wood doors with a single glass panel in each. A concrete stoop with metal railing and a lamp at each corner and a flared set of concrete steps is in front of the entrance. The entrance is flanked by small, narrow, wood-framed windows with stone sills.

The second floor of the façade has a centrally located band of three wood-framed, diamond-paned windows with clear glass. A small shelf is present below the band of windows and it is supported by two decorative brackets. A central light fixture on the underside of the shelf lights the main entrance. Above the windows is the modified jerkinhead and front-facing gable, which are covered in asbestos shingles.

South/Side Elevation

The first floor of the eastern third of the south façade has a central wood-framed window with diamond-paned clear glass and a stone sill flanked on each side by small narrow wood-framed windows with stone sills like those on the front elevation. The second floor of the eastern third of the façade is dominated by the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

asbestos shingle-clad dormer, which has a band of three wood-framed, diamond-paned windows with clear glass, and a front facing gable. The dormer is supported by two decorative brackets.

The middle third of the façade projects out from the main plane of the wall, and has a row of five double-hung, wood-framed windows with diamond-shaped panes of stained glass and stone sills. The top sash of each window has a centrally-located medallion with a Biblical theme.

The western third of the façade, which is recessed back to the main wall plane, has a single double-hung, wood-framed window with diamond-shaped panes in the upper sash. The window has clear glass and a stone sill. A brick chimney is located at the southwest corner of the building.

West/Rear Elevation

The rear elevation of the building has two small double-hung, wood-framed windows with diamond-shaped panes in the upper sash. The windows have clear glass and stone sills. An entrance is located on the south side of the façade, and it has a wood door with four horizontal clear glass panels in the top portion and two wood panels in the bottom. A set of concrete steps and a handicapped-access ramp lead up to the entrance. A covered walkway connects the rear entrance to the education building.

North/Side Elevation

The north façade of the building is almost identical to the south façade. The first floor of the eastern third of the north façade has a centrally placed entrance with a segmental-arched lintel and double wood doors with a single glass panel in each. A concrete stoop with metal railing and a set of concrete steps is in front of the entrance. The entrance is flanked on each side by small narrow wood-framed windows with stone sills like those on the front elevation. The second floor of the eastern third of the façade is dominated by the asbestos shingle-clad dormer, which has a band of three wood-framed, diamond-paned windows with clear glass, and a front facing gable. The dormer is supported by two decorative brackets, and has a central light fixture on the underside that lights the main entrance.

The middle third of the façade projects out from the main plane of the wall, and has a row of five double-hung, wood-framed windows with diamond-shaped panes of stained glass and stone sills. The top sash of each window has a centrally-located medallion with a Biblical theme.

The western third of the façade, which is recessed back to the main wall plane, has a single double-hung, wood-framed window with diamond-shaped panes in the upper sash. The window has clear glass and a stone sill. A brick chimney is located at the southwest corner of the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Interior

The eastern third of the building is occupied by a first-floor narthex with rooms above. Originally the second floor was the choir loft, but it was enclosed when the sanctuary was remodeled in 1951 and is now mainly used for storage. The central third of the building is occupied by the sanctuary with the altar, pulpit, and choir loft at the western end. A large stained-glass window with backlighting depicting Jesus leading a flock of sheep through the hills is located on the western wall. The pews are separated by a center aisle and aisles are also located on each side of the sanctuary. The choir loft portion of the sanctuary actually extends into the western third of the building. The western third also houses the rear entryway, a choir storage space, and a hallway against the west wall.

Integrity

Overall, First Presbyterian Church retains good integrity. Since it was built, some exterior modifications have occurred, most notably the replacement of the decorative half-timbering with the current asbestos shingles, and the removal of some small dormers that existed on the roof over the sanctuary portion of the building. Although it is not known exactly when they were removed, it likely occurred when the original wood-shingle roof was initially replaced with asphalt shingles.

The majority of the alterations to the building have occurred on the interior when the sanctuary was remodeled in 1951, which included enclosing the original choir loft and converting it into a classroom and storage room. These alterations are now over 50 years old, and contribute to the significance of the building, and have not drastically altered the original Tudor Revival character of the original design. The setting around the building still retains the small town feel that would have been present when the building was built in 1919.

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.

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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1919

Significant Dates

1919

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)**Architect/Builder**

John Parks Almand, architect

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: First Presbyterian Church

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

First Presbyterian Church is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its Tudor Revival architecture. The church is the best ecclesiastical example of the Tudor Revival style in Lonoke. The church's diamond-paned windows, modified jerkinhead roof, segmental-arched entrances, and multiple gables are characteristics of the style. Additionally, the church originally featured decorative half-timbering in the gable ends, which is also a distinctive characteristic of the Tudor Revival style. The property is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties**.

ELABORATION

The history of First Presbyterian Church began in April 1848 when Rev. Aaron Williams, a pioneer settler and Christian worker, organized the Presbyterian Church of Brownsville, Lonoke County, Arkansas. The town of Brownsville virtually disappeared when the Rock Island Railroad laid its tracks three miles to the south, thereby helping to establish the Town of Lonoke.

In 1878, the Presbyterian Church of Brownsville moved its membership to Lonoke with the exception of a few members living north of Brownsville who withdrew and organized the Hester Presbyterian Church on the northern edge of Grand Prairie. It came to be called the Prairie Grove Presbyterian Church. That church was dissolved later in 1878 and its members united with the Lonoke Presbyterian Church. There being no church building, the members met in their homes, in the courthouse, and in the Methodist Church.

The original building for First Presbyterian Church of Lonoke was built in 1880 south of the railroad at what is now 121 East Front Street. The following clippings from the *Lonoke Democrat* describe the progress on the building's construction:

July 22, 1880 – The Presbyterian Church project is nearly a certainty. Over \$1,000 has been subscribed, payable in November. McCrary and Witherspoon received a letter from Brooks and Neely Co. of Memphis stating that they would give \$155.00 for the building of our Presbyterian Church.

August 19, 1880 – Bransford and Clements, Contractors, are delivering the bricks for the Presbyterian Church.

September 9, 1880 – Work was being done on the Presbyterian Church last week.

September 30, 1880 – Work has been suspended on the Presbyterian Church until the windows and door frames shall arrive, the walls having gone as high as they can until these are placed in position.

December 16, 1880 – The brick work is again going on the Presbyterian Church. The Presbyterians will have an organ about as soon as the church is ready. (Mr.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Carl Raprich designed the roof and helped build the church. It had no ceiling and the rafters could be seen, hence the acoustics were very poor indeed.)

April 7, 1881 – The distance from ground to the top of the gable of the Presbyterian Church will be about forty feet.

May 6, 1881 – The Presbyterian organ fund runs up to a hundred dollars – a few more dollars yet needed. The organ has already been received.

May 12, 1881 – The Presbyterian Church organ is of Estey make and a very good one.

June 30, 1881 – The Presbyterian Church is roofed in.

Among the earliest members of the congregation that built that church were Major and Mrs. Samuel McClelland Witherspoon, Mrs. Q. T. (Susan) Webster, Mrs. Isabelle Tatum, and Mrs. R. W. McLaughlin.

The first pastor of the church in Lonoke was Rev. John F. Baker, a nephew of Rev. Daniel Baker, the eminent Southern evangelist who was prominent in Presbyterianism in Georgia. Rev. John Baker was born in 1828 near Old Midway Church in Georgia. He graduated from Princeton in 1846, shortly before his 18th birthday, and was valedictorian of his class. He was ordained by Lucerne Presbytery, New Jersey, in the chapel at Princeton.

He preached first at Augusta, Georgia, then at Old Independence Church in Savannah, Georgia, and later served churches in Virginia and Missouri. In 1879, he was called to Little Rock and Hot Springs, Arkansas. However, on the advice of his physician, he took over a group of small country churches: Des Arc, Wattensaw, Hickory Plains, Sylvania, and Lonoke. While in Lonoke, he baptized the first child in this church, Marian Witherspoon. He also performed the first wedding ceremony in this church, that of Miss Lelia Grace Witherspoon and Mr. S. E. (Ed) Webster. Mr. Baker died in May, 1885, and is buried in the cemetery at Sylvania.

From the time of the church's establishment in the 1800s, it was an active and growing church. Shortly after the church was completed and Rev. Baker arrived, the Lonoke Presbyterian Sunday School was organized in 1882. Its earliest superintendents were Mr. Sam T. Witherspoon, Mr. J. F. Patton, Captain J. O. Hardeman, Mr. W. R. McCrary, and Mr. W. W. McCrary. By 1905, the Minutes of the General Assembly give the following statistics concerning the church: Pastor, Rev. W. I. McInnis; membership, 46; deacons, 1; elders, 3; pastor's yearly salary, \$202.00. (By comparison, in 1998 the pastor was Rev. Steve Rembert; there was an approximate membership of 140; Deacons, 9; Elders, 9; and an annual budget of \$64,120.00.)

In 1914, the church records report that Mrs. H. N. Street, the wife of one of the original elders of the congregation and a Bible teacher, had organized the Woman's Auxiliary, the Men's Bible Class, the Senior

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Christian Endeavor Society, the Inter-denominational Bible Class of Lonoke, and a Negro Bible Class at the Negro Baptist Church of Lonoke.

After the resignation of pastor Rev. J. E. Latham in 1915, the church was without a pastor for about a year before a call was extended to another minister, who accepted. Shortly after the new minister accepted the call, the church officers went to talk to Dr. J. F. Ross, a successful practicing physician in Lonoke. He was an ordained elder, and had taken an increasingly active part in all church affairs. The congregation asked Dr. Ross if he would be willing to give up the practice of medicine, which he loved, to accept a call to this church should the Lord call him to preach. Dr. Ross said that if he received a clear call from the Lord, he would accept. Three days later, the newly called minister who had accepted their call, sent a telegram to the clerk of the session saying: "I cannot explain but feel strongly that I am not the man for your church and therefore cannot accept the call." The Lonoke Presbyterians felt that Dr. J. F. Ross had been chosen by God.

Dr. Ross was ordained by the Presbytery of Arkansas in 1916, and was installed as pastor of the Lonoke Church on October 22nd. He became the first and perhaps the only minister in the Southern Presbyterian Church to give up the practice of medicine to enter the ministry, and he never went to seminary. He served the First Presbyterian Church in North Little Rock after leaving Lonoke in 1920, where he remained a minister until his death in 1939.

By the late 1910s, the congregation decided that it was time to build a new church building, and in 1918 the original church building on Front Street was sold for \$5,000.00. The present sanctuary at 304 South Center Street was built, and Dr. Ross held the first service in the new church on April 6, 1919. The congregation chose a design of Little Rock architect John Parks Almand for the new building. Almand began his career in architecture in 1911 after getting his Bachelor of Architecture degree from Columbia University. He came to Little Rock in July 1912, and practiced with Charles L. Thompson before opening his own practice in 1915. He remained in practice until his death in 1969.

The design used for First Presbyterian Church had also been used for First Methodist Church in Crawfordsville, Arkansas, which was built in 1917. First Methodist Church was also designed in the Tudor Revival style, which was a style that exploded in popularity after World War I, when returning soldiers built structures loosely interpreting what they had seen in Europe. The Tudor Revival style was a popular one with Almand, and was the style that he chose for his own home at 324 West 14th Street in Little Rock.

The decade of the 1940s brought more change to the congregation of First Presbyterian. The organization of the Men of the Church began during the ministry of Rev. William T. Hunt, 1937-1942. In addition, several projects were undertaken that brought physical changes to the building and the grounds. In July, 1940, a remodeling project was begun to convert the balcony of the church into two classrooms for the Beginners and the Primaries of the Sunday School. In 1944, money was given by a generous member of this church for the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

installation of a new outdoor bulletin board in the church yard, which still stands in 2004. The first message on the bulletin board was "AIM HIGHER, DO MORE, LOVE HARDER."

On September 27, 1946, a new Hammond electric organ (purchased at a price of \$1,290.00) was used for the first time in a church service. Mr. and Mrs. L. C. McCrary, Sr., and their children gave the instrument as a memorial to Mr. McCrary's sister, Annie. In 1998, this Hammond organ was replaced with an Allen digital computer organ purchased from Colaianni Piano & Organ Company in Little Rock. The current organ was given by the family of Dr. B. E. and Gladys Holmes.

By the 1950s, growing pains were again affecting the congregation, and it was decided to build a separate education building. On September 21, 1950, during the pastorate of Rev. S. P. Riccobene, the new brick education building was begun. At the ground breaking, Elder Lemuel C. McCrary, Sr., lifted the first shovel of dirt. The building consisted of four classrooms, a kitchen, two restrooms, and an assembly hall. It was to be connected to the present sanctuary building by a breezeway wide enough for cars to drive through, leading to a parking area. The total cost for the building was approximately \$20,000.00. Baxter Miles Construction Company of Lonoke was the contractor. The interior of the new education building was finished in natural pine paneling. The construction of the education building was completed in 1951.

After the education building was completed, the work of remodeling the sanctuary began immediately. At a cost of about \$10,000.00, the interior of the sanctuary was finished in "eyerest green" and the chancel and wall paneling was of Philippine mahogany with natural finish. The new pulpit furniture and pews were of the same material. A green wool carpet covered the center, side, and front aisles and the chancel. Clippaird & Trapp, a Little Rock architectural firm, designed the chancel. Seating capacity of the newly remodeled sanctuary was 200.

Also in the 1950s, the stained glass windows were installed in the sanctuary. In April of 1953, a memorial stained glass window of "The Good Shepherd" was installed in the chancel above the choir by Church Art Glass Company of Little Rock, Arkansas. The stained glass window was given by Mrs. O. L. Shull and family in memory of Captain Rex Brundidge Shull, who lost his life in the U. S. armed services during World War II. Then in June of that year, a plan sponsored by Mrs. O. L. Shull and approved by the Session, contracted Church Art Glass Company to install 10 large stained glass memorial windows in the sanctuary at a cost of \$900.00. The windows were installed as memorials to the following members of the congregation:

1. Eugenia Witherspoon McCrary
2. W. W. McCrary, Sr., Elder
3. Elder John and Harriet Brouse &
Elder Spencer and Elizabeth Elcan
4. Julia Witherspoon Fletcher &

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

- Marian Witherspoon Elcan
5. Lemuel Clarence McCrary, Sr., Elder &
Mayme Ford McCrary
 6. Clara McCrary McCall &
Alvin Otho McCall
 7. Thomas Edwin Scott
 8. David Gates &
Nettie Witherspoon Gates
 9. Mrs. Annie Richmond Gatewood
 10. William Edward Willman, Elder &
Amelia Elizabeth Willman

In addition to constructing the education building, and remodeling the sanctuary, the present manse was built in 1956 by contractor Ed McMullen of Hazen, Arkansas, at an approximate cost of \$17,000.00 on a 50-foot lot joining the church property on the south side. The property was given to the church by Mrs. W. W. McCrary, Sr. This manse replaced the old manse located just behind the church to the west, at 119 West Pine Street, which had been the home of Dr. and Mrs. John P. Fletcher from whose estate the deacons acquired the property for \$1,200.00 in 1918. Rev. Maury VandenBosch and his family were the first to occupy the new manse. An addition to the present manse was added in 1978 during the pastorate of Rev. James M. Burns.

By 1959, the need for more Sunday School rooms became apparent and it was decided to build an addition to the education building. The new addition consisted of another assembly room, three Sunday School classrooms, a ladies' parlor, and pastor's study. It was dedicated November 29, 1959, by the pastor, Rev. T. S. Daniel, Sr. More than half the cost of this building project was met by a gift of \$10,500.00 to the church from the late Mr. Tom F. Kirk. Mr. Kirk, who died in 1958, was a Methodist, but other churches in and around Lonoke were also beneficiaries of his generosity.

The 1970s and 1980s brought additional changes to the church, mainly affecting the organization of the congregation. In 1973, women were first elected to office in the Lonoke Presbyterian Church. In 1978 the congregation adopted the rotation system of elders and deacons. Then, beginning in January 2002, the church converted to the unicameral system of church officers – abolishing the deacon body, and having nine elders and a committee system. Committees formed were: Building and Grounds Committee, Christian Education Committee, Church Life Committee, Finance and Stewardship Committee, Outreach and Missions Committee, and Worship and Spiritual Life Committee.

Also, in 1973, the Presbyterian Youth Fellowship which had begun in the 1950s, was discontinued and accepted the invitation of the First United Methodist Church to join with them in their regular meetings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

However, in 1995, due to the increase in the number of young people in the congregation, the youth resumed meeting in the Presbyterian Church. The Women of the Church, as an active organization, was discontinued in 1973 as women became more involved in all activities of the church. Finally, in 1983, the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America merged with the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

One of the more serious ongoing challenges in the church is the structural problems that have plagued the building for at least fifty years. In 1948, Elder James B. Abraham received a letter from an engineering firm concerning the cracking and settling of the church on the northeast corner of the sanctuary. In 1985, Kullander Construction Company of North Little Rock, Arkansas, did foundation and framing repairs, including drilling nine 18" piers under the foundation to try to stabilize the building at a cost of \$18,178.00. The money for this expense was borrowed from the Agape Fund which consisted of \$30,000.00 left to the Church by devoted members. In the fall of 1994, stabilizing rods were attached, connecting the north and south walls inside the sanctuary at a cost of \$2,357.00. This work was also done by Kullander Construction Company. In 2000, steel structural support was installed in the basement by J. R. Waddell at a cost of \$11,818.74.

Descendants of the original founders are still active in the work of the church, and many have served in various capacities on Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly levels. Though small in numbers, this church claims a rich heritage. Over the past 156 years, more than 40 ministers and stated supplies have served the Lonoke Presbyterian Church. These many dedicated ministers have provided good leadership through the years, and each one has sought to deepen the spiritual life of the congregation. In addition, the First Presbyterian Church building remains a fine example of the Tudor Revival style of architecture, and the best ecclesiastical example of the style in Lonoke.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

First Presbyterian Church is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its Tudor Revival architecture. The church is the best ecclesiastical example of the Tudor Revival style in Lonoke. The church's diamond-paned windows, modified jerkinhead roof, and multiple gables are characteristics of the style. Additionally, the church also featured decorative half-timbering in the gable ends, which is also a distinctive characteristic of the Tudor Revival style. The property is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties**.

First Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lonoke 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

Almand, A. J. (son of John Parks Almand). Letter to Miss Starr Mitchell of the Quapaw Quarter Association in Little Rock, including a list of completed architectural commissions of John Parks Almand. 11 January 1978.

Information from previous written histories of First Presbyterian Church compiled former church historian, Mrs. Don D. (Harriet) Lawson.

Information from the recorded Minutes of the Session, minutes from the Women of the Church, and from Church scrapbooks, all on file at the church.

First Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lonoke 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 600634 3849167
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
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 Ralph S. Wilcox
organization National Register & Survey Coordinator date _____
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787
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 First Presbyterian Church
street & number 304 South Center Street telephone _____
city or town Lonoke state AR zip code 72086

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

First Presbyterian Church
Name of Property

Lonoke County, Arkansas
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From the southwest corner of the Center Street and West Pine Street intersection, proceed westerly 145 feet, then proceed southerly 125 feet, then proceed easterly 145 feet, and then proceed northerly 125 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains all of the land historically associated with First Presbyterian Church.

Recommendation: SLR Return

Action: SLR Return None

Documentation Issues-Discussion Sheet

State Name: AR County Name Lonoke Resource Name First Presbyterian Church

Reference No. 1037 Multiple Name _____

Solution: Boundary includes only the church bldg. - the manse and education bldg. are not within the property boundary.
Discussed with Ralph Wilcox, Arkansas SPO, 9/21/04

DJV 9/21/04

Problem: Boundaries appear to include the entire church complex. The manse & education bldg appear to be on the property. The can be non contributing, but they need a brief description & included in the resource list.

Just because the alterations are fifty years does not mean they are included when the period of sign starts & ends in 1919

Resolution:

SLR: Yes No

Database Change:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY First Presbyterian Church
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Lonoke

DATE RECEIVED: 8/11/04 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/08/04
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/23/04 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/24/04
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 04001037

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 First Presbyterian Church of Lonoke is locally significant under Criterion C for its Tudor Revival-style architecture. The congregation dates to 1848. By the late 1910s, it had outgrown its existing building and commissioned Little Rock architect John Parks Almand to design a new structure. Built in 1919, the church features distinctive diamond-pane window bays and a modified Jerkinhead roof. The continued growth of the congregation led to the construction of a manse and education building in the 1950s. These are not included within the boundary of the nominated property; the church is the only resource on the property. The church is a important example of the Tudor Revival style in Lonoke County and retains integrity from its period of significance.

RECOM./CRITERIA C

REVIEWER Daniel Vivian

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE (202) 354-2252

DATE 9/23/04

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.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LONOKE COUNTY, AR

KELLI PETERS

FEBRUARY 2004

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

SOUTH AND EAST FACADES, LOOKING NORTHWEST



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

CHURCH - 878-37
REV. STEVE REMER
11:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:00 WORSHIP
IF YOU'RE LIVING
LIKE THERE IS
NO GOD
YOU'D BETTER
BE RIGHT!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LONOKE COUNTY, AR

KELLI PETERS

FEBRUARY 2004

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

NORTH AND EAST FACADES, LOOKING SOUTHWEST



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LONOKE COUNTY, AR

KELU PETERS

FEBRUARY 2004

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

SOUTH FACADE, LOOKING NORTHEAST



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LONOKE COUNTY, AR

KELLI PETERS

FEBRUARY 2004

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

NORTH AND WEST FACADES, LOOKING SOUTHEAST



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LONOKE COUNTY, AR

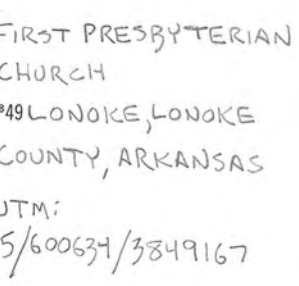
KELLI PETERS

FEBRUARY 2004

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

SANCTUARY INTERIOR, LOOKING WEST

LONOKE QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS-LONOKE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 LONOKE 15' QUADRANGLE



Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

taken 1975. Field checked 1977. Map edited 1982
 Drainage and 10,000 foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate

1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
1927 North American Datum

move the projection lines 7 meters south and
13 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where

generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Primary highway, hard or improved surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
----------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------

hard surface _____ improved surface _____
Secondary highway _____

Secondary highway,
hard surface Unimproved road

 Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

LONOKE, ARK

LONOKE, ARK

SW/4 LONOKE 15' QUADRANT
N244E W01E2 E/7 E

N3445-W9152.5/7.5

1982

DMA 7653 IV SW-SERIES



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Historic Arkansas Museum

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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Little Rock, AR 72201

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info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

August 4, 2004

Carol D. Shull
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: First Presbyterian Church – Lonoke, Lonoke County,
Arkansas

Dear Carol:

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

