

1357

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

RECEIVED
SEP 11 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: New Home School Building

other name/site number: JA0493

2. Location

street & number: County Road 69

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Swifton

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Jackson

code: AR 067

zip code: 72471

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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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.

Cathryn A. Byrd
Signature of certifying official

9-8-92
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
_____ 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): _____

William Byrd 10/8/92
Entered in the
National Register

for Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: VACANT/NOT IN USE

Sub: N/A

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Other

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Weatherboard other _____

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: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1915 _____

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.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The New Home School Building is a single story, novelty sided structure constructed c. 1915 in Plain/Traditional Style.

Elaboration

The New Home School Building is a single story, novelty sided structure constructed c. 1915 in the Plain/Traditional style. Its rectangular, single-room plan has been augmented only by the addition of a hipped, Craftsman style porch on its southern elevation. There are no extant chimneys. The asphalt shingle gable roof and weatherboarded walls rest upon a foundation composed of stone piers.

The southern elevation features a central hipped roof projecting porch supported by slender columns on piers resting on a wide plank floor. Two separate raised-panel wooden doors provide access to different rooms.

The eastern elevation is fenestrated by four double-hung, four-over-four windows. The northern elevation previously exhibited one window which is now boarded over. The western elevation lighting arrangement is identical to that of the eastern. There is no significant ornamentation of the exterior.

The interior, though simple and without ornament, appears as it did when constructed. The unadorned dimensional lumber used for door and window trim provides the only relief from the flat walls and the blackboard and teaching area at the northern end of the room.

Although the exterior of this structure shows signs of neglect and deterioration, it has not been significantly altered since its construction.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The New Home School Building (also known as the Pleasant Valley School and as the Possum Trot School), constructed c. 1915 (though some local accounts place the date as early as 1911 or 1912), was erected as a school building to serve one of six small rural school districts in the farm land surrounding the town of Swifton. It is eligible under Criterion C with local significance as the best example of a single room, Plain Traditional style school house from this era and the only known extant example that survives with this high level of integrity.

Elaboration

The town of Swifton was founded in 1873 with the arrival of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad running from St. Louis, Missouri to Texas (prior to the arrival of the railroad, the present town site was probably indistinguishable from the flat farm land that surrounds it, and no community as such existed at all). As was the case with so many railroad towns in Arkansas, the town initially grew up around the railroad and owed its entire existence to it and the national transportation network with which it thereby became connected.

Swifton grew steadily, becoming a regional shipping center for the cotton grown on the farm land surrounding the town, and thereby acquiring the associated cotton gins, mercantile stores and lodging facilities that resulted. Though some modest school facilities existed locally prior to this period, as the town prospered the formation of organized school districts became a priority, with new school construction chief among the concerns of local residents, both in town and in the rural surrounding townships. By the first two decades of the twentieth century the community of Swifton and its environs had been divided into a total of six school districts. By far the majority of these six districts were created to serve students living in remote, rural areas, well away from Swifton proper. Though few historic photographs survive to document the architectural character of these buildings, knowledge of the buildings constructed by small, rural school districts around the state during this period point to the likelihood that single-room schoolhouses predominated here also, as they were relatively easy and inexpensive to construct, and they tended to serve well the needs of the students and their teachers.

The New Home School Building remains a good and relatively intact example of this particular building type. Its simple, gable-roof form and single-room plan are typical of these traditional, country schoolhouses that were designed simply and functionally, without detail or ornamentation, for the sole purpose of providing a warm, dry environment for the teaching of

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

the local students that typically walked to this building every school day. In spite of the addition of the later Craftsman-style porch, the New Home School Building remains the best example of this type in the Swifton vicinity, and is thus eligible under Criterion C.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bailey, Raymond, "Country Singings," *The Stream of History*, Jackson County Historical Society, V. XXI, No. 2, June, 1984, pp. 17-20.

Crawford, Billye, "Memoirs of Rural Schools of Jackson County," *The Stream of History*, Jackson County Historical Society, Vol. XXVII, No. 1, Spring, 1990, pp. 15-17.

Eatman, Bertha Bush, "Memoirs of Early Swifton Schools," *The Stream of History*, Jackson County Historical Society, Vol. V, No. 4, October, 1967, pp. 11-12.

___ 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:

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

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10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>664970</u>	<u>3967980</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the northern edge of County Road 69 with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's eastern elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the east thereof, proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's northern elevation; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's western elevation; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its

intersection with a perpendicular line running along the northern edge of County Road 69; thence proceed easterly along said edge for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: _____

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY New Home School Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Jackson

DATE RECEIVED: 9/11/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/22/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/08/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/26/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001357

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 10/8/92 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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



NEW HOME SCHOOL

SWIFTON VIC, JACKSON Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN

APRIL, 1990

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM SOUTH



NEW HOME SCHOOL

SWIFTON VIC, JACKSON Co, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN

APRIL, 1990

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM NORTH



NEW HOME SCHOOL

SWIFTON VIC, JACKSON Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN

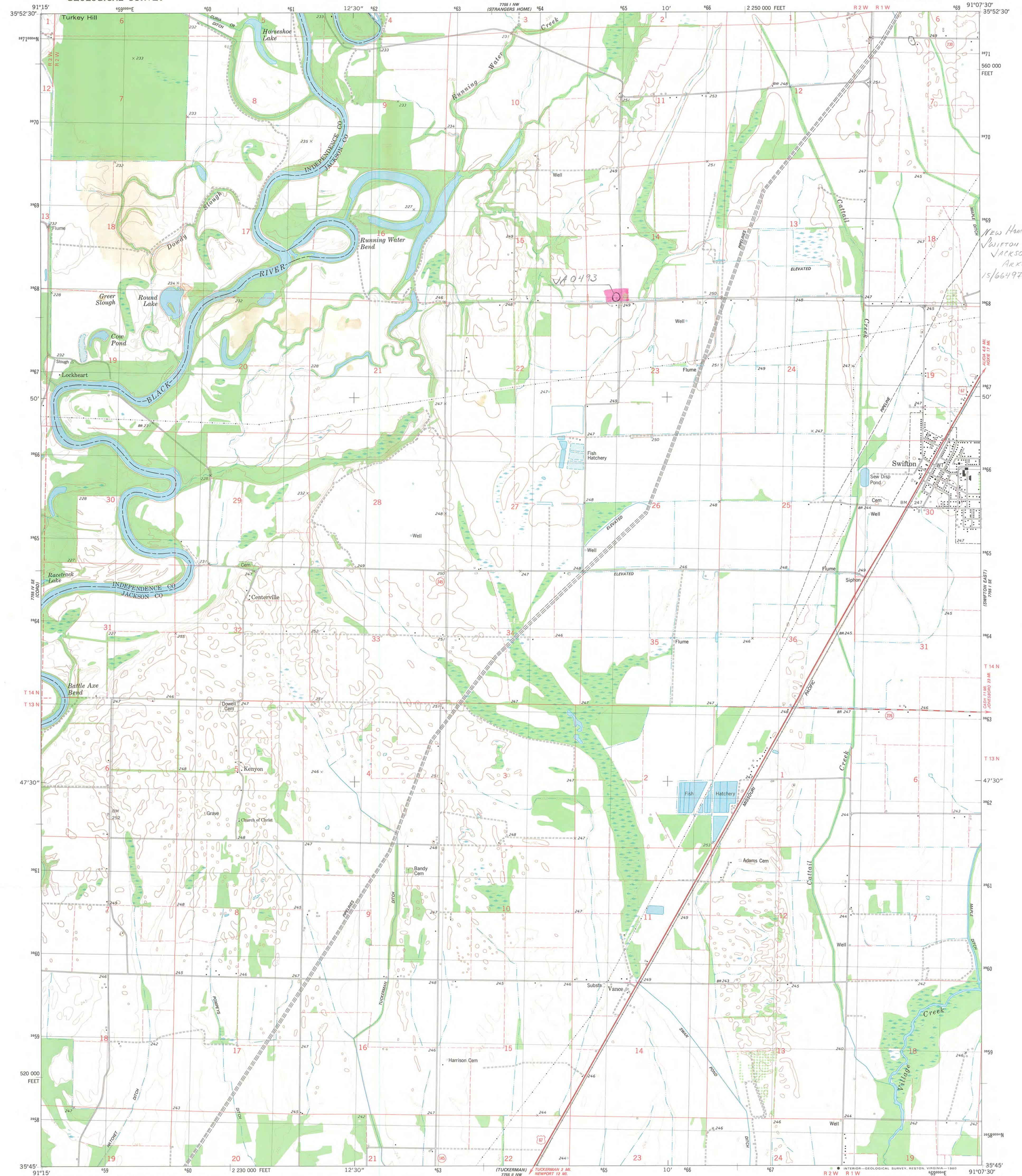
APRIL, 1990

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

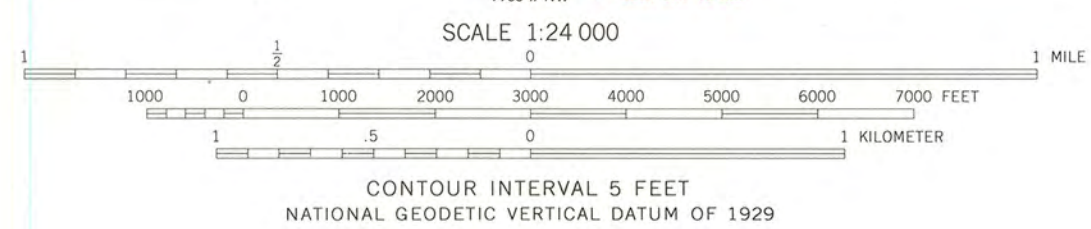
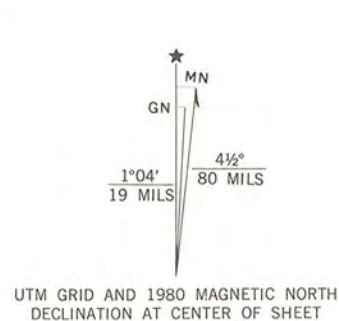
VIEW FROM EAST



NEW HOME SCHOOL
SWIFTON VIC, JACKSON CO, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN
APRIL, 1990
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM WEST



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1974. Field checked 1976. Map edited 1980
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate
system, north 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 5 meters south and
11 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 unchecked



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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

SWIFTON WEST, ARK.
SW/4 ALICIA 15' QUADRANGLE
N3545-W9107.5/7.5

1980

DMA 7755 I SW-SERIES V884



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED
SEP 11 1992
NATIONAL
REGISTER

September 8, 1992

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: New Home School Building
Swifton, Jackson 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

