



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, Borden House, in Washington County, Arkansas, reference number 77000278, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 03/17/1977, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 7, 1978, Part II, Vol. 43, No. 26, page 5172. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.


Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

9/12/2008
Date

72-76-P180-41

NR 3-17-77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2 Highway 62 East

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OFCONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

143

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☒ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. J. W. Grissom

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2 Highway 62 East

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OFSTATE
Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

College Avenue and East Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE
Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Borden-Hall House is a one-and-one-half story and one-level addition frame structure clad in an 1880's skin. It is located less than 50 yards east of Prairie Grove Battlefield Park.

The plan has a central hallway, one room on either side. The exterior end, cut sandstone chimneys have been removed but can be located.

The weather-board-clad balloon frame building and the ell rest on a laid stone foundation. The building is capped by double-pitched roofs supported by round rafters. The roof was first covered in shingles, then asphalt shingles and now partially by tar paper.

The front facade faces north across the valley of the Illinois Creek. The first level of this facade contains five bays. The central bay consists of a portico and a stylized triangular-pedimented entrance door with sidelights. The portico is covered by a half-hipped roof, decorated with lattice work at the eave and supported by turned columns. The four bays that complete the first level of the north facade contain double-hung, six-pane windows trimmed above with the stylized triangular pediment demonstrated above the entrance door. This same trim was used on the interior of these windows. The half level above on the north facade contains three dormer windows. The end dormers contain double-hung, six-pane sash. The central dormer is larger and is framed for a door, indicating a different type portico existed because the present portico roof half covers the door opening.

Further reinforcing the symmetrical nature of the house are the identical east and west facades of the main block. On the lower level of both facades are double-hung, six-pane windows. On the upper level two double-hung, six-pane windows flank the chimney.

Rear doors exist in the lower rooms of the main block. (All doors were four panelled). The door in the east room enters the two-room addition which was heated by a back-to-back brick fireplace.

The central hallway had a rear door and contained the open-string stairs to the half level. The stairs are "L" shaped, with winders, turned newel, shaped handrail and plain balusters.

The fireplace mantels were carved wood with rectangular openings. Both mantels contained pilasters and entablatures, bed mouldings and mantel shelves. The west mantel had a moulded frieze, whereas the east mantel was plain.

Paper and baseboard covered the plaster on wood lath walls of the lower rooms of the main block. The ceilings were plastered also, and the floors were wood supported by log joists. Wall and floor surfaces in the upper level were boarded and papered.

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The Borden-Hall House is in a deteriorating condition. Among the immediate problems are a poor roof, fallen chimneys, rotting foundations and porches, water damage from windows, etc. Action must be taken hurriedly to prevent the loss of this very significant building and site.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES December 7, 1862

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle - The Borden House

The surrounding land and the Borden House cannot be separated. The Confederate right flank was anchored around the Borden House and orchard where the main fighting of the Prairie Grove battle took place. Briefly stated, General Herron attacked the Confederate right flank near noon and it was not until 4:00 that General Blunt came on the field to unite the Union forces, which then fought together until 7:00 in the evening. Consequently, I intend to confine this report only to those witnessed accounts which took place on the Confederate right flank in and around the Borden House. I believe that these reports, from both North and South, will prove how important this site is to the Prairie Grove Battlefield Park and that the existing Borden House and orchard ground must be saved as an original historical landmark intimately identified with the main events which took place on that Sunday, December 7, 1862.

General Hindman C.S.A.

"The shape of the hill determined the line of battle, which was nearly in the form of a horseshoe." When the Confederate Army had drawn a line of battle around the hilltop village of Prairie Grove they were already too late to engage General Herron's Union command alone as had been designed. "General Marmaduke was falling back before the Union infantry, and General Shoup had placed his Confederate division in position to meet the expected attack. He had with admirable judgement selected a strong defensive position upon the brow of a densely wooded hill commanding the Cane Hill and Fayetteville road and within artillery range of the ford of Illinois Creek." (Foote)

Prentiss 1888

"The lines of battle seemed very short, the Confederate front embraced, in general terms, between the Hall House (Borden House) and the Morton House. East of the former and west of the latter the battle seemed to fray out so to speak, and we could find no tradition or landmark." According to the Arkansas History Commission, "The most severe fighting of the battle took place about the Borden House and orchard." General Herron reported more than 300 dead in less than two acres of the slopes about this house. Occupying the right flank of the Confederate Army, the Borden House saw the start of the battle, as this flank successfully held the orchard then occupied by an abandoned Confederate battery of four pieces which baited the initial attacks of General Herron. The following records will prove this, beyond a doubt, by continually referring to the one obvious landmark in this area -- the existing Borden House.

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General Herron U.S.A.

In the Official Records: Volume 22, Report #14, General Herron reports on December 19, 1862: "...when within 100 yards of the ridge, the 20th Wisconsin and the 19th Iowa Infantry were ordered to charge a battery placed near a farm house (Borden House), on the edge of the hill. The charge was made in gallant style, the enemy driven back, and the battery taken, but the ground could not be held....Regiment after regiment of infantry was hurled upon the, and they were compelled to fall back."

Colonel Orme 94th Illinois, U.S.A.

In this same volume of the Official Records, Report #31, written on December 10, 1862 by Colonel Orme of the 94th Illinois: "Meanwhile the 19th Iowa had received and returned the fire of the enemy and now advanced steadily up the hill to the left of the white house (Borden House), and across the orchard back of the house to a fence, behind which the enemy in greatly superior force were concealed. At it approached, the enemy rose up and poured in a most severe and destructive fire upon it, and the 20th Wisconsin having already commenced to fall back in disorder, the 19th Iowa was unable to hold its position, and was compelled to fall back across the orchard, where Lieutenant Colonel McFarland fell shot through the body. Major D. Kent then took command and rallied a portion of his men, who had fallen back to the right of the battery, near the position of the 94th Illinois."

Major Kent 19th Iowa, U.S.A.

In the same volume of the Official Records, Report #33, written December 10th, 1862 by Major Kent, 19th Iowa, who describes this charge: "...The skirmishers advanced under a heavy fire to a cornfield to the right of Battery E, 1st Missouri Artillery, and were ordered to hold it at all hazards which was done, until ordered to fall back and form in line of battle. The regiment was then ordered to advance to the left of the white house (Borden House) on the hill to support the 20th Wisconsin which was hotly engaged. The 19th Iowa led by Lieutenant Colonel McFarland advanced up the hill steadily and across the orchard back of the house (Borden) when the 20th Wisconsin gave way. The 10th still advanced to the fence adjoining the wood, when the enemy, concealed, arose to their feet, three regiments deep, pouring a destructive fire on us from three sides, which caused the regiment to waver and fall back to the battery, on the left of the road leading up the hill, Lieutenant Colonel McFarland here fell, shot through the body. I then took command and rallied what was left of the regiment, as the regiment met with a severe loss in the charge....Colonel Orme then rode up and ordered Captain Roderick to fall in and rally with the 94th Illinois which he did, led by Colonel Orme in person, driving the enemy back with great slaughter, and holding their position until ordered to fall back and reform."

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Major Thompson, 20th Iowa, U.S.A.

Major W. C. Thompson, 20th Iowa, in a letter dated December 10, 1862, wrote: "We drove them from their position and was still fighting near a fence, and an empty house (Borden House) stood away about twenty yards from us. At last I heard some of the boys say, 'For God's sake, Major, get off your horse or you will be killed!', for they were shooting at me out of the house and a few of the cowards had sneaked into the house (Borden) and had shot often at me and had missed me. But just at sundown and the very last round they shot at us, one of the cowardly cusses raised the window and took a good aim and I was hit that time...." From this graphic description and from statements by other soldiers, we may conclude that the Borden House survived the heavy infantry combat and the artillery fire of that day.

Captain Pittman (C.S.A.), in an interview around 1896 relates: "...On the 7th, after the enemy had been driven to shelter behind his artillery and the sun had gone down in a cloud of sulphurous smoke, the dusk of evening was coming on, our regiment was moved from the corner of the Borden orchard where we were formed after the last charge, and where the hardest fight of the day had occurred, to a point in the woods 150 yards to the south and west where we were given permission to 'lie down arms'."

THE BURIAL TRENCHES

In the Prentiss Report of 1888, mention is made of his companion, the Commissioner, who was a Union veteran and witness of the Prairie Grove battle. The Commissioner relates: "...The next day we went to the field and saw the burial details putting the dead in trenches. The piles of dead where the battery was fought over near the Hall House (Borden House), were frightful. The ground was muddy with blood."

In the Prentiss report of 1888 there is also included the description given by another Union veteran, the Captain, who relates: "Not far from the house (Borden House) were depressions in the ground, and piles of gravelly and barren earth covered with green mould. These mark the trenches where the Union dead were buried and from whence their poor bones were afterward removed. There were other trenches in the orchard now enclosed...All this ground was fought over, the combatants being generally the troops or Herron's command and the Arkansans. Frost's Missourians, who in the original Confederate plan of battle were placed on this flank, were soon sent to the Confederate left."

THE 34th Arkansas, C.S.A., AT THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

Flashback 1952

"...These Washington County men, who had been drilling for months at Spadra and Mazzard Prairie, down on the Arkansas River, knew where they were

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going when they marched out of Van Buren on the 3rd of December. They recognized the distant silhouette of the Boston Mountains. But they could hardly have foreseen that the battle which they anticipated would occur within sight and sound of their homes -- with their own kin huddled in cellars or ministering to the wounded. The 34th Arkansas fought and died on home grounds -- Crawford's Prairie, the Morton farm, the Borden orchard...."

The Commanding Generals Hindman, Herron, and Blunt reported 338 killed and 1,630 wounded in action, for a total of 2,568 men. The high loss of 10% of the troops engaged stands as an exception to most Civil War battles, and indicates the severity of the infantry combat here and of the significant part which artillery had in this battle. The records show that around 600 of the wounded subsequently died. "Losses in killed, wounded, and missing totaled 1,317 for the Confederates and 1,251 for the Federals. Of the latter only 333 were from Blunt's Command indicating how much heavier a portion of the conflict Herron's men had borne." The Records show that of the counted wounded, 430 died in the Army hospital at Fayetteville, 150 in the churches and homes of Cane Hill, Prairie Grove, and others along the Cove Creek and Telegraph Road.

In the Prentiss report of 1888 a description of the battle was given by Mrs. Staples, who relates her personal view of the fight on the Confederate left flank around the Morton House. Prentiss wrote that, "The mistress of the mansion now is Mrs. Staples, nee' Morton, who was a young woman at the time of the fight. The storm of battle, drifting from the east end of the ridge to the westward, drove the women and children to the Morton House, where they took refuge in a shallow cellar which Mrs. Staples shows to visitors. The incident most vivid in her mind was coming up from the cellar to get some garments to cover the children who were suffering from cold."

Yet, there is a copy of a typed manuscript in the Rare Documents file of the Arkansas History Commission in Little Rock entitled, Personal Recollections of the Battle of Prairie Grove, and is thought to have been written by Mrs. Staples around 1896. It reads, "Early in the day the battle commenced on the Borden farm east of the grove, lasting until sunset, winding up on the Morton farm one mile west. The families were ordered west to the first cellar, which was Morton's. Those in the cellar during the battle were N.J. and J.M. Morton, Wm. Morton, Wm. D. Rogers, wife and three children, A. Borden, wife and five children, Eliza Borden, Dr. Rogers, wife and two children. We all remained in the cellar till dark, but I went into the house several times to get victuals and some bedclothes and wraps for the children....Another shocking affair was helping to bury Mr. Borden, a brother of A. Borden, who was brutally killed in the Pittman lane." From this statement we can easily infer that the Confederates had

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placed their sharpshooters in the Borden House to the east which offered an excellent view of the initial attacks of the Union Army of General Herron's command. It is also easy to imagine sharpshooters occupying the Borden cellar, which was protected from shot and shell. By removing some of the stacked stones of the foundation located in the northeast corner of the house they could have created a small, concealed position in the center of combat. They told the Borden family to get out of their house.

In the Prentiss report of 1888, this journalist begins his interview around Prairie Grove by relating that, "Morning came, chill, cloudy and forbidding. We walked along the business street, what may be called the Post Office street, in search of Confederate 'contemporaries' who could speak of the Prairie Grove battle from observation. There were several of them, all belonging that day to Fagan's Arkansas Brigade which held the Confederate right. They thought the Confederate guns, over which the savage fight occurred at the white house (Borden House), belonged to Blocher's Arkansas Battery. They spoke of the spot where the dead men were piled thickest, as the place where the horses were killed....."(This refers to the Captain's story in the next few paragraphs.)

"...By general consent, Mr. Bill Rogers, who lived on the edge of the ridge and who, with his family connections, owned a large portion of the field, they thought the best guide procurable, and Mr. Rogers was found later in the morning and obligingly mounted his mule and rode over the field. We went first to the white house (Borden House) on the right of the Confederate line, overlooking the ford where the road from Fayetteville crosses. From near this house (Borden House) the Confederate artillery opened on Herron's troops when crossing, and were replied to first by Backhof's Battery. Here the 20th Wisconsin and the 19th Iowa made the first charge of the day, carrying the ridge, only to be forced back."

The Captain's story - 1888. "...We came to a stream (it was the Illinois Creek) and we moved along the bank down the stream and formed in line... The batteries concluded their dispute for a time; the men were wakened and stood up in line, and then moved toward it. (The physical condition of the men refers to the forced march of General Herron's men of 110 miles from their camp near Springfield, Missouri.) And the fire from the guns on the crest, and the musketry fire, seemed to grow thicker and louder as we neared it. I saw a white house (Borden House) on the crest and to our right. We came to the foot of the ridge, the slope covered with a tangle of vines and bushes and trees. Buried in this for a few moments, we were sheltered as if we had gone into a fortress. (This refers to a natural bench in the hill below the Borden House.) We came out near the crest,

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and there was a newly-built rail fence, and there, a few feet off, so that we were looking into their muzzles, were the guns, and nearby the horses standing quietly attached to the caissons. The guns which had been belching flame and smoke all morning stood there still and cold, and the horses as if waiting for us. We could have taken the horses away, but some officer called out to 'shoot the horses.' Men and officers called out in reply, 'save the horses.' Again the senseless order was repeated and this time obeyed. The beautiful horses were piled in a bloody heap, and the men swarmed over and around the guns and a great cheer went up."

"Two minutes elapsed, the last stragglers were working their way out of the brush and up to the crowd about the guns, when discipline asserted itself, the broken mass was formed in line and began to sweep up the crest and over it, and down the farther slope, and coming to another rise, we saw five gray lines, one behind the other, and they blazed, one after the other, down in our faces."

"The impetus of the charge lasted until the regiment reached a ravine at the feet, so to speak of the enemy. Here we stood and fired up the slope and a hail of bullets answering smiting our line, and then the men lay down and fired as they had been taught to do....there were no more men alive and unwounded in the ravine by that time. I passed the battery we had taken. The guns stood as we had left them."

Prentiss continues his observations in the vicinity of this battery:
"The white house of today is a neat cottage with dormer windows, and is occupied by a family named Hall, newcomers to the country. (Courthouse records indicate that they were in the Borden House in this year 1888, the time of this report.) The inclosure about the house seems recent. (Probably remodeled by the previous owner, Mr. W. W. Blanton who is listed in the Washington County Courthouse Record Books G2-177 and G2-202 purchasing the house and land in the year 1881.) To the east, or in the rear of the house, is a young orchard, taking the place of the old orchard which grew there at the time of the battle, and where Lieutenant Colonel McFarland of the 19th Iowa,...was killed....To the southward, or nearer the summit of the ridge, much of the timber has been cut away. To the west of the house (Park property) and immediately around it there seems to have been few changes except those made by the hand of nature. The trees have grown, a change which, occurring on all these forested battlefields, alters their appearance more than anything man has done; but there would be no difficulty, we should think, in a veteran of the 20th Wisconsin, or 19th Iowa, or 37th Illinois, or 26th Indiana, from finding again the scene"

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I have confined the accounts of the Prairie Grove battle to the Confederate right flank, which is located in and around the Borden House and orchard and where the burial trenches were excavated. The witnesses tell the story of the battle of Prairie Grove and I do not think that we can improve upon their description.

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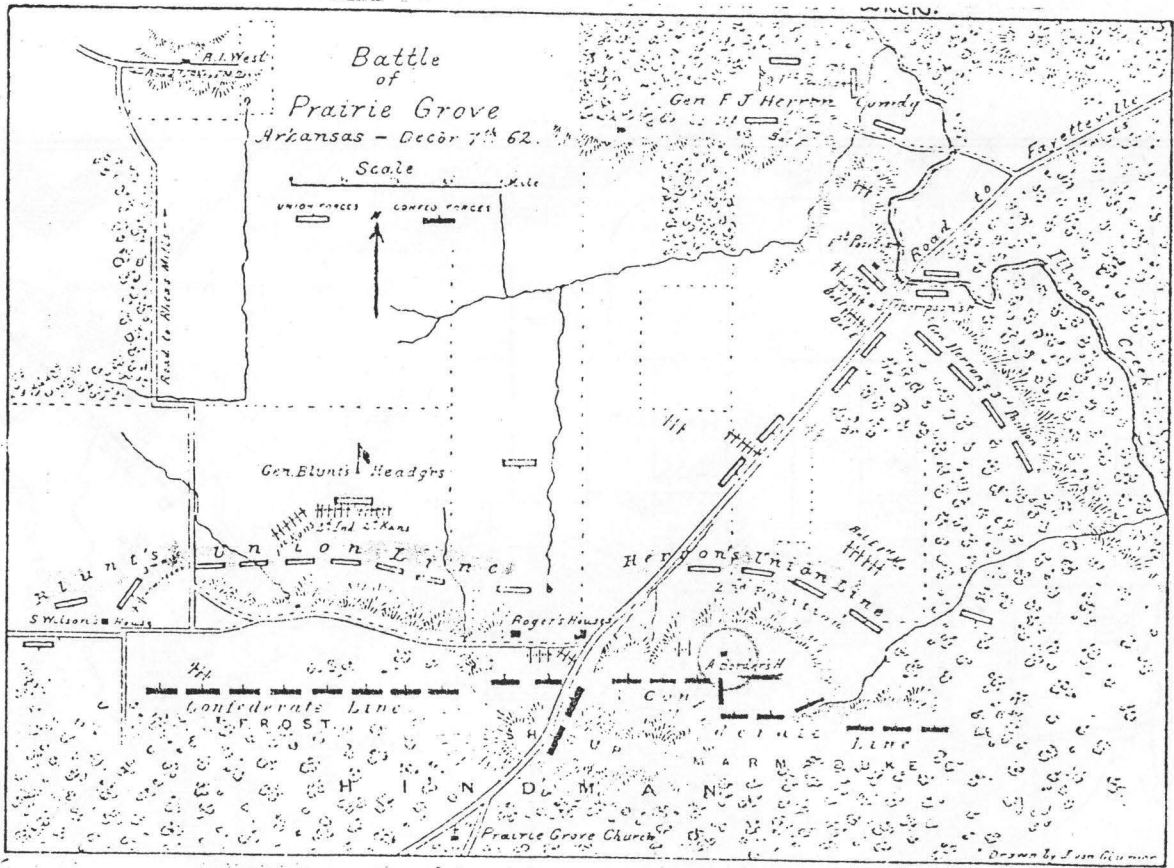
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Blunt's Attack
(Confederate left flank)

Center

Herron's Attack
(Confederate right flank)
Archibald Borden House

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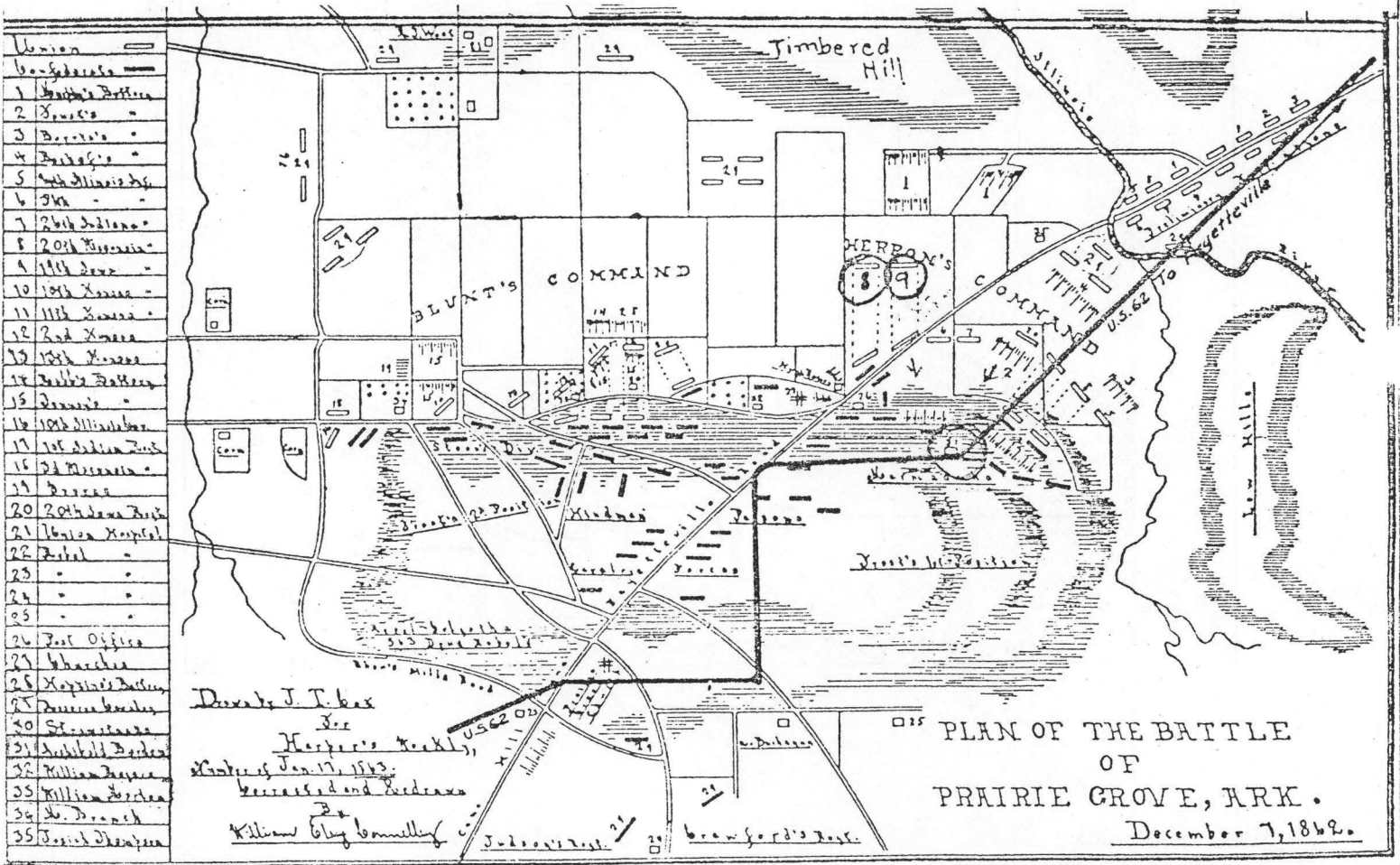
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Morton House
Confederate left flank

Borden House
Confederate right flank

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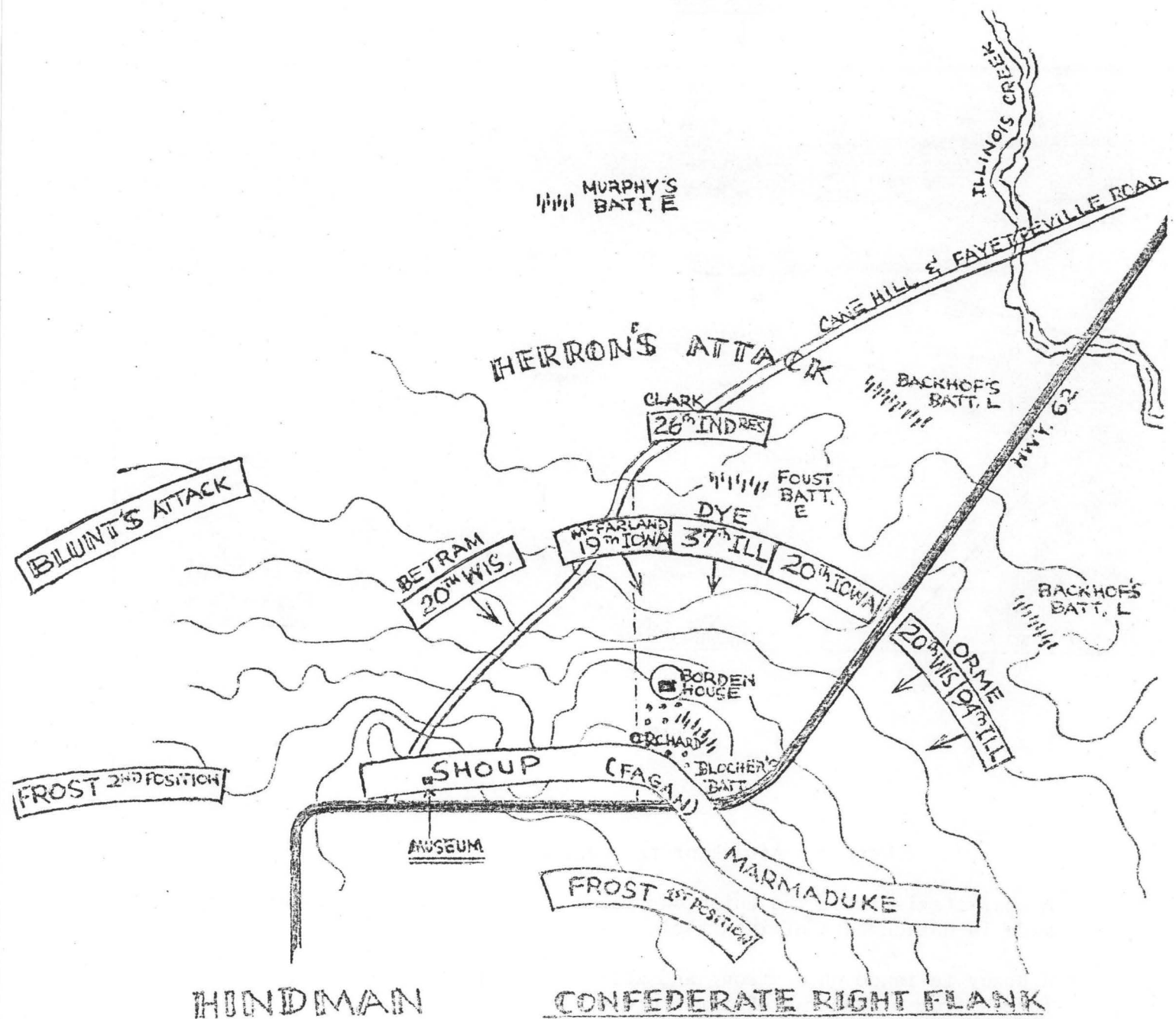
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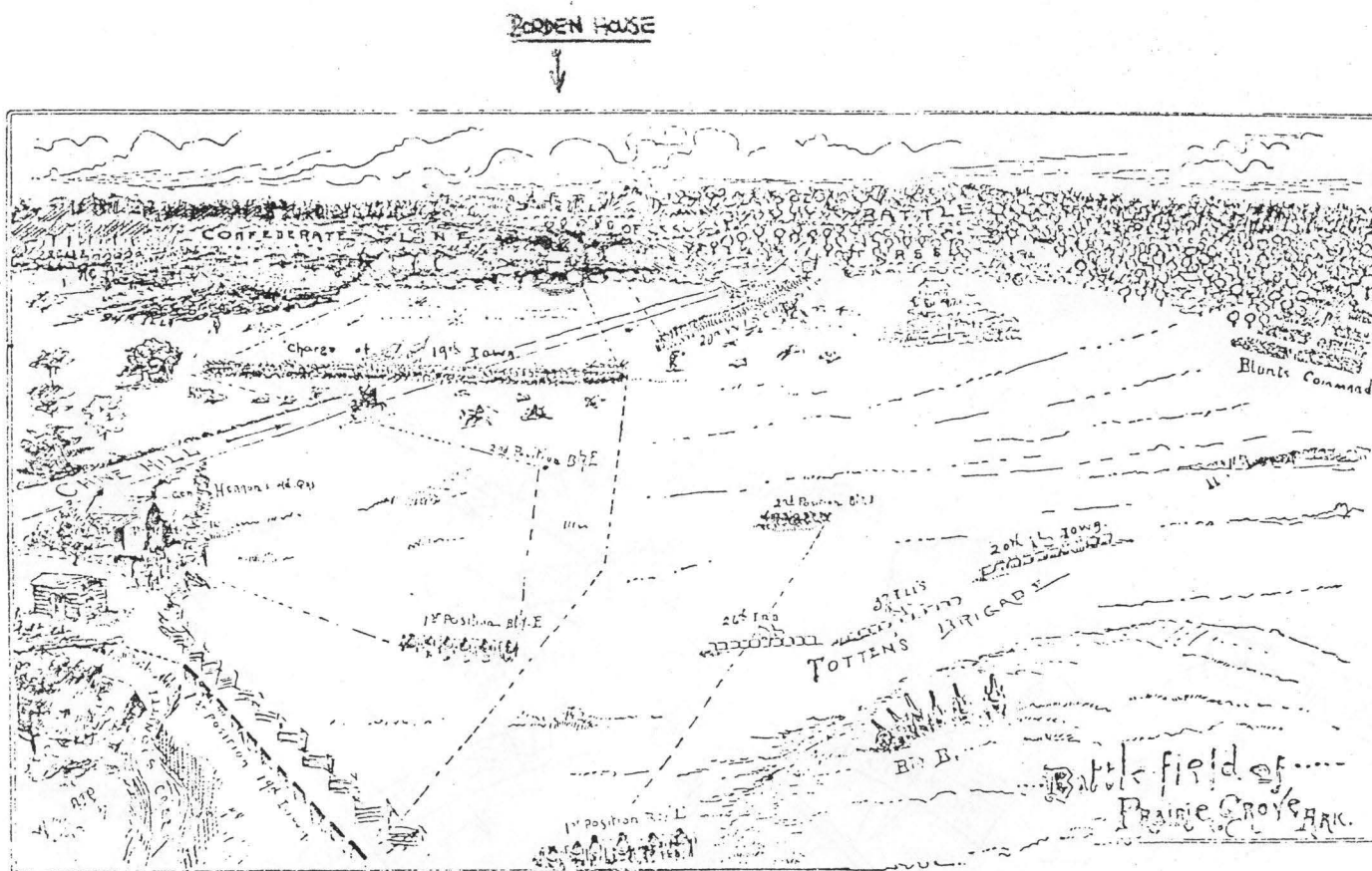
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Battlefield at Prairie Grove: a Union view

Herron's Attack of the Confederate Right Flank

- * A characteristic of the Union charges is that they were disjointed and made in detachments of insufficient strength.
- * A heavy reliance on a strong and well served artillery saved the Union forces from disaster at Prairie Grove.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Ferguson, John L. Arkansas and the Civil War. Little Rock, Arkansas: Pioneer Press, 1964.
- Johnson, Robert U. and Clarence Clough, eds. Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, Vol. III, New York: The Century Company, 1884.
- Leake, W. J., ed. "Battle of Prairie Grove." Washington County Historical Society Flashback, Vol. II, #6 (December, 1952), and Vol. XII #4, 1962).
- Vaught, Elsa. "Diary of an Unknown Soldier." Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XVIII, #1 (Spring, 1959).

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 382570 3982850
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

D

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

University of Arkansas

Patrick Horan and Stephen E. Courtney/Department of Architecture

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Edited by Dianna Kirk, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program 9-14-76

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Suite 500, Continental Building

501-371-2763

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Little Rock

Arkansas

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☒

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 9-14-76

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

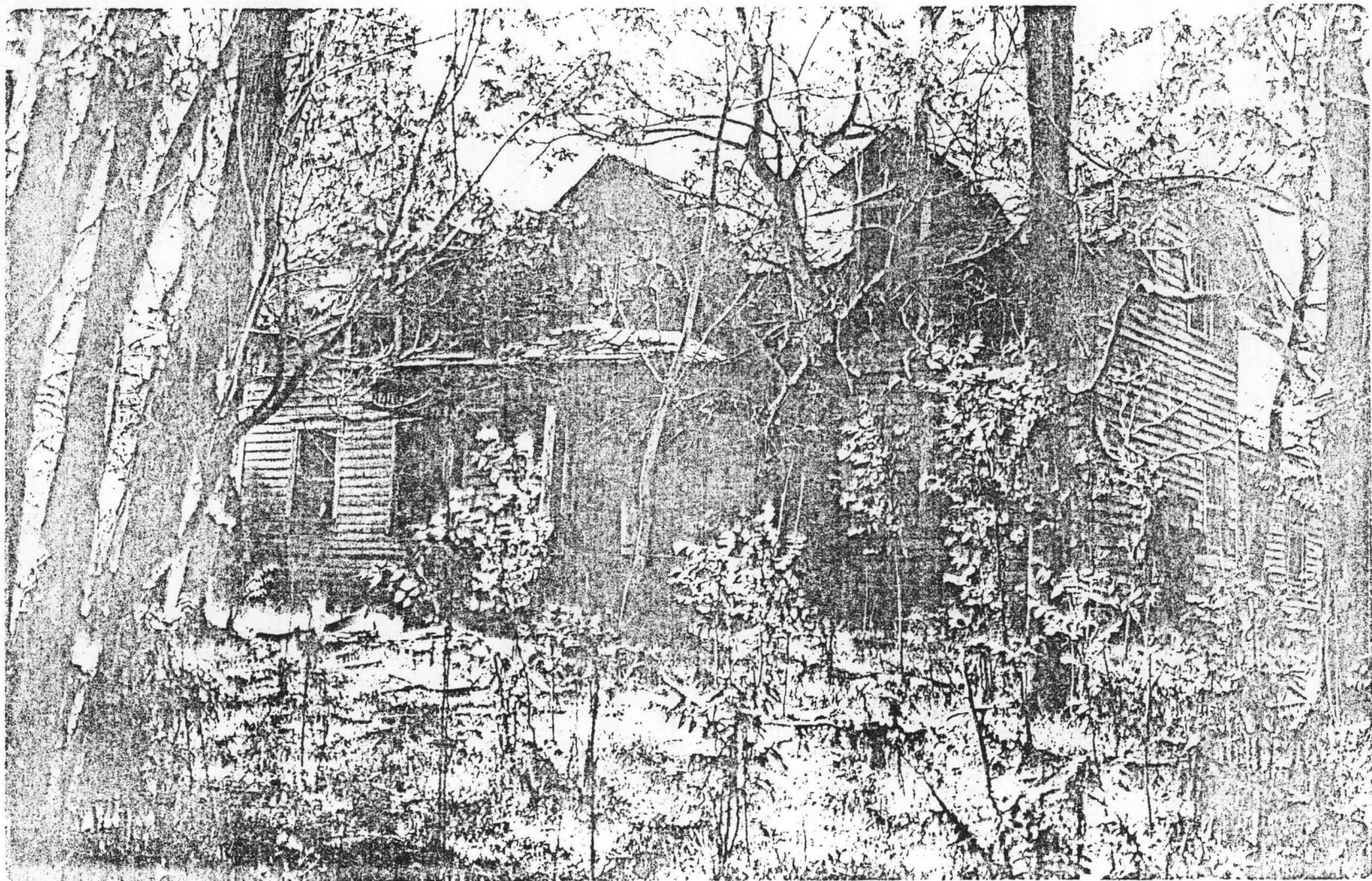
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

NAME

HISTORIC Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NE of Prairie Grove on U.S. 62 (rk)
Route 2 Highway 62 East

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

143

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES RESTRICTED

YES UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. J. W. Grissom

STREET & NUMBER

Route 2 Highway 62 East

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

College Avenue and East Center Street

CITY, TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE

Arkansas

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT

GOOD

FAIR

DETERIORATED

RUINS

UNEXPOSED

DESCRIBE THE PROPERTY

The Borden-Hall House is a two-story structure clad in an 18" x 18" Prairie Grove Battleground.

The plan has a central hall with cut sandstone chimneys.

The weather-board-clad structure has a stone foundation. The roof is by round rafters. The roof shingles are now partially missing.

The front facade faces the first level of this facade has a portico and a stylized pediment. The portico is covered by the first level of the roof, trimmed above with the entrance door. This facade has a half level above on the end dormers contain is larger and is framed existed because the pre-

Further reinforcing the east and west facades of the facades are double-hung hung, six-pane windows.

Rear doors exist in the (panelled). The door in was heated by a back-to-

The central hallway had to the half level. The shaped handrail and pla-

The fireplace mantels and mantels contained pilasters shelves. The west mantel was plain.

Paper and baseboard cover rooms of the main block were wood supported by level were boarded and

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Borden-Hall House is a one-and-one-half story and one-level addition frame structure clad in an 1880's skin. It is located less than 50 yards east of Prairie Grove Battlefield Park.

The plan has a central hallway, one room on either side. The exterior end, cut sandstone chimneys have been removed but can be located.

The weather-board-clad balloon frame building and the ell rest on a laid stone foundation. The building is capped by double-pitched roofs supported by round rafters. The roof was first covered in shingles, then asphalt shingles and now partially by tar paper.

The front facade faces north across the valley of the Illinois Creek. The first level of this facade contains five bays. The central bay consists of a portico and a stylized triangular-pedimented entrance door with sidelights. The portico is covered by a half-hipped roof, decorated with lattice work at the eave and supported by turned columns. The four bays that complete the first level of the north facade contain double-hung, six-pane windows trimmed above with the stylized triangular pediment demonstrated above the entrance door. This same trim was used on the interior of these windows. The half level above on the north facade contains three dormer windows. The end dormers contain double-hung, six-pane sash. The central dormer is larger and is framed for a door, indicating a different type portico existed because the present portico roof half covers the door opening.

Further reinforcing the symmetrical nature of the house are the identical east and west facades of the main block. On the lower level of both facades are double-hung, six-pane windows. On the upper level two double-hung, six-pane windows flank the chimney.

Rear doors exist in the lower rooms of the main block. (All doors were four panelled). The door in the east room enters the two-room addition which was heated by a back-to-back brick fireplace.

The central hallway had a rear door and contained the open-string stairs to the half level. The stairs are "L" shaped, with winders, turned newel, shaped handrail and plain balusters.

The fireplace mantels were carved wood with rectangular openings. Both mantels contained pilasters and entablatures, bed mouldings and mantel shelves. The west mantel had a moulded frieze, whereas the east mantel was plain.

Paper and baseboard covered the plaster on wood lath walls of the lower rooms of the main block. The ceilings were plastered also, and the floors were wood supported by log joists. Wall and floor surfaces in the upper level were boarded and papered.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION SETTLEMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES December 7, 1862

BUILDER

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle - The Borden House
The surrounding land and the Borden House Confederate right flank was anchored around where the main fighting of the Prairie Grove stated, General Herron attacked the Confederates. It was not until 4:00 that General Blunt's Union forces, which then fought together. Subsequently, I intend to confine this report to which took place on the Confederate right flank House. I believe that these reports are how important this site is to the Prairie Grove the existing Borden House and orchard as a historical landmark intimately identified place on that Sunday, December 7, 1862.

General Hindman
"The shape of the hill determined the line the form of a horseshoe." When the Confederate battle around the hilltop village of Prairie Grove late to engage General Herron's Union army. "General Marmaduke was falling back before Shoup had placed his Confederate division in attack. He had with admirable judgement upon the brow of a densely wooded hill a road and within artillery range of the front.

Prentiss
"The lines of battle seemed very short, in general terms, between the Hall House (South East of the former and west of the latter) to speak, and we could find no tradition in the Arkansas History Commission, "The most important place about the Borden House and orchard. More than 300 dead in less than two acres of land. Occupying the right flank of the Confederates the start of the battle, as this flank was occupied by an abandoned Confederate battle the initial attacks of General Herron. This, beyond a doubt, by continually referring in this area -- the existing Borden House.

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The Borden-Hall House is in a deteriorating condition. Among the immediate problems are a poor roof, fallen chimneys, rotting foundations and porches, water damage from windows, etc. Action must be taken hurriedly to prevent the loss of this very significant building and site.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Johnson, Robert U.
III, New York
Lamke, W. J., ed.
Flashback, Vol.
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GEOGRAPHIC

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY
UTM REFERENCES

A 15 318,215
ZONE EASTING
C 1 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES

STATE

STATE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Patrick Moran and
ORGANIZATION

Edited by Dianna K.
STREET & NUMBER

Suite 500, Contine
CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

STATE HISTORIC

THE

NATIONAL

As the designated State Historic Site,
hereby nominate this property for
criteria and procedures set forth in

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

TITLE State Historic Site

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT

CHIEF

CHIEF, OFFICE OF

ATTEST:

RECEIVED BY THE NATIONAL

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

SICAL APPEARANCE

and one-level addition frame
less than 50 yards east of

side. The exterior end,
be located.

the ell rest on a layered
le-pitched roofs supported
shingles, then asphalt

the Illinois Creek. The
the central bay consists of
brance door with sidelights.
erated with lattice work
four bays that complete
e-hung, six-pane windows
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terior of these windows.
three dormer windows.
n. The central dormer
different type portico
ers the door opening.

house are the identical
lower level of both
e upper level two double-

k. (All doors were four
two-room addition which

the open-string stairs
th winders, turned newel,

angular openings. Both
l mouldings and mantel
whereas the east mantel

lath walls of the lower
ered also, and the floors
surfaces in the upper

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

☐ PREHISTORIC☐ 1400-1499☐ 1500-1599☐ 1600-1699☐ 1700-1799☒ 1800-1899☐ 1900☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC☐ AGRICULTURE☐ ARCHITECTURE☐ ART☐ COMM. S.C.E.☐ COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING☐ CONSERVATION☐ ECONOMICS☐ EDUCATION☐ ENGINEERING☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT☐ INDUSTRY☐ INVENTION☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE☐ LAW☐ LITERATURE☒ MILITARY☐ MUSIC☐ PHILOSOPHY☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT☐ RELIGION☐ SCIENCE☐ SCULPTURE☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN☐ THEATER☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES December 7, 1862

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battle - The Borden House

The surrounding land and the Borden House cannot be separated. The Confederate right flank was anchored around the Borden House and orchard where the main fighting of the Prairie Grove battle took place. Briefly stated, General Herron attacked the Confederate right flank near noon and it was not until 4:00 that General Blunt came on the field to unite the Union forces, which then fought together until 7:00 in the evening. Consequently, I intend to confine this report only to those witnessed accounts which took place on the Confederate right flank in and around the Borden House. I believe that these reports, from both North and South, will prove how important this site is to the Prairie Grove Battlefield Park and that the existing Borden House and orchard ground must be saved as an original historical landmark intimately identified with the main events which took place on that Sunday, December 7, 1862.

General Hindman C.S.A.

"The shape of the hill determined the line of battle, which was nearly in the form of a horseshoe." When the Confederate Army had drawn a line of battle around the hilltop village of Prairie Grove they were already too late to engage General Herron's Union command alone as had been designed. "General Marmaduke was falling back before the Union infantry, and General Shoup had placed his Confederate division in position to meet the expected attack. He had with admirable judgement selected a strong defensive position upon the brow of a densely wooded hill commanding the Cave Hill and Fayetteville road and within artillery range of the ford of Illinois Creek." (Foote)

Prentiss 1888

"The lines of battle seemed very short, the Confederate front embraced, in general terms, between the Hall House (Borden House) and the Morton House. East of the former and west of the latter the battle seemed to fray out so to speak, and we could find no tradition or landmark." According to the Arkansas History Commission, "The most severe fighting of the battle took place about the Borden House and orchard." General Herron reported more than 300 dead in less than two acres of the slopes about this house. Occupying the right flank of the Confederate Army, the Borden House saw the start of the battle, as this flank successfully held the orchard then occupied by an abandoned Confederate battery of four pieces which baited the initial attacks of General Herron. The following records will prove this, beyond a doubt, by continually referring to the one obvious landmark in this area -- the existing Borden House.

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General Herron U.S.A.

In the Official Records: Volume 22, Report #14, General Herron reports on December 19, 1862: "...when within 100 yards of the ridge, the 20th Wisconsin and the 19th Iowa Infantry were ordered to charge a battery placed near a farm house (Borden House), on the edge of the hill. The charge was made in gallant style, the enemy driven back, and the battery taken, but the ground could not be held....Regiment after regiment of infantry was hurled upon the, and they were compelled to fall back."

Colonel Orme 94th Illinois, U.S.A.

In this same volume of the Official Records, Report #31, written on December 10, 1862 by Colonel Orme of the 94th Illinois: "Meanwhile the 19th Iowa had received and returned the fire of the enemy and now advanced steadily up the hill to the left of the white house (Borden House), and across the orchard back of the house to a fence, behind which the enemy in greatly superior force were concealed. At it approached, the enemy rose up and poured in a most severe and destructive fire upon it, and the 20th Wisconsin having already commenced to fall back in disorder, the 19th Iowa was unable to hold its position, and was compelled to fall back across the orchard, where Lieutenant Colonel McFarland fell shot through the body. Major D. Kent then took command and rallied a portion of his men, who had fallen back to the right of the battery, near the position of the 94th Illinois."

Major Kent 19th Iowa, U.S.A.

In the same volume of the Official Records, Report #33, written December 10th, 1862 by Major Kent, 19th Iowa, who describes this charge: "...The skirmishers advanced under a heavy fire to a cornfield to the right of Battery E, 1st Missouri Artillery, and were ordered to hold it at all hazards which was done, until ordered to fall back and form in line of battle. The regiment was then ordered to advance to the left of the white house (Borden House) on the hill to support the 20th Wisconsin which was hotly engaged. The 19th Iowa led by Lieutenant Colonel McFarland advanced up the hill steadily and across the orchard back of the house (Borden) when the 20th Wisconsin gave way. The 10th still advanced to the fence adjoining the wood, when the enemy, concealed, arose to their feet, three regiments deep, pouring a destructive fire on us from three sides, which caused the regiment to waver and fall back to the battery, on the left of the road leading up the hill, Lieutenant Colonel McFarland here fell, shot through the body. I then took command and rallied what was left of the regiment, as the regiment met with a severe loss in the charge....Colonel Orme then rode up and ordered Captain Roderick to fall in and rally with the 94th Illinois which he did, led by Colonel Orme in person, driving the enemy back with great slaughter, and holding their position until ordered to fall back and reform."

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Major W. C. Thompson
"We drove them from an empty house (Borden House) last I heard some of you or you will be killed a few of the cowards at me and had missed shot at us, one of them aim and I was hit statements by other the heavy infantry"

Captain Pittman (C 7th, after the enemy the sun had gone down was coming on, our where we were formed the day had occurred west where we were

In the Prentiss Report Commissioner, who battle. The Commission and saw the burial where the battery frightful. The ground

In the Prentiss report by another Union (Borden House) were barren earth covered Union dead were buried removed. There was this ground was for or Herron's command original Confederate sent to the Confederate

THE 34th
Flashback 1952
"...These Washington Spadra and Mazzard

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Major Thompson, 20th Iowa, U.S.A.

Major W. C. Thompson, 20th Iowa, in a letter dated December 10, 1862, wrote: "We drove them from their position and was still fighting near a fence, and an empty house (Borden House) stood away about twenty yards from us. At last I heard some of the boys say, 'For God's sake, Major, get off your horse or you will be killed!', for they were shooting at me out of the house and a few of the cowards had sneaked into the house (Borden) and had shot often at me and had missed me. But just at sundown and the very last round they shot at us, one of the cowardly cusses raised the window and took a good aim and I was hit that time...." From this graphic description and from statements by other soldiers, we may conclude that the Borden House survived the heavy infantry combat and the artillery fire of that day.

Captain Pittman (C.S.A.), in an interview around 1896 relates: "...On the 7th, after the enemy had been driven to shelter behind his artillery and the sun had gone down in a cloud of sulphurous smoke, the dusk of evening was coming on, our regiment was moved from the corner of the Borden orchard where we were formed after the last charge, and where the hardest fight of the day had occurred, to a point in the woods 150 yards to the south and west where we were given permission to 'lie down arms'."

THE BURIAL TRENCHES

In the Prentiss Report of 1888, mention is made of his companion, the Commissioner, who was a Union veteran and witness of the Prairie Grove battle. The Commissioner relates: "...The next day we went to the field and saw the burial details putting the dead in trenches. The piles of dead where the battery was fought over near the Hall House (Borden House), were frightful. The ground was muddy with blood."

In the Prentiss report of 1888 there is also included the description given by another Union veteran, the Captain, who relates: "Not far from the house (Borden House) were depressions in the ground, and piles of gravelly and barren earth covered with green mould. These mark the trenches where the Union dead were buried and from whence their poor bones were afterward removed. There were other trenches in the orchard now enclosed...All this ground was fought over, the combatants being generally the troops or Herron's command and the Arkansans. Frost's Missourians, who in the original Confederate plan of battle were placed on this flank, were soon sent to the Confederate left."

THE 34th Arkansas, C.S.A., AT THE BATTLE OF PRAIRIE GROVE

Flashback 1952

"...These Washington County men, who had been drilling for months at Spadra and Mazzard Prairie, down on the Arkansas River, knew where they were

UNITED STATES

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY

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going when they
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going when they marched out of Van Buren on the 3rd of December. They recognized the distant silhouette of the Boston Mountains. But they could hardly have foreseen that the battle which they anticipated would occur within sight and sound of their homes -- with their own kin huddled in cellars or ministering to the wounded. The 34th Arkansas fought and died on home grounds -- Crawford's Prairie, the Morton farm, the Borden orchard...."

The Commanding Generals Hindman, Herron, and Blunt reported 338 killed and 1,630 wounded in action, for a total of 2,568 men. The high loss of 10% of the troops engaged stands as an exception to most Civil War battles, and indicates the severity of the infantry combat here and of the significant part which artillery had in this battle. The records show that around 600 of the wounded subsequently died. "Losses in killed, wounded, and missing totaled 1,317 for the Confederates and 1,251 for the Federals. Of the latter only 333 were from Blunt's Command indicating how much heavier a portion of the conflict Herron's men had borne." The Records show that of the counted wounded, 430 died in the Army hospital at Fayetteville, 150 in the churches and homes of Cane Hill, Prairie Grove, and others along the Cove Creek and Telegraph Road.

In the Prentiss report of 1888 a description of the battle was given by Mrs. Staples, who relates her personal view of the fight on the Confederate left flank around the Morton House. Prentiss wrote that, "The mistress of the mansion now is Mrs. Staples, nee Morton, who was a young woman at the time of the fight. The storm of battle, drifting from the east end of the ridge to the westward, drove the women and children to the Morton House, where they took refuge in a shallow cellar which Mrs. Staples shows to visitors. The incident most vivid in her mind was coming up from the cellar to get some garments to cover the children who were suffering from cold."

Yet, there is a copy of a typed manuscript in the Rare Documents file of the Arkansas History Commission in Little Rock entitled, Personal Recollections of the Battle of Prairie Grove, and is thought to have been written by Mrs. Staples around 1896. It reads, "Early in the day the battle commenced on the Borden farm east of the grove, lasting until sunset, winding up on the Morton farm one mile west. The families were ordered west to the first cellar, which was Morton's. Those in the cellar during the battle were N.J. and J.M. Morton, Wm. Morton, Wm. D. Rogers, wife and three children, A. Borden, wife and five children, Eliza Borden, Dr. Rogers, wife and two children. We all remained in the cellar till dark, but I went into the house several times to get victuals and some bedclothes and wraps for the children.... Another shocking affair was helping to bury Mr. Borden, a brother of A. Borden, who was brutally killed in the Pittman lane." From this statement we can easily infer that the Confederates had

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INVENTORY --

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placed their shelter in an excellent view of Herron's command. The Borden cellar, some of the stacks in the corner of the house in the center of the house.

In the Prentiss report of 1888 a description of the battle was given by Mrs. Staples, who relates her personal view of the fight on the Confederate left flank around the Morton House. Prentiss wrote that, "The mistress of the mansion now is Mrs. Staples, nee Morton, who was a young woman at the time of the fight. The storm of battle, drifting from the east end of the ridge to the westward, drove the women and children to the Morton House, where they took refuge in a shallow cellar which Mrs. Staples shows to visitors. The incident most vivid in her mind was coming up from the cellar to get some garments to cover the children who were suffering from cold."

"...By general Prentiss and who, with his family, they thought that the morning and the night went first to the line, overlooking near this house the troops when crossing the 20th Wisconsin carrying the ridge.

The Captain's son (Creek) and was near the batteries and stood up in the men refers from their camp on the crest, and we nearest it. right. We came of vines and bushes sheltered as if bench in the hill

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placed their sharpshooters in the Borden House to the east which offered an excellent view of the initial attacks of the Union Army of General Herron's command. It is also easy to imagine sharpshooters occupying the Borden cellar, which was protected from shot and shell. By removing some of the stacked stones of the foundation located in the northeast corner of the house they could have created a small, concealed position in the center of combat. They told the Borden family to get out of their house.

In the Prentiss report of 1888, this journalist begins his interview around Prairie Grove by relating that, "Morning came, chill, cloudy and forbidding. We walked along the business street, what may be called the Post Office street, in search of Confederate 'contemporaries' who could speak of the Prairie Grove battle from observation. There were several of them, all belonging that day to Fagan's Arkansas Brigade which held the Confederate right. They thought the Confederate guns, over which the savage fight occurred at the white house (Borden House), belonged to Blocher's Arkansas Battery. They spoke of the spot where the dead men were piled thickest, as the place where the horses were killed...."(This refers to the Captain's story in the next few paragraphs.)

"...By general consent, Mr. Bill Rogers, who lived on the edge of the ridge and who, with his family connections, owned a large portion of the field, they thought the best guide procurable, and Mr. Rogers was found later in the morning and obligingly mounted his mule and rode over the field. We went first to the white house (Borden House) on the right of the Confederate line, overlooking the ford where the road from Fayetteville crosses. From near this house (Borden House) the Confederate artillery opened on Herron's troops when crossing, and were replied to first by Backhof's Battery. Here the 20th Wisconsin and the 19th Iowa made the first charge of the day, carrying the ridge, only to be forced back."

The Captain's story - 1888. "...We came to a stream (it was the Illinois Creek) and we moved along the bank down the stream and formed in line... The batteries concluded their dispute for a time; the men were awakened and stood up in line, and then moved toward it. (The physical condition of the men refers to the forced march of General Herron's men of 110 miles from their camp near Springfield, Missouri.) And the fire from the guns on the crest, and the musketry fire, seemed to grow thicker and louder as we neared it. I saw a white house (Borden House) on the crest and to our right. We came to the foot of the ridge, the slope covered with a tangle of vines and bushes and trees. Buried in this for a few moments, we were sheltered as if we had gone into a fortress. (This refers to a natural bench in the hill below the Borden House.) We came out near the crest,

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and there was a newly-built rail fence, and there, a few feet off, so that we were looking into their muzzles, were the guns, and nearby the horses standing quietly attached to the caissons. The guns which had been belching flame and smoke all morning stood there still and cold, and the horses as if waiting for us. We could have taken the horses away, but some officer called out to 'shoot the horses.' Men and officers called out in reply, 'save the horses.' Again the senseless order was repeated and this time obeyed. The beautiful horses were piled in a bloody heap, and the men swarmed over and around the guns and a great cheer went up."

"Two minutes elapsed, the last stragglers were working their way out of the brush and up to the crowd about the guns, when discipline asserted itself, the broken mass was formed in line and began to sweep up the crest and over it, and down the farther slope, and coming to another rise, we saw five gray lines, one behind the other, and they blazed, one after the other, down in our faces."

"The impetus of the charge lasted until the regiment reached a ravine at the feet, so to speak of the enemy. Here we stood and fired up the slope and a hail of bullets answering smiting our line, and then the men lay down and fired as they had been taught to do....there were no more men alive and unwounded in the ravine by that time. I passed the battery we had taken. The guns stood as we had left them."

Prentiss continues his observations in the vicinity of this battery:
"The white house of today is a neat cottage with dormer windows, and is occupied by a family named Hall, newcomers to the country. (Courthouse records indicate that they were in the Borden House in this year 1888, the time of this report.) The inclosure about the house seems recent. (Probably remodeled by the previous owner, Mr. W. W. Blanton who is listed in the Washington County Courthouse Record Books G2-177 and G2-202 purchasing the house and land in the year 1881.) To the east, or in the rear of the house, is a young orchard, taking the place of the old orchard which grew there at the time of the battle, and where Lieutenant Colonel McFarland of the 19th Iowa,...was killed....To the southward, or nearer the summit of the ridge, much of the timber has been cut away. To the west of the house (Park property) and immediately around it there seems to have been few changes except those made by the hand of nature. The trees have grown, a change which, occurring on all these forested battlefields, alters their appearance more than anything man has done; but there would be no difficulty, we should think, in a veteran of the 20th Wisconsin, or 19th Iowa, or 37th Illinois, or 26th Indiana, from finding again the scene"

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY--NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET

I have confined the description to the right flank, which was the main story of the battle, and where the battle improved upon their position.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED MAR 17 1977

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

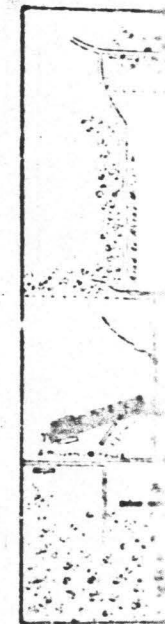
PAGE 6

I have confined the accounts of the Prairie Grove battle to the Confederate right flank, which is located in and around the Borden House and orchard and where the burial trenches were excavated. The witnesses tell the story of the battle of Prairie Grove and I do not think that we can improve upon their description.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

CONTINUATION SHEET



Blunt's Attack
(Confederate left)

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Ferguson, John L. Arkansas and the Civil War. Little Rock, Arkansas: Pioneer Press, 1964.
 Johnson, Robert U. and Clarence Clough, eds. Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, Vol. III, New York: The Century Company, 1884.
 Lemke, W. J., ed. "Battle of Prairie Grove." Washington County Historical Society Flashback, Vol. II, #6 (December, 1952), and Vol. XII #4, 1962).
 Vaught, Elsa. "Diary of an Unknown Soldier." Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XVIII, #1 (Spring, 1959).

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre
 UTM REFERENCES

A 15 382 540 3982850
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 C

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING
 D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE University of Arkansas
 Patrick Moran and Stephen E. Courtney/Department of Architecture
 ORGANIZATION DATE
 Edited by Dianna Kirk, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program 9-14-76
 STREET NUMBER TELEPHONE
 Suite 500, Continental Building 501-371-2763
 CITY OR TOWN STATE
 Little Rock Arkansas

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS.

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley [Signature]
 TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE 9-14-76

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER
 DATE 7/17/90
 DATE 5/16/77
 OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Kale -

when Ark no
 it intended to exclu
 being listed in N.R.
 Now the owner
 house to Ark.

However, it
 did include house
 original nomination
 Either Ark &
 both nominations (w/
 copies of the maps) and
 go ahead and list
 I prefer the

If it's that
 listing the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Duplicate

77000278

Borden House
Washington Co., AR

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: _____
Action: ☐ ACCEPT 3/17/77
☐ RETURN _____
☐ REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Borden House
Prairie Grove
Washington Co
Arka
facade

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

RECEIVED OCT 18 1976

DATE ENTERED MAR 17 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Washington

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Patrick Horan

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
viewed from the northwest

PHOTO NO.

1 of 4

INT: 2983-75

1 of 4



photo #2

CORRECT photo of BORDEN HOUSE
~~EAST FACING VIEW~~

showing PART of EAST SIDE of HOUSE &
NORTH FACING ELEVATION

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

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Washington

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Patrick Horan

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

viewed from northeast

PHOTO NO.

2 of 4

INT: 2983-75



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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MAR 17 1977

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Washington

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Patrick Horan

DATE OF PHOTO

1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

3 of 4



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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DATE ENTERED **MAR 17 1977**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES --| ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

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AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

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CITY, TOWN

Prairie Grove

☒ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Washington

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Patrick Horan

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

west and south elevations, viewed from the southwest
note park fence in foreground

PHOTO NO.

4 *afk*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	OCT 18 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAR 17 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Borden House

AND/OR COMMON

Borden-Hall House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Prairie Grove

~~—X~~ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Washington

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S., Prairie Grove Quadrangle

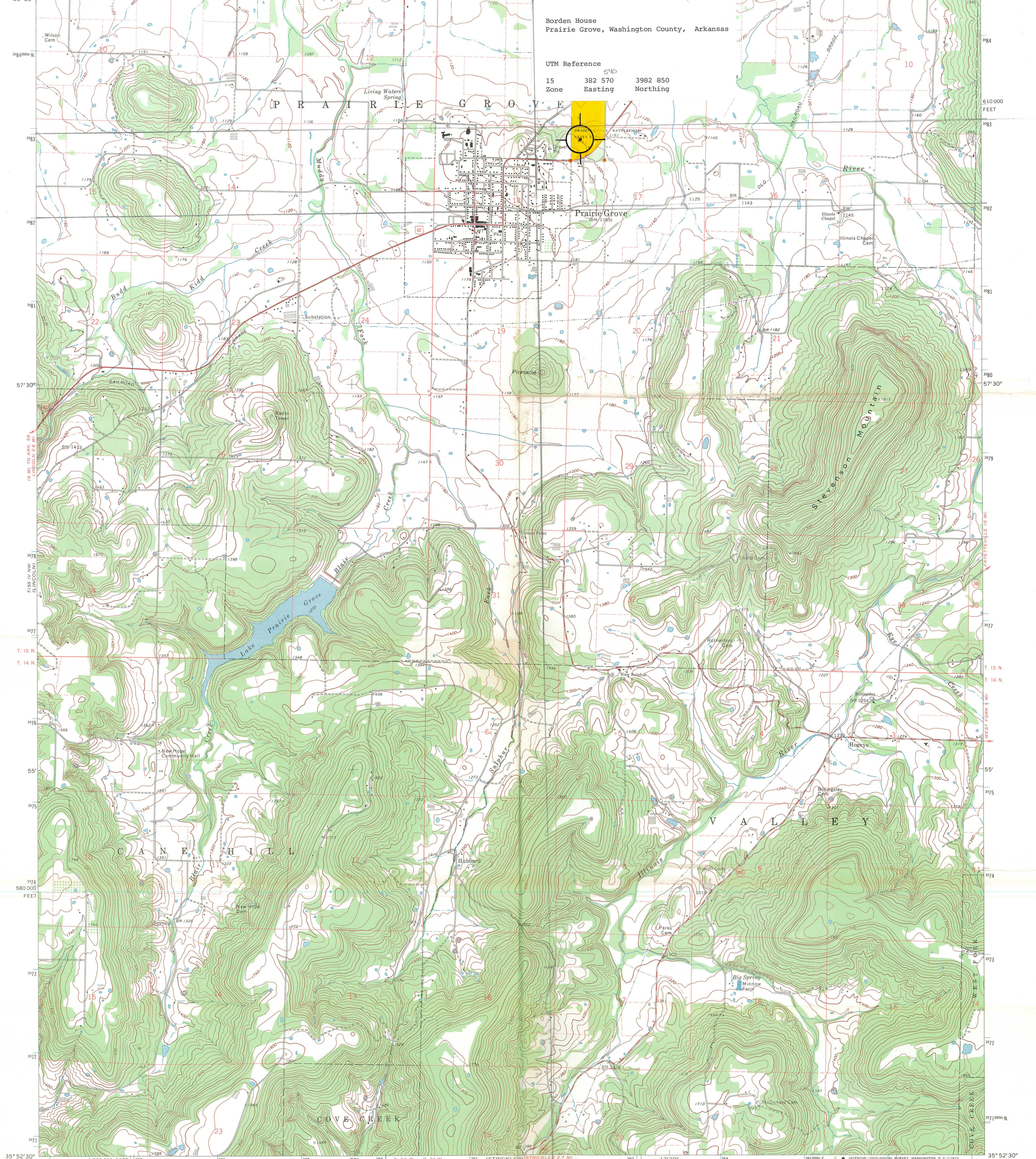
SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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



Missing Core Documentation

Property Name

77000278

County, State

Washington,
Arkansas

Reference Number

77000278

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

☒ Nomination Form (SHPO copy present)

☐ Photographs

☐ USGS Map

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



"THE OLD STATE HOUSE" 300 WEST MARKHAM

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
TELEPHONE - 501 371-1639

PROPERTY OWNER'S APPROVAL

I, Mrs. M. Helen Grison, am the legal
owner of the Borden House & Property
located at Prarie Grove, Arkansas
Washington, County

I hereby acknowledge that I have been fully informed and
understand the significance of having the aforementioned
property placed on the National Register of Historic
Places.

I hereby approve the inclusion of the aforementioned
property on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mrs. M. Helen Grison
Owner

July 30, 1976
Date