

PH 0075876

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Arkansas
COUNTY:	Crawford
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	AUG 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

Wilhauf House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

109 North Third Street, Rear

CITY OR TOWN:

Van Buren

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY:

Crawford

CODE

033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Miss Ora Smith

STREET AND NUMBER:

Box 527

CITY OR TOWN:

Van Buren

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Crawford County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:

Van Buren

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF SURVEY: October, 1973 ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☒ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:

Suite 1030 - Plaza West - McKinley and Lee

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
(Check One)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	(Check One)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wilhauf House, commonly known as the Ora Smith home, is believed to have been built about 1838. Situated on level ground facing west towards the Arkansas River, it was originally of one story, log construction with two large rooms and a central hallway. A gable roof covered the structure. This is commonly referred to as "dog trot" style. Inside end chimneys were located in each room.

Significant alterations were made to the home in the year 1847. These have concealed much of the original construction. The style of the home was changed to that of the traditional Greek revival style through the addition of a tall portico with square columns over an entry porch, and horizontal clapboard siding imposed upon the log construction. Two additional rooms were added to the rear of the house. The pitch of the roof was altered from the ridge line to the rear to make the addition more harmonious with the existing structure.

A boxed cornice is continuous across the front and rear of the house, with the exception of an interruption in the front by the portico. The boxed cornice with return and undecorated frieze prevail on the gable ends. The entire house is devoid of exterior ornamentation with the exception of a decorated frieze below the boxed cornice of the pediment of the entry portico.

The windows are double-hung sash with six lights. There are louvered shutters with each window. Two windows are symetrically placed on each side of the front entry and one window lies on either side of the end chimneys. These chimneys are visible on the exterior only by the protrusion of the stack above the ridge line. The windows of the two rooms added at the rear of the house are of varied size without shutters. A third chimney was added on the north exterior of the rear addition. This became the kitchen once the additions were completed.

The entire structure rests on a natural stone foundation approximately three feet above ground. Due to recent renovation efforts, the present structure is in excellent condition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian | ☐ 16th Century | ☐ 18th Century | ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century | ☐ 17th Century | ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Private</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Residence</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

While the Wilhauf House has stood in the same spot for over 130 years, the town of Van Buren has changed considerably. The Wilhauf House once stood in the heart of old Van Buren. Today it lies in an isolated spot, facing the railroad tracks and Arkansas River levee, and its only access is from the rear. Second Street, which once ran in front of the house, no longer exists. Yet despite the changing surroundings, the house itself remains basically intact.

In 1837 Mr. Leonard Wilhauf purchased a small tract of land from Mr. John Drennan, one of the founders of Van Buren. The next year, 1838, Wilhauf began construction of this one-story log house. The two rooms of the original house are located on either side of a center hallway. Though some minor alterations have been made, the Wilhauf House remains one of the best-preserved examples of the homes built in western Arkansas in the mid-nineteenth century.

Leonard Wilhauf (1813-1866) was a German immigrant who settled in Crawford County in the 1830's. He is best remembered for his role in the Mexican War, 1846-1848. In this war Wilhauf served as color bearer for the "Van Buren Avengers," a company of mounted troops who served under Archibald Yell. He successfully defended the company banner in all engagements and brought the cherished flag back to Van Buren after the war.

On his return from the Mexican War, Mr. Wilhauf made some improvements in his house. Along with clapboard siding on the exterior of the house, he also added rooms to the rear. During the late 1840's Wilhauf opened the first bakery in Crawford County.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cobb, Zoe Ellen. "Restoration of the Wilhauf House." Crawford County Heritage. V (April, 1962).
 Eno, Clara B. "Leonard Wilhauf." History of Crawford County. Van Buren, Arkansas: The Press Argus, 1951.
Southwest Times Record (Fort Smith, Arkansas), August 27, 1961.

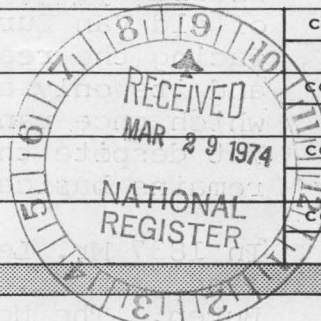
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	0 , "	0 , "		35° 26 '05.3 "	94 °	21 '27.6 "
NE	0 , "	0 , "				
SE	0 , "	0 , "				
SW	0 , "	0 , "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Dianna Kirk, Staff Historian
 ORGANIZATION
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Suite 1030 - Plaza West - McKinley and Lee
 CITY OR TOWN:
Little Rock
 STATE
Arkansas
 CODE
05
 DATE
February, 1974

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name William E. Henderson

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date March 8, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

AK Quaterson
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/27/74

ATTEST:

Charles Herring
 Acting Keeper of The National Register

Date 8-27-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Crawford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 27 1974

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (Continued - Page 2)

The Wilhauf House remained in the family until 1943, when it was sold to Mr. Oscar Arnold. The third and present owner of the house is Miss Ora Smith, who bought the property in 1957. Because all of the owners have been interested in preserving the integrity of the Wilhauf House, it has been well cared for. The present owner has been especially active in restoring and preserving Wilhauf House.

Few private residences built during the first half of the nineteenth century are remaining in Arkansas today. Of the small number surviving, almost all are representative of wealthy citizens; however, the Wilhauf House is an exception in that it typifies the common-man's home of that era. The simple Greek revival architecture of the Wilhauf House gives additional significance to this ordinary man's house.

Because it has stood for so long in the city of Van Buren, the Wilhauf House has become one of the most important local landmarks. Additionally, it is significant because of its architectural merit and because its builder and first resident typified the average immigrant pioneer who settled western Arkansas during the first half of the 19th century.



PROPERTY

Wilham House

STATE

Ark

WORKING NUMBER

3. 29. 74. 490

Crawford CO.

2nd Control

Sheet 74000473

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS

1

MAPS

1

CONTROL REVIEW

cm
8.13.

OK

74

HISTORIAN

I'm not completely convinced on Military significance. - Architecture not checked, although mentioned. Perhaps on private residence. I'm not sure its worth sending back again.

Accept
W.R. Luce
8/14/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

called Gene Richardson & got permission to check area of arch. sign.

ACCEPT Hazard
8/14/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
8/23/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept
Hazard
8.27.74

National Register Write-up

10/9/74

Send-back

Federal Register entry

Oct. 1, 1974

Re-submit

Entered

AUG 27 1974

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE PROPERTY IS RESUBMITTED. DATE: 7-30-74
NAME OF PROPERTY Wilham House, Ark.

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below.

1. Name. _____
2. Location. _____
3. Classification. _____
4. Owner of Property. _____
5. Location of Legal Description. _____
6. Representation in Existing Surveys. _____
7. Description. _____

☒ 8. Statement of Significance. Area of Significance, should be
architecture OK + other local settlement. Please explain
"private residence" as an area of significance?
not necessarily
See 2 new
paragraphs added on continua-
tion sheet.

9. Bibliography. _____
10. Geographical Data.
a. Longitude and Latitude Coordinates. _____
b. Acreage. _____

11. Form Prepared By. _____
12. Certification. _____

Photographic Coverage. _____

Map Coverage. Please use a map bearing an identified system of coordinates,
preferably an original USGS, which allows us to check latitude-longitude.

Other. _____

Clarification or correction of the above items must be made prior to the initiation of our professional review. Correction of these technical errors does not necessarily insure that the nomination will then satisfy the National Register criteria in full.

Thank you for your attention to the above items checked.
SIGNED: Charles H. Ferry

PROPERTY

Wilhauf House

STATE

Arkansas

WORKING NUMBER

3.29.74.490

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS

1

MAPS

1

CONTROL REVIEW

OK

cm
4.2.
74

HISTORIAN

As an Average..

Accept
W.R. Line
6/24/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Areas of sig. should be Architecture + local
settlement. Sig. as a private residence?Return
J. Thorman
7/2/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Nice but need to have areas
of significance.Return
Cole
7/24/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Send-back

7.30.74

Federal Register entry

Re-submit

8-12-74

Entered

AUG 27 1974



Arkansas-Crawford County
Wilhauf House

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Wilhauf House		AUG 27 1974
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Arkansas	Crawford	Van Buren
STREET AND NUMBER		
109 North Third Street, Rear		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Gene Richardson	October, 1973	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

West facade, viewed from west.

#1
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Crawford	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 27 1974

1. NAME

COMMON: Wilhauf House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

109 North Third Street, Rear

CITY OR TOWN:

Van Buren

STATE:

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY:

Crawford

CODE

033

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series, Van Buren Quadrangle

SCALE:

1:24000

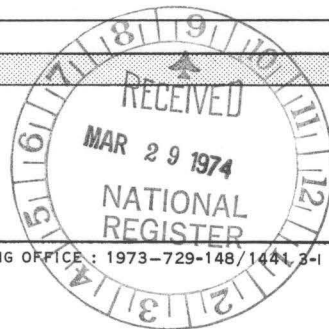
DATE:

1951

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

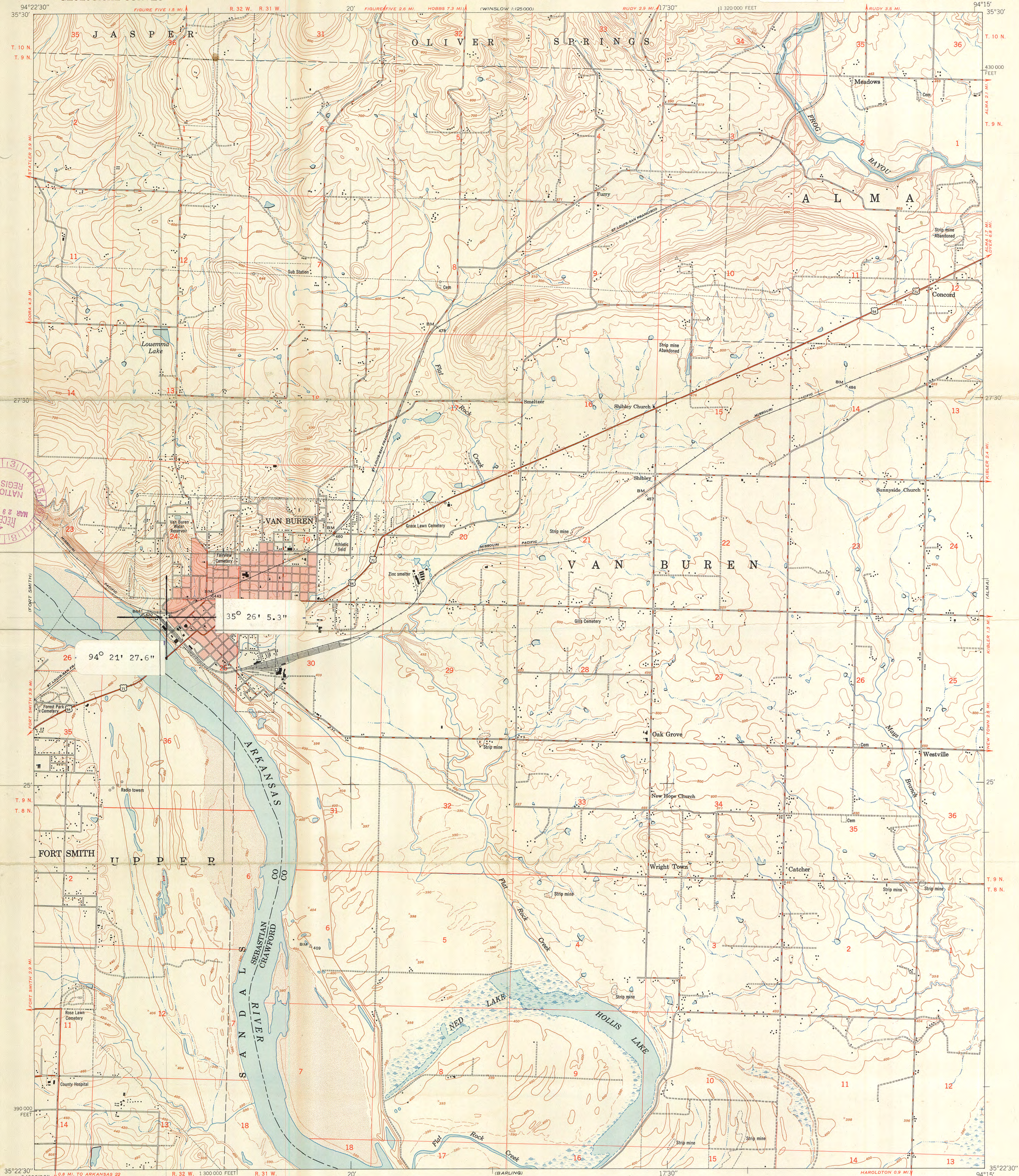
1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

HB
no
mm

NATIONAL
REGISTER
RECEIVED
MAR 29 1974



Map by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey
Control by US&GS, USGS, and CE
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1946. Field check 1947.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system,
north zone
Unchecked elevations are shown in brown
No distinction is made between dwellings, barns,
commercial and industrial buildings
Red tint indicates area in which only
landmark buildings are shown

SCALE 1:24,000
1 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 5 0 1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DASHED LINES REPRESENT HALF-INTERVAL CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, FEDERAL CENTER, DENVER, COLORADO OR WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND BY THE ARKANSAS RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty 4 LANE 1 LANE Light duty 2 LANE 1 LANE
Medium-duty 4 LANE 1 LANE Unimproved dirt
U. S. Route State Route
VAN BUREN, ARK.
N 3522.5-W 9415/7.5
EDITION OF 1951

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

1023 WEST THIRD STREET

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

501 374-0375



SUITE 1030, PLAZA WEST, MC KINLEY STREET AND LEE AVENUE
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, 72205 501 664-8715

August 7, 1974

Mr. Charles A. Herrington
Office of Nomination and Review
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240



Dear Mr. Herrington:

Thank you for your suggestions concerning our nomination of the Wilhauf House to the National Register of Historic Places. We agree with your comments and have incorporated your suggestions into Section 8 of the nomination.

We look forward to receiving approval of this nomination in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dianna Kirk

Dianna Kirk
Staff Historian

DK:cm

Enclosures

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered AUG 27 1974

Name

Location

The Old Post Office

Fayetteville
Washington County

Wilhauf House

Van Buren
Crawford County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan
Hon. J. W. Fulbright
Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt
Regional Director, Southwest
Region

PR MMott/row 8/29/74

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. William E. Henderson
Director
Arkansas Dept. of Parks and
Tourism
State Capitol - Room 149
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201