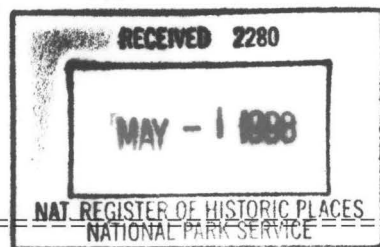


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



=====

1. Name of Property

=====

Historic Name: Mills House

Other Name/Site Number: (JE0554)

=====

2. Location

=====

Street & Number: 715 W. Barraque

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Pine Bluff

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Jefferson Code: AR069 Zip Code: 71601

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

| Contributing | Noncontributing |
|--------------|---------------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> buildings |
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> sites |
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> structures |
| <u>2</u> | <u>1</u> objects |
| | <u>1</u> Total |

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Mills House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

=====

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

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. Sater
Signature of certifying official

4-20-98
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): _____

Elson A. Beall 5/29/98

for
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Mills House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

Current : SOCIAL Sub: meeting hall

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Plain Traditional
Folk Victorian

Materials: foundation BRICK roof ASPHALT
walls WOOD/weatherboard other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Constructed in 1902, the David I. Mills House is a one-and-a-half story wood-frame residence located at 715 W. Barraque Street. The only overtly decorative historic elements on this otherwise simple Folk Victorian house are the spindlework balustrade, frieze, and matching brackets that outline the front porch. While the attic of the house has been modernized into living space, and the kitchen has been updated, the rest of the interior remains relatively intact and the building retains the majority of its historic integrity. A historic brick sidewalk running along Barraque Street in front of the house is considered a contributing structure in this nomination.

Elaboration

Situated in one of the oldest residential districts in Pine Bluff, the Mills House is a one-and-a-half story wood-frame residence constructed in 1902. The house rests upon a continuous brick foundation (originally brick piers only) and is clad with white-painted weatherboard. The house is covered by a green composition-shingle, end-gable roof with a single interior brick chimney extending through the ridge near the front of the house.

The front, or southern, elevation is defined by a full-length Folk Victorian porch supported by four turned-spindle posts and two turned pilasters. The porch floor is raised and rests upon a new concrete pier foundation with continuous red brick infill. A turned balustrade of recent construction outlines the porch, as does a spindlework frieze with matching brackets. The four-step wood stairs are positioned at the western end of the porch. The single-leaf front entry with single-pane transom is likewise oriented to the west, or viewed left, of the facade. The wood door is fully glazed and features egg-and-dart molding around the glass. The door is partially obscured by a modern steel and glass security door. To the east of the entrance are two one-over-one, double-hung, wood windows with wood-framed screens. Above the porch roof, a pair of one-over-one windows flanked with nonhistoric green-painted shutters are positioned in the center of the gable. A modern-appearing octagonal attic vent is placed near the peak.

The eastern elevation is fenestrated by three asymmetrically placed one-over-one windows and one two-over-two, double-hung window at the rear of the side-gabled wall. All are covered with wood screens. A small one-story, gable-roof room of narrower width extends to the north from the rear of the main section end gable. This projection is certainly of historic vintage (perhaps used as the kitchen) and may be original to the house. A shed-roof porch of recent construction extends off of the eastern elevation. The porch is supported by two rather small turned-spindle posts. A twelve-pane single-leaf wood door is located near the junction with the north-facing wall of the main section, which is fenestrated by a small two-pane stationary window. To the north of the entry is a small one-over-one window. The porch has the appearance of an inset porch due to the addition of a modern garage on the north end. The garage has a much shallower pitched gable roof. Two modern folding metal garage doors comprise the north elevation of the garage.

The western elevation of the house consists of the blank garage wall to the north and the historic single-story projection which is fenestrated with one-over-one window that matches its eastern elevation counterpart. A six-paneled wood door is placed near the junction with the north-facing wall of the main section. The foundation is visible on this elevation and also consists of brick piers with brick infill to form a continuous foundation. The northern elevation of this section is lighted by a two-over-two wood window on the first story and a central one-over-one window in the gable end above the gable ridge of single-story room projection. From the appearance of the surrounding weatherboard, it appears that the upper-story window may have originally been a larger opening with paired windows.

The western elevation of the main section contains a cross-gable roof projection with a continuous brick foundation (no piers) that appears to have been added c. 1900. Although the foundation and eave juncture indicates this section as an addition, the weatherboard, frieze and cornice return details all blend nicely with the original portion of the house. The north-facing wall of the cross gable is fenestrated by a one-over-one wood window, while the western wall contains a large group of three one-

Mills House
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Jefferson County, Arkansas
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over-one wood windows with a wide center window. The south wall has a single-leaf entrance comprised of a historic five-panel wood door with a wood-framed screen door and a single-pane transom. The door is accessed by a four-step concrete stair and is sheltered by a neat shed roof supported by two elegant curved brackets and featuring cornice molding and beaded-board side walls and ceiling. The remainder of the western elevation of the house that is south of the cross gable is fenestrated by two one-over-one windows.

The interior of the Mills House features original hardwood floors, door and window moldings, baseboards, and high ceilings in the main portion of the house. The dining room displays a historic chandelier and a built-in corner cabinet. The staircase is constructed of modern materials, and its original location and configuration is unknown. Other major alterations include the modernization of the kitchen and the attic.

A modern gable-roof, wood-frame outbuilding is positioned to the northwest of the house. It contains a single-leaf entrance on the southern elevation and a small six-over-six wood window along with large double-leaf wood doors on the eastern elevation. There is a historic brick sidewalk along Barrague Street in the front of the house which is considered a contributing structure in this nomination. There is also extensive landscaping around the house which appears to be of modern origin.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1902

Significant Dates: 1902

Significant Person(s): N/A

Mills House
Name of Property

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Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

The Mills House is being nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C with local significance** as a good example of a wood-frame, Plain Traditional residence with Folk Victorian embellishments.

Historical Background

The David I. Mills home is located in one of the oldest residential districts of Pine Bluff on West Barraque street. Antione Barraque was one of Jefferson county's earliest settlers. Originally from France, Barraque established himself in Arkansas just below Pine Bluff in a community named New Gascony, after the town of Gascony, France. Barraque was able to get the county seat of Jefferson to be moved to New Gascony in May of 1832. But after a special election the court was moved back to Pine Bluff, where the principal east-west street was named in Barraque's honor.

A large immigration of families from Tennessee, Kentucky, as well as the other states of the South came to Central Arkansas to claim land starting a decade before the Civil War. Many of the antebellum homes on Barraque Street were occupied by the prominent and well-to-do families of Pine Bluff.

This area along Barraque Street is truly one of the show places of Pine Bluff. On the south side of West Barraque opposite the David Mills House is the Trulock-Gould Mullis residence, 704 W. Barraque, (National Register on January 3, 1978) and the Hudson-Grace-Pearson House, 716 W. Barraque, (National Register on June 24, 1971.) During the 1970s, Ben Pearson restored all of the houses on the rest of the block except for the Trulock-Cook House at 703 Second Avenue. It was placed on the National Register on February 23, 1979 and has since been restored.

David Mills' father, William A. Mills, came to Arkansas from Tennessee. He moved from Little Rock to Pine Bluff and bought lots 6, 7, and 8 in Block 31 on December 31, 1858 almost a year after the birth of his son, David. Although the Mills family were never overly prosperous, they were well thought of in the Pine Bluff social circles. On November 30, 1889,

Victoria and Fanny (David's mother and sister respectively) sold lot 6, block 31 to David for "\$10 and other considerations".

Pine Bluff experienced its golden era of growth from 1880, to the turn of the century. Agriculture was still important; however, it was the railroad that brought increased progress and prosperity to Pine Bluff. It was also during this time that David Mills mortgaged his lot several times apparently to finance his business. Around 1902, David Mills built the present house at 715 West Barraque with his wife, Miss Emily Virginia Collier of Fort Smith, and their daughter, Virginia.

After her father's death, Virginia Mills was able to pay off the mortgage on the home through the proceeds of her gift shop in the two front rooms of the Mills home. The house was then sold to Jane Hood on July 3, 1986, after the death of Mills in 1985. Hood restored the dwelling and modernized the interior, investing an estimated \$100,000. Hood deeded the home to her niece, Rita Kirkpatrick, who then sold the home to the Pine Bluff chapter of Delta Sigma Theta sorority December 17, 1996.

The Mills House is an excellent example of a Plain Traditional, wood-frame residence embellished with Folk Victorian details. It complements the neighboring National Register properties and provides yet another worthy component of the architectural record of Pine Bluff. For these reasons, the house, and the historic walk are being nominated under Criterion C with local significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

Information submitted by James Leslie. February, 1997.

Leslie, James W. *Pine Bluff & Jefferson County, A Pictorial History*.
Norfolk, VA: The Donning Company/Publishers, 1981.

Workers of the Writers' Program. *The WPA Guide to 1930's Arkansas*,
with new introduction by Elliot West. Lawrence, Kansas: The
University Press of Kansas, 1987. pp. 189-195.

Mills House
Name of Property

Jefferson County, Arkansas
County and State

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-------|-------|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>591200</u> | <u>3786880</u> | B | _____ | _____ |
| C | _____ | _____ | _____ | D | _____ | _____ |

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lot 6, west 36ft. Lot 7. Block 31, Woodruff's addition - west.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary contains all remaining historically significant structures associated with this property.

Mills House
Name of Property

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=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Amy Bennett

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: April 14, 1998

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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 Mills House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Jefferson

DATE RECEIVED: 5/01/98 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/13/98
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/29/98 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/15/98
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000584

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 5/29/98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Front facade, looking north



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Facade and east side elevation, looking
northwest



David I. Mills House
Jefferson County, Arkansas
Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Facade and west side elevation, looking
northeast



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Rear of east side elevation looking
west,



David I. Mills House
Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

West cross gable, looking north east



David I Mills House
Jefferson County, Arkansas
Amy Bennett
April, 1997
Negative on file at AHPP
Portion of rear addition, looking south east



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

West side elevation, looking northeast



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Interior, south east corner room, looking
northwest



David I. Mills House

Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Interior, looking north east



David I. Mills House

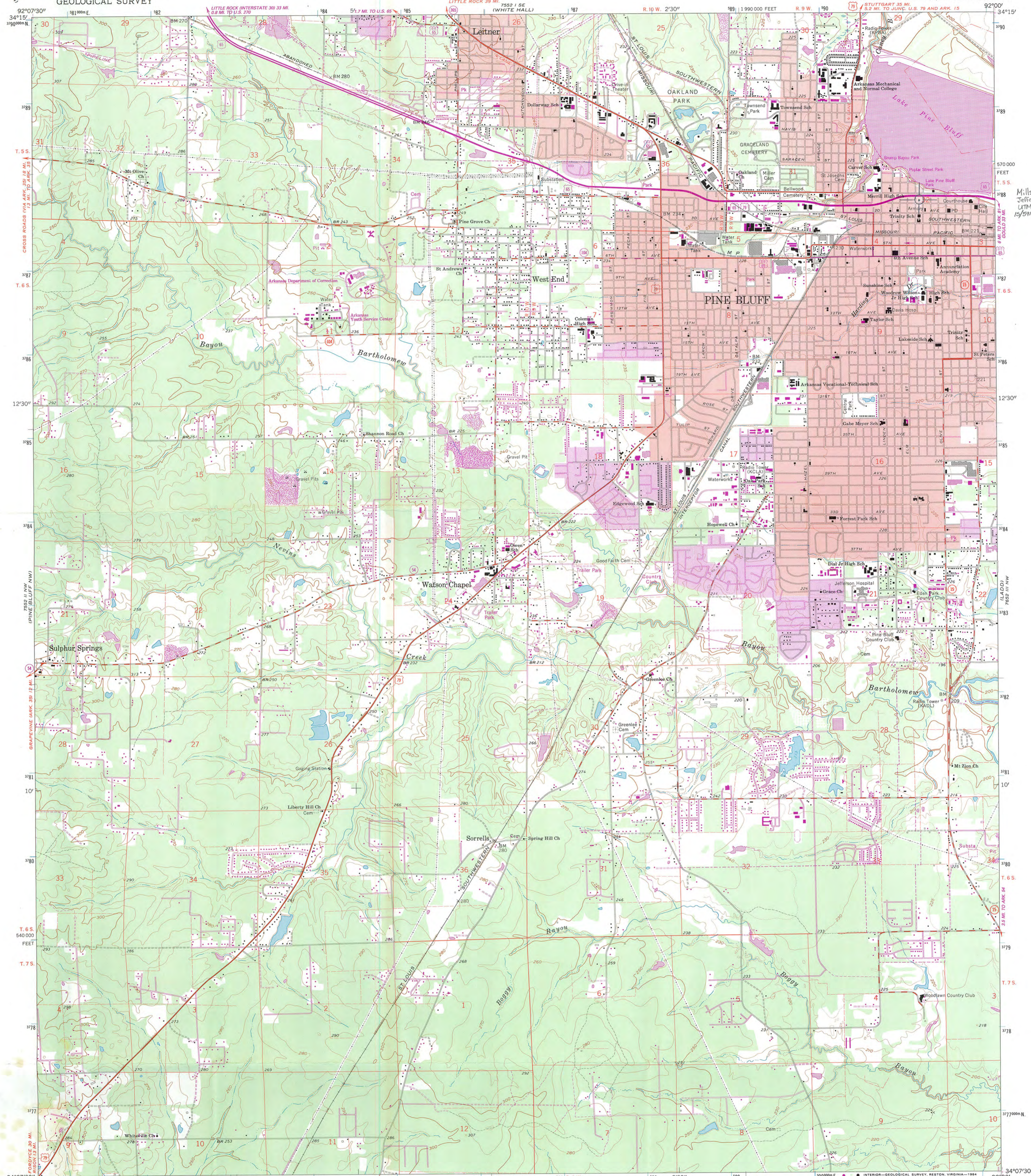
Jefferson County, Arkansas

Amy Bennett

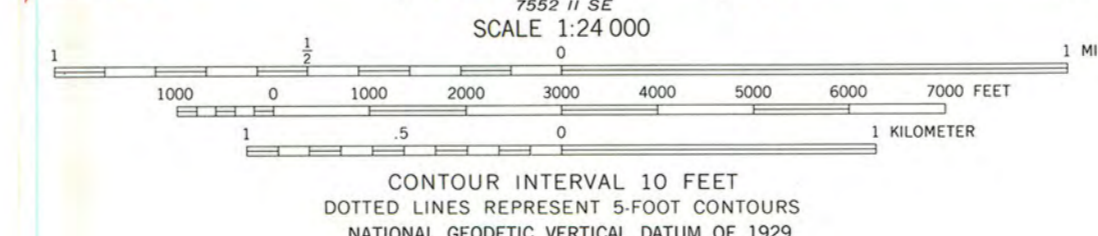
April, 1997

Negative on file at AHPP

Interior mantle, looking south east



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1961. Topography by planetable surveys 1961-62
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 9 meters south and
13 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks



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 | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Heavy-duty | Light-duty |
| Medium-duty | Unimproved dirt |
| U.S. Route | State Route |

PINE BLUFF, ARK.
34092-81-TF-024
1962
PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 7552 II NE-SERIES V884

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled from
aerial photographs taken 1982 and other sources
This information not field checked. Map edited 1984
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

April 15, 1998

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United State Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20002

RE: Mills House, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nominations 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 Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:br

Enclosures

