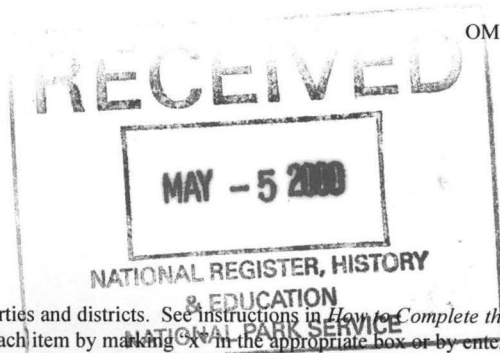


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.



1. Name of Property

historic name Threlkeld House

other names/site number PP0376

2. Location

street & number 1301 North Boston Avenue

☐ not for publication

city or town Russellville

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Pope

code 115

zip code 72801

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathryn A. Slater
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-24-00
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

6-2-00
Date of Action

Threlkeld House
Name of Property

Pope County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

0

Total

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

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Plain/Traditional

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

walls Weatherboard

roof Composition

other

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Threlkeld House is located on North Boston Avenue in Russellville, Arkansas, Pope County. The house is situated on a large corner lot at the intersection of North Boston Avenue and East "M" Street, and is located in a commercial/residential neighborhood approximately one thousand feet from the entrance to Arkansas Tech University. The one-and-a-half story clapboard home is designed in the Plain/Traditional style with a rectangular floor plan on a cut stone foundation. The interior of the house features original woodwork, one-over-one double-hung windows, and a simple brick mantelpiece. The Threlkeld House is the oldest and the only, intact example of the Plain/Traditional design within a two-block radius to the east, and a one block radius north and south. The bulk of the housing stock in the neighborhood consists of modern structures, dating from the mid-1940s to the 1980s. The block to the south of the home on North Boston Avenue contains three Craftsman homes, one of which is unaltered. Arkansas Avenue to the rear (west) of the Threlkeld House is solidly commercial, while the campus of Arkansas Tech is located to the west of Arkansas Avenue.

ELABORATION

The Threlkeld House remains significantly unaltered from the date of its construction. The front, or eastern façade of the house features a front-facing gable with an integral one-half porch accented with one boxed column on a cut stone pier. Cut stone half-walls enclose the three concrete steps leading to the porch. The foundation is composed of limestone blocks in a regular coursed pattern. Beneath the porch are a single window and a one-light door leading into the living room. A single window lights the northeast corner of the house. A pair of thin windows light the upper floor. This façade features minimal decorative embellishments in the form of cornice returns.

Two small one-light windows placed in the foundation at the southwest corner of the southern elevation light the cellar. A one-story shed roofed wing at the southwest end of the house contains a small one-light fixed window that illuminates the cellar stairs. Fenestration on the remainder of this elevation consists of a pair of short windows, a ribbon of three slender windows on a slight square bay, and a second ribbon of three larger windows. A one-light door opens from the southeast wall of the porch into a bedroom that is thought to have been a parlor.

The rear, western facade is fenestrated by a single window at the northwest corner and a small window adjacent to a shed-roofed porch that was enclosed in the 1920s. An open flat-roofed carport supported by metal posts was also added off the enclosed porch at this time. The rear wing extends west approximately two-thirds of the width of this

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

elevation. A one-light window, single-leaf door, and a six-light fixed window illuminate the porch. A pair of windows lights the upper story and the gable roof culminates in cornice returns like those on the southern facade.

The northern elevation from left to right, features a ribbon of three windows, two evenly spaced windows, a second ribbon of three, and a single window at the northwest corner of the home.

Although historic photographs of the property indicate that as many as three outbuildings may have existed at one time, none remain today. The last remaining outbuilding (a workshop) deteriorated and collapsed circa 1995 when the current owner purchased the property.

Interior

The interior of the Threlkeld House has been restored and the owner has changed as little as possible. The original pine flooring is still in excellent condition as is the other woodwork throughout the house. The structure's original twelve-foot ceilings were retained, as well as all the original molding, doors, door facings, and window casings. Additionally, many of the Threlkeld's furnishings remain in the home.

The stairway to the second floor is located in a central hall. The front portion of the second floor, originally attic space, has been converted into a bedroom. The rear portion of this floor is still in its original condition, with plank walls, pine floors, and a beaded ceiling.

The root cellar is accessed from the rear wing and is unchanged. It consists of a concrete floor, block walls, and concrete steps. Two porcelain basins are recessed into the floor, presumably for cold storage. In the 1970s the Threlkelds updated the home's electrical system and replaced plaster walls with sheetrock, but original wainscoting still exists in the bathroom, kitchen and service porch. The current owner converted a bedroom into a bathroom and installed central heat and air in 1995. Also at this time additional storage cabinets were added to the kitchen.

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1914

Significant Dates

1914

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

W.R. Shewmake

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Threlkeld House remained in the Threlkeld family from its construction in 1914 until the present owner bought the house in 1995. Beginning in the 1920s North Boston Avenue became known as "Faculty Row" because teachers from what was then the Second District Agricultural School (now Arkansas Tech University) occupied homes along that street. The president of the school during that period lived in the home across from the Threlkelds. Currently the neighborhood contains houses mainly representational of Modern styles, and there are no other Plain/Traditional homes that have undergone as few alterations as the Threlkeld House in the immediate area around the home.

ELABORATION

The Quapaw, Caddo, and Osage Indians were the original inhabitants of the area now known as Russellville. In 1808, the Osage signed a treaty giving the territory east of a line drawn from Fort Clark on the Missouri River, south to the Arkansas River and the mouth of Frog Bayou, near Alma, Arkansas to the United States. By 1828, most Native Americans had been removed to reservations in Oklahoma.

P.C. Holledger built the first house in the area originally known as Prairie. The town was named Russellville after Dr. Thomas Russell who later purchased that house. Russellville began its modern-day improvements with concrete sidewalks, paved streets and street lamps around 1908. There were three weekly papers, coal-mining companies, a small electric light plant, several grocery stores, and many other businesses, including the railroad. At about the time the Threlkeld House was constructed in 1914 Russellville's population numbered five thousand and was recognized as a thriving city of the second class in Arkansas. Home to the largest horse and mule market in the state, Russellville also contained three banks, a modern creamery, large foundry and iron works, roller flour mill, two wholesale houses, a modern hospital, city band, paved streets, and handsome well-kept homes. Russellville was considered a metropolitan area of the state.

Vardy McBee Threlkeld, the original owner of the Threlkeld House, was a field agent for the Missouri Pacific Railroad for thirty-four years. Mr. Threlkeld invested in real estate in Arkansas and the Indian Territories of Oklahoma. In 1914, the Threlkelds purchased lots three, eight, nine, ten, eleven, and twelve in block three of the Harris Agriculture School Addition to the city of Russellville, from B.F. Harris for \$1,200.00. Mr. Threlkeld hired W.R. Shewmake to complete the majority of the work on the house and on October 18th, 1914, the Threlkelds spent

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

their first Sunday in their new home. When the family moved to the house the Threlkelds had four children. The two female children never married and lived in the house until their deaths.

The Threlkeld family occupied the house from 1914 to 1995, which could be a factor in the retention of original features through the years. The current owner has worked to keep any modernization efforts from disturbing the integrity of the home as well. The Threlkeld House is the only example of an intact Plain/Traditional residence within a two-block radius east and a one-block radius to the north and south. The buildings on North Boston Avenue surrounding the house are modern, dating from the mid-1940s to the 1980s. Three Craftsman homes one block south of the Threlkeld House are the closest in age, but not in style. The Threlkeld House is being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion C for its Plain/Traditional architecture. The house possesses great integrity and remains a good example of early Russellville and the town's middle-class housing stock.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Western Arkansas, (Chicago, and Nashville). 1889.

Vance, David. Early History of Pope County. Mabelvale, AR: Foreman-Payne Publishing Co., 1970.

Personal papers of Mr. Vardy McBee Threlkeld/letters and diaries; 1890-1924.

Threlkeld family photographs - 1900-1940.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Threlkeld House
Name of Property

Pope County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acree of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 487980 3905120
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4
☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Lots eight (8) and Nine (9) and the south fifteen (15) of lot ten (10), block 3, Harris Agricultural School Addition to the City of Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

This nomination includes all of the property historically associated with the Threlkeld House, Russellville, Arkansas that retains its integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gerri Spires/ Edited by Holly Hope
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 03/06/00
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone 501 324-9880
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Threlkeld House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pope

DATE RECEIVED: 5/05/00 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/17/00
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/00 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/19/00
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 00000610

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 6/2/00 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



Threlkeld House

Pope Co, Ar

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHPP

View from South



Threlkeld House

Pope Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHPP

VIEW of Staircase



Threlkeld House

Pope Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHP

View of living room/dining room



Thurkeld House

Pope Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHPP

View of mantelpiece in living room



Thru the House

Pope Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHPP

View from west



Thurkild House

Pope Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHP

View from north



Thulkeid House

Pape Co, AR

Photo by Amy Bennett

01/06/2000

Negative on file at AHPP

View from east





The Department of Arkansas Heritage

April 24, 2000

Mike Huckabee

Governor

■

Cathie Matthews

Director

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

Arkansas

Arts Council

RE: Threlkeld House – Russellville, Pope County.

Dear Carol:

Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Arkansas
Natural Heritage
Commission

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Arkansas
Territorial Restoration

Sincerely,

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

Cathy Buford Slater

Deputy Director, Heritage Resources

State Historic Preservation Officer



Enclosures

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