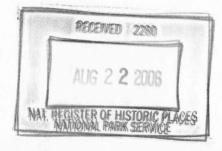
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



OMB No. 10024-0018 907

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 Old U.S. 67 Rest Area		
other names/site number Site #CL0430	0	
2. Location		
street & number On the west side of Old Road	ld U.S. 67, approximately 0.5 miles south of Middleton not for public	cation
city or town Curtis	⊠ vicini	ity
state Arkansas code	AR county Clark code 019 zip code 7	71728
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
request for determination of eligibility meets the deplaces and meets the procedural and professional addes not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend a locally in the National Register criteria. I recommend a locally in the National Register criteria. I recommend a locally in the National Register criteria. I recommend a locally in the National Register criteria. I recommend a locally in the National Register criteria. I recommend a local lo	7/31/66 Date	
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
State of Federal agency and ourcau	<i>)</i>	
4. National Park Service Certification	lare	
I hereby certify that the property is:	CII YIF NG IIV	Date of Action

Name of Property	County and State		
5. Classification			
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)		
□ private □ building(s) □ public-local □ district ⋈ public-State □ site □ public-Federal □ structure ⋈ object	si	uildings tes ructures	
2 00,000	ol	ojects	
	T	otal	
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of Contributing resources previously list in the National Register	ed	
An Ambition to Be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943			
6. Function or Use			
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		
LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object	LANDSCAPE/street furniture/object		
7. Description			
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)	Materials (Enter categories from instructions)		
OTHER/Plain Traditional	foundation STONE		
	walls STONE		
	roof N/A		
	other N/A		

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Narrative \ Description \\ (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.) \end{tabular}$

Old	U.S.	67	Rest Area	
Nam	e of Pr	one	rtv	

Clark County, Arkansas
County and State

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	7	Dage	1
Section number	,	Page	

SUMMARY

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is located on the west side of Old U.S. 67 between Curtis and Gum Springs in Clark County, Arkansas. The rest area consists of a fieldstone retaining wall with a concrete, semicircular bench that surrounds a round fieldstone well. The rest area is located at the bottom of a wooded embankment.

ELABORATION

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is located on the west side of Old U.S. 67 between the small towns of Curtis and Gum Springs in central Clark County, Arkansas. The small roadside rest area consists of a fieldstone retaining wall with a concrete, semicircular bench that surrounds a round fieldstone well. The rest area is located at the bottom of a wooded embankment in a built-up rural area.

Retaining Wall and Bench

The rest area's retaining wall is constructed of fieldstone, likely harvested in the rest area's vicinity, and is taller closer to its center. The wall is separated into five segments by six fieldstone pillars with fieldstone caps. The center segment is semicircular in shape. To the left of the third pillar from the south is a rectangular stone plaque that reads, "BUILT BY / NATIONAL YOUTH / ADMINISTRATION / IN COOPERATION WITH / ARKANSAS STATE / HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT / 1936."

The center, semicircular segment of the retaining wall also supports a cast-concrete bench that is semicircular in shape.

Well

In the center of the semicircular section of the retaining wall is a round fieldstone well. Although it was likely open in the center originally, it is now capped with concrete. Some writing scratched into the concrete on the top of the well is largely illegible.

Integrity

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area has excellent integrity. Some shifting in the hillside above the retaining wall has caused some cracks to form in the wall. Also, the well was capped at an unknown date. However, these changes are minor in scale and the rest area still very much reflects the 1936 National Youth Administration (NYA) and Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department construction. In addition, the setting around the rest area, which is rural in nature, still reflects the area's setting in 1936 when the rest area was built.

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area Name of Property	Clark County, Arkansas County and State
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.)	Levels of Significance (local, state, national) Local
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) Transportation
☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	Politics/Government
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.	Period of Significance
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	1730-1730
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.) Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for	Significant Dates 1936-1956
religious purposes. B. removed from its original location.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)
 C. birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance. D a cemetery. 	Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)
☐ 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.	Architect/Builder National Youth Administration, Builder Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department, Builder
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one of	or more continuation sheets.)
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:

Clark County, Arkansas

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area

Name of Property

County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page	1
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SUMMARY

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under Criterion C as the only known NYA-constructed rest area on U.S. 67 in Clark County. The rest area is located on Old U.S. 67, which was the main automobile route in that part of Clark County from the time of its paving in 1931 until the current U.S. 67 was built adjacent to it in 1965. As a result, it is therefore eligible for nomination under Criterion A for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture and with the activities of the NYA in Clark County in the 1930s. The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple-property listing "An Ambition to Be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943."

ELABORATION

The route of U.S. 67 was a natural corridor through Arkansas due to the state's geography, and its history goes back many centuries. Current U.S. 67 roughly divides Arkansas into two triangles with the Ozarks to the northwest and the Delta with its associated swampland to the southeast. The ease of travel in this corridor was first taken advantage of by the Native Americans, who picked out a route that avoided the hills and swamps, and crossed the many rivers at their easiest fording locations.¹

At the time of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the Southwest Trail was developed along the route. It predated the Memphis to Little Rock Road of 1826, and was the earliest land route into Arkansas. The route entered into Arkansas at Hix's Ferry, a community northeast of Pocahontas in Randolph County, proceeded through Little Rock and ended at the Red River in Fulton in Arkansas's southwest corner.²

The development of the Southwest Trail through Arkansas opened up settlement in the areas along its route. Pioneers came into the state from the northeast bringing their cattle, wagon trains, and, occasionally, slaves with them. All along the route, the settlers selected tracts of bottomland, and made clearings in the wilderness. The importance of the Southwest Trail was also recognized by Andrew Jackson who signed an appropriations bill in 1831, which earmarked \$15,000 for the improvement of the Trail, and also designated it a "National Road." The importance of this military road was proven during the War with Mexico in the 1840s.

As the construction of railroad lines began in earnest in Arkansas after the Civil War, the railroad line also utilized the same approximate corridor that the military road had used in Clark County. Historic railroad

¹ Elliott West. *The WPA Guide to 1930s Arkansas*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1987 reprint of 1941 publication p. 203.

² Noel E. Oman. "Progress in Slow Lane on Upgrade of U.S. 67." <u>Arkansas Democrat-Gazette</u>, 23 August 1999: A1.

³ Ray Hanley. *A Journey Through Arkansas: Historic U.S. Highway 67*. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing, 1999, p. 7.

⁴ West, 203.

Name of Property

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page	2	

maps of the area show that a railroad line was in the planning stages in 1864 and 1872.⁵ The railroad line, which would become the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern in 1874, was completed by 1873.6 The arrival of the railroad further increased settlement in that part of Clark County, and the towns of Curtis and Gum Springs all came into existence by 1895.7

When the Arkansas State Highway System was formed in 1923, U.S. 67, of which this section was originally a part of Arkansas 51, was one of the original highways included. It was also one of the first nine Arkansas highways to become part of the U.S. highway system two years later in 1925. The creation of the State Highway System was the most important aspect of the Harrelson Road Law of 1923, and it brought all construction and maintenance activities under the jurisdiction of the Highway Commission.⁹

However, the section of highway between Curtis and Gum Springs did not become a part of U.S. 67 until the paving was finished in 1931. Prior to 1931, it was designated AR 51 and the route of U.S. 67 went northwest through the town of Burtsell before turning northeast at Okolona proceeding on to Arkadelphia. (The old route of U.S. 67 through Okolona is now designated Arkansas 51.)

Rerouting U.S. 67 to proceed northeast through Curtis and Gum Springs once the paving of Arkansas 51 was completed made sense since the route was more direct and shorter in distance. 11 By December 31, 1932, the section of Arkansas 51 between Gurdon and Arkadelphia, had been redesignated U.S. 67. In addition, the original route of U.S. 67, which went through Okolona, was redesignated Arkansas 51, and remains so today.12

⁵Railway and county map of the Southern States. Map. Cincinnati, E. Mendenhall, 1864, and Maps showing Arkansas Central, the Helena & Corinth, and the Pine Bluff & Southwestern Railroads together forming the Texas & Northeastern Railway. Map. New York, G.W. & C. B. Colton & Co., 1872.

⁶ W. E. McLeod. "Old Roads in North Arkansas." <u>Lawrence County Historical Society Quarterly</u>, Spring 1978.

⁷ Cram's Township and Rail Road Map of Arkansas. Map. Chicago, George Franklin Cram, 1895.

⁸ Oman, A1.

⁹ Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. Historical Review: Arkansas State Highway Commission and Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, 1913-1992. Little Rock: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, 1992, p. 34.

¹⁰ Arkansas State Highway Commission. Ninth Biennial Report of the Arkansas State Highway Department. Russellville, AR: Russellville Printing Company, 1930, p. 26.

¹¹ For additional information on the paving of the highway, see: Ralph S. Wilcox. "Old Arkansas 51, Curtis to Gum Springs, Clark County, Arkansas." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. From the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2003.

¹² Arkansas State Highway Commission. Tenth Biennial Report of the Arkansas State Highway Department. Russellville, AR: Russellville Printing Company, 1930, p. 7.

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area	
Name of Property	

Clark County, Arkansas
County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page	3	

Once this section of U.S. 67 was paved, it quickly became the main highway in that part of Clark County. Since U.S. 67 was a heavily traveled road, facilities were needed to provide goods and services to travelers on the highway. In 1936, the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department teamed up with the NYA to construct a small rest area for travelers. Located between the small towns of Curtis and Gum Springs, the rest area had a well that provided water for travelers and their cars and a small bench to rest on. A stone retaining wall completed the facility.

The fact that this portion of U.S. 67 was the main route between Little Rock and Texarkana meant that it was also a highly traveled road for both automobile and truck traffic. As a result, this small rest area was likely a popular place for travelers on U.S. 67 beginning in the 1930s. The amount of traffic using U.S. 67 ultimately led to the construction of the current U.S. 67 immediately to the east of the 1931 alignment in 1965. It is likely that once the current highway was built in 1965, the usage of the U.S. 67 Rest Area declined dramatically.

In recent years, the Old U.S. 67 Rest Area had become overgrown and invisible to passersby on the highway. However, recently the brush and undergrowth has been cleared away, once again exposing the forgotten rest area to view. The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area remains as an intact example of 1930s NYA rest area design and construction, and a tangible reminder of early highway travel in Clark County.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under Criterion C as the only known NYA-constructed rest area on U.S. 67 in Clark County. The rest area is located on Old U.S. 67, which was the main automobile route in that part of Clark County from the time of its paving in 1931 until the current U.S. 67 was built adjacent to it in 1965. As a result, it is therefore eligible for nomination under Criterion A for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture and with the activities of the NYA in Clark County in the 1930s. The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple-property listing "An Ambition to Be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943."

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area	
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Clark County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	9	Page	1	
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McLeod, W. E. "Old Roads in North Arkansas." <u>Lawrence County Historical Society Quarterly</u>, Spring 1978.

Maps showing Arkansas Central, the Helena & Corinth, and the Pine Bluff & Southwestern Railroads together forming the Texas & Northeastern Railway. Map. New York: G.W. & C. B. Colton & Co., 1872.

Railway and county map of the Southern States. Map. Cincinnati, E. Mendenhall, 1864,

Oman, Noel E. "Progress in Slow Lane on Upgrade of U.S. 67." Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, 23 August 1999: A1.

West, Elliott. *The WPA Guide to 1930s Arkansas*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1987 reprint of 1941 publication.

Wilcox, Ralph S. "Old Arkansas 51, Curtis to Gum Springs, Clark County, Arkansas." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. From the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2003.

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area				ounty, Arkansas	
Name of Property			County and	d State	
0. Geographical Data					
Acreage of Property	Less than one.				
icreage of Property	Dess than one.				
UTM References Place additional UTM reference	es on a continuation sheet.)				
15 489869	3764190		3		
Zone Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
			4		
				See continuation sheet	
Verbal Boundary Descri Describe the boundaries of the	property on a continuation sheet.)				
Boundary Justification Explain why the boundaries we	ere selected on a continuation sheet.)				
1. Form Prepared By					
name/title Ralph S. Wi	lcox, National Register & Survey Coordina	tor			
rganization Arkansas	s Historic Preservation Program		date	December 19, 2005	5
treet & number 1500	Tower Building, 323 Center Street		telephone	(501) 324-9787	
ity or town Little Ro	ck	state	AR	zip code 722	201
Additional Documentati	on				
ubmit the following items with	the completed form:				
Continuation Sheets					
N					
A USGS map (7	.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the prope	rty's location	n		
A Sketch map fo	or historic districts and properties having la	rge acreage	or numerous	resources.	
Photographs					
Representative b	lack and white photographs of the proper	ty.			
Additional items Check with the SHPO or FPO f	for any additional items.)				
Property Owner					
Complete this item at the reque	st of SHPO or FPO.)				
name Arkansas Highw	ay and Transportation Department				
	Box 2261			telephone	F-1,7-1
		state	e AR		2203
city or town Little Roc	k	state	AR AR	zip code	2203
aperwork Reduction Act Sta	tement: This information is being collected for appli	cations to the N	National Register	r of Historic Places to nom	inate properties

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

Old U.S. 67 Rest Area	Clark County, Arkansas	
Name of Property	County and State	

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	10	Page	1	
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Old U.S. 67 Rest Area is located on the west side of Old U.S. 67 approximately 0.5 miles south of Middleton Road at UTM: 15/489869/3764190.

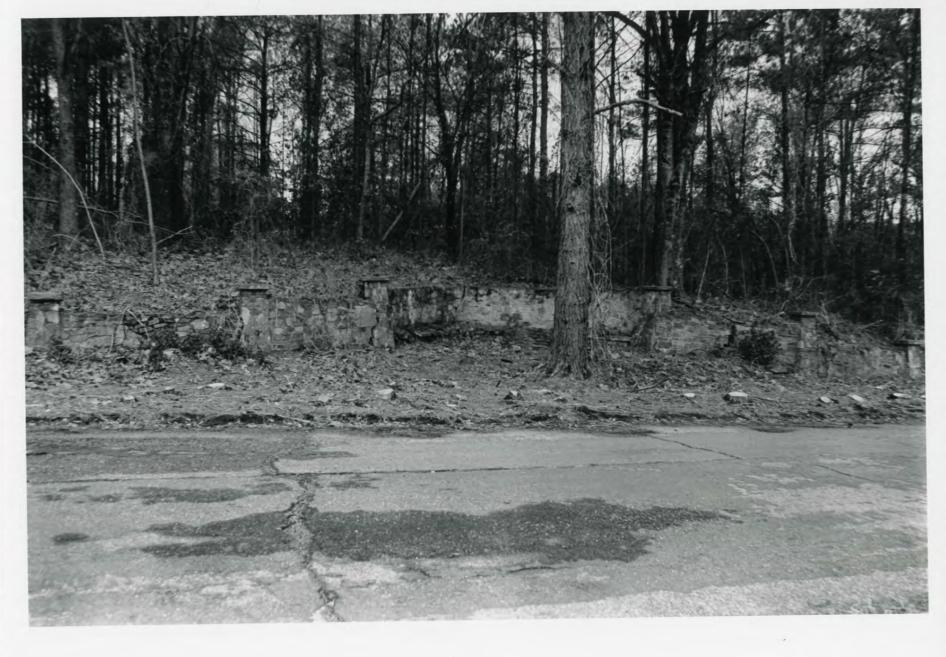
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses all of the property that contains the Old U.S. 67 Rest Area.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION				
PROPERTY US 67 Rest Area, Old NAME:				
MULTIPLE New Deal Recovery Efforts in Arkansas MPS NAME:				
STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Clark				
DATE RECEIVED: 8/22/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/20/06 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	0/05/06 0/05/06			
REFERENCE NUMBER: 06000907				
REASONS FOR REVIEW:				
APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEAR OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVE REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL:				
COMMENT WAIVER: N				
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:				
Vational Register				
RECOM./CRITERIA				
TELEPHONE DATE DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N				
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.	ıe			



OLD U.S. GT REST AREA

CLARK COUNTY, AR

ELIZABETH JAMES

DECEMBER ZOOS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

OVERALL VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



OLD U.S. 67 REST AREA

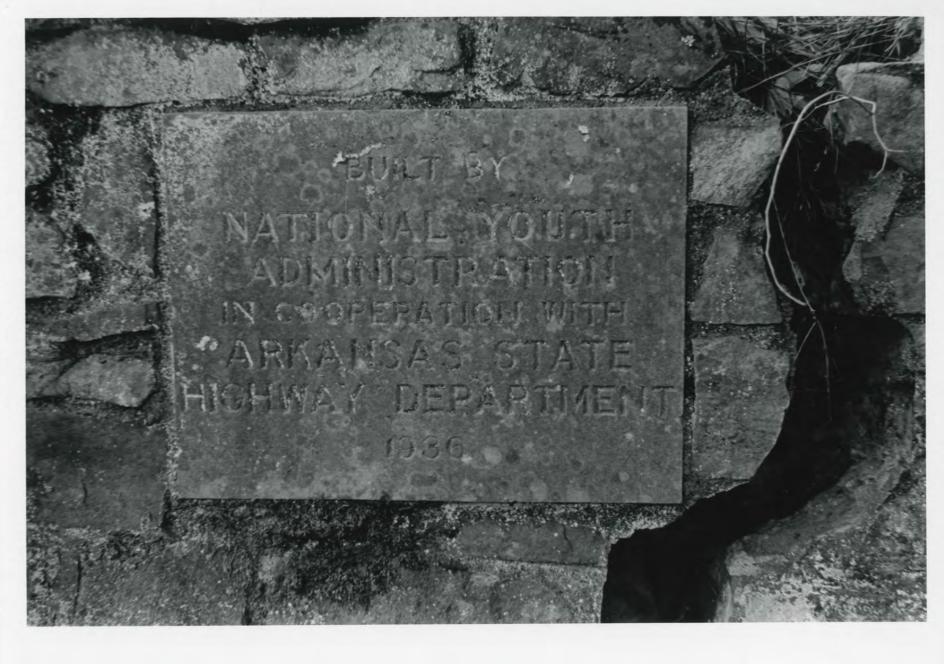
CLARK COUNTY, AR

ELIZABETH JAMES

DECEMBER ZOOS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

OVERALL VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST



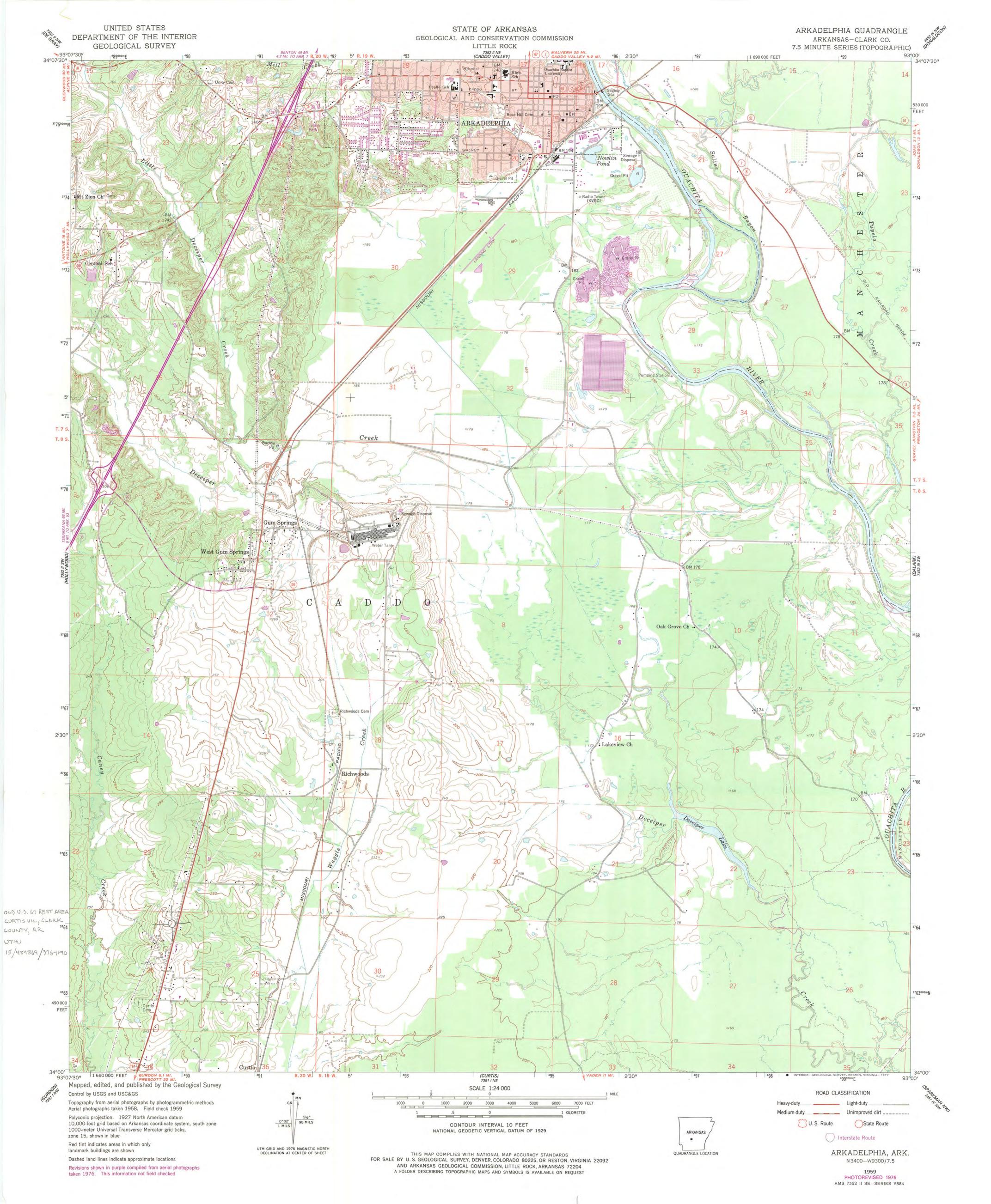
OLD U.S. 67 REST AREA CLARK COUNTY, AR ELIZABETH JAMES DECEMBER 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR CORNERSTONE PETAIL, VIEW SOUTHWEST



OLD U.S. 67 REST AREA CLARK COUNTY, AR ELIZABETH JAMES DECEMBER 2005

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR OVERALL VIEW LOOKING NORTH





The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor

Cathie Matthews, Director

August 2, 2006

Dr. Janet Matthews Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior

National Register of Historic Places

National Park Service

8th Floor

1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Arkansas Arts Council

RE: Old U.S. 67 Rest Area - Curtis vic., Clark County,

RECEIVED 2280

ALIG 2 2 2006

REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Arkansas

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

Dear Dr. Matthews:

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

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Arlangag Historia

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

> 1500 Tower Building 323 Center Street Little Rock, AR 72201 (501) 324-9880

fax: (501) 324-9184 tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail: info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews

State Historic Preservation Officer

hee Marches

CM:rsw

Enclosure

