

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Name of Property

County and State

Section number _____ Page _____

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 14000250

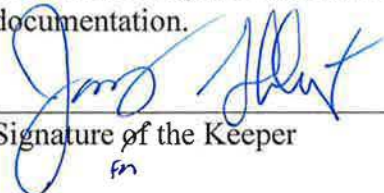
Date Listed: 10/1/2014

Property Name: Buffington, Dr. T. E., House

County: Saline

State: AR

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper
fn

10-1-2014

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3: State Certification

The applicable National Register Criteria is "B" - the resubmitted nomination inadvertently checked "C."

Section 8: Period of Significance

The Period of Significance is hereby amended to c. 1928-1965
This coincides with Dr. Buffington's direct association with the property.

Section 8: Significant Person

The nomination is hereby amended to add "Buffington, Dr. T. E." as the Significant Person associated with the property.

The Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

DISTRIBUTION:

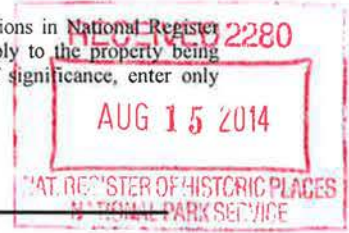
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

250 ~~795~~

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Buffington, Dr. T.E., House

Other names/site number: SA0120

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

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

2. Location

Street & number: 312 W. South St

City or town: Benton State: Arkansas County: Saline

Not For Publication:

Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

<u>Martha Miller</u>	<u>7/2/14</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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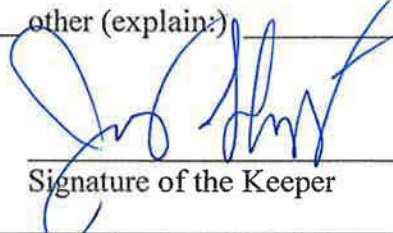
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____



10-1-2014

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>2</u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _____

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: secondary dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: business
DOMESTIC: secondary dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: English Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Asphalt

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Dr. T.E. Buffington House is a good example of an English/Tudor Revival house with Craftsman detail built c.1928 in Benton, Arkansas. It is stated that this house was built to accommodate Dr. Buffington, following his move from Lonsdale, Arkansas, to Benton, Arkansas, to continue his practice of medicine. This great one and a half story home built c.1928 features a large inset front porch, large front chimney with multiple chimney pots, paired, six-pane casement windows, located throughout the second story. The site was originally platted as part of the Field's Addition to Benton by 1921. However, by 1921, the Field's Addition was starting to take shape with several homes already constructed along River Street which runs southwest from the corner of South and Main. Consequently, the building along W. South Street was a little slower, because by 1921, there were only four buildings located on the south side of the 200 and 300 blocks of South St.¹ Yet, this would all change by the late 1920s into 1930 because in just eight years, three more houses would be built to fill in the remaining vacant lots

¹ In 1921, there were eight buildings on the north side of South Street, and nine buildings by 1930.

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Narrative Description

on the south side of South Street.² With the opening of a new subdivision the development was sure to come and did by the time the Great Depression hit in late 1929.

The Dr. T.E. Buffington House faces north and is located along the south side of West South Street in Benton, Arkansas. The house sits on the commercial fringe of the Benton Commercial Historic District listed to the National Register of Historic Places on July 24, 2008, to the east and other residential properties to the west. The home offers a remarkable contrast to the building styles being constructed during this era with an English Revival form with small amounts of Craftsman detailing.

The one and a half story brick-veneered house is built on an enclosed brick pier foundation with concrete exterior foundation walls and has wooden framed walls clad in a stretcher bond brick pattern. All windows were constructed with a concrete sill below the window and a flat arch above the windows. A three tab asphalt shingle, multi-gable roof covers the entire structure. Though recently converted from residential use to commercial use, the building stands as an excellent example of a residential English Revival design.

Facade

The front façade of the Dr. T.E. Buffington house faces north, and is located facing West South Street, which travels through the heart of the City of Benton. The recessed front porch on the northeast corner of the home is the main focal point on the front façade. The front porch is accentuated by a large three centered arch on the northeast corner. Located within the three centered archway, there is a concrete sill that is supported by four full columns in the middle, and two half columns, one on each end. To the right of the three centered arch is a rounded arch entranceway which is accessed by a single concrete step. Located above the rounded arch is a traditional wall sconce light. Located within the recessed porch, are two entranceways into the home. One is located along the inner south wall, while the second entranceway is located along the inner west wall. Offset from the center of the elevation is a pair of Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows. To the right of the pair of windows and slightly set forward from the rest of the house is the English inspired tall chimney with decorative corbelling and two round chimney pots at the top of the chimney. Centrally located in the chimney is a brick inset circle with the number 312 placed in the middle of the circle.³ To the right of the chimney, and set back in line with the rest of the home, is another pair of Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows.

Located on the second floor of the home, are two hipped dormers with one located at either end of the elevation. The dormers consist of six-by-six casement doors that swing out from the house. Centrally located on the second floor is a large front-facing gable with a Palladian

² On the north side of South Street there were nine houses or buildings located in the 200 and 300 blocks of South Street.

³ The number 312 represents the address of the structure.

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window centrally located within the gable. The right side of the gable is shorter than the left because the chimney protrudes through the fly rafter of the gable.

East Elevation

The east elevation has a substantially lot more ornamentation when compared to the front façade. The east elevation is broken up into three bays with the middle bay recessed from the outer two bays. The key feature on the east elevation is also a carryover of the front façade's recessed front porch. Like the front façade, the east elevation also has a large three centered brick archway that allows for great visibility to the east and is set forward from the second bay. Like the front façade the three centered archway also has a concrete sill that is supported by four full columns in the middle, and two half columns, one on each end.

Upon turning the corner of the porch there is a rounded arch entranceway on the inside of the southern wall of the recessed porch. Upon turning left, there are three adjacent nine-over-one, single-hung windows placed over a concrete window sill. There is a small one to two foot section of brick, before arriving at a much smaller nine-over-one, single-hung window located in the corner of the recessed second bay and the third bays which is set out and flush with the first bay, Upon turning left from the smaller window, there is Craftsman inspired wooden door with similar pane arrangements to the windows. A single concrete step and a wooden handrail allows access in to this portion of the home. The third bay consists of another pair of Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows which are centrally located in the bay.

The second story of the home on this elevation is dominated by the two front-facing gables over the first and third bays of this elevation. Within both front-facing gables, there are a pair of six-pane casement windows with a flat arch over them. Located above the recessed second bay, there is a side-facing gable and two valleys, with one valley coming from each of the two gables on either side of the second bay. Located on the left side of the side-gabled roof, there is a gabled dormer with a two-pane awning style window. Also located on the dormer is a fly rafter with faux returns, while the area inside of the gable has had stucco applied to it.

South Elevation

The south elevation of the Dr T.E. Buffington House has a very interesting design. Upon turning the corner and moving right to left across the first floor of the house, there is a small area of brick before coming to three adjacent nine-over-one, single-hung windows placed over a concrete window sill. To the left of the three adjacent windows, there is a larger brick wall, which is centrally located on the elevation. To the left of the brick wall, there is a wooden panel door where the upper panel contains glass, while the lower panel is wooden. A large concrete staircase allows access to the house from the driveway. A smaller staircase leads from the crawlspace door up five steps to ground level and then turns ninety degree and goes up to the house. Adjacent to the doorway is another Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung window with a flat arch above it and a concrete sill below the window. There is another very small space of brick veneer before coming to another pair of Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows with a flat arch above it and a concrete sill below the window. Located

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below the paired windows is the wooden crawlspace door. Located to the right of the crawlspace door is a small window located below the staircase that leads to the panel door on the first floor. The second story consists of a large front facing gable that is slightly offset to the left of center. The area located within the gable consists of a stucco wall material and three large centrally-located one-over-one, double-hung windows.

West Elevation

The west elevation of the Dr. T.E. Buffington House has similar construction as the east elevation without the recessed second bay. Starting in the southwest corner of the home, there is a pair of Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows. To the left of the pair of windows is a small area of brick before coming to a pair of small Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung windows. To the left of the small pair of windows is a larger area of brick, before coming to another large pair of nine-over-one, single-hung windows. To the left of this pair of windows is another small area of brick before the house projects out nearly a foot. From the projection of the house there is a small area of brick between the corner of the projection and a single Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung window. To the left of the single window is another small brick area and then another single Craftsman inspired nine-over-one, single-hung window. Located within the foundation on the southwest corner, there is an awning window into the crawlspace that allows for a vent pipe to come out of the foundation through the window and up along the side of the house. The second story consists of only a casement window in each of the two front-facing gabled ends. The gable to the south consists of a folding casement window with six panes of glass in each casement window, while the gable to the north consists of a folding casement with only a single pane of glass in each casement. Both gables also consist of a fly rafter below the eave. Like the east elevation there are two front-facing gables with a side gable in between which causes this area to have two valleys to shed water off the gables.

Garage- Contributing

The garage is much more simplistic than the house and its ornamentation. The north elevation of the garage consists of a large two-bay garage door with only a little wall space on either side of the garage door opening. Above the garage door are eight framed inset panels that are above the garage door, but below the beginning of the gable. The area within the front-facing gable has been completely stuccoed, though does contain a single-light scone located near the ridge of the roof. There is limited ornamentation on the other three elevations. Of the ornamentation that exists on these sides, it pertains to the high stuccoed foundation wall, which rises between four and five feet out of the ground in some locations. Above the stuccoed foundation is brick set in a stretcher bond pattern similar to the house. In the south elevation, just like the north elevation, the gable end has been completely infilled with stucco and just like the gables on the house, the gable ends of the garage roof also contain fly rafters.

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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.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Health/Medicine

Period of Significance
c.1928

Significant Dates
c.1928

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

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The Dr. T.E. Buffington House in Benton, Arkansas, is determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion B**, for its association for Dr. Buffington's long standing role as a local physician for Benton and other surrounding communities. Dr. Buffington continued to service the citizens of Benton, Arkansas, until his death on December 2, 1965. His home stands west of the Benton Commercial Historic District which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places July 24, 2008, and is a great remembrance of the life Dr. Buffington had while serving as a physician in the Benton. His home is a great example of English Revival architecture that has Craftsman style influences brought to the exterior of the home, as the Craftsman style was still gaining popularity in Arkansas while beginning to fade in other areas of the United States. Therefore, the Dr. T.E. Buffington House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Though little is known about the early life of Dr. Buffington some information has come to the forefront about who had influence on Dr. Buffington to begin to practice medicine. It is stated, and widely known, that Dr. Buffington was born to William Ellis Buffington and Mrs. Mary Marceline Miller Buffington, who came to Saline County, Arkansas, from Georgia in the early 1870s.⁴ Growing up, Dr. Buffington received his preliminary education in the rural schools there (Saline County) and graduated from high school at Benton. By the time he is in high school, Dr. Buffington's father had passed. However, it is during this period of time, that Dr. Buffington begins to become interested in the field of medicine while staying at Dr. J.W. Walton's home.⁵ What is known is that Dr. Walton and his father-in-law, Dr. D.N. Fisher, were acting as preceptors⁶ for Dr. Buffington during his high school years and gave him valuable knowledge in the practice of medicine.⁷ It is stated that "those two doctors were an inspiration to him and he never stopped giving them credit."⁸

⁴ "Dr. T.E. Buffington Has Been Practicing Medicine Thirty Years; Is a Native," *Centennial Edition-Benton Courier* (Benton, Arkansas: *Benton Courier*, 1937; reprint, Benton, Arkansas: Gann Museum of Saline History, 1987), 76 (page citations are to the reprint edition).

⁵ It is unknown if Dr. Buffington was actually taking residence at Dr. Walton's house or was just spending a majority of his time at that location, because according to the 1900 census, Dr. Buffington was listed as living with his mother and her new husband Wilburn Allen.

⁶ A preceptor is a skilled practitioner or faculty member who supervises students in a clinical setting to allow practical experience with patients. (Florence Myrick and Olive Yonge, *Nursing Preceptorship: Connecting Practice and Education* (Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005), 4.)

⁷ "Lonsdale, U.S.A. Two Men Passed This Way," *Hot Springs News*, 20 July 1966, 7. And "Dr. T.E. Buffington To Be Honored On 86th Birthday," *Benton Courier*, 29 April 1965, 8a.

⁸ *Ibid.*

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With his love of medicine growing under the preceptorship with Dr. Walton and Dr. Fisher, Dr. Buffington decided to enroll in the University of Arkansas, School of Medicine, currently known as University of Arkansas Medical School or UAMS, in 1901. According to the University of Arkansas Medical School Dr. Buffington attended two years of school between 1901 and the end of the of the school year between 1902-1903. What is interesting to note is that, according to the University of Arkansas Medical School, Dr. Buffington never graduated from the medical school,⁹ though in 1903 he did pass his state medical board examination, thus allowing Dr. Buffington to practice medicine in the State of Arkansas legally.

Following the passage of his state medical board examination in 1903, Dr. Buffington decided to stay in Saline County and practice medicine in and around his home town. Though he was the first doctor to set up practice in Perrysmith, Arkansas¹⁰, he opened his first office at the Perry Smith Bauxite Mining Company¹¹ and became the company doctor.¹² While serving as the company doctor, Dr. Buffington married his high school sweetheart, Marjorie Bennett, of Benton. The Buffington family stayed in the Bauxite until 1906, when the Buffington Family moved to Lonsdale, Arkansas, and set up a practice in the rural community of Lonsdale.

While setting up his practice in Lonsdale, Arkansas, Dr. Buffington began making house calls throughout the nearby communities with the use of a horse as his only and best method of transportation throughout the hills and foothills of the Ouachita Mountains in Garland and western Saline County. By the time Dr. Buffington and his family had moved to the community of Lonsdale, the town was just starting to grow. Lonsdale was set up around the several sawmills located around the community and the Little Rock and Hot Springs Western Railroad¹³. Though "the railroad had been started some time before, but had gone into bankruptcy, Mr. Lonsdale and two partners took control and he, as vice president, went on to finish the line."¹⁴ By April 1, 1900 the first train went through the community of Lonsdale causing much celebration. Yet, the town was still growing slowly by 1906 when Dr. Buffington moved to Lonsdale, but the town was still adding businesses to the community at a more steady pace.¹⁵ Once he and his family arrived in Lonsdale, Dr. Buffington was a leading advocate for the town, because with all the growth that had taken place between 1900 and 1913, "Dr. Buffington and Mr. Lonsdale had called on

⁹ Amanda Saar, e-mail message to author, January 14, 2014.

¹⁰ The town of Perrysmith first had a post office in 1901, but by 1906 the name of the post office and the town was changed to Bauxite, Arkansas, apply named because of the Bauxite ore that was being mined.

¹¹ Though all resources state the he was the company doctor for Perry Smith Bauxite Mining Company in 1903, the Perry and Smith had already sold much of their land to the General Bauxite Company by 1895 thus ending the Perry Smith Bauxite Mining Company also known as the Southern Bauxite Mining Company.

¹² "Dr. T.E. Buffington To Be Honored On 86th Birthday," *Benton Courier*, 29 April 1965, 8a.

¹³ The railroad name is described as several different names in several different publications. It was also referred to as the Little Rock, Hot Springs and Texas Railroad.

¹⁴ Violet Muncy, "Two Men and A Town -Lonsdale," *The Record (Hot Springs, AR: Hot Springs Garland County Historical Society, 1964)*, 12.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 13.

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County Judge Robert H. Mooney and were advised to get the town incorporated.”¹⁶ Therefore, on May 8, 1913, Lonsdale became incorporated with Dr. Buffington acting as the first mayor of the newly incorporated Town of Lonsdale. Following a long rainy Model T ride with Mr. Murry¹⁷ to Little Rock to have the incorporation of Lonsdale made official. Dr. Buffington himself bought a Model T to help in traveling on “some of the good roads” that were being constructed in the county at the time.¹⁸ While living in Lonsdale, Dr. Buffington was starting to buy up lots throughout the town of Lonsdale and it is said that at one time, Dr. Buffington owned eighty lots in Lonsdale. It is also stated that once the Buffington family decided to move back to Benton, Arkansas, in 1926, he deeded all of the lots back to the Town of Lonsdale.¹⁹

Upon relocating back to Benton in 1926, Dr. Buffington reopened his medical office, where he was open from nine to three every day except Wednesday when he closed at noon, and Sunday when he closed at eleven a.m. It is thought that after reestablishing his office in Benton, Dr. Buffington and his family decided to build a house on a vacant lot just west of Benton’s commercial area.

Therefore, around c. 1928, Dr. Buffington began construction on his one and a half story English Revival home with Craftsman detailing. Though this style of home was used between 1890 and 1940 its construction time period ran simultaneous to the Craftsman architectural style movement, thus showing how Craftsman inspired windows are found throughout Dr. Buffington’s home. Though the windows were inspired by the Craftsman architectural movement the house’s form and other details lend itself to an English or Tudor inspired home.

Though the earliest American houses in this style date from the late 19th Century, many of them were closely copied models of English homes with Renaissance detailing that was far less common than those models found between 1900 and 1920, which were viewed as “less pretentious” examples of English or Tudor Revival architecture.²⁰ This “less pretentious” model of English or Tudor Revival was more along the style preferred by Dr. and Mrs. Buffington, as their home would be mixed with American Eclectic expressions found in the Craftsman style of architecture also found during this period.

However, the details found in the exterior of the home that lend itself to this style of architecture include stucco wall cladding in gables found on the sides and rear of the main house and the gables found within the gable of the garage. The building also contains a front facing tall chimney with a small amount of pattern work in the middle and at the top of the chimney. It is noted that during this period of time, that the chimney was often found located on a prominent

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ It is unknown the relationship of Mr. Murry to the Buffington, but what is known is that by 1913 Mr. Murry was the only person in Lonsdale to own a Model T. (Ibid.)

¹⁸ Lonsdale, U.S.A. Two Men Passed This Way, Hot Springs News, 20 July 1966, 7.

¹⁹ Ibid, 16.

²⁰ Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Alfred Knopf, 1984), 358.

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elevation including the front or sides of the home.²¹ The chimney also contains round chimney pots which are found on the English Revival or Tudor Revival style of architecture during this period.

Other characteristics that Dr. Buffington and his wife Marjorie chose to incorporate into their new home and that are found throughout the English and Tudor Revival styles include small or nonexistent entry porch but often more prominent side porches, as is the case with the Dr. Buffington Home. The Buffington's recessed front/side porch is more prominent than the small rounded front door which is also common of these styles.²² The often tall window found in the English or Tudor Revival styles home are found in the second story multi-pane casement windows. The first floor windows however, consist of the Craftsman inspired design in the upper sash. Other characteristics that were pushed in the design of the house was the brick veneer. Early examples of this style of architecture relied heavily on wooden frame with weatherboard, shingles, or stucco cladding, but by the 1920s and 1930s, the masonry veneering technique allowed even the most modest examples to mimic the English prototypes or models.²³ Though this style of architecture began to fade from prominence following the construction of the Dr. Buffington House because of the Great Depression, the characteristics used in the construction are still seen throughout the building today. Yet, the Dr. Buffington House is not the only English/Tudor Revival style house within the area, as there are two other similar style homes. However, of the three English/Tudor Revival houses in the surrounding area, the Dr. Buffington House is the only one to retain enough integrity to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. One of the examples of the English style of architecture, located in the 300 Block of West Sevier Street, has had a large two bay garage added to the east elevation of the building, nearly doubling the square footage of the building footprint. The other English Revival home in the area is at 321 Conway Street. This home has also been altered due to an addition of a large carport on the west elevation and two smaller additions on the rear of the home since June 1948 according to the Benton Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps. Therefore, the Buffington House is the best remaining example of an English Revival home in the neighborhood.

Following the construction of his new home, Dr. Buffington continued his medical practice while picking up other hobbies on the side. As well as being a Doctor, he maintained his developer roots that caused him to have eighty lots in Lonsdale. Throughout his life, Dr. Buffington helped establish seven subdivisions in Benton.²⁴ When he was not developing lots for sale, he was building homes to put on the lots. His real estate interest did not sit just within the boundaries of Benton, but also included buying and selling timber-land and farming properties as well as his city properties.²⁵ It is said that during this time, he built 240 homes over a 25-year period.²⁶

²¹ Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, 356.

²² Ibid, 358-359.

²³ Ibid, 358.

²⁴ Lonsdale, U.S.A. Two Men Passed This Way, Hot Springs News, 20 July 1966, 7.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ "Dr. T.E. Buffington To Be Honored On 86th Birthday," *Benton Courier*, 29 April 1965, 8a.

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When he was not buying and selling land and houses or renting houses, Dr. Buffington was delivering babies throughout Saline County. By 1965, Dr. Buffington was known county wide for delivering babies. By this time, Dr. Buffington had had delivered over 6,000 babies throughout Saline County. Those 6,000 babies are known throughout the county as Buffington babies.

Still, when not practicing medicine, he never quite got over the political ambitions he once held in Lonsdale, because by 1951 he held a two-year term as mayor of Benton. Yet, the 1950s were a rough period for Dr. Buffington because by 1954, his wife Marjorie became ill and passed away "a few days after their golden wedding anniversary."²⁷ For three years Dr. Buffington lived alone in his English Revival home, until in 1957 Dr. Buffington married his longtime friend and very capable office assistant, Grace Harris, of fourteen years.²⁸ Even after being married, the two "continued to work side by side."²⁹

Every year on May 5, Dr. and Mrs. Buffington held an open house for friends and neighbors to come and help him celebrate his birthday at his house. Then in 1965, the City of Benton proclaimed an entire week as Buffington Week, in honor of his many years of service.³⁰ However, when asked when he planned to retire, he stated "Never. I'm far too busy to retire. But if I ever do, I shall return to medical college for that last year of training I never got time to pick up."³¹ This last year of school reference is to the fact that Dr. Buffington never finished his studies at the University of Arkansas Medical School in 1903. Yet, he did give credit to Grace for helping him do what he loved for so many years as his assistant and as his wife following his first wife Marjorie's death in 1954. Dr. Buffington would live a wonderful life of buying and selling real estate, running for city office and serving the many small communities in and around Saline and Garland Counties for over 62 years. It was stated that Dr. Buffington "was one of the rapidly diminishing "horse and buggy" doctors who by their dedication have helped pull us all to a higher standard of life."

In the years leading up to 1965, Dr. Buffington and his wife, Grace, would hold a birthday party every year on May 5 for the community. This was done in order to allow some of the 6,000 "Buffington Babies" and other community members to say happy birthday to Dr. Buffington.³² However, by November 26, 1965, Dr. Buffington died in his home in Benton at the age of 86. Up until his death he was still actively engaged in practicing medicine as is shown by the previous day schedule which showed that he held seven appointments on Thanksgiving Day November 25, 1965.³³

²⁷ "Saline County Doctor Has A Record Baby Crop," *Arkansas Gazette*, 3 June 1962; reprint Benton: *The Saline* vol. 19, No. 1, April 2004, 35.

²⁸ Lonsdale, U.S.A. Two Men Passed This Way, *Hot Springs News*, 20 July 1966, 15.

²⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ *Ibid.*

³² "Dr. Buffington Dead; Practiced Until End," *The Benton Courier*, 2 Dec. 1965.1.

³³ *Ibid.*

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

Though Dr. Buffington has been a leader in providing medicine throughout Saline County, he is still wildly remembered as one of the two inspirational men that founded the town of Lonsdale, Arkansas. Though other buildings remain that are associated with Dr. Buffington his beautiful English Revival/Tudor home is still honored by the people of Benton, Arkansas, not for his work but also the beauty of the home he built at the beginning of the Great Depression.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dr. Buffington House, which was built c.1928, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance**, under **Criterion B**, for Dr. Buffington's long standing role as a local physician for Benton and other surrounding communities. The Dr. Buffington House has been home to Dr. Buffington during his years as a doctor, politician, and real estate businessman for thirty-seven years. Following Dr. Buffington's death in 1965, his wife, Grace continued to live within the home through the 1970s.

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Amanda Saar. e-mail message to author. January 14, 2014.

Muncy, Violet. "Two Men and A Town –Lonsdale," *The Record*, Hot Springs, AR: Hot Springs Garland County Historical Society, 1964.

Myrick, Florence and Olive Yonge, *Nursing Preceptorship: Connecting Practice and Education*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005.

Virginia McAlester and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1984.

"Dr. T.E. Buffington Has Been Practicing Medicine Thirty Years; Is a Native." *Centennial Edition-Benton Courier*. Benton, Arkansas: Benton Courier, 1937; reprint, Benton, Arkansas: Gann Museum of Saline History, 1987.

"Dr. T.E. Buffington To Be Honored On 86th Birthday." *Benton Courier*, 29 April 1965, 8a.

"Saline County Doctor Has A Record Baby Crop.," *Arkansas Gazette*, 3 June 1962; reprint Benton: *The Saline* vol. 19, No. 1, April 2004.

Lonsdale, U.S.A. Two Men Passed This Way, *Hot Springs News*, 20 July 1966.

"Dr. Buffington Dead; Practiced Until End," *The Benton Courier*, 2 Dec. 1965.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Saline County History and Heritage Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): SA0120

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property <1

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

1. Zone: 15	Easting: 537612	Northing: 3824696
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

PT NESE 89' x 150' 2011-54650

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the remaining land and buildings historically associated with the house.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Travis Ratermann (Survey Historian)
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 323 Center St Suite 1500
city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201
e-mail travis@arkansasheritage.org
telephone: 501-324-9874
date: 10/1/2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Dr. T.E. Buffington House

City or Vicinity: Benton

County: Saline County

State: AR

Photographer: Travis Ratermann

Date Photographed: January 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0001)

Perspective of the northeast corner of the house, along with a large portion of the front façade. , Camera facing southwest.

Photo #2 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0002)

Perspective of the northwest corner of the house. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #3 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0003)

North Elevation, Detail photo of the patterned brickwork on the chimney. There is a detail photo of the craftsman influenced window sash. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #4 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0004)

North Elevation, detail photo of the palladian window. Though the window is original it is generally not associated with the style of the rest of the house. Camera facing south.

Buffington, Dr. T.E., House
Name of Property

Saline County, Arkansas
County and State

Photo #5 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0005)
East Elevation. Camera facing west.

Photo #6 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0006)
East Elevation, photo of the entranceway into the back portion of the house. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #7 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0007)
Perspective of the north and east elevations of the garage. Camera facing southwest.

Photo #8 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0008)
Perspective of the west and south elevations of the garage. Camera facing northeast.

Photo #9 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0009)
South Elevation. Camera facing north.

Photo #10 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0010)
West Elevation. Camera facing southeast.

Photo #11 (AR_SalineCounty_Dr TE BuffingtonHouse_0011)
North Elevation, detail photo of one of the dormers located on the house. Camera facing southeast.

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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dr. T.E. Buffington House, Benton, Saline County, Arkansas



Google earth

feet
meters



UTM

15 537612 3824696

NAD83

Dr. T.E. Buffington House, Benton, Saline County, Arkansas



Google earth



UTM

15 537612 3824696

NAD83



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502-317-7100

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312



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Buffington, Dr. T.E., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Saline

DATE RECEIVED: 08/15/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16th DAY: DATE OF 45th DAY: 10/01/14

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000250

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 10-1-2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Return Comments Addressed.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept B
REVIEWER J. Sahy DISCIPLINE _____
TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attsched comments Y/N SLR? Y

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

April 2, 2014



Mike Beebe
Governor

Martha Miller
Director

Ms. Carol Shull
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 Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

RE: Dr. T.E. Buffington House – Benton, Saline County,
Arkansas

Dear Carol:

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 Travis Ratermann of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Martha Miller
State Historic Preservation Officer

MM:tar

Enclosure



Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program



323 Center Street, Suite 1500
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880
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tdd: 711

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Buffington, Dr. T.E., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Saline

DATE RECEIVED: 4/11/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/07/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/22/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/28/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000250

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: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5-28 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

See Attached Comments

RECOM./CRITERIA Return

REVIEWER [Signature]

DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____

DATE 5-28-2014

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.



United States Department of the Interior

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

The United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name: Buffington, Dr. T. E., House, Saline County, AR

Reference Number: 14000250

Reason for Return

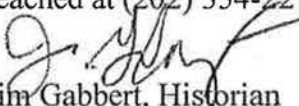
The Dr. T. E. Buffington House nomination is being returned for substantive and technical revision.

Substantive issues:

The nomination is submitted with two areas of significance, Architecture and Health/Medicine, under Criteria C and A. In claiming significance under Health/Medicine, it would be necessary to ascertain that important activities related to Health/Medicine occurred in the building. As presented, the nomination suggests that it was that lifetime of activities of the occupant, Dr. Buffington, that are of importance and that this building, his residence, is the best remaining location to associate with his activities. In this case, Criterion B would be the more appropriate Criterion. Please change the Criterion to B.

Architecturally, there is no context provided for this period or style within the Benton community. A quick tour of the immediate neighborhood shows an example of an English Cottage in the 300 block of Sevier St. and at 321 Conway St. To the north of the nominated property. While the nominated property might indeed be a significant representation of the style in the community, additional comparative context is necessary.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this nomination and hope that you find these comments useful. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (202) 354-2275 or email at <James_Gabbert@nps.gov>.


Jim Gabbert, Historian
National Register of Historic Places
5/28/2014



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

July 2, 2014



Mike Beebe
Governor

Martha Miller
Director

Ms. Carol Shull
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

RE: **Revised Nomination** – Dr. T.E. Buffington House –
Benton, Saline County, Arkansas

-
- Arkansas Arts Council
 -
 - Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission
 -
 - Delta Cultural Center
 -
 - Historic Arkansas Museum
 -
 - Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
 -
 - Old State House Museum
-

Dear Carol:

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 Travis Ratermann of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Martha Miller
State Historic Preservation Officer

MM:tar

Enclosure



Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program



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