

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:

Arkansas

COUNTY:

Phillips

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

SEP 17 1974

## 1. NAME

COMMON:

Battery D

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Hindman Hill

## 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Military Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Helena

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

One

STATE

AR

CODE

05

COUNTY:

Phillips

CODE

107

## 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

(Check One)

- ☐ District ☐ Building  
☒ Site ☐ Structure  
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☐ Public  
☒ Private  
☐ Both

- Public Acquisition:  
☐ In Process  
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☐ Occupied  
☒ Unoccupied  
☐ Preservation work  
in progress

ACCESSIBLE  
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:  
☒ Restricted  
☐ Unrestricted  
☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☒ Park - Private ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

John M. Connaway and Anne C. Pope

STREET AND NUMBER:

P. O. Box 367

CITY OR TOWN:

Helena

STATE:

AR

CODE

05

## 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Phillips County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Helena

STATE

AR

CODE

05

## 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF SURVEY: May, 1971 ☐ Federal ☐ State ☒ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:

Plaza West, Suite 1030

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

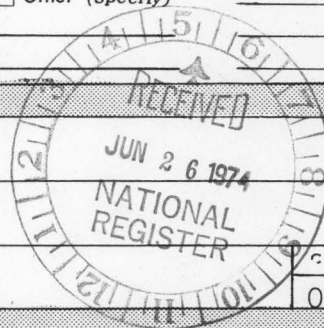
STATE:

AR

CODE

05

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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SEP 17 1974

PH 0046701  
2915 - N 3822060  
H13 E 721280

## 7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Battery D consists of a series of rifle entrenchments and earthen fortifications on Hindman Hill. Access to this Union Battery is gained via Military Road where two commemorative markers stand at the entrance. Though the other Helena batteries have been greatly altered since they were constructed in 1863, Battery D has changed little.

On the crest of Hindman Hill are the earthworks of Battery D. The remaining rifle trenches lie on the southwest slope of the hill. Battery D is partially covered with trees and thick undergrowth; however, the owner keeps the foliage cut on the crest and upper portion of the hill so that the earthworks and nearby rifle trenches are clearly visible.

Covering about one acre of the hillside, Battery D has remained basically unaltered in the 110 years since its construction. Wind and weather have softened the starkness of this Union Army fortification, but its military purpose remains readily apparent.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) July 4, 1863			
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			
<p>On July 4, 1863, two of the most well-known battles of the Civil War were fought. While Union forces repelled the Confederates' northernmost advance at Gettysburg, Rebel troops at Vicksburg capitulated to Grant's army after a lengthy siege. The Confederate losses at both Gettysburg and Vicksburg foretold the eventual outcome of the war.</p> <p>The coincidence of Union victories on Independence Day was made still more ironic by a third success in eastern Arkansas. The Battle of Helena was a futile attempt by Confederates to recapture the Mississippi River town of Helena from Federal occupying forces. Like their comrades in Mississippi and Pennsylvania, the Confederate forces in Arkansas also ended the day in defeat.</p> <p>During the siege of Vicksburg Grant's Union army was supplied via the Mississippi River. If the Confederates could have retaken a river stronghold above Vicksburg they would have been able to harass Federal supply shipments to the besieged city. Hence, the primary objective of the attack on Helena was to relieve Vicksburg.</p> <p>Union forces, commanded by Major General Benjamin Prentiss, had taken advantage of Helena's topography by building a series of fortifications on hills surrounding the city. Four hilltop batteries overlooked each of the roads leading into town.</p> <p>Because of rumors that Confederate forces were on the march, the four batteries were strengthened in late June by the construction of a series of rifle entrenchments and abattis in front of each battery. Other defensive</p>			



HB  
15  
3822050  
721280

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bearss, Edwin C. "The Battle of Helena, July 4, 1863." Arkansas Historical Quarterly, XX (Autumn, 1961), 256-297.

Evans, Clement A., ed. Confederate Military History, Vol. X. Atlanta: Confederate Publishing Company, 1899.

Crisler, E. T., Jr. The Battle of Helena. Helena, Arkansas: Helena Centennial Association, 1963.

Scott, Robert N., ed. A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1888.

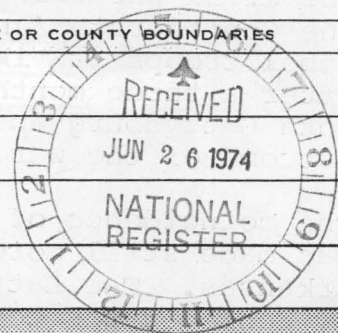
The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Wash., D.C.: 1880-

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA 1901, Series I, Vol. XXII, pp. 383-442.

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 ' "	0 ' "		34 31 10	90 35 49.3	
NE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SE	0 ' "	0 ' "				
SW	0 ' "	0 ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

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



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Dianna Kirk, Staff Historian

ORGANIZATION  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE  
April 30, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Suite 1030, Plaza West

CITY OR TOWN:  
Little Rock

STATE  
AR

CODE  
05

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name William E. Henderson

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date June 11, 1974

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

AR Martensen  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 9/17/74

ATTEST:

Charles A. H... ..  
Keeper of The National Register

Date 9-15-74



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Phillips	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
SEP 17 1974	

(Number all entries)

Significance - (Continued - Page 2)

measures instituted in late June included the sounding of reville at 2:30 A. M. to prevent being caught unawares, felling many trees to obstruct the principal roads leading into town, and stationing a Federal timber-clad, the "Tyler", along the Helena waterfront.

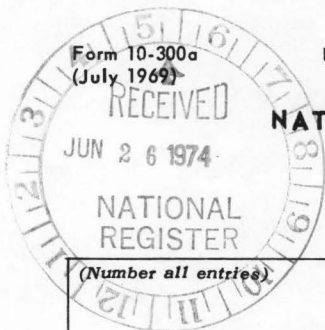
By July 3, the Rebels had moved to within five miles of Helena. That afternoon Confederate commander Lieutenant General Theophilus H. Holmes met with his subordinate officers to explain the order of battle. Simultaneous attacks were to be launched against each of the four batteries. Once these fortifications were captured, the city was to be occupied. With almost twice the number of Union defenders, the Confederates fully expected to retake Helena; however, their own errors, along with the strong Federal fortifications, made victory unattainable.

Because the roads leading into Helena had been barricaded with felled trees, the Confederates, unprepared for this obstructionist tactic, left their artillery behind. Another costly Confederate mistake was a misunderstanding among the subordinate generals as to the exact hour to begin the attack. Poor communications and poor timing hampered the Confederates throughout the morning.

Though three of the original batteries have been lost to urbanization during the last century, one remains intact. Battery D, the southernmost fortification, looks much the same today as it did when soldiers lost their lives in trying to keep or gain possession of it.

Like Batteries A, B, and C, Battery D consisted of earthen fortifications on a hilltop overlooking one of the roads leading into Helena. A series of rifle entrenchments were constructed down the steep hillside in front of Battery D, with a timber abattis lying in front of the first rifle pit. Located atop Hindman Hill, Battery D controlled the road leading into Helena from Little Rock. Colonel





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Phillips	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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Significance (Page 3 - Continued)

William E. McLean commanded the Union defenders of Battery D, consisting of troops from Indiana with reinforcements from Missouri and Iowa.

The Battle of Helena commenced with the Rebel attack on Battery D. At daybreak Confederate Arkansas troops under the command of Brigadier General James F. Fagan began their assault on Hindman Hill. After rushing the first rifle pits, the Rebels made a slow but steady climb up the fortified hill. During their hard fought ascent, Fagan's brigade was continually under fire from Union forces in both Batteries D and C. The Confederate commander attacking Battery C misunderstood his orders and waited until sunrise, rather than daylight, to begin his assault. In the meantime, the unhampered guns of Battery C were taking a terrible toll among the Confederate ranks attacking Battery D.

Later in the morning, after the fourth tier of rifle pits had been taken, General Fagan ordered a brief respite for his weary troops. At this point Brigadier General Dandridge McRae led about 200 Rebel troops from the late but successful attack on Battery C to aid in the assault on Battery D. Attacking from Fagan's left flank, McRae's men drew the Union fire from Battery D long enough for Fagan's direct assault to take the last line of rifle pits. As the withering Yankee fire quickly dissolved McRae's attack, Fagan ordered a charge in the final and desperate attempt to take Battery D. However, with the Union guns again focused on Fagan's Arkansas brigade, the Rebel thrust was stopped, and the troops were forced to take cover in the captured Union rifle pits.

While the Battery D guns kept Fagan's men pinned down, orders came from General Holmes to withdraw, and the message was passed verbally through the Confederate lines. Thinking all his men had received the word, General Fagan issued a prearranged signal to retreat; however, about 240 men in an isolated ravine never received the order. As the main force abandoned the area, this group of soldiers was surrounded by Union troops and taken prisoner.

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE <u>Arkansas</u>	
COUNTY <u>Phillips</u>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
<b>SEP 17 1974</b>	

(Number all entries)

Significance (Page 4 - Continued)

The strong fortifications of Battery D protected the Union forces well, as demonstrated by the number of casualties. While 47 were killed and 115 wounded among the attacking Confederates, only five were killed and ten wounded behind the Union earthworks. General Prentiss met superior Confederate numbers with well-constructed defenses.

Besides being representative of Civil War earthworks, the site is also important as visible evidence of the Battle of Helena. On July 4, 1863, Battery D exemplified the fate of the Confederacy and the future of the Union.





PROPERTY

Battery - D

Phillips Co. STATE

Arkansas

WORKING NUMBER

6.26.74.1021

TECH REVIEW

PHOTOS

1

MAPS

1

74000489

CONTROL REVIEW

*Long Street*

am

6.26.

74

HISTORIAN

OK  
Accept  
W.E. Line  
8/15/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept  
Haglund  
8/15/74

ARCHEOLOGIST

Site of a small engagement important  
on a state level of significance.Accept  
M. Barnes  
23 Jul 74

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept  
Cole  
9/12/74

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Accept  
Herrington  
for Maritz  
9.13.74

National Register Write-up

11/13/74

Send-back

Federal Register entry

11/5/74

Re-submit

Entered

SEP 17 1974







Arkansas  
Phillips County  
Battery D  
Facing East

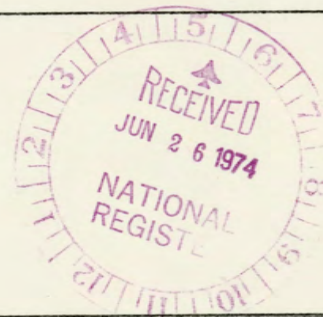
FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

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

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

<b>1. NAME</b>		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Battery "D"	Hindman Hill	SEP 17 1974
<b>2. LOCATION</b>		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Arkansas	Phillips	Helena
STREET AND NUMBER		
Military Road		
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
John Connaway	February 1974	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Facing East.





**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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

**1. NAME**

COMMON

Battery D

AND/OR HISTORIC

Hindman Hill

NUMERIC CODE *(Assigned by NPS)*

SEP 17 1974

**2. LOCATION**

STATE

Arkansas

COUNTY

Phillips

TOWN

Helena

STREET AND NUMBER

Military Road

**3. MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE

U.S.G. S. Map, Latour,  
Arkansas, 15 minutes

DATE

1961

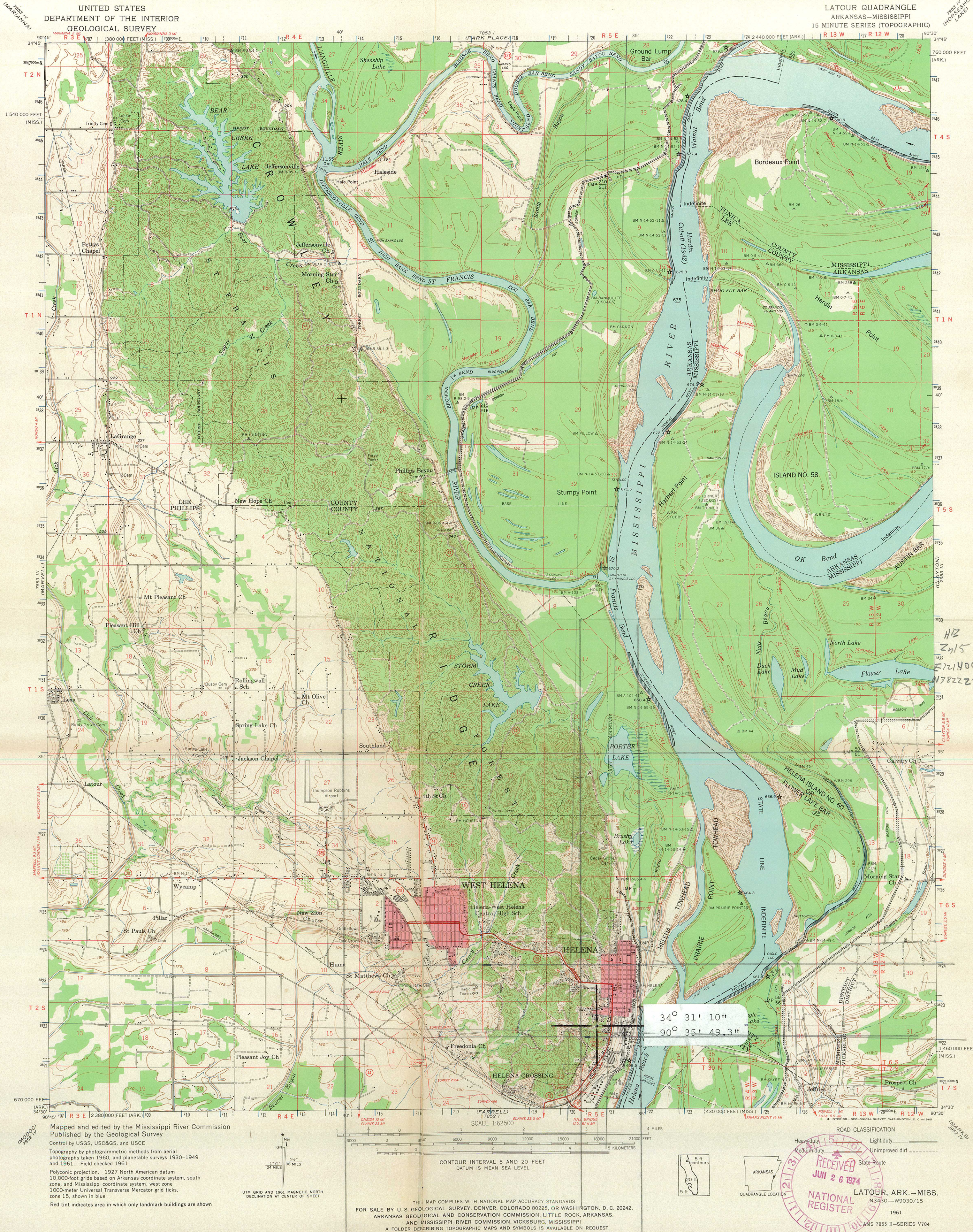
SCALE

1:62,500

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW:









# ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

1024 WEST THIRD STREET LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201 501 374-0375



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

June 18, 1974



Dr. William Murtagh  
Keeper of the National Register  
United States Department of the  
Interior  
National Parks Service  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Attached are National Register Nominations for the following properties:

12

Battery D  
Chalk Bluff  
Major James A. Tappan House  
Short-Bieri House  
Gregg House  
Cox House  
Moose House  
HalliBurton House  
Estevan House  
Almer Store  
Goodlett ~~Ginre~~  
Arkansas State Capitol

These nominations have been approved by the majority of the State Review Committee.

Sincerely,

William E. Henderson  
State Historic Preservation  
Officer

WEH:cm

Enclosures



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      ARKANSAS

Date Entered      SEP 17 1974

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Gregg House	Fayetteville Washington County
Battery D	Helena Phillips County

Also Notified

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

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

PR      MMott/row      9/20/74