Form No. 10-300 (Rev. 10-74)

DATE

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

STATE

RECEIVED DEG 2 9 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HO TYPE ALL ENTRIES	W TO COMPLETE NATION S COMPLETE APPLICAB		S	
NAME .		and the Hereitenberg	0.6	
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Alexander House				
AND/OR COMMON	sees which is sufferned		La mari	
LOCATION	a white the same was	in the same extension of		
STREET & NUMBER N of Scott	to october and all the			
Route 1, Box 298		NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTR	UCT	
Scott	X VICINITY OF	Second		
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE	
Arkansas	05	Lonoke	085	
CATEGORY DISTRICT X_BUILDING(S) STRUCTURE SITE OBJECT OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNERSHIP PUBLIC XPRIVATE BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITE IN PROCESS BEING CONSIDERED	STATUS XOCCUPIED LUNOCCUPIED WORK IN PROGRESS ACCESSIBLE YES: RESTRICTED YES: UNRESTRICTED NO	PRES _AGRICULTURE _COMMERCIAL _EDUCATIONAL _ENTERTAINMENT _GOVERNMENT _INDUSTRIAL _MILITARY	ENT USE MUSEUMPARK X_PRIVATE RESIDERRELIGIOUSSCIENTIFICTRANSPORTATIOOTHER:	
NAME Mr. W. G. Alexander				
STREET & NUMBER				
Route 1, Box 298				
CITY, TOWN		STATE	-144	
Scott <u>x</u> VICINITY OF		Arkansas		
LOCATION OF LEGAL DES	CRIPTION	his and the and the	receive the	
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC. Circuit Cl	erk's Office			
STREET & NUMBER	ntu Counthau	class to the property was a		
CITY, TOWN	nty Courthouse	STATE		
Lonoke				
TOTIONE		Arkansas	5	



CONDITION

X_EXCELLENT

_GOOD __FAIR

_DETERIORATED

RUINS __UNEXPOSED **CHECK ONE**

_UNALTERED XALTERED

CHECK ONE

X ORIGINAL SITE _MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed c. 1835, the Alexander House, located near Scott, Arkansas, is a one-and-one-half-storey structure constructed of solid, hand-hewn cypress logs and sheathed in narrow white clapboard. The house is rectangular in shape, with one-storey additions on the rear elevation.

The Alexander House is topped by a gable roof from which extend three dormers on the facade and one on the rear elevation. Double-hung windows feature simple surrounds and are flanked by shutters.

The facade is well-balanced in its spacing of dormers and windows. A large gabled dormer with paired windows extends from the roof in the center of the facade. This dormer is flanked by two small, flat-roofed dormers. All three dormers are covered in wide clapboard. In the center of the facade is a one-storey, flat-roofed porch. This porch is supported by four square, wooden columns with Doric capitals. Pilasters resembling the columns flank the centered entry. The entry features double doors flanked by sidelights and topped by a fanlight in a webb-like pattern.

A large dormer projects from the rear elevation. This dormer features a gable roof and two double-hung windows. One-storey additions to the rear are also covered in narrow clapboard and utilize the same features as the main body of the house, such as Doric-capital pilasters.

The interior plan of the Alexander House includes center halls, upstairs and downstairs, connected by a single-flight stairway. Two rooms are on each side of each hallway, upstairs and downstairs. The stairway features a square newel-post and turned balusters. Interior door and window trim is heavily molded and features corner blocks.

Originally the Alexander House featured a porch which spanned the width of the facade. This porch was supported by delicate, turned posts. Prior to 1910, the roof of the house supported only two large dormers, one on the facade and one on the rear.

In 1910 the kitchen and dining room, which were connected to the house by a walkway, burned. Also destroyed in this fire was a sleeping porch on the south elevation. The fire brought about a remodeling of the house. The two small dormers were added, and the porch on the facade was changed. Additions were made onto the rear elevation. Also during the remodeling, the architect in charge changed the plain, double front entry to the elaborate present entry having sidelights and fanlight. The interior walls and floors of the main body of the house retain the original handhewn logs; however the covering over these logs has recently been changed. The old coverings were removed, and wood-grain paneling now covers most of the walls, and hardwood covers the floors.

The Alexander House remains in excellent condition and is carefully maintained by the present owners. Resting on its original site, the Alexander House is a significant local landmark.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	*AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	*ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
X_1800-1899	COMMERCE	X_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
X_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRYINVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES C. 1835 Chas. said writer BUILDER/ARCHITECT as 1910 house . See Control what

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Alexander House is a one-and-one-half storey structure constructed of hand-hewn cypress logs. The house is sheathed in white clapboard and features a gable roof, from which extend three dormers on the facade and one on the rear elevation. The symmetrical facade is marked by a centered one-storey flat-roofed porch. The original part of the house consists of a wide center-hall flanked by two rooms on each side, this same arrangement for both the upstairs and downstairs. It is architecturally significant as representative of a gracious southern country home.

Constructed c. 1835, the house stands near the community of Scott, Arkansas, about twelve miles southeast of Little Rock. The house was constructed by Chester Ashley, who was one of the most important men in the history of Arkansas. Ashley was a landowner, a widely known lawyer and a United States Senator from Arkansas, 1844-1848. He owned much of the land in Scott and maintained the house as his country home. For many years the estate was called "Ashley Mill Plantation." Ashley's association with the house is an important aspect of its significance.

Chester Ashley was one of the most important figures in the history of Arkansas. Born in Amherst, Massachusetts, on June 1, 1791, Ashely grew up in Hudson, New York. He graduated from Williams College in 1813 and attended Litchfield Law School. Ashley completed law studies in the office of Elisha Williams at Hudson, New York.

At the age of twenty-seven, Chester Ashley moved to Edwardsville, Illinois, and set up a law office. From Illinois he moved to St. Louis, where he met William Russell, a well-known land speculator. In 1819 Ashley moved to Little Rock. He soon became involved in land litigation involving the capitol's being moved from Arkansas Post to Little Rock. Chester Ashley is often referred to as the "father of Little Rock," due to the fact that he acquired the title to much of the land on which the town was built. He also advised his clients in both Arkansas and Missouri to their financial advantage and was known as the best lawyer in either state. In the process he became a very wealthy man.

For a few years Ashley was in a law partnership with Robert Crittenden, Secretary of the Territory of Arkansas. Ashley became one of the most prominent and influential members of the Bar in the Territory of Arkansas. In 1844 he was elected to the United States Senate, where he became

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Alexander, Davidson and George families. Documents collected by Mrs. J. B. Dietz, Little Rock, Arkansas. Alexander, Mrs. Robert. Interview at Scott, Arkansas, October 28, 1975. Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. William George. Personal interview at the Alexander House, Scott, Arkansas, October 27, 1975. Dietz, Mrs. J. B. Personal interview, Little Rock, Arkansas, November 15, 1975. 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre **UTM REFERENCES** 5 8 3 17 0 0 VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE CODE COUNTY CODE CODE COUNTY CODE STATE FORM PREPARED BY NAME / TITLE Sandra Taylor, Historian DATE ORGANIZATION Arkansas Historic Preservation Program 12-9-75 STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE 300 West Markham 501-371-1639 CITY OR TOWN STATE Little Rock Arkansas 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS: LOCAL V STATE NATIONAL __ As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer FOR NPS USE ONLY I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE ACTION DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DATE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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DATE ENTERED

JUN 18 1976

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

chairman of a judiciary committee. He was reelected to the Senate in 1846 and served until his death on April 29, 1848.

After the death of Ashley, the Ashely Plantation changed hands many times before it was taken over by Watt Worthen, who owned it for about ten years. Arthur Lee Alexander was the next owner, taking possession of the property in 1898.

Arthur Lee Alexander was born in Ashville, North Carolina, on December 27, 1867. His ancestors, the Davidsons, came from England in 1663. The Davidsons were given land-grants in payment for fighting in the Revolutionary War. Davidson County, North Carolina, and Davidson College in North Carolina are named for the same family.

Arthur L. Alexander came to Arkansas in 1889 with three Alexander cousins, Charles, James and Dave. They settled twelve miles southeast of Little Rock at Scott. For several years Arthur L. Alexander was a bookkeeper on the Fred Bryson Plantation.

On November 10, 1897, Arthur Lee Alexander married Otelia George, who was born at Reads Landing, Arkansas. Like her husband, Otelia Alexander came from a distinguished lineage. The George family came from Germany in 1786. The family were wealthy merchants in Germany and, upon their settlement in Little Rock in 1833, again became successful businessmen.

Strongly encouraged by his wife, Arthur Alexander purchased the Ashley Mill Plantation and took possession the first week of December, 1898. It was through the unique verbal persuasiveness of Otelia Alexander that the purchase was brought about. At the time of the purchase Arthur Alexander had only \$100 in cash.

Otelia Alexander was a woman of driving energy. In addition to raising a family of five children, she was involved in many constructive activities. Her work on the Penitentiary Board led to her appointment to the National Board of Prison Workers. She organized the Woman's Exchange of Little Rock, which was supported by the Catholic Church of the Diocese of Arkansas. This organization formed a means for the elderly and underpriviledged to market their goods. For two years Mrs. Alexander served on the staff of the Arkansas Gazette.

Arthur Lee Alexander ran a cypress mill, grew cotton and raised livestock. He was a man of great drive and quickly achieved national prominence as an innovator of new farming ideas. He was imbued with the desire to

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PAGE 2

improve the condition of those who worked for and with him. At the time he took control of his plantation, the commissary system was a widely accepted practice. Alexander is reported to have been the first plantation owner in Arkansas to do away with this system. This provided for a much more stable local economy.

Arthur L. Alexander was responsible for the formation of the Scott Cotton Growers Association, the first cotton co-operative association formed in the United States. Alexander's progressive and scientific farming methods brought spectacular results. Many officials of the United States Department of Agriculture came to Scott to study his methods.

Arthur Lee Alexander died December 7, 1938, in Scott. The eldest of the five Alexander children now resides in the house and farms the plantation. This son, William George Alexander, was born Decmeber 13, 1898. Before assuming his farming career, he was appointed to and attended the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.

Thus, the historic Alexander House is representative of the history of two men whose contributions ranged from local to national significance. Ashely's activities ranged from Little Rock landowner to United States Senator. Alexander was both community leader and agricultural innovator on a nation-wide scale.

And, on top of this historical importance, the Alexander House has its own architectural significance. Resting among the trees on beautifully landscaped grounds, the Alexander House is the epitome of gracious Southern living.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

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Terry, Adolphine Fletcher. Charlotte Stephens, Little Rock's First
Black Teacher. Little Rock: Academic Press of Arkansas, 1973.

askley-	Lonoice Co.
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	Legowich
	1-28-76
	ARCHEOLOGIST
	OTHER
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	Inventory
	Review
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	ACCEPT
	Accept Cole 4128/76
	BRANCH CHIEF
Just be with who	KEEPER
a 1910 house not 1835	Hung
a 1910 house, not 1835	5.3.76
National Register Write-up Send-back	Entered JUN 18 1976
Federal Register Entry 8-3-74 Re-submit	INT:2106-74



1. Alexander HOUSE LONOKE COUNTY, ALKANSAS FACADE, VIEWED From the WEST

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7'+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

JUN 1 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC A

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

Scott

PHOTO CREDIT

Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET Facade, viewed from the west.

РНОТО NO.

1 45

the west



2. ALEXANDER HOUSE LONOKE COUNTY, ACKANSAS
NORTH ELEVATION, VIEWED From the North

> Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED

JUN 1 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Scott

VICINITY OF

Lonoke

Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET north elevation, viewed from the north

PHOTO NO.

245



3. ALEXANDER HOUSE LONOKE COUNTY, ATKANSAS SOUTH ELEVATION, VIEWED From the South

> Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED JUN 1 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

Askley-

HISTORIC

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Scott

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Lonoke

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET south elevation, viewed from the south

3 M

from Douth.



4. ALEXANDER HOUSE
LONDEE COUNTY, ARKANSAS
STAIRWAY IN CENTER HALL

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7.)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTO OR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED JUN 1 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH _____

1 NAME

Ashley -

HISTORIC

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Scott

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Lonoke

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

A IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET stairway in center hall

4 45

Loc. Hall



5. ALEXANDER HOUSE
LONOKE COUNTY, ARKANSHS
CEN

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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RECEIVED DEC 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED

JUN 1 8 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

Aphley-

HISTORIC

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Scott

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Lonoke

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Sandra Taylor

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET center hall, note entry and door moldings

5 of 5

entry and door

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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DATE ENTERED

JUN 18 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

Ashley-

HISTORIC

Alexander House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Scott

__VICINITY OF

county Lonoke

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey

SCALE

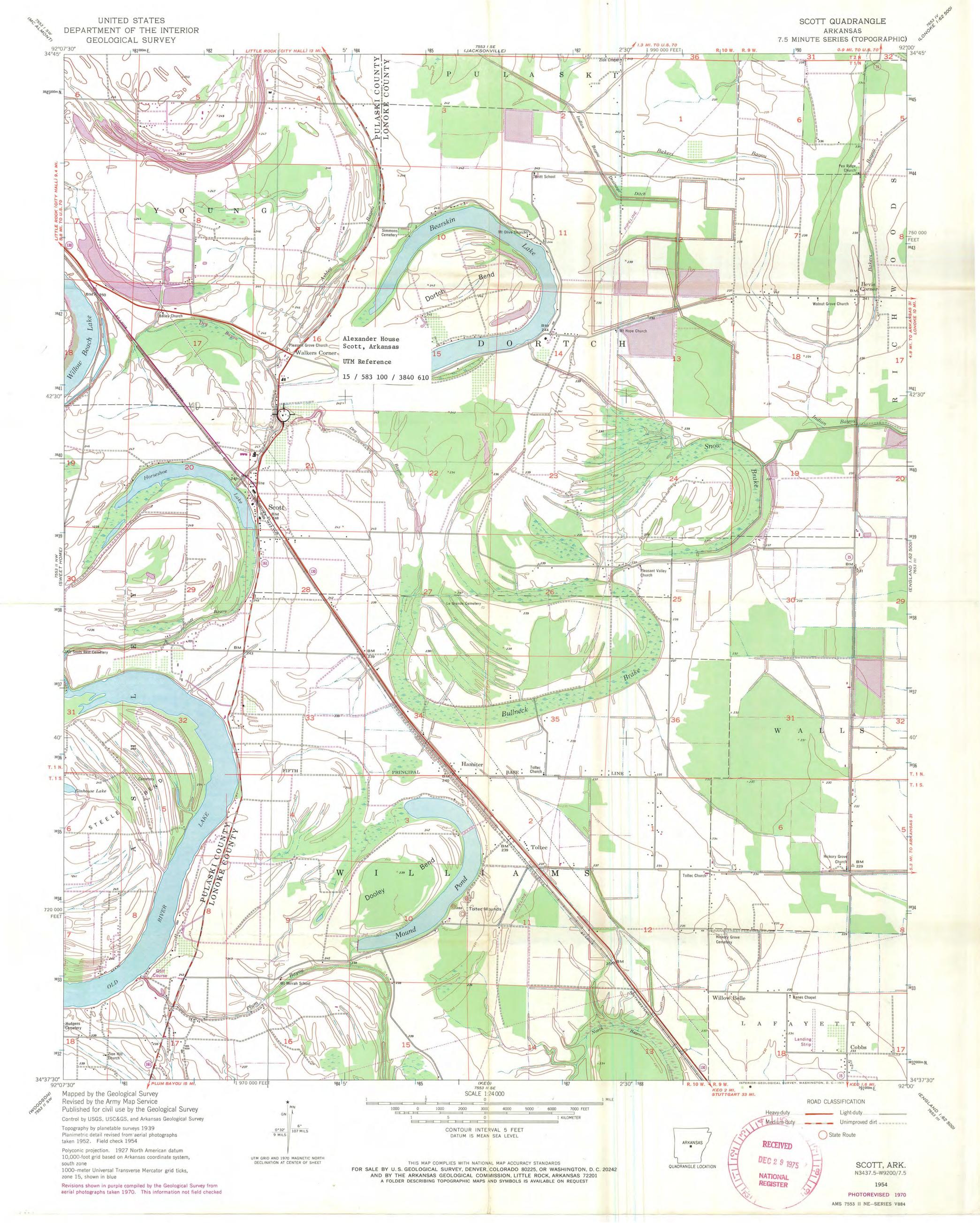
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DATE 1954 (photorevised 1970)

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered JUN 18 1976

Name

Location

Ashley-Alexander House

Scott Vicinity Lonoke County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan Hon. Dale Bumpers Hon. Wilbur D. Mills

cc: Regional Director, Southwest Region

PR:MMott:cam:6/29/76

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director, Department of Natural
and Cultural Heritage
The Old State House
300 West Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

MANA	TION	JAL I	REGI	STER	DAT	TA S	HIEROR
1 NAME as it a	Alcyander t	register:	(®)	OTHER NAMES:			3 day of entry: (4) county code: 085
SLOCATION S	treet & number	eity	/ town	Scott	LAR L	COUNTY	6NPS REGION:
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	TER HISTORIC DISTRICT?		IN NATIONAL HISTORIC LI		(SS) ACRE	ARE . If	state who prepared form?
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BACCESS XYES	S-Restricted YES-L	Inrestricted No Acco	ess Unknown 19	ADAPTIVE USE YES TO	SAVED? TYES	IS PROPERTY	A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes
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Tunctions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNI CURRENTLY:	style(s):		@architect	dates of initial construct major alterations: 1910 - historic events:	entry alteration		ASSOCIATION association
Georgian Pandscape arch	evival elemen	igner: minterior	decorator:	artist:	33 artisan:	3 build	der/contractor:
MAMES give role & date PERSONAL: Chester Ashley- prominent landowner, lawyer & State Senator —) original owner EVENTS: Log construction, MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP, Frame, clapboarding; 1½ stories, rectangular, gabled roof with dormers, interior							
chimneys, g	lazed front ce	enter entrance	with semielli	ptical famigut a	nd sidelights	, 1-story te	trastyle entrance por- entryway and interior
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