

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 6 1985  
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Benjamin Franklin Henley House

and or common

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication

city, town St. Joe X vicinity of

state Arkansas code 05 county Searcy code 129

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Wordna Allen

street & number Parkview Apartments - Apt. A

city, town St. Joe vicinity of state Arkansas 72675

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Searcy County Courthouse

street & number Courtsquare

city, town Marshall state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The house built by local craftsmen for Benjamin Franklin Henley and his family, located approximately one mile northeast of St. Joe, Arkansas, represents two primary periods of construction. The eastern portion, consisting of a room and a half room of braced-frame construction, was built c. 1870. About 1876, a nearly identical room and a half room were constructed and connected to the original house by an open breezeway or dogtrot and delineated by an impressive porch added at the same time. The roof is a combination of gable and shed types, almost becoming an example of a saltbox style. It features an unusual arrangement of an interior end chimney on the east gable and exterior end chimney on the west gable. The house sits on hand hewn log sleepers which are, in turn, supported by a native stone foundation.

The facade of the Henley house, which faces north, is symmetrical. Double doors with oval windows, salvaged from a c. 1908 house and added c. 1944, provide entry into a central hallway or the original passageway between the c. 1870 and c. 1876 portions of the house. A double transom sits over the doorway. The doors are sheltered by a massive, one bay porch erected c. 1876 when the dogtrot was constructed and apparently inspired by some local conception of Greek Revival architecture. The original upper portions of two square posts support the gable porch roof. The lower post portions were replaced with the c. 1944 restoration. Balustrades which extend from the columns to meet the facade also replaced original balusters. Centered in the east side of the facade, the original one-and-one-half pen constructed c. 1870, is a wider-than-normal door. The original entrance to the dwelling, it is hand-made and fastened together with wooden pegs, as are all the doors in this first portion of the house. The exterior doorway is flanked by two narrow 4/4 windows. The west end of the facade, constructed c. 1876, is identical except for a more usual sized doorway, non-functional since c. 1960. Sided with the original, narrow clapboards attached with hand-cut square nails, the facade, except for the enclosed breezeway, is virtually unchanged from that presented in a c. 1894 photograph.

The eastern elevation is relatively bare, with a narrow original window on the southern half, opening into the rear or half room or the c. 1870 construction. On the western elevation, the exterior end chimney rises through the gable peak. Two windows bracket the chimney, with a third located about midway between the chimney and the southern corner of this facade.

The alterations which accompanied the c. 1944 restoration are most evident on the southern, or rear, elevation. Shed additions of unequal length extend from the rear, though both are offset from the corners of the house. On the east and west ends of the rear elevation, original windows are retained between the sheds and the corners. The western shed is a porch, enclosed to half its height by narrow clapboards and screened for the remainder of its height. The eastern shed is enclosed by siding of varying types and widths, with modern windows inserted. Both additions are supported on approximately four foot high wooden pilings.

In addition to the house, a large barn is the only surviving outbuilding. Sheathed with wide oak boards, it was constructed c. 1910.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** c. 1870

**Builder/Architect** Benjamin F. Henley-Builder

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Henley house represents a traditional dwelling which evolved over a relatively brief period of time to reflect the fortunes and prosperity of its original owner. Major alterations were completed by c. 1876. The original construction forms and materials are well represented and substantially unaltered. Although it was not markedly unusual or uncommon when constructed, the Henley house survives as a virtually intact representative of middle-class prosperity and achievement in post-Civil War Arkansas.

Constructed as a room and a half room c. 1870, the small frame house with an interior end chimney was actually the second house built for the family of Benjamin Franklin Henley. Following the Civil War, Henley, originally from Mansfield, Arkansas, and a veteran of an Arkansas Union cavalry unit, returned from Missouri with wife, Martha Delilah McNair. They settled in St. Joe Valley, Searcy County, adjacent to her family's original homesite. The McNair family, also Union sympathizers, had left Searcy County during the war and settled in Missouri for the duration of hostilities.

The frame dwelling followed the new Henley family's original homestead, a log cabin constructed near the site of the Henley house and subsequently abandoned. As was the custom, as Henley's fortunes improved and his family grew, he expanded his house. Henley served or was employed as, variously, a store-keeper, cotton factor, banker, and county official. To accommodate his rising status and expanded stature, as well as thirteen children, a frame one and one-half room addition was constructed c. 1876. It was identical to the original except for the size of the doors and the location of the exterior end chimney. An open breezeway or dogtrot connected the two sides, which shared a common gable and shed roof. At the same time the addition and dogtrot were constructed, an imposing porch, a rural interpretation of Colonial elegance and prestige, was extended from the passageway.

During a brief, well-defined period, therefore, the Henley house grew from an inelegant, one and one-half room frame dwelling into a version of rural pretention and economic and social success. The original construction and growth of the house from c. 1870 to c. 1876 were defined by the period of reconstruction and were initiated by the original owner in response to and as a measure of his prosperity. With the exception of the minor and non-intrusive c. 1944 alterations, the Henley house retains the integrity and character which Benjamin Franklin Henley intended it to convey.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property approximately four acres

Quadrangle name St. Joe, Arkansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>15</u>	<u>519230</u>	<u>3987920</u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

B	<u>15</u>	<u>519280</u>	<u>3987880</u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

C	<u>15</u>	<u>519360</u>	<u>3987940</u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

D	<u>15</u>	<u>519320</u>	<u>3987980</u>
Zone	Easting	Northing	

E			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

F			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

G			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

H			
Zone	Easting	Northing	

Verbal boundary description and justification The boundary of nominated property is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked and situated as follows: A) 15 519230 3987920; B) 15 519280 3987880 C) 15 519360 3987940, D) 15 519320 3987980, area inclusive of largest known extent of cultural materials.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wordna Allen ; Edited by Arkansas Historic Preservation Program staff

organization none

date October 22, 1985

street & number Parkview Apartments - Apt. A

telephone

city or town St. Joe, AR 72675

state Arkansas

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

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 has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

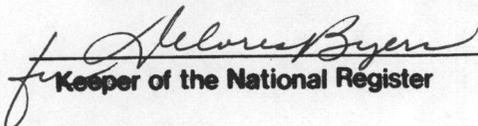


title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 10-28-85

For NPS use only

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

  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 12-5-85

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Bishop, A. W. Loyalty On The Frontier.

Congressional Papers, 39th Congress, Second Session, Miscellaneous Senate Documents,  
Document 53, p. 79.

Goodspeed, Ozark Reminiscences.

Harrison, LaRue, "The Arkansas 'Federal Scouts' or 'Mountain Fed'," The Journal of  
Southern History.

Tatum, Georgia Lee. Disloyalty in the Confederacy.

Worley, Ted R. "The Arkansas Peace Society of 1861: A Study in Mountain Unionism,"  
The Journal of Southern History, Vol. XXIV, February - November 1958, 445-456.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

85003070

Henley, Benjamin Franklin, House  
Searcy County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. NOV 6 1985  
Fed. Reg. Date 2/3/84  
Date Due: 12/5/85 - 12/21/85  
Action: ACCEPT 12-5-85  
Entered in the RETURN  
National Register REJECT \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance *(in one paragraph)*

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

**11. Form Prepared By**

**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August 1984  
Negative on file at the AHPP  
Viewed from the northeast



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August 1984  
Negative on file at AHPP  
Viewed from north



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
Viewed from the northwest



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
Viewed from the southwest



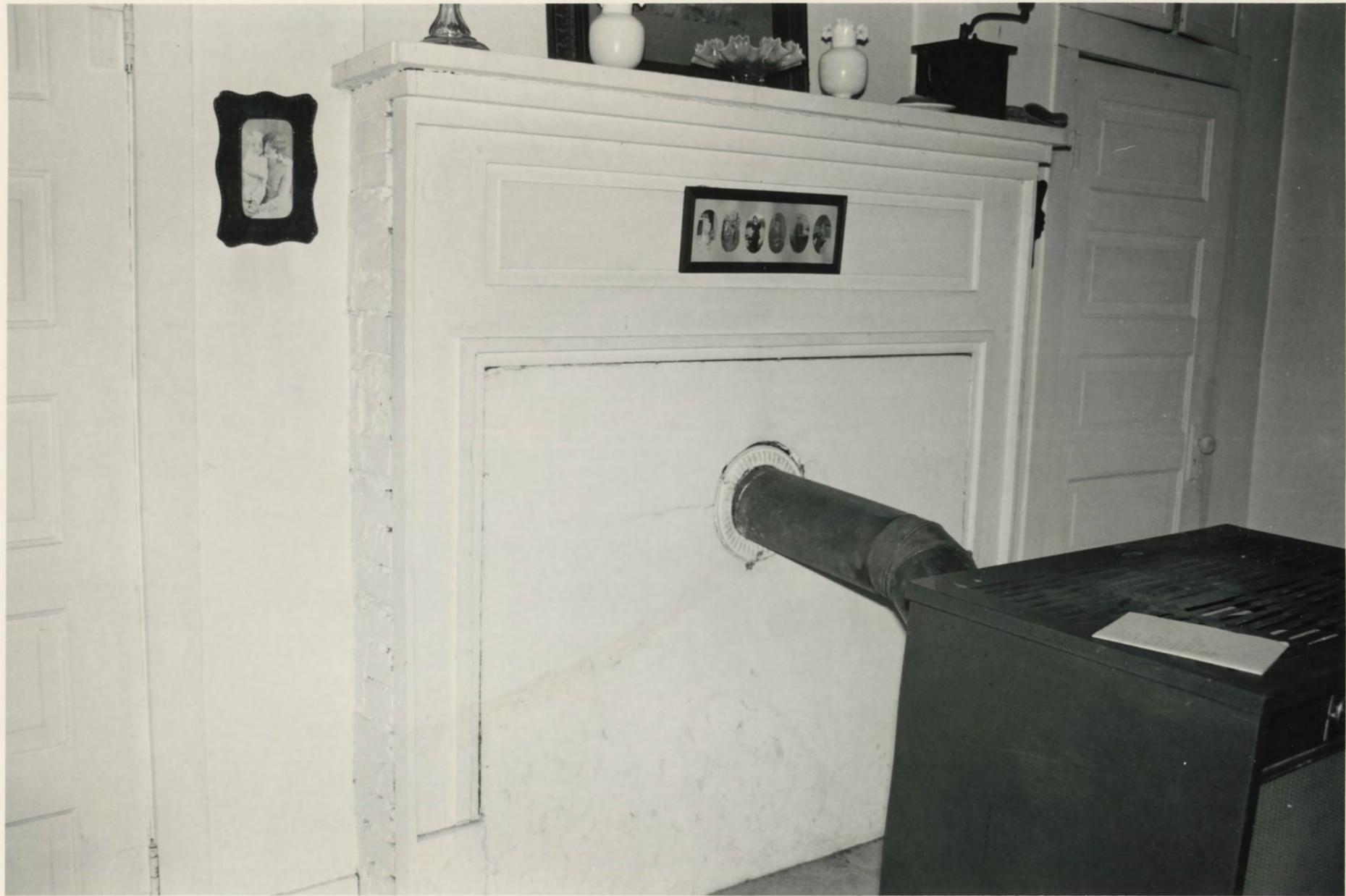
Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
Viewed from the east



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, phtographer  
August 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
Viewed from the south



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August, 1984  
Negatives on file at AHPP  
west parlor



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August, 1984  
Negatives on file at AHPP  
east parlor



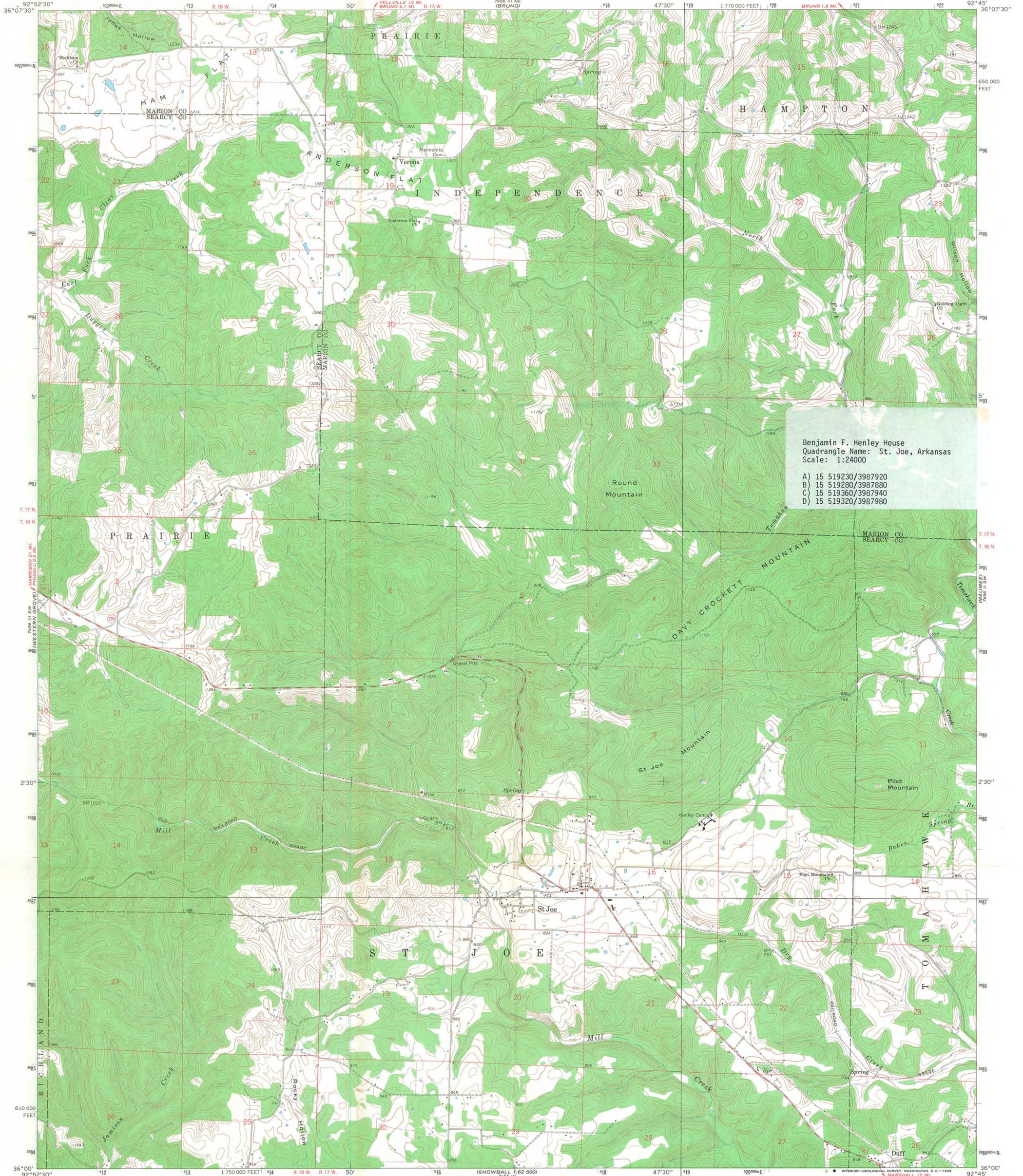
Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August, 1984  
Negatives on file at AHPP  
entry hall



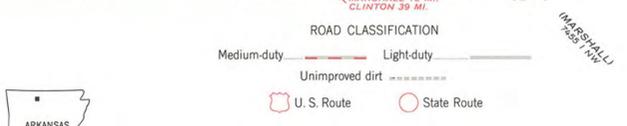
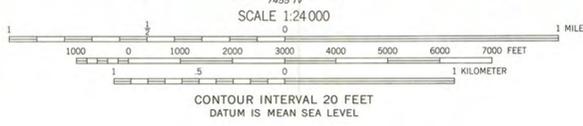
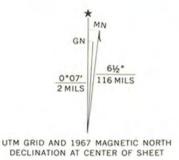
Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August, 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
barn viewed from east



Henley House  
St. Joe, Searcy County  
A. Jones, photographer  
August, 1984  
Negatives on file at the AHPP  
barn interior



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1964. Field checked 1967  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ST. JOE, ARK.  
N3600—W9245/7.5



ARKANSAS  
HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
PROGRAM

October 25, 1985

Carol D. Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
1100 "L" Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Re: Benjamin F. Henley House  
St. Joe, AR  
Searcy County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Benjamin F. Henley House. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles  
State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/do

Enclosure/s



NOV 6 1985