Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE: Arkansas

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The following is extracted from the report Historic Buildings of RECENTION Arkansas, by A. Edwin Kendrew, James R. Short, Henry A. Judd and John L. Ferguson. This report resulted from a tour, made by the men listed above to visit historic sites and structures in Arkansas, in October of 1968 The tour was made at the request of Governor Winthrop Rockefeller.

Potts Inn

"We were much impressed and pleased to see such a fine example of mid-nineteenth-century construction on an imposing site and in such a fine state of preservation. The fact that the descendants of the original builder have continued to live in the house to the present time has resulted in better care than usually befalls such a structure.

An inspection of the exterior of the main house made it obvious that this structure was a close counterpart of similar structures built in the 1820's and 1830's in the Piedmont Valley of Virginia and Kentucky. This close similarity made it obvious that Mr. Potts wished to have a house equal to the finer houses being built in the years preceding its construction.

Perhaps the most outstanding features are the four enormous outside chimneys, three of which were of brick construction and one of local stone. The last was extremely well built and presented a handsome appearance, although it was rather puzzling why one chimney would have been made of stone and the others of brick. It was interesting to note also that the stone chimney had a method of construction quite similar to that used largely in the northern part of Arkansas. It seemed to the committee that this chimney could serve as an example of the type of masonry construction prevalent in this area and that it might serve as a good prototype when repairing or constructing chimneys of this kind elsewhere.

We were told that formerly there were numerous outbuildings on the lot, including stables, coach-houses, lumber houses, corn cribs, milk houses, cooling houses, etc. Only two of these remain: a small log structure which might have been a corn crib and appeared to have been built with materials salvaged from other buildings; the well, under a canopy, had a very interesting windlass arrangement for raising the bucket, which might have dated back to the original period, although parts of the structure beside and over the well apparently had been rebuilt in later years.

The breezeway to the outside kitchen is also of later construction, but could be removed. Although the old kitchen has suffered more alterations than other parts of the house, most of the original elements seem to be there.

(See Continuation Sheet)

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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7. DESCRIPTION, CONT'D

Inspection of the interior revealed the house to be of unusually large proportions, and the four-square plan, with rooms approximately twenty feet square, separated by a generous-sized hallway and stairway, indicated a desire on the part of the original builder to not only provide ample space for his family but to erect a structure that would be a credit to his community and would reflect the success which he apparently met with in the gold fields of California. We were also pleased to see that almost all of the original features of the house were intact and that there had been very little alteration in the general size of the rooms. Furthermore, the installation of gas for heat, and electric wiring, had been made in an exposed manner which did not destroy any of the original construction--as is so often the case. These installations, and the few alterations which had been made, could easily be removed, so that the original condition of the house could be easily restored."



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)	
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TATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Potts' Home is one of the best preserved ante-bellum structures in Arkansas. This fine example of pioneer architecture has stood for over a hundred years as a tribute to its builder, Kirkbride Potts.

Kirkbride Potts was born and educated in Pennsylvania. He went to Missouri as a youth. He lived there for a few years and then came to Arkansas in 1828. He bought 160 acres of land from the United States as soon as this land in the Arkansas Territory was open for settlement. This was made possible by a treaty with the Cherokees in 1828. The land on which the present house now stands has been in the Potts family for 151 years. A Potts has always lived in the home.

When Potts came to Arkansas he built a two-story house for his bride, Permelia Allison Logan, on the 160 acres on Galla Creek at the foot of Crow Mountain.

Here he prospered and eleven children were born. He made three trips to California. The first in the Gold Rush, the later trips with herds of cattle. All trips seemed profitable and he decided after his first trip to build a more fitting home for his large family. Slaves cut timber and hauled it with oxen to Cagle's Mill, north of what is now Russellville, to be cut into timber. Slaves also made brick for the masonry and did most of the work of building. It required six years from the time the timber was cut until the building was completed. All lumber was dressed by hand and marks of the plane bits are still in evidence.

The Potts' House was on the Memphis to Fort Smith stage route and soon became one of the stops where the passengers could rest and be fed. This led to the building being called Potts' Inn, and the stop Pott's Station. A postoffice was established here with Kirkbride Potts as the postmaster. The first postoffice designation was Potts' Station, but this was later changed to Pottsville.

In 1873 the stage coach was replaced by a train whose tracks ran to the north of the old stagecoach route. In 1878 Kirkbride Potts died in the house which had been his pride.

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Arkansas History Commission, Thibault, Irene S., "Architecture: Pope County, Arkansas," MS, Federal Writers Project, 1939.

Turrentine, G. R., "Potts Station on Galla Creek." Arkansas Valley

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)	9.	Major	Bibliographical	References	(continued)

Weekly Tribune (Russellville, Arkansas), July 16, 1936, p. 3, "Pottsville Settler Recalls Town and County of 70 Years Ago."



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT INTERIOR NATIONAL PAR'

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

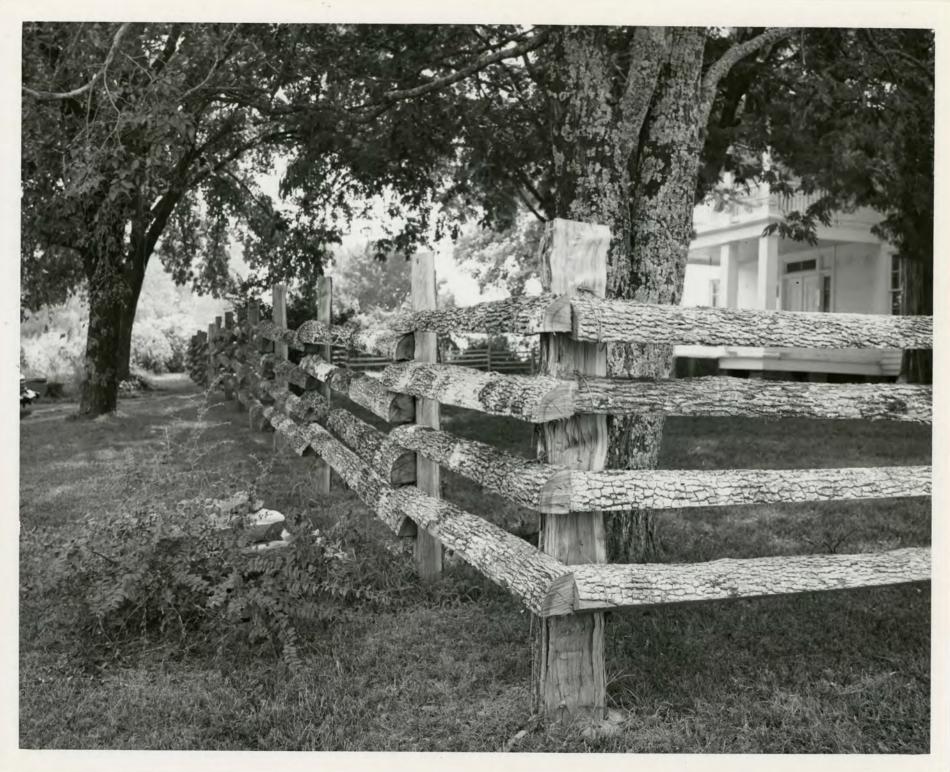
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Potts Inn
Pottsville, Pope County, Arkansas

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Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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Form 10-301 (July 1969)

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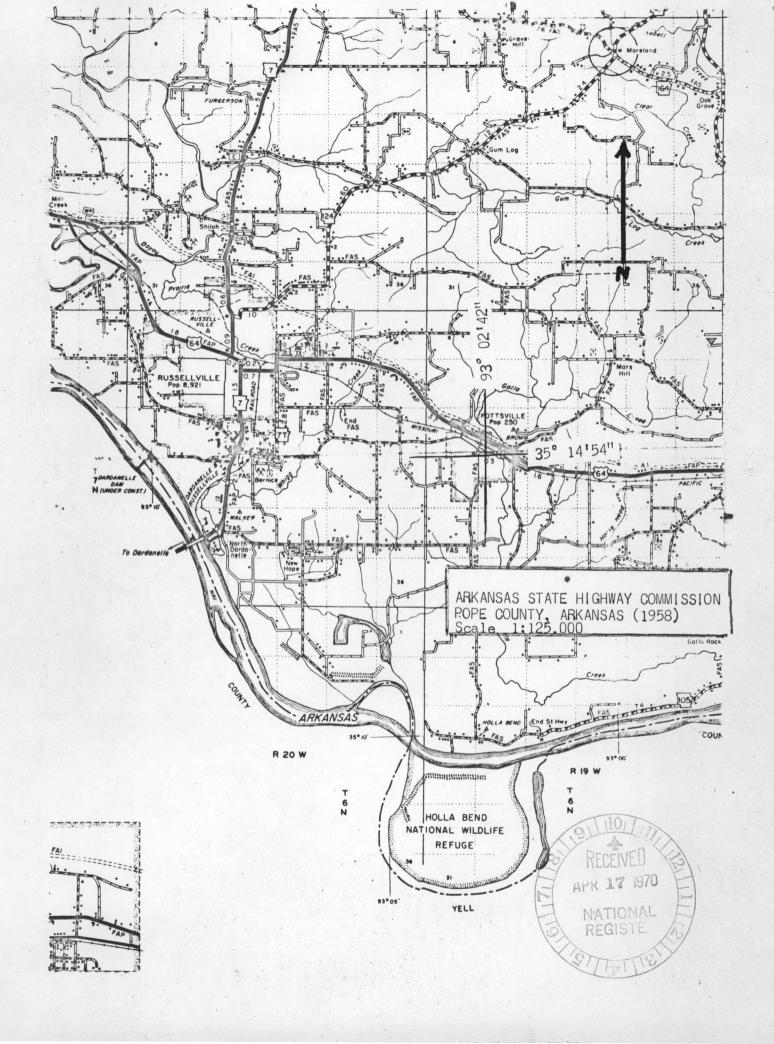
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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Form 10-301 (July 1969)

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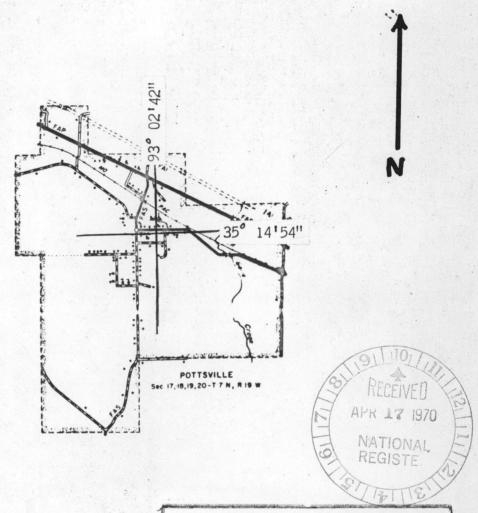
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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NO. 80

H30-HR

Dr. John M. Peterson Executive Director Arkansas Planning Commission Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

JUN 22 1970

Dear Dr. Peterson:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Senators John L. McClellan and J. W. Fulbright and the appropriate Representatives have also been notified. Please with-hold eny publicity on this until you have received a carbon copy of the Congressional correspondence.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

Ernest Allen Connelly Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Enclosure

JUN 22 1970

Entered in the National Register

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6/22/70

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Properties added to the National Register of Historical Places

ARKANSAS

Ten Mile House - Stagecoach House Pulaski County, Arkansas

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JUN 3 0 1970

Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hanmerschmidt:

We are pleased to inform you that Potts' Inn in Pottsville, Arkansas, has been nominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Program in Arkanses and has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senators John L. McClellan and J. W. Fulbright have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Dr. John M. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkansas Planning Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd) Thomas F. Flynn

Director DEPUTY

Enclosure

JUN 2 2 1970 Entered in the National Register

Dr. John M. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkansas Planning Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Director, Southeast Region

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Director, Southeast Region LL-Mr. Melvin JUN 3 0 1970

Hom. John L. McClellen United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senster McClellan:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been maximated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Estional. Historic Preservation Progress in Arkaneas and have been entered into the Bational Register of Historic Places. Senator J. W. Fulbright and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Dr. John H. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkaneas Planning Consission, Little Rock, Arkaneas 72201, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the Bational Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours.

(Sgd) Thomas F. Flynn

Director

DEPUTY

Declosures

Entered in the National Register

JUN 22 1970

ce:

Dr. John M. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkansas Flanning Commission, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Duplicate letter sent to:

Hon. J. W. Fulbright United States Senate Washington, D. C. Properties added to the National Register of Historical Places

ARKARGAS

Ten Mile House - Stagecoach House

Potts' Inn

Puleski County, Arkansas Pottsville, Arkansas