

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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SEP 08 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Center Cross School

other name/site number: FR0066

2. Location

street & number: County Road 95

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Altus

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Franklin code: AR 047 zip code: 72821

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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. _____ See continuation sheet.

Carolyn A. Byrd
Signature of certifying official

9-1-92
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

~~entered in the~~
National Register

☒ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
_____ other (explain): _____

Delores Byrd 10/8/92

for Signature of Keeper Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: RELIGION

Sub: Religious facility

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7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Weatherboard other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION

Period(s) of Significance: 1930-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Center Cross School is a single story, wood frame classroom building designed in the Plain Traditional style. Its symmetrical eastern facade belies the "L"-shaped plan behind; the ell projects from the western elevation opposite, at the southern end. Its most distinctive feature is the low, horizontal hipped roof and the hipped roof over the front porch that echoes that of the main building. All the roof surfaces are covered with asphalt shingles, the walls are sheathed with novelty siding, and the entire structure rests upon stone piers.

Elaboration

The Center Cross School is a single story, wood frame classroom building designed in the Plain Traditional style. Its symmetrical eastern facade belies the "L"-shaped plan behind; the ell projects from the western elevation opposite, at the southern end. Its most distinctive feature is the low, horizontal hipped roof and the hipped roof over the front porch that echoes that of the main building. Two brick chimneys project from the rear or western slope of the building, and a louvered, square roof vent with hipped roof projects from the center of the roof ridge. All the roof surfaces are covered with asphalt shingles, the walls are sheathed with novelty siding, and the entire structure rests upon stone piers.

The front or eastern elevation is dominated by the spreading, hipped roof front porch supported upon six box columns standing on low brick piers. The wall beneath is symmetrically-divided into two double-leaf entrances placed toward either end, with a single six-over-six wood sash finishing each end. Two more six-over-six wood sash windows are placed between the entrances. The western elevation is composed of the end of the hipped roof ell, its gallery, and the rear wall of the main section. The end of the ell is lighted with two symmetrically-placed six-over-six wood sash windows. The gallery is placed to the north and leads directly to a central, single-leaf door in the rear of the building. The wall to the north is lighted with two six-over-six wood sash windows and accessed via a single-leaf door placed toward at the end of the elevation.

The southern elevation is composed of the side of the rear ell and the end of the main section. The main section is lighted by two symmetrically-placed six-over-six wood sash windows and the ell's side wall is lighted by another identical window. The northern elevation is lighted by three six-over-six wood sash windows placed asymmetrically across the end of the main front section, and accessed only via a single-leaf door in the side wall of the rear ell, beneath the gallery roof.

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Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

The Center Cross School is intact and has suffered no discernable alterations. It is in fair condition.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Center Cross School

The community of Altus was so named because, at its incorporation in 1888, it was the highest point on the Little Rock & Fort Smith Railroad. During the late 1920's, the area began to experience a building boom as a result of the vibrant local economy, driven by the prosperous wine industry, coal mining, and resort investments by the Chicago millionaire, J. H. Jacobson. The Center Cross School was built in 1930 to accommodate the demand for improved educational facilities in the increasingly affluent region; the economic consequences of the 1929 stock market crash would not be felt in Franklin County for several more months.¹

The Center Cross School, constructed during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is a representative example of a small, wood frame school building constructed for a rural school district. Its use during this period as a local school building clearly identifies it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period.

¹Virginia Canady, Altus, Arkansas: 100 Years, 1888-1988 (Altus, Arkansas: 1988).

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.

___ See continuation sheet.

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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>428460</u>	<u>3921630</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running along the western edge of County Road 95 with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's southern elevation and located 50 feet to the south thereof, proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's western elevation; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the western edge of County Road 95; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 1992

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS
ARKANSAS

		Date Listed
92001195	Liberty School Cafeteria	9/10/92
92001107	Locust Grove School	9/4/92
92001124	Luber School Substantive Review	9/4/92
92001199	Maxville School Building	9/10/92
92001201	Melbourne Home Economics Building	9/10/92
92001103	Men's Gymnasium--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	9/4/92
92001109	Moorefield School	9/4/92
92001207	Mountain View School	9/10/92
92001216	Mountainburg High School	9/10/92
92001218	Mulberry Home Economics Building	9/10/92
92001220	New Liberty School	9/10/92
92001211	Physical Education Building--Arkansas Tech University	9/10/92
92001193	Plumerville School Building	9/10/92
92001198	Poughkeepsie School Building	9/10/92
92001111	Pyatt School Building	9/4/92
92001126	Quitman High School Building	9/4/92
92001127	Quitman Home Economics Building	9/4/92
92001219	Smithville Public School Building Substantive Review	9/4/92
92001119	Spring Valley School District 120 Building	9/4/92
92001104	Student Union Building--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	9/4/92
92001108	Thida Grove School	9/4/92
92001117	Tontitown School Building	9/4/92
92001204	Valley Springs School	9/10/92
92001105	Walker, Vol, Library--University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	9/4/92
92001208	Williamson Hall--Arkansas Tech University Substantive Review	
92001209	Wilson Hall--Arkansas Tech University Substantive Review	
92001351	Center Cross School	10/8/92
93001255	Big Flat School Gymnasium	11/19/93
939461	Solomon Grove Smith-Hughes Building	12.9.94

Entered in the
National Register

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Center Cross School
NAME:

MULTIPLE Public Schools in the Ozarks MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Franklin

DATE RECEIVED: 9/08/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/22/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/5/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/23/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001351

NOMINATOR: STATE

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 10/8/92 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

DATE

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

____count ____resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

____historic ____current

DESCRIPTION

____architectural classification

____materials

____descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

____acreage

____verbal boundary description

____UTMs

____boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

____sketch maps

____USGS maps

____photographs

____presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone

Signed

Date



CENTER CROSS SCHOOL
ALTUS VIC, FRANKLIN Co., ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN
APRIL, 1990
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM EAST



CENTER CROSS SCHOOL

ALTUS VIC, FRANKLIN Co., ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY B. LINDSEY-ALLEN

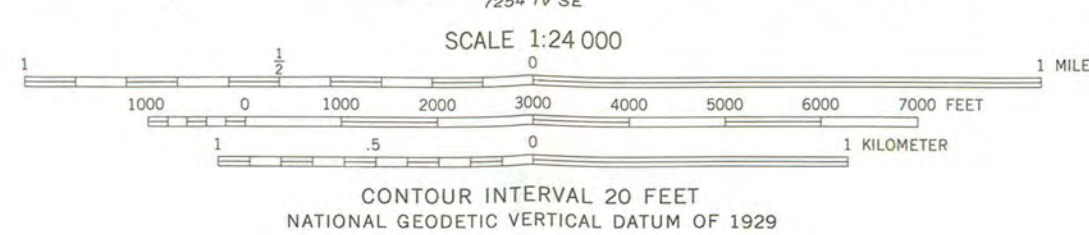
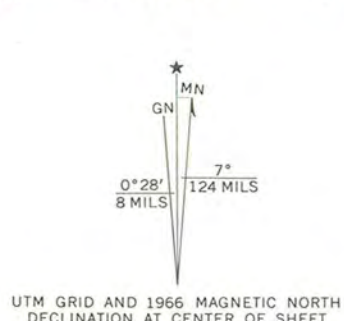
APRIL, 1990

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW FROM WEST



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1962. Field checked 1966
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
Blue hatching indicates area to be submerged by Ozark Lake
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 RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
U. S. Route ——— State Route ———

OZARK, ARK.
N3522.5—W9345.7.5

1966
AMS 7254 IV NE—SERIES V884



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED
SEP 6 3 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

September 1, 1992

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

RE: Center Cross School
Altus, Franklin County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. 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,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:kg

Enclosures

