

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 23 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 27 1979

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Elks Club

AND/OR COMMON

Community House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

67 West Main Street

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Marianna

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Arkansas

___ VICINITY OF

CODE
05COUNTY
LeeCODE
077**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

___ STRUCTURE

___ SITE

___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC

___ PRIVATE

___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS

___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

___ UNOCCUPIED

___ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___ YES: RESTRICTED

___ YES: UNRESTRICTED

___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE

___ COMMERCIAL

___ EDUCATIONAL

___ ENTERTAINMENT

___ GOVERNMENT

___ INDUSTRIAL

___ MILITARY

___ MUSEUM

___ PARK

___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___ RELIGIOUS

___ SCIENTIFIC

___ TRANSPORTATION

☒ OTHER: Public meetings**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

City of Marianna

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall

CITY, TOWN

Marianna

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Circuit Clerk

STREET & NUMBER

Lee County Courthouse, Chestnut Street

CITY, TOWN

Marianna

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Arkansas State Inventory Files

DATE

1972

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

CITY, TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE 1911

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Marianna Elks Club sits on the fringes of the Marianna business district. It was constructed in 1911 by S. A. Keedy, a local builder. The building was commissioned by the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks as a meeting place. The bricks used in its construction were those that remained from the paving of the streets surrounding the city square. The horizontal massing, window placement, and design of the stained glass work is reflective of the beginning of the Modern period in Arkansas.

The irregularly shaped structure has a central entrance with a covered porch. The porch is supported by two outer brick posts and two inner Doric columns. The columns support a simple pediment which is set back from the roof line. Under the outer windows on the second storey of the front (north) facade are two iron balconies. On the east side of the building is a one-storey wing whose roof supports a balcony. The balcony can be entered from the second storey ballroom through French doors. The one storey wing is used as office space by the Marianna Chamber of Commerce. The space housed the Marianna Public Library before it moved to a larger space in the building.

As one enters the Elks Club building, one is impressed with the oak woodwork which remains unaltered. On either side of the entry (east and west) are two large areas which resemble parlors. These areas were used as sitting rooms. The space on the west side of the building is now the library. Some slight alterations were made here. The open space which is bounded on either side by oak Doric columns was closed off with paneling for the library.

From the first storey one may ascend the great staircase to the ballroom on the second floor. On the landing of the staircase the width of the south wall is filled with beautiful stained glass windows which depict the elk, the emblem of the BPOE. The ballroom comprises the entire second floor of the building. The room has its original oak flooring. The walls rest on a raised platform. The ceiling of the ballroom is accented by the lovely oak beams which are partially exposed.

The structure has a basement kitchen. The room has concrete piers. There are windows located near the ceiling.

The building designed with ample large open spaces has proved to be the perfect place for the citizens of Marianna and Lee County to conduct important functions of a varied nature.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES 1911 BUILDER/ARCHITECT S. A. Keedy

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elks Club in Marianna is an architecturally significant structure which has played a key role in the social activities of the small town. The building is a horizontally massed structure with wide bracketed overhangs. Window placement and stained glass work are reminiscent of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright in this period. The building reflects the beginning of the period of modern architecture in Arkansas.

This red brick structure was built in 1911 by the Benevolent and Protective order of Elks, Lodge number 1178, to serve as a meeting house for their activities. To lower the costs of construction, the Elks acquired from the city of Marianna the surplus bricks which remained following the paving of those streets surrounding the court square.

In 1934, due to a lack of funds, the Elks were forced to place the property on the market. The Marianna Civic Club stepped in at this time and offered to pay off the mortgage if the building would be turned into a community center. In order to obtain the necessary money for this venture, the Library which was in another building at this time, agreed to sell their present building and contribute the money to the purchase of the Elks Club, if they would be granted a rent-free space in the new building. Thus, in February of 1934, the City of Marianna was issued a warranty deed from the trustees of the Elks Club.

The Marianna Civic Club's wish that the building be used as a community center has been filled many times over. Under the title of the Marianna Community House, this structure has been the site of many dances, community suppers, scout meetings, dancing classes, fund raising drives, state Student Council meetings, and school oriented functions. In the 1930's the building was often the setting for birthday parties for local children. The Lions Club, whose charter dates from 1949, has held every one of their meetings in this building, as has the Rotary Club which recently celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. In the 1940's a few Chinese weddings even took place in the upstairs ballroom, as there were no Bhuddist temples in this area. In the early 1960's when Lee County was attempting to interest industry to locate in the area, a local labor survey was undertaken, and this structure served as the central reporting station for those who wished to express their desire to be included in a factory labor force.

In recent years, as race relations in Lee County have stabilized, the Community House or Elks Club has truly come to serve all of the citizens of Marianna. Black fraternities, such as Alpha Phi Alpha as well as white high school-level

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"MARIANNA CENTENNIAL," compiled in 1970 by the Centennial Committee.

Deed Book #159, page 57 in the Circuit Clerk's office.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Marianna, Arkansas

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1/62,500

UTM REFERENCES

A 1,5 7,0,5 0,0,0 3,8 4,9 9,8,0

B

ZONE EASTING

NORTHING

ZONE

EASTING

NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Northwest 16 Southwest 9 Township 2 Range 4

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

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mrs. Thomas Gist, Sr.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

February 20, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

Route 3, Box 261

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Marianna,

STATE

Arkansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL xx

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 Joan Williams Baldridge

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 4/19/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles A. Adams
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Carol Brooks
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 7-27-79

DATE 7/26/79

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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RECEIVED

MAY 29 1979

DATE ENTERED

JUL 27 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

fraternities, use the building for many of their social functions. The building has often served as a temporary home for church congregations and is often used for church related banquets.

The Elks Club is often used to house political rallies and campaign functions. Many prominent Arkansas politicians have spoken to audiences in the building; persons associated with national groups, such as Ben Hooks of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, have also spoken to audiences in the building.

The Elks Club continues to serve the people of Lee County and Marianna as well today as it has in the past.

Property

Elks Club

79000445

State

Ark (Lee)

Working Number

5.23.79.1230

TECHNICAL

Photos

Maps

4
1

CONTROL

OK 5.23.79

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

Built to accommodate a social/humanitarian use, the building was adapted to a civic use in the 1930's with little change to its architectural character and integrity. Resource has local architectural significance as early example of the modern movement in Arkansas.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Case Books
7/26/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

9-4-79

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered

JUL 27 1979



Main Street

Elks Club

Marianna, Arkansas

Lee County

Alice Jones

1979

AHPP

Northwest elevation

DOE *184* JUL 27 1979

MAY 23 1979



Main Street
Elks Club
Marianna, Arkansas

Lee County

Alice Jones
1979

AHPP

North elevation

#2074

MAY 23 1979

DOE

JUL 27 1979



Main Street

Elks Club

Marianna, Arkansas

Lee County

Alice Jones

1979

MAY 23 1979

AHPP

Southwest elevation

#3 *of 4*

DOE
JUL 27 1979



Main Street
Elks Club
Marianna, Arkansas

Lee County

Alice Jones

1979

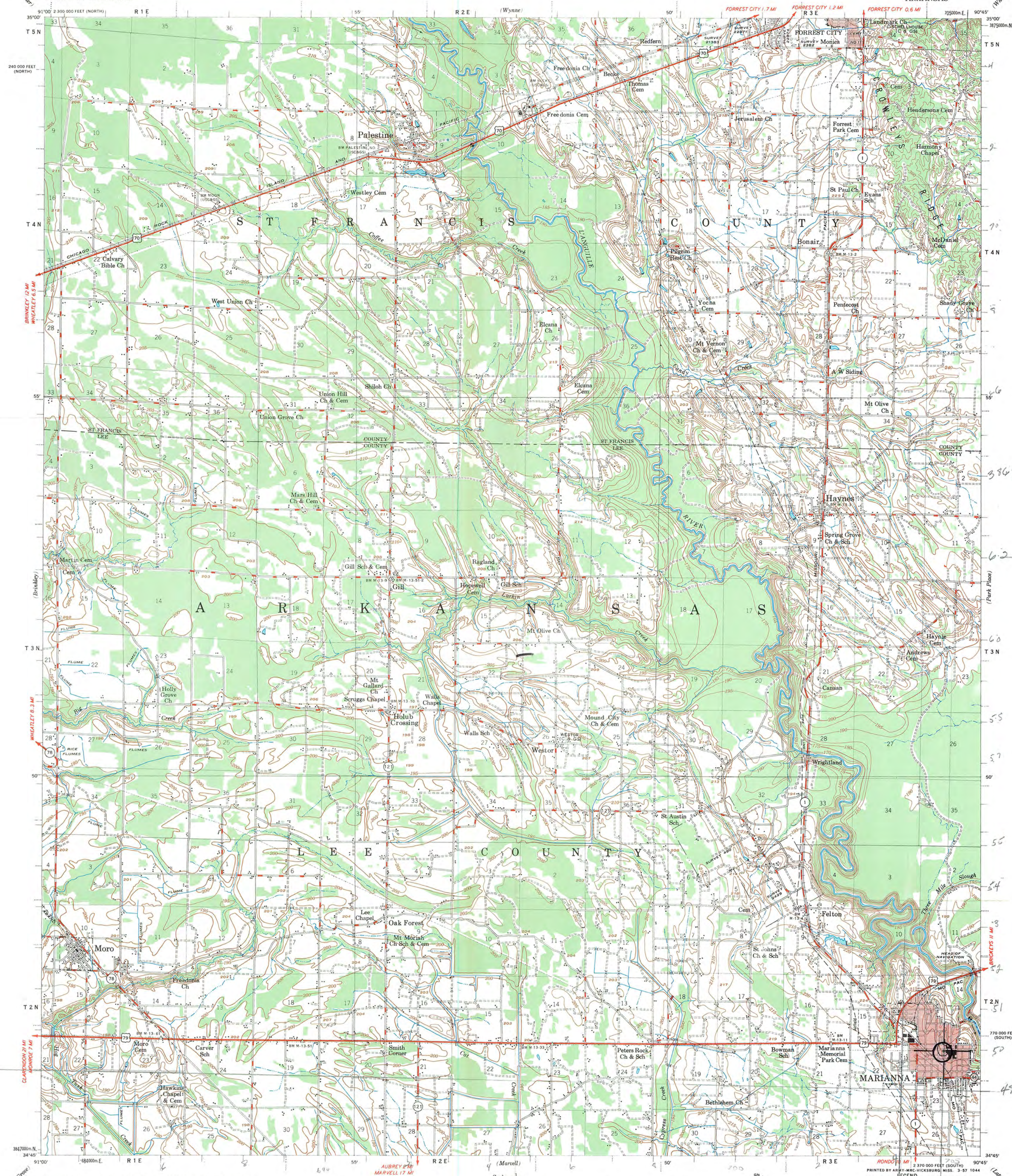
MAY 23 1979

AHPP

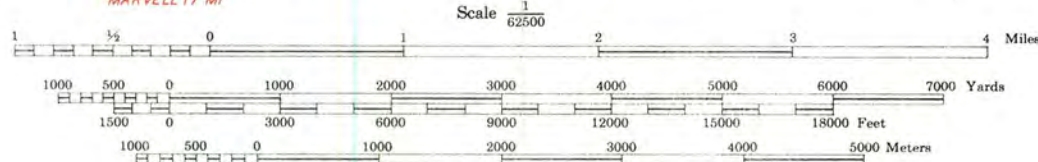
Northeast elevation

#4074

DOE
JUL 27 1979



Prepared under the direction of the President, Mississippi River Commission, by the U. S. Army Engineer District, Memphis, Corps of Engineers.
Edited and published by Mississippi River Commission, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, Vicksburg, Mississippi.
Control by the U. S. Army Engineer District, Memphis, Corps of Engineers and U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey.
Polyconic Projection, 1927 North American Datum.
Descriptions, elevations and geodetic positions of permanent survey marks may be obtained from the U. S. Army Engineer District, Memphis, Corps of Engineers, Memphis, Tenn.
Topography by the U. S. Army Engineer District, Memphis, Corps of Engineers, 1956.
Aerial Photography, 1954. Planimetry and Topography Field Checked 1956.
Political boundaries are shown according to best available information.
Work under Flood Control Act shown as of January 1954.
This map complies with national map accuracy standards.



Contour interval 5 feet changing at the 240 foot contour line to a 20 foot interval
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ONE THOUSAND METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR GRID ZONE 15 IS INDICATED BY TICKS OUTSIDE THE NEATLINE
ARKANSAS STATE GRID ZONE SOUTH IS INDICATED BY DOTTED TICKS. ZONE NORTH BY DASH DOT TICKS OUTSIDE THE NEATLINE AT 10,000 FOOT INTERVALS

Additional copies may be procured from
The President, Mississippi River Commission
Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
Vicksburg, Miss. 20 cents per copy

APPROXIMATE MEAN DECLINATION 1955
FOR CENTER OF SHEET
ANNUAL MAGNETIC CHANGE 1 WESTERLY

Elks Club
Marianna, Arkansas

UTM Reference
15 / 705 000 / 3849 980

EDITION OF 1957
REPRINTED 1955
N3445-W9045/15



JUL 27 1979



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Suite 500, Continental Building · Markham and Main · Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Phone: (501) 371-2763

May 17, 1979



Dr. William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

As State Historic Preservation Officer for Arkansas I have directed the preparation and submission of the nomination of the Elks Club in Marianna, Arkansas to the National Register. The Arkansas State Review Committee has reviewed and approved this nomination prior to submission to the National Register.

I hereby certify that the persons listed in Section 4 of the nominations are the legal owners of the property.

Sincerely,

Joan Williams Baldrige
State Historic Preservation Officer

JWB/lg

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ARKANSAS

STATE

Date Entered JUL 27 1979

Name

Location

Elks Club

Marianna
Lee County

Also Notified

Honorable Dale Bumpers

Honorable David Pryor
Honorable Bill Alexander

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Joan Baldridge
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NR Byers/bjr 8/1/79

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.