

PH 0682870

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 23 1978

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC C.R., Breckinridge, House

AND/OR COMMON

C.R. Breckinridge House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

504 North Sixteenth Street ^{16th}

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Fort Smith

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Third

STATE

Arkansas

CODE
05

COUNTY

Sebastian

CODE
131

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wasson

STREET & NUMBER

511 North Sixteenth Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Smith

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Sebastian County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Rogers Avenue and Sixth Street

CITY, TOWN

Fort Smith, Arkansas

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The C.R. Breckinridge house, built in 1903, consists of two stories, a full attic and a full basement. Of early Twentieth Century Classic style, it is a sixteen room gray stucco with a foundation of massive native stones taken from the Arkansas River.

Eight one-story square classic columns, joined by a balustrade, are set on a wide, low veranda of wooden planks that stretch the width of the house. The roof of this veranda support the second floor balcony that, like the lower porch, stretches the width of the house. The balustrades here are joined by 2½ foot classic columns that are duplicates of the classic taller columns below.

A second, smaller portico and second floor balcony can be found on the south side of the building.

Dentils are wide-spaced. The roofline is low, with jutting dormer windows.

Movable louvered shutters and the single-pane French doors are interesting counterpoints to the classic style.

The entry hall is unusually large, in fact so large, that dances have been held in this hall.

Flanking the entry hall are the drawing room and the parlor. The parlor has a tiled fireplace. In addition to this fireplace, two of the upstairs bedrooms also have fireplaces.

There is also a guest bedroom, a powder room and a larger bathroom downstairs as well as a butlers pantry, complete with dumb waiter. The original kitchen was evidently in the basement. Today the modern kitchen is on the first floor, which also has a sun room and a breakfast room. The dining room, also on the first floor is quite large and is furnished with the table and six of the chairs used by Breckinridge when he was Minister to Russia.

In addition to the bedrooms and sitting rooms on the second floor, there are servant quarters in the attic.

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/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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

C.R. Breckinridge, who built this house in 1903, was the son of John Cabell Breckinridge, Vice-President of the United States under President Buchanan and later nominated by the Southern Democrats for President in 1860 against Lincoln.

The senior Breckinridge served as Secretary of War for the Confederacy and was indicted for treason after the close of the Civil War. He fled the country but later returned and was pardoned.

C.R. Breckinridge was born in Virginia.

Breckinridge served as a private during the Civil War but was later elevated to Major. After the Civil War, he became a cotton planter in Virginia for awhile before moving to Arkansas.

Major Clifton R. Breckinridge first served as a Representative in Congress in 1883-85, as a Representative of the State at large. He was reelected to serve from 1885 to 1887. He was again reelected to serve from 1887-1889.

In the fall of 1888, John Middleton Clayton, twin brother of Wm. Harrison Clayton, a Presidential candidate in the 1880's and Prosecuting Attorney in the famous court of Judge Issac Parker, ran as the Republican nominee in opposition to Breckinridge. Both men were extremely popular. The final results of the race gave Breckinridge 17,857 votes to Clayton's 17,011.

Several incidents marred this contest, the worst being the theft of a ballot box in Plummerville by an armed force. Due to the closeness of the race, Clayton (who's other brother was Powell Clayton, who served Arkansas as Governor and Senator and later served as Minister to Mexico) felt he had been counted out of the race. He filed a contest suit in Congress.

Very much concerned about the theft of the ballot box in Plummerville, Clayton traveled to that settlement to conduct a personal investigation into the matter. While sitting in front of a window at his lodgings, Clayton was killed by a shotgun blast.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 23 1978

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

W.D. Alnutt, an attorney testified that before Clayton was killed, that he, Alnutt and Armstrong had personally interviewed 104 individuals, and found that practically all had voted for Clayton.

The seat was declared vacant by Congress in 1890 because of this contest. However, Breckinridge was re-elected to fill the vacancy, serving until 1891.

He again served from 1891 to 1893. Again re-elected, he resigned on August 4, 1894. to accept the post as Minister to Russia. They returned from Russia to make they home in Fort Smith in 1897.

Breckenridge became active in business, serving as president of the Arkansas Valley Trust, The Fort Smith River and Harbor Association and the Fort Smith Commerical League. He was a delegate to a state constitutional convention in 1917. After the death of his wife in 1921, he removed from Fort Smith and died in 1932.

The Brun family, a pioneer family in Fort Smith occupied the house for several years.

The present owners are Joe and Wanda Wasson who are restoring the house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Yadon, Julia, Reflections of Fort Smith, Fort Smith Historical Press, 1976.

Arkansas Almanac Co., 1963 Arkansas Almanac, Arkansas

Almanac Company, 1963

Southwest Times Record, Fort Smith, Arkansas Sunday, April 9

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Fort Smith, Ark.-Okla.

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 | 371620 | 3916540

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots, 1, 2 & 3, Blk. 33 Fitzgerald Addition; Fort Smith, Sebastian County

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE General Victor Carey, U.S. Army, Ret. Julia Yadon/ Bernice Cole
Historians

ORGANIZATION Fort Smith Heritage Foundation DATE April 12, 1978

STREET & NUMBER 514 North Sixth Street TELEPHONE _____

CITY OR TOWN Fort Smith, Arkansas STATE Arkansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE X 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 Anna B. [Signature] DATE _____

TITLE _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE _____
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
ATTEST:	DATE _____
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	

Property Breckinridge, C. R., House

State Ark Working Number 8.23.78.3931

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1

Listing date

not

CONTROL

pl
8.24.78

Although significance is summarized, the property was built and lived in by extremely important man (in that area context as well as national) whose public role is outlined in #8. Defer to architect on relative architectural value - and in part on need to return to State for better Statement.

HISTORIAN

Sheff
11-28-78
? Return

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ALTERATIONS TO THIS HOUSE SINCE THE PERIOD OF BRECKINRIDGE'S OCCUPANCY ARE NOT MENTIONED (NOTE THE FIRE ESCAPE!) BUT PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDE A FAIRLY COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS - WHICH ARE FEW AND DO NOT OVERTLY COMPROMISE THE

ACCEPT
Mac Dougal
11-30-78

INTEGRITY OF THE HOUSE. THE OVERALLING SIGNIFICANCE IS ~~HISTORICAL~~ **ARCHEOLOGIST** HISTORICAL - AND THE APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE TODAY REFLECTS ITS PERIOD OF SIGNIFICANCE.

OTHER

Note difference in willingness to accept significance here - more than others Sheff is overwhelming.

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

No succinct statement of significance

Return
Lebanich
12/1/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back 12.8.78 Entered _____
Federal Register Entry _____ Re-submit 6.14.79

INT:2106-74

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

7 Description: Although photos show many of them, the alterations to the house
are not discussed in the form.

8 Statement of Significance: The house is obviously of importance for its
association with C. R. Breckinridge. But that significance is not
summarized in the Section 8 narrative, nor are the property's architectural
merits evaluated.

9 Bibliography: _____

10 Geographical Data -- Acreage: _____

UTM Reference(s): Please doublecheck UTM's.

Verbal Boundary Description: _____

12 Certification: _____

Photographic Coverage: _____

Map Coverage: Please supply date signed by SHPO.

Other: Please provide succinct, specific statement of significance.

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Marcella Sherry

on the National Register staff, telephone 202-343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.
Bill Tolovich for Date: Dec 8, 1978
Chief, Branch of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Rec'd

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED JUN 14 1979	AUG 7 1979
DATE ENTERED	

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Breckinridge, C. R., House
AND/OR COMMON
C. R. Breckinridge House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
504 North 16th St. _ NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fort Smith Third
STATE VICINITY OF COUNTY CODE
Arkansas 05 Sebastian 131

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Wasson
STREET & NUMBER
511 North Sixteenth Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Fort Smith Arkansas 72901

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sebastian County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Rogers Avenue and Sixth Street
CITY, TOWN STATE
Fort Smith Arkansas 72901

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
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 1903

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The C. R. Breckinridge house (1903) consists of two stories, a full attic, and a full basement. It is a sixteen-room gray stucco house with a foundation of massive native stones which were taken from the Arkansas River. The structure is classically styled. Seven one-storey box columns are joined by a balustrade on a low veranda. The veranda stretches the width of the house. The roof of the veranda supports the second floor balcony. The balustrades and 2½ foot box columns of the balcony are duplicates of the porch. A second smaller portico with second floor balcony is on the south side of the building. The hipped roof-line is low, and it has gabled dormers. The eaves are bracketed. The interior end chimneys are corbeled. The entrance has sidelights, transom, and a single-door; these elements are contained in a five-centered arch. Windows are one-over-one (1/1) double hung and are symmetrically placed.

Flanking the large entry hall are the drawing room and the parlor. The parlor has a tiled fireplace. Two of the upstairs bedrooms also have fireplaces. There are servant's quarters in the attic.

Alterations include a metal fire-stair leading from the upper front porch, the kitchen and sunroom on the rear, and the stucco exterior. The original kitchen was in the basement. The new kitchen is on the first floor. All of these alterations are long standing.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1903

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Breckinridge House was built in Fort Smith, Arkansas, in 1903. Though the dwelling is not architecturally distinguished, it is significant through its association with C. R. Breckinridge, the original owner of the house. In the late Nineteenth Century Breckinridge was a prominent Arkansas politician. He represented Arkansas in Congress from 1883 to 1894, and he served as the United States Minister to Russia from 1894 to 1897. He was a central figure in one of Arkansas' most controversial and violent elections, the Second Congressional District election of 1888. By entering politics Breckinridge carried on a family tradition. His father, John Cabell Breckinridge, was the Vice-President of the United States in the administration of President James Buchanan. The Breckinridge House is the only surviving dwelling that connects C. R. Breckinridge to the history of Arkansas.

A native of Virginia, Breckinridge moved to Arkansas after the Civil War. In Arkansas he entered politics as a Democrat and successfully campaigned for the Congressional seat of representative-at-large. Breckinridge served as representative-at-large for three consecutive terms (1883-1888).

In the fall of 1888 Breckinridge entered what proved to be a fiercely contested race for Congressional representative from Arkansas' Second District. His opponent was John Middleton Clayton, who, like Breckinridge, was a member of a well-known political family. Clayton's twin brother, William Clayton, was a Presidential candidate in the 1880's and another brother, Powell Clayton, served as Arkansas' governor during Reconstruction. Breckinridge and Clayton were both popular candidates, and the election results were close. Breckinridge won the election by a margin of 866 votes.

Clayton immediately contested the accuracy of the final vote count. Normal election procedure had been violated several times on election day, and Clayton believed that these irregularities had affected the final outcome of the election. The most flagrant violation of election procedure occurred in Plummerville, Arkansas, where the ballot box was stolen by a band of armed men. Clayton went to Plummerville to conduct a personal investigation of the incident. An aide to Clayton stated that 104 voters in Plummerville were interviewed by Clayton's staff. Most of those interviewed had voted for Clayton. Before he could complete his investigation, Clayton was shot and killed at his lodging in Plummerville. After Clayton's murder, Congress nullified the election results for the Second Congressional District seat and declared the position vacant.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Yadon, Julia, Reflections of Fort Smith, Fort Smith Historical Press, 1976.
 Arkansas Almanac Co., 1963 Arkansas Almanac, Arkansas Almanac Company, 1963.
 Southwest Times Record, Fort Smith, Arkansas Sunday, April 9.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Fort Smith, Ark.-Okla.

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1/24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A 15 371660 3916540

B

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE #7 - Frezil Miller
 #8 - Mike Shinn

Historical Research by:
 Julia Yadon/Bernice Cole, Historians

ORGANIZATION

Fort Smith Heritage Foundation/Ark. Hist. Pres. Program

DATE

5/17/79

STREET & NUMBER

514 North Sixth Street

Suite 500, Continental Bldg.
 Little Rock, AR 72201

TELEPHONE

501-371-2763

CITY OR TOWN

Fort Smith

STATE

Arkansas 72901

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

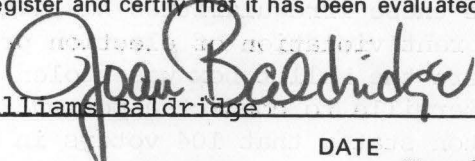
STATE XX

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

Joan Williams Baldrige



TITLE

State Historic Preservation Program

DATE

May 22, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

8-7-79

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

8/7/79

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

Carol Skuff
Carol Skuff

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 14 1979
DATE ENTERED	AUG 7 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Breckinridge won the election that was conducted to fill the vacant position. He was re-elected to the seat in 1891 and in 1893. On August 4, 1894 he resigned from Congress so that he could accept the post of Minister to Russia, a position he filled until 1897.

After his mission to Russia concluded, Clayton moved to Fort Smith, Arkansas. In 1903 he built the Breckinridge House. He lived in the house until 1921 when he left Fort Smith after the death of his wife. Breckinridge was very active in the business affairs of Fort Smith. He was the president of three of the community's leading commercial associations: the Arkansas Valley Trust, the Fort Smith River and Harbor Association, and the Fort Smith Commercial League. He curtailed his involvement in politics, though he did serve as a delegate to the state constitutional convention of 1917.

The classically styled Breckinridge House is two-stories in height and rectangular in shape. The exterior walls are grey stucco and the foundation is native stone. A hipped-roof with bracketed eaves surmounts the house. The interior end chimneys are corbeled.

A one-storey veranda spans the facade. A second floor balcony rests on top of the veranda. Seven box columns sustain the roof of the veranda. The columns are joined by a balustrade. The edge of the balcony is also delineated by a balustrade.

The entrance surround is a five-centered arch. The entrance consists of a single-leaf door, sidelights and a transom. Windows are one-over-one (1/1) and are double-hung. They are arranged symmetrically.

Several major exterior alterations impair the visual integrity of the Breckinridge House. The stucco covering of the house is the most significant alteration. The date when the stucco was applied is not known. Other alterations include the addition of a sunroom and kitchen to the rear of the house and the construction of a metal stairway which provides access to the balcony.

The interior is less altered than the exterior. The most noteworthy interior features are the structure's three fireplaces. A tiled fireplace is located in the first floor parlor, and two fireplaces are set in upstairs bedrooms. All of the fireplace mantels are trimmed in wood and are classically detailed. The original wooden trim for walls and doors also survives.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 14 1979
DATE ENTERED	AUG 7 1979

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

The Breckinridge House is a fair example of early twentieth-century residential architecture, but other more spectacular examples of dwellings of the period are located in the vicinity of the house. The house is historically significant, but it possesses only a marginal architectural significance.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

NOV 8 1979

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE one

C. R. Breckinridge House
Fort Smith
Sebastian County, Arkansas

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 1,2 & 3 Blk. 33 - Fitzgerald Addition

Property Breckenridge, C. R., House

79000420

State Ark (Sebastian) Working Number 8.23.78.3931

2nd Central

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 6
Maps 1

OK pl
6.14.79

#8 is, as in previous submission, too long. Although Statement of Significance could be much more succinct, the historical importance of C. R. Breckenridge is established.

HISTORIAN

Accept 8-6-79

Sheffield

Architecture was not checked as significant in the resubmission, but the house appears to have local significance in spite of the alterations.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Gale Brooks
2/7/79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

This resource is primarily significant for State historical association. Alterations were adequately discussed in the resubmission, but this was done in #8 and not #7. VBD was omitted in the resubmission.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Confer / Accept
Gale Brooks
2/7/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 9-4-79

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered AUG 7 1979



1. C.R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn
4. April, 1978 *Sebastian County*
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the north
7. photo # 1 of 6

AUG ^{DOE} 7 1979 AUG 23 1978



1. C.R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn *Sebastian County*
4. April, 1978
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the east
7. photo # 2 *of 6*

AUG ^{DDE} 7 1979

AUG 23 1978



1. C. R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn *Sebastian county*
4. Aprilk 1978
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the west
7. photo # 3 of 6

AUG *DOE*
7 1979

AUG 23 1978



1. C. R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn
4. April, 1978 *Sebastian County*
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. detail of entry door
7. photo # 4 *of 6*

AUG ^{DOE}
7 1979

AUG 23 1978



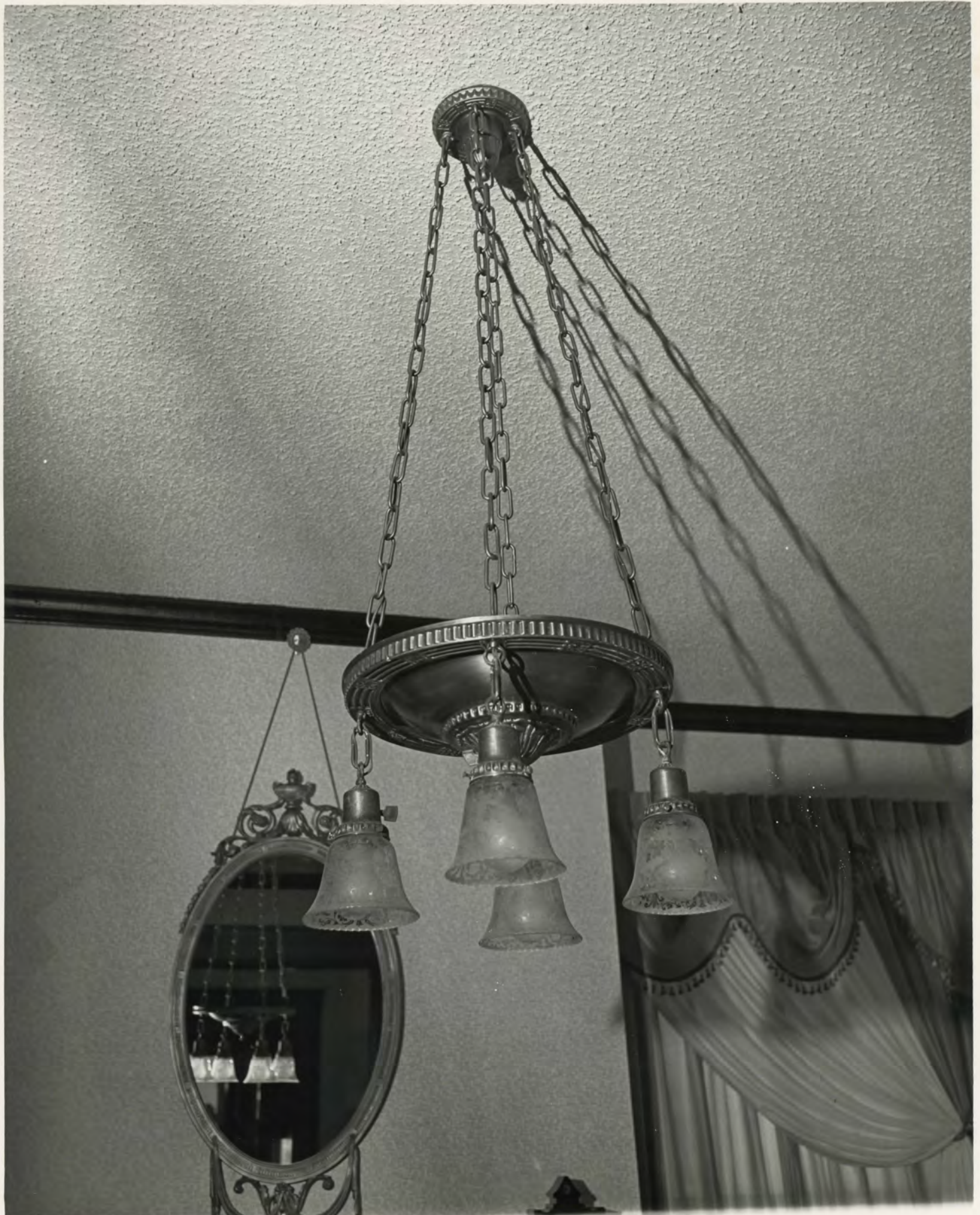
1. C. R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn *Sebastian County*
4. April, 1978
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. original mantel
7. photo # 5 *of 6*

AUG

DOE

7 1979

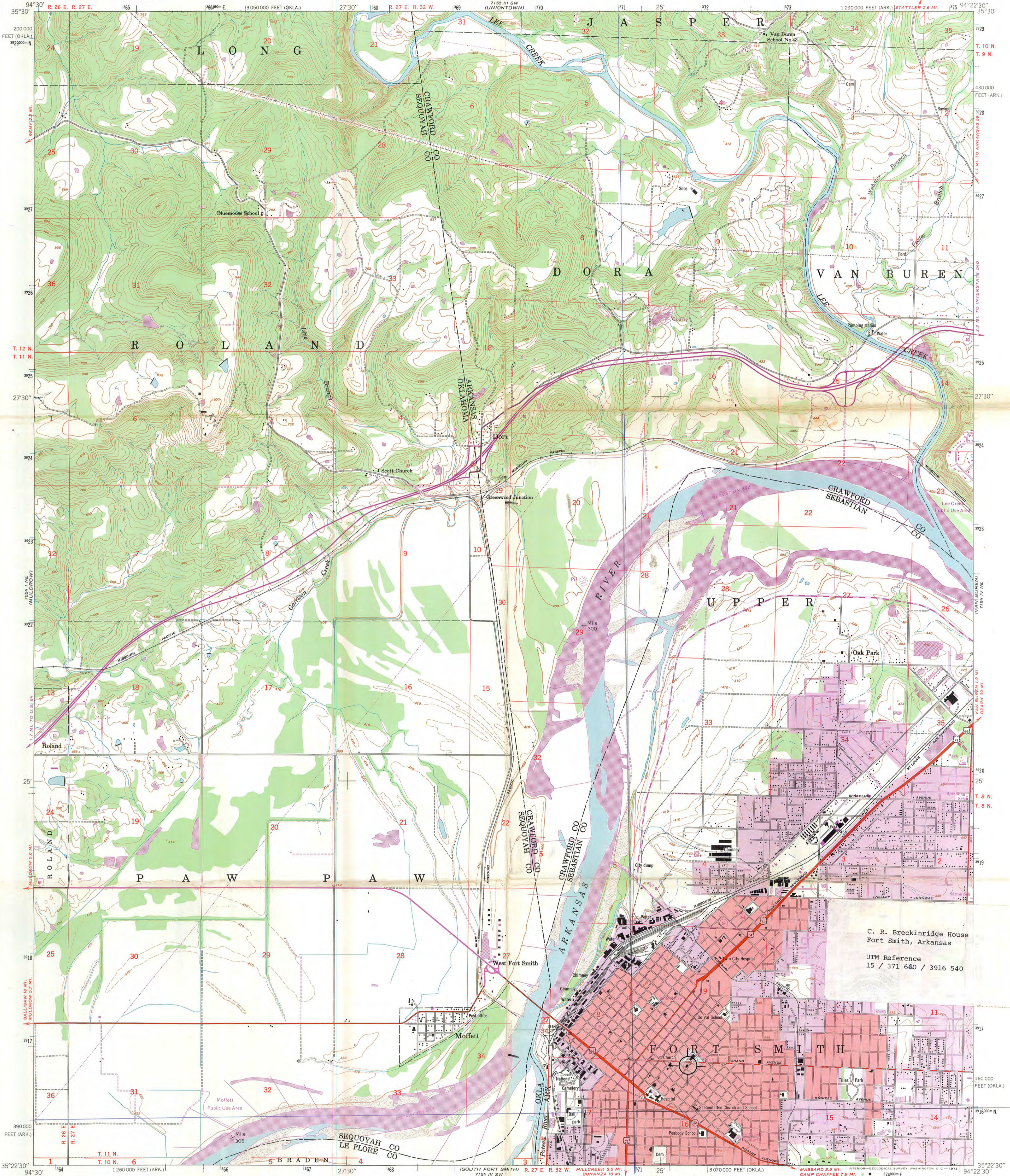
AUG 23 1978



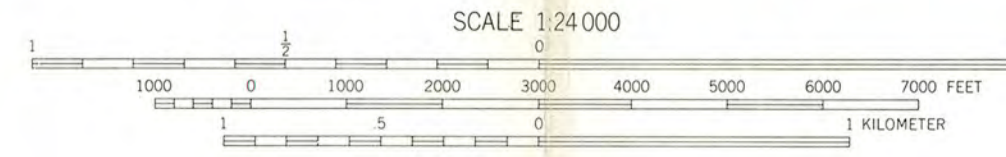
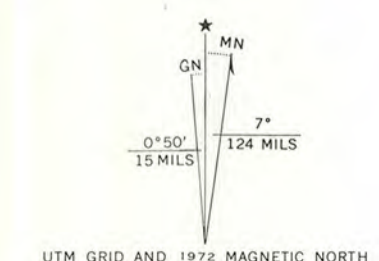
1. C. R. Breckenridge House
2. Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. Bob Dunn
4. April, 1978 *Sebastian County*
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. original light fixture
7. photo # 6 *of 6*

DOE
AUG 7 1979

AUG 23 1978



Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey
Control by CE, USGS, and USC&GS
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods
Aerial photographs taken 1946. Field check 1947
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Arkansas coordinate system,
north zone and Oklahoma coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
No distinction is made between dwellings, barns
commercial, and industrial buildings



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DASHED LINES REPRESENT HALF-INTERVAL CONTOURS
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



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

FORT SMITH, ARK., OKLA.
NW/4 VAN BUREN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3522.5-W9422.5-7.5

1947
PHOTOREVISED 1971
AMS 7154 IV NW-SERIES V888

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225 OR WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242.
ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201.
AND OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, NORMAN, OKLAHOMA 73069
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological Survey from
aerial photographs taken 1971. This information not field checked
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



P

FR 9-5-78

504 No. 16th
Ft. Smith, Ark.
72901
September 12, 1978

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

Re: H32-NR
Mr + Mrs. Joe Hasson
504 No. 16th
Ft. Smith, Ark.
Breckinridge, C.R., 7 Hours

Dear Dr. Murtagh:

Thank you for your letter of August 30, 1978. We would like very much for the above house to be on the National Register of Historic Places.

We bought this house for our home in 1969 before we ever knew or became interested in Historic Preservation. The longer we live here and the more research we do the more exciting it becomes.

At least four generations of the Breckinridge family strived to serve our country and through their humanitarian efforts served in Washington, Arkansas, locally in Fort Smith and out into other states including Kentucky. Living in their house & reading about their civic contributions has inspired us to try to be better citizens.

We are also very proud of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program at Little Rock. They are actively seeking to serve to preserve our history.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
Wanda S. Hasson
(Mrs. Joe Hasson)

RECEIVED
SEP 13 1978
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE RECD SEP 19 1978

YR (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

_____ (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN 9-18-78

INITIALS AL

(Handwritten note at top right)

(Faint handwritten notes)

(Extensive handwritten notes, mostly illegible due to blurriness and bleed-through)

(Handwritten notes on the right side, including dates like 9-18-78)

(Handwritten notes at the bottom right)

(Handwritten mark at bottom left)

(Handwritten number 65-2-58)

TELEPHONE REPORT

OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PROJECT: Breckinridge, C.R., House/Murphy, Wm. J., House

TO/FROM: Mike Shinn

DATE: 8/7/79

ADDRESS: AR Hist. Pres. Program

PHONE: 501 371-2763

STAFF MEMBER: Gale Brooks

DIVISION: NR

REPORT:

length of
Discussed the/~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ #8 on both these nominations
with Mike. Mike indicated that future nominations will be more
succinct with less duplication of information.

I told him that the VBD was missing on both resubmission forms,
and that we need an original (and not the xerox copy we have)
VBD for each nomination. He will send one for each on a Contin-
uation Sheet.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered AUG 7 1979

Name

Location

Murphy, William J., House

Fort Smith
Sebastian County

Breckinridge, C. R., House

Fort Smith
Sebastian County

Also Notified

Honorable Dale Bumpers

Honorable David Pryor
Honorable John P. Hammerschmidt

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

NR Byers/bjr 8/10/79

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

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Breckinridge, C. R., House
 ② OTHER NAMES: **DATA SHEET**
 ③ date of entry: AUG 7 1979
 ④ county code: 131

⑤ LOCATION street & number: 504 N. 16th St.
 city / town: Fort Smith
 vicinity of: _____
 state: AR
 county: Sebastian
 ⑥ NPS REGION: SW

⑦ OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name) _____
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: _____

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL
 ⑩ FUNDED? YES NO
 ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 3rd
 ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form? _____

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑮ ACRES: _____
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION excellent good fair
 deteriorated ruins unexposed unexcavated
 altered unaltered reconstructed excavated
 original site moved unknown

⑰ features: INTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRONS SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE YES NO
 ⑳ SAVED? YES
 ㉑ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

㉒ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 AGRICULTURE-3 ARCHITECTURE-4 ART-5
 COMMERCE-6 COMMUNICATIONS-7 CONSERVATION-8 ECONOMICS-9 EDUCATION-10
 ENGINEERING-11 ENTERTAINMENT-26 EXPLORATION-12 HEALTH-27 INDUSTRY-13 INVENTION-14
 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 LAW-16 LITERATURE-17 MILITARY-18 MUSIC-19 PHILOSOPHY-20
 POLITICS / GOVT.-21 RELIGION-22 SCIENCE-23 SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24 SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30
 RECREATION-28 SETTLEMENT-29 URBAN PLANNING-31 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 ㉓ CLAIMS: explain 'first' 'oldest' 'only'

㉔ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY: _____
 ㉕ dates of initial construction: major alterations: _____ historic events: _____
 ㉖ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

㉗ architectural style(s): _____
 ㉘ architect: _____
 ㉙ master builder: _____
 ㉚ engineer: _____

㉛ landscape architect / garden designer: _____
 ㉜ interior decorator: _____
 ㉝ artist: _____
 ㉞ artisan: _____
 ㉟ builder/contractor: _____

㊱ NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊲ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP