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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1909, the Ada Thompson Memorial Nome is one of Little Rock's most important historic structures. The house has undergone few alterations and appears much the same as when it was originally built. The architects, Frank Gibb and Theodore Sanders, designed the Ada Thompson Home in a Georgian Adv Propent Majorial Bons Revival architectural style.

The two and one-half storey house with a full basement is constructed of brick. The high hipped roof is characteristic of Georgian Revival architecture. Projecting from the roof are several dormers, spaced symmetrically about the house. The cornice is marked by decorative brackets and dentils.

The facade of the house is marked by windows which feature ornate window heads with keystones. Lugsills are of cut stone. The dominant feature of the facade is the two storey portico, supported by two pairs of fluted capitol columns. The hipped roof rectangular portico is marked by ornamental brackets and dentils on the cornice. A round ornamental window is above the portico.

The main entry door is flanked by fluted Ionic capitol pilasters. Leaded glass windows flank the entry. Shutters flank the major windows. A feature of note on the south elevation is the one storey sun porch. The north elevation contains a one storey projection. The first floor porch contains steps leading to the north entry. The east elevation features a two storey porch supported by nine square brick columns. There is a half storey walk-down to the basement. Open at the first level, the porch is enclosed by screen at the second floor level.

There are approximately 13,200 square feet of living space in the two and one-half floors. The main floor has four large halls each ten feet wide running N-S and E-W. The stairway is located at the point where the wide and front halls meet. Over the landing of the stairway is a four-pane sky-light. The main floor will contain a large entry hall, library, dining room, reception room, music room and powder room. Erichte

The upstairs has N-S hall and E-W side hall off of which are ten bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a family room.

The basement houses a kitchen, breakfast room, two pantries bedroom, bath and laundry room. The electric elevator connects all three floors. rmarkeno, vi ot di

Alterations include removal of seven walls to make larger rooms.

Resting on half a block, the Ada Thompson Memorial Home is remarkably well preserved and appears practically the same as when it was first constructed. Most of the doors in the house are marked with bronze dedication plaques.

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE

A large marble plaque hangs in the front entry hall where inscription is as follows:

ADA THOMPSON MEMORIAL HOME

1909

Erected Under the Bequest of ADA THOMPSON CRUTCHFIELD in memory of her father and mother Willaim Jackson and Sarah Ann Thompson Charitable in all things, she especially Revered and Ministered to the Aged.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

E. G. THOMPSON, Chairman

H. L. REMMEL

S. W. REYBURN

B. W. GREEN

ROBERT E. WAIT

W. S. HOLT

ED. CORNISH

GIBB AND SANDERS, ARCHITECTS, GEO. W. FAIR, CONTRACTOR.

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		_INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Frank Gibb / Theodore Sanders

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Ada Thompson Memorial Mome, located in Little Rock's historic Quapaw Quarter district, was built by donations from many of Little Rock's most prominent families. Founded in 1382, this home for elderly women served a vital community service until 1976. The ladies, many without any family, lived out their remaining years in this elegant home with the privacy and comfort that would be found in their own home. The Ada Thompson Memorial home is architecturally significant in its elegance, fine detail of design, and immense size. Designed by Frank Gibb and Theodore Sanders, two of Little Rock's most prominent architects, and constructed in 1909, the house reflects the Beaux Arts tradition. The house has been remarkably well preserved.

This home for elderly was founded in 1882 and was initially named Old Ladies Home of Little Rock." On April 16, 1832, Mrs. R. L. Dodge, Mrs. P. Jordan, Mrs. R. H. Johnson and Mrs. J. W. Peidelman was elected the first Board of Lady Guardians. As Col. Logan H. Roots made the first subscription of \$500. he had the privilege of naming one of the guardians, and his selection was Mrs. Logan H. Roots, who was duly elected. On April 16, 1833, by-laws for the government of the home were approved. On April 17, 1833, Mrs. G. H. Van Etten and Miss Sophia Crease were elected to the Board of Lady Guardians. At the first meeting of the Board of Lady Guardians, at the home, on April 25, 1832, Dr. R. B. Christian was elected physician of the home. Miss Lauriett Ashley was the first of the charges of the home to actually take possession of her room in the home, and she did so on March 29, 1882.

"The Mome is the outgrowth of a suggestion offered by Prof. Otis Patten in a paper read before the Bible club of the Presbyterian Church, on the evening of March 14, 1382. The matter at that time was referred to a committee to investigate and make inquiry in regard to the workings of similar charities, and on the evening of March 28th., at a regular meeting of the club, a reading of the minutes showed that the committee deemed such an institution both needed and practicable, so a constitution was adopted and signed by members, and on the evening of April 17th. officers were elected and the work begun."

"This institution is intended to afford a comfortable and permanent home to white women of Little Rock of unblemished moral character and, unless in exceptional cases, over sixty years of age. It is not a poor house, but, what the name implies, a quiet comfortable home for respectable

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ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE

old ladies who have outlived their near relatives and their means of support. They are fairly supposed to have done their share of the world's work, and to be entitled to shelter and support in their declining years."

Miss Jane Kellogg, who sold the first home at the southwest corner of east Seventh and Scott Streets, was a dominant force in the early development of the home. "The large house and valuable lot on which it stands were donated to the "Home" by Miss J. C. Kellogg-formerly a teacher in Little Rock - reserving a life annuity of \$200. The house is two stories high, and contains thirteen good-sized rooms. It was handsomely painted last fall, and recently some of the rooms have been nicely papered." Her portrait currently is displayed in the Ada Thompson home.

The name was changed to the Jane Kellogg Home for Old Ladies in 1889 following her death.

Mrs. Ada Thompson Crutchfield, wife of a wealthy New York lawyer, in her will set aside a memorial of \$20,000.00 for a memorial to her father and mother. Her uncle, Mr. E. G. Thompson was one of the early organizers and officers of the Old Ladies Home and the executor of his niece's estate on her death in 1904. Mrs. Crutchfield is buried at Mount Holly Cemetary. The board accepted the money plus interest equaling \$22,850 with the consideration attached, that the name be changed to the Ada Thompson Memorial Home.

"The old home on Seventh and Scott Streets was sold for \$8,000.00 and three lots on the corner of Twenty-first and Main Streets were purchased for \$6,000.00. The contract was let for construction of the Ada Thompson Memorial Home of pressed brick and stone to cost \$20,600, and the plumbing, heating, and lighting in addition will make the building cost about \$25,000."

The Ada Thompson Home was completed in 1909. Ladies moved in soon after its completion and it has been continuously occupied until present day.

Because of the many prominent ladies that have resided at the Ada Thompson Home, it has been a prominent social center. Foetry readings, singing sessions, and social gatherings have been frequent. Mrs. Margaret Duncan, a resident of the Ada Thompson Home, wrote a poem concerning it:

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ITEM NUMBER 8

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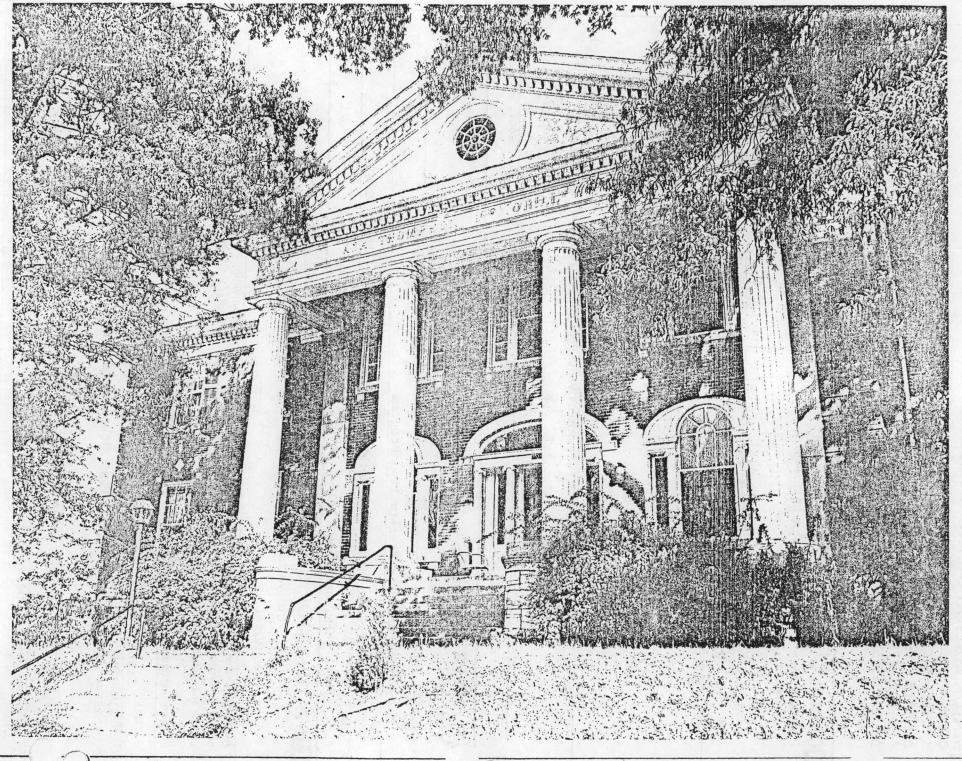
THE ADA THOMPSON HOME There is a lovely house on the hill-top A picture of beauty and art, Whose stately walls and columns, Speak praise for a generous heart, A heart that gave to the world Not just a monument of stone But a place where the aged finds retreat As they walk life's twilight alone. Tis not a place of sadness or want, Comfort and plenty are there, And she who enters its portals Should praise God for its love and care. Her path thru' the years of youth, May have passed thru' lovely bowers, Or she may have stumbled o'er jagged rocks, As she toiled thru' working hours Helping to build a sheltered home For those who were left to her care Forgetting that time has a subtle way Of catching us in its snares. Too soon the home was empty, Too soon the loved ones were gone, Too soon was she left frail and weary As the busy world rushes on. But a hand was held out from somewhere, A guiding hand from God's dome And it led her to the portals Of the Ada Thompson Home. There in her own sequestered room With her treasures books and flowers, She may pass if she will In peace and love, the last of life's fleeting hours.

By: Margaret H. Duncan

In recent years because of rising costs and declining occupancy, it became necessary to sell the Home to its present owners. The eleven remaining residents were transferred to Presbyterian Village.

The Ada Thompson Memorial Home stands as a monument to the humanitarian spirit of Little Rock's people.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES
/. Quapaw Quarter Association.
Information File, Ada Thompson Memorial Home File A. Arkansas Democrat, August 26, 1976.
Arkansas Gazette, May 30, 1976.
Arkansas Gazette, February 7, 1909.
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STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:
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NATIONAL THE STATE STATE LOCAL O 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 Anne Bartley
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley
TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer DATE November 4, 1976
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HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER
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DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION EST: DATE
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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

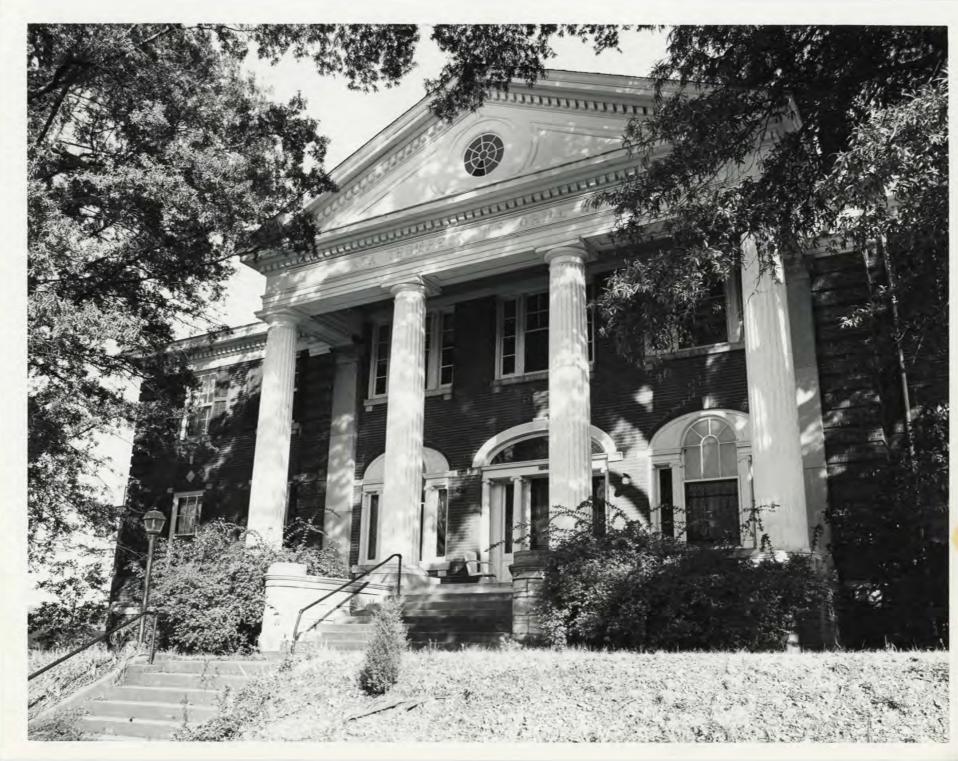
The attached property, the Ada Thompson Memorial Home, in Pulaski County, Arkansas, reference number 77000272, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 08/03/1977, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 7, 1978, Part II, Vol. 43, No. 26, page 5171. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

Date

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name	County, State	Reference Number
Thompson, Ada, Memorial Home	Pulaski, Arkansas	77000272
The following Core Docume	ntation is missing	from this entry:
The renewing core became		mom ems emery.
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Photographs		
Photographs		
USGS Map		



1. ADA Thompson memorial Home Pulaski county, Arkansas facade, viewed from the southwest

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Ada Thompson Memorial Home

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN Little Rock

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET facade, viewed from the southwest

РНОТО NO.



2. ADA-Thompson memorial Home Pulaski County, Arkansas South Elevation, viewed from the south

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

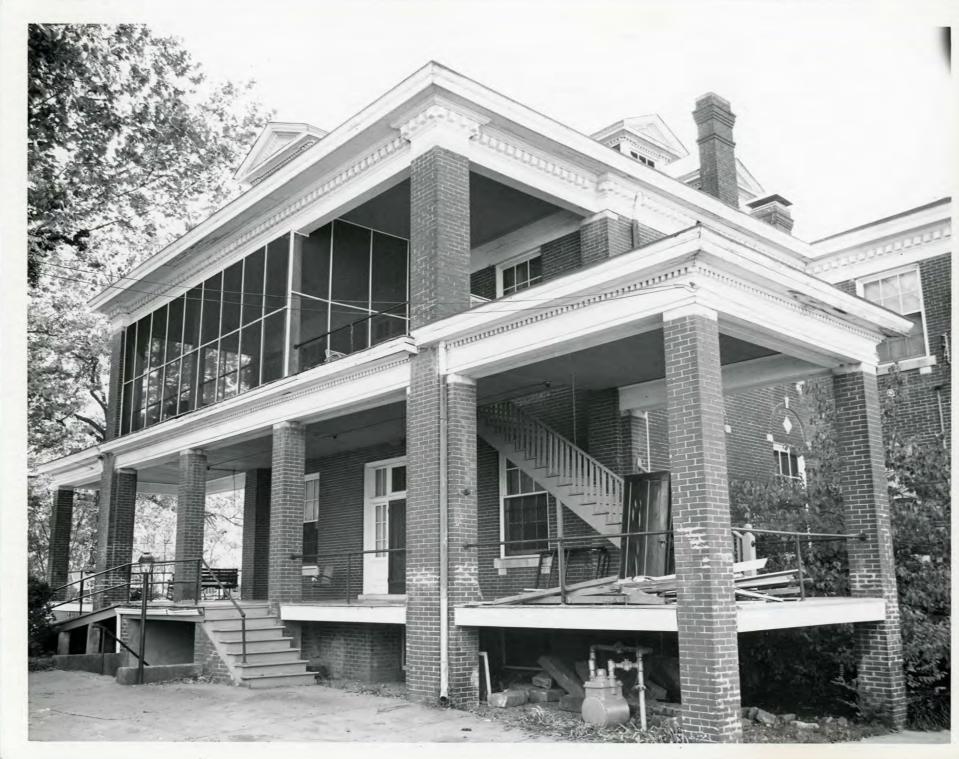
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET south elevation, viewed from the south

PHOTO NO.

2



3. ASA Thompson memorial Home Pulaski County, Arkansas EAST ElEVATION, VIEWED From the Northeast

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STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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DATE OF PHOTO

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4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET east elevation, viewed from the northeast

РНОТО NO.

INT: 2983-75

1976



4. ADA Thompson memorial Home Pulaski County, Arkansas North Elevation, VIEWED from the East

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2 LOCATION

CITY. TOWN Little Rock

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

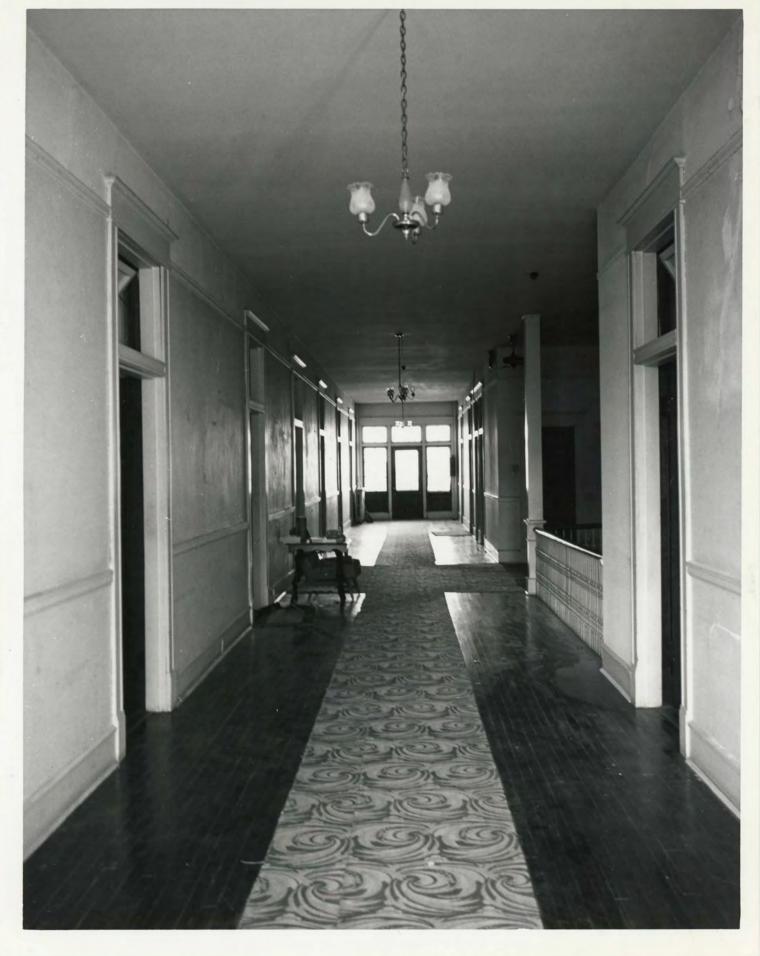
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4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET north elevation, viewed from the north

PHOTO NO.



5. ADA Thompson MEMOCIAL HOME PULASKI COUNTY, ACKANSAS hallway, 2nd floor

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

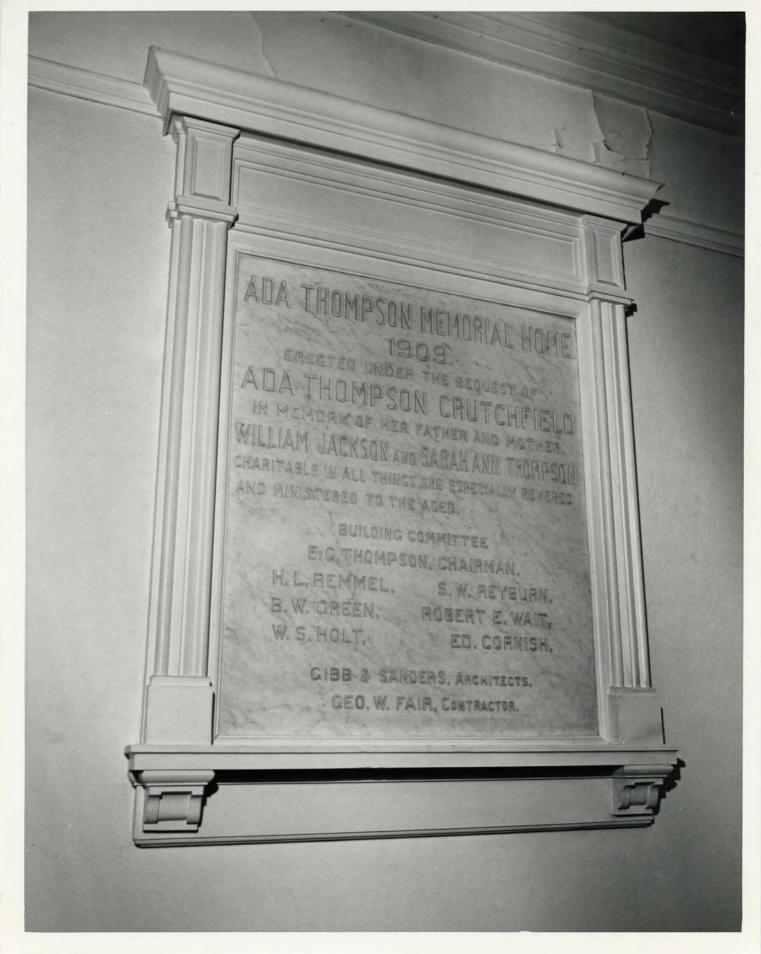
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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET hallway, second floor

РНОТО NO.



Palaski County, Arkansas
Plague in 1st Floor Entry

Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET plaque in first floor entry

РНОТО NO.



9. ADA Thompson MEMORIAI HOME PULASKI COUNTY, ACKANSAS HALLWAY, 1 ST FLOOR

> Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

> > UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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PHOTO CREDIT

Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO

1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET hallway, first floor

7 PHOTO NO.

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 4 1977

DATE ENTERED AUG 3 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Ada Thompson Memorial Home

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN Little Rock

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Pulaski

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE

1:24,000

DATE 1961 (photorevised 1970)

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Telephone: (501) 371-2763

November 10, 1976

Dr. & Mrs. F. H. Roy 2021 Main Little Rock, Arkansas 72206

> Re: Ada Thompson Memorial Home Pulaski County

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Roy:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the Ada Thompsom Memorial Home which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their December meeting. If approved, the nomination will be submitted to the National Register office in Washington for final consideration.

The National Register of Historic Places is a listing of historic sites, buildings, objects and districts from all across the country that are worthy of preservation.

Entry in the National Register is an honor which places no obligation on a private owner. It does, however, provide protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from federally financed, assisted or licensed projects that might affect a National Register property.

If you have any questions concerning the program or your property's nomination, please contact Sandra Taylor of our staff.

Enclosed are two copies of this letter. Please complete the form below, sign and return the original to our office. The copy is for your files. We would appreciate receiving any comments you might have concerning the nomination of this property. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, your approval will be assumed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Woodard

Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

BW:emf

I approve of the above property being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

No.

Comments:

(date)

(signature)

J. Hongson Mancy N. Roy