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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

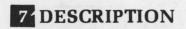
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1877 for Samuel H. Stitt, one of the leading, pioneer hotel men in Hot Springs, Arkansas, the wood-frame, two-storey Stitt House follows the general pattern of eclectic Victorian architecture by combining Queen Anne styling with a more exotic design type, in this instance Italianate, and then perhaps featuring a few unique contributions by the architect.

Set beneath the forested slopes of North Mountain, the house surprises the viewer, accustomed to the irregular-complex outline of most Queen Anne homes, with its unusually symmetrical silhouette. Although a certain sense of planned balance is suggested by the overall appearance of the north (front) elevation, the individual details are diverse, and the rear sections of the house are abandoned to the twists and angles characteristic of picturesque architecture.

The facade of the main (north) elevation is divided into three sections; two similar two-storey wings flank a one-and-one-half-storey central pavilion, which is partially obscured by an ell-shaped entrance porch. The two flanking wings are similar in size, roof form (hipped), and window fenestration. Bilateral symmetry is avoided by the unusual structural treatment found on the corners of the two wings. The corner of the east wing is differentiated by a one-storey oblique indentation, which causes the squared corner of the second storey to thrust forth over empty space. In contrast, the west wing is buttressed with a one-storey oblique, structural projection. Also unique to the west wing is a cornice-like stringcourse, which runs from the eaves of the entrance porch roof to the cornice of the roof covering the oblique projection.

Noteworthy features of the entrance porch are the Italianate arches formed by the connected brackets of the heavy chamferred supporting posts. A filigreed rail encloses the lower portion of the porch, and a cathedral ceiling slopes up over the section of the porch fronting the doorway.

The central pavilion of the Stitt House, nestled between the taller wings, is distinguished by its hipped-gable wall dormer, centered by a small arch window with drip mold. The apex of the dormer is masked by a large amount of heavy scroll-work.

Most windows are double-hung, 1/1 sash type, surrounded by simple encasements. These tall, rectangular windows are ranged about the wall surfaces singly and in pairs. The main doorway is double-leaf with lites above single panels.

The rear sections of the house form a diverse arrangement of pavilions and dormers. The roofing over these sections is irregular, and four randomly set chimneys occupy various crevices among the ridges. A raised brick foundation sustains the building.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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JUN 21 1976

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DATE ENTERED 5,3.76

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

The owner's name listed in section four of the nomination form should read Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Patterson.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 1

Alterations have not impaired the historical authenticity of the exterior of the house. Louvered shutters have been removed from the windows, and a carport has been attached to the rear elevation. No other alterations are known to have occurred.

Odd-shaped rooms and an irregular floor plan characterize the use of space inside the Stitt House. Hardwood trim and a small decorative stairway are the most picturesque features to be found in the interior. The original mantels and flooring, which were intended for the ballroom of the Hotel Arlington (also built by Stitt), are still in excellent condition. A striking Victorian decorative scheme is found in the choice of furniture and wallpaper. Modernization of the kitchen and utility and plumbing systems are the only major alterations to the interior.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

RECEIVED June 21, 1976

DATE ENTERED 5.3.76

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 2

The statement found in paragraph 8, sentence 7 indicates that the car port was a later addition to the house. This is incorrect. The car port was built with the house as a porte-cochere for use by carriages.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
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1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		business

SPECIFIC DATES

1877

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stitt House has served as the residence of some of the most noted of Hot Springs' historical personages. Completed in 1877 for Samuel H. Stitt, an entrepreneur whose enterprise in the hotel industry helped establish Hot Springs as a premier resort city, the house also was the last residence of William Gaines, an early settler, prominent businessman and major landowner, and it was the birthplace of the nationally known artist, Herbert Stitt. Furthermore, the Stitt House is a large and well-preserved example of eclectic Victorian architecture.

Born in Dorsetshire, England, Samuel H. Stitt settled in Hot Springs in 1870, where he immediately entered a partnership with local financeer, William Gaines, for the construction of the first large hotel in the city, the Hot Springs Hotel. Five years later he married Gaines' daughter, Augusta, and then contracted for the construction of the first Arlington Hotel. In a simultaneous venture he financed the building of his home on Park Avenue, the S. H. Stitt House (the Stitt House).

The Arlington Hotel of 1875 was at that time the finest hotel in the state. With two hundred guest rooms, it was equipped with gas lighting and electric bells, which were connected between each room and the main office. Some of the lumber intended for the ballroom floor in the Arlington was used for the flooring in Stitt's new two-storey, wood-frame house (the Stitt House).

Today this home remains in excellent condition, appearing almost exactly as it did on the day of its completion. For a structure which followed an eclectic Victorian pattern, the house presents an unusually symmetrical appearance. On the north (front)elevation two two-storey flanking wings rise above the one-and-one-half storey central pavilion. While the two wings are similar in appearance, bilateral symmetry is prevented by the diverse treatment accorded their corners. The corner of the east wing is differentiated by a one-storey oblique indentation, which causes the squared-corner of the second-floor to stand out over empty space. In contrast, the west wing is buttressed with a one-storey, oblique projection. Nestled between the tall wings is the central mass, distinguished by its central, hipped-gable wall dormer. The dormer is centered by a small arch window with drip mold and its apex is masked by a large amount of heavy scrollwork.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE 1

DATE ENTERED

A large entrance porch completes the frontal appearance of the building. Noteworthy features on the porch are the Italianate arches, formed by connected brackets attached to the chamferred supporting posts. A filigreed rail enclosed the lower portion of the porch, and a cathedral ceiling slopes up over the section of the porch fronting the doorway.

Most windows are double-hung, 1/1 sash type, surrounded by simple encasements. These tall, rectangular windows are ranged about the wall facings singly and in groups of two. The main doorway is doubleleaf with lites above single panels.

All pretense to symmetry is abandoned on the extensive rear section of the house, which is a diverse jumble of pavilions and dormers set under an irregular roof.

Odd-shaped rooms and an irregular floor plan characterize the use of space inside the house. Hardwood trim, a small decorative stairway and the original mantels are the most picquresque features to be found on the interior. Alterations, which have been minor, have not impaired the integrity of either the exterior or the interior, and the estate on which the home rests remains in its original condition.

In the years following the completion of his home in 1877 Samuel Stitt acquired control of a virtual hotel empire in Hot Springs. A second Arlington replaced the first one in 1893. This hotel was a massive five-storey, dark-red brick structure, designed in the Spanish Renaissance style. Encompassing more than five hundred rooms, the new Arlington established a reputation as one of the best hotels in the state. In addition to his personal control of the Arlington Hotel, Samuel Stitt, through his position as president of the Arlington Hotel Company, managed the Hotel Eastman, commonly known as the "Monarch of the Glen." Hotel Eastman, at the time of its 1890 construction, was perhaps the largest hotel in the United States (520 rooms). Samuel Stitt before his death in 1913 did more than possibly any other hotel owner-manager to provide accommodations suitable for a first-class resort.

Two other well-known Hot Springs citizens spent periods of varying lengths in the Stitt House. William Gaines lived in the house for the last six years of his life (1888-1894). He had come to Hot Springs in 1851, whereupon he married Miss Maria Belding. After the marriage, William Gaines pressed the land claim of Miss Belding's deceased father, Ludivicus, who, as a pioneer settler in 1828, had laid claim to much of the land upon which Hot Springs was built. The claim was disputed by at least three

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

8

other major claimants. William Gaines initiative in the matter resulted in a governmental settlement, which allowed him to buy an extensive amount of property within the city.

One of the children of Samuel and Augusta Stitt, Herbert Stitt, grew up in the house. His interest in art led him to Boston, Massachusetts, where he won fame as an illustrator. Included among his work are several cover illustrations for the Saturday Evening Post.

The Stitt House has been occupied by three individuals whose lives were either closely connected with the history of Hot Springs or whose achievements transcended the local level and received national recognition. Furthermore, the Stitt House is a century-old example of eclectic Victorian architecture, which survives intact and in good condition.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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In paragraph 12, sentence 2 Boston Massachusetts is listed as the home of artist Herbert Stitt. In actuality Herbert Stitt lived in Baltimore, Maryland.

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Porch, morth elevation, usewedfrom the north

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number May 6,1976
Title: Stitt House
Hot Springs, Ark. Garland Count
Loc. Porch - north elevation,
View from north

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

PEC 2 9 1975
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Hot Springs

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COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

1 of 7





PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

nps Number May 3, 1976

Title: Stitt House

Hot Springs, Ark. Garland County

Loc. North elevation view from

northwest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hot Springs

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

2 47



Still three

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Num er May 3, 1976

Title: Stitt House

Hot Springs, Ark. Garland County

Loc. West wing, north elevation

Viewed From northwest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED DEC 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN

Hot Springs

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

3 47



PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number May 3, 1976	Su
Title: Stift House	3
Hot Springs Ark. Garland County	3
Loc. East wing, north elevation	n
viewed from north	Sa
	X

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hot Springs

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

РНОТО НО.

4 047



Statt House Hot Springe East-elevation viewed from the hortheast

(5)

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number May 3, 1976
Title: Stitt House
Hot Springs, Ark. Garland Cou
Loc. East elevation viewed
from north east

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7'+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hot Springs

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

IDENTIFICATION

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

5 of 7



Statl House Hot Springs



8

south elevation viewed from the southwest

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number May 3,1976
Title: Stitt House
Hot Springs Ark. Garland Count
Loc. South elevation viewed
From southwest

647

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

NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

2 LOCATION

CITY TOWN Hot Springs

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

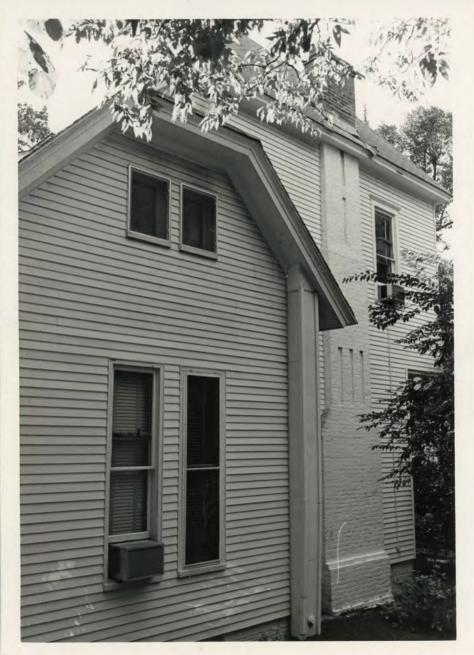
NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

6 47



Still House Hot Springs East clevation

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS	Number May 3, 1976
Tit	10: Stitt House
	Hot Springs, Ark Garland County
Loc	. Feas East elevation viewed
	From southeast

Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7 +)

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

T NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hot Springs

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

7 of

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

RECEIVED DEC 2 9 1975

DATE ENTERED MAY 3 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Stitt-Patterson House

AND/OR COMMON

Stitt House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Hot Springs

____VICINITY OF

COUNTY Garland

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey, Hot Springs North Quadrangle

SCALE

1.24000

DATE 1966

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered MAY 3 1976

Name

Our Lady of Perpatual Help Church

(St. Mary's Church)

Dunham, Joseph Starr, House

O'Neel-Blackburn House

Blakely House

Stitt House

Short-Dodson House

Dearing House

Location

Alter Meinity Franklin County

Van Buren

Crawford County

Daisy Vicinity

Pike County

Social Hill Vicinity Hot Springs County

not straigh come

Hot Springs Garland County

Hot Springs Garland County

Newark Vicinity Independence County

Also Notified

Hen. John Himpschallan

Hon. John P. Herererschmidt

Hon. Ray Thornton Hon. Bill Alexander

Regional Director, Southwest Region

PR:M Mott:coc 5/5/76

State Historic Preservation Officer Hs. Anne Bartley Acting Director Department of Natural and Culture

fleritage The Old State House

300 West Markham Little Rock, Arkansas 72201



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



FIRST STATE CAPITOL • 300 WEST MARKHAM • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

on 5,3-76

June 8, 1976

Mr. Charles Herrington Office of Nomination & Review National Park Service-National Register Department of the Interior



Re: Stitt House Hot Springs Garland County, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Herrington:

Washington, D.C. 20240

The owner of the Stitt House has brought to my attention several corrections to the structure's nomination which are listed on the attached continuation sheets.

If any further information is needed or if there are any questions please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

State Historic Preservation Officer

THE	NATIONAL REGISTER OF host and the second
DAT	E REC'D JUN 2 1 1976
	INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTAGELO)
	INFORM TIVE MOTO POLICIONE
***	(Lightone CALL (ArtACALD)
DATE	E ACTION TAKEN
INITI	ALS

*NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SH Stitt House 5.3.76 051 (6)NPS REGION city / town county vicinity of Garland Hot Springs 10 FUNDED? DYES ON 11 CONGRESS DISTRICT 3 SOURCE OF NOMINATION PRIVATE ORGANIZATION CONDITION deteriorated Zaltered Soriginal site 17 features: SSUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 Sexcellent Pruins unaltered moved good unexposed Dreconstructed Dunknown SUNKNOWN -6 Dfair unexcavated Dexcavated ≥ NOT APPLICABLE-7 ONOT APPLICABLE- 9 BACCESS XYES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes Ino 21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: 22 CLAIMS: explain D POLITICS / GOVT . - 21 RECREATION -28 DENGINEERING - 11 'first' MCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2 COMMERCE - 6 ENTERTAINMENT - 26 RELIGION - 22 LITERATURE - 17 SCIENCE- 23 'oldest' ☐ AGRICULTURE -3 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) MILITARY - 18 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS - 9 MUSIC - 19 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 'only' DART-5 EDUCATION-10 PHILOSOPHY - 20 ASSOCIATION 23 functions adates of initial construction: 1877 WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: residence major alterations: CURRENTLY: ditto historic events: architectural style(s): architect: master builder: engineer: Eclectic alandscape architect/garden designer: interior decorator: artist: martisan: builder/contractor: NAMES give role & date . PERSONAL: Samuel H. Still - promunent hotel entrepreneur - carry resident EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL: MATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Frame, clap boarding, brick foundation; It and 2-story sections, irregular shape, hipped 8 dipped gabled 180f Sections, interior chimneys, front off-center glazed double-door entrance with triangular transonn 1-story bracketed arcaded porch, elaborate hammer-beamed front clipped gable, t-story rectangular corner bay, t story bracketed side bay with 12-over-12 windows, porte-cochere; interior features original mantels & woodwork; minor alterations. Edectic. Built for prominent noted entrepreneur, Samuel H. Stitt, who was active in the establishment of Hot Springs as a premier resort city. prominent reviewers initials Geoff date 10-11