

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90001827

Date Listed: 12/6/90

Porter, Lamar, Athletic Field
Property Name

Pulaski
County

ARKANSAS
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for | Patrick Andrews
Signature of the Keeper

5/27/91
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 3

This nomination is amended to increase the number of contributing structures to 6 and to add 2 non-contributing structures. The 5 contributing objects and 2 non-contributing objects are deleted.

Section No. 8

The nomination is also amended to add Criterion A, with Social History added as an area of significance.

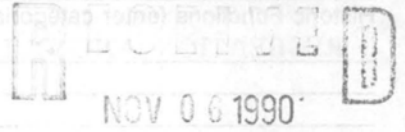
These changes were confirmed by phone with the Arkansas SHPO (5/27/91)

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

1827

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lamar Porter Athletic Field
other names/site number

2. Location

street & number North West Corner of Johnson Street not for publication n/a
city, town Little Rock vicinity n/a
state Arkansas code AR county Pulaski code 119 zip code 72205

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
1	_____ structures
5	2 objects
6	2 Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

10-29-90
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Entered in the
National Register

Andrew Byrum

12/6/90

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/ sports facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION/Sports facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: WPA Construction

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls concrete

roof tin

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Lamar Porter Athletic Field includes a steel-beam support, poured concrete grandstand with masonry laid cobblestone walkways in the southeast corner of the property and along the first-base line on the east side of the field. There is a masonry laid fieldstone water fountain with a low, three-sectioned wall surrounding it and a concrete and fieldstone drainage culvert traversed by a fieldstone and concrete bridge just outside the west side fence. The field is surrounded by a chain-link fence and contains a non-contributing batting cage on the east side of the field and wooden bleachers in the northeast corner.

Elaboration

The Lamar Porter Athletic Field is a regulation-sized baseball field with an angular U-shaped plan and a steel-beam supported, poured concrete grandstand to which more recent wooden benches have been added and a metal shed roof. There is an access stairway and catwalk on the west end of the grandstand. The entrance faces southeast and has slant-roofed interior hallways heading east and north. A concession stand, bathrooms, equipment rooms and dressing rooms lie off of the hallways.

A field of masonry laid cobblestone lies before the entrance elevation. Masonry laid cobblestone walks follow the first- and third-base lines on the east and south sides of the ballfield.

The entrance elevation includes an arched tunnel entrance with a centrally pivoted chain-link door and glazed black tile on the lower portion.

The original dugouts on the south and east legs of the grandstand have been filled in with cinder blocks and later added shed-roofed bullpens sit on the field in front of those positions.

A concrete and fieldstone drinking fountain sits near the northeast corner of the field. It is surrounded by a low concrete and stone wall that is separated into three segments.

On the west end of the field, outside the left-field fence, is a poured concrete drainage culvert with masonry set fieldstone walls. It is traversed by a masonry arch bridge about two-thirds of the way to Brown Street.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1936

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2.5

UTM References

A

1	5
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5	6	3	3	4	0
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3	8	4	4	8	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

C

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B

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Zone Easting Northing

D

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description : Beginning at the Northwest corner of Johnson and Seventh Streets, thence Westerly one block to the Northeast corner of Seventh and Brown, thence Northerly to a point formed by the intersection with a perpendicular line running along the South edge of Sixth Street, thence Easterly to the intersection with the western edge of Johnson, thence Southerly to the point of beginning. (NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 5, Township 1 North, Range 12 West, Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mark Christ, Public Information Officer date October 16, 1990
 organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program telephone (501) 324-9346
 street & number 225 East Markham, Suite 300 state AR zip code 72201
 city or town Little Rock

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

Criterion C, local significance

The Lamar Porter Athletic Field is a regulation baseball field featuring a steel-beam supported, poured concrete grandstand that survives in its original location as the earliest site associated with the Boys' Club in Little Rock.

Elaboration

The Boys' Club movement started in 1860 with the founding of the Dashaway Boys' Club, which provided supervised after-school activities and leadership training for disadvantaged boys in Hartford, Conn. That club, and all those that followed, were "dedicated to helping boys become productive, responsible citizens" by teaching good citizenship, participating in community and youth betterment campaigns, and through activities stressing physical fitness and mental and manual skills. The clubs, which remain nonsectarian in control, leadership and membership, are typically located in or near densely populated areas. Membership fees are kept low so no boy will be turned away for lack of money.

In 1906, 53 separate clubs across the U.S. joined together as the Boys Club Federation of America. The name of the group was changed to the Boys' Club of America in 1931, and that organization was formally chartered by Congress in 1956. While they share a national identity, each individual Boys Club is guided by its own board of directors. The national headquarters is in New York City; there are eight regional offices that guide and assist local operations.

Little Rock's Boys' Club has its roots in a "Newsboys' Club" founded around 1912 when a group of young men led by T.J. Craighead borrowed local YMCA facilities on Wednesday nights to help local "heroes of the streets" seek better lives. Up to 150 "urchins" showed up to use the Y facilities most Wednesdays. (Craighead, the first executive director of the Little Rock Boys' Club, remained active in the organization throughout his life, finally retiring as a regional director in 1959.)

The "Newsboys' Club" then became the "Citizenship Club," a group dedicated to "bettering street boys of the city," and from this organization the Little Rock Boys' Club was born.

The Little Rock Boys' Club officially began July 14, 1914, when an organizational meeting was held. That meeting was supervised by John Melpolder, who had managed the Indianapolis Boys' Club for seven years.

There was a true need for a Boys' Club in Little Rock, which faced a growing juvenile delinquency problem in the absence of mandatory schooling and adequate recreational facilities. (It was not until 1917 that the State of Arkansas passed a mandatory school law. That law

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

required parents or guardians of children aged 7 to 15 to send their children to a public, private or parochial school for at least 3/4 of the length of the common school term in the district in which they resided or face a \$10 fine for each violation. "Weak-minded" children and those whose labor was necessary for the support of a widowed mother were exempt from the provisions of the law.) Local youths "had formed gangs and were committing depredations here and there," including gambling, drinking and petty thievery.

After the club was organized, volunteer workers sought to befriend the gangs of rambunctious youths. The youngsters were initially suspicious, but gradually came to accept membership in the club and to invite their friends to take part in activities.

After getting the young gang members to come to the club, the volunteer workers would break the youths up into teams, which would then elect captains and engage in "games of strength and skill with other groups."

"In other words, they utilized the very gangs into which the boys had formed themselves and through the use of the leader properly directed the activities of the gang members, thus welding with force the same weapon which the boys had used to harass society," an Arkansas Democrat article explained.

The club was an immediate success, from society's point of view. The local probation officer reported a 50 percent drop in juvenile delinquency after the first month the program was in operation.

The Boys' Club had a financially shaky first year, but the local Elks Lodge stepped in the second year and proposed to finance the club for a year. After that, it apparently was self-sustaining through dues, fund-raisers, and donations.

By 1916, the Boys' Club offered an employment bureau that helped members find jobs and printing equipment that enabled the youths to issue publications.

The Little Rock Boys' Club grew rapidly. It left its original home at the old Presbyterian Church at Fifth and Scott in 1916 and moved to the Fulk Building at 317 West Markham, where there would be more space for its 150 members. By 1921, it was hoping to acquire even larger quarters that would allow lodging of some boys. The club had grown "from a small organization with no equipment and a few boys to an organization with equipment for carpentry and printing classes, a splendid library, well-equipped meeting and game rooms and a complete gymnasium." It had 650 members.

In 1924, the Boys' Club acquired the Concordia Club at 8th and Scott, buying the 30,000-square-foot structure for \$42,500 in donated funds. Boys' Club officials, who had turned some

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3

potential members away for lack of space at the previous facilities, predicted the new site would allow membership of up to 1,500 children.

The Concordia Club building was razed by fire in 1929, but undaunted Club leaders vowed to build a new one on the same site. The structure was finished by 1931, using \$150,000 in funds donated in what Executive Director J.W. "Billy" Mitchell described as "one of the first, black Depression years." The original Little Rock Boys' Club, later renamed in Mitchell's honor, remained in that building until moving to facilities adjacent to the Lamar Porter Athletic Field in 1978. (The building was designed in a Colonial Revival style by the Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio partnership in 1930. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places 12/22/82 as part of the Charles Thompson thematic listing.)

While the Little Rock Boys' Club was the first in the Pulaski County, others followed. A North Little Rock Boys' Club was affiliated in 1923; nine years later it had acquired spacious accommodations at 419 1/2 Main Street and boasted 700 members. By 1967, there were three clubs in Little Rock: The original, at 801 Scott; the South End Boys' Club at 721 W. 33rd; and the Dunbar Boys' Club at 1624 Ringo. There were two clubs in North Little Rock: The North Little Rock Boys' Club at 13th and Main and the East End Boys' Club at 5th and Palm.

By 1979, the three Little Rock Boys' Clubs had moved to their present locations: Billy Mitchell Boys' Club, built in 1978 at 3107 W. Capitol; James H. Penick Boys' Club, also built in 1978, at 1201 Leisure Lane, just west of University Avenue on 12th Street; and William E. Thrasher Boys' Club, which opened in 1972, at 3301 S. State. The Mitchell Club had 280 members, Penick had 1,084 and Thrasher had about 1,000 members. "The moves reflect the clubs' decisions to follow growth patterns and move to residential areas where the boys are," a 1979 newspaper article explained.

One of the bellwether events of the early years of the Little Rock Boys' Club was construction of the Lamar Porter Athletic Field.

Lamar Porter was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Q.L. Porter of Little Rock, born Aug. 17, 1913. He was educated in Little Rock's public schools, attended Little Rock High School, and graduated from Sewanee Military Academy in Tennessee in 1931. Porter was a junior at Washington and Lee University in Virginia when he was killed May 12, 1934, in an automobile accident between Lexington and Staunton, Va.

The land for the ball field, which is located in what was then western Little Rock, was donated to the Little Rock Boys Club on the first anniversary of his death, which coincidentally fell on Mother's Day. The donors were Porter's mother, his aunt, Mrs. J.D. Jordan, and his brother, Jim S. Porter.

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The 10-acre plot is surrounded by Capital Ave. on the north, Brown Street on the west, Johnson Street on the east and Seventh Street to the south. It is located in an area that was targeted for park purposes in a 1930 planning survey by John Nolen, a nationally renowned city planner and landscape architect who was dismayed by the lack of recreational facilities in Little Rock. It lies about one mile from the 1936 population center, which Nolen said was located at Twelfth and Battery Streets. When the donation was made, the Little Rock Boys' Club served 2,554 boys and 739 girls, who were to be granted use of the facilities at certain times.

Construction on the field by the federal Works Progress Administration began in Fall 1934, and it took 18 months for the complex to reach completion. It took 400 workmen "several weeks" to clear trees, stumps and underbrush from the wooded site; a permanent crew of 100 workmen labored on the project the remainder of the time. The project was deemed finished April 22, 1937, though work still remained on levelling tennis courts and cleaning the grounds.

The total cost of the project was \$122,244.53. The federal government provided \$108,710.82 for the project.

When the complex was complete, it held a lighted softball diamond with underground wiring, four lighted tennis courts, a regulation baseball diamond, a 1,500-seat grandstand complete with club rooms, shower and locker rooms, rest rooms and a concession stand. It was first used by Boys' Club teams in the summer of 1936; by 1937, it was also being used by City Leagues and American Legion teams.

The property also held an apparatus area with swings, slides and jungle gyms; a small children's play area that included hammocks, small slides and kindergarten tables; a play area for older children with facilities for handcrafts and quiet games; and other areas with courts for shuffle board, marbles, horse shoes, handball, volley ball, and table tennis, as well as picnic areas and a "stage for dramatics."

The field was lighted for softball, but the first night baseball game was held at Lamar Porter Field in August 1941. (Young's Tire of North Little Rock beat Craig's of Little Rock, 3-2.) This game was considered an experiment since the field was lighted for softball only. In 1949, the field was lighted for baseball. The World Series of Softball was held there that year.

Throughout its history, the Little Rock Boys' Club produced some outstanding ballplayers, including New York Yankees catcher and manager Bill Dickey and Pat Seerey, an outfielder with the Chicago White Sox. Only one, however, played at Lamar Porter Athletic Field - the outstanding Baltimore Orioles third baseman and Hall of Fame member Brooks Robinson.

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On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Boys Clubs of America, an Arkansas Democrat editorialist mused: "Nobody knows how many youngsters these clubs have saved from misspent, unhappy lives. The number must be very great." The Little Rock Boys' Club, which took juvenile delinquents from the street and instilled in them the virtues of hard work, fair play and good citizenship, did its share in proving that statement.

The Lamar Porter Athletic Field, as the only site remaining from the early days of the Little Rock Boys' Club, is most closely associated with the roots and history of that group.

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Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Herndon, Dr. Dallas T., Annals of Arkansas 1947. The Historical Record Association, Hopkinsville, KY, Little Rock, AR. P. 406.

Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 4. 1986. Grolier Inc., Danbury, CT.

Who Was Who in America, Vol. 1, 1897-1942. The A. N. Marquis Co., 1942, Chicago.

Little Rock Associated Amateurs, Baseball Encyclopedia of the Little Rock City League 1928-1957, pamphlet by Roderick N. Dew.

"Will Organize Boys' Club Tonight." July 14, 1914 Arkansas Democrat.

"Boys Club Issues New Publication." Aug. 13, 1916 Arkansas Gazette.

"Little Rock Boys' Club One of the Most Progressive in South, to Have New Home." Nov. 6, 1921 Arkansas Democrat.

"New Local Boys' Club" July 27, 1924 Arkansas Democrat.

"North Side Boys' Club Boon to Parents as Well as Youngsters." Aug. 21, 1932 Arkansas Gazette.

"Lamar Porter Athletic Field, Gift to Club in Tribute to His Memory," May 12, 1935 Arkansas Gazette.

"Big Playground for Boys' Club as Memorial to Local Youth," May 12, 1935 Arkansas Democrat.

"Lamar Porter Field Completed." April 23, 1937 Arkansas Gazette.

"Memorial Athletic Field of Little Rock Boys' Club is Now Ready for Use," May 15, 1937 Boys Club Bulletin.

"Greater Little Rock Boys' Clubs Exemplify American Idea of Molding Nation's Youth." March 27, 1949 Arkansas Gazette.

"Arkansas Boys' Clubs Celebrate 50th Year." Jan. 25, 1956 Arkansas Democrat.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 2

"50th Year of Boys' Club." Jan. 30, 1956 Arkansas Democrat.

"Five Pulaski Boys' Clubs Provide Plan Designed for Juvenile Decency." April 9, 1967
Arkansas Democrat.

"One of Founders of LR Boys' Club, Its 1st Director, Drops By for Visit." September 19,
1967 Arkansas Gazette.

"Boys' Clubs at LR: More Than Just Recreation." Jan. 14, 1979 Arkansas Gazette.



LAMAR PORTER
BOYS CLUB
ATHLETIC FIELD

DEAD
END

Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Little Rock, Arkansas

Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Grandstand from southeast

Pulaski &



Samuel Porter Athletic Field
Little Rock, Arkansas

Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed on June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

View of field from southeast.

Pulaski Co



Lamar Porter Athletic Field
Little Rock, Arkansas

Pulaski a

Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Grandstand interior from south



near Porter Field

Little Rock, Arkansas

photographed by A. Albright

photographed June 6, 1990

negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Grandstand from southwest

Pulaski Co



Mar Porter Athletic Field
Little Rock, Arkansas
Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas
Grandstand from northeast

Juliusia

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program



Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Pulaski Co

Little Rock, Arkansas

Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Detail of grandstand from southeast



War Porter Athletic Field
Little Rock, Arkansas
Photographed by A. Albright
Photographed June 6, 1990
Negative on file at Arkansas Historic
Interior of grandstand from southeast

Pulaski Co

Preservation Program



USA

1936

WPA

Lamar Porter Athletic Field
Little Rock, Arkansas

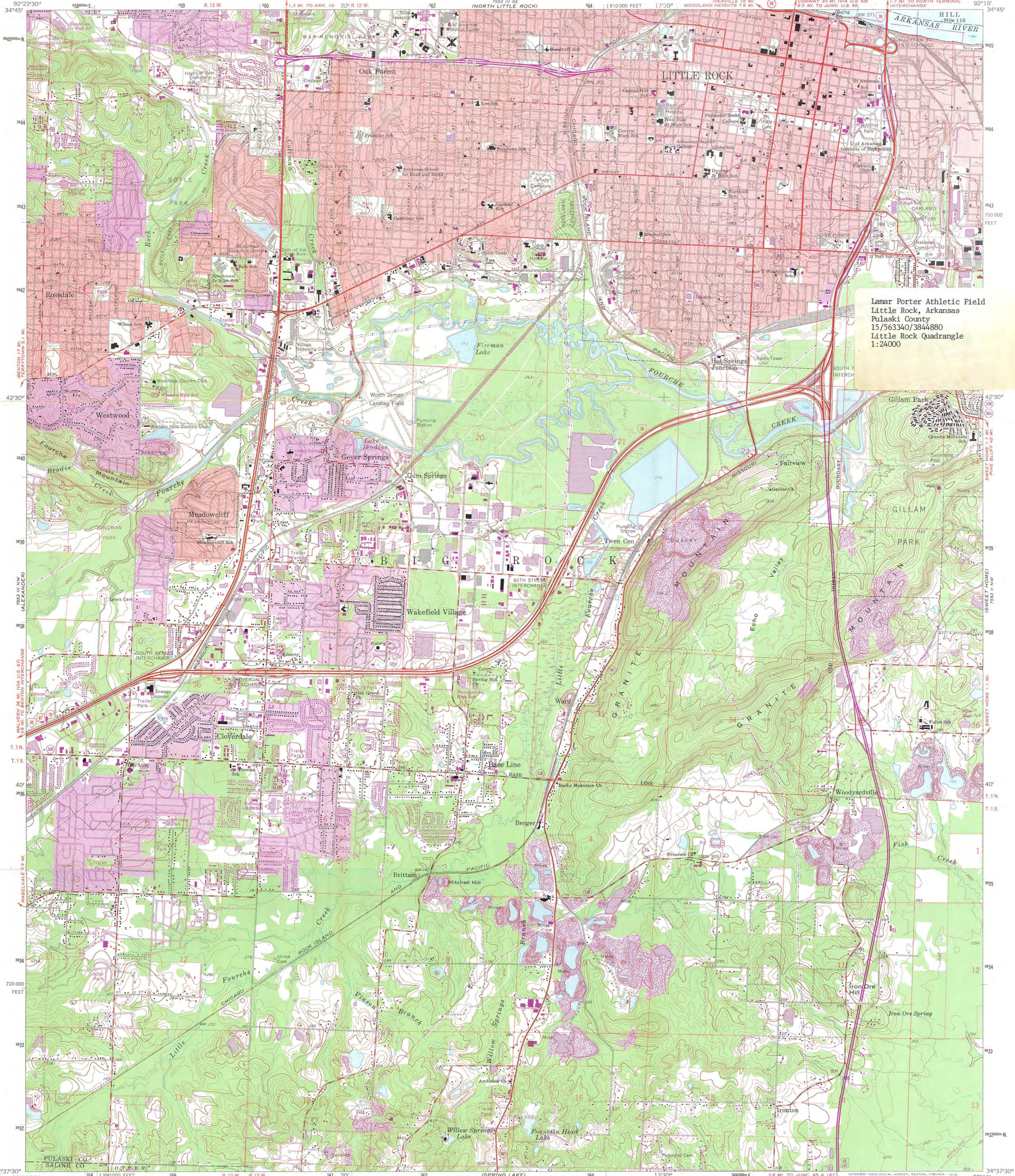
Pulaski Co

Photographed by A. Albright

Photographed June 6, 1990

Negative on file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Detail of grandstand from southeast



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

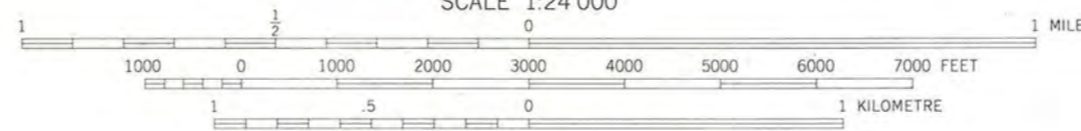
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1961

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone
1000-metre Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1970 and 1975. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DOTTED LINES REPRESENT 5-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

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

LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
N3437.5-W9215.7.5

1961
PHOTOREVISED 1970 AND 1975
AMS 7553 III NE-SERIES V884

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2012

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 1

The revised resource count for the Lamar Porter Athletic Field is as follows.

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
		sites
1		structures
6	2	objects
7	2	Total

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

The purpose of this additional documentation and boundary increase is to update the resource count of the nomination and to increase the boundary so that the entire field falls within the listed boundary.

When Lamar Porter Athletic Field was listed in the National Register on December 6, 1990, the nomination described that, "on the west end of the field, outside the left-field fence, is a poured concrete drainage culvert with masonry set fieldstone walls. It is traversed by a masonry arch bridge about two-thirds of the way to Brown Street." However, the drainage culvert is actually traversed by two identical bridges, one near the northern end of the culvert and one near the southern end. Both bridges consist of concrete arches with fieldstone walls. The updated resource count takes into account the bridge that was omitted in 1990.

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National Park Service

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Section number 10 Page 1

REVISED ACREAGE

The revised acreage is approximately 6.5 acres.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary description submitted in 1990 actually cut out about one-third of the field, specifically much of right field. The revised boundary description has been expanded so that the entire field is included in the nominated area.

The revised boundary description is as follows:

Beginning on the eastern edge of Brown Street at UTM 15/563171/3845185 (34.746846, -92.309835), proceed easterly perpendicular to the east side of Brown Street for 625 feet to the west side of Johnson Street at UTM 15/563362/3845178 (34.746757, -92.307754), thence proceed southerly 440 feet along the west edge of Johnson Street to UTM 15/563358/3845037 (34.745489, -92.307802) at the corner of West 7th Street, thence proceed westerly for 625 feet along the north side of West 7th Street to Johnson Street at UTM 15/563168/3845052 (34.745632, -92.309885), thence proceed northerly along the east side of Johnson Street for 440 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The original 1990 nomination indicated that "this boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource," which was incorrect. The 1939 Sanborn map for the City of Little Rock indicated that the complex originally encompassed the entire block (Block 19). The revised boundary encompasses the portion of the block that retains integrity. (The northern portion of the block has been compromised by the construction of a new Boys' and Girls' Club building.)



LAMAR PORTER ATHLETIC FIELD

PULASKI COUNTY, AR

RALPH S. WILCOX

MARCH 2012

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM, LITTLE ROCK, AR

VIEW OF BRIDGE, LOOKING NORTHEAST

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Porter, Lamar Athletic Field (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE NAME:

~~AD~~
AD

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski County

DATE RECEIVED: 08/10/12 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 09/26/12
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001827

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT PERIOD WAIVED: N REDUCED: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/17/2012 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Accept this as a technical correction to the VBD of the nomination. The original VBD described 2 different areas and one reading of it put the boundary through the property. This serves to provide an accurate VBD.
(And Resource Count)

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept AD [Signature] 9/17/2012
REVIEWER J. Hubbert DISCIPLINE _____

Phone _____ Date _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N [initials] see attached SLR Y/N [initials]

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

National Register of Historic Places

Note to the record

Additional Documentation: 2019

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


**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Porter, Lamar, Athletic Field
Name of Property
Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State
900001827
NR Reference Number

National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- additional documentation accepted
- other (explain:) _____



Signature of the Keeper

_____ Date of Action

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

The Lamar Porter Athletic Field in Little Rock, Arkansas, is being amended to reflect new and addition information, which has come about regarding the WPA construction of the Lamar Porter Athletic Field. There are no other changes to the original National Register Nomination, other than to add to the history of the site.

History of the Boys Club/ Boys and Girls Club

Three women, Mary Goodwin, Alice Goodwin and Elizabeth Hammersley, founded the Boys Club in 1860, in Hartford, Connecticut. The three women believed that “boys who roamed the streets should have a positive alternative.”¹ The Little Rock Boys’ Club was officially organized July 14, 1914, but began out of the Newsboys’ Club in 1912, later known as the Citizenship Club.² It is stated in the Lamar Porter Athletic Field National Register Nomination that, “There was a true need for a Boys’ Club in Little Rock which faced a growing juvenile delinquency problem in the absence of mandatory schooling and adequate recreational facilities. Local youths ‘had formed gangs and *were* committing depredations here and there’ including gambling, drinking and petty thievery.”³ The nomination then goes on to state that “The club was an immediate success, from the society’s point of view. The local probation officer reported a 50 percent drop in juvenile delinquency after the first month the program was in operation.”⁴

The Little Rock Boys’ Club was rapidly expanding over its first couple of years. By 1916, the organization moved from its original location, which was the old First Presbyterian Church, located at Fifth and Scott. The organization then moved to the Fulk Building at 317 Markham, before again moving to the Concordia Club at 8th and Scott in 1924. The Concordia Club Building would burn only a few years later, but the Boys’ Club was rebuilt on the same site in 1931. The Boys’ Club would remain at this site until 1978 when it moved to its current location at 3107 West Capitol Ave. It is during this period between 1931 and 1978, that the Boys Club was renamed the Billy Mitchell Boys in honor of Executive Director J.W. “Billy” Mitchell. It is noted in the National Register Nomination that, “One of the bellwether events of the early years of the Little Rock Boys’ Club was construction of the Lamar Porter Athletic Field.”⁵

The baseball field is named after Lamar Porter, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Q.L. Porter of Little Rock. Lamar graduated from Little Rock High School before attending Sewanee Military Academy, in Sewanee, Tennessee. Following his time at the Sewanee Military Academy, he enrolled at Washington and Lee University, where during his junior year he was killed in a car accident on May 12, 1934.⁶

Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Pulaski County, Arkansas

¹ Boys and Girls Club of America, “Our Mission & Story: History,” <https://www.bgca.org/about-us/our-mission-story>, Accessed 3 August 2018.

² Mark Christ, *Lamar Porter Athletic Field*, Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, 1990.; Norris Guinn and Willis Callaway, *Lamar Porter Field and the Memories of Sports in Little Rock During the 1950s* (Little Rock, Arkansas: NA, 2007), 8.

³ Mark Christ, *Lamar Porter Athletic Field*, Washington D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, National Register of Historic Places, 1990.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Louise Skillern Porter and Pauline Skillern Jordan purchased the 10-acre plot of land, on which the fields, gardens, and Billy Mitchell Boys' and Girls club sit, from Eloise Field Weir and Ernest J. Field, Jr., for the sum of \$10,000 on April 24, 1935, using the James Skillern estate funds.⁷ Less than a month later on the one-year anniversary of Lamar Porter's death, his family including his mother and aunt, donated forty lots, or roughly four city blocks, bound by Capitol Ave on the north, Johnson Street on the east, 7th Street on the south, and Brown Street on the west. The naming of the field was already stated in Resolution No. 1331, between the City of Little Rock and the Skillern heirs, that the field would be known as "the Lamar Porter Boys' Athletic Club Athletic Field."⁸ Though the baseball field is the centerpiece of the entire property today, the goal of the Skillern Estate was to create a wonderful playground for the children of Little Rock that encompassed tennis courts, baseball and softball fields, a clubhouse, horseshoe links and picnic grounds.⁹ It was stated in the *Arkansas Democrat* following the donation of land, that the land being donated was for recreational purposes only, and could never be diverted from recreational use.¹⁰ It is also noted during the official press conference for the donation of the playground, that the tract of land donated was "covered with trees, some of which will be preserved for shade, beauty, and enhancement of picnic delights. A lot of work must be done.... The first thing on the program is a ball diamond, with other furnishings coming along as fast as conditions permit."¹¹ The donation of the land would be turned into a great recreational facility that was badly wanted/needed throughout the city at the time.¹²

Only 3 months into the Works Progress Administration's tenure, Arkansas' contribution to the program was already being hailed as a success. The first WPA funds expended in Arkansas were given out on July 15, 1935. It is through this first allotment of funds that the State Works Progress Administrators set out to put 37,343 relief clients back to work. By October 13, 1935, the administration was more than half way to its goals, as 19,561 relief clients were working on more than 600 projects throughout the states.¹³ The program was set up to help skilled, semi-skilled, professional workers and laborers work five days a week for a total of thirty-five hours, on road work, bridge construction, building construction, drainage ditch improvements, and athletic stadia.¹⁴ One of those stadiums constructed was Lamar Porter Athletic Field.

Between the donation of the land, in May 1935, and the official approval of the Works Progress Administration project (WPA) in August 1935, the donated land sat in limbo. It is unclear at this time

Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Pulaski County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

⁷ Norris Guinn and Willis Callaway, *Lamar Porter Field and the Memories of Sports in Little Rock During the 1950s* (Little Rock, Arkansas: NA, 2007), Part I, Exhibit 3 and 4.

⁸ *Ibid.*, Exhibit 5.

⁹ William Johnson, "Big Playground for Boys' Club as Memorial to Local Youth," *Arkansas Democrat*, Editorial Section, 12 May 1935, 1.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ "19,561 Are Employed on WPA Projects," *Arkansas Democrat*, 13 October 1935, 1-2.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, 2.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

whether it was the plan from the outset of the donation for the Boys' Club, the Skillern Estate, and the City of Little Rock to apply for WPA fund to help in the construction of the park. What is known is that a plan for the development of the site was "worked out," at the time of the official donation announcement.¹⁵ It is also stated in March of 1936, that the Boys' Club gave the 99-year lease with the City of Little Rock so that it would "conform with WPA regulations which hold that no project shall be considered unless it is on public property."¹⁶ The proposal given by the sponsor, probably the City of Little Rock, went into the State WPA office in either the third or fourth batch of potential projects that would be forwarded on to the President of the United States for his administration's approval. The approval letter, sent by the Applications and Information Division through approval by President Roosevelt, was received and reported on August 14, 1935, in the *Arkansas Democrat*. In the article, it states that a total of \$475,675 was approved for work in Arkansas under this batch of projects. Another \$144,664 would be added to this round of projects through sponsorship aid.¹⁷ It then goes on to state...

Included in the allotments approved by the president was a grant of \$56,251 for the construction of a playground at Little Rock. The playground, to be known as Lamar Porter athletic field, will be operated by the Little Rock Boys' Club. Approximately 10 acres of land bound by Brown street on the west, Johnson on the east, Fifth street on the north and Seventh street on the south was given [to] the club by Mrs. J.D. Jordan and Mrs. Q.L. Porter of Little Rock for the establishment of the playground in memory of Mrs. Porter's son.¹⁸

Of the \$56,251 approved by President Roosevelt for the project, the sponsor would have to contribute another \$9,260 to aid in the construction effort as specified in the legal agreement.

Construction began in the middle of September 1935.¹⁹ Given the amount of WPA, PWA and CCC projects going on throughout Little Rock at this time, it was very rare to receive status updates on any project. It was not until October 6, 1935, during the third installment of an eight part daily series that gave status updates on projects in all eight WPA districts in Arkansas. It is in this status update on District 3, which encompasses Little Rock that the citizens of Little Rock were finally given a progress report on Lamar Porter Athletic Field. In the article, it states...

Lamar Porter Athletic Field, at West Seventh and Johnson streets, representing an expenditure of \$61,000, of which \$21,000 is for materials, probably will require six months to complete.

Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas

County and State

¹⁵ William Johnson, "Big Playground for Boys' Club as Memorial to Local Youth," *Arkansas Democrat*, Editorial Section, 1.

¹⁶ Gene Newsom, "Work on Elaborate Playground Is Rushed as Summer Vacations Near," *Arkansas Democrat*, 29 March 1936, Magazine Section, 3.

¹⁷ "\$75,675 WPA Jobs Approved For Arkansas," *Arkansas Democrat*, 14 August 1935, 1.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ Gene Newsom, "Work on Elaborate Playground Is Rushed as Summer Vacations Near," *Arkansas Democrat*, 29 March 1936, Magazine Section, 3.

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Section number 8 Page 4

Work of clearing the tree growth for the baseball diamond has been completed and work will be started on the foundation soon for the grandstand. The stand will be of concrete.²⁰

The same day that the article came out discussing the progress on the project, another article continued to express the great work that the Boys' Club was doing for the young boys of Little Rock. In the article, it states that 2,564 boys and 731 girls are benefitting for the work that the club conducts. It then goes on to state that the club has "long since proved it[s] invaluable worth in property molding, under good influence s and through its many programs, youth from six to 18 years into useful and healthy citizens."²¹

Construction was steadily moving along and by March 1936 it was noted that 63 percent of WPA funds was going towards public buildings and road and bridge improvements and construction, while "an additional 16.3 per cent [sic] will be spent on parks and playgrounds, nationally."²² When broken down at the state level, 6 percent of allotted funds were being used for parks and playgrounds, which included the \$56,251²³ for the Lamar Porter Athletic Field. It is also in late March 1936 that the *Arkansas Democrat* gives a status report while also citing the architecture firm as being Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio. In the article, Frank Ginocchio states, "we have designed the Lamar Porter playground after much observation over the South and we believe it conforms to the very best standards of playground design. It fills a definite social need."²⁴ The article then goes on to describe the progress of the work and description of the structures. It states...

With the pouring of concrete at the Lamar Porter recreation field at seventh and Johnson streets, comes word that the state's most elaborate playground for underprivileged children and adults will be ready for use by early summer. Already the 10-acre tract...is ready for sodding, the preliminary stages of landscaping and ground preparation complete with nearly 200 men at work the whole project is taking shape as an example of what private generosity, civic alertness and WPA co-operation can do for municipal betterment...the massive 300-foot long grandstand. The ground is cut away on each side to allow for dressing rooms and showers. Concrete foundations are set deep to uphold the tremendous weight of the reinforced concrete stand....The grandstand is in three divisions, a center and two wings. The girls dressing room will be beneath the right wing and the boys' beneath the left.... The grandstand will seat 1500 people, will have a wooden roof supported by minimum number of columns and standing as it does on the crest of the slope, will command the entire playground.²⁵

Lamar Porter Athletic Field

Pulaski County, Arkansas

²⁰ "3,785 Working on WPA Jobs in District 3," *Arkansas Democrat*, 6 October 1935, 2.

²¹ "Building Strong Bodies at Boy's Club," *Arkansas Democrat*, 6 October 1935, 2.

²² B.N. Timmons, "Public Works Get Majority Of WPA Funds," *Arkansas Democrat*, March 1936, 14.

²³ It must be stated that the actual dollar amount fluctuates depending on the article, but generally ranges from 53,000 to 56,291.

²⁴ Gene Newsom, "Work on Elaborate Playground Is Rushed as Summer Vacations Near," *Arkansas Democrat*, 29 March 1936, Magazine Section, 3.

²⁵ *Ibid.*

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The article goes on to describe the four tennis courts out past centerfield, and the creek that is being walled with mortared rock, and bridges to traverse the creek. West of the tennis courts would be the picnic area, with tables, benches, fire pits and playground apparatuses located beneath the pines.²⁶ J.W. Mitchell, of the Boys' Club, and for whom the Boys and Girls Club is named after, stated in an interview that "when summer comes and the ground is actually in use with hundreds of children playing to their hearts' content we can truly say that now the Boys' Club offers well rounded recreational service and splendid opportunity to our youth."²⁷

Less than two weeks later another progress report was given stating that the south wing of the grandstand is almost complete, and the sodding and landscaping was finished. It is also noted that the baseball diamond and tennis courts were laid out. The quarter mile long creek/drainage ditch that cuts through the southwest corner of the property was completely walled with native stone, though there was no discussion of the native stone bridge to traverse the ditch/creek. The playground equipment would not be installed until after the grandstand was complete, though the plan was still to have the playground open to the public by July 1.²⁸

The July 1 deadline must have meant July 1937, because by June 14, 1936, the entire project was only 39 percent complete while the grandstand was only 40 percent complete, after an average of 150 men had already worked 166 days on the project. It is also at this time, that it was indicated that the baseball diamond was laid out to Southern League specifications.²⁹ This may explain why the grandstand and baseball diamond was reversed from the corner of Brown and Capital, in preliminary design plans, to the corner of Johnson and Seventh.³⁰ Following a small article on August 9, 1936, there is very little progress described in the newspapers.

The project was eventually completed on April 22, 1937, at a final cost of \$122,244.53, with the federal government, through the WPA, providing \$108,710.82. Though evidence has not been found just yet, this new number suggests that a second WPA grant was received by the sponsor to cover roughly another \$53,000, which may also explain why it took an extra year to complete the project.³¹ In the article discussion on the completion of the project, it did state that the only remaining work that needed to be done, was level the tennis courts and cleanup the grounds.

Though the work was completed, the fun for the community and children was just beginning. Softball tournaments would begin nearly as fast as they could put them on, as many tournaments are discussed in the

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ "Work on WPA Jobs Advances", *Arkansas Democrat*, 12 April 1936, 13.

²⁹ "WPA Construction Projects in Pulaski Moving Forward at Rapid Pace," *Arkansas Democrat*, 16 June 1936, 6.

³⁰ "Lamar Porter Memorial Park," Thompson, Sanders & Ginocchio Collection, Old State House Museum, Little Rock, Arkansas.

³¹ "Lamar Porter Field Completed," *Arkansas Gazette*, 23 April 1937.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

sports section of newspapers throughout the state starting as early as 1938.³² The Boys Club, which would later become the Boys' and Girls Club, would remain at their downtown location until roughly 1978, when it built a new headquarter location at 3107 West Capitol Ave, or located beyond the center field fence. Several other changes took place between initial planning and completion. The tennis courts were initially designed to be located where the, current Boys' and Girls; Club is located, but were moved in the early redesigned layout for the park, to the corner of Johnson and Capitol. The tennis courts would later be removed from the site before being replaced by a softball field. The softball field was initially supposed to be located along the left field line, but was later relocated to the corner of Brown and Capitol sometime between 1943 and 1960. That softball field is still located in that spot. The large baseball field has also changed since it was initially constructed because between 1937 and at least 1960 there was no outfield fence, just a berm or terrace and light poles. The light cost the city roughly \$5 a night to operate, but luckily, they were able to bring in \$30 - \$35 a night game.³³

There is only one documented case where a baseball player hit a fair ball out of the entire park. It was hit in 1954 by Bobby Hiatt, who hit a ball that was claimed to still be rising as it went over the manual scoreboard, which was 370 feet from home plate, and was found in the flower garden of the house at 604 Brown Street. There was chain link fence around the perimeter of the entire park, but this ball was returned to Bobby Hiatt at the end of the tournament.³⁴ (It is probable that the ball bounced over the fence or rolled under the fence, but in any case it was a big feat to accomplish.)

Another great baseball player who played on this field was Pat Seerey, who played at Lamar Porter Field in 1940 for the Little Rock American Legion Doughboys. Pat would go on to play the outfield for the Cleveland Indian (1943-1948) and the Chicago White Sox (1948-1949). Pat was traded by the Cleveland Indian along with Al Gettel to the Chicago White Sox in exchange for Bob Kennedy on June 2, 1948.

However, the most well-known player to ever play on this field is none other than the "Human Vacuum Cleaner" Brooks Robinson. Brooks was born in Little Rock, 26 days after the completion of Lamar Porter Field. His father probably played on one of the softball teams that started playing out here after the stadium was completed, as he played for the International Harvester team in Little Rock.³⁵ He helped operate the manual scoreboard, sell drinks and shagged fly balls. His first organized ball club was playing catcher for the Woodruff School softball team. On a side note, Brooks was crowned King Bub at Lamar Porter Field after winning a bubble gum bubble blowing competition. He was named King and Arlen Turner was Queen even

³² "Bruner-Ivory Softball Team to Play in State Tournament," *Hope Star*, 29 August 1938, 5.; Softball Grows Fast Each Year, *The Camden News*, 31 May 1938, 5.

³³ Softball Grows Fast Each Year, *The Camden News*, 31 May 1938, 5.

³⁴ Norris Guinn and Willis Callaway, *Lamar Porter Field and the Memories of Sports in Little Rock During the 1950s* (Little Rock, Arkansas: NA, 2007), Part II, 11.

³⁵ Brooks Robinson and Jack Tobin, *Third Base is My Home* (Waco, Texas: Word Books, 1974), 20.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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if she blew a bigger bubble.³⁶ He played American Legion baseball while attending Little Rock High School in the early 1950s. The Baltimore Orioles drafted him in 1955, where he signed a Major League contract for \$4,000.³⁷ That \$4,000 contract would be the beginning of a great career that spanned 23 years, all with the Baltimore Orioles. His career included 18 All Star teams, 16 gold gloves, AL MVP in 1964 and World Series MVP in 1970. If there is one thing everybody in Little Rock knows, it is that Brooks Robinson began his illustrious baseball career here at Lamar Porter field shagging balls, keeping score, and selling concessions on his way to the Hall of Fame

The field would be continually used for baseball of all ages, and that continues through today. Recent renovations have helped keep the field in great shape, including a new fence, scoreboard, and new paint job. The field is still used today by the Boys' and Girls' Club's RBI (Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities) Baseball Program. The field is also host to several local teams and leagues since it was opened in 1937 including Pee-wee League, Midget League, Little League, Pony League, American Legion, and semipro. It has also been home to two local high school baseball teams as well including the Episcopal Collegiate School baseball team and the Little Rock Catholic Rockets baseball team.

³⁶ *Ibid*, 30-31.

³⁷ Brooks Robinson and Danny Peary. *We Played the Game: Memories of Baseball's Greatest Era* (New York: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2002), 306.

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National Park Service

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Robinson, Brooks and Danny Peary. *We Played the Game: Memories of Baseball's Greatest Era*. New York: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2002.

Robinson, Brooks and Jack Tobin, *Third Base is My Home*. Waco, Texas: Word Books, 1974.

National Register of Historic Places
Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Porter, Lamar, Athletic Field

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

DATE RECEIVED: 11/06/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/20/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/06/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/21/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001827

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 12/6/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED

NOV 06 1990

NATIONAL
REGISTER

October 29, 1990

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

RE: Lamar Porter Athletic Field - Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:dg

Enclosures





The Department of
**Arkansas
Heritage**

Mike Beebe
Governor

Cathie Matthews
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

*

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

*

Delta Cultural Center

*

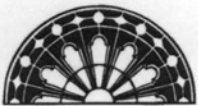
Historic Arkansas Museum

*

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

*

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program

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August 1, 2012

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
8th Floor
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005



RE: Lamar Porter Athletic Field Additional Documentation and
Boundary Increase – Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure

AD 90001827



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

December 5, 2018



Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director

Joy Beasley, Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1849 C Street, NW
Mail Stop 228
Washington D.C. 20240

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

RE: Additional Documentation for Lamar Porter Athletic Field –
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Dear Ms. Beasley:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the additional documentation for the Lamar Porter Athletic Field. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Travis Ratermann of my staff at (501) 324-9874. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacy Hurst
State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:tar

Enclosures



ARKANSAS HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PROGRAM



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Additional Documentation

Property Name: Porter, Lamar, Athletic Field

Multiple Name:

State & County: ARKANSAS, Pulaski

Date Received: 4/16/2019 Date of Pending List: 5/2/2019 Date of 16th Day: 5/17/2019 Date of 45th Day: 5/31/2019 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: AD90001827

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 5/28/2019 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments: Provides additional information of the history and relationship of the WPA to the creation of the park.

Recommendation/ Criteria: Accept additional documentation

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.