CITY, TOWN

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUN 20

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STREET & NUMBER			
Jonesboro		NOT FOR PUBLICATION CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT	
Jonesboro	VICINITY OF	First	
STATE	CODE 05	COUNTY Craighead	CODE 31
CLASSIFICATION	03	Crarghead	31
CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENTUSE
DISTRICTPUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X.BUILDING(S) XPRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTUREBOTHSITE PUBLIC ACQUISITE	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDE
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OBJECTIN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	XYES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
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Dr. and Mrs. Michae	el Dougan		
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COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS,ETC. STREET & NUMBER Court Square CITY, TOWN Jonesboro REPRESENTATION IN EXI	STING SURVEYS		tion.



CONDITION

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Bell House located at Jonesboro was built circa 1903 by J. V. Bell. The small, two-storey, Victorian house contains several different architectural influences. Use of spindlework and bric-brac detailing and the high, multiple roofs suggests a Queen Anne influence, while the use of sunbursts, stars, and moons reflects an Oriental influence common in Victorian houses.

Resting on a concrete foundation, the frame house has an irregular shape and floor plan. Several projections abut from the house. There are four bay windows on the facade and side elevations and three gables rising from the high-hipped roof.

The facade, which faces north, contains most of the architecturally interesting features. Across the entire first-storey facade and down the east elevation extends a one-storey veranda. The veranda is enclosed about one-third of the way up, and its slender, turned spindle columns resemble table legs. Suspended from the bargeboard at the roof of the veranda is a border of cutout detailing featuring spindlework, bric-brac, and at each corner, a piece of bargeboard with cutout stars and half-moons. The overall effect of the detailing is to give the house an embellished, almost gawdy appearance, which was very popular in Victorian houses around the turn of the century. A pedimented portico frames the entrance. The starburst design dominates the portico.

On the facade of the second storey are two bay windows. One of the bay windows is contained within a gable. The center panel of the bay has a large window with single-pane, double-hung windows. The windows on each of the sides of the bay are of narrower proportions, but also have two panes of glass. Above the bay window in the gable is a small balcony, imbricated, scalloped shingles, and designs depicting sunburst at the apex of the gable. Suspended from the arch of the gable are turned-spindle extrados, framing the center window.

Above the portico is a smaller bay window, which lacks the ornamental decoration of the larger one, but it is topped by a six-sided turret. The turret has six panels on the frieze, each embossed with the sunburst design. Brackets decorate the cornice line of the imbricated, scalloped roof that has a metal finial on top.

The east elevation also has the same type of detailing as the facade. Extending the entire length of this elevation on the first storey is the veranda. On the second storey is a gabled window with scrollwork, modillions, and sunburst designs. A small chimney is on the southeast section of this elevation.

A screened-in sun porch spans one-half of the first floor of the rear elevation.

The interior of the house is not very significant architecturally. The irregular floorplan features ten rooms, five upstairs and five downstairs. There are no fireplaces in the house.

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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DATE ENTERED

Several changes have been made to the Bell House. Perhaps the most noticeable is the painting of the house. Originally the house was painted a dark brown, in keeping with the characteristic use of somber colors by the Victorians. The house was painted white by a later owner and the present owners, Dr. and Mrs. Michael Dougan, have chosen to leave the house white. However the Dougans decided to brighten the exterior by contrasting the detail work.

A screened-in porch on the rear has been boxed in on the upper storey, and at least one addition has been added to the rear. The high-hipped, multiple roofs, once wooden shingles, have been covered with asbestos, simulated shingles, except for the turret, which retains wooden shingles.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD _COMMUNITY PLANNING _LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __RELIGION ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC __PREHISTORIC _SCIENCE _LAW _ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC __CONSERVATION 1400-1499 _SCULPTURE _LITERATURE _ECONOMICS AGRICULTURE 1500-1599 _SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _MILITARY _EDUCATION XARCHITECTURE __1600-1699 __THEATER __MUSIC _ENGINEERING __ART 1700-1799 _TRANSPORTATION _EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT __PHILOSOPHY __1800-1899 __COMMERCE _OTHER (SPECIFY) __POLITICS/GOVERNMENT _INDUSTRY __COMMUNICATIONS X1900-INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the Bell House lies primarily in its architecture. As is true with many Victorian homes, the Bell House has elements of Queen Anne architecture and Oriental influence. Queen Anne elements include the bay windows, high and multiple roofs, turret, multiple gables and the irregular floor plan. The frequent use of the sunburst design, the stars, and the half-moons reflects the influence of the Orient.

J. V. Bell, builder of the Bell House, came to Jonesboro from Tennessee. Bell opened and operated one of the first bookstores in Jonesboro for several years. Later he became secretary of Jonesboro Savings and Loan. In 1919 Bell sold the house to Thomas Hardy, a cotton speculator. His daughter later converted it to a boarding house.

The condition of the house deteriorated and it twice was threatened with demolition, once during the Great Depression and again in 1965. Briefly it served as a fraternity house.

Architecturally the house contains several interesting features. Extending across the facade and down the east elevation is a one-storey veranda with a gable above the entrance way. The most decorative element of the veranda is the border of cutouts suspended from the bargeboard of the roof of the veranda. The cutouts feature spindle work, bric-brac and corner-boards with stars and half-moons.

The multiple roofs and the projections are also architecturally significant. Four bay windows and three gables decorate the house. The most elaborate bay window is located on the house's northwest corner on the facade. A false balcony and turned spindle extrados are featured. Above the smaller bay window, also on the facade, is a six-sided turnet roof with imbricated scalloped shingles and topped by a metal weathervane. Each of the side elevations also has a gabled bay window.

The use of the starburst design is very abundant, and it is made more noticeable by the very bright colors which the present owners have used for the detailing. Also the use of stars and moons add to the Oriental influence.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hetherington, Mrs. Earl S., Personal interview by Dr. Michael Dougan, at Jonesboro, Arkansas.

at boliessoro,				
Jonesboro Enterpris	e, December 12,	1900.		
Jonesboro Sun, Dece	mber 4, 1905.			
Times-Enterprise Ma	gazine, April 1	2, 1906. On	file at Jonesboro Pu	blic Library
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Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NOV 7 1976

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PAGE 1

There have been several alterations to the house. Part of the upper rear porch has been boxed in and at least one addition has been made to the rear. Some interior changes have modernized the kitchen facilities. However these alterations have not seriously affected the integrity of the house. The facade, the most architecturally significant feature of the house, remains intact.

The Bell house has remained for over seventy years with much the same appearance. A change in the paint colors has removed some of the aura of Victorianism, but the significant architectural features still exemplify a Victorian house of the turn of the century.

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State Arkansas Working Number	6.29.76.3691
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service WASO No. 7



Bell House Jones boro Craighead County, Arkansos

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

Photo:

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INVERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED

1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bell House

Jonesboro

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Craighead

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Dan Chapel

DATE OF PHOTO

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

May, 1976

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET View of facade, which faces north

PHOTO NO.

INT: 2983-75



Bell House Jones poro Crainhand Chuntel AL

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

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Photo

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

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AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

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___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Craighead STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dan Chapel

Jonesboro

DATE OF PHOTO

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

May, 1976

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO.

View of east elevation

2

INT: 2983-75



Bell Nouse

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HISTORIC

Bell House

Jonesboro

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

___VICINITY OF

Craighead

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Dan Chapel

DATE OF PHOTO

DATE ENTERED

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

May, 1976

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

View of rear (south) elevation

PHOTO NO.

3

INT: 2983-75

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a FOR NPS USE ONLY UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERICR (Rev. 10-74) NATIONAL PARK SERVICE JUN 2 9 1976 RECEIVED NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES w PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM DATE ENTERED Pho; SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH NAME HISTORIC Bell House AND/OR COMMON LOCATION STATE COUNTY Arkansas _VICINITY OF Craighead CITY, TOWN Jonesboro **PHOTO REFERENCE** DATE OF PHOTO Dan Chapel PHOTO CREDIT May, 1976 NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program **IDENTIFICATION** PHOTO NO. DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET 4 View of west elevation INT: 2983-75

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bell House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

Jonesboro

Craighead

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army

SCALE

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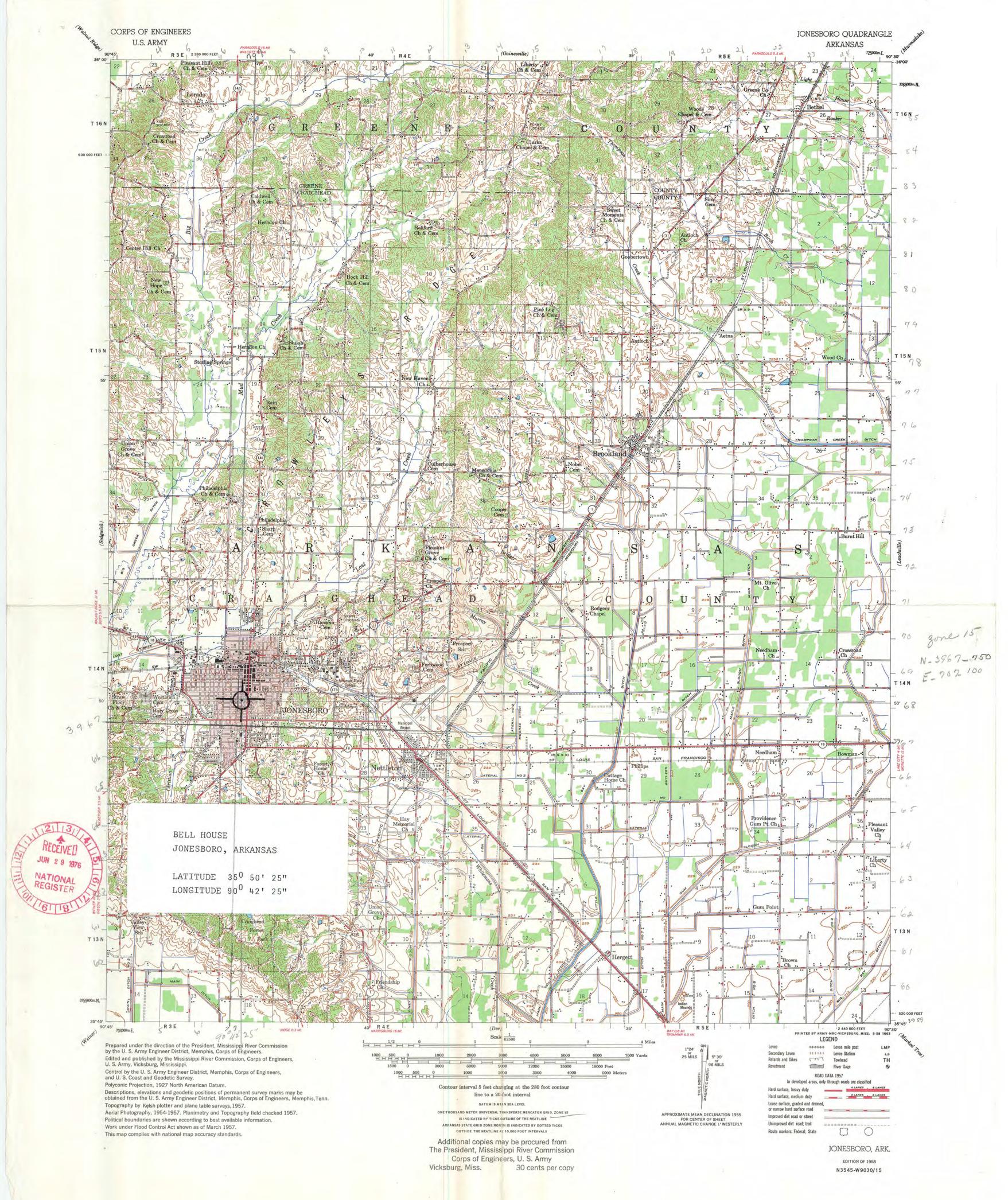
DATE 1958

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

INT: 2986-75



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered NOV 7 1976

Name

Location

Bell House

Jonesboro Craighead County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan

Hon. Dale Bumpers Hon. Bill Alexander

Regional Director, Southwest Region

880

Mott

11/10/76

State Historic Preservation Officer
Ms. Anne Bartley
Acting Director, Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Suite 500, Continental Building
Markham and Main Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

NR Data Sheet

DATE: Reviewer

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Bell House OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

303 W. Cherry 5t.

CITY, TOWN

Jonesboro

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Arkansas

05

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

code

Craighead

31

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle)

PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME) : N.ATLANTIC

MID ATLANTIC

MIDWEST SOUTHEAST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN

WEST

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

✓ Substantially intact-1

Yes-restricted

_ unknown - 4

_ not applicable - 7

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE)

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2 __unknown.-5 __not applicable - 8

_Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

ENVIRONS

∠ Substantially intact-3

_.unknown -6

_Not applicable-9

CONDITION -

EXCELLENT

√GOOD

_DETERIORATED RUINS

_UNALTERED

YORIGINAL SITE

_FAIR

_UNEXPOSED

ALTERED _Reconstructed

MOVED _Unknown

_Unexcavated

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Unknown

historic district?

YES

Yes-unrestricted

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? IF YES, NAME:

No access

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

IF YES, NAME:

YES

NO

ADAPTIVE USE:

Saved?

YES

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC _ARCHEOLOGY HISTORIC

AGRICULTURE ARCHITECTURE

__COMMERCE

_COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION - ECONOMICS

__EDUCATION

_ENGINEERING _EXPLORATION _INDUSTRY

_INVENTION

_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE __RELIGION

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_LITERATURE _MILITARY

_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN _MUSIC

_TRANSPORTATION

_OTHER (SPECIFY)

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planning

Claims

"first" YES NO

ee oldest' YES

eonly 2 YES

Eastla Ke ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Queen and and Ariental elements architect/m.builder: 5 engineer: landscape/garden designer: artist/artisan: interior decorator: builder/contractor: ETHNIC GROUP: personal J. V. Bell- 15t owner NAMES: (label role appropriate date) events institutional DATES: DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 19/12 DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 1903-Present SOURCE: (OF NOMINATION) PRTVATE STATE LOCAL GOV"T MUNICIPAL COUNTY FEDERAL AGENCY: ACREAGE (to nearest tenth of an acre) 2 story, frame, irregular shaped structure with multiple roofs, six-sided turnent and story convert Room to COMMENTS: (include architectural information here) Frame, chapboardings 2 stories, modified rectangle, hipped and gabled roof sections, off-center front entrance with flanking projecting gable with decnative and story bay window and barge boards, front corner polygonal tower with polygonal roof, front and side wrap around prich with decranic off-center front gable and spindletwork fascia, side istand and struy bay windows. Queen Anne and tastiate current SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences) The Bell House is significante primarily as a distinctive piece of local architecture embodying

elements of I ween and and priental styles.