

NR listed 9/04/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Buford School Building

other name/site number: BA0047

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2. Location

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street & number: State Highway 126

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Buford

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Baxter code: AR 005 zip code: 72635

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Byford
Signature of certifying official

7-14-92
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
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

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i. National Park Service Certification
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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): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: GOVERNMENT

Sub: Fire station

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Craftsman

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Metal
walls Stone other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.

___ 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:

- X State historic preservation office
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>551460</u>	<u>4011470</u>	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running along the western edge of State Highway 126 with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's southern elevation and located 50 feet to the south thereof, proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's western elevation; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the western edge of State Highway 126; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 14, 1992

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Summary

The Buford School Building is an irregular-plan, single-story building constructed in 1936 by the WPA. This Plain Traditional-style building has a Craftsman influence which is reflected by the exposed rafters and the ornamental brackets. A metal roof, punctuated by a tall, interior brick chimney, shields the structural grey limestone, which features "grapevine" mortaring that was originally painted black. The building rests upon a continuous cast-concrete foundation.

Elaboration

The eastern or front elevation is composed of a quarter-front, projecting gable roof porch supported by two cast-concrete columns on stone piers. The pediment is sheathed primarily with novelty siding and features four Craftsman ornamental brackets and a rectangular louvered attic vent. The majority of the porch is inset, and two single-leaf doors at the rear wall near the corners allow entry into the building. This elevation was originally fenestrated by a symmetrical arrangement of a set of two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows near the northern and southern corners with a six-pane stationary window between each set and the porch. The southern set of nine-over-nine windows has since been boarded over.

The southern elevation is not lighted but contains a wing projection that is flush with the western elevation. The pediment treatment is similar to that of the eastern elevation front porch with the exception of the pediment being fully covered with novelty siding. The western elevation consists of a row of six nine-over-nine, double-hung windows at the southern end and an original shed-roofed addition at the center. This projection is fenestrated by three small three-over-one, double-hung windows with one of them facing south. A modern concrete-block shed addition constructed by the Buford Fire Department is attached to the original shed and constitutes the remainder of the western elevation. The northern elevation reveals another wing projection which is finished identical to the southern elevation wing. The modern rear shed addition is flush with the northern elevation of the wing projection and contains a folding overhead door.

According to a former local resident, Max Parnell, the interior consisted of two large classrooms, separated by a moveable partition, and several smaller rooms that were utilized for a library and cloak rooms. One of the classrooms contained a stage complete with small dressing rooms and passageways. As was often the case, the WPA project provided work for unemployed artists in the area. A canvass screen with a garden scene painted by a Miss Lilly, a young artist in the community, separated the stage from the classroom.

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The Buford School operated as a separate school district, Baxter County District No. 16, until it was consolidated with Mountain Home in 1947. Grades one through six continued at Buford until 1960. The building is currently used as a community center and is owned by the Buford Community Fire Department, Inc.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1**Buford School**

"The material is being placed on the ground for a new modern school house at Buford. We, as parents, are very thankful to the ones that secured it for the district and for our children, as it was badly needed. It is to be constructed out of stone."¹

The Works Progress Administration was established in Baxter County in the Fall of 1935, and the Buford School was one of the first major public works projects in the Northern Arkansas District; by February, 1936, the county had twelve working WPA projects, mostly road and drainage work, employing a total of 363 people. The Baxter County Bulletin reported in April, 1936, that the Baxter County WPA had a monthly payroll of \$10,000, employed 465 men and women, and provided benefits to over 2,000 individuals.

As was often the case, the W.P.A. project provided work for unemployed artists in the area; a canvas screen with a garden scene painted by a local young artist, "Miss Lilly," separated the stage from the classroom. Record cold weather slowed construction on the "new stone veneer two room school building at Buford, Arkansas"² during the winter months, but the facility was completed and ready for occupation by the start of the new school term in the fall of 1936. The Buford School and Baxter County School District No. 16 operated until 1947, when the district was consolidated with Mountain Home.

The Buford School, constructed in 1936 and therefore during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is a representative example of a small stone school building constructed for a rural school district. Its documented construction by the W.P.A. and its use during this period as a local school building clearly identify it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the W.P.A.

¹Baxter County Bulletin, January 17, 1936.

²Baxter County Bulletin, April 3, 1936.





BUFFALO CITY QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW MOUNTAIN HOME WEST) 551 1 880 000 FEET 554 555 92° 22' 30" 36° 15'

MOUNTAIN HOME (VIA U.S. 62) 8 MI. TO U.S. 62 257 4.1 MI.

SW

MOUNTAIN HOME EAST) 756 N. SE

Buford School
Buford, Baxter Co.
Arkansas
15/551460/4011470
BAPPHY



690 000
FEET

4009

T. 18 N.

4008