



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Flanagin Law Office

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

320 Clay Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Arkadelphia

VICINITY OF

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Arkansas

Clark

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

B. W. Sanders

STREET & NUMBER

Hearn Community

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Arkadelphia

VICINITY OF

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Clark County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Arkadelphia

Arkansas 71923

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Clark County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Arkadelphia,

Arkansas

71923

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The small brick-stucco building at 320 Clay Street (directly across Clay Street from the present Clark County Courthouse) is known as Governor Harris Flanagin's law office. It has been used as a law office by many highly respected Arkadelphia lawyers and is now (1976) owned and occupied by Judge B. W. Sanders, young Arkadelphia attorney and city judge.

Originally the office consisted of two brick rooms with a porch extending across the rooms with an entrance from the West end of the porch. No distinctive architecture is featured. It was built as a law office and has no special features. There was no door between the two rooms, only outside doors which opened to the porch. Each room has a chimney and fire place. The brick walls are eight inches thick. Plastered strips of lathing covered the interior walls and ceiling.

After Governor Flanagin's death in 1874, the Flanagin family added some wooden rooms to the law office in order to rent it as a private residence. A door was cut between the two brick rooms and the building became rent property until 1903 when Judge J. H. Crawford bought it and restored it to its original use.

Judge Sanders acquired the property in 1974, and has restored the old building to its former dignified appearance with few changes. It continues to be a law office and the meeting place of politically-minded citizens. It is now known as Judge Sanders' law office, a fitting successor to Governor Flanagin's law office.

Judge Sanders is president of the Clark County Historical Association.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1855

BUILDER/ARCHITECT J.H. O'Baugh

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The office was built before the Civil War by Major J.L. Witherspoon, an attorney. J.H.O'Baugh, a local brick maker and builder, lists in his account book a note for \$70.00 which he owed to Major Witherspoon and a later entry (1855) shows his sale of 13,990 bricks to Major Witherspoon for \$111.92. Legends claim that Mr. O'Baugh built the office in payment for a debt which he owed to Major Witherspoon.

The two front rooms or brick portion of the office is thought to have been built between 1855 and 1860, likely 1858.

In 1877, Governor Garland appointed Major Witherspoon to fill an unexpired term as the Arkansas Attorney General. After his service in this office, Major Witherspoon was appointed Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. Both Major Witherspoon and Governor Flanagin (who became Major Witherspoon's partner before the Civil War) were Whigs. When the party declined, both men became loyal Democrats. Both were doubtful of secession but went with the Confederacy when President Lincoln called for soldiers to fight the South. Both served in the Confederate Army. In 1862, Colonel Dandridge McRae made Witherspoon recruiting officer and later placed him in charge of recruiting in District 2 at Paraclifta, Arkansas. He was promoted to major of the 10th battalion of the Arkansas Infantry.

Governor Flanagin was born in Cumberland County, New Jersey, attended a Quaker School, taught and studied law in Pennsylvania and Illinois, and moved to Greenville, Arkansas, in 1839 to practice law. He moved to Arkadelphia when the town became the county seat of Clark County in 1842.

Clark County elected Flanagin a representative to the state legislature in 1842, and a state senator in 1848. In 1851, he married Martha Nash of Washington, Arkansas. A few years later he became Major Witherspoon's law partner. He represented Clark County to the constitutional convention of 1861. The same year (1861) he joined the Second Arkansas Mountain Rifles and was commissioned a captain. When Commander McIntosh was killed at Elk Horn, Flanagin was made colonel. He fought in the Kentucky campaign under Kirby Smith.

(Continued)

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE One

Harris Flanagin was in camp at Knoxville, Tennessee, when he was informed of his nomination and election as Confederate Governor of Arkansas. He was inaugurated on November 15, 1862. When the Union forces threatened Little Rock, he moved the state government (and his family) to Washington in Hempstead County. When the war was over, he lost the right to vote and to hold office and did not regain the privilege until 1872. In 1874, he represented Clark County at the constitutional convention and he was made chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He became ill at the convention, returned home and died at Arkadelphia on October 23, 1874.

After the Civil War, both men practiced law and used the small building as their office. During reconstruction, the regions around Clark County Courthouse was known as the Rad Hole. The work "carpet-bagger" was not used in Arkadelphia. The northern invaders were known as Radicals or Rads. One can imagine Witherspoon and Flanagin in the midst of the Rads' nest. Through it all they remained good citizens and protected the interest of the Arkadelphia citizens.

Governor Flanagin bought the small office from Major Witherspoon. When the former governor died in 1874, his son, Duncan Flanagin, inherited the office. He added the frame addition at the back and rented the property as a residence. In 1903, he sold the building to Judge John H. Crawford who practiced law there until his death in 1930. The building passed to Judge Crawford's son, Dwight H. Crawford, a prominent lawyer of Arkadelphia.

When Mr. Crawford died in 1968, the office went to his widow, Mrs. Kathleen Crawford, and later to their daughter, Mrs. Maragaret Crawford Kauffman. Mrs. Kauffman rented the office to Judge Earnest Still, Arkadelphia city judge. After Judge Still died, the office remained vacant for a short time. It was sold to Judge Bob Sanders in 1974 and he has restored the old building.

The Woodmen of the World have placed a plaque on the building denoting its noble history. Arkadelphia citizens are very proud of the small office and point to it with pride.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Southern Standard, weekly newspaper; Interviews with Flanagin, Crawford, and Sanders families;
Biographical Dist. of SW Arkansas; O'Baugh family records
 Farrar Newberry in Daily Siftings;

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 5	4, 9, 5, 5, 8, 0	3, 7, 7, 5, 1, 4, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Amy Jean Greene, Executive Secretary

ORGANIZATION

Clark County Historical Association

STREET & NUMBER

414 Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN

Arkadelphia,

DATE

TELEPHONE

246-2154

STATE

Arkansas 71923

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley



TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 3-8-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER