

Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut

Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas

County and State

NPS Form 10-900

(GPO)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut

other names/site number Arkadelphia Scout Hut

2. Location

street & number Arkadelphia City Park, 8th Street

not for publication

city or town Arkadelphia

vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Clark code 019 zip code 71923

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cedric Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

11/28/01
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH & EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS: Rustic Style

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls LOG

roof METAL

other STONE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION

Period of Significance

1938-1951

Significant Dates

1939 - construction completed

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Local Young Men/National Youth Administration

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut

Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas

County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Name of repository: _____

Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut
Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas
County and State

10 **Graphical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 494985 3776284
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Located in the Arkadelphia City Park the rectangular boundaries surrounding the Boy Scout Hut measure 76 by 33 feet and are as follows:

Extending out from the building ten feet at the north corner of the west elevation the boundary extends 76 feet – at which point it turns east and parallels the south elevation for 33 feet – at which point the boundary turns north and continues 76 feet paralleling the east elevation – at which point the boundary, running parallel to the north elevation, turns north and commences 33 feet to the point of origin.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

The selected boundaries encompass the Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut, which retains the necessary materials needed to coordinate integrity of location, setting, design, materials, feeling, association, and workmanship.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kara Mills Oosterhous
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 10/12/01
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center St. telephone (501) 324-9880
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Barbara Copeland, City Manager
street & number 700 Clay St. telephone _____

Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut

Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas

County and State

city or town Arkadelphia

state

AR

zip code

71923

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

Designed in the Rustic style, the Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut – located in Arkadelphia, Clark County – was constructed in 1938-1939 by local boys in conjunction with the National Youth Administration (NYA). Constructed of logs, this 56 X 33 foot log building sits atop a continuous concrete foundation and is topped by a gable roof sheathed in metal.

ELABORATION

The Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut is situated in a secluded area of the Arkadelphia City Park (established 1913). The building sits on a slight rise and is screened from busy University Avenue on the Ouachita Baptist College campus by a cluster of trees, an environment that enhances the rustic feel of the structure. Designed in the Rustic style, the open log building was constructed in 1938-1939 by local boys in conjunction with the National Youth Administration (NYA). Construction materials were donated by local businessmen.

The building, which sits atop a continuous concrete foundation, is constructed of stripped and stained pine logs treated with creosote and chinked with concrete. Originally a split cypress shingle roof topped the building; however, in 1953 the Arkadelphia Parks and Recreation Department replaced the wooden shingles with the current metal roof. A central chimney of native stone rises from the metal roof. Originally, heavy split pine slab shutters that matched the two extant front doors covered each of the six-over-six, wooden double-hung windows; however, these were replaced at an unknown date with the current wood shutters (possibly the 1950s). One slab shutter remains secreted in the rafters. At some time, possibly the 1950s, half of the original windows were replaced with aluminum, two-over-two, double-hung windows. The wooden sashes on the other half of the building remain but the muntins have been lost to vandalism.

Façade/ West Elevation

The Hut faces west and a gabled porch supported by two large cypress logs elaborates the entry. The pediment of the porch roof is defined by split slabs of pine and the porch floor is composed of fieldstones. Two doors covered in pine slabs lead from the shelter of the porch to each separate pen of the building. Two pairs of windows fenestrate the northwest and southwest corners of the building. The windows on the northwest are aluminum, protected by plywood shutters while those on the southwest consist of the original wooden sashes. There are no exterior shutters covering the windows on the southwest, south and southeast sides of the building but various steps have been taken to secure this side of the Hut including iron bars and heavy interior wooden shutters.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Side Elevations/ North & South Elevations

The north and south elevations are fenestrated in a similar manner with two symmetrically placed windows but the northern windows are aluminum while the southern windows are wooden.

Rear Elevation/ East Elevation

The eastern, rear elevation features two wooden windows on the southeast of a small, central cinderblock bathroom addition with a shed roof. This addition was placed on the building during the 1970s or 1980s by the local Girl Scout troop that was using the building at the time. Two aluminum windows fenestrate the southwest corner of the building.

Interior

The interior of the cabin is very rustic with minimal ornamentation. The large, double hearth, stone fireplace serves as a focal point for each of the two pens. An extensive truss/beam suspension system is located on each side of the building. The trusses are reinforced with rebar and are suspended from the ridgepole above. Located in the pen on the north side of the building is an open sleeping loft that was added at an unknown date. The cabin does have electricity, however it is unknown if it was installed at the time of construction – based on the current wiring system this is a possibility.

Integrity

Constructed in 1938-1939 during the Great Depression, the Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut still possesses integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, association, workmanship, and materials – despite the replacement of the roof, shutters, and some of the windows. Located in a wooded area of the Arkadelphia City Park, this log building has been continuously used since its construction by both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Currently, the Girl Scouts and the Cub Scouts use the building as a meeting place. Pending funding, Girl Scout Troop 454, Conifer Council plans on consulting with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Technical Advisor for guidance in addressing the structural needs of the Hut in an effort to stabilize it against continued deterioration. Restoration plans include the replication and replacement of original shutters and windows.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

Located in a wooded area of the Arkadelphia City Park in Arkadelphia, Clark County, the Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut, constructed in 1939 as a National Youth Administration (NYA) project, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion A for its association with the nationally known NYA, and as the only example of a Rustic style building in Arkadelphia, funded by this New Deal program.

ELABORATION

National Youth Administration

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt was the leading advocate of the National Youth Administration (NYA) and a leader in its establishment in June, 1935. The NYA was an equal opportunity agency, providing aid and opportunities to all races and genders. It was established to provide emergency relief and employment to persons between the ages of 16 and 25. The NYA program was twofold in that it catered to youth that were in school, as well as those not currently attending school. According to Robert Cohen, the NYA employed more than two million students between 1936 and 1943 (including more than 10% of the total college student population). This enabled them to continue their education, which many would not have been able to do were it not for the New Deal programs. The NYA also employed an additional 2.6 million youths in the out-of-school program.

Dorothy Canfield Fisher, a writer and friend of Eleanor Roosevelt, noted that the second part of the NYA program was due in part to an Arkansas experience. Located in Arkansas, were four work-study homes that were a response to the Depression. Their results in combing agricultural work with study and an alternative to home life gained national attention. According to Fisher these four "homes" promoted a degree of job training, health, enthusiasm and good citizenship, which later became goals of the NYA.

The NYA was responsible for employing youth across America. Arkansas youths completed various NYA projects throughout the state from 1935 – the year of the program's implementation – to the year of its termination. Congressional conservatives brought an end to the NYA in July 1943, eight years and one month after its establishment.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut

In a press release by Aubrey Williams, Executive Director of the National Youth Administration, on 24 September 1937, Williams stated:

“City recreation departments, children’s agencies, YMCA’s, YWCA’s, settlement houses, institutions for blind, public schools, orphanages, hospitals for handicapped and crippled children, boy’s clubs, Boy Scouts, community centers and churches were reported as cooperating agencies in supervising the students and providing facilities for increased recreational programs to all young people in the community.”

The Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut was constructed over a period of one year from 1938 to 1939 under the supervision of Edwin C. Dean, NYA District Supervisor, Camden, Arkansas and Edward T. Wayte, NYA Area Supervisor, Hope, Arkansas. A.F. Bishop, local supervisor or foreman, oversaw the project and coordinated the efforts of up to 30 unemployed local boys paid by the NYA. Community members were also involved in overseeing the project at the local level. This included Arkadelphia Mayor Theodore Goodloe, Chamber of Commerce Secretary George Dews and Superintendent of Schools, L.M. Goza.

The construction of the log Hut not only involved local youth but many businesses in the community donated equipment and materials to make the construction of the building a reality. They included the following:

Tom Clark – lent trucks to haul the rock and 850 feet of lumber
Sturgis Lumber Company – donated cypress and furnished the cypress shingles
Ozan-Graysonia Lumber company – contributed the logs for the walls of the building
John Sturgis – 500 feet of center match slabs
Rotary Club – furnished \$217.28 to purchase windows, doors and other necessities
Clark County Lumber – donated cash, various materials and the use of their trucks
Thomas Brother of Curtis – log hauling
City of Arkadelphia - \$10.00 in cash and use of trucks to haul gravel and sand
Arkansas Sand and Gravel Company – supplied gravel and sand
Various garages – supplied the oil for treatment of logs and other wood
Kraft Paper and Pulp Company – logs
State Highway Department – Use of trucks for one day of hauling rocks
NYA – 80 sacks of cement and use of truck for two days to haul slabs and rocks.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

The Boy Scout Hut was constructed to provide a meeting place for two local Boy Scout troops. The building has always been owned by the city but its use has been controlled by the Boy Scouts who allowed local Girl Scout troops to use the building as well.

According to Mary King, who was a Girl Scout in 1958, the Girl Scouts have been using the building since at least that time. Currently the Girl Scouts and the Cub Scouts use the building. Girl Scout Troop 454, Conifer Council plans on consulting with the Arkansas Historic Preservation for advice on efforts to stabilize it from future deterioration so they can continue to use the building for many years to come. They are also seeking guidance in the historic replacement of missing architectural elements in order to take the Hut back to its historic appearance.

Significance

The Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut is typical of buildings constructed by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and NYA during the Great Depression. However, it is the only known structure, out of the 724 properties surveyed in Arkadelphia, built by the NYA. More than likely any federal funds received through the numerous New Deal programs were funneled into the town through other programs. The WPA funded the construction of the National Guard Armory in 1940, but these are the only two properties in Arkadelphia known to have been built with funds from the New Deal programs. Thus, the Boy Scout Hut is not only unique because of its association with the NYA, but also because it is the only Rustic style building in Arkadelphia designed during the New Deal era.

The replacement of the roof in 1953 and the replacement of the original shutters and windows preclude this building from being listed on the National Register under Criterion C. However, its significance is heightened by the fact that it is the only building in Arkadelphia associated with the nationally known New Deal program – the National Youth Administration. It is also the only building in Arkadelphia designed in the Rustic style during this era, thus the Arkadelphia Boy Scout Hut is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion A.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

"Boy Scout Cabin Finished, Turned Over to the City by Officers of the NYA." *Daily Siftings Herald*. Arkadelphia, Arkansas (24 June 1939).

"Cabin for Scouts Completed and Ready for Use." *Southern Standard*. Arkadelphia, Arkansas (29 June 1939).

Cohen, Robert, *Dear Mrs. Roosevelt: Cries for Help from the Depression Generation, and the American Youth Crisis of the 1930s*. (May 1996). (An online article <http://newdeal.feri.org/eleanor/cohen.htm>).

"Huddleston is Rotary Speaker." *Daily Siftings Herald*. Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1 July 1939).

"Scout Hut Begun Here with Gifts and NYA Funds." *Southern Standard*. Arkadelphia, Arkansas (8 September 1937).

"The Resident Youth Centers of the NYA." (An online article found at <http://newdeal.feri.org/wsl/wsl01.htm> & <http://newdeal.feri.org/wsl/wsl02.htm>).

Williams, Aubrey. "The College and High School Aid Program of the Youth Administration." Franklin D. Roosevelt Library, Hopkins Papers, Box 13 (24 September 1937).

"Work on Boy Scouts Cabin is Under Way." *Daily Siftings Herald*. Arkadelphia, Arkansas (8 September 1938).