

Listed 5-22-07
07000445

Green Forest Water Tower
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas
County and State

Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Green Forest Water Tower

Other Name/Site Number: CR2086

Location

Street & Number: Southeast of the junction of South Springfield Street and East Second Street

Not for Publication: NA

City/Town: Green Forest

Vicinity: NA

State: AR County: Carroll Code: AR015 Zip Code: 72638

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Structure

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing Noncontributing

___ ___ buildings

___ ___ sites

1 ___ structures

___ ___ objects

1 0 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: "An Ambition to be Preferred": New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

I, 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.

Cathie Matta 9/11/07

Signature of certifying official 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

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):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION Sub: waterworks

Current : INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION Sub: waterworks

7. Description

Architectural Classification: OTHER/Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Metal
walls Metal other NA

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY:

The Green Forest Water Tower is located on Springfield Street in Green Forest, a small town in Carroll County in northwest Arkansas. The metal water tower was built by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works for the Public Works Administration in 1937.

ELABORATION:

The Green Forest Water Tower is located on Springfield Street in Green Forest, a small town in Carroll County in northwest Arkansas. The metal water tower was built by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works for the Public Works Administration in 1937.

The water tower is supported by four metal latticed legs that slope inwards toward the tower as they rise. Metal crosspieces and rods provide lateral rigidity and support between the legs. At the center of the tower a large metal pipe conveys the water to and from the tank.

The water tank has a bowl-shaped bottom that is pierced in the center by a large metal pipe. A metal walkway with metal pipe handrail around the base of the tank accesses a ladder that ascends one leg of the tower. The walls of the tank are constructed of pieces of curved sheet metal. The words GREEN FOREST are written on side of the tank in fading black letters. The tank is crowned by a conical metal roof.

A plaque affixed to one leg of the tower says: HORTON TANK/CONTRACT NUMBER 6724 YEAR 1937/BUILT BY CHICAGO BRIDGE AND IRON WORKS/CHICAGO, ILL./GREENVILLE, PA, BIRMINGHAM, AL.

The Green Forest Water Tower was built with the assistance of the Public Works Administration and retains good integrity, having suffered few if any alterations. In addition, the setting of Green Forest remains a small town, much as it would have been when the water tower was constructed.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): NA

Areas of Significance: ENGINEERING; POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

Period(s) of Significance: 1937-1957

Significant Dates: 1937-1957

Significant Person(s): NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: Public Works Administration; Chicago Bridge and Iron Works

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

SUMMARY:

The Green Forest Water Tower is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the activities of the Public Works Administration in Green Forest and Carroll County and under **Criterion C** by virtue of its status as a good example of a 1930s water tower and the only surviving example of a PWA-built water tower in the county. The Green Forest Water Tower is being nominated to the National Register under the multiple-property listing "An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas: 1933-1943."

ELABORATION:

Carroll County was established on November 1, 1833, though it has been reduced in size through the formation of Madison, Newton and Boone counties. Its first courthouse was a two-story log building located south of the town square in Carrollton. After the formation of Boone County, an election was held in 1869 to consider moving the county seat to Berryville, which after much legal wrangling occurred in 1875 and a substantial brick courthouse was erected in 1880 (Carroll County Courthouse Eastern District, NR listed 08/27/76). The Arkansas General Assembly divided Carroll County into two districts on March 12, 1883, and the western county seat was established at Eureka Springs.

The first white settlers to move into what later became Green Forest arrived there around 1836, with scattered development continuing up to the advent of the Civil War. All of the buildings there were destroyed during the war, but by 1870 it was a bustling community featuring six stores. By 1889 Green Forest was home to 11 stores and a combination flour/saw mill and cotton gin, as well as a Masonic lodge. By the time the Great Depression struck, the small town of Green Forest served many of the needs of the people who lived in the hill country between Harrison and Berryville.

The town of Green Forest took advantage of the offerings of the Public Works Administration and applied to have a \$45,561 waterworks installed. On July 26, 1935, the PWA awarded a \$21,500 loan and a \$19,590 grant for the project. A contract for \$41,362 was awarded on November 14, 1935. The *Green Forest Tribune* reported

... March 12, 1936, that "Mayor Claude Buell has received the first check to finance the waterworks project in Green Forest. . . . In a telephone conversation with Dickison and White, the engineers for the project, Mr. Buell was informed that work orders would be requested immediately, and that work would probably begin within ten days or two weeks." It actually would be more than a year before ground would be broken for the project, however, and the *Tribune* offers no reason for the delay. The newspaper did announce on May 25, 1937, that "the best news to hit Green Forest in many a day is the announcement made by Construction Superintendent Ramsey Enix that work on the waterworks project will begin next week. A carload of cement was unloaded yesterday, and other materials are arriving. . . . While crews in double shifts are laying pipe, other crews will be at work on the pump house and reservoir at the well site, and on the tank to be located on the city lot in the center of town. About 50 or 60 men will be employed for several weeks on the project." PWA records indicate that the project was finished on June 9, 1937, but that was not reported in the *Green Forest Tribune*, bumped from the headlines, perhaps, by a June 10 tornado that killed a seven-year-old boy and caused \$200,000 in damage to property in the town.

The water tower is a Horton-style tank, named for either Chicago Bridge and Iron Works founder Horace E. Horton or his son, chief engineer George T. Horton. The Green Forest Water Tower continues to serve the people of the community to this day.

The Green Forest Water Tower remains today as a testament to the work of the Public Works Administration, a New Deal agency that put unemployed Americans to work during the Great Depression while bringing badly needed infrastructure to communities of all sizes throughout Arkansas.

CONCLUSION

The Green Forest Water Tower is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the activities of the Public Works Administration in Green Forest and Carroll County and under **Criterion C** by virtue of its status as a good example of a 1930s water tower and the only surviving example of a PWA-built water tower in the county. The Green Forest Water Tower is being nominated to the National Register under the multiple-property listing "An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas: 1933-1943."

9. Major Bibliographical References

The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas (Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889)

Information on Public Works Administration projects from the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Information from <http://www.rpi.edu/about/hof/horton.html>, downloaded July 27, 2006.

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:

Geographical Data

Acreege of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal Boundary Description:

An area around the water tower defined by a 35-foot radius centered on the water tower itself.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary contains the Green Forest Water Tower and the property with which it is historically associated.

Green Forest Water Tower
Name of Property

Carroll County, Arkansas
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Mark Christ/Community Outreach Director

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: December 12, 2006

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

Green Forest Water Tower
Green Forest, Carroll Co, AR
15/460906/4021135







