

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR 11/12/08

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 New Hope School
other names/site number Site # CS0040

2. Location

street & number 3762 Highway 284 not for publication
city or town Wynne vicinity
state Arkansas code AR county Cross code 037 zip code 72396

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.)

Catherine Shavers
Signature of certifying official/Title

7/28/08
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

New Hope School

Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas

County and State

Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
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1		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)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Plain-Traditional

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls WEATHERBOARD

roof METAL

other

Narrative Description

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

New Hope School

Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas

County and State

Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

LOCAL

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

Period of Significance

1903-1951

Significant Dates

1903-1951

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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:

Cross County Historical Society

New Hope School
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas
County and State

Geographical Data

Acreage of Property One Acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>706466</u>	<u>3898355</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bridget Hart; edited by Van Zbinden, National Register Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date May 1, 2008
street & number 323 Center Street, Tower Building 1600 telephone (501) 324-9880
city or town Little Rock state AR 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 Cross County Historical Society
street & number P. O. Box 943 telephone 870-238-4100
city or town Wynne state AR zip code 72396

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

Located on Arkansas Highway 284 approximately three miles east of Wynne in Cross County, is the New Hope School. Constructed in 1903, the former one-room school building was home to Wynne School District # 25. The building gained an added north room sometime before 1930. The frame building is designed in the Plain-Traditional style, and was covered with cedar shakes. The now T-shaped school building sits atop concrete piers and has a corrugated metal roof. The building was altered again in the middle 1950s when it became a peach storage facility and a south lean-to shed was added. This south shed porch and tin coverings over the siding have now been removed, as has a small room on the east. However, no major structural or roofline changes have occurred on the building, and it retains many original details.

Elaboration

Constructed in 1903 as a one-room school house, the New Hope School is located three miles east of Wynne in Cross County. The school building was home to Wynne School District #25 and served children in the first through eighth grades. New Hope School is a good example of the architecture of turn-of-the-century, one-room schools. Though it has had additions and modifications since its construction in 1903, these vernacular additions were of similar construction and similar materials as the original buildings.

The frame building is designed in the Plain-Traditional style and is clad with lap siding. The T-shaped building rests atop concrete piers and is sheltered by a corrugated metal roof. The original building is a side gabled, one-room structure oriented east and west with the front on the west. School growth necessitated an additional room which was added on the north prior to 1930. This cross-gabled addition was constructed in the same manner as the original school building with lap siding and a wooden shingled roof.

Sometime before 1941, an additional room, roughly nine feet by nine feet, was added on the east side of the school building. After consolidation with a larger school district, in the early 1950s the building was converted to a peach storage and grading facility. To better serve this new agricultural purpose, a shed porch was added to the south elevation, and corrugated metal siding was applied over much of the building's weatherboard.

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The metal covering and all additions were removed in an effort to return the structure to its appearance as a school. During the renovations it was discovered that no major structural or roofline changes have occurred to the building. It retains many original details. The small room, which was added to the east elevation, sustained a blow in 2004 from a front end loader, and in 2007 had to be removed because of water damage. The south (original) room serves as the top of the T-shape, and with the removal of the kitchen, the north room serves as the T-stem.

West Elevation

The west elevation is comprised of two bays. When the building was constructed, the southern bay of the west elevation was the front of the building. The original double-door entrance was located in the bay comprised of the west-facing gable. This remained the front of the building until it was converted for agricultural use in the mid-1950s. The original door openings remain, as does one of the original doors. The northern bay of the western elevation is the later addition, necessitated by school growth. This bay is fenestrated by two double-hung, four-over-four windows.

South Elevation

As originally constructed, the south elevation was the side of the school building. When modified in the mid-1950s this elevation became the front of the building. Originally the elevation was fenestrated by three four-over-four, double-hung windows. The center window was removed in the 1950s conversion and a multi-panel door was added. Additionally a large, shed-roof porch was built over the entire length of the elevation to shelter peaches during unloading and processing.

The Cross County Historical Society is currently in the process of renovating the building and has removed the shed addition on this elevation.

East Elevation

As with the west elevation, the east elevation is comprised of two bays. The southernmost bay of the elevation is the original school building with an east-facing gable and one double-hung, four-over-four window. The northern bay of the east elevation is the room added prior to 1930. This bay originally was fenestrated by one four-over-four, double-hung window and one multi-panel door.

In the center of this elevation the school added a nine foot by nine foot room prior to 1941. This room, originally to be used as a kitchen, had a shed roof and was fenestrated by two double-hung, two-over-two windows. In 1940, a shed roof was added to the north to cover the cistern.

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As with the west elevation, the Cross County Historical Society has worked to restore the elevation to its appearance during its period of significance. This includes removing the metal siding placed on the elevation during its modification for agricultural use. Additionally, the kitchen addition sustained damage in 2004 from a front-end loader and in 2007 the room had to be removed.

North Elevation

The north elevation is fenestrated by two four-over-four, double-hung windows, somewhat smaller than the windows in the original building on the south. The weatherboard remains intact on this side.

Interior

Key features of the interior are the original electrical fixtures that were installed and serviced by the Rural Electrification Administration in 1946, the beaded ceiling, the horizontal, butted, board walls, and the scars of the lost brick from two different styles of chimneys. When the north room was added to the one-room school, the easternmost window of the three north windows was converted for use as a doorway between the two classrooms and the remaining two windows were boarded over, creating a partition between the two school rooms. During the mid-1950s, this wall was again modified in order to make a wide opening between the two rooms so that the peach-grading system could be installed.

Integrity

The south shed roof and all the metal siding on the west, south, and east elevations has been removed. Due to this work, the building appears very much as it did during its period of significance. Overall the building retains good integrity. The additions and modifications made to the outside of the building were not extensive enough to cause irreparable harm. Restoration of the building has returned its exterior appearance to that which is very similar to how the facility looked during its period of significance. It remains a good example of Plain-Traditional school architecture in Arkansas.

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Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The New Hope School is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the history of education in Cross County and under **Criterion C** as a good example of the Plain-Traditional form of school construction in Wynne, Arkansas.

Elaboration

On a hot day in August several weeks before school was to begin in the fall of 1903, the birth of the New Hope School was planned. Bad roads, little means of transportation, and a widely dispersed farming population in Arkansas's Mississippi River Delta meant that the relatively isolated community situated in the hills three to four miles east of Wynne, Arkansas, needed just one room to serve as a school for its many youngsters. Three directors of School District 25 in Cross County purchased, for the school district, one acre of land for "Five Dollars cash in hand," from J. A. and Eliza Wigley. The recorded deed showed the land to have been originally purchased by School District # 25 on August 24, 1903. However, the deed was not recorded until April 18, 1904. * The three school directors were Frank Head, James Woods and J. D. Milton.

The one-room, New Hope School was erected facing west on a dirt road in the style of almost all one-room schools of the time, with two doors in the front, three double-hung, four-over-four windows on each side and a window and chimney at the back. Lap siding surrounded the structure topped by stylish, one-by-twelve fascia which remains in good condition today. The brick chimney directed coal or wood smoke upward through the high-pitched shake roof. Brick for the chimney was purchased from Dickinson Brick Company of Little Rock. One loose brick remains of the chimney above the flooring, stamped with the name, Dickinson, Little Rock. The chimney needed no concrete base at the bottom, as dry Crowley's Ridge clay is much like concrete. The brick was merely laid directly onto the dirt and mortared. The builders were sure that the foundation would not wash away because it would be protected by the building. They were correct, for after 105 years, the lower part of the brick chimney remains intact. The original pine weatherboard siding also remains as does the major portion of the beaded ceiling.

* Some current residents of the former New Hope School District remember their grandparents mentioning that the building was at one time located a distance away from the present site, probably "the Warren place" and later moved to its present location. We have no documents proving this.

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In the original room, the sub-floor was constructed of four-inch pine boards laid across heavy floor joists which ran north and south. In the opposite direction, another pine floor was laid atop this sub-floor. This foundation was supported by concrete piers set on 24-inch square concrete bases buried into the ground. There was no electric service in rural areas during the early 1900s, thus the students used oil lamps during dark winter days. In 1946, electricity was added to the two rooms. Two ceiling lights were placed in the north room and three lights were hung from chains in the original south room. These fixtures are still in the building.

The school flourished for many years until the building became too small for its students and a north room was added. Unfortunately, there is no exact date as to which year the north room was constructed, though it is believed to be prior to 1930. When construction was begun on the north room addition, it was decided that only two windows were needed on the north side of the smaller new room. The two windows are still in place. One window was put into the east wall and one outside door was placed on the north end of the east wall. Two windows were placed on the west elevation of this room. The windows, floors and walls were matched as well as possible to the original building, but there was no way to perfectly duplicate the older materials. The floor in the new addition was run in the opposite direction from the floor in the original room, but the same plan was again used – pine four-inch flooring over pine four-inch sub-floor, all resting on concrete piers.

A chimney to accommodate the heating stove was needed for the new room. Brick was either difficult to get or to purchase, and to save brick, the chimney in the north room was perched upon a five-foot-high, 18-inch wide, wood shelf braced from the floor angling outward and upward. As shown by the markings on the broken brick found in the rubble of both chimneys, the brick used in the addition was different from the older Dickinson brick used in the chimney of the one-room, original school. The addition of the north room forced the builders to board up the now inside windows so the two teachers could teach without noise from the adjoining room. An attempt was made to match the original boards; however, the seams still show through a good coat of paint. One of the original three north windows was removed to provide a door connecting the two rooms.

Several modifications were made through the years. Sometime during the existence of the century-old structure, the shake roof was covered with galvanized, corrugated tin sheets. Galvanized guttering was placed on the lower sides of the roof to channel water into the newly-built concrete cistern on the east side of the structure. The students then had water to drink and didn't have to bring it in a "fruit jar." Former student Robert Crawford states that they all drank out of the same dipper.

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In August of 1940, the upper bricks of the cistern were removed. During this remodeling, a well was lowered into the eastern edge of the cistern and a hand pump was placed on the pipe. Concrete steps were added to the back door, a concrete slab was poured around the cistern and a brick, half-circle surround was built around the cistern. The builder signed his work, *Blt by F. T. Hall, 8-7-40*. This was Forrest Rufus Hall who had been a student of New Hope and whose children were students of the school at that time.

A small, approximately nine foot by nine foot, room was later added inside the east junction of the now two-room structure in hopes of having a "soup kitchen." One student, Elois Davis, remembers being served juice from that area. Former teacher, Mrs. Nell Sanders, states that the students kept their coats and lunches in there, but that it never served as a kitchen.

During its use as a school, many community affairs were conducted inside the building and on the grounds. Former student Robert Crawford tells of cake raffles, Christmas plays and other socials held inside, and numerous baseball games played on the school's ball diamond.

On April 1, 1947, the Wynne School Board voted to assume the responsibility of providing school facilities for the children living in what was known as New Hope School District No. 25, provided that the County Board of Education consolidate the district. In a May 6, 1947, Wynne School Board meeting, the consolidation was declared complete. Primary and intermediate students were housed in the New Hope building while junior high students were bused to Wynne. On June 5, 1951, Wynne School Superintendent Donald Blackmon and the Board members voted to discontinue the operation of the New Hope School and to transfer the entire student body to Wynne. Former student, then teacher, Doris Jean Midkiff taught at New Hope the final term of 1950-51. From that date, the New Hope School had its doors closed to education.

A quitclaim deed shows that Drew Head bought the school property in 1954, three years after its closing. Head began using the building to house a peach-grading business. There was good reason to do so, as that area of Crowley's Ridge at one time was home to the largest peach orchard in the world. Many local persons were employed in the peach sheds dotting the ridge. On January 25, 1968, Mr. Head's son, Dr. Thomas Glenn Head, obtained the land and allowed it to lie fallow with its building vacant. On December 15, 1990, Dr. Head sold the property to Leo and Charlene Smith.

On July 22, 2002, the New Hope School was added to the Arkansas Register of Historic Places. On Monday, July 16, 2007, the school building, along with one acre of land, was deeded as a gift by Leo and Charlene Smith of Wynne to the Cross County Historical Society, and a New Hope School Restoration Committee was formed. Brian Driscoll, Technical Assistance Coordinator with the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, is consultant for the committee. New Hope School Restoration Committee members are Danny Ball, builder; Carol McCrary, vice-chair; Barbara Burkhart, secretary/treasurer; Cathy Hagler, Tommy McCrary; Florence Halstead; Leigh Ann Chambers; Leigh Smiley; Jenny Taylor Vandiver and Bridget Hart, chairperson.

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Restoration of the school to its appearance during its period of significance was begun on July 21, 2007. The primary objectives of the restoration effort were to return the school building to its exterior appearance prior to being converted to agricultural use. Large, old metal signs and pieces of corrugated tin, which had been protecting the windows, were stripped off the outside, and loads of trash removed from the interior of the building.

Statement of Significance

The New Hope School is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with the history of education in Cross County and under **Criterion C** as a good example of the Plain-Traditional form of school construction in Wynne, Arkansas.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

A. Documents

- Caubble, Kenneth W. Document. Undated.
Warranty Deed. Wigley/School District 25. Recorded April 8, 1904 Cross Co. AR Courthouse.
Minutes. Wynne School Board. 04 March 1947.
Minutes. Wynne School Board 01 April 1947.
Minutes. Wynne School Board. 06 May 1947.
Ledger. Wynne School District # 9 Payroll. Sept – May 1950.
Ledger. Wynne School Expenditures. 30 August 1947 – 07 June 1950
Quitclaim Deed. Wynne School District # 9/Drew Head. 1954 Cross Co. Courthouse.
Deed. Ruby Head/Glenn Head. January 25, 1968.
Warranty Deed. Smith/CC Historical Soc. Recorded July 16, 2007 Cross Co. AR Courthouse; Book 424, Page 204.
Arkansas Register of Historic Places. New Hope School Continuation Sheet. Section 8, Page 1.

B. Interviews

- 21 July 2007. B. Hart interview of Barbara Crawford Burkhart, former student.
June 2007. B. Hart interview of Robert Crawford, former student.
30 May 2007. B. Hart interview of Havis Ray Grantham, former student.
21 July 2007. B. Hart interview of Catharyn Hale Hagler, former student.
October 2007. B. Hart interview of Sandra Kellogg Johnson, daughter of New Hope School teacher Ruby Estes Kellogg, deceased.
30 May 2007. B. Hart interview of Josephine Grantham Martin, former student.
21 July 2007. B. Hart interview of Elois Davis Roberts, former student.
21 July 2007. B. Hart interview of Nell Sanders, former New Hope School teacher.
21 July 2007. B. Hart interview of Ollie Sanders, former student.
30 April 2008. B. Hart telephone interview of Charlene Smith, former owner of property.
21 April 2007. B. Hart interview of Jeanne Davis Snead, former student.

New Hope School
Name of Property

Cross County, Arkansas
County and State

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Verbal Boundary Description

One acre in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 25 in Township 7 North, Range 3 East.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all the land historically associated with the New Hope School



NEW HOPE SCHOOL
RESTORATION
and YOU!

DONATIONS and
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
870-233-0618
870-233-7654





