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NPS Form 10-900  
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

NR LISTED

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

MAR 28 1996

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Lawrie House

Other Name/Site Number: CT 0100

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 600 N. 7th St.

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: West Memphis

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Crittenden

Code: AR 035

Zip Code: 72301

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

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

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A



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6. Function or Use

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Historic: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Current : Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Colonial Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation Brick over Concrete roof Asphalt  
walls Wood other \_\_\_\_\_  
Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

**Summary**

Located at 600 North 7th Street in West Memphis on an eleven-acre tract, the Lawrie House was built in 1939 as a two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival-style house with a partial basement.

**Elaboration**

Located at 600 North 7th Street in West Memphis on an eleven-acre tract, the Lawrie House was built in 1939 as a two-and-a-half story Colonial Revival-style house with a partial basement. The structure rests upon a continuous concrete foundation, and the basement is reinforced with steel beams. The actual first story of the house is covered with a brick veneer to give the appearance of a raised basement. A single-story gable ell on the southwest corner of the house and the end-gable den that is connected to the main house by a hyphen are also clad with brick. The second story of and the single-story hyphen are sided with wide weatherboard that was commonly used in Colonial Revival-style residences of the Depression era. The main portion of the house is covered by a side gable roof, and gables are also used on the front porch, rear ell, and the hyphen and den. All are covered with composition shingles. An exterior brick chimney is located east of center on the southern end gable, and a smaller chimney is located on the northern gable end; however, it is visible from the exterior only on the second story.

The front, or eastern, elevation is dominated by the projecting gable-roof porch that is supported by four square wood columns resting upon a raised brick porch. The porch is positioned almost mid-level to the first story and features arched openings on all three sides. It is accessed by dual staircases with wrought-iron railings that turn and meet at the center of the porch, which is screened and accessed by double-leaf doors. Inside the house is entered through six-pane, one-panel double-leaf doors that lead to a mid-level landing. Below the porch is a single-leaf door with four-pane sidelights that enters into the first level. Above, the gable end pediment is adorned with a multi-pane lunette window. Fenestration on the front elevation of the main section is accomplished by two large fifteen-over-fifteen wood windows on the first story and six smaller six-over-six wood windows on the second story. Four eight-pane casement windows light the eastern side of the hyphen and a six-over-six window is placed in the center of the den on this elevation.

The southern elevation contains a nine-over-nine window on either side of the chimney on the first story, a six-over-six window on the brick ell, three six-over-six windows on the second story, and two six-over-six windows on the third level. A potpourri of six-over-six windows and a group of four casement windows are scattered throughout the rear, or western, elevation, while the northern elevation presents only a large single-pane picture window on the north wall of the den.

Virtually unaltered since construction, the interior is nicely appointed and features, among other details, the original wood floors, doors, chair rail, milled door and window moldings, some of which feature patera corner blocks, and an elegant staircase with a stick balustrade. The Colonial Revival style influence, however, is most evident in the denticulated cornice and the elegant mantelpiece that is adorned with egg-and-dart molding.

A noncontributing frame barn in deteriorated condition is located on the property to the rear of the house.

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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: Local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1939

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Mite,

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

#### Summary

The Lawrie House is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example in West Memphis of a multi-story, late Colonial Revival-style residence that was designed to give the appearance of a raised cottage.

#### Elaboration

The site of the Lawrie House was originally part of land owned by J. O. E. Beck. In 1939, Beck gave his daughter, Elizabeth, and her husband, Donald Lawrie, a new house and eleven acres of land as a wedding present. The builder for the Lawrie House was a man named Mite from Memphis, Tennessee. He was assisted by Monroe Manchester of West Memphis. Farm labor was reportedly utilized during the construction.

James Orin Emency Beck was born on a large plantation in Holly Springs, Mississippi on March 1, 1892. In 1904, he purchased a three hundred and twenty acre tract of land in Crittenden County as a hunting preserve. Beck later acquired more land until he had acquired a strip four miles wide and seven miles long across Crittenden and St. Francis Counties. He moved to Crittenden County in 1913 to develop his plantations and had somewhere between 10,000 and 18,000 acres of swampland drained by an underground tile system. Beck was killed in a car wreck on May 7, 1941, and his three children each inherited a plantation. Elizabeth Lawrie received the Belle Meade Plantation.

The Lawries resided in the house until their deaths, and the property was sold to C. L. Montgomery in 1955. The house and land remained in the Montgomery family until June, 1995 when it was purchased by the current owners, Jim and Argie Moudy. The house had been leased the previous year for use an antique store.

As it is the best example in West Memphis of a multi-story, late Colonial Revival-style residence that was designed to give the appearance of a raised cottage, the Lawrie House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with local significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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Information submitted by Jim and Argie Moudy, June, 1995.

Woolfolk, Margaret. A History of Crittenden County, Arkansas. Greenville, S. C.: Southern Historical Press, Inc., 1991.

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: Eleven

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A 15 757060 3893460 B 15 757250 3893530
C 15 757250 3893410 D \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Boundary Description:

All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 7, Township 6 North, Range 9 East lying north and east of the centerline of Ten Mile Bayou, being also known as 600 N. 7th Street, West Memphis, Arkansas, and containing 11 acres, more or less.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes the house, the noncontributing barn, and all of the property historically associated with this resource.

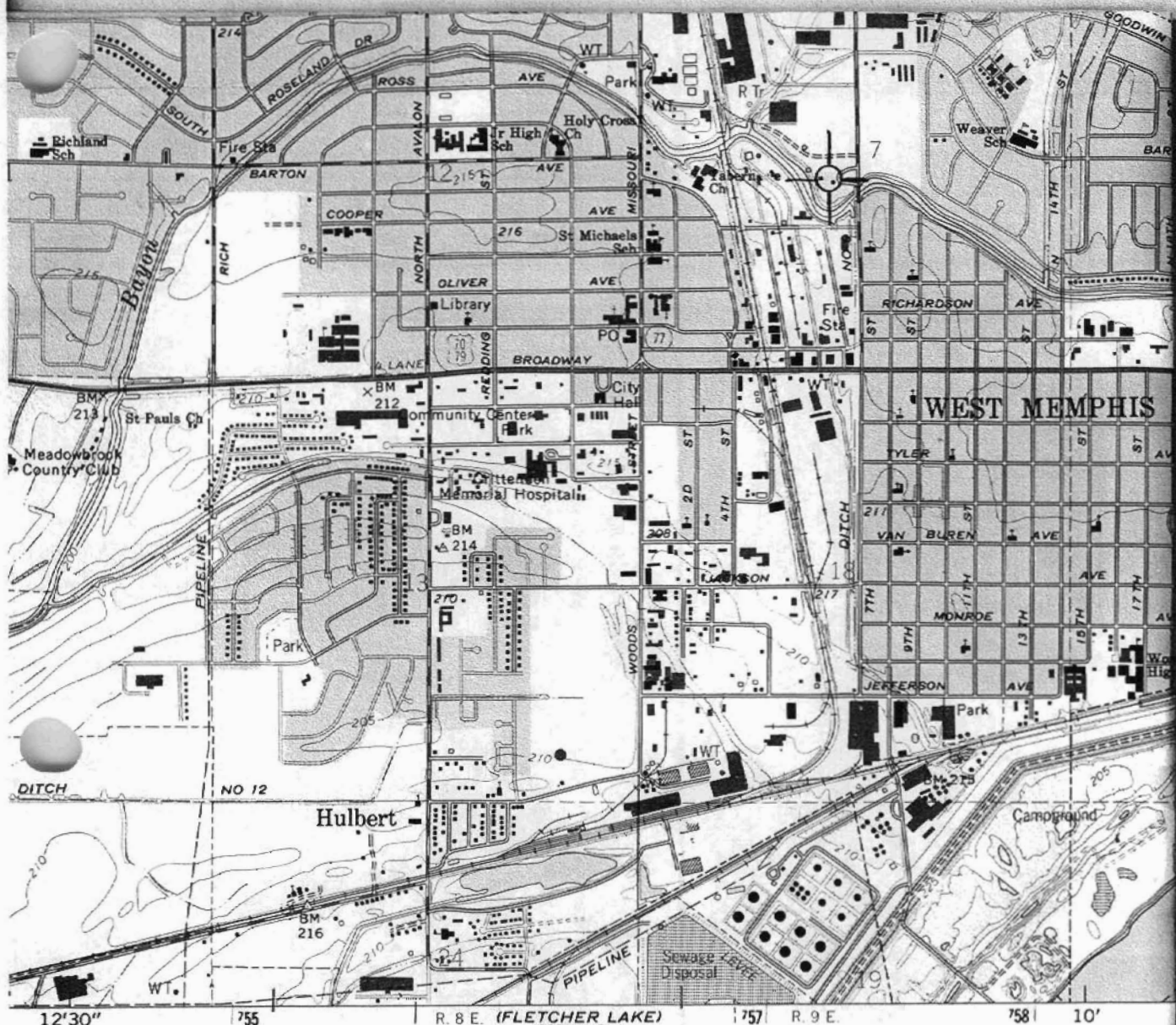
=====  
11. Form Prepared By  
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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian

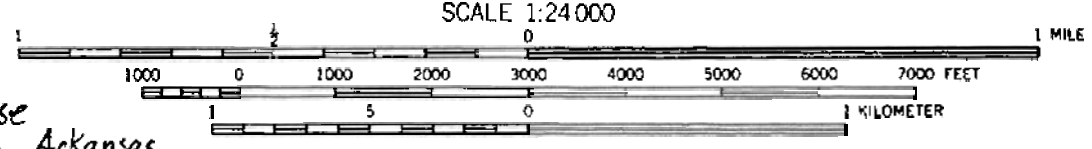
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: February 13, 1996

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

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



R. 8 E. (FLETCHER LAKE) 2954 11 SW R. 9 E.



Laurie House  
 Crittenden Co., Arkansas  
 JTM: 15/757170/3893450

SCALE 1:24 000  
 CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
 ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204  
 AND TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, DIVISION OF GEOLOGY, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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