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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

Barnett-Attwood House CV0008

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

New Edinburg

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05

COUNTY

Cleveland

CODE

025

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

C. B. Attwood

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

New Edinburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Cleveland County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Rison

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

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

Believed to be the oldest structure still standing in Cleveland County, the Barnett-Attwood House was originally constructed as a five room log dog-trot residence in 1835-36. The main body of the structure is composed of hand-hewn pine timbers and is supported by original wood pilings. The timbers, most of which are 18 feet long and 10 inches thick, are square-notched and placed together with pegs. The largest of the hand-hewn timbers spans the entire width of the structure across the portico, measuring fifty feet.

The Barnett-Attwood House is now a one-and-one-half story log structure with an ell-shaped addition on the rear (east elevation). A gable roof tops the house, extending to cover the wide veranda across the facade. This veranda is supported by six turned wooden posts. Exposed beams support the roof across the front edge of the facade (west elevation).

The facade is three-bays wide with a single entry door and side-lights surrounded by sections of vertical flushboard. A double-hung six-over-six lite window flanks either side of the entry. Fenestration is simple. The portico posts, entry and window trim are all painted white in contrast to the dark red color on the body of the house.

A modern brick foundation combined with the original wood pilings support the Barnett-Attwood House. Vertical flushboard found in the gable ends appears to have been added. In the center of each gable end is a small double-hung six-over-six lite window. On each the north and south elevations of the log structure are two double-hung six-over-six lite windows. Shiplap siding covers the one-story additions on the rear of the house.

The original structure consisted of an open dog-trot flanked on either side by 20 feet by 20 feet rooms, each containing a fireplace. Upstairs were three rooms. There was a portico which extended across the full width of the house on both the west and east elevations.

There have been several alterations to the structure since its construction in 1835-36. In 1875 Nathaniel Barnett enclosed and extended the cast portico to form an ell-shaped addition. The addition was of log construction. This area facilitated a kitchen and dining room.

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Also at this time, the dog-trot was enclosed. The six turned portico posts on the facade appear to have been added at this time.

In 1961 the present occupant of the Barnett-Attwood House renovated it for more modern living. C. B. Attwood, a direct descendant of Barnett, took care to see that the hand-hewn timbers used for walls as well as the other 1835-36 characteristics of carpentry were maintained intact. At this time the brick foundation was laid, the entry rebuilt and the fireplaces taken out of the two downstairs rooms. Several other minor restoration projects took place, however the original section of the house remains much the same as the 1875 renovation.

The interiors of the Barnett-Attwood House are exceptionally well preserved and visibly present a strong historical impact. Log walls, exposed ceiling beams and original door and window moldings remain in excellent condition. The steep, narrow stairway in the center hall is original from the 1875 renovation. New flooring has been added, but is in keeping with the style and period of the house.

Although the Barnett-Attwood House has had several alterations since its original construction in 1835-36, the present restored structure is in excellent condition and remains on its original site. The house maintains a great deal of the historic character for which it is noted in Cleveland County and stands as a tangible reminder of the pioneer family who settled the area.

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 type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1835-36

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Nathaniel Barnett

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Barnett-Attwood House in Cleveland County was constructed in 1835-36 by one of the pioneer settlers in the area. Nathaniel Barnett constructed his log house for his family who were to come from Alabama and join him in the new territory. Although the structure has undergone several alterations through the years, it is a good example of an improved Arkansas dog-trot style house.

Nathaniel Barnett was born in Elbert County, Georgia, on May 3, 1793. He married Mary Polly Hudson, also of Elbert County, Georgia on September 2, 1814, and moved, along with a number of relatives, to Montgomery, Alabama.

The eldest daughter of the Barnett's nine children married John Harvie Marks II in 1815. In 1835-36 Nathaniel Barnett and his son-in-law journeyed to southeast Arkansas. They were pleased with the area and bought most of Union, Bradley and Dorsey (now Cleveland) counties. Marks alone invested \$17,000 in the business venture. This purchase was shared by other branches of the family who were to come later from Alabama. It is believed that at that time, Barnett constructed a five-room log dog-trot house near the present town of New Edinburg. Barnett and Marks then returned to Alabama to bring their families and relatives. This group settled within the territory of the original 1835-36 land purchase and are largely responsible settlement of the area. With the settlement of these families in southcentral Arkansas came establishment of a sawmill, furniture factory and large cotton plantations. John Harvie Marks is credited with cutting roads in and around Warren in Bradley County and in 1842 served as one of the County Commissioners appointed to lay out the town of Warren.

One of the Barnett's sons, William David Barnett, became one of the most prominent and successful surgeons in the south. He was one of the founders of the Little Rock Medical College, but practiced medicine in south Arkansas. He served in the Civil War with the rank of Major in the Confederate Army. William Barnett also represented Bradley County in the Arkansas State Legislature.

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The originally five room log dog-trot house built by Nathaniel Barnett in 1835-36 is now owned and lived in by a direct descendant of Barnett, C. B. Attwood, who remodeled the house in 1961 and has lived there since. In remodeling the structure he left most of the hand-hewn timbers uncovered. The original structure consisted of an open dog-trot flanked on either side by 20 feet by 20 feet rooms. The upstairs was divided into three rooms. There was a portico which extended across the full width of the house on both the west and east elevation. In 1875 Barnett enclosed the dog-trot. Also at this time rear portico enclosed and extended to form an ell-shaped addition.

The Barnett-Attwood House is one of the most important historic landmarks in Cleveland County. It carries the name of one of the families who settled the area and is believed to be the oldest structure still standing in the county. Originating as a log dog-trot structure, the Barnett-Attwood House typifies adaptation of an 1835-36 period house to over 150 years of use.

