

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Liberty School Cafeteria

other name/site number: FA0863

2. Location

street & number: State Highway 36

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Hamlet

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Faulkner code: AR 045 zip code: 72032

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | _____ | buildings |
| _____ | _____ | sites |
| _____ | _____ | structures |
| _____ | _____ | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | Total |

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As 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.

Cathryn A. Byrd _____ 8-2-92
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

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5. National Park Service Certification
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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

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: EDUCATION Sub: School

Current: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: Specialty store

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Craftsman

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Weatherboard other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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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: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period(s) of Significance: 1935-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Works Progress Administration

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.

___ See continuation sheet.

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: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|----------------|---|-----|-----|-----|
| A | <u>15</u> | <u>563280</u> | <u>3882100</u> | B | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| C | ___ | ___ | ___ | D | ___ | ___ | ___ |

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running parallel to the building's eastern elevation and located approximately 25 feet to the east thereof with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's southern elevation and located approximately 25 feet to the south thereof (a point located approximately 100 feet west of the western edge of State Highway 36 and 1,300 feet north of the northern edge of U.S. Highway 64), proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 100 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's western elevation; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 100 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 100 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's eastern elevation; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 100 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding

property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 1992

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Liberty School Cafeteria is a single-story, rectangular-plan building with a rear shed addition constructed circa 1935 by the WPA. This Plain Traditional-styled building is covered by a composition-shingled gable roof with Craftsman exposed rafters. The novelty-sided frame walls are supported by a continuous concrete block foundation. The northern elevation of the roofline reveals the single interior brick chimney.

Elaboration

The southern or front elevation features a central, single-leaf door entrance covered by a below-the-roofline shed roof, which also contains exposed rafters and is supported by two brackets. A set of two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows are symmetrically positioned on each side of the entrance.

The western elevation is fenestrated by two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows located near the corners. This elevation is accessed by a cut-down, single-leaf door entrance placed just south of center. Both gable ends contain a large, rectangular, louvered attic vent.

The northern elevation is lighted by two side-by-side, nine-over-nine, double-hung windows located near the western corner and a stationary nine-pane window placed to the east of the double-hung windows. Most of the eastern half of the northern elevation consists of a rear shed addition. The shed roof is below the roofline of the main building but maintains the uniformity of the roofline with exposed rafters. The shed addition is constructed of flush, vertical board planking. The eastern elevation of the shed addition features a large, open entrance. A set of five, asymmetrically placed, nine-over-nine, double-hung windows completes the inventory of the eastern elevation.

The building now houses a flea market.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 **Liberty School Cafeteria**

In the Fall of 1927, four smaller Faulkner County school districts consolidated in 1927 to create the Liberty school district in the community variously known at that time as Crossroads, Holmes Store, Liberty, and Hamlet. A school building was erected in 1928, but the advent of the Great Depression hindered the development of the district's twelve-year curriculum. A newer, more modern school building was erected in 1935 with New Deal assistance and state funding through the newly enacted two percent sales tax. The Liberty Special School was opened for grades one through nine in late 1928. Equipment and resources were scarce during the institution's early years, and students were often forced to carry their chairs from one classroom to the next, according to a 1943 graduate of the school.

The Liberty School Cafeteria was built with local labor as a WPA project in 1935. Originally used for agriculture, math, and science classes, the building was converted to cafeteria use in the mid-1940's. The Liberty Special School District was slowly consolidated out of existence in the 1950's and 1960's; high school students were sent to Vilonia High School beginning in 1951, and the remainder of the district's students followed in 1963. The Liberty School Cafeteria is currently used as a flea market.¹

The Liberty School Cafeteria, constructed in 1935 during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is a representative example of a small, wood frame school building constructed for a rural school district. Its documented construction by the W.P.A. and its use during this period as a local school building clearly identify it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the W.P.A.

¹Robert L. Gatewood, *Faulkner County, Arkansas, 1778-1964: A History in Three Parts* (Conway, Arkansas: Faulkner County Historical Society, 1964), 60.



Hamlet

New Liberty

Little

ROAD

P
A
L
A
R
M

Creek

Little

Cypress

Creek

Shale Pit

Quarries

(VILONIA)
7554 II SW

VILONIA
BALD KNOB (VIA U.S. 6

FA0863

LIBERTY SCHOOL
CARTERVA
HAWLEY,
FAURMAN Co
MISSOURI
15/508200/500221

3877

2'30"

3878

3879

3881

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20

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16

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