

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**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 Administration Building, University of Central Arkansas
other names/site number Site #FA1044, Old Main Hall, University of Central Arkansas

2. Location

street & number 201 Donaghey Avenue not for publication
city or town Conway vicinity
state Arkansas code AR county Faulkner code 045 zip code 72035

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.)

Signature of certifying official/Title 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:	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain): _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

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

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing and 4 rows: buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

An Ambition to Be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts and Architecture in Arkansas, 1933-1943

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use 1933-1943

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/college, RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/college, RECREATION AND CULTURE/auditorium

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE, walls BRICK, roof OTHER/tar, other

Narrative Description

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

8. 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

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1919-1961

Significant Dates

1919, 1937

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

John Parks Almand /George Washington Donaghey and George H. Wittenberg and Lawson L. Delony, Architects
Public Works Administration, Builder

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

University of Central Arkansas

Record # _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>549488</u>	<u>3881970</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 Gayle M. Seymour/Associate Dean and Brad Chilcote/Architect
organization University of Central Arkansas date
street & number 201 Donaghey Avenue telephone 501-450-3295
city or town Conway state AR zip code 72035

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 University of Central Arkansas
street & number 201 Donaghey Avenue telephone 501-450-5000
city or town Conway state AR zip code 72035

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

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SUMMARY

The Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium together is a large 2-½ story building located in Conway, Faulkner County, Arkansas. It is one of many buildings on the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) campus, formerly known as Arkansas State Normal School (1908-1925), the Arkansas State Teachers College (1925-1967), and the State College of Arkansas (1967-1975). Originally serving as the Administration Building when completed in 1919 (until 1963), the structure also housed the school's library in the basement (until 1930). The Ida Waldran Auditorium was added in 1937. The Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium is an excellent example of the Classical Revival architectural style that became the standard for most future buildings on the UCA campus.

ELABORATION

The Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium is one of approximately 80 buildings on the campus. It is located one mile west of the Faulkner County Courthouse (Listed in National Register of Historic Places on 11/27/1995) in downtown Conway, and one mile from the Robinson Historic District (Listed in National Register of Historic Places on 1/29/2001).

The Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium faces east and overlooks a formal entry court known as Alumni Circle that is flanked by Harrin Hall (built 1929; renovated 1999) to the south and Torreyson Library (built 1963; renovated 1992) to the north. The building has a symmetrical plan with a rectangular central block that is 2-½ stories. The 2-½ story Auditorium addition is centered on the western side the building. This mostly red brick building, set on foundation walls, has an eclectic palette of materials that accentuate the horizontality of the building while also establishing a formal, vertically focused, entry portal. The site slopes from east to west, with the ½ story basement level on the east becoming a full story level on the west side. The brick is very rough in texture, and not uniform in shape and size. It has a large range in color and the mortar joints are roughly tooled.

ADMINISTRATION FRONT/EAST FACADE

The building is set on a grand terrace with brick pavers, which is reached by a formal limestone staircase. The projected main entry is centered on the front façade. The entry is accentuated by two square limestone pilasters without entasis that flank two centered limestone columns with slight entasis. The fluted Corinthian-order pilasters and columns are set on simple bases and are capped by terra cotta capitals. A simple terra cotta entablature sets on these vertical elements; each one topped by a decorative circular shield in the frieze. A brick parapet with a terra cotta cap rises above the entablature and has a recessed panel that is centered on the pilasters. The recessed main entry is centered between the columns and is framed by a terra cotta fluted pilaster doorway, capped by a broken terra cotta cornice, that boasts a decorative urn and swags detail. Tall, narrow punched windows, with terra cotta sills at the main floor level, flank the doorway and are centered between the columns and pilasters. A square window with flat jack brick arch and limestone

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keystone rests above the doorway on the upper floor level. Tall, narrow punched windows with terra cotta sills and flat jack brick arches flank the center window.

The projected main entry is flanked to the north and south by symmetrical recessed 2-1/2 story wings that are bookended by simple single bay brick projections. The wings have four evenly-spaced tall windows at the lower and upper levels and smaller windows at the basement level. Each lower window is composed of a center unit that has three-to-one proportion, flanked by two narrower units, and has a terra cotta sill that is capped by a semi-circular marble panel. Each upper window is identical in proportion to the lower windows, has a terra cotta sill, and is capped with a flat jack brick arch and limestone keystone. The bookend projections have single punched openings at the lower and upper levels. Each opening is composed of five units at both the lower and upper level, and each has terra cotta sills and no decorative brickwork. There are three small punched openings at the basement level. The wings have a terra cotta belt at the lower finish floor level, a simple terra cotta entablature, and a brick parapet with a terra cotta cap that rises above the entablature.

All original entry doors at the doorway have been replaced with clear anodized aluminum storefront system. The original windows have been replaced with operable white aluminum single-pane casement windows.

ADMINISTRATION SIDE/NORTH FACADE (SOUTH FACADE IDENTICAL)

The north facade consists of two wide bays of recessed windowless brick panels, framed by brick pilasters and a narrower center bay. The outer bays each have three small punched windows at the basement level. The center bay at the lower level has a simple brick arched opening with limestone keystone and spring stones. This opening is framed by a simple wood fluted pilaster doorway, capped by a simple entablature with a shed roof. Behind the doorway is a modern storefront system, featuring clear glass and anodized aluminum frame. The doorway is reached by a wide limestone staircase. Above the doorway at the upper level, there is a tall simple punched window consisting of twelve panels. The window has a terra cotta sill and is capped with a flat jack brick arch and limestone keystone. The terra cotta belt at the lower finish floor level, the simple terra cotta entablature, and the brick parapet with a terra cotta cap above the entablature, continue on this elevation; however, the terra cotta belt is broken at the doorway.

ADMINISTRATION REAR/WEST FACADE

The west facade is broken by the 1937 Ida Waldran Auditorium addition. Both the north and south sides of the west facade are simple with little ornamentation other than the continuation of the terra cotta belt at the lower finish floor level, the simple terra cotta entablature, and the brick parapet with a terra cotta cap above the entablature. Each side has three simple, equally-spaced, punched windows on the lower and upper levels. The window openings are composed of three units, each with a terra cotta sill. The lower windows have no decorative brickwork while the upper windows have flat jack arches, but no keystone. The original windows have been replaced with operable white aluminum single-pane casement windows.

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A roof leader and downspout are spaced between each window bay. Large mechanical penthouses are visible on the roofs.

Both sides have modern one-story brick enclosed mechanical courts at the basement level. Each court contains mechanical equipment and also blocks the view of the windows at the basement level. The south side has a modern simple brick elevator tower with no ornamentation. Compared to the brick on the earlier Administration Building, the brick on the mechanical screen walls and elevator tower is smoother, more uniform in size, shape, and color, and the mortar joints are more smoothly tooled.

AUDITORIUM SIDE/NORTH FACADE (SOUTH FACADE SIMILAR)

Ida Waldran Auditorium is a three-story wing that is slightly taller than the Administration Building. This wing consists of four equal bays adjacent to the Administration Building, and a wider and taller bay containing the stage and fly loft on the west end. The center three bays have two-story three-course brick arched openings with cast-stone keystones and continuous belt and window sills. The openings occur at the tall Auditorium space. Each opening has a steel window system that is broken into three panels horizontally and three equal panels vertically. The outer panels are composed of six fixed panes, and the center panel is composed of nine fixed panes. Each of the three windows is capped with a twenty-one pane semi-circular arched panel. Below the outer two bays, there are simple punched windows at the basement level with cast-stone sills and concrete foundation walls. The center bay has an unadorned entry to the basement level. The east bay has a similar opening/window configuration, but the window is broken by a brick panel at mid-height where the auditorium balcony occurs.

Each window bay is separated by a brick and cast-stone buttress that projects out from the building plane to brace the load-bearing masonry wall. Each buttress is topped by a cast-stone cap and banding that echoes the terra cotta entablature of the Administration Building. Above the buttress band, there is a brick parapet with a cast-stone cap and simple cast-stone banding in between.

The western bay is less adorned and more utilitarian in appearance. Centered in the bay, there is a wider stepped buttress panel with cast-stone caps. Centered in this panel at the stage level, are two simple punched-opening casement windows. A metal door and access stair and railing exit the building from the stage level to the ground in this bay. At the basement level, two simple punched-opening casement windows flank an unadorned entry to the basement level. Another buttress frames the end of this bay and turns the corner to the west facade. Two communication towers are atop the north facade.

AUDITORIUM SIDE/WEST FACADE

The simply-embellished west facade consists of three bays. Each bay is separated by a brick and cast-stone buttress that projects out from the building plane to brace the load-bearing masonry wall. Each buttress is topped by a cast-stone cap and banding. Above the buttress band, there is a brick parapet with a cast-stone cap and simple cast-stone banding in between. The wider center bay has a large rolling-access door at stage

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level, which is centered in the bay. Four evenly-spaced punched-opening casement windows are evenly spaced at the basement level.

The narrower outer two bays have a smaller punched-opening casement window at stage level and three evenly-spaced punched-opening casement windows, which are evenly spaced at the basement level. Tall, flat brick panels with header coursing and cast-stone corner stones are centered in each outer bay. A mechanical louver is located in the upper extreme of the north bay. Two communication towers and an array of speakers are atop the southwest corner of the building.

INTEGRITY

The plot that the Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium sits on has changed little, although the entire campus has experienced tremendous change and growth. It has shown amazing flexibility and has continuously served the campus for multiple uses since its construction. It retains high level of integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. The Administration Building has experienced four additions. The Ida Waldran Auditorium was added in 1937 in the center of the west facade. With similar design, materials, and craftsmanship, this addition blends well with the original building without distracting from it or creating confusion of originality.

Two mechanical courts and an ADA elevator were added in the 1990s. Because these additions occur on the back of the Administration Building at the inside corners at the intersections of the Administration Building and the Auditorium, and are low in profile, these additions are inconspicuous. The Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium retains a very high degree of integrity of design, material, and workmanship, not only because of the unobtrusive nature of the later additions, but also due largely to the Classical Revival architectural style of the campus.

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SUMMARY

Built in 1919, the Administration Building at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, Arkansas, is **significant locally** as a focal point of activity as Arkansas's first Normal School campus established in 1907 for the training of teachers. Now, the oldest building on the UCA campus and the second major building project for the university, the Administration Building and Ida Waldran Auditorium (added in 1937) continue to serve as the historic and symbolic heart of the campus. Still a significant hub of activity today, the Administration Building and Ida Waldran Auditorium served in many capacities as classrooms, administrative offices, a library, a performing arts auditorium, and venue for social and ceremonial events. In addition, this building is architecturally significant as an example of the Classical Revival style. As such, the Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its contribution to the development of Arkansas's educational system and under **Criterion C** for its architecture.

ELABORATION

Town and County History

The city of Conway is located in Faulkner County, the sixth-most-populous county in the state of Arkansas. Located near the geographical center of the state and characterized by rolling hills, river valleys, and flat prairie lands, Faulkner County has served as a stopping point (at Toad Suck Ferry) for travelers on the Arkansas River, as a station on the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad line, and as a hub for the transportation of agricultural goods such as cotton, peaches, and grapes. Soon after the incorporation of Conway in 1875, the city became home to three institutions of higher learning: Hendrix College (1890), Central College (1891; now Central Baptist College), and Arkansas State Normal School (1907; now the University of Central Arkansas). Conway was also a progressive community with early city electricity, waterworks, and a telephone exchange, all installed between 1890 and 1902.

Conway's rapid growth at the turn of the twentieth century was encouraged by one of its early residents, George Washington Donaghey (1856-1937), who was instrumental not only for raising the funds to establish three colleges in Conway, but also for leading an anti-saloon campaign, which made Conway a dry city in 1888. Before and after his term as governor of Arkansas (1908-1913), Donaghey was also an experienced contractor. Leaving behind him a gubernatorial legacy as the champion of education in the state, coupled with his recent experience with the construction of the Arkansas State Capitol Building (completed in 1915), Donaghey was the ideal choice to build the Administration Building in 1919.

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History of the Property

In 1907, Arkansas legislators passed Act 317, creating Arkansas State Normal School (ASNS), the state's first teacher-training institution. The creation of a normal school allowed more Arkansas women not only an opportunity to advance their teaching skills, but also provided them with the ability to enter into professions besides teaching. The city of Conway was able to outbid its rivals (Searcy, Russellville, Benton, and Fort Smith) by putting up \$51,753 in cash, a substantial tract of land, as well as an alcohol-free community, the latter creating a situation of perceived wholesomeness considered important for the establishment of a normal school. With the addition of ASNS, Conway would become known as "The City of Colleges." Operations at ASNS began in 1908 with one building (the original Training School building; razed in 1972) and approximately 100 students pursuing the two-year Licentiate of Instruction degree. Growth of ASNS was continual until World War I, which had a significant impact on the school's enrollment. In 1917, approximately one third of the school's 440 students had to interrupt their education and go to war.

With the end of World War I, Arkansas State Normal School experienced a significant transformation. The growing number of students returning after the war prompted the school to add the four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in 1920. This curricular expansion was made possible by the construction of the Administration Building in 1919. Serving as an administrative and academic building, the Administration Building added 28,150 square feet, including nineteen classrooms, to the campus to accommodate the increase in the post-war student population. Due to smaller-than-anticipated state funding appropriation, however, university officials had to find a creative solution to realize their vision. After visiting other normal school campuses in Memphis (Tennessee), Fort Scott (Kansas), and Edmond (Oklahoma), they compelled the architect to design the Administration Building in two phases; the notched plan of the first phase would allow for the efficient insertion of an auditorium on the west side of the building at a future date when money was available. The school's makeover would also necessitate a name change in 1925—to Arkansas State Teachers College (ASTC).

The Administration Building's design negotiated the fine line between authority and economy, reflecting the concerns of the nascent Arkansas State Teachers College. Little Rock architect John Parks Almand (1885-1969), in an effort to evoke the collegiate tradition of more established east-coast liberal arts colleges, chose the Classical Revival style for the school's new building. Almand designed the Administration Building during the early phase of his career, four years after opening his own architectural firm in the capital city. Almand later worked with a team of architects in 1927 to design Little Rock Central High School (NR-listed August 19, 1977, NHL designation May 20, 1982), named "The Most Beautiful High School in America" by the American Institute of Architects. Known for using expensive building materials but forced to work within the constraints of a limited budget, Almand sparingly incorporated finely-carved limestone columns and pilasters only at the east entry. Decorative Batesville marble tympanum panels topped only the windows on the front façade. A more economical brick completed the exterior. The formal symmetry of the Administration Building's façade, with its accented doorway and expansive entry staircase and terrace,

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ushered students from Alumni Circle plaza up and into the building. Once inside the long axial hallway, students were easily able to locate the light-filled classrooms, whose arched windows were rhythmically expressed on the exterior.

Over the next two decades, the Administration Building witnessed the expansion of Arkansas State Teachers College, growing from twenty faculty members and 328 students in 1917 to forty-four faculty members and 745 students in 1939. Despite the effects of the Great Depression, moreover, the college was able to add a 1,200 seat auditorium on the west side of the Administration Building in 1937. The auditorium addition was designed by George Hyde Wittenberg (1892-1953) and Lawson L. Delony (1890-1976) of Little Rock. This, and three other new campus buildings, was funded by economic stimulus funds supplied by the Public Works Administration (PWA) in the form of a \$245,000 loan and a \$200,454 grant. A significant focal point of the campus and equipped with a fully-rigged fly system, the new auditorium provided a venue for plays, concerts, assemblies, graduations, and other social and ceremonial events. The auditorium's 9,296 square-foot interior featured a generous stage area, an orchestra pit, dual-aisle access, balcony seating, and a coffered ceiling. In 1937, the auditorium was named the Ida Waldran Memorial Chapel in honor of one of the school's first faculty members who was also Dean of Women.

On December 8, 1941, the day after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, the college's president, Nolen M. Irby, held a "war assembly" in Ida Waldran Auditorium. President Irby asked students to stay calm and instructed the male students to prepare to leave campus. By 1943, only 289 students were enrolled. During WWII, Arkansas State Teachers College became one of seven branch bases for the Women's Army Corps—once again the Administration Building became an important center for the training of women. On March 1, 1943, WAC Branch #3 held opening ceremonies in Ida Waldran Auditorium. The officer in command, General Ralph Lovett, gave the opening address and told the WACs, "You have been drafted, not by law, but by your own patriotic spirit." From March 1943 to March 1944, 1,800 women were trained at the college. They were the first American women to fly in military aircraft in formation. The oval drive encircling Alumni Circle plaza in front of the Administration Building became the parading ground for female cadets while the stately façade of the Administration Building created an inspiring backdrop. The Naval Cadets, the Army Air Corps, and Army National Guard units were also stationed at ASTC during this time.

The Administration Building continued to be the center of campus after WWII. When Congress passed the Service Men's Readjustment Act of 1944, also known as the GI Bill of Rights, veterans flooded the campus. As the student population exploded from 289 in 1943 to 1,700 in 1947, and because many of the students were older and already married, a subsequent baby boom prompted ASTC to award honorary *Baby of Arts* degree to the children of veterans. These ceremonies, which were conducted on the graciously-sized landing of the entry steps of the Administration Building, took place from 1948 to 1957. ASTC was the only U.S. college campus ever to award this degree and because of its uniqueness, received nationwide attention. In 1949, a photo of 10-month-old Sheryl Lynn Cramer, standing on the entry terrace of the Administration Building in her diminutive cap and gown, holding her tiny diploma, appeared in the national biweekly

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publication, *Look* magazine. NBC Radio also reported on the degree during its newscast and named it one of its top ten outstanding news events for the week.

For more than seventy years, Ida Waldran Auditorium hosted many significant people. During the 1950s and '60s, especially as ASTC was growing and reinventing itself (next as State College of Arkansas in 1967, and in 1975 as the University of Central Arkansas), the Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium continued to play a significant social role on campus and in the community. On March 6, 1952, Margaret Truman, the 28-year-old daughter of President Harry Truman, gave a vocal performance in Ida Waldran Auditorium before a sell-out crowd of 1,300 people. During her interview with the *Log Cabin Democrat*, Truman said that Ida Waldran Auditorium was one of the best halls in which she had performed. Journalist and television news anchor Howard K. Smith spoke in Ida Waldran on February 22, 1968. Smith, who had interviewed some of the world's most (in)famous people, including Nikita Khrushchev, Fidel Castro, Richard M. Nixon, and even Hitler (before the outbreak of WWII), spoke on the topic of the Civil Rights Movement and desegregation. Political activist and best-selling author Ralph Nader spoke in Ida Waldran Auditorium to a crowd of about 200 on March 31, 1969. While on campus, Nader talked about the dangers created by nuclear power plants. Arkansas Power & Light officials, who had just begun construction of Arkansas Nuclear One in 1969, were in the audience and countered Nader's claims by saying, "These plants have the highest safety record of any classification of American industry." The Administration Building also hosted two U.S. Presidents: William J. Clinton and Gerald R. Ford. Before he was elected the 42nd president of the United States in 1992, then-Governor Bill Clinton spoke to a group of about 2,000 people on November 7, 1983, on the front steps of Main Hall during UCA's 75th Anniversary. On March 29, 1984, then former President Gerald R. Ford spoke to a large crowd in Ida Waldran Auditorium about campaign costs and strategies, saying, "Money is the mother's milk of politics."

SUMMARY PARAGRAPH

Nomination of the Administration Building/Ida Waldran Auditorium is based on two criteria: educational (**Criterion A**) and architectural (**Criterion C**) significance. As the second major building project for the state's first Normal School (founded 1907), the Administration Building, built in 1919, made a significant contribution to the development of Arkansas' educational system. The Administration Building also served a significant social role during WWII as the headquarters and training grounds for 1,800 WACs, and the Ida Waldran addition, for more than 70 years, as a community venue for presentations by many famous people, including those by Presidents Gerald R. Ford and William J. Clinton. Architecturally, the Administration building's symmetrical façade, featuring arched windows and elegant entrance columns, make it a significant example of the Classical Revival style. The Administration Building was designed by prominent Little Rock architect John Parks Almand (1885-1969) and built by George W. Donaghey (1856-1937), the twenty-second governor of Arkansas. The Ida Waldran Auditorium addition was designed by Wittenberg and Deloney Architects and built in 1937. The Administration Building stands as one of the last remaining

examples of formal administrative architecture found on any Arkansas university campus. For these reasons, the

Administration Building, University of Central Arkansas

Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior

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Administration Building is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its contribution to Arkansas' educational system and under **Criterion C** for its architecture.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the north side of the sidewalk on the east side of Marian Ross Drive, 535 feet south of the Marian Ross Drive and Bruce Street intersection, proceed easterly along the north side of the sidewalk to Alumni Circle, thence proceed southerly along the west side of Alumni Circle for 160 feet to the south side of the sidewalk, thence proceed westerly along the south side of the sidewalk to the east side of Marian Ross Drive, thence proceed northerly along the east side of Marian Ross Drive for 245 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses all of the land historically associated with the University of Central Arkansas Administration Building.