

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Ruggles, Nesburt T., House

other name/site number: N/A

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2. Location

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street & number: E. of AR Hwy 32; SE of Shover Springs

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Shover Springs

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Hempstead code: AR 057 zip code: 72202

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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>1</u>	<u>1</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>2</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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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 H. Slaton
Signature of certifying official

10-14-94
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

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

- Current : Domestic

Sub: Camp

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Other: Plain Traditional Bungalow

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Metal
walls Weatherboard other _____

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: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1912-1914

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Ruggles, Nesburt T.

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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Information submitted by Wanda Ruggles Irvin, April 1994

Medearis, Mary, ed. *I Remember Shover Springs*. Hope, Arkansas: Etter Printing Company, 1980.

___ 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: Approximately one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>451220</u>	<u>3719560</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the eastern curblin of AR Hwy. 32 and a line formed by, yet twenty feet from, the southeastern elevation of the garage, proceed northeasterly along this line to its intersection with a line formed by, yet twenty feet from, the northeastern elevation of the garage. Then proceed northwesterly along this line to its intersection with a line formed by, yet thirty feet from, the northwestern elevation of the house. Then proceed southwesterly along this line to its intersection with the eastern curblin of AR Hwy. 32. Then proceed southeasterly along the curblin to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes the house, well house, nonhistoric garage and the majority of the property that was historically considered the yard and driveway. The remainder of the 135 acre farm is excluded from this boundary.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/14/94

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

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National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
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Summary

Constructed from 1912 to 1914, the Nesburt T. Ruggles House is a single-story, wood-frame, Plain Traditional-styled bungalow with a metal-shingled, multi-hipped roof. Located to the southeast of Shover Springs on the eastern side of Arkansas Highway 32, the Nesburt T. Ruggles House is in good condition and now used as a weekend home by the owners.

Elaboration

The Nesburt T. Ruggles House is a single-story, Plain Traditional-styled bungalow constructed from 1912 to 1914. The cypress frame structure is clad with white-painted, false-bevel type novelty siding and rests upon a concrete block pier foundation. Covering this structure is a moderate-pitch, hipped roof with two smaller cross-hipped projections on the southwest (front) and northwest elevations. The roof is sheathed with silver-painted metal shingles, which were installed over the original wood shingles c. 1930. Originally, there were two interior brick chimneys; however, they have been capped below the roofline. The house was wired for electricity in 1936.

The front, or southwestern, elevation features a central shed-roof porch nestled within the "L" created by the hipped-roof projection to the right, or southeast. The porch is supported by two wood columns (tapered, square with bases and capitals) on brick piers. A brick pier without a column is positioned asymmetrically in between and abuts the northwestern end of the single porch step. Underneath the porch there are two single-leaf entrances with one leading into the living room while the other leads into the bedroom to the right, or southeast, of the porch. Both wood-panelled doors and their associated screen doors are original. The bedroom door contains a half light, while the living room door is distinguished by a three-quarter light that is decorated with a beaded course underneath the crown. While both screen doors feature delicate spindlework, the living room door is more ornate.

One-over-one, double-hung windows are utilized throughout the house and are of various sizes. The solitary window underneath the porch and the front-facing bedroom window to the right of the porch are of larger-than-standard dimensions. To the left, or northwest, of the porch, the living room wall extends perpendicular toward the rear, or northeast, to its juncture with the cross-hipped bedroom that projects to the northwest. There is a single, standard-sized, one-over-one window in the living room wall facing the northwest and an identical window in the bedroom facing the front, or southwest.

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Aside from the living room window, the northwest elevation is fenestrated by a standard one-over-one window placed in the center the cross-hipped end. A smaller one-over-one window illuminates the shed-roof, bathroom addition that was constructed on the rear of the house in 1947.

The rear, or northeast, elevation is composed of the bathroom addition to the right, or northwest, and a shed-roof projection across the remainder of the facade. The bathroom addition is very narrow and is lighted on this elevation by a single-pane stationary window. While the shed roof is attached below the eave of the main roof on this addition (with exposed rafters), the adjacent shed roof, which is covered with composition shingles, is flush with the main roofline, but with a slightly lower pitch. The section adjacent to the bathroom addition with the standard-size, one-over-one window was the original kitchen, and the center section was a screened-in porch. In 1928 or 1929, a new kitchen was added to the left, or southeast, end of the rear elevation. The center screened-in section was enclosed in the early 1930's with three side-by-side six-over-six windows and a single-leaf entrance to the left. The new kitchen addition is fenestrated on this elevation by a stationary six-pane window to the left, or southeast, of the doorway. The original kitchen was later converted into a large bathroom.

At some point, a new inset porch was created by extending the roofline from the left, or southeast, end of the new kitchen addition to the northwestern end of the tripled six-over-six windows. The porch roof has exposed rafters and is supported by six plain wood posts. Underneath the porch on the northwestern end is the concrete step entrance to a brick-lined cellar that is currently in poor condition.

In comparison, the southeastern elevation is more simplified and consists of four conventional-sized, one-over-one windows on the original facade with the two center windows paired. The rear addition, which extends slightly on this elevation, contains a pair of smaller one-over-one windows.

The interior of the house is unaltered with the exception of the aforementioned kitchen addition and consists of three bedrooms along the southeastern elevation, another bedroom in the cross hip to the northwest, a living room, and a dining room, all with approximately ten-foot ceilings. The papered walls are accented by unornamented, dark-stained wood baseboards and door and window moldings. The original cypress flooring is underneath the modern carpet.

Originally there was a smokehouse, two barns, a two car garage, a one-room servants house, and a privy. The smokehouse and the privy were removed c. 1948, the servants house was razed in the early 1950's, and the barns were taken down in 1969. The historic garage was replaced in

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1982 with the current gable-roof, wood-frame structure that is located to the southeast of the house. The original well house remains to the west of the garage, but is no longer in use.

Located to the southeast of Shover Springs on the eastern side of Arkansas Highway 32, the Nesburt T. Ruggles House is in good condition and now used as a weekend home by the owners.

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Summary

The Nesburt T. Ruggles House is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example of a Plain Traditional-style bungalow in the Shover Springs community.

Elaboration

The origins of the Shover Springs community date to 1846 when George Shover, a saloon keeper and cotton merchant from Fulton, purchased land in the area of the "springs that taste of iron." The area had previously been a favorite camping ground for hunters. Shover established a seasonal "pilgrimage" colony around the spring, and "clapboard shanties, made in the style and shape of the camps at camp meetings" were erected for the families.

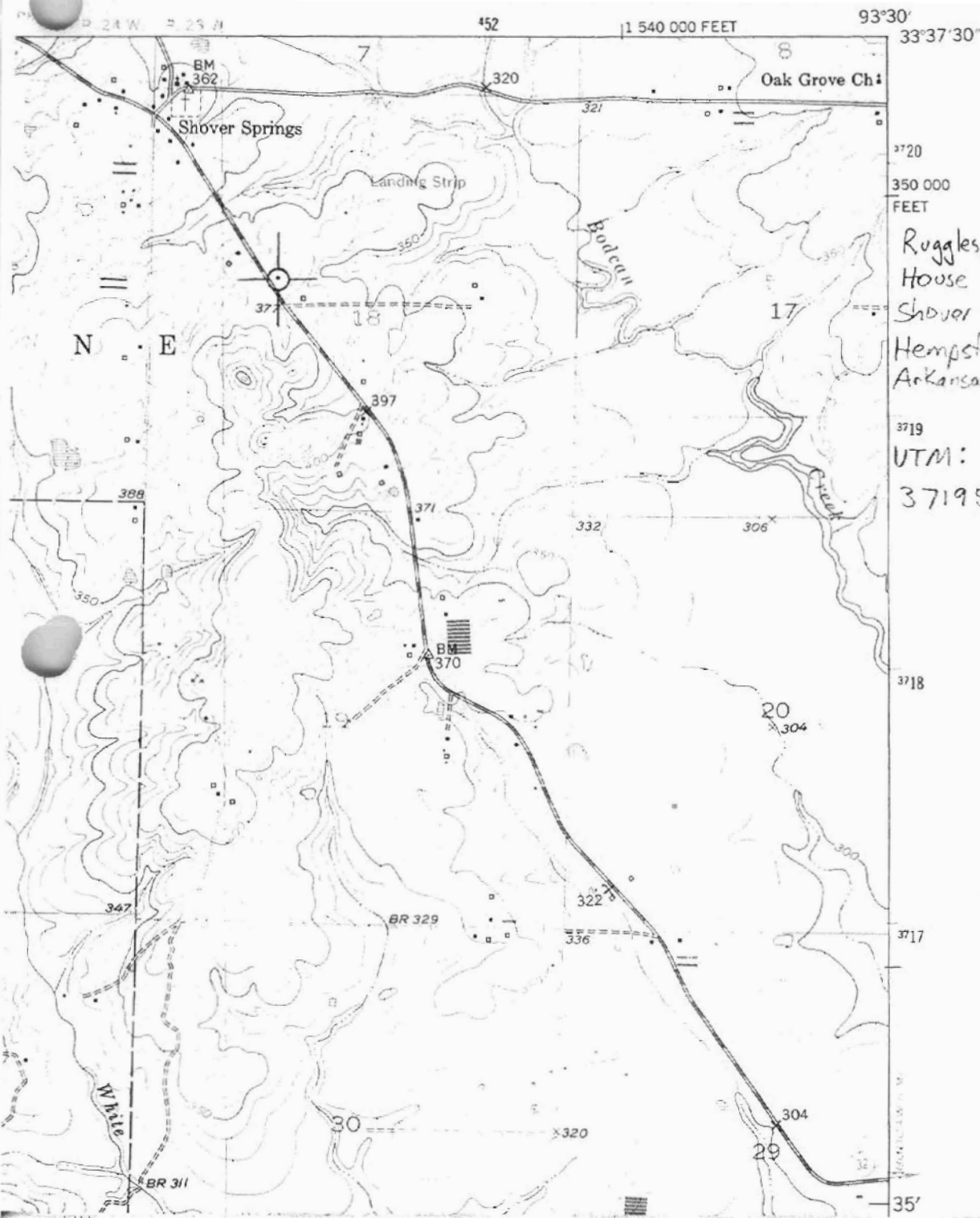
A town, however, did not begin to emerge until the 1880's. Land for a Missionary Baptist Church and cemetery was donated in 1880. On September 7, 1881, a town plat reflecting four streets and a "spring reservation" was filed for Shover Springs at the Hempstead County Courthouse. A two-story school was constructed in 1885, and in 1890 the post office application indicated a population of fifty people with an area to be served of three hundred.

Nesburt T. Ruggles and his family moved to Arkansas in 1912 and purchased a 135-acre farm in the Shover Springs community. Ruggles constructed a new house over a two year period. In 1932, William Bryan Ruggles, the youngest member of the family, moved into the house with his wife, Mattie, and their four children. Later, two additional offspring were born in the house.

The house that Ruggles constructed was somewhat unusual in that its moderate-pitched hipped roof with cross hips provided a bungalow form that is distinguished from the more traditional vernacular building types, and yet the house does not reflect Craftsman detailing either, which was the most common type of bungalow constructed. For these reasons, the Nesburt T. Ruggles House is locally significant under Criterion C as the best example of a Plain Traditional-style bungalow in the Shover Springs community.

PATMOS QUADRANGLE
 ARKANSAS-HEMPSTEAD CO.
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7351 111 NW
 (EARTH)



Ruggles, Nesburt T,
 House
 Shover Springs vic
 Hempstead Co
 Arkansas

UTM: 15/451220/
 3719560

