

Mo. 10-2-66 (Rev. 10-7-70)

30-22-1030-62

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**NAME**

HISTORIC Morrison Plantation Smokehouse

AND/OR COMMON

**LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rural Route 1, Donaldson

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Saginaw community

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Arkansas

CODE  
05

COUNTY  
Hot Spring

CODE  
059

**CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. Fay Hempstead McMillan

STREET & NUMBER

Post Office Box 54

CITY, TOWN

Malvern

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

**LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Hot Spring County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Locust Street

CITY, TOWN

Malvern

STATE

Arkansas

**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

The Morrison Plantation Smokehouse was constructed ca. 1854 as part of a since razed plantation complex. The building plan is a perfect hexagon. The exterior bearing walls (there are no interior partitions) are of native stone randomly laid. The eight-planed hip roof is capped by a gablet louvered on two elevations (north and south) to form a smoke exhaust.

The roof framing system is supported by two large wood beams springing from the stone wall at the eave height. These beams are at a right angle to the ridge line of the gablet. From lower on the walls and at a right angle to the supporting beams are an identical set of beams evidently for hanging foodstuffs to smoke.

The only entrance is by a low (five feet ten inches) but wide (four feet six inches) door on the west elevation. The door is made of a double thickness of diagonal wood planks with a peripheral wood frame.

The smokehouse has suffered few alterations through the years. The original wood shingled roof has been replaced by galvanized, corrugated sheet iron and a concrete floor has been poured over the original one of packed dirt.

The old smokehouse stands now to the rear of a later dwelling, its unusual plan shape and silhouette form a sharp contrast with the simpler, more modern of the house.

# SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1500-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Morrison Plantation Smokehouse is the last structure surviving from a large, ante-bellum plantation complex developed by Daniel Morrison. Built ca. 1854, the hexagonal-shaped, rock smokehouse is also an important example of plantation architecture.

Daniel Morrison, a native of Georgia, acquired huge sections, amounting to over 60,000 acres, of the south-central Arkansas wilderness in the mid-19th century. Morrison was a slave owner and used black labor to clear a 300 acre tract on Water Mellon Island, at that time a large land mass surrounded by the Ouachita River and a tributary slough. On this estate Morrison supervised slaves in the construction of a frame, four-room, central hall, Greek Revival dwelling and several other buildings, including a group of slave cabins along the nearby Military Road, a small, oxen-powered cotton gin, and a sturdy, rock smokehouse. Since 1945 the smokehouse has been the only tangible reminder of the early existence of the plantation.

The smokehouse is formed of randomly laid field stones capped by a modern corrugated iron roof. Only one aperture, a doorway located on the west elevation, breaks the surface of the building's exterior walls. The door is diagonally set wood planks, and the original hinges are still in place. There are no partitions on the inside of the building. Three tiers of beams, used for hanging meat, date from the original construction of the smokehouse, but the original packed dirt floor has been covered with poured concrete.

The present setting of the smokehouse retains a couple of characteristics reminiscent of its original environment. The surrounding country is still farm land and the military road, now a paved highway, still runs to the west of the building. However, the road is no longer a major thoroughfare to the southwest, as it was in the 19th century. New buildings including a farm house, wash house and chicken house have replaced the earlier plantation structures on the lot occupied by the smokehouse.

The Morrison Plantation Smokehouse provides a small glimpse of 19th century plantation life. The eight-sided rock building is an unusual architectural survival from pre-Civil War Arkansas; and built by slaves, the structure represents one facet of the by-gone, feudal-like, self-sufficiency of the antebellum south.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Title No. 5998.

Hodges, T. L. and Hodges, Mrs. T. L. "Watermelon Island," Malvern Daily Record October 7, 1941.

Malvern Daily Record, April 23, 1976.

U. S. 1850 Census: Schedule 1, Population.

U. S. 1860 Census: Schedule 1, Population (Microfilm).

U. S. 1860 Census: Schedule 4, Productions of Agriculture (Microfilm)

# GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

## UTM REFERENCES

	850			900											
A	1	5	5	0	4	0	8	9	3	7	9	1	0	9	0
	ZONE EASTING			NORTHING											
C															

UTM REFERENCES (continued)

B														
	ZONE EASTING			NORTHING										
D														

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

## LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE

Mike Shinn, Historian, Dan Chapel, Architect & Ms. Jean E. M. Smith

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

3-8-77

STREET & NUMBER

Suite 500, Continental Building

TELEPHONE

501-371-2763

CITY OR TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

## STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

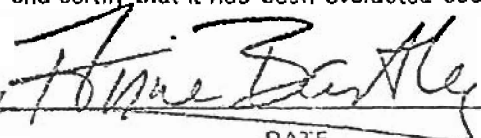
NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley



TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-8-77

### FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-300a  
Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

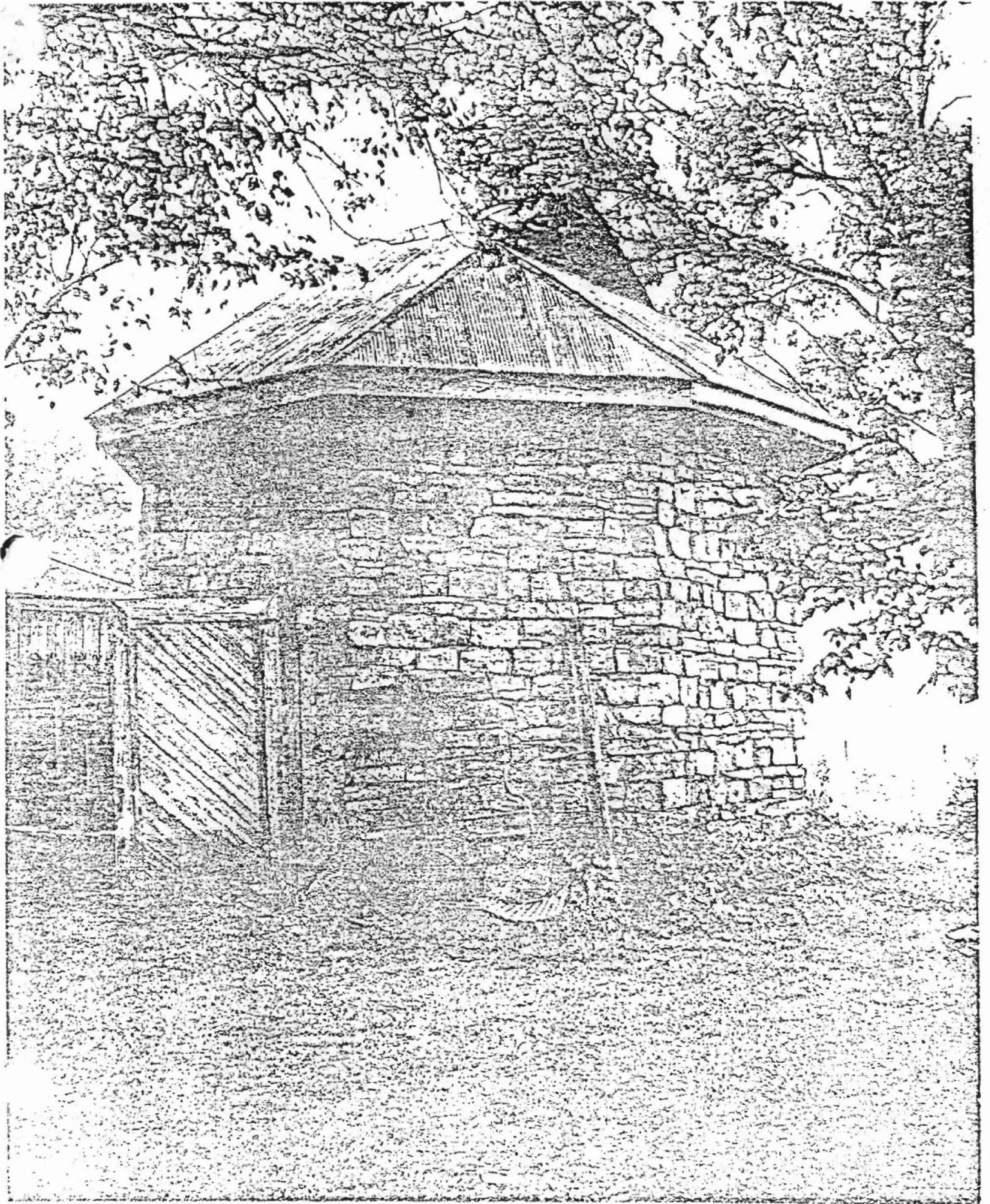
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

U. S. 1860 Census: Slaves (Microfilm)





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