

NR listed 10/8/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Crow, Oscar, House

other name/site number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number: 404 Washington Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Star City

vicinity: N/A

state: AR

county: Lincoln

code: AR 079

zip code: 71667

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

=====

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

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
Signature of certifying official

9-1-92
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

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

=====

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

=====

Historic: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

Current: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

Craftsman

Other Description: N/A

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

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

=====

8. Statement of Significance

=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1929-1936

Significant Dates: 1929

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Verdue, Robert and Doug

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

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

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:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acres of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>606530</u>	<u>3755790</u>	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point 10 chains and 51.34 lengths North of the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Township 9 S, Range 7 W, thence west 264 feet; thence south 57 feet; thence east 264 feet; thence north 57 feet to the place of beginning, all in the Southeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 8, Township 9 S, Range 7 West.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: August 31, 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 Oscar Crow House is a single-story, wood frame residence designed in the Craftsman style. Though not a true shotgun house in plan, it does feature a gable end front entrance set beneath an open porch and a series of rooms placed directly behind. The house has recently been restored, including the removal of a later shed addition to the rear and the replacement of the original front porch balustrade. An historic (though not original) combination garage/tool shed is also included in the nomination.

Elaboration

The Oscar Crow House is a single-story, wood frame residential building designed in a restrained interpretation of the Craftsman style. Though it is not a true shotgun house in plan (the rooms do not recede from the front entrance in a strictly linear fashion), it does feature a gable end front entrance set beneath an open porch and a series of rooms placed behind. There are no masonry chimneys. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the novelty sided walls rest upon brick piers.

The eastern or front elevation features the gable end of the roof above a recessed porch that is supported upon two box columns. A rectangular vent is placed in the center of the upper "pediment" section, directly beneath the gable peak. The wall of the recessed porch beneath is symmetrically organized, with a central, single-leaf entrance separating two identical three-over-one wood sash windows. The box columns are ornamented by a simple wood balustrade.

The northern, side gable facade is fenestrated by four irregularly-placed three-over-one wood sash windows. The southern elevation is lit by a single three-over-one wood sash window in the eastern, slightly-recessed wall, and another identical window just to the west. The western elevation features a recessed porch also, and is entered via a single-leaf door to the north that is flanked by two pair of modern six-over-six sash windows. The projecting porch roof is supported upon four turned posts.

Given the simple, restrained nature of this home, the significant exterior details are rather few. The exposed rafters that accent the roofline and the three-over-one wood sash windows throughout comprise the bulk of the detail.

The interior is simply-appointed, as it has always been, with unornamented plank moldings

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

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

throughout and little other ornament of note.

The alterations to this structure have been limited to the addition of the balustrade on the front porch and the gable roof rear addition that replaced a shed roof addition that was probably historic, though not original.

Also included in the nomination is the combination gable/shed roof garage/outbuilding that is currently undergoing restoration. This structure, constructed three years after the house itself, is largely intact and historic.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

Criterion C, local significance

The Oscar Crow House is eligible under Criterion C locally as the best example of a restrained version of a Craftsman style residence. The exposed rafters, the two-tier, asymmetrical roof line and the three-over-one windows are all characteristic elements of this style.

Elaboration

In 1929, Star City, the county seat of Lincoln County, was a small town of approximately 1,000 people. Lincoln County was then, as now, a rural county bisected diagonally (northwest to southeast) by Bayou Bartholomew, the customarily-understood boundary between the Mississippi alluvial floodplain and the Gulf coastal plain. The main industries were agriculture, with the primary crops being cotton and timber.

The Crow family first settled in what is now Lincoln County in 1850. Several generations remained in the area, and Randolph Crow, the father of Oscar Crow, the first resident of this structure, moved to Star City in 1927 to open a store on the courthouse square with his son. After the first store burned, Oscar and his brother Willie Bob established Crow Drug on the south side of the square in 1928. This business prospered and remained in business until 1955.

The Oscar Crow House was built by the brothers Robert and Doug Verdue, two well-known local builders in Star City of the period. It was built for Oscar Crow and his wife, Hazel Vick Crow. Unfortunately, the couple lived together in the house only a few years, as Oscar died five years later, in 1934.

Ironically, it was Oscar's passing that may have been the primary reason that the house has survived in such good condition, as it was typically the expanding needs of a growing family that resulted in the alteration of many residences through the addition of more rooms and the rearrangement of original interior floor plans. The Oscar Crow House suffered the addition of only a single shed room on the rear of the house in 1936, seven years after its construction; otherwise the interior of the house has remained as it has always looked. As simple as it is, the Oscar Crow House remains an intact example of the simpler, more economical housing that prevailed for the less wealthy, local middle-class laborer and merchant that were the economic backbone of many such small communities as Star City. As such, the Oscar Crow House remains an excellent example of one of these early twentieth century vernacular residences that modern architectural history has only really begun to appreciate in the last ten years.

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

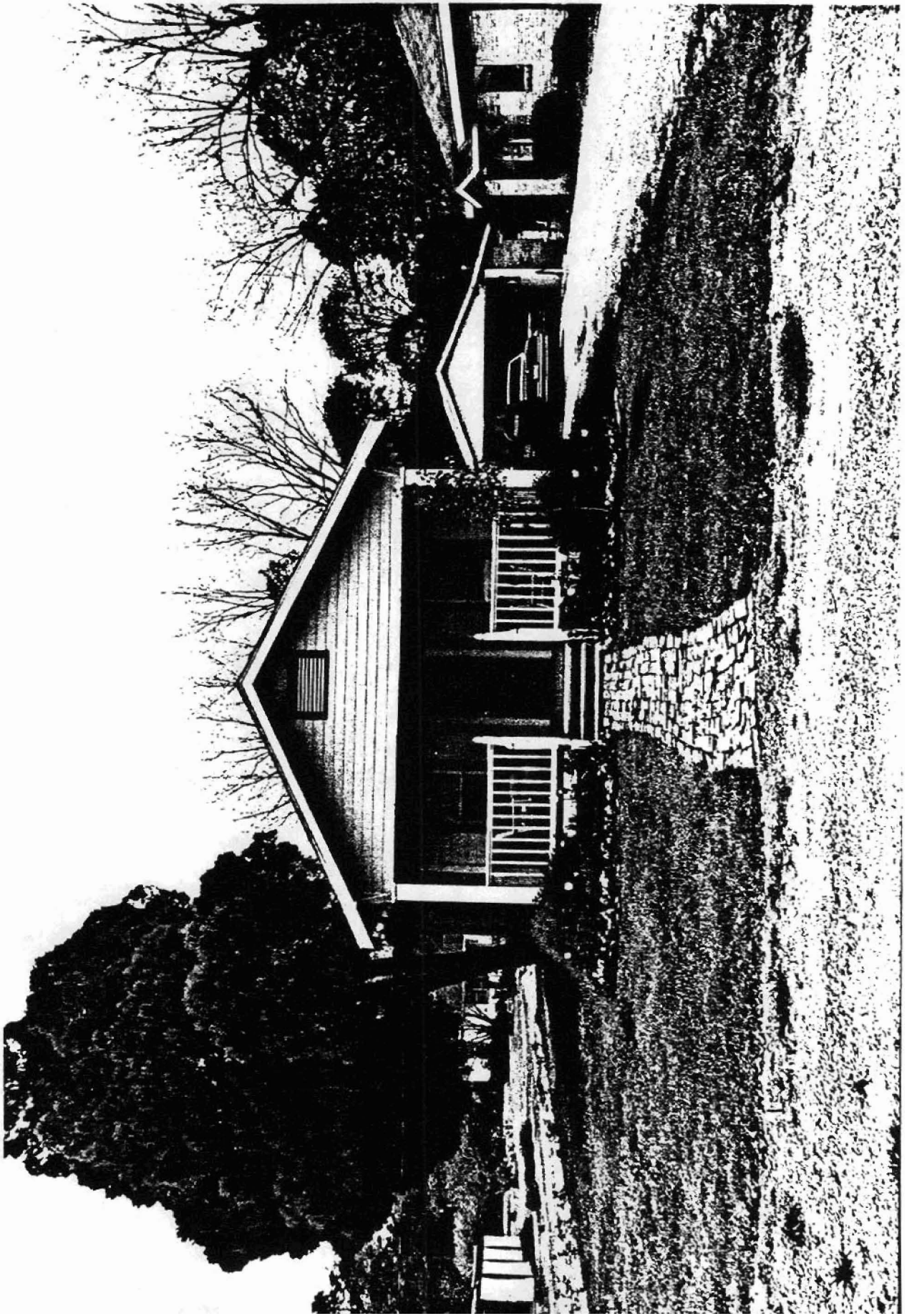
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

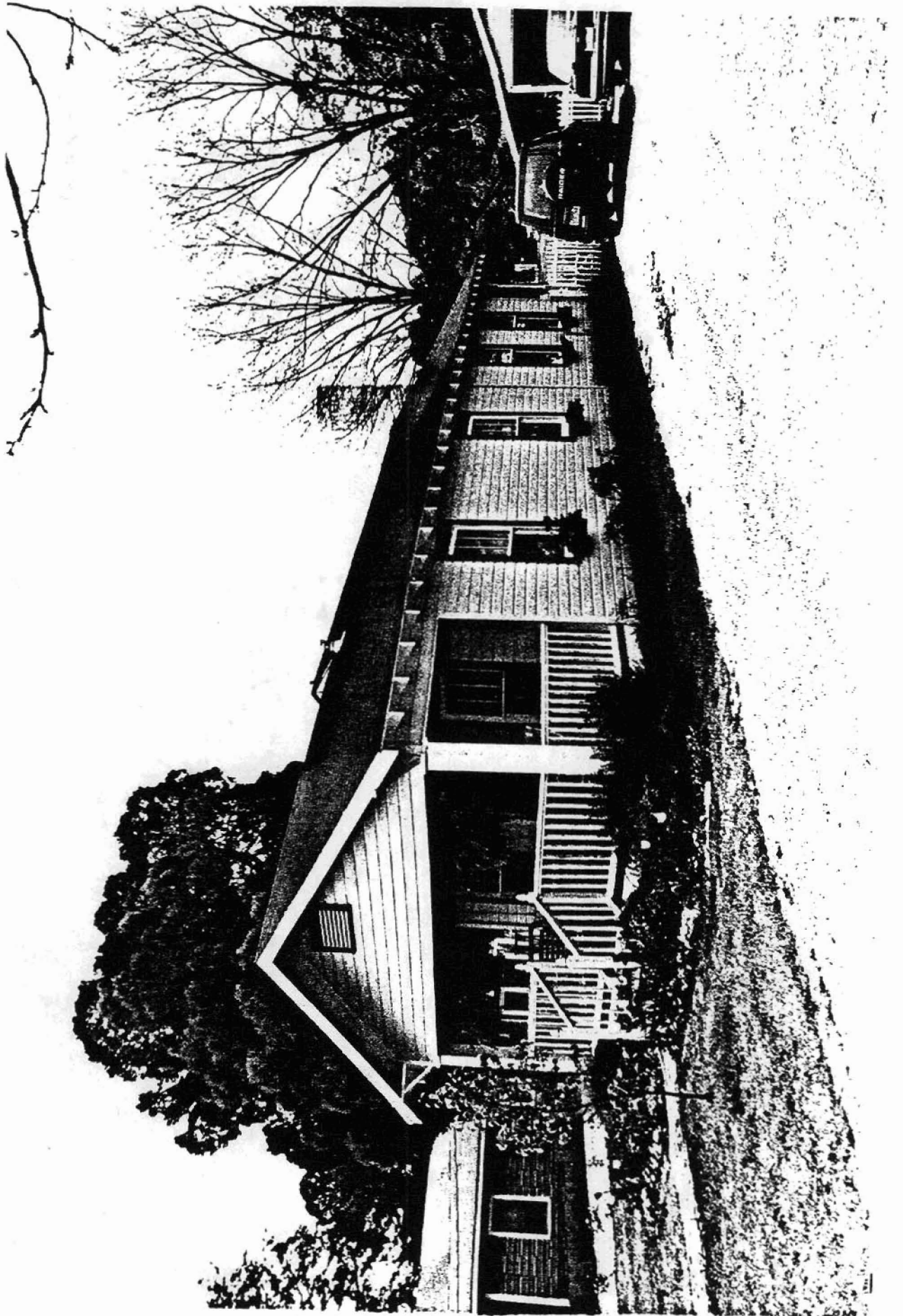
Bibliography

Interview with Leta Bailey Crow; October 1, 1991.

Interview with Bobbie Ann Verdue; October 17, 1991.











OSCAR CROD
HOUSE
746 CRT,
HARROLD, N.B.
HARRIS
5606530/
3755790

