

NR LISTED

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUL 28 1998

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

AHPP

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

Historic Name: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

Other Name/Site Number: LR0023

=====

2. Location

=====

Street & Number: Northeast corner of Tracy Lawrence Ave. and Bell Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Foreman

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Little River

Code: AR081

Zip Code: 71836

=====

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>	_____	Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

St. Barnabas Epriscopal Church
Name of Property

Little River County, Arkansas
County and State

=====
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.

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

=====
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

St. Barnabas Epriscopal Church
Name of Property

Little River County, Arkansas
County and State

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: RELIGION Sub: religious facility

Current : RELIGION Sub: religious facility

=====

7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic

Materials: foundation BRICK roof ASPHALT
walls WOOD other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Sited upon a large lot at the northeast corner of Tracy Lawrence Avenue (Arkansas State Hwy 108) and North Bell Street near the city park and the downtown commercial district, St. Barnabas Episcopal Church is a white-painted, single-story frame church clad in drop siding and covered by an end gable roof that is sheathed with green composition shingles. The church rests upon a brick pier foundation with some connecting latticework. A modern gable-roof addition projects to the north and is connected to church by a small gable-roof hyphen.

Elaboration

The front, or western, elevation reveals a vestibule covered by a separate flared end gable roof. The centrally placed double-leaf doors are capped with a lancet arch with a three-part stained glass window. The peak of the gable end is further defined by a vertical band of drop siding, providing a stickwork effect. Eaves are enclosed. A single one-over-one wood window is placed on both the north and south elevations of the vestibule. The end gable of the main section is still largely visible from the front and reveals more stickwork detailing with vertical, horizontal, and diagonal

orientation of the drop siding used on the walls. Corner trim is given a pilaster effect with the addition of simple cornice and capital treatment. This section reveals more elaborate eave details including fascia board moldings and fluted soffits.

The southern elevation of the nave is fenestrated by three pairs of stained-glass lancet windows. The simple wood windows have a two-over-one, double-hung sash configuration and some of the individual panes have been replaced with clear glass. The easternmost pair of windows have recently been removed for repair and single panes of stationary glass have been installed temporarily.

A new window group of three short stained-glass, lancet windows is located in the center of the formerly eastern elevation. A vertical band of siding extends across the facade, although it is now interrupted by the upper half of the window group. This elevation also contains the large ductwork and central heating and air conditioning unit.

The northern elevation is largely obscured by the Parish Hall addition. The easternmost pair of lancet windows are to the east of the connecting hyphen and have been replaced with sheet glass like their southern elevation counterparts. Of the middle pair of lancet windows, one window was removed for the door of the hyphen and the remaining window can be viewed from the interior only. The westernmost pair of lancet windows remains to the west of the hyphen.

The interior is an exercise in the glories of stained beaded board. It is utilized for the walls, the tray ceiling, and when turned vertically, the wainscoting. Other interior details of note include wood pews with a raised Gothic-style arch relief on the end faces and three historic ceiling fans. A modern red carpet has been installed over the original wood floors. Evidence of a historic chimney is visible just to the west of the center pair of windows on the southern wall. The two rooms to either side of the entrance hall in the vestibule (vestry to the south; coat/dressing room to the north) have been modernized with wood paneling and acoustical tile ceilings.

The Parish Hall addition to the north was completed in 1996. It is constructed on a continuous concrete foundation, clad with white-painted, wood drop siding, and is covered by a green composition-shingled side gable roof with a rear cross-gable projection. The front, or western, elevation is fenestrated by four modern-style, stationary Gothic-arched windows with a similar window in the hyphen. In the center of the facade is a gable-roof porch supported by two fluted columns. The ADA-accessible entrance contains an eight-panel wood door with five-pane sidelights.

Also located on the property is a bell on a stand, a concrete bench, and concrete sidewalks.

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church
Name of Property

Little River County, Arkansas
County and State

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1898-1905

Significant Dates: 1898-1905

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Hawkins, A. M.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

Erected in 1898, the St. Barnabas Episcopal Church has grown and developed with the community of Foreman. It is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as an excellent representative of the simple Gothic revival style.

Elaboration

According to Indian folklore, Rocky Comfort, originally called Willow Springs, was so named because there was a spring shaded by many willow trees, running through the lime rock. Animals would come to the spring to drink the cool water and rest under the willow trees, therefore the Indians

plane with the principal decorative detailing applied at the doors, windows, or cornices. St. Barnabas Church is an excellent example of this patterned wall surfaces and is an excellent example fo a church which is stylistically Queen Anne.

In the mid-1950s, the old one-room school building from Climax, Arkansas was moved to Foreman and attached to the church to serve as Parish Hall. An office and two Sunday school rooms were added in the early 1960s. A storm destroyed the addition in 1993, and the current Parish Hall was subsequently conctructed. The Mildred Josephine DeLongy Matteson Parish Haouse was dedicated on August 19, 1996.

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church has been a congregation in transition from its conception as an unorganized mission called St. Marys, to its move from Rocky Comfort to Foreman, and its declaration as an Organized Mission dedicated to St. Barnabas. Its transitional architectural style is reflective of the nature of the community. The St. Barnabas Epriscopal Church is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with local significance as an excellent example of a simple Queen Anne-style church with Stick-style influences.

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

"A Brief History of Saint Barnabas Episcopal church." undated publication.

Beasley, Bill. *Little River County*. Little River Historical Society, 1986 (original copyright, 1975).

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

called it "Rocky Comfort" because it was rocky and the shade gave comfort to the animals. By 1850, Rocky Comfort was a thriving community on top of a hill, and by the 1860s, it began to develop down the hill and across the fairly level ground below. The courthouse, blacksmith shop, stores, and other establishments spread out in several different directions. Rocky Comfort was named the county seat in 1868, and remained the center for county government until 1880 when the county seat was moved to Richmond.

When the Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad built its line from Ashdown to Arkinda in 1895, it cut through virgin forest one mile north of Rocky Comfort on right-of-way easements sold to the company by Carl Schuman, Bettie Bell, Joe Madden and Hoarce Coontz. By 1900, business men, as well as residents of Rocky Comfort recognized the potential and added convenience of locating the town directly on a rail line. A new community began to grow, and the residents called it "New Rocky Comfort". The Arkansas and Choctaw Railroad, however, named the community "Foreman" in honor of Ben Foreman, a noted republican from Texarkana. When the Post Office was officially established in 1900, it was named Foreman in keeping with the railroad designation. Because of the dual identity of the town, all mortgages and deeds carried a description in the new town as being situated in New Rocky Comfort (Foreman). It was not until 1959 that Act 83 proposed by Marion Crank, legislator from Little River county, legally changed the name of the town from New Rocky Comfort to Foreman.

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church began as an unorganized Episcopal mission called Saint Mary's in the original Rocky Comfort, Arkansas in the early 1840's. Later, Bishop Pierce visited the congregation and shortly after the Civil War appointed his son, the Reverend Father Pierce as priest in charge of the Mission which held services in the school building at Rocky Comfort. After the railroad came to the area and the population moved, the congregation began meeting at the Woodsman of the World building.

The original building, erected in 1898, now serves as the Nave. Around 1905, the building was enlarged to add the narthex and sanctuary. Gas lighting was installed. The priest in charge was Dr. F. E. De Longy who served until 1915. During that time the congregation became an "Organized Mission". Bishop W. M. Brown dedicated the building to St. Barnabas, because the first baptism at New Rocky Comfort was held on St. Barnabas Day.

The church was designed by A. M. Hawkins in the Simple Gothic revival style and its additions remain sensitive to the original design. The nature of the architectural design has allowed the building to increase and develop with its congregation without a loss of integrity. Its style is influenced by the Stick style which is a transitional style which links the preceding Gothic Revival with the subsequent Queen Anne. The Stick style stressed the wall surface itself as a decorative element rather than merely as a

St. Barnabas Epriscopal Church
Name of Property

Little River County, Arkansas
County and State

- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>370730</u>	<u>3732980</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point formed by the northeast corner of Arkansas Hwy 108 and Bell Street, proceed easterly along a line running parallel with the edge of Arkansas Hwy 108 for a distance of 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's eastern elevation; thence proceed northerly along said line 100 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed westerly along said line to the eastern edge of Bell Street; then proceed southerly along said line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the St. Barnabas Episcopal Church

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, and Amy Bennett, Survey Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 5/5/98

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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