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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Pettigrew School

other name/site number: MA0049

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2. Location

=====

street & number: N. of AR Hwy. 16

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Pettigrew vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Madison code: AR 087 zip code: 72752

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Public-local

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>1</u>	<u>2</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 A. Slater
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
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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

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6. Function or Use
=====

Historic: Education _____ Sub: School _____

Current : Social _____ Sub: Community Center _____

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7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

N/A

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone 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: c. 1915

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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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_ 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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Acres of Property: Two

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

Table with 4 columns: A, B, C, D. Row 1: A 15 440300 3963740 B _ _ _ Row 2: C _ _ _ D _ _ _

_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: _ See continuation sheet.

"A part of the N.E. 1/4, of the S.W. 1/4, and a part of the N.W. 1/4 of the S.E. 1/4, Sec. 4, Tp. 13, N. R. 25 West. Beginning at a stone on the North Bank of White river, thence North 36 Degrees, West 8 poles to the center of Sec. 4, Tp. 13, N. R. 25 West, thence South 85-1/2 degrees West 24 poles to a stone, thence South 54 degrees East 24 poles and 25 links to the North Bank of White river, thence with the meandering of said White river to the place of beginning, . . . "

Boundary Justification: _ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity as well as the noncontributing lunch-room bldg. site and the privy.

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11. Form Prepared By
=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: February 6, 1995

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

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Summary

The Pettigrew School was constructed c. 1915 as a single-story frame building clad with white-painted simple-drop siding and covered by a corrugated-metal, hipped roof. Exterior alterations have been limited to window replacements and the loss of the bell tower in the late 1970's. The interior features a sliding partition wall, and is largely unchanged with the exception of the installation of a dropped ceiling. An outdoor privy of indeterminate age is the only extant outbuilding associated with the school. Located north of State Highway 16, the Pettigrew School is in good condition.

Elaboration

Constructed c. 1915, the Pettigrew School in Pettigrew, Madison County is a single-story frame building that rests upon a continuous fieldstone foundation and is clad with white-painted simple-drop siding. The basically rectangular plan is covered by a corrugated-metal, hipped roof with a central gabled projection on the front elevation. Noteworthy exterior details include a wide frieze band beneath the eaves and the pent-roofed, cornice returns of the front gable end. The school building also retains the original central interior brick chimney.

The front, or southern, elevation is defined by the aforementioned central gable-roof entrance projection. A set of eight concrete steps access the double-leaf doors, which are capped by a single-pane transom, in the center of this bay. The lower halves of the doors are wood-panelled while the upper halves are glazed with a large single pane. These doors, which are flanked by one-over-one windows lead into a cloak room with two additional single-leaf doors accessing the two interior rooms. A square, louvered wood vent, now boarded over, is placed near the peak of the gable end. The front elevation to either side of the gabled entrance bay is fenestrated by a group of four one-over-one, steel-frame windows.

The western elevation is composed of three one-over-one windows and a single-leaf door near the northwest corner. An early photograph reveals that this door was originally a window; however, it appears that the conversion took place at an early date. Currently, this entrance is shielded by a shed roof and accessed by a straight ramp.

Like the front elevation, the rear, or northern, elevation is fenestrated by two groups of four one-over-one windows; however, there are no entrances on center section of this elevation as the wall abuts the steep side of a hill. The eastern elevation contains four symmetrically arranged one-over-one windows.

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The interior consists of two hardwood-floored rooms that are separated by two sliding partitions that recede into the attic. The partitions are covered with horizontal beaded board and rest upon a short, vertical beaded-board bulkhead with door-sized openings to either side of the central column, which is actually a very narrow section of the wall complete with wainscoting. Interestingly, the partitions do not have a corresponding opening, and, when closed, the wall has an open square at the bottom on each side of the column. The interior walls are covered with horizontal beaded board and are accented by wainscoting featuring a vertical rendition of the beaded board. There are also two wood-burning stoves with flues entering into the single suspended brick chimney (which is now obscured by the dropped ceiling).

Other than the window to door conversion on the west elevation and the placement of corrugated metal over the original wood shingles in the 1930's, the principal alterations to the school occurred in the late 1970's when grant money was procured to replace the original two-over-two, double-hung with wood frame windows with the current steel-frame units and install a dropped ceiling inside. In addition, the original bell tower was removed in 1978 and installed on a local church.

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Summary

The Pettigrew School is being nominated under Criteria A and C with local significance for its association with early Pettigrew history and as a good example of a wood-frame, Plain Traditional-style school building.

Elaboration

Pettigrew was established in 1897 with the arrival of a branch line of the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad that originated near Fayetteville in neighboring Washington County. Pettigrew was the eastern terminus of this line, which was constructed to tap the virgin timber stands in the area. Consequently, Pettigrew became a hub for the thriving lumber industry with logs, lumber, ties, and various other wood products shipped from this point. Soon, the town billed itself as the "Hardwood Capital of the World" and claimed that more hardwood lumber was shipped by rail from here than from any other point in the United States. Not surprisingly, the railroad and timber industry precipitated a population boom, and the census of the surrounding Kentucky township recorded an increase from 930 residents in 1890 to 1385 in 1900.

Although this burgeoning population was primarily employed by the sawmills and stave mills, the turn-of-the-century town also consisted of two hotels, a bank, doctors offices, livery stables, general stores, a church, a drugstore, a saloon, blacksmith shops, eating establishments, a weekly newspaper, *The Pettigrew Journal*, and a school. Unfortunately, the boom was relative to the amount of trees cut, and by 1910 the effects of the diminishing forest were underscored by a population decrease to 956 residents. By 1920, the trees were depleted and only 518 people resided in the township.

A photograph of the town dated 1907-1908 reveals an earlier school building, and it is thought that the nominated structure was constructed sometime between 1908 and 1915, when it is recorded that the school board was making payments on the building construction. It is also recorded that the community pledged to furnish 13,000 shingles for half of the roof, 5,000 board feet of lumber to build a foot bridge across the White River from the business district to the school grounds, twenty-five bags of cement for bridge pier and steps, 228 perch of stone for a retaining wall and steps, ten yards of sand and gravel, and nails and bolts for the bridge. All were completed with the exception of the retaining wall. This auspicious beginning was marred somewhat in 1920 when the Citizens Bank filed suit against the school board for the final payment on the construction note.

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There were several other rural schools in the surrounding area; however, the Pettigrew School was the largest and accepted the rural school district students whenever those schools closed temporarily due to insufficient operating funds. As transportation improved and education standards evolved, many of these schools were eventually consolidated with the Pettigrew district.

Still, the expanded district never outgrew the Pettigrew School Building, although in the 1950's the community decided to construct a lunch room building to the west of the school. A well was drilled for the occasion, and the building was constructed with donated materials and labor. Interestingly, this much newer structure no longer survives. The Pettigrew school district operated until 1963 when it, too, succumbed to consolidation, and the students were enrolled in the St. Paul school district. Since that time, the structure has been utilized as a community building and was altered somewhat in the late 1970's by an influx of ill-spent matching grant money. Currently, a Committee for Rehabilitation and Adaptive Restoration of Pettigrew Community Building has been formed and is seeking funding to restore the Pettigrew School to near-original condition.

The Pettigrew School is locally significant under Criterion A for its association with the early timber-boom history of Pettigrew. Few historic buildings from that period have survived in Pettigrew, and the school, which served as both the educational and social center of town, is easily the most prominent symbol of the past. Under Criterion C, the Pettigrew School is locally significant as a good example of a wood-frame, Plain Traditional-styled school building. Although very traditional in construction and appearance, this design improved on earlier one-room schools by featuring a sliding partition wall to create two rooms and a projecting gable entrance/cloak room. As such, the Pettigrew School is representative of the type of school building construction that occurred chronologically between the simple, one-room log or frame structures that were often used for both school and church services and the later Depression-era, government-funded schools that frequently utilized stone construction, especially in the Ozark Mountains.

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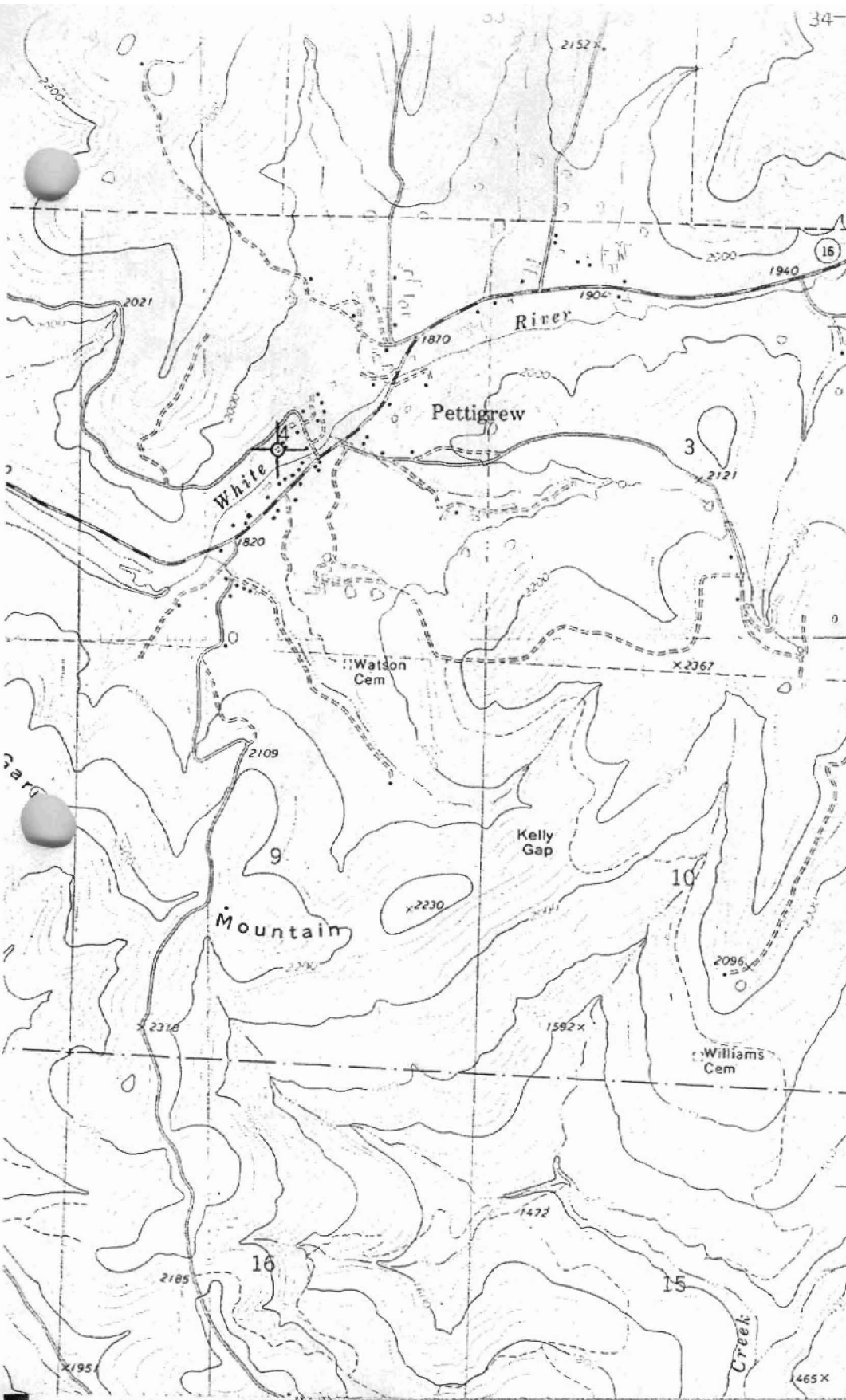
Bibliography

"Community Development Planning Proposal." Committee for Rehabilitation and Adaptive Restoration of Pettigrew Community Building, 1994.

Herndon, Dallas T. *Annals of Arkansas*. Little Rock, Arkansas: The Historical Association, 1947. Vol. II.

Information submitted by Louise McCoy, August 1994.

Pettigrew School
Madison Co., Arkansas
UTM:
15/440300/3963740



BOSTON 1.3 MI
FALLSVILLE 4.3 MI
1.1 MI
(BOSTON)
7255 1 SE
3962
3961
47 30"

