

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Building Historic District

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: State Highway 327

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Jasper

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Newton

code: AR 101 zip code: 72641

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>3</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

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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.

Carlynn S. Byrd _____ 9-1-92
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

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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

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: DOMESTIC Sub: Single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE Animal facility
Current: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: N/A

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Other _____

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone/Concrete roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Log other N/A
WOOD/Weatherboard

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: Statewide.

Applicable National Register Criteria: B,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: HEALTH/MEDICINE
ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1939

Significant Dates: 1936, 1938

Significant Person(s): Hudson, William Andrew

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Clark, W. G.

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:

- 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 12

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>481840</u>	<u>3983180</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>481680</u>	<u>3983050</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>481530</u>	<u>3983240</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>481680</u>	<u>3983370</u>

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point on the western edge of State Highway 327 formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running roughly parallel to the northern elevation of Building #1 and located approximately 150 feet to the north thereof, proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 800 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running roughly parallel to the western edge of State Highway 327; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 650 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line abutting the southern edge of the associated driveway; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 800 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the western edge of State Highway 327; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 650 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes virtually all of the property upon which Dr. Hudson constructed these buildings for the support of his proposed sanitarium, and the greatest amount of the surrounding property that retains its integrity.

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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

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Summary

The Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Building Historic District, located on State Highway 327 approximately one-and-one-half miles southwest of Jasper, is composed of a total of three buildings -- all of which are contributing -- that were constructed during 1936-39 as part of the agricultural complex that was intended to support the tuberculosis sanitarium envisioned by Dr. Hudson. The two one-and-one-half story log and board-and-batten residences are placed to the east of the large, two-story wood frame dairy barn.

Elaboration

The Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Building Historic District is composed of a total of three structures -- all of which are contributing -- that were constructed as part of Dr. Hudson's plan to erect a self-supporting rural tuberculosis sanitarium in the heart of Arkansas' Ozark Mountains. Two of the buildings are one-and-one-half story log and board-and-batten residences, and the third is a large, wood frame dairy barn.

The two residences are virtually identical. Caretaker House #1 (#1) is a one-and-one-half story, gable roof log building with a later, board-and-batten addition that wraps around the rear of the original structure. The eastern or front facade is dominated by the two symmetrically-placed, pedimented wall dormers, each of which is lit with a six-over-six wood sash window. A pair of identical windows light the wall to the south below, while a single window and a single-leaf door punctuate the wall to the north. The southern elevation features a single central six-over-six wood sash window placed in each of the two stories of the gable end, while the board-and-batten wall to the west is fenestrated with a single stationary window near the center of the elevation and a larger, compound window near the western end. A single gable roof dormer projects from the roof just to the east of the chimney. The northern elevation opposite is dominated by the large, stone chimney placed in the center of the eastern gable end. It is flanked by a pair of six-over-six wood sash windows. To the west, a grouped pair of identical windows on the first floor, and a pedimented wall dormer on the second floor, lead to a large, metal composite window that finishes the elevation. The western elevation is fenestrated by a total of four windows: a pair of windows in the gable peak, a large, composite window below and another composite window to the south. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the foundation is constructed of stone beneath the original, log section, and of concrete block beneath the later addition. Caretaker House #2 (#2) is virtually identical, with the sole exception of the lack of a projecting shed roof porch from the western end of the southern elevation.

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The dairy barn (#3) is a large, two-story wood frame, gambrel roof livestock building that is covered by a metal roof ornamented with three gable roof vents placed along the ridge and by three shed roof dormers placed along each of the long sides and supported by a continuous, concrete foundation. The plan is basically rectangular, though a shed roof, rectangular feed storage area projects from the eastern elevation. The first floor is divided into two symmetrical milking rooms, each of which retains much of its original stalls and some original milking equipment. The second story is a large, continuous hay loft that features an extremely high ceiling. It is lit by the three symmetrically-placed shed dormers that run down each side of the structure, and by the large, central hay doors placed near the ceiling at either end. The first story is fenestrated on the western elevation by sixteen symmetrically-placed nine-pane fixed windows and on the eastern elevation by six nine-pane fixed windows placed to either side of the shed roof feed shed. The northern and southern elevations each feature large central livestock doors on the first story, each of which is flanked by a single-leaf door and by fixed nine-pane windows.

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Summary

Criteria B and C, statewide significance

The Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Building Historic District is eligible under Criteria B and C with statewide significance, by virtue of both its direct associations with Dr. Hudson and his vision of addressing the problem of health care for rural tubercular patients through the establishment of a rural sanitarium and its status as an assembly of architecturally remarkable buildings, each of which is of distinctive construction or design.

Elaboration

The Hudson family first came to rural Newton County, Arkansas in 1820, and settled in the area just a few years thereafter. Andrew Jackson Hudson (the great-grandfather of the John Wallace Hudson, the current owner) came to Arkansas from Tennessee in that year, but did not settle near the current site of the county seat of Jasper until three years later. Andrew Jackson Hudson came to this extremely rural and isolated part of the state to find but a scattering of Native Americans (mostly Cherokees), hunters, trappers, and squatters; in fact, most property rights largely remained in the hands of local Native Americans until 1842, when Newton County officially became designated as such by the state legislature. Hudson acquired a tract of land totaling 200 acres in the valley of what would become known as the Little Buffalo River -- a tributary of the Buffalo River to the north -- but which first was known as the "the Hudson Fork of the Buffalo" (this property includes the land on which the proposed district is located).

The Hudson family has remained on the property ever since. Andrew Jackson Hudson's son, James Spring Hudson, owned a store and post office within the community of Jasper during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and continued the family tradition of maintaining close ties with the surviving Cherokee Indians that returned to the Little Buffalo Valley from Oklahoma in the spring to hunt. However, it was his son, William Andrew Hudson (1891-1990), that made the most varied and far-reaching impact upon this rural Arkansas county. William Andrew Hudson was raised near this district at the family home that remains to this day (though it has been significantly altered). He matriculated at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and remained after receiving his undergraduate degree to earn his M.D. at the medical school in 1920. From 1920-22, Dr. Hudson taught pathology and continued his experiments with bone transplants that he had begun as an undergraduate. However, it was during the summer of 1922, while studying under Dr. Edward Archibald at the Royal Victoria Hospital at McGill University in Montreal, that he became interested in some of the first experiments in thoracic diagnosis and surgery. With his wife, Benta Whitaker Hudson, he conducted the first pioneering studies on

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iodine content in the blood and its preventative effects on the development and growth of goiters in the thyroid gland (it was as a direct result of these studies that the Morton Salt Company began to iodize their commercially-sold salt). It was also in Montreal that Dr. Hudson pioneered some of the techniques of thoracic surgery that are still in use today.

Dr. Hudson soon relocated to Detroit, Michigan to work at the Henry Ford Hospital studying industrial diseases of the chest. By 1925, he had opened his own office and thereafter began his practice of thoracic surgery, a practice he continued in conjunction with his thoracic research until he retired from his practice in 1961.

Though he lived and worked in Detroit throughout his active practice, Dr. Hudson remained interested in many of the problems that effected the nation's rural areas, and the region in which he was raised in particular. Of especial interest to him was health care for tuberculosis sufferers that lived in the Ozark region, away from modern urban hospitals and up-to-date medical care. Many such patients and their families (given the contagious nature of the disease) that lived in such parts of the state were dying due to the lack of availability of any treatment whatsoever, as the few tuberculosis sanitariums in the state at the time were largely inaccessible during certain periods of the year due to such natural obstacles as floods and severe terrain. By the 1930's, Dr. Hudson conceived of a tubercular sanitarium to be constructed on a combination of original family property and newly-acquired land, all in the Little Buffalo River valley, totaling 780 acres.

Dr. Hudson's plan included not only a safe, hygienic hospital facility for the actual treatment of the disease, but also a relatively elaborate complex of agricultural buildings that would support the hospital's operations. The large dairy barn was the first building to be constructed, as it was started in 1936. The building was designed and built by a Mr. W.G. Clark of Harrison, an experienced local barn-builder. Measuring 120 feet by 45 feet and designed to provide accommodations for 50 dairy cows and all the work stock on the farm. The southern end was outfitted with steel stanchions set into the concrete floors to form the milking stalls, while the northern end was more simply appointed for the simple feeding and grooming of the work stock, and for feed storage. Between the two main sections of the first floor and placed against the eastern wall of the barn is a small room that originally housed the separator equipment for the raw milk. By December of 1936 the farm was already stocked with 40 head of Jersey cows. The dairy barn was constructed as part of Dr. Hudson's plan to provide such clean, fresh agricultural products to his patients as fresh beef, pork, poultry and dairy goods.

Soon thereafter (1938) began the construction of the two log residences. Built from hand-hewn

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logs that were salvaged from the Allen Hudson farmstead in Cowell (located approximately thirteen miles to the south), they were also designed and built by W.G. Clark. They were both intended to function as housing for the workers that managed and ran the farm.

Dr. Hudson maintained active contact with the construction of these agricultural buildings in spite of his residence in Detroit. He travelled to the construction site regularly, always arriving on a Friday afternoon and embarking on a tour of the grounds, which included a trip to the top of the mountain directly to the west of the existing buildings, which was to be the site of the actual sanitarium. Furthermore, various contemporaneous news articles from the local newspaper, *The Newton County Times*, document the efforts of both Dr. Hudson and his wife to promote the construction of the sanitarium and to convince the local populace of the legitimacy of their efforts.

Unfortunately, during the 1940's -- after the completion of these structures but before construction commenced on the actual sanitarium itself -- Dr. Hudson had to abandon his efforts when both material shortages caused by the war effort and state regulations regarding the establishment of tuberculosis sanitariums forced him to abandon his plans. He shifted the focus of his efforts thereafter and transformed the completed buildings into a successful commercial and experimental farm, during which he actively pursued his belief that "conservation," as such, was not sufficient, and that farmers needed to plant so that they accomplished more than just the prevention of erosion and crop nutrient depletion. Toward that end Dr. Hudson experimented with a variety of different hays that were tested for their resistance to temperature extremes and drought, and for their seed-producing qualities. Among other things, he discovered a combination of hays that not only prevented erosion and produced adequate seed, but also provided the bulk of the nutritional needs of his grazing stock with rather little supplementary hay required. Dr. Hudson continued these experiments through the 1950's, until his retirement to the farm in the 1960's.

The Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Buildings Historic District is eligible under Criterion B through its direct association with Dr. Hudson and his efforts to establish a tuberculosis sanitarium in one of the most rural and isolated regions of the state; in fact, these three resources are without question the historic resources most closely associated with this effort. However, this district is also eligible under Criterion C due to the status of the two log residences as some of the best examples of log construction from any era -- containing some of the largest known hewn logs and featuring remarkably tight square notching -- and due to the status of the barn as one of the largest wood frame barns in all of Newton County, featuring wood framing and wind bracing in the second story hay loft that results in an appearance that

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largely resembles wood trusswork found in many historic ecclesiastical structures. The overall visual effect of this framework is impressive, and unique among known barns locally.

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Bibliography

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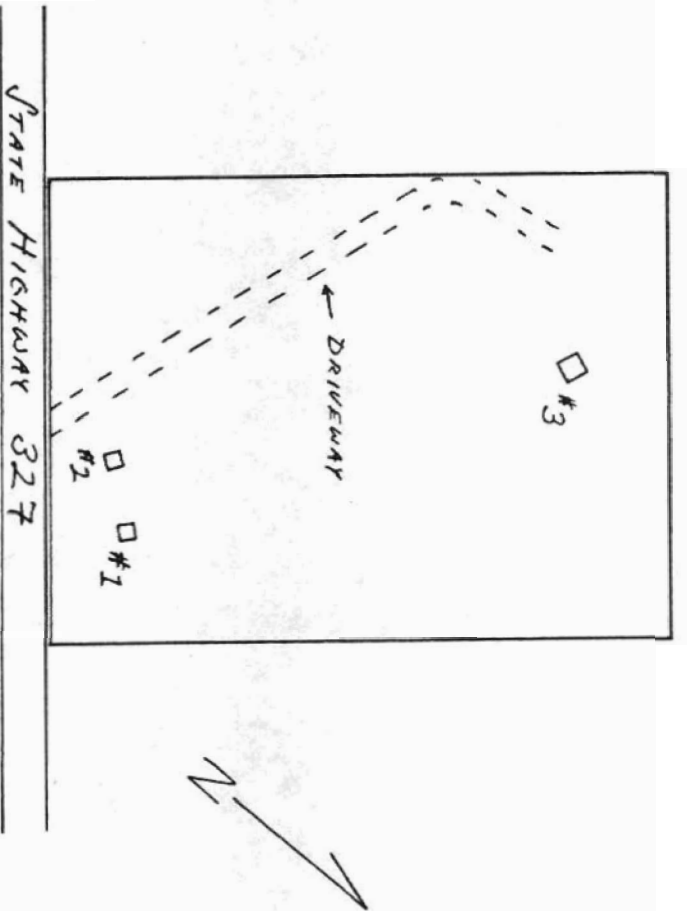
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Obituary of William A. Hudson, *The Newton County Times*, May, 10, 1990.



Dr. Hudson Sanitarium Agricultural Building Historic District
Jasper vic., Newton County, Arkansas

Approximate Scale: 1" = 250'

Boundary: _____

All Structures are Contributing

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

7356 # SE
(P-ONCA)

DR. HUDSON SANITARIUM AGRICULTURAL BUILDING HISTORIC DISTRICT
VASPER VIC., NEWTON CO., ARKANSAS

- A) 15/481640/3983180 B) 15/481680/3983050
- C) 15/481530/3983240 D) 15/481680/3983370

