

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Bard Springs Bathhouse

other name/site number: PL 0091

2. Location

street & number: Forest Service Road 106

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Athens

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Polk

code: AR 113

zip code: 71971

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Federal

Category of Property: Building(s)

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>      </u>	buildings
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	sites
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	structures
<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Facilities Constructed by the CCC in Arkansas, 1933-42

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this \_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_ meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register Criteria. \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets \_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria. \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
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: Recreation and Culture

Sub: Outdoor Recreation

Current : Recreation and Culture

Sub: Outdoor Recreation

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

Other: Rustic Architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation Stone roof Asphalt  
walls Stone 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: locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Social History  
Architecture  
Entertainment/Recreation  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: c.1936 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates : N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder: Civilian Conservation Corps  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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 "Facilities Constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in Arkansas, 1933-1942," Section H.

\_\_\_ 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: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>407110</u>	<u>3805740</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point located 200 feet south of a point on the southern edge of Forest Service Road #106 located approximately 2,660 feet southeast of Bench Mark 1323.3, proceed easterly along a line running parallel with the northern elevation of the bathhouse for a distance of 200 feet; thence proceed southerly along a line running parallel with the bathhouse's eastern elevation for a distance of 200 feet; thence proceed westerly along a line running parallel with the bathhouse's southern elevation for a distance of 200 feet; thence proceed northerly along a line running parallel with the bathhouse's western elevation for a distance of 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource, including the bathhouse itself and the land immediately surrounding it.

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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Name/Title: Todd Ferguson, Historian/Patrick Zollner, Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 8/28/91

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

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

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National Park Service

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### Description:

The Bard Springs Recreation Area is located on Forest Service Road 106 along Blaylock Creek between Blaylock Mountain and Raspberry Mountain in the Cossatot Mountains in Polk County. The bathhouse is a single story structure constructed of field stone and topped with a gabled roof covered with composition shingles. The bathhouse has a single door at either end for access to changing areas. The north and south sides are punctuated with a series of four window openings, each filled with louvers. The structure has no chimney and is set upon a continuous stone foundation. Skylights have been placed in the apex of the gable at each end of the building. Each corner of the building features the curved masonry that slopes inward as it rises from the foundation, a common and distinctive treatment peculiar to CCC construction.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

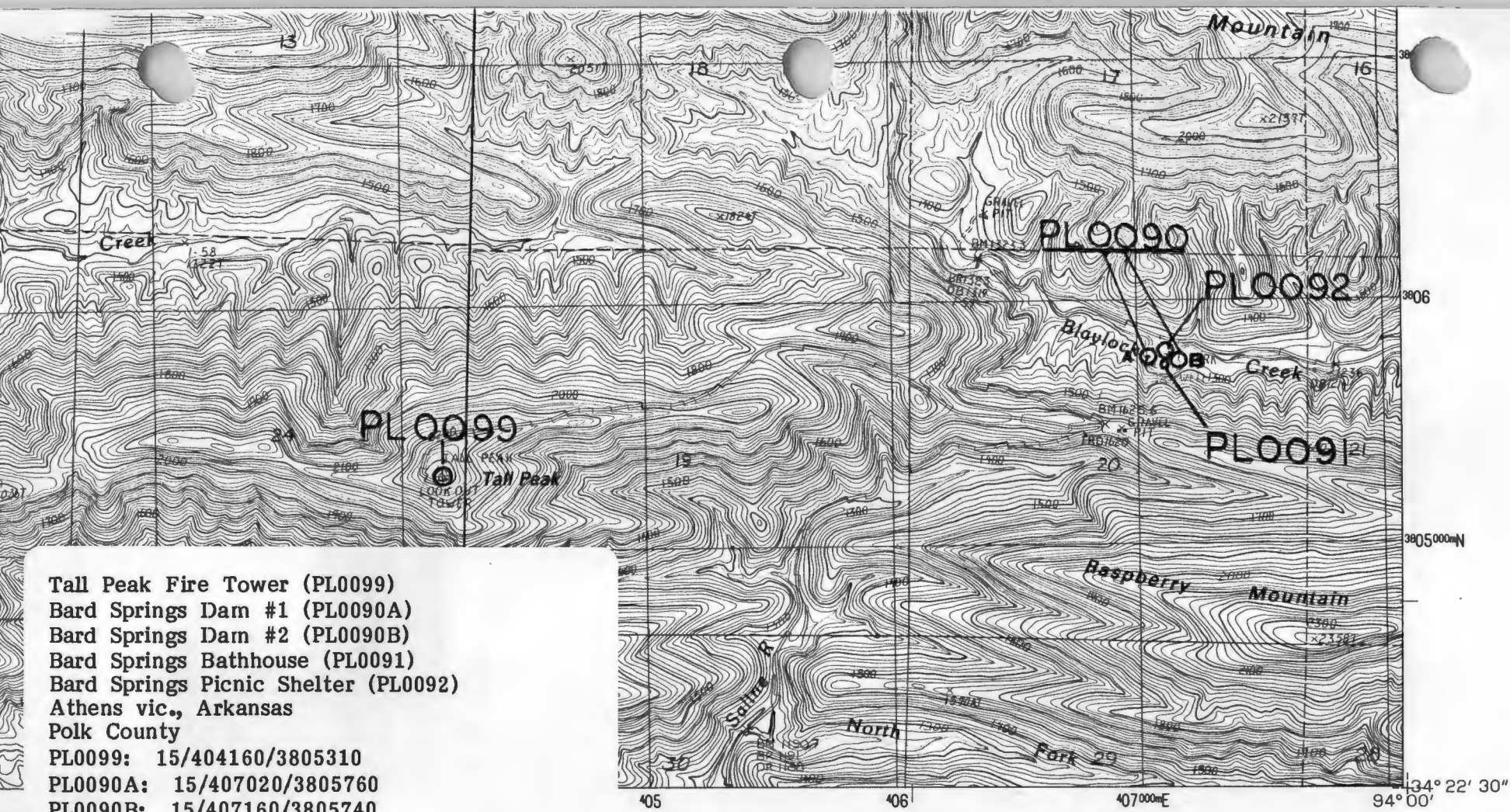
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The Bard Springs Bathhouse was constructed circa 1936 by members of the 742nd Company of the Arkansas CCC District stationed at the Mena Camp that was located approximately eight miles to the northwest, near the small town of Shady. It was constructed as part of a small, public recreational complex within the Ouachita National Forest (ONF) as a result of the CCC's emphasis upon recreational construction that began in earnest circa 1935. The extant historic structures within this complex include this bathhouse, two dams, and a picnic shelter (each of which is nominated separately), all of which allowed the area to function purely as a swimming and picnicking facility, as it continues to do today. As such, the Bard Springs Bathhouse remains significant through its associations with the contributions to American social history made by the Civilian Conservation Corps, its associations with the emphasis upon outdoor recreation that guided such construction, and its status as an excellent example of CCC recreational architecture in a remarkable state of preservation.







Tall Peak Fire Tower (PL0099)  
 Bard Springs Dam #1 (PL0090A)  
 Bard Springs Dam #2 (PL0090B)  
 Bard Springs Bathhouse (PL0091)  
 Bard Springs Picnic Shelter (PL0092)  
 Athens vic., Arkansas  
 Polk County  
 PL0099: 15/404160/3805310  
 PL0090A: 15/407020/3805760  
 PL0090B: 15/407160/3805740

PL0091: 15/407110/3805740  
 PL0092: 15/407210/3805750  
 Nichols Mountain Quadrangle  
 1:24000



3	1 Mena 2 Board Camp 3 Pine Ridge
5	4 Eagle Mountain 5 Big Fork 6 Baker Springs
8	7 Umpire 8 Athens

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLE NAMES

ROAD LEGEND

- Improved Road .....  
 Unimproved Road .....  
 Trail .....  
 ◯ Interstate Route   ◯ U. S. Route   ◯ State Route

**NICHOLS MOUNTAIN, ARKANSAS**  
**PROVISIONAL EDITION 1986**

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