

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building - Arkansas Tech University

other name/site number: PP0053

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2. Location

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street & number: East of North El Paso Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Russellville

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Pope code: AR 115 zip code: 72801

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-state

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	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: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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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.

Catherine A. Byrd  
Signature of certifying official

8-2-92  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
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**  
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Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: EDUCATION

Sub: School

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Ceramic tile  
walls Brick 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

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION  
SOCIAL HISTORY  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: 1935-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Haralson and Nelson/Federal Emergency Administration/Leveck, J. H. and Sons

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 "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, 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:

- 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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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>487780</u>	<u>3905300</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

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

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running parallel to the building's southern elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the south thereof with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's western elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the west thereof, proceed northerly along the latter line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's eastern elevation; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's southern elevation; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

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

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Kenneth Sto

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 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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National Park Service

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### Summary

The Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building at Arkansas Tech University is a brick masonry classroom building that is two-and-one-half stories in height with a full raised basement. Its symmetrical rectangular plan is reflected also in the composition of the elevations, all of which are balanced and symmetrical. The hipped roof is covered with ceramic tile and ornamented with three hipped dormers on each of its long elevations, and one each placed in the center of the end elevations. Its brick walls are supported on a continuous cast concrete foundation.

### Elaboration

The Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building at Arkansas Tech University is a brick masonry classroom building that is two-and-one-half stories in height with a full raised basement. Its symmetrical rectangular plan is reflected also in the composition of the elevations, all of which are balanced and symmetrical. The hipped roof is covered with ceramic tile and ornamented with three hipped dormers on each of its long elevations, and one each placed in the center of the end elevations. Its brick walls are supported on a continuous cast concrete foundation.

The southern or front elevation is symmetrically-organized, with a central entrance bay and surmounting stairwell window arrangement being flanked by four window bays to either side of the wall. On each side of the entrance, the two central window bays on the two main floors and the raised basement each contain a pair of windows, while the bays to either side contain but one window. Virtually all of the windows are of the four-over-one variety. The entrance bay is composed of a single-leaf entrance surrounded by half-sidelights (now filled) and a decorative transom window. A Classical molding surrounds the door, with fluted pilasters supporting consoles that in turn support the broken pediment and entablature. The three symmetrically-placed, hipped window dormers complete the elevation. The northern elevation opposite is virtually identical, with the exception of the entrance bay being replaced by another bay of pair windows on each floor.

The eastern and western bays are virtually identical. All three levels of each contain three symmetrically-placed window bays, with a central, hipped window dormer in the roof slope above.

Significant exterior details include the pedimented entrance, the window dormers, and the concrete water table that continues around all four elevations.

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The Girls' Domestic Science and Art Building has suffered only minor, cosmetic changes since its 1935 remodeling (this building was originally constructed in 1913, but was substantially altered in 1935). It is in good condition.

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### Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building; Arkansas Tech University

Arkansas Tech University was founded in 1909 when the Arkansas General Assembly created four Agricultural School Districts, with the Second District being formed by the twenty counties of northwest Arkansas. The city of Russellville offered the governor-appointed Board of Trustees four-hundred acres adjoining the city limits and a cash bonus of several thousand dollars, and was thus selected as the site of the new school.

The Second District Agricultural School -- as it was initially known -- first matriculated students in the fall of 1910. The school was planned to function initially as an agricultural secondary school and to grow into a four-year college-level institution as soon as possible. It first offered a freshman year of college work in 1921-22, and instituted second, third and fourth years in each of the succeeding academic years, respectively, so that by 1925 both a four-year high school and a four-year college were operating on the same campus. This progress was acknowledged by the Arkansas General Assembly in 1925 when it changed the name of the school to Arkansas Polytechnic College and awarded it the power to grant degrees. However, this ambitious program proved beyond the resources of the school, and by 1927 it became a two-year junior college. It remained so until 1948, when the Board of Trustees re-instituted its degree-granting status with a plan to return to a four-year school. The General Assembly officially changed the name to Arkansas Tech University in 1976.

The 1930's heralded one of the most ambitious periods of construction on the campus. As was the case with many public sites and institutions around the state, the labor force was largely contributed by the Emergency Relief Administration (ERA), the federal agency established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to hire the nation's unemployed for the purpose of carrying out a broad variety of projects in the public interest. The Works Progress Administration (WPA), the National Youth Administration (NYA) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) were all subsidiary organizations whose work in Arkansas was overseen by the ERA.

The Girls' Domestic Science and Arts Building was substantially reconstructed in 1935 under the auspices of the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works; it was designed by the architectural firm of Haralson and Nelson and constructed by J. H. Leveck and Sons. As such, it was built during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, and stands as an unusual example of a large brick masonry classroom building with a rectangular plan designed in what can best be described as the Plain/Traditional style. Its use during this period as an educational classroom building for the education of female students in a public university clearly identifies it with this historic



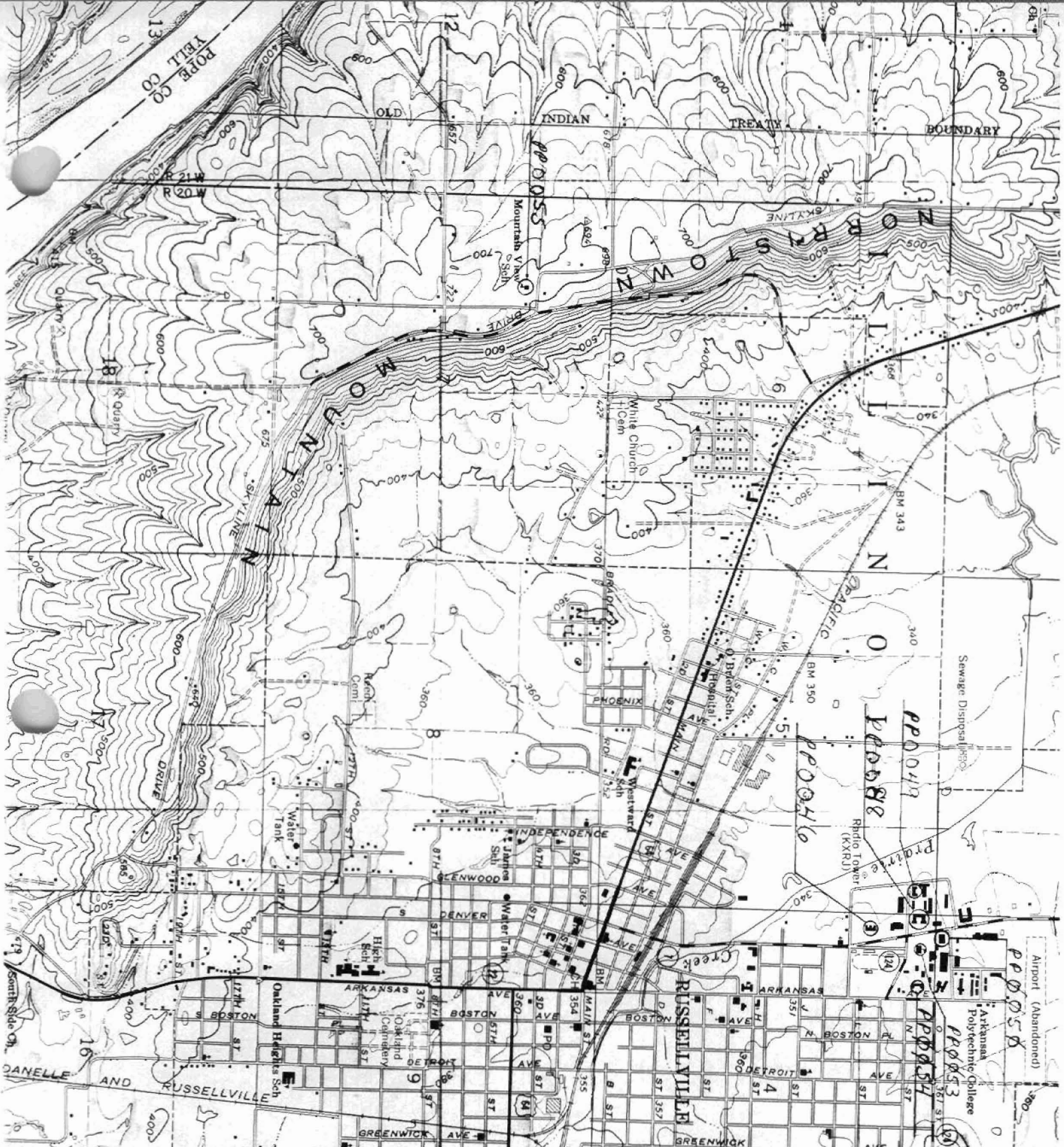
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context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period, with the impact of the Federal Emergency Administration, and with the growing sense of obligation to educating women students that occurred during this era.



3904 POTTSDALE 5 MI. ATKINS 12 MI.  
 15/487380/3905260  
 HUGHES HALL  
 [PP0049]  
 15/487510/3905280  
 TOWN ARSON HALL  
 [PP0047]  
 15/487560/3905050  
 WILKINSON HALL  
 [PP0046]  
 17301 ARKANSAS  
 15/487510/3903410  
 CENTER VALLEY APPLETON 20 M  
 RUSSELLVILLE VIC.  
 [PP0055]  
 15/487835/3905280  
 RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS  
 3903 GIRLS DOMESTIC SCIENCE AND ART BUILDING  
 [PP0053]  
 15/487480/3905300  
 CARADON HALL  
 [PP0054]  
 3902 RUSSELLVILLE, ARKANSAS