United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NR 10-16-86

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

Type all entries—complete applicable	Sections		
1. Name			
historic Barth-Hempfling House			
2. Location			
street & number 507 Main Street		N	/A not for publication
olty, town North Little Rock	N/A vicinity of		
state Arkansas coo	de 05 county	Pulaski	code 119
3. Classification			
Category district public public private both both public Acquisition in process being considered	Status occupied _X_ unoccupied work in progress Accessible _X_ yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government Industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Owner of Prope	rty		
Eugene M. Pfeifer, III			
street & number 600 Main Street	<u>;</u>		
city, town North Little Rock	vicinity of	state	Arkansas
5. Location of Leg	ai Descriptio	on	
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pul	aski County Courthou	ıse	
street & number Markham & Spri	ing Streets		
city, town Little Rock		state	Arkansas
6. Representation	in Existing S	Surveys	Ar Karisas
31 / A			
title N/A	has this proj	perty been determined e	ligible? yes n
date		tederal sta	te county loca
depository for survey records			
city, town		state	

7. Description Condition — excellent — deteriorated — x unaltered — x original site — moved date — moved da

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Built in 1886 in the town once known as Argenta by German immigrants, the Barth-Hempfling House is the only surviving residence on Main Street in what is now known as North Little Rock. A fine example of Victorian vernacular architecture, the structure features a porch with Queen Anne style jig-sawn brackets and decorative triangular trim all supported by Queen Anne-type turned spindles. Architecturally simple, yet special in its rarity, the Barth-Hempfling House represents an important era of development in the history of North Little Rock.

ELABORATION

The Barth-Hempfling House is situated among commercial buildings, yet maintains a fairly spacious lot filled with mature shrubbery and large handsome trees. The one-story, central hall, side-gabled structure with an ell is clad in wood lapped siding and the roof, once covered in traditional wood shingles, is now sheathed with octagonally-shaped composition shingles. The structure rests on a brick foundation. The facade is dominated by a small but richly decorated front porch supported by four Queen Anne-inspired turned posts at the front with two engaged posts attaching the porch to the structure. Simple square railing frames the bottom while jig-sawn brackets embellish the posts at the top and decorative triangular trim spans: the posts between brackets.

Simple cap moldings sit atop windows, each a two-over-two pane, double-hung sash window except for the side windows which are six-over-six pane. Enhanced by a glazed transom, the door is half glass with three wooden panels below.

In plan, the structure has a central hall flanked by two rooms on each side. Eleven foot ceilings grace the hall and four original rooms. Doors have four panels and possess prominent casing with corner rosettes. In 1915, the structure was modernized by construction of an ell addition on the northwest side which contains a kitchen and bath. A shed addition was added and set in the ell. Pine floors remain throughout the original structure and the addition.

8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1700–1799 X 1800–1899 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric agricultureX_ architecture art commerce communications	community plans conservation conservation economics education engineering	ow ning fandscape architectur faw literature military music ement philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	constructed 1886	Builder/Architect	Unknown	

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

Though architecturally simple in style and plan, the Barth-Hempfling House is an excellent example of the Victorian vernacular architecture found in the nineteenth century on Main Street in North Little Rock. Once surrounded by similar vernacular residences, the Barth-Hempfling House is the only remaining structure of its type still standing on the city's main thoroughfare. As the only surviving reminder of a great period of growth and also of the immigrants who spurred the development, the Barth-Hempfling House is an historically priceless property.

ELABORATION

The Barth-Hempfling House was built in 1886 by the Barth family, who had migrated from Baden Baden, Germany and arrived in New York City early in the 1880's. At the dock, real estate speculators advised them to settle in Arkansas. After living in Lonoke the family finally moved to North Little Rock, known at that time as Argenta, where they found employment at a butcher shop and later with the railroad.

The Victorian vernacular architecture of the Barth-Hempfling House combines a simple floor plan with ornately detailed porches and facades. The prominence of this vernacular coincided with the advent of the railroad. Transportation of heavy woodworking machinery to local trade centers made Victorian detailing inexpensive and accessible to the middle class. The symmetrical Victorian cottages became very popular with the working immigrant families who settled along Main Street.

The Barth-Hempfling House is important as it is the only surviving house of its type along a street once lined with many. Main Street is still the city's main thoroughfare and a few commercial buildings from the 1890's still stand, but the house constructed by the Barths is the only residential structure from the period still intact.

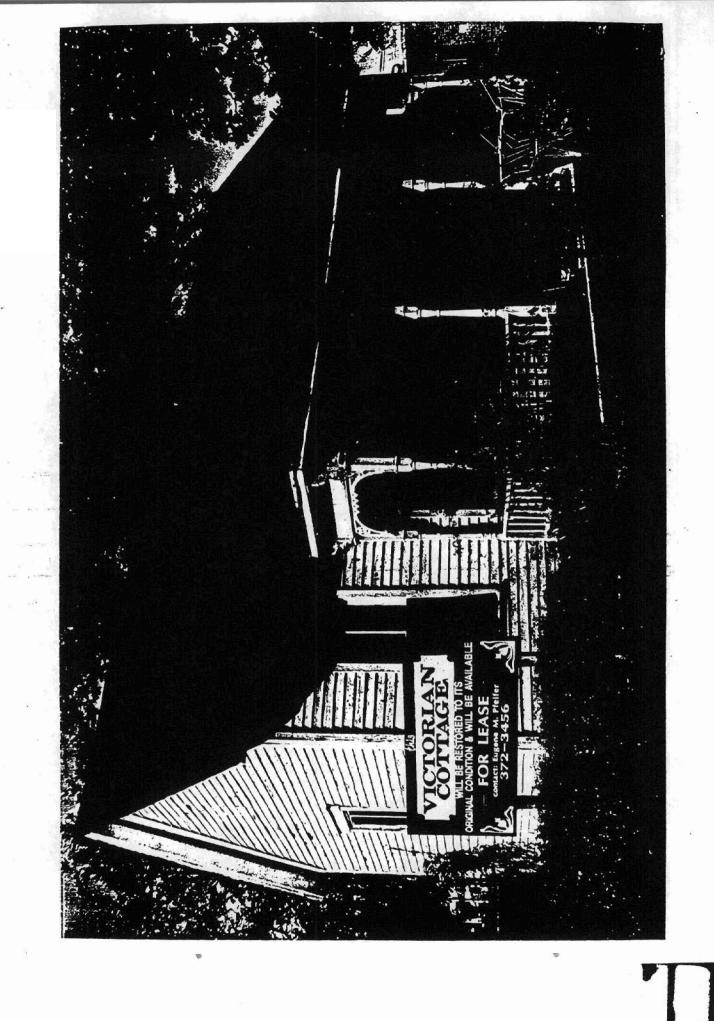
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Mrs. Anna Hempfl Tax records. Pul	ing - interview aski County Courthou	ıse	
			s, by Evelyn K. Eubank
10. Geogra	aphical Data		
Acreage of nominated pr	openty less than one	acre	1.04000
snacrangia nama	th Little Rock		Quadrangle scale 1:24000
IT M References			
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	P. Al. Al. May		
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South half of Lot	: 5, Block 31, Argent	,a	
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N/A			
tate	code	county	code
11. Form P	repared By		
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rgenization		uat	
treet & number 8315	Cantrell Road	tele	ephone (501) 378-5265
ty or town Little	Rock	sta	te AR
2. State I	distoric Pres	ervation C	Officer Certificatio
he evaluated significan	ce of this property within the	state is:	
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s the designated State I	Historic Preservation Office	for the National Histori	ic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 8
וכס, ו nereby nominate t coording to the criteria :	his property for inclusion in and procedures set forth by	the National Park Serv	nd certify that it has been evaluated los.
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tte State Historic	Preservation Office	er	date 10-10-86
For NPS use only	this property is instruct in	the National Register	
i neresy certify that	this property is included in	ure national register	
			date

date

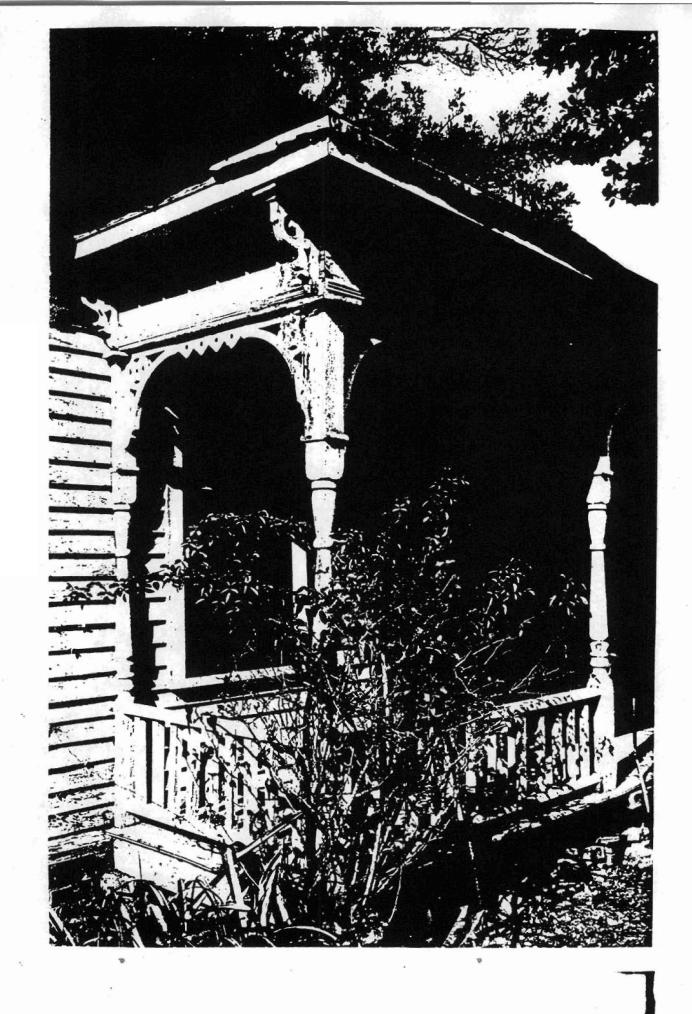
Chief of Registration

Attest:

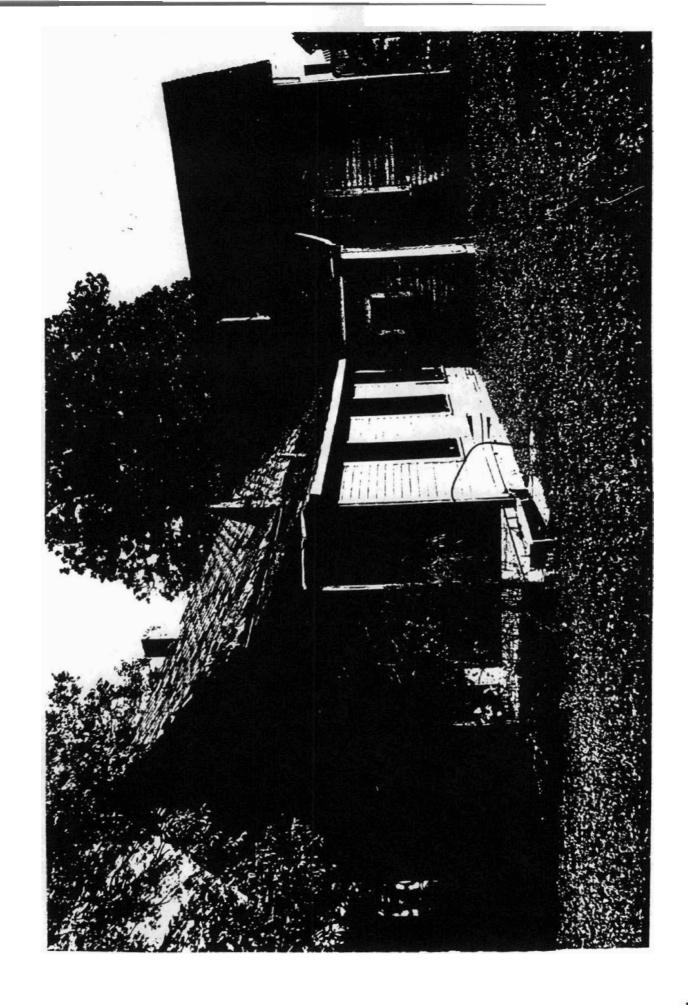
Keeper of the National Register



Barth-Hempfling House North Little Rock, Pulaski Co., Arkansas Photographed by Don Brown, 1986 Negatives on file at AHPP Viewed from the east



Barth-Hempfling House North Little Rock, Pulaski Co., Arkansas Photographed by Don Brown, 1986 Negatives on file at AHPP Front porch detail



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Barth-Hempfling House North Little Rock, Pulaski Co., Arkansas Photographed by Don Brown, 1986 Negatives on file at AHPP Viewed from west

