

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

4 12 75 119-52-61
PU 30-17 2782

STATE: Arkansas	
COUNTY: Pulaski	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:
TRAPNALL HALL

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Frederic Trapnall House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
423 East Capitol Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Little Rock

STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05 COUNTY: Pulaski CODE: 119

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisitions: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Junior League of Little Rock

STREET AND NUMBER:
423 East Capitol Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Pulaski County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Little Rock

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Arkansas History Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
First State Capitol, 300 West Markham

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Frederic Trapnall House is a one-storey, five bay main structure with one side wing plus a three bay portico centered on the main structure with a closed-in shed-roofed extension across the rear of the main structure and across the rear of the side wing. Originally the house had only an open rear "piazza", as it was called in 1843, across the rear of the main house and connecting the corner of the side wing. A separate kitchen building was located directly behind this side wing.

The main house roof is and was originally a hip roof with a pediment over the front portico and a simple gable roof, connecting to the main hip roof covering the side wing. The roof is presently covered with black asphalt shingles, however, originally the house had wood shingles. The house has all five original chimneys projecting through the roof - four on the main house and one on the side wing.

The exterior walls of the house are solid brick, three brick thick and the interior walls on either side of the center hall are also solid brick.

In the center of the front portico pediment is a half round louver that replaces the original half elliptical window. Two windows under the front portico, one on either side of the main entrance, have wood panels that extend the opening to the floor with long louvered shutters extending to the floor also. The other two windows on the front of the house, one on either side of the portico, are of equal length except without the wood panels and the louver shutters are the length of the windows only. Matching these windows are four others on the west side of the house, three others on the east side of the house and two others on the north side of the side wing. Originally, however, this side wing had only one window facing north. The other opening was a door with a small porch over the doorway. The main front entrance has a pair of panelled doors with side lights and transom. This door is exactly matched in the rear with an identical pair of doors with side lights and transom. Several windows of various sizes are located in the closed-in rear addition to the house. Originally this rear extension was

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7. Description Continued:

only the open rear porch and it is probable that four windows, two on either side of the rear center doorway, were originally opening on to this porch. Except for the side wing that was the original dining room, the main house was perfectly symmetrical.

From the center hall are four main doorways, one into each of the four original rooms, two on either side of center hall. These doorways are double and extend to the same height as the windows in the house which are exactly the same height as the top of the transom over the front and rear center doors. The two rooms on the west side of the house are now used as parlors but were originally the bedrooms and both have their original woodwork and mantels still in place. There is a connecting sliding door between these two rooms that is not original. However, on the east side of the house is the large assembly room that was originally the double parlors. The wall between the parlors have been completely removed, however, part of the woodwork in these two rooms is original, some having been replaced during the 1963 restoration and rehabilitation of the house. The mantels in this room are quite old but are probably not the original mantels. Wide cypress board floors that are original are now covered with narrow hardwood flooring. The center hall has a wainscot molding the wall painted below with a pattern wallpaper above and a painted ceiling and crown mold. The other rooms are painted throughout with a simple crown mold in all. The present office in the wing was the original dining room and it has most of its original woodwork and mantel with the exception of the original cupboard and the trim surrounding the one window that has been installed in place of the original door. There was at least one other window on the east side of this room but it has now been closed. The interior woodwork is basically simple and yet is extremely well proportioned and well suited to the simplicity of the overall house. It is not, however, plain. All of the interior windows have panels under the windows ex-

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7. Description Continued:

tending to the floor that are similar to the panels on the exterior of the windows on either side of the front center entrance. All doors and windows have simple architraves with corner blocks. All of the doors are paneled.

The two parlors that were originally bedrooms have twisted, fluted, flowered, bronze, gas chandeliers now converted to electricity in each. These two chandeliers were found in the attic during the 1963 restoration of the house and were probably installed originally in the 1870's. Two crystal chandeliers in the assembly room and the crystal chandelier in the center hall were purchased in New Orleans and installed in the house in the 1930's.

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1843

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Construction was begun on Trapnall Hall in 1843, shortly after the property was purchased by Frederic W. Trapnall.

Trapnall Hall is a simple Greek Revival style one-storey house. Its significance lies in its proportions and the simple but extremely elegant detailing. All of the door and window openings come to exactly the same height above the floor and each are trimmed on the inside with matching architraves with corner blocks. Each window opening has a recess to the floor with the area under the window itself beautifully paneled to match the paneling of the doors. The center hall with its 10 foot high double doors opening one into each of the four main rooms exactly opposite the original wood burning fireplaces situated on the outside walls is perfectly symmetrical and therefore exceptionally elegant. The center hall is 14 feet wide with 14 foot ceilings. Each of the four original rooms are exactly 20 foot square with 14 feet ceilings. The original dining room measures 18 by 19 feet with a 14 foot ceiling. All of the original windows are 4 feet wide and 7 feet high. Although some alterations have been made to Trapnall Hall for present day use, it has lost none of its original proportions or the impression given by the simple but elegant detailing, and the house is truly an Antebellum showplace.

Frederic Trapnall was born near Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Kentucky, on May 23, 1807, the son of Dr. Phillip and Nancy Trapnall. He was educated and admitted to the bar in his native state, and practiced law for a while at Springfield, Kentucky.

(July 1969)

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8. Significance Continued:

On November 1, 1836 he married Martha Frances Cocke, at Springfield, Kentucky on the bride's sixteenth birthday. Soon after they were married the young couple came to Arkansas and settled at Little Rock.

Frederic Trapnall was one of the most popular lawyers of his time. Had he not died at the age of 46 he probably would have become one of the political leaders of Arkansas. He was active in the Whig Party and some of the meetings of that party were held at Trapnall Hall. Trapnall died at Monticello, Arkansas on July 4, 1853 while campaigning for Congress. In his campaign he had enlisted the aid of Albert Pike and, in Hallum's "Biographical and Pictorial History of Arkansas" we find this sentence written by Pike concerning the candidate: "Frederic W. Trapnall, in appearance every inch a nobleman, of bright, keen, quick, intellect, gracefully eloquent, whose proper place was in the halls of Congress." Mrs Trapnall died at Grank Lake in Chicot County on December 22, 1851. Their only son, Richard Philip, died in infancy on June 9, 1841. Their only surviving daughter, Mary Ringo Trapnall, who was born at Trapnall Hall on May 7, 1852, died on August 27, 1863. All of these Trapnalls are buried in Mt. Holly Cemetery. The Trapnall family was connected by marriage to several of the most illustrious Arkansas families. Mrs. Trapnall's sister was Mary Ann Cocke, who married Daniel Ringo, first Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. The Trapnall family is buried in half of a large plot at Mt. Holly, and Daniel Ringo and his family are buried in the other half.

Trapnalls' younger brother, Philip, who was a junior partner in the law firm of Trapnall and Cocke, married Sallie Faulkner, the eldest daughter of Col. Sandford C. Faulkner who originated "The Arkansas Traveler."

Mrs. Trapnall's brother was John W. Cocke, who married Elizabeth Pope, daughter of Governor John Pope.

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8. Significance Continued:

The city block of which Trapnall Hall stands is unique in that it is the only block which has never been given a number designation, as have the other blocks in the City of Little Rock. Town plats give it no number, and its legal description as shown in records today is simply "Trapnalls Block." Though none of Trapnall's children lived to carry on his name it continues to be used today by both the house and the unusual block designation.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hallum, John, Biographical and Pictorial History of Arkansas.
 Albany: Weed, Parsons and Company, 1887.
 Pulaski County Probate Court. The Will of Frederic W.
 Trapnall.
 Pulaski County Probate Court. The Inventory of the Estate of
 Frederic W. Trapnall.
 Ross, Margaret, "Trapnall Hall, Antebellum Showplace,"
Pulaski County Reviewer, Vol. III, No. 1. (December, 1955),
 59-62.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			C R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	°	°		34° 44' 34.5"	92° 15' 58.5"	
NE	°	°				
SE	°	°				
SW	°	°				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 John V. Robinson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program DATE: 10/20/72

STREET AND NUMBER:
 1023 West Third

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 05

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the Register.

 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

 Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

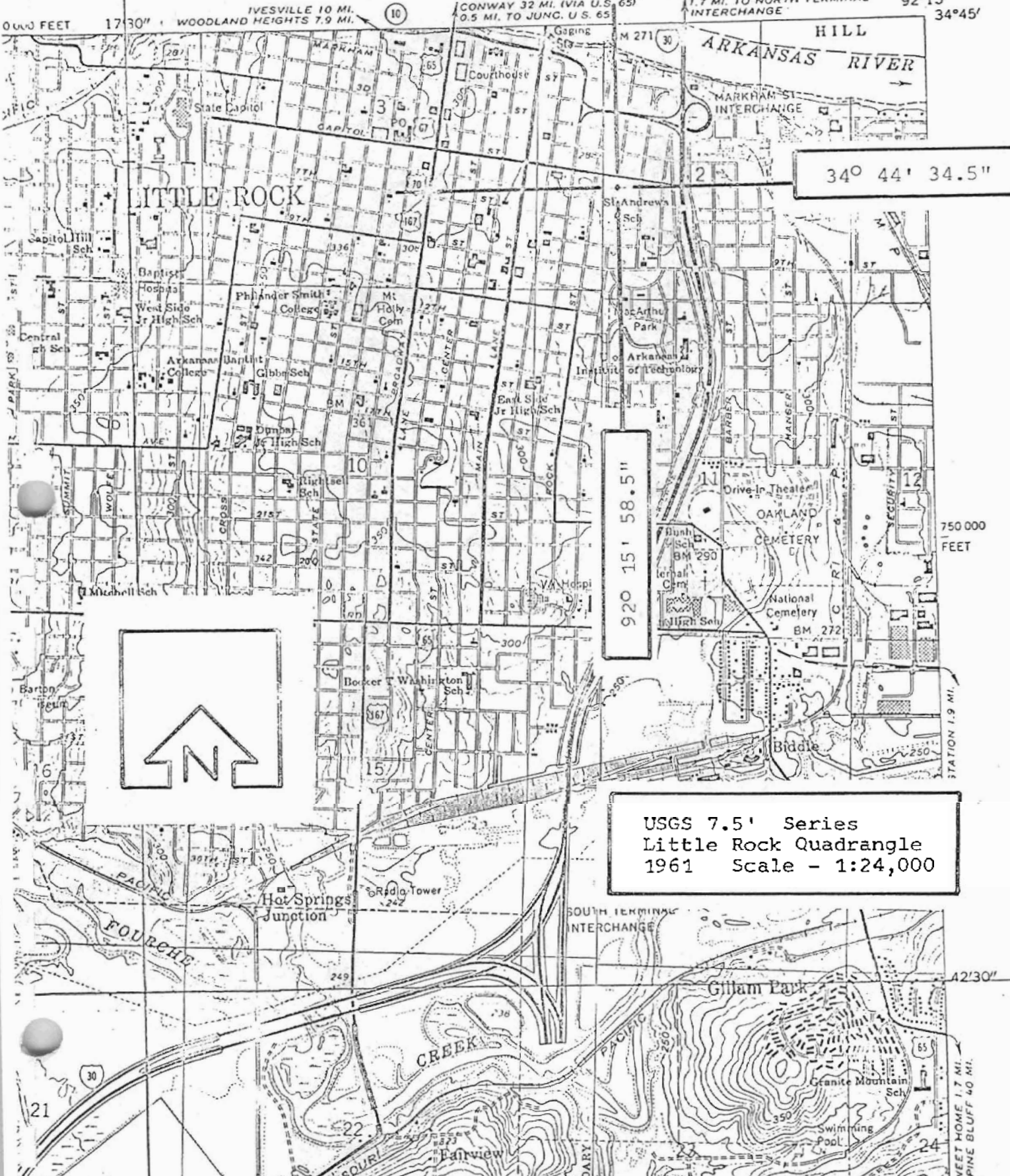
LITTLE ROCK QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

IMC ALMONT

NE 1/4 ALEXANDER 15' QUADRANGLE

1.7 MI. TO NORTH TERMINAL INTERCHANGE

92°15'
34°45'



34° 44' 34.5"

920 15' 58.5"

USGS 7.5' Series
Little Rock Quadrangle
1961 Scale - 1:24,000

750 000
FEET

STATION 1.9 MI.

42°30'

1.7 MI.
PINE BLUFF 40 MI.

0 000 FEET

17 30" IVESVILLE 10 MI.
WOODLAND HEIGHTS 7.9 MI.

CONWAY 32 MI. VIA U.S. 65
0.5 MI. TO JUNC. U.S. 65

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