

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Scott Bond Family Plot

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number .3 miles west of 5th Street on Hwy. 70 West

not for publication

city or town Madison

vicinity

state AR code 123 county St. Francis code 123 zip code 72359

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

4/23/02
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

	Contributing	Noncontributing	
	0	0	buildings
	1	0	sites
	0	0	structures
	1	1	objects
	2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

"Historic and Architectural Resources Associated With The Ethnic and Racial Minority Settlement of the Arkansas Delta"

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

graves/burials

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

graves/burials

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cemetery

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other Cement

Granite

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

State

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1882-1952

Significant Dates

1933

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Scott Winfield Bond

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State Agency
 - Federal Agency
 - Local Government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository:

Scot Bond Family Plot
Name of Property

St. Francis County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	707001	3876600	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Starting at a point located at the northwest corner of the non-contributing crypt structure, go approximately five feet to the northwest to locate the corner of the 16' by 75' area. From this point, go 16' east to the northeast corner of the plot. Go 75' south to the southeast corner of the plot. Go 16' west to the southwest corner of the plot. Go 75' north to the starting point.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the entire Scott Bond family burial plot.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank Latimer, Preservation Outreach Coordinator
 organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 4/3/02
 street & number 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. telephone 501-324-9788
 city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Madison
 street & number _____ telephone _____
 city or town Madison state AR zip code 72359

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

Located in the City of Madison, St. Francis County, is a cemetery where is found the burial place for Scott Winfield Bond, who was born in slavery and rose to social prominence. Bond was a self-made millionaire who was a visionary and leader in the African-American community and was a leading businessman in the state of Arkansas.

Elaboration

Set among gently rolling hills near Madison, Arkansas, the Scott Bond Cemetery contains a burial plot for Scott Bond and his family. The Bond Plot is 16' X 75' and includes two contributing structures in a low, concrete border, and a memorial marker listing the names of the family members interred there.

The border surrounding the plot is of poured concrete, about four inches in width and is nearly flush with the ground. The marker, located approximately 20 feet south of the northern boundary of the plot, close to the western boundary, is approximately 12 feet in height and four feet on each side of the squared base. The marker is constructed so as to suggest a stylized obelisk. The marker is made of granite and has the names of the Bond family members interred in the plot along with the dates of their births and deaths, except for Theophilus Bond and Ulysses Bond, who both have no date of death recorded on this marker. On the east-facing side of the marker, the names and dates from top to bottom are Scott Winfield Bond/Mar. 15 1852/Mar. 29 1933. Magnolia Bond/Sep. 10 1859/Oct. 8 1959. Waverly Bond/Feb. 4 1878/Jan. 20 1925. Theophilus Bond/Sep. 21 1879/(blank, no date). Ulysses S. Bond/Aug. 1 1897/(blank, no date).

On the north side the names and dates read Scott Winfield Bond, Jr./Mar. 14 1881/Dec. 18 1882. Herman Bond/Jul. 21 1886/Aug. 5 1890. Raphe B. Bond/Aug. 21 1884/Sep. 18 1890. On the west side the names read Odie Bond/Oct. 31 1894/May 7 1905. Leander Bond/Apr. 6 1898/Aug. 7 1905. The south side of the marker reads Buford Bond/Aug. 31 1888/Sep 10 1891. Cody Bond/Sep. 30 1892/Jul. 19 1900. John Blount Bond/Mar. 13 1883/Jun. 1 1912.

A noncontributing crypt of simple design and constructed of poured cement measuring approximately four feet in height and eight feet in width and length containing the remains of Ulysses Bond and his wife, Cliffie, is also located within the plot boundary. The east side of the crypt is marked from left to right Ulysses S. Bond/August 1 1897/September 4 1967. Cliffie Carter Bond/June 16 1898/August 5 1973. The other elevations of the crypt structure are unadorned.

The central area has south of the marker has two magnolia trees, a sweet gum tree, and two yucca plants growing there. The southern part of the plot is the site for the 12 unmarked burials of Scott and Magnolia Bond and 10 of their 11 children

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Summary

Scott Bond was born in slavery on a plantation where his mother was a house servant. From these lowly beginnings he became one of the largest landowners in Arkansas and a self-made millionaire. He was a brilliant businessman who was quick to recognize economic opportunities and to capitalize on them. He undertook numerous business ventures, often being the first black man to enter into these fields of endeavor, and he encouraged other African-Americans to seek their own fortunes and to make better lives for themselves and their families through hard work. Due to his significance as a leader in the African-American community in Arkansas, and his success as a pioneering businessman, his burial location is nominated as having state level historical significance. Since this site is the best preserved property associated with Scott Bond, it is nominated under **Criterion B** with **state significance**, as well as **Criteria Consideration C**, a birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no other appropriate site or building directly associated with his or her productive life. The property is being nominated under the historic context, "Minority Settlement in the Mississippi River Counties of the Arkansas Delta, 1870-1930."

Elaboration

Scott Bond was born March 15, 1852, near Canton, in Madison County, Mississippi. His father was the nephew of the property owner, and his mother was a house servant. Of course, both he and his mother were slaves.

When he was about five years of age he was taken with his mother and stepfather to the Bond farm in Cross County, Arkansas. Although Bond was born in slavery and would not spend more than six weeks in a schoolhouse during the course of his life, he would rise to prominence not only within Arkansas's African-American community, but he would become a major business leader among all Arkansans. When Bond was 13 his mother died and he took on the job of raising his younger brothers. At 20 years of age, Bond moved to Madison, Arkansas, with his stepfather. Two years later he struck out on his own to seek his fortune. On January 11, 1874, he married Magnolia Nash of Forrest City.

Scott Bond was a self-made man who earned his fortune in a variety of business ventures. Primarily a farmer, he also dealt in timber and livestock, and ran peach and apple orchards. In addition, he owned and operated sawmills, cotton gins, a gravel pit to supply the Rock Island Railroad, and brick-making facilities.

The story of Bond's experiences in opening his brick manufacturing business highlights his dedication to training and his ingenuity in obtaining the needed education. Bond saw a need for a local brick supplier as all bricks needed for local construction were being transported from plants hundreds of miles away. This raised the cost of the bricks, and Bond knew that a local supplier could undersell the distant competition and could be successful. Bond bought a kiln and made the forms to make the bricks. The problem was that he didn't know how to make bricks, so he went to a company that made bricks and reported for work.

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The company owner told him he hadn't been hired. Bond assured him that would be no problem as he was sure that he would be needed. The boss asked him if he expected to get paid. Bond replied that he would be compensated for his labors, in "one way or another." So Bond worked at the brick plant until he felt he knew how to make his own bricks and then took his leave. When he returned home he found a letter waiting for him from his former "employer." It contained the wages for his time spent working at the brickwork.

Bond had very little formal education, having spent no more than six weeks in grade school before quitting to work for a living. He learned to read and write, and could do basic mathematics. This lack of education did not hold back this man who possessed a sharp intellect and could spot an opportunity for profit.

Bond would ride his horse from his house to the fields every morning, returning in the late afternoon. He set a trot line (an unattended fishing line) in the river between the house and the fields. He would bait the hooks each morning and collect the fish each afternoon. He made a tidy profit by selling the fish to his neighbors.

On another occasion, he bought a swampy piece of land with the intention of draining it for a chicken ranch project. When he visited the property, he found the swamp filled with frogs. He checked with the local grocer and sure enough, frogs were worth more than chickens. So, rather than spend the money draining the swamp, he immediately went into the frogging business.

In addition to his agricultural ventures, Bond was invested in the mercantile business. Bond became the first African-American to own a store in Forrest City, Arkansas. On about December 15, 1876, he opened a general store. He operated the store through the winter, closing in the spring to return to the farm in time for planting.

He started out renting 12 acres of land from a Mrs. Allen of Knoxville, TN, who owned a 2,200-acre farm near Madison. In 1876 he increased his acreage to 35. Bond eventually rented the entire 2,200 acres, and farmed this land for 11 years profitably. Then he decided he wanted to own his own farm, and told Mrs. Allen that he was leaving after buying a 300-acre spread of his own.

After two years of failed crops by tenants, Mrs. Allen sent her son, John Allen, to offer the property to Bond. Allen arrived at the Bond farmhouse around lunchtime, and was invited to eat. A table was set for the visitor, and Bond took his seat at nearby tree-stump. The guest asked why he had done so, and Bond replied that this was the custom. Allen instructed Bond to come and sit with him at the table and eat as they discussed the sale of the farm. Bond would later say that this was the first time in his 49 years he had ever sat at a table with a white person.

Scott Bond was first and foremost a businessman. While he showed an interest in social issues, and expressed concern for the well being of those in his employ, he also had little patience for anyone who failed to meet their obligations or refused to pull their share of the load. On one occasion a man working at Bond's

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cotton gin became unhappy with his \$1.50 per day wage for operating an engine that powered the gin. So he sabotaged the engine and went home. When Bond learned of what the worker had done, he rode home and retrieved his shotgun. He then went to the man's house and forced him at gunpoint back to the gin where he threatened to kill him if he didn't repair the engine. Bond made the man stay until late into the evening to make up for the work time lost during the day due to the man's actions.

When the day's work was finally completed, Bond asked the man why he had disabled the engine. The employee replied that he did it in protest as he felt that he should get at least \$1.75 per day for his labors. Bond chastised him, saying that he should have come to him "like a man" and asked for a raise. He then told the worker that he was now making \$2.00 per day and went home to bed.

Scott Bond built the first storehouse made of concrete in St. Francis County. It was built on the old courthouse square. This 30'X120' building was constructed by Mr. Delano of Forrest City, but was designed by Bond himself after he decided that an architect could not do anything that he could not do for himself.

Although Scott Bond never had much in the way of formal education, he was a supporter of schooling for all children. He commented in 1917 that anyone who took their children out of school to work in the fields was practicing "false economy," and would profit more by having their offspring stay in the classroom. He sent his own sons to college, refusing to let them dropout and return to the farm when bad weather caused an economic downturn for the family.

The cemetery where Bond is buried is on land that Bond donated to be used as a cemetery for black residents of Madison/Forrest City after segregationists refused to allow African-Americans to be buried in a then-new cemetery under construction. Bond was so outraged at the whole affair, which was particularly ironic in that no whites had contributed to buying the property for the project, that he donated the land and declared that no black person would ever pay for a plot. The spaces in the cemetery were free of charge to African-Americans.

By the time he had reached 60 years of age, Bond's personal wealth exceeded \$2 million. But the Bond family also knew its share of tragedy. Scott and Magnolia Bond had 11 children, all sons, but only three lived to adulthood and only one outlived both of his parents.

Scott Winfield Bond died as he lived, working his farm. On March 29, 1933, the 81 year-old Bond was gored to death by one of his registered bulls. His son, Ulysses, reported that he went down swinging.

Due to the historical importance of Scott Bond, and his effect on Arkansas society as a business leader and pioneer in advancing opportunities for African-Americans, the Scott Bond Family Plot is nominated to the National Register under **Criterion B** with **state-level significance** and also under **Criteria Consideration B** as the last remaining site associated with Scott Bond.

Scott Bond Family Plot

Name of Property

St. Francis County, Arkansas

County and State

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Although Bond did not die until 1933, his family first used the plot as early as 1882. The time period between 1870 and 1930 covers nearly all of Scott Bond's productive life. This is the last remaining resource associated with Scott Bond whom this property is significant for and thus meets the requirements of the historic context, "**Minority Settlement in the Mississippi River Counties of the Arkansas Delta, 1870-1930.**"

Scott Bond Family Plot
Name of Property

St. Francis County, Arkansas
County and State

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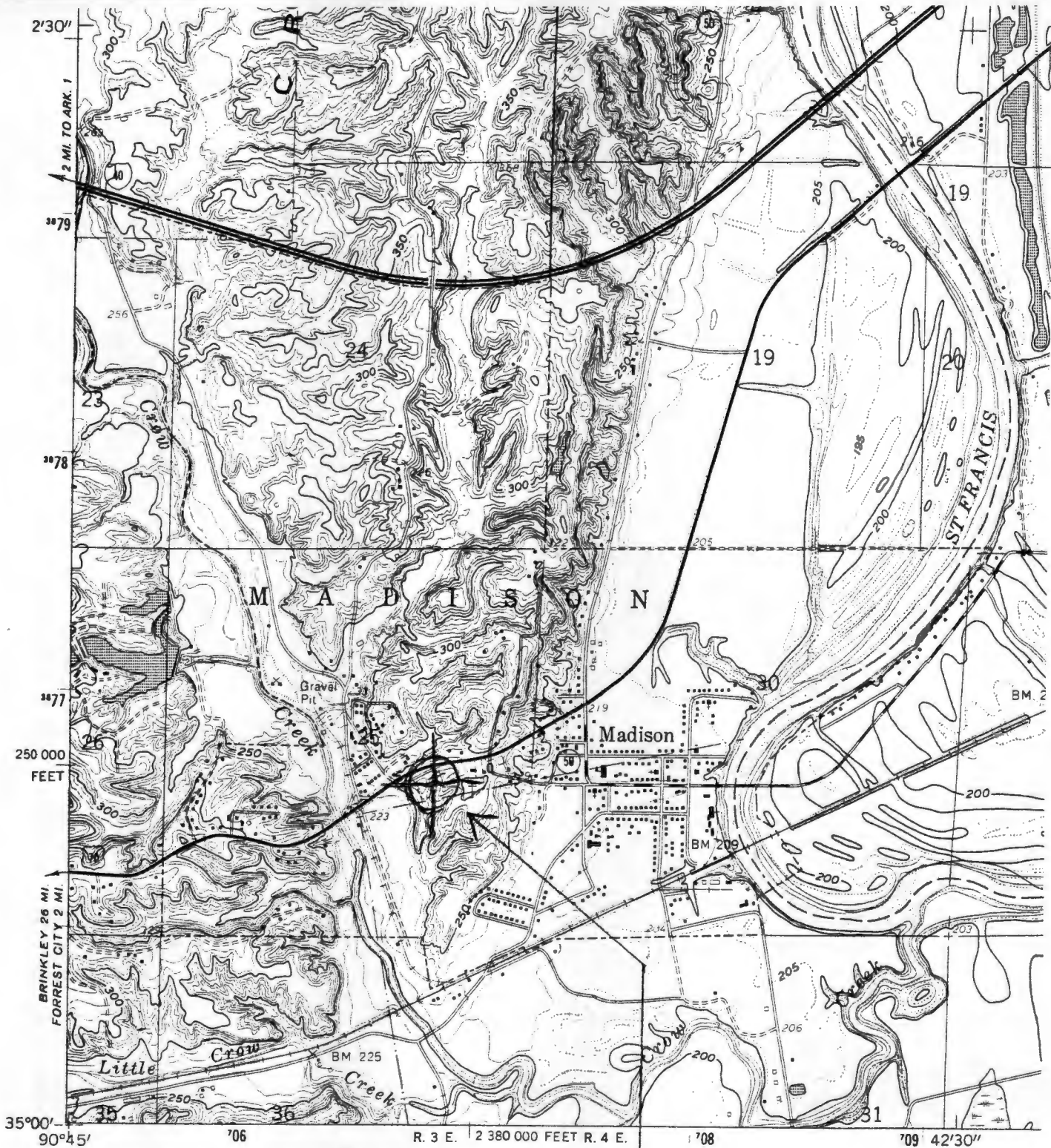
Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography:

Bond, Ulysses S., (1962). Highlights in the Life of Scott Bond. The Arkansas Historical Quarterly. Summer, p. 146-152.

Chowning, Robert W., (1954). History of St. Francis County, Arkansas. Times-Herald Publishing Company, Forrest City, AR.

Rudd, Dan A. & Ulysses S. Bond, (1917). From Slavery to Wealth: The Life of Scott Bond. The Journal printing Company, Madison, AR.



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

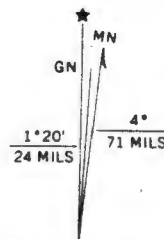
Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods and by planetable surveys 1960. Aerial photographs taken 1957

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 zone 15, shown in blue

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
 The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute
 intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875

Photoinspected from 1990 source; no major culture or drainage
 changes observed. Boundaries and names revised 1992

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs
 taken 1976. This information not field checked



UTM GRID AND 1992 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

SCOTT BOND FAMILY PLOT
 MADISON, ST. FRANCIS CO., AR

UTM REF. 15-707001-3876600

PSZ

1

FO



BOND

ULYSSES S.
BOND

AUGUST 1, 1897
SEPTEMBER 2, 1967

CLIFFE R. RITTS
BOND

JUNE 2, 1968
MAY 2, 1973

