

NR listed 9/04/92

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Men's Gymnasium; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

other name/site number: WA0350 correctly utilized as the museum

2. Location

street & number: Garland Avenue

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Fayetteville

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Washington code: AR 143 zip code: 72701

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-state

Category of Property: Building

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: 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

Cathryn A. Buford
Signature of certifying official

7-14-92
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.

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: College

Current: EDUCATION

Sub: College

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Collegiate Gothic

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Asphalt
walls Brick other N/A

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: EDUCATION
ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1936-1940

Significant Dates: 1936

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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:

- 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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Acreeage of Property: Approximately 1.14

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>394120</u>	<u>3992080</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 along the western edge of Garland Avenue with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's southern elevation and located approximately 50 feet to the south thereof, proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 250 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's western elevation; thence proceed northerly along said 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 250 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the western edge of Garland Avenue; thence proceed southerly 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 Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 13, 1992

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Men's Gymnasium at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville is a two-and-one-half story, brick masonry gymnasium building designed in the Plain Traditional style with Collegiate Gothic influences. Its roughly square plan is sheltered by both a gable roof over the bulk of the structure and a flat roof with a raised parapet above the front porch. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the flat surface is covered with a built-up tar roof. The brick walls rest upon a continuous cast concrete foundation.

Elaboration

The Men's Gymnasium at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville is a two-and-one-half story, brick masonry gymnasium building designed in the Plain Traditional style with Collegiate Gothic influences. Its roughly square plan is sheltered by both a gable roof over the gymnasium portion of the structure and a flat roof with a raised parapet above the front porch and surrounding offices. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the flat surface is covered with a built-up tar roof. The brick walls rest upon a continuous cast concrete foundation and raised basement.

The eastern or front elevation is dominated by the full-width, two-story porch and office section of the building, which features two symmetrically-placed crenelated towers that recede back toward the front wall of the gymnasium section and a flat, parapet roof otherwise. The central, five-bay entrance arcade was surmounted originally by five bays of casement windows, each casement containing eight panes and each window opening containing one pair of casements; however, the lower half of these casements have been removed in all but the northern bay to allow for the installation of window air conditioning units. The rear wall of the recessed porch behind the arcade is punctuated with five double-leaf openings, each placed directly behind its arch. The projecting front walls of the two flanking crenelated towers are each lighted with three central casement windows: one on each of the two floors, and a smaller casement window in between. The bays at the ends of the elevation are also lighted with a single, centrally-placed casement window on each floor. The end gable of the gymnasium behind the front section is punctuated with two symmetrically-placed vent openings near the peak; it is otherwise blank.

The northern and southern elevations are virtually identical, as each features the raised basement (also evident on the western elevation due to the decrease in grade from east to west) divided into five bays by the stepped, projecting buttresses and the windows above, just beneath the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

cornice, that light the gymnasium behind, with a row of square vents in between. The only difference between the two elevations is that the southern elevation features a central, single-leaf entrance and only two windows in each of its two western bays on the basement level. The side wall of the projecting section on the rear or western elevation is lighted with but a single casement window on the northern and southern elevations.

The western elevation contains the same pair of vents in the gable peak of the gymnasium's end wall as seen on the opposite elevation. The projecting, two-story, flat roof section is lighted on the second story by six casement windows and on the first story by four casement windows, placed centrally and flanked to either side by a single, double-leaf entry.

Though the interior finishes have been substantially altered in the process of renovating the building into a museum, the exterior of the Men's Gymnasium has suffered few discernable alterations and is in good condition.

United States Department of the Interior
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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

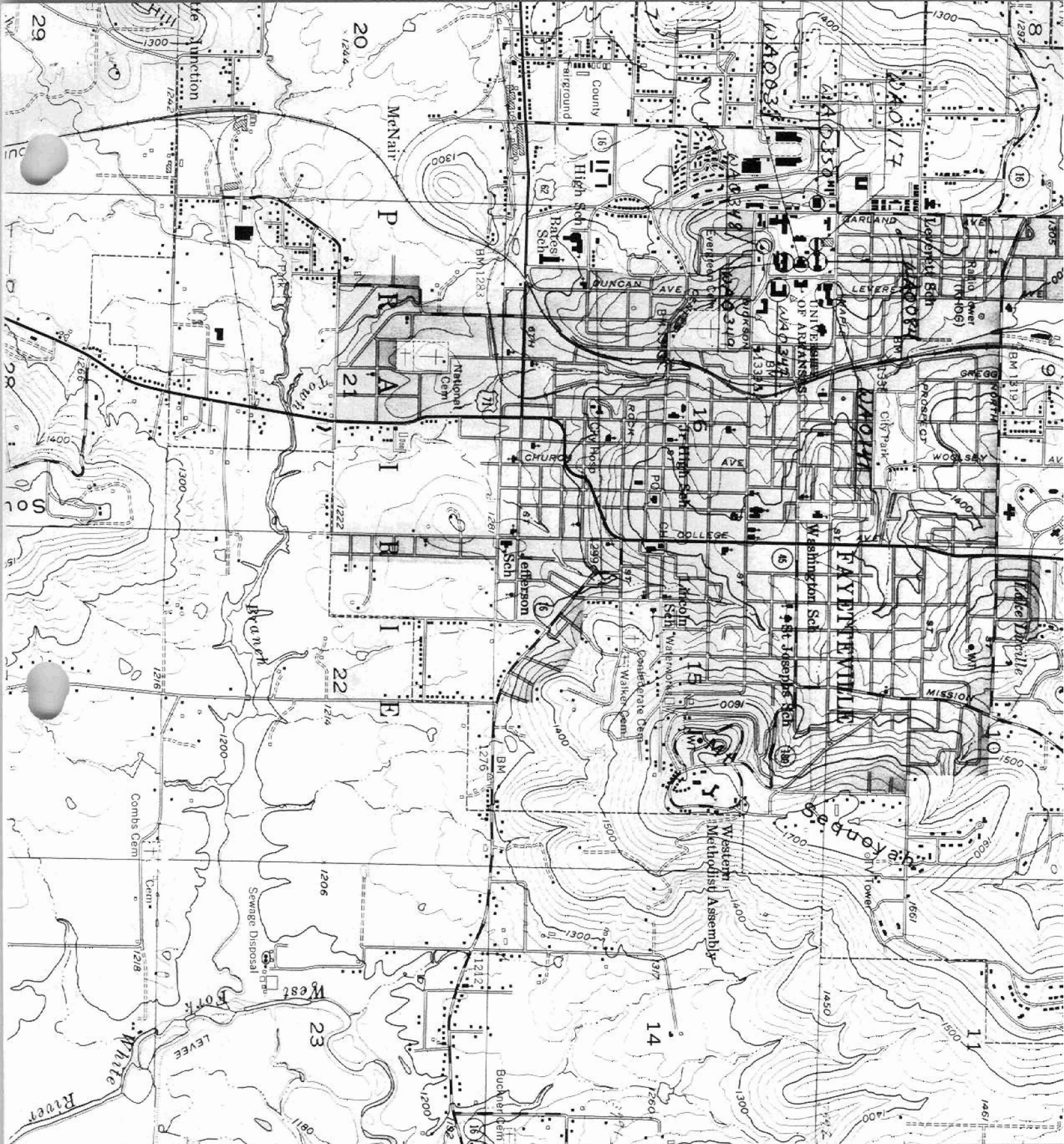
Section number 8 Page 1

Men's Gymnasium; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

The University of Arkansas at Fayetteville was officially founded as a federal land grant university in 1871 through the passage by the Arkansas state legislature of "An Act for the Location, Organization, and Maintenance of the Arkansas Industrial University, with a Normal Department Therein." The state had been empowered to establish such schools since March 2, 1827, when Congress passed an act that set aside two townships within the Territory of Arkansas to be selected from the best federal land and sold for the sole purpose of establishing a state university; yet for reasons that were primarily political, this did not occur until after the Civil War.

The board of trustees oversaw the financing and construction of University Hall -- affectionately known as "Old Main" (NR-Listed 6/15/70) -- as the first building erected on the campus. The University continued to grow gradually throughout the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, responding to increased enrollment, an expanding curriculum, and greater emphasis upon extracurricular activities. This trend continued during the 1920's and did not abate in the 1930's in spite of the Depression. 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 Men's Gymnasium, constructed in 1936 (the identities of the architect and builder have not been documented) during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is an unusual example of a large brick masonry classroom building with a fundamentally rectangular plan designed in what can best be described as the Plain/Traditional style with Collegiate Gothic elements (e.g., the crenellated attached towers on the front elevation, the slightly-pointed arches across the front entrance arcade, the combination stringcourse/label molds that ornament the second story windows). Its use during this period as a physical education building for a public university clearly identifies it with this historic 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, and under Criterion C as the best example locally of this application of Collegiate Gothic elements to a brick masonry gymnasium building.



ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
 (WA 0084)
 15/394400/3992070
 HOLT & PROCTOR
 BUILDINGS (WA 0117)
 15/394310/3992090
 HENS GARLANDS
 (WA 0350)
 15/394120/3992080
 V&L WALKER BLDG
 (WA 0031)
 15/394410/3992000
 HENRISTRY BUILDINGS
 (WA 0349)
 15/394370/3991910
 CHIL DICKS (BEEK
 TOWER)
 (WA 0348)
 15/394320/3991800
 BUSINESS
 ADMINISTRATION
 BUILDINGS
 (WA 0347)
 15/394550/3991880
 FAYETTEVILLE, AR,
 WASHINGTON, AR,
 ARKANSAS
 2130"

BALDWIN 1.8 MI.
BRASHEARS 31 MI.