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Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Arkansas	
COUNTY: Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
NOV 2	1972

Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt  
Third Congressional District

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
The Ridge House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
The Cory-Ridge-Pettigrew House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
230 West Center

CITY OR TOWN:  
Fayetteville

STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05      COUNTY: Washington      CODE: 143



**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>used as apartments</u>

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Washington County Historical Society, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
118 East Dickson Street

CITY OR TOWN: Fayetteville      STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Washington County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Corner of College and Center Street

CITY OR TOWN: Fayetteville      STATE: Arkansas      CODE: 05

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
Inventory of Historic Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: August, 1971       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Arkansas History Commission  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

STREET AND NUMBER:  
1023 West Markham

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

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The structure as it exists today represents a composite of various additions and repairs performed over the years to the original log structure which perhaps pre-dates the Ridges' arrival. This original structure is identified as the residence of M. H. Clark, an early-day physician. Mrs. Ridge purchased the land in 1840 and documentary evidence testifies that the substantial log house she occupied was the incorporated into a more modern residence. From actual physical evidence remaining, one can safely assume that the original log house was a one-storey, dog-trot house which was later incorporated into a Georgian house plan with chimneys flanking the gable ends (east and west elevations). The log house was clad with boards and the central dog-trot enclosed to form a central hall. An entrance portico was provided perhaps at this time. Later the house was given an additional floor with the chimneys being enlarged to accommodate the additional height and the portico extended as well. The present chimneys reveal evidence of growth and addition and appear to be original to the house.

A lean-to on the north side has been added at a later date not yet established thus completing the salt box form.

A later contemporary, one-storey lean-to has been added to the north elevation.

The present condition of the house is extremely poor and well necessitate rehabilitation for adaptive use. Evidence of a log structure within the walls has been found.



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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education      | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering               | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-<br>losophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)<br><u>environmental</u> |
| <input checked="" 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<br>Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-<br>itarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature                | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation           | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                     |   | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |  |   | _____   |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. The property on which the house is located is part of the original town plat of February 27, 1835.
2. The house is believed to be the oldest residential structure in the city still standing.
3. Architecturally it is one of the few remaining examples of a New England, salt box type house left in northwest Arkansas.
4. Its environmental significance cannot be overlooked as the loss of this house would create an open parking lot in the cities' oldest remaining block of historic homes and thus deteriorate the scale and historic ambiance of the downtown area.
5. Its association with the prominent Cherokee Ridge family is an issue of more than local significance. Sarah B. N. Ridge, a native of Connecticut and wife of John Ridge, a Cherokee chief, came to Fayetteville with her children after her husband had been assassinated in 1839 for his part in signing the treaty of removal which ousted the Cherokees from their lands in the east and started them on the Trail of Tears.

The property upon which the house now stands was purchased by Mrs. Ridge from Joseph M. Shepard in 1840. Her son Aneas E. Ridge subsequently purchased the property and lived in the house until his death on August 28, 1859.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Flashback-August 1971 Fayetteville Arkansian  
 Various references throughout Flashback  
 Washington & Benton County Court records  
 Marian Tibbetts Banes diary published  
 serially in Flashback 1968 (continuous  
 publication)  
 Contemporary record of Fayetteville  
 Arkansas Gazette  
 Ft. Smith Record

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			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	° ' "	° ' "	36°	03'	45.8"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		09'	22.5"
SE	° ' "	° ' "			
SW	° ' "	° ' "			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY;

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE  
Rene Diaz, Assistant Professor

ORGANIZATION DATE  
University of Arkansas, Department of Architecture

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE  
Fayetteville Arkansas 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 William E. Henderson

Title State Liaison Officer

Date October 12, 1972

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

Robert M. Utley  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 11/2/72

ATTEST:  
William Henderson  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 10-31-72

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Washington	
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8. Significance Continued:

Miss Sophia Sawyer who accomanied Mrs. Ridge and her children later started the Fayetteville Female Seminary. Miss Saywer is credited by the late W. J. Lemke, Wash- ington County historian, as providing the influence which led to the establishment of the University of Arkansas. An extension of this thinking would make the Ridges the spiritual founders ofthe University of Arkansas, a legacy completely in keeping with their unfailing support of education of the Cherokees.





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(Continuation Sheet)

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9. Major Bibliographical References Continued:

Cherokee Tragedy by Thurman Wilkins

Cherokee Cavaliers by Everett Dale

Cherokees of the West by Grace Woodward

Chronicles of Oklahoma--Oklahoma Historical Society

Trail of Tears by Marion Starkey

Indian Removal by Grant Foreman



