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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Lynn Shelton American Legion Post No. 27

Other Name/Site Number: Shelton-Tucker Post No. 27 / WA 0786

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 28 South College Avenue

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Fayetteville

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Washington Code: AR 143 Zip Code: 72701

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	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: N/A

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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

Cathy A. Slater _____ 11-8-95
Signature of certifying official 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

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: Social Sub: Meeting Hall

Current : Commerce Sub: Professional

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Other: _____
Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone roof Asphalt
walls Stone other Wood, Synthetic

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Located at 28 South College Street in Fayetteville, the Lynn Shelton American Legion Post No. 27 is a two-story, stone-constructed, gable-roof structure that was designed by local architect, T. Ewing Shelton, and built from 1939 to 1940.

Elaboration

Located at 28 South College Street in Fayetteville, the Lynn Shelton American Legion Post No. 27 is a two-story stone structure designed by local architect, T. Ewing Shelton, and constructed from 1939 to 1940. The rectangular plan structure comprises 11,000 square feet (5,500 square feet per story) and is covered by a low-pitched, composition-shingled, end gable roof with aluminum-sided fascia boards and soffits. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the construction is the stonework. The first floor consists of quarry-faced, ashlar stone laid in regular courses, while the second story is built with rough-cut rubble stone laid in irregular courses. The single exterior stone chimney on the south elevation also mimics this arrangement. All of the windows were replaced by the current owner in 1994 and are of the one-over-one, aluminum-clad variety.

The first story is not seen from the front, or western, elevation due to the slope of the hillside. The central front entrance, which is accessed by a concrete sidewalk and stoop that is delineated by two pyramid-capped piers, leads into the second floor. Shallow stone pilasters divide the gable end elevation into three bays. The central bay contains the front entrance,

which consists of a recessed single-leaf door flanked by sidelights, and two narrow one-over-one windows complete with stone sills and flattened-arch lintels with keystones. The two outer have a pair of larger one-over-one windows with similar arches and sills. Both the entrance and the paired windows are now shielded by red canvas awnings.

A portion of the first story that is composed of a single-leaf door and a one-over-one window is visible underneath the southern pair of windows. This floor is accessed from the exterior by a curved stone staircase descending from the south side of the stoop.

The southern elevation contains the exterior stone chimney and is fenestrated by seven one-over-one windows on each floor. A projecting stone beltcourse divides the two stories as well as the two types of stonework. The first-story windows contain the more elaborate flattened arch lintels with keystones, while the second story windows have random stonework above the metal support. A steel staircase provides access to a single-leaf entrance to the second story on the eastern end of the elevation.

The rear, or eastern, elevation is fenestrated by five one-over-one windows on each story. Largely obscured by the adjacent National Guard Building, the north elevation is arranged similar to its southern counterpart, but contains nine windows per floor and lacks both a chimney and an entrance.

In 1994, the interior was remodeled with new paint and carpet. The original stone walls remain exposed; however, only a few interior trim details are notable such as the stone fireplace and a heart-shaped stone in one wall.

There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

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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: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Social History

Period(s) of Significance: 1939 - 1945

Significant Dates: 1940

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Shelton, T. Ewing.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

The Lynn Shelton American Legion Post No. 27 is being nominated under Criterion A with local significance as the only extant historic structure associated with the American Legion organization in Fayetteville. Under Criterion C, the building is locally significant for the quality and dual nature of the stonework.

Elaboration

The American Legion was founded in France during the relatively quiet and uneventful days that followed the signing of the armistice that ended the Great War. American enlisted men from all three of the principal branches of the service then in existence - the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps - were billeted in various locations for the purpose of maintaining a military presence while the negotiators worked out the details of the treaty that would outline the political future of much of Europe for the next decade. These servicemen found life during the occupation uneventful and boring, and this only compounded the frustration felt by many at not being allowed to return home to family and friends. A small group of officers, especially Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. and Lieutenant Colonel George A.

White, met to discuss the possibility of establishing a veterans' organization that would include all branches of the military and which would serve the immediate purpose of providing an outlet for some of the energy and frustration felt by the occupation forces but which would also set as its larger goal the establishment of a nationwide veterans' organization that would provide its members with both a social organization and a vehicle for voicing their collective concerns about such issues as national defense, subversive activity, radical thought, domestic social programs and veterans' affairs.

Successive meetings over the course of the next several months in both Europe and America further defined the Legion's mandate and purpose. However, it was the shooting of four Legionnaires during an Armistice Day parade in the lumber town of Centralia, Washington in 1919 by socialist IWW organizers and the subsequent coverage of the trial which followed - in which the Legionnaires were portrayed as the aggressors - that both galvanized and tempered the Legionnaire spirit. Both the public and the Legion press recognized the dangers of extremism by any party while admitting the need for responsible vigilance against any activity that threatened the democratic form of government. The American Legion began to grow steadily thereafter through an organization that elected officers on the national, state, and local levels and provided a voice for its members regarding a variety of national concerns. During the Depression the American Legion distinguished itself in particular through the expansion of local programs targeted at youth. Of particular note were the founding of American Legion Junior Baseball, the American Legion Oratorical Contest and Boys' State.

During the construction of the nominated property, the commander of the American Legion Post No. 27, which was the twenty-seventh American Legion Post established in Arkansas, was D. A. "Slim" Burson. Burson also supervised the construction of the building. The building committee consisted of the chairman, Fred C. Givens, Lee Rogers, L.A. Passarelli, Frank Kelley, and Tom Eads, who was also the building contractor. The post was designed by T. Ewing Shelton, a noted local architect. All of the stonework was laid by Frank and Frankie Kelley.

The construction of the American Legion Post No. 27 was financed through donations and a \$7,000 loan, which was repaid in a few years by holding 25 cent per person dances in the building. Upon completion in 1940, the nominated property was named the Lynn Shelton Post No. 27 to honor the first soldier from Fayetteville that was killed in the Great War. The name was later amended to the Shelton-Tucker Post No. 27 to commemorate _____ Tucker, a Fayetteville native killed at Pearl Harbor. Both soldiers were enlisted men.

In 1994, the nominated property was sold to Dallas and Dee Wright, who changed the name to "Legion Plaza" and converted the interior into office space.

The Lynn Shelton American Legion Post No. 27 is being nominated under Criterion A with local significance as the only extant historic structure associated with the American Legion Post in Fayetteville. Under Criterion C, the building is locally significant for the quality and method of construction, which features contrasting styles of stonework.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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History of Washington County, Arkansas. Shiloh Museum: Springdale, Arkansas, 1989.

Information supplied by Dee Wright, July, 1995.

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:

- X 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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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A 15 395780 3991240 B
C D

Verbal Boundary Description:

The property is located at 28 S. College Avenue in Fayetteville and is a rectangle measuring 56.8 feet north and south along S. College Ave. and 89.3 feet east and west.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

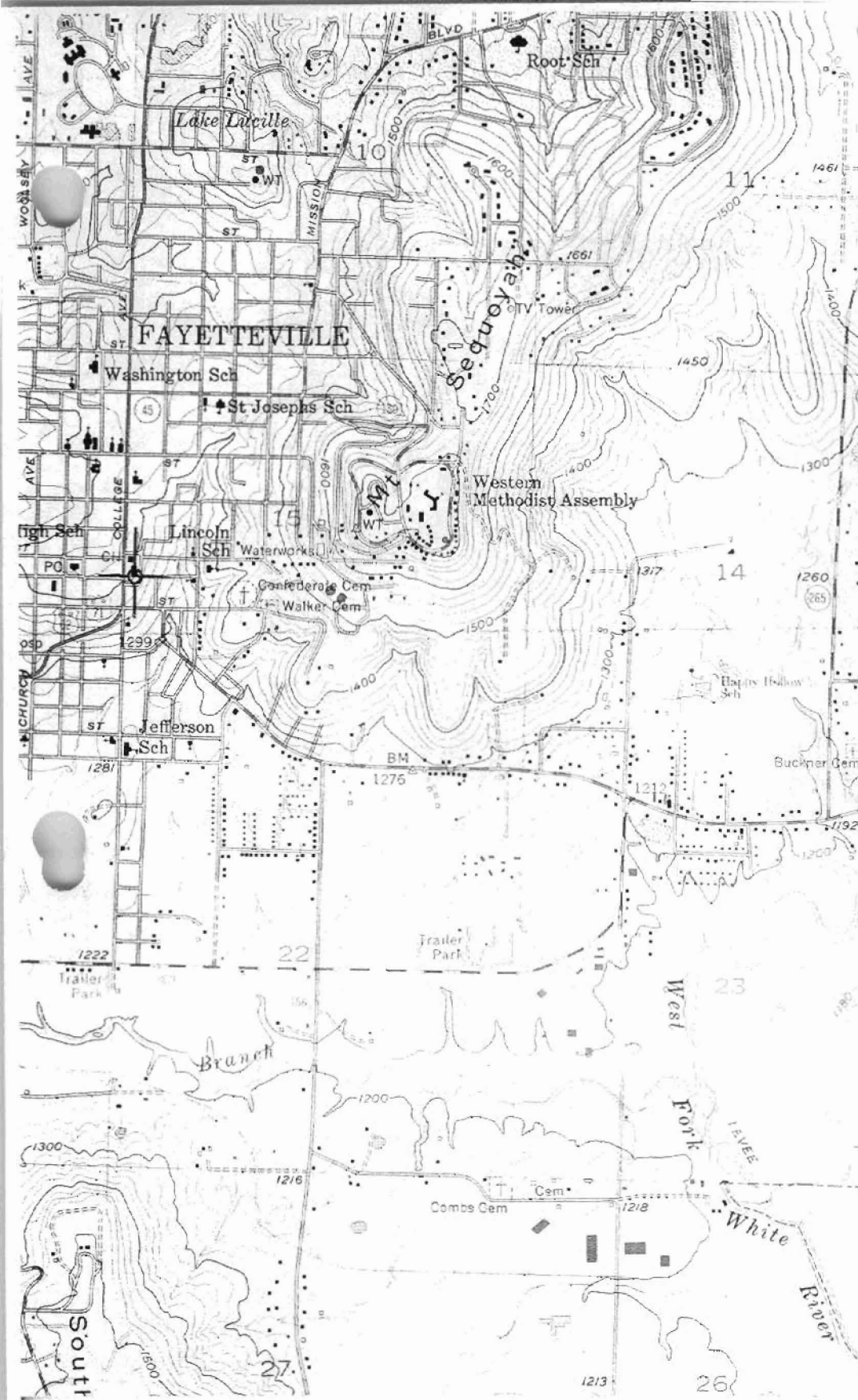
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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: October 30, 1995

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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



Lynn Shelton
 American Legion Post
 No. 27
 Washington Co., Ark.
 UTAI:
 15/395'8" /
 3991240

SPRINGDALE 9 MI.

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