

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Mineral Springs Community Building

Other Name/Site Number: WA0836

2. Location

Street & Number: County Road 34

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: West Fork

Vicinity: X

State: AR County: Washington County Code AR143 Zip Code: 72774

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-Local

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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Washington County, Arkansas  
County and State

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

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.

William A. Sater  
Signature of certifying official

4-22-98  
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property \_\_\_\_\_ meets \_\_\_\_\_ does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 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**

Historic: Education Sub: School  
Religion Religious Facility  
Current : Recreation/Culture Sub: Auditorium

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification:

Craftsman  
Plain/Traditional

Materials: foundation Stone roof Composition Shingle  
walls Weatherboard other \_\_\_\_\_  
Asbestos

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

**Summary**

The Mineral Springs Community Building located near West Fork was constructed in 1915 on County Road 34. The structure is a one-story, frame, Plain-Traditional building with double-hung windows and a gabled roof on a stone foundation. The community building replaced an 1886 log building on the site and functioned as a school and church for the population of Mineral Springs. Classes were held there for 61 years until Mineral Springs was consolidated with District 95, Greenland in 1946. After the termination of classes the building continued to be used as a church and meeting hall. In 1947 a gable-roofed addition was added to the rear giving it a T-shaped plan. The addition provided room for a stage and two flanking side rooms for kitchen space and dressing rooms.

**Elaboration**

The Mineral Springs Community Building on County Road 34 was constructed in 1915 for use as a schoolhouse, church and meeting hall. The building was constructed with a simple rectangular plan and a gable roof. The application of a rear addition in 1947, gave the building a T-shaped plan. The main room is of frame construction and is faced with weatherboard and rests on a stone foundation. The addition is also of frame construction but is covered in asbestos siding. Rows of double-hung two-over-four windows line the east and west walls of the community building.

The front or northern facade contains the primary entry to the building in the gable end. The entrance consists of a pair of wood paneled doors topped

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with a four-light transom. Above the transom is a sign with raised letters reading "Mineral Springs Community Building." To the east and west of the doors are two four-over-four windows. The northern wall of the addition holds a single leaf door.

The eastern elevation consists of three two-over-four windows and a single leaf wooden door. The southern or rear wall contains a single one-over-one window. The western facade is fenestrated with four two-over-four windows and a single paneled door in the rear addition.

The interior classroom is sided with its original wooden beaded board paneling. Fluorescent light fixtures and bare bulbs provide illumination. The rear southern wall is dominated by a circular stage added in 1947. To the east of the stage is a small kitchen and to the west is a small storage/dressing room. The school desks and wood stove have been removed and seating currently consists of rows of wooden theater seats. The community building functions as a meeting hall once a month and is beginning to show the wear and tear of an uninhabited structure. Termites are inflicting damage on the wooden walls and the stone foundation is cracked and becoming unstable.

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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: C&A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture  
Social History

Period(s) of Significance: 1915-1946

Significant Dates: 1915-1946

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

### Summary

Mineral Springs Community Building in the community of Mineral Springs about three miles east of West Fork, was built in 1915. It was constructed as a one room schoolhouse and church building. The frame structure was designed in the simple Plain-Traditional style on a rectangular stone foundation with a gable roof. The building is only occasionally used as a meeting hall today, but it was once the center of community life for Mineral Springs. The community building is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion A for its important role in the social, religious and educational life of Mineral Springs citizens. It is also being nominated under Criterion C as a good example of a one room schoolhouse in Washington County in the Plain-Traditional tradition.

### Elaboration

Washington County located in the northwest section of the state of Arkansas was created from a tract named Lovely's Purchase through treaties with the Osage Indians in 1828. West Fork, a settlement within Washington County, began to merge by 1836. It did not become a proper town until the mid 1870s when a water-mill plant was moved there and construction of steam mills began. The business sector grew with a mercantile, a carding machine, and a blacksmith's shop. When the St. Louis & San Francisco Railway was introduced to the area, West Fork experienced another growth spurt as the town now had a means of exporting its fruits, produce and timber. The town was incorporated in 1885.

Smaller communities soon branched off from the main town of West Fork. Mineral Springs community was one of those settled about three miles east of West Fork near Round Mountain. Underground springs probably contributed to the attraction of this area to new settlers. Mineral Springs children attended school in the Round Mountain community until 1885 when a request to create a school district resulted in the creation of district 159, Sugar Mountain School. A year later a log structure was built in Mineral Springs for the education of the area children. This building acted as an anchor for the community and allowed for more growth. By 1901 a post office served the citizens. By 1915 the community had outgrown the log structure and a frame building was constructed directly behind it. The Mineral Springs Community Building's use as a school was discontinued in 1946 when the district was consolidated with Greenland but it was still used as a meeting hall and occasionally for church services.

The Mineral Springs Community Building is one of the most significant ties to the past for this community. Its function as an educational center reminds us of the history of the community. Because of the integral role that it played in Mineral Springs it is being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion A. The property is also being nominated under Criterion C as a Plain-Traditional building which stands as an important example of a one-room schoolhouse.

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### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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*The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northwestern Arkansas.*  
Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Company. 1889. Pp. 263-264.

Information submitted by Barbara McBroom, June, 1997.

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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Acreage of Property: Less than one acre.

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing    Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>397600</u>	<u>3976240</u>	B	_____	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Begin at one-half (1/2) mile corner of south side of Section 35, Township 15 north of Range 30 west, thence running 27 rods north to the point of beginning, thence 13 rods east, thence 13 rods north, thence 13 rods west, thence 13 rods to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This nomination includes all of the property historically associated with the Mineral Springs Community Building, West Fork vicinity, AR.



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**11. Form Prepared By**

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Name/Title: Holly Hope/Survey Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 04/08/98

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

City or Town: Little Rock

State: AR ZIP: 72201



UTM  
 15/397600/  
 3976240  
 T 14 N  
 (SULPHUR CITY)  
 7155 1 NE  
 MINERAL  
 SPRINGS  
 COMMUNITY  
 BUILDING  
 WEST FORK  
 VICINITY  
 WASHINGTON  
 CO., AR

3975  
 55'

3978

3979





Mid-South Speaks Community Doodling  
Washington Co. AR

Photo by Holly Hope

January 14, 1998

Magazine on file at AHPP  
View from Northeast



000001

00120

Mineral Springs Community Building

Washington Co. JR

Plots by Holly Hope

January 14 1977

Neahve on file at A+100

View of entrance - classroom





W. Earl Spang's Community Building  
Washington Co. AR  
Photo by Holly Hoax  
January 14, 1998  
Negative on file at AIPP  
Yen from South



DO NOT DROP  
DO NOT HANDLE FROM  
THE BEBENDA  
REFRIGER

WATERL SPRINGS Community Building

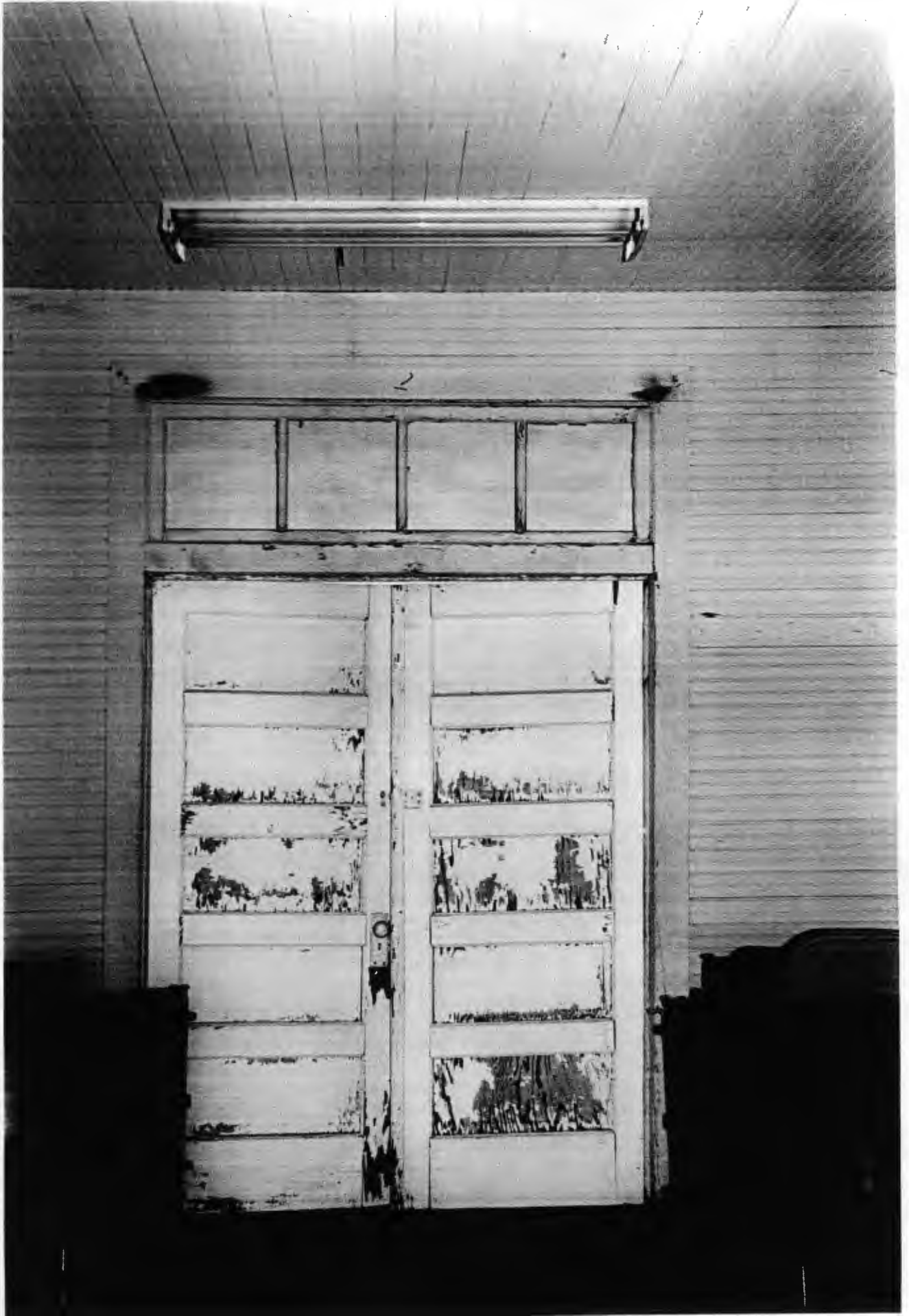
Washington Co, AR

Photo by Holly Hoxe

February 14, 1998

Negative on file at AHHP

View of Storage Room



Wittall Springs Community Building  
Washington Co. AR

Photo by Holly Hope

Jan May 14, 1998

Nearby on file at HHP  
View of front doors





Winters! Springs Community Building  
Washington Co, AR

Photo by Holly Hope

January 14, 1998

Measure on file at AHP

View of Stone



Winnipeg Springs' common by Baulting  
Merrington Co. JR  
Push by +olly Hope  
January 14, 1998  
Negative on file at AHPP  
view of citation