

LISTED 09/13/91

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Letona Hotel
other names/site number Resource #WH0072

2. Location

street & number N/A not for publication N/A
city, town Letona vicinity N/A
state Arkansas code AR county White code 145 zip code 72085

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Historic and Architectural Resources
of White County, Arkansas

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Catherine A. Buford 5-13-91
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 the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/ Hotel

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic/ Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Other: Frame/ irregular plan

foundation concrete

walls novelty siding

roof metal

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance

c. 1910
1910-1939

Significant Dates

c. 1910
N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

See "Historic and Architectural Resources of White County, Arkansas," Section H.

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property _____

UTM References

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jill Bayles, Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 21 March, 1990
street & number 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 telephone 501-371-2763
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

Standing amidst several large shade trees, the Letona Hotel is one of the few visual reminders left from the days when this small White County town was a lumber shipping point on the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad line. The hotel, which is now used as a duplex, is intact and in good condition, and has undergone only a few minor alterations since its construction around 1910.

The two-and-a-half story, irregular floorplan is frame and covered in novelty siding. The alterations to the building include three new windows along the north, south and east elevations, a new balustrade on the second-story porch, and a brick interior chimney on the north side replacing one on the south elevation that was destroyed by fire.

The hotel's front porch extends halfway across the front (east) elevation and is divided into upper and lower levels. The lower porch is supported by large columns, while the upper porch has turned posts, a shed roof and the new balustrade. There is another porch extending halfway across the rear (east) elevation that is also supported by turned posts, although it is only a single story in height. All of the hotel's windows are one-over-one, double-hung sash. Its two original front doors leading into the interior are still intact. The foundation consists of continuous block footing; the original roof is a gable-on-hip shape covered in metal.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1

Significance

The Letona Hotel is being nominated under National Register Criterion A with local significance for its association with and contributions to the economic development of the community of Letona. As stated in Historic Context 3: Railroad Era, Letona's birth was primarily caused by the growth of the Doniphan Lumber Mill located nearby. When the Missouri and North Arkansas Railroad line was laid through the area in 1908-09, the Doniphan Company made the necessary connections to it by building a logging railroad from the planned Letona townsite to the Ozark Plateau and then using the M & NA tracks to reach the mill from Letona. After its establishment in the early 1900's, Letona quickly grew under its milling and railroad influences. Several sawmills were constructed in town, and the hotel was built directly across from the railroad depot to house the railworkers and the lumber agents who began traveling in the area. When the Doniphan Company relocated their branch line north of Pangburn in search of uncut pine, Letona continued to ship lumber from its own sawmills and concentrated on its agricultural industry, but with its great lumbering asset gone, the need for a hotel was diminished.

Architecturally, the hotel was not built in any particular style, a practice that is distinctive of most small railroad boom towns from the turn of the century. Vernacular architecture, even for large, nonresidential buildings, was the common construction method while the railroad tracks were being laid, because the goal was to provide expedient and inexpensive housing for the rail workers, merchants and residents who quickly populated the new town. Therefore, although it does not express high artistic values or the work of a master, the Letona Hotel is a good representation of a type, period and method of construction found during the railroad era in White County, and for this reason should also be considered eligible under Criterion C with local significance.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Acreage of property: Less than one

UTM References:

A 15/606365/3913640

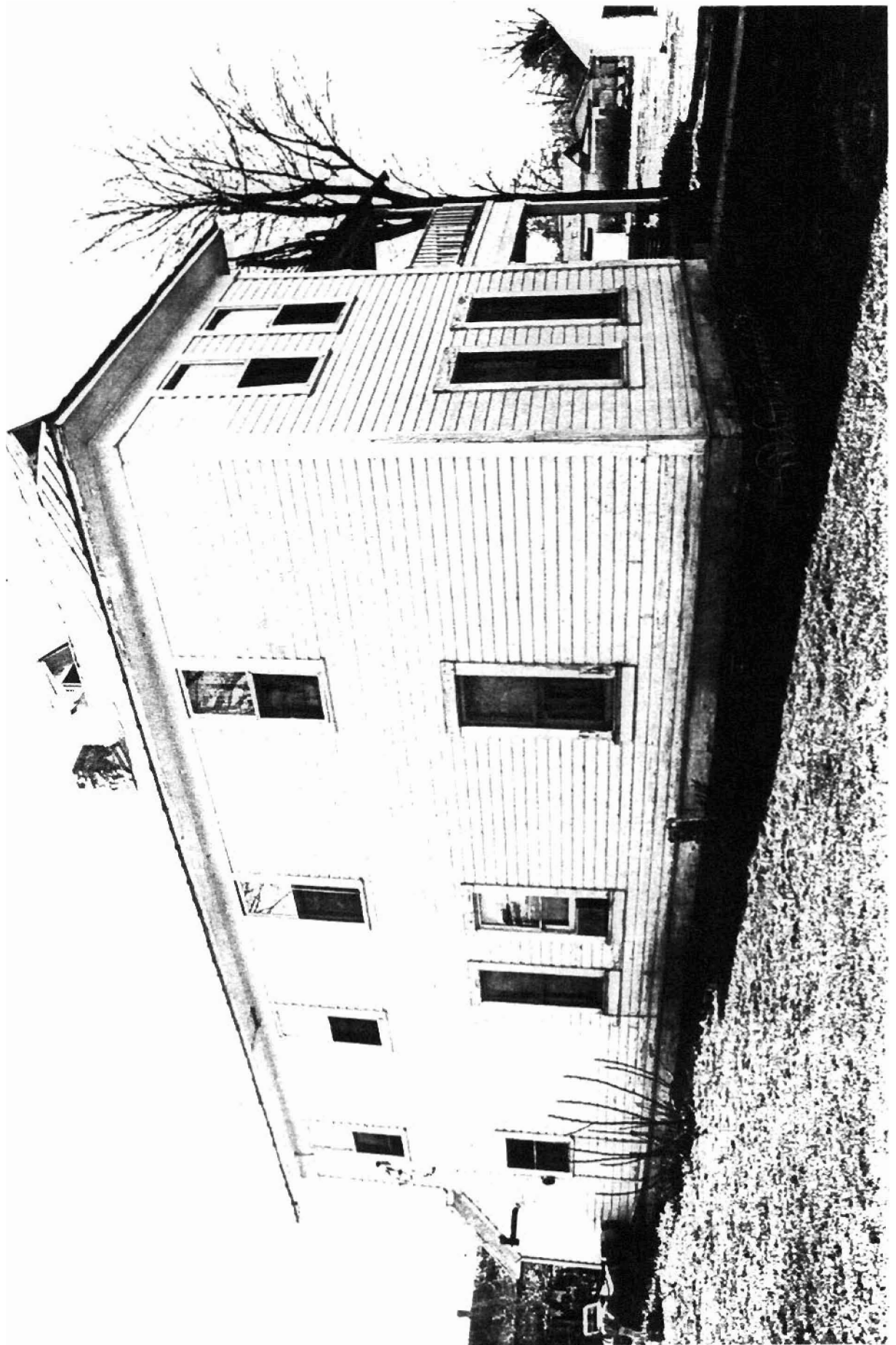
Verbal Boundary Description:

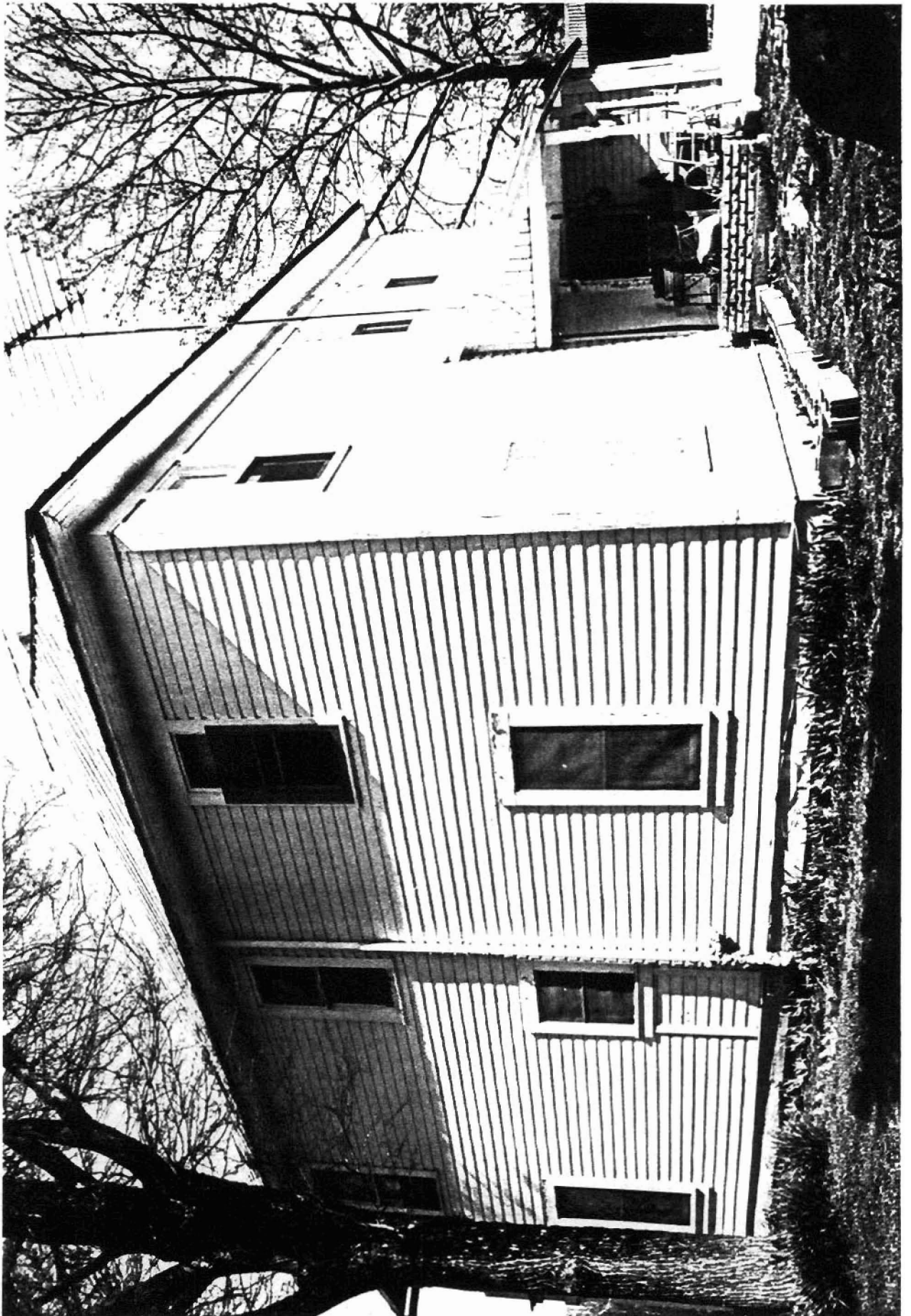
Lots 1-7, Block 25, Original Town of Letona, Arkansas.

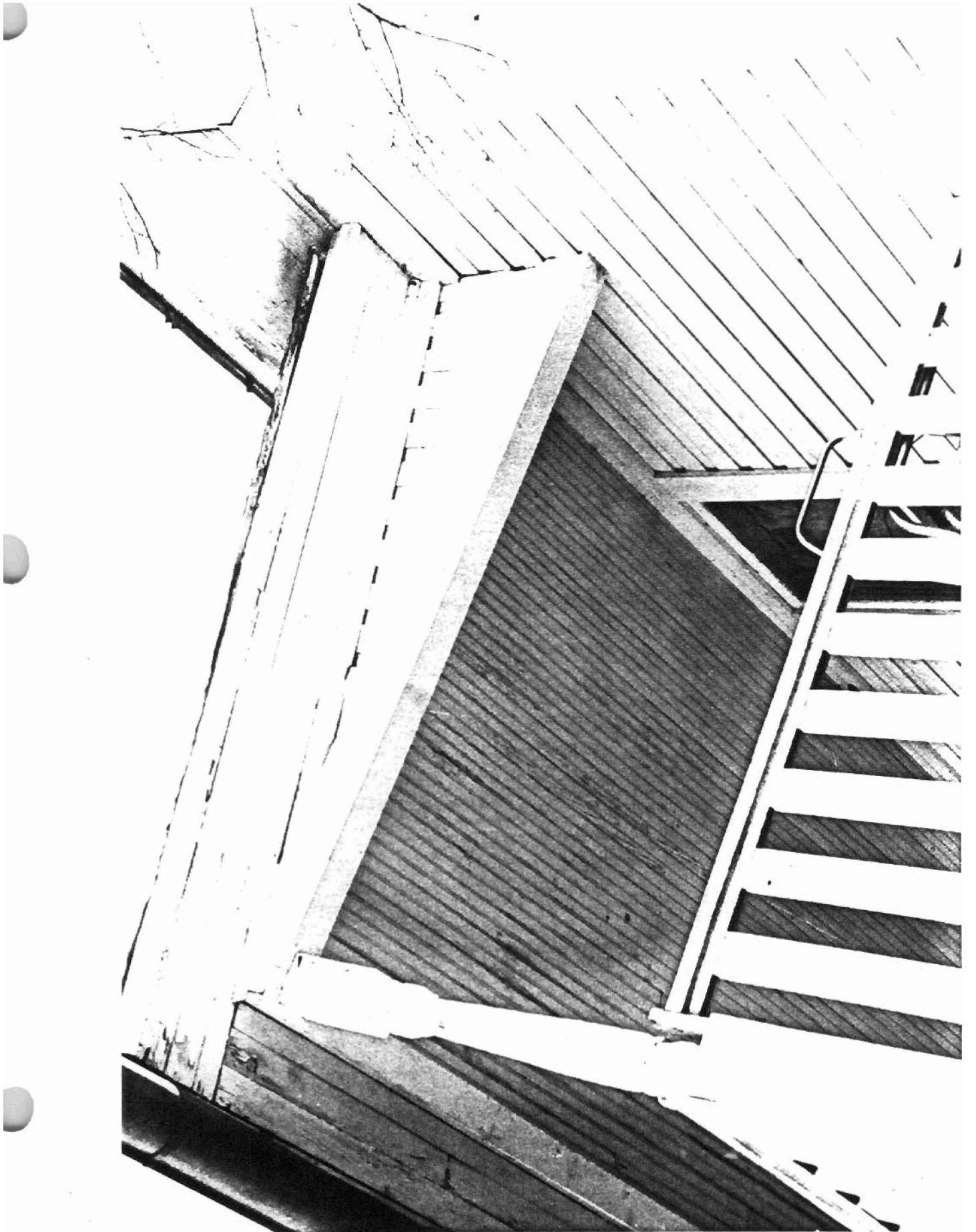
Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

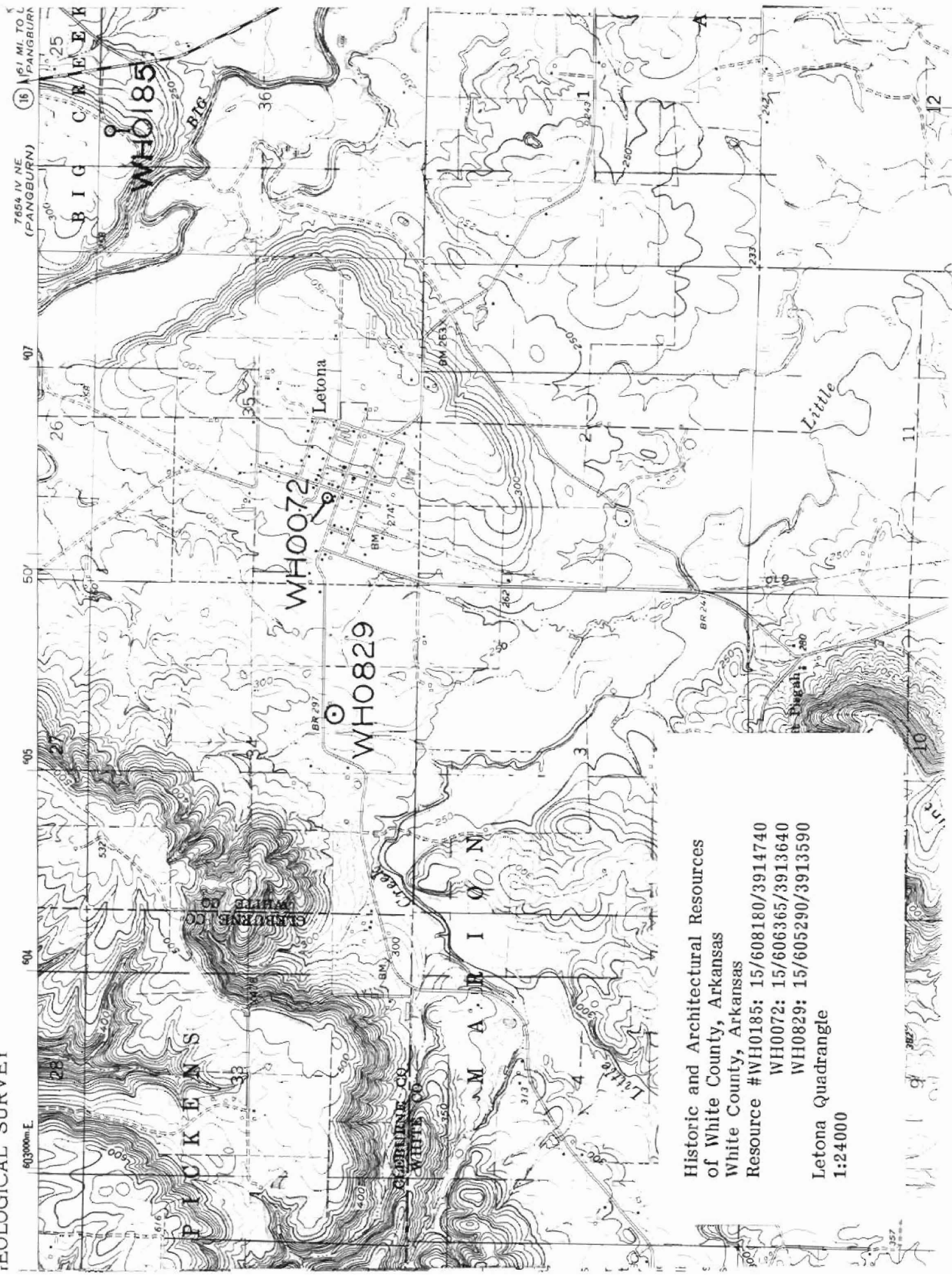








UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



Historic and Architectural Resources
of White County, Arkansas
White County, Arkansas
Resource #WH0185: 15/608180/3914740
WH0072: 15/606365/3913640
WH0829: 15/605290/3913590
Letona Quadrangle
1:24000