

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational 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 Holly Grove School  
other names/site number Resource #WH0192

## 2. Location

street & number County Road 379 ☐ not for publication N/A  
city, town Stevens Creek ☒ vicinity  
state Arkansas code AR county White code 145 zip code 72010

## 3. Classification

## Ownership of Property

☒ private  
☐ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

## Category of Property

☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

## 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

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.

Cheryl A. Boyd  
Signature of certifying official

5-13-90  
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)

EDUCATION/ School

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: WPA Craftsman Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls Stone/ Sandstone

roof asphalt

other brick

wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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**8. Statement of Significance**

=====

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Significance: Education  
Community Planning & Development  
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1939 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates: 1939 \_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person(s): N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation: N/A \_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder: Work Progress Administration \_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  
X See continuation sheet.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

X 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: \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property: Less than 1 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing      Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>625160</u>	<u>3915650</u>	B	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>
C	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	D	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>

     See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: X See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: X See continuation sheet.

## 11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Jill Bayles, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 14 December, 1989

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

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Description

Built as a National Youth Administration project in 1939, the Holly Grove School is located in the tiny community of Stevens Creek. Its field stone exterior and Craftsman-like features identify it as one of several government-funded institutional buildings in White County; however, it is the only such structure in Stevens Creek. Now functioning as a single family dwelling, it still remains intact, with the exterior unaltered and in good condition.

Many elements common to WPA, CCC and NYA structures adorn the former school's exterior. Its rectangular, one-story plan is centered on the front elevation by a one-bay, gable roofed, arched entry porch clad in brick. This porch roof is supported by brick columns on field stone bases, which continue on to ground level. The structure's low-pitched gable roof, covered in composition shingles, has a wide eave overhang that leaves its rafters exposed. These and other features in the building's details were borrowed from the earlier Craftsman and Prairie styles.

The screened, double front doors are topped with a multi-paned transom, and two sets of six-over-six double-hung sash windows flank either side of the porch along the front elevation. Running almost the length of the rear elevation is an entire row of six-over-six windows, separated only by an interior brick chimney and anchored on either end by two screened doors with concrete stoops. Each external corner of the building is highlighted by brick quoins, and stretcher bricks surround the door and window openings. The foundation is made of cast concrete, and a cellar extends partially underneath the length of the building.

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National Park Service**National Register of Historic Places  
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Significance

The Holly Grove School is significant architecturally as one of the county's better school building examples in the associated property type entitled Depression Era Religious and Institutional Buildings, and as one of the earliest field stone structures to incorporate brick quoining in its design. Its 1939 date makes it one of the latest eligible properties in the county; therefore, its period of significance is limited to that year. Its location in an extremely rural community with no other architecturally significant buildings adds to this property's significance, as does its setting in a large, grassy area surrounded by several trees. As discussed in the associated property type, its distinctive architecture that borrows Craftsman and Prairie style themes, along with its native stone exterior, characterizes this property as a government-funded structure whose style and construction methods influenced residential, commercial and religious designs for many years following the Depression era. Therefore, this property is locally significant under National Register Criterion C for embodying the form, method of construction and style that became popular during this period.

Historically, the school's very existence is associated with the federal relief programs that dominated the Depression era [see Historic Context 3: Boom and Bust: The War and Depression Years]. The small, one-room rural schools all over the state had been forced to close their doors by the early 1930's when severe flooding in 1927, a drought in 1930 and plummeting cotton prices after the stock market crash caused the farm economy to virtually collapse. With no money to meet operating costs or to pay teachers' salaries, the schools simply disbanded. Many parents moved to larger towns, not only in search of jobs, but also in search of an education for their children, a factor that led to acute overcrowding in city public schools. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA), established by Congress in 1933, was ready to come to the aid of the state's public schools, but had difficulty carrying out its objectives because Arkansas' governor and legislators were slow in providing matching funds. It wasn't until the end of the decade, with a less conservative governor who was willing to enforce federal requirements and with the aid of such federal welfare programs as the Works Progress and National Youth Administrations, that rural schools were finally given the funding and buildings they needed in order to operate.

For the smallest rural areas, like Stevens Creek, these federally-funded school buildings were a major source of pride. Not only did they provide the most modern educational and recreational facilities for their children, but they also served as common meeting places for the rest of the community. While the new school's architecture changed the look of the area, its very existence changed the way of life. For this reason, the Holly Grove School is also eligible for National Register listing under Criterion A with local significance.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Verbal Boundary Description:

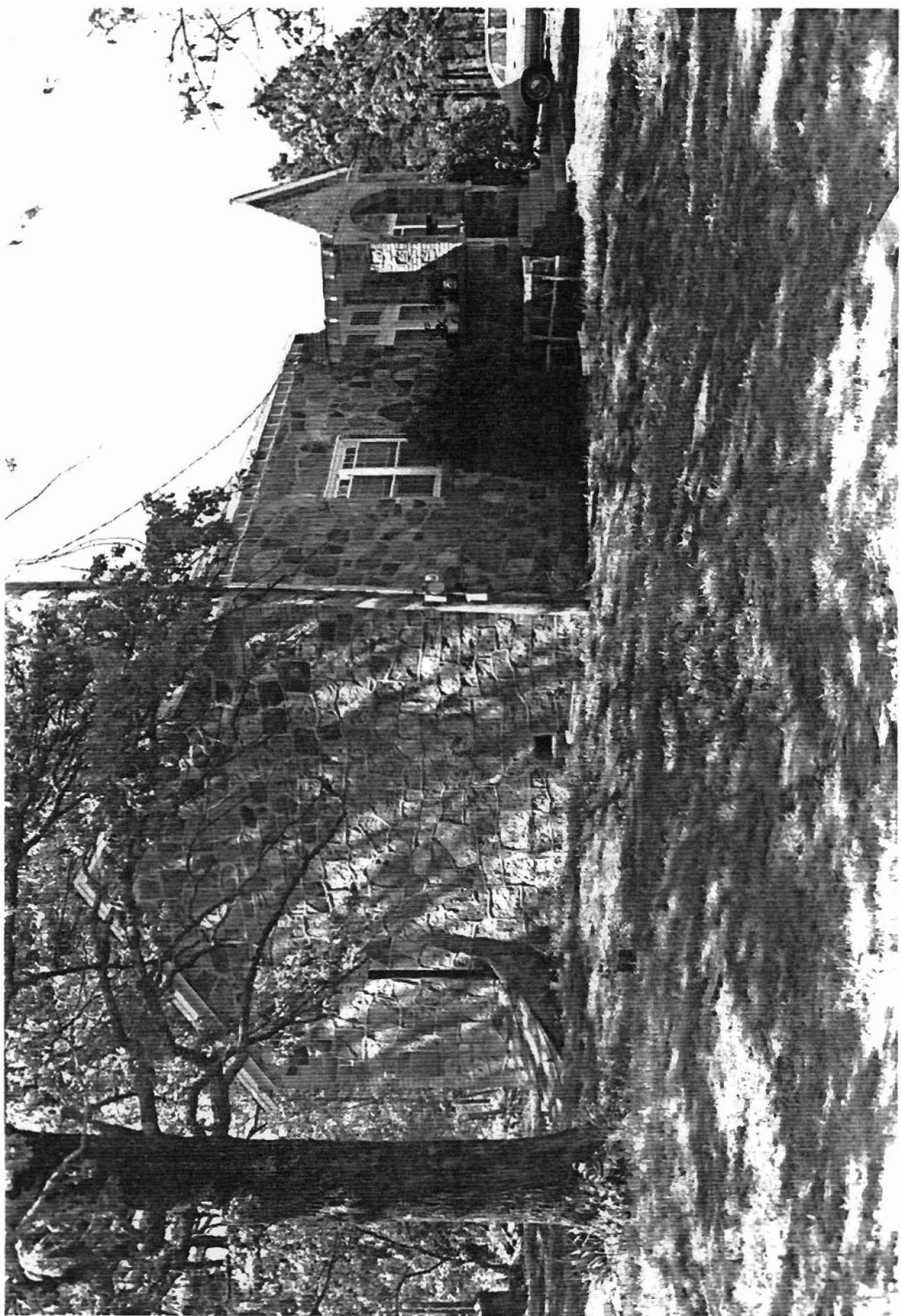
Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running along the western edge of County Road 379 with a perpendicular line running parallel to the northern elevation of the school building and located approximately 50 feet to the north thereof, proceed westerly along the latter line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the western elevation of the building; thence proceed southerly for a distance of approximately 200 feet along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the southern elevation of the building; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the western edge of the County Road 379; thence proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

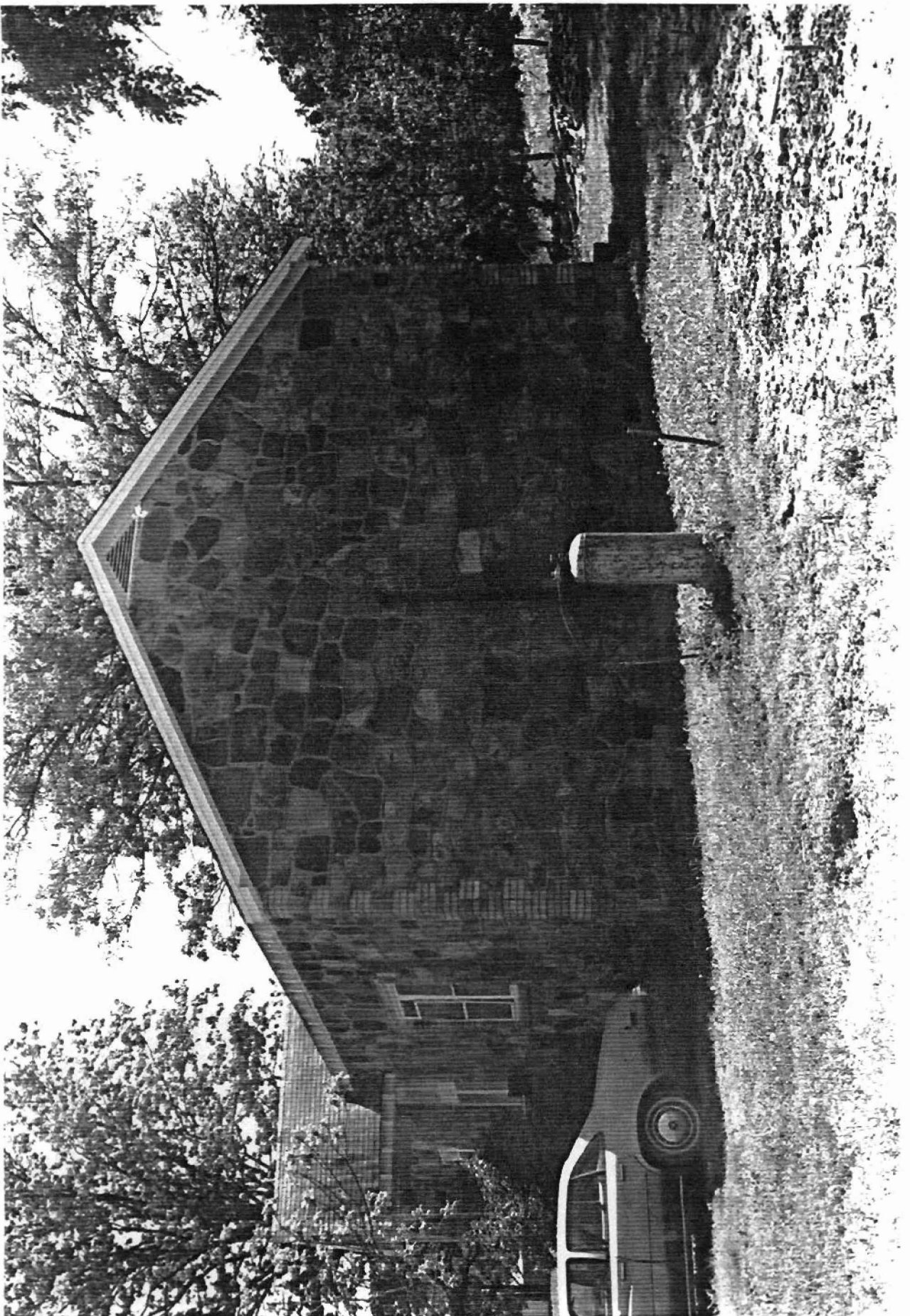
Boundary Justification:

The original lot has been subdivided during the non-historic period, resulting in an indefinite current lot boundary; therefore, this boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.





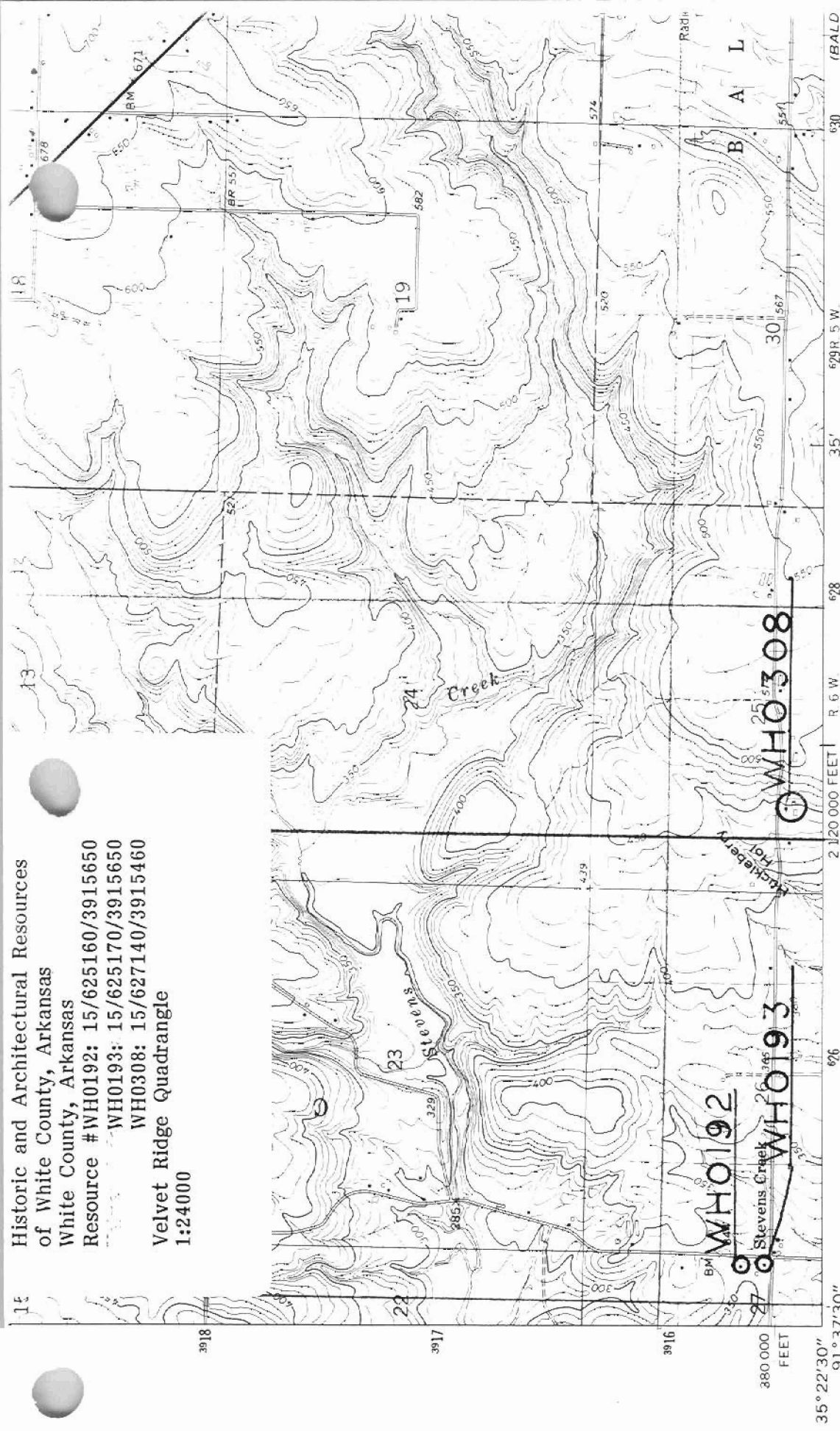








Historic and Architectural Resources  
 of White County, Arkansas  
 White County, Arkansas  
 Resource #WH0192: 15/625160/3915650  
 WH0193: 15/625170/3915650  
 WH0308: 15/627140/3915460  
 Velvet Ridge Quadrangle  
 1:24000



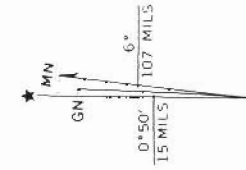
Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

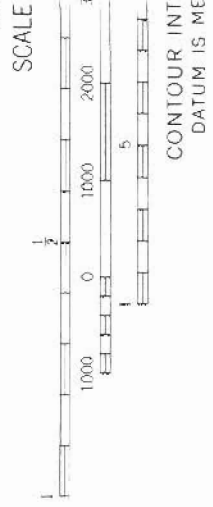
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
 photographs taken 1963. Field checked 1965

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 15, shown in blue

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
 generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1965 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL  
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER  
 AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL  
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS