

NRListed 7/20/92

# 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 18). 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 St. Richard's Catholic Church  
other names/site number Resource #WHO640

### 2. Location

street & number Hickory and Cleveland Streets  not for publication N/A  
city, town Bald Knob  vicinity N/A  
state Arkansas code AR county White code 145 zip code 72010

### 3. Classification

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

Catherine H. Borford  
Signature of certifying official  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  
Date 7-23-90

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)

RELIGION/ Religious Structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION/ Religious Structure

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: NPS Rustic Architecture

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation sandstone

walls sandstone

roof asphalt

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

Period of Significance

1939

Significant Dates

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.

See continuation sheet

**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              
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B              
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 18 December, 1989

street & number 225 E. Markham St., Suite 200 telephone 501-324-9346

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
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Description

St. Richards Catholic Church in Bald Knob is a single story, structural stone ecclesiastical structure designed in what became known as the Rustic or Park style. The gable roof completely covers the front gable plan with the exception of the gabled front porch or vestibule and the parallel, gable roof rear wing. The roof is covered with composition shingles, the walls are constructed of field stone, and a continuous stone foundation supports the structure throughout.

The eastern or front elevation features a central gable roof vestibule with fixed wood side windows and pair entrance doors. A rose window lights the peak of the gable end of the sanctuary above. The four wall buttresses on each side of the sanctuary slope outward toward the ground and lend the design an organic, indigenous aspect. The sanctuary is lighted on both the northern and southern elevations with three pairs of nine-pane casement windows, and the western elevation terminates with a gable roof vestry wing placed flush with the northern wall. The vestry is lighted with a pair of casement windows on both its northern and western sides and is punctuated with a door in its southern wall.

A stone cross atop the eastern gable end is the only other decoration.

St. Richards Catholic Church is intact and unaltered. It is in good condition.

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Significance

Criterion C, local significance

St. Richards Catholic Church (Part E, Historic Context #4) survives as the best example in Bald Knob of an ecclesiastical building designed with clear if not dominant influence from the Rustic or Park style so popular with the Public Works organizations of the Depression era. The curved, sloping buttresses, the random-cut stone and the enclosure of the entire composition under one roofline recalls many of the structures designed by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration throughout Arkansas and the southeastern United States in the 1930's.

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National Park Service

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Acreage of property: Less than one

UTM References:

A 15/629940/3908360

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the southern edge of Cleveland Street with the western edge of Hickory Street, proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 150 feet to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the southern elevation of the building; thence proceed westerly along said 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 church; thence proceed northerly for a distance of approximately 150 feet along said line to a point formed by its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the southern edge of Cleveland Street; thence proceed easterly for a distance of approximately 200 feet along said line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

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







