

LISTED 09/05/91

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 Bank of Searcy
other names/site number Resource #WH2014

2. Location

street & number 301 North Spruce not for publication N/A
city, town Searcy vicinity N/A
state Arkansas code AR county White code 145 zip code 72143

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> </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>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.

Cathryn A. Byrnes 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)
COMMERCIAL/ Bank

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
COMMERCIAL/ Office

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Commercial Vernacular

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete

walls brick

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

c. 1905

Significant Dates

c. 1905

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

B

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

C

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

D

Zone	Easting	Northing
------	---------	----------

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description _____

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification _____

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joe De Rose, Survey Coordinator
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 16 April, 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

Commercial buildings of the Railroad Era (1870-1914) mirrored current architectural trends. Builders during this period in White County did not construct many high-style buildings; they instead used architectural details from these styles to elaborate their basically vernacular buildings. The Bank of Searcy is no exception to this.

Located on the northwest corner of N. Spruce and W. Arch Streets, this building was constructed on the courthouse square in Searcy. The building is two-stories in height, rectangular in shape and of brick construction. The building was constructed c. 1905 and is good condition. Its main, or east elevation is dominated by two Doric columns that flank the storefront. The original ground floor of this elevation has been completely altered; none of the original fabric remains. The second floor of the east elevation, however, still retains the original one-over-one double-hung wood sash ribbon windows. A corbelled brick segmented arch caps these windows. Extending across the main elevation and continuing on to the first bay of the south elevation is a dentiled cornice. A similar cornice is found on the west elevation of the structure. This building has a flat roof with parapet. The first bays of both the east and west elevations of the building are fenestrated with one-over-one double-hung sash windows. A similar window is found on the first floor of the west elevation while a single centrally placed door accesses the ground floor of the east elevation. Fenestration found on the south elevation of the structure consists of symmetrically placed one-over-one double-hung sash segmented arch windows. A single symmetrically placed door accesses this elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
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Section number 8 Page 1

Significance

The Bank of Searcy first came into being on June 15, 1904, when William Watkins opened the doors of the new bank. It was originally called the Bank of Searcy. At first it was only open for business on alternate days and had a capital structure of \$15,000. By October of the same year the bank began to be open on a daily basis. Shortly thereafter a large fire destroyed all of the buildings on the west side of the court square. The Searcy Bank was forced to move temporarily across the street while the present building was constructed. In 1906, the name was changed to The Bank of Searcy and this is probably when the current building was constructed. The name was changed back to the Searcy Bank in 1943 and on July 1, 1967 the National Banking association accepted it into its organization and changed the name to the First National Bank.

Although this building no longer functions as a bank it is significant for the level of architectural integrity it still retains from this period. It is the best extant example of Classical Revival architecture in Searcy. For this reason it is being nominated 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:

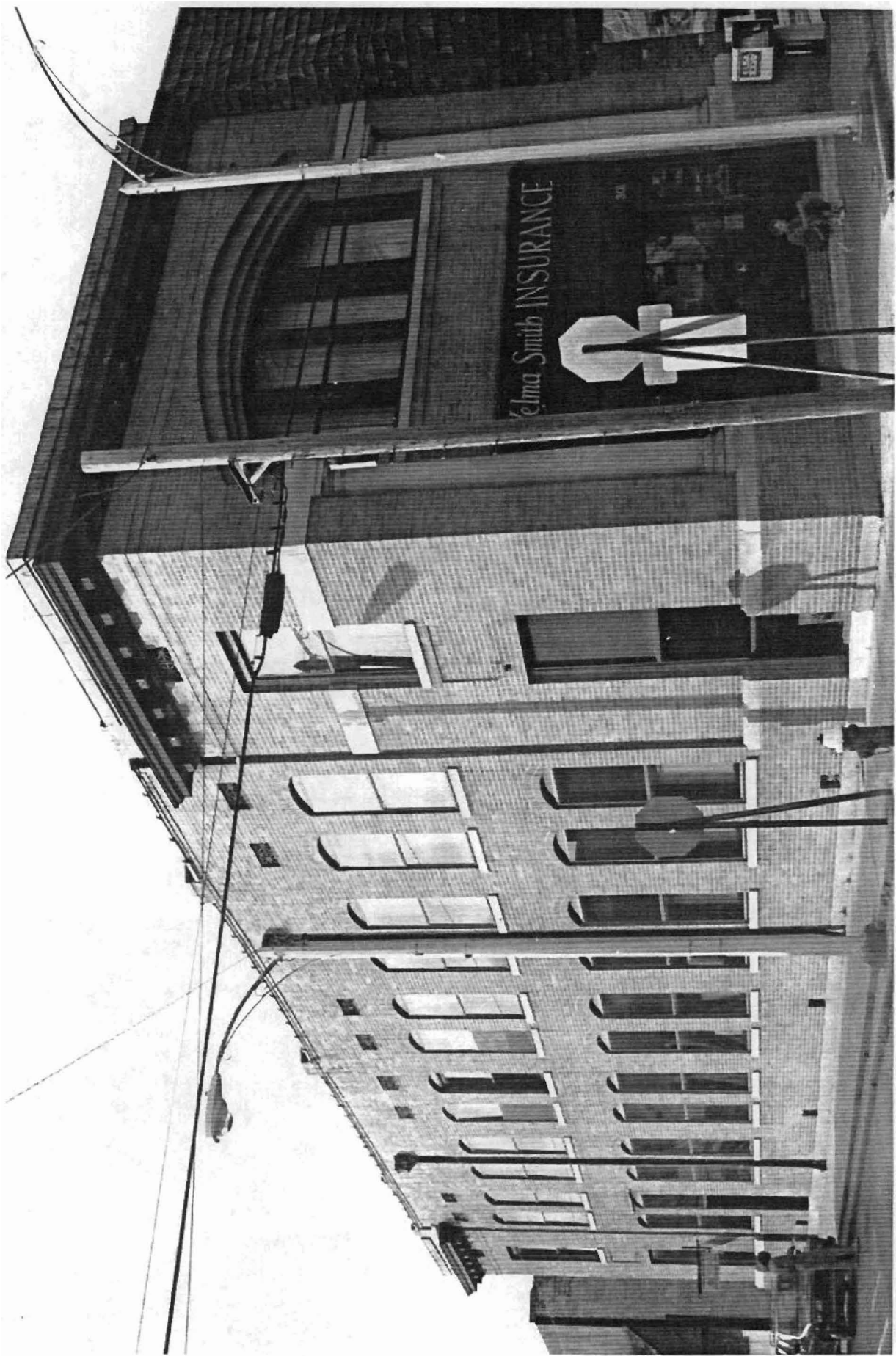
A 15/614750/3901320

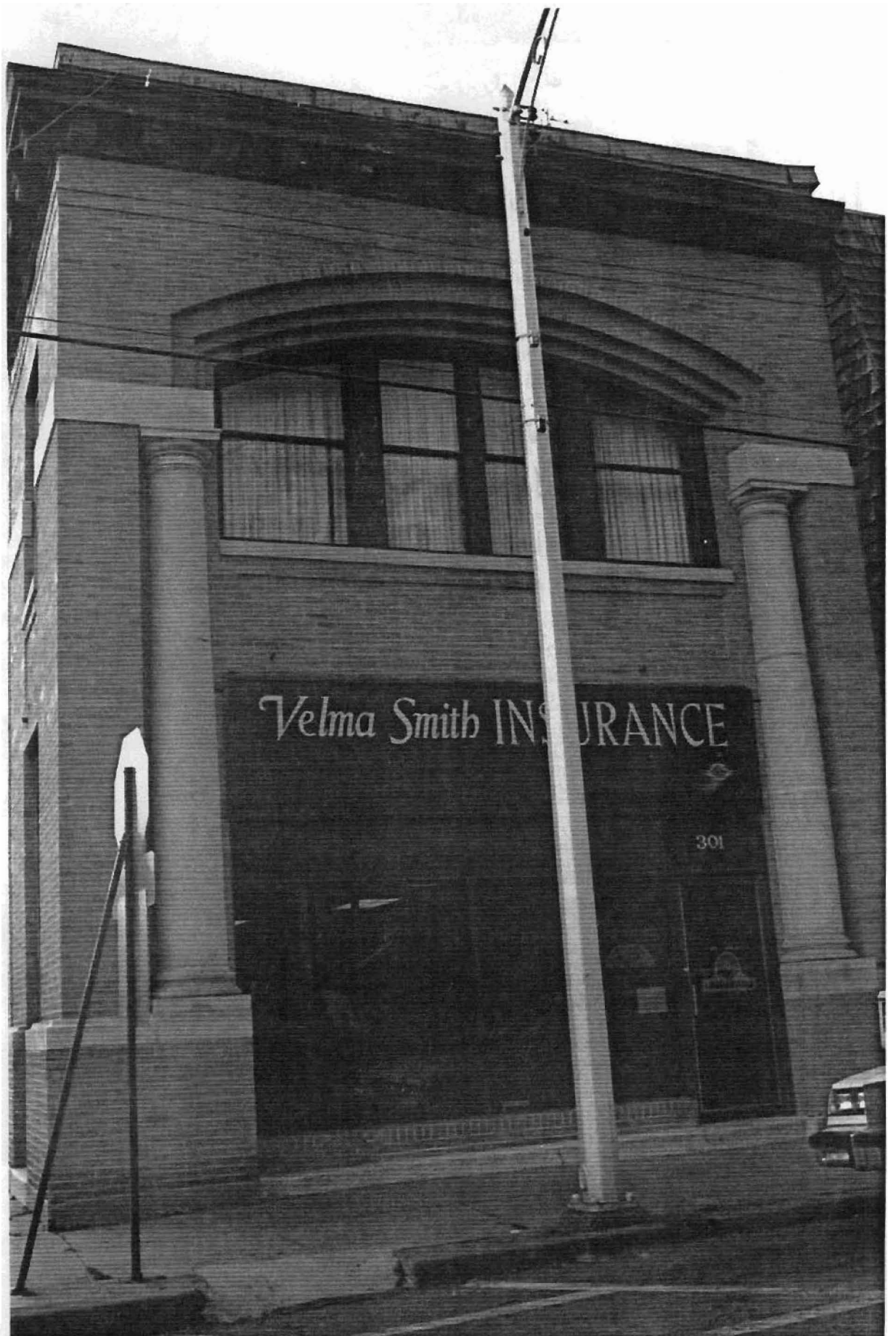
Verbal Boundary Description:

The southern half of Lot 11, Ten Acre Donation to the Town of Searcy.

Boundary Justification:

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

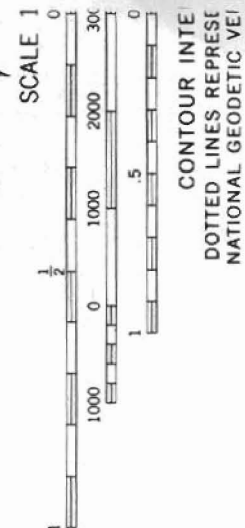
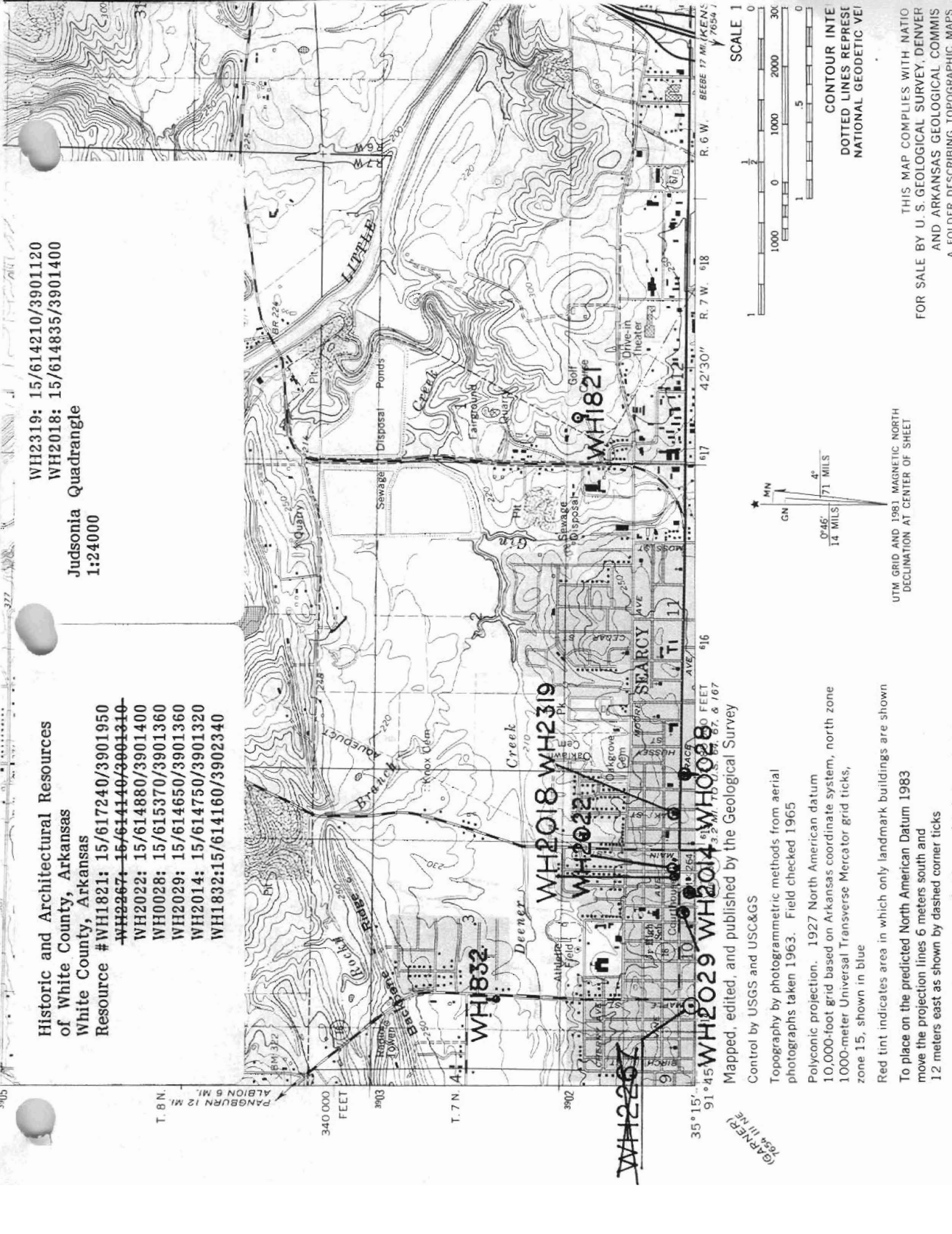






Historic and Architectural Resources
of White County, Arkansas
White County, Arkansas
Resource #WH1821: 15/617240/3901950
~~WH2267-15/614140/3901310-~~
WH2022: 15/614880/3901400
WH0028: 15/615370/3901360
WH2029: 15/614650/3901360
WH2014: 15/614750/3901320
WH1832: 15/614160/3902340

WH2319: 15/614210/3901120
WH2018: 15/614835/3901400
Judsonia Quadrangle
1:24000



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FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMIS
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS

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
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 6 meters south and
1.2 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

UTM GRID AND 1981 MAGNETIC NORTH
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET