

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR LISTED

JUN 03 1998

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: First Presbyterian Church-Berry House

Other Name/Site Number: YE0067

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 203 Pecan Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Dardanelle

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Yell

Code: AR149

Zip Code: 72834

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: private

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

First Presbyterian Church Berry House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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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. _____ See continuation sheet.

William A. Sater
Signature of certifying official

4-20-98
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification
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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 Keeper Date of Action

First Presbyterian Church Berry House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: RELIGION Sub: religious facility
DOMESTIC single dwelling
Current : DOMESTIC Sub: single dwelling

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

PLAIN TRADITIONAL
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: foundation BRICK roof ASPHALT
walls BRICK other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Constructed in 1872, the First Presbyterian Church-Berry House is a single-story brick building which rests upon a continuous brick foundation and is covered by a steeply pitched, composition shingle roof. Changes made to the building during the c. 1912 remodeling of the church into a private residence include: the removal of the steeple and the bell tower, lowering the ceilings, and adding a large, gabled front porch on the north elevation to give the building the appearance of a house. More recent changes to the structure include additions to the rear of the building to provide more room including a covered carport. Also within the last six years, the exterior red brick has been painted red. There are no outbuildings associated with this building. Located on 203 Pecan Street in Dardanelle, the building is good condition.

Elaboration

The First Presbyterian Church-Berry House is a one-story frame building with a brick veneer designed in the Plain-Traditional style in 1872 with a Craftsman style porch which dates to its c. 1912 remodeling into a private

residence. The most unusual feature of the building is its doors which unlike most Traditional styled churches are not found under the gable end of the building, but instead puncture the side walls directly across from each other. While all of the openings in the oldest portion of the building have segmental arches above them, only the windows on gable ends are truly designed to fit the arch. All remaining original windows and doors have a wooden sill at the top to fill the arched space. The fenestration of the additions is eclectic. Two interior chimneys are located at either end of the original building along the ridge of the side-gabled roof. The two additions to the rear of the structure are sheathed in weatherboard siding.

The most distinctive features of the front, or northern, elevation are its symmetrical arrangement and large one-story Craftsman porch supported by two paired square columns across the front and two pilasters on the sides. The large overhanging gable end of the porch is adorned with brackets, decorative half timbering, and a Palladian-styled arch window between two rectangular wood-louvered vents. Two double-hung, one-over-one wooden windows flank the entry. The single leaf entry is notable for its original hardware and its large single light.

The side, or western, elevation is fenestrated by two arched six-over-six windows. An addition was made to the southwestern corner of this side. According to the present owner, an ell porch dating from the 1912 remodeling was enclosed at a later unknown date with weatherboard to make room for a bedroom and kitchen. Fenestrating this side of the addition are three, one-over-one wood windows.

The rear, or southern, elevation is the most altered of all the elevations. At the end of the bedroom and kitchen addition is a small wooden deck with a vernacular balustrade. A nine-light wooden door opens out on this deck. Beside the deck at ground level is a modern door cut into the wall of the carport. This door would open out except for the large pecan tree directly in front of it. Under the carport is a twenty-light wooden awning window, a modern ten-panel door opening out onto a vernacular landing a four wooden stairs, and another twenty-light wooden awning window. Next is a ribbon of five, one-over-one windows. The gable ends of the carport and addition have weatherboard siding, but are devoid of the Craftsman style eaves. Underneath these additions the original windows have been infilled, but the original arched doorway has been left intact and contains an original two-light door.

The eastern, or other side, elevation contains an addition which was at one time a screened-in porch. This weatherboard addition is fenestrated by a ribbon of four, one-over-one windows. The main body of the building is fenestrated by two six-over-six segmented arch windows. According to the owner this is the elevation where the bell tower and steeple were located.

At the time of the c. 1912 remodeling partitions were added inside to create more rooms and closets. The ceiling was lowered from fourteen feet to eleven feet. In the attic evidence of the original plaster ceiling, and hand-stenciled garlands can still be seen. Around the same time a large room was added on the southeastern corner and a L-shaped porch across the back was built. Later this L-shaped porch was enclosed to make three additional rooms. In recent years a new roof was built over all additions on the rear of the building extending the roof line to include a covered carport.

The interior of the building dates largely to the 1912 renovation. Significant features include pine floors and plaster walls in the two front rooms, original hardware, and c. 1912 beaded board on the eleven-foot ceiling. In the attic space three feet above this dropped ceiling are the remnants of the lath board used when the ceiling was fully plastered. Also of note are the remains of historic stenciled garland patterns which festooned the interior of the church at the original ceiling level.

There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

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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

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1872-1912

Significant Dates: 1872, 1912

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

First Presbyterian Church Berry House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

Architect/Builder: N/A

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

Summary

Constructed in 1872 and renovated in 1912, the First Presbyterian Church-Berry House is being nominated under Criterion C to the National Register as a good example of the evolution of a Plain-Traditional style building into a private residence with a Craftsman-styled porch. The building was a place of worship for forty years, and has been a residence since 1912 with the exception of a brief period in the 1970's when it served as the Dardanelle Art Center.

Elaboration

The period in which the building was constructed, coincides with the the greatest rate of growth in the population of Dardanelle. From 1868 to 1876, the population of this river town grew from two hundred-and-fifty people to two thousand people. It was built during Reconstruction to replace the Presbyterian Church's first building which had been destroyed during the Civil War. The First Presbyterian Church was the first brick church in Dardanelle. The red bricks used in its construction were donated by a river boat captain, Joseph Evins. The bricks were salvaged from an older home Captain Evins owned and were made by slave labor. He also donated Lots 20 and 22 in Block 23 which became the site of the First Presbyterian Church of Dardanelle. Colonel Joshua Toomer was the contractor for the church. The building committee was made up of J. S. Wilbanks (the first minister to serve in the new building), W. B. Morrow, and H. P. Barry. Colonel Robert Cunningham contributed the doors, windows and window frames for the building.

Since the church was limited in funds and membership, the building committee took the advice of Dr. T. R. Welch of Little Rock and built a lecture room first. Although the congregation grew, the main portion of the building was never added. Instead the congregation decided to build a new church building. Building funds for the new structure were collected by the women of the First Presbyterian church starting with the \$600 dollars for which the building was sold. Two years after they moved out of the "Little Red Brick Church," and the First Presbyterian Church moved into its present building at South Second and Quay Streets.

Robert Berry, the first residential owner of the building is credited with the majority of renovations to the building. These renovations include

the large, gabled front porch added on the north side of the building facing Pecan Street, giving it the appearance of a home. Berry also added partitions inside to create more rooms and closets, and he added wallpaper.

In the 1970s Mrs. Delane Dodson used the home as the Dardanelle Art Center and gave private art lessons in it. It is now owned by Gaylon W. Lamb.

Located at 203 Pecan Street, the First Presbyterian Church-Berry House is being nominated under Criterion C to the National Register as a good example of the transition of a 1872 Plain-Traditional style building into a c. 1912 private residence with a Craftsman-styled porch. Both the original 1872 building, with its segmented arch windows and stenciled patterned walls, and the 1912 renovation, with its decorative knee brackets and half-timbering reflect high building standards. The Presbyterian Church-Berry House contains not only key elements of the 1872 church building such as the segmented arch windows, but also key elements of its Craftsman era. As such this building represents an important link to Dardanelle's past.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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Information provided by Gaylon W. Lamb, October 1997.

Banks, Wayne. *History of Yell County*. Van Buren, Arkansas, 1959. P 243-47.

The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Western Arkansas.
Chicago, Nashville and St. Louis: The Goodspeed Publishing Company,
1890. P 171.

Dardanelle Post-Dispatch, June 1914.

Dardanelle Post-Dispatch, June 1979.

Dardanelle Post Dispatch, July 1986.

First Presbyterian Church Berry House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

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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Acreege of Property: approximately one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 15 485980 3896980 B _____
C _____ D _____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lots 20 and 22 in Block 23 in Town of Dardanelle, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary contains all remaining historically significant structures associated with this property.

First Presbyterian Church Berry House
Name of Property

Yell County, Arkansas
County and State

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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Amy Bennett

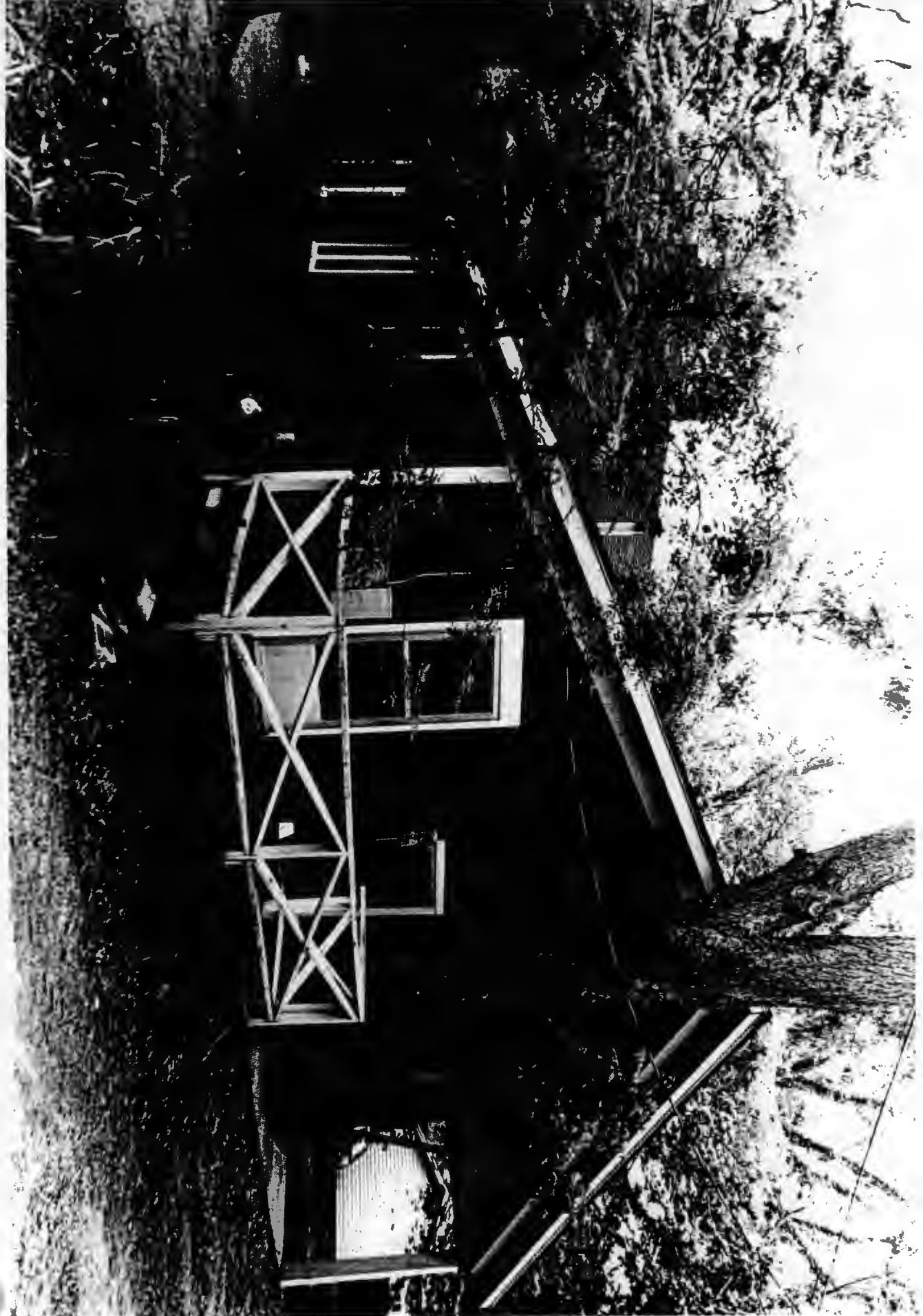
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: April 14, 1998

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

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201









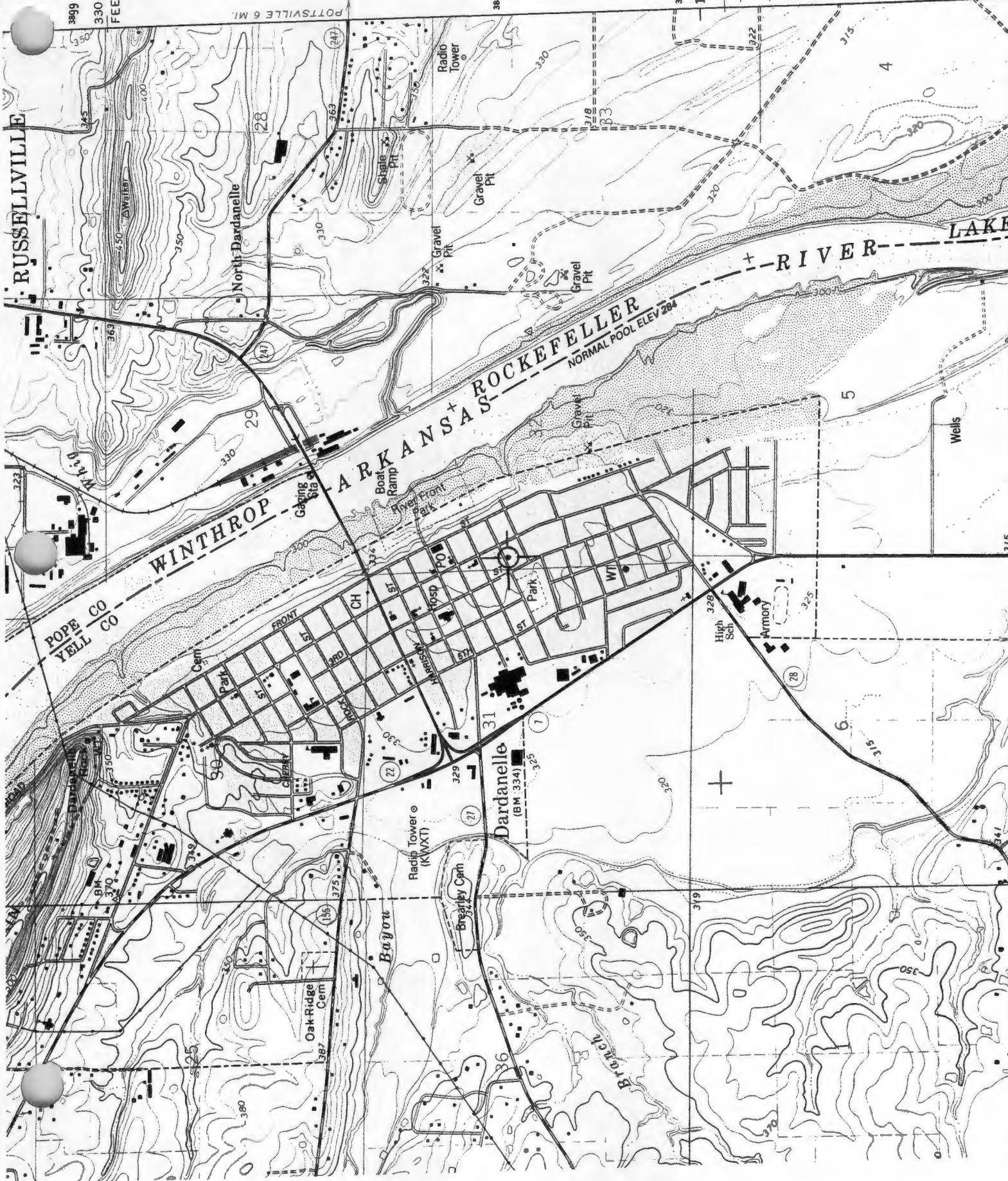




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FEET

First Presbyterian Church - Berry
Yell County, Ark.
UTM Reference
151485980/3899



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12'30"
T. 7 N.
T. 6 N.

3895

POTTSVILLE 6 MI.

POPE CO
YELL CO

WINTHROP

ARKANSAS ROCKEFELLER
NORMAL POOL ELEV 284

Dardanelle
(BM 3341)

Oak Ridge Cem
387

Radio Tower
(KWXI)

High Sch

Armory

Wells

315

360