

58-2-R145-61

NR 6-22-70

Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

Arkansas COUNTY: Pope FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

1. NAME

COMMON: Potts' Inn AND/OR HISTORIC: Potts' House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Main and Center Streets CITY OR TOWN: Pottsville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 03 COUNTY: Pope CODE: 115

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY: Building [X] Ownership: Private [X] Status: Unoccupied [X] Accessible: Unrestricted [X]

PRESENT USE: Private Residence [X] Other (Specify):

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: Miss Mary Potts Pope County STREET AND NUMBER: Oak and Center Streets Pope County Courthouse CITY OR TOWN: Pottsville Russellville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 03

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Pope County Courthouse STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: Russellville STATE: Arkansas CODE: 03

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Buildings of Arkansas, A. Edwin Kendrew, James R. Short, Henry A. Judd, John L. Ferguson DATE OF SURVEY: October, 1968 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Arkansas History Commission STREET AND NUMBER: 300 West Markham CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 03

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>	Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The following is extracted from the report Historic Buildings of Arkansas, by A. Edwin Kendrew, James R. Short, Henry A. Judd and John L. Ferguson. This report resulted from a tour, made by the men listed above, to visit historic sites and structures in Arkansas, in October of 1968. The tour was made at the request of Governor Winthrop Rockefeller.

POTTS INN

"We were much impressed and pleased to see such a fine example of mid-nineteenth-century construction on an imposing site and in such a fine state of preservation. The fact that the descendants of the original builder have continued to live in the house to the present time has resulted in better care than usually befalls such a structure.

An inspection of the exterior of the main house made it obvious that this structure was a close counterpart of similar structures built in the 1820's and 1830's in the Piedmont Valley of Virginia and Kentucky. This close similarity made it obvious that Mr. Potts wished to have a house equal to the finer houses being built in the years preceding its construction.

Perhaps the most outstanding features are the four enormous outside chimneys, three of which were of brick construction and one of local stone. The last was extremely well built and presented a handsome appearance, although it was rather puzzling why one chimney would have been made of stone and the others of brick. It was interesting to note also that the stone chimney had a method of construction quite similar to that used largely in the northern part of Arkansas. It seemed to the committee that this chimney could serve as an example of the type of masonry construction prevalent in this area and that it might serve as a good prototype when repairing or constructing chimneys of this kind elsewhere.

We were told that formerly there were numerous outbuildings on the lot, including stables, coach-houses, lumber houses, corn cribs, milk houses, cooling houses, etc. Only two of these remain: a small log structure which might have been a corn crib and appeared to have been built with materials salvaged from other buildings; the well, under a canopy, had a very interesting windlass arrangement for raising the bucket, which might have dated back to the original period, although parts of the structure beside and over the well apparently had been rebuilt in later years.

The breezeway to the outside kitchen is also of later construction, but could be removed. Although the old kitchen has suffered more alterations than other parts of the house, most of the original elements seem to be there.

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Pope	
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(Number all entries)

7. DESCRIPTION, CONT'D

Inspection of the interior revealed the house to be of unusually large proportions, and the four-square plan, with rooms approximately twenty feet square, separated by a generous-sized hallway and stairway, indicated a desire on the part of the original builder to not only provide ample space for his family but to erect a structure that would be a credit to his community and would reflect the success which he apparently met with in the gold fields of California. We were also pleased to see that almost all of the original features of the house were intact and that there had been very little alteration in the general size of the rooms. Furthermore, the installation of gas for heat, and electric wiring, had been made in an exposed manner which did not destroy any of the original construction--as is so often the case. These installations, and the few alterations which had been made, could easily be removed, so that the original condition of the house could be easily restored."

9. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social-Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Paragraphs, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The Potts' Home is one of the best preserved ante-bellum structures in Arkansas. This fine example of pioneer architecture has stood for over a hundred years as a tribute to its builder, Kirkbride Potts.

Kirkbride Potts was born and educated in Pennsylvania. He went to Missouri as a youth. He lived there for a few years and then came to Arkansas in 1828. He bought 160 acres of land from the United States as soon as this land in the Arkansas Territory was open for settlement. This was made possible by a treaty with the Cherokees in 1828. The land on which the present house now stands has been in the Potts family for 151 years. A Potts has always lived in the home.

When Potts came to Arkansas he built a two-story log house for his bride, Permelia Allison Logan, on the 160 acres on Galla Creek at the foot of Crow Mountain.

Here he prospered and eleven children were born. He made three trips to California. The first in the Gold Rush, the later trips with herds of cattle. All trips seemed profitable and he decided after his first trip to build a more fitting home for his large family. Slaves cut timber and hauled it with oxen to Cagle's Mill, north of what is now Russellville, to be cut into timber. Slaves also made brick for the masonry and did most of the work of building. It required six years from the time the timber was cut until the building was completed. All lumber was dressed by hand and marks of the plane bits are still in evidence.

The Potts' House was on the Lewis to Fort Smith stage route and soon became one of the stops where the passengers could rest and be fed. This led to the building being called Potts' Inn, and the stop Pott's Station. A postoffice was established here with Kirkbride Potts as the postmaster. The first postoffice designation was Potts' Station, but this was later changed to Pottsville.

In 1873 the stagecoach was replaced by a train whose tracks ran to the north of the old stagecoach route. In 1878 Kirkbride Potts died in the house which had been his pride.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

American Guide Series, Arkansas, a Guide to the State, New York: Hastings House, 1941.

Arkansas History Commission, Thibault, Irene S., "Architecture: Pope County, Arkansas," MS, Federal Writers Project, 1939.

Turrentine, G.R., "Potts Station on Galla Creek," Arkansas Valley Historical Papers, Vol. IX, #13.

(See continuation Sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		35 °	14 ' 54 "	93 ° 02' 42 "
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jack E. Porter, Administrator, Historic Preservation Program

ORGANIZATION: Arkansas Planning Commission DATE: 1/11/70

STREET AND NUMBER: Game and Fish Building

CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas CODE: 03

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Pope	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Potts' Inn			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Potts' House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Main and Center Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Pottsville			
STATE: Arkansas	CODE 03	COUNTY: Pope	CODE 115
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Arkansas Highway Department "Pope County"			
SCALE: 1:125,000			
DATE: 1958			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Property boundaries where required.</li> <li>North arrow.</li> <li>Latitude and longitude reference.</li> </ol>			

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE Arkansas	
COUNTY Pope	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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1. NAME			
COMMON: Potts' Inn			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Potts' House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: Main and Center Streets			
CITY OR TOWN: Pottsville			
STATE: Arkansas	CODE 03	COUNTY: Pope	CODE 115
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Pope County Historic Preservation Foundation			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Pope County Historic Preservation Foundation			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. View of Southside of structure.			



ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION  
POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS (1958)  
Scale 1:125,000

