

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic / Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic / Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/
Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____ brick _____
walls _____ weatherboard _____
roof _____ asphalt shingle _____
other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Description

The Wilburn House is a single story, wood frame Greek Revival residence decorated with ornate Italianate cornice brackets. In its present configuration it displays an irregular plan, composed of a gable roof principal component with a rear or southern gable roof ell projecting from its eastern end and a gable roof wing which is set back from the northern or front elevation and which projects to the west. A gable roof ell addition projects to the south from the rear of the western wing, forming another partial ell on the back of the main house, and thus creates a corner on the back of the house in which has been built another adjoining gable roof addition. Two exterior end brick chimneys survive on the gable ends of the main house and another exterior end brick chimney finishes the end of the western gable wing. The entire roof is covered in composition shingle, the exterior is sheathed in weatherboard, and the continuous foundation is constructed of brick.

The northern or front elevation of the main portion of the house is five bays in length, with a central pedimented portico flanked by four four-over-four double-hung wood sash windows. The windows are decorated with elegant, molded decorative crowns designed in a drip molding pattern. The portico features a broad frieze both below the pediment and within the pediment, and both are ornamented with elaborate Italianate brackets. The tympanum of the pediment is finished with flush planks as is the house wall beneath the pediment. The portico box columns are decorated with elegantly molded capitals and simpler bases, and are spaced so that slightly more room is allowed for access to the entrance. The entrance is a single panelled door surrounded by two-pane half-sidelights and a seven-pane transom. A decorative drip molding identical to that around the windows adorns the entrance also. Attached pilasters of the same decorative configuration as the columns complete the entry.

The western wing is but two bays in length and relieved by a single door entrance and two-pane transom to the east, and a fixed six-pane wood window to the west. The same decorative scheme as seen on the main portion of the house is continued on this wing, including the drip moldings around the window and door and the cornice brackets beneath and behind the hipped roof porch. The columns are of the simpler, unornamented box variety.

The western elevation of the house is relieved only by a single window to the south of the chimney, beneath the porch on the front of the western wing, and a four-over-four double-hung wood sash window toward the southern end of the wing addition. The eastern elevation features a single six-over-six double-hung wood sash window to the south of the chimney and three grouped one-over-one wood awning windows in the center of the ell wall.

The southern elevation is composed of the projecting rear gable ell to the west, the adjoining gabled addition to the east, a short portion of the rear of the main building, and the gable end of the eastern ell. The western gable end is fenestrated with a pair of central four-over-four double-hung wood sash windows. The adjoining gable addition features two one-over-one double-hung wood sash windows. The rear portion of the main house is lighted with a pair of recent one-over-one wood awning windows, and the eastern gable features a new single-pane entrance door to the west (covered by a simple shed porch roof) and a one-over-one wood awning window to the east.

The interior retains much of its original decorative wood moldings and detail, as most of the alterations have been additive. Several improvement campaigns of uncertain date have resulted in

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

additions to the house; however, virtually all of these are on the rear of the structure, the only exception being the porch on the front of the western wing. None of the additions are of the size or scale to be aesthetically intrusive.

The Wilburn house is in very good condition.

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. 1875

Significant Dates

c. 1875

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.

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 *Map 19*

Acreage of property _____

UTM References

A

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

Zone Easting Northing

B

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

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

Zone Easting Northing

C

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

D

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

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 3 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 8 Page 1

Significance

Criterion C, local significance

Though little history survives regarding either the original owners or builder, the local folklore recalls that this building originally sat on a plot of land which covered the entire block and was built by a Captain Wilburn. Goodspeed records a Lieutenant Winborn who emigrated from Alabama and fought on the side of the Confederacy before returning to White County to practice medicine, but it is not certain that he returned to Searcy.

The Wilburn House (Part E, Historic Context #3) remains the best post-Civil War residential example in Searcy of the Greek Revival which in Arkansas remained popular for new construction through the 1870's, prior to the arrival of the railroad and the new architectural fashions it brought from outside the state.

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 15/615540/3901360

Verbal Boundary Description:

The western 107.54 feet of the northern 175 feet of Block 9, Watkins and Quarrles Addition to the Town of Searcy.

Boundary Justification:

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

AUG 1 1991

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

545

White County MPS
ARKANSAS

Date Listed

91001246 ✓	Smith--Moore House	7/20/92
91001336 ✓	Smyrna Methodist Church	7/20/92
91001243	Snipes, Dr. Emmett, House	9-5-91
91001274 ✓	St. Richard's Catholic Church	7/20/92
91001250	Staggs--Huffaker Building	9-5-91
91001248	Stipe Cotton Gin	7/20/92
	Substantive Review	
91001295 ✓	Storm Cellar, William Howell House	7/20/92
91001326 ✓	Thomas House	7/23/92
91001341 ✓	Thompson House	7/23/92
91001362 ✓	Thrasher, John, Homestead	7/23/92
91001240	Titus House	9-5-91
91001199 ✓	Trinity Episcopal Church	7/27/92
91001233	Van Meter, R. L., House	9-5-91
91001351	Walker Homestead Historic District	7/20/92
	Substantive Review	
91001354 ✓	Walker, Otha, Homestead	7/23/92
91001313	Ward--Stout House	9-5-91
91001182	Watkins House	9-5-91
91001183	Watkins, Tom, House	9-5-91
91001308 ✓	Watson, William Henry, Homestead	7/20/92
91001272	Weber House	9-5-91
91001260 ✓	Westbrooke, Lopsy, House	7/23/92
91001297 ✓	Whisinant, Albert, House	7/23/92
91001177	Wilburn House	9-5-91
91001353 ✓	Williams House	7/23/92
91001321 ✓	Williams, Arthur, Homestead, Feed Storage Shed	7/23/92
91001211	Woodson, Arthur W., House	9-5-91
91001212	Woodson, Dalton, House	9-5-91
91001291	Wright, Avanell, House	9-5-91
91001284	Wright, Jim, Farmstead Historic District	9-5-91

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Wilburn House

MULTIPLE NAME: White County MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, White

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/91
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/91 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/15/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: w 91001177

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 9/5/91 DATE **Entered in the National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



WILBURN HOUSE White
SEARCY, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. BAYLES
NOVEMBER, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP
FRONT PORTICO DETAIL



WILBURN HOUSE whiteca
SEARCY, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. BAYLES
NOVEMBER, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM SOUTH



THE WILBURN HOUSE white w
SEARCY, ARKANSAS.
PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. BAYLES
NOVEMBER, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW FROM NORTHWEST

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500033