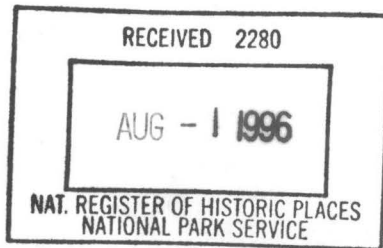


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

Historic Name: Russellville Downtown Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: N/A

=====

2. Location

=====

Street & Number: Area roughly bounded by W. 2nd St., Arkansas Ave.,
Missouri-Pacific Railroad tracks and El Paso St.

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Russellville

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Pope

Code: AR 115

Zip Code: 72801

=====

3. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>32</u>	<u>26</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>32</u>	<u>26</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 2

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
=====

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.

Cathryn J. Slater _____ 7-3-96
Signature of certifying official 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 _____ Paul R. Furgin 9/3/96
_____ 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

Name of Property

County and State

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic: COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: Specialty store

Current : COMMERCE/TRADE Sub: Specialty store

=====
7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Early 20th Century Commercial

Materials: foundation Brick roof Asphalt
walls Brick other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Boundaries

Boundaries of the Russellville Historic District are based on information contained in a comprehensive survey of all buildings in the downtown commercial district of Russellville. The district roughly includes an area bounded by Arkansas Avenue (Highway 7) on the east, El Paso on the west, W. Second Street on the south, and the railroad tracks on the north. Included in the district are the streets which comprised Russellville's historic business center: West Main, North Commerce, Denver, West 2nd, West "B" and West "C".

Summary

The Russellville Downtown Historic District is located in the historic center of Russellville, Arkansas. The majority of the sixty buildings which comprise the district are concentrated along West Main and North Commerce Streets and are primarily of brick masonry construction, featuring the parapet detail variations common to early twentieth century commercial

architecture.

Included in the Russellville Downtown Historic District are sixty buildings, of which 34 (57%) are contributing historic buildings, 24 are non-contributing historic buildings and 2 are less than fifty years old. Forty-one (68%) of the buildings in the district were constructed before 1920 and another ten by 1930. Five buildings in district were built in the 1930s, three in the mid 1940s, and one in 1958. Included are two buildings previously listed on the National Register: the Missouri-Pacific Railroad Depot (NR 6-11-92) and the Riggs Hamilton American Legion Hall (NR 8-15-94).

Elaboration

Located in the roughly eight block area comprising the Russellville Downtown Historic District are a total of sixty buildings, including one church, one railroad depot, one American Legion building and a county courthouse.

The city of Russellville in Pope County is located in the mid-Arkansas River Valley of the northwest central section of Arkansas. The city lies between the Arkansas River and Interstate 40. To the west is Lake Dardanelle, created as a result of a U.S. Corps of Engineers lock and dam system on the Arkansas River. Russellville is located at the southern edge of the Ozark Mountains and on the northern edge of the Ouachita National Forest. This setting provided an ideal settlement area, particularly as a major transportation route between Little Rock and Fort Smith, and points west.

The appearance of Russellville's historic downtown is largely derived from the period from 1900 to 1920. Thirty-three of the buildings in the district were constructed in this period. The single most influential historic event affecting the current appearance of the city's downtown was a disastrous fire in 1906 which leveled much of the city's downtown. Eight of the buildings which survived this fire are included in this district and fifteen buildings in the district were constructed within less than a year after the fire. The majority of the fabric of the Russellville Downtown Historic District is derived from variations of early twentieth century vernacular commercial construction with the typical panel brick parapets and cornices with brick corbelling.

The anchor buildings in the Russellville Historic District are located on the corners of blocks. The earliest buildings in the district -- the Shinn Building (PP0092), constructed in 1875, and the Dr. Brooks Drug Store Building (PP0162) -- best exemplify late nineteenth-century commercial construction. The Shinn Building is a two-story rectangular brick building with a brick paneled parapet with inset decorative metal grills spanning the front (north) and west elevations. Slender segmental arched double hung windows on the second floor of the front (north), east, and west are the most prominent stylistic feature of the Shinn Building. Restoration of this building was begun in 1995 and exterior work has involved removing stucco

covering the exterior brick, uncovering second floor windows and returning first floor storefronts to their original appearance.

Constructed in 1887, the Dr. Brooks Drug Store Building (PP0162) is a two-story brick building with strong Italianate design influence seen in the heavy projecting cornice with brackets and arched windows with pedimented window hoods on the front (east). The first floor storefronts feature cast iron posts. The exterior of this building was covered in stucco in the 1950s and renovated in 1984 at which time the stucco was removed.

Another anchor building in the district which reflects the vernacular version of the Italianate style is the building at 214 N. Commerce (PP0160) constructed in 1899 with its heavy projecting cornice with prominent brackets and narrow arched second story windows with bracketed window crowns.

The Bank of Russellville Building (PP0079) was one of the twenty-one buildings constructed immediately after the 1906 fire. This two-story brick building is located at the hub of the downtown business district and features decorative brick detailing. Rusticated stone above second floor windows and round arched first floor entrances lend a slight Romanesque Revival style influence. Located on a corner lot at the intersection of West Main and West Commerce Streets, the Bank of Russellville Building is another of the two-story corner lot anchor buildings which give stability to the blocks of downtown.

Other contributing anchor buildings in the district include the R. L. Jenkins Building (PP0099) on the corner of West Main and Boulder, the Bailey Building at West Main and N. Commerce (PP0080), the Deluxe Hotel Building (PP0228) and the W. J. White Building (PP0224) on opposite corners of West B and Denver Streets, and the McKinnon Building (PP0084) at the corner of West Main and Denver Streets. These buildings are two story brick structures with brick paneled parapets and are typical of the larger early twentieth century commercial construction seen throughout the state. Their prominent location on block corners stabilizes the district and serve visually as pivotal buildings in their setting.

One-story brick masonry storefront buildings span the 100 and 200 blocks of N. Commerce (PP0158-PP0159; PP0162-PP0166; PP0167-PP0169), the historic retail center of the city. These buildings feature a variety of brick corbelling patterns in their parapets typical of small commercial building construction seen in small towns in Arkansas for the first two decades of the twentieth century. Other groupings of these type of one-story brick storefront buildings are located in the 200 and 300 blocks of West Main Street (PP0073-PP0078; PP0093-PP0096).

The Russellville Federal Building (PP0201) at 203 S. Denver Street is a small one and one-half story symmetrical building with elements indicative of the Colonial Revival style. The primary facade of the building faces S. Denver Street and features a central recessed Georgian-style entry. Entrance doors

are framed with fluted pilasters which support a heavily dentiled broken pediment with a finial. In 1963, original serif lettering above the door: U.S. POST OFFICE was replaced with aluminum lettering identifying the building's new function in housing government offices: FEDERAL. The building is currently vacant and the City of Russellville is working with the GSA to renovate the building to its original appearance.

The lone example of ecclesiastical architecture in the Russellville Downtown Historic District is the Gothic Revival influenced design of the Central Presbyterian Church (PP0085) located at 400 West Main Street. The east end of the church was constructed in 1908; in 1925 a sanctuary was added to the west end of the building and the original building was remodeled to its present appearance.

The Missouri-Pacific Railroad Depot (PP0020), located at the north end of Denver Street is an example of early twentieth century small railroad depot construction.

The dominant building in the Russellville Downtown Historic District is the Pope County Courthouse (PP0021) at 100 West Main Street. This four story brick building was constructed in 1931. Designed by H. Ray Burks, architect of many of Arkansas's courthouses, the building features elaborate Art Deco detailing typical of public buildings of the era.

The Riggs-Hamilton American Legion Post No.20, listed on the National Register 8-15-94, is a one and one-half story building constructed in 1936. Built by the Works Progress Administration, the building is exemplary of the use of fieldstone in Depression-era construction.

Of the twenty-six non-contributing buildings in the district only two are less than fifty years old. The historic non-contributing buildings have been insensitively altered and on an individual basis no longer visually impart their historic architecture. However, these buildings are significant in their importance to the integrity of the streetscapes of the district. Many of the alterations which have caused the buildings to be non-contributing are simple coverings of original facades, easily reversible. Other non-contributing historic buildings have been covered in stucco.

Although non-contributing because of alterations to their original historic appearance, these buildings still retain their historic association and importance to the fabric of the historic district as a whole.

Preservation efforts in Russellville have been active since the late 1970s. In 1991 a Main Street Russellville Program was established. This program has successfully worked with the restoration of several key buildings in the district. Two major restoration projects of historically significant buildings in the downtown have involved removal of exterior stucco. Other small efforts such as adding historically appropriate canopies above storefronts have significantly improved the appearance and continuity of the

downtown business district.

The majority of the buildings in the Russellville Downtown Historic District are in good condition. Few open spaces have been created through demolition. Despite alterations to many historic buildings, the historic integrity of the district remains intact and the feeling of historic place and time is well conveyed.

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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: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
COMMERCE
ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1875-1936

Significant Dates: 1875-1936

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

Summary

More than any other area in the city of Russellville, the downtown Commercial Historic District represents a continuum of the city's development. The thirty-four contributing buildings in this district date from between 1875

and 1936 and represent the era when Russellville incorporated and established itself as the county seat. The district is being nominated under Criterion A with local significance for development of downtown Russellville as the commercial and governmental center of Pope County. The district is also being nominated under Criterion C with local significance for its representation of the variations of vernacular commercial building types.

While the oldest building in the district dates to the 1870s, forty percent of the sixty buildings in the district were constructed in the years between 1900 and 1910. Only two buildings in the district are less than fifty years old. Although twenty-six of the historic buildings are non-contributing, they are an integral component in the district's streetscape.

Elaboration

The city of Russellville in Pope County is located in the mid-Arkansas River Valley of the northwest central section of Arkansas. The city lies between the Arkansas River and Interstate 40. To the west of Russellville is Lake Dardanelle, created in early 1960s as a result of the a United States Corps of Engineers hydro-electric and flood control dam on the Arkansas River near Russellville. Picturesquely situated at the southern edge of the Ozark Mountains, Russellville developed as a major transportation route from Little Rock and points eastward to Fort Smith and points westward.

The Russellville Downtown Historic District is the city's current and historic center of business and government. Russellville's downtown business district runs approximately two blocks along West Main Street (U.S. Highway 64) from Arkansas (Arkansas Highway 7) west to Denver Streets and two blocks on either side. The nominated district includes sixty buildings of which 34 are contributing. Eighty-five percent of all buildings in the Russellville Downtown Historic District were constructed before 1930. The district contains fifty-five commercial buildings, one county courthouse, a railroad depot, an American Legion Hall, one church and a former federal Post Office building.

Russellville's prominence as the business and governmental center of Pope County was hard earned and solidified by the coming of the railroad. Pope County was formed in 1829 as the nineteenth county in the Territory of the State of Arkansas and was the first county to be carved from the Cherokee Reservation. The county was named in honor of John Pope, third territorial governor.

In 1819 Reverend Cephas Washburn established a mission school called the Dwight Mission for the Cherokee Indians on Illinois Bayou, west of Russellville. This was the first school in Pope County, Arkansas and the first Protestant mission in the state. This mission was still in existence for several years after Pope County was formed and served as a school for the white and Indian children. It was while visiting his father, Cephas

Washburn, at the Dwight Mission that Edward Payson Washburn began painting the famous "Arkansas Traveler". Rich in Indian heritage, Pope County was, for a time, the home of Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet.

The first location for the county seat of Pope County was located west of what is now Russellville at a settlement known as Scotia, where the county judge lived. In 1833 the Pope County seat was temporarily moved to Dwight Mission. In 1834 the county seat was moved to Norristown, which was a small town on the Arkansas River considered a center of trade. Due to county boundary changes, the county seat was again moved in 1841, this time to Dover, just north of Russellville.

The first home in Russellville was built in 1834 and bought the next year by Dr. Thomas Russell. Thomas Russell was born in England and received a classical education. He was graduated from the Royal College of Surgeons in 1826. In 1829 he came to America and settled in Illinois. In search of a milder climate, Dr. Russell and his wife and baby traveled to Pope County, Arkansas by covered wagon and in 1835 purchased the first home erected in the future town of Russellville. Dr. Russell practiced medicine in Russellville until his death in 1866.

In 1847 the settlement became an incorporated village. It is said that at a town picnic on July 4, 1847, it was decided that the new settlement which consisted of a general store and five houses should be given a name. They determined the name should be either Russellville, after Dr. Thomas Russell, largely because he had the first home with brick chimneys and was a doctor, or Shinnville, after Jacob L. Shinn, who established the first general store in the settlement. The results of the election to name the town were seven votes for Russellville and only five for Shinnville.

Son of an early pioneer family in the area, Shinn had returned from the Mexican War in 1847, and with his savings from the army opened a general store, the first in the settlement. In 1875 Shinn built the first brick building (PP0092) in Russellville. J.L. Shinn was Pope County's largest land owner with holdings of several thousand acres. He was one of the early promoters of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad line and served as that railroad's first Vice President. He pledged money and donated eleven acres of land for a railroad station and right-of-way through Russellville. Much of the growth of Russellville has been indirectly connected with the railroad. Shinn was the major backer of the Melrose Cotton Mill, another of the city's main industries. In 1888 Shinn donated land for construction of a courthouse. This courthouse building was a two story brick structure which was demolished and replaced in 1931 with the current courthouse building (PP0021). Shinn also owned a steam ferry, which at the time, was one of the largest ferryboats on the Arkansas River. In addition to Shinn's importance in the business development of Russellville, he is noted for his work with the city school system. He sponsored the first public school system in the city, donated sixteen lots and constructed a building for the school. J.L. Shinn was Chairman of the Russellville Board of School Directors for many

years up until his death in 1899.

On June 7, 1870 the "Town of Russellville" was incorporated. It was a growing town of 500 inhabitants, but had no post office. The nearest place mail could be received was Dwight Mission. The Mission was also on the stage route and citizens of Russellville hoped that Cephas Washburn could help them influence the government to include their new town on the stage route.

Although its citizens' request to be on the stage route was never realized and a post office was not established until the 1880s, their efforts to get the railroad route through the city were successful and resulted in the arrival of the force that most shaped the future development of the town. In 1873 a railroad connecting Little Rock and Fort Smith was built and Russellville was the largest center between the two points. The Memphis and Little Rock Railroad (later Missouri-Pacific Railroad and now Union-Pacific Railroad) had become operable in 1870. With the railway running through Russellville the town was connected to points east of Arkansas, and points west as far as Indian Territory (later Oklahoma). The rail lines were laid through the center of Russellville parallel to and two blocks north of Main Street.

With the coming of the railroad, Russellville was no longer an isolated town. Settlers who might have built their homes in nearby Norristown, on the Arkansas River south of Russellville, or at Dover, then the county seat ten miles north of Russellville, preferred to settle in the "railroad town". The significance of the railroad's presence in the city of Russellville insured that it would eventually become the county seat and leading city in the county.

At the time the railroad was constructed through Russellville, the town consisted of a few stores, a church and several saloons. Most of the saloons were along "Smoky Row" which is now Commerce Street and a favorite local folktale is that one of the bars was owned by Frank and Jessie James under the name of the Harp Brothers. History tells that Russellville was a lively place in the years before incorporation. The law officer of the town before it was incorporated had been killed at a dance hall on Smoky Row. With incorporation, the office of Town Marshall was established and Russellville's first jail was built on Smoky Row across from the concentration of saloons. Lawless conditions were soon controlled and the downtown business district began to flourish with commercial development.

Coal veins within a two mile radius of Russellville were discovered in 1873. In 1875 Russellville was connected to the world by telegraph and in 1880 a railroad depot was constructed in Russellville.

The final boundaries of Pope County were set on March 9, 1877 and the county seat was permanently moved to Russellville. The first court held in Russellville convened in a room over R. J. Wilson's dry good store (PP0097). The following year a two-story brick courthouse was constructed and utilized

until 1931 when it was demolished and the current Pope County Courthouse was erected on the site (PP0021).

In 1875 Jacob Shinn built the first brick building (PP0092) in Russellville in the same block where he lived and had a small frame general mercantile store. The Shinn Building is a cornerpiece in the historic district. The oldest building in the district, it was operated as a general merchandise store with a dentist's office upstairs. After Shinn's death in 1899, the store was closed. In 1900 the telephone company started its offices in Russellville, occupying a portion of the upstairs of the Shinn Building and later expanding into the rest of the upstairs where it remained until 1958. Opening in 1910 in the Shinn Building, the Russellville Electric Theater was located in the eastern portion of the building. In the early 1920s, a filling station was located in the western half of the building with a drive-thru on the corner. The gas station was removed in 1943 and the corner was rebricked and enclosed as it was originally. In 1930 Arkansas Power and Light Company opened their offices in the building, remaining until 1965.

Over the years, the exterior brick walls of the Shinn Building had been sheathed in stucco, the storefronts altered and the second floor windows boarded. In 1995, renovation of Russellville's oldest building was begun, and when completed the building will be returned to its original appearance.

As Russellville grew, many commercial buildings were constructed. By the late 1880s, the main retail businesses were located in the 200-300 blocks of West Main and 100-200 blocks of North Commerce Street. The Shinn Building (PP0092) constructed in 1875, the R. J. Wilson Building (PP0097) constructed in 1885 and the Brooks Drug Store Building (PP0162) constructed in 1887 are the only extant buildings of this period in the district.

Historically, as now, Russellville's downtown business district ran two blocks on West Main from Arkansas to Denver Streets and two blocks on either side. Originally, the main intersection of town was located at Main and Denver Streets. Denver Street, running north-south, was a county road made from a buffalo trail leading to the Arkansas River on the south and the town of Dover to the north. A well with hand pump and watering trough was located at the intersection. A similar watering trough was located at the intersection of Commerce and Main Streets. Oak Street, three blocks to the east of Denver street became Arkansas Highway 7 around 1925 and since then the main intersection of Russellville's downtown area has been Main Street (U.S. Highway 64) and Arkansas Avenue (Arkansas Highway 7).

In 1900 with a population of close to 2,000, Russellville was incorporated as a city of the second class. The last two decades of the nineteenth century had been prosperous ones for Russellville. The city boasted a thriving downtown business district with substantial buildings.

Although there are eight late nineteenth-century buildings in the Russellville Downtown Historic District, the majority of the historic

buildings (24) were constructed in the first decade of the twentieth century.

On the night of January 16, 1906 a fire destroyed nearly half of the downtown business district. The fire included both sides of Commerce Street from Main to "B" Street. Ironically, Russellville had just formed a fire department and ordered fire-fighting equipment, all of which had not arrived. The newly formed fire department, insufficiently organized, was helpless to contain the ravaging fire which, fueled by strong winds, spread to the north side of Main Street from Commerce. In less than three hours, twenty-three buildings were destroyed. The estimated loss was \$250,000 of which only 40% was insured. In addition to the loss of the buildings and their stock, many of the citizens of Russellville who worked in the businesses abruptly lost their jobs.

Those early businessmen of Russellville immediately set about re-building the downtown and, remarkably, within six months, twenty of the twenty-three buildings lost in the fire had been rebuilt. Fourteen of those twenty buildings are extant and included in the historic district boundaries. Many of the buildings destroyed by the fire had been frame structures. All of the rebuilt buildings were constructed of brick. In 1908 a sidewalk improvement district was formed to lay concrete sidewalks over most of the town. As a result of the disastrous fire and the determination of the city's businessmen to rebuild, in less than two years Russellville emerged from the disaster a larger and stronger city with blocks lined with new brick business buildings. Further accenting the growth of Russellville, in 1909 the Arkansas Legislature established four Agricultural schools. Russellville bid in competition with several towns and was successful in getting one of the institutions established. This was the beginning of the present Arkansas Polytechnic University (better known as Arkansas Technical University, or ATU).

The Missouri-Pacific Railroad Depot (PU0020- National Register 6-11-92) is typical of small town railroad depot construction commonly seen throughout Arkansas. Symbolic of a key factor in Russellville's development, the railroad and this depot are historically-significant.

Building names in the Russellville Downtown Historic District are a compendium of the citizens who were instrumental in the growth and development of the city. The center of commercial activity in downtown Russellville remains in those same blocks where the city's first businesses were built. The earliest buildings in the district are the Shinn Building, constructed in 1875 at 315 Main (PP0092), the Captain R.J. Wilson Building at 301 W. Main (PP0097), constructed in 1882 and the Brooks Drug Store Building at 121 N. Commerce (PP0162), constructed in 1887.

The Brooks Drug Store building (PP0162), located at 121 N. Commerce, is a two-story brick building with Italianate design influence. It was built in 1887 by Dr. William Brooks who used the drug store primarily as a retail outlet for his patent medicines. Dr. Brooks became a wealthy man through

sales of his "Brooks Baby Elixir" which was manufactured in a warehouse in another part of town. In 1891 Dr. Brooks sold the building and the business to his associate, Louis Hood, a registered pharmacist from Chicago. Under Hood's management the drug store (which he renamed Hood's Drug Store) became a prosperous "modern" drugstore with an ornate fountain and for many decades was a gathering place for local businessmen. The northern portion of the building has been continuously used as a drug store since its construction. The Brooks Drug Store Building was the only building in its block which survived the downtown fire of 1906. The two story brick building was remodeled in 1957 and the exterior was covered in stucco. The building was renovated in 1984 at which time the exterior stucco was removed and original brick was revealed.

On the northeast corner of the same block where the J. L. Shinn Building stands, Captain R. J. Wilson constructed a two-story brick building in 1882. Although the building has been altered and is a non-contributing structure in the district, it is believed to be the second brick building constructed in Russellville and represents the early development of the city's business district. The first floor of the building was Wilson's general merchandise store. Pope County business was conducted on the second floor of the R. J. Wilson Building until a courthouse was built in 1888.

Other building names were those of the merchants, businessmen, and druggists -- Jenkins, White, Boswell, McKinnon, Gardner -- who were instrumental in the development of Russellville's business district.

Architectural styles of the buildings in the Russellville Downtown Historic District are primarily vernacular adaptations of simple one and two-story nineteenth and early twentieth century storefront buildings. Italianate design influence is seen in the early buildings -- the Shinn Building (PP0092) and the Capt. R. J. Wilson Building (PP0097). The Brooks Drug Store Building (PP0162) is perhaps the best example of the employment of ornate window hoods and the heavy bracketed cornice characteristic of the Italianate style.

Constructed in 1906 after the fire which burned much of downtown, the Bank of Russellville Building (PP0079) is a variation of a popular early twentieth century small bank building design. The building incorporates a slight Romanesque Revival influence in its use of rusticated stone and round arched openings.

Funds for construction of a federal post office in Russellville were appropriated and plans were drawn in 1917, although the building was not actually constructed until 1925. The Russellville Federal Building (PP0201) is a one-story brick Colonial Revival style building which served as a post office until 1963. When the post office moved out of the building, original lettering above the entry: U.S. POST OFFICE was replaced with aluminum lettering identifying the building's new function housing government offices: FEDERAL.

By 1927, Russellville was incorporated as a city of the first class. The population of the city at that time was around 6,600. A steel bridge was erected in 1929 across the Arkansas River at Dardanelle to replace the pontoon bridge, thus improving vehicular access to the city.

In 1931 a new courthouse for Pope County was constructed on the site of the original 1888 building. The four story brick building was designed by Arkansas architect H. Ray Burks (architect of many Arkansas county courthouses) and is typical of Depression-era public building construction with its simple lines and Art Deco detailing.

The Central Presbyterian Church congregation first constructed a building at Russellville's primary intersection at the northwest corner of Main and Denver in 1900. A fire destroyed the building in January, 1908. A new church building was constructed on the site and by December, 1908 the congregation was holding services in the new building. In 1925 a new sanctuary was added and its Gothic design was incorporated on the exterior of the 1908 building.

The buildings in the Russellville Historic District remain a significant representation of the city's development from a small village to the center of business and government in Pope County. As such it is eligible under Criteria A and C with local significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

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Arkansas Gazette, June 2, 1935.

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Russell, May. "We Look At Our Town." Privately printed, no date.

Russell, May. "Early Houses and Stores", Arkansas Valley Historical Papers,

No. 28.

Russellville City Directories, 1936-1968.

Russellville Courier-Democrat, articles on the following dates: April 6, 1899; April 13, 1899; January 17, 1906; July 16, 1978; July 22, 1984; April 6, 1986; May 12, 1993; May 13, 1993;

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Russellville, 1896, 1892, 1897, 1904, 1908, 1913, 1919, 1929.

Vance, David L. Early History of Pope County. Mabelvale, Arkansas: Foremen Payne Publishers, 1970.

Weekly Tribune, article dated September 3, 1936.

___ 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:

- X State historic preservation office
- _ Other state agency
- _ Federal agency
- _ Local government
- _ University
- _ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

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Acreeage of Property: Approximately 19

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing			Zone Easting Northing				
A	<u>15</u>	<u>487630</u>	<u>3903980</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u>487860</u>	<u>3903860</u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u>487850</u>	<u>3903580</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>487540</u>	<u>3903680</u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the line running along the western lot lines of the eastern half-blocks located between N. Denver Ave., N. El Paso St., W. Main St. and the Union-Pacific Railroad tracks with a line running parallel with the Union-Pacific Railroad tracks and located approximately 10 feet to the south thereof, proceed easterly along said line to its intersection with the western edge of N. Commerce Ave.; thence proceed southerly along said line to its intersection with the southern edge of W. "C" St.; thence proceed easterly along said line to its intersection a line running along the eastern party walls of the properties PP0160, PP0350 and PP0161; thence proceed southerly along said line, crossing W. "B" St. to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the northern party walls of PP0073 and PP0074; thence proceed easterly along said line to its intersection with the western edge of Arkansas Ave. (State Hwy. 7); thence proceed southerly along said edge to its intersection with a line running along the southern lot line of PP0194; thence proceed westerly along said line to its intersection with the eastern edge of Boulder Ave.; thence proceed northerly along said line to its intersection with the northern edge of W. Main St.; thence proceed westerly along said line to its intersection with the western edge of S. Commerce Ave.; thence proceed southerly along said line to its intersection with the northern edge of W. 2nd St.; thence proceed westerly along said line to its intersection with the eastern edge of S. Denver Ave.; thence proceed northerly along said line to its intersection with the northern edge of W. Main St.; thence proceed westerly along said line to its intersection with the western lot lines of the eastern half-blocks located between N. Denver Ave., N. El Paso St., W. Main St. and the Union-Pacific Railroad tracks; thence proceed northerly along said line to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all the properties directly associated with the historic development of this primarily commercial neighborhood that retain sufficient physical integrity.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Sandra Taylor Smith, Historic Preservation Consultant/AHPP Staff

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 05/30/96

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

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

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 96000941

Date Listed: 9/3/96

Russellville Downtown Historic District

Pope

AR

Property Name

County

State

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Paul B. Szymanski
Signature of the Keeper

9.3.96
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Ownership of Property:

The correct categories for ownership are: Private and Public-Local. [The former Post Office/Federal Building is now under local public ownership as is the County Courthouse.]

This was confirmed with Ken Story of the Arkansas SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Russellville Downtown Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pope

DATE RECEIVED: 8/01/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/14/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/30/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/15/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000941

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

 ACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The Russellville Downtown Historic District is eligible for listing under National Register Criteria A and C in the areas of Commerce, Community Planning and Development, and Architecture. The small cohesive district contains a good collection of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century vernacular commercial architecture reflecting the typical patterns of community building and development in rural Arkansas during the period. The district most strongly expresses the period after 1906 when the downtown largely rebuilt itself after a devastating fire. The district represents the historic commercial core of the small community of Russellville.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A+C

REVIEWER PAUL R. LUSIGNAN DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE 343.1628 DATE 8/21/96

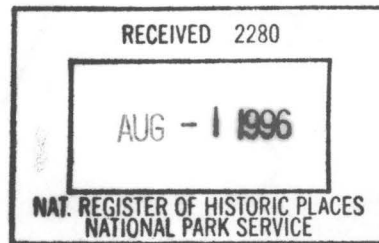
DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)/N



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

July 3, 1996

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United State Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
800 North Capitol Street, Suite 250
Washington, D.C. 20002



RE: Russellville Downtown Historic District
Pope County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination of the above referenced property. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford Slater
State Historic Preservation Officer

CBS:rm

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 1

In 2006, a survey and re-evaluation of the Russellville Downtown Historic District was undertaken. Based upon the survey and re-evaluation of the district, the resource count is:

	Contributing	Non-contributing	Individually Listed*
Buildings	46	16	2
Sites	0	0	0
Structures	0	0	0
Objects	0	0	0
TOTAL	46	16	2

*Not included in resource count

Based on the information on file at the Arkansas Historic Preservation Office, there was never a list of contributing/non-contributing resources associated with the 1996 nomination of the Russellville Downtown Historic District. As such, and also due to the fact that there was never a formal survey of the nominated area, the following list of contributing/non-contributing resources is the initial list, upon which all future resource counts and information will be based.

Resource #	Historic Name	Address	C/NC
PP0020	Missouri Pacific Railroad Depot	320 West C Street	IL
PP0021	Pope County Courthouse	100 West Main Street	C
PP0073	Campbell's Drug Store	200 West Main Street	C
PP0074	Tate & Peeler & Love & Roys	204 West Main Street	NC
PP0075	Gardners Hardware Store	208 West Main Street	NC

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 2

PP0076	People's Exchange Bank	212 West Main Street	NC
PP0077	Faulkner Building	214 West Main Street	C
PP0078	Jenkins Building	216 West Main Street	C
PP0079	Bank of Russellville	220 West Main Street	C
PP0080	Craig/Bailey Estate Property	302 West Main Street	C
PP0081	Livery Stable/ Undertaker	310 West Main Street	NC
PP0082	Grocery Store Building	312 West Main Street	C
PP0083	Craig/Bailey Estate Property	308 West Main Street	C
PP0084	Flo-Roy Café	316 West Main Street	NC
PP0085	Central Presbyterian Church	400 West Main Street	C
PP0092	J. L. Shinn Building	315 West Main Street	C
PP0093	City Food Market	311 West Main Street	NC
PP0094	Building at 309 West Main Street	309 West Main Street	C
PP0095	Wiggs Drug Store	305 West Main Street	NC
PP0096	R. J. Wilson Building	303 West Main Street	NC
PP0097	R. J. Wilson Building	301 West Main Street	NC

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 3

PP0099	Jenkins Building	115 South Boulder Street	C
PP0100	Auto Supply Company	111 West Main Street	C
PP0101	Martin Building	107 West Main Street	C
PP0157	J. W. White Building	215 North Commerce Street	C
PP0158	Building at 203 North Commerce Street	203 North Commerce Street	C
PP0159	Lemings Drug Store	201 North Commerce Street	C
PP0160	F. C. Peters Building	212 North Commerce Street	C
PP0161	Building at 206 North Commerce	206 North Commerce Street	NC
PP0162	Brooks Drug Store	121 North Commerce Street	C
PP0163	R. C. Smith/Brown General Store	117 North Commerce Street	C
PP0164	Perry General Store	115 North Commerce Street	C
PP0165	Sheppard Jewelry Store	109 North Commerce Street	C
PP0166	Bakery Building	105 North Commerce Street	C
PP0167	Smith Shoe Store	106 North Commerce Street	C
PP0168	Building at 110 North Commerce Street	110 North Commerce Street	NC
PP0169	Bowman's Busy Store	114 North Commerce Street	C
PP0170	Western Union Building	106-108 South Commerce Street	NC

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 4

PP0171	Building at 110 South Commerce Street	110 South Commerce Street	C
PP0172	Building at 112-114 South Commerce Street	112-114 South Commerce Street	C
PP0173	Building at 116 South Commerce Street	116 South Commerce Street	C
PP0187	Howe/Milsap Grocery Store	217 North Denver	C
PP0188	Riggs-Hamilton American Legion Hut #20	215 North Denver	IL
PP0189	Hamilton Brothers Building	201 North Denver	NC
PP0191	Hamilton Building	104-106 North Denver	NC
PP0192	Haney Building	100 North Denver	C
PP0193	Willis Bakery	116 West Commerce Street	C
PP0194	Building at 111 Boulder Street	111 Boulder Street	C
PP0200	Caudle Building	312 West 2nd Street	C
PP0201	Federal Building	115 South Denver	C
PP0222	Mercury Motors	303-307 West C Street	C
PP0223	Hamilton Building	311 West C Street	C
PP0224	W. J. White Building	320 West C Street	C
PP0025	Building at 316 West B Street	316 West B Street	C
PP0226	Building at 308 West B Street	308 West B Street	C

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page 5

PP0227	Barber Shop	309 West B Street	NC
PP0228	Delux Hotel	321 North Denver	C
PP0263	Bank of Russellville	218 West Main Street	C
PP0264	Bakery Building	107 North Commerce Street	C
PP0265	Building at 122 North Commerce Street	122 North Commerce Street	C
PP0266	R. M. Drummond Building	108 North Commerce Street	C
PP0350	Sample Shoe Store	210 North Commerce Street	NC
PP0351	Hardware Store	118 North Commerce Street	C
PP0352	Hotel & Restaurant Building	312 West B Street	C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Russellville Downtown Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Pope

DATE RECEIVED: 8/22/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/05/06
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96000941

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 _____ DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

additional Documentation Accepted

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept
REVIEWER Edgar Beall DISCIPLINE Historian
TELEPHONE _____ DATE 10.4.06

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building
323 Center Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 324-9880
fax: (501) 324-9184
tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail: info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

An Equal Opportunity Employer



96000941

August 14, 2006

Dr. Janet Matthews
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
8th Floor
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20005

RE: District Survey and Re-evaluation—Russellville Downtown
Historic District; Russellville, Pope County

Dear Dr. Matthews,

We request that the above-referenced District be amended to take into account the contributing/non-contributing resources within the district boundaries as a result of the resurvey that took place in 2006. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Sarah A. Jampole of my staff at (501) 324-9874.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:sj

Enclosure



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Crty, AR
3. Photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. Negative on file AHPP
6. view from southwest
7. PP0021



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. Photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from northwest
7. PP0194; PP0099; PP0100; PP0101



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty, AR
3. photograph by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. Negative on file ATHP
6. View of northside - 300 Block W. MAIN ST. View from southeast
7. PP0080, PP0081, PP0082, PP0084



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope City, AR
3. Photograph by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. Negative on file AHPP
6. View at intersection of W. Main & N. Commerce, looking north
7. (Left) PP0080; PP0166; PP0165; PP0164; PP0163; PP0162



1. Russellville Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope City, AR
3. photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. W.B., view from the northwest
7. PP0228; PP0227; PP0162



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty, AR
3. photo By S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. W. "B" street; view from the southwest
7. PPO224; PPO352; PPO225; PPO226



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty., AR
3. photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view of west side 100 Block S. Commerce from northeast
7. PP0170; PP0171; PP0172; PP0173



1. Russellville Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope City, AR
3. photo by S. T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file APP
6. intersection of N. Denver & W. B Sts. Looking north
7. Left (PP0188; PP0187) PP020



1. RUSSELLVILLE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT
2. RUSSELLVILLE, POPE CNTY. AR
3. PHOTO BY S.T. SMITH
4. FEBRUARY, 1996
5. NEGATIVE ON FILE ATHPD
6. VIEW FROM THE EAST
7. PPO188; PPO187

1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from southeast from intersection of W. B. & North Commerce
7. PP0159; PP0158; PP0226; PP0225; PP0352; PP0224



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty., AR
3. photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHP
6. view from southwest
7. PP0161; PP0350; PP0160



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Co., AR
3. photo by J.T. Smith
4. February, 1986
5. negative on file AHP
6. view from the northeast
7. PP0157; PP0222; PP0223



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from north east of across 100 Block N. Commerce
7. PP0162; PP0163; PP0164; PP0165; PP0166; PP0080



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. photo by S. T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from northwest
7. PP0223; PP0222; PP0157



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope City, AR
3. Photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. View from north west of south side of 300 Block W. MAIN
7. PP0097; PP0096; PP0095; PP0094; PP0093; PP0092



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. Photo by S. T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from south east - 100 block N. Commerce
7. PP0166; PP0165; PP0164; PP0163; PP0162



1. Russellville DOWNTOWN Historic District
2. Russellville, Page Cnty., AR
3. photo by S. T. Smith
4. February 1996
5. negative on file AHPP
6. view from northwest
7. PP0193; PP0169; PP0167; PP0168; PP0079



TITLE INSURANCE BUILDING

VANCE TITLE CO.

EXECUTIVE SUITES

Card - Bldg

200

1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. Photo by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file ATTP
6. view of north side 200 Block W. Main from southeast
7. PP0073; PP0074; PP0075; PP0076; PP0077; PP0078; PP0079



1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope County, AR
3. Photograph by Sandra Taylor Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AR Historic Preservation Program
6. view from southeast
7. PP0085

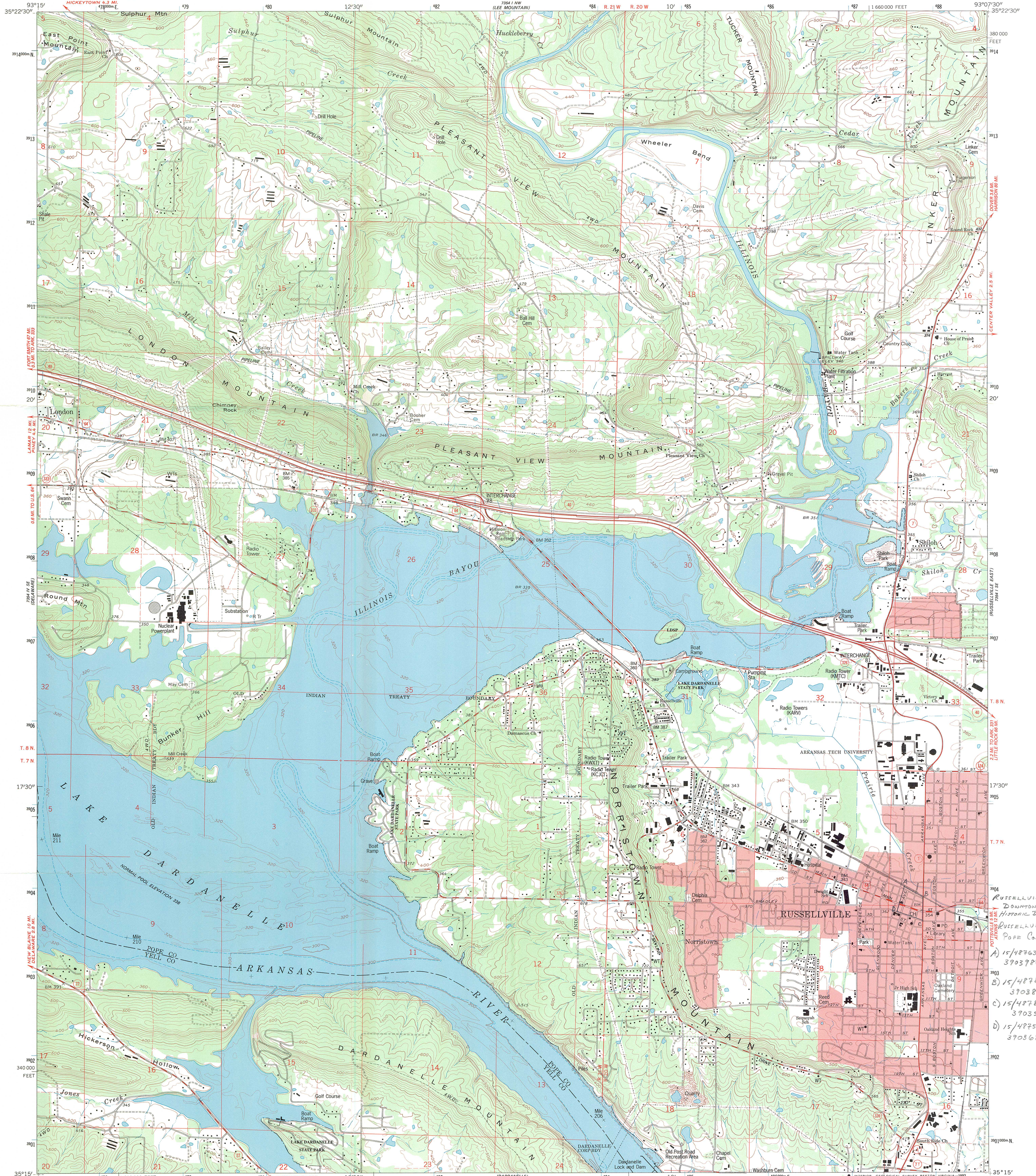


1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty, AR
3. Photograph By S. T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. Negative on file - AR Historic Preservation Prog.
6. View from Northeast
7. PP0092

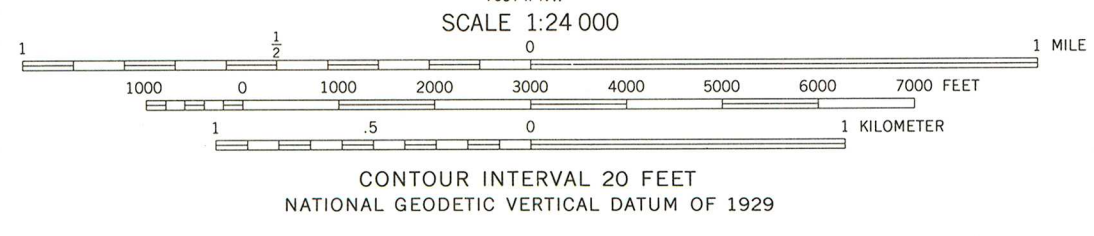
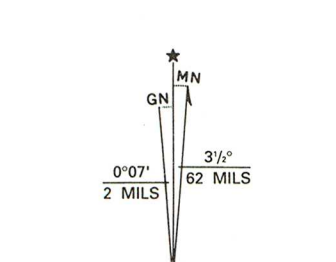


CITY BUILDING

1. Russellville Downtown Historic District
2. Russellville, Pope Cnty. Arkansas
3. photograph by S.T. Smith
4. February, 1996
5. negative on file AR Historic Preservation Program
6. view from north west
7. PPO201



Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Arkansas Geological Commission Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
 Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1954. Field checked 1962-63. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1989. Field checked 1992. Map edited 1993
 Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
 1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
 North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
 The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map
 Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
 Unlabeled wells are gas wells
 Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092 AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

RUSSELLVILLE WEST, ARK.
35093-C2-TF-024

1993
DMA 7354 1 SW-SERIES V884

RUSSELLVILLE DOWNTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT, POPE CO., AR
 A) 15/487630/3903780
 B) 15/487860/3903860
 C) 15/487850/3903580
 D) 15/487540/3903680

