

November 7, 2024

NR ITEM NO.: ONE

FILE NO.: NR2024-008

NAME: James W. and Billie Tanner House

LOCATION: 12821 Ridgehaven Road

APPLICANT/AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Megan Willmes

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1100 North Street,

Little Rock, AR

OWNER:

Daniel P and Autumn R Hardin

12821 Ridgehaven Rd

Little Rock, AR 72211



Figure 1. James W. and Billie Tanner House.

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AREA: 4.66 acres

NUMBER OF LOTS: 1

WARD: 5

HISTORIC DISTRICT: None Adjacent

HISTORIC STATUS: DOE October 27, 1999

CURRENT ZONING: R2, Single-Family

A. BACKGROUND

Location

The subject structure is located at 12821 Ridgehaven Road.

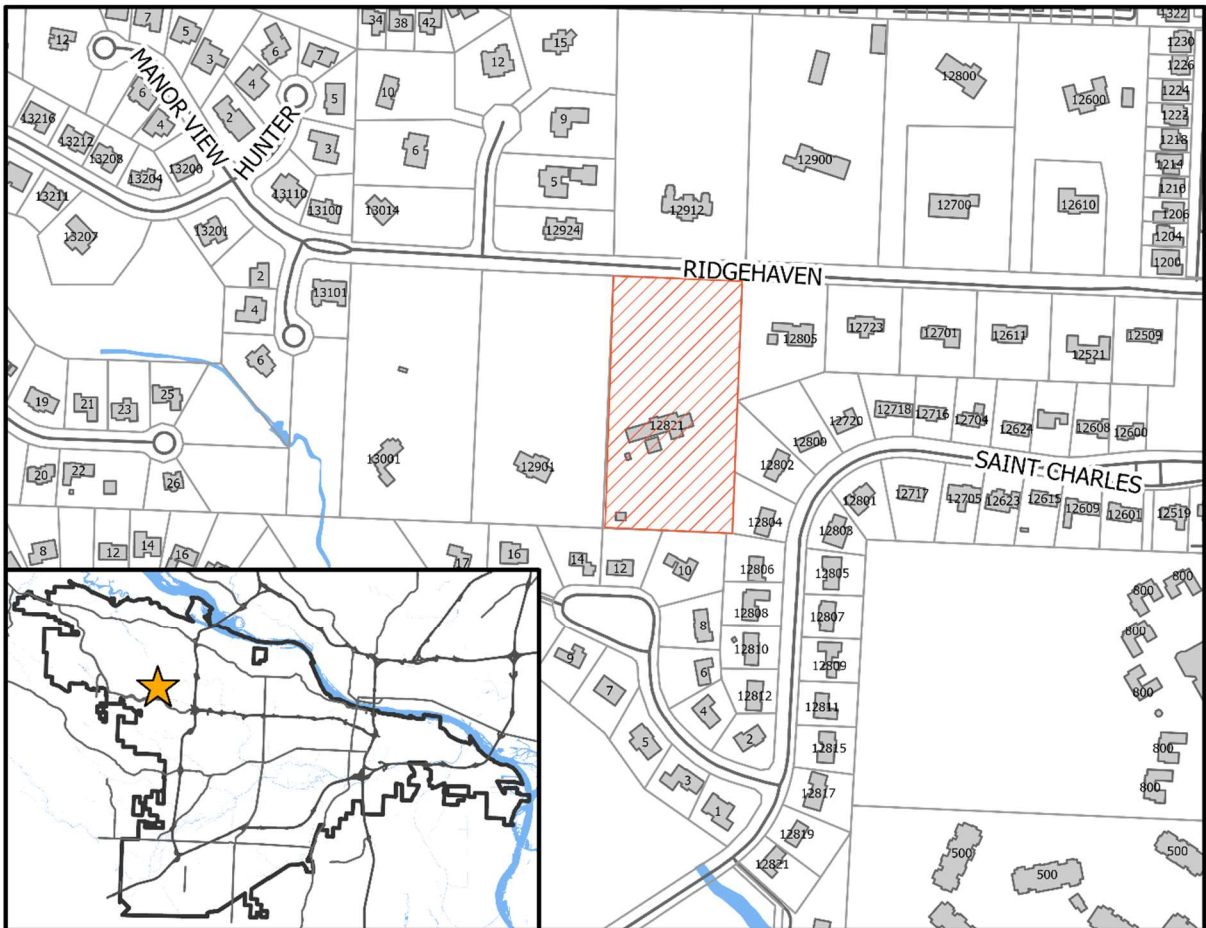


Figure 2. Location of the James W. and Billie Tanner House.

B. PROPOSAL/REQUEST/APPLICANT'S STATEMENT:

The application requests to nominate the James W. and Billie Tanner House to the National Register of Historic Places for local significance under Criterion C as an excellent example of organic design architecture by E. Fay Jones in Little Rock, Arkansas. The area of significance is Architecture. The period of significance is 1972-1974.

C. EXISTING CONDITIONS:

See photos in Nomination (Attachment A).

D. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:

None

E. NEIGHBORHOOD NOTIFICATIONS AND COMMENTS:

All neighborhood associations registered with the City of Little Rock that surround the site were notified of the public hearing.

At the time of distribution, there were no comments regarding this application.

F. ANALYSIS:

The Nomination's Statement of Significance summary section states:

"The James W. and Billie Tanner House, completed in 1974, was commissioned by James Willis and Billie Tanner in 1972. The one-story house with a "lookout" off the living room was built in a yet-undeveloped area of western Little Rock on Ridgehaven Road. The house reflects Fay Jones's organic design principles and overall architectural philosophy that characterized his professional career. The Tanner House's design incorporates and focuses on the beauty of native, natural materials from Arkansas and highlights Jones's emphasis on harmony with nature by the expansive use of glass windows that allow unobstructed views fo the wooded lot from every room in the house. Therefore, the James W. and Billie Tanner House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: Architecture with local significance as an excellent example of organic design architecture by E. Fay Jones in Little Rock, Arkansas."

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has set forth the “Arkansas Certified Local Government Procedures.” In Section V of this agreement, “Certified Local Governments Participation in the National Register Nomination Process,” Little Rock Historic District Commission’s role is identified:

“B. CLG involvement in the National Register process

- 1. Within 60 calendar days of receipt of the nomination, the CLG shall inform the AHPP by submission of a report (see section V-A) as to its opinion regarding the eligibility of the property. The CLG shall also inform the property owner(s) using National Register criteria for evaluation, as to its opinion regarding the eligibility of the property.*
- 2. In the event a nomination is received by the AHPP before submission to the CLG, the AHPP will forward a copy of the completed nomination to the CLG within 30 calendar days of receipt.*
- 3. If both the commission and chief elected official recommend that a property not be nominated because it does not meet the National Register criteria for eligibility, the CLG will so inform the property owner(s) and the State Historic Preservation Officer, the property will then not be nominated unless an appeal is filed with the SHPO in accordance with appeal procedures outlined in 36 CFR 60. Appeals must be received by the SHPO within 30 calendar days of the date the property owner receives notification by certified mail that the property has been determined ineligible for nomination by both the CLG and the Chief elected official. This is in accordance with Section 101(c) 2 of the NHPA.*
- 4. If the commission or the chief elected official of the CLG recommend that a property should be nominated, the nomination will be scheduled for submission to the Arkansas State Review Board. Scheduling will be in accordance with notification time constraints as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.*
- 5. The Arkansas State Review Board, after considering all opinions, including those of the commission and the chief elected official of the CLG, shall make its recommendation to the State Historic Preservation Officer. Either the local preservation commission or the chief elected official may appeal the SHPOs final decision.*

6. *When a National Register nomination, that has been reviewed by a commission, is submitted to the National Park Service for review and listing, all reports or comments from the local officials will be submitted along with the nomination.*

7. *The AHPP and the CLG will work together to provide ample opportunity for public participation in the nomination of properties to the National register. All reports submitted by the CLG to the AHPP regarding the eligibility of properties shall include assurances of public input. The CLG shall retain a list of all persons contacted during the evaluation period and note comments that were received. If a public meeting was held, a list of those attending shall be included in the report.”*

Staff finds the nomination meets the National Register criteria for eligibility in the National Register of Historic Places.

The nomination is scheduled to be heard at the December 4th, 2024 State Review Board meeting.

G. STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the nomination of the James W. and Billie Tanner House meets the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places for local significance under Criterion C and the submission of the nomination to the State Review Board.

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Attachment A

Nomination

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Tanner, James W. and Billie, House

Other names/site number: PU9763

Name of related multiple property listing:

The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect 1950-1997

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 12821 Ridgehaven Road

City or town: Little Rock State: AR County: Pulaski

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<p>Signature of certifying official/Title:</p> <p><u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u></p> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	<p>Date</p>
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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District

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Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Object	<input type="checkbox"/>

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u>1</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MODERN MOVEMENT/Wrightian

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Wood (façade), glass (windows), asphalt (roof), stone (foundation)

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The James W. and Billie Tanner House was constructed in 1974 and was designed by the noted architect E. Fay Jones. The property is set on a wooded lot in western Little Rock, Arkansas, on Ridgehaven Road. The lot is almost five acres in size and is completely fenced with a ca. 2017 metal, mechanical gate that was designed by the Hardins, the current homeowners. The lot has an asphalt driveway that forms a circle in front of the main house and provides access to Ridgehaven Road. The lot has no landscaping besides a few stone retaining walls; the original owners specifically asked Jones to not include landscaping in his design, and this has been retained over the years since the house's construction.

The property consists of three resources: the main house (contributing), the guest house (non-contributing), and the gate and fence (non-contributing). The guest house, while designed concurrently with the house, was not constructed until 1986, when the Tanners could finally afford it. It is non-contributing due to age. The main house has a two-story section above the living room, which allows a second-floor room (the "lookout") to oversee the main driveway to the north and the living room and backyard to the south. The rest of the house is one-story in

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height. Both sections of the house have gable roofs with asphalt shingles; the original cedar shake shingles were replaced in 2016 due to water leakage and insurance issues. The main house's roofs overhang the building extensively, providing the feeling of the house's interior extending past the walls to the outside. The main house is clad in vertical board and batten with custom-sized, stationary glass windows. A large stone chimney projects from the roof near the second-floor lookout room.

There have been a few alterations to the Tanner House since its construction. The most significant was the enclosure of the original carport in 2011, when it was converted into a master bedroom with ensuite bathroom and closet. The enclosure is not considered too detrimental to the house's integrity, as the materials used in the construction were identical to the original house and the details in the original portion of the house were carefully replicated in the new bedroom, especially the wooden ceiling details and use of skylights.

The Tanner House is being considered under "The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones" MPDF. The house exhibits all seven aspects of integrity, was designed by Jones between 1950 and 1990, is located in Arkansas, and is an outstanding local example of Jones' Arkansas work.

Narrative Description

The James W. and Billie Tanner House is located in Little Rock, Pulaski County, on Ridgehaven Road. The house is not visible from the street but is set back from the road among a forested 4.6 acre property. The property's land is enclosed by a fence with a gate (Photo 55), designed and built by the current homeowners ca. 2017, that provides access to the driveway. The driveway loops around the front of the house in a circle. The house itself is oriented with the front façade facing slightly northwest towards Ridgehaven Road which forms the northern boundary of the property. The house, like all Jones designs, was nestled into the landscape and the main house is located on a gentle slope to allow views of the woods from the rear of the house, which has a large projection with full-height, custom glass windows.

The house is a frame construction with board and batten siding covering the whole house except where the glass windows are located. The roof is composed of wooden beams and rafters and is clad in asphalt shingles (the original cladding was cedar shake but was replaced in 2016 due to water damage). Under the eaves, the 2x4 rafters are cut with square notches to resemble individual blocks (Figure 4); this was to ensure proper ventilation in the enclosed rafter space. The main portion of the house to the northeast and the southern projection are covered by a medium-pitch, two-story-height, gable roof with extensive overhang and wooden rafter details (Photo 11). The western portion of the house, including the garage and master bedroom addition, is covered by another gable roof that is one story in height and has a slightly shallower pitch. This roof also covers the front entrance on the north façade and has eight skylights, three in the kitchen area, two in the hallway, one in the master bathroom, one in the master closet, and one in the shop.

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There are no standard windows in the house: instead, each was custom-sized to fit its opening, and many feature angular corners with wooden framing. The largest expanse of glass windows in the house is on the two-story-height, southern projection where the living room looks out onto the backyard patio. Other windows create glass corners, such as in the living room (Photo 9).

JAMES W. AND BILLIE TANNER HOUSE (contributing – building)

North façade (Front)

The north façade is composed of two main sections: the two-story-height left section over the living room and secondary bedroom, and the one-story-height section that extends to the right over the kitchen, master bedroom, and garage (Photo 2). The gable in the two-story section has glass panes configured around three Y-shaped wood framing details, and this provides light into the second story “lookout” room. The main entrance door is to the left of the one-story section, with a solid door and windows above and to the sides (Photo 22). The main entrance still has a Jones-designed light fixture on the right side of the main door. To the left of the main door, there is a section that steps down and slightly back from the main façade where the secondary bedroom is located (the leftmost section in Photo 1). It has a full-height glass window with triangular panes near the roofline and to the sides of the largest window.

The one-story section has a wooden corner post with glass on either side to provide light into the dining room (Photo 22). This is repeated slightly further to the right. The rest of the one-story section is devoid of fenestration (Photos 18 and 19). Further to the right, there is the secondary entrance (Photo 20) as well as a single door into the garage. The sections of the façade that do not have glass are clad in vertical board.

West façade (Side)

The west façade of the main house harbors the garage, with its two mechanical garage doors that have vertical board to mimic the vertical board of the main house’s exterior cladding (Photo 16). The roof greatly overhangs the west garage façade and has the dentils, homasote cladding, and wooden rafter details.

The western façade of the southern projection (the section housing the living room) mostly comprises glass, with a door on the left and two large glass panes to the right. The second floor-height section also has large rectangular glass panes separated by wide wooden beams (Photo 26).

The secondary entrance off the master bedroom also faces west (Photo 20). The door is framed in wood, and the space above the door to the roofline features a single glass pane framed in wood. The door also has a sidelight to the left. This doorway is not original to the house; it is part of the 2011 master bedroom addition, but note the door is a replica of the door in the living room that leads to the patio.

South façade (Rear)

The south façade on the left, where the garage and master bathroom are located, is devoid of fenestration and is clad in vertical board (Photo 15). The master bedroom section has two pairs of full-height, single-pane glass windows framed in wood (Photo 14). There are two more single-

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pane windows to the right of the master bedroom where the study area is, and there is a sliding door with another two full-height glass windows to the right (Photo 41 looking from the inside).

The southern projection's (living room) south façade is entirely made of glass (Photo 10). The sections are set in a geometric pattern, with branching Y-shapes and smaller squares.

The southern façade of the main house on the right of the southern projection is mostly vertical board (Photo 6). There is a single door to the right of the projection, and another door leads into the secondary bedroom. This door also has a triangular piece of glass above the door and rectangular glass windows on either side of the door.

East façade (Side)

The east façade of the main house has no fenestration and is clad in vertical board.

The east façade of the southern projection (living room) is a mirror image of the west façade.

GUEST HOUSE (non-contributing – building)

North façade (Front)

The north façade has a centrally located door with a single pane of glass and a window with a single pane of glass to its right (Photos 24 and 25). There is a recess next to the door and window on either side. The left side next to the recess is indented, giving the door and window the appearance of projecting out.

East façade (Side)

The east façade features a sliding door with a single pane of glass (Photo 23). There is a window above the door, asymmetrically under the gable, that reaches to the peak. The roof overhangs this façade dramatically, providing a place for an outdoor table away from the rain. The roof was built in the same style and manner as the main house's roof, complete with dentils and wooden rafter details. On the left of the sliding door, there is a built-in coat hanging place with wooden pegs.

South façade (Rear)

The south façade of the guest house has no fenestration. The roof slopes quite low on this side, and there is a short pathway that leads around the guest house and connects it to the patio (Photo 23).

West façade (Side)

The west façade of the guest house has no fenestration, only the vertical board that clads the rest of the guest house (Photo 25).

Interior

The interior of the Guest House is an open plan, though the bathroom is enclosed in the southwest corner. The entrance opens onto a small sitting area with a kitchenette to the right and the full-height window wall to the left. The living area is separated by a wall with a slatted partition in the middle, which can be opened or closed, with the bedroom area behind (Photos 52

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and 53). The bathroom is to the right of the bedroom on the west. The guest house was built in 1986 and has not had any renovations or changes to its interior. The kitchenette, built-in couch, wooden slat partition, woodwork, and bathroom cabinetry are original to its construction. The guest house also showcases the woodwork ceiling decorations that are in the main house.

GATE AND FENCE (non-contributing – object)

The fence encloses the property on the property line. It is black with metal railings that are spaced about 3 inches apart. The mechanical gate with the stone pillars on either side of the driveway was designed by Autumn Hardin, current homeowner, ca. 2017.

SETTING

The Tanner House is set on almost five acres of wooded land surrounded by a metal fence and a mechanical gate designed by Autumn Hardin, one of the current owners. The parcel is south of Ridgehaven Road and gently slopes to the south. A paved driveway leads from the gate to the main house, where it loops around and reconnects to the driveway. The lot is entirely wooded with several species of mature trees, including oak and maple. The back of the house has two patios and the current owners have several planter boxes for herbs and vegetables. The Tanner House, per the instructions of the original owners, never featured any outside landscaping and remained natural. The McMullins and the Hardins have kept the lot un-landscaped besides a few plantings in the front.

Ridgehaven Road is located in west Little Rock, an area that exploded with development following WWII. The neighborhood around the Tanner House is mainly residential, with large McMansions and a suburban development to the west. Many of the homes around the Tanner House were built in the late 1980s to the early 2000s. The neighborhood's east is bordered by Napa Valley Road, a busy commercial viaduct with a Greek Orthodox church, stores, and restaurants.

INTEGRITY

The Tanner House has been mostly unchanged since its construction in 1974. The original owners, James and Billie, lived in the house until 1989, and Billie sold the house to Carleton McMullin in 1995. Carleton married his second wife, Jane, and to convince her to move into his house away from her property in the Heights neighborhood, he proposed a series of alterations to the Tanner House. The most significant alteration was the enclosure of the open carport and its conversion into a master bedroom with a closet and bathroom in 2011. Since the Tanners did not have children still living with them when the house was built, the original layout had one bedroom on the west and an area (now a sitting room) that was used as a sleeping space for guests (Photos 41 and 42). The sleeping space was right off the kitchen and the living room and had little separation for privacy, so the house, despite its size, functioned as a one-bedroom property. With the addition of the guest house in 1986, the house had another area for guests to stay that had more privacy, but it was not within the main house (Photos 23, 24, 25, 52, and 53). The McMullins therefore created a master suite from the carport, with a bathroom and master closet, and left the original bedroom as another guest room. They also partitioned off a small area off the hallway to the master bedroom (Photo 47) for use as an office or study area (Photo 46). The original shop on the east side was retained but converted into a garage with the addition of

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two garage doors. The woodwork on the ceiling, which is echoed throughout the main house, was retained and is in good condition (Photo 54).

The McMullins engaged the services of John Connell of SCM Architects for the 2011 master bedroom addition. Using the original plans and construction details, Connell and the building contractors were able to source the same materials that Jones had used on the original house. Connell also made a distinct effort to be sympathetic with the new bedroom, mimicking the wooden ceiling decorations found throughout the house and using the same flagstone for the floors in the hallway.

The Hardins, the current owners of the house, have done slight renovations of their own, mostly cosmetic in nature. However, they did have to replace the original cedar shake shingle roof with asphalt shingles in 2020 due to water intrusion. The other changes they made include changing the 2011 bathroom tile, replacing the countertops in the kitchen and bathrooms with granite, and replacing old kitchen appliances.

Despite the carport enclosure and conversion of the shop to a garage, the Tanner House still exhibits the character-defining features of a Fay Jones house and all seven aspects of integrity. The Tanner House has the custom glass windows, window corners, decorated eaves, second-floor lookout room, custom woodwork and cabinets, and natural materials. The house also continues to showcase Jones’s masterful use of light reflection and harmony with the natural landscape around the building. The master bedroom addition was designed to fit within the aesthetics of the original Tanner House, with faux wood ceiling details, built-ins for the television, and the use of the same wood and stone as the original section of the house. The materials for the enclosure were sourced from the same place as the originals. The guest house, while not constructed until 1986 and therefore non-contributing due to age, was designed by Jones and was part of the original house design. It therefore was not considered a detractor from the historic integrity of the Tanner House or the setting of the main house. The setting around the house has remained wooded and the house still has a strong association with Fay Jones.

Table 1. MPDF Registration Requirements of The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones as applied to the James W. and Billie Tanner House

- Must be designed by E. Fay Jones between 1950 and 1990
 - The Tanner House was designed by Jones and constructed in 1972. The guest house, which was designed by Jones concurrently with the main house, was built later in 1986. Both structures are within the MPDF requirements.
- Must be in Arkansas
 - The Tanner House is located in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- Must exhibit all seven aspects of integrity
 - *Location*: the Tanner House is in its original location and has not been moved.
 - *Design*: the Tanner House has retained its significant design features as a Fay Jones House, including the flagstone floors, extensive use of glass, Jones-designed fixtures, and use of locally sourced materials. The new master

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bedroom and garage also incorporate vertical wooden designs that are indicative of a Jones-designed structure and do not detract from the architectural merit of the rest of the house.

- *Setting*: the Tanner House is set on almost five acres of land that complements the design of the house. The landscape has not been significantly changed since the house was built in 1972.
- *Materials*: the Tanner House was constructed of local materials and has not had any changes since its construction. The altered master bedroom/garage incorporated similar materials to the original house.
- *Workmanship*: the Tanner House had a high degree of skillful woodwork that is still present in the house. The house features a variety of original cabinets, built-ins, and light fixtures that highlight Jones's dedication to detail.
- *Feeling*: the Tanner House, based on its largely unaltered exterior, floorplan, materials, and setting, has retained the feeling of a Fay Jones house.
- *Association*: the Tanner House has an association with Fay Jones as he designed the house and the guest house.
- If less than fifty years old, must be exceptional to fall under Criterion G
 - The Tanner House was built in 1972 and is more than fifty years old.
- Must be noteworthy as outstanding representatives of Jones' Arkansas work or significant representatives of a phase of the architect's career
 - The Tanner House is being considered for local significance as an outstanding example of Jones's design work in the Little Rock area. The Tanner House is one of three Jones houses in and near Little Rock. The Sam and Sharon Pallone House is located in Ferndale, near to Little Rock but outside the city boundaries. The Graham and Louise Hall House is the only true comparable to the Tanner House and may individually be eligible on its own. The Tanner House is an excellent example of Jones's design work in the local context and has local significance as an intact example that showcases much of Jones's hallmark design principles, including fusion with nature, locally sourced materials, board-and-batten siding, the lookout room in the living room, intricate woodwork, Jones-designed light fixtures and the outdoor lamp, and the flowing interior room layout.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1972 - 1974

Significant Dates

1973 – Construction began on the house
1974 – Construction completed

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

E. Fay Jones (architect, 1972 main house and 1986 guesthouse)
John Connell, SCM Architects (architect, 2011 master bedroom renovation)
Jack Hartsell Construction (contractors, 2011 master bedroom renovation)

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The James W. and Billie Tanner House, completed in 1974, was commissioned by James Willis and Billie Tanner in 1972. The one-story house with a “lookout” loft off the living room was built in a yet-undeveloped area of western Little Rock on Ridgehaven Road. The house reflects Fay Jones’s organic design principles and overall architectural philosophy that characterized his professional career. The Tanner House’s design incorporates and focuses on the beauty of native, natural materials from Arkansas and highlights Jones’s emphasis on harmony with nature by the expansive use of glass windows that allow unobstructed views of the wooded lot from every room in the house. Therefore, the James W. and Billie Tanner House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C: Architecture** with **local significance** as an excellent example of organic design architecture by E. Fay Jones in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The James W. and Billie Tanner House exhibits all criteria to be listed under the “Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect” Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The house was designed by E. Fay Jones in 1972 and completed in 1974. The house is located in Little Rock, Arkansas, in a forested, tranquil setting on almost five acres of land. The seven aspects of integrity have been retained, and the house is an excellent example in Little Rock of Fay Jones’s organic design principles.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of the Property

History of the Area

Little Rock had only been permanently settled by Europeans since the spring of 1820 but grew to become an incorporated city by 1835 with a post office, the first state capitol building, the Old State House (NHL listed 12/09/97), and a host of small businesses that served the burgeoning community. Upon the state’s admittance to the Union in 1836 as a slave state, the state capital of Little Rock developed into the cultural, economic, and political center of Arkansas. Steamboat traffic constituted most of Little Rock’s industry, and wharf fees on docked vessels were the single greatest source of city revenue until after the Civil War.¹ Reconstruction through to 1900 proved a period of significant population expansion and subsequent building construction, including over 1,200 new residences between 1871 and 1872 as well as municipal buildings such as the Pulaski County Courthouse and the Union Station Depot.² The city also became home to a large population of African Americans, who at one point consisted of almost 25% of the

¹ Thomason and Associates, “Post-World War II Residential Development of Little Rock, Arkansas, 1945-1970,” *City of Little Rock*, Sept. 2017, pp. 6.

² *Ibid*, pp. 7.

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population with many Black-owned businesses and community centers nucleated around West 9th Street.³

As businesses clustered around downtown Main Street, residential construction began to spread around the fringes of Little Rock, pushing the city boundaries farther and farther west as the decades went by. Following World War II, residents and investors once again had access to materials and money that once flowed to the war effort, and a variety of government programs, including Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Administration loans and lower interest rates, combined to create a promising environment for development. Residential complexes, single-family homes, and apartments constituted a significant portion of Little Rock's postwar expansion.⁴ In 1950 alone the city planning commission approved sixteen new subdivisions. Over the next decade, builders constructed over 10,000 new homes in the city, concentrating on the west and southwest of downtown.⁵

The area around Ridgehaven Road was sparsely populated when the Tanners purchased the land to build their home in the 1970s. Set in the still-developing western end of Little Rock, the property afforded the Tanners the ability to easily access the city while having a tranquil, wooded setting for their new home. When the house was completed, there were only four other buildings near the Tanner House. It wasn't until the late 1980s and 1990s that the area became heavily developed, and the neighborhood is now bordered to the east by Napa Valley Road and to the south by Chenal Parkway.⁶

History of the Tanner House

James Tanner was born in Texarkana, Arkansas, and served in World War II in the Army. He married Billie Blaylock in 1945, and the couple lived in Texas for a few years before moving back to Little Rock by 1958.⁷ Tanner gained employment with the Southland Life Insurance Company as a salesman and remained with the company for many years, even becoming one of the "Million-Dollar Men" - salesman in the top 1% of sales in the nation - in 1975.⁸ Billie Tanner (nee Blaylock) was born in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in 1923. She graduated from Ouachita Baptist College in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in 1943, and married James two years later. She worked as a homemaker, raising the couples' two children, and later in the same insurance firm as James.

The Tanners had purchased five acres in west Little Rock and planned to build a house. They contacted Jones via telephone on January 14, 1972, and asked if he would be willing to design a

³ *Ibid*, pp. 8.

⁴ John A. Kirk, "Urban Renewal," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*, last updated 10 Jan 2022, <https://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/entries/urban-renewal-7856/>, accessed 26 Apr. 2023.

⁵ "Edge of City' Planning Mandatory: Little Rock 5-Mile Belt Is Advised," *Arkansas Democrat* (Little Rock, AR: February 17, 1952), pp. 1.

⁶ *Historic Aerials*, "12821 Ridgehaven Road, Little Rock," topographic map 1976 and 1986, <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>, accessed 4 Sept. 2024.

⁷ *Ancestry.com*, "James Willis Tanner," https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/493706/person/360103635106/facts?_phsrc=KIX263&_phstart=successSource, accessed 29 Aug. 2024.

⁸ *Arkansas Gazette*, "Meet the Million-Dollar Men," (Little Rock, AR: 10 Aug. 1975), pp. 39.

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house for the couple. Jones and Billie had met several years prior in 1967, when Billie and journalist Swann Kohler were in Fayetteville writing an article on the Jones's house for *Arkansas State* magazine. Billie had seen his recent designs for the Harold R. Snow House and the Joe Marsh and Maxine Clark House (NR listed 02/03/20) in Fayetteville, and convinced her husband to hire Jones as the architect for their property.⁹ The Tanners had multiple phone calls with Jones over the next several months and they also put together a scrapbook of their furniture and ideas they wanted to incorporate into their new home. Jones had a well-known process for getting to know his clients, learning their habits, hobbies, and lifestyles to better tailor each home he designed for the specific client, and this played out in the design of the Tanner House. Jones visited the Tanners' property in October 1972 and learned that the Tanners had recently sold their Little Rock house. The couple continued putting together a wish list for the house and updating their scrapbook of furniture with measurements.

The couple, along with their son Jim, met Jones again in Fayetteville in January 1973 to review plans and the budget for the house. They brought along the scrapbook they had made and reviewed it with Jones and Maurice Jennings, a partner in Jones's practice. In particular, the Tanners wanted "some parts of the house to be so you can't tell where the outside ends and the inside begins...a glassed-in garden room or terrace...a separate space for a library...and a second bedroom suite...almost like a separate apartment with a small refrigerator and limited facilities for cooking." The Tanners also requested a master bedroom close to the kitchen and fireplace, a dining area big enough to seat ten to twelve people, and a shop for James's woodworking that was separate from the main house but connected via a covered roof.¹⁰

After more revisions in April 1973 (Figure 5), including the reduction in the size of the house and the postponement of building the guesthouse, the design was finalized in June and the first footings were poured in September. Construction was completed in April 1974 at a total cost of \$157,000.¹¹ The guest house, while part of the original design, was not constructed until 1986 and cost \$19,542.¹²

The Tanners lived in the house until at least 1989, though the house was featured in multiple real estate advertisements beginning in 1981, and when James passed away in 1995, Billie sold the house to Carleton McMullin. He and his second wife, Jane, made several changes to the house. They contracted John Connell SCM Architects to design a new master bedroom in 2011, as the

⁹ Notes of Jones's phone call with the Tanners, 14 Jan. 1972, Fay Jones Collection, call #MC 1373, Series 2 Subseries 1 Box 46, Tanner, James W. and Billie, Folder 1, David Mullins Library, Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark; *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, "Obituary for Swann Pinegar Kohler," 6 Jul. 2016, <https://www.arkansasonline.com/obituaries/2016/jul/06/wann-kohler-2016-07-06>, accessed 12 Sept. 2024.

¹⁰ James and Billie's house design wish list notes, Fay Jones Collection, call #MC 1373, Series 2 Subseries 1 Box 46, Tanner, James W. and Billie, Folder 2, David Mullins Library, Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark

¹¹ Notes of conference call with the Tanners and Mr. Tate Roberts, builder, June and September 1973, Fay Jones Collection, call #MC 1373, Series 2 Subseries 1 Box 46, Tanner, James W. and Billie, Folder 1, David Mullins Library, Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark

¹² Proposal of Arkansas Home Improvement Inc., 17 Jun. 1986, Fay Jones Collection, call #MC 1373, Series 2 Subseries 1 Box 46, Tanner, James W. and Billie, Folder 1, David Mullins Library, Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark

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original house plans had the master directly next to the kitchen and had no separating walls. The McMullins enclosed the carport space between the main house and the shop and converted it into a master bedroom with an ensuite bathroom. The construction company, Jack Hartsell Construction, managed to source the building materials from the same location that Jones had 37 years prior when building the original house, including the grey flagstone for the floor and the same kind of timber for the wood detailing. The shop was retained but became a garage upon installation of two garage doors.¹³

The McMullins lived in the Tanner House until Carleton passed away, and Jane sold the house in 2016 to the current owners, Daniel and Autumn Hardin. The Hardins have kept the house almost the same from when the McMullins lived in the Tanner House. They have made minor, aesthetic changes, such as replacing the wood countertops with granite in the kitchen and redoing the tile in the master bathroom, but the larger design elements have been completely retained.¹⁴

Criterion C: Architecture

E. Fay Jones (1921-2004)

Euine Fay Jones was born in 1921 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, before moving with his parents to El Dorado, where he graduated from high school in 1938. Jones entered the School of Engineering at the University of Arkansas and studied civil engineering for two and a half years until the advent of World War II. Enlisting in the Navy in 1941, Jones attended flight school and spent fifteen months in the south Pacific flying bombers before being discharged in 1945. After his naval career, Jones began searching for architecture programs and discovered that the University of Arkansas had just created an architecture degree program under the professorship of John Williams. Jones enrolled and became one of the first five graduates in 1950.¹⁵

Upon graduation, Jones moved to Houston to accept a fellowship and begin a graduate teaching assistantship in architecture at Rice University. He then went on to teach at the University of Oklahoma School of Architecture from 1951 to 1953. One of Jones's professors, Bruce Goff, known for his organic house designs, introduced Jones to Frank Lloyd Wright during a faculty dinner at the university. Jones had already met Wright briefly years before, but the dinner reconnected the two architects and Wright invited Jones to Taliesin West for Easter, thus beginning a yearly tradition until Wright's death in 1959.¹⁶ The close relationship between the two men had a lasting impact on Jones's design principles, and he adapted many of Wright's ideas on organic architecture to suit his own style. Wright also had another impact on Jones: he advised him to accept a position teaching architecture at the University of Arkansas, where Jones would teach from 1953 until his retirement in 1988.¹⁷

¹³ Autumn Hardin, "Determination of Eligibility form: Tanner House," May 2024, in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Cheryl Nichols and Helen Berry, "Multiple Property Documentation Form: The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect," 09 Aug. 2001, *Arkansas Historic Preservation Program*, pp. 3.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 5.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

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The first two years at the university, Jones focused on teaching. He designed his own home, the E. Fay and Gus Jones House (NR listed 04/28/00), in 1956 and began accepting commissions for residences from his fellow faculty members. Houses and small-scale projects dominated Jones's body of work, and he went on to design almost 200 residences during his career. "The house is the one architectural problem that has the most potential for becoming a work of art," stated Jones in a *Progressive Architecture* article in 1965, "and in it all of the purely architectural problems exist."¹⁸

By 1966, Jones had been named the first dean of the new architecture program at the University of Arkansas and his private practice had grown to the extent that he was able to hire young architects and build a coterie of stonemasons, carpenters, and other professional craftspeople. He received over twenty national awards during his lifetime, including in 1990 the most prestigious honor the American Institute of Architects (AIA) could bestow: the Gold Medal. The AIA also named Jones as one of the ten most influential architects of the 20th century and Jones's Thorncrown Chapel as the 4th most significant structure in the U.S. in the 20th century.¹⁹

Unfortunately, Jones had to step away from his private practice and teaching due to illness and he passed away in 2004 at his home in Fayetteville. In 2009, the University of Arkansas renamed their school the Fay Jones School of Architecture in acknowledgement of his long tenure and deep impact on the university.²⁰

Organic Design, Jones, and the Tanner House

In keeping with the way Jones approached design - by allowing the solution to grow out of the problem and his intense focus on fitting the structure to his clients' wishes and lifestyles - his structures are hard to define in absolute terms of style, but they do generally exhibit certain characteristics, including respect for the natural setting, use of simple but well-crafted natural materials, integration of ornament into the overall design, expressed structure, and repetition of forms.²¹

Jones adapted much of his mentor's, Frank Lloyd Wright's, ideas into his own principles of organic design. First and foremost, both Jones and Wright sought to blend their buildings into the natural landscape. Jones accomplished this through meticulous site inspections before designing a property, which allowed him to incorporate existing natural features and situate the building in a way that would align the roof and glass panels with the contours of the landscape. Many, if not most, of Jones's buildings were set on a slope rather than the crest of a hill, and the Tanner House conforms to this characteristic of Jones's design. While the landscape is not as dramatically sloped as some of his other houses like Pine Knoll in Little Rock which is set on a ridge overlooking a valley, the approach along the driveway leads down a gentle decline into a wooded area with the main house nestled into the trees and slope. The long, low lines of the

¹⁸ "Grotto and Geometry," *Progressive Architecture*, May 1965, pp. 147.

¹⁹ Cheryl Nichols and Helen Berry, "Multiple Property Documentation Form: The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect," 09 Aug. 2001, *Arkansas Historic Preservation Program*.

²⁰ Mark Aiden Branch, "Fay Jones Wins AIA Gold Medal," *Progressive Architecture* 71, no. 1 (1990): pp. 27-28.

²¹ Cheryl Nichols and Helen Berry, "Multiple Property Documentation Form: The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect," 09 Aug. 2001, *Arkansas Historic Preservation Program*, pp. 26-27.

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house as seen from the driveway further the impression of it as an extension of the hill's contours.

In order to blend the house further into the natural landscape, Jones employed a variety of natural materials whose colors, shapes, and composition matched the setting of the Tanner House. Unlike some of his other houses, the Tanner House does not employ much stonework outside of the fireplace and the flagstone floors that run throughout the house. Instead, to blend the house into the wooded setting, the Tanner House is clad in dark board and batten siding set in a vertical pattern, further emphasizing and mimicking the mature trees that enveloped the house. The branching Y-shapes that frame the living room's glass panels also seem to echo the branches of the trees outside. The gable roof of the main section, originally with cedar shake but now with a dark grey asphalt shingle, is a similar color to the flagstone floors, providing continuity in hue between the upper and lower portions of the house. Finally, the extensive use of wood – in the window framing, the board and batten siding, the built-in furniture and cabinetry, and the beams on the ceilings – follows Jones's architectural design to blend the structure as seamlessly as possible into the wooded landscape and use simple, natural materials in geometric patterns.

The beams also showcase another of Jones's principles, that of expressed structure. Jones said in 1991 in an article in *Smithsonian* magazine that "...I have been interested in letting the structure show. Wright, for some reason, was always after spatial plasticity, and sometimes you have a helluva time figuring out what is actually holding his things together, or up..."²² Jones preferred more simple plans, and even said that he would've been happy with "a simple gable roof, post and beam, and a simple rectangle for the plan."²³ The Tanner House follows a simple floorplan, roughly rectangular in shape with the living room projection at the rear. The wide wooden beams at the roofline were not hidden but instead became a focal point of the design, showcasing the structure of the house while elevating it into a decorative element that allowed the interior to flow into the exterior, as the beams did not end with the exterior walls but continued to the end of the roof overhang outside.

Interior spaces were just as crucial a part of Jones's design philosophy as attention to the exterior. In most Jones-designed homes, he fabricated built-ins and furniture that seamlessly blended into the curves and crevices of the property, leaving no space unused for some functional purpose, and this is also true of the Tanner House. The headboard in the secondary bedroom, the light fixture in the foyer and outside the main entrance, the kitchen and bathroom cabinets, the wooden partition in the guest house, and the built-in shelves in the living room are all original to the house and examples of Jones's attention to detail in every aspect of design. Even the doorknobs had a detailed sketch to check their design compatibility with the rest of the house.

²² Andrea Oppenheimer Dean, "The Cathedral Builder Born 500 years too late," *Smithsonian* 22, no. 5 (1991): pp. 102.

²³ Fay Jones as quoted in Robert McCarter, "Fay Jones and Frank Lloyd Wright: Shining in the Shadow," symposium, *Light Seeking Shade: the Architecture of Fay Jones*, Fayetteville: the University of Arkansas, April 2009.

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The Tanner House exhibits many of the hallmarks of Fay Jones's architectural style. The custom glass windows and geometric wooden framing echoes the materiality and form of the tree branches outside, and the wooden beams show his preference for expressed structure. The interior details of the house, from the design of the kitchen cabinets with their geometric patterns to the secondary bedroom's headboard that fit perfectly into the space below the roofline, further highlight Jones's mastery of blending parts into the whole and creating a space that evokes a quiet reverence for nature and the setting the house was built around.

Comparable Properties

There are only two other Fay Jones houses in and near Little Rock. The first is the Sam and Sharon Pallone House located at 26001 Ginger Hill Circle, Ferndale, Arkansas (Figures 1 and 2). The property is set on a small lake in a heavily forested area west of Little Rock and was finished in 1976. Jones won several awards for the Pallone House, including the AIA's Award of Merit in 1978, and the house was featured in *Architectural Record*'s "Record Houses" the same year.²⁴ The house was last surveyed by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program in 1999 during research for the Fay Jones MPDF. The house is outside the city of Little Rock and is not considered a local comparable for the Tanner House.

The second house is the Graham and Louise Hall House, also known as Pine Knoll, located at 2203 Pine Valley Road, Little Rock, Arkansas (Figure 3). Commissioned in 1960 and built in 1964, Pine Knoll was the first house that Jones designed in Little Rock. Jones worked with Ginocchio Cromwell Architects to supervise construction and produced nearly 100 working drawings, owing to the house's distance from Fayetteville and therefore Jones's inability to always be on site.²⁵ The Hall House was last surveyed in 1990 by AHPP and its current eligibility for the National Register has not been assessed. Provided it exhibits all seven aspects of integrity, then Pine Knoll could be eligible under Criterion C for its organic architecture.

The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect 1950-1997 MPDF

The Tanner House is locally significant under Criterion C: Architecture as described in the 2001 "Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect" Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The MPDF documents the life and career of E. Fay Jones, an Arkansan architect who's organic and Wrightian architecture and teaching legacy at the University of Arkansas had a significant impact on architects in the state and internationally. Jones was awarded the AIA's Gold Medal, its highest honor, in 1990. The MPDF does not have any subsections or property types delineated in the documentation. Properties eligible under the MPDF must be designed by E. Fay Jones and built in Arkansas during his productive career from 1950-1990. They must also be eligible under Criterion C for architectural value or as the work of a master.²⁶

The Tanner House meets all the requirements of the MPDF. The house was designed by E. Fay Jones in 1972, and construction was completed in 1974. The house is located in Little Rock,

²⁴ Robert Adams Ivy, Jr, *The Architecture of E. Fay Jones, FAIA* (Washington, D.C.: The American Institute of Architects Press, 1992), pp. 215.

²⁵ *Ibid*, pp. 111-117.

²⁶ Cheryl Nichols and Helen Berry, "Multiple Property Documentation Form: The Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect," 09 Aug. 2001, *Arkansas Historic Preservation Program*, Section F, pp. 1-4.

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Arkansas, in a forested, tranquil setting on almost five acres of land. The small guesthouse behind the main house was designed by Jones for the original owners as a mother-in-law suite as part of the original house plans but wasn't built until 1986. The seven aspects of integrity have been retained, and the house is an excellent example in Little Rock of Fay Jones's organic design principles.

Statement of Significance

The James W. and Billie Tanner House, completed in 1974, reflects Fay Jones's organic design principles and overall architectural philosophy that characterized his professional career. The Tanner House's design incorporates and focuses on the beauty of native, natural materials from Arkansas and highlights Jones's emphasis on harmony with nature by the expansive use of glass windows that allow unobstructed views of the wooded lot from every room in the house. Therefore, the James W. and Billie Tanner House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C: Architecture** with **local significance** as an excellent example of organic design architecture by E. Fay Jones in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The James W. and Billie Tanner House exhibits all criteria to be listed under the "Arkansas Designs of E. Fay Jones, Architect" Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The house was designed by E. Fay Jones in 1972 and completed in 1974. The house is located in Little Rock, Arkansas, in a forested, tranquil setting on almost five acres of land. The seven aspects of integrity have been retained, and the house is an excellent example in Little Rock of Fay Jones's organic design principles.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Fay Jones Collection. Drawings, correspondence, and meeting notes, 1972-1986. Call #MC 1373, Series 2 Subseries 1 Box 46, Tanner, James W. and Billie, Folders 1-3. David Mullins Library, Special Collections, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: University of Arkansas, E. Fay Jones Collection

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): PU9763

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 4.66 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

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(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 553299 | Northing: 3846886 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary comprises Parcel #43L1060001100 in Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes all property historically associated with the Tanner House.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Megan Willmes, National Register Program Manager
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 1100 North Street
city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72201
e-mail megan.willmes@arkansas.gov
telephone: (501) 324-9192
date: 08/08/2024

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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Figure 1: Photograph of the Sam and Sharon Pallone House at 26001 Ginger Hill Circle, Ferndale, Pulaski County, Arkansas, taken in 1999 (*photograph in the files of the AHPP*).

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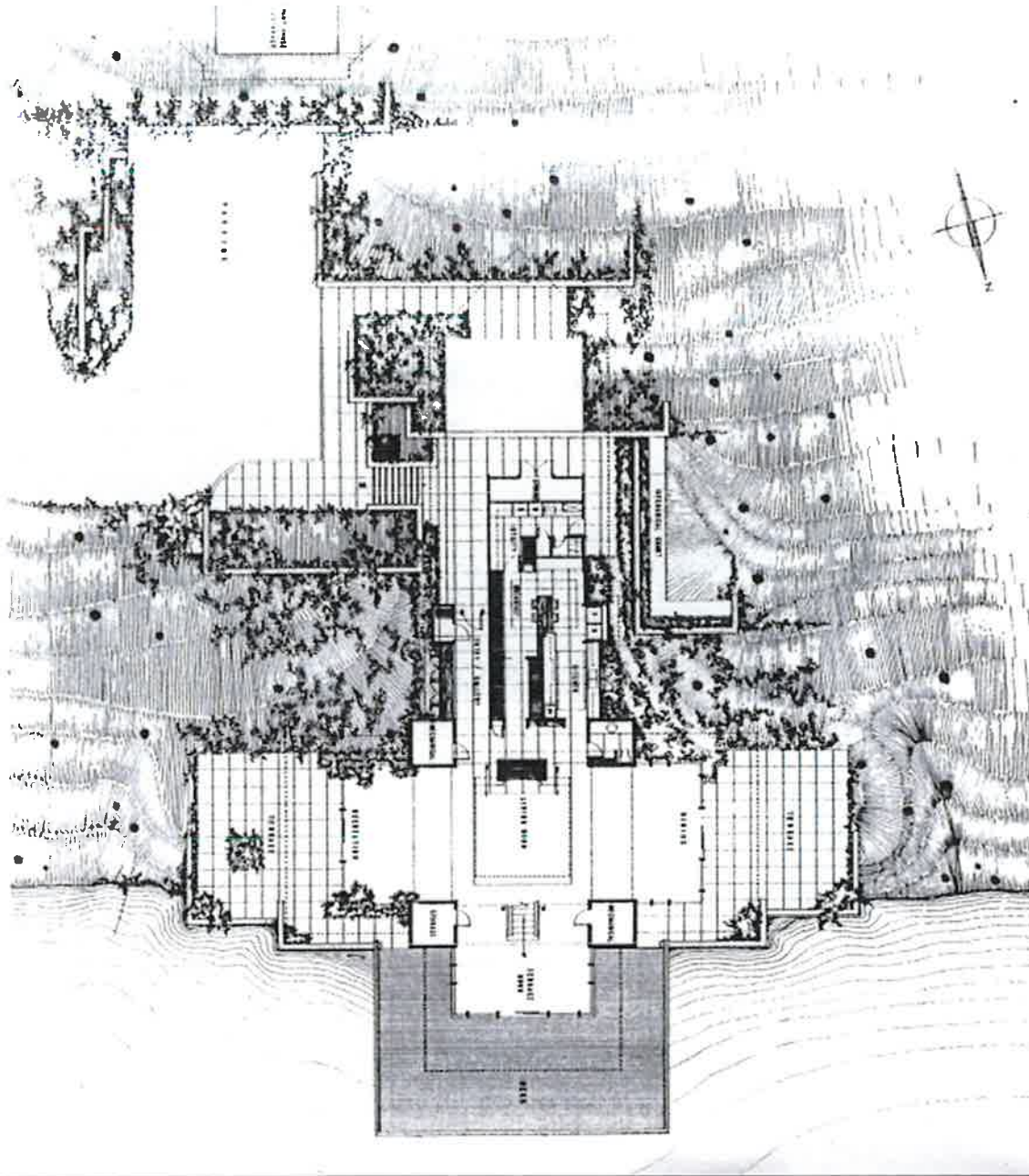


Figure 2: Sketch of the Pallone House's floorplan (taken from Ivy, Robert Adams, Jr. *The Architecture of E. Fay Jones, FALA*. Washington, D.C.: The American Institute of Architects Press, 1992, pp. 148).

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Figure 3: Photograph of the north elevation of the Graham and Louise Hall House (Pine Knoll) from 1999 (*photograph in the survey files of the AHPP*).

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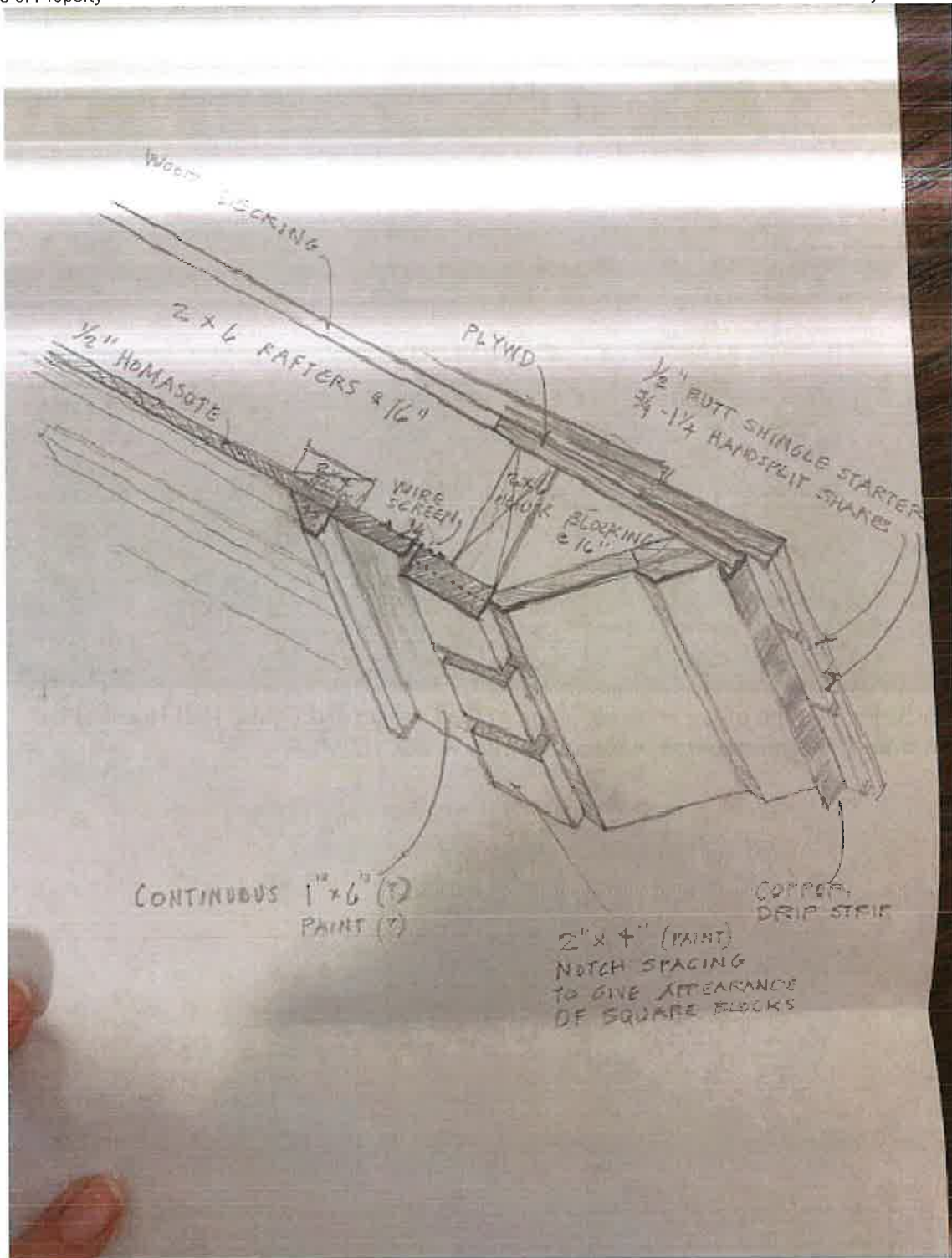


Figure 4: Detail sketch of the Tanner House's rafter design in pencil by E. Fay Jones (in the E. Fay Jones Collection at the University of Arkansas Special Collections, Fayetteville, Arkansas).

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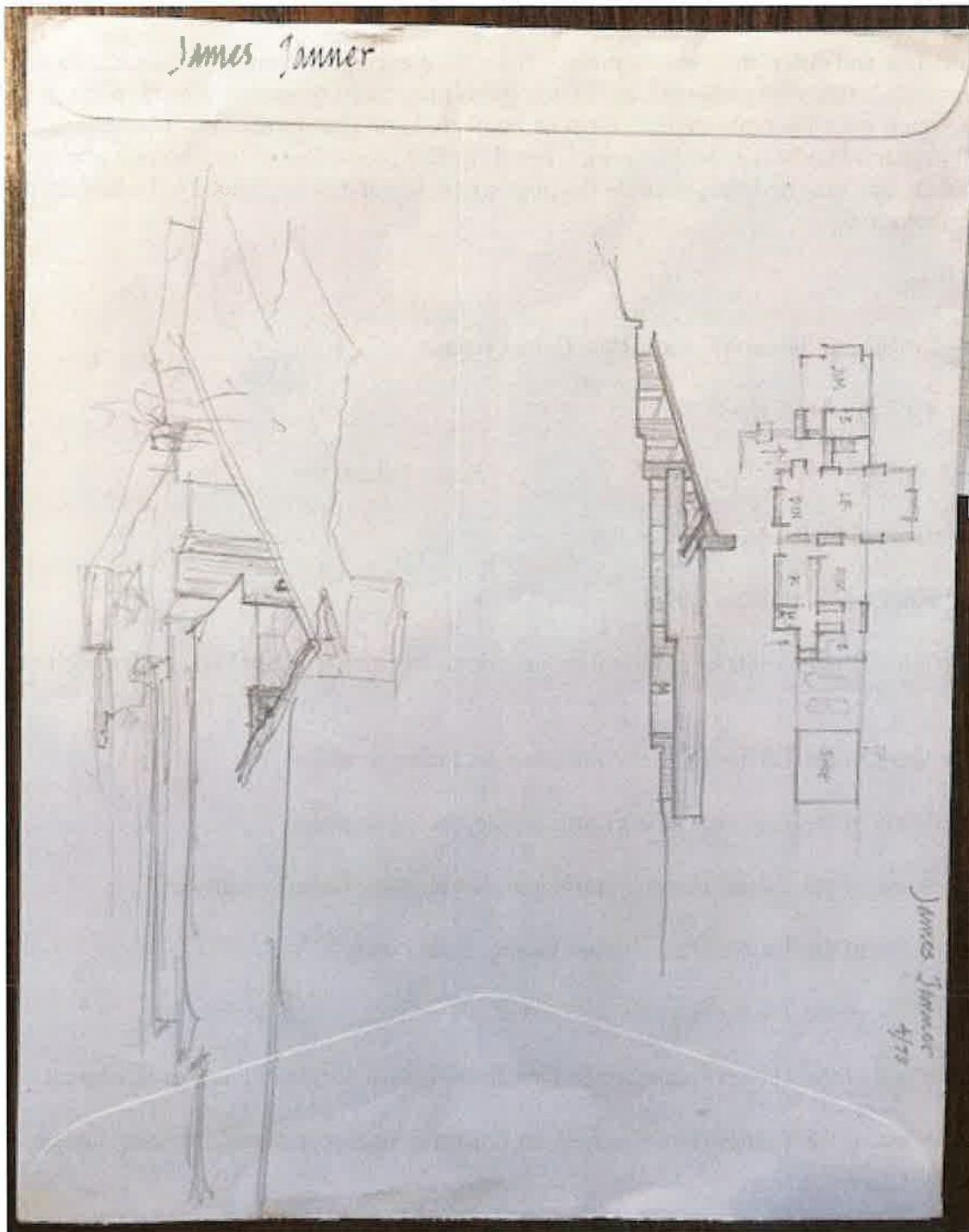


Figure 5: Sketch of the Tanner House's front façade and interior floorplan in pencil by E. Fay Jones (in the E. Fay Jones Collection at the University of Arkansas Special Collections, Fayetteville, Arkansas).

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Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: James W. and Billie Tanner House

City or Vicinity: Little Rock

County: Pulaski

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Ralph Wilcox

Date Photographed: 24 May 2024

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 55. View of the Tanner House's north façade, facing south.
- 2 of 55. View of the Tanner House's north façade, facing south.
- 3 of 55. View of the Tanner House's north and east facades, facing southwest.
- 4 of 55. View of the Tanner House's east façade, facing west.
- 5 of 55. View of the Tanner House's east and south facades, facing northwest.
- 6 of 55. View of the Tanner House's east face and southern projection, facing northwest.
- 7 of 55. View of the Tanner House's southern projection's east and south facades, facing northwest.
- 8 of 55. View of the Tanner House's southern projection's south façade, facing north.
- 9 of 55. Detail of the southern projection's glass windows at the corner.
- 10 of 55. Detail of the southern projection's glass windows and wood inlay.

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- 11 of 55. Detail of the southern projection's wood inlay under the eaves.
- 12 of 55. Detail of the stone chimney and glass-enclosed "lookout" at the roofline.
- 13 of 55. View of the Tanner House's south façade, facing west.
- 14 of 55. View of the Tanner House's south façade and patio, facing east.
- 15 of 55. View of the Tanner House's south façade, facing northwest.
- 16 of 55. View of the Tanner House's west façade, facing northeast.
- 17 of 55. View of the Tanner House's west and north facades, facing southeast.
- 18 of 55. View of the Tanner House's north façade near the garage, facing south.
- 19 of 55. View of the Tanner House's north façade, facing southeast.
- 20 of 55. Detail of the secondary entrance to the Tanner House on the north façade.
- 21 of 55. Detail of the main entrance to the Tanner House on the north façade.
- 22 of 55. View of the east side of the main entrance, facing west.
- 23 of 55. View of the Guest House's east and south facades, facing northwest.
- 24 of 55. View of the Guest House's east and north facades, facing southwest.
- 25 of 55. View of the Guest House's west and north façades, facing east.
- 26 of 55. View of the Tanner House's southern projection's west façade, facing east.
- 27 of 55. Detail of the Jones-designed metal light on the north façade.
- 28 of 55. View of the foyer into the living room, facing south.
- 29 of 55. Detail of the Jones-designed wooden light fixture in the foyer.
- 30 of 55. View from the foyer into the secondary bedroom, facing east.
- 31 of 55. Detail of the hallway bathroom.
- 32 of 55. View of the secondary bedroom, facing north.

James W. and Billie Tanner House
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- 33 of 55. Detail of the kitchenette in the secondary bedroom.
- 34 of 55. Detail of the custom wood built-ins in the secondary bedroom.
- 35 of 55. View of the lookout room and stone chimney, facing west.
- 36 of 55. Detail of the staircase leading down from the lookout room.
- 37 of 55. View of the living room and southern projection from the lookout room, facing south.
- 38 of 55. View of the dining room, facing northwest.
- 39 of 55. View of the lookout room from the living room, facing north.
- 40 of 55. View of the living room and southern projection, facing southwest.
- 41 of 55. View of the stone fireplace and sitting room, facing southeast.
- 42 of 55. View of the sitting room and hallway to the master bedroom, facing west.
- 43 of 55. View of the kitchen, facing east.
- 44 of 55. Detail of the woodwork on the kitchen cabinets.
- 45 of 55. View of the pantry/workstation off the kitchen, facing southeast.
- 46 of 55. View of the study, facing southwest.
- 47 of 55. View of the hallway to the master bedroom, facing west.
- 48 of 55. View of the master bedroom, facing northwest.
- 49 of 55. View of the master bedroom, facing southwest.
- 50 of 55. View of the master bathroom, facing east.
- 51 of 55. View of the master closet, facing east.
- 52 of 55. View of the Guest House's interior, facing southeast.
- 53 of 55. View of the Guest House's bedroom, facing west.
- 54 of 55. Detail of the wood beams in the garage.

James W. and Billie Tanner House
Name of Property

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55 of 55. View of the entrance gate, facing southwest.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

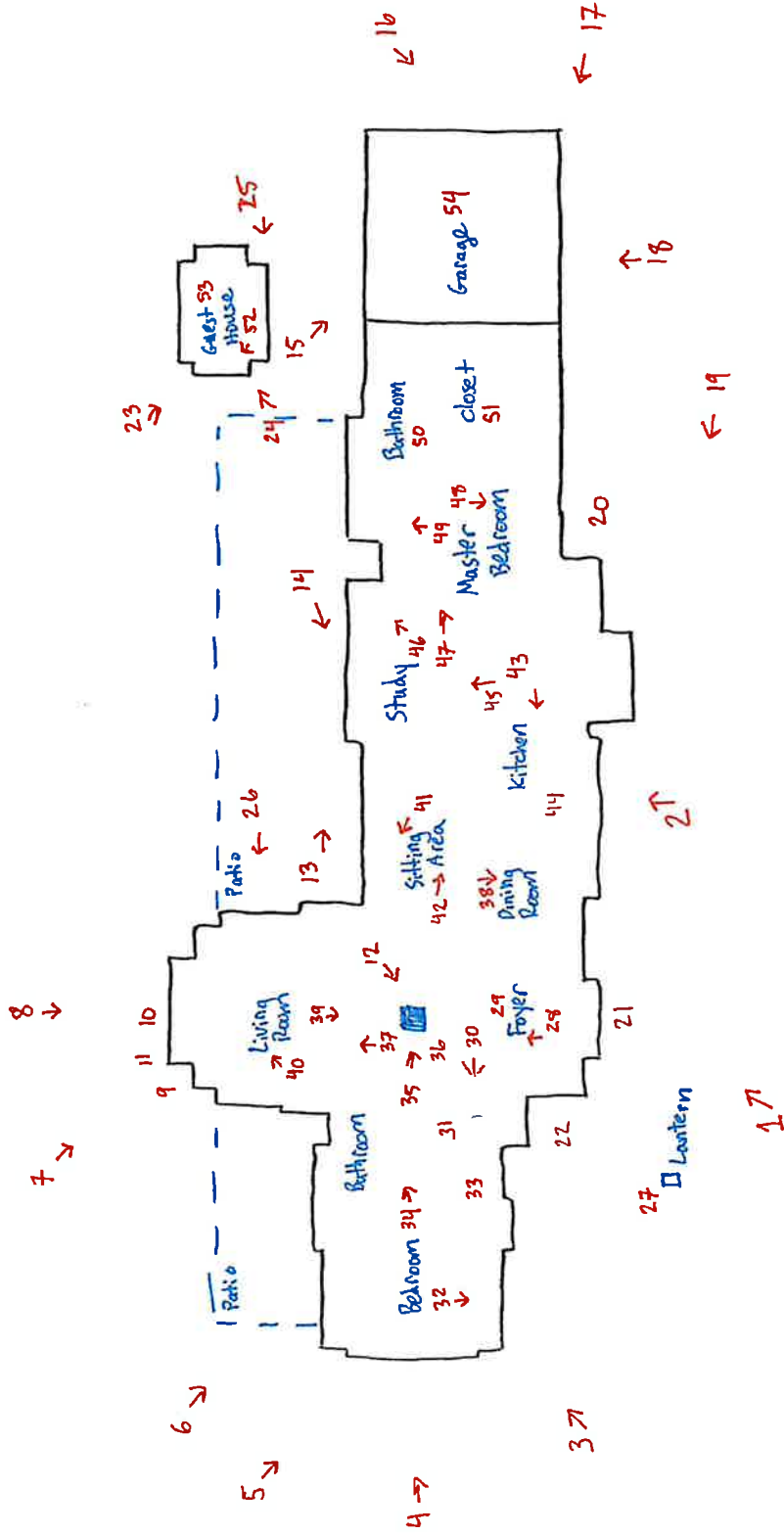
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

- Tier 1 – 60-100 hours
- Tier 2 – 120 hours
- Tier 3 – 230 hours
- Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Photo Location Map
 James W. and Billie Tanner House

12821 Ridgeway Road, Little Rock, Pulaski County, AR









































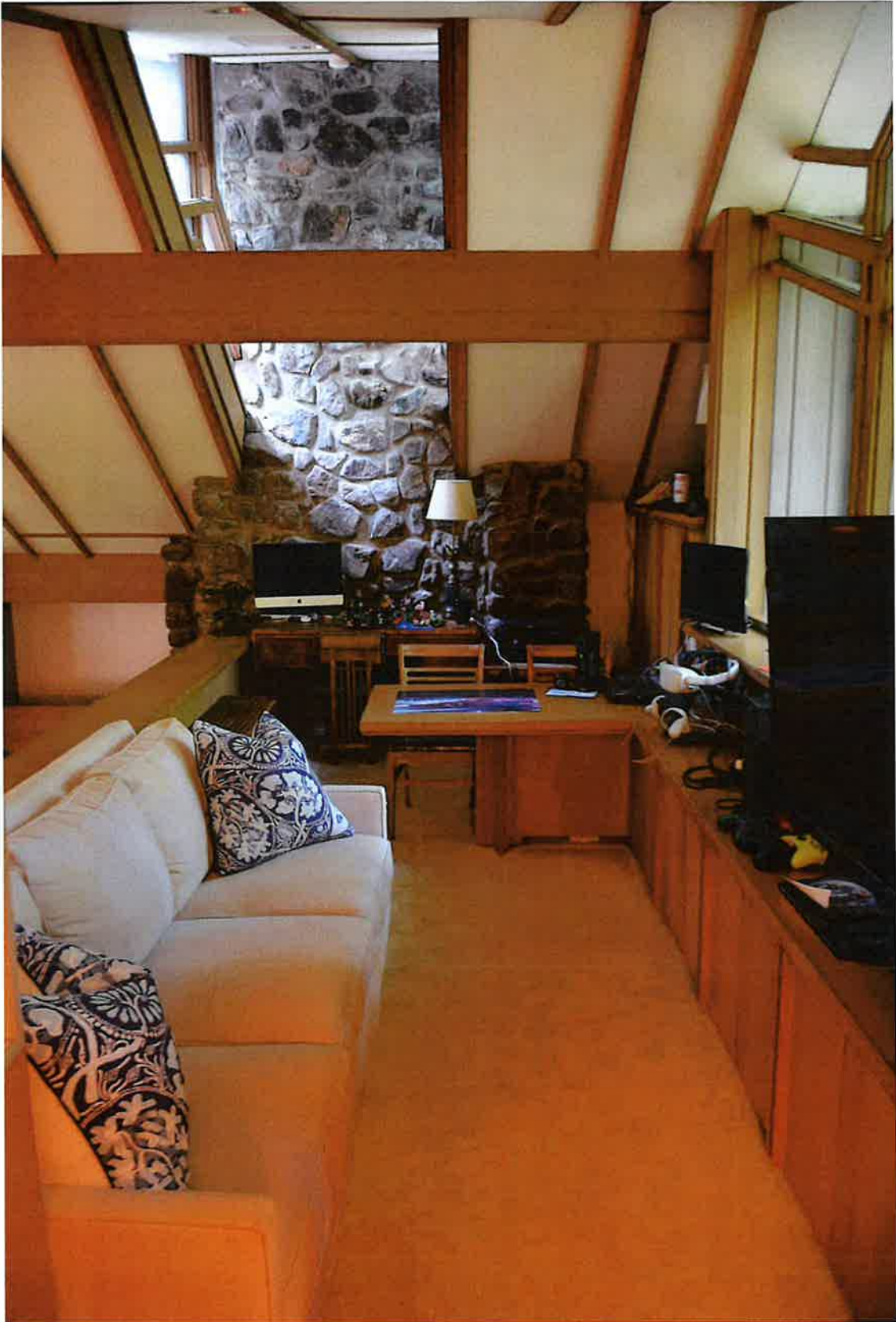










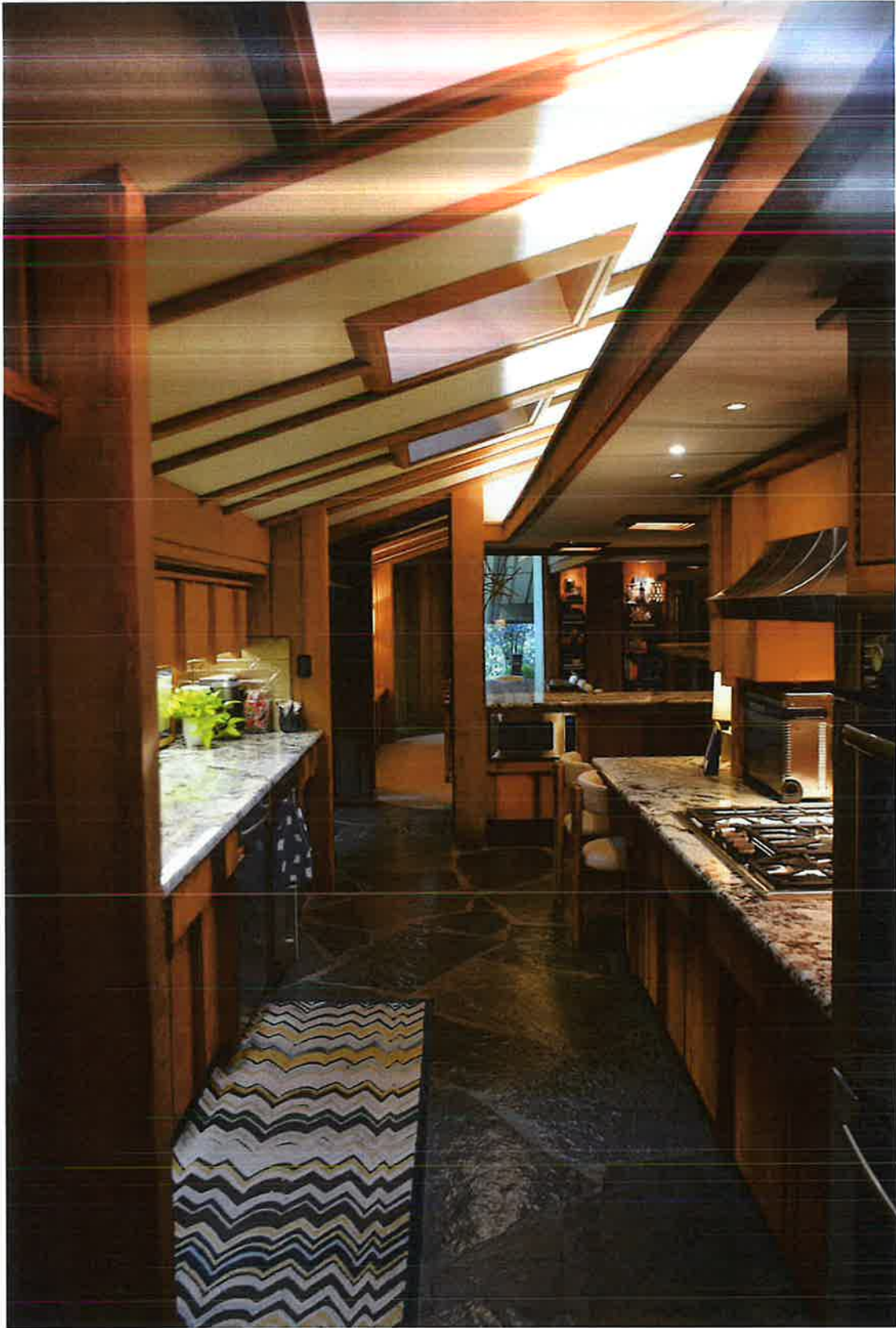








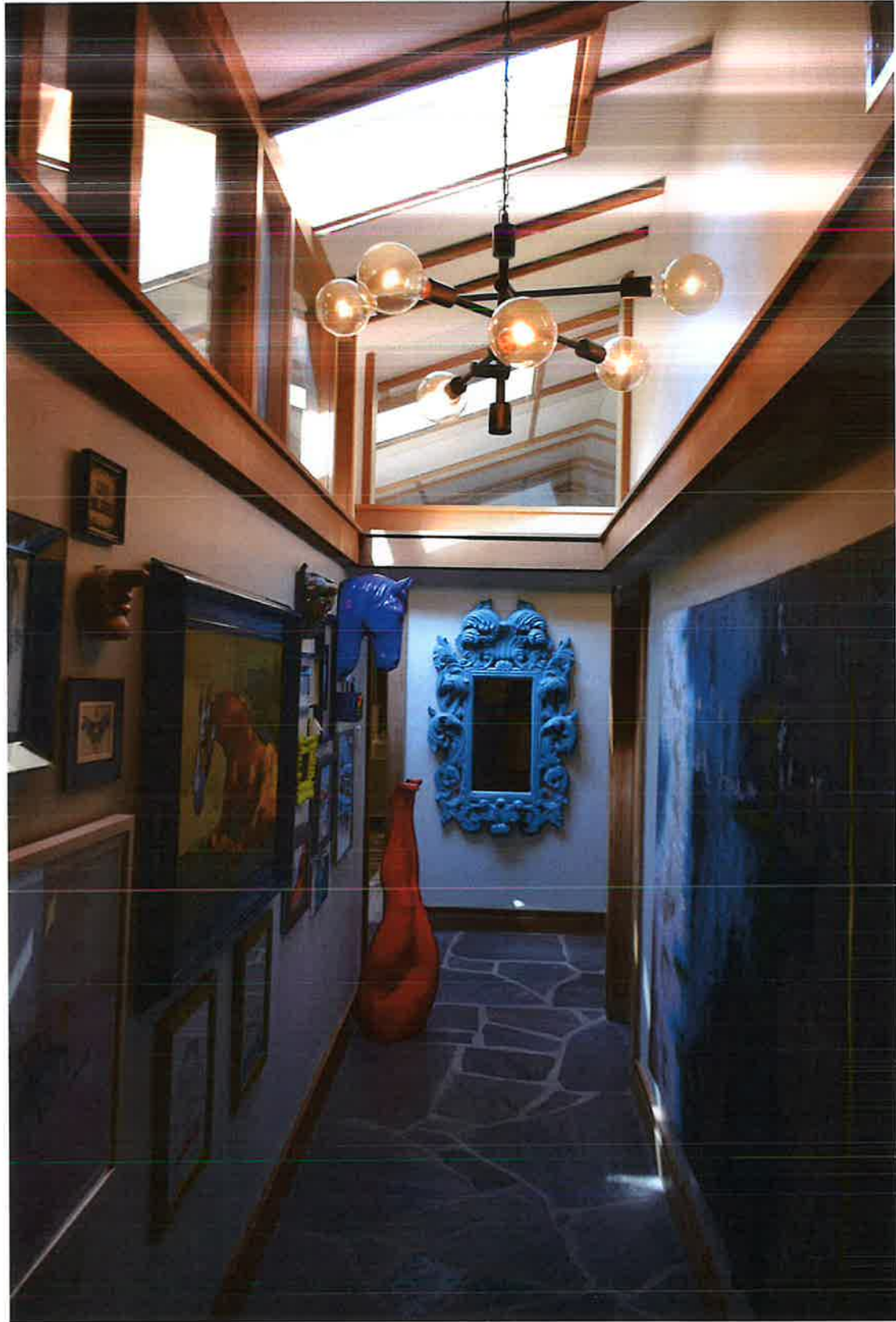














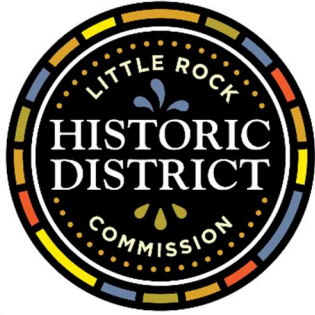








November 7, 2024



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

723 West Markham Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1334
Phone: (501) 371-4790 Fax:(501) 399-3435
www.littlerock.gov

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION REVIEW

Name and Address of property:

James W. and Billie Tanner House, 12821 Ridgehaven Rd, Little Rock, AR, 72211

Name of Owner:

Daniel P and Autumn R Hardin
12821 Ridgehaven Rd
Little Rock, AR 72211

Project Sponsor:

Megan Willmes, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

CLG Name:

City of Little Rock, Arkansas

Date of Public Hearing by CLG:

November 7, 2024

Applicable Criteria:

Criterion A (Historic Events)

Criterion B (Important Person)

Criterion C (Architecture)

Criterion D (Archaeological)

The Little Rock Historic District Commission hereby recommends the above stated property for nomination.

Attest:

Chair

Date

Secretary/Staff

Date