SEP. RICHARD SHEPPARD ARNOLD U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE 600 West Capitol Avenue • Little Rock

This federal courthouse and former post office was built in 1932 to replace the old one on 2nd Street, which had become too small for the growing city's needs. Constructed in the "starved Classical" style typical of federal buildings in the 1930s, this large public building project provided an economic boost during the Great Depression. Thurgood Marshall represented the Little Rock Nine before U.S. District Judge Ronald N. Davies in this courthouse during the Central High School integration crisis. Davies ultimately ruled that integration must proceed. A 1957-era courtroom has been restored to tell this important story.

NOTE: Photo ID is required for entrance. Visitors must pass through security screening and check in cell phones and smartwatches. Onsite public parking is not available, but there are paid parking lots nearby.

NOV. GIBSON & COMPANY'S BLUE STAR / HORIZON HOME 7012 Shamrock Drive • Little Rock

Built in 1964, this house is a good example of the national Horizon Home program, which promoted innovative uses of concrete in residential design. Designed by Little Rock architect Frank Eugene Withrow, it is a stunning expression of Wrightian architecture, featuring a long, low profile, bands of windows, and contrasting concrete textures. Perched on a prominent hillside, it was a regional winner in the 1964 Horizon Home competition. The property also served as a "Blue Star Home" to showcase modern gas appliances. This structure remains one of Little Rock's most unique examples of mid-century residential architecture.





RICHARD SHEPPARD ARNOLD U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE

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PHOTO CREDITS

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Gibson & Company's Blue Star / Horizon Home - Ralph Wilcox, 2024







1100 North Street • Little Rock, AR 72201 (501) 324-9150 • info@arkansasheritage.com

SANDWICHING IN HISTORY TOURS



• OLD VA HOSPITAL

• ARKANSAS POST NATIONAL MEMORIAL

- DEARING HOUSE
- FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
- RICHARD SHEPPARD ARNOLD U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE
- GIBSON & COMPANY'S BLUE STAR / HORIZON HOME



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IN HISTORY

JOIN US FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT ARKANSAS' MOST UNIQUE HISTORIC PROPERTIES. SINCE 1997, THE ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM (AHPP) HAS LED PUBLIC TOURS OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES THROUGHOUT ARKANSAS IN A SERIES CALLED SANDWICHING IN HISTORY. TOURS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THEY TYPICALLY LAST ABOUT AN HOUR AND TAKE PLACE AT NOON ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.

FFB. OLD VA HOSPITAL

300 East Roosevelt Road • Little Rock

Built from 1948 to 1950 as part of a post-World War II campaign, the hospital was hailed as a modern marvel and featured in national design magazines. A joint venture by firms Brueggeman, Swaim & Allen, and Erhart, Eichenbaum & Rauch, its avant-garde International Style design features a unique Y-shape on a prominent hill meant to maximize light for patients. After the VA relocated in 1984, the building saw various owners. It was recently redeveloped into residential apartments known as The Flats at SoMa with the help of historic tax credits. It is Little Rock's most intact and best-surviving example of an International Style hospital—a landmark of modernist architecture.

MAR. ARKANSAS POST NATIONAL MEMORIAL 1741 Old Post Road • Near Gillett

Founded as a French trading post among the Quapaw in 1686, Arkansas Post was the first European settlement in what is now Arkansas. It was the setting of the only Revolutionary War battle on the soil of our future state. The U.S. acquired it with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. The Post became territorial Arkansas' first seat of government from 1819 until Little Rock was made the capital in 1821. During the Civil War, it was the site of Fort Hindman. It fell to Federal troops in the 1863 Battle of Arkansas Post, and the settlement faded into history. It was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1960.

DEARING HOUSE

745 North Locust Place • Newark

The T.H. Dearing House is the last surviving building from the lost community of Akron, a once-thriving 19th-century river port. The entire house was moved to Newark in 1901—a town whose growth was fueled by the railroad that bypassed Akron. The house is a physical symbol of the economic shift from river to rail transport. The ornate Victorian home was built ca. 1890 by farmer and politician Thomas Hindman Dearing and gained a second story in 1914. Today it is one of Independence County's significant Victorian structures and a tangible reminder of Newark's origins and Akron's decline.

AUG. FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH 701 South Gaines Street • Little Rock

Founded in 1845 by Reverend Wilson Brown, an enslaved man, First Missionary Baptist Church is home to one of Arkansas' oldest Black congregations. The current red brick Gothic Revival building was constructed in 1882 by formerly enslaved craftsmen. Linked to Little Rock's historic 9th Street corridor, the church was a speakers, including Booker T. Washington and Dr.

vital center for civil rights activism. It hosted influential Martin Luther King, Jr., who preached from its pulpit in 1963. This magnificent National Register-listed building continues to serve its active congregation today.







