

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Thida Grove School

other name/site number: IN0561

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2. Location

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street & number: County Road 20

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Thida

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Independence code: AR 063 zip code: 72565

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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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 A. Buford
Signature of certifying official

7-16-92
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

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____

_____ 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

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: EDUCATION

Sub: School

Current: SOCIAL

Sub: Meeting Hall

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS

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Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Asphalt
walls WOOD/Weatherboard other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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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

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: EDUCATION

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1920-1940

Significant Dates: N/A

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.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See "Public Schools in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940" Multiple Property Form, Section H.

___ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- _ previously listed in the National Register
- _ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- _ designated a National Historic Landmark
- _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- _ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>638990</u>	<u>3937250</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of a line running along the northern edge of County Road 20 with a perpendicular line running parallel with the building's western elevation and located 50 feet to the west thereof, proceed northerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running parallel to the building's northern elevation; thence proceed easterly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a line running parallel to the building's eastern elevation; thence proceed southerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the northern edge of County Road 20; thence proceed westerly along said line for a distance of approximately 200 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes both the historic resource and all the surrounding property known to have been historically associated therewith that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, National Register Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 16, 1992

Street & Number: 225 E. Markham, Suite 300 Telephone: (501) 324-9346

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 7 Page 1

Summary

The Thida School Building is a pre-WPA structure constructed circa 1920 in the Plain Traditional style of architecture.

Elaboration

The Thida School is a single-story structure constructed circa 1920. The overall plan is rectangular and consists of a continuous concrete foundation supporting novelty-sided, wood frame walls covered by a composition-shingled gabled roof. There is an interior central brick chimney.

The southern elevation features a recessed central porch with two entries. The fenestration is that of two nine-over-nine, double-hung windows and four four-pane stationary windows. The eastern elevation is blank with the exception of one small four-pane stationary window. The northern elevation has a large centrally placed interior chimney constructed of brick. Three of the windows are boarded over. Two of the remaining windows feature nine-over-nine sashes and two feature six-over-six arrangements. Those remaining windows are covered with a metal mesh. The western elevation is blank.

The interior of the building consists of one large room. The ceiling is tongue-and-groove pattern and the floor fabric is wide oak planking. There is a stage across the eastern exposure of the room which can be hidden from view by a curtain.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1**Thida School**

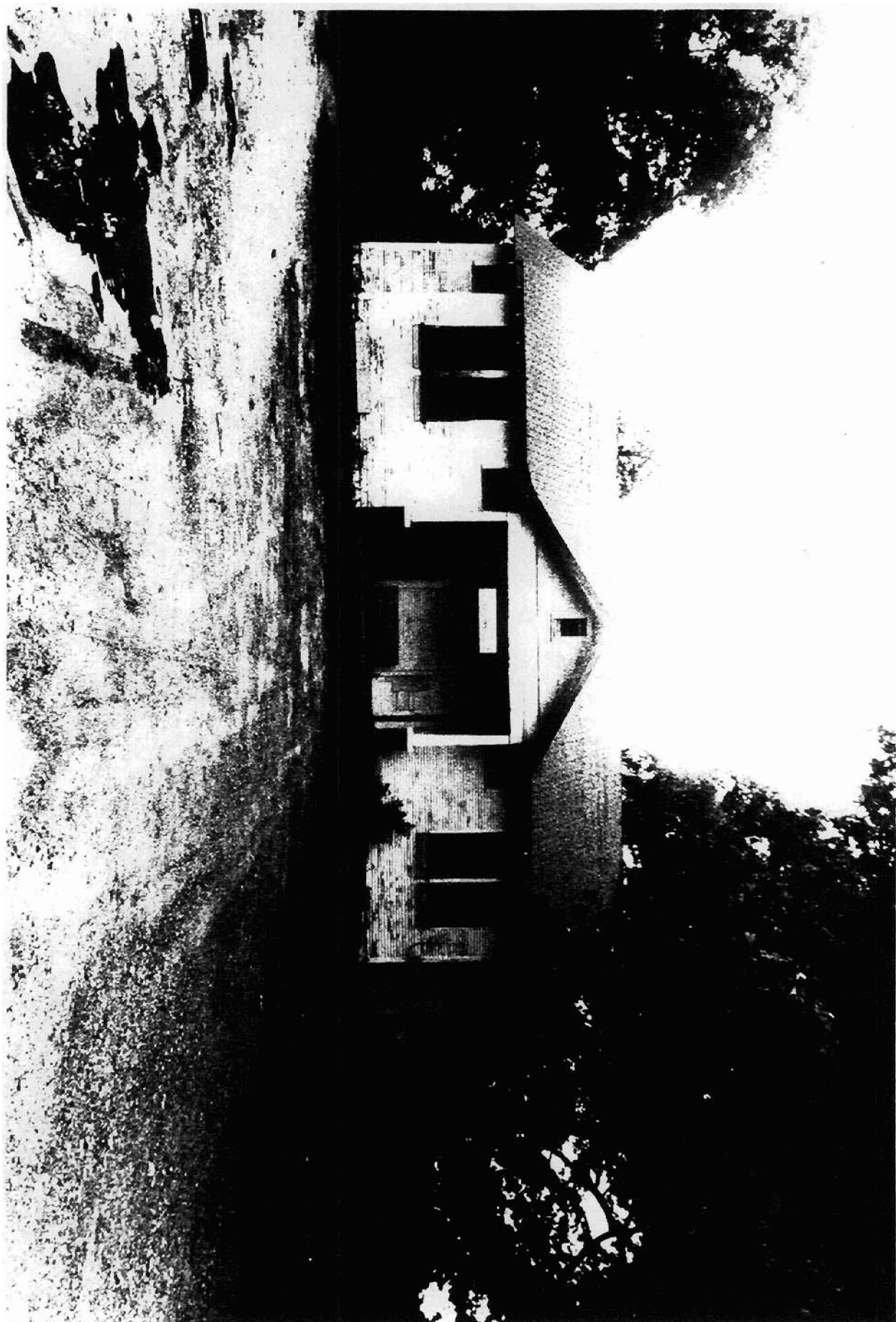
The region known as Oil Trough Bottom, in the southern and southeastern portions of Independence County, are among the most fertile and productive in the state, and in the early decades of the twentieth century the Black and White river valley bottoms were known for their unusually high yields; indeed, geologically, the Ozarks as such come to an end several miles to the northwest. As world demand for Arkansas's agricultural products increased as a result of the 1918 Treaty of Versailles and the cessation of hostilities in Europe, the tiny community of Thida found itself in a relative economic boom. The Thida School was erected around 1920 as as a virtual symbol of the newfound optimism that the small town had for its economic prospects, as well as for the progressive spirit that was sweeping the state and the nation.¹

The Thida School, constructed during the period covered by the historic context *The Evolution of the Public School System in the Arkansas Ozarks, 1920-1940*, is a representative example of a small, wood frame school building constructed for a rural school district. Its use during this period as a local school building clearly identifies it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criterion A through its direct associations with the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period.

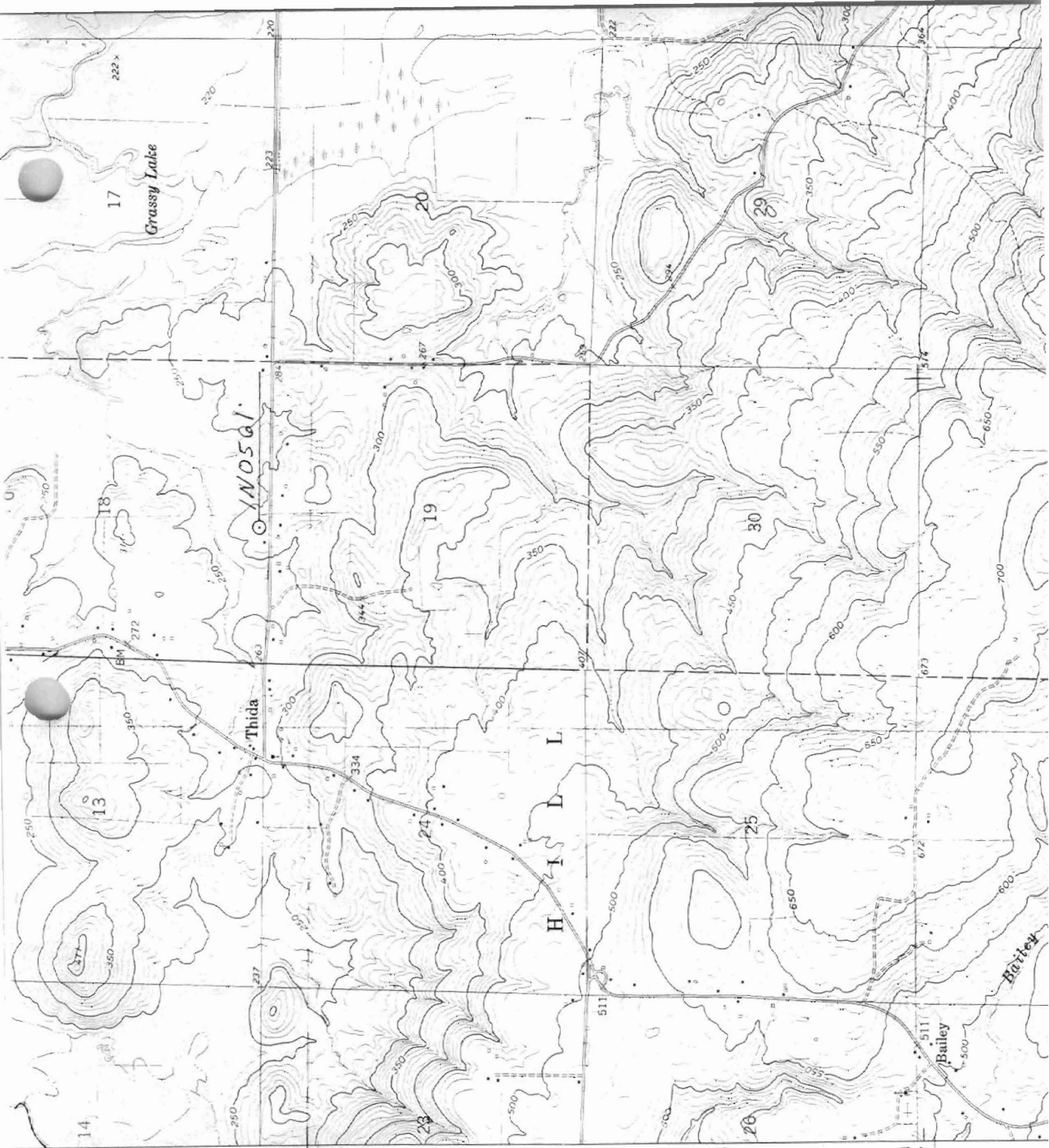
¹Dallas T. Herndon, ed., Annals of Arkansas, 1947 (Little Rock, Arkansas: The Historical Record Association, 1947), 686-687. The Oil Trough Bottom is said to have derived its name from the fact that territorial hunters in the area used to store bear oil there in a trough made of a hollow tree until it was ready to take to market.



THIDA JENCOCK
THIDA, INDEPENDENCE Co, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY V. DE ROSE
MAY, 1990
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT ANPP
VIEW FROM NORTHEAST



THIDA SCHOOL
THIDA, INDEPENDENCE CO, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY V. DEPOSE
MAY, 1990
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHSP
VIEW FROM SOUTH



~~Thida is now
Thida, Arkansas~~
Carter

THIDA SCHOOL
THIDA, ARKANSAS
15/638490/3937250
1N0561

7655 N SE
(HUFF)

32/30"