

01-74-2090-61

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

MacMillan - Wilkins - Dilley - Irwin House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

407 Martin Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Pine Bluff

STATE

Arkansas

VICINITY OF
CODE

05

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

District Four

COUNTY

Jefferson

CODE

069

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. & Mrs. Raymond A. Irwin, Jr.

STREET & NUMBER

407 Martin Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Pine Bluff,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas 71601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Circuit Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

Jefferson County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Pine Bluff,

STATE

Arkansas 71601

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The MacMillan - Wilkins - Dilley - Irwin residence which faces south is of the "prairie house" style of architecture innovated by Frank Lloyd Wright. The extraordinarily wide eaves of the house are a distinguishing characteristic. They are painted white to reflect light into the house. The wooden siding is actually two pieces - a board with a special moulding on top of it. The dark brown with the white gables is the same as the original finish. The front porch is large considering it is only intended as an entrance. The wainscoting inside the porch is beaded ceiling applied vertically. The entrance is a large solid oak door with leaded clear glass windows on either side. A border of light green stained glass gives variety to the design. Instead of walls, the foyer is screened from the other rooms by partitions made with oak squares set diagonally into an oak frame. To the left of the foyer is a small room, originally known as "the card room", which is now used as a study by Irwin, who is a doctor. On the right of the foyer is the living room with its 11 foot nine inch high beamed ceiling. When entering the living room (19' x 24'), the most eye-catching feature is the 10 foot wide dark red Roman brick fireplace with its five foot opening. Low book cases line the south and east sides of the room. Two leaded glass double casement windows on the south side admit light to the living room. Two sets of double, leaded glass French doors separate the living room from the sun room on the east side. The rear of the fireplace forms a china cabinet. Variegated red glazed tiles are set into the rear of the fireplace to offset the monotony of the dark red brick and the shelves in the cabinet are made of red oak. The dining room on the north side of the fireplace is 14' x 19' with a 9' x 3½' bay - employing leaded glass windows for light. Solid yellow pine beams were used in the ceiling of the 12' x 18' sun room and large, four-pane clear glass windows surround the three sides of the room. The light fixtures are fastened to the walls near eye level and the shades, Lotus-flower shaped, open upward to reflect light off of the walls and ceiling. A chandelier over the dining room table has an orange shade to give warmth to the room. An integral part of the chandelier is a small finned fan used to cool the room prior to air conditioning. A picture taken from the southeast corner of the house on December 15, 1903, shows that the house appeared then as it does today with the exception of a beamed car port.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES **Built 1903**

BUILDER/ARCHITECT **J. W. Dutton, Builder
Hugh M. G. Garden, Chicago**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The MacMillan - Wilkins - Dilley - Irwin house is an outstanding example of the "prairie house" style of architecture originated by Frank Lloyd Wright. When the Sawyer & Austin Lumber Company of La Crosse, Wisconsin, a subsidiary of the W. W. Cargill Company, large grain dealers in Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas, exhausted its timber holdings, a large tract of timber land was bought in Jefferson County and the surrounding area. The mill was moved to Pine Bluff in 1899. J. H. MacMillan, Cargill's son-in-law, was the general manager. The company decided to build a residence for the manager and MacMillan commissioned an architect named Garden in Chicago to design the home. According to research, the architect was identified as Hugh M. G. Garden, a member of the firm F. Schmidt, Garden and Martin. Apparently Garden was a student of Wright and used many of the great architect's ideas in the homes he (Garden) designed. J. A. McLeod, a native of Rushford, Minnesota, who was hired by Cargill in La Crosse, was sent to Pine Bluff as a bookkeeper for Sawyer and Austin in 1901. McLeod said the plans for the house were completed in the late spring of 1903 and the contract to construct the residence given to J. W. Dutton. McLeod was an amateur photographer and took pictures at different stages of construction for the architect and MacMillan, who had to spend considerable time at the Cargill (grain) Elevator Company in Minneapolis. The home was completed in late December, 1903, and the Mac Millans lived in it until 1906 when he was promoted to manager of the Cargill Security Company, which controlled all of the Cargill holdings. Franke L. Clarke, a classmate of MacMillan and manager of the Sawyer and Austin commissary, lived in the house until 1910.

The company sold the home to V. D. Wilkins on May 2, 1910. The Wilkins lived there until Fred L. Dilley, a local foundry owner, bought the house on April 13, 1919. After Mrs. Dilley died, Edward S. Dilley, moved into the house in 1928 to care for his father. His daughter, Mrs. Irwin, formerly Eve Dilley, and her husband, Dr. Raymond A. Irwin, Jr., live there now.

When Edward Dilley moved into the house, he changed the arrangement of the rooms on the second floor and installed a bathroom. The Irwins, who have four children, built an addition to the rear of the house containing two bedrooms on the second floor and a kitchen and den on the first level. The addition was constructed in such a manner as to blend with the original portion of the house and is not visible from the front or sides.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE

From the information available this is ~~the only~~ the only house of its design in the State of Arkansas.

The house has been maintained in excellent condition throughout its life. The owners kept it painted in its original colors of dark brown and white. The main portion of the interior looks as it did when the house was first completed. Because of its architectural uniqueness and the fact that it has been the home of three of the city's prominent families, the residence is worthy of recognition on the National Register.

1. Hugh Mackie Gorden Garden (1873-1961), once a draftsman for Frank Lloyd Wright and Louis Sullivan, was chief designer in the firm of Schmidt, Garden, and Martin, though Schmidt has often mistakenly been given the credit. The firm in later years, then known as Schmidt, Garden and Erikson, became one of the largest in the country, but its designs were waning in originality. Garden's early years with Schmidt are the most significant, when he was one of the leaders in the fight to keep alive the principles of the Chicago school. It is into this period that the house in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, falls -- the period when Garden's residential work was receiving much attention in contemporary periodicals.

The huge Montgomery Ward Warehouse (1908), at that time the largest building in the world with a reinforced concrete frame, is his best known work. Other Garden designs include: The Montgomery Ward Building (1898), the Michael Reece Hospital (1906), the Ambassador Hotel (1918), and the Bunte Brothers Candy Factory (1921). His Schoenhofen Brewery (1902 and the Chapin and Gore Building (1904) are both Chicago Architectural Landmarks, and his Madlener House (1902, now headquarters for the Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

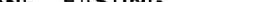
Wayne Andrews. Architecture in Chicago and Mid-America, a Photographic History, (Kingsport, Tennessee, Kingsport Press, Inc., 1968)
Arkansas Gazette, May 18, 1972.
Mrs. Raymond A. Irwin, Jr., personal interview, May 29, 1972.
Jefferson County Land Records, Circuit Clerk's office, Deed Book 58,
p. 323 and Deed Book 70, p. 215.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

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Land Description

Lot 7 & 8 Block 10, Williams subdivision of Blocks 8, 9, 10 & 11 of the Dexter Harding Addition to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, located in the NW 1/4 Section 10 Township 6 South Range 9 West.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James W. Leslie, Director

July 27, 1976

DATE _____

ORGANIZATION

Jefferson County History Commission

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

~~Pine Bluff~~ 608 West 20th Avenue

534-7826

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Pine Bluff

Arkansas 71601

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☒

STATE

LOCAL _____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FOR THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TITLE

D'ATE

FOI NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE _____

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE _____

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

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Greengard, Pernard C. "Hugh M. G. Garden," Prairie School Review,
Vol. 3, first quarter 1966, pp. 5 - 18.

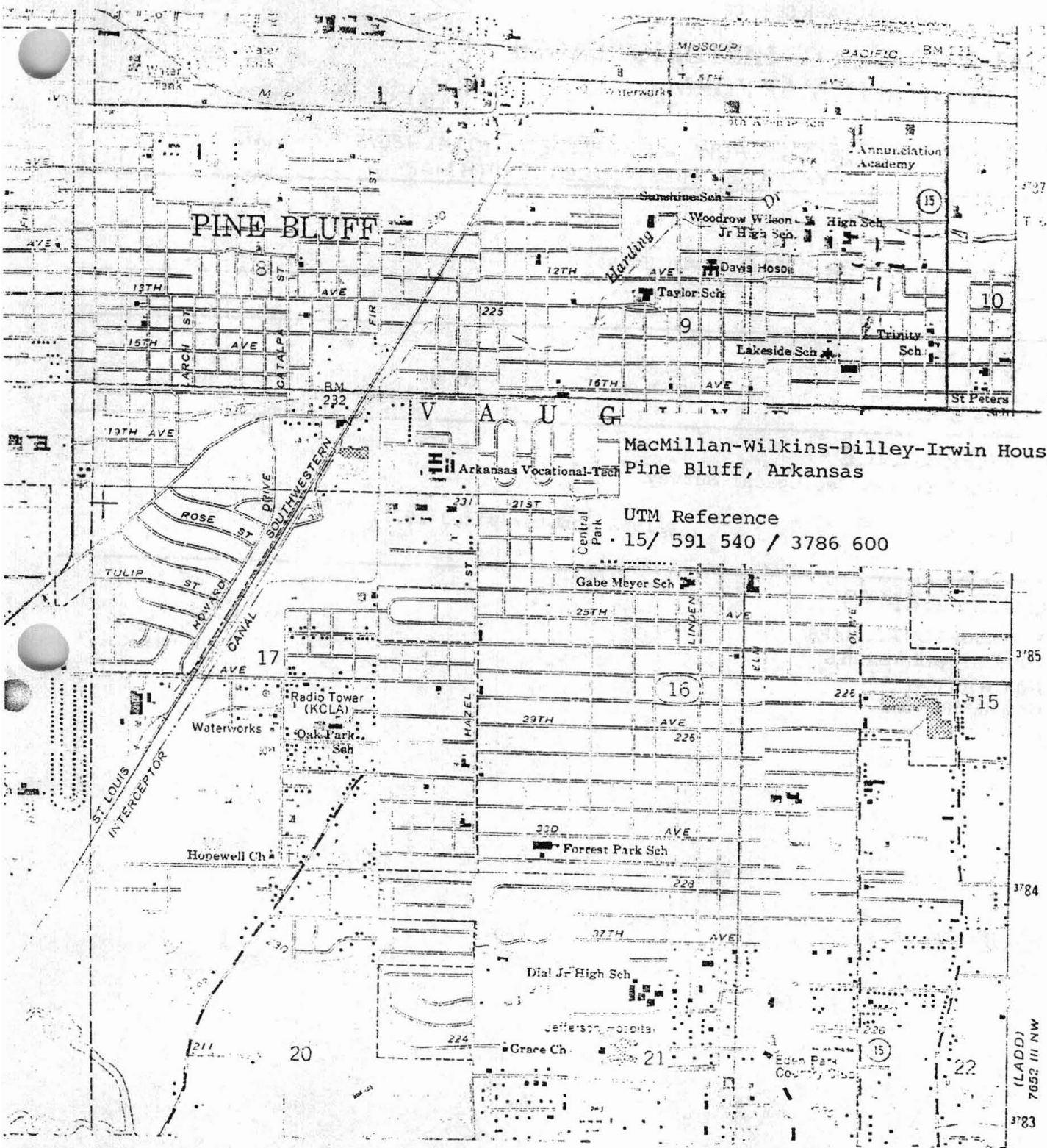
Who's Who in America, Vol 26, 1950 - 51.

PINE BLUFF

V A U G

MacMillan-Wilkins-Dilley-Irwin House
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

UTM Reference
15/ 591 540 / 3786 600



(LADD)
7652 III NW
3783

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

MacMillan-Wilkins-Dilley-Irwin House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Pine Bluff

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jefferson

STATE

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

SCALE 1:24000

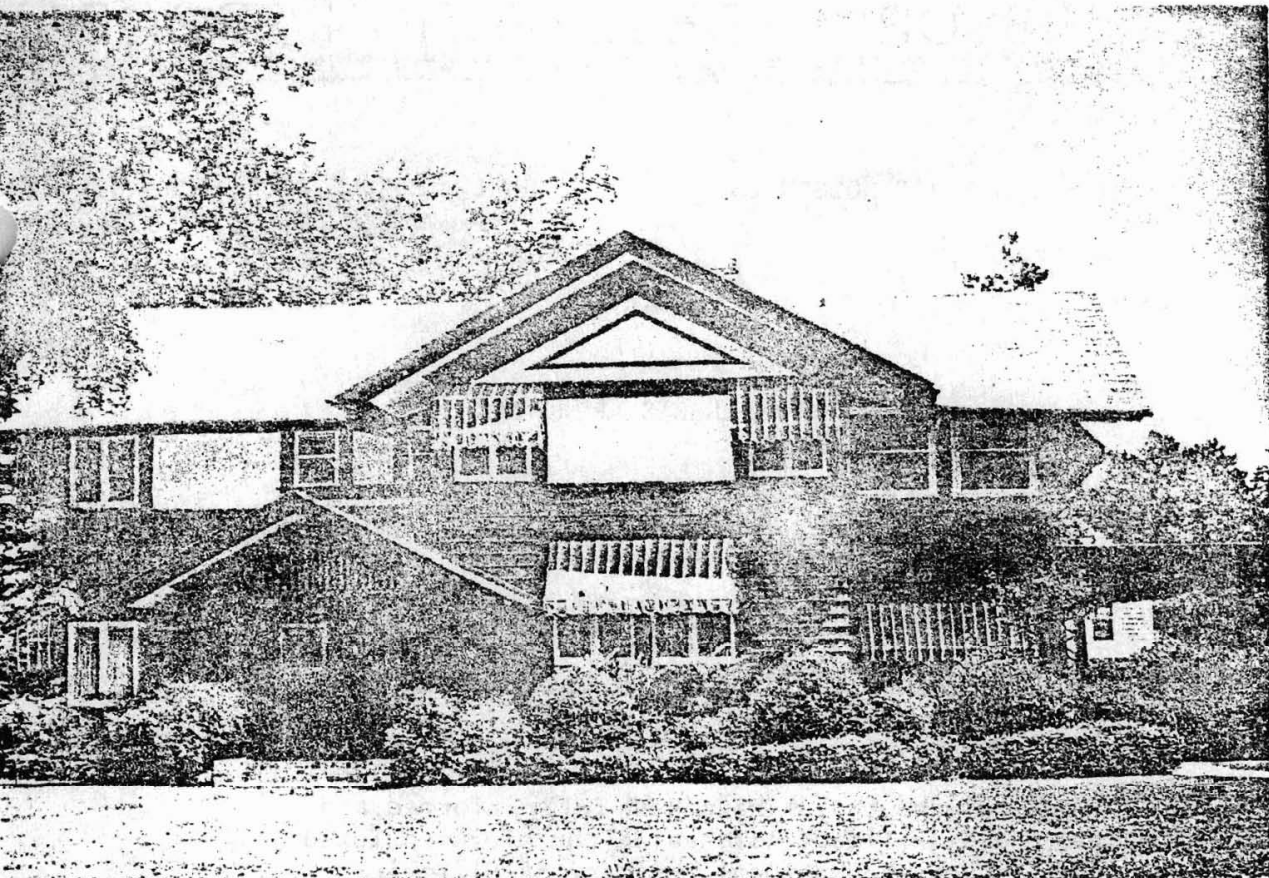
DATE 1962 (photorevised 1971)

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75



10-301a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

MacMillan - Wilkins p Dilley - Irwin House

AND/OR COMMON

1 LOCATION 407 Martin Avenue

CITY, TOWN
Pine Bluff

___ VICINITY OF

COUNTY
Jefferson

STATE
Arkansas

PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT James W. Leslie

DATE OF PHOTO July 23, 1976

NEGATIVE FILED AT James W. Leslie, 608 West 20th Ave., Pine Bluff, AR 71601

IDENTIFICATION

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



"THE OLD STATE HOUSE" 300 WEST MARKHAM

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

TELEPHONE - 501 371-1639

PROPERTY OWNER'S APPROVAL

I, R. A. Irwin, Jr., am the legal

owner of the residence

located at 407 Martin Avenue, Pine Bluff, Arkansas

I hereby acknowledge that I have been fully informed and understand the significance of having the aforementioned property placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

I hereby approve the inclusion of the aforementioned property on the National Register of Historic Places.

Owner

Date

7/22/76