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Form 10-300 July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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AND/OR HISTORIC:	Du Bocage AND/OR HISTORIC:									
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LOCATION							*************			
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1115	1115 West 4th									
	CITY OR TOWN:									
Pine	Blu	ff	len-	INTV.			r			
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CLASSIFICATION	nsas		1 05 1	Jef:	ferson	- T. T.	1069			
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(Check One)		OWNERSHIP			STATUS		PUBLIC			
District 💢 8	vilding	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:	10	X Occupied	Yes:				
1	tructure	☐ In Process			Unoccupied		Restricted Unrestricted			
□ Object		☐ Both ☐ Being Considere								
					in progress	□ No				
PRESENT USE (Chec	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)									
☐ Agricultural	☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments									
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☐ Educational		ilitary	Religious	1						
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OWNER OF PROPER	YTY	To the Notice of				N				
OWNER'S NAME:	D.		1 07 1				1			
STREET AND NUMBE	Pine Bluff Optimist Club									
STREET AND NUMBER:										
CITY OR TOWN:	CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		T	ODE			
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TITLE OF SURVEY:										
Kendrew,	Kendrew, James R. Short, Henry A. Judd, John L. Ferguson									
DATE OF SURVEY:]	DATE OF SURVEY: 1968									
	DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:									
Arka	Arkansas History Commission									
STREET AND NUMBE	Old State House - 300 West Markham									
Old	State	e House -	- 300 West M a	rkham	ores, and a second					
NSN (2)		-				-	ODE			
Litt	tle Ro	ock		1 Arka	ansas		05			

CONDITION	A STATE OF SECULAR STATE OF SECURAR STATE OF SECULAR STATE OF SECULAR STATE OF SECURAR STAT	(Check One)							
	X Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed			
CONDITION		(Check O	ne)	(Check One)					
	Alte	red	☐ Unaltered		☐ Moved	🕅 Original Site			

Du Bocage, the popular name for the home built by Judge Joseph W. Bocage, in 1866, was constructed of lumber cut and milled on his land.

The floor plan of the original portion consisted of five rooms about a central entrance hall housing a circular stair; the second floor has two bedrooms flanking the central hall and stairwell.

Two story and wood framed, Du Bocage is finished with horizontal siding and corner boards.

Elements of the Greek Revival are evident in the pedimented, two story entrance portico supported by four square, tapered columns with moulded capitals and square plinths. A balcony extends across the entire front (south) facade and is supported on columns composed of four vertical, square members separated by blocking at midheight to create a light, open effect, contrasting the strong lines of the portico columns. The railing has flat balusters, closely spaced with larger turned newels at the corners.

The main roof is of high pitched gable construction with boxed cornice and frieze. The gable ends have boxed cornices and returns, the gable ends and portico pediment are pierced with triangular capped, louvered vents.

The main windows are double hung sashes with flat surrounds and corner blocks. They have a 6 x 6 pattern of lights and are shuttered with louvered blinds.

The main entrance door surround is plain and is within an architrave with side lights and a transom the full width of the paneled door and side lights. The second floor entry from the balcony is nearly identical with the first.

The two main chimneys, one offset right, one offset left, are inside end, and straddle the ridge. They are brick laid running bond and terminate in corbeled caps.

The house, now owned by the Optimist Club of Pine Bluff, is in good condition and well maintained.

ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pro-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicate	le and Known)		
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch.	eck One or More se Appropri	até)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
Agriculture	Invention	Science	
	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itorian	
Communications	Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	

The J. W. Bocage home is architecturally significant as a well preserved example of late Greek Revival style.

The period of construction influenced by the Greek Revival was, in Arkansas, from the early 1830's to the early 1860's. With a few exceptions, one of which being the Bocage house, the period was over by the end of the Civil War.

By 1870, the Victorian style had begun to emerge. The Bocage house possesses some features, such as the steeply sloped roof line, more related to the Victorian than the Greek Revival, indicating a transitional phase between the two styles.

Judge Joseph W. Bocage was born on the island of St. Lucia, in the West Indies, on May 8, 1819. He was the son of William Bocage, a sugar planter. Joseph was named after his grandfather, Joseph Isadore Bocage, a Frenchman, who had been the French Consul, at New York, shortly after the American Revolution. The Bocage family owned a sugar plantation on St. Lucia, but after the Emancipation Act of Great Britain, which freed the West Indian slaves, the Bocage family emigrated to the United States. Bocage's parents died young. The father died at age twenty-one and his mother at nineteen. Young Bocage was placed in the care of a maiden cousin of his mother's who lived in North Carolina. Bocage was. therefore. raised and educated in that State.

As a very young man he came to Arkansas to "read" medicine with Dr. Albert W. Webb, of Columbia in Chicot County. Bocage was apparently not suited for the medical profession, nor was his health too good when faced with the malarial diseases then prevalent in Chicot County. He moved to the higher ground and pine trees of Pine Bluff. At the time of his arrival there were only eight houses.

continued

Form 10-300e. (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Jefferson	
FOR NPS USE ON	_Y
ENTRY NUMBER	I DATE

(Number all entries)

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, Continued

Joseph Bocage began to read law with James Yell, nephew of Governor Archibald Yell. When he was twenty-one he was admitted to the Bar and -at the same time- Governor Yell appointed him State's Attorney for the Second Judicial District (Pine Bluff). He practiced law in Pine Bluff from 1840 to 1853.

In addition to his law practice Joseph Bocage had become a planter. He had acquired property, slaves, and equipment, and had, by 1853 reached the point where he was more planter than lawyer. The Civil War, however, was to change his life and his livelihood.

At the outbreak of the Civil War he raised a company of cavalry in Pine Bluff. He was later granted a commission as a Lieutenant-Colonel and served the Confederacy in Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky and Texas. In the latter stages of his service he was a Commissary Officer and was concerned with procuring and creating military supplies and equipment for the Confederate forces.

At the close of the war he returned to Pine Bluff to find that the conflict had cost him his slaves and plantation. He saw, however, new opportunities in rebuilding a country which had been damaged, and development retarded, by four years of war. In partnership with Colonel M. L. Bell he began to build sawmills and to manufacture lumber. Bocage and Bell were successful. By 1866 Judge Bocage was utilizing lumber from his own mills to build his home. Within a few years Bocage and Bell had sawmills in various parts of the county, and even a steam brick-factory. a later date Judge Bocage established J. W. Bocage and Company which manufactured steam engines and other machinery. Despite a disastrous fire, in 1873, which destroyed his factory, Judge Bocage managed to remain a successful and enterprising businessman. He died at Pine Bluff on January 15, 1898.

Keeper of The National Register

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Date

State Liaison Officer

March 12, 1971

Form 10-301 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE STATE Arkansas NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES Jefferson PROPERTY MAP FORM FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE (Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map) Z 1. NAME 0 COMMON: Du Bocage AND/OR HISTORIC: Judge J. W. Bocage House 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: O 1115 West 4th \supset CITY OR TOWN: Pine Bluff CODE COUNTY: STATE: CODE 069 05 Jefferson <u>Arkansas</u> 3. MAP REFERENCE SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 73' Series Pine Bluff Quadrangle, Arkansas SCALE: 1: 24,000 ш DATE: 1962 4. REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



