

54-32-L040-61

NR 10-18-74

Form 10-500
(Rev. 5-72)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries complete applicable sections)

STATE	Arkansas
COUNTY	Phillips
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

1. NAME	
COMMON	Almer Store
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 824 Columbia Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Helena		CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: First	
STATE Arkansas	CODE 05	COUNTY: Phillips	CODE 107

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure 	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Phillips County Foundation for Historic Preservation	
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 367	
CITY OR TOWN: Helena	STATE: AR

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Phillips County Courthouse	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN: Helena	STATE: AR

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY:	
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	
STREET AND NUMBER:	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:

 STATE
COUNTY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent☐ Good☒ Fair☐ Deteriorated☐ Ruins☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Constructed during the 1870's Almer Store has, surprisingly, survived the ravages of time when structures of greater notoriety and architectural achievements have long since disappeared.

From a structural standpoint, the store is well constructed with cypress horizontal planks laid between vertical, grooved posts. Small waxed strings were laid between the plank joints, inside and out, to seal the structure against the elements.

The interesting qualities of Almer Store lie in the contrasts of its simple construction with the finer touches of ornamentation that are in evidence. The Victorian influence is evident in the projecting eaves and exposed rafters cut in the manner of scroll brackets. Delicate, slender posts with brackets on either side support a shed roof porch across the entire front of the store. A Greek influence is apparent in the simplified entablature over all windows.

Almer's Store, now being restored to its original condition, remains basically unchanged since its original construction. The rectangular plan and slight proportions of the edifice complement its suitability to the site.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian! ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the early 1870's a young couple from Iowa built a flatboat and floated down the Mississippi River as far as Helena, Arkansas. Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich Almer, both Swiss immigrants who had come to the United States as children, lived in a three room house atop the flatboat on their journey down river.

After arriving in Helena the Almers lived on their boat for a while, but soon moved their small house ashore. The flatboat was dismantled and the wood used to build what is now known as the Almer Store.

Though not officially used as a store by Mr. Almer, he did use the little building to market the milk products from his cows. The rear of the store was used to make cheese. In later years and under other owners the building was used as a neighborhood grocery, thus acquiring its permanent name, Almer Store.

In recent years the unoccupied store had fallen into a state of disrepair, and was about to be torn down. However, because of its significance as a local landmark to the citizens of Helena, the county historic preservation society purchased the store to save it from destruction. It is now being completely restored and will be reopened as an arts and crafts shop. This century old building will once again be a market place for the products of local people.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beauchamp, Annetta. Interview at Almer Store, October 30, 1973.
 Phillips County Deed Record Book YY, p. 381.
 Phillips County Deed Record Book B3, p. 197.
 Twin City Tribune (Helena, Arkansas), April 3, 1974.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		34 31 51.8	90 35 28.3	
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Anthony S. Riddle, Architect and Dianna S. Kirk, Historian

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

May 10, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:

Suite 1030, Plaza West

CITY OR TOWN:

Little Rock

STATE

AR

CODE

05

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☒

Name

William E. Henderson

Title State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

6-11-74

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

S E I N S T R U C T I O N S



