

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NR 9/19/07

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Castleberry Hotel

other names/site number Rogers Hotel, Site #PR0077

2. Location

street & number 61 Main Street

☐ not for publication

city or town De Valls Bluff

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Prairie code 117 zip code 72041

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐
does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

7/5/07
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 for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

☐ 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:) _____

Castleberry Hotel

Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

2

buildings

sites

structures

objects

2

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/hotel

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN

MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property

National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☒ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1925-1957

Significant Dates

1925-1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)**Architect/Builder****Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

Castleberry Hotel
Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one.

UTM References

(See additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>641036</u>	<u>3850360</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator</u>		
organization	<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	date	<u>April 24, 2007</u>
street & number	<u>1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street</u>	telephone	<u>(501) 324-9787</u>
city or town	<u>Little Rock</u>	state	<u>AR</u>
		zip code	<u>72201</u>

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name	<u>City of De Valls Bluff</u>		
street & number	<u>PO Box 297</u>	telephone	<u> </u>
city or town	<u>De Valls Bluff</u>	state	<u>AR</u>
		zip code	<u>72041</u>

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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SUMMARY

The Castleberry Hotel is located at 61 Main Street in downtown De Valls Bluff, Prairie County, Arkansas. The two-story building represents a good example of the Craftsman style, exhibiting masonry porch piers, wide eaves, and exposed rafter tails, all hallmarks of the style. The building rests on a continuous cast concrete foundation, has brick walls, and is topped by a hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles.

ELABORATION

The Castleberry Hotel is located at 61 Main Street in downtown De Valls Bluff, Prairie County, Arkansas, and is approximately fifty miles east of Little Rock. Main Street is also U.S. 70, the main highway between Little Rock and points east before I-40 was constructed. The two-story building, which was built in 1925, represents a good example of the Craftsman style, exhibiting masonry porch piers, wide eaves, and exposed rafter tails, all hallmarks of the style.

The building rests on a continuous cast-concrete foundation, has brick walls, and is topped by a hipped roof covered in asphalt shingles. The first floor of the building housed the lobby and restaurant while the sleeping rooms were located upstairs. The first floor of the building is rectangular in plan while the second floor plan is U-shaped in order to allow light into all of the rooms.

In addition to the hotel building, a gable-roofed, concrete-block storage shed is located behind the building and also contributes to the nomination.

Front/Southeast Façade

The front façade of the hotel faces U.S. 70 (Main Street). The first floor of the building is divided into three sections. The southernmost section of the building has a storefront with plate-glass windows and a recessed central entrance. A row of wood-frame transom windows spans the storefront. The middle section of the floor consists of two recessed entrances that flank a large plate-glass window. The left entrance has two wood doors with ten panes of glass while the right entrance has a single wood door with fifteen panes of glass. Each entrance has four wood-frame transom windows above it. The northernmost section of the building also has a storefront with plate-glass windows and a recessed central entrance. A row of wood-frame transom windows also spans the storefront.

The front of the building is spanned by a full-length covered porch that covers the sidewalk. The porch is supported by four square concrete and brick columns and three wrought-iron columns that were added later. A wrought-iron railing encloses the porch's flat roof, creating a balcony for the upstairs rooms.

The second floor of the front façade has several boarded-up window and door openings. Beginning at the southern end of the façade, the façade has a large window opening followed by a door opening, then three more window openings, a door opening, and finally a single window opening.

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Side/Southwest Façade

The first floor of the southwest façade is fenestrated with two door openings, one with a recessed door near the center of the façade, and one with a metal screen door near the rear of the façade. In addition, the entrance near the rear of the façade is approached by two concrete steps and has metal pipe handrails.

The second floor of the façade is fenestrated by several windows. Beginning at the left end of the façade, there is a single wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung window, followed by four pairs of wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung windows, followed by a single wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung window.

Rear/Northwest Façade

The first floor of the rear façade is comprised of the rear of the storefronts and the hotel lobby. Beginning at the northern end of the façade is a set of double wood doors with five recessed horizontal panels. Above the doors is a row of five wood-frame transom windows. To the south of the doors is a pair of wood-framed, triple-hung, nine-over-nine-over-one windows. Next is a boarded-up opening followed by a door that leads to a covered walkway to the outbuilding followed by another boarded-up opening. The rear of the southern storefront has a set of double wood doors with five recessed horizontal panels flanked on each side by a single wood-frame, double-hung, nine-over-one window.

The second floor of the rear façade is U-shaped in order to provide light to the interior rooms. The rear façade of the second floor, on the northern leg of the "U," is fenestrated by three wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-one windows. The interior of the "U" is fenestrated by four pairs of wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung windows on the northeast and southwest sides, and a pair of wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung windows on the northwest side. The southern leg of the "U" has a central exit that leads to a wrought iron fire escape (manufactured by the Chickasaw Iron Works of Memphis, Tennessee) that is flanked on each side by a wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung window.

Side/Northeast Façade

The first floor of the northeast façade, beginning at the east end, has a boarded-up door followed by two single boarded-up windows. A doorway follows that is sheltered by a gable-roofed awning supported by knee braces. Proceeding across the façade are two boarded-up windows followed by another entrance sheltered by a gable-roofed awning supported by knee braces. Finally, a wood-framed, triple-hung, nine-over-nine-over-one window is located at the northwest corner.

The second floor of the façade, like the southwest façade, is fenestrated by several windows. Beginning at the left end of the façade, there is a single wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung window, followed by four pairs of wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung windows, followed by a single wood-framed, nine-over-one, double-hung window.

Castleberry Hotel
Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas
County and State

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Outbuilding

Located to the northwest of the hotel building is a small outbuilding. It is constructed out of concrete block with a gable roof covered in asphalt shingles. A door is located on the southeast façade and windows are located on the northeast and southwest façades.

Integrity

Overall, the Castleberry Hotel has good integrity. Although some of the windows and doors are boarded up, the size of the openings has been preserved and it is likely that the windows are still present behind the boards. The vast majority of the original windows and doors exist reflecting the workmanship and materials from the time that the building was built. De Valls Bluff has remained a small town and Main Street is still U.S. 70, as it would have been when travels would have stopped at the hotel during the 1920s through the 1950s.

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SUMMARY

Located on U.S. 70 (Main Street) in the small town of De Valls Bluff, the Castleberry Hotel was built in 1925 utilizing the popular Craftsman style of architecture, which is exhibited in the masonry porch piers, wide eaves, and exposed rafter tails. As the best commercial example of the Craftsman style in De Valls Bluff, the Castleberry Hotel is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. In addition, the Castleberry Hotel is being nominated to the National Register under **Criterion A** with **local significance** for its associations with the development of commerce in De Valls Bluff after the arrival of U.S. 70 in the early 1920s.

ELABORATION

Settlement began in Prairie County in the early part of the nineteenth century with the arrival of two men named Watts and East who settled near the current location of Des Arc. By the mid-nineteenth century settlement began in the area of De Valls Bluff with the arrival of C. S. De Vall from Georgia and Captain Patrick H. Wheat. In 1846, there were enough people in the area to warrant the creation of Prairie County by an act of the legislature on November 25. Initially, Prairie County included nearly all of the land that encompasses Lonoke County, but it was separated off in 1873.¹

De Valls Bluff, which was named after C. S. De Vall, was a small community at the beginning of the Civil War, containing a "store and dwelling house and a 'boat landing.'" However, in 1863, the community was taken by Federal troops and made their supply base for Little Rock and other points to the west. When the White River was navigable, supplies were shipped to De Valls Bluff and then shipped to Little Rock on the railroad.²

After the Union troops took possession of De Valls Bluff, the town was inundated with refugees seeking protection. Houses were built for them and as a result, by the end of the war, De Valls Bluff's population had increased significantly. Although many of the refugees went back to their original homes at the end of the war, it remained an important community. In 1873, it was designated the county seat for Prairie County's Southern District, and by the 1880s it had "a postoffice [sic.], two general, two drug, three grocery and one millinery store, a livery stable, two hotels, a boat oar factory, a large saw-mill, a Methodist Church, white, and a Baptist Church, colored, a school-house each for the whites and blacks, two title abstract offices, a lodge each of Masons, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Honor, Good Templars and Iron Hall."³

As a road system developed across Arkansas in the beginning of the twentieth century, De Valls Bluff ended up on the road designated Highway A-1, which connected Little Rock with Memphis to the east and Fort

¹ Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890, pp. 673-674.

² *Ibid*, pp. 679-680.

³ *Ibid*.

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Smith to the west. The importance of the highway was also noted when the U.S. highway system was created in 1925, and it received the designation U.S. 70.⁴

As in the nineteenth century, it was important to provide goods and services to travelers on U.S. 70 as it passed through De Valls Bluff, especially since the highway followed Main Street. In 1925, the Castleberry Hotel was constructed to provide services to travelers. (It actually replaced another hotel and movie theatre that were on the site.) The building had the public spaces (lobby and restaurant) on the first floor and 24 rooms on the top floor. The hotel, which was built in the Craftsman style, also exhibited the latest in architectural style.⁵

After the Castleberry Hotel opened, it apparently became *the* place to stay in De Valls Bluff. Although two other hotels appear on the April 1924 Sanborn map, a Colored Hotel on Williams Street east of Main Street, and the Central Hotel on Brinkley Street east of Main Street, both had gone out of business by 1950. The Castleberry Hotel's location on Main Street, conveniently across the street from an auto repair shop and a filling station and next door to another restaurant, meant that it was highly visible to travelers passing through.⁶

By 1950, the hotel had changed names and was called the Rogers Hotel. Although it is not known when the hotel closed, the construction of I-40 in the area in the 1960s took much of the through traffic, and its associated business, off of U.S. 70, likely causing the hotel to close. Today, the building is vacant, but the city is hoping to preserve the building so that it can once again become a vital part of De Valls Bluff's downtown.

Prior to the arrival of the Interstate Highway System, locally-run hotels such as the Castleberry Hotel were the lifeblood of many communities on U.S. and state highways. However, today many have closed and some have been lost to deterioration or demolition. The Castleberry Hotel, on the other hand, is a living reminder of the facilities that served travelers in the early and mid twentieth century. In addition, the Castleberry Hotel remains an excellent example of the Craftsman style in De Valls Bluff.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located on U.S. 70 (Main Street) in the small town of De Valls Bluff, the Castleberry Hotel was built in 1925 utilizing the popular Craftsman style of architecture, which is exhibited in the masonry porch piers, wide eaves, and exposed rafter tails. As the best commercial example of the Craftsman style in De Valls

⁴ *Sixth Biennial Report of the Department of State Lands, Highways and Improvements*. Conway, AR: Conway Printing Co., 1924, map after p. 24.

⁵ Information on the Castleberry Hotel in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

⁶ Sanborn Fire Insurance maps for De Valls Bluff, Arkansas: 1913, April 1924, and April 1950.

Castleberry Hotel

Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas

County and State

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Bluff, the Castleberry Hotel is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. In addition, the Castleberry Hotel is being nominated to the National Register under **Criterion A** with **local significance** for its associations with the development of commerce in De Valls Bluff after the arrival of U.S. 70 in the early 1920s.

Castleberry Hotel

Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890.

Information on the Castleberry Hotel in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Sanborn Fire Insurance maps for De Valls Bluff, Arkansas: 1913, April 1924, and April 1950.

Sixth Biennial Report of the Department of State Lands, Highways and Improvements. Conway, AR: Conway Printing Co., c.1924.

Castleberry Hotel

Name of Property

Prairie County, Arkansas

County and State

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National Park Service

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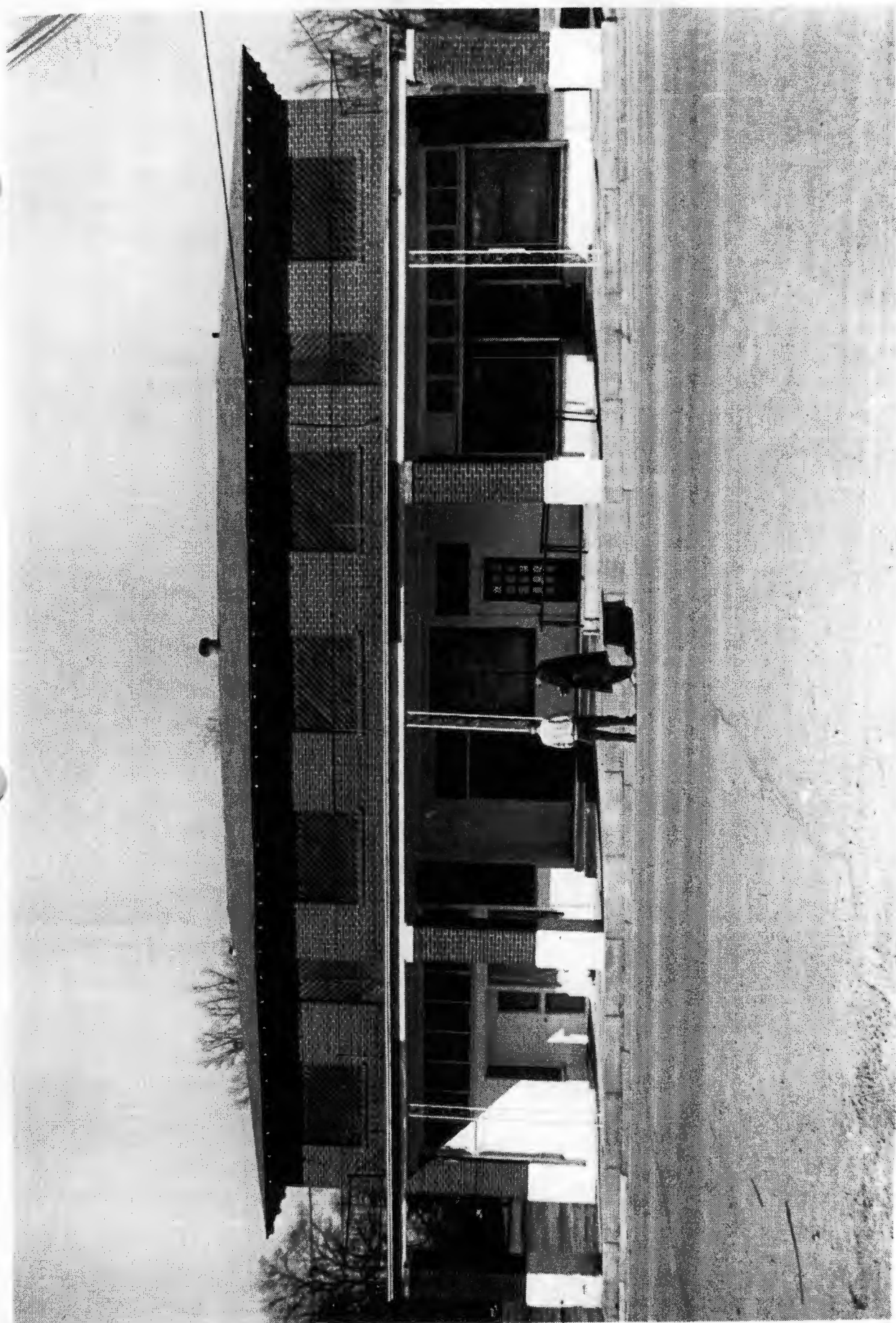
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 8, 9, 10, and 11, of Block 10, City of De Valls Bluff, at the southwest corner of Main Street (U.S. 70) and Williams Street.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Castleberry Hotel.



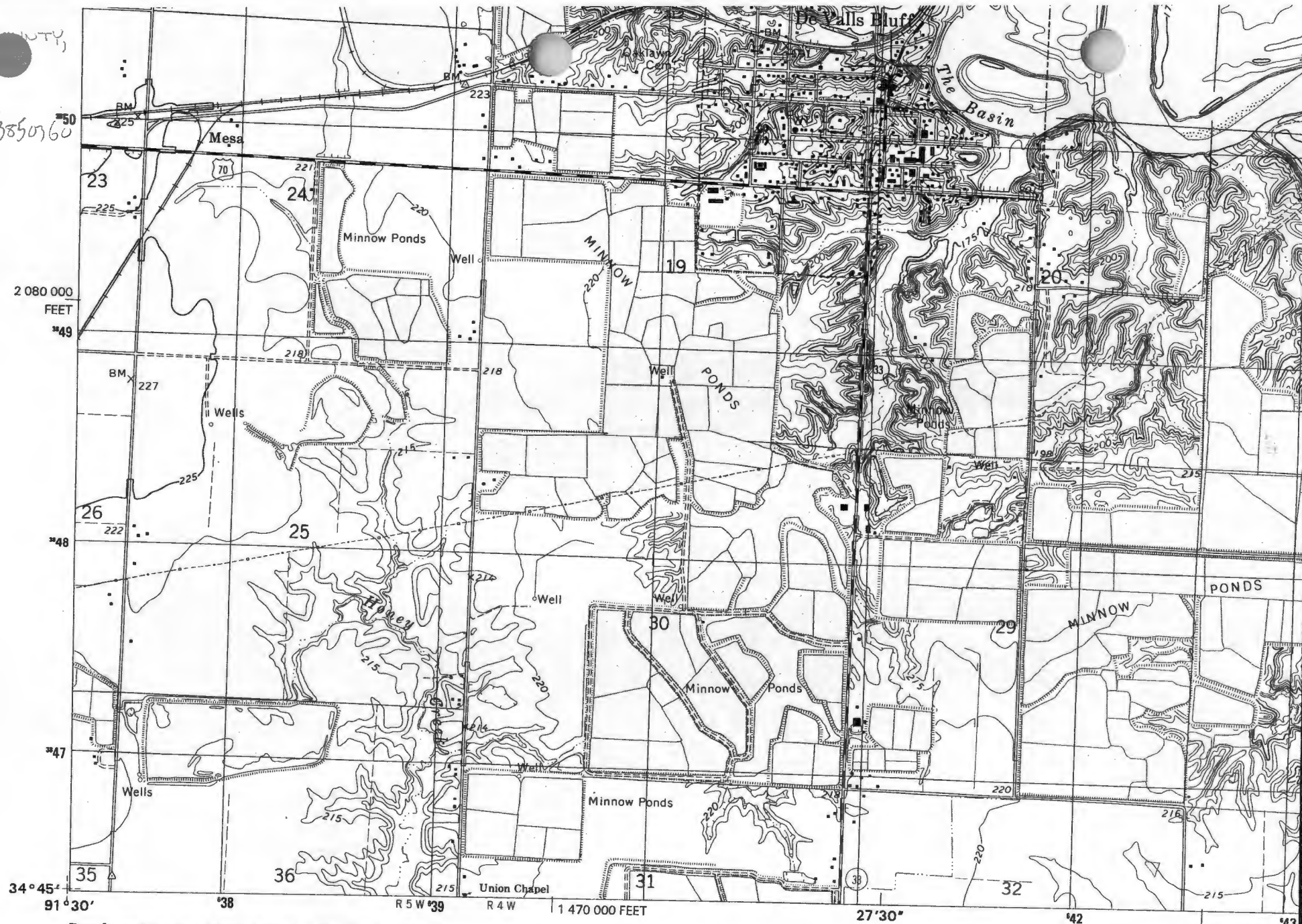








PRAIRIE COUNTY,
 AR
 TM;
 5/641076/3850760



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Topography compiled 1966. Planimetry derived from imagery taken 1996 and other sources. Public Land Survey System and survey control current as of 1968

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83). Projection and 1 000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 15 10 000-foot ticks: Arkansas Coordinate System of 1983 (south zone)

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 83 and NAD 27 for 7.5-minute intersections are obtainable from

