

NR LISTED

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JUL 19 1996

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

1. Name of Property

historic name: Young Memorial

other name/site number: FA0875S

2. Location

street & number: North of Reynolds Science Hall; 1601 Harkrider Drive

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Conway

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Faulkner code: AR 045 zip code: 72032

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> 1 </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: N/A

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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.

Catherine A. Slater
Signature of certifying official

5-30-96
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X 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

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Monument/marker

Current: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Monument/marker

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Neoclassical

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>STONE</u>	roof	<u>N/A</u>
	walls	<u>STONE</u>	other	_____

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

Summary

The War Memorial Monument of Conway, commonly known as the "Young Memorial," is located north of Reynolds Science Hall at Hendrix College, 1601 Harkrider Drive, Faulkner County. Designed by Professor George Currie, it consists of a stone seat carved in the shape of a half-circle with a high back. Relief designs are carved onto the inside back of the seat. At the center/top is placed a life-sized statue of an American doughboy standing at attention, feet together and arms at his side. His proper right hand supports a rifle, the butt end of which touches the ground at his feet. He is wearing a military uniform with full marching equipment and a wide-brimmed hat, and a carved brace is attached behind his proper left leg. This figure, made of stone, stands 6'x28"x22".

Elaboration

The War Memorial Monument of Conway, commonly known as the "Young Memorial," is located north of Reynolds Science Hall at Hendrix College, 1601 Harkrider Drive, Faulkner County. Designed by Professor George Currie, it consists of a stone seat carved in the shape of a half-circle with a high back. Relief designs are carved onto the inside back of the seat. At the center/top is placed a life-sized statue of an American doughboy standing at attention, feet together and arms at his side. His proper right hand supports a rifle, the butt end of which touches the ground at his feet. He is wearing a military uniform with full marching equipment and a wide-brimmed hat, and a carved brace is attached behind his proper left leg. This figure, made of stone, stands 6'x28"x22".

The seat/base is symmetrically placed at either side of the doughboy figure. The seat occupies one third of a low concrete slab, 12 feet in diameter. Carved in bas relief on the inside back of the seat are two seated female figures looking out right and left. The North relief depicts a seated female figure, in 3/4 pose, looking right and holding what appears to be an olive branch. This figure, who probably represents Peace, has a small head, long arms, massive legs, and no feet. The South relief shows a similar female figure, also with odd proportions, holding a scroll. At the center, located on the actual base supporting the figure, is a relief of a frontal standing female figure wearing a classical costume and a pointed crown. Her proper

right hand holds a flaming torch and her proper left hand holds a book, obviously in allusion to the Statue of Liberty. The quality of all three reliefs is rather crude. The base, made of marble and Bedford limestone, has dimensions of 5'x12"x42".

The original plaque is located on the front bottom center of the monument and reads "In Memory of / BLEVINS, TABOR. MCGUIRE, W. A. / CRADDOCK, J. L. REYNOLDS, J. W. / DOWDY, J. A., JR. YOUNG, R. W."

The figure has suffered from considerable erosion and presently has a very grainy surface, as well as white crusts and mossy organic growths. It is cracking in several spots and two metal braces are protruding from the stone at the base. Evidence of an adhesive substance and purple paint can be found at the bottom of the figure near the brace. Like the statue, the base is also very eroded and covered with organic growth. The concrete joints holding the sections of the seat together are badly split, and several chips and holes can be found in the base.

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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,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): B,F

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY
ART

Period(s) of Significance: 1920 _____

Significant Dates: 1920-1946 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

Architect/Builder: Currie, George _____

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

Criteria A and C, local significance
Criteria Considerations B and F

The Young Memorial is significant under Criterion A as the historic resource most closely associated with the post-war efforts of Hendrix College students

to honor their classmates who died serving their country in World War I. It is also significant under Criterion C for its unique design, which is representative of the aesthetic values of the period of its creation.

Elaboration

Six Hendrix students lost their lives in World War I. Five of these men, Tabor Blevins, James Craddock, James Dowdy, Jr., Arthur McGuire, and J. Watson Reynolds, died of diseases. The sixth, Robert W. Young, died in combat.

Two accounts exist on the events leading to Young's death. The Stadium Book, published in 1923 in conjunction with the dedication of Young Stadium, Young and fellow lieutenant A.F. Ruff of Rock Hill, S.C., were ordered to take their company and capture the town of Aincreville. Ruff is quoted as saying "When we received our orders I, knowing it was a sacrifice detail, said very little, but I will never forget the remark made by Young: 'I thank you, sir; I appreciate very much the honor you are conferring on me. I will carry this through or not come back.'"

Sergeant Olsen Thornton of Chicago is then quoted: "We took the town under a heavy machine gun and artillery fire, Lieut. Young being in the lead and always doing or saying something to encourage his men ... the lieutenant and I started out to explore the town when we saw some Germans enter one of the buildings. We started out to get them and were close to the entrance of said building when another Hun on the opposite side of the street opened fire, wounding the lieutenant who, although mortally wounded, showed what he was made of by lifting his pistol and firing, killing two of the five Germans who rushed from the building."

State American Legion Commander James J. Harrison gave a different account at the dedication of the Young Memorial at Hendrix. Harrison claimed that Young was leading his platoon towards an enemy position in the Argonne Forest when he left his cover to shoot a German who was stabbing wounded Americans with a bayonet. Although Young managed to hit the German, his exposed position left him vulnerable to enemy fire and he was fatally shot in the head by a sniper's bullet.

The idea for a war memorial on the Hendrix campus was conceived by the Hendrix Memorial Association, a student-run group, in 1919. With the help of faculty advisor Prof. W. O. Wilson, they quickly raised \$800 of the expected \$1,200 to \$1,500 cost through student and alumni donations. By the spring of 1920 plans for the monument were taking shape and construction began on April 16 of that year. The design for the monument came from George Currie, a substitute Latin teacher at Hendrix whose father was a well-known marble dealer in Kirkland, Indiana.

The monument was originally scheduled to be finished in time for commencement in early June, but construction delays forced the completion date back to November. Finally, on November 21, 1920 the War Memorial was unveiled before a large crowd on the west lawn of Hendrix's Tabor Hall. The featured address was given by Commander Harrison of the American Legion, who stated "it is

*According to the November 22, 1920 edition of the Conway Log Cabin Democrat, Reynolds, of Ashdown, died of blood poisoning at Camp Perry; McGuire, of Mountain Home, died of disease at a French disembarkation point; Dowdy, of Clarksville, died the day before he was to ship out for France; and Craddock, of England, and Blevins, of Booneville, died of influenza.

befitting indeed that we raise here this material memorial, but the spiritual memorial which these men have left will far outlast any crumbling marble or corroding bronze." The ceremony, which was presided over by Prof. Wilson, also included vocal and instrumental music, other speeches, and a 24 gun salute in honor of the dead. At the end of the service, the large American flag, which had been an actual World War I battle flag, draped across the monument was removed to reveal the completed work.

The War Memorial was moved from its original position to the newly constructed Young Stadium and athletic field in 1923 and subsequently became known as the "Young Memorial." In 1973 Young Stadium was demolished to make room for the new Mills Center and the memorial was moved to a temporary location where it was restored by Hendrix Art Professor Bill Hawes. It was returned to near the exact spot of its original 1920 site in 1974, and on December 8 of that year it was rededicated by the Faulkner County Historical Society, which added a second plaque. The memorial has remained north of Reynolds Science Hall since then. Though moved, the memorial has been returned to its original location and meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration B.

The Young Memorial is one of eight sculptural monuments dedicated to World War I soldiers, according to a statewide survey of outdoor sculpture in Arkansas conducted by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program between 1991-1993. Four of those are carved in stone (including the Herman Davis Memorial at Manila in Mississippi County, NR 4/7/95) and depict doughboy figures; the others are bronze, one depicting a Statue of Liberty figure while the others are doughboy statues.

The Young Memorial is unique among these, with its unusually elaborate base with twin seats carved in allegorical figures representing Peace and Liberty. The doughboy component, standing at ease in field dress and "tin hat," is similar to two of the other marble doughboys in the state (located at Eureka Springs and Melbourne) and is thus representative of the aesthetic values of the period of its creation. In addition, it is the only sculptural war memorial in all of Faulkner County (the county Confederate Memorial is an obelisk-style monument).

The Young Memorial, which has graced the grounds of Hendrix College since 1920, is eligible under Criterion A for its association with the post-war efforts of the Hendrix student body to recognize the sacrifice of their fellow students who gave their lives in the first World War. It reflects the school's post-war perception of the noble character and valor of their classmates, and thus meets the requirements of Criteria Consideration F. In addition, it is unique among its eight fellow World War I monuments in Arkansas, and stands as the only sculptural war memorial in all of Faulkner County, making it significant under Criterion C. Since it is representative of the aesthetic values of the period of its creation, it also meets Criteria Consideration F under this standard.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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Conway Log Cabin Democrat, November 22, 1920.

Lark, Elmer T. The Stadium Book. Conway, AR: Hendrix College, 1923, p. 14.

Conway Log Cabin Democrat, April 17, 1920.

Notes from Gayle M. Seymore, associate professor of art history, University

of Central Arkansas.

The Bull Dog (Hendrix College newspaper), November 24, 1920.

___ 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

TM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	550880	3884120	B	15	_____
C	15	_____	_____	D	15	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

An area around the monument defined by a 25 foot radius centered on the monument itself.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

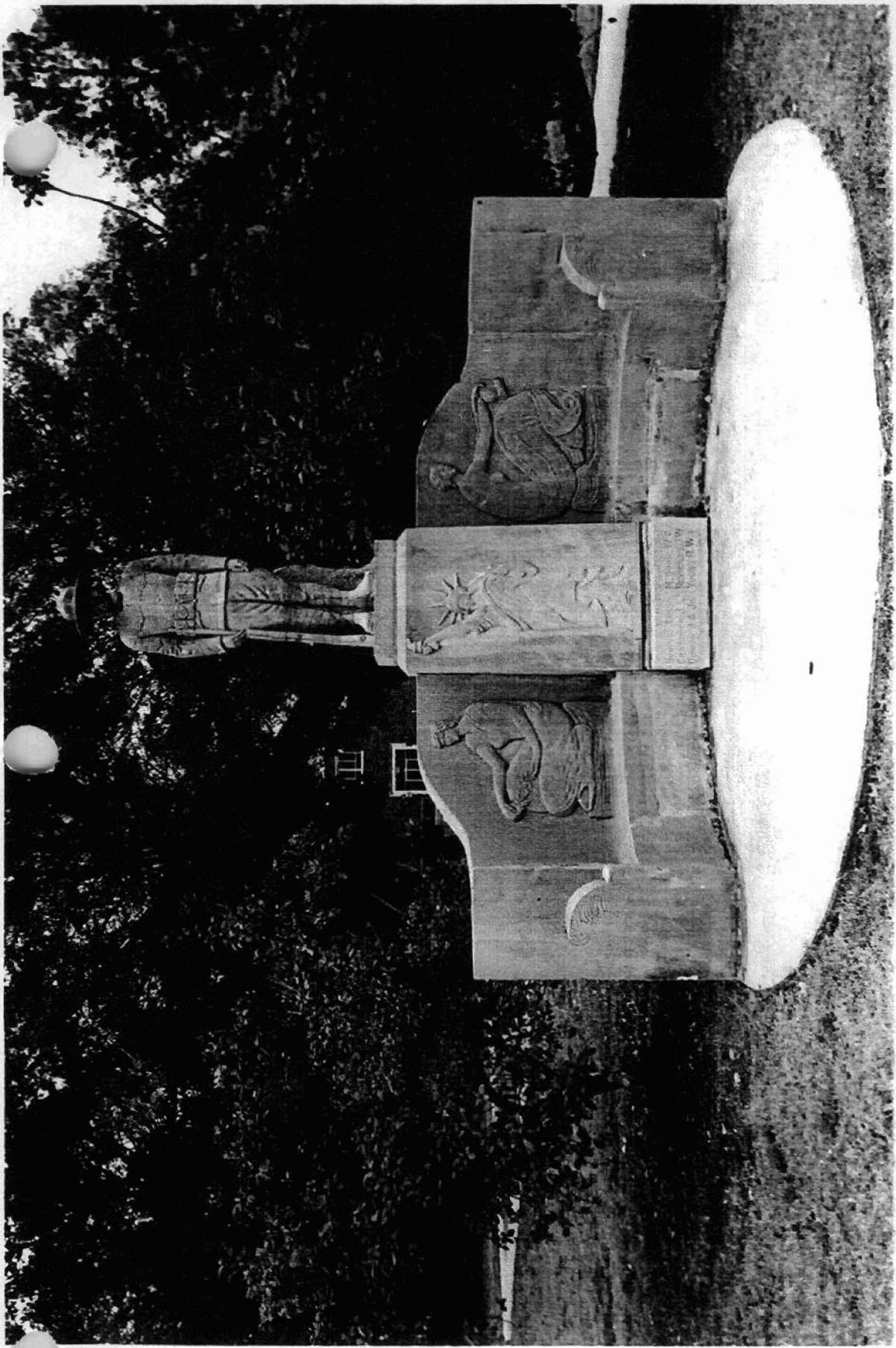
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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Mark Christ, Communications/Development Director

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 05/30/96

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

92°30' 00" 5469000E 547 548 549 27' 30" 551
35°07' 30" R 14 W

RUSSELLVILLE 43 MI.
MORRILTON 16 MI.
3886000N

PERRYVILLE 20 MI.
NEW DIXIE 8.5 MI.

