

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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 Strengthen the Arm of Liberty Monument

other names/site number Site #WA1168S

2. Location

street & number 3215 North Northhills Boulevard

not for publication

city or town Fayetteville

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

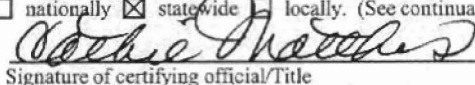
county Washington

code 143

zip code 72703

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.)



6/20/12
Date

Signature of certifying official/Title

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:

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 the Keeper

Date of Action

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total
1	_____	

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)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker

RECREATION AND CULTURE/monument/marker

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

NO STYLE

foundation BRICK
walls N/A
roof N/A
other METAL/copper

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 for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, and D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Statewide

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance

1951

Significant Dates

February 10, 1951

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Friedley Voshardt Co., Chicago

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):

- Checkboxes for previous documentation on file (NPS).

Primary location of additional data:

- Checkboxes for primary location of additional data.

Name of repository:

Strengthen the Arm of Liberty Monument
Name of Property

Washington County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>395616</u>	<u>3996798</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	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 Mark Christ, Community Outreach Director, & Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date January 11, 2012
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- 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 Washington Regional Medical Center
street & number 3215 North Northhills Boulevard telephone
city or town Fayetteville state AR zip code 72703

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" Monument is an eight-foot tall copper replica of Frederick Auguste Bartholdi's "Liberty Enlightening The World," a sculpture better known as "The Statue of Liberty." The monument used to stand atop a five-foot, eight-inch tall brick masonry base on a grassy area at the Washington Regional Medical Center on North Street in Fayetteville. However, in early 2009 when Washington Regional Medical Center relocated to a new campus on North Northhills Boulevard, the monument was relocated to the campus and placed on top of a new base that mimics the design of the old base.

ELABORATION

The "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" Monument is an eight-foot tall copper replica of Frederick Auguste Bartholdi's "Liberty Enlightening the World," a sculpture better known as "The Statue of Liberty." It stands atop a five-foot, eight-inch tall brick masonry base on a grassy area at the Washington Regional Medical Center on North Street in Fayetteville. However, in early 2009 when Washington Regional Medical Center relocated to a new campus on North Northhills Boulevard, the monument was relocated to the campus and placed on top of a new base that mimics the design of the old base.

The statue depicts a standing female figure holding a lighted torch aloft in her proper right arm and a tablet cradled in her proper left arm. She is dressed in flowing, classical robes and adorned with a radiant crown. The statue shows signs of metallic staining. The statue stands eight feet tall, two feet wide and two feet deep. The statue faced south at its former location, but now faces northeast.

The monument stands atop a new brick masonry base that was built in 2009 that has two square tiers that are topped by a cylindrical tier. The base features a bronze plaque on the northeast side of the base that reads as follows: WITH THE FAITH AND COURAGE OF/THEIR FOREFATHERS WHO MADE/POSSIBLE THE FREEDOM OF THESE/UNITED STATES/THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA/DEDICATE THIS COPY OF THE/STATUE OF LIBERTY AS A PLEDGE/OF EVERLASTNG FIDELITY AND/LOYALTY./THE CRUSADE TO STRENGTHEN THE ARM OF LIBERTY/1951.

The sculpture and its base are in good condition.

Integrity

The largest changes to the monument's integrity occurred in 2009 with the move to Washington Regional Medical Center's new campus. The setting around the monument is still a medical center, albeit a newer and larger facility. When the monument was moved, its orientation was changed – it now faces northeast rather than south. In addition, a new base was built at the same time. However, the new base is still built out of brick and incorporates the original 1951 plaque. In addition, the cylindrical design on top of a square base approximates the original base's design, which had a narrower cylinder on top of a square brick planter.

Strengthen the Arm of Liberty Monument

Name of Property

Washington County, Arkansas

County and State

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Even with the relocation and change of base, the monument itself has not been altered and still reflects the Boy Scout's original campaign.

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SUMMARY

The "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" Monument at Fayetteville is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A with statewide significance as one of only two Statue of Liberty replicas erected in Arkansas as part of a national campaign by the Boy Scouts of America between 1949 and 1951. The monument stood at the Washington Regional Medical Center Campus on North Street in Fayetteville until they relocated to a new campus in 2009. The monument was moved to the new campus in 2009, and as a result, is also being nominated under Criteria Consideration B as a moved property.

ELABORATION

The Boy Scouts of America were incorporated on February 8, 1910, bringing to America a program begun in Great Britain by Robert S.S. Baden-Powell. By 1912, Scouts were enrolled in every state in the Union. The Boy Scouts, with their famous motto "Be Prepared," participated in local and national efforts to offer assistance in patriotic campaigns. In 1917, "Scouting's full resources were placed at the service of the government, under the slogan 'Help Win the War,' and, within 24 hours, Scouts throughout the United States were so advised," according to the Boy Scouts of America web page. By 1919, the Scouts had developed a systematic method of developing cooperation with churches of all faiths, promoting an inclusive, egalitarian ethic that has remained a central tenet of Scouting.

The Cub Scouts, enrolling younger boys, was established in 1930 and by 1935, when the Scouts celebrated their Silver Jubilee, there were 1,027,833 active Boy Scouts in the U.S. In 1938, the Scouts' national program emphasized Americanism and a rededication to the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. During World War II, the Scouts were again called to national service, participating in salvage drives, aiding in distribution of government pamphlets, and assisting in production and conservation projects. In one two-week drive, Scouts were credited with collecting 30 million pounds of rubber.

As the 40th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America approached, Jack P. Whitaker, Scout commissioner of the Kansas City Area Council, conceived of a program to "impress upon the general public the citizenship training values of the Boy Scouts and to reawaken Americans to their heritage of freedom." The mechanism for this program was placement of small-scale replicas of Frederic Auguste Bartholdi's "Liberty Enlightening the World," better known as "The Statue of Liberty," across the country. Whitaker's crusade to "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" kicked off in February 1949 with a dramatic ceremony at the base of the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor. The first of some 200 of the small-scale, copper replicas through the program occurred on November 20, 1949, in Kansas City, Missouri.

The statues were produced by the Friedley Voshardt Company of Chicago, a firm that specialized in metal ceiling manufacturing but devised a method of assembling 42 sheets of stamped copper around interior braces to create replicas of Bartholdi's famous work. They were sold for \$300 to \$350 each, and fund drives often combined both Scout troops and adult service organizations. Ultimately, around 200 of the statues

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were raised, the vast majority in the Midwest. Though a few were erected later, most were in place by the end of 1951. The 1990s Save Outdoor Sculpture! program identified about 100 surviving statues, about half of which are in serious need of repair.

The first statue erected in the south as part of the "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" movement was placed in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, as the result of a joint effort of local Boy Scouts and the Pine Bluff Kiwanis and Lions Clubs. The Fayetteville monument was the second and final Statue of Liberty replica to be erected as part of the national Boy Scout initiative.

It is not known what sites were contemplated for the location of the Fayetteville monument, in addition to the Washington County Hospital Grounds. Newspaper accounts from the time do not go into much detail about the site selection for the monument. However, one article in the February 6, 1951, *Northwest Arkansas Times* does indicate that one of the members of the Site Committee was George Berryman, the County Hospital Superintendent. As a result, it may have been that the Washington County Hospital grounds was the only site considered.

The "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" crusade ended in 1951, with the Boy Scouts of America reporting a 33 percent increase in membership, a total of 2,942,779 active Scouts. The nationwide increase in scout membership was also reflected in Arkansas. Annual reports in the files of the National Scouting Museum indicate that in 1949 there were 7,844 scouts in Arkansas, which increased to 8,559 by 1950. However, after the "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" campaign, there was a dramatic increase in the state's scouting membership. In 1954, Arkansas boasted 17,350 scouts and 18,992 scouts by 1955. The growth in scout membership continued into the late 1950s and 1960s. In 1959, there were 20,775 scouts in Arkansas and 21,132 in 1960. By 1964, membership had increased to 27,030 and 28,552 by 1965.

Fayetteville's Statue of Liberty was erected in 1951, culminating fundraising efforts by Washington County Boy Scout troops and such groups as the Rotary Club of Fayetteville and the "Americanism Committee" of the American Legion. Much of the cash raised by the Scouts was generated through the "Queen of Liberty" contest, reported in the *Northwest Arkansas Times*: "Each Liberty Dime donated by the Scouts will be one vote for their Queen nominee." The eventual winner was Miss Val Ann Watson, 14, a freshman at Fayetteville High School.

Members of Scout troops 99, 100, 101, and 104 of Fayetteville, who dug and poured the concrete footing for the sculpture on the grounds of the Washington County Hospital, conducted the site work for the statue.

The Fayetteville "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" Monument was dedicated on February 10, 1951, and the *Times* reported the motivation for the project: "Purpose of the statue's erection here, as in numerous other cities, under Boy Scout sponsorship, is to remind all citizens that the United States is on[e] of the countries in

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the world dedicated to keeping the torch of liberty aflame. The project is part of the Scouts' nationwide 'crusade to strengthen the arm of liberty.'"

Twenty-nine years later, a Boy Scout again utilized the monument as the centerpiece of a Scout project, when Wade Colwell of Troop 190 rehabilitated the monument and its base as an Eagle Scout service project.

In 2009, Washington Regional Medical Center constructed a new campus north of Fayetteville on North Northhills Boulevard. When they relocated to the new campus, the monument was moved as well, and placed in a grassy area at the main entrance drive. Since the County Hospital Superintendent was a member of the original Site Committee for the monument, the relocation of the monument to the new hospital campus still allows it to reflect its early history. A new brick base, which approximates the original base's design, was constructed for the monument. Even though the monument has been moved, it still is an important reminder of the Boy Scout's "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" campaign, and its affect on the scouting movement in Arkansas.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The "Strengthen the Arm of Liberty" Monument at Fayetteville is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A with statewide significance as one of only two Statue of Liberty replicas erected in Arkansas as part of a national campaign by the Boy Scouts of America between 1949 and 1951. The monument stood at the Washington Regional Medical Center Campus on North Street in Fayetteville until they relocated to a new campus in 2009. The monument was moved to the new campus in 2009, and as a result, is also being nominated under Criteria Consideration B as a moved property.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Boy Scouts of America web page, <http://www.scouting.org/>

Boy Scouts of America annual reports in the files of the National Scouting Museum, Irving, Texas. Selected pages in the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Northwest Arkansas Times. "Statue to be Erected at County Hospital, Jan. 9, 1951, p. 6; "Dedication Set for Scouts Replica of Statue of Liberty," Feb. 6, 1951; "F'Ville's Statue of Liberty: She's Stood on North Street for 35 Years," July 3, 1986.

Sherwood, Susan. "Searching for Lost Ladies of Liberty," *Save Outdoor Sculpture! Update*, Vol. 10, No. 1, Spring 1999, p. 3.

Smithsonian Institution National Museum of American Art, fact sheets on "Strengthening the Arm of Liberty" program.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From UTM point 15/395614/3996801 proceed southeast twenty feet to UTM point 15/395620/3996800, then proceed southwest twenty feet to UTM point 15/395618/3996794, then proceed northwest twenty feet to UTM point 15/395612/3996796 and then twenty feet northeast to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary contains the Strengthen the Arm of Liberty Monument and its immediate surroundings.



Google earth



Strengthen the Arm of Liberty Monument
Fayetteville, Washington County, AR
36.110239 -94.159768

