

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Mount Sequoyah Cottages

other names/site number WA 1132, WA1131

## 2. Location

street & number 808 & 810 East Skyline Drive

city or town Fayetteville

state Arkansas code AR county Washington code 143 zip code 72701


not for publication

vicinity

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

     national      statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

*Cathie Hatcher*

3/5/12  
Date

In my opinion, the property      meets      does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official

Date

Title

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

     entered in the National Register

     determined eligible for the National Register

     determined not eligible for the National Register

     removed from the National Register

     other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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## 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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	<b>Total</b>

### 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/single dwelling

### Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

NO STYLE

### Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE

walls: STONE, Wood/Weatherboard,

SYNTHETICS/Vinyl

roof: ASPHALT

other: CONCRETE

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The Mt. Sequoyah cottages are a pair of single-story, frame construction cottages built c. 1920. The cottages are located on East Skyline Drive on Mt. Sequoyah in Fayetteville, Arkansas. They are covered with field stone and weatherboard. They are supported by both continuous foundations and piers. The cottages each feature a field stone chimney and are found atop Mt. Sequoyah directly adjacent to the Mt. Sequoyah Retreat and Conference Center.

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### Narrative Description

The Mt. Sequoyah cottages are a pair of cottages located, respectively, at 810 and 808 Skyline Drive, Fayetteville, Arkansas. They are single-story, rectangular plan, frame construction cottages built c. 1920. The front of each cottage is covered with field stone; the rear of one cottage is covered with weatherboard, while the other is covered in vinyl siding. The roofs are both gabled and covered with asphalt shingles. Each cottage features a field stone chimney. The first cottage has a continuous foundation in the front, and is supported by piers and concrete pilings in the rear; the second cottage is supported by a continuous foundation. Each has a partial basement and an awning porch. Both cottages are in good condition. The cottages are located on top of Mt. Sequoyah, which has been urbanized, directly across Skyline Drive from the Mt. Sequoyah Retreat and Conference Center.

#### Cottage #1, 810 Skyline Drive (c.1920)

##### **FRONT/WEST FACADE**

The front façade of the first cottage is covered with field stone. It has a side-gabled roof covered with red shingles. Near the right corner of this side, part of the roof extends over the vertical board front door to create a gabled stoop, also covered with red shingles. There is a prominent exterior, eave wall chimney that protrudes from the front of the cottage constructed of field stone. It is flanked by double-hung windows on either side.

##### **SIDE/NORTH FACADE**

The northern side of the cottage is covered with field stone on the front portion, and vinyl siding on the rear portion. Louvered vents are found in the apexes of the front and rear roof gables. The front portion of the building has two adjacent double-hung windows with a red, aluminum casing separated by a mullion of the same. To the left of the double-hung windows, there is an awning window in the field stone portion of the cottage. In the vinyl portion, there is another pair of adjacent double-hung windows that mimic the ones from the front portion. There is also a large stationary window near the rear of the cottage. All of the windows on the northern façade of the structure feature similar red casements and mullions. The front of the structure is supported by a continuous stone foundation; the rear of the cottage is supported by piers resting on cast concrete footings. The continuous foundation of the front part of the cottage creates a partial basement in the middle of the structure.

##### **REAR/EAST FACADE**

The rear façade of the first cottage is covered with vinyl siding and is roughly two stories. The top story is covered by a side gabled roof with the same red shingles as elsewhere. It features a set of French doors centered

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in the rear wall, and has two stationary windows that flank the French doors. The windows and the door have a red aluminum casing and the windows have the same red mullions. A deck extends from the rear of the cottage and is lined by a metal railing. The deck and top portion of the cottage is supported by metal piers on concrete pilings.

The lower portion of the east façade is under the deck of the first story. It is covered with vinyl siding and contains two double-hung windows. It rests on a continuous stone foundation.

#### **SIDE/SOUTH FACADE**

The southern side of the cottage is covered with vinyl siding on the rear portion and field stone on the front portion. Louvered vents are found in the apexes of the front and rear roof gables. It is fenestrated by a stationary window and two adjacent double-hung windows on the rear portion. A white, glazed-panel door sits directly to the front of the double-hung windows. A square fixed window is found to the left of the door, followed by two adjacent double-hung windows. Each window and door has a red aluminum casement, and the double-hung windows feature red mullions. The deck from the rear of the cottage extends around this side of the cottage, and is supported by both metal piers and wooden piers. The metal railing extends with the deck. A set of steps leads off the deck near the front of the cottage, granting access to the property below the deck.

*Cottage #2, 808 Skyline Drive (c. 1920)*

#### **FRONT/WEST FACADE**

The front of the second cottage is covered with field stone and features a side-gabled roof covered with composition shingles. A portion of the roof forms a gabled stoop over the front door. An exterior, eave wall chimney is found on the front of the cottage. The front of the structure is has two double-hung windows, one on either side of the chimney.

#### **SIDE/NORTH FACADE**

The northern side of the cottage is covered by fieldstone on the front half and horizontal weatherboard on the rear half. It features a louvered vent in the apex of the roof gable. It is fenestrated by two double-hung windows surrounded by a white wooden casement and separated by a white wooden mullion. A small casement window is found to the left of the double-hung window. The front portion rests on a continuous stone foundation. The back half of this side features a partial basement that also rests on a continuous foundation. A door on the side of the cottage opens onto an elevated wooden deck. The deck is supported by piers on concrete pilings, and a set of steps leads off the deck toward the front of the cottage. Another large casement window is found to the left of the door above the deck. The windows and the door are framed by white wooden casements.

The partial basement of the north side of the cottage is also covered by horizontal weatherboard. A wooden double door opens under the deck, which has stone steps leading behind the cottage. The partial basement rests on a continuous stone foundation.

#### **REAR/EAST FACADE**

The rear of the cottage is two stories tall and rests on a continuous stone foundation. It is covered by horizontal weatherboard and the top story of the structure is fenestrated by a sliding window to the right and two adjacent double-hung windows to the left. They have a white wooden casement and mullions. The lower portion of the rear of the cottage has only one window, located near the right corner of the cottage. It is a double-hung, six-over-six window and also has a white mullion and casement made of wood.

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### **SIDE/SOUTH FACADE**

The south side of the cottage is covered by weatherboard on the rear half, and fieldstone on the front half. It has two adjacent double-hung windows, two smaller double-hung windows, and another pair of adjacent double-hung windows, from back to front. Each window has a white wooden casement and mullion. A louvered vent is in the apex of the roof gable.

The rear portion of this side also features a partial basement, which is covered with horizontal weatherboard and is fenestrated by a single double-hung window with a white casement.

### **INTEGRITY**

Both of the cottages are in good condition. Neither shows any signs of vandalism or extreme deterioration. The extension on the first cottage is not original to the structure, yet the original structure was not compromised by the addition. The surrounding environment is urbanized and stable, though the peak of Mt. Sequoyah still retains some of its natural features and scenery, preserving some of the natural integrity of the area.

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## 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.)

- ☒ 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: N/A

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

### Period of Significance

c. 1920-1962

### Significant Dates

c. 1920

### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

### Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN

### Period of Significance (justification)

The two cottages represented here were built near the beginning of the area's development, and continue to be significant as vacation homes. As such, their period of significance spans from their construction through fifty years ago.

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## Statement of Significance Summary

The Mount Sequoyah Cottages Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its significance to history of entertainment and recreation. These two cottages are excellent representations of the mode of construction that was used for vacation cottages in northwest Arkansas in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The cottages show the trends that emerged around 1920 in vacation homes, which included building with local materials, the back-to-nature aspect of cottages, and pastoral setting that was an attempt to escape summers in cities. They are also an example of the vacation areas that grew up in relation to religious meetings throughout the country.

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## Developmental history

Mount Sequoyah is located just outside the eastern edge of Fayetteville, Arkansas. While the property that makes up the Western Methodist Assembly was outside city limits in 1923, today it is a part of the city. Fayetteville was founded in 1828. For years the industry of the town was mixed. The diverse economy included produce packing, lumbering and wagon production.<sup>1</sup> What would become the University of Arkansas was founded in Fayetteville in 1871.<sup>2</sup> This school would come to be an important part of the local economy in Fayetteville.

The land on which the Mount Sequoyah Cottages stand was called East Mountain until 1923. It was in this year that the city of Fayetteville donated 400 acres to the Western Methodist Assembly, which was incorporated to create a retreat center for southern Methodists. For years Methodists who wanted to go to a rural retreat were forced to travel to North Carolina. As J.C. Montgomery writes in his history of Mount Sequoyah, "The Methodist Summer Assembly at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, had long been a mecca for Southern Methodists; but it was a long pilgrimage for those West of the Mississippi."<sup>3</sup> This made southern Methodists want to have a retreat center that was more accessible to them. To that effect a committee was formed, and after hearing several offers from towns around a five state area, Fayetteville's offer was accepted to host the new retreat center. In 1922, the town pledged 400 acres for the project, as well as \$35,000.

About this time the Assembly decided that they needed a name for their retreat. The mountain on which they were to be situated was, at that time, called East Mountain. However, after a contest to pick the best name, Mount Sequoyah was chosen. It was given this name for several reasons. As told in the *Arkansas Methodist*, "It is distinctive; most of the summer assemblies have Indian names; it is euphonious; and there is a tradition that Chief Sequoyah, the inventor of the wonderful Cherokee alphabet, had camped with his tribe at the spring at the foot of the mountain on their way to the Indian Territory."<sup>4</sup> Whether or not this story is true is not as important as the fact that the retreat center now carried Sequoyah's name.

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<sup>1</sup> William S. Campbell, *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville: 1828-1928*. Jefferson City, 1928, 37-43.

<sup>2</sup> John H. Reynolds and David Y. Thomas, *History of the University of Arkansas* (University of Arkansas: Fayetteville, 1910), 48.

<sup>3</sup> J.C. Montgomery Jr., "Mt. Sequoyah: The Golden Years" (1973), 3.

<sup>4</sup> "Where are You Going to Spend Your Vacation?," *Arkansas Methodist* (July 10, 1930), 7.

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Early construction on Mount Sequoyah was quite vigorous. The Assembly hoped to be open for their first summer in 1923. To that end as soon as the Assembly acquired the property in December 1922, they immediately held a lot sale to begin the process of attracting visitors to Mount Sequoyah.<sup>5</sup> Some mountaintop roads were previously laid out by the city, specifically Skyline Drive on which the two Mount Sequoyah cottages sit.<sup>6</sup> The new superintendent of the Western Assembly also issued a statement when the land title was received. J. L. Bond said, "We will take immediate steps to prepare for an opening Assembly program beginning about June fifteenth, and our first consideration will be to build an assembly hall, dormitory, and cottages to house those in attendance, and a café where meals will be had."<sup>7</sup> Many of these goals were achieved, and by the time that Mount Sequoyah was opened in June of 1923 the mountaintop consisted of "the chapel, cafeteria, office, superintendent's home, porter's lodge, two dormitories," and 22 cottages.<sup>8</sup> The water tank had also been completed, and the grounds were landscaped by "nationally known landscape architects of Kansas City."<sup>9</sup>

The first year of the camp was a very active one. As J.C. Montgomery Jr. writes in "Mt. Sequoyah: The Golden Years:

The first programs had all the flavor and fervor of those early years and evoke nostalgic boyhood memories of later years spent at Mt. Sequoyah. There were to be offerings like these: the Daniels speech, Laymen's Conference, the General Program, a College Activities Week, the School of Missions, Evangelism, Social Service and Temperance, Sunday School Training, Church Extension, and Epworth League. This was the beginning of 'the golden years' of Mt. Sequoyah.<sup>10</sup>

The early years proved both productive and difficult, with finances for the Western Assembly often very tight. It was not until 1936 that finances stabilized for the organization, both through writing of bonds, and through the sale of lots for cottages. Improvements were made over the years, and in the 1950s, the retreat center became a line item in the budgets of many churches, allowing money for capital improvements on the hilltop such as the construction of new buildings and the remodeling of many of the older structures.<sup>11</sup> Mount Sequoyah continues to be in use by the United Methodist Church today as a retreat center. It is also still supported by conferences in eight states.

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## Statement of Significance

The significance of the Mount Sequoyah Cottages Historic District lies in its representation of the ideals of the summer getaway and in the movement within Methodism that led to the creation of the Mount Sequoyah retreat

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<sup>5</sup> "Assembly to be Built Gradually; Gets Title Today," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, 12/7/1922, 1.

<sup>6</sup> Campbell, *One Hundred Years*, 75.

<sup>7</sup> Quoted in "Assembly to be Built Gradually," 1

<sup>8</sup> "Where Are You Going to Spend Your Vacation?," 7.

<sup>9</sup> "Where Are You Going to Spend Your Vacation?," 7.

<sup>10</sup> Montgomery, "The Golden Years," 5.

<sup>11</sup> Montgomery, "The Golden Years," 7.



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center. The recreational idea of the summer get-away, by many different names, is present throughout the United States. There are many names for the buildings that people construct as their place away from the city and out in the pastoral landscape. Names range for these places and include cottages, cabins, shacks and shanties. The one common theme in this nomenclature is the implied simplicity of the structure. The vacation home or cottage was a place that is pared-down from the primary dwelling, and located away from the bustle of everyday life.<sup>12</sup> This was a most certainly the case with the cottages that were built atop Mount Sequoyah. The mountaintop above Fayetteville had views east to the Ozark Mountains, and provided an escape for the many people that used the retreat facilities there.

The idea of vacationing and getting back to nature was one that firmly took root in the American psyche after WWI. The rise in vacationing that occurred for so many people who wished to escape the city was greatly facilitated by the widespread use of cars. From Paul Sutter's *Driven Wild*: "The *New York Times* estimated that at least five million automobiles a year were being used for autocamping in the early 1920s, a significant figure when one considers that there were only about ten million automobiles in the entire country at the time."<sup>13</sup> Also, in the 1920s half of all car owners were using them to go camping, and a total of 10-15 percent of the United States population chose to go camping.<sup>14</sup> These numbers point to the extreme popularity of getting way and into the country using the quickly popularized vehicles. There were widely publicized trips that promoted autocamping, including ones with such figures as Harvey Firestone, Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and President Warren Harding.<sup>15</sup> Mount Sequoyah and the Western Assembly strove to cater to these motor tourists looking for an escape. As well as the cottages and dormitories available, the Assembly offered sheds for auto-campers' vehicles for 25¢ per day or \$1.50 per week.<sup>16</sup> The many options for this mix of campers and cottage dwellers provided the level of back-to-nature experience that any person might be looking for.

Vacation home growth, while it began earlier, blossomed in and after the 1920s. As Amy Willard Cross writes in *The Summer House: A Tradition of Leisure*, "As more people lived in cities, more people wanted to leave them. It seems that as soon as farmers' citified descendants were liberated from the drudgery of farming, they longed for bucolic vistas and pastoral pleasures without the drudgery of chores or crops."<sup>17</sup> This yearning for the pastoral helped to create the Mount Sequoyah community that blossomed in the 1920s, and provided a place for people of Arkansas to develop their summer homes. With the introduction of the car and the steady improvement of roads, these summer homes soon became weekend homes.<sup>18</sup> In some instances when cottages were close enough to a town, as in the case of Mount Sequoyah, the weekend homes eventually became permanent homes. This move from vacation home to permanent home made more space necessary, and explains the rear additions on both properties.

The rise of the vacation cottage and vacation home in northwest Arkansas was not a new phenomenon. Since the late 1800s places like Siloam Springs, Sulphur Springs and Eureka Springs had been attracting tourists. The

<sup>12</sup> Amy Willard Cross, *The Summer House: A Tradition of Leisure* (Harper Perennial: Toronto, 1992), 59.

<sup>13</sup> Paul S. Sutter, *Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement* (University of Washington Press: Seattle, 2002), 30.

<sup>14</sup> Sutter, *Driven Wild*, 30.

<sup>15</sup> Sutter, *Driven Wild*, 32.

<sup>16</sup> "Mt. Sequoyah Site of Western Methodist Assembly," *Arkansas Methodist*, August 1, 1929, 10.

<sup>17</sup> Cross, *The Summer House*, 9.

<sup>18</sup> Cross, *The Summer House*, 9.

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draw of these particular resort towns was the supposedly curative waters which came out of the grounds. The towns attracted people from across Arkansas to bathe and relax. And after the beginning of the twentieth century the towns began to make themselves over as resort towns and summer escapes, rather than as health spas. An excellent example of this is Eureka Springs. While Eureka Springs flourished in the late nineteenth century as a health spa, it went into decline at the beginning of the twentieth century. It was not until after World War II that Eureka Springs again became a tourist destination, though this time as a haven of summer homes for city dwellers looking to get away from town.<sup>19</sup> Just as Eureka Springs did in the mid-twentieth century, Mount Sequoyah achieved the status of a vacation get-away beginning around 1923.

The use of Mount Sequoyah as not just a Methodist retreat center, but also as a vacation destination occurred very quickly in the mountaintop's development. One thing that paved the way for this was the integration of Mount Sequoyah into the existing town at Fayetteville. The Assembly worked closely with the city, even enlisting the help of city engineer E. M. Ratliffe in making sure that roads, electricity and water were available to the residents atop the mountain. While this was initially done for the benefit of the Assembly, it allowed easy access when vacationers began to develop Mount Sequoyah. From the very first year of development, builders in Fayetteville were selling their services to potential buyers of mountaintop lots. One advertisement in the *Fayetteville Democrat* from June 1923 reads:

Welcome to northwest Arkansas, the vacation land of America, and to Fayetteville, the center of the vacation land. We're proud of our Western Methodist Assembly. Nothing makes life so worth while during the vacation as a summer home. This year the start of the Summer cottage settlement on Mount Sequoyah was begun. Next year there will be very many new homes built. We are in the business of supplying the best possible materials for the construction of these homes. The Northwest Arkansas Lbr. Co., West Dickson Street.<sup>20</sup>

The builders were ready for the boom in vacation cottages on Mount Sequoyah, and it was not long before people began to purchase many of the lots that were offered for sale by the Assembly. Purchasers came from various parts of Arkansas, and even from the surrounding states. Listed in the local newspaper under the headline "Assembly Lot Sales Show Brisk Business" were a few of the people purchasing lots and building cottages. There was a Mr. Miller of Fort Smith, a Dr. Moore from San Antonio, Texas, a Dr. Miller who had completed his cottage before the opening of the first season, and a Mr. Ward of Fort Smith, who had just completed his cottage for \$5,500.<sup>21</sup> By 1928, individuals building cottages totaled more than \$95,000.<sup>22</sup>

Undoubtedly, Mount Sequoyah's nearness and connection to downtown is part of what drew many people to it as a vacation spot. Amenities were important to vacationers, and local businesses tried to accommodate their needs. For example, a bus-line operator advertised that he was running an hourly bus between Mount Sequoyah and the University of Arkansas.<sup>23</sup> This allowed people to take advantage of university resources, as well as laid the groundwork for longer stays on the mountain. With the connectivity provided by this bus line, year-round

<sup>19</sup> NR Nomination for Eureka Springs, CR 2042, Sect 8 Sheet 3.

<sup>20</sup> Advertisement, *Fayetteville Democrat*, June 20 1923, 6.

<sup>21</sup> "Assembly Lot Sales Show Brisk Business," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* (Volume 29, No. 217), August 2, 1923, 1.

<sup>22</sup> Campbell, *One Hundred Years*, 75.

<sup>23</sup> "Bus Line Schedule," *Fayetteville Democrat*, June 26, 1923, 6.

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tenancy became a more promising prospect for locals. Mount Sequoyah was the place to see and be seen at this time. During one year, all of the candidates running for governor made a point to camp at Mount Sequoyah over the summer.<sup>24</sup>

Cottage life inspired many people, and even inspired some architects. A. J. Downing wrote a book in 1850 titled *The Architecture of Country Houses*. This book discusses many aspects of cottage life in the mid 1850's. Some of his observations and suggestions even continued into the twentieth century and are seen in the Mount Sequoyah cottages. Near the beginning of the tract, Downing describes what a cottage is. He writes "It is a house of limited accommodation, and, above all, of very modest size as compared with other houses."<sup>25</sup> This prescription was clearly followed by the builders of the Mount Sequoyah cottages. Their original sizes are quite small, and from the outside they appear to be quite simple and contain little ornamentation. Another prescription for cottages made by Downing is that they must be kept inexpensive. One way he recommends doing this is by adorning wood with other materials.<sup>26</sup> This building tip is clearly seen in the Mount Sequoyah cottages, because they are frame structures that were then faced with stone. Another reason that Downing advocated for cottages to be inexpensive is because he saw the system of vacation homes in the United States as different from earlier examples in England. He believed that vacation homes should be accessible to a larger portion of the population than they were in England, where the main users of these structures were the landed gentry. Downing believed that cottages should be used by a wider class of worker.<sup>27</sup> While in his time, that class of worker was still an exclusive group, by 1923 when Mount Sequoyah was opened the class of people that had access to summer vacationing was growing rapidly through improvements in transportation networks and cheapness of transportation

The Mount Sequoyah Cottages Historic District is also significant because it tells the story of religious retreats. Religious retreats grew out of the Chautauqua movement. This movement began in Chautauqua, New York in 1873, and was a religious, entertainment and educational movement. From the beginning, as groups embraced the Chautauqua spirit, they also embraced the name Assembly, which eventually came to be applied to the Western Methodist Assembly located on Mount Sequoyah.<sup>28</sup> The Western Methodist Assembly's leadership was highly influenced by the Assembly they had often attended in North Carolina. After attending retreats at Lake Junaluska since 1913, it was decided that an assembly should be established in the middle south.<sup>29</sup> Mount Sequoyah became the site for this Assembly, and after opening in 1923, it provided a place of summer enjoyment for many residents of Arkansas and surrounding states.

Retreat centers were often places for spiritual enrichment as well as places of outdoors enjoyment. Part of this history stems from the Chautauqua movement, which aimed to both inspire people in religion, education, and generally bring community together. Many of the activities on Mount Sequoyah helped to build a community in this vacation destination. One example is the use of sports as recreation. Sports were used to bring people together, and even have cultural interactions. In 1923, for example, a group of Indians from Oklahoma came to

<sup>24</sup> Campbell, *One Hundred Years*, 76.

<sup>25</sup> A. J. Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses* (Dover Publications: New York, 1969), 39.

<sup>26</sup> Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, 49-50.

<sup>27</sup> Downing, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, 40.

<sup>28</sup> John Heyl Vincent, *The Chautauqua Movement* (Boston: Chautauqua Press, 1886), 40.

<sup>29</sup> William E. King, *Images of America: Lake Junaluska* (Charleston, Arcadia Publishing, 2010), 7.

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Mt. Sequoyah to compete with the other teams in baseball.<sup>30</sup> There were also several other outdoor activities provided around Fayetteville for visitors to the retreat center. In the *Arkansas Methodist*, which was encouraging people to visit Mount Sequoyah, these activities are summarized: "Fayetteville offers a happy combination of healthful surroundings with unusual recreational advantages and opportunities for cultural development. . . . There are sporty golf courses, swimming and boating facilities, cool clear mountain streams, scores of waiting woodland trails, rich farm and orchard lands, libraries and theaters. In fact, every type of entertainment to meet the changing fancy of the vacationist."<sup>31</sup>

Mount Sequoyah is an interesting example of the crossroads between the religious retreat and the vacation getaway. The religious idyll is often seen as a pastoral landscape, with a community of people living simply. Likewise, the vacation home in the early twentieth century became a place that was apart from the city. It was a place where simplicity was in fashion and the outdoors was the target setting. All of this came together at Mount Sequoyah, allowing the Western Methodist Assembly to flourish and a vacation community to spring up on its periphery. As representations of this historic trend the Mount Sequoyah cottages are the best, most intact examples of the early developments of vacation homes at Mount Sequoyah. Through their use of traditional cottage architecture, and their location and association with the Western Methodist Assembly, these two properties show in the built landscape the trends of pastoralism and vacation-home planning from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

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<sup>30</sup> "Indians to Play Ball For Mount Sequoyah," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* (Volume 29: Number 177), 6/13/1923, 1.

<sup>31</sup> "Come to Fayetteville, Arkansas," *Arkansas Methodist*, 8/1/1929, 8.

Mount Sequoyah Cottages

Name of Property

Washington, AR

County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Campbell, William Simeon. *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928*. Jefferson City: Unknown, 1928.  
Cross, Amy Willard. *The Summer House: A Tradition of Leisure*. Toronto: Harper Collins Publishers, 1992.  
Downing, A.J. *The Architecture of Country Houses*. New York: Dover Publications, 1969.  
King, William E. *Images of America: Lake Junaluska*. Charleston: Arcadia Publishing, 2010  
McAlester, Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1994.  
Montgomery Jr., J.C. "Mt. Sequoyah: The Golden Years." 1973.  
Sutter, Paul. *Driven Wild: How the Fight Against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2002.  
Vincent, John Heyl. *The Chautauqua Movement*. Boston: Chautauqua Press, 1886.

"Come to Fayetteville, Arkansas," *Arkansas Methodist*, August 1, 1929.  
"Mt. Sequoyah Site of Western Methodist Assembly," *Arkansas Methodist*, August 1, 1929.  
"Where are You Going to Spend Your Vacation?," *Arkansas Methodist*, July 10, 1930, 7.

Advertisement, *Fayetteville Democrat*, June 20, 1923.  
"Assembly Lot Sales Show Brisk Business," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* (Volume 29, No. 217), August 2, 1923.  
"Assembly to be Built Gradually; Gets Title Today," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat*, December 7, 1922.  
"Bus Line Schedule," *Fayetteville Democrat*, June 26, 1923  
"Indians to Play Ball For Mount Sequoyah," *Fayetteville Daily Democrat* (Volume 29: Number 177), June 13, 1923.

### 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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office  
☐ Other State agency  
☐ Federal agency  
☐ Local government  
☐ University  
☐ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** 1

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Mount Sequoyah Cottages

Name of Property

Washington, AR

County and State

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	397033	3991616	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2				4			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

### Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

All property located on tax parcels 765-12027-000 and 765-12026-000 located on East Skyline Drive atop Mount Sequoyah in the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas.

### Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary was selected to take in the two lots for 810 and 808 Skyline Drive in Fayetteville because these two homes continue to convey their significance and retain integrity.

### 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Benjamin Harvey, National Register Historian		
organization	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	date	11/18/11
street & number	1500 Tower Building, 323 Centre Street	telephone	501-324-9789
city or town	Little Rock	state	AR zip code 72201
e-mail	ben@arkansasheritage.org		

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Mount Sequoyah Cottages

Name of Property

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Mount Sequoyah Cottages Historic District

City or Vicinity: Fayetteville

County: Washington County

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Clint Pumphrey

Date Photographed: November 11, 2010

Photo 1 of 9: West façade 810 East Skyline Drive, facing east

Photo 2 of 9: North façade 810 East Skyline Drive, facing southeast

Photo 3 of 9: East façade 810 East Skyline Drive, facing northwest

Photo 4 of 9: South façade 810 East Skyline Drive, facing northeast

Photo 5 of 9: West façade 808 East Skyline Drive, facing east

Photo 6 of 9: North façade 808 East Skyline Drive, facing southeast

Photo 7 of 9: East façade 808 East Skyline Drive, facing southwest

Photo 8 of 9: South façade 808 East Skyline Drive, facing northeast

Photo 9 of 9: Streetscape on East Skyline Drive, facing southeast

**Property Owner:**

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

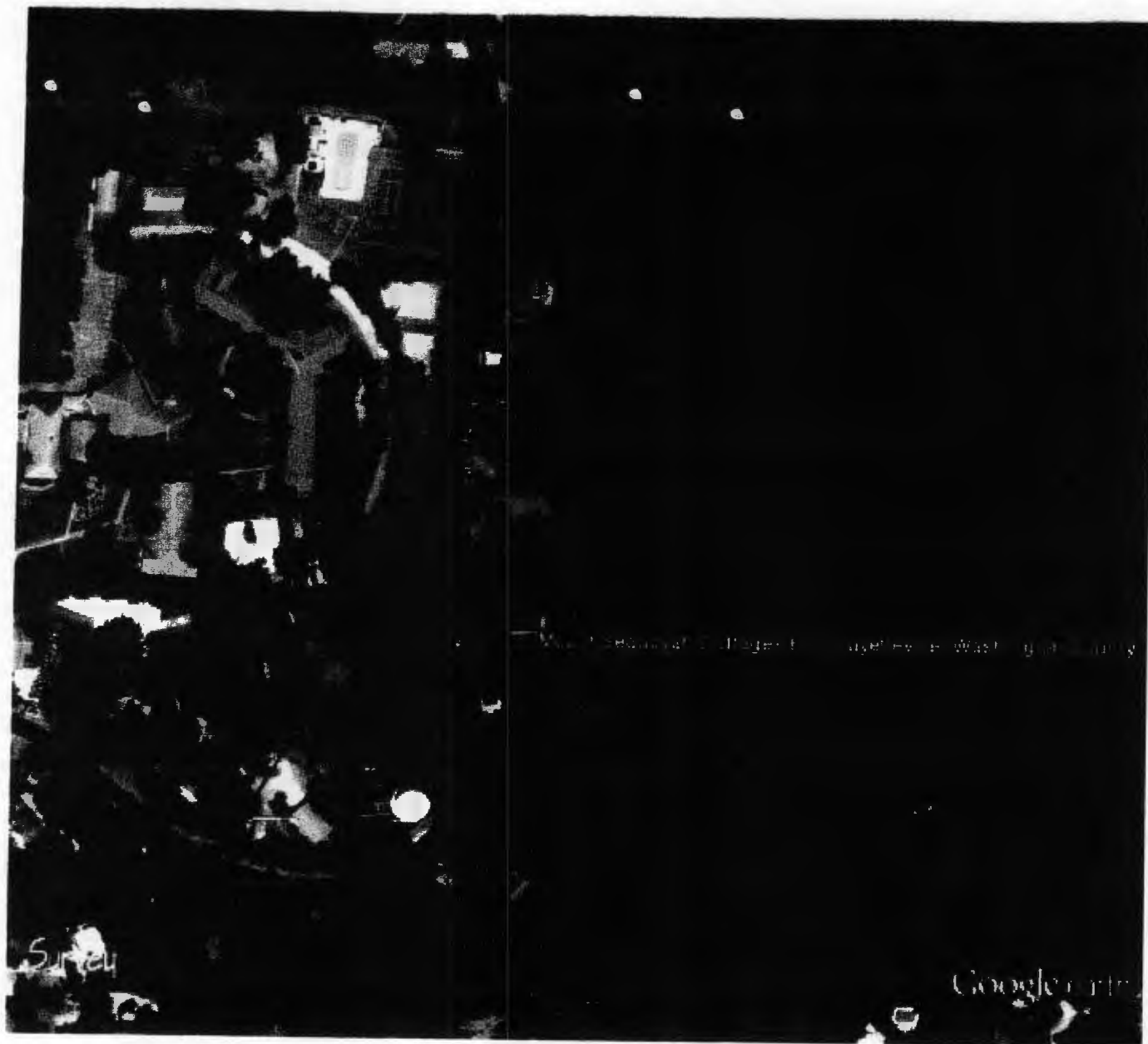
name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Google earth

feet  
meters

200 800



Mount Sequoyah Cottages HD  
36.063712  
-94.143315













