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NR 1-20-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED: BE 0001

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

Book Copy

HISTORIC Elliott Home

AND/OR COMMON The Victorian House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 303 S.E. Third

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN Bentonville, Arkansas

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT Third

STATE Arkansas

VICINITY OF CODE 05

COUNTY Benton

CODE 007

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME ~~Larry B. and Becky J. Wheeler~~

STREET & NUMBER 303 S.E. Third Street

CITY, TOWN Bentonville, Arkansas

STATE Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Bentonville County Courthouse (Benton County)

STREET & NUMBER On the Square

CITY, TOWN Bentonville,

STATE Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Victorian House, built in 1887, is an excellent example of Italianate Victorian architecture. Intricate embellishments respond romantically to the Italianate Style; however, the overall appearance is forthright and bold.

Of brick construction, this three story home rests on a cut-stone foundation encompassing some 4800 square feet of living area. Exterior walls are four courses or 16 inches thick. Every interior wall is brick, two course, eight inches thick. The house is a veritable fortress. A monument to this area's early-day craftsmen.

Over three hundred feet of cast iron fence flank the street boundaries of the one acre grounds which are presently undergoing landscaping.

The most captivating elements of the home start at the roof. The third story "king's walk or widow's walk" as it is known locally is capped by a campaigniform bonnett balanced by a triple window dormer. Deep overhanging eaves are supported by fancy carved brackets; alternated with smaller less visible ones.

Seven outside porches add character, the most obvious on the facade, each cushioned by dual bay windows on each flank allowing cool summer breezes in the bedrooms. Another single story bay protrudes from the home's east wall. Each porch roof is supported by four, hexagon bracketed pillars. Each portico is encased by an intricately carved balustrade.

A charming and unusual feature is the carriage porch on the home's east side. Victorian aristocrats could indulge in a pleasant Sunday afternoon carriage ride without so much as touching the ground, an appreciated feature after a summer shower.

The quarter basement sports a cool wine cellar indicative of 19th century elegance. A pyramid-roofed diamond lattice gazebo was the perfect place for relaxing.

The interior of the home features eight fireplaces with seven of the mantles still intact. Two mantles stand over eight feet high with elaborate hand carved and tooled spindles. The stairway balustrade is solid walnut featuring an inlaid burl newel post. Walnut louvered shutters cover practically every interior window; Alternating maple and walnut flooring adds charm to the entry hall.

Unfortunately much of the interior trim has been painted, however the library, which contains the most elaborate woodwork was recently stripped and refinished to its original splendor.

The home is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Wheeler.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This gracious home, built in 1887 was originally known as the Elliott Home after its original owner who commissioned its construction, Harry Elliott, an early day miner, attorney and pioneer of Benton County.

The building is of architectural significance due to its beauty, quality of original design and workmanship. It serves as a fine example of Italianate Victorian style, the most significant of the few remaining in Benton County. Fortunately its new owners have a deep appreciation for Victorian architecture and are presently attempting to restore it to its original splendor.

Harry W. Elliott was the son of Benton County Judge Samuel Elliott. At an early age he left for the silver fields of Silver City, New Mexico sometime in the early 1870s. While there he practiced law and acquired a significant share of a silver mine which later produced a rich vein. While on a visit to Bentonville in early 1887 Elliott decided to sell his share of the mine and remain here with his aging parents. His share brought him a reported half million dollars.

Harry Elliott purchased a small parcel of land and commissioned the building of the house for his parents and younger sister Adeline Elliott Woods. Construction started in the fall of 1887 and completed sometime in 1888.

Elliott never actually lived in the home but in a smaller house which is still standing at the back of the property. All of his meals were taken in the large house but he preferred to spend his leisure time in quiet solitude.

Facts concerning Harry Elliott's discovery of silver and his later life have been difficult to obtain because he was a private man and resented inquiries into his personal life. Perhaps the opportunists of the mining towns had something to do with his unusual attitudes.

At his death in 1923 he had vast holdings of real estate and personal property. His cash value in stocks, bonds, etc. was in excess of \$300,000.

Elliott's younger sister, Adeline Elliott Woods remained in the home until her death in 1950. Mrs. Woods was an avid stamp collector and was reported to have owned one of the finest collections in the nation. President Franklin D. Roosevelt traded stamps with her frequently through correspondence.

Mrs. Woods, besides being the last of Victorian aristocracy in Bentonville, was

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

Significance contd.

an extremely talented pianist and music teacher. She taught all children, rich or poor without charge. She is fondly remembered and appreciated in this community for those two things.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	391930	4025440	B			
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Larry E. Wheeler

ORGANIZATION

DATE

14 June, 1977

* STREET & NUMBER

303 S. E. Third Street

AHPP # (501) 371-2763

CITY OR TOWN

Bentonville

STATE

Arkansas

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE Anne Bartley

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

14 June, 1977

NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER