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 Esso Station
other names/site number CY0054

2. Location

street & number 287 W. Main
city or town Piggott
state Arkansas code AR county Clay code 021 zip code 72454

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.

[Signature of certifying official/title]
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

(Oct. 1990)
**5. Classification**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ownership of Property</th>
<th>Category of Property</th>
<th>Number of Resources within Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Check as many boxes as apply)</td>
<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☑ private</td>
<td>☑ building(s)</td>
<td>Contributions: 1 Noncontributing: 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ public-local</td>
<td>☐ district</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ public-State</td>
<td>☐ site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ public-Federal</td>
<td>☐ structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ object</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era & Architecture
1910-1965

**6. Function or Use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic Functions</th>
<th>Current Functions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commerce/Trade: Specialty store</td>
<td>Commerce/Trade: Specialty store</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**7. Description**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architectural Classification</th>
<th>Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
<td>(Enter categories from instructions)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonial Revival</td>
<td>foundation: Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>walls: Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roof: Composition shingle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Narrative Description**

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET
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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Transportation

Period of Significance

1942

Significant Dates

1942

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

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 moved from its original location.

☐ 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.

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET
9. Major Bibliographical References

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


Piggott Banner, 20 February 1942.

Piggott Banner, 3 April 1942.

Sales, Ordene. 2000. Interview by Holly Hope, 16 February.

Materials submitted by Ordene Sales, Piggott, 3 November 1999 and 7 December 1999.

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:
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre.

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>752290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

All of Lot nine (9) and the North fifteen feet of lot eight (8) in block one (1) of Polsgrove's addition to the City of Piggott, Arkansas.

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

This nomination includes all of the property historically associated with the Esso Station, Piggott, Arkansas.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Holly Hope
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
date: 03/06/00
street & number: 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street
telephone: 501 324-9880
city or town: Little Rock
state: AR
zip code: 72201
SUMMARY

The Esso Station at the southwest corner of Arkansas Highway 62 and South Thornton Street is situated just outside of the historic downtown core of Piggott. Highway 62 is mostly commercial and is composed largely of modern and mid-twentieth century structures. The station now serves as the office for a monument company. The parking lot surrounding the building displays examples of headstones offered by the Redmon Monument Company. The stuccoed building, constructed in 1942, is a small Colonial Revival structure with shed-roofed restroom wings on either side of its one-room core.

ELABORATION

The front or southern facade features a shed-roofed wing on the west end of the building. The wing, which served as a restroom, is stepped back from the facade approximately four feet. Centered in the restroom wall is a telescoping hexagonal window of nine lights. A narrow frieze board encircles the wing. The one-room core of the station is decorated with a row of modillions beneath the cornice. Two large plate glass windows flank a one-light wooden door beneath a shed-roofed stoop. Red brick sheathes the wall beneath the windows. The restroom wing on the east side mirrors the west wing and both wings are lined at the foundation with a row of soldier bricks that encircles the building.

The eastern elevation is lit at the southeast corner of the building by a six-over-six double-hung window. A six-light French door accesses the restroom wing. Cornice returns are featured at the gable. The rear, northern elevation is fenestrated by a single double-hung window. A narrow interior brick chimney rises from the northwest corner of the building. The western elevation mirrors the east.
SUMMARY

The Esso Station on Arkansas Highway 62, or West Main in Piggott is the second oldest gas station in the immediate area of the downtown core that remains basically unaltered. The station has had only two owners since its construction in 1942 and is the only example in town of a Colonial Revival gas station dating from the years when highway travel in Arkansas was considered an adventure.

ELABORATION

The town of Piggott, located on the eastern slope of Crowley's Ridge by the Black River, was laid out in November, 1882 with the arrival of the St. Louis and Texas Railroad. The entrance of the railroad into the area in 1873 had spawned the construction of several sawmills for the production of ties which contributed to the growth of the town. Piggott was named the eastern county seat of Clay County in 1888, which further influenced growth. By 1891 the town of Piggott was incorporated.

The Esso Station was built for Piggott residents W.A. James and brother Johnnie. A 1942 issue of the Piggott Banner contains a small ad for the opening of the Main & Thornton Esso Station at Highways 1 and 62 in Piggott. The building was operated as a gas station by the James brothers for thirty-six years. The current owner has rented the building out for various uses since 1975. The Redmon Monument Company is the present renter, and utilizes the gas station as an office and the parking lot for the display of monuments.

The Esso Station in Piggott is located in a commercial area west of the historic downtown. The station stands out among the usual simple fare of modern construction, and despite its diminutive size it is noticeable due to its Colonial Revival detailing. The station is the second oldest gas station in Piggott that is said to be intact. Hunt's Garage, associated with Hunt's Log Cabin west of the Esso Station on Arkansas Highway 62, was built in 1929 and as of February, 2000 retains its formed concrete construction.

The Esso Station's architecture reflects an era when traveling by highway was still an adventure and as such is being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion C. The Esso Station is also considered a contributing resource to the multiple property listing "Arkansas Highway & Transportation Era Architecture, 1910-1965", in conjunction with the historic context, "Arkansas Highway History & Architecture, 1910-1965." It is also being nominated under Criterion A for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture, which is documented extensively in the multiple property listing.