

Clarksville Confederate Monument
Name of Property

Johnson County, Arkansas
County and State

IPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Clarksville Confederate Monument

Other Name/Site Number: JO0102S

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2. Location

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Street & Number: Oakland Memorial Cemetery west of Montgomery Avenue

Not for Publication: NA

City/Town: Clarksville

Vicinity: NA

State: AR County: Johnson Code: 071 Zip Code: 72830

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
<u>1</u>	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934

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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

May 12, 1999
Date

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.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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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

Materials: foundation Limestone roof NA
walls Marble other NA

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY:

The Clarksville Confederate Monument is a tall marble obelisk atop a limestone base and located in the south-central section of Oakland Memorial Cemetery at Clarksville in Johnson County.

ELABORATION:

The Clarksville Confederate Monument is a tall marble obelisk atop a limestone base and located in the south-central section of Oakland Memorial Cemetery at Clarksville in Johnson County.

The white marble obelisk is 10 feet tall, 21.5 inches wide and 21.5 inches deep. It sits atop a limestone base that is 22 inches tall, 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep.

The north face of the lower section of the obelisk is inscribed as follows: SACRED TO THE/MEMORY OF/OUR/CONFEDERATE/DEAD/1861-1865. There is a vertical floral detail carved into the marble of the spire section of the obelisk.

The monument and base both show signs of heavy organic growth. The base also exhibits spalling, and the obelisk marble is sugary. It would benefit from conservation treatment.

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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: Statewide.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): F

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY

Period(s) of Significance: ca. 1902

Significant Dates: ca. 1902

Significant Person(s): NA

Cultural Affiliation: NA

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary:

The Clarksville Confederate Monument is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative monument financed and erected through the efforts of the Felix I. Batson Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the efforts of the U.D.C. to reflect their perceptions of the noble character and valor of their soldiers and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties.

Elaboration:

Johnson County was a rural western county when Arkansas seceded from the Union in 1861, and despite its relatively small population "about 1,000 men, perhaps more," joined the ranks of the Confederacy in at least seven different companies. About half of that number returned, according to *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Western Arkansas*.

On April 20, 1898, several daughters of Confederate soldiers met at the home of Mrs. Jordan E. Cravens and organized Chapter 221 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The chapter was named for Cravens' father, Judge Felix I. Batson, who served the region in the Confederate Congress.

The Batson chapter had ten initial members, but within four years it boasted 62 members and a quarter of a century later it still counted a healthy membership of 55 members. The increase in membership may be connected with the drive to erect a monument to the county's Confederate soldiers, for the tall marble obelisk was in place by 1902, when the Batson chapter's minutes noted that "the graves of heroes lie in the shadow of the beautiful monument in our cemetery." As with most of the Confederate memorials scattered across Arkansas, the Clarksville Confederate Monument remains the single historic resource most closely associated with the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, in this case the Felix I. Batson Chapter, No. 221.

The Clarksville Confederate Monument is similar stylistically to two obelisk-type memorials previously listed on the National Register within this context: the Conway Confederate Monument (NR 4-26-96) and the Washington Confederate Monument (NR 12-6-96).

The Clarksville Confederate Monument is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative monument financed and erected through the efforts of the Felix I. Batson Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the efforts of the U.D.C. to reflect their perceptions of the noble character and valor of their soldiers and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Langford, Ella Molloy. "Johnson County Arkansas: The First Hundred Years." (Clarksville: Sallis, Threadill & Sallis, 1921), p. 101.

Dodson, Mrs. Thomas F. "Confederate Monuments and Markers in Arkansas." Arkansas Division UDC, 1960, p. 37.

"Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Western Arkansas." (Chicago and Nashville: The Southern Publishing Co., 1891), 285-6.

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 -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

Clarksville Confederate Monument
Name of Property

Johnson County, Arkansas
County and State

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>456670</u>	<u>3924840</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

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

Boundary Justification:

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/Community Outreach Director

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: December 14, 1998

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

Clarksville
Confederate
Monument

Clarksville

Johnson Co. 27'30"

Arkansas
15456630/39246
49

T. 9 N.

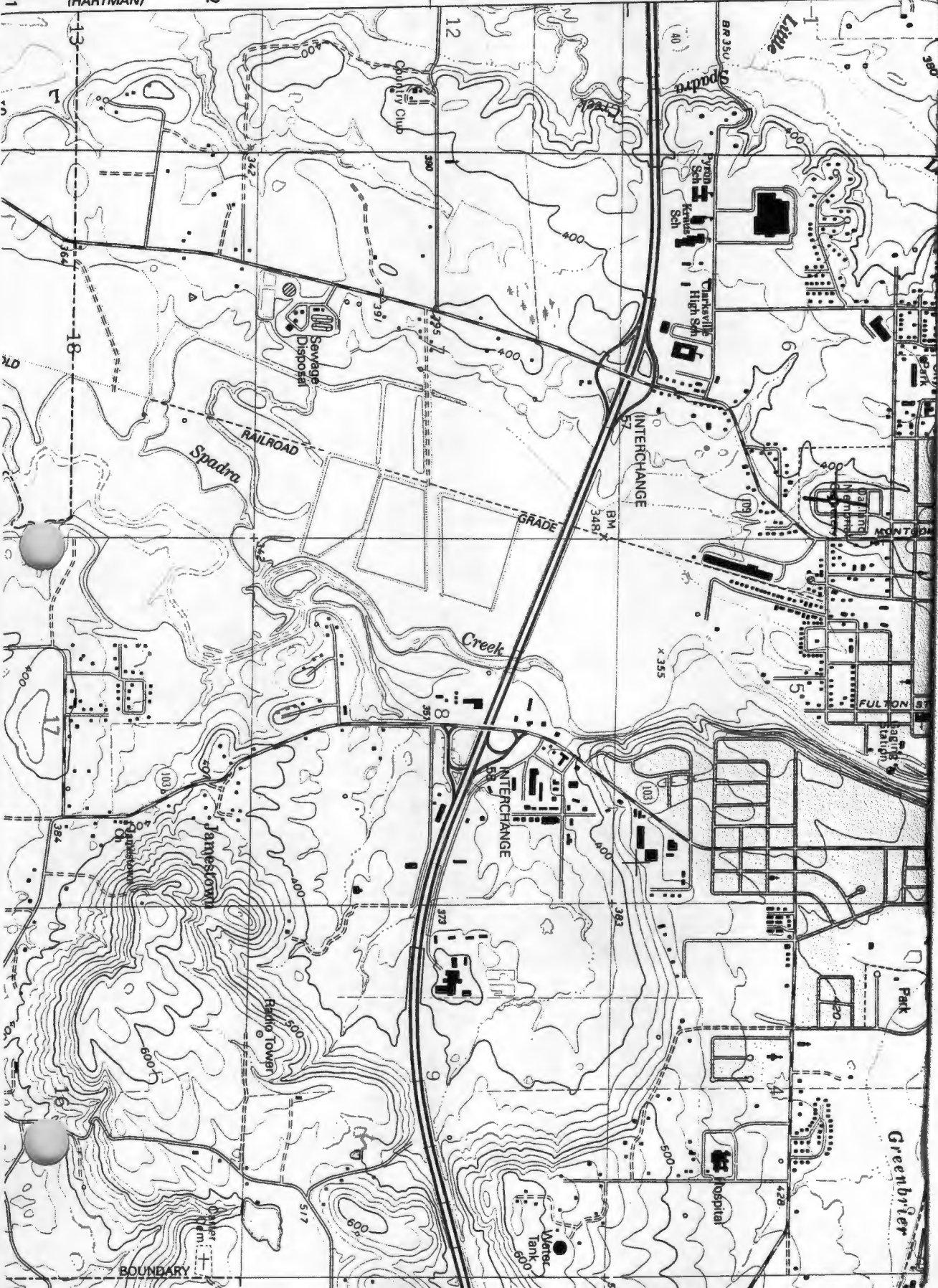
3025

3022

3023

7254 1 NE
(HARTMAN)

3021



VERDITTILE
MEMORIALS
DUBH
CONFEDERATE
DEAD
1861-1865

