

Gould Jones Reservoir

Newton Co, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

PS 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**

NR LISTED
AUG 24 1998
AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Gould Jones Reservoir

Other Name/Site Number: NW0060

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2. Location

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Street & Number: Arkansas Highway 7

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Jasper

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Newton

Code: AR101

Zip Code: 72641

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Structure

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

1

0 Total

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Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Cathryn A. Slaton
Signature of certifying official

6-29-98
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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Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

The Gould Jones Reservoir was built in 1946 utilizing the materials of concrete and brick. It is located just off of Arkansas Highway 7 on the grounds of the Newton County Library. The purpose of the structure was for the supply of public water to the town of Jasper in Newton County. Although the reservoir is currently not in use, the structure is in good condition, and the library plans to make some slight alterations to the structure in order to use it as a storage area. The library also plans to use the reservoir as an educational tool as a part of their programs.

Elaboration

The Gould Jones Reservoir was constructed out of poured concrete and brick by Gould Jones in 1946. The round structure was created out of poured concrete with a band of red brick at the top. The reservoir is capped by a concrete conical roof with a very shallow pitch. The roof contains a access door at the west side and a ventilation area at the roof peak. This ventilation area is crowned with a truck wheel rim which is said to have been placed there by the builder as a similar wheel rim is incorporated into the structure of a nearby church which was also built by Jones. The reservoir is said to have had a one cylinder motor pump at the time of construction.

The Gould Jones Reservoir sits on the same property as the new Newton County Library which was built approximately two years ago. The library plans to incorporate the reservoir into its educational and cultural programs, with landscaping proposed by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville's School of Architecture. The library plans minimal changes to the structure in concert with the new landscaping: painting the concrete a neutral color, cleaning the brick, and putting a plexi-glass cover over the access hole on the roof. A door will be cut into the reservoir on the side that is blind to State Highway 7 with a grill at the bottom for ventilation. A metal cap will be built over the peak of the roof over the truck wheel rim to aid in ventilation for the structure. The library plans to use the reservoir for storage, and as an educational tool for the community.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

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Areas of Significance: Community Planning &
Development & Engineering

Period(s) of Significance: 1945-1946

Significant Dates: 1945-1946

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Gould Jones Reservoir

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

Summary

The Gould Jones Reservoir is being nominated under Criterion A with local significance, due to its importance as the first source of public water in the town of Jasper, the county seat for one of the most undeveloped counties in the state.

Historical Background

One of the earliest settlements of the Ozark Mountains, Jasper was plotted in 1842. A hundred years earlier, REA delivered electricity to its residents in 1941. A year or so later, Gould Jones built the first water reservoir in Jasper which provided water for the only factory which has ever done business in this town -- a tomato factory, which provided precious \$2.50 a day jobs to about thirty women who peeled tomatoes, and to many farmers and tomato "haulers." The current reservoir replaced a smaller reservoir which was also built by Gould Jones.

The canning factory was closed by the Arkansas Department of Health. According to one resident, the factory "ruined our wells, with tomato juice found in them." According to Gilbert Jencks, Gould Jones replaced the original reservoir with a larger one in 1946, providing "a big service for the community." It was the first water system to Jasper residents, to whom the structure and service was a "novelty." Guy Bennett, who moved to Jasper on Halloween of 1938 and hauled tomatoes from farms to the canning factory in 1945 and 1946, thinks that the

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current reservoir was used both by the factory and by local residents, reasoning that the factory required the larger, current tank. Bennet was employed by Jones in the 1940s to haul rocks from the Buffalo River (now a National Park), for Gould's many building projects. County Sheriff from 1959 to 1965, Bennet says that "Gould Jones could do anything with steel, a fork and an anvil." He adds that Jones "figured how to make the top of the reservoir rounded, when everyone told him he couldn't do it, that he'd have to settle for a flat roof." Bennet notes that the pump Jones built for the reservoir was a "one-lunger, cylinder type."

After 1952, when State Highway 7 was finally paved past the reservoir south to Pelsor, water was provided to residents by the Arkansas Soil & Water Conservation Program from other sources, but the reservoir has remained a local landmark and symbol of mountaineering ingenuity since that time.

Two years ago, the property on which the reservoir sits was developed as the site of the Newton County Library, and plans are currently in place to incorporate the reservoir into educational and cultural landscaping, proposed by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville's School of Architecture. The reservoir will function symbolically as a "Reservoir of Goodwill" for a community that prides itself in its many traditions of goodwill, the best-known of which may be to wave as residents pass each other on any of the roads within Newton County, regardless of their family roots or community affiliations. The structure will also function as a storage building for library landscaping and maintenance equipment.

Locally significant under Criterion A, the Gould Jones Reservoir provided from 1946 to c. 1953 (for National Register purposes, the period of significance is 1945-1947) the first public water system in Jasper. It provided water to the only factory to have existed in Jasper, and in turn aided in the development of this community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lackey, Walter F. History of Newton County, Arkansas. Point Lookout, Missouri: S of O Press, 1950.

Articles:

"Gould Jones, Blacksmith, Machinist, Builder, Dies," The Newton County Times, March 22, 1972, Page 4.

"Winning Photo of Old Watertank," The Newton County Times, July 13, 1995, page 3.

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Interviews:

Summer, 1996 and 1-11-97. Anne Courtemanche-Ellis, Interviewer. Ardella Vaughn, 99 year-old local authority, whose husband associated with Gould Jones regarding many community developments.

1-6-97. Anne Courtemanche-Ellis. Margaret Phillips, community leader, local newspaper correspondent, who was employed by the tomato canning factor in Jasper during the time her husband was County Treasurer, from 1942 to 1946.

1-7-97. Anne Courtemanche-Ellis. Gilbert Jencks, who returned to Jasper from Florida in 1944 and remembers an earlier Gould Jones tank that was replaced by the current Gould Jones reservoir in 1946.

1-13-97. Anne Courtemanche-Ellis. Thomas W. Tougaw, Rural Development Director, Department of Agriculture, Harrison, Arkansas. Tougaw oversaw the installation of the FmHA's extended water system in Jasper in the 1970's. Tougaw was a teacher in Newton County during the historic period of the Reservoir.

1-14-97. Anne Courtemanche-Ellis. Guy Bennett, who has lived in Jasper since 1938, remembers the current Reservoir being used both by the canning factory in 1945 and as storage for a residential water system until 1952. Bennet was County Sheriff from 1959 to 1965.

The transcripts are stored with the Newton County Library, P. O. Box 516, Jasper, Arkansas 72641.

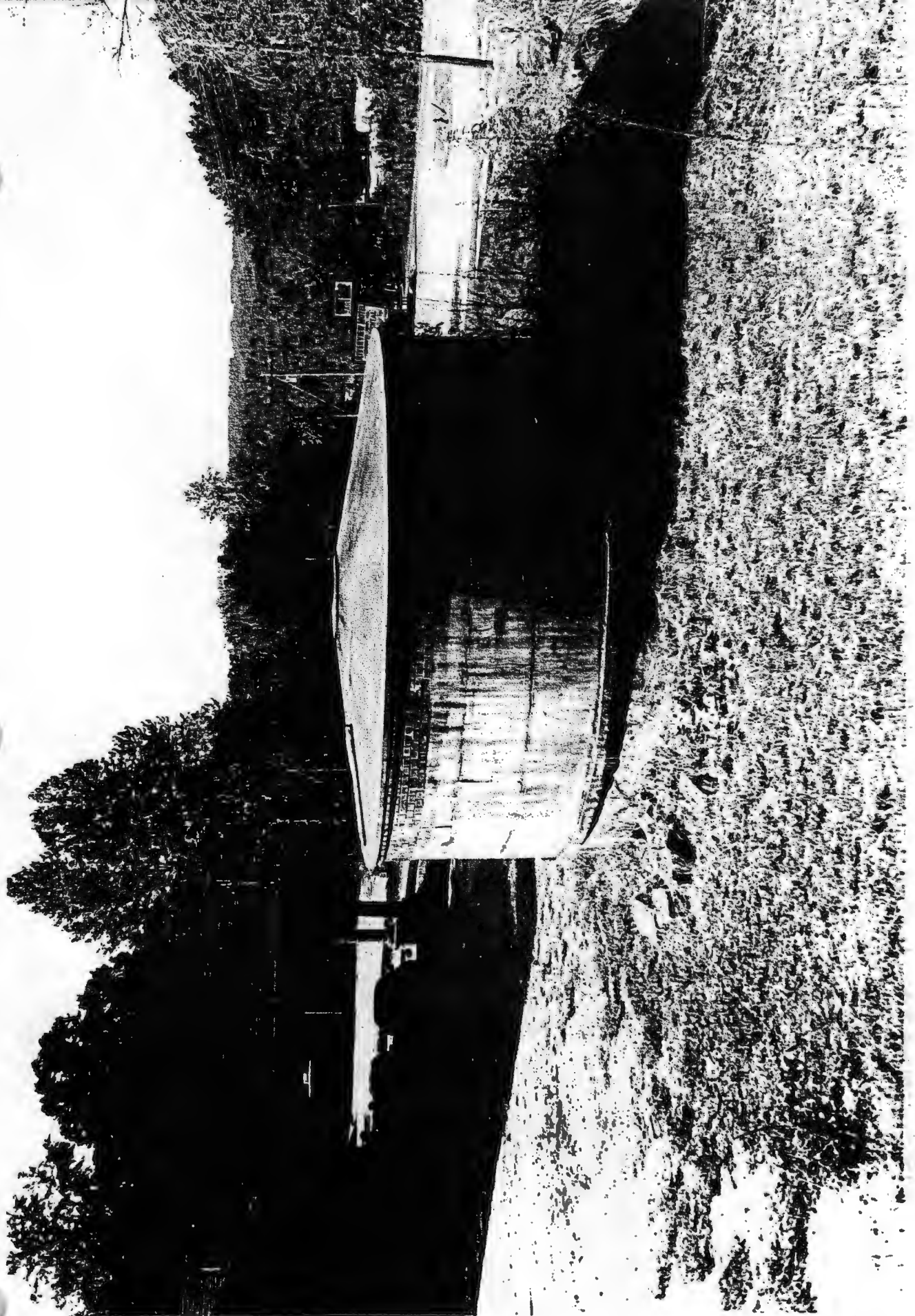
Previous documentation on file (NPS):

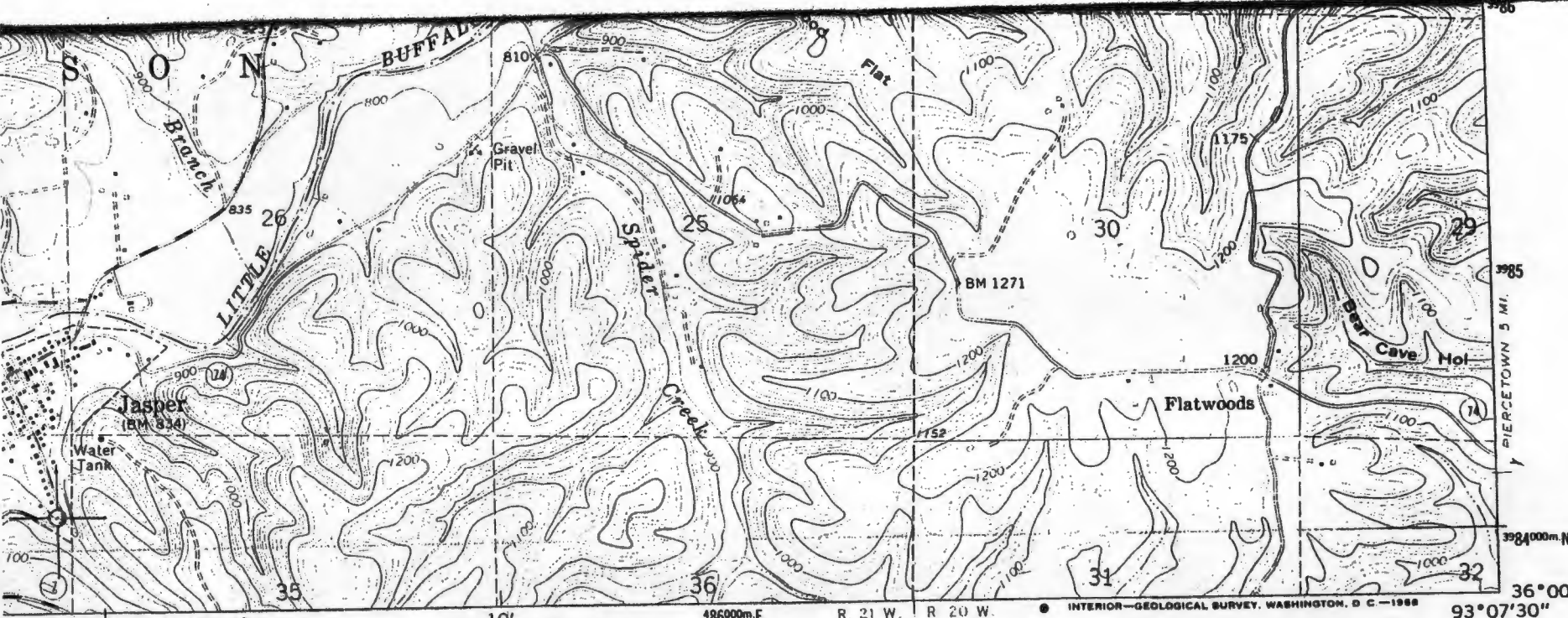
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

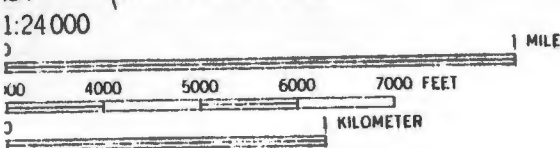
- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____







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VERTICAL 20 FEET
 AN SEA LEVEL

NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FEDERAL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
 COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201
 A LIST OF MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

*Gould Jones Reservoir
 Jasper, Newton County, AR
 15/483310/3984120*



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Medium-duty ——— Light-duty - - - - -
 Unimproved dirt - - - - -
 ○ State Route

JASPER, ARK.
 N3600—W9307.5/7.5

1967

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