

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR LISTED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

MAY 23 1999

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Henderson House

Other Name/Site Number: PU9827

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 1510 South Ringo Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Little Rock

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Pulaski

Code: 119

Zip Code: 72202

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Henderson House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

Number of Resources within Property:

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historically Black Properties in Little Rock's Dunbar School Neighborhood

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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.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

Henderson House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
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

Henderson House
Name of Property

Pulaski County, Arkansas
County and State

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: DOMESTIC

Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : DOMESTIC

Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: foundation Brick roof Other/Composition Shingle
walls Wood/Weatherboard other Gables: Stucco

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

SUMMARY

A two-story Craftsman-style house with a simple rectangular plan, the Henderson House sits on a narrow lot near the center of its block. Two widths of weatherboard are used in the home's frame construction, which is accented by stuccoed gable ends. Low-pitched roofs on the main section of the house and the one-story front porch feature exposed rafter ends and knee braces under the eaves.

ELABORATION

Built at approximately the same time as the Bush-Dubisson House, its neighbor to the north, the Henderson House is located on a site that is not as wide as a standard city lot; it is forty feet in width rather than the usual fifty. The ten feet "lost" from the Henderson House's site are part of the large lawn of the Bush-Dubisson House.

The two-story, frame house has a brick foundation and is basically

Henderson House
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rectangular in plan under a low-pitched, gabled roof. The roof of the one-story, full-width front porch echoes the pitch of the main roofline, but the gable of the main roof is clipped while the porch's is not. The floor of the porch is concrete, and the porch roof is supported by two square, brick piers. Both the main roof and the porch roof have exposed rafter ends and decorative knee braces under the eaves. Textural variety is provided by a change in the width of the home's weatherboard siding at the level of the porch roof's ridgeline and by stucco in the gable ends of the main roof and porch roof.

All of the home's windows have double-hung sashes, most with a four-over-one configuration of lights. The front door, located in the main (east) facade at the north end of the porch, is balanced by a larger six-over-one window located at the south end of the porch. The home's one chimney, on the north side near the front corner, is flanked by two small double-hung windows.

The rectangular plan of the Henderson House is broken by a bay that projects from the second story at the east end of the north side of the house and by a one-story, mid-20th century addition that spans the rear (west) facade. This modest addition, sheathed in novelty siding, appears to be the only change the exterior of the house has undergone.

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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: _____.

Applicable National Register Criteria: B and C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Ethnic Heritage/Black
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1925-1932

Significant Dates: 1925

Significant Person(s): Benjamin D. Henderson

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Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

SUMMARY

Like the other three houses on the west side of the 1500 block of Ringo Street, the Henderson House was constructed for a member of the Bush family. Benjamin D. Henderson was a nephew of John E. Bush, co-founder of the Mosaic Templars of America, and cousin of the builders—Aldridge E. Bush and Chester E. Bush—of the other houses in the so-called "Bush Block." The significance of this house derives both from its association with a member of the Bush family and from its virtually unaltered Craftsman design.

ELABORATION

The Henderson House was built in 1925 for Benjamin D. Henderson and his wife, Loraine. Ben Henderson was John E. Bush's nephew, and at the time this house was built he was secretary-in-charge of the Mosaic Templars of America Adequate Rate Department.

As a member of the Bush family and officer of a division of the Mosaic Templars, Ben Henderson occupied a prominent position in Little Rock's black community and was better-off financially than most of the city's African Americans. While smaller and less stylish than the Bush-Dubisson House next door, the Henderson House is a nice Craftsman design and ranks among the best remaining examples of that style in the Dunbar neighborhood that were built for African Americans. The original design of the house also is very much intact. A modest rear addition is the only alteration the exterior of the house has undergone since its construction.

The house was sold by the Hendersons in the early 1930s, but it was owned and occupied by members of the black middle-class—an insurance agent, a teacher at Dunbar Junior College, and a Missouri-Pacific Railroad employee—for most of the next sixty years. The current owners maintain it as rental property.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Insurance Maps of Little Rock, Arkansas. Vol. I. New York: Sanborn Map Co., 1939.

Little Rock, Arkansas. Department of Housing and Neighborhood Programs. Constance E. Sarto and Sandra Taylor Smith, "Little Rock's 'Center City' Neighborhood," December 1993.

Little Rock City Directories: 1925-1965.

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 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	—	—	—	B
C	—	—	—	D

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Verbal Boundary Description:

South 40 feet of lot 10, Block 281, Original City of Little Rock

Boundary Justification:

The legal description of the Henderson House property has remained unchanged since the house was built, making these boundaries appropriate for use in this nomination.

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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Cheryl Griffith Nichols/Consultant

Organization: N/A Date: August 21, 1998

Street & Number: 1721 S. Gaines St. Telephone: 501-375-2686

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72206