NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OMB No. 1024-0018

788

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Hankins, Thomas J., House
Other names/site number: Site #PP0425
Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: West side of Arkansas 7, approximately 375 feet north of Arkansas 123
City or town: Pelsor State: Arkansas County: Pope
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___national ___statewide _X_ local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B _X_C ___D

Martha Miller 7/31/13

Signature of certifying official/Title: **Date**

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action: 9.30.13

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	x
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public – Federal	

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	x
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register _____

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, STONE, METAL

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph
The Thomas J. Hankins House is a one-story Craftsman-style house built on a continuous stone foundation. The house has a partial basement. The Hankins House is sided in novelty siding and is topped by a gable roof covered in corrugated metal. The house is fenestrated by one-over-one and two-over-two double-hung windows. A full-width porch spans the front façade.

Narrative Description
The Thomas J. Hankins House is located on Arkansas Highway 7 in the community of Pelsor in far northern Pope County. The Pelsor area is mountainous with national forest land located all around the area. Arkansas Highway 7 is the main road through the area. The Hankins House is a one-story Craftsman-style house built on a continuous stone foundation with a partial basement. The house is located on the west side of Arkansas Highway 7 and faces east and is one of just a few houses located in Pelsor. The Hankins House is frame in its construction, sided in novelty siding and is topped by a front-facing gable roof covered in corrugated metal. The house is fenestrated by one-over-one and two-over-two double-hung windows. A full-width porch, integrated under the main gable, spans the front façade.

Front/Northeast Façade

The front façade of the Hankins House is dominated by the full-width porch, which is integrated under the main gable. The porch is supported by five evenly-spaced square wood columns. The façade is fenestrated by two, double-hung, one-over-one windows near the northeast and southwest ends of the façade. The house's main entrance is located towards the southwest end of the façade. The front door is wood with three recessed, rectangular panels in the bottom half and a single-pane glass window in the top half. Above the front porch, in the center of the gable peak, is a diamond-shaped window providing light to the attic space.

Side/Southeast Façade

The main body of the house is fenestrated by two double-hung, one-over-one windows towards each end of the façade. The shed-roofed addition has a door with wood screen door followed by a double-hung, one-over-one window near the rear corner of the house. In the basement level of the addition is a wood-panel door followed by a wood-frame, double-hung, four-over-four window.

Rear/Southwest Façade

The rear façade of the house has two wood-frame, double-hung, four-over-four windows on the main floor level that are located near the ends of the façade. The basement level also has two wood-frame, double-hung, four-over-four windows, located directly below the main floor windows. Towards the left end of the façade, a square brick chimney is engaged to the façade.

Side/Northwest Façade

The main body of the house is fenestrated by two double-hung, one-over-one windows towards each end of the façade, mirroring the southeast façade. The rear addition is fenestrated by a wood-frame window in the basement level.

Integrity

The Thomas J. Hankins House has good integrity. The house retains its original foundation, wall, and roof materials. In addition, it also retains its original windows. Although the house had a small addition constructed in 1930, it is located on the rear of the house and does not overwhelm the design or size of the original house. The setting around the house also reflects the setting of Pelsor at the time the house was constructed in 1929. Pelsor remains a small crossroads community as it was at the time the Hankins House was constructed.

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.
- [x] 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.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- [ ] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- [ ] B. Removed from its original location
- [ ] C. A birthplace or grave
- [ ] D. A cemetery
- [ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- [ ] F. A commemorative property
- [ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance
1929

Significant Dates
1929

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

As an example of a house in Pelsor illustrating the Craftsman style's influence, the Thomas J. Hankins House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. The exposed rafter tails and woodwork of the front porch still illustrate the Craftsman influences. When the house was built in 1929, the Craftsman style was one of the most popular styles in the United States, and the Hankins House shows the influence of the style in even the most rural communities.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY

The Thomas J. Hankins House played a very important part in the life of the Pelsor community. In 1923, the Pelsor family moved to this area and applied for a post office at Sand Gap. However, it was named Pelsor on January 7, 1926. Pelsor is situated in the northwestern corner of Pope County. The town is on the top of the Ozark Mountain divide at about 2,300 feet elevation. From this point, water flows south to the Arkansas River and north to the Buffalo and White rivers.

Highway 7, which runs through Pelsor, began in New Orleans and was extended through the lands of the Louisiana Purchase, to become known as the Jefferson Highway to honor Thomas Jefferson. Planned to extend into Winnipeg, Canada, it was an important trade route for this region. The section from Russellville, Arkansas, to Harrison, Arkansas, was paved beginning in 1956. The scenery along the highway in the northern part of the state was described in *The WPA Guide to 1930s Arkansas* as follows:

> The northern part of State 7 passes through both the Ozark and Ouachita National Forests, which together make up nearly half its mileage. The tourist sees wooded crests extending to the horizon in all directions. Dogwood, rhododendron, wild plum, and wood violets set the tone in spring, while summer brings the sun-spotted shade of deep green forests. The yellow of hickory leaves and the blazing red of sumac and gum combine with brown oak foliage and evergreens to make fall the most colorful of the seasons.

Pelsor was a good place for the Hankins family to settle, and they soon became involved in the community. Tom Hankins was appointed the new town's first postmaster, a job he held for the next 33 years. Along with his own home and general store, he built a gristmill and six rental houses. The Hankins house served as a boarding house for schoolteachers, salesmen, road

workers, visitors, extended family members and friends. The house served as an information point for the isolated community, having the only telephone (wall-mounted) in the area.

When the Hankins family built their house in 1929, even though Pelsor was still an isolated community for the most part, they were able to utilize elements from the Craftsman style of architecture. As a result, even though Pelsor was isolated, the house was still able to exhibit the latest trends and styles in architecture.

Thomas (Tom) J. Hankins built the home for his family, wife Elsie Lee Dickey Hankins, whom he married in 1917, and four daughters. The house was sited on a hillside and contained four rooms: kitchen, living room and two bedrooms. The front-facing gable roof overlapped a 32 by 12-foot porch supported by five columns. The basement of the house had a dirt floor and stone walls, and was used for hanging cured meat and storing canned fruits and vegetables. The space was also used for making sauerkraut and pickles. A baby girl was born in 1930 and a new addition was built on the rear, consisting of one long room and one above it upstairs. In the early 1940s, a bathroom was installed in the addition.

The Hankins House, with its exposed rafter tails and the exposed woodwork of the front porch illustrate the influence of the Craftsman style on the house. The Craftsman style was one of the most popular architectural styles during the first decades of the twentieth-century. According to Virginia and Lee McAlester in *A Field Guide to American Houses*, the height of popularity for the Craftsman style was from 1905 until 1930. The style was mainly inspired by the brothers Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene who practiced architecture together in Pasadena, California, from 1893 until 1914. It was a style that emphasized the craftsmanship and materials that went into a building's construction. The Hankins House, with its exposed rafter tails and front porch framework, exhibits the emphasis on craftsmanship and materials that is a key characteristic of the Craftsman style. The Hankins House also illustrates the popularity of the style in even the smallest rural community.

The Hankins House has remained a good example of a vernacular interpretation of the Craftsman style in Pelsor. Furthermore, it remains an important part of the Hankins family, and is currently owned by Dan Hankins, the oldest son of Thomas J. Hankins.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPERTY

The construction and design of the Hankins House illustrates the fact that even in towns where things had to be done simply, houses could be built in the latest architectural fashion. The establishment of Pelsor along the Jefferson Highway (Highway 7) meant that building materials would have to arrive by truck.

The Hankins House is a good vernacular example of the Craftsman style. The house exhibits the identifying features of the style noted by McAlester and McAlester, notably a low-pitched gable roof, exposed roof rafters, and a full-width front porch. In fact, the description of the front-gabled roof subtype of the Craftsman style in Virginia and Lee McAlester's *A Field Guide to American Houses* describes the Hankins House well. It states:

> About one-third of Craftsman houses are of this subtype. Porches, which may either be full- or partial-width, are almost evenly divided between those sheltered beneath the main roof [as at the Hankins House] and those with separate, extended roofs. Most examples of this subtype are one-story, but one-and-a-half- and two-story examples are not uncommon; dormers are found in only about 10 percent of this subtype.

Because of its significance as a good vernacular example of the Craftsman style in Pelsor, the Thomas J. Hankins House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C**.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

"5 Lessons from Southern Vernacular Houses / Hot, Humid Architecture," www.f-farchitects.com.

"Arkansas." *World Book Encyclopedia*, 1968, p. 664.

Boutz, Catherine. "Hankins General Store: A Gathering Place for Locals Since 1922." *The Good News Magazine*. Fall 2000, pp. 14-15.

The Courier. Russellville, March 1962.

"For Forest Information And A Vist [sic.] Back In Time, Stop At Hankins." *Newton County Times*, November 28, 1985, p. 12.

Gough, Buddy. "Pedestal Fit for a King." *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. 21 November 2011, p. E1.

Harington, Donald. *Architecture of the Arkansas Ozarks*. London : Toby Press, 2004.

Kennedy, Steele T. "Years of Superhuman Endeavor Went Into Creating Highway 7. *The Ozark Mountaineer*. Unknown Date, pp. 6 and 16.

Lackey, Walter F. *History of Newton County*. Independence, MO: Zion's Printing and Publishing Co., c.1950.

Lancaster, Guy. "Ozark Vernacular Architecture." *The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*, 2012, www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net.

McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994.

Page, Tate (Piney) C. *The Voices of Moccasin Creek*. Point Lookout, MO: School of the Ozarks Press, 1977.

Pope County Historical Association. *History of Pope County*. Winston-Salem, NC: Jostens Publishing Company, 1979.

West, Elliott. *The WPA Guide to 1930s Arkansas*. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1987 reprint of 1941 publication.

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 # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

_X_ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
____ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _PP0425_____

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _Less than one acre._____

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 35.722076 Longitude: -93.096495

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

[ ] NAD 1927 or [x] NAD 1983

1. Zone: 15	Easting: 491264	Northing: 3953128
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:
4. Zone:	Easting :	Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at UTM point 15/491258E/3953133N, proceed northeasterly perpendicular to Arkansas Highway 7 for 85 feet to UTM point 15/4912981E/3953137N, thence proceed southeasterly perpendicular to Arkansas Highway 7 for 60 feet to UTM point 15/491287E/3953119N, thence proceed southwesterly perpendicular to Arkansas Highway 7 for 85 feet to UTM point 15/491262E/3953115N, thence proceed northwesterly parallel to Arkansas Highway 7 to the point of beginning

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the Hankins House and its immediate surroundings.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Hazel Hankins Jones, edited by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500
city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72201
e-mail: ralph@arkansasheritage.org
telephone: (501) 324-9787
date: May 30, 2013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Hankins, Thomas J., House

City or Vicinity: Pelsor

County: Pope State: Arkansas

Photographer: Ralph S. Wilcox

Date Photographed: May 24, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of _5_. Front (northeast) façade, looking northwest.

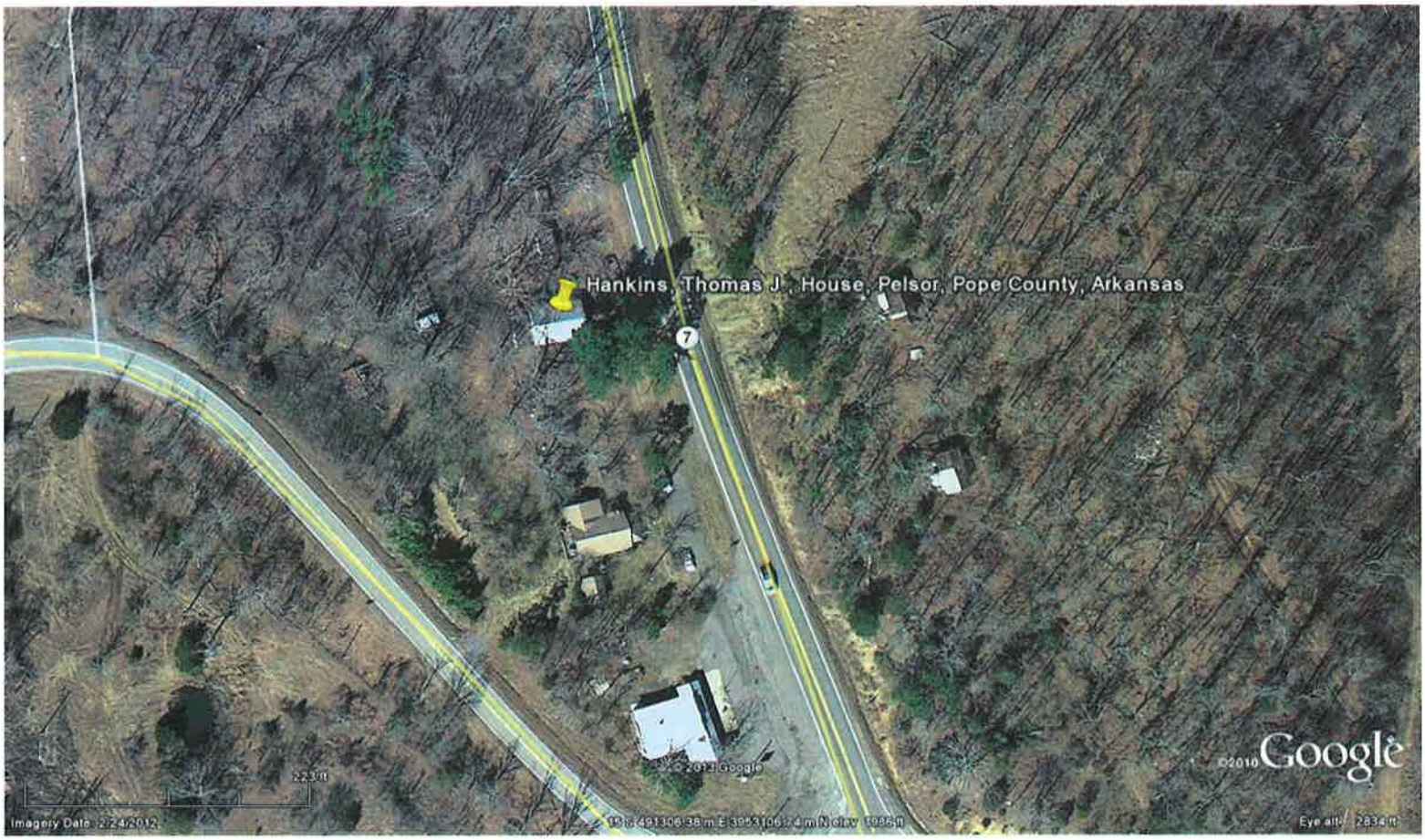
2 of _5_. Front façade gable detail, looking southwest.

3 of _5_. Side (northwest) façade, looking southwest.

4 of _5_. Side (southeast) façade, looking northwest.

5 of _5_. Rear (southwest) façade, looking northeast.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



|---------223 feet----------|

Hankins, Thomas J., House
Pelsor, Pope County, Arkansas

Latitude: 35.722076 Longitude: -93.096495

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|
|
North