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

OMB No. 1024-0018

791

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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AUG 15 2018
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: McWilliams, W.F. and Estelle, House
Other names/site number: Site #UN0533
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 314 Summit Avenue
City or town: El Dorado State: Arkansas County: Union
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐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 7/30/18

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:) _____

Dr. Edson K. Beall — Signature of the Keeper

9.30.13 — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:	☐
Public – Local	☐
Public – State	x
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	
3	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
3	1	Total

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

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

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)
DOMESTIC/single dwelling
DOMESTIC/secondary structure

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Classical Revival & Mediterranean Revival

Late 19th and Early 20th American Movements/Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:
CERAMIC TILE, BRICK

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 McWilliams House is located at 314 Summit Avenue in the Newton Addition to the City of El Dorado. Although it is not confirmed, it is believed that the architect may have been the firm of Kolben, Hunter and Boyd, based on similar style houses in town. A couple of similar houses exist throughout the city of El Dorado but none that are exactly the same as this house. Mr. McWilliams' brother, J.H. McWilliams, built a house at 323 West Oak Street in El Dorado whose architect was Kolben, Hunter and Boyd (NR listed 09/12/2002), that is similar to the W.F. McWilliams house. The McWilliams house was built in 1922 and represents an eclectic style house, showing characteristics of the Craftsman, Classical Revival and Mediterranean Revival styles.

The McWilliams house is brick veneer with a clay-tile hipped roof. The house rests on a continuous cast-concrete foundation. The windows in the house are wood-frame, double-hung windows, mostly with a nine-over-one pane arrangement. The pane arrangement is very much a Craftsman-style design with a large central pane and smaller panes forming a border. Indoor ceilings are ten feet high downstairs and nine feet high upstairs. The first floor of the house contains the main rooms of the house, while the upstairs contains the bedrooms.

In addition to the main house, the property also has a detached brick garage, also with a hipped clay-tile roof. Two other wood-frame outbuildings with gabled roofs, one which served as servant's quarters for many years and the other which was built as a workshop, are also located to the west of the house. Both of these now serve as storage buildings.

The neighborhood around the McWilliams House is a mixture of residential and institutional development. The residential development is concentrated to the west of the house while the institutional development is located to the east and north. Directly across Summit Street to the east is the 1905 Junior College Building, now SouthArk's Administration Building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NR listed 09/13/1978). Next to the 1905 Junior College Building is the 1940 WPA Gym, also on the National Register of Historic Places. To the north of the McWilliams House is a library building.

Front/East Façade

The front façade of the McWilliams House faces Summit Avenue and the main body of the house is relatively symmetrical in design. The first floor of the façade is oriented around the central entrance, which features a door with seven glass panes, three horizontal panes at the top and four rectangular panes at the bottom. The entrance is surrounded by sidelights and transom windows. The entrance is flanked on each side by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. A continuous concrete sill spans the façade below the windows.

A full-width front porch with a projecting center section spans the façade on the first floor. At each corner of the porch, including at the projecting section, the roof is supported by groups of three fluted columns with Ionic capitals. The projecting section of the porch, which has a flat roof, also has a decorative iron balustrade.

The second floor of the front façade has two groups of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows with a continuous concrete sill below the windows. The second floor windows are located directly above the first-floor windows. The eave above the second-floor windows is supported by six large brackets.

The south end of the front façade has an enclosed sun porch that is fenestrated by three pairs of five-paned casement windows with a six-pane transom window above each pair. Dentils run along the eave line on the porch, and the roof of the porch, which is flat, is spanned by a decorative iron balustrade.

The east side of the roof contains a hipped-roof dormer with two rectangular louvered vents in the center and two engaged pilasters on each side.

Side/North Façade

At the east end of the north façade is a projecting bay window with a flat roof. The bay is fenestrated by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. To the west of the bay window are two pairs of nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. As with the front façade, a continuous concrete sill is located below the windows.

The second floor of the main body of the house, beginning at the east end, is fenestrated by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. In the center of the façade is a smaller nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame window, and another group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows is located near the west end of the façade. Again, a continuous concrete sill is located below the windows. The eave above the second floor windows is supported by six large brackets.

At the rear of the façade is a one-story rear utility porch that is fenestrated on the north side by three one-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. A large ventilation unit is located on the roof of the porch.

Rear/West Façade

The first floor of the west façade contains the utility porch near the north end. The porch has a central entrance with a transom window above and the entrance is flanked on each side by two wood-frame, double-hung, one-over-one windows.

To the right of the utility porch is a small nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame window that is followed by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. The continuous concrete sill is also found below the first floor windows on the west façade.

The second floor of the façade is fenestrated near each end by a pair of nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. In the center of the façade's second floor is a three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame window. The continuous concrete sill is also found below the second floor windows on the west façade, and the eave above the windows is supported by six large brackets.

The south end of the rear façade has the rear of the enclosed sun porch. On the west side, it is fenestrated by two pairs of five-paned casement windows with six-pane transom windows above each pair. The casement windows flank a central entrance with five-paned French doors with a six-pane transom above. Dentils run along the eave line on the porch, and the roof of the porch is also spanned by a decorative iron balustrade.

Side/South Facade

Beginning at the west end of the south façade, the façade is fenestrated by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. In the center of the façade is an entrance, which features a door with seven glass panes, three horizontal panes at the top and four rectangular panes at the bottom. Above the entrance is a six-pane transom window, and it is also capped by a shed-roofed metal awning. The continuous concrete sill is also found below the first floor windows on the south façade.

To the right of the entrance on the first floor is the main façade of the enclosed sun porch. The sun porch that is fenestrated by four pairs of five-paned casement windows with a six-pane transom window above each pair. Dentils run along the eave line on the porch, and the roof of the porch is spanned by a decorative iron balustrade.

The second floor of the south façade, near the west end, is fenestrated by a group of three nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows. To the right of the group of windows is a pair of nine-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows, which are located lower in the façade to provide light to the landing of the stairs. To the right of the pair of windows, above the enclosed sun porch, are two pairs of five-paned French doors, each with a five-pane transom above. The French doors are also capped by metal shed-roofed awnings.

The south side of the roof contains a hipped-roof dormer with two rectangular louvered vents in the center and two engaged pilasters on each side.

Garage (Contributing)

To the southwest of the house is an original two-car garage veneered in brick that is topped by a clay-tile hipped roof. The east side of the garage has the two garage doors that are modern metal doors. The other three sides of the garage are fenestrated by pairs of wood-frame, one-over-one, double-hung windows.

Servant's Quarters (Contributing)

The Servant's Quarters is located to the west of the house and is a one-story, wood-frame building with a gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles. Unlike the main house and garage, the building is sided with novelty siding. The east façade of the building has two entrances towards

the northern end, both with wood-paneled doors. The south façade is fenestrated by a pair of wood-frame, double-hung, one-over-one windows flanked by applied shutters. The west façade is fenestrated by a single two-pane, wood-frame window. The north façade is devoid of fenestration, although it has a pair of applied shutters.

Shop (Non-Contributing)

The Shop is located to the west of the house behind the Servant's Quarters. It was built c.1980 from materials that were salvaged from another house. Like the Servant's Quarters, it is a wood-frame building with a gabled roof covered in asphalt shingles. The walls are also sided in novelty siding. The south façade is spanned by a full-width, shed-roofed porch supported by four wood posts. The façade also has a central entrance with a nine-pane glass door. The entrance is flanked on each side by large six-pane sidelights that are the same height as the door. The other facades of the building are devoid of fenestration, although the west side of the building has a small shed-roofed storage shed that spans part of the façade.

Integrity

Although there have been some minor alterations, the McWilliams House appears today much as it did at the time it was built in 1922. It has retained its original structure and façade over the years, both in the interior and exterior in its design, setting, materials workmanship, feeling and association. Alterations that have been made over the years have been minor. On the exterior, for example, the original screen on the front porch was removed circa 1950, a wheelchair ramp was added to the back entrance, and handrails were installed at the front steps and at the back and south doors. Also, the roof felt was replaced by removing the tile roof and then reinstalling it once the job was finished. Modifications to the interior of the house have also been minor, including converting two closets upstairs into a bathroom with updated plumbing, and replacing a light fixture in the dining room with a chandelier. The fixture from the dining room was moved to the breakfast room, and the breakfast room's light fixture is stored in the attic.

Other than the few exceptions noted above, the house remains in very intact, and much like it was built in 1922. Overall, the McWilliams House retains sufficient integrity to continue to convey its significance as an example of an eclectic combination of characteristics from the Classical Revival, Mediterranean Revival, and Craftsman styles.

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.) N/A

- [ ] 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
1922

Significant Dates
1922

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

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

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.)

The McWilliams House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** with **local significance**. As the oil boom hit south Arkansas during the 1920s, it brought new found wealth to the El Dorado area, which allowed residents, the McWilliamses included, to build new and elaborate homes in the latest architectural styles. It is nominated as an excellent example of an eclectic style house, showing characteristics of the Craftsman, Classical Revival and Mediterranean Revival styles, all of which were popular styles in the 1920s.

Narrative Statement of Significance – History of the Property
Although the bulk of the city's built environment derives from the period following discovery of oil in 1921, El Dorado had enjoyed a long, though modest, history before that time. According to local folklore, El Dorado was founded around 1830 by Virginia-born Matthew F. Rainey whose wagon broke down in the area. Unable to travel any farther, Rainey was forced to sell his goods on the spot. It is said that Rainey was so impressed by the local farmers' eagerness to buy that he sent for more goods and set up a store. Rainey was generally regarded as El Dorado's first citizen and the town's first businessman.

Most historical accounts define 1843 as the year that El Dorado was formally established. In August of that year, a county election was held to choose three men to serve as commissioners responsible for the selection of a centrally located place as the county seat. Earlier, Camden, a town fifty miles north, had served as a county seat and court was held in a local home there. By October 1843, the commissioners recommended their favored choice for a new centrally located

county seat. It was 160 acres of land owned by Matthew Rainey. He deeded the 160 acres of land to the county, retaining four acres on which his cabin stood. Rainey recognized that the development of the town would be advantageous to his business interests. For the county, this 160-acre site was located on the east-west trail between Arkansas Post and Texarkana and the north-south route between central Arkansas and Louisiana. Of equal importance was the site's proximity to a major regional transportation artery, the Ouachita River.

The commissioners were authorized not only to select a site, but to "layoff into town lots the county site selected and to construct the necessary public buildings." The men were also granted the right to sell some town lots to cover the expense of getting the town into habitable condition. The 1843 plat of El Dorado was laid out in a grid fashion. The original town of El Dorado consisted of forty-nine lots; of these twenty-four encircled the courthouse square in successively larger rings. In 1844, the first courthouse, for which the construction contract called for only a roof and four walls, was built at a cost of two hundred dollars. The 160-acre town site seemed imposing in 1845, but El Dorado was a "bare suggestion of a village" with few substantial buildings. In response to a growing population in 1846, $12,000 was allocated to build a new courthouse.

In the mid-nineteenth century, El Dorado was essentially an agricultural community settled primarily by individuals who had migrated from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and the Carolinas, with an economic base in farming and to a lesser degree lumber operations. Popular crops included cotton, corn, sweet potatoes and peanuts. Timber, before the discovery of oil, was the county's most plentiful resource with forests of yellow pine, oak, gum and other hardwoods available.

During the 1850s, El Dorado was a "well-to-do town becoming the cultural as well as the business center of the county." The modest prosperity of the town was evidenced by construction of homes and organization of local churches. A private school had been established in 1845 and a local newspaper, the *El Dorado Union*, had been published as early as 1849. Although no battles were fought in El Dorado or Union County during the Civil War, records indicate 1,500 men volunteered for the Confederate cause, two-thirds of whom never returned. Like so much of the beleaguered post-Civil War South, El Dorado was besieged by carpetbaggers and jayhawkers. Some efforts were made by the government to allay the citizens' anxieties such as the establishment of a military camp on the northern edge of the town for Federal soldiers relocating to the area. It was many years before normalcy returned to Union County and county government could rid itself of the carpetbag exploiters.

The most significant event in the later years of the nineteenth century was the arrival of the railroad in 1891. Until the rail lines reached El Dorado, most goods were shipped by steamboat to the Ouachita River, and hauled to El Dorado by wagon. The railroad suddenly made the large marketplaces of Memphis, St. Louis and New Orleans easily accessible.

Although the arrival of the railroad in 1891 signified the greatest growth of the city to date, it was the discovery of oil at the Busey Well on January 10, 1921, that caused startling and immediate change in the peaceful town of El Dorado. There had been oil-related activity in the

area as early as 1914 when the first oil leases in Union County were sold for ten cents an acre. Most of the early oil production efforts were costly and unproductive.

The Busey Well, credited with securing El Dorado's place of prominence in American oil production, was located two miles west of town. The well was financed by Dr. Samuel T. Busey and a consortium of local investors. A physician turned geologist, Busey and his wife arrived in El Dorado in late 1920, purchased a local hotel, and made an agreement to resume drilling in an exploratory well that had been abandoned. Dr. Busey was convinced there was oil in the well. On Monday, January 10, 1921, when the well had been drilled to 2,233 feet, a small crowd of eager spectators gathered at the rig. Drilling had ceased and bailing operations had begun to try to bring in the well. In the late afternoon, as the bailer was being lifted from its sixth trip into the deep hole, a rumble was heard from deep in the well. The crowd and drilling crew moved back as the rumbling grew in intensity, shaking the derrick and the ground around it. Suddenly with a deafening roar, "a thick black column" of gas and oil and water shot out of the well drenching the crowd of spectators. The wind caught the spray of oil and water and spread it over the countryside to the town of El Dorado where clothes on Monday's wash lines dripped with oil. The black column of oil gushing through the derrick on the hill southwest of town was viewed by many citizens in El Dorado. The next morning unscheduled trains began to arrive in El Dorado carrying passengers who hurried off and disappeared into the town to seek their fortune. The *Arkansas Gazette* announced that five special trains would begin to run daily from Little Rock to El Dorado. Twenty-two trains a day were soon running in and out of El Dorado. The state legislature, meeting in regular session at Little Rock, announced plans for a special legislative railway excursion to the new oil well. Within six days of the discovery of oil at the Busey Well, an air service was established between El Dorado and Shreveport, Louisiana.

The petroleum industry was still fledgling and there was little technical sophistication so that significant amounts of oil and gas were lost. The El Dorado oil boom, which was to inalterably change the city's future, began within forty-eight hours after the Busey well blew in. As described in one account, "...the streets...of the town were thronged with a seething mass of conglomerate humanity...diamonds and costly furs rubbed elbows with oil-spotted khaki..." The town was inundated with people who hurried to south Arkansas to find their fortune. El Dorado became the destination of oil promoters, lease hounds, swindlers, beggars, prostitutes, experienced oil workers, and young men and women looking for a life off the farm. The rush of population overwhelmed El Dorado. Hotels in the town were taxed beyond capacity. The newly formed Chamber of Commerce appealed to citizens to provide lodging for the vast influx of people. Barber chairs for sleeping were rented for $2 a night and in desperation some people took over the Presbyterian Cemetery as a place to sleep. Tents and shacks sprang up overnight throughout town. Fires ravaged the city on several occasions and crime ran rampant. El Dorado's civic and political leaders were at a loss as to how to handle the situation at first, but eventually dealt with most of the problems that confronted them. They were aided in their efforts by the massive influx of capital drawn by the oil. In the span of just four years, El Dorado went from a town where chaos reigned and only four roads were paved to a cosmopolitan city filled with sprawling homes, a thriving business community, modern conveniences (including indoor plumbing and electricity in most home and businesses), and an active social calendar, which included everything from opera to an amusement park.

It was during the oil boom that the McWilliams built their house on Summit Street in 1922. The McWilliams House was one of several houses built in El Dorado during the oil boom that exhibited popular revival styles of the 1920s, and other notable examples in the city included the Charles H. Murphy, Sr., House, built in the Tudor Revival style in 1925-1926 (NR listed 09/08/1983), the J. H. McWilliams House, built in the Spanish/Mediterranean Revival style in 1925-1926 (NR listed 09/12/2002), and the Randolph James House, built in the Spanish Revival style in 1927 (NR listed 05/15/2012).

Although it is not known for sure who designed the McWilliams House, it may have been the firm of Kolben, Hunter, and Boyd, since the firm had done at least two other commissions for the family. For the style of the house, W. F. and Estelle McWilliams chose an eclectic mix of characteristics from several styles that were popular in the years immediately following World War I when returning soldiers wanted homes similar in style to what they had seen in Europe. The clay tile roof on the house is characteristic of the Mediterranean or Spanish/Mission Revival styles, which often exhibited low-pitched hipped roofs. However, the full-width front porch, with its Ionic columns, is reminiscent of the Classical Revival style, as is the home's symmetrical façade with central entrance. Even so, the McWilliams also chose some Craftsman characteristics for their home as well, most notably the simple exposed brackets under the eaves and the glazing pattern in the windows. The McWilliams House is significant in that it illustrates some of the eclectic combining of details from many styles that often occurred after World War I in the 1920s.

W.F. (William Frazier) McWilliams was born in 1880 and married Agnes Estelle Mitchell McWilliams in 1909. (It is not known when Mrs. McWilliams was born or when she died.) Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams had two children, one son, James McWilliams of El Dorado and a daughter, Ruth McWilliams Carson of Oklahoma City.

Mr. McWilliams' legacy in El Dorado was notable. Prior to his death on August 23, 1939, McWilliams was a widely-known and lifelong resident of Union County. McWilliams was an entrepreneur and member of a prominent Union County family who had been in business in south Arkansas for a number of years and was still active in local business circles at the time of his death at age 58. W. F. McWilliams was a director of the First National Bank, and was affiliated with the J. S. McWilliams Auto Company, McWilliams Hardware and Furniture Company, Clark-McWilliams Enterprises and the Hall-McWilliams Funeral Home. McWilliams was also a member of the First Baptist Church, and was a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner.

The McWilliams Hardware and Furniture Company was a high-end retail business; one of the first of its kind in El Dorado that had an in-house interior decorator. The furniture building still stands at the corner of Locust and South Washington streets in El Dorado. McWilliams also built the Rialto Theatre (NR-listed 08/21/1986).

After W. F. McWilliams' death in 1939, Mrs. McWilliams continued to live in the house until 1947. That year, the First United Methodist Church purchased the McWilliams house for $27,400 to use it as a parsonage. Long-time residents remember with fond memories the youth

socials and other activities that were held in the parsonage. Glynn T. and Claude A. Calahan, Jr., purchased the house from the First United Methodist Church on November 30, 1967 for $20,000. Although both are retired, Mr. Calahan had a long and distinguished career with Murphy Oil Corporation and Mrs. Calahan was a well-known and prominent school teacher who later in her career became principal of Southside School, which housed the only Gifted and Talented program in the school district and which she built into an educational program of distinction.

South Arkansas Community College bought the house on October 19, 2006, for $131,000. Presently, Mr. and Mrs. Calahan live in the house and will retain possession of the property until such time as, according to the Agreement of Sale, both, or either Mr. or Mrs. Calahan, pass away.

Significance of the Property

The construction and design of the W. F. and Estelle McWilliams House illustrates the growth and development of post-World War I revival styles in southern Arkansas, and the influences of the latest architectural fashion. The arrival of the oil boom in El Dorado in the early 1920s brought a lot of wealth to the area's residents, such as the McWilliams, which also allowed residents to have high-style residences designed using the latest architectural styles.

W. F. and Estelle McWilliams also looked to the popular revival styles of the 1920s when they were having their house designed. The McWilliams looked to the Mediterranean and Spanish/Mission Revival styles when designing their house and employed the low-pitched hipped clay tile roof on the house. The symmetrical façade and the front porch, on the other hand, which utilizes Ionic columns for its supports, harkens to the Classical Revival style. Although the McWilliams did look to the latest architectural styles for their home, they also embraced some characteristics of the Craftsman style, which was also popular prior to World War I. The simple exposed brackets under the eaves and the glazing pattern in the windows, which utilizes a large central pane with narrow panes along the four sides and small square panes in the corners, are very characteristic of the Craftsman style.

However, the design of the McWilliams House illustrates some of the architectural trends of the 1920s. Although many revival styles developed after World War I as a response to GIs coming home from the war in Europe, the characteristics of the styles were not always employed or utilized in the pure way that they had been in Europe. As a result, mixing of stylistic elements, or using elements in new and different ways, gave many homes a distinctive flavor all their own. The McWilliams House is a perfect illustration of the free application and combining of elements from several different revival styles that often occurred during the 1920s.

Due to its significance as an excellent example of an eclectic mix of characteristics of the Craftsman, Classical Revival and Mediterranean Revival styles in El Dorado, the McWilliams 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.)

Interview with Edwin Alderson, Fifty for the Future Board of Directors, local business owner, and long-time resident of El Dorado. 2013.

Interviews and letters from current residents Glynn T. and Claude A. Calahan, Jr., 2013.

Interview with James Carson, grandson of W.F. and Estelle McWilliams, 2013.

Cordell, Frances, W. *Building on the Cornerstone of Christ, A History of the First United Methodist Church of El Dorado, Arkansas 1833-1983.* Little Rock, Arkansas: August House, Inc., 1983.

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

Taylor Smith, Sandra. "El Dorado Commercial Historic District, El Dorado, Union County, Arkansas." National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. From the files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 2003.

W.F. McWilliams Obituary, El Dorado, *News-Times*, El Dorado, Arkansas; August, 24, 1939.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

____ 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
_X_ University
____ Other
Name of repository: South Arkansas Community College

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): UN0533

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 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: 33.209205 Longitude: -92.667557

2. Latitude: Longitude:

3. Latitude: Longitude:

4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map):

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: Easting: Northing:

2. Zone: Easting: Northing:

3. Zone: Easting: Northing:

4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)
Lot 100, of the Newton addition of the City of El Dorado.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the land historically associated with the McWilliams House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Cynthia Reyna, South Arkansas Community College, 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 29, 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

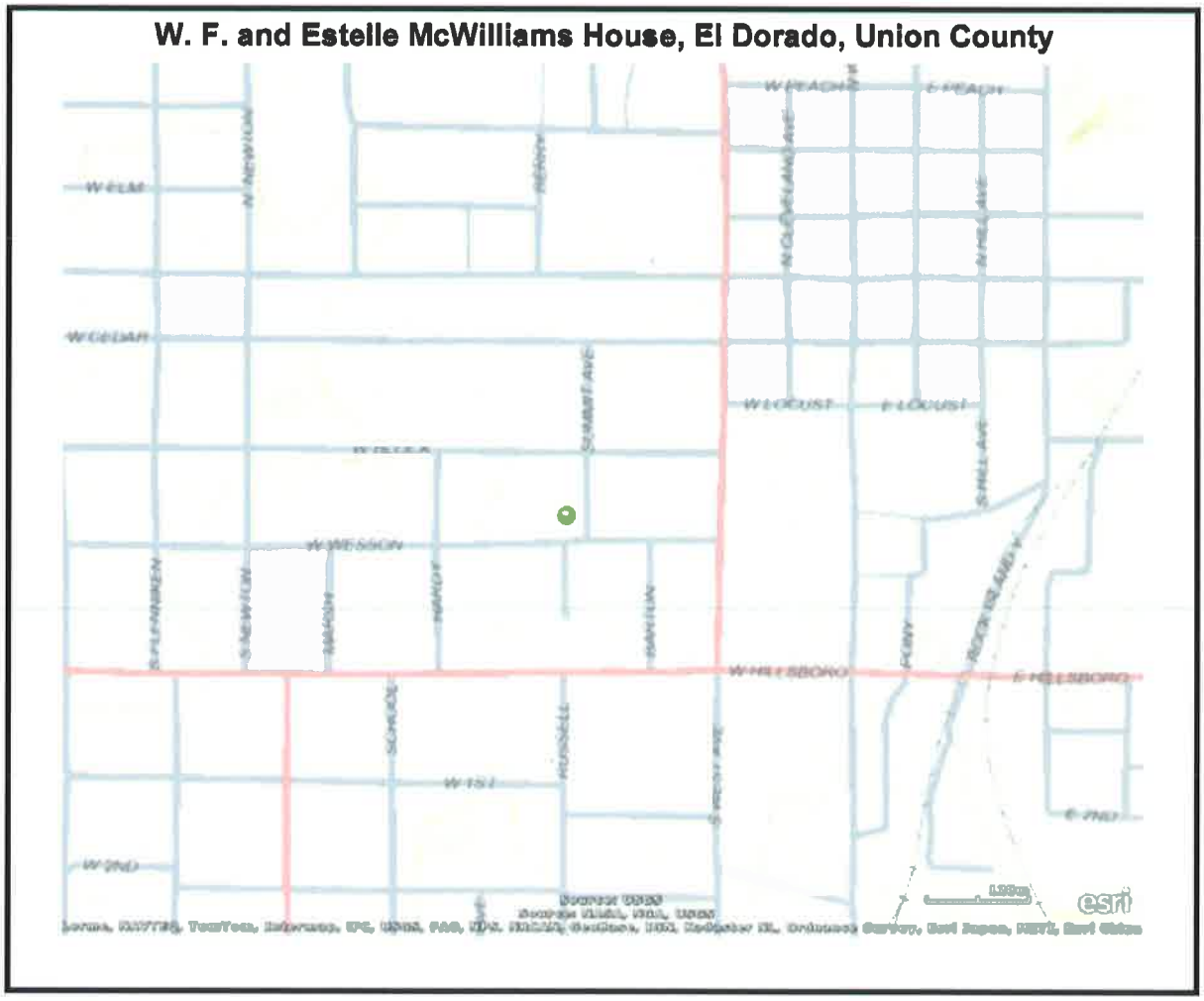
Name of Property: W. F. and Estelle McWilliams House
City or Vicinity: El Dorado
County: Union State: Arkansas
Photographer: Benjamin Harvey Date Photographed: 3/20/2013

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

1 of 13 – East/primary façade, facing west.
2 of 13 – Detail of sun porch, facing west.
3 of 13 – South façade, facing north.
4 of 13 – Detail of sun porch, facing northeast.
5 of 13 – West/rear façade, facing east.
6 of 13 – West and north facades, facing southeast.
7 of 13 – North façade, facing southeast.
8 of 13 – North façade, facing southwest.
9 of 13 – Bracket detail on northeast corner of the house, facing southwest.
10 of 13 – Front porch column detail, facing southwest.
11 of 13 – Garage, facing northwest.
12 of 13 – Servant's quarters, facing northwest.
13 of 13 – Shop, facing north.

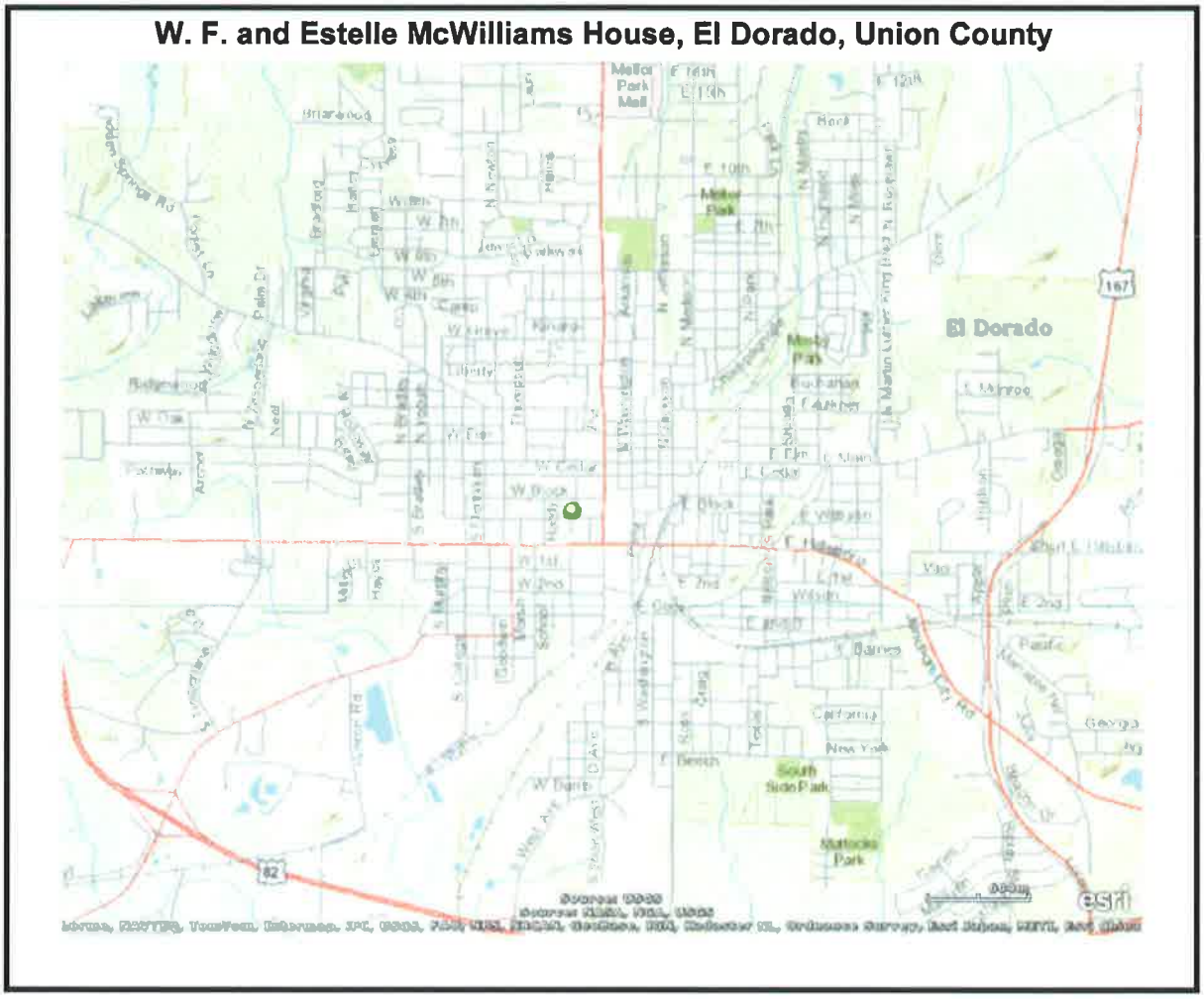
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain 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.

W. F. and Estelle McWilliams House, El Dorado, Union County



WGS 84
Lat. 33.209205°
Long. -92.667557°

W. F. and Estelle McWilliams House, El Dorado, Union County



N

WGS 84
Lat. 33.209205°
Long. -92.667557°

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