NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

790

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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.

RECEIVED 2280
AUG 15 2014
NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Carnahan House.
Other names/site number: JE0930
Name of related multiple property listing:

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

2. Location

Street & number: 1200 South Laurel Street
City or town: Pine Bluff State: AR County: Jefferson
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐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 7/8/14

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

9.30.2014
Date of Action

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	
2		buildings
		sites
	1	structures
		objects
2	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
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 Early 20th Century American Movements: Craftsman
Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Tudor Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Wood, Stone

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 Carnahan House is a wonderful surviving example of the eclectic style of architecture popular across the United States in the first quarter of the 20th century. The site includes the main residence which sits at the northeast corner of the property, a separate three-car garage and guest quarters at the northwest corner of the property and a small metal shed at the far southwest corner of the property. The architect-designed residence is Tudor/English Revival in mass while the rich detailing is Craftsman in style. The roof is composed of multiple gables and an additional shed roof, all composed of modern shingles over a wooden decking. The roof is pierced by two brick chimneys, both extend well above the roof plane and terminate with decorative brick corbelling and a flat cap. All of the roofs are flanked by overhanging eaves over exposed rafter tails, a hallmark of the Craftsman style. The residence is a large frame structure with an exterior façade in red brick with ornamental stonework and stone window sills. A continuous foundation of stone supports the entire structure. Two string courses of stone wrap around almost the entire structure, one at the top of the foundation and the second at the level of

the window sills on the second story. This second string course serves as a common sill for many of the second story windows. Some of the windows are covered with modern screens.

The characteristics of the Craftsman style used in the design and construction of the Carnahan House include the use of half timbering in the prominent gable ends, grouped windows with simple ornamental geometric window pane arrangements, false brackets under the eaves, multiple gable ends on the front facade and the prominent gabled porch. The prominent cross gable visible from the front façade and the high pitch of the roof are characteristics of the English Revival style in the design of the Carnahan House. The overall visual masonry weight of the structure is also a characteristic of the English Revival style. The combination of these two styles creates a notable large-scale home in Pine Bluff.

Narrative Description

Front Façade – East Façade

The residence is fronted by a double gable at the second story level, with an additional gable over the porch at the first floor. The front door is surrounded by plate glass windows, including small paned windows in an abbreviated transom. This entrance is centered in a masonry bay that extends forward a few feet from the main plane of the front/East façade. This brick bay is topped by the smaller of the two gables at the second story level. The doorway is topped by a third gable, which forms a deep porch around the main entry. This porch is reached from the street by a walkway punctuated by two sets of five steps flanked by rounded low stone walls that echo the exposed foundation. The stone foundation is extended from under the front porch to the south to form a raised partially roofed porch in front of first story windows on the front façade. This porch is lower than the entrance porch floor and is reached by steps from to the south side of the entrance porch.

The entrance porch is supported along its eastern edge by a pair of wide brick columns flanked by angled buttresses. These buttresses are composed of two levels of brickwork topped by angled stone caps. An arched opening is located on the north side of the entrance porch. This opening includes two ornamental built-up brackets that connect to the underside of the porch roof system. This opening also contains a stone sill.

The entrance to the porch is also framed by two ornamental brackets connecting to the shallow arch along the face of the porch ceiling. The front gable of the porch is filled with ornamental half timbering composed of white wooden members with textured stucco fill. This half timbering is repeated on each gable end, with more or less ornamentation. Two more brackets

are attached to the front of the East façade of the porch connecting to the lower portion of the porch eaves on either side of the porch.

The first story is punctuated by a small casement window, matching one located directly above on the second story, just to the south of the main entrance porch. This small casement window opens inward and is covered by a small roof that extends off the side of the gabled porch roof. A second set of large windows is located directly to the south of the casement window and is covered by a wooden arched roof supported by two ornamental brackets and a central ornamental ridge post. The arched roof is flanked by two oversized, square engaged column. These brick forms are terminated well above the arched roof feature, nearly halfway up the second story. These columns are terminated by flat stone caps and serve as supports for two matching round pedestal planters. These planters are original to the home and are found in the original plans from 1919.

The second floor is punctuated by a small pair of casement windows with Craftsman details of a short panel of glass above a longer panel. To the left of this pair of casement windows is a larger opening, of four windows, an internal pair of double-hung, eight panes over a single pane, wooden windows flanked by a pair of casement windows with four small panes above two long panes. The second story windows all sit above a stone string course, adding a horizontal course that wraps around all sides of the residence. This string course also serves as the stone sill for the full size windows of the second story, matching the stone sills of the windows on the first story. To the south of the central entrance bay, a steep gable roof extends to the southern façade. This roof features extended rafter tails under the overhanging eaves.

To the north of the main entrance bay, a set of three double-hung window, with eight panes over a single pane, are located on the first story. Above this set of three windows is an additional set of three double-hung windows. The central window in this group is composed of eight panes over a single pane. The two flanking windows are composed of four panes above a high meeting rail with a single pane below.

The largest gable on the front/East façade is located to the north of this main façade, reaching from the southern edge of the main entrance bay to the northern corner of the façade. This large gable contains a centered pair of casement windows with four panes each. The window panes are arranged as two short panes over two long panes. These windows are surrounded by ornamental half timbering consisting of large white wooden horizontal and vertical members with smaller scale detail woodwork including diagonal pieces and arched details. The negative space between the wooden members is filled with textured tan stucco.

South Façade

This façade is composed of three main parts, a two-story extended block with an overhanging roof with exposed rafter tails to the east, a large gable topped section and an angled porte-cochère. The south façade is dominated by a large gable end, which is partially bisected by the primary eastern-facing gable. This eastern-facing gable's extended eave line reached to the center of the south façade.

A pair of double-hung arched windows is located at the eastern edge of this façade at the first story. This pair of windows is framed by a segmented brick arch with ornamental stone skewbacks at each side and a stone sill. To the west of this window is a pair of short, narrow casement windows with four panes each, two short panes over two long panes with a stone sill. The rest of the first story on this façade is covered by the roof of the porte-cochère, a covered entrance and drive that extends at an angle from the façade to the northwest.

The second story of this extended block includes a pair of double-hung windows with eight panes over a single pane to the east. The stone string course that wraps around the structure serves as the sill for this window as well. Directly to the west, is a short and narrow pair of casement windows. This small window pair has its own separate stone sill.

Above the roof of the porte-cochère, the second story includes a set of four narrow windows with six panes, including four small panes and two long panes over a shared stone sill. To the west of this window group is a similar set of three windows with similar pane arrangements. The gable face is again half timbered, with white wooden frame members and stucco fill. A pair of casement windows with six panes, four small panes over two long panes over two small panes, is centered in the gable. Four ornamental triangular brackets are spaced symmetrically under the eaves of the gable end, including 1 under the apex of the gable. Another ornamental bracket is located under the eave for the small overhanging roof with exposed rafter tails on the narrow west façade of the extended section.

Under the porte-cochère, the north façade at the eastern corner contains an inward opening door flanked by narrow windows. Moving toward the west, along this façade, is a double-hung window with six panes above and a single pane sash below and a stone sill. Further to the west is a pair of large double-hung windows with six panes above and a single pane sash below sharing a stone sill. The last window along this façade is another small double-hung window with six panes above and a single pane sash below over a stone sill. At the far western edge of the porte-cochere, is a brick wall extending from the north façade at an angle. This wall is pierced by an opening topped by a segmented brick arch with ornamental stone skewbacks at each edge above a large integrated stone planter.

Porte-Cochère

The porte-cochère, which is attached to the north façade at an angle, is composed of a large gabled roof supported on two free-standing columns. Each column matches the stone foundation and brick construction of the main body of the building. Each column is built on a stone foundation topped with a cut-stone string course. Each column is composed of a central square mass surrounded by four buttresses, one at each face of the central square form. These buttresses are composed of two levels with integral stone caps. Four brackets rest on top of the highest stone caps and anchored under the base of the gable of the porte-cochère roof. two triangular brackets rest on the stone caps of the free-standing columns, one on each support on the northwest façade. These brackets rest under the eaves of the gable. An additional triangular bracket is located under the apex of the gable. The gable end of the porte-cochère, which faces northwest, is filled with simplified half timbering and stucco, similar to the other gables of the residence.

The eaves of the roof contain exposed rafter tails, similar to the rest of the structure. A single support for the porte-cochère roof at the western corner of the extended block of the north façade echoes the free-standing supports, with only a single buttress in two parts with stone caps supporting a truncated bracket that ties into the roof system.

Northwest Façade

The porte-cochère serves as the eastern edge of the northwest facing façade. This section of the residence was laid out at an angle to the main block of the structure. This angled section is an original part of the plan, which may have resulted from the design issues presented by its location on a corner lot. The northwest façade includes a single-story recessed porch and a single-story arm with a two-story section behind. The recessed porch features a raised floor, reached by centered steps from the level of the porte-cochère driveway. A doorway is located to the east raised on a stone step. To the west, a set of two pairs of casement windows made up of two narrow windows with four panes, two short over two long, with a shared stone sill. On the inner, southwest facing façade of this porch area, a set of double doors open outward, raised on a stone step. The porch roof is a low shed roof with rafter tails extended past a fascia board.

The foundation of the one-story extended section to the south west is pierced by two windows, one which is now listed as an access for utility piping. The remaining original window is composed of three roughly square panes arranged horizontally. This section also includes a set of four windows, each including a pair of six pane sections, four short panes over two long panes, over a common stone sill. This section also includes a gable roof with simplified half-timbered ornamentation similar to the rest of the house. Three triangular brackets are located under the eaves of the gable.

Above and behind the one-story section of the northwest façade is a two-story section, along the short wall that faces west are four windows with six small panes over three long panes. Along the northwest two-story section, a single double-hung window with eight panes over a single pane sash is located at the northeast corner of this façade. To the west is a chimney stack, which pierces the overhanging roof. This chimney is topped by decorative corbeled brickwork which extends slightly from the main core of the stack. Four more narrow windows sit to the west of the chimney. These windows are composed of four short panes over two long panes. This section of the residence is topped by a steep gable roof and overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails.

Southwest Façade

The southwest façade foundation is pierced by several windows, now most are used for heating and cooling pipe access. The one-story section of the southwest façade is composed of a set of three windows, each made up of a pair of casement windows with four small panes over two long panes. To the east, a doorway is flanked by a pair of windows on each side and a six pane transom window above. The door is reached by a flight of steps that lead to a small landing in front of the door. The one-story section of this façade extends slightly from the rest of the southwest façade and is topped by a gable roof with extended rafter tails. Turning the corner on this extended section, there is a narrow window with four panes over two tall panes. Turning the corner again, takes us back to the rest of two story section of the southwest façade. The first story includes a set of four double-hung windows with four panes over a single-pane sash with a shared sill. The second story includes six windows, four sets of casement pairs, with a shared string course stone sill. These casement pairs are divided into three panes each, two above a single tall pane. The space for an additional pair of original casement windows has been filled with plywood and a window air unit. This section is topped by a gable roof with simplified half-timbered and stucco fill. Also, this gable end has three triangular brackets, including one at the apex of the gable's eaves.

Turning the corner to the south is a narrow façade that faces southeast. The foundation is pierced by two small horizontal windows. This façade includes three double-hung windows at the first story with four panes over a single-pane sash and a shared sill. The second story includes two pairs of casement windows with six panes over three tall panes with the usual string course stone sill. This section of the façade is topped by an overhanging eave with exposed rafter tails.

West Façade

The west façade includes three double-hung windows with four pane sashes over a single pane sash at the north corner of the first story. To the south is a set of double doors that are flanked by side lights with three short panes over three tall panes. The doorway is topped by a twelve pane transom window. This transom window is flanked by two, six-pane windows, one on either side.

The landing for the doorway is reached by an original set of concrete steps, now partially covered by a non-original concrete ramp and railing. Much like the floor of the other porches, this small landing is created by the extension of the foundation in front of the doorway.

The second story of the west façade includes a pair of windows at the north corner. These casement windows have a pane arrangement of four panes over two long panes and a separate stone sill. To the south is a small pair of casement windows with a pane arrangement of two short panes over two long panes. This small window also has its own separate stone sill. Further to the south, centered above the doorway of the first story is a set of three pairs of casement windows with a four short over two long pane arrangement with the common stone string course sill. This façade is topped by a steep gable roof with extended rafter tails. The roof is pierced by a small plumbing vent.

South Façade

The first story of the south façade is dominated by a one story attached greenhouse. This greenhouse is centered on the façade and is constructed on an extended part of the foundation topped by a cut-stone string course. A low, curved brick wall supports a wooden frame for a curved wall of tall glass panes. This wall is topped by a vaulted green glass tile roof terminated by a small flat roof. The greenhouse/conservatory is only accessible from the interior of the residence. To the west of the conservatory is a set of six windows with a shared stone sill. This window group is designed to open as an accordion casement window, with three panels folding in on each side. To the east of the conservatory, three pairs of casement windows open to the exterior. Each casement panel of this window group is arranged with four panes above and two tall panes below.

The second story of the south façade includes a four window group at the west corner. This group is composed of four casement window panels, designed to open as an accordion window with the string course sill. To the east, centered above the conservatory structure, are two pairs of outward opening casement windows with brick in-between. Further to the east, a group of six window panels are located. This window was also designed to open as an accordion window with three panes on each side. This window also shares the string course sill.

Above the south façade, a large gable includes a centered pair of casement windows with and extended wooden sill with small supporting brackets below. The gable incorporates the detailed half timbering and textured stucco fill as seen on the front/East façade. Five triangular ornamental brackets line the eaves, including one under the apex of the gable.

Garage:

The garage is executed in the same style as the main residence, with a red brick exterior broken only by a high cut-stone string course at the second-story. The second story windows sit atop

this string course, using it as a shared sill. The garage is a one and one half story structure topped by a gable roof with overhanging eaves with extended rafter tails.

East Façade - Garage

The first story of the east façade of the garage features three garage doors. These doors are typical of the Craftsman style with six clear-glass panes in each door. To the north of the garage doors, a standard doorway with a transom above gives access to the interior and upper story living space. The second story of the east façade contains six pairs of casement windows with each panel made up of two panes over a tall single pane. Each pair of windows sits on the shared sill of the string course. Each pair of windows is also accented by an attached window box below.

The windows are topped by a tall fascia board, marking the base of the gable. The gable is filled with ornamental half timbering with textured stucco fill, matching the main residence. The gable also features five ornamental triangular brackets, including one under the apex of the gable. The gable also contains a central pair of windows with two small panes above a single large pane.

North Façade – Garage

The north façade of the garage includes only a single double-hung window at the first story. This window is located to the west of the façade and is composed of a three-pane sash over a single-pane sash. This façade also includes a single pair of casement windows centered above the second-story string course. These casement windows feature two panes over a single large pane. This central window is topped by a small gable with half-timbering detailing and two triangular brackets. This small roof section serves as low dormer over the casement windows.

West Façade – Garage

The west façade of the garage includes three evenly-spaced double-hung windows with three-over-one pane arrangements. Above the second-story string course, there are four pairs of casement windows matching the second-story windows on the rest of the garage. These windows are irregular spaced, with the central two casement pairs adjacent to each other. The gable of this façade matches the front gable of the garage.

South Façade – Garage

The south façade of the garage includes three equally-spaced double-hung windows at the first story. These windows all consist of a three-pane sash over a single-pane sash. All these windows have separate stone sills. Above the string course are two symmetrical pairs of casement windows, matching the other second-story windows. Above each casement pair is a small gable, matching the one small gable on the garage's north façade.

Interior

The interior of the Carnahan House retains much of its original appearance. This includes surviving tile fireplace surrounds, built in Craftsman-style shelving units, elaborate fireplace surrounds and mantles, wood floors and moldings. Although several interior spaces have been altered or updated since the homes construction in 1919, the remaining details help the interior retain the feel of an early 20th century residence.

Integrity

The overall integrity of both the home and the garage are very high. Only a few small changes have occurred to the original fabric of the exterior of the home. The original drawings for the residence are still in the home and refer to a few design elements that may or may not have been built including a screened in rear porch that now features full windows as well as a rear stairway that has now changed orientation. A few windows have also been changed from these drawings, to either change opening orientation or changed to stationary windows. These drawings may have been an early set that do not represent a final plan, so any differences between the plan and the actual building may have actually been original to the construction of the home. One obvious change is the boarded up window on the second story of the northwest façade for the installation of a window air unit.

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
1919

Significant Dates
1919

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

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder
Selligman, Mitchell

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.)

Constructed in 1919 by the prolific architect Mitchell Selligman with the possible help of his partner G. Edelvard, the Carnahan House is an excellent example of a large scale, English Revival and Craftsman residence and is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C with local significance. This Pine Bluff residence is an important surviving example of high style architectural design and construction to the southwest of the historic core at the city's center. The Carnahan House was built for Robert Carnahan and his large family. The home was then sold to the Trotter family in 1937. The home was not sold again until 2008. This short list of owners has the structure to survive the years almost completely intact.

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

Robert Carnahan was born in Knox County, Kentucky, in 1872. He married Ida Holman in Kentucky in 1893 and began raising a large family. In 1915, at the age of 33, Robert Carnahan moved to Pine Bluff with his already large family and both his mother and mother-in-law.[1] The 1920 census for Pine Bluff, Arkansas, lists a total of seven children who lived at home, while an additional older son was staying at a local boarding house after a recent divorce.[2] It also lists both Robert's and Ida's mothers as living with the family. All of the children were born in Kentucky, and moved with the family when Robert relocated them to central Arkansas.

In 1919, Robert Carnahan hired local architect Mitchell Selligman to design a home for his large family. In 1919, Selligman was in partnership with G. Edelvard, though the relationship between the two partners is questionable. The partnership ended badly just the next year.[3] This home was located in the J. H. Scull Addition to the city. This addition was made possible by the draining of lakes to the south and west of the historic core of Pine Bluff.[4] The land at the corner of South Laurel Street and West 12th Street was empty prior to the building of the Carnahan House. The residence was started in 1919 and completed in 1920. A Sanborn map of the area

[1] Pine Bluff Census Rolls, 1920 – 1940; *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 3 September 1928, p 1.
[2] Pine Bluff Census Rolls, 1920-1940.
[3] Lum, Richard and James W. Leslie, "Pine Bluff's Most Prolific Architect – Mitchell Seligman," *Jefferson County Historical Quarterly*, v 27, n 2, 1999; "Selligman & Edelsvard, 206 Pine Street, Pine Bluff, Ark., have dissolved partnership. G. A. Edelsvard will continue the practice of architecture under his own name.": "Personals," *The American Architect*, v 117, n 2298, New York, 7 January1920, Part 1.
[4] Leslie, James W., *Pine Bluff and Jefferson County: A Pictorial History*, (Norfolk: Donning Company/Publishers, 1981), 7.

from 1920 notes that the building on the site was not yet finished. The footprint of the building noted on the map was labeled "from plans". Also, a temporary shed is located at the Southeast corner of the lot; this structure may have been a storage structure for the construction of the residence that was then underway.[5] A garage structure was added to the west of the main residence after 1920. Although the garage was designed at the same time as the main residence, as indicated by original drawings, it was still noted on a later Sanborn Map as "from plans", but this was most likely a failure to remove information rather than a deliberate label.[6]

Mitchell Selligman was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1883. He graduated from the Louisville Male High School in 1901 with a Bachelor of Arts. It is noted on Selligman's Application for Registration as a Registered Architect that the Commonwealth of Kentucky awarded the Louisville Male High School the ability to grant high level degrees due to the "extent and nature of the prescribed course."[7] Selligman then attended the Louisville Manual Training School from 1901 to 1903 where he studied Chemistry, Drawing and Shop Work.[8] After completing his course as the Louisville Manual Training School, Selligman became an associate in the architectural firm of Desardin and Sheblessy in Cincinnati, Ohio. This association led to Selligman's first visit to Pine Bluff.[9]

During the first decade of the 20th century, the Citizens Bank of Pine Bluff decided to construct a six-story bank building at the corner of West Second Avenue and Pine Street. This building would become the largest structure in Pine Bluff. The firm of Desardin and Sheblessy were contacted to produce a proposal of the new building. In 1909, Desardin and Sheblessy sent Selligman to Pine Bluff to survey the site and speak with the officials of the Citizens Bank. Selligman then returned to Cincinnati and the firm produced plans for a new bank building. After the firm was contracted to build the new building, Selligman was appointed as field supervisor for the firm during its construction. The Citizen Bank Building was finished in 1910. After its completion, Selligman decided that he would stay in Pine Bluff. He had determined that the area was large enough to support a local architect and that there were plenty of opportunities for new projects in Pine Bluff. He traveled to Louisville in 1910, married Josephine Burgy, and then returned to Pine Bluff and opened his architectural firm.[10]

Mitchell Selligman went on to construct many residences, office buildings, fraternal buildings, county buildings and schools in Pine Bluff and the surrounding region. Throughout his career,

[5] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Sanborn maps for Pine Bluff, 1920.
[6] Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Sanborn maps for Pine Bluff, 1920, 1920-Dec. 1950.
[7] "Mitchell Selligman," *Application for Registration as Registered Architect*, Arkansas State Board of Architects, original form dated 6 May 1939, located in the Arkansas Architects Research Files at the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
[8] "Mitchell Selligman," *Application for Registration as Registered Architect*, 1939.
[9] Lum and Leslie, "Pine Bluff's Most Prolific Architect – Mitchell Seligman."
[10] Lum and Leslie, "Pine Bluff's Most Prolific Architect – Mitchell Seligman."

Selligman mostly worked independently, only taking on partners in his firm in 1919, when he partnered with G. Edelvard for only a year, and in 1946, when he partnered with Don Ashley Reed. Reed would continue the firm after Selligman's death after a stroke and heart attack in 1954.[11] Several of the buildings designed by Mitchell Selligman have already been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the Poinsett County Courthouse in Harrisburg, Arkansas (built 1917, NR 11.3.1989), the Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company Building in Pine Bluff (built 1949, NR 5.10.1989), the Mississippi County Courthouse, Chickasawba District in Blytheville (built 1919, NR 12.6.1996) and the Bellingrath House in White Hall (built 1932-1935, NR 12.1.1994). Although several buildings designed by Mitchell Selligman have been listed on the National Register, each building is unique in its use of style and its particular historical context. The Carnahan House is an important addition to the National Register as yet another example of the master design work of a 20th century architect in Arkansas.

The Carnahan House is an impressive, large-scale combination of the Craftsman and English Revival styles. Both of these styles were popular during the early 20th century. The Craftsman style originally grew out of the British Arts and Crafts movement of the late 1800s. In the United States, the California firm of Greene and Greene and architect Bernard Maybeck helped to popularize the style. Frank Lloyd Wright would eventually take characteristics of the Craftsman style and develop his influential Prairie style. The English Revival style, sometimes referred to as the Tudor Revival style, with its iconic half-timbering was developed alongside other revival styles such as the Spanish Colonial and American Colonial Revival styles. All of these movements looked to the past as a rich pattern book of ideas for new designs.[12]

The Carnahan House was designed in 1919 by Mitchell Selligman and G. Edelvard. The mixing of styles used on this residence was a common design strategy of architects in the early 20th century. Although a common strategy, the design for this residence is remarkable in its ability to deftly combine popular styles in a large-scale residence. This allows the building to suit the needs of a client while still exuding the popular styles of the era. This residence also features an unusual floor plan, where one section of the structure is angled so that the porte-cochere sits at an angle to the street and is roughly triangular in shape while still blending into the buildings mass as a whole. This porte-cochere is additive to the main building even though its style matches, the interesting angle it created in the plan serves to hide it from the main façade, while still using it to generate additional spaces in the home. A rear wing of the structure continues this angled porte-cochere. Although the porte-cochere was a typical addition to a high style residence in the early 20th century, the unusual angle of this structure is unique.[13]

[11] Lum and Leslie, "Pine Bluff's Most Prolific Architect – Mitchell Seligman."; *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 28 February 1954, p 1.
[12] McAlester, Virginia and A. Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1994).
[13] McAlester, Virginia and A. Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses* (New York: Knopf, 1994), 463

Robert Carnahan most likely had significant financial resources when he moved from Kentucky as he was still president of the Straight Creek Coal Company of Kentucky at his death in 1928. He was also the president of the Standard Lumber Company of Pine Bluff, Vice-President of the National Bank of Arkansas as well as the President of the Lovett-Carnahan Company of Grady at his death. He is also listed as the president of a local saw mill on the 1920 census. In 1928, Robert Carnahan died after a tragic accident while swimming in Atkins Lake in Pine Bluff. He was returning across the lake and was heard to call for help. Several people who were on the lake heard his cries for help, but were unable to reach him in time. His body was recovered later in the evening. He had been swimming for over two hours with no problems and it unknown what caused him to be unable to finish the swim back across the lake.[14]

After Robert Carnahan's death, his wife Ida received the bulk of his estate.[15] The newspaper report of the distribution of Carnahan's estate also notes that eight children of the marriage were given one dollar each in his will. The estate including the family home and insurance policies that were expected to total half a million dollars after all debts and liabilities were paid. It is also interesting to note that the will was written on only one page of legal size paper as reported by the local newspaper.[16]

Henry Ford Trotter purchased the residence at 1200 Laurel in 1937 from the Carnahan Family. Ida Carnahan, who continued to live in the residence after her husband's death, moved to a residence on Martin Place in eastern Pine Bluff. Henry Ford Trotter moved his large family into the home on Laurel Avenue. This included his first wife Lucile, sons Jack, and Henry Jr. and daughters Emma, Lucile and Ann. Interestingly, the two eldest children, Jack and Emma were both born before Lucile and Henry Ford Trotter were married in 1926. It appears that Lucile was married and either widowed or divorced with two children from her previous marriage. Both children are listed in the 1940 census with the last name of Trotter.[17]

Henry Ford Trotter was born and raised in Monticello, Arkansas.[18] His family had original emigrated from Scotland to Virginia during the 18th century. During the 18th and 19th centuries, the Trotter family moved first to South Carolina and then west to a homestead in Tennessee. In the 1850s the Trotter matriarch Mary and nine of her children set out for Texas to live with family. Mary's husband had died in 1840. After being delayed by numerous floods along the Saline and Ouachita Rivers, the Trotters decided to homestead in Monticello, Arkansas. The family started a prosperous cotton farm and gin. Mary's oldest son, Henry J. Trotter started a family on the farm and raised six children, including Virgil Josephus Trotter. Virgil Trotter

[14] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 3 September 1928, part 1, p 1.
[15] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 7 September 1928, p 1.
[16] *Ibid.*
[17] Pine Bluff Census Rolls, 1940.
[18] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 15 July 1992, p1A-2A.

married Willie Ada Ford in 1896 shortly after building a new home in Monticello.[19] This home is now listed on the National Register as a contributing resource in the Monticello North Main Street Historic District (NR 2.2.1979).[20] Virgil and Willie Trotter raised eight children in the Trotter House in Monticello and continued to live in the home until the 1950s.

Virgil Trotter had moved off the family farm in order to open a mercantile business in Monticello in 1887.[21] Henry Ford Trotter, the third son of Virgil and Willie followed his father into the mercantile business, after attending Hendrix College in Conway and Washington and Lee University in Virginia.[22] Henry worked with his father until 1936, when he moved Pine Bluff after purchasing a local Ford Dealership.[23] Henry Ford Trotter, Sr. lived in the home at 1200 Laurel with his wife Lucile until her death in 1955. Henry Ford Trotter, Sr. remarried in 1958 to Edith Hankins of Pine Bluff.[24] Henry and Edith lived in the home for the rest of their lives.[25] Henry Ford Trotter, Sr. ran his Ford dealership until his death in 1992. This dealership, Trotter Ford Inc., is still operating in Pine Bluff and is now run by President Henry Ford Trotter, Jr. and General Manager Henry Ford Trotter, III.[26] The Trotter family owned the home at 1200 Laurel until 2008.

Throughout the years, the Carnahan House has seen very few changes. It has had minimal changes due mainly to its history of long family ownership. Only a few windows have been covered with screening and one window bay has been covered for the installation of an air-conditioning unit. The interior of the home has also remained mostly intact. Original woodwork, wood floors and molding details have been retained.

Constructed in 1919 by the prolific architect Mitchell Selligman, the Carnahan House is an excellent example of a large-scale, English Revival and Craftsman residence and is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C with local significance. The prominent brick mass of the building, combined with the use of half timbering in each gable and the multitude of Craftsman details, including window design and ornamental brackets, make this an important example of residential architecture in the region.

---

[19] All preceding information on the Trotter family: "UAM Trotter House: Trotter Family History," *UAM Trotter House*, www.trotterhouse.com/familyhistory. Accessed 24 March 2014.
[20] "Monticello North Main Street Historic District" National Register Registration Form, Files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
[21] "UAM Trotter House: Trotter Family History," *UAM Trotter House*, www.trotterhouse.com/familyhistory. Accessed 24 March 2014.
[22] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 15 July 1992, p1A-2A.
[23] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 15 July 1992, p1A-2A.; Pine Bluff Census Rolls, 1920.
[24] *Pine Bluff Commercial*, 15 July 1992, p1A-2A.,
[25] Henry Ford Trotter, Sr. passed away in 1992 and Edith Trotter passed away in 2008. Obit and Social Security Administration. *Social Security Death Index, Master File*. Social Security Administration.
[26] Henry, John, "Aptly named Trotter family continues ford tradition," *Arkansas Business*, 26 August 2002.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Combs, Jason. "Architectural Styles." *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*. The Central Arkansas Library System, 1 Aug. 2012. Web. 22 Apr. 2014. <http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net>.

Davis-Lilly, Marlene. Email conversation with the author, 11 February – 15 May 2014.

Henry, John, "Aptly named Trotter family continues ford tradition," *Arkansas Business*, 26 August 2002.

Leslie, James W., *Pine Bluff and Jefferson County: A Pictorial History*, Norfolk: Donning Company/Publishers, 1981.

Lum, Richard and James W. Leslie, "Pine Bluff's Most Prolific Architect – Mitchell Seligman," *Jefferson County Historical Quarterly*, v 27, n 2, 1999.

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

"Mitchell Selligman," *Application for Registration as Registered Architect*, Arkansas State Board of Architects, original form dated 6 May 1939, located in the Arkansas Architects Research Files at the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

"Monticello North Main Street Historic District" National Register Registration Form, Files of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

Obit and Social Security Administration. *Social Security Death Index, Master File*. Social Security Administration

"Personals," *The American Architect*, v 117, n 2298, New York, 7 January1920, Part 1.

Pine Bluff Census Rolls, 1920 – 1940.

Pine Bluff Commercial, Pine Bluff, AR: 3 September 1928, 7 September 1928, 15 July 1992.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company, Sanborn maps for Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 1920, 1920-Dec.1950.

"UAM Trotter House: Trotter Family History," *UAM Trotter House*, www.trotterhouse.com/familyhistory. Accessed 24 March 2014.

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
_X__ Other
Name of repository: __Original plans kept by current home owner_____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _JE0930_____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property __<1_____

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: Longitude:
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 S Easting: 591331 Northing: 3786692
2. Zone: Easting: Northing:
3. Zone: Easting: Northing:
4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

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

Lots 001 & 002, Block 007, J H Scull Addition to the city of Pine Bluff.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains all of the remaining land and buildings historically associated with the house.

---

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Callie Williams, National Register Historian
organization: Department of Heritage – Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500, Tower Building
city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72201
e-mail calliew@arkansasheritage.org
telephone: 501-324-9880
date: 5/21/2014

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: Carnahan House

City or Vicinity: Pine Bluff

County: Jefferson State: Arkansas

Photographer: Travis Ratermann

Date Photographed: May 12, 2012

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

Photo #1 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0001)
East elevation of the main residence, camera facing west.

Photo #2 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0002)
Detail of the front porch, north elevation of porch, camera facing southwest.

Photo #3 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0003)
Porch support detail, northeast elevation of front porch, camera facing southwest.

Photo #4 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0004)
North elevation of the main residence, camera facing southwest.

Photo #5 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0005)
Northwest elevation of the main residence, camera facing southeast.

Photo #6 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0006)
Porch on northwest elevation of main residence, camera facing southeast.

Photo #7 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0007)
Northwest elevation of main residence, camera facing southeast.

Photo #8 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0008)
Southwest elevation of main residence, camera facing northeast.

Photo #9 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0009)
Southwest elevation of main residence, camera facing northeast.

Photo #10 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0010)
South elevation of main residence, camera facing north.

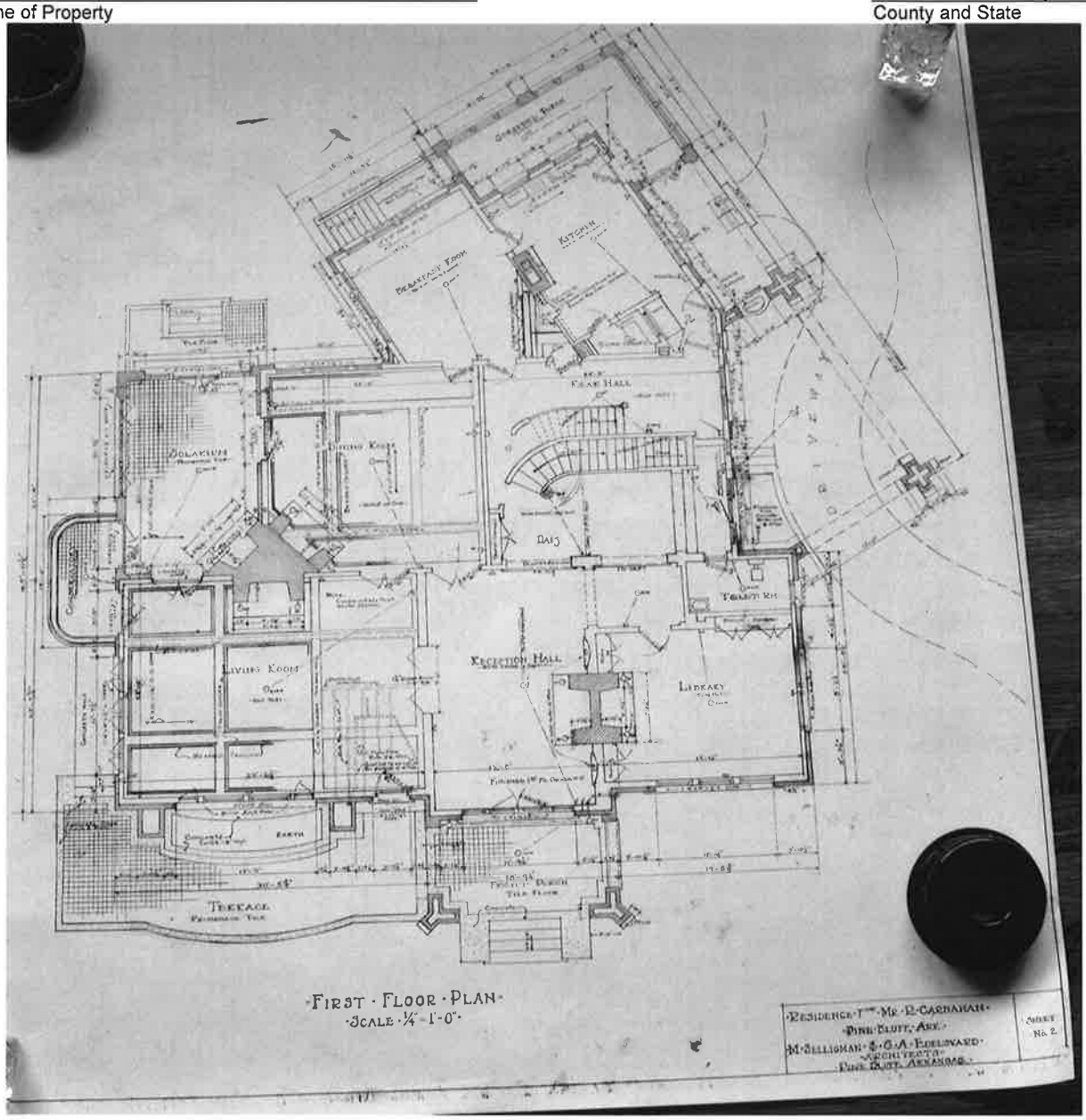
Photo #11 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0011)
East elevation of garage, camera facing southwest.

Photo #12 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0012)
North elevation of garage, camera facing south.

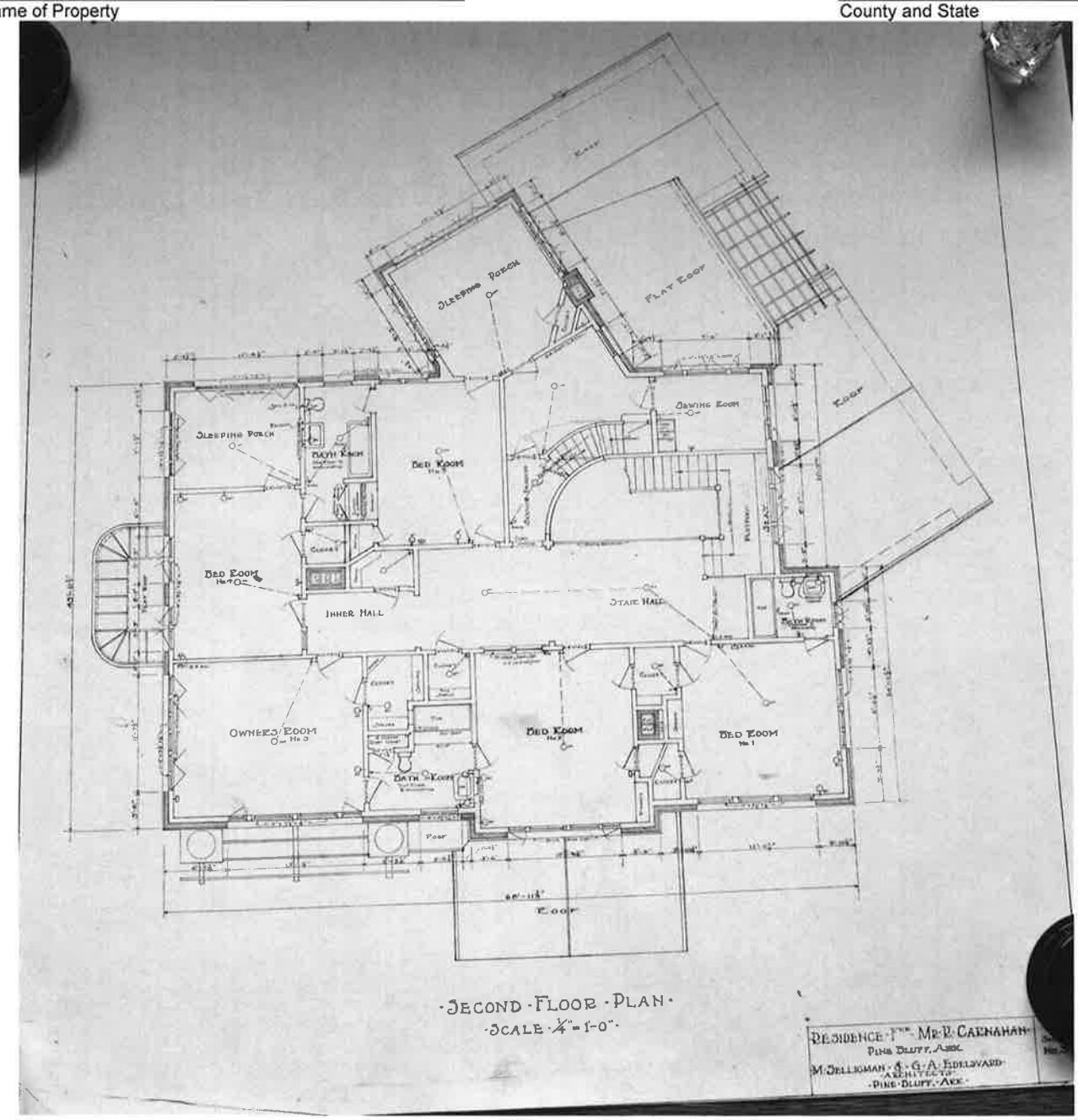
Photo #13 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0013)
West elevation of garage, camera facing east.

Photo #14 (AR_JeffersonCounty_CarnahanHouse_0014)
South elevation of garage, camera facing north.

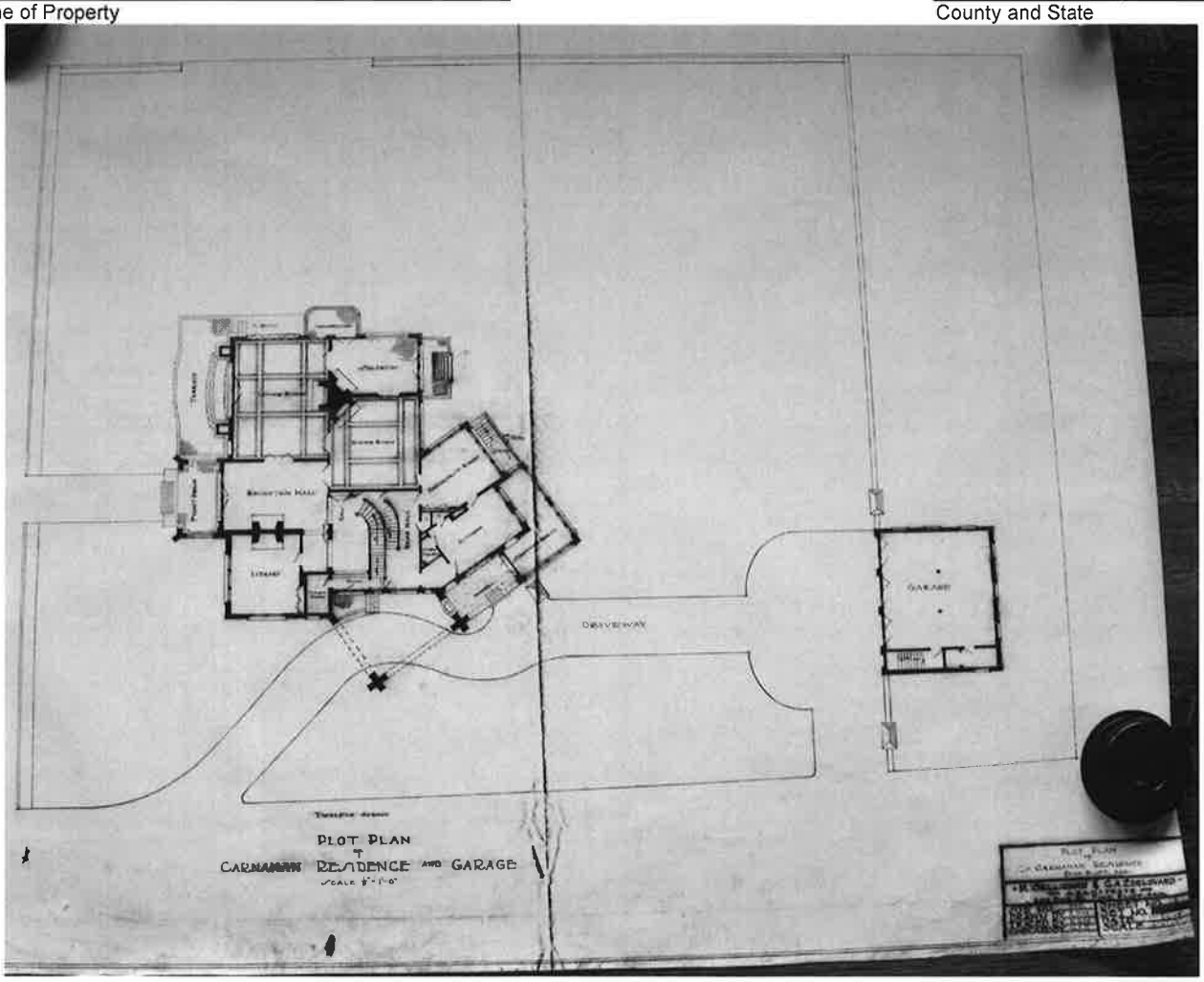
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain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



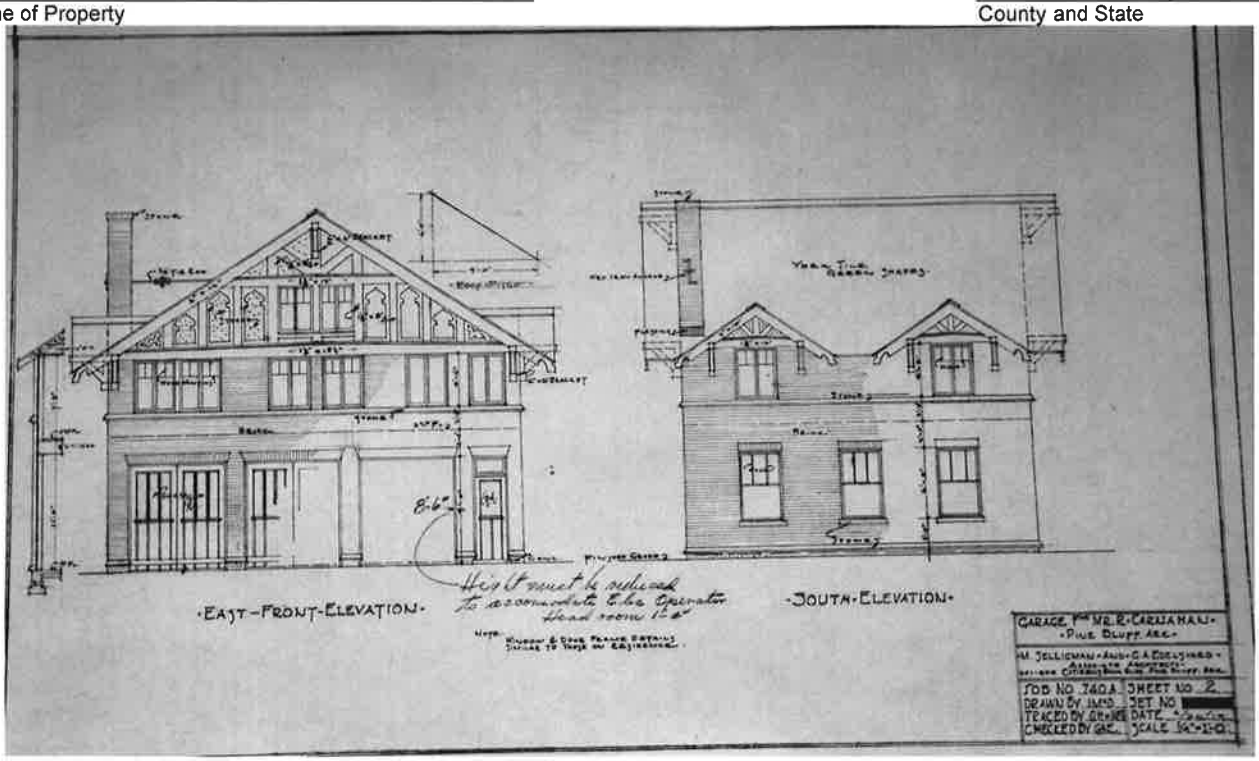
Preliminary First Floor Plan (Sheet No. 2), "Residence for Mr. R. Carnahan, Pine Bluff, Ark., M. Selligman & G. A. Edelsvard, Architects, Pine Bluff, Arkansas." Circa 1919.



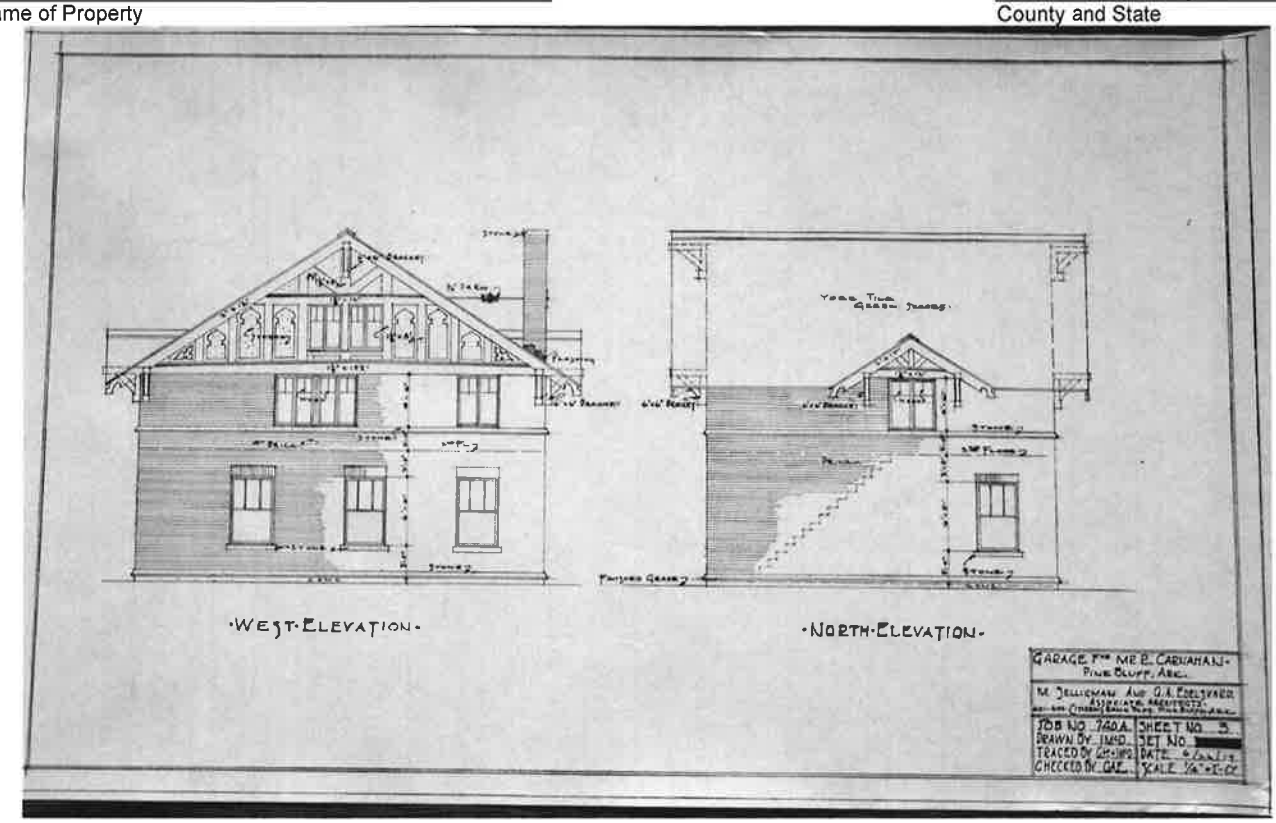
Priliminary Second Floor Plan (Sheet No.3), "Residence for Mr. R. Carnahan, Pine Bluff, Ark., M. Selligman & G. A. Edelsvard, Architects, Pine Bluff, Arkansas." Circa 1919.



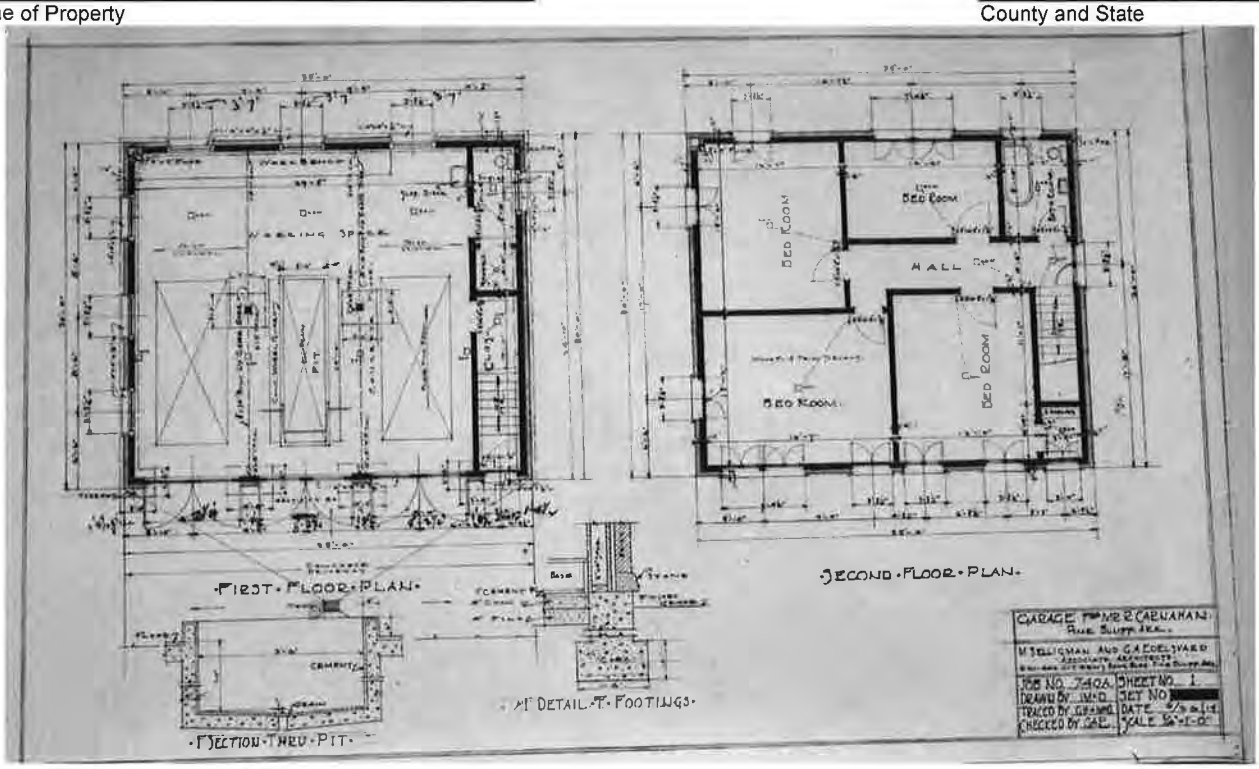
"Plot Plan of Carnahan Residence and Garage, Pine Bluff, ARK., M. Selligman & G. A. Edelsvard, Architects, Pine Bluff, ARK." November 26, 1919.



Elevation Drawings, East and South Elevations. "Garage for Mr. R. Carnahan, Pine Bluff, ARK., M. Selligman And G. A. Edelsvard, Associate Architects, 601-602 Citizens Bank Bldg. Pine Bluff, ARK." June 26, 1919.



Elevation Drawings, West and North Elevations. "Garage for Mr. R. Carnahan, Pine Bluff, ARK., M. Selligman And G. A. Edelsvard, Associate Architects, 601-602 Citizens Bank Bldg. Pine Bluff, ARK." June 26, 1919.



Plan Drawings, First and Second Floor Plans. "Garage for Mr. R. Carnahan, Pine Bluff, ARK., M. Selligman And G. A. Edelsvard, Associate Architects, 601-602 Citizens Bank Bldg. Pine Bluff, ARK." June 26, 1919.

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.

Carnahan House, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas

Google earth

feet 900
meters 300

UTM:

15 591331 3786692

NAD83

Carnahan House, Pine Bluff, Jefferson County, Arkansas

Google earth

feet 3000
meters 900

UTM:

15 591331 3786692

NAD83

SAVANA
GMC