
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2012



Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Table of Contents

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Concurrence Status

Geographic Information and Location Map

Management Information

National Register Information

Chronology & Physical History

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Condition

Treatment

Bibliography & Supplemental Information

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

Rush Historic District is a 1316 acre former zinc mining district located on the lower Buffalo River and two of its tributaries, Rush Creek and Clabber Creek, roughly thirty miles upstream from the Buffalo's confluence with the White River. The district is accessible to automobiles by unpaved road that connects to Arkansas Highway 14, and it also features a boat landing on the Buffalo River. It is a remnant industrial landscape containing the remains of open pit and underground zinc mines, processing facilities, worker housing, and other commercial establishments, in addition to numerous small-scale features that reflect mining community life. The district's contributing resources have been listed on or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, C, and D, representing a period of significance covering its productive zinc-mining era: 1885-1931.

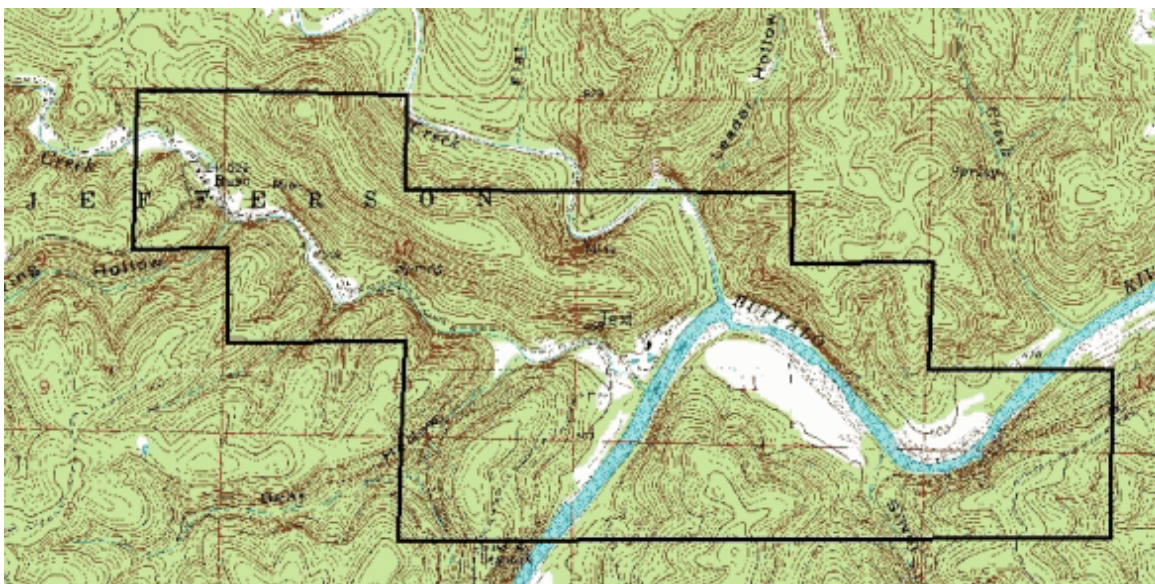
The historic district extends across portions of sections 9, 10, 11, and 15 of Jefferson Township (Township 17 North, Range 15 West) in southwestern Marion County, Arkansas. The area is part of the Ozark Plateau and is notable for its rugged terrain and karst geomorphology. The district is divided by topography into three distinct sections: the Rush Creek valley, the Clabber Creek valley, and the contiguous Buffalo River terraces and bluffs. A fault zone paralleling Rush Creek exposed ore bearing rocks along the bluffs, contributing to the area's change in the late nineteenth century from a sparsely populated farming district to a heavily industrialized mining region.

The district is comprised of a range of property types that date from across the period of significance. Residences are vernacular, wood-frame buildings with simple plans and materials; all houses are raised from grade by piers or posts and have front porches. A standing general store is the remaining extant commercial building, distinguished by a stepped facade that extends over its front gable. A mortared stone masonry smelter is prominent, dating from the earliest decade of zinc mining in the district. A gabled blacksmith shop stands near the Morning Star Mill site, clad in vertical wood board and batten siding. The numerous mines are located on the hills surrounding the town; vertical mines are visible as open shafts, and horizontal room-and-pillar mines were accessed through adits. Mine entrances have been secured by fences and gates. The landscape at Rush is also characterized by its collection of ruins, showing the loss of buildings to dismantling or arson over the past eighty years. Stores, hotels, and houses remain only as stone walls, collapsed piers, and concrete pad foundations. The locations of zinc processing mills are marked by series of pyramidal concrete piers. Other features—including grave markers within a community cemetery, mortared flowerbeds and retaining walls, and small-scale diggings—convey both the ambitions and the mundane experiences of former residents.

The district consists of the extant remains of the region's most bustling mining community, which extracted some of the nation's purest zinc ore deposits during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In the half century after ore was discovered in the area in 1880, mining operations developed from individual prospectors' diggings to a number of full-scale, industrial zinc works that contained room-and-pillar mines, zinc concentrating mills, and other ancillary buildings. For instance, the operations of the Morning Star Mine—the first in the district, and its flagship—was supported by a pumphouse, oil storage building, livery barn, hotel, company office, and manager's house. The mills were introduced into the production process as the purest zinc ore was mined out; in these facilities, laborers were able to crush the deposits that had been removed from the mines and to separate the ore from surrounding

rock. The immediate region attracted thousands of new residents during the First World War, as both the prices and production of zinc increased dramatically to meet military demand. Before the war's end, however, a national surplus of the mineral led to a rapid deflation in prices, and nearly all of the mines at Rush quickly closed. Morning Star Mine closed permanently in 1931, although informal mining continued to occur in the area. Investors attempted to revive industrial mining at Rush between 1958 to 1962: that mine closed, the final residents relocated, and cleared areas reforested. Recent use of the area under National Park Service operation has been primarily recreational.

Site Plan



Rush Historic District, Buffalo National River

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Rush Historic District
Property Level:	Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	500856
Parent Landscape:	500856

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Buffalo National River -BUFF
Park Organization Code:	7150
Park Administrative Unit:	Buffalo National River

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Research conducted by seasonals Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford and reviewed by Cultural Landscapes Program Leader Sherda Williams and Historical Landscape Architect Marla McEnaney during FY99 confirmed a number of cultural landscapes for the park, including Rush Historic District.

Architectural Historian Nancy Farm Mannikko conducted site visits to Rush Historic District in 2003, 2004, and 2005. The CLI was subsequently completed and certified in 2006.

NCPE intern Jonathon Rusch updated the Rush Historic District CLI entry in summer 2012. During a trip to Buffalo National River, he and MWR landscape historian Dan Jackson were able to visit the most accessible properties in the district in order to take new photographs and UTM points, and to reassess the landscape's condition.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/26/2012
Date of Concurrence Determination:	02/27/1987

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The Rush Historic District was nominated as an industrial landscape. The significance of the site lies in the history of the mining industry as evidenced by waste rock piles, mine shafts and adits, the remnants of stamp mills, the road and tram systems that connected the mines, and the worker housing. These landscape features were thoroughly documented as part of the nomination, as were topographic information and descriptions of circulation patterns.

Concurrence Graphic Information:



IN REPLY REFER TO:
H2217 (BUFF-ICR)

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Buffalo National River
402 N. Walnut, Suite 136
Harrison, AR 72601

September 26, 2012

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Midwest Region
From: Acting Superintendent, Buffalo National River
Subject: Review of Cultural Landscapes Inventories for Rush Historic District, Buffalo National River

We have reviewed the subject documents and have no further comments. We concur with the evaluated condition "Fair" and the management category "Should be Preserved and Maintained" for Rush Historic District. We also concur with the evaluated condition of "Good" and the management category "Should be Preserved and Maintained" for Buffalo River State Park Historic District. We feel that the appropriate Integrated Management Resources Applications (IRMA) category for these documents is "reference viewable to Public." We anticipate working towards the revised Buffalo State Park Historic District Cultural Landscape Inventory in the coming year. Please address any comments and questions to Dr. Caven Clark at 870/365-2790, or caven_clark@nps.gov.

Kevin G. Cheri

Kevin G. Cheri, Superintendent

Park Concurrence 9/26/2012



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Buffalo National River
402 N. Walnut, Suite 136
Harrison, AR 72601

H3017(BUFF-HCR)

August 30, 2006

Memorandum

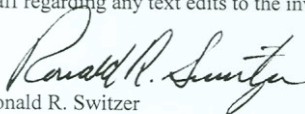
To: Regional Director, Midwest Region
From: Superintendent, Buffalo National River
Subject: Cultural Landscapes Inventory Unit Record, Reply Due September 1

I have reviewed the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) unit records for the Rush Historic District and the Buffalo River State Park Historic District as requested.

The Rush Historic District and the Buffalo River State Park Historic District are each identified as in "good" condition and placed in the management category of landscapes which "should be preserved and maintained." I concur with the condition and management category assigned for each of these records.

Please notify the park of the final approval of these entries by the Park Historic Structures and Cultural Landscape Program in Washington.

Park Historian Suzie Rogers will work with the Midwest Region cultural landscape inventory staff regarding any text edits to the inventory record.


Ronald R. Switzer

Superintendent concurrence 8/30/06.

Revisions Impacting Change in Concurrence:

Other

Revision Date: 09/26/2012

Revision Narrative:

6 year update to verify condition and management category

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Bounded on the north and west by the Buffalo National River boundary, on the east by section lines of Sections 11 and 12, and on the south by quarter section lines of sections 10, 11, 12, all in Township 17 N

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Range 15 W 5 P.M., and including parts of sections 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

State and County:

State: AR

County: Marion County

Size (Acres): 1,316.00

Boundary Description:

Northwestern corner of historic district.

Boundary UTMS:

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

UTM Zone: 15

UTM Easting: 538,319

UTM Northing: 3,999,135

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

UTM Zone: 15

UTM Easting: 538,319

UTM Northing: 3,998,461

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

UTM Zone: 15

UTM Easting: 538,701

UTM Northing: 3,998,415

Source: GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

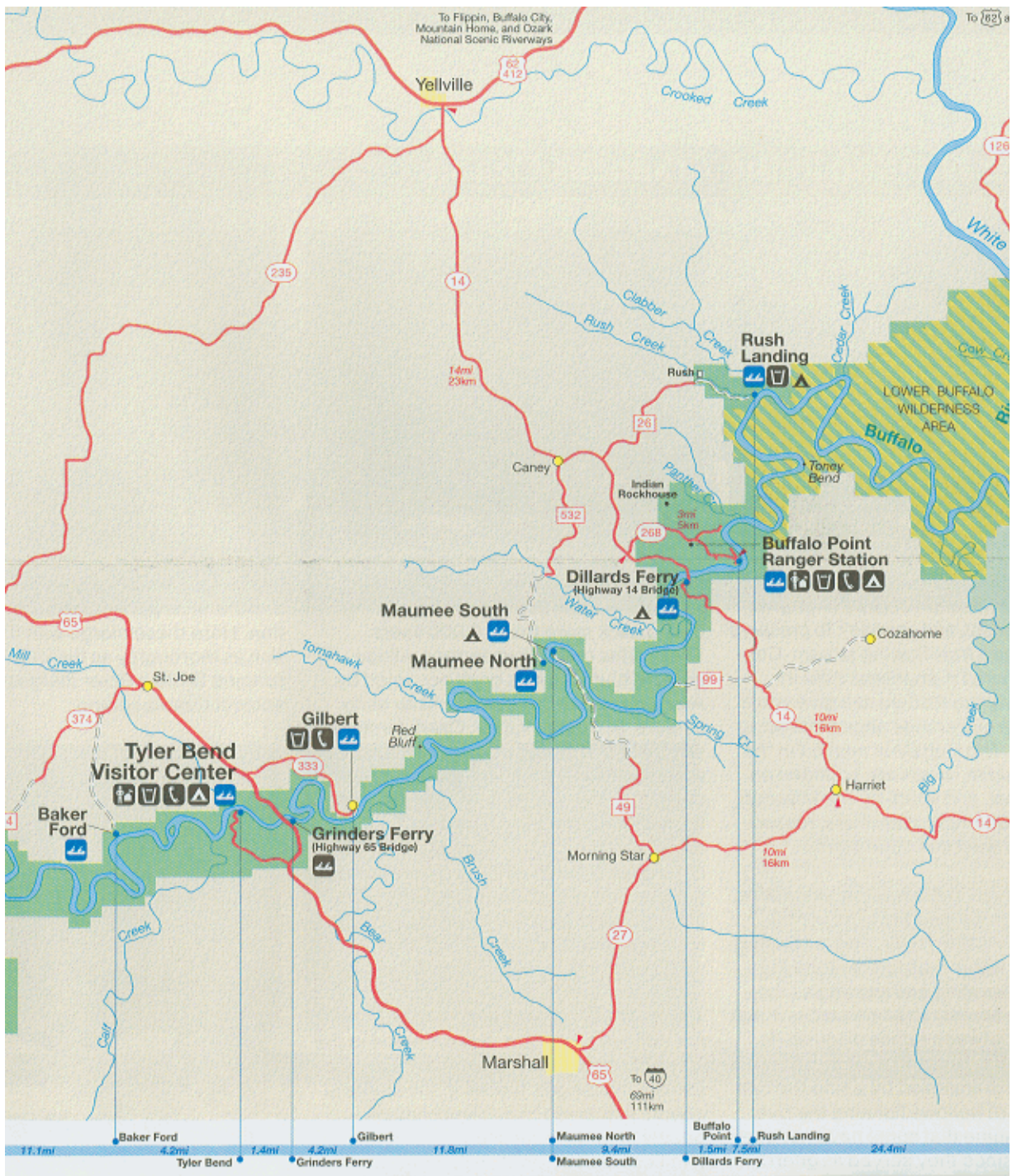
UTM Zone: 15

UTM Easting: 538,719

UTM Northing:	3,998,046
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	539,452
UTM Northing:	3,997,969
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	539,452
UTM Northing:	3,996,959
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	542,849
UTM Northing:	3,996,959
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	542,804
UTM Northing:	3,998,414
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected

Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	542,894
UTM Northing:	3,998,337
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	541,917
UTM Northing:	3,998,650
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	539,461
UTM Northing:	3,998,655
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	15
UTM Easting:	539,461
UTM Northing:	3,999,104

Location Map:



Map from Buffalo National River visitors guide. Rush Landing is located within Rush Historic District.

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

French settlers from New Orleans were the first to extract minerals in the Ozarks of northern Arkansas and southern Missouri, likely beginning in the early eighteenth century. Lead was the first prized mineral in the region, and lead mining became an entrenched industry by the middle of the 1800s. Around 1860, American industrial zinc production began in LaSalle, Illinois, after which mines developed across the Midwest—in Missouri, Wisconsin, Kansas, and Oklahoma. Zinc was discovered at Rush around 1880, and many of the deposits that were found were of a relatively pure composition. In 1891, when George Chase purchased the Morning Star Mine, the Rush district had begun to contribute to a broad zinc extraction region that was centered around Joplin, Missouri, and that shipped its ores for smelting in Van Buren and Fort Smith, Arkansas, and in St. Louis (Huggard 2004, 2-6).

Through the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, zinc played a crucial role in the development of the United States as an imperial and military power. A component of the alloys brass and bronze, zinc was found in weapons and ammunition that supported the nation's military growth. Other widely-used materials that contained zinc included roofing, water tanks, paints, and rubbers, making the mineral highly useful and highly sought. The over six-ton piece of zinc ore that was extracted from Rush's Morning Star Mine and displayed at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago showed that large, high-grade deposits were available that did not require further processing before smelting. But as demand for the mineral grew in the United States (and as the purest deposits were mined out of Rush), mine owners invested in concentration mills with new equipment that could process more complex ore deposits: crushers, for instance, and Wilfley separation tables (Huggard 2004, 1-12).

The demand for zinc nationwide heightened from 1911 to 1918. Specifically related to the Ozarks, the Kansas City, Fort Scott, & Memphis Railroad published promotional material on the zinc mines of northern Arkansas, which describe a profitable mineral boom and there and likely was intended to spur interest in expanding the company's lines to the Rush district, which remained relatively inaccessible. Pittsburgh investors found the Morning Star Mine an attractive venture, and they purchased a majority interest in 1911; this arrangement reflected a frequent geographic division between Eastern investors and their mining investments in the Midwestern and Western hinterlands. The start of the First World War heralded a sweeping new demand for zinc, as munitions manufacturers worldwide sought out the mineral. Its market price shot up, and operations accelerated; as a result, mining regions accepted waves of miners that, in the case of Rush, well outstripped the existing housing supply (Huggard 2004, 12-17).

Boom led to bust as the end of the war approach, when stockpiling zinc dropped the mineral's prices dramatically. The majority of American zinc mines closed in the face of a large-scale postwar recession. In 1916, Arkansas mines produced more than 18,000 short tons of zinc concentrates, for a value of over a million dollars. In 1920, the state produced 917 short tons of zinc concentrate, valued at under \$30,000. The obvious end of Rush's zinc-mining peak came

with the closing of the Morning Star Mine in 1931, which reflected the nationwide fortunes of the mineral in the first decades of the twentieth century. It was hoped that another boom would reignite the zinc extraction industry, but the arrival of the Great Depression kept investment streams dry. The Second World War failed to revive the zinc mines of northern Arkansas, leaving mono-industry communities like Rush without clear prospects for future growth (Huggard 2004, 21-25).

The conservation movement brought subsequent changes to the Buffalo River region during the second half of the twentieth century—as concerns about a U.S. Corps of Engineers dam fueled debates on the river’s future, and as recreational use of the river increased. The volume of canoeists on the Buffalo surged with the widespread use of the aluminum canoe in the 1960s. The proposed dam served as a rallying point, against which a number of local, regional, and national environmental groups organized to advocate for the river’s conservation and continued recreational use. National Park Service studies before 1965 recognized the Buffalo’s national significance as an undammed river and proposed designation as a National Park unit. Buffalo National River was approved by Congress in 1972 and now attracts many hundreds of thousands of visitors annually (Catton 2008, 258-267).

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The Rush Historic District lies in Marion County, Arkansas, within the boundaries of Buffalo National River, an area created in 1972 to preserve the Buffalo as a free-flowing river. The Buffalo River runs west to east 132 miles through the southern Ozarks, finally emptying into the White River, a Mississippi River tributary. The Rush Historic District is twenty-five miles upstream from the mouth of the Buffalo River.

As the river meanders from its headwaters in the Boston Mountains it has carved a meandering channel through three sections of the Ozark Plateau's geological province: the Boston Mountains, the Springfield Plateau, and the Salem Plateau. This province straddles an uplift known as the Ozark dome, a broad asymmetrical structure covering approximately 40,000 square miles in five states. Local faults, both normal and reversed, and folds are superimposed on the structure, and sedimentary rocks such as limestone and dolomites predominate. Sandstones and shales are, however, found in the Boston Mountains.

The sedimentary rocks range in age from the Cambrian to the Pennsylvanian. Variations in hardness are reflected in the development of escarpments on the more resistant formations. The limestones and dolomites are highly water soluble, leading to the formation of caves, sink holes, springs, sinking creeks, and other features consistent with a karst region. Where the rock strata are brecciated pockets of ore, such as lead and zinc, are often found. Although the quality and density of such pockets varies with location, the zinc ore found in the Rush area during the late nineteenth century proved to be the highest-grade zinc ore discovered up to that time in the United States.

In the historic district, Rush Creek and Clabber Creek are the main Buffalo River tributaries

and are separated by Rush Mountain, a high, narrow promontory of land. The district comprises the lower two miles of each tributary valley and adjoining land extending up the Buffalo River about one-half mile and down the Buffalo River about three-quarters of a mile. It is a rugged landscape, with the sides of the valleys sloping steeply up. In a number of places along both the Buffalo River and Clabber Creek, sheer rock bluffs rise directly from the water's edge.

Prior to the mining era, the area was heavily forested with mixed hardwoods. Much of the area clear cut for fuel woods during the mining heyday is now rewilding naturally. In areas where the hardwood forest has returned, deciduous trees such as black locust, southern red oak, silver maple, and hickory form the upper canopy, while mulberry, sassafras, paw paw, and hophornbeam are common in the lower canopy. At ground level, vining plants such as green brier, poison ivy, and wild grape are found. Cane breaks are common along the river terraces.



View towards the Rush valley from the road past the Ben Carney mine. Rush Road is visible in the valley floor 200 feet below (NPS 2/2005).



Buffalo River near Silver Hollow Mine in Rush Historic District. Note the sheer bluffs right at the river's edge (NPS 2/2005).

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Rush Historic District is located in Marion County, Arkansas. Marion County is in the Third Congressional District for Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives, the 86th District for the Arkansas State Legislature, and District 1 for the Arkansas State Senate.

Tract Numbers: 40-100, 40-101, 40-102, 40-103, 40-104, 40-105, 40-106, 40-107, 40-108, 40-109, 41-100, 41-101, 41-102, 41-103, 41-104, 41-105, 41-106, 41-107, 41-108, 41-109, 41-110, 41-112, 41-113, 41-114, 41-115, 41-116, 41-117, 41-118, 41-119, 41-120, 41-123,

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/26/2012

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The 1986 Site Development Plan recommended preservation and interpretation of the Rush zinc mining district.

Maintenance Location Code: 91643

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access:

Other Restrictions

Explanatory Narrative:

Although access to the Historic District as a whole is essentially unrestricted, some sites such as mine adits and shafts are gated or fenced for safety reasons. The area around the surviving historic housing structures is also fenced to reduce visitor impacts on the resource.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?

Undetermined

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The existing National Register of Historic Places nomination was accepted by the Keeper in 1987. In 2005 the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office concurred with a Determination of Eligibility prepared for two additional landscape features in the Rush area, the Laffoon Cemetery and the White Eagle Mine New Mill Piers. When time and staffing permit, an amendment to the National Register nomination will be submitted by Buffalo National River to the Keeper to incorporate the new information into existing documentation.

The National Register nomination employs criteria A, C, and D to support the district's significance. Criterion C, however, appears to be inadequately justified by current standards, as the nomination contains little information on the particular architectural and building traditions represented in the district.

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Rush Historic District
NRIS Number:	87000105
Primary Certification Date:	02/27/1987

National Register Eligibility

Contributing/Individual: Individual

National Register Classification: District

Significance Criteria: A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

Significance Criteria: C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Significance Criteria: D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1885 - 1931
Historic Context Theme:	Developing the American Economy
Subtheme:	Extraction or Mining Industries
Facet:	Other Metals And Minerals

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Engineering
Area of Significance Category:	Economics
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Category:	Commerce
Area of Significance Category:	Industry
Area of Significance Category:	Trade

Statement of Significance:

The properties within Rush Historic District are listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A, C, and D—for their material expression of the history of zinc mining and its associated community life in the Arkansas Ozarks; for their extant vernacular and industrial building types that exemplify the forms of an isolated mining settlement; and for their ability to provide archaeological evidence, in the form of ruins and artifacts, concerning industrial, commercial, and residential life during the area’s historical period. The district’s period of significance, 1885-1931, represents the Rush area’s development from a small and unorganized mining outpost to a bustling employment center containing multiple “modern” mines and mills, as well as its decline from productivity. The period ends the year that the Morning Star Mine, which dominated mining operations in Rush, halted its production. The built and archaeological evidence within the district affords it significance at the local level, for the area’s role in the economic and community development of the Arkansas Ozarks.

Regarding Criterion A, Rush Historic District portrays the story of the zinc mining industry in the Ozarks as it evolved from using crude mining techniques to employing modern methods. The district’s

built environment represents a range of community activities that were brought to the area through the zinc extraction industry, and they embody the area's historical significance as a regional economic and community hub. The success of the Rush mines stimulated industrial development throughout northern Arkansas, providing jobs and development, encouraging immigration, and contributing to the arrival of the railroad, in addition to providing national publicity for the value of Arkansas minerals. The discovery of marketable zinc ore deposits at Rush in the early 1880s coincided with the development of the national zinc industry, as the United States transitioned from its dependence on importing zinc toward domestic production. The Rush district served as the springboard for all other mining camp development in the region. Potential investors first went to the Rush mines to assess the value of the Arkansas mineral; publications about the Arkansas mines focused on Rush, taking many of their illustrations from operations there. The spectacular rise of the mining industry became a catalyst for encouraging railroad access to the region; Rush mine operators provided capital and land to the railroad, which finally reached the mineral lands by 1904. During World War One the Rush mines were the center of the zinc industry in Arkansas. Ten mining companies operated thirteen developed mines within the district, more than any other mining district in the North Arkansas District.

The buildings, structures, and ruins at Rush are the last visible remains of historic zinc mining activity in Arkansas. Of the other mining districts that once stretched across northern Arkansas, only limited debris now marks those sites. Rush is the only area left to retain not only the mines and adjacent mills, but also buildings, structures, and ruins that represent many aspects of mining and community life—including private homes, hotels, commercial enterprises, transportation corridors, and a cemetery.

Regarding Criterion C, Rush Historic District contains buildings and other features that represent significant vernacular architecture within the Ozark region. The remaining houses that line the district's central corridor share several characteristics that express common home environments in the rural Ozarks in the early twentieth century: simple massing and roof forms, vertical board construction, front porches, and stone and wood pier foundations. Other elements—including metal roofs and newspaper insulation—further indicate the vernacular building traditions that emerged based on available and accepted materials. The general store's false gable front is a striking example of architectural specialization based on the building's program within the community. Other significant, visible vernacular traditions include the mortared retaining wall and concrete flower beds that surround the Hicks Hotel ruins.

Regarding Criterion D, the district contains many sites that provide or may provide archaeological evidence of its mining activity and community life during the historic era. Its numerous ruins and mines exist at a range of scales, from small diggings to the expansive mill remains that features piers, tramways, and remnant artifacts. Taken together, these sites represent the extraction and processing stages of the area's zinc, dating across the district's period of significance. Ruins express the size, location, and massing of mining and community establishments (houses, outbuildings, hotels, and stores) in relationship to other buildings and structures. The features found around the mines and mills provide copious information on the operations of the zinc industry; they include pits, piers and footings, pipes, tailings, retention basins, and much else. The district contains a broad collection of remnants that give shape to a significant mining landscape, whose components are no longer consistently intact.

In terms of its integrity, Rush Historic District exists today within the same environment and setting as it did during its periods of historic significance. Nearly as isolated today as it was historically, it has been highly degraded by time. However, the spatial integrity of the ruins has not been marred by the intrusion of modern developments. The ghost town, mines, and waste piles visible on the bluffs immediately set the flavor of the district as an abandoned mountain mining community; the buildings, structures, ruins, and sites in the district exist in the same relationships as they did during the mining era.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function:	Extractive Facility (Mining) - Other
Primary Current Use:	Recreation/Culture-Other
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Manufacturing Facility (Mining) - Other	Historic
Manufacturing Facility (Mill) - Other	Historic
Recreation/Culture-Other	Current

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Rush	Both Current And Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1840 - 1850	Inhabited	General Land Office plat maps indicate a grist mill at Boiling Spring near Rush Creek, indicating agricultural development in the area.
AD 1880 - 1885	Explored	James McCabe, John Wolfer, and Allen Setzer begin mining zinc ore on Rush Mountain. They name their mine "Morning Star."

AD 1886	Built	James McCabe, John Wolfer, and Allen Setzer have a smelter constructed near the Morning Star mine site.
AD 1888	Purchased/Sold	George W. Chase, an engineer from Nebraska, buys an interest in the Morning Star. Several years later he buys out McCabe, Wolfer, and Setzer for \$900 each.
AD 1890	Purchased/Sold	George Chase and associates file a patent on claims covering 1,500 linear feet, believed to be the first "lode claim" in Arkansas.
	Purchased/Sold	Charles A. Mulholland purchases the Morning Star No. 1 claim.
AD 1891	Excavated	Morning Star Company formally organizes on April 11, 1891.
AD 1893	Memorialized	The Morning Star Company ships a 12,750 zinc carbonate nugget to the Chicago Columbian Exposition. Nicknamed "Jumbo," the nugget exhibit receives a gold medal.
AD 1898	Built	Morning Star Company builds a concentrating mill on the hillside below the Morning Star mine.
AD 1903 - 1912	Established	Lee and Alice Hicks establish the Hicks Hotel and begin operating a store.
AD 1911	Purchased/Sold	Morning Star Company is sold, and the firm is reorganized as the Morning Star Mining Company.
AD 1915	Established	Capps Mine opens east of the Ben Carney mine.
AD 1916 - 1918	Platted	"New Town" is platted, and population booms as World War I increases demand for zinc.
AD 1918	Purchased/Sold	Zinc market collapses in 1918, and 1919 the Morning Star Mining Company sells its property in Marion County.
AD 1928 - 1931	Abandoned	The Capps Mine, the last mine operating at Rush in the 1920s, closes.
AD 1930 - 1940	Exploited	Although the mining companies have ceased operation, individuals continued to seek "free ore."

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

AD 1947	Destroyed	The Morning Star Hotel burns down.
AD 1958	Built	The new White Eagle Mill is built and begins operation.
AD 1962	Abandoned	The new White Eagle Mill closes after four years of intermittent operation.
AD 1971	Land Transfer	Land containing Rush and its surrounding mining works are purchased by Donald Willsey.
AD 1972	Established	Buffalo National River is established.
AD 1983	Land Transfer	National Park Service purchases the Rush ghost town and Morning Star mine sites from Donald Willsey and stabilized some of the surviving structures.
AD 1986	Established	Rush Historic District is listed to the National Register of Historic Places.
AD 1998 - 2004	Destroyed	Three buildings are destroyed by arson.

Physical History:

1840-1911

The exact date when settlers of European descent first began establishing farms and homes in the Rush Creek area along the Buffalo River has been obscured by time, but by 1840 the federal General Land Office plat maps recorded roads and other developments in the region. A grist mill apparently was in operation at Boiling Spring near Rush Creek, a sure indication of agricultural development in the area, and a network of roads connected the Rush Creek valley with Yellville, located 14 miles to the north. A zinc mine opened in Sharp County in 1859, but it was not until later in the nineteenth century that speculators recognized the value of the zinc ore deposits in Marion County, Arkansas.

In approximately 1880, a local farmer, James McCabe, recognized zinc ore while walking on Rush Mountain. Along with two other local men, John Wolfer and Allen Setzer, he began a small scale mining operation at the future location of the Morning Star Mine, which contained unusually pure deposits of zinc ore (in some cases, up to 75% zinc oxide) (Huggard 2004, 5-6). The three men paid to have a smelter constructed below their mine in 1886. Anecdotal evidence suggests the men believed the zinc ore had a high silver content, and the smelter was constructed to separate the silver from the zinc. Although silver is occasionally found commingled with zinc, this was not true at Rush. Smelting operations were short-lived, and the smelter itself was relegated to the status of an intriguing local landmark.

Stratton and Mansberger, authors of a 2005 Morning Star Mines survey, discount newspaper reports published decades after the fact promulgating the silver theory. They note McCabe, Wolfer and Setzer had been mining zinc for some time when the smelter was constructed, and certainly knew zinc was valuable in its own right. Regardless of whether the smelter was built in hopes of purifying silver or simply to test the quality of the zinc ore, by 1888 outside investors had been attracted to the area, and mining development began in earnest. George W. Chase, a civil engineer from Nebraska, purchased an interest in McCabe and his partners' Morning Star mine, and a few years later bought them out completely.

By 1890 at least four mining companies had developed sites along Rush Creek, Clabber Creek, and the Buffalo River. Buffalo Zinc and Copper opened two mines, located across the river from each other, the Red Cloud and the White Eagle. The White Eagle was one of the few mines in the Rush area to have vertical shafts as it followed a seam of ore that dipped below the river bed. Most mines in the area were able to access the main ore body through horizontal adits rather than vertical shafting, with mines such as Silver Hollows, Capps, Red Cloud, Philadelphia, and Monte Cristo employing the room and pillar method to open vast interior spaces in the mountains. As Christopher Huggard has explained in his history of the Rush mining region, the earliest period of zinc extraction saw miners blasting and shoveling ore, which, on account of its relative purity, often could be prepared for smelting simply by washing off any adhering clay. Miners had two options to ship it to smelters in St. Louis. Some sent their ore on the Buffalo River, where it was transported by raft (if kept from capsizing) along the White River and then north on the Mississippi. Others chose to send their ore by teamster wagons to Yellville, where they were loaded on railroad cars (Huggard 2004, 7-8).

The community of Rush grew along with the mines. Chase constructed a hotel and boarding house, a livery barn, and store below the mine. Worker housing sprang up along Rush Creek, and the post office moved from an area known as Exeter to Rush and renamed. In 1893 the Morning Star Mine shipped a 12,750 zinc carbonate nugget to the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The nugget graphically illustrated the quantity and the quality of zinc ore to be found in northern Arkansas. Not surprisingly, levels of prospecting and speculation in mine properties continued to rise along the Buffalo. Some prospective mine sites changed hands multiple times without any ore worth noting ever being removed; others, such as the Philadelphia and the Morning Star, continued to expand in response to a steady increase in the price of zinc.

In 1898, when much of the purest zinc deposits had been extracted from the Morning Star mine, Chase and his partners constructed a concentrating mill on the hillside below the mine but above the hotel. The purpose of the mill was to concentrate zinc ore before smelting, by crushing the larger pieces and separating as much of it as possible from other extracted (Huggard 2004, 11-12). The Red Cloud, Edith, McIntosh, and White Eagle mine operators also built concentrating mills in the region.

The zinc boom did not last long, however; the Morning Star Mill proved not to be as profitable as anticipated, owing to a drop in zinc prices or the lack of competition among ore buyers in northern Arkansas. The company closed it after two years of operation. Still, zinc production continued, as the mill was leased to local miners (Huggard 2004, 12). Other businesses opened in the area, such as the McIntosh Hotel associated with the McIntosh Mine and the Hicks Hotel. Lee and Alice Hicks purchased land for the hotel in 1903. By 1912 their business had expanded to include a general store located adjacent to the hotel.



Rush Smelter (NPS 2/2005)

1911-1918

Between 1911 and 1918, the mines around Rush experienced a dramatic further boom in operations, labor force, and zinc sales. After zinc mining slumped at the beginning of the twentieth century, momentum began to pick up again after 1911. Promotional publications announced the easy fortunes made in the Ozarks, with special attention paid to the Rush regions. And while the Philadelphia and Red Cloud mines had been developed by 1911, the largest improvements to the district occurred at the Morning Star Mine after George Chase sold his operation to investors from Pittsburgh, who named their operation the Morning Star Company. They installed new implements in the mines and the mills, where separating process now occurred through a sophisticated series of crushers, rolls, and screens of varying sizes and grades (Huggard 2004, 17).

The Pittsburgh investors' improvements proved wise; in 1915, the onset of World War One in Europe sparked demand for zinc in the United States, as it was necessary to produce brass ammunition cartridges. Between 1914 and 1915, the average price per pound of zinc quadrupled. The high demand for zinc led more outside miners and investors to the Rush area, where an experienced miner like John Conness Shepherd leased a number of mines—among them the Leader, Monte Cristo, Philadelphia, and Red Cloud—and implemented more sophisticated and efficient separating machinery. In terms of mining practices, the Morning Star Mine adopted the room-and-pillar method for extracting zinc, which required fewer men and less engineering yet allowed miners to access the best ore. Following this method, miners would blast and cut through ore-rich deposits and leave pillars from the least rich areas (approximately fifteen percent of the total rock) in order to support the roof of the surrounding chamber. Zinc brought prices of between \$60 and \$80 per ton during the war years, a marked improvement over earlier prices of \$25 to \$35 per ton (Huggard 2004, 17-21).

Prospective miners streamed into Arkansas during this period. The modest town of Rush increased its population from under one hundred to upwards of 2,000 inhabitants. "New Town," a development platted between the mouth of Rush Creek and the Edith Mine, boasted a population of between 2,000 and 3,000 souls at its peak. The population growth outpaced the construction of housing, and miners and their families found themselves forced to use tents and other makeshift shelters (Huggard 2004, 16-17).

Transportation in and out of Rush had always been a problem, with the ore being hauled by wagon or truck along the "Ore Road" that paralleled the river. In 1916 construction began on a narrow gauge railway that would run from Yellville to Rush through the Clabber Creek valley. The grade was completed, but the mining boom ended before any track could be laid. Soon before the war ended, zinc prices collapsed owing to a surplus of mined minerals and lessening demand. The various mines at Rush were among those that closed during the immediate aftermath; they shared this fate with majority of zinc works throughout the United States (Huggard 2004, 21).

1918-1931

By 1920, according to Stratton and Mansberger, the population of Jefferson Township had dwindled to only 344 persons. Occasional mining yet occurred; the Morning Star Mining Company witnessed a brief resurgence in the mid 1920s when the mill was refurbished, but with the 1928 closing of the Capps mine, no formal mining operations remained. Local individuals continued to remove "free ore" from existing mines, which they hauled to a regional mill, but they left the surrounding displaced deposits to fill the mine chambers, rendering them unusable. The days of large scale corporate mining had ended (Huggard 2004, 23).

1931-1972

Free ore seekers extracted additional zinc ore from the abandoned mines; some removed ore from the pillars that carried the mines' roofs, and the chambers ultimately collapsed. In the 1940s, new explorations were made in the Rush mining district by the federal government,

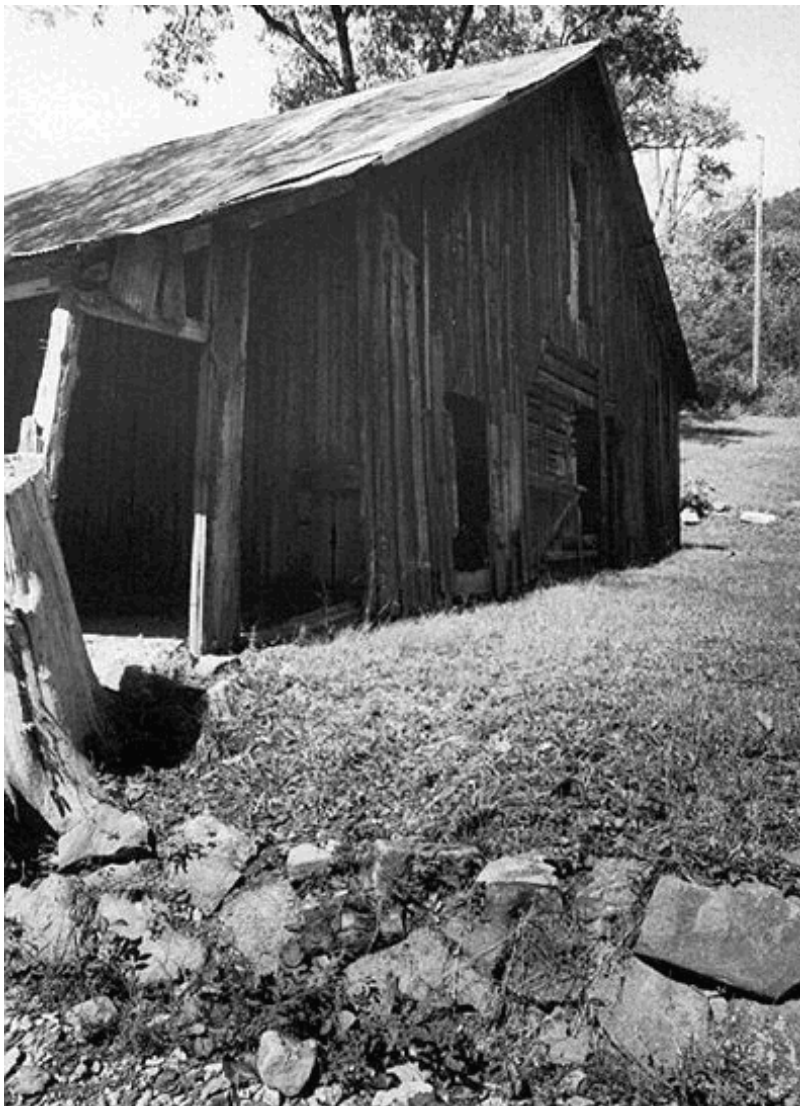
which was interested in continuing zinc mining for the purposes of a national stockpile. In 1942, the United States Army Corps of Engineers bored down in seven locations near the Rush mines to test for zinc content, in spite of evidence that the remaining deposits were minimal. The government did not pursue further mining in the region, and it appears that this owes to the end of the Second World War and the lessened military demand for zinc (Huggard 2004, 24-25). Around this time, concentration mills in the area, including the Morning Star Mill, were dismantled (Stratton and Mansberger 2005, 23).

Over time, residents of Rush gradually left the area a ghost town. Families inhabited the few remaining houses into the 1960s, while the once busy economic center disappeared around them. The Morning Star Hotel burned down in 1947, and the post office at the general store was discontinued in 1953 (Stratton and Mansberger 2005, 23).

In 1958 investors attempted to revive the zinc mining industry at Rush by constructing a new concentrating mill at White Eagle. It operated for about three years, but closed permanently in 1962. (Its facilities and equipment were dismantled and removed in the late 1970s.) Otherwise, no new investment streamed into the region's historic zinc extraction economy, although Rush had begun its transformation into something of a tourist destination as early as the 1950s, when town resident Fred Dirst installed a landing and campground on the nearby Buffalo River (Stratton and Mansberger 2005, 23). Recreation increased, and in 1967 it was reported that the ruins of the town and mining works had begun to attract visitors on account of its desolation and deterioration. In 1971, one year before the establishment of Buffalo National River, millionaire Donald Willsey purchased the over three hundred acres that contained the district's cultural resources (Huggard 2004, 25-26).

1972-2012

In 1972, when the National Park Service founded Buffalo National River and began to collect deeds along its course, four families still resided in Rush. Over ten years later, in 1983, Willsey sold his land to the NPS to be incorporated into the park. Two years after that, the agency made several improvements to safeguard buildings and structures in the district. The remaining houses in town were fenced off, as were some of the mines; the Taylor-Medley Store, smelter, and livery barn were stabilized. The district's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places was approved the following year, in 1986 (Stratton and Mansberger 2005, 24). The district has been maintained as a combination of standing buildings, stabilized ruins, and fenced mine shafts and adits, in order to interpret its zinc mining history for visitors to the park. An interpretative trail with wayside markers was placed leading through the district, and recent improvements include the repair of Hicks Wall in 2000. The NPS's preservation and interpretation efforts have been somewhat hindered by a series of arsons in the district since the 1970. Several structures have been lost, including the Morning Star Barn and Brantley House in 1999, and the Hicks General Store in 2004.



Morning Star Livery Barn as it stood before being destroyed by arson in 1999 (NPS undated)



Brantley house prior to being destroyed by arson (NPS undated)



Taylor-Medley General Store before reaching current level of deterioration (NPS undated)

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The buildings and structures of the Rush Historic District convey the sense of a turn-of-the-century mining operation and Ozarks community. The ruins and archeological sites fill in the community layout and add to the knowledge of historic mining techniques and mining community construction. Despite that many resources in the district are far deteriorated from their states during the period of significance, their relationships to one another and to their original setting remain. The district therefore retains integrity of location, feeling, setting, and association of this once bustling Ozarks mining community.

Location: The terrain surrounding the Rush Historic District continues to limit digressions in layout, and thus roadways and building locations remain as they always have been. Properties exist today on the same sites, within the same environment, as they did during the period of historic significance.

Feeling: Although not all retain integrity as individual buildings, the ruins and sites of the district contribute to the feeling of the Rush mining community. The "ghost town" and the mines and waste piles visible on the bluffs overhead immediately set the flavor of the district as an abandoned mountain mining community. The isolation of the district and the seeming absence of modern life continue to foster a sense of discovery as visitors encounter the area. The ruined state of many of Rush's buildings, in fact, emphasizes the boom and bust history and ephemeral fortunes of the district during its period of significance.

Setting: The buildings, ruins, and other landscape features contribute to district integrity through their spatial relationships within and among mining areas, residences, transportation corridors, and natural resources. Again, the district's isolation and protection from development under National Park Service ownership have retained the character of the immediate physical environment: the hills remain heavily forested, and the river and creeks retain their courses through and along the district. Mining company mills and other supporting buildings still delineate their spatial relationships with mine adits and shafts: they contribute information about their own relationships, identify the extent of the local mining industry, and convey the operations that defined the Rush area during its zinc era.

Association: As a group, the standing buildings show a cross section of Rush mining community life and therefore retain association with the period of significance. The extant buildings and features depict an entire range of activities of a historic Arkansas mining community, from all stages of its development: houses, store, blacksmith shop, and smelter add to the mines' and mills' accounts of the district's history. Many materials are now lost, including some of the district's most prominent structures that characterized the height of its zinc era. Still, enough remain to somewhat convey the mining companies and the life of the town of Rush.

The integrity of the district has been diminished by the dismantling and destruction of numerous buildings. While the ruinous character calls to mind the community that is now long past, the lack of material integrity limits the fullness of knowledge that is expressed about mining life at Rush. Still, the

existence of integrity—in terms of location, feeling, setting, and association—is enough to convey the significance of the Rush district during its period of significance.

Aspects of Integrity:	Location
	Feeling
	Setting
	Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings and Structures

The former residences, commercial buildings, and mines that fill the Rush Historic District comprise the standing, inhabitable evidence of the landscape's zinc-mining history.

Rush's modest, vernacular miners' residences, all constructed in approximately 1899, are built of wood and simple in plan. All but one have only one story. Consistent features among the houses include corrugated metal roof sheathing, open front porches, and pier foundations of stone or wood. The Kastning House is distinguished by its double entry; it is side-gabled, is clad in wood clapboard siding, and has a low-pitched shed-roof rear addition in vertical boards. Wash House is front-gabled and sheathed in vertical boards and battens. It rests on wood posts over stone piers. Bundy House has a hipped roof, as well as side and rear shed-roofed additions. The front-gabled storekeeper's house has one and one half stories, has a side porch in addition to the one on its front, and is clad in a combination of wood horizontal clapboard and vertical board-and-batten siding.

The Taylor-Medley General Store, constructed in approximately 1899, has one story and features a stepped false front, as well as a front porch that spans the width of the building. Plates of corrugated metal cover its front-gabled roof, and it is elevated from grade by stone piers.

The Rush Blacksmith Shop, constructed in 1925, is a one-story, side-gabled building clad in vertical board-and-batten siding. It sits on a poured concrete foundation, and its roof is covered by corrugated metal.

The Rush Smelter, constructed in 1886, is a massive mortared stone masonry structure, measuring eleven feet wide on all sides and fifteen feet tall. A large front opening reveals the central burning chamber.

The district contains several commercial mines underground that were constructed and developed between 1888 and 1920. Those consisting of horizontally-arranged rooms and pillars are visible from the surface by portals in stone outcroppings; vertical mines are apparent by shafts retreating into the ground. Most have now been fenced off or closed by bat gates. Other, smaller digs of various depths are found throughout the landscape, showing exploratory efforts

to locate and extract mineral deposits.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Kastning House (#3)

Feature Identification Number: 108059

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,600	3,998,793

IDLCS Number: 60594

LCS Structure Name: Kastning House (#3)

LCS Structure Number: B2-56H

Feature: Wash House (#4)

Feature Identification Number: 107983

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,889	3,998,787

IDLCS Number: 60596

LCS Structure Name: Wash House (#4)

LCS Structure Number: B2-57H

Feature: Bundy House

Feature Identification Number: 107813

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,605	3,998,787

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

IDLCS Number: 60597

LCS Structure Name: Bundy House (#5)

LCS Structure Number: B2-58H

Feature: Taylor-Medley General Store

Feature Identification Number: 107981

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Fair

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,636	3,998,700

IDLCS Number: 60592

LCS Structure Name: Taylor-Medley General Store

LCS Structure Number: B2-53H

Feature: Storekeeper's House (#1)

Feature Identification Number: 107979

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Fair

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,634	3,998,717

IDLCS Number: 60593

LCS Structure Name: Storekeeper's House (#1)

LCS Structure Number: B2-54H

Feature: Rush Blacksmith Shop

Feature Identification Number: 107973

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Fair

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
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Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

GPS-Uncorrected Area NAD 83 15 538,760 3,998,697

IDLCS Number: 60600

LCS Structure Name: Rush Blacksmith Shop

LCS Structure Number: B2-3

Feature: Rush Smelter

Feature Identification Number: 107975

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
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GPS-Uncorrected Area NAD 83 15 538,747 3,998,634

IDLCS Number: 60599

LCS Structure Name: Rush Smelter

LCS Structure Number: B2-2

Feature: Ben Carney Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107761

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
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GPS-Uncorrected Area NAD 83 15 539,093 3,998,647

IDLCS Number: 60584

LCS Structure Name: Ben Carney Mine

LCS Structure Number: 31

Feature: Capps Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107815

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,445	3,998,439
IDLCS Number:	60585				
LCS Structure Name:	Capps Mine				
LCS Structure Number:	32				
Feature:	Clabber Field Mine Shaft				
Feature Identification Number:	107823				
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing				
Condition of Feature:	Good				
<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,938	3,997,968
IDLCS Number:	60615				
LCS Structure Name:	Clabber Field Mine Shaft				
LCS Structure Number:	B2-16				
Feature:	Clabber Tunnels				
Feature Identification Number:	107825				
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing				
Condition of Feature:	Good				
<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,938	3,997,698
IDLCS Number:	60614				
LCS Structure Name:	Clabber Tunnels				
LCS Structure Number:	B2-15				
Feature:	Edith Mine				
Feature Identification Number:	107933				
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing				

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,322	3,997,607

IDLCS Number: 60589

LCS Structure Name: Edith Mine

LCS Structure Number: 64

Feature: Lonnie Boy Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107943

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,738	3,997,816

IDLCS Number: 60591

LCS Structure Name: Lonnie Boy Mine

LCS Structure Number: 70

Feature: Lonnie Boy Pumphouse

Feature Identification Number: 107945

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,738	3,997,816

IDLCS Number: 60616

LCS Structure Name: Lonnie Boy Pumphouse

LCS Structure Number: B2-17

Feature: McIntosh Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107953

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,771	3,998,328

IDLCS Number: 60587

LCS Structure Name: McIntosh Mine

LCS Structure Number: 48

Feature: McIntosh Mill Area Mine Shaft & Tunnel

Feature Identification Number: 107949

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,520	3,998,372

IDLCS Number: 60588

LCS Structure Name: McIntosh Mill Area Mine Shaft & Tunnel

LCS Structure Number: 49/50

Feature: Monte Cristo Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107955

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,262	3,998,475

IDLCS Number: 60576

LCS Structure Name: Monte Cristo Mine

LCS Structure Number: 79

Feature: Morning Star Mines

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Feature Identification Number: 107963

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,912	3,998,776

IDLCS Number: 60582

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Mines

LCS Structure Number: 28

Feature: Red Cloud Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107969

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,595	3,997,380

IDLCS Number: 60590

LCS Structure Name: Red Cloud Mine

LCS Structure Number: 68

Feature: Silver Hollow Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107977

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	541,773	3,997,445

IDLCS Number: 60577

LCS Structure Name: Silver Hollow Mine

LCS Structure Number: 75

Feature: White Eagle Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107987

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,548	3,998,018

IDLCS Number: 60580

LCS Structure Name: White Eagle Mine

LCS Structure Number: 58

Feature: Yellow Rose Mine

Feature Identification Number: 107991

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,245	3,997,556

IDLCS Number: 60610

LCS Structure Name: Yellow Rose Mine

LCS Structure Number: B2-12

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Kastning House. (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Wash House (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Bundy House (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Taylor-Medley General Store (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Storekeeper's House (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Rush Blacksmith Shop (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Rush smelter (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Approach view of Ben Carney Mine (NPS 2/2005)



Gated entry to the Capps Mine (NPS 2/2005)



Fenced entrance to Edith Mine shaft (NPS 12/2004)



Entrance to Lonnie Boy Mine, seen from across river (NPS 3/2011)



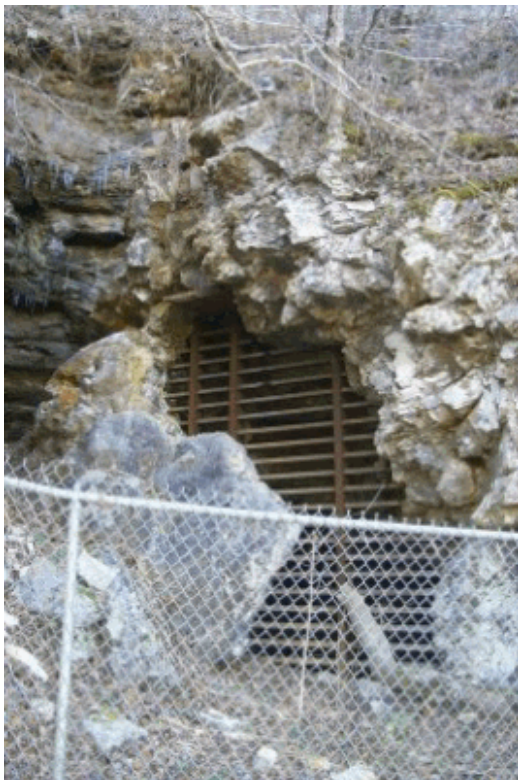
Concrete Lonnie Boy Pumphouse, as seen from across the river (NPS 3/2011)



Entrance to McIntosh mine shaft (NPS 2/2005)



Gated entrance to McIntosh Mine (NPS 2/2005)



Gated entrance to Monte Cristo Mine (NPS 12/2004)



Gated entrance to Morning Star Mine (NPS 2/2005)



Location of two entrances to Red Cloud Mine (NPS 2/2005)



Fenced lower entrance at Silver Hollow Mine (NPS 2/2012)



Entrance to Yellow Rose Mine (NPS 12/2004)

Topography

The predominant, dramatic topographic patterns found in the Rush Historic District are formed by rivers and creeks edged in by high bluffs and rolling hillsides. The valleys of Rush Creek and Clabber Creek are narrow, and the surrounding hillsides are precipitous. The Buffalo River skirts exposed rock escarpments throughout its meandering path. Waste rock piles from the mines and tailings dumps from the concentrating mills form piles large enough to be mistaken for natural hills.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Rush Creek

Feature Identification Number: 108061

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Rush Mountain

Feature Identification Number: 108063

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Clabber Creek

Feature Identification Number: 108065

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Waste rock piles

Feature Identification Number: 108067

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Buffalo River runs near Silver Hollow Mine; note rock escarpment at river's edge (NPS 2/2005).

Archeological Sites

Archaeological sites throughout Rush Historic District form a varied collection of ruins and remains that offer evidence of Rush's industry and community life. All were formerly buildings—homes and zinc processing mills, among other types—that have reached their current states because they were dismantled, destroyed by arson, or deteriorated through neglect and abandonment. The physical decline of the district reflects the dramatic shift in fortune that this zinc mining region has weathered over the past century. These sites may offer further artifacts related to the area's historical period.

Processing mills were constructed alongside many of the mines between approximately 1898 and 1916, are apparent by their extant series of large pyramidal concrete piers. Their remaining superstructures were removed for scrap after the Second World War, once the productive mining period had ended.

Other ancillary buildings that stood near the mine works and supported operations are also visible as ruins, representing a spectrum of deterioration:

Both the Hicks General Store (built in 1916) and the last remaining building in New Town (built

in 1915) are full standing walls of mortared ashlar stone that express their original masses, despite that they have lost their wood frame portions.

The Chase & Mulholland Store (built in 1895) exists as a poured concrete foundation, standing to approximately eight inches above grade, that rings a depression with dry-laid rock walls, perhaps a storage cellar.

The ruins of the McIntosh Livery Stable (built in 1900) exist as a dry-masonry stone foundation footprint; the Morning Star Barn is now a scatter of foundation stones.

The remains of the Brantley House (built in 1899) are its stone foundation piers that once supported the wood-frame residence.

The Pop Campbell House (built in 1900) remains as a collection of rock piers in addition to a mortared brick chimney.

The McIntosh Hotel site (built in 1900) contains remnant dry masonry walls, iron pipes, and a concrete corner post.

A steam-powered air compressor (installed between 1890 and 1920) at the Monte Cristo Mine remains underneath a collapsed metal-roof utility shed.

The manager's house at the Morning Star Mill (built between 1890 and 1910) remains as a concrete pad, sidewalk, and brick chimney standing nine feet tall.

The pumphouse at the Morning Star Mine (built between 1890 and 1920) is a poured concrete foundation that rises two to three feet, ringing two concrete piers.

The remains of an oil storage building at the Morning Star Mine (built between 1890 and 1920) consist of a series of small, concrete support piers.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: New Town Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 154773

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60602

LCS Structure Name: New Town Ruin

LCS Structure Number: B2-5

Feature: Blantley House Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 154775

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 60595
LCS Structure Name: Brantley House Ruin
LCS Structure Number: B2-55H

Feature: Chase & Mulholland Store Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 154777
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 410648
LCS Structure Name: Chase & Mulholland Store Ruin
LCS Structure Number: B2-59

Feature: Hicks General Store Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 154779
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 60601
LCS Structure Name: Hicks General Store Ruin
LCS Structure Number: B2-4

Feature: Hicks Hotel Building Foundation

Feature Identification Number: 154781
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 410654
LCS Structure Name: Hicks Hotel Building Foundation
LCS Structure Number: B2-61

Feature: Edith Mine Processing Mill

Feature Identification Number: 154783
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 60620
LCS Structure Name: Edith Mine Processing Mill
LCS Structure Number: B2-21

Feature: McIntosh Mill Piers and Foundation

Feature Identification Number:	154789
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	60627
LCS Structure Name:	McIntosh Mill Piers and Foundation
LCS Structure Number:	B2-25
Feature: McIntosh Hotel	
Feature Identification Number:	154795
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	60626
LCS Structure Name:	McIntosh Hotel
LCS Structure Number:	B2-24
Feature: McIntosh Livery Ruins	
Feature Identification Number:	154797
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	60609
LCS Structure Name:	McIntosh Livery Ruins
LCS Structure Number:	B2-11
Feature: Monte Cristo Mine Steam-powered Air Comp	
Feature Identification Number:	154799
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	400169
LCS Structure Name:	Monte Cristo Mine Steam Compressor & Shed
LCS Structure Number:	B2-64
Feature: Morning Star Mill Piers	
Feature Identification Number:	154801
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	60622
LCS Structure Name:	Morning Star Mill Piers
LCS Structure Number:	B2-23

Feature: Morning Star Mill Manager's House Site

Feature Identification Number: 154803

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 406805

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Mill Manager's House Site

LCS Structure Number: B2-68

Feature: Morning Star Pumphouse

Feature Identification Number: 154805

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 411291

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Pumphouse

LCS Structure Number: B2-72

Feature: Morning Star Barn Ruin

Feature Identification Number: 154807

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60598

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Barn Ruin

LCS Structure Number: B2-1

Feature: Morning Star Hotel Ruins

Feature Identification Number: 154809

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 410647

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Hotel Ruins

LCS Structure Number: B2-67

Feature: Morning Star Office Foundation

Feature Identification Number: 154811

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60605

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Mining Co. Office Foundation

LCS Structure Number: B2-7

Feature: Morning Star Oil House Foundation Piers

Feature Identification Number: 154813

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 410651

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Oil House Foundation Piers

LCS Structure Number: B2-69

Feature: Red Cloud Processing Mill

Feature Identification Number: 154815

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60613

LCS Structure Name: Red Cloud Processing Mill

LCS Structure Number: B2-14

Feature: White Eagle Mill Piers

Feature Identification Number: 154817

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60621

LCS Structure Name: White Eagle Mill Piers

LCS Structure Number: B2-22

Feature: White Eagle New Mill Piers

Feature Identification Number: 154819

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 400825

LCS Structure Name: White Eagle New Mill Piers

LCS Structure Number: B2-75

Feature: Yellow Rose Processing Mill

Feature Identification Number: 154821

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 60612

LCS Structure Name: Yellow Rose Processing Mill

LCS Structure Number: B2-13

Feature: Pop Campbell House Site Ruins

Feature Identification Number: 154823

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 410655

LCS Structure Name: Pop Campbell House Site Ruins

LCS Structure Number: B2-70

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Coursed, mortared stone foundation belonging to the only remaining building in New Town (NPS 3/2011)



Stone foundation of Brantley House, destroyed by arson in 1999 (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Foundation ruin to the Chase & Mulholland Store (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Remaining ashlar walls of Hicks General Store, destroyed by arson in 2004 (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Piers belonging to Edith Mine Processing Mill (NPS 3/2011)



Dry masonry stone wall; component of McIntosh Mill foundation (NPS 2/2005)



Concrete corner of McIntosh Hotel, one of the few remnants of this structure that burned in the 1930s (NPS 3/2011)



Dry masonry stone foundation belonging to McIntosh livery stable (NPS 2/2005)



Remnants of air compressor and its shed at Monte Cristo Mine (NPS 3/2011)



Series of concrete piers belonging to Morning Star Mill (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Remnant concrete pad foundation, sidewalk, and brick chimney belonging to manager's house at Morning Star Mill (NPS 3/2011)



Remnant concrete foundation to Morning Star Pumphouse (NPS 3/2011)



Foundation stones belonging to Morning Star Barn, destroyed by arson (NPS 3/2011)



Small concrete piers belonging to oil house at Morning Star Mill (NPS 2/2005)



Concrete pier belonging to Red Cloud Processing Mill (NPS 2/2005)



Concrete piers belonging to White Eagle Mill (NPS 3/2011)



White Eagle Mine New Mill Piers (NPS 12/2004)



Concrete piers belonging to Yellow Rose Processing Mill (NPS 12/2004)



Remains of mortared chimney at Pop Campbell House site (NPS 3/2011)

Small Scale Features

Residents involved with the zinc mining operations in Rush Historic District put in place a number of small scale landscape features that express their economic and cultural lives. These features point to the ways these residents moved throughout the landscape, improved their residential and commercial spaces, and buried their dead.

A footbridge pillar adjacent to Rush Creek is made of concrete and rubble stone and stands nine feet tall; it led from the mining works to the Morning Star Hotel.

A retaining wall of mortared cobblestone and ashlar extends over three hundred feet around the foundation remnant of the Hicks Hotel. It includes two sets of stairs, and each is flanked by a pair of columns. Low mortared cobblestone flowerbeds are found near the foundation of hotel, including two elongated rectangular beds that edge the main walkway.

The Laffoon Cemetery contains over sixty grave markers from throughout the area's settlement, including for members of the Laffoon family and for residents of the greater Rush community.

Concrete piers of varying heights indicate the path of a former tramway that moved zinc ore from the mine downhill to the concentrating mill.

Other small-scale features relate directly to mining works, including an iron pipe that extends from the Monte Cristo mine, as well as small mines and exploratory diggings found throughout the landscape.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Footbridge Pillar

Feature Identification Number: 108029

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Fair

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,708	3,998,610

IDLCS Number: 60606

LCS Structure Name: Footbridge Pillar

LCS Structure Number: B2-8

Feature: Hicks Hotel Mortared Flowerbeds

Feature Identification Number: 108031

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,254	3,998,251

IDLCS Number: 410653

LCS Structure Name: Hicks Hotel Mortared Flowerbeds

LCS Structure Number: B2-62

Feature: Courthouse Site Rock Retaining Wall

Feature Identification Number: 108027

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Fair

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,705	3,998,689

IDLCS Number: 410657

LCS Structure Name: Courthouse Site Rock Retaining Wall

LCS Structure Number: B2-60

Feature: Laffoon Cemetery Laffoon Family Grave Markers

Feature Identification Number: 108041

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM Source	Type of Point	Datum	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	542,592	3,998,164

IDLCS Number: 406809

LCS Structure Name: Laffoon Cemetery Laffoon Family Grave Markers

LCS Structure Number: CEM-13-C

Feature: Laffoon Cemetery 19th Century Grave Markers

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Feature Identification Number: 108035

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,600	3,998,793

IDLCS Number: 61526

LCS Structure Name: Laffoon Cemetery 19th Century Grave Markers

LCS Structure Number: CEM-13

Feature: Laffoon Cemetery 20th Century Grave Markers

Feature Identification Number: 108037

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	542,576	3,998,190

IDLCS Number: 406808

LCS Structure Name: Laffoon Cemetery 20th Century Grave Markers

LCS Structure Number: CEM-13-A

Feature: Laffoon Cemetery Field Stone Grave Markers

Feature Identification Number: 108039

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	542,576	3,998,190

IDLCS Number: 406810

LCS Structure Name: Laffoon Cemetery Field Stone Grave Markers

LCS Structure Number: CEM-13-B

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Feature: Hicks Wall

Feature Identification Number: 154717

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,270	3,998,257

IDLCS Number: 101797

LCS Structure Name: Hicks Wall

LCS Structure Number: XXXX

Feature: Monte Cristo Mine Steel Piping

Feature Identification Number: 108045

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,296	3,990,232

IDLCS Number: 400172

LCS Structure Name: Monte Cristo Mine Steel Piping

LCS Structure Number: B2-65

Feature: Morning Star Tramway

Feature Identification Number: 108055

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,869	3,998,720

IDLCS Number: 60604

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Tramway

LCS Structure Number: B2-6

Feature: Hillside Prospects and Digs

Feature Identification Number: 108033

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM
Source

Type of
Point

Datum

UTM
Zone

UTM
Easting

UTM
Northing

GPS-Uncorrected

Area

NAD 83

15

IDLCS Number: 410656

LCS Structure Name: Hillside Prospects and Digs

LCS Structure Number: B2-63

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Rubble stone and concrete pillar belonging to footbridge over Rush Creek (NPS 2/2005)



Mortared cobblestone flowerbeds leading to the remnants of the Hicks Hotel (NPS 3/2011)



Laffoon family grave marker (NPS 2/2005)



19th-century grave marker in Laffoon Cemetery (NPS 2/2005)



20th-Century grave markers in Laffoon Cemetery (NPS 3/2011)



Unmarked field stone grave marker in Laffoon Cemetery (NPS 3/2011)



Two masonry campaigns visible on Hicks Wall (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Steps and pillars on Hicks wall (Jackson/NPS 2012)



Steel piping at Monte Cristo Mine site (NPS 3/2011)



Morning Star Mining Company tramway pier (NPS 2/2005)



One example of many mining prospects distributed throughout the historic district (NPS 2/2005)

Circulation

The varied hill topography surrounding the Rush mining district historically has made access to the area difficult, and it remains isolated. Still, a network of roads, roadbeds, and traces show the circulation paths that traverse the district and connected its mining operations, commercial establishments, and residences.

Rush Creek Road was the major corridor between Yellville and the town of Rush; it ran parallel to Rush Creek, occasionally crossing and re-crossing it. This road has since been rerouted, and the National Park Service widened and graveled it. Older traces along the road's original route are still extant.

A number of other unimproved dirt roads and roadbeds link the separate areas of a mining works, or else connect the mines to one another and to the district's population centers. The Capps Mine roadbed ran between the Capps and Ben Carney mines. The Clabber Creek roadbeds led to other mining areas outside of the Rush district. Hicks Hills Road connected Rush with DeSoto Springs. McIntosh Road connected the mill at the McIntosh Mine with the nearby hotel. The Monte Cristo section of Clabber Creek Road linked Ore Wagon Road to the Monte Cristo Mine. The Morning Star Mine Trail and Morning Star Roadbed facilitated circulation between different areas of that mine, as did the Morning Star Tramway whose piers are extant. Ore Wagon Road paralleled the Buffalo River. The gravel New Town Road served as the central corridor through New Town when it existed, and it continued to the Edith and Yellow Rose mines and mills.

A railroad bed to the district was graded in 1915 but not further developed.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Capps Mine Roadbed

Feature Identification Number: 107819

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,445	3,998,439

IDLCS Number: 60586

LCS Structure Name: Capps Mine Roadbed

LCS Structure Number: 33

Feature: Clabber Creek Roadbeds

Feature Identification Number: 107821

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

Feature UTM
Source

Type of
Point

Datum

UTM
Zone

UTM
Easting

UTM
Northing

GPS-Uncorrected

Area

NAD 83

15

540,728

3,998,275

IDLCS Number:

60618

LCS Structure Name:

Clabber Creek Roadbeds

LCS Structure Number:

B2-19

Feature: Hicks Hill Road

Feature Identification Number:

107995

Type of Feature Contribution:

Contributing

Condition of Feature:

Good

Feature UTM
Source

Type of
Point

Datum

UTM
Zone

UTM
Easting

UTM
Northing

GPS-Uncorrected

Area

NAD 83

15

539,052

3,998,369

IDLCS Number:

60607

LCS Structure Name:

Hicks Hill Road

LCS Structure Number:

B2-9

Feature: McIntosh Road

Feature Identification Number:

107997

Type of Feature Contribution:

Contributing

Condition of Feature:

Good

Feature UTM
Source

Type of
Point

Datum

UTM
Zone

UTM
Easting

UTM
Northing

GPS-Uncorrected

Area

NAD 83

15

539,771

3,998,162

IDLCS Number:

60619

LCS Structure Name:

McIntosh Road

LCS Structure Number:

B2-20

Feature: Monte Cristo Section - Clabber Creek Road

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Feature Identification Number: 107999

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,211	3,998,527

IDLCS Number: 400180

LCS Structure Name: Monte Cristo Section - Clabber Creek Road

LCS Structure Number: B2-66

Feature: Morning Star Mine Trail

Feature Identification Number: 108001

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	539,227	3,998,515

IDLCS Number: 60583

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Mine Trail

LCS Structure Number: 30

Feature: Morning Star Roadbed with Retaining Walls

Feature Identification Number: 108003

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,798	3,998,778

IDLCS Number: 60581

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Roadbed With Retaining Walls

LCS Structure Number: 27

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

Feature: Morning Star Tramway

Feature Identification Number: 108017

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,836	3,998,720

IDLCS Number: 60604

LCS Structure Name: Morning Star Tramway

LCS Structure Number: B2-6

Feature: New Town Road

Feature Identification Number: 108019

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,408	3,997,588

IDLCS Number: 60579

LCS Structure Name: New Town Road

LCS Structure Number: 62

Feature: Ore Wagon Road

Feature Identification Number: 108021

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	542,576	3,998,190

IDLCS Number: 60578

LCS Structure Name: Ore Wagon Road

Rush Historic District
Buffalo National River

LCS Structure Number: 78

Feature: Rush Creek Road

Feature Identification Number: 108023

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	538,649	3,998,679

IDLCS Number: 60608

LCS Structure Name: Rush Creek Road

LCS Structure Number: B2-10

Feature: Rush Railroad Grade

Feature Identification Number: 108025

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Condition of Feature: Good

<u>Feature UTM Source</u>	<u>Type of Point</u>	<u>Datum</u>	<u>UTM Zone</u>	<u>UTM Easting</u>	<u>UTM Northing</u>
GPS-Uncorrected	Area	NAD 83	15	540,790	3,998,549

IDLCS Number: 60617

LCS Structure Name: Rush Railroad Grade

LCS Structure Number: B2-18

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Capps Mine Roadbed (NPS 2/2005)



Clabber Creek Roadbed (NPS 2/2005)



Stone retaining wall and culvert along Morning Star Roadbed (NPS 2/2005)



Concrete pier belonging to Morning Star Tramway (NPS 2/2005)



Ore wagon road near Laffoon Cemetery (NPS 2/2005)



Rush Creek Road seen from Capps Mine (NPS 2/2005)

Spatial Organization

The Rush Historic District is organized into distinct spatial zones dictated by topology and geomorphology. The mines clustered along the band of zinc ore, which ran horizontally approximately 200 feet above the level of Rush Creek until dipping down at the Buffalo River. Processing equipment, such as the concentrating mills, were sited close to transportation routes. The Morning Star Mining Company initially clustered its worker housing up Rush Creek away from the mines. A second cluster of housing was developed with the creation of New Town near the mouth of Rush Creek.

Vegetation

Prior to the mining era, the area was heavily forested with mixed hardwoods. Much of the area clear cut for fuel woods during the mining heyday is now rewilding naturally. In areas where the hardwood forest has returned, deciduous trees such as black locust, southern red oak, silver maple, and hickory form the upper canopy, while mulberry, sassafras, paw paw, and hophornbeam are common in the lower canopy. At ground level, vining plants such as green brier, poison ivy, and wild grape are found. Cane breaks are common along the river terraces.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/26/2012

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The condition assessment made for the district in summer 2012 is fair. Components of the broad cultural landscape are intact, and four aspects of integrity exist. Over the years, however, neglect and drastic human intervention (particularly arson) have resulted in the serious loss of much of the district's built fabric, and a site such as the Taylor-Medley General Store has required additional stabilization.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/01/2006

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Although some features of the landscape have become obscured by vegetation and the natural passage of time, Rush Historic District still conveys a sense of the mining history of the region. The immense waste rock piles, the circulation patterns, and remnant mining structures together possess high levels of integrity in location, feeling, association, and design. Vegetation management would be helpful around sites such as the Hicks Hotel foundation, but using CLI criteria the overall condition of the site is nonetheless good.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Structural Deterioration

External or Internal: Internal

Type of Impact: Vandalism/Theft/Arson

External or Internal: External

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Type of Impact: Flooding

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment:	Preservation
Approved Treatment Document:	Development Concept Plan
Approved Treatment Completed:	No

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

Citation Author: Smith, Kenneth L.
Citation Title: Buffalo River Handbook
Year of Publication: 2004
Citation Publisher: Ozark Society Foundation
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Number: F417 B85 S6
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: Midwest Regional Office Library

Citation Author: Rogers, Suzanne
Citation Title: National Register of Historic Places nomination
Year of Publication: 1987
Citation Publisher: National Park Service
Source Name: Other

Citation Author: Zelnick, Robert Z.
Citation Title: Cultural Landscapes: Rural Historic Districts in the National Park System
Year of Publication: 1984
Citation Publisher: National Park Service
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Number: E160 M435
Citation Title: Resource Management Plan: Buffalo National River
Year of Publication: 1999
Citation Publisher: National Park Service
Source Name: Other

Citation Author:	Stratton, Christopher, and Floyd Mansberger
Citation Title:	Morning Star Mines Survey Documentation: Rush Historic District, Marion County, Arkansas
Year of Publication:	2005
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service
Source Name:	Other
Citation Number:	Contract #R715503RF04
Citation Title:	Determination of Eligibility
Year of Publication:	2005
Source Name:	Other
Citation Author:	Christopher Huggard
Citation Title:	Report on the History of the Rush Mining District
Year of Publication:	2004
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service
Source Name:	Other
Citation Author:	Theodore Catton
Citation Title:	Life, Leisure, and Hardship Along the Buffalo
Year of Publication:	2008
Citation Publisher:	National Park Service
Source Name:	Other
Citation Type:	Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location:	Midwest Regional Office Library

Supplemental Information

Title: Determination of Eligibility, Arkansas SHPO, 2005

Description: Determination of eligibility issued in 2005 by the Arkansas SHPO for a group of cemeteries in Buffalo National River that includes the Laffoon Cemetery



Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council
Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission
Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum
Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center
Old State House Museum



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June 1, 2005

Mr. Ronald R. Switzer, Superintendent
Buffalo National River
402 N. Walnut, Suite 136
Harrison, AR 72602

RE: Buffalo National River, Section 110 Review - H3017(BUFR-HCR)
Buffalo National River Theme Identification Context Studies and Property
Evaluations

Dear Mr. Switzer:

This letter is written in response to your May 5, 2005, correspondence concerning the proposed referenced project. Thank you for providing a copy of the study for our files and review.

We have reviewed the Determinations of Eligibility, and agree that the following properties are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places:

- 1) *Mollie and Valentine Williams Farm (Cash Bend House)* - Tracts 02-101, 02-102, and 02-103.
- 2) *Arnold Bend Rural Historic District* - Tracts 03-103, 03-104, 03-107, 03-108, 03-109, 04-101, and 04-104.
- 3) *Erbie Rural Historic District* - Tracts 11-100, 11-102, 46-100, 46-101, 48-100, 48-103, 48-104, 49-110, 49-115, 50-100, 50-102, 50-105, 50-106, 50-110, 50-112, 50-114, and 51-110.
- 4) *Eva Barnes Henderson Farm ("Granny" Henderson Farm)* - Tract 26-108.
- 5) *Buffalo National River Cemeteries (Adair, Arnold, Brown, Carver, Cherry Grove, Christy, Collins, Hall, Hensley, Jones, Laffoon, Lawrence, Morris, Nars, Old Arnold, Shaddox, Slay, Sullivan, White and Young Cemeteries)* - Tracts 01-127, 03-104, 04-104, 05-102, 11-105, 14-118, 44-108, 49-100, 50-106, 51-110, 52-110, 55-105, 57-104, 59-104, 60-101, 85-100, 87-111, and 88-103.

We also believe that the Missouri & North Arkansas Railroad Bed (Tracts 92-100, 92-104, 93-100, and 93-101) may not be eligible for inclusion in the National Register. In the past, we have talked to the National Register staff in Washington concerning nominating railroad beds to the National Register. It is our understanding that their opinion is that a railroad bed itself does not retain enough integrity for listing in the National Register. It should retain the track or other intact features and we are not sure if the associated bridge abutments and foundations would be enough to make the roadbed eligible.

If you should have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Ralph S. Wilcox at (501) 324-9880.

Yours truly,

Ken Grunwald
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Laffoon Cemetery DOE