



2023 Nomination Form

Each year historic properties throughout Arkansas are threatened by demolition or neglect. Collectively, these properties contribute to the quality of life we enjoy and shape the daily experiences of living in small towns, large cities, and rural areas across the state.

Preserve Arkansas has maintained a Most Endangered Places List since 1999. By bringing attention to threatened buildings, sites, and places in Arkansas, we have raised awareness in communities across the state and contributed to several success stories. This nomination form is your chance to initiate your own story of success.

Properties selected for the Most Endangered Places List will be announced in May during Arkansas Heritage Month and National Preservation Month.

For more information on past Most Endangered Places or to submit a nomination online, visit [PreserveArkansas.org](https://www.preservearkansas.org).

Part I: Place Details

Name of Place: The First Christian Church of Lonoke

Alternative Name (if any): n/a

Address of place: Corner of W. 2nd Street and Depot St, Lonoke, AR 72086

County: Lonoke

Significant dates (when it was built, etc.): Built 1916, listed on National Register of Historic Places 1997

Type of historic place (house, farm, bridge, etc.): Church

Historic Designation

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Listed in the National Register of Historic Places | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing to a Local Ordinance Historic District |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing to a historic district | <input type="checkbox"/> Listed in the Arkansas Register |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Determined eligible for National Register | <input type="checkbox"/> National Historic Landmark |

Not sure if the property is listed or eligible for any of the above? Visit <https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansas-preservation/properties/national-registry> for a searchable database or call the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program at (501) 324-9880.

Part II: Nominator Information

Nominator name: Joe Smith

Title or Affiliation (if any): None

Mailing address: 123 West Street, Notown, AR, 12345

Email Address: noname@sample.com Phone Number: 888-123-4567

Website (if any): None

Relationship to and/or interest in this property: Concerned citizen

Part III: Property Details

Property Owner Type: Individual Corporation Government Other _____

Owner Name: Jane Doe Title: _____

Mailing Address: 123 South Street, Notown, AR 12345

Email Address: noname@sample.com 888-123-4567

Owner's Website (if any): _____

Is the owner aware of this nomination?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Does the owner support this nomination?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
US Congressional District	<u>1st</u>	Arkansas Senate District	<u>11</u>
		Arkansas House District	<u>60</u>

PART IV: Narrative Description

Please answer the following questions in a narrative, not to exceed 500 words.

1. Describe the historical significance of the place. What makes it important to you, the community, and the state?
2. What is the current use and condition of the place?
3. What are the current and long-term threats to the place?
4. What efforts have been taken to preserve the place in the past? What's being done to save it today?
5. Is there local support for saving the place?
6. What would a successful "save" look like to your community?

The First Christian Church of Lonoke is a beautiful piece of Gothic German architecture built in 1916, a rarity in the state of Arkansas. The church is the result of an eighteen-year struggle to find funding to build it for the budding community. It is tucked away on a street corner just a few blocks from the heart of downtown Lonoke, untouched for years and unnoticed. The church has been abandoned for roughly forty years now, and the building is crumbling. It has sustained years of weather damage, flooding, and even vandalism. Without efforts to preserve the building, the memories, and the history of the church, the city of Lonoke is at risk of losing the gorgeous architecture and local importance of the First Christian Church. The restored church could be used as a gathering space for the community, where speakers, meetings, or even small events such as a music performances could be held.

The church is a historic building and has even been listed on the National Historic Register in 1997. In the case of the First Christian Church, it was nominated for its local significance and its craftsmanship in Gothic German architecture, which was described on the application as "the best representative of this type in Lonoke County." The pointed dormers above the windows, the dark color of wood paneling, tall windows, and a height that is still towering without the steeple are all testaments to the beautiful architecture it was nominated to the National Historic Register for.

There is hope for restoration, or at least preservation, of the First Christian Church of Lonoke. It holds a history of the community that while unnoticed should not be forgotten. To successfully save the First Christian Church, measures that respect the owner's wishes but that clean up the church for community use have to be taken. Not only to provide the community with a beautiful place to congregate but also to salvage the history and memories of the First Christian Church.

PART V: Property Summary

Please summarize the property's significance, the threat to the property, and the desired outcome in **200 words** or less.

Without preservation, restoration, or renovation measures the First Christian Church of Lonoke will soon succumb to the damage it has sustained from weather and lack of use. The church is over 100 years and stands as the testament of time that represents the hard work of community members of Lonoke. The builders of the church, building, and community struggled for 18 years to obtain funding for something that they believed in. After difficulties, they were able to build a church that generations of Lonoke residents attended before its abandonment. The First Christian Church is representative of Lonoke's history and strength as a community. To sustain the living history of the building and Lonoke's community, the church needs to be preserved, restored, or renovated.

PART VI: Supplemental Information

Attach at least 10 photographs of the place in its current condition. High resolution digital color images are required. Submission of additional documentation (articles, historical records, historical images) is encouraged to assist the review committee in adequately evaluating the place.

Note: materials will be kept on file and will not be returned to the applicant. Preserve Arkansas reserves the right to use submitted photographs unless otherwise indicated by the applicant.

PART VII: Submission

Email (strongly preferred) one copy or mail 6 copies of your completed nomination (Part I-VI) to:

Preserve Arkansas
Subject: Most Endangered Places Nomination
info@preservearkansas.org
OR
P.O. Box 305
Little Rock, AR 72203-0305

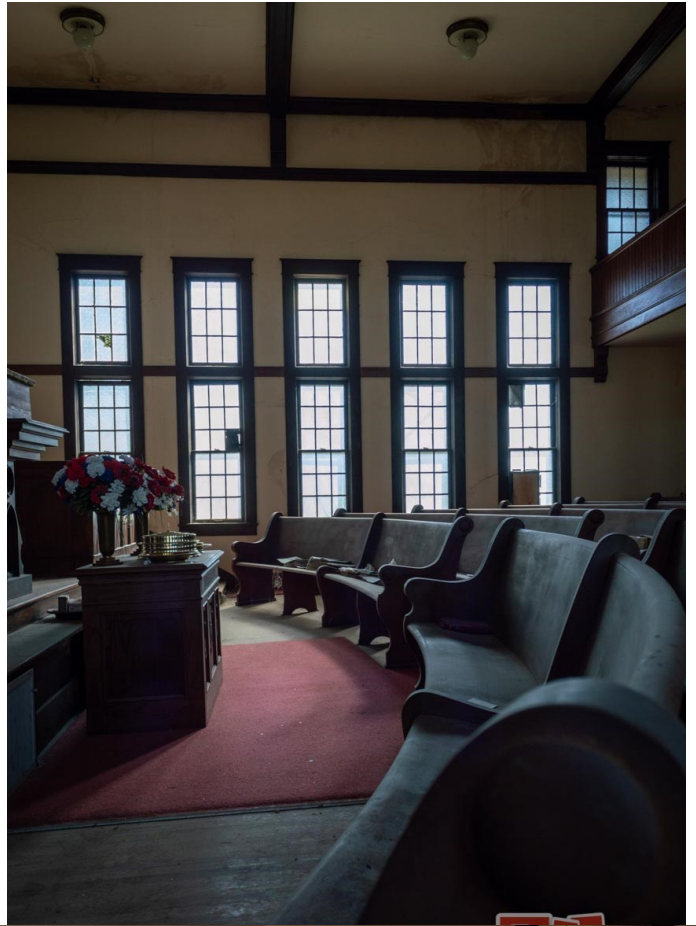
Criteria for selection include historical significance, degree of endangerment, local support, and long-term viability. Please submit a separate form for each nominated property.

All materials MUST be received by March 31, 2023, to be considered for the 2023 list. We accept nominations year-round, but submissions received after March 31, 2023, will be considered for the following year's list.

Applicants will be notified once their materials have been received and processed.

If you have any questions, please contact Amara Yancey at (501) 372-4757 or info@preservearkansas.org.







First Christian Church, Lonoke, Ark.

