



Arkansas[®]

THE NATURAL STATE

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM

1 Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
501-682-7777

Great River Road Division
501-682-1120
Arkansas.com

History Commission
501-682-6900 (TDD)
Ark-ives.com

Human Resources Section
501-682-7742 (TDD)

Keep Arkansas
Beautiful Division
501-682-3507 (TDD)
KeepArkansasBeautiful.com

State Parks Division
501-682-1191 (TDD)
ArkansasStateParks.com

Tourism Division
501-682-7777 (TDD)
Arkansas.com

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GOVERNOR

Richard W. Davies
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DIVISION DIRECTORS

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Greg Butts
STATE PARKS

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KEEP ARKANSAS
BEAUTIFUL

**AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY/
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/
AMERICANS WITH
DISABILITIES ACT
EMPLOYER**

September 4, 2015

Marty Garity, Director
Bureau of Legislative Research
Arkansas State Capitol, Suite 315
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: State Park Property Acquisitions

Dear Ms. Garity:


Arkansas State Parks (ASP) has identified priority land acquisitions at the following locations:

- Jacksonport State Park: A landowner adjacent to the park has offered to donate three (3) lots within the original town of Jacksonport totaling 0.50 acres, more or less. The only costs associated with this acquisition would be approximately \$1,500.00 for an appraisal of the property, title commitment policy, and buyer's portion of closing costs.
- Powhatan Historic State Park: In 2008, 2010, and 2013 ASP contacted the Arkansas Methodist Church organization regarding an interest in acquiring the historic 1874 Greek Revival-style Methodist Church, should the organization decide to cease holding services and close the facility. In 2014, members of the church communicated to ASP that the church would no longer be holding services in Powhatan sometime mid-summer 2015. The Methodist Church organization has offered to donate the building and grounds to ASP to preserve and interpret this important piece of Arkansas's history.
- Hampson Archeological State Park: ASP policy is to provide housing for park superintendents and other uniform park management staff, benefiting our department by having staff on-site or nearby to respond 24/7 to emergencies and increase security for protection of park resources and facilities. Although specific housing has not yet been identified for purchase, existing homes meeting ASP minimum standards (3 BD / 1.5 BR, 1,550 s.f. min.) can be purchased in Wilson or the surrounding area for much less than our department could purchase land and construct a residence.

These proposed acquisitions will protect and preserve the parks' natural, cultural, and historic resources and provide additional recreational and educational opportunities for park visitors. The enclosures provide more information regarding each acquisition and include maps and photographs for reference. Grant funds are available to acquire these properties.

In accordance with A.C.A. § 22-4-106, I am respectfully requesting the Arkansas Legislative Council's (ALC) favorable advice to complete these property acquisitions. Governor Hutchinson has given his favorable advice and I ask that you place our request on the September 25th ACL agenda. If you have any questions or need further information, please call me at 682-2535, or Greg Butts at 682-7743. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Davies", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Richard W. Davies
Executive Director

Enclosures

RWD: jk

Cc: Greg Butts w/encl.
Randy Roberson w/encl.
Jeff King w/encl.

Jacksonport State Park - Proposed Acquisition

Property description:

Two (2) parcels, each containing approximately 0.25 acres, encompassing three (3) lots.

Lots 1, 2, & 3, Block 8, Range 1E, Original Town of Jacksonport, Jackson County, Arkansas.

Purpose:

Acquisition of these parcels would enhance the aesthetics of the park by providing Arkansas State Parks control over maintenance and future development activities of the property.

This property is part of long-range planning efforts to acquire in-holdings of the original town property to create a cohesive land tract for preservation and interpretation of the historic Town of Jacksonport. The subject tract is adjacent to property that is under negotiations and was previously approved for acquisition.

Estimated Cost:

Land is to be acquired by donation. Expected costs will be associated with appraisal of property and closing costs only.

Location Maps:

See Attachment.

Powhatan Historic State Park – Proposed Acquisition

Property Description:

The historic (ca. 1874) Powhatan Methodist Church is an approximately 1,520 s.f. structure located on Part of Lots 2 & 6 and all of Lots 3, 4, & 5, all lying in Block 14 of the Original Town of Powhatan, Lawrence County, Arkansas, and containing 0.34 acres, more or less.

Purpose:

The proposed acquisition is a donation of the 1874 Greek Revival Methodist Church located in Powhatan, AR. ASP currently owns all the historical structures located in Powhatan (with the exception of the Methodist Church) with each structure representing a different aspect and era of Powhatan. The Episcopal Office of the United Methodists of Arkansas is no longer interested in maintaining and operating the church and has offered to donate the building to ASP. It is a significant piece of Arkansas history and is an important addition to Powhatan Historic State Park's interpretation of Northeast Arkansas and the Black River area.

Estimated cost:

Land and historic structure is to be acquired by donation.

Location Map:

See Attachment.

Photographs:

See Attachment.

Hampson Archeological Museum State Park – Proposed Acquisition

Property Description:

ASP is requesting acquisition of property in the area near Hampson Archeological Museum State Park for use as an employee residence by museum uniform staff. Although no specific property has yet been identified for purchase, it is anticipated that existing residential housing meeting ASP housing standards will come available for purchase in the current or forthcoming fiscal year within the Town of Wilson or surrounding area.

Purpose:

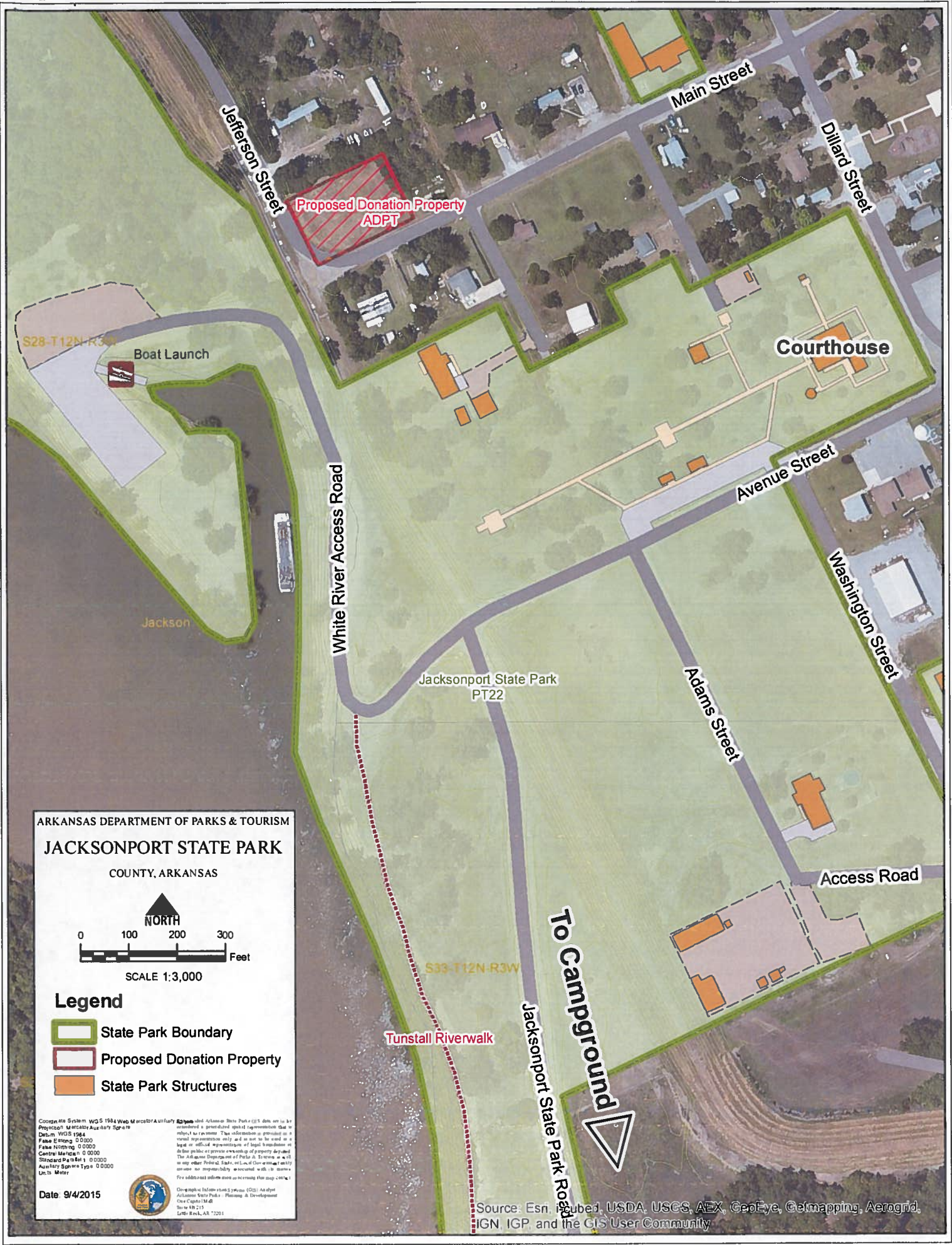
ASP is currently developing, through joint partnership with the Town of Wilson and The Lawrence Group, plans for a new museum at Hampson Archeological State Park. The new 8,460 s.f. building will provide exhibit and collection management space as well as office and administrative functions. In addition, a multi-purpose meeting/classroom is planned to accommodate gathering of school and community groups. Outdoor interpretive features such as representations of a ceremonial mound and village structures to help museum guests visualize and understand the activities and life activities of the Late Mississippian period Native Americans who inhabited what is now Mississippi County, Arkansas from 1400 to 1650 A.D. will also be included. This new facility will support the hiring and housing of a full-time park interpreter, for whom employee housing will be provided.

Estimated cost:

Residential property within the Town of Wilson has, on average, been selling for \$60-65 per s.f. for move-in-condition housing near the planned museum site, which is much less than estimated costs for vacant land purchase and new residential construction.

Location Map:

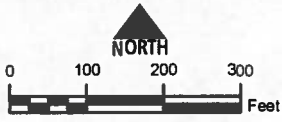
See Attachment.



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM

JACKSONPORT STATE PARK

COUNTY, ARKANSAS



Legend

- State Park Boundary
- Proposed Donation Property
- State Park Structures

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 Web Mercator Auxiliary Spheroid
Datum: WGS 1984
False Easting: 0.0000
False Northing: 0.0000
Central Meridian: 0.0000
Standard Parallel 1: 0.0000
Standard Parallel 2: 0.0000
Authority: EPSG:31466
Units: Meter

Date: 9/4/2015



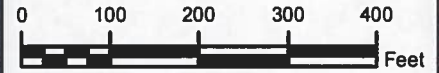
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Source: Esri, DeLorme, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, GeoMapping, AeroGRID, IGN, IGP, and the GIS User Community

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM

POWHATAN HISTORIC STATE PARK

LAWRENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS



SCALE 1:2,600

Legend

- State Park Structures
- State Park Boundary

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 15N
 Projection: Transverse Mercator
 Datum: North American 1983
 False Easting: 500 000 000
 False Northing: 0 0000
 Central Meridian: 90 000 0
 Scale Factor: 0.9999
 Latitude Of Origin: 0 0000
 Units: Meter

All provided Arkansas State Parks GIS data are to be considered a generalized spatial representation that is subject to revision. This information is provided as a visual representation only and is not to be used as a legal or official representation of legal boundaries or defined public or private ownership of property. The Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism, as well as any other Federal, State, or Local Government entity, assumes no responsibility associated with its use. For additional information concerning this map contact:

Date: 7/24/2015



Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst
 Arkansas State Parks - Planning & Development
 One Capitol Mall
 State: 603-215
 Little Rock, AR 72201



1872 United Methodist Church



Arkansas State Parks
One Capitol Mall
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Little Rock, Arkansas
72201

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & TOURISM
HAMPSON ARCHEOLOGICAL MUSEUM STATE PARK
WILSON, ARKANSAS



0.01 0 0.03
Miles

0.01 0 0.04
Kilometers

SCALE 1:2,500

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Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst
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One Capitol Mall
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Little Rock, AR 72201

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
[Proposed Lease]

Part of Lots 2 and 3, and all of
Lots 4-7, Block 2, in the City of
Wilson, County of Mississippi,
State of Arkansas

Existing
Museum
Property

Existing
Museum
Building

Proposed
Lease

Proposed
Museum
Site

Legend

Hampson Museum Relocation Plan

- State Park Boundary
- Proposed Lease Boundary

Source: Esri, Incubed, USGS
the GIS User Community



Powhatan United Methodist Church



Front view (East)





Side view (north)



Rear view (west)



Interior views





Ceiling / Walls



Historic views

