



The Department of
**Arkansas
Heritage**

March 23, 2007

Mike Beebe
Governor

Cathie Matthews
Director

Jason Wilkie
Jonesboro Parks and Recreation
1212 S. Church St.
Jonesboro, AR 72401

RE: Earl Bell Community Center

Arkansas Arts Council

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Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

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Delta Cultural Center

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Historic Arkansas Museum

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Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

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Old State House Museum



**Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program**

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Dear Mr. Wilkie,

Thank you for submitting your Determination of Eligibility application for the Earl Bell Community Center in Jonesboro. The historians on our staff have determined the property potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. As an excellent example of the Art Deco Style and for its association with the Public Works Administration and the New Deal, the community center is eligible for nomination to the register under Criterion A and Criterion C. I have enclosed the necessary forms so you can get started on the nomination.

Please complete **Section 7**, the description of the community center. Although we realize that not everyone has the architectural experience or familiarity with the lingo, please do your best when describing the property. I found it is best to ask you to describe the property to me, as if I have never laid eyes on it before, and you want me to be able to recognize it immediately from your description. If you can do that for me, then I will be able to edit your description, adding in the necessary and appropriate architectural terms where need be. Once again, please refer to the enclosed nominations for guidance with this section.

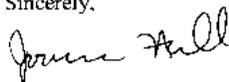
Also please focus on **Section 8**, which is the history of the property. Please write as much as you can on the construction of the building and its importance in the city of Jonesboro. Also because the building was constructed with assistance from the federal government during the New Deal, you could also provide the historic context of Jonesboro during the Depression and the New Deal. This would really add a lot to the significance of the building.

As of January 1998, constituents are responsible for writing, researching, and completing the final nomination forms for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. *Please note:* AHPP will provide the quad map, the 8 x 10 photographs, and the UTM coordinates. However, if you have access to a GPS unit, you are more than welcome to provide the UTM coordinates yourself. Enclosed with this letter are the following:

- A diskette containing a copy of the National Register nomination form. If there are any problems accessing the diskette, please let me know as soon as possible, and I will email you the nomination form & continuation sheet.
 - *Please note:* I have entered in some of the information for you on the first four pages of the document. The items that are highlighted in yellow are the lines of information you will need to provide, in addition to the four continuation sheets. I have provided you with the nomination framework on these four pages, so all you will need to do is place the researched information in the corresponding sections.
- A copy of a completed nomination that can be used as guidance in completing the nomination.
- A copy of National Register manual that will assist you in filling in the blanks.
- A list of deadlines that must be met for the property to be presented to the State Review Board. The next deadline for you to meet is highlighted in green.
 - *Please note:* The “draft nomination” you submit must be as complete as possible, and the nomination itself must be submitted in two formats—hard-copy, and electronic (saved to the enclosed diskette). Without the nomination submitted saved to the enclosed diskette, the AHPP will be unable to assist with editing, and this will dramatically slow down the nomination process.
- National Register Bulletin, *Researching a Historic Property*. This bulletin provides many ideas and locations for possible research material.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact me via telephone at (501) 324-9789, or via email at joanna@arkansasheritage.org. Again, thank you for your interest in the National Register of Historic Places. I look forward to working with you on this nomination!

Sincerely,



Joanna Hall
National Register Historian

Enclosures: 5