

Since 1997, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) has led public tours of historic properties in our state. Called "Sandwiching in History," these tours typically take place at noon on the first Friday of a month—it's an opportunity to sandwich a little bit of history into your day during your lunch break!

If joining our tours in person isn't feasible, you can still be part of the experience online. We try to record the tours and share them afterwards on AHPP's Facebook page and YouTube channel. Stay connected with us virtually!

Our tours typically last around one hour, giving you the perfect opportunity to bring your lunch, if you like, and enjoy a unique learning experience about these historic properties!

All tours start at noon and are free and open to the public.

Past Tour, Jamie Sides, 2024



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# 2025 SANDWICHING IN HISTORY TOURS



Cherry-Luter Estate  
Ashley Sides, 2024

CHERRY-LUTER ESTATE

KOCOUREK AND SON  
HARDWARE STORE

ARKANSAS STATE  
CAPITOL

OUACHITA COUNTY  
TRAINING SCHOOL

ARKANSAS  
MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF  
NORTH LITTLE ROCK



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PRESERVATION PROGRAM

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**CHERRY–LUTER ESTATE**  
(CASTLE ON SCENIC HILL)  
521 W. Scenic Dr. in North Little Rock

This beautiful country estate was built on Big Rock Mountain around 1923 in the French Eclectic style and has become a North Little Rock landmark. The main house is constructed of limestone and features a round tower at the southwest corner. A two-story carriage house, a pavilion, and a natural-stone wall accentuate the idyllic wooded hilltop setting. Named for the first two families who owned it, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992 and is still a private home today.



MAR. 7

*Cherry-Luter Estate, Ashley Sides, 2024*

**ARKANSAS STATE CAPITOL**  
500 Woodlane St. in Little Rock

The Arkansas State Capitol is a majestic domed neoclassical statehouse. By the late 1800s, Arkansas' first State House began to be insufficient for the growing state and its government, so a new capitol was built on the former grounds of the state penitentiary. Construction took place from 1899 to 1915 and was plagued with delays, cost overruns, and scandals. Capitol Commissioner George Donaghey was elected governor in 1908 on a platform to bring the project to completion. Originally designed and begun by architect George Mann, the structure was revised and completed by Cass Gilbert. Home of the legislature since 1911, the capitol has witnessed many important moments of Arkansas state history.

NOTE: This tour will take place outdoors on the capitol grounds. We will not tour the interior. Interior tours are available throughout the year by on-site staff.



MAY 2

*Arkansas State Capitol, Ashley Sides, 2024*

**ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM**  
216 Walnut St. in Texarkana, Miller County

The Texarkana Municipal Building was constructed between 1927 and 1930 in a combination of Art Deco and Collegiate Gothic styles to house city offices and the community auditorium for the Arkansas city. The Municipal Auditorium occupies the towering central bay of the building and was the primary venue not only for local theater productions and piano and dance recitals, but also for traveling music acts, including legends like Louis Armstrong, George Jones, Fats Domino, Johnny Horton, and Roy Orbison. Young Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash played there in 1955 while making names for themselves on the Louisiana Hayride.

NOTE: The auditorium is only accessible via two flights of stairs. We realize this may be a problem for some, and we hope to live-stream the tour online for those unable to attend physically.



NOV. 7

*Arkansas Municipal Auditorium, Courtesy of the City of Texarkana, 2024*

**KOCOUREK AND SON HARDWARE STORE**  
110 E. Front St. in Hazen, Prairie County

Bohemian immigrant John Kocourek settled in Hazen in 1890 and had a huge impact in the development of the town and region. As a real estate land agent, Kocourek promoted Czech and Slovak settlement in Prairie County. Considered "one of the most successful businessmen of the state" at the turn of the century, Kocourek opened a hardware store that operated for a century under the name Kocourek and Son. For decades he was a force in the local business community, directing the local bank, promoting regional agricultural interests, and helping secure the route of U.S. Highway 70 through Hazen. Kocourek's 1906 brick store building, typical of the twentieth-century commercial style, is a landmark in Hazen that recalls stories of immigration, railroads, rice, and regional commerce.



APR. 4

*Kocourek and Son Hardware Store, Ashley Sides, 2024*

**OUACHITA COUNTY TRAINING SCHOOL**  
(F.O. JONES CHRISTIAN CENTER)  
750 Ouachita Rd. 589 in Bearden, Ouachita County

Ouachita County Training School (OCTS) was formed in 1949 by the consolidation of three area Rosenwald schools. Black students were educated at OCTS for twenty years until 1969 when it was closed and its students were integrated into the formerly all-white schools in town, 15 years after the Brown v. Board of Education desegregation ruling. In 1973, the Greater Bradley District Association, an organization of Baptist churches in southern Arkansas, purchased the former school campus as its headquarters and uses the OCTS facilities for a variety of ministry and community activities. The Ouachita County Training School Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2023.



SEPT. 5

*Ouachita County Training School, Ralph Wilcox, 2023*

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK**  
201 W. 4th St. in North Little Rock

The Argenta Presbyterian Church built its first brick building at the corner of West 4th and Maple Streets in 1902. As the congregation flourished, additions were constructed in the 1920s and the church changed its name to First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock. A manse was added across the street in 1927. Then in 1954 the complex was expanded again with a new sanctuary built in a simplified Gothic Revival style by notable Arkansas architect John Parks Almand (best known for Little Rock Central High School). Almand added an educational wing in 1957. The Presbyterian church no longer meets here, and the historic property is being redeveloped through tax credits for adaptive reuse as a wedding and event venue to accompany its sister property, the E.O. Manees House.



DEC. 5

*First Presbyterian Church of North Little Rock, Ashley Sides, 2024*