

CLARENDON MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA  
MONROE COUNTY

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number CL-46

Owner Earge Cole

Property Name New South Inn

Address 312 South Tenth

Address 132-164 Second St

Clarendon, AR 72029

City Clarendon, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1903

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The New South Inn is the largest and most impressive of the commercial structures with pressed metal facades in Clarendon. The bottom floor of the front facing Second Street contains five separate storefronts. The last one on the Southern corner is the entrance to the lobby area. It is recessed, and contains two separate single door entrances with the main entrance on the left with a semi-circular window above it. The other four storefronts have recessed single-door entrances flanked by glass display windows and multi-paned transom windows above. Small pressed metal pilasters are found on the corners of the main building and between the separate stores. The first storefront on the northern corner has its original storefront with three sections of transom windows containing twenty-one panes apiece. The second storefront is altered with the transoms and the display windows covered. It is now a pool hall. The third storefront is original, and has a canopy. The fourth storefront is also unchanged. All the storefronts except the second are now vacant.

The second story facade is topped by a massive raised cornice with a roll of modillions running underneath. Below that are several rows of elaborately decorated pressed metal panels over a row of double hung windows arranged in groups of three. Between the separate windows are single pilasters, and double pilasters are grouped on the corners of the facade and between the groups of windows. The major alteration to the building occurred when the two-story front porch had to be removed after it was damaged in the 1927 flood.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The New South Inn is the last historic hotel left in Clarendon. At the turn of the century, as many as half a dozen hotels operated around Clarendon near the river and the Midland Railroad. The New South Inn was built circa 1903 by Parker C. Ewan when several buildings with pressed metal fronts were constructed on Madison and Second Streets across from the Courthouse. Ewan built both the Inn and the one-story Ewan Building (CL-46) adjacent to the Inn on Second Street around 1903. Ewan was one of the largest land owners in the region with over 79,000 acres and 35 separate farms in five different counties. Parker C. Ewan came to Clarendon in 1857 where he taught school, served as a Captain in the Confederacy, founded the Monroe County Sun newspaper in 1876, and practiced law with Jeremiah Marston and Judge J. S. Thomas. J.

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Survey Number CL-46

Property Name New South Inn

B. James was the original manager of the hotel in 1904, and J. W. Price took over in the 1920's. The hotel was built with two stories. The rooms were on the top floor and shops, a lobby, and a dining room were on the ground floor. The hotel originally had a two-story porch on the front that had to be removed after it was damaged during the 1927 flood. Some of the shops on the ground floor over the years included a pool hall, a grocery store, a plumbing shop, a soda shop, a jewelry store, and a small motion pictures theater. The New South Inn still has its impressive pressed metal front, and has recently gained recognition as the set for the movie, A Soldier's Story in 1983. This recognition has increased interest in the town for restoring and preserving the buildings on Second Street.

Verbal Boundary Description: Original Town of Clarendon  
Lots 3, 4 Block 12

Acreage: less than one

Quadrangle Name: Clarendon, Ark.

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

UTM Reference:

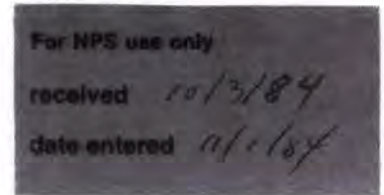
Zone: 15

Easting: 654980

Northing: 3839510

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Clarendon Multiple Resource Area  
State Monroe County, ARKANSAS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Jefferies-Craptree House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Delores Byars* 11/1/84

Attest

12. Manning, Lee and Moore  
Law Office Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Delores Byars* 11/1/84

Attest

13. Marston House Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Delores Byars* 11/1/84

Attest

14. Midland Depot Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Delores Byars* 11/1/84

Attest

15. New South Inn Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper *Delores Byars* 11/1/84

Attest

16.

Keeper

Attest

17.

Keeper

Attest

18.

Keeper

Attest

19.

Keeper

Attest

20.

Keeper

Attest



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

New South Inn (Clarendon MRA)  
Monroe County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. OCT 3 1984  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86  
Date Due: 11/1/84 - 11/17/84  
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11-1-84  
☐ RETURN  
Entered in the ☐ RETURN  
National Register ☐ REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

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## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

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## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*





CL-46 New South Inn 132-164 Second  
HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CLARENDON  
Jeff Lewellen, photographer.  
Negatives at AHPP  
Viewed from the Southwest.

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000024