

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Property

\_\_\_\_\_  
County and State

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

### SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

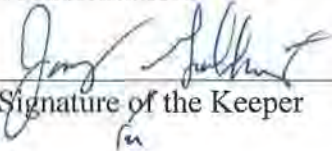
NRIS Reference Number: 14001197 Date Listed: 1/27/2014

Property Name: Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

County: Carroll

State: AR

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

1-27-2015  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

-----  
Amended Items in Nomination:

The nomination is hereby amended to delete **Religion** as an area of significance.

The documentation does not provide a religious context in which to evaluate the significance of the building in the history of religion. Its use as a religious building is not sufficient justification for significance in religion. Function does not equal significance.

The nomination is hereby amended to add Criteria Consideration "A"

The building's significance lies in its use as an educational facility and in its physical form, as a rare surviving example of a late 19<sup>th</sup> century frame church/school.

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The Arkansas State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

#### DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file**  
**Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

Other names/site number: Site #CR1137

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 1.4 miles west of Delmar on CR 933

City or town: Delmar State: Arkansas County: Carroll Zip: 72611

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

<u>Martha Miller</u>	<u>12/3/14</u>
<b>Signature of certifying official/Title:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	
<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<b>Signature of commenting official:</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Title :</b>	<b>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</b>

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

  
Signature of the Keeper

1-27-2015  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION/Religious Facility

EDUCATION/School

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

OTHER/Plain-Traditional

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD, STONE, ASPHALT

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is a one-room vernacular church and school building located in the small rural community of Delmar, Carroll County, Arkansas. The building rests on a continuous stone foundation and has wood weatherboard walls. The building is fenestrated by four-over-four, double-hung, wood-frame windows. The front-facing gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The building's hexagonal bell tower is sided in fish-scale shingles and is covered with the original wood shakes.

### Narrative Description

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is a one-room vernacular church and school building located in the small rural community of Delmar, Carroll County, Arkansas. It was built by Thomas Fancher Sisco Jr who also owned the local sawmill. The mill cut the lumber from 150-200 year old trees that were virgin white oak timber from Osage Valley there at Delmar in late 1870s-1880. The trees used were old and large so cuts would only have wood with no imperfections such as knots.

The building rests on a continuous stone foundation. The foundation is made of native rock with cement added through the years to prevent the rocks from shifting. All four corners have huge cornerstones set in the ground and not just on the ground surface. The building also has wood weatherboard walls. The building is fenestrated by four-over-four, double-hung, wood-frame windows, which are original to the building. The front-facing gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The building's hexagonal bell tower is sided in fish-scale shingles and is covered with the original wood shakes.

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### ***Front/South Façade***

The building's front façade is symmetrical and oriented around the building's entrance, which is located in the center of the façade. The entrance has a pair of five-panel wood doors that have horizontal recessed panels. The entrance is approached by a set of concrete steps. An exterior light fixture is located above the entrance in the center of the façade.

The rest of the façade has no fenestration.

The top of the church is dominated by the decorative hexagonal bell tower. Each of the bell tower's six façades has a lower section that is sided in wood fish-scale shingles. A hipped roof with asphalt shingles is located in between the lower section and the open upper section. The upper section, which is smaller in diameter than the lower section, has a pillar at each corner and an arched opening on each of the six sides. The top of the upper section of the bell tower is covered with a hipped roof that is covered with the original wood shakes.

### ***Side/East Façade***

The east façade is fenestrated by four, four-over-four, double-hung, wood-frame windows that are evenly spaced along the façade. The building's bell tower is located near the south end of the building.

### ***Rear/North Façade***

The rear façade of the building is devoid of fenestration.

### ***Side/West Façade***

The west façade, like the east façade, is fenestrated by four, four-over-four, double-hung, wood-frame windows that are evenly spaced along the façade. The northern three windows are boarded up, but the original windows and frames are located behind the boards. The building's bell tower is located near the south end of the building.

### ***Interior***

The interior of the building is comprised of one room with beadboard walls and ceilings. A raised stage is located at the northern end of the building. A cabinet is located on the stage and the chimney flue is located above the cabinet. An opening allowed the stove pipe to vent into the chimney. Wood pews are located on each side of the building. The original pews are located on the west side of the building while second-hand pews with curling arms from Alpena that were added in the church in the 1950s are located on the east side of the building.

### ***Integrity***

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School has excellent integrity from the time of its construction and use. Changes to the building have been minor over the years. In the 1950s, the original student desks with ink wells were removed, and in the 1960s a handrail for the front steps and door was installed. In 1983 or 1984, due to a major storm, a very large oak tree on the south side of the building fell on the roof, the side of the structure, and the bell tower. Shims and braces were put in place to repair and strengthen the 2x6 ceiling beams under the bell tower and

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in the center of the structure. In addition, floor to ceiling 4x4 pillars were added inside the church to support the ceiling and bell tower beams. Also, although some of the windows have been boarded up, the windows exist under the boards. The setting around the building also retains the rural feel that it would have had at the time of its construction. The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School still remains an excellent intact example of a late-nineteenth-century church and school.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years



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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

RELIGION  
EDUCATION  
ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

c.1880-1965  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

c.1880  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Thomas Fancher Sisco Jr., Builder  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with the religious and educational life of the Delmar community. From the time of its construction c.1880 until 1945, the building served as the school for the Delmar Community and it remained the community's church until 1969. Church and school buildings were the center of rural communities across Arkansas, and the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School was no exception.

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of a one-room vernacular church and school building. The building is an unaltered example of the building type that was once common throughout the state. The decorative hexagonal bell tower gives the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School a level of decoration that was not commonly found on these buildings, and it remains in a remarkable state of preservation today.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### **HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY**

##### **Brief History of Delmar, Carroll County, AR**

The Osage and Delmar communities were and are located in the far southeast corner of Carroll County.<sup>1</sup> Both are very close to the county lines of Boone and Newton counties. In the early 1800s all three of these counties were all one — Carroll County.<sup>2</sup> Not only are these counties connected historically, so are the many early families that settled them.

*Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*, calls "the Osage" Osage River because it was the third largest river in Arkansas at that time.<sup>3</sup> Today it is much smaller in the Osage and Delmar areas due to dams that have been built over the years. It is now called Osage Creek and, in some places along its historic path, it is only a trickle during dry times. Family stories through the generations have called it "The Old Osage."<sup>4</sup> Today, unlike in years past, businesses no longer thrive on its banks and residents and their children no longer fish in its waters.<sup>5</sup>

According to the accounts in *Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*, the first settlers in Osage Valley are still family names prominent today. The earliest listed were, "William

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<sup>1</sup> Information on Delmar from <http://carrollcountyar.com/delmar.php>.

<sup>2</sup> Carroll County Historical and Genealogical Society and Jim Lair. *An Outlander's History of Carroll County, Arkansas: 1830-1983*. Marceline, MO: Walsworth Pub. Co., 1983, pp. 170-172.

<sup>3</sup> *Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*. Reprint of the Carroll County Section of the Goodspeed Publishing Company's Northwest Arkansas History, Tucson, AZ: A Plus Printing Company, p. 3.

<sup>4</sup> Anecdotal Account as told to Alice Lewis by mother, Zillie Gibbs Armstrong Keith, born and raised on Gaither Mountain Gibbs farm above Delmar.

<sup>5</sup> *Carroll County Historical Quarterly*, June 2014, Vol. LIX, No. 2, p. 19.

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Sneed and his son, Charles Sneed in the spring of 1830. They located a claim embracing several thousand acres of the best land on the Osage River.”<sup>6</sup>

Following among the earliest settlers “on the head waters of the Osage River were James Fancher, J.F. Sisco and James M. Kenner. This community was first named ‘Fairview’ by J.F.Sisco in approximately 1838. It was J.F. Sisco that rolled the first house on trucks drawn by oxen from a point several hundred yards distant. Sisco & Bro. were the first merchants. The town in 1889 was comprised of four residences, the general store of Frank Shubert, two drug stores of Drs. Poynor and the school house. The post office was known as Osage. There were two lodges in 1889 of Masons and Odd Fellows.”<sup>7</sup>

J.F. Sisco was one of the first to settle in the Osage Valley. Thomas F. Sisco Sr. appears to be his son. However, in 1889 Goodspeed’s, research could not confirm that.<sup>8</sup> According to the family history entries in the Carroll County Historical book, it appears that Thomas Fancher Sisco, Sr., was involved in the establishment of Osage as was his son Granville F. Sisco. Thomas Fancher Sisco, Jr., was the tenth child of T.F. Sisco, Sr., and actually established the community of Delmar further east from Osage but still on the Osage River. He started the businesses so many families depended on for many years in the Delmar area.<sup>9</sup>

The Delmar area in the Osage Valley provided rich farmland along the Osage River but also served many families and their farms up on the mountain northeast, just above Delmar along what families call the Delmar/Capps Road; it was once a thriving, alive area for many families and generations.<sup>10</sup> Thomas Fancher Sisco, Jr built his home on the hill overlooking his businesses, his farming fields spread behind Delmar and along the Osage River. In Delmar he had the general store, post office, gristmill, sawmill, and the blacksmith shop.<sup>11</sup>

All of this land was owned by the Sisco family in the early to mid-1800s and, minus the land for the Shady Grove Delmar structure which was deeded over to Carroll County School District #26 in 1923,<sup>12</sup> is still owned by later generations of Siscos today.

Thomas Fancher Sisco, Jr., was called “Miller Tom” because he owned the mills in Delmar. He learned his trades for being a farmer, miller and merchant from his father, Thomas Fancher Sisco, Sr. Just as his father and grandfather, Will Sisco later took over the family businesses in

<sup>6</sup> *Goodspeed’s History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*. Reprint of the Carroll County Section of the Goodspeed Publishing Company’s Northwest Arkansas History, Tucson, AZ: A Plus Printing Company, p. 6.

<sup>7</sup> *Goodspeed’s History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*. Reprint of the Carroll County Section of the Goodspeed Publishing Company’s Northwest Arkansas History, Tucson, AZ: A Plus Printing Company, pp. 6-9 and 41.

<sup>8</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, p. 548.

<sup>9</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, p. 548.

<sup>10</sup> Federal U.S. Census, 1860, 1870, 1880; Anecdotal accounts as told by Granville Gibbs to son Alvin Gibbs and grandson, Cecil Gibbs and told to Alice Lewis by mother Zillie Gibbs Armstrong Keith.

<sup>11</sup> Anecdotal accounts and onsite visits with Cecil Gibbs showing locations of all Sisco businesses and properties.

<sup>12</sup> Carroll County Deed Records, County Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse, Berryville, AR, Book 44, p. 366.

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Delmar. He built a canning factory as well.<sup>13</sup> On March 24, 1909, the US Postal Service, certified the Delmar Post Office with Will's wife, Vonie Sisco, as the postmaster. The Post Office of Delmar served the community until mail service was moved to Harrison in 1956.<sup>14</sup>

There are family stories through generations that Delmar was also a gathering place for the community to eat meals, have music with fiddles, guitars, singing and to put down boards on the ground to make a dance floor to dance Irish jigs and clogging. In looking at the satellite view of Delmar, it is clear the old triangle and hub of roads, would have been a center for many families and multiple communities to have gathered there.<sup>15</sup> So, given those times in our national history, a church and school would have been a natural addition to this thriving, close-knit and intertwined community.

### History of Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

Based on all research, including evaluations by experts at Shiloh Museum and an architectural historian from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, this building is classified definitively as a church which, to quote both experts, was also used as a school.<sup>16</sup> Evaluations of the structure and property do not need to determine for fact whether it was used in its first activity as a church service or a school class session. In reality, there are no known factual records from the late 1880s to 1900 to say what type of gathering was the first in the newly constructed church building.

The second wife of Thomas Fancher Sisco, Jr., was Cynthia Ann Armer Sisco. According to the book, *Carroll County Historical Society: These Were the First: Vol. I*, "she was widely known for her strong devotion to her Christian faith. She was a Baptist and was diligent to ensure that her entire family attended church at Shady Grove Delmar every Sunday." This family history can be translated that she wanted to diligently attend church and was determined that her children be raised in the church. Her children also attended school at Shady Grove Delmar.<sup>17</sup>

The family history indicating that because the Siscos owned both the land where Shady Grove Delmar was built and the saw mill for the lumber required, points to the approximate timeframe that it was built approximately between 1878 and 1880 (no later than 1884 when the first born, Will, was school age).<sup>18</sup> It is possible, though not confirmed by facts, that the bell tower could

<sup>13</sup> Anecdotal accounts as told to Alice Lewis, daughter of Zillie Gibbs Armstrong Keith and niece of Eliza Gibbs Bell; as told to Cecil Gibbs, son of Claude Alvin Gibbs and grandson of Granville Gibbs.

<sup>14</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, pp. 548-549.

<sup>15</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, William and Vonie Sisco, pp. 549-550; anecdotal accounts told to Alice Lewis by Zillie Gibbs Armstrong Keith.

<sup>16</sup> *Ozark Mountaineer*, August/September, 2000, Vol. 48, No. 4; *Arkansas Scrapbook*, Shady Grove Delmar structure, served by Carroll Electric; copy from Carroll County Historical Museum files.

<sup>17</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, p. 549.

<sup>18</sup> Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First*, Vol. I, 1991, p. 549.



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have been added with the large forged bell closer to 1900, as some experts have estimated.<sup>19</sup> It is believed by local families that the bell was made in Philadelphia, although it has not been confirmed. It is known that there appears to be a "No. 26" forged on the arm of the bell. Cecil Gibbs adds that "the opening in the church ceiling to allow full view of the bell tower has always been there. There used to be a rope from the bell down through the opening so the bell could be rung from inside the building." He did add "that if someone rang the bell too hard, the bell would flip upside down and someone would have to climb into the bell tower to fix it." He did not say if he was one of the young men who had the honor of climbing into the bell tower.

Anecdotal history has ancestors from many families including, but not limited to, the Fancher, Sisco (perhaps even the mother, a Sisco, of Helen Gurley Brown), Binam, Gibbs, Bell, Fultz, Smith, and Sneed plus many other familiar families attending school and church at Shady Grove Delmar. Unfortunately, the actual early records of attendance for the school or church have not been found, therefore, only family oral history is available. Old photographs of two school classes and one of a church congregation<sup>20</sup> plus records of a class list of students from 1939 do exist. The 1939 class list was printed in the "Carroll County Historical Society, Quarterly December 2008."<sup>21</sup> A collective memory from families does provide a few names of teachers who taught in the early 1900s: Ethel Fancher, Lucy Sisco, Russell Sisco, and Bryan Sisco<sup>22</sup> (familiar names all of prominent families reaching back to the 1830s).<sup>23</sup>

In 1923 the entire remaining Sisco family signed and deeded the land for the Shady Grove Church and Schoolhouse plus the Cemetery to Carroll County, School District #26.<sup>24</sup> Shady Grove Delmar School continued until the end of the school year of 1945 and<sup>25</sup> the last church service was preached by Rev. J.E. Stanhill for \$6.00, on September 14, 1969.<sup>26</sup>

Even after all formal church or school activities were no longer held in the building, many families continued to gather there on Memorial Day every year to bring pot luck and cookout meals, decorate graves in the cemetery, continue the community closeness and to work together to maintain the building and the property. This tradition began to fade as some moved out of the area, were no longer able to come and passed away. The long tables built specifically to have the meals and gatherings, were eventually moved into the church building to preserve them from the

<sup>19</sup> *Ozark Mountaineer*, August/September, 2000, Vol. 48, No. 4.

<sup>20</sup> Photos found or given by ancestors of Gibbs, Bell, Binam, Sisco families.

<sup>21</sup> *Carroll County Historical Quarterly*, December 2008, School District #26, Shady Grove Delmar School Enumerations, 1939.

<sup>22</sup> Binam ancestor Helena Warren McNair, student at Shady Grove School in 1920s; Cecil Gibbs son of Alvin Gibbs, student in early 1900s.

<sup>23</sup> *Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*. Reprint of the Carroll County Section of the Goodspeed Publishing Company's Northwest Arkansas History, Tucson, AZ: A Plus Printing Company, p. 9.

<sup>24</sup> Carroll County Deed Records, County Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse, Berryville, AR, Book 44, Page 366.

<sup>25</sup> *Arkansas Scrapbook*, Shady Grove Delmar structure, served by Carroll Electric; copy from Carroll County Historical Museum files; no published date.

<sup>26</sup> Shady Grove Cemetery Committee, Judy Epley, per Committee Log Book dated from September 14, 1969, to date.



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weather.<sup>27</sup> This gathering did spawn a Cemetery Committee and group of people to care for, maintain, and record all that was done. The upkeep is recorded in a ledger by the Cemetery Committee kept by a Shady Grove Committee member and Secretary of the Shady Grove Cemetery Committee, Judy Epley.

Although the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is no longer used on a regular basis, the building is an important part of the community's past. Shady Grove Delmar has been loved and well cared for through the generations until many began to leave the area or passed on. However, in June 2014, current local residents who had heard through the grapevine that people were working to restore Shady Grove Delmar, have offered help in restoring the church. The building would have been a very important part of the community's social life. In addition, the building remains a great example of a late-nineteenth-century rural church and school.

### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROPERTY

When it came to rural communities in Arkansas, the church and the school were often the center of the community's activities. Such was the case with the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School. Given the size of the Delmar community, the church and school was an important part of the community. Since its construction c.1880 until it was closed, the school would have been the only school in the area serving the students in the Delmar area, so the school was an integral part of the area's education system. The building was also important to the area's religious life. The building was the Delmar community's church which meant, especially in a small community like Delmar, that it was the centerpiece of the community's religious life. The importance of the building in the community was also noted in *The Ozark Mountaineer* magazine, which stated that "Many people from the area have fond memories of the school and church, which has become something of an area landmark."<sup>28</sup> As a result, due to its associations with and importance in the religious and educational life of the Delmar community, the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A**.

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is also important as a virtually unaltered example of a late-nineteenth-century vernacular rural church and school. The importance of the building was noted by former architectural historian at the University of Arkansas, Cy Sutherland, who noted that "the building is a splendid example of the basic rural frame church. The bell tower is a real labor of love: a two-tiered hexagon with arched openings for the passage of bell sound. The lower hexagon is sheathed with shaped shingles. The bell tower alone states a genuine desire to express the religious vigor of the congregation." In addition, in preparation for an exhibit of Arkansas churches by the Shiloh Museum in Springdale, reporter Abby Burnett, noted in 1999 that "The next church I found was Shady Grove, and it was an absolute delight. For one thing, it had a six-sided bell tower that looked practically like a lighthouse atop the white

<sup>27</sup> Anecdotal accounts and photos by Earlene and Cecil Gibbs and Judy Epley. Families and ancestors of families represented from 1940s through 2000s: Binam, Bell, Gibbs, McNair, Sisco, Fancher, Slate, Ogier (Binam line), Nichols (Sisco line), Underdown (Johnson line), Allred, Alford, Fultz, Sims, Smith, Warren, Woodworth (Binam line), Shackelford, Taylor, Miller, Moore (Binam line), Bishop, Plumlee and others.

<sup>28</sup> *Ozark Mountaineer*, August/September, 2000, Vol. 48, No. 4.

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County and State

building. ...Certain churches and churchyards keep drawing me back. I've returned to Shady Grove...to take more pictures..."<sup>29</sup>

The Shady Grove Delmar Church and School is an outstanding example of the building type in Carroll County. The hexagonal bell tower is unique in the area, and the lack of major alterations to the building make it an important example of a late-nineteenth-century church and school. As a result, the Shady Grove Delmar Church and school is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of a one-room vernacular church and school building.

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<sup>29</sup> Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR, copy of original notes of Abby Burnett, freelance reporter/photographer, March and April 1999.

Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)  
Anecdotal Accounts from family members who themselves or their ancestors attended Shady Grove Delmar either in church and/or school at any time in its history plus the families who over the years attended the Memorial Day community gatherings at the church and cemetery.

Carroll County Historical and Genealogical Society and Jim Lair. *An Outlander's History of Carroll County, Arkansas: 1830-1983*. Marceline, MO: Walsworth Pub. Co., 1983.

*Arkansas Scrapbook*, Shady Grove Delmar structure, served by Carroll Electric; copy from Carroll County Historical Museum files; no published date.

Carroll County Assessor Record & Aerial Photos.

Carroll County Deed Records, County Clerk, Carroll County Courthouse, Berryville, AR, Book 44, Page 366.

Carroll County Historical & Genealogical Society accounts in *Carroll County Families: These Were the First, Vol. I*, 1991.

*Carroll County Historical Quarterly*, December 2008, School District #26, Shady Grove Delmar School Enumerations, 1939.

Federal U.S. Census Records, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900.

*Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas 1889*. Reprint of the Carroll County Section of the Goodspeed Publishing Company's Northwest Arkansas History, Tucson, AZ: A Plus Printing Company.

Information on Delmar found at <http://carrollcountyar.com/delmar.php>.

Original deed transfer from Sisco Family to Carroll County School District #26.

*Ozark Mountaineer*, August/September, 2000, Vol. 48, No. 4.

Shady Grove Cemetery Committee Chair, Judy Epley, per Committee Book dated from September 14, 1969, to present.

Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR, copy of original notes of Abby Burnett, freelance reporter/photographer, March and April 1999.

Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR; Cecil & Earlene Gibbs, Springdale, AR; Shady Grove Delmar Cemetery Committee

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** CR1137

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreeage of Property** Less than one acre.

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_  
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 36.164221 | Longitude: -93.353074 |
| 2. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 3. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |
| 4. Latitude:           | Longitude:            |

**Or**  
**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 468245 | Northing: 4002220 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Beginning at UTM point 15/468213/4002235 on the eastern edge of County Road 933, proceed southeasterly for 190 feet to UTM point 15/468271/4002230, thence proceed southerly for 205 feet to UTM point 15/468265/4002169, thence proceed northwesterly for 120 feet to the eastern edge of County Road 933 at UTM point 15/468234/4002180, thence proceed northwesterly along the eastern edge of County Road 933 to the point of beginning.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the land historically associated with the Shady Grove Delmar Church and School.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Kyla Lewis (Tulsa, OK), edited by Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register and Survey Coordinator

organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

street & number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500



Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72201

e-mail: ralph@arkansasheritage.org

telephone: (501) 324-9787

date: October 6, 2014

Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property: Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

City or Vicinity: Delmar vic.

County: Carroll County

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Travis Ratermann

Date Photographed: September 4, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

1 of 10 . West façade, looking northeast.

2 of 10 . Detail of the bell tower, looking northeast.

3 of 10 . Detail of a window, looking east.

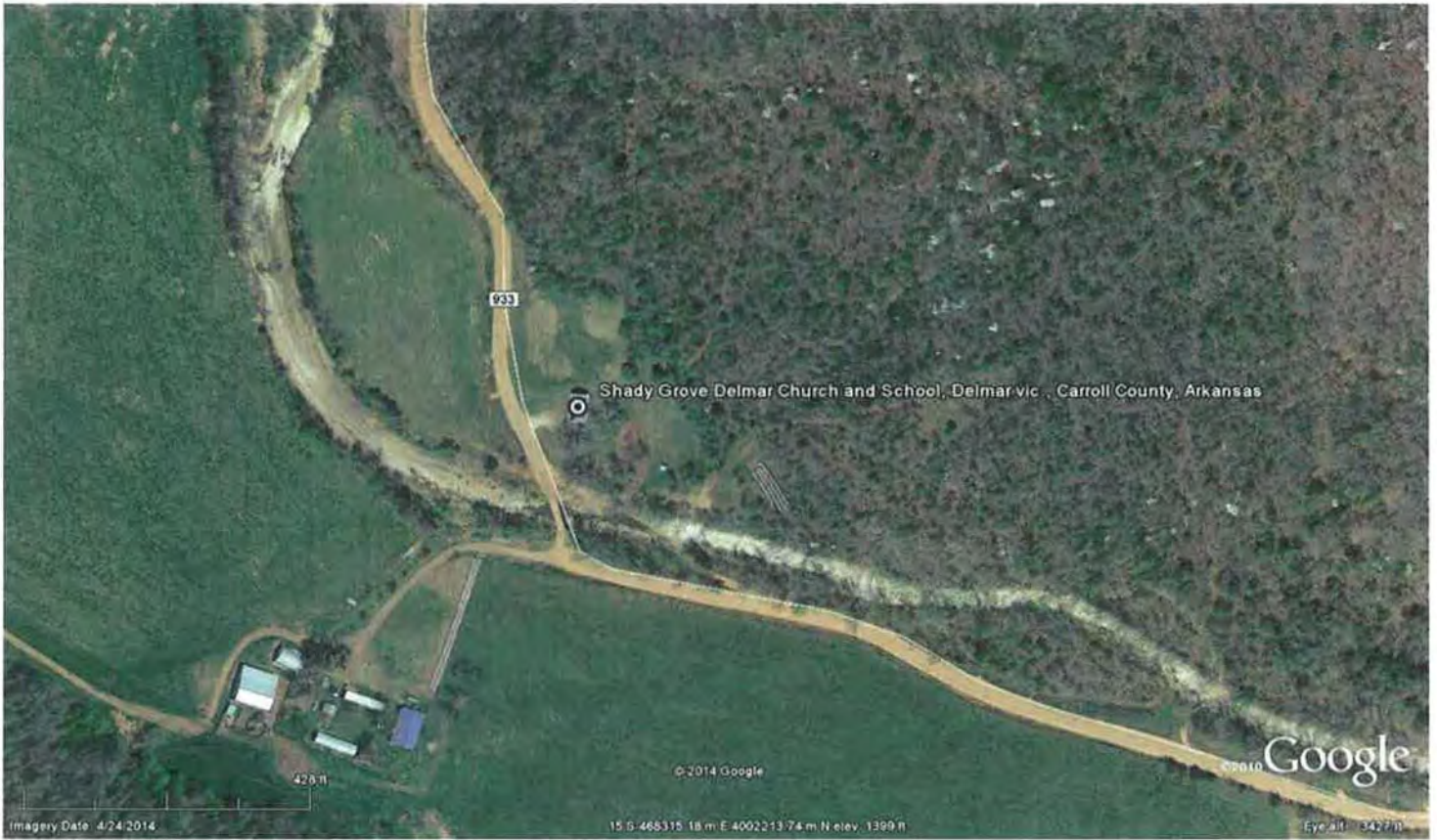
Shady Grove Delmar Church and School  
Name of Property

Carroll County, AR  
County and State

- 4 of 10 . South façade, looking northwest.
- 5 of 10 . South and east façades, looking northwest.
- 6 of 10 . Front entrance detail, looking north.
- 7 of 10 . East façade, looking southwest.
- 8 of 10 . North façade, looking southwest.
- 9 of 10 . North and west façades, looking southeast.
- 10 of 10 . Interior, looking north.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

Delmar vic., Carroll County, Arkansas

|-----428'-----|



North

WG584

36.164221

-93.353074





Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

Delmar vic., Carroll County, Arkansas

|-----147'-----|



North

WGS84

36.164221

-93.353074











































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Shady Grove Delmar Church and School

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Carroll

DATE RECEIVED: 12/12/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/21/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/05/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/27/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001197

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 1-27-2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Intact Rural church/school - Center of local educational activities throughout late 19th Early 20th centuries. Very good & intact example of Bldg type Meets criteria Consideration A

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A&C

REVIEWER J. Crabtree DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS  
**HERITAGE**

December 3, 2014



Mike Beebe  
*Governor*

Martha Miller  
*Director*

Ms. Carol Shull  
Chief of Registration  
United States Department of the Interior  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
8th Floor  
1201 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Shady Grove Delmar Church and School – Delmar vic.,  
Carroll County, Arkansas

- 
- Arkansas Arts Council
  - Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission
  - Delta Cultural Center
  - Historic Arkansas Museum
  - Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
  - Old State House Museum
- 

Dear Ms. Shull:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Martha Miller  
State Historic Preservation Officer

MM:rsw

Enclosure



Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program



323 Center Street, Suite 1500  
Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-9880  
fax: (501) 324-9184  
tdd: 711

e-mail:  
[info@arkansaspreservation.org](mailto:info@arkansaspreservation.org)  
website:  
[www.arkansaspreservation.com](http://www.arkansaspreservation.com)

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