

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

OCT 28 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1. Name of Property

historic name: Woodland Courts

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: NW. of int. of Dawson Rd. & Old CC Rd.

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Hardy

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Sharp code: AR 135 zip code: 72542

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: District

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>10</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>10</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

=====

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

=====

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Byrd
Signature of certifying official

10-22-92
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

=====

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
_____ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
_____ other (explain): _____

Entered in the
National Register

Delores Byrd 11/27/92

for Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

=====

Historic: Domestic

Sub: Hotel

Current : Domestic

Sub: Hotel

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Other: Plain Traditional
Craftsman

Materials: foundation concrete/stone roof asphalt
walls stone other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1938

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Woodland Courts is an ensemble of ten tourist court cabins built c. 1938 in a simple, Plain Traditional manner with some vestiges of the Craftsman style. The ten cabins are arranged in a U-shaped configuration with the open end facing east. Four cabins compose the southern row, with five on the northern row, and one cabin on the west end linking the two. Each cabin is constructed of a wood frame with a flagstone veneer applied to the exterior. Although the foundation is obscured by the flagstone veneer, one might assume that the material is concrete based on the concrete steps present in front of the doorways of each cabin. Gable-on-hip roofs, sheathed with composition shingles, are utilized for all of the cabins. The interiors are largely devoid of ornamentation and consist of sheetrock wall and plain door and window moldings. The tourist court, located at the eastern outskirts of Hardy on the northern side of US Route 62/63, is largely original with only one cabin having been altered.

Elaboration

The Woodland Courts is an ensemble of ten tourist court cabins built c. 1938 in a simple, Plain Traditional manner with some vestiges of the Craftsman style. The ten cabins are arranged in a U-shaped configuration with the open end facing east. Four cabins compose the southern row, with five on the northern row, and one cabin on the west end linking the two. Each cabin is constructed of a wood frame with a flagstone veneer applied to the exterior. Although the foundation is obscured by the flagstone veneer, one might assume that the material is concrete based on the concrete steps present in front of the doorways of each cabin. Gable-on-hip roofs, sheathed with composition shingles, are utilized for all of the cabins. Exposed rafters, reminiscent of the Craftsman style, are found underneath the eaves.

Each cabin is fenestrated by three wood-frame, six-over-six, double-hung windows with plain wood casings. Three of the elevations contain one window each, and one elevation is blank on every cabin. The single-leaf entry is sheltered by a slight shed- roof extension of the main roof supported by Craftsman-style knee braces. Cabins 1-4 are entered from the side elevation through a doorway at the western end of the cabin with a window at the other end. Cabins 7-10 on the northern row reverse the configuration and contain the doorway at the eastern end of the cabin. Cabins 5 and 6 deviate somewhat from this plan. Cabin # 5 is entered through a centrally placed entry on the side elevation, which faces east in this instance (all other cabins have their front elevations facing the south) but contains no windows on this elevation. Cabin # 6 features the only end-elevation entry. Despite the narrow frontage, the doorway is placed to the east of center with a window positioned west of center.

The interiors are largely devoid of ornamentation. All cabins are plainly constructed with sheetrock walls and simple door and window moldings.

Only one of the cabins has suffered any major alterations. A small room was recently added on the eastern end of Cabin # 3. The addition is also frame construction with a similar, yet distinguishable, stone veneer. A two-pane sliding window faces south, and a single-leaf door provides an additional entry from the eastern elevation, which also contains a two-pane sliding window. The roofline was extended to compensate for the increased length. The addition is sympathetic to the original construction and does not greatly affect the cabin's integrity.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Located at the eastern outskirts of Hardy on the northern side of US Route 62/63, the Woodland Courts is situated on a moderate-sloped, forested hill northwest of the intersection of Dawson Road and Old CC Road.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Woodland Courts is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example in Hardy of an intact, historic ensemble of tourist cabins. The court of ten cabins is being nominated as a historic district.

Elaboration

When construction of the Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad (later known as the St. Louis and San Francisco, now called the Burlington Northern) began descending the Spring River valley in the early 1880's, there was no settlement at the present site of Hardy, only a few scattered farms. When the location of the new town was to be determined, railroad officials actually preferred two sites other than that of the present town. One townsite, to be named Afton, was upriver at Humphrey's Ford, and the other was downriver at Sugar Creek, to be called Baker. Neither of the landowners at these sites were willing to sell their property at the railroad's price, however, and the new town was established on land owned by Walker Clayton. The new town was named, not for Clayton, but for a railroad subcontractor. In 1883, local residents proposed the name "Forty Islands," after a nearby creek, for the new post office. Apparently, federal officials thought the name too long, and selected the name "Hardy" instead. James A. Hardy, Jr. was a twenty-five year old subcontractor in charge of preparing the railroad bed for the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis Railroad. The government did have a precedent for their decision since local mail had been delivered to the railroad worker's camp in care of Hardy during the railroad construction.

Although Evening Shade had been the county seat of Sharp County since 1868 when the county was created, in 1891 the state legislature divided the county into northern and southern districts with the northern district court located at Hardy. The new courthouse was completed in 1894, the same year that the town of Hardy was incorporated.

Capitalizing on the recreational and fishing opportunities provided by the scenic Spring River valley, Hardy soon became noted as a resort town. By 1912, a resort of ten "wigwam" cottages had been erected by Dr. George Buford on Wahpeton Hill, 165 feet above and across the river from Hardy. The resort was continually expanded, and a large inn was constructed in 1932. The Rio Vista resort was established in the same year on the lower bluffs further upriver. Although the resorts attracted a number of people from surrounding towns and counties, the majority of the "summer people" hailed from Memphis, Tennessee. The St. Louis-San Francisco Railroad (in 1901, the "Frisco" executed a long term lease of the 1,117.5 mile Kansas City, Fort Scott, and Memphis Railroad) heavily advertised excursions to Hardy in the large metropolitan area and promoted the ease of accessibility to Hardy provided by the direct line. Local residents recalled that the arrival of the 2:53 afternoon train from Memphis was always a big occasion.

By the 1930's, rainbow trout had been introduced to the upper part of the cold, clear Spring River below Mammoth Spring in Fulton County. Fly fisherman from afar were attracted to the area (the trout inhabited the river from Mammoth Spring to roughly halfway the distance to Hardy) to angle for the prized fish.

Although Hardy, like most other Ozark towns, always possessed one or more hotels, the demand for lodging that accompanied the increasing tourism trade necessitated the construction of new facilities. Traditionally, lodging was located downtown as close as possible to the train depot. The hotels in Hardy, usually large, two-story frame

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 2

structures, were no different in this regard. As automobiles and better roads became more prevalent in the early twentieth century, a new type of overnight lodging, the tourist or cabin court, developed to accommodate this new form of travel. As they were not dependent on the railroad for customers, tourist court owners often located their courts on the outskirts of town. Typically, the court consisted of single-unit cabins along with service and recreational facilities. Early tourist courts were simple, vernacular-styled one-room cabins designed to repel the elements and nothing more. Later, more amenities and architectural styling were incorporated.

At least two tourist courts are known to have been constructed in Hardy during the 1920's. As Hardy was a resort town and not just an overnight resting stop, these courts usually contained cabins somewhat larger and more amenable than the typical overnight tourist court. The largest, Rose Hill, was located two miles east of Hardy on present day U.S Highway 62/63. This court consisted of sixteen separate cabins, a restaurant, and a skating rink across the road. Unfortunately, nothing remains of this facility. Of all the tourist courts constructed in Hardy, the Woodland Courts is the finest, extant ensemble of a historic tourist court that retains its integrity. Little is known about this court other than it was constructed c. 1938 and has been in continuous operation since. Although relatively plain architecturally, this court remains remarkably intact and provides an important visual link with the recreational activities available in depression-era Hardy. For these reasons, the Woodland Courts is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance.

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

Bibliography

Moore, Caruth Shaver. *Early History of Sharp County*. 1979.

The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Northeastern Arkansas. Chicago, Nashville and St. Louis: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889. pp. 729-735.

The Hardy History. The Timely Club. Batesville, AR: Riverside Graphics, 1980.

Workers of the Writer's Program. *The WPA Guide to 1930's Arkansas*, with new introduction by Elliot West. Lawrence, Kansas: The University Press, 1987. pp. 257, 290.

11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/22/92

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9346

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Woodland Courts
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Sharp

DATE RECEIVED: 10/28/92 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/10/92
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/26/92 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/12/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 92001634

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 11/27/92 DATE **Entered in the
National Register**

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen
May 1991
Negative on file at AHPP
View of southern row from
the southeast



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen
May 1991
Negative on file at AHPP
View of Cabin #1 from the south



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen
May 1991
Negative on file at AHPP
View of Cabin # 1 from the east



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen
May 1991
Negative on file at AHP
View of Cabin #2 from the south



Woodland Courts

Sharp Co., Arkansas

Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen

May 1991

Negative on file at AHPP

View of Cabin # 3 from the south



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen
May 1991
Negative on file at AHPP
View of Cabin # 6 from the south



Woodland Courts
Sharp Co., Arkansas
Photographed by B. Lindsey-Alken
May 1991
Negative on file at AHPP
View of Cabin # 8 from the south



Woodland Courts

Sharp Co., Arkansas

Photographed by B. Lindsey-Alten

May 1991

Negative on file at AHPP

View of Cabins 8 & 9 from the southeast



Woodland Courts

Sharp Co., Arkansas

Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen

May 1991

Negative on file at AHPP

View of Cabin # 10 from the
Southeast



Woodland Courts

Sharp Co., Arkansas

Photographed by B. Lindsey-Allen

May 1991

Negative on file at AHPP

View of northern row from the
southeast

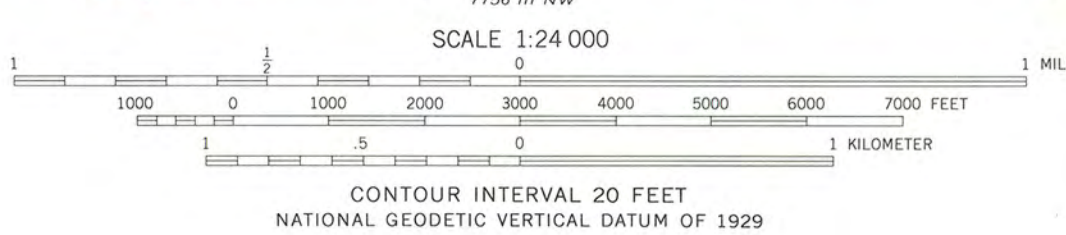
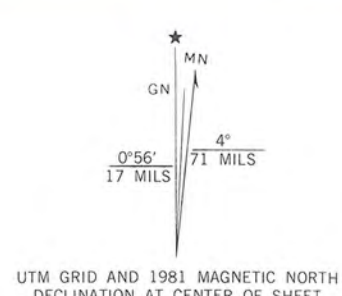
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

HARDY QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



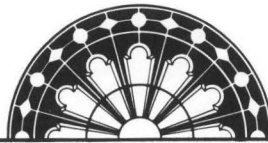
Woodland Courts
Hardy, Sharp Co.,
Arkansas
UTM:
15/637000/
4019830

Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and USC&GS
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, north zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 4 meters south and
12 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken
1980. Map edited 1981. This information not field checked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

HARDY, ARK.
N3615—W9122.5/7.5
1968
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 7756 IV SW—SERIES Y884



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED

OCT 28 1992

NATIONAL
REGISTER

October 22, 1992

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Woodland Courts
Hardy, Sharp County

Dear Carol:

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

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:kg

Enclosures

