

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: 100001005

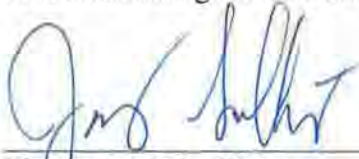
Date Listed: 6/5/2017

Property Name: Home Ice Company

County: Craighead

State: AR

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

6-5-2017

Date of Action

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 8: Areas of Significance

Agriculture and Commerce are hereby deleted as areas of significance. The association with agriculture was fleeting and not significant. As this was a manufacturer and distributor of ice and ice cream products, and not a "commercial" outlet, Commerce does not apply.

Section 8: Period of Significance

The period of significance is hereby changed to 1920-1967. This represents the building in its current internal and external configuration, when the older factory/warehouse building was converted into the ice and ice cream manufacturing and distribution business.

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: Home Ice Company

Other names/site number: Ice House, Jonesboro Wagon Company, Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company, Velvet Ice Cream Company, CG0350

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

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

2. Location

Street & number: 700 Cate Avenue

City or town: Jonesboro State: AR County: Craighead

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 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B X C ___ D

<p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center; margin: 0;"><i>Steve Hunt</i></p> <hr/> <p>Signature of certifying official/Title:</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center; margin: 0;">4-7-17</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p>
<p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>	
<p>In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.</p>	
<hr/> <p>Signature of commenting official:</p>	<hr/> <p>Date</p>
<hr/> <p>Title :</p>	<hr/> <p>State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government</p>

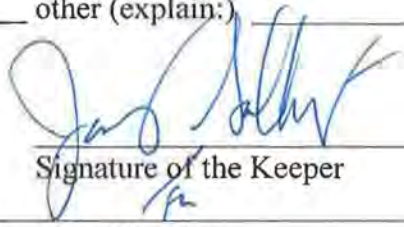
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4. National Park Service Certification

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

6-5-2017
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>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	<u>2</u>	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE (specialty store)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE (processing)

INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/EXTRACTION (manufacturing facility)

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Stucco, Concrete

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 Home Ice Company building is two-story rectangular brick building with one-story additions, located south of the historic Cotton Belt Railroad line at 700 Cate Avenue in Jonesboro, Arkansas. The main two-story exterior brick structure, built with twelve-inch-thick walls covering a wooden frame interior was constructed in 1907 as the site for the Jonesboro Wagon Factory. It was used for manufacturing artificial ice from 1929 through 2013.¹ When the building was converted from a peanut hulling factory to the icehouse, a one-story Spanish Colonial Revival addition, housing offices, was added to the south façade. Later, additions were added to the rear (north) and the right (east) elevations to provide storage. At present the building is abandoned, in a general state of disrepair, and with considerable structural damage to the west (left) wall. It is a prime example of a 1920s icehouse, and it maintains unique details of commercial buildings from this period in Jonesboro and the rest of Northeast Arkansas. Located to the north of the icehouse are two modern (1980s-era sheds) that are non-contributing resources.

¹ “Offbeat: Home Ice Co.,” accessed July 11, 2016, <http://www.kait8.com/story/8736068/offbeat-home-ice-co>.

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Narrative Description

The Home Ice Company is an excellent example of early twentieth century industrial style architecture with a Spanish Colonial Revival addition. Constructed originally as a wagon manufacturing plant, this two-story rectangular brick building with one-story additions, later housed a peanut hulling facility, an ice cream factory, and an icehouse without major structural changes. The Spanish Colonial Revival main façade addition, designed by Henry A. Lesmeister, added a degree of elegance to an already attractive building.² The cold storage rental lockers demonstrate the use of refrigeration technology to deal with meat and vegetable shortages during the Great Depression and the Second World War. The Home Ice Company retains much of its original details and materials and has not been directly impacted by the alternations needed to modernize the ice manufacturing process that developed during the twentieth century.

Front Elevation

The front of the icehouse building, which faces south on Cate Avenue, is a one-story Spanish Colonial Revival style addition that served as the office for the company after its completion in the 1920s. Henry A. Lesmeister designed the Spanish Colonial stucco over brick façade in 1920. Lesmeister was the architect for several buildings in Jonesboro and his work in Pocahontas, Arkansas, is part of that city's NRHP District. The façade is not merely decorative but also added considerable useable square footage to the building, extending both its length and width. The Home Ice Company used this area for its business office. The Lesmeister façade is topped by a parapet, which uses the parapet and decorative elements of the face of the original structure to create the illusion of a double-walled, fortified Spanish mission. The façade has a central door surrounded by four wooden pillars painted to create the illusion of marble. Above the door there is a pediment, which at one time contained a painting of two peacocks flanking a basket. The painting is not extant and the tympanum, which it occupied, is stripped of its stucco and concrete mortar revealing the underlying brick masonry. The pediment itself has highly ornate molding in the Classical style and is surmounted on its right and left by circular Spanish Baroque medallions. Centered above the pediment is an octagonal medallion. All three medallions still contain some terra cotta and likely also featured paintings. At the center of the parapet, above the octagonal medallion, is a highly ornate globe.

The Lesmeister addition had casement windows on its left (west) and right (east) sides. Its front door is flanked by two large picture windows with aluminum awnings. Above each window is a lunette containing a painting of fruit (apples, grapes, bananas, pineapples) executed on etched terra cotta. Directly below the windows is band molding, which extends all along the front of the façade and is mirrored by band molding below the door, which also extends across the façade. The façade bears a strong resemblance to the Spanish Colonial appearance of icehouses from Texas, once the center of the artificial ice industry, as well as the NRHP-listed Standard Ice Company building in Stuttgart, AR (NR 7.2.1979).

² *Texas Trade Review and Industrial Record*, December 15, 1919, 20.

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The original front of the building was a five bay structure with an exposed brick face, topped by a straight parapet. The front and rear of the original structure stood slightly taller than the rest of the building. It had nine (eight pane) casement windows surmounted by undecorated lunettes and a door on its left (west) side. The tops of four windows and four pilasters are still visible over the Lesmeister façade. The original front of the building was both slightly taller and wider than its sides. The original rear was slightly taller than the sides but not wider.

Side/West Façade

The left (west) side of the two story main structure has thirteen bays not counting the additional bay from the Lesmeister addition. The flat roof is constructed of thick wood apparently covered by asphalt shingles. The underlying brick masonry can be seen in many places and reinforcing steel girders are also visible around some of the doors and windows. The Home Ice Company had its customer entrance on the west side. The sliding door is extremely damaged and on the interior, through this doorway, there is a room with wooden walls and ceiling which still contains customer notices, pricing charts, and Chamber of Commerce memberships. The 1907 structure apparently had thirteen casement windows on each floor of the west side but many of the first floor windows have been replaced with sliding doors and some windows on both floors have been bricked in or covered with plywood. The 1930 Sanborn map indicates that the rear (north most) area of the original building housed the freezing tanks and the rest of the building was used for cold storage.³ Apparently an original peanut hulling machine is still in the building on the currently inaccessible second floor.

Rear/North Façade

The rear of the original structure appears to have had four bays. It was not covered in concrete siding and the original arch bricks are still visible indicating where the windows on the second floor were. Although the top floor of the original rear can still be seen, a six bay, one story addition, covers the rest. Each bay acted as a loading dock. This addition was constructed sometime between 1930 and 1949.⁴ Apparently, Home Ice Company rented out cold storage space for freezing vegetables and dressed game. The addition was built using brick and cinder blocks. Exposed steel girders support the wooden roof.

The present rear (north side) of the building was probably constructed in the 1950s or early 1960s. It is a large loading dock designed for modern trucks. It has one large and one small sliding door and a ten-pane casement window on its left (east) side. It has an intentionally designed sloping roof and was constructed using cinder blocks. North of the building's rear are two outbuildings. The first (to the west) is a wooden framed, pole barn type shed with corrugated tin roof and walls. This was used to store auto parts. The second outbuilding (to the east) was used as a garage for working on sports cars. This second building is a three-sided structure

³ *Jonesboro, AR* (Sanborn 1930).

⁴ Audrey Poff, "The Iceman Welcomes Freeze," accessed July 15, 2016, <http://www.jonesborooccasions.com/icehousefreezesept11.html>.

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constructed of wood, steel girders, corrugated tin, and repurposed materials. It was fully wired and capable of supporting an auto shop.

Side/East Façade

The east side of the building houses most of the remaining machinery. Opposite the cold storage rental units are a series of three sided structures constructed of steel girders, copper tubing, corrugated tin, repurposed metal, plywood, and wooden boards with a continuous cinder block interior wall. Remaining machinery includes Bendix compressors, various Frick products, and several Thermo-King units. On the southernmost part of the east side of the original 1907 structure there are several two and even three story structures constructed of steel girders, rebar, asphalt shingles, plywood, wooden planks, and repurposed materials. Currently, trailers obstruct the visibility of the northernmost part of the east side of the building; nonetheless, both concrete siding and stucco could be seen over the original brick masonry.

The 1930 and 1930-1949 Sanborn maps suggest that the east side of the Home Ice House probably looked roughly similar to its present appearance.⁵ The oil generator apparently was housed under some sort of semi-permanent three-sided shelter, which would protect it from the elements. In this location, an original compressor would turn the belts by which water and the ammonia refrigerant were moved all the way up to the roof where water was frozen in sheets and augers chopped it up.⁶

Interior

As of 2015, the Home Ice Company building has been condemned by the City of Jonesboro; therefore investigations of the interior of the building were not attempted. The discussion of the interior the building is obtained by an interview with the current owner, an examination of the Sanborn maps, and visual investigations through the windows.

The interior of the icehouse is divided into three distinct spaces: an office area in the one-story addition on the south elevation, a warehouse section, and a cold storage and packing area. Like other icehouses in the state (including the Standard Ice Company building in Stuttgart, AR), the interior is functional and does not have any unnecessary embellishments or ornamentation.

The interior of the building has several distinct elements. The coolers located on the southeastern side of the building for storing ice have the original wood plank doors and interior configuration. The interior of the building that was once dominated by ice making equipment and warehouse loading areas is largely empty now of the machinery and equipment.

⁵ Jonesboro, AR (Sanborn 1930-1949).

⁶ "Artificial Ice Company - Ammonia Compressors, April 1954," accessed July 12, 2016, http://oldnews.aadl.org/N019_0931_001. "Offbeat: Home Ice Co.," accessed July 11, 2016, <http://www.kait8.com/story/8736068/offbeat-home-ice-co>.

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Integrity

Changes to interior space and exterior door openings were necessary to update ice making equipment and distribution. However, these changes have not taken away the historic character of this commercial building. Some of the modern ice-making equipment located on the roof and the east side of the building remains and illustrates the historic function of the building. Modern supply sheds are located on the property, but are not directly connected to the building.

Although the building has had additions constructed onto it, the additions are over fifty years old and constitute historic additions. Furthermore, the style and detailing of the addition compliment the original building's industrial design. In use until recently (2014) for ice manufacturing and distribution, the Home Ice Company represents a distinct type of commercial building indicative of twentieth century economic growth in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

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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.)

Agriculture
Architecture
Commerce
Industry

Period of Significance

ca. 1907 -1967

Significant Dates

1920

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Henry A. Lesmeister (1920s-era addition)

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8. Statement of Significance

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 Home Ice Company property, located at 700 East Cate Avenue in Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of a local industry in Jonesboro in the early and mid-twentieth century. It served as the site of a Wagon manufacturing plant and later a peanut hulling plant before it was configured into the icehouse in the 1920s. The building is also being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** as a local example of an early industrial building with a later Mission Revival style addition. Ice plants from the first part of the twentieth century are rare in Arkansas.⁷ The building is significant on the **local** level for both Criteria, and its period of significance is 1907, the date of its construction, to 1967.

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

The Home Ice Company property, located at 700 East Cate Avenue in Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas, is an early-twentieth century industrial building that has been associated with various industries. The building has been home to a wagon factory, a peanut processing plant, an ice cream manufacturing facility, and finally an ice plant. Over the years the facilities that have occupied the building have provided jobs and products for Jonesboro and the surrounding communities.

The property on which the building now stands is located to the east of downtown Jonesboro, and was not associated with the early development of the town until the Cotton Belt railroad constructed tracks north of downtown (and north of the current property) in 1881. Soon after the railroad arrived, land speculators began dividing up land along the rail line for future development. Although the parcels including the current property were platted in the 1880s, the parcels remained empty until circa 1910. Around that time, the Jonesboro Wagon Manufacturing Company, the only maker of farm wagons in Jonesboro, relocated from a site due north of the property, and adjacent to the Cotton Belt Railroad tracks into a new building sometime after

⁷ Brian Poepsel and Ralph Wilcox, "Wilson Power & Light Company Ice Plant" NRHP nomination packet, January 21, 2010. Available at <http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/National-Register-Listings/PDF/CT0048.nr.pdf>.

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1908, and before 1913.⁸ However, with the growing availability of automobiles, the wagon production halted sometime before 1913.

Soon after the Jonesboro Wagon Manufacturing Company closed, local civic and business leaders explored options for the building. Encouraged by the Arkansas Peanut Growers Association, local businessmen and representatives of the Cotton Belt Railroad explored various aspects of peanut agri-business, and the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company purchased the two-story brick building in 1913. Soon the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company had converted the old wagon factory into a state-of-the-art factory processing peanuts.⁹

Local newspaper articles hailed the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company as the first of its kind to be built in Arkansas.¹⁰ By the early 1910s, thousands of acres of peanuts were planted in Craighead County and the surrounding northeast Arkansas counties. In 1915, industry experts commented that peanuts were growing in Arkansas, and other southwest states.¹¹ Since the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company was the only peanut hulling plant within hundreds of miles of Jonesboro, and it was located on the Cotton Belt, the industry appeared to be set for success. Train cars and wagons would arrive at the Hulling Plant, and then Cotton Belt trains shipped the hulled peanuts to Memphis and other cities.¹²

As peanut acreage increased in Northeast Arkansas, the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company made plans for expansion to meet the needs of the growing industry.¹³ In April 1914, Agricultural Commissioner W.R. Beattie and Charles S. Smack, the advertising manager for the Cotton Belt Railroad, brought northern investors to Jonesboro to explore the possibility of constructing a canning factory and a peanut butter manufacturing plant near the hulling plant.¹⁴ With backing from the railroad and successful crop yields—those in Oklahoma and Arkansas were “exceptionally high” in 1915—the hulling plant appeared to be a great success.¹⁵

Unfortunately, due to poor management and other misfortune, the Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company only operated through the 1914 season. According to the property abstract, the peanut business was in financial trouble and was sold on the courthouse steps in November 1915, to satisfy accrued debt.¹⁶ Archival research could not identify the specific causes of the financial trouble. After a series of ownership transfers, the former Jonesboro Peanut Hulling Company property was finally sold to A. J. Scott, owner of the local Coca-Cola Bottling Company, who

⁸ Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps for Jonesboro, Arkansas 1908, and 1913; 1906 *JONESBORO, AR CITY DIRECTORY* (<http://www.gscca.net/1906cd.htm>).

⁹ *Daily Arkansas Gazette*, September 9, 1913.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ Victor H. Schoffelmayer, “Millions invested in the Peanut Industry,” *Coffee and Tea Industries and the Flavor Field*, April 1915, 434.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ “Peanut Hulling Co. Has Busy Season,” *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, January 20, 1914.

¹⁴ “Capitalists Here Seek Location for Canning Factory,” *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, April 12, 1914.

¹⁵ “Peanuts.” *American Nut Journal* III (July - December 1915) 99.

¹⁶ “Receiver’s Sale.” *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, October 15, 1915.

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changed the focus of the building, and began expanding the building with the introduction of ice and ice cream manufacturing.¹⁷

A.J. Scott was already a successful Jonesboro businessman when he formed the A.J. Scott Ice Cream Company in October 1919. Scott was born in Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1881, but his family relocated to Atlanta, Georgia, in 1884. Three years later the Scott family moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where A.J.'s father was the secretary and treasurer of the Davidson Clothing Company. After school, A.J. worked for Davidson Clothing, before becoming a sales representative of the Coca-Cola company for ten years before selling insurance for a couple of years. In 1913, Scott moved to Jonesboro, Arkansas, to manage the local Coca Cola Bottling plant, which was lagging in sales. A business biography stated that:

In the fall of the same year he bought the plant, reorganized the business, rebuilt the plant, installed the most modern machinery and in three years increased the output from three thousand, five hundred cases to more than sixty thousand cases, annually, an increase of almost twentyfold.¹⁸

After his success with the Coca-Cola plant, Scott became engaged to local Jonesboro society. In 1917, he married Miss Gertrude Everett of Jonesboro, and became a member of the Presbyterian Church, the Rotary Club, and a member of the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce. Like many men of his day, Scott always was active in fraternal organizations, such as Lodge, No. 129, Free and Accepted Masons, (F. & A. M.); Jonesboro Chapter, No. 53, Royal Arch Masons; Ivanhoe Commandery, No. 18, Knights Templars; Sahara Temple, Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine (A.A.O.N.M.S.) or Shriners North America of Pine Bluff; and is likewise affiliated with Jonesboro Lodge, No. 498. Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and Keystone Lodge, No. 35, Knights of Pythlas of Chattanooga, Tennessee.¹⁹

Soon after he purchased the plant, Scott hired B.F. Boyer as the superintendent for the new ice cream enterprise. Boyer also came to Jonesboro from Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he worked for Peerless Ice Cream, and before that, he was with Georgia Creamery in Atlanta. Since both Boyer and Scott had connections in Chattanooga, one could assume that they were familiar with each other. According to the local newspaper, Boyer was "recognized as one of the best experts of cream and milk men in the South."²⁰

Ice cream has a long history as a dessert in the West. Some historians claim ice cream evolved in Italy based upon a frozen treat brought back by Marco Polo during his Far East travels in the thirteenth century before spreading from Italy into other parts of Europe where it eventually reached the United States. The first recorded description of ice cream in the Americas was in a

¹⁷ "New \$100,000 Ice Cream Plant for Jonesboro with A.J. Scott as President," *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, October 20, 1919.

¹⁸ Dallas T. Herndon, *Centennial History of Arkansas* (Chicago, Little Rock: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co, 1922), 796.

¹⁹ *Ibid*, 796.

²⁰ "A.J. Scott Ice Cream Co. Selects Expert to Superintend Plant," *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, December 31, 1919.

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1744 letter written by a guest of Maryland Governor William Bladen.²¹ Three years later, the *New York Gazette* had the first known advertisement for ice cream in America. While ice and ice cream were available in the United States in the 1700s, it was not until 1800, and the invention of the insulated icehouse that ice cream and ice moved from a rare treat to something that was obtainable by the average person. In 1851, a Baltimore milk dealer named Jacob Fussell developed the process for industrialized manufacturing of ice cream. Throughout the rest of century, addition technical advances, and the invention of the American soda fountain shop in 1874, resulted in the explosion of ice cream as one of the top desserts in the United States by the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.²²

Just like the rest of the nation, ice and ice cream were staples in Jonesboro. Several drugstore soda fountains such as Chases' Refined Refreshments on Main Street and Latourette's Bakery at Main and Huntington, were operating in downtown Jonesboro.²³ Just as other staples in American downtowns and main streets, such as grocery stores and delis served as staples for social cohesion and a sense of community, the local ice cream parlor and company served as a central location for community members to catch up with neighbors, enjoy conversations, and take in the social scene of early Jonesboro.

In addition to changing the industrial focus of the building, Scott also hired regionally renowned architect H.A. Lesmeister to conduct extensive remodeling of the building. This remodeling included the installation of \$75,000 worth of new machinery to manufacture Scott's Velvet Ice Cream. Lesmeister was a highly respected commercial architect in Northeast Arkansas who had already designed several buildings in downtown Jonesboro and Pocahontas.²⁴ One of the major portions of the remodeling was most likely the construction of the one-story Spanish Colonial Revival addition on the main façade. According to the Sanborn fire insurance maps, the front façade addition was not present in 1919, but it does appear on the map from 1930; therefore, it is more than likely the Spanish Colonial Revival façade was added in 1920 by Lesmeister as a way to make the building more appealing.²⁵

Scott completed renovations to the former peanut factory in May of 1920, and opened the new ice cream plant that same month. The *Jonesboro Daily Tribune* touted the new factory as "the most modern ice cream plant in the State of Arkansas" and offered the following description of the manufacturing process:

²¹ Goff, H. Douglas, and Richard W Hartel, *Ice Cream*. (New York: Springer, 2013), 10.

²² "The History of Ice Cream," International Dairy Foods Association, (<http://www.idfa.org/news-views/media-kits/ice-cream/the-history-of-ice-cream>).

²³ Shaila Creekmore, "A Look Back at Downtown Dining," *Jonesboro Occasions*, <http://www.jonesborooccasions.com/localflavoroct09.html>; Donna R. Braden, "The 'Scoop' on American Ice Cream," The Henry Ford, <https://www.thehenryford.org/explore/blog/the-scoop-on-american-ice-cream>

²⁴ "History of the Lesmeister Building." Lesmeister Guesthouse Suites and Vacation Rental Apartments. <http://www.arkansasguesthouse.com/history-of-the-lesmeister-building/> (accessed July 17, 2016).

²⁵ *Texas Trade Review and Industrial Record*, December 15, 1919, 20.

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The modern high-pressure machinery breaks up the molecules in milk and other ingredients, a method required to produce that well blended velvet taste that always leaves a desire for more. The home freezer and small manufacturing plants cannot produce this result. The new plant will have equipment for hardening and aging and its own ice making and refrigerating machinery.²⁶

Ice cream proved to be quite lucrative for Scott and within two years, he had a dozen distributors in the city as well as trucks that made commercial deliveries and home deliveries on Sundays.²⁷ Special Sunday flavors included pineapple, orange, pistachio, peach, strawberry, and cherry nut ice cream along with orange, pineapple, and cherry sherbets.²⁸ In 1922, the plant began manufacturing Eskimo Pies, and in 1923, Scott sold his Coca-Cola plant in order to devote more time to the ice cream business.²⁹

In the late 1920s, A.J. Scott, owner, and president of the Scott Ice Cream Company began to face hardships in his operation. On December 17, 1927, the A. J. Scott Company sold lots 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 located at 700 Cate Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas, with all equipment, engines, motors and accessories to the Bank of Jonesboro for \$10,000.00. With this sale, the A.J. Scott Company agreed to not enter back into the ice cream business within a period of ten years.³⁰

With the Bank of Jonesboro in possession of the A.J. Scott Ice Cream Company, bidding for the property began in February 1929. As the highest bidders, Thomas Burress and I.O. Hughes offered the American Trust Company \$12,150.00 for the land and all of the ice and ice cream making equipment on 700 Cate Avenue.³¹ Little is known about I.O. Hughes in early Jonesboro history. Thomas Burress, however, was a well-known man in early Jonesboro. He came to Arkansas from Mississippi in 1889 and later served as a two-term mayor of the city from 1911 to 1916. He was very active in the city and in the industry. He served on the Jonesboro Building Committee and as the president of the Chamber of Commerce, for one term. He held the position of president in the Arkansas Ice Association, the President of the Southeastern Ice Manufactures in 1913, and served in the Arkansas Association of Ice Industries in 1919.³²

According to the front page of the February 7, 1929, edition of the *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, Hughes and Burress were hoping to quickly resell the property as they had no interest in operating it. The newspaper stated that Hughes and Burress had already begun negotiations for the Scott Ice Cream Company. The newspaper reported that Hughes indicated that the current

²⁶ "A.J. Scott Ice Cream Co. Plant Nearly Ready," *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, May 8, 1920.

²⁷ Advertisement, *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, January 23, 1922.

²⁸ Advertisement, *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, June 12, 1920.

²⁹ Advertisement, *Jonesboro Daily Tribune*, January 12, 1922; *Jonesboro Weekly Sun*, "A.J. Scott Sells Coca Cola Business to Georgia Man," February 7, 1923.

³⁰ Deed of Sale from AJ Scott Co, to Midwest Dairy Products Co., December 17, 1927. On file with the Rosse Family Trust, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

³¹ American Trust Co. (Plaintiff) vs. AJ Scott CO. (Defendant). Tax Sale to Tomas Burress and IO Hughes, February 1929. Deed of Sale from AJ Scott Co, to Midwest Dairy Products Co., December 17, 1927. On file with the Rosse Family Trust, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

³² Herndon, *Centennial History of Arkansas*, 679.

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Name of Property

Craighead, AR

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bidder on the property was a large company that dealt exclusively in ice cream. Once the sale was made, according to Hughes, the company would expand the plant.³³

However, that sale never took place, as predicted. Instead, Hughes and Burress leased the former Scott Ice Cream Company building to L.L. Court, a prominent Memphis dairyman for three years according to the front page of the February 22, 1929, edition of the *Jonesboro Evening Sun*. Within this period, L.L. Court was supposed to install 7,000.00 worth of “modern” equipment including an expensive pasturing machine. L.L. Court had high hopes for this business, as he expected it to expand to nearby towns within months of operating, after its anticipated operation start date of March 15, 1929.³⁴

It is unknown how long L.L. Court and his dairy business was in operation, however; in 1930, a mere year later, the property was sold. The demise of Court’s company was probably a result of the Stock Market crash and the resulting Great Depression. L. C. Castetter, a well-known photographer in Jonesboro and owner of Artura Foto Studio in Jonesboro, bought lots 5 and 6 and all machinery and equipment in the buildings from Burress and Hughes Inc. for \$18,250.00 on February 5, 1930. L.C. Castetter shut down the ice cream business at 700 Cate Avenue and opened the Home Ice Company to take its place in 1929.³⁵

Ice manufacture during the early 1900s was a popular and booming industry. Icehouses and manufacturing facilities became standards of culture. At some residences in the early 1900s, people would commission expensive and sometimes ornate personal icehouses on their property to store ice for household use. These people were often persons of a higher class, as having ice on hand was deemed a luxury, especially in areas such as the South. Most cities had at least one icehouse that would manufacture and supply ice to businesses and individuals in the area. Early Jonesboro had at least two of these facilities, the Jonesboro Ice Company downtown, and the Home Ice Company at 700 Cate Avenue, just south of the Cotton Belt and Frisco Railways. Not only was ice used in domestic spaces to keep drinks and food cold, but also larger industries that depended on upon large blocks of ice, manufactured at places like the Home Ice Company, to keep meats refrigerated and safe to consume. While possibly overlooked, ice manufacturing companies and ice houses were crucial to progress and development in cities and towns whether due to its use or its manufacture and sale.

Even in the Great Depression, the Home Ice Company seemed to be doing well. In the September 10, 1929, issue of the *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, an article on the front page notes that the Home Ice Company added a delivery truck to their services. According to the article, patrons could phone in orders to the Home Ice Company and they would deliver the ice as needed by the customers. Also in this article, there is some mention of legal troubles at the Home Ice Company

³³ “Scott Ice Cream Property May be Sold at Early Date.” *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, February 7, 1929, pp 1.

³⁴ “L.L. Court will Install \$7,000 New Equipment,” *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, February 22, 1929, p 1.

³⁵ American Trust Co. (Plaintiff) vs. AJ Scott CO. (Defendant). Tax Sale to Tomas Burress and IO Hughes, February 1929. Deed of Sale from AJ Scott Co, to Midwest Dairy Products Co., December 17, 1927. On file with the Rosse Family Trust, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

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with the railroad commission since the railroad refused to issue a necessary permit. Nevertheless, L. C. Castetter was confident that the courts would side with him in the decision and operation of the Home Ice Company would continue.³⁶

Although business seemed to be steady, later in September 1929, A.A. Brown and his wife, Fannie Brown purchased lots 5 and 6 for \$8,000.00. After the passing of A.A. Brown, Fannie sold the same lots 5 and 6 to James McCauley for \$10,000.00 on September 26, 1936. Within two months James McCauley sold lots 5 and 6 back to Thomas Burress for \$1,000.00 on November 10, 1936. On October 31, 1939, Burress-Hughes Inc. bought the lots in a Quit Claim for \$1.00.

Little information is known for the building and events between 1939 until 1976 except that it continued to operate as the Home Ice Company providing ice to area businesses even as the home ice industry declined with the introduction of the home refrigerator/freezer. In 1976, owners Eugene Phillips and Joe Smith were featured in the local paper about their business, Home Ice Company, where ice and meat were sold. In the 1978 *Jonesboro City Directory*, Phillips and Smith are both listed as working at the Home Ice Company. At some point, Phillips and Smith created their own corporation, named Margen Corporation, to operate the Home Ice Company. In the deed record for the property at 700 Cate Avenue, Eugene Phillips is listed as the president of Margen Corporation and a Troy Phillips, possibly related to Eugene, is listed as the secretary. Mr. Joe Smith is not mentioned as an officer. Two years later, on October 18, 1978, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Smith sub-rented Home Ice Company to Sammy and Teresa E. Rosse. In the 1979 *Jonesboro City Directory*, both Phillips and Smith are not listed as residing in the city and the Home Ice Company is listed as being operated by the Rosses. The rental agreement between the Margen Corporation and the Rosses continued until August 14, 1983, and included the ice company and all equipment within the building.

In August 1980, Burress, who still owned the property, sold lots 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 (including all equipment within the building) to Sammy and Teresa E. Rosse. On October 18, 1984, Simmons First Bank of Jonesboro bought lots 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 and all the equipment within the building for \$6,000.00. Four years later in 1988, the Rosses repaid the debt for \$25,297.00 and regained the building and the property. Teresa E. Rosse, the co-owner of the Home Ice & Cold Storage, passed away on July 31, 2009; and three years later, Samuel "Sam" Rosse, the then owner of Home Ice & Cold Storage, passed away on April 22, 2012. After their death, Samuel III "Sammy" Rosse gained ownership of the property. The Home Ice Company officially closed its doors around 2014, and the next year, the city of Jonesboro officially declared the Home Ice Company building to be condemned.³⁷ As of February 2017, the building is still standing and presently unoccupied.

³⁶ "Home Ice Co. Adds Delivery Truck Today," *Jonesboro Evening Sun*, September 10, 1929, p 1.

³⁷ WorldNow, "Home Ice Building Condemned a Council Meeting," August 19, 2015. <http://meredithaz.worldnow.com/story/29834230/home-ice-building-condemned-at-council-meeting>

Home Ice Company
Name of Property

Craighead, AR
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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Schmidt, Louis M. *Principles and Practice of Artificial Ice-Making and Refrigeration: Comprising Principles and General Considerations: Practice as Shown by Particular... Refrigerators, Etc; Useful Information*. Forgotten Books, 2016.

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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: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): CG0350

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than an acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

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

Home Ice Company
Name of Property

Craighead, AR
County and State

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: 707880 | Northing: 3968899 |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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

The subject property is identified as 701 Cate Avenue, Jonesboro, Arkansas. Property is legally defined as: Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 in Block 1 of Morse Addition to the City of Jonesboro, Arkansas less and except the East 50 feet.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the property historically associated with the Home Ice Company Plant.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Noah Brewer, James Fox, Ismail Moufdi, Lindsey Penn, Renee Pinkston, Mary Sitzer, and Dr. Edward Salo
organization: Arkansas State University

name/title: Callie Williams, National Register Historian (Edited By)
organization: Department of Arkansas Heritage, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 1100 North Street
city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201
e-mail callie.williams@arkansas.gov
telephone: 501.324.9789
date: February 1, 2017

Home Ice Company
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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: Home Ice Company

City or Vicinity: Jonesboro

County: Craighead

State: Arkansas

Photographer: Ralph Wilcox

Date Photographed: August 12, 2015

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

Photo 1 of 8: Front façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

Photo 2 of 8: Detail of the front façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

Photo 3 of 8: Detail of the front façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

Photo 4 of 8: Side (west) façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

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Name of Property

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Photo 5 of 8: Detail of the Side (west) façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

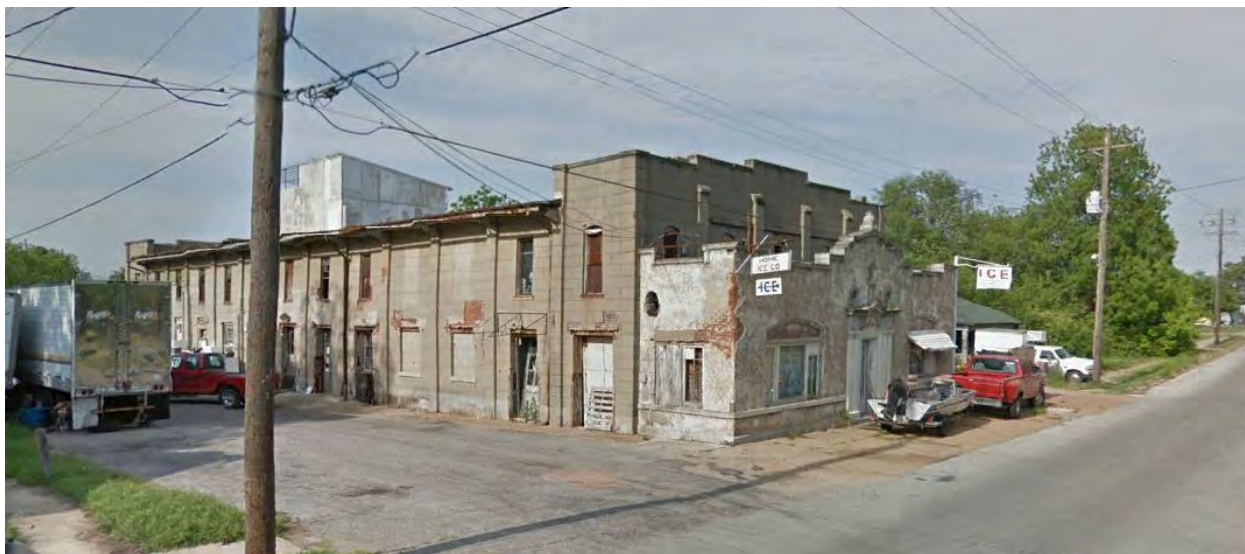
Photo 6 of 8: Detail of the Side (west) façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northeast.

Photo 7 of 8: Detail of the Side (east) façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing northwest.

Photo 8 of 8: Detail of the Side (east) façade of the Home Ice Company, camera facing north.

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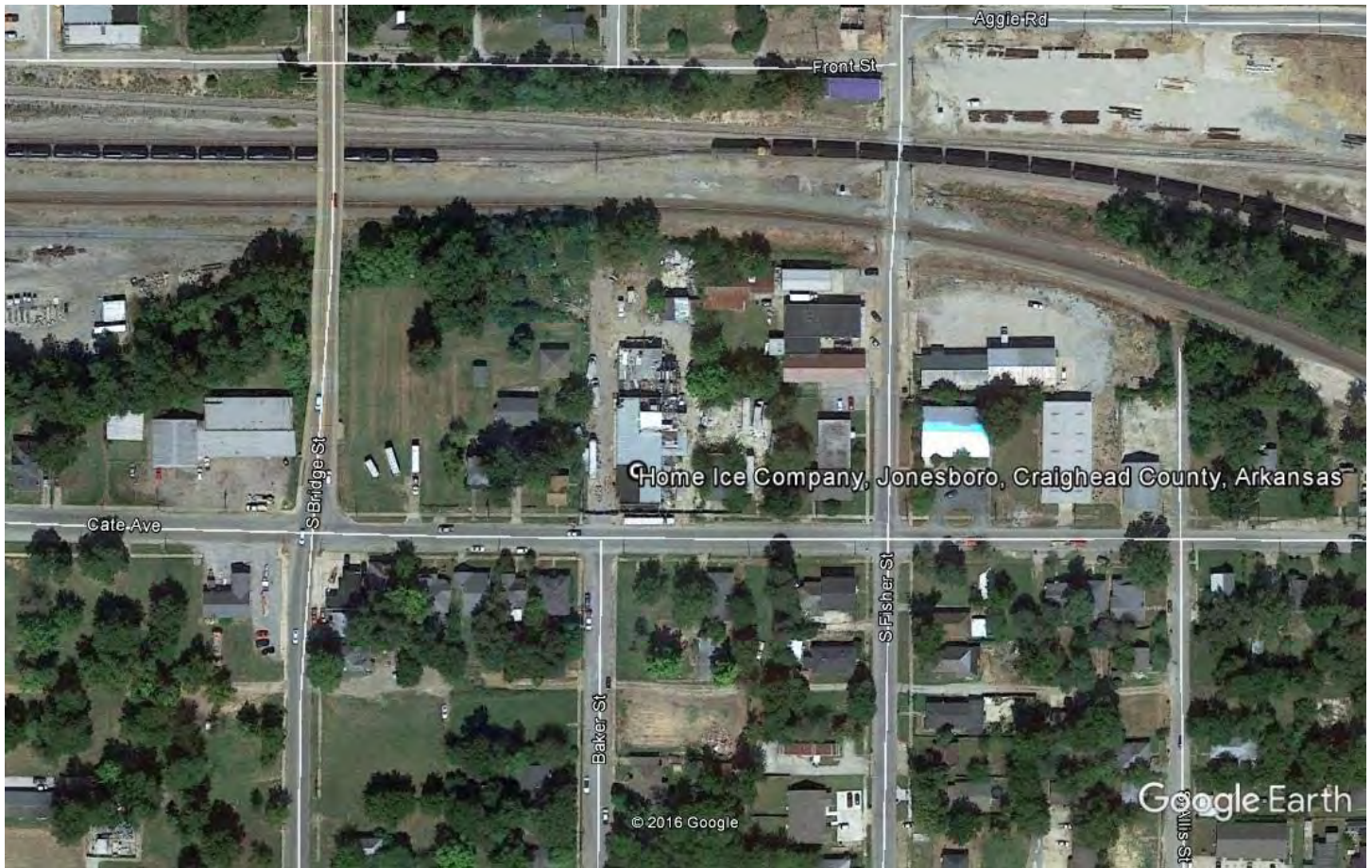


Google Earth Image of structure. This image is provided to give an overall view of the structure due to the current inaccessibility of the current structure. Image taken in 2013.

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.

Home Ice Company, Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas



Google Earth



UTM

NAD1983

Zone: 15 S

Easting: 707880

Northing: 3968899

Home Ice Company, Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas



Google Earth



UTM

NAD1983

Zone: 15 S

Easting: 707880

Northing: 3968899

Home Ice Company, Jonesboro, Craighead County, Arkansas



Google Earth



UTM

NAD1983

Zone: 15 S

Easting: 707880

Northing: 3968899

HOME
ICE CO.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action: Nomination

Property Name: Home Ice Company

Multiple Name:

State & County: ARKANSAS, Craighead

Date Received: 4/21/2017 Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: 6/5/2017 Date of Weekly List:

Reference number: SG100001005

Nominator: State

Reason For Review:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal | <input type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver | <input type="checkbox"/> National | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG | |

Accept Return Reject 6/5/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Locally significant manufacturer of ice with high quality Mission Revival facade
Comments:

Recommendation/ Accept / A & C
Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert

Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275

Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : **Yes**

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



THE DEPARTMENT OF ARKANSAS
HERITAGE

Asa Hutchinson
Governor

Stacy Hurst
Director



April 5, 2017

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Programs
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.
Washington D.C. 20005

RE: Home Ice Company – Jonesboro, Craighead County,
Arkansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Home Ice Company to the National Register of Historic Places. 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 Callie Williams of my staff at (501) 324-9789. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Stacy Hurst
State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:rsw

Enclosure

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural
Heritage Commission

Arkansas State Archives

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



ARKANSAS HISTORIC
PRESERVATION PROGRAM



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