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**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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property		
historic name Old Arkansas Highway	22	
other names/site number		
2. Location		
street & number Part of AR 197, AR 19	7 Loop, and Rainwater Loop	not for publication
city or town New Blaine		vicinity
state Arkansas code	AR county Logan County code	083 zip code 72851
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		
request for determination of eligibility meets the deplaces and meets the procedural and professional does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend to a locally and locally and locally. (See considerable of certifying official/Title  Arkansas Historic Preservation Programment of Federal agency and bureau	(f) a 8/11/03	ional Register of Historic property
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is:  centered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet  determined eligible for the  National Register.  See continuation sheet	Signature of the Keeper	SEP 2 7 2003
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register. ☐ removed from the National Register.		
other, (explain:)		

Old Arkansas Highway 22  Name of Property	Logan County, Arkansas County and State			
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)  Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)			
☐ private ☐ building(s) ☐ public-local ☐ district	Contributing	Noncontributing		
public-State site	0	0	buildings	
☐ public-Federal ☐ structure	0	0	sites	
object	2	0	structures	
	0	0	_ objects	
	2	0	_ Total	
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of Contributi in the National Registe		ly listed	
Arkansas Highway History and Architecture, 1910-1965	N/A			
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instruc	ctions)		
TRANSPORTATION: road-related (vehicular)/highway	TRANSPORTATION: road-related (vehicular)/highway			
		*		
	fam. v			
7. Description				
Architectural Classification	Materials			
(Enter categories from instructions)	(Enter categories from instruc	etions)		
OTHER/Highway	foundation N/A			
	walls N/A			
	roof N/A			

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Logan County, Arkansas

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## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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#### **SUMMARY**

The 1930 alignment of Arkansas Highway 22 in New Blaine is a two-lane concrete highway that was bypassed in the mid 1960s, yet still serves local traffic as part of Arkansas Highway 197 Loop. The section has a length of approximately 1.5 miles including the Little Shoal Creek Bridge. The eastern section (roughly three-fourths) of Old AR 22 lies to the north of present day AR 22 while the western section is located south of the modern highway. The bypassed section of AR 22 begins at the intersection of present day AR 22 and AR 197 then serpentines west crossing present AR 22 and makes a sweeping curve before blending back into the present highway.

#### **ELABORATION**

The bypassed section of the 1930 alignment of AR 22 is approximately 1.5 miles long and begins at the intersection of present day AR 22 and AR 197. The historic road segment is part of AR 197 until AR 197 veers north toward Lake Dardanelle. Old AR 22 then serpentines west crossing Little Shoal Creek and is known as AR 197 Loop until crossing present day AR 22. After crossing the present AR 22 it becomes Rainwater Loop that makes a sweeping curve before blending back into the present highway. The curves were added to the road not only to accommodate the landscape, but also to allow the road to cross the creek at a 90 degree angle.

The New Blaine section of bypassed AR 22 was the last section of AR Highway 22 to be completed. The road is 18 feet wide for two lanes of traffic with no paved shoulders. Each section of pavement is 9 feet wide and 50 feet long, and is composed of a tan stone aggregate mixed in the concrete.

#### Little Shoal Creek Bridge

The Little Shoal Creek Bridge is a reinforced concrete deck girder bridge that has an overall length of 255 feet. The bridge spans Little Shoal Creek, a small body of water only a short distance upstream from Lake Dardanelle on the Arkansas River, which covers Logan County's northeastern corner. The bridge's decking measures 20 feet wide and its overall width is 24 feet. Six reinforced concrete piers support the bridge's concrete decking. The guardrail on the bridge consists of evenly-spaced concrete uprights connected by two rows of horizontal concrete beams. A metal plaque at each end of the bridge list the major players involved in the construction process. The plaque has the following information: LITTLE SHOAL CREEK/COOK & RANSOM/CONTRACTORS/ARKANSAS/STATE HIGHWAY COMMISION/DWIGHT H. BLACKWOOD, COMMISIONER/C.S. CHRISTIAN, ENGINEER/1929/BRIDGE NO.52.

Today, Old AR 22 and the Little Shoal Creek Bridge are traveled across as they have been for 74 years. Although they have been in continuous use, both remain remarkably well intact. The road, although narrow by today's standards, is still a well designed and viable transportation corridor. The materials and construction was obviously excellent as the road shows very few signs of aging. The design of the bridge was a standard design commonly used in Arkansas during the 1920s and 1930s, but as highways are widened and bridges are updated to withstand the larger size of vehicles and increased traffic volume, this type of bridge is

Old Arkansas	Highway 22	

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# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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becoming increasingly rare. The highway's current designation as part of Arkansas Highway 197 Loop, rather than still being part of Arkansas Highway 22, has greatly lessened the amount of traffic that travels across the bridge. This will help preserve the bridge as it will likely not fall victim to any future highway expansion projects.

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# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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#### **SUMMARY**

Old AR 22 located in New Blaine, Logan County, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its engineering. The section of Old AR 22 in New Blaine is the longest and most intact portion of the 1930 alignment of AR 22 in Logan County. The New Blaine section of Old AR 22, which is approximately 1.5 miles long, still retains its original 1930 concrete pavement. As the first paved automobile route through New Blaine and as a well preserved section of the first fully paved State Highway in Arkansas, it is eligible for nomination under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture. Old AR 22 in New Blaine is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture, 1910-1965" in conjunction with the historic context "Arkansas Highway History and Architecture, 1910-1965."

#### **ELABORATION**

The road that leads through present day New Blaine was one of the earliest roads cut through the western part of Arkansas. The military road was a direct result of the establishment of Fort Smith military post at Belle Point on Arkansas's western boundary in 1817. The fort, originally established to keep peace among warring Indian tribes, would play a vital role in both military and civilian activities along the frontier throughout the 1800s. Until the establishment of the fort, the only transportation routes through the area of present day New Blaine were overgrown paths.

Not until 1835 did the military begin to construct a road from Dardanelle, Arkansas, to Fort Smith. The task of surveying the road fell upon Lieutenant Jefferson Davis. The road was being built to be used for the removal of Indian populations. The route, part of which was incorporated into modern Arkansas Highway 22, brought travelers from the Arkansas River at Dardanelle west to Fort Smith and into Indian Territory. The road paralleled the Arkansas River for some distance and gave access to what would become the town of Blaine in Shoal Creek Township. By 1839 the route had helped lead to the formation of a post office at Shoal Creek. Steadily improving access in the form of revamped roads brought increased settlement and better communication with the outside world past the immediate area of the river.

The road continued to be an important aspect in the settlement of the area of present day New Blaine. Soldiers from both the Union and Confederate Army marched on the road during the Civil War. After the war's end settlers continued to come into the area via the road. The post-war increase in new residents resulted in the formation of small communities branching from pioneer settlements. Naturally, the needs of expanding numbers led to the establishment of commerce centers within the county. By 1884 the community of Blaine on the Military Road had been established and had received a post office by the same name. The weatherboard buildings of Blaine lay north and south of the Military Road on the west bank of Little Shoal Creek, which was spanned by a wooden bridge.

Blaine's commercial center thrived for several years and it remained a noteworthy business location for the township being situated as it was on a main thoroughfare. By the beginning of the twentieth century the first

Old Arkansas Highway 22

Name of Property

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change for the little community was in the air as Arkansas slowly began to recover from the Civil War and the effects of the Panic of 1873. A result of this recovery was that more inroads to the state and to Logan County were created in the form of increased railroad miles. The Arkansas Central Railway, contracted to run from Fort Smith to Paris in 1897, experienced a rocky start and went into receivership in 1898 before the line was completed. It was not until 1900 that it finally reached Paris. The Secretary of State gave his permission for the Ft. Smith, Subiaco & Eastern to finance a twenty-three mile extension of the line to Dardanelle, where it would connect with the Dardanelle, Ola & Southern, which in turn connected with the Rock Island at Ola. Upon completion the line would provide unbroken access from Fort Smith to Little Rock. However, the events of World War I wreaked havoc on Arkansas railroad financing and stalled the construction of the line by 1917. The Ft. Smith, Subiaco & Eastern was sold in 1918 and reorganized as the Ft. Smith, Subiaco & Rock Island. Work on the rail extension resumed from Dardanelle with a new charter in 1919 and the city launched the first locomotive to Fort Smith in 1920.

The line passed one half-mile north of Blaine and made a stop there at a small rock depot constructed in 1920 on the north bank of Silver Smith Branch. The depot was a harbinger of things to come at the future location of New Blaine. The city center of Blaine was concentrated in its original location until about 1922. The future seemed bright with the introduction of the railroad and a movement quickly began for the incorporation of a town called New Blaine. Railroad developers had a townsite surveyed north of the tracks and the depot in 1921 and Blaine retailers slowly began moving toward the tracks into new rock commercial buildings on lots that were originally part of the Richard Harrison estate. The move was not total, as Birkhead's cotton gin remained on the shore of Little Shoal Creek until the 1930s and the New Blaine School held classes in its original locale until consolidation closed it down in the 1960s. Blaine and New Blaine essentially coexisted until the new post office was established in 1923 with the name of New Blaine.

The fundamental character of New Blaine as a small farming community did not undergo drastic change with the introduction of the railroad. Further improvements in access to the county were on the way and would mean yet another change for New Blaine. The military roads that had provided passage to the west through Logan County were the next area of the state's transportation network to receive attention during the early twentieth-century.

By 1917 the state began to designate highways with a numbering system and aggressively pursue road improvement. Increasing automobile ownership made road enhancement programs a priority. Though the Martineau-Parnell road program was rife with corruption and on a fast track to disaster, state highway mileage was increased substantially under the tenures of Governor John E. Martineau (1926) and subsequent governor, Harvey Parnell (1928). The new State Highway 22 was lauded in 1929 as the gateway for development in the western section of the state as it would open up the previously hard-to-reach area isolated by geographic obstacles. The new highway was to largely follow the route of the 1835 military road, which had been designated the Jefferson Davis highway in 1923 and was the first state highway to be completely paved end-to-end. The highway would be approximately 82 miles long and shorten the distance from

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**Continuation Sheet** 

Dardanelle to Ft. Smith by 11 miles. The total cost of the highway was in the neighborhood of \$2.5 million, or roughly \$40,000 a mile.

Work started on AR 22 in 1927 with grading and drainage. By June of 1928 all grading and earth moving had been completed. The next phase of construction was the building of bridges. A total of thirty bridges were built between November 1927 and August 1929. The highway required an unusually large amount of bridges. Located just south of the Arkansas River, the highway's route would have to cross all streams that drain into the south side of the river. The final phase of construction, paving, was begun on July 2, 1929. In late July 1930, Arkansas 22 was finally completed from Ft. Smith to Dardanelle, the first State Highway to be hard surfaced from beginning to end.

The first contracts awarded for highway construction in the area of New Blaine went to Cook & Ransom of Ottawa, Kansas, for grading and drainage structures. Their proposal for the project was received November 16, 1927. For 13.913 miles of work (State Job #801) they submitted a bid of \$108,763.08, and estimated that it would take 275 days to finish the project. The final payment, however, was way over budget at \$159,305.80. The work through New Blaine was delayed for a period of time due to a dispute over the right-of-way. This dispute delayed grading in New Blaine until April of 1929 when County Judge C.C. Sadler intervened in the matter. He was able to resolve the problem, but the delay may have been one reason the project cost went so far over budget. The delay would also mean that the New Blaine section of road would be the last along the entire highway to be completed.

Little Shoal Creek Bridge was built as part of a larger contract for nine bridges along AR 22 in Logan County. The bridge proposal was received for State Job #865 on July 18, 1928, and once again went to Cook & Ransom. The total length of the project was 3060 feet. The project was to take 350 days and cost \$78,485.64. The final cost of the project overran the proposal and the company was paid \$81,921.15. Although there is not specific information as to the individual cost of the Little Shoal Creek Bridge, the contractual information gives insight into the overall scope of the project.

Although paving began on the AR 22 on July 2, 1929, the New Blaine portion of the highway wasn't paved until nearly a year later. In fact, the New Blaine portion of AR 22 was the very last section to be completed. This was probably a direct result of the right-of-way dispute that had delayed the construction process during the grading phase of the project. The contract for the final phase of the paving was awarded to Shultz Construction Company of Ft. Smith, Arkansas, and given State Job #8121. Their proposal, which was received on March 18, 1930, proposed a cost of \$107,888.43, for the 4.889 mile section of highway, and an estimated completion time of 80 days. Final cost for the paving was slightly over budget at \$109,145.79.

With the New Blaine section paved, AR 22 became the first State Highway to be paved from beginning to end. AR 22 provided an important transportation route for people in the Arkansas River Valley and remains an important route today. In the mid 1960s AR 22 had to be changed in various sections to accommodate the building of Lake Dardanelle. At this same time most of the rest of the highway was updated with wider lanes

Old Arkansas	Highway 22
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and shoulders. The modernization process also replaced many bridges and straightened many unnecessary curves. It was during this process that a new bridge was built across Little Shoal Creek and the old section of AR 22 was bypassed in New Blaine. Although there are visible ruminants of Old 22 that can be seen along different parts of modern AR 22, the New Blaine section is the longest most pristine section in Logan County. It is also still possible to drive the entire bypassed 1.5 miles of old AR 22 in New Blaine. Remarkably, all of the section retains the original 1930 concrete pavement, including the portions that serve today as AR 197 and AR 197 Loop. The Little Shoal Creek Bridge is also remarkably intact and is traveled across on a daily basis.

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Old AR 22 located in New Blaine, Logan County, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its engineering. The section of Old AR 22 in New Blaine is the longest and most intact portion of the 1930 alignment of AR 22 in Logan County. The New Blaine section of Old AR 22, which is approximately 1.5 miles long, still retains its original 1930 concrete pavement and one of the last remaining original bridges, if not the only, along the entire highway. As the first paved automobile route through New Blaine and as a well preserved section of the first fully paved State Highway in Arkansas, it is eligible for nomination under **Criterion A** for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture. Old AR 22 in New Blaine is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places under the multiple property listing "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture, 1910-1965" in conjunction with the historic context "Arkansas Highway History and Architecture, 1910-1965."

Old Arkansas	Highway 22
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"3 Years Spent in Construction of Highway 22", Paris Express, 19 June, 1920.

"Highway 22 Follows State's Oldest Trail." The Paris Express 19 June 1930.

"New Highway Opens Historic Area in County." The Paris Express, 19 September, 1929.

"Newest State Road Opens Historic Area in Valley." The Paris Express, 17 April 1930.

"Road Order is Made for Highway No. 22." The Paris Express, 4 April 1929.

d Arkansas Highway 22 Logan County, Arkansas			
Name of Property	County and State		
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property Approx. 8 acres	-		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)			
1 15 462492 3905082  Zone Easting Northing 2 15 462030 3905148  Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) (See continuation sheet.)  Boundary Justification	3 15 461659 390472  Zone Easting Northing  4 15 461325 3904417  See continuation sheet	7	
(See continuation sheet.)			
11. Form Prepared By			
name/title Zac Cothren- Survey Historian organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program street & number 1500 Tower Bldg. 323 Center St. city or town Little Rock	date         6/20/03           telephone         (501)324-9880           state         AR         zip code         72201		
Additional Documentation	It is a least 0 less on either side of the		
Submit the following items with the completed form:			
Continuation Sheets			
Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the proper	erty's location		
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large	arge acreage or numerous resources.		
Photographs			
8 1			
Representative black and white photographs of the property	rty.		
	rty.		
Representative black and white photographs of the property  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)  Property Owner	erty.		
Representative black and white photographs of the property  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)	erty.		
Representative black and white photographs of the property  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)  Property Owner			
Representative black and white photographs of the property  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)  Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	to look on a		
Representative black and white photographs of the property  Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)  Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)  name	telephone		

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

Old Arkansas Hi	ighway 22
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#### **ADDITIONAL UTMs:**

- 5) 15 460912E 3904549N
- 6) 15 461801E 3904940N (Little Shoal Creek Bridge)

#### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the intersection of present day AR 22 and AR 197 in New Blaine, the 1930 alignment of AR 22 follows AR 197 until the intersection of AR 197 Loop where it then follows AR 197 Loop. The alignment curves southwest crossing Little Shoal Creek then continuing as AR 197 Loop until crossing current AR 22. South of AR 22 the 1930 alignment continues as Rainwater Loop until said road merges back into AR 22. The boundary includes approximately 1.5 miles of surfaced road and includes 10 feet on either side of the 1930 highway centerline.

#### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This boundary includes all of the original 1930 alignment and associated resources of AR Highway 22 that retains historic integrity and is located within New Blaine.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

	Entered in the National Register
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMME	
ACCEPTRETURN	REJECT SEP 2 7 2003 DATE
COMMENT WAIVER: N	
APPEAL: N DATA PROBL OTHER: N PDIL: REQUEST: N SAMPLE:	LEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL:
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
REFERENCE NUMBER: 030	000950
DATE RECEIVED: 8 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 1 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/15/0 10/01/03 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/27/0
STATE & COUNTY: ARKAN	NSAS, Logan
MULTIPLE Arkansas Hi NAME:	ighway History and Architecture MPS
PROPERTY Arkansas Hi NAME:	



1. Old Arkansas Highway 22 2. Logan Co., AR 3. Zae Cothren 4. June 2003 6. Starting point of historic section. Locking west. 7.(1)

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1.01d Arkansas Highway 22 2. Logan G., AR 3. Zac Cothron 4. Jane 2003 S. AHPP 6. Little shool Crock Bridge Locking Southwest 7.0



1. Old Arkansas Highway ?? 2. Logan Co. / AR 3. Zae Cothren 4. June 2003 5. AHPP 6. Close up of bridge plater



1. Old Arhansas Highway 22 2. Logan Go. JAR 3. Zae Cothen 4. June 2003 5. AHPP 6. Side profile of bridge, Loohing southwest. 7. D

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EA 41/1/2/9



1. Old Arkanses Highway 22
2. Logan Co., AR
3. Zac Cothen
4. June 2003
5. AHPP
6. Historic section to where it crosses Hemodern
7. By northeast.



1. Old Arhansus Highway 22 2. Logan County, AR 3. Zac Cother 4. Juna 2003 S. AHPP 6. Kounty road section, Locking northcast 7. O



1. Old Arhomsos Highway 22 2. Logan Co. / AR 3. Zae Cothon 4. June 2003 5. AHPP 6. End of historic sychion, Looking southwest



## The Department of Arkansas

Mike Huckabee, Governor Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Historic Arkansas Museum

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

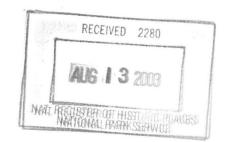


Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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website: www.arkansaspreservation.org



August 7, 2003

Carol D. 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: Old AR Highway 22- New Blaine, Logan County

Dear Carol:

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

Cathie Matthews

State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:zc

Enclosure

An Equal Opportunity Employer





