

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received OCT 22 1986
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lewis Brothers Building

and/or common Lewis Brothers Hardware

2. Location

street & number 1 S. Block

N/A not for publication

city, town Fayetteville

N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas

code 05

county Washington

code 072

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lewis Land Co.

street & number 1 S. Block

city, town Fayetteville

vicinity of

state Arkansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street & number 12 S. College

city, town Fayetteville

state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition

— excellent
☒ good
— fair

— deteriorated
— ruins
— unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Exhibiting the influence of both the Queen Anne and Classical Revival styles, the Lewis Brothers Hardware Building is sited on the northwest corner of the Fayetteville Square. The three-story building, constructed in 1904, is composed of red brick sharply contrasted against an abundance of limestone trim. East and north facades culminate at the corner in a recessed corner entrance dramatically topped with a tower. These elements, combined with a detailed cornice and stepped roofline, distinguish the Lewis Brothers Hardware Building as one of the most attractive and architecturally significant commercial buildings in Washington County.

ELABORATION

The Lewis Brothers Hardware Building was begun in 1904 and occupies a sloped corner lot on the northwest area of the town square in Fayetteville, Washington County. The building rests on a regular course ashlar stone foundation. Constructed of red brick and adorned with prominent limestone trim, the building has two facades with the narrow side facing the square and Block Street and the longer facade facing Center Street on the north.

The intersection of these two elevations is marked by a bold round tower under which is the recessed main entrance. A double-leaf door surmounted by a transom is placed at an angle across the corner and flanked by wide sidelights utilized as showcase space. Fixed sash windows are located above the entrance transom and wide sidelights.

Large showcase windows flank the corner entryway; one on the east facade and two on the north. Five pilasters composed of alternating brick and limestone bands with large limestone bases flank showcase windows and support cast iron beams which in turn support the corner tower. An unfluted cast iron column with a delicate Corinthian capital supports the steel beams at their intersection. The beams are embellished with rosettes above the column and the corners of each pilaster.

The cornice is marked by corbelled brick with dentils and the roof is encircled by a tall regularly stepped parapet surmounted with limestone coping. The tower and east facade possess two limestone bands; one directly below the architrave and the other between the first and second floors. On the east facade a three-sided bay window with one-over-one, double-hung sashes is topped with a wide lintel and pediment. A small window without a transom placed between the bay and tower emphasize the dominance of both. The tower, lined with three evenly-placed one-over-one double-hung sash windows and capped with limestone lintels, is encircled by a wide wood cornice detailed with large modillions. The tower was once crowned with a conical roof, but due to damage caused by leakage, the tower was removed.

The north facade is lined with windows on first and second stories; six evenly-spaced four-paned casement windows with limestone sills and lintels on the first floor and evenly-spaced single and paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows capped with transoms on the second floor. A band of limestone placed below each lintel connects each window. The band is broken near the northwest corner by paired two-over-six, double-hung sash windows topped with a simple pediment on the first floor. On the second floor the center of the north facade has a large bricked section which once contained a sloped studio window while the back of the facade possesses a bay window

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**National Register of Historic Places
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Continuation sheet

Item number

7

Page 1

like the window at the front. The rear elevation faces west and is spanned by brick arches over windows on the second floor and service entries on the first floor.

The interior's main floor features a pressed metal ceiling over primarily open space. The basement is accessible by a stairway in the front quadrant of the floor and a second is centered along the north wall. Basement space was utilized as display area and is undivided. During the past years the second floor served a variety of functions and is divided by temporary partitions. A small mezzanine separates the two main floors at the west end of the building.

Restoration plans to convert the building for use as a bank include replacing windows previously bricked in and re-construction of the conical roof above the tower.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1904-1908

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Lewis Brothers Hardware Building has been a hallmark of the Fayetteville Square since its completion in 1908. Its distinctive red-brick-and-white-limestone presence dominates the northwest corner of the Square, and its exterior styling has influenced the design of structures throughout the downtown area, most notably the Old Post Office Building (NR 08/27/74) which stands in the center of the square.

ELABORATION

The Lewis brothers partnership began in 1897, when the family opened a hardware store with W. T. Farrar. With the move to the present location in 1908, the Lewis brothers began a history of influence in the Fayetteville community which continues to the present day. The hardware store, which eventually expanded to include housewares and furniture, provided an unofficial community hub during the early 1900's, and the building came to symbolize a tradition of service and fairness. The Lewis family sold the business in 1957, but retained ownership of the building and leased it to the new proprietors, the Walden family of Campbell-Bell, Inc. The Lewis Brothers name remained, however, and the store continued operation until early 1986. Use of the building then reverted to the Lewises.

Plans to restore most of the structure's original features are being implemented. The Lewis Brothers Hardware Building will continue to serve a significant place in Fayetteville's commercial community as the location of a locally-owned full-service bank, recently incorporated by the Lewis family.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract of Title #85329

Interview with Tommy R. Polk, Architect - Little Rock, Arkansas

Fayetteville: A Pictorial History, Kent R. Brown

One Hundred Years of Fayetteville 1828-1928, William S. Campbell

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name Fayetteville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5
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3	9	5	5	7	5
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3	9	9	1	2	8	5
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B

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C

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D

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification Title #85329. Parts of Lots 1 and 2 in block 26 in Fayetteville. Specifically, beginning at NE corner of block 26 running S 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ ', W 40', S 25', West 115' to alley; North 54 $\frac{1}{4}$ ' to NW corner of Lot 1, East 155' to place of beginning in the county Washington, State of Arkansas.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John M. Lewis, Jr.

organization The Bank of Fayetteville, N.A.

date September 17, 1986

street & number One South Block

telephone (501) 433-3111

city or town Fayetteville

state Arkansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Wilson S. K.

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 10-13-86

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

86003334

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Lewis Brothers Building
Washington County
ARKANSAS

Substantive Review

Working No. OCT 22 1986

Fed. Reg. Date:

Date Due: 11/20/86 - 12/6/86

Action: ACCEPT

☒ RETURN 12-1-86

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal

☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

See attached sheet

Recom./Criteria Return

Reviewer Bruce Noble

Discipline Historian

Date 12/1/86

____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☒ technical corrections cited below
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

- ☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____

Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

See attached sheet

- ☐ 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Bruce Noble

Signed *Beth Groves* Date *12/1/86* Phone: *343-9547*

Lewis Brothers Building

While this nomination contains many indications of the significance of the Lewis Brothers Building, more attention must be devoted to developing a larger context within which this property can be thoroughly understood. If the exterior styling of the Lewis Brothers Building has indeed influenced the design of the post office and other downtown Fayetteville buildings, what evidence of this influence is visible? Please provide some specifics regarding what downtown buildings were influenced by the design of the Lewis Brothers Building and also explain how these influences are manifested.

With regard to commercial significance, the nomination focuses on outlining the longevity of the hardware business started by the Lewis Brothers. The durability of the business is no doubt an indication of its commercial significance, but more detailed elaboration is required in order to clearly establish commercial significance. More specifically, the nomination should directly consider the distinguishing characteristics which differentiate this hardware business from other successful businesses in the community. Doing this will allow for the creation of a broader context and thereby help to establish the commercial significance of the particular business associated with the building being nominated.

Furthermore, some effort should be made to integrate the summary and elaboration portions of the nomination's significance section. The summary deals only with the building's architectural significance, while the elaboration revolves around the issue of commercial significance. The summary should attempt to introduce both of these aspects of significance, while the elaboration should further substantiate each area of significance.

Finally, some consideration should be given to revising the specific dates associated with the period of significance. The present specific date range is 1904-1908, although the hardware business founded by the Lewis Brothers did not occupy this building until 1908. This date range, which reflects the time period during which the Lewis Brothers Building was being constructed, would be adequate if the building was being nominated only on the basis of architectural significance. However, if commercial significance is to be established, the specific date range must somehow reflect the period during which the building was commercially significant.



Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington Co.
Side elevation, 1986
Negatives on file at AHPP

AR

10/22/86



Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington Co. *AN*
First floor interior, 1986
Negatives on file at AHPP

10/22/88



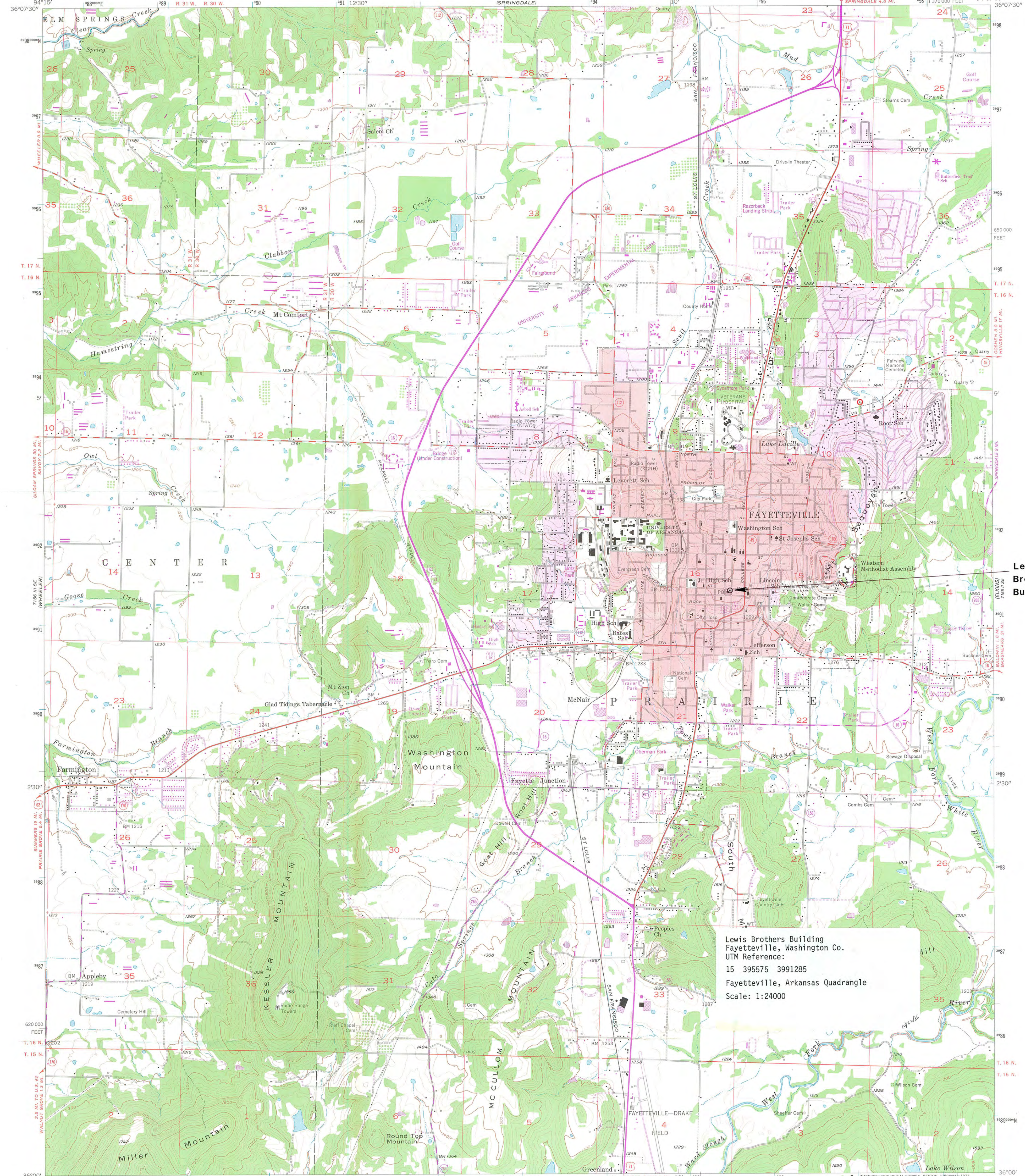
Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington Co. *AN*
Rear elevation, 1986
Negatives on file at AHPP

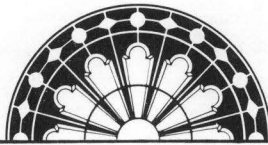
10/22/03



Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington Co. *AR*
Front elevation, 1986
Negatives on file at AHPP

10/20/86





ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

October 13, 1986

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

Re: Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington County

Dear Carol:

We are enclosing for your review the nomination for the Lewis Brothers Building. 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,

Wilson Stiles
State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/TJ/do

Enclosure/s



OCT 22 1986



Resubmission

ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

February 3, 1987

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington County

Dear Carol:

Enclosed please find the nomination for the above-referenced property. As requested, we have clarified the justification for the designated areas of significance.

Sincerely,

Wilson Stiles
State Historic Preservation Officer

WS/TJ/dr

Enclosures



FEB 9 1987

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEETLewis Brothers Building
Washington County
ARKANSAS~~Substantive Review~~Working No. 10-22-86Fed. Reg. Date: 3/26/87Date Due: 3/26/87Action: ACCEPTRETURN 3-26-87REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

*Please see attached comments.*Recom./Criteria ReturnReviewer NobleDiscipline HistorianDate 3/26/87☒ see continuation sheetNomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below
☒ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

- ☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____

Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) _____

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____

date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed Beth Givens Date 3/26/87 Phone: _____

Lewis Brothers Building

Reviewer's Comments:

The revised version of the Lewis Brothers Building nomination offers clear evidence of improvement. The resubmission contains additional information about the influential nature of the building's design and the organization of the summary and elaboration sections has been enhanced. Despite these positive signs, several lingering problems must be rectified before the Lewis Brothers Building can be listed in the National Register.

Perhaps the most important problem involves the specific dates listed under the period of significance. Although the specific dates have been revised, these dates still do not clearly reflect the commercial significance of the property. While 1908 is undoubtedly an appropriate date given that construction of the building was completed during that year, what is the significance of 1947? The text should provide documentation which explains the rationale for concluding the historical period in 1947. In addition, if the period of significance is to be extended until 1947, then the Lewis Brothers Building will have to be demonstrated to be exceptionally significant as a less-than-fifty-year-old property.

Furthermore, the discussion of commercial significance remains unclear. It is difficult to determine whether the claim for commercial significance is based on the historical importance of the hardware store under criterion A or on the property's association with members of the Lewis family under criterion B. Please determine whether the case for the building's significance rests upon the importance of the hardware business which was once located there or whether the building's association with the Lewis family is the primary consideration. If the hardware business is emphasized, please indicate what factors made the hardware business more noteworthy than other local commercial ventures. If the Lewis family is emphasized, please explain the specific significant achievements or activities of one or more members of the Lewis family and relate this significance to the nominated property.

If any of these issues require further clarification of discussion, please do not hesitate to contact me (202-343-9547).

Bruce Noble, Historian
National Register

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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received JUL 14 1987

date entered AUG 17 1987

1. Name

historic Lewis Brothers Building

and or common Lewis Brothers Hardware

2. Location

street & number 1 S. Block

N/A not for publication

city, town Fayetteville

N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas

code 05

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Washington

code 072

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Lewis Land Co.

street & number 1 S. Block

city, town Fayetteville

vicinity of

state Arkansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

street & number 12 S. College

city, town Fayetteville

state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

Exhibiting the influence of both the Queen Anne and Classical Revival styles, the Lewis Brothers Hardware Building is sited on the northwest corner of the Fayetteville Square. The three-story building, constructed in 1904, is composed of red brick sharply contrasted against an abundance of limestone trim. East and north facades culminate at the corner in a recessed corner entrance dramatically topped with a tower. These elements, combined with a detailed cornice and stepped roofline, distinguish the Lewis Brothers Hardware Building as one of the most attractive and architecturally significant commercial buildings in Washington County.

ELABORATION

The Lewis Brothers Hardware Building was begun in 1904 and occupies a sloped corner lot on the northwest area of the town square in Fayetteville, Washington County. The building rests on a regular course ashlar stone foundation. Constructed of red brick and adorned with prominent limestone trim, the building has two facades with the narrow side facing the square and Block Street and the longer facade facing Center Street on the north.

The intersection of these two elevations is marked by a bold round tower under which is the recessed main entrance. A double-leaf door surmounted by a transom is placed at an angle across the corner and flanked by wide sidelights utilized as showcase space. Fixed sash windows are located above the entrance transom and wide sidelights.

Large showcase windows flank the corner entryway; one on the east facade and two on the north. Five pilasters composed of alternating brick and limestone bands with large limestone bases flank showcase windows and support cast iron beams which in turn support the corner tower. An unfluted cast iron column with a delicate Corinthian capital supports the steel beam at their intersection. The beams are embellished with rosettes above the column and the corners of each pilaster.

The cornice is marked by corbelled brick with dentils and the roof is encircled by a tall regularly stepped parapet surmounted with limestone coping. The tower and east facade possess two limestone bands; one directly below the architrave and the other between the first and second floors. On the east facade a three-sided bay window with one-over-one, double-hung sashes is topped with a wide lintel and pediment. A small window without a transom placed between the bay and tower emphasize the dominance of both. The tower, lined with three evenly-placed one-over-one double-hung sash windows and capped with limestone lintels, is encircled by a wide wood cornice detailed with large modillions. The tower was once crowned with a conical roof, but due to damage caused by leakage, the roof was removed.

The north facade is lined with windows on first and second stories; six evenly-spaced four-paned casement windows with limestone sills and lintels on the first floor and evenly-spaced single and paired one-over-one double-hung sash windows capped with transoms on the second floor. A band of limestone placed below each lintel connects each window. The band is broken near the northwest corner by paired two-over-six, double-hung sash windows topped with a simple pediment on the first floor. On the second floor the center of the north facade has a large bricked section which once contained a sloped studio window while the back of the facade possesses a bay window like the window at the front.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1908 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Lewis Brothers Building has been a hallmark of the Fayetteville Square since its completion in 1908. Its distinctive red-brick-and-white-limestone presence dominates the northwest corner of the Square, and it survives as the only Queen Anne-Classical Revival style commercial building in the area. The Lewis Brothers Building is also significant as the location of the Lewis Brothers Hardware Store, which operated until 1986 and was the oldest retail concern in the city.

ELABORATION

The Lewis Brothers partnership began in 1897, when the family opened a hardware store with W. T. Farrar. With a move to the present building in 1908, the Lewis Brothers began a history of influence in the Fayetteville community which continues to the present day (although the original five brothers are now deceased). The hardware store, which soon expanded to include housewares and furniture, provided an unofficial community hub during the early 1900's, a "Saturday night gathering place," and the building came to symbolize a tradition of service and fairness. Essentially a college town, Fayetteville began to grow steadily after the turn of the century, and its downtown square became the shopping center not only for that city, but for much of Northwest Arkansas.

Lewis Brothers Hardware developed a reputation for stocking a wide variety of merchandise, and often items that were hard to obtain in that remote area of the state could be purchased there. Their motto was "We Have It Now," and variety was enhanced by quality, Lewis Brothers being the only store in the area to carry such items as buffets from the Abernathy Company in Kansas City or the fine livery of the Askew Saddle Company. In the 1920's they were the first to sell the new General Electric refrigerator and were the sole purveyor of such luxuries as Haviland China.

With the advent of the automobile, shopping habits began to change and many businesses relocated closer to major highways, but Lewis Brothers remained at the same location. Members of the Lewis family used the hardware business as a springboard for other commercial ventures, from cattle farming to automobile dealerships. Most notably, two of the Lewis Brothers, Art and Bert, began a long history of family involvement in local financial circles as original stockholders in Fayetteville's First National Bank. With the commercial endeavors of the family rapidly expanding, the Lewis family sold the hardware business in 1957, but retained ownership of the building and leased it to the new proprietors. The Lewis Brothers name remained, however, and the store continued operation until 1986, making it the longest-running retail concern in the city of Fayetteville which was continuously operated at the same location. With the recent revitalization of the downtown square, very few historic buildings remain. Mrs. Young's Store and the Guisinger building (NR 9/20/84) are the most notable, and neither of them can boast of being home to the same business for close to eighty years.

The Fayetteville Square is a dynamic combination of old and new structures, and the presence of the Lewis Brothers Building provides an anchor for the old as well as a reference for the new. The red-brick-and-white-limestone theme is echoed in the Old Post Office Building,

9. Major Bibliographical References

Abstract of Title #85329
Interview with Tommy R. Polk, Architect - Little Rock, Arkansas
Fayetteville: A Pictorial History, Kent R. Brown
One Hundred Years of Fayetteville 1828-1928, William S. Campbell

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Fayetteville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	5
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3	9	5	5	7	5
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3	9	9	1	2	8	5
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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Title #85329. Parts of Lots 1 and 2 in block 26 in Fayetteville. Specifically, beginning at NE corner of block 26 running S 29 $\frac{1}{4}$, W 40', S 25', West 115' to alley; North 54 $\frac{1}{4}$ ' to NW corner of Lot 1, East 155' to place of beginning in the county Washington, State of Arkansas.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John M. Lewis, Jr., Edited by the AHPP staff.

organization The Bank of Fayetteville, N.A. date May 1987

street & number One South Block telephone (501) 433-3111

city or town Fayetteville state Arkansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Wilson Ste

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 7-2-87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Beth Brown date 8/17/87
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 8

Page 1

constructed in 1911 (NR 8/27/74), and it has also been cited by the architect of recent construction as his inspiration for the exterior materials for the 1982 Fayetteville Drug Company on the southwest corner, and the First National Bank complex, completed in 1981, which dominates the square's entire east block.

The significance of the Lewis Brothers Building lies in the stability it represents, both as an architectural anchor for Fayetteville's downtown square, and as the site of its most durable business. Plans to restore the structure's original features are being implemented, and the building will continue to serve a significant place in Fayetteville's commercial community as the location of a locally-owned full-service bank recently incorporated by the Lewis family.

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

2/1/87

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

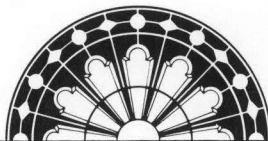
Page 2

Northwest Arkansas Times, August 21, 1957.

Northwest Arkansas Times, October 29, 1981.

Washington County in Pictures and Prose, 1927.

Resubmission.



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

July 6, 1987

Mr. Bruce Noble
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Lewis Brothers Building
Fayetteville, Washington County

Dear Bruce:

Enclosed is the new version of the Lewis Brothers nomination. My telephone conversation with you was very helpful, and I have incorporated your suggestions into the statement of significance.

Thanks very much.

Sincerely,

Tonia Jones

Tonia Jones
National Register Constituent Coordinator



JUL 14 1987

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEETLewis Brothers Building
Washington County
ARKANSAS*Substantive Review*Working No. 19-22-86
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88
Date Due: 8/28/87
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 8-17-87
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☒ NR decisionReviewer's comments: *After two returns, this nomination can now be accepted. The Lewis Bros. Building is significant under C as the only Queen Anne-Classical Revival style commercial building in the area and also significant under A because for almost eighty years the building housed one of Fayetteville's most prominent business. Although the nomination is acceptable, the state still needs to concentrate on defining and justifying*Recom./Criteria Accept - A & C
Reviewer Noble
Discipline Historian
Date 8/14/87
_____ see continuation sheetNomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below *periods of significance.*
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

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

Check one

- ☐
- unaltered
-
- ☐
- altered

Check one

- ☐
- original site
-
- ☐
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____

Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) _____

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____