NPS Form 10-900
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received SEP 14 1983
date entered

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

1. Name

historic Dallas County Multiple Resource Area

and/or common Historic Resources of Dallas County

2. Location

street & number The Boundaries of Dallas County N/A not for publication

city, town See Inventory Forms N/A vicinity of congressional district Fourth

state Arkansas code 05 county Dallas County code 039

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	X agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	X unoccupied	X commercial	___ park
___ structure	X both	X work in progress	X educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	X religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	X government	___ scientific
N/A	___ being considered	X yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
**Multiple Resources		___ no	___ military	X other: Cemetery

4. Owner of Property

name Multiple Ownership

street & number See Individual Inventory Forms

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dallas County Courthouse

street & number 3rd and Oak Streets

city, town Fordyce state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic and Architectural Resources Survey of Dallas County has this property been determined eligible? See Continuation Sheets ___ yes ___ no

date April-July, 1982 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

city, town Little Rock state Arkansas

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
X fair	___ unexposed		

See Individual Inventory Sheets

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Historic and architectural resources in Dallas County have been sporadically recorded and added to the state inventory by Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) staff members since 1973. In 1975 nominations to the National Register for four Dallas County properties were prepared by the Arkansas Archeological Survey (AAS). These nominations resulted in the listing of four kilns and kiln sites: Bird Kiln, Culbertson Kiln, Welch Pottery Works and Wommack Kiln. Three other National Register listed properties, Bank of Carthage, Home Accident Insurance Company, and the Waters House, were included in the "Structures in Arkansas Represented by the Charles L. Thompson Design Collection - A Thematic Group" nomination prepared in 1982.

A comprehensive survey was conducted from April through July of 1982 by Sarah Brown and Don Brown, AHPP cultural historians. The survey was the first comprehensive county inventory conducted under a new survey process incorporated into the Resources Protection Planning Process (RP3) begun in 1982. Dallas County was selected to initiate this process for several reasons: 1) little information on the resources of the county existed in the inventory files of the AHPP; 2) at the time of selection only four National Register listed properties, all kiln or kiln sites existed in the county; 3) a preliminary study of development in the state revealed a great potential for historic resources in the county; and 4) the threat of new and expanded lignite mining posed a great potential threat to the resources of the county. The 1982 survey was comprehensive for all architectural and historic resources in that every property as marked on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and Arkansas city maps was visited. Other properties which were not mapped were also investigated. All properties 50 years old and older, however, were not recorded. The field surveyors exercised judgement as to which properties were worthy of record. Among those properties recorded are examples of vernacular, popular and high style forms and of both unique and common types. The conditions of the recorded properties range from excellent to deteriorated. Although the deteriorated properties would not be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, many were recorded for their potential to reveal information about the architectural and cultural history of the county. Those properties added to the inventory were recorded on the AHPP's standardized survey forms, photographed, and identified on the appropriate USGS map.

A total of 139 properties were recorded in Dallas County. This low number of historic properties worthy of record is the result of historic periods of poor economy coupled with the purchasing of large land tracts by lumber companies causing the deterioration and destruction of resources. It is estimated that Dallas County will be among the counties with the fewest existing resources.

Following the completion of the survey, all inventoried properties in Dallas County were reviewed for National Register eligibility using the AHPP's standard review process. It was determined that 33 properties were eligible for inclu-

sion in the National Register. This Historic Resources of Dallas County Multiple Resource nomination is composed of those 33 properties.

During the survey, the Dallas County Historical Society and many interested individuals became involved, aiding greatly in the gathering of historic data of the county and of specific resources. In 1982, the Historical Society gave, in conjunction with the AHPP, the first annual award to an individual making outstanding contributions to the preservation effort on the local level. Much interest was generated by the property owners who became increasingly aware of the importance of the historic built environment, its association with the local culture, and the need to preserve it for future generations. One Fordyce homeowner undertook a sympathetic restoration project during the survey. Commercial property owners have made inquiries regarding tax incentives for the rehabilitation of historic properties. The AHPP has assisted the county and city governments in the acquisition of the Fordyce Cotton Belt Railroad Depot. Local invididuals, groups, and governments have an increased knowledge in the importance of historic resources and all have contributed to the survey and preservation process.

DESCRIPTION

Dallas County is located in southcentral Arkansas in the Lower Ouachita River Valley. Taking portions from Clark and Bradley Counties, Dallas County was established January 1, 1845. Presently encompassing 672 square miles of moderately rolling terrain in the Gulf Coastal Plain, the county was originally much larger. Its entire western broder was delineated by the Ouachita River while the Saline River marked its eastern border. In 1869 the northwest corner of the county was given back to Clark County and a portion of the east boundary was moved west from the Saline River to Moro Creek when Cleveland County was formed in 1873.

The two rivers which formed the east and west borders of the county were very influential to its settlement and development. The Ouachita, one of Arkansas' larger navigable rivers, empties into the Mississippi River in Louisiana. In southern Arkansas it was the most important trade and transportation route in the early and mid-nineteenth century. The Saline River, which empties into the Ouachita near the Arkansas-Louisiana border, was also an important waterway. Within the county, the two largest waterways are Tulip and Moro Creeks, both tributaries of the Ouachita.

Two U. S. Highways, 167 and 79, exist in the far eastern part of the county, intersecting in the largest town, Fordyce. These two and other state and county roads of high grade bituminous paving run basically north-south while State Highway 9 and several low grade paved roads are the major east-west arteries. Between and connecting these transportation routes are miles of unpaved or gravel timber access roads. The larger roads connect towns and communities established throughout Dallas County's history from the 1840's through the early 20th century. Some present day roads overlap early roads while others were recently surveyed. Many historic roads are no longer visible while others are identifiable as winding strips of young trees or brush through the softwood forests of the county.

The vast forests give the impression that Dallas County is an untamed untouched natural area. It is in actuality quite the opposite. The forests are planned by those called tree farmers. Amidst the forests are large open areas which are not fields nor pastures lands. There are no crops; there is no order. Single trees surrounded by brush dot these areas, which appear to be the sites of the great tragedy, fire. They are, however, areas which have been subject to clear-cutting. Where forests now stand there were once great tracts of cleared land for pasture and crops planted in cotton, corn, and potatoes. What cleared areas exist today encircle that county's larger farmsteads and are used primarily as pasture lands.

Before the Civil War farmsteads and plantations were spread throughout the county. These rural ensembles ranged in size from only a few structures to as many as two dozen. The largest plantation would include a main house, a secon-

dary dwelling, for relatives or an overseer, and slave quarters. Also included were wells, livestock barns and shelters, and food processing and storage structures. Industrial and manufacturing structures such as gristmills and blacksmith shops commonly existed in association with farmsteads.

Recognizable communities had developed in the county by the 1840's. These communities which became numerous and dotted the county would revolve around a main trade and social center. Commercial and industrial enterprises, schools, churches, and possibly a tavern or inn would constitute a community. Homesteads would not necessarily be concentrated around these centers. Rural residents would consider themselves to be part of a community whose center was several miles away. These early settlements were unplanned, developing at the intersections of roads and highways. Such communities include Pine Grove, Holly Springs, and Tulip all settled by 1840. Tulip, the most prominent of these settlements, developed at an intersection of roads to Little Rock, Pine Bluff, and Arkadelphia, regional trade centers. The nucleus of Tulip consisted of several commercial buildings facing one of these roads. Houses, churches, and schools, radiated from this nucleus along other existing roads. The community of Tulip consists today of a few houses, three or four abandoned modern commercial structures and three churches.

Princeton was the county's first planned town. Surveyed and platted in 1846 to serve as the county seat, the town's seven streets and fourteen blocks were laid out around a public square. This square on which later sat the county courthouse and jail, now stands vacant. Only a few houses, one church, and one gas station exist where there were once many houses, several commercial buildings, an academy, and a tavern or inn.

With the dissolution of the plantation/slave system and economic ruin resulting from the Civil War, Dallas County, as a rural farm area, began to change. Rural residents left the farms and, migrated to the area's largest communities in search of employment. During the Railroad Era, beginning in the 1880's, many older settlements were bypassed. As these settlements declined, the new railroad towns attracted more of the county's rural and small town residents. The emigration from the rural areas resulted in the loss of identity of or disappearance of many small early settlements.

The towns developed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as a result of the railroad were all planned. All have cores of regular city blocks divided by streets which wind into rural roads nearing the incorporation or town limits. The largest town, Fordyce, has numerous regularly laid city blocks with as many as six to eight structures on each. Smaller towns, however, may have only three to five block with as few as one or two structures on each.

In the early and mid 20th century several of the railroad towns died as the automobile age began. The railroad lines in the county were primarily used to facilitate the lumber industry. As contract logging by truck became more

feasible, railroad lines were abandoned as were the towns located on these lines. During this period the towns of Carthage, Sparkman, and Fordyce, grew and became area trade centers. Those three communities are the only incorporated towns in the county today.

The county's oldest existing commercial buildings, which also represent the first major architectural type constructed of brick, stand in the three incorporated communites. These building range from one to two stories in height and exhibit the standard form and style found in commercial structures in small town Arkansas. The town of Carthage contains only one such structure built in 1903, while Sparkman has a four block row of buildings built largely between 1915 and 1925. The commercial buildings of Fordyce were built from the late 19th century through the 1940's and stand, atypically for a railroad town, along a main street perpendicular to the railroad.

Most of the existing housing stock in Dallas County was constructed in the early 20th century. In the rural sections, houses are few and far between. Most are situated along the major or paved highways and roads and have been constructed within the last sixty years. Almost without exception, these houses are of wood frame construction, one-story in height, and covered with novelty wood siding, painted white. Three basic types exist. The oldest type is a simple asymetrical structure often with overhanging eaves supported by Craftsman brackets. This appears to be the rural vernacular interpretation of the early 20th century Bungalow in Dallas County. The second and later type is a rectangular structure with a front gable facade containing one or two entries. Most recently constructed is the third type which is a much smaller version of the suburban ranch style house. Outbuildings other than an occasional carport or garage, and equipment or storage shed do not exist in association with these dwellings.

In the larger communities and towns, the periods of 20th century architectural development are largely parallel to those in rural Dallas County. Craftsman influenced dwellings and Bungalows are of wood frame construction and range from one to two stories in height. While many are simple, others, unlike in rural Dallas County, are greatly reflective of high style influence, illustrating the greater affluence of the town. Found only in the town are Classical Revival houses which are often among the oldest structures. The existance of relatively few houses from this period and style is atypical for Arkansas.

Existing dwellings built before 1900 are all of wood frame construction, one to 1½ stories high and illustrate traditional house types such as the dog-trot and the central hall house. Although the Railroad Era in Dallas County began in the 1880's, development as reflected in the domestic architecture was slow. The frequency of late 19th century houses, consequently, is generally the same in the rural and "urban" areas. Those in the "urban" areas, however, tend to reflect greater high style influences with the addition of Queen Anne porches.

Because Dallas County's larger communities were developed as a result of the railroad, structures built before 1880 exist only in the rural sections and

smaller early communities. Only two structures both dwellings, have been identified as being built between 1860 and 1880. Economic ruin caused by the Civil War, resulted in little new construction during this period.

A Civil War map of Dallas County marks the location of approximately 500 resources, over 400 of which were homestead or dwellings and accompanying out-buildings. Of these pre-Civil War resources three dwellings and a few out-building remain. The most common extant resource type of pre-Civil War Dallas County is cemeteries. These cemeteries range from the large community cemetery to the small family plot and are scattered throughout the county. Of the other resources recorded on the Civil War map there were industrial properties such as mill and pottery works, religious facilities, educational institutions, and commercial establishments. None exist intact today.

Like the occasional homestead, several churches offer a break in the otherwise endless sea of pines. The examples of this relatively numerous architectural type were constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. the vast majority are rectangular wood frame structures, one-story high with front gable facades, illustrating a form which existed in earliest settlement. Most are Methodist, reflecting the fact that the majority of the county's settlers were Methodist. Many of these churches have only a handful of members and have circuit riding ministers while other churches no longer have congregations. As Dallas County's rural residents have migrated to other areas and as congregations dispersed, remaining residents became willing to travel the few extra miles to the churches in the larger communities. These churches, like the rural ones are largely vernacular in form. Two, however, built in Fordyce in the 1920's, were designed by prominent architects from outside the area and are among the county's finest buildings.

ARCHEOLOGY

The Historic Resources of Dallas County Multiple Resource nomination contains resources of architectural and historical significance. The nomination does not include properties that derive importance primarily through archeology. Each historic or architectural resource, however, is also an archeological resource. Each may hold valuable information about life and culture in the county and in Arkansas. At present it is not practical for a multiple resource nomination to include both architectural/historical and archeological components due to the fact that the inventory and study of each is conducted by two separate agencies, the AHPP and the Arkansas Archeological Survey (AAS).

The Arkadelphia (Clark County) Station of the AAS as of 1982, has recorded more historic than prehistoric sites for Dallas County. The number of historic sites recorded is 539. Approximately 400 of these sites were identified from a circa 1863 Confederate map which marks the locations of dwellings, churches, pottery kilns, mills, etc. The majority of the historic sites recorded, therefore, represent one time period, that of pre-Civil War 19th century Dallas County. Little documentation of the late 19th and early 20th century sites and of pre-1800 French sites exists. There is no documentation of historic Indian sites.

In 1977 the AAS conducted a survey of a project impact area east of Sparkman. A ten percent (10%) sampling survey of 3,000 acres revealed 79 historic and prehistoric sites. Based upon this survey, the AAS estimates that the recorded prehistoric sites represent less than 1% of the total and that even though there are more historic sites recorded in Dallas County than in any other Arkansas county, the number is far below the potential number. Only the four National Register listed kilns and kiln sites have been evaluated for National Register eligibility.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates See forms **Builder/Architect** See individual inventory forms

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

Dallas County, established in 1845, is located in southcentral Arkansas in the Lower Ouachita River Valley. Settlement in this area was slow before 1840. Many of the pre-Civil War settlers were farmers or planters from the Lower South. These settlers brought slaves to this part of southern Arkansas where the plantation/slave system was most prevalent.

The structures built by the earliest settlers were of log construction. Dwellings ranged from one to two stories in height and had traditional floor plans. Most dwellings were either one pen structures or dog-trots. Later dwellings were of wood frame construction and exhibited Greek Revival influences. Encircling these dwellings were numerous outbuildings including those primarily used for human service such as wells and privies, and others for livestock shelter and food storage. These complexes or homesteads were spread throughout Dallas County by 1860.

Groups of these homesteads located around a central market or commercial area were identified as communities. The two most important early communities were Tulip and Princeton. Tulip was well established by the founding of the county in 1845. Princeton was surveyed and platted in 1845 to serve as the Dallas County seat. Both communities were well known throughout the state for their educational institutions which did not survive the Civil War.

The Civil War brought about the destruction of many resources. This destruction was not by the acts of war but by the associated economic ruin. By 1863, as the war moved to southern Arkansas, many of Dallas county's residents took refuge in Texas and Louisiana, causing the county population to drop over 30%. Little construction took place during and following the Civil War. The economy of the area was revived in the 1880's with the coming of the Railroad Era. Four major railroad lines were constructed in the county beginning in 1881. These lines spurred the development of many new towns such as Fordyce, Manning, Willow and Ouachita, but caused the demise of others such as Princeton. The most important new railroad town was Fordyce, plotted in 1882. By 1890 Fordyce was the largest town in the county and in 1908 it became the Dallas County seat.

The county's oldest existing religious properties were constructed during the Railroad Era. Most of these churches are traditional, illustrating a form which existed in earliest settlement. Also during the period, the first major architectural resources constructed of brick were built. These resources represent one resource type, that of commercial structures, and exist mainly in the city of Fordyce.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property See Individual Inventory Forms

Quadrangle name See forms **Quadrangle scale** See forms

UTM References

		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				
B				
C				
D				
E				
F				
G				
H				

Verbal boundary description and justification

See individual inventory forms

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

state	N/A	code	county	code
state	N/A	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Sarah Brown, Historian, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Reviewed and edited by staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
organization	Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date July 27, 1983
street & number	Suite 500, Continental Building telephone (501) 371-2763
city or town	Little Rock state Arkansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state _X_ 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 Dobbs

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 9-2-83

For NPS use only

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

Beth Grosvenor date 10/28/83

for Keeper of the National Register

Attest: See Continuation Sheet for Listings date

Chief of Registration

GPO 894-785

With the railroads came the lumber industry. Great tracts of land on which stood many of the county's finest historic resources were purchased by lumber companies and planted in soft-woods. The lumber industry was second only to agriculture as an income producer by 1900. During this era dwellings remained basically traditionally in plan. The central hall house became an acceptable "urban" traditional house type. By 1900, however, popular influence began to affect an evolution from the traditional to the high style in ornament and form. The Classical Revival influence can be found throughout the early 20th century resources in Dallas County.

After World War I, the lumber and railroad industries continued to grow. Reflecting this growth was the construction of the county's first substantial buildings, both private and public. Many residences reflecting Craftsman influence were also built during this period.

In the 1920's, the way of life in Dallas County showed signs of change. Small communities disappeared or lost their identity as more and more farms were sold to the lumber companies. The lumber industry was now the major income producer. While the lumber industry had grown in importance, the railroad has become less important. The last train load of logs pulled into Fordyce in 1940. Logging by train had become obsolete as contract logging by trucks had become more feasible. Railroad lines were abandoned and railroad towns such as Willow and Ouachita were left all but deserted. The towns of Fordyce, Sparkman, and Carthage developed into and are today area trading centers supported largely by the sawmills located in each of the communities.

ELABORATION

Dallas County is located in southcentral Arkansas in the Lower Ouachita River Valley. Settlement of the Lower Ouachita River Valley began as early as 1812, but immigration to what is now Dallas County was slow before 1840. The pre-Civil War settlers came primarily from the Lower South, from the Carolinas to Louisiana. The area attracted physicians, potters, and millwrights. The great majority of the settlers, however, were farmers. Both yeoman farmers and wealthy planters settled in the rich alluvial bottoms where farming was good.

Arkansas was a slave state and nowhere in Arkansas was the plantation/slave system more prevalent than in the southern Coastal Plain and southeast Mississippi Delta. In 1850 Dallas County's 286 slaveholders owned 2,542 slaves. Only six other Arkansas counties had larger black-slave populations. The average number of slaves per slaveholder was between four and five while the wealthiest slaveholders who came overwhelmingly from North Carolina each owned as many as fifty or more. By 1860, black slaves represented 43 percent of the total county population. The dwellings and other structures used primarily by the black slaves were undoubtedly of a crude nature and consequently have not withstood time and the environment. It is known that the slaves built or assisted in the building of many structures. It is not known, however, to what

extent the slaves influenced or left an Afro-American mark on the structures which they had a hand in building. The only recorded resource, which is identifiably traditional Afro-American is a cemetery (DA-1) located in the northeast corner of the county.

The majority of the structures built by the early settlers were constructed of logs. Almost without exception, "first" churches, schools, and public buildings were one and two room, one-story log buildings. The dwellings were similarly of log construction but ranged from one to two stories in height. All dwellings, with few possible exception, had traditional floor plans. Most were either one pen structures such as the Brazeale House (DA-2) or dog-trots such as the Mallett House (DA-3). Although none exist today there were many well-crafted two-story houses. In 1837 Thomas Hudson built a two-story dog-trot (extant) located near Manchester, now in Clark County. Mrs. Mary Owen Sims of Holly Springs tells in her journal of the fine two-story log house, the Oaks, built by her father in 1838.

Those structures which were not built of logs were of wood frame construction, covered with weatherboards, and exhibited Greek Revial influences. Like the log structures, the wood frame dwellings had traditional floor plans. Most had central hall plans, as is the fashion for Greek Revival dwellings throughout southern Arkansas. These wood frame dwellings were generally built after initial settlement or in a second wave of construction. Thomas Hudson, who built the log house described earlier, built about 1840 a finely crafted Greek Revival I-house, converting the earlier log house into a barn. While many of the wealthier settlers could afford such grand accomodations, the virgin area, offering much timber, had few if any saw mills. The construction of Hudson's house was made possible by its close proximity to Arkadelphia, a well established trade center in Clark County, which no doubt had a sawmill.

Although brick clay exists throughout the county, there are no records of any brick anti-bellum structures other than kilns. Expedience appears to have limited the use of brick to foundations and chimneys. Stone has been a rare building material throughout Dallas County's history. Where available stone was used for foundations. Timber was a vast resource, consequently wooden blocks were a common foundation material.

Manufacturing before the Civil War took the form of saw, grist, and flourmills, cotton gins, tanyards, blacksmith shops and pottery works. Many manufacturing operations were associated with other structures, as one unit in the farm or homestead ensemble. One such homestead is that of Col. Maurice Smith who settled at Tulip in 1844. As described by Jonathan K. T. Smith, the homestead included a large log house (burned, 1966) which stood north-south facing ridge road, a two-story frame office to the south, several servants dwellings to the north, and a barn, chicken house, privy, other servants quarters and a small cotton gin in the rear.

Although larger than most, the Smith homestead illustrates much of what homesteads were like in Dallas County throughout the nineteenth century and to some extent rural Dallas County today. Dwellings facing a road, were surrounded by numerous ancillary structures. This is the case with the Brazeale Homestead (DA-2), the Butler-Matthews Homestead (DA-4), and the Thomas Homestead (DA-5). Ancillary structures could include a secondary dwelling for relatives or an overseer (DA-2 and DA-4), slave quarters, office (DA-4), mill, smokehouse (DA-4 and DA-5), potato house (DA-5), privy (DA-4), barns and storage sheds (DA-2, DA-4, DA-5). Also on the homestead would have been a garden for subsistant use and fields of a cash crop planted with cotton, corn, grain, potatoes and fruit. Various other cribs and processing structures for these crops along with structures associated with the raising of livestock, such as cattle, hogs, sheep, and chickens, would also have existed.

Recognizable communities with schools, churches, and public buildings did not exist before 1838. Eleven maps of Arkansas drawn between 1810 and 1838, indicating eighty-seven communities, show none in what is now Dallas County. By 1859, however, a map marks the settlements of Tulip, Princeton, Fairview, Red Bird, and Chappell. Other communities mentioned in early writings include Pine Grove and Holly Springs both settled about 1840.

Tulip, nestled within a rich farming area in the northcentral section of the county, was the most important of the county's earliest settlements. Arriving in the early 1840's, Tulip's settlers were some of the first in the county and were among the most prominent and influential. Among them were "Squire" Ramsay, Presley Watts, Moses Overton, John Eaton, Alexander Butler and Joseph Gray. In 1844, a well-to-do planter/slaveholder, Col. Maurice Smith came from North Carolina. Impressed with the prospects of a good life in his new home, he admonished his kin to come from the East as he had done. By 1850, there were seven related Smith families around Tulip.

The nucleus of Tulip was a long street, the Princeton Road, either side of which were several business houses. No doubt, there were also churches and a tavern and/or boarding house. Soon the community also boasted of having the several substantial buildings of the academic institutions which earned Tulip the title, "Athens of Arkansas."

In 1849 George Alexander of Virginia established the Alexander Institute for the education of girls and boys. Separating the girls from the boys, the Tulip Female Collegiate Seminary was begun in 1850. In 1858 the Methodist Church South took over the Seminary. Although the faculty and the course of study remained the same, it was renamed the Ouachita Conference Female College. Incorporated in 1860, the College and the Alexander Institute, said to have given a high quality education to students from the entire state, did not survive the Civil War.

Although the unincorporated community of Tulip was the premier settlement of Dallas County it had begun to lose some of its prominence to another town just ten miles to the south. This town, Princeton, was platted in 1846 as the seat of government for the newly established Dallas County. Princeton's seven streets and fourteen blocks were laid out by surveyor Joseph Gray around a one block public square. Magistrate "Squire" Ramsay had the square cleared and ordered the construction of the first courthouse, a log structure, on the east side. Presley Watts, instrumental in the establishment of the county, built an impressive structure, to the west of the square where he kept the local inn. Also located in the town was the Princeton Academy for girls and boys. Established in 1849 by Colonel O. G. Gray the Academy soon rivaled the schools at Tulip. Like the Tulip schools it did not survive the Civil War.

Princeton and Dallas County prospered in the decade of 1850. Proof of this prosperity was the incorporation of Princeton in 1855 and a county population of 8,243 fifteen years after founding. A Civil War map of the county marks the location of approximately 500 farmsteads, houses, churches, schools, etc. Fewer resources remain, however, from this period proportionally to those which existed than from any other period.

A major cause for the destruction of these resources was the Civil War. Few structures were actually destroyed by acts of war, but the associated economic ruin and fear of destruction caused many residents to take refuge in Louisiana and Texas leaving resources to deteriorate. This emigration caused the county population to fall from 8,283 in 1860 to 5,707 in 1870.

When the Civil War began Dallas County provided many soldiers. George Alexander and the students from the Alexander Institute formed Company I of the third Arkansas Infantry which fought in Virginia. The older men who remained in the county organized home guards by townships which functioned from 1861 until the summer of 1863. During these first years of the Civil War Dallas County was not greatly effected. Economic conditions were worsening, however, causing a great decline in construction. One dwelling (DA-6) of braced frame construction near Hampton Springs was built about 1861.

By 1863, as all of Arkansas north of the Arkansas River was occupied by Union Troops, southern Arkansas became the battleground. In April of 1863, Union forces from Little Rock under General Steele took Camden in Ouachita County. Confederates captured wagon trains at Poison Springs and Mark's Mill, making food supplies short. After an eleven day occupation of Camden, Steele was forced to retreat to Little Rock, via Princeton and Tulip. The Confederate troops who had been in close pursuit caught up with Steele's army at Jenkins Ferry in Grant County and gave battle on April 30. After the battle, the Confederates made camp at Tulip and set up a hospital. In the winter of 1863-64 several thousand Confederate soldiers were located around Princeton, Tulip, and Camden.

Immediately, following the Civil War, economic conditions in the county were poor. Tulip, never incorporated, began to decline. It had lost its place as "first" community to Princeton which had retained some of its Pre-Civil War prosperity. Tulip never regained the status it had before the Civil War. Today it is a mere crossroads with a few houses, two churches, and two or three abandoned commercial structures. Tulip's only resources remaining from its most prosperous era are a few outbuildings of the Alexander Butler Homestead now associated with Tulip's only historic dwelling, the Matthews House (DA-4), and Tulip Cemetery (DA-7).

Princeton became the leading social and economic center. Its prominence, however, was not through added prosperity, but simply through the general lack of it in other parts of the county. Princeton had suffered, too, and like Tulip it would become a community of only a few structures. The pre-Civil War resources of Princeton are the George Mallett House (DA-3) built circa 1852, and Princeton Cemetery (DA-8).

Conditions improved somewhat in the decade of 1870 and in 1880 the population of the county showed a modest rise to 6,505. Prevailing hard times, however, deterred new construction and, as a result few resources of Reconstruction Dallas County exist today. One house now located within the incorporation limits of Fordyce was originally built about 1875 (DA-9).

The decade following 1880 brought the beginning of the Railroad Era and a new prosperity. Four major railroad lines were constructed in the county beginning in 1881. The first was that of the Texas and St. Louis Railway Company. The company was chartered in May of 1881 with the purpose of building a line from Texarkana (Miller County) to the Arkansas-Missouri border. The line passed through the southwest corner of the county in the summer of 1882. In 1886 the line was converted from narrow to standard gauge and the company was renamed the St. Louis, Arkansas, and Texas Railway or more commonly the Cotton Belt.

The second major railroad to enter the county was that of the Ultima Thule, Arkadelphia and Mississippi Railway Company, organized in June of 1883. The goal of the Ultima Thule was to build a line from Arkadelphia to Fordyce via Dalark, Sparkman and Princeton and later west from Arkadelphia to Ultima Thule in Sevier County. The line's western most point, however, was Daleville in Clark County and it extended eastward to Dalark and Sparkman. The railroad was primarily a logging line and when the Daleville Lumber Company closed circa 1912, the line also closed.

Two other major railroads in the county were the Rock Island and the Malvern and Camden. In 1902 the Little Rock and Southern Railway Company had incorporated to construct a line from Haskel in Saline County to El Dorado. The line passed through the eastern part of the county near what is said to have originally been the all black community of Lea Ridge. This community moved a few miles to the

west, settling on the railroad line and became the town of Carthage. In 1905 the company consolidated with the Rock Island Railway Company.

The Malvern and Camden Railway Company was incorporated in 1911 with the purpose of building a line from Malvern in Hot Spring County to Camden in Ouachita County. In 1913 the line was given to Rock Island and the Malvern and Camden Railway Company was dissolved. The line spurred the developemnt of two new settlements, Willow and Manning. The line also passed through Sparkman, which today is often referred to as Sparkman Number Two. Old Sparkman had been established as a sawmill community in the early 1890's, but declined when the sawmill moved out. The coming of the Rock Island Railroad resulted in the establishment of a new town just northeast of old Sparkman. The new town of Sparkman was platted in 1913 and incorporated in 1915.

The railroads of Dallas County spurred the development of many new communities yet caused the demise of the county's most prominent town. When the Iron Mountain Railroad was built through Malvern in Hot Spring County, Princeton's businessmen began to move to the new railroad communities. In 1881 when the Cotton Belt was constructed through southeast Dallas County causing the development of Fordyce, more of Princeton's residents were drawn away. By 1890, Princeton had only a half dozen stores, one hotel and a few houses. The Fordyce and Princeton Railway Company, a minor logging line, began constructing a railroad to Princeton from Fordyce. In 1908, however, as Princeton lost the county seat, the line turned toward Carthage. Just as Tulip, prosperous during the 1840's, had dwindled during Princeton's prominence, Princeton became a mere crossroads while the new railroad towns prospered.

The most important new railroad town was Fordyce, platted in 1882 when the Cotton Belt line passed through the southeast corner of the county. The town was named for Samuel Fordyce who surveyed the railroad line and later became President of the Railway Company. Fordyce was incorporated in 1884 and by 1890 it had become the largest town in the county with a population of 1,710. The town continued to grow and was, in 1908, the trade center of the county and the center for railway connection in southcentral Arkansas. Added prominence was given to Fordyce in 1908 when the county seat was moved from Princeton to the booming railroad town. Shortly thereafter, in 1911, a courthouse (DA-10) reflecting the period and its prosperity was constructed in the commercial area of Fordyce.

The introduction of the railroad into the county allowed for the exploitation of the great timber resources. Many of the area's early resources were destroyed during this period as large tracts of farm land were purchased by lumber companies and planted in pine forests. These forests were penetrated by hundreds of railroad spurs and tram roads to bring the timber to the sawmills of the lumber companies. Located in Fordyce, the largest of the lumber companies was appropriately named the Fordyce Lumber Company. The lumber industry grew in the county and by 1900 it was second only to agriculture as an income producer.

At the beginning of the railroad era in Dallas County, there was still little new construction. It would be at least another decade before the effects of the railroad and lumber industries would be reflected in the architecture. High style influences, where present, were reflected in the decorative elements of appended architecture features such as porches (DA-13). The dog-trot (DA-5) remained popular well after 1900 and was constructed even near developing "urban" areas as illustrated by the Brewster House (DA-11) built near Fordyce. Although popular, the dog-trot was surpassed by 1890 in commonality by the central hall house. This house type became a more acceptable form for "urban" areas (DA-13). Many earlier dog-trot houses were skillfully converted to central hall structures (DA-12). For the well-to-do there was the more pretentious two story form, the I-house (DA-15 and DA-4).

By 1900, popular influence was affecting an evolution from the traditional to the high style in ornament and form. The Henry Atchley House (DA-16) is a fine example of this evolution reflecting traditional form combined with the Colonial Cottage while illustrating Queen Anne influences in its decorative features. The Wynne House (DA-18) later illustrates the domestic Classical Revival in its most decorative and grandiose form.

During the Railroad Era many churches were constructed in the county. These churches built from 1890 to World War I are the oldest existing religious properties in the county. All are of wood frame construction, covered with weatherboards, and are traditionally painted white. Of these churches two basic forms exist. One is tradition, illustrating a form which existed in earliest settlement. This form has a rectangular floor plan, a gable roof with either a double entry (DA-19) or a single entry (DA-20) in a gable end. The Mt. Zion Methodist Church (DA-19) is striking in its austerity while the Mt. Carmel Methodist Church (DA-20) is notable for its simple yet fine craftsmanship. The second type is a late 19th century form. With its cross gable roof it creates four gabled facades, emulating the cross. Only two examples of this type exist. The Princeton Methodist Church (DA-21) is a purer form while the Sardis Methodist Church (DA-22) illustrates the vernacular influences over the popular form in its treatment of the bell tower.

Economic growth of the Railroad Era is reflected mostly in the growth of Fordyce. In Fordyce a number of commerical buildings were constructed north of the Cotton Belt line on and around a main street. These structures, the earliest of which were built in the late 1880's, constitute the county's first major group or type of building constructed of bricks. Most are one or two stories high and range from the very simple Old Fordyce Post Office (DA-23) to the outstandingly nonpretentious interpretation of the Classical Revival in the Koonce Building (DA-24).

After World War I, the lumber and railroad industries continued to grow as did the economy of Fordyce. Reflecting this continued economic growth was the construction of the first substantial buildings in the county. In about 1925,

Rock Island built a brick railroad depot which replaced an earlier frame building. This depot (DA-26) is one of few structures in Dallas County associated with the railroad, a major developmental factor. The First United Methodist Church (DA-28) and the First Presbyterian Church (DA-29) were the first substantial private buildings not owned by large companies. These two religious properties are also the only historic churches in Dallas County not constructed in the vernacular.

Just as the new construction of commercial, public, and private structures occurred largely in Fordyce, so it was with residential structures. Houses reflecting the Craftsman influence range from the John Russell House (DA-31) which is a simple square structure made notable by its elaborate off center porch to the Elliott House (DA-32) which illustrated the style in its sweeping horizontal emphasis.

The way of life in Dallas County began to change by the 1920's. Small communities disappeared or lost their identity as Fordyce became the growth center of the county. The lumber industry soon surpassed agriculture as the principal income producer. Residents left rural Dallas County as more and more farms were sold to the lumber companies. Most agricultural operations in the county today are located in the southwest section and are devoted primarily to the raising of livestock.

While the lumber industry grew in its importance to the economy of Dallas County, the railroad became less important. In the late 1930's, the coal burning railway engines were converted to oil burners, but by the time the last engines were converted, logging by train became obsolete. The last train load of logs pulled into Fordyce in 1940. Contract logging by trucks had become more feasible.

Over the next two decades many of the county's railroad lines were abandoned and depots and other resources of the railroad were destroyed. Towns located on these lines such as Willow and Ouachita were left all but deserted. The towns of Fordyce, Sparkman, and Carthage developed into area trading centers supported largely by the sawmills and lumber products manufactories located in each of the three communities.

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(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Dallas County Multiple Resource Area
State Arkansas

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
1. Amis House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	
2. Atchley, Henry, House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	
3. Brazeale Homestead	Substantive Review	Keeper	Beth Grosvenor 10/28/83
		Attest	
4. Brewster House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	
5. Butler-Matthews Homestead	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	
6. Dallas County Courthouse	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 3/27/84
		Attest	
7. Elliott House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 3/27/84
		Attest	
8. Fielder House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	
9. First Presbyterian Church	Substantive Review	Keeper	Beth Grosvenor 10/28/83
		Attest	
10. First United Methodist Church	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Delores Byers 10/28/83
		Attest	

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Continuation sheet | Item number | Page 2 of 3

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Dallas County Multiple Resource Area
State Arkansas

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
11. Garrison Place	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
12. Goodgame, Capt., House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
13. Hampton Springs Cemetery (Black Section)	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
14. Knight, Ed, House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
15. Koonce Building	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Attest Bill Gravens 10/28/83
16. Mallett, George W., House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
17. Mt. Carmel Methodist Church	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
18. Mt. Zion Methodist Church	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
19. Old Fordyce Post Office	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 10/28/83
20. Princeton Cemetery	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Attest Deloris Byers 3/27/84

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Continuation sheet Item number Page 3 of 3

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Dallas County Multiple Resource Area
State Arkansas

	Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
21.	Princeton Methodist Church	Substantive Review	Keeper	Beth Grosvenor 10/28/83
			Attest	
22.	Rock Island Railway Depot	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 10/28/83
			Attest	
23.	Russell, John, House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 10/28/83
			Attest	
24.	Sardis Methodist Church	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 10/28/83
			Attest	
25.	Smith, Jessie B., House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 10/28/83
			Attest	
26.	Thomas Homestead	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Heloise Byers 3/27/84
			Attest	
27.	Tulip Cemetery	Substantive Review	Keeper	Beth Grosvenor 10/28/83
			Attest	
28.	Wynne House	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 10/28/83
			Attest	
29.	Charlotte Street Historic District	Entered in the National Register	for Keeper	Heloise Byers 9/14/87
			Attest	
30.			Keeper	
			Attest	