UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH 0179 418 DATA SHEET

RECEIVED JUL 2 1975

DATE ENTERED ALIC 2 9 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATIO
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CHECK ONE

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_MOVED DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Sheeks House is a two storey white frame structure with a hipped roof. Dominating the facade is a massive two storey portico which covers the projecting center bay. The house is sheathed in white clapboard with doors, window and porch screens trimmed in black.

The three bay facade is symmetrical with the portico accentuating the projecting center bay. The portico is supported by two round columns with Ionic capitals. Ornamental brackets on the cornice of the portico are identical to those found around the cornice of the house. Beneath the portico is a one storey flat roofed porch extending across the entire facade. An iron railing spans the space between the slender round columns.

A simple entablature covers the windows on either side of front bay and on both side elevations. The projecting center bay has entries on both floors, with the second storey entry opening onto the roof of the lower porch. The main entry is especially interesting with flush board on either side of the bay facade. The panelled door is surrounded with sidelights and a transom of red etched glass.

A one and one-half storey "U" shaped wing is located at the rear (north) elevation of the house. The east leg of the "U" consists of a screened porch similar to the one storey porch on the facade. The west leg of the "U" is enclosed, as is the gable roofed rear section.

Early photographs show that the Sheeks House has been greatly altered since its original construction in 1872. Two photographs made circa 1900 show the structure as having a gable roof with a pitch similar to that of the gabled dormers on the east and west elevations of the present house. A boxed cornice with returns featured the same brackets that are preset on the house today. Though no documentary evidence is available, it appears that when the house was remodeled in early 1900 its size was almost doubled by adding a two storey addition across the rear elevation. This addition would have enclosed the one storey rear wing visible in one of the early photographs. The front portico was added about 1908.

The interior of the Sheeks House is relatively plain, with two exceptions. A two flight stairway rises to the second floor at the rear of the entry hall. Turned balusters between square posts support the handrail. The square newel post is decoratively carved and topped with a figurine. In the rear parlor the mantelpiece has Ionic capitaled columns flanking the bracketed mantel shelf. Displayed throughout the house is the present owner's large collection of glassware.

Though the original house was remodeled in the early twentieth century, the Sheeks House has remained unchanged since 1908. It retains many original features and Still rests on its original site across from the Clay County Courthouse. The 1908 alteration illustrates the adaptation of a structure to changing architectual styles.

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	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
_1600-1699	ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X</u> 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

aver o a pua

The Sheeks House is an important historic landmark in the small northeast Arkansas community of Corning. The house was built in 1872 by a prominent Arkansas attorney, E. Foster Brown. In 1879 Brown moved to Jonesboro and sold his home to Edward V. Sheeks, one of Corning's early businessmen. Since 1878 the house has remained in the Sheeks family.

E. Foster Brown was born in Tennessee in 1844. At age fourteen he moved with his family to Randolph County, Arkansas. In 1862 he enlisted in the Confederate army and served throughout the Civil War. Afterwards he returned home to complete his education by studying law. Brown was admitted to the Arkansas Bar in 1871. After a year of further study in Lebanon, Tennessee, Brown began practicing law in the newly organized Clay County (On March 24, 1873, Clayton County was created from portions of Randolph and Green Counties. The name was later shortened to "Clay").

Despite his youth and inexperience, Brown was elected as a delegate to Arkansas' 1874 constitutional convention. His active participation contributed to the formulation of the document which still governs Arkansas a century later. In 1875 Brown served as state senator from the first district, and in 1878 he was elected as prosecuting attorney for Arkansas' Second Judicial District. In 1883 Brown moved to Jonesboro in Craighead County, thus terminating his political career in Clay County.

In the early 1870's Foster Brown built a two storey frame home in Corning. On the lot just west of the house was his law office. According to the present owner, Brown sold his house to E. V. Sheeks in 1878 (The present owner is the daughter-in-law of Mr. Sheeks). The house was ideally located for Sheeks whose mercantile store was located just east of the house.

Edgar Van Buren Sheeks was a native of Indiana who moved to north Arkansas as a young man. On arriving in Clay County in the late 1870's Sheeks opened a saw mill just north of Corning. Later he went into partnership with George W. Stephens to open Sheeks-Stephens Store on the northeast corner of Corning's courthouse square. Sheeks and Stephens also owned the first cotton gin in Corning. In 1906 Sheeks was manager of the electric light plant in Corning. His many successful business ventures made E. V. Sheeks an important factor in the early economic life of Clay County.

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DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

LANG 1975

DATE

CONTROL OF 1975

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUL 2 1975

DATE ENTERED AUG 2 2 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

one

The Sheeks House was originally a provincial style house distinguished by the projecting center bay. The two storey house had a one storey wing on the rear elevation, thus giving the structure an ell-shape floor plan. In 1908 the house was remodeled by adding both a two storey and one storey addition at the rear, and a two storey portico and one storey porch on the facade. The alteration of the house made it more in vogue with early twentieth century architectual styles.

Though architecturally interesting, the significance of the Sheeks House lies in its association with two men prominent in Clay County history. The house typifies the home of a successful northeast Arkansas businessman at the turn of the century.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9 PAGE one

House, J. W. "Constitutional Convention of 1874 - Reminiscences." <u>Publications</u> of the Arkansas Historical Association, Volume 4, 1917. Microfilm, Arkansas History Commission.

Sheeks, Mrs. Edgar V., Jr. Interview at Sheeks House, Corning, Arkansas, April 21, 1975.

Property Sheeks House Clay CO.	75000376
State arkansas Working Number 7.2.75. 1236	
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Sheeks House Clay County Arkansas Jacade, viewed from the couth

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form No. 10-301a

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JUL 2 1975

RECEIVED AUG 2 2 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sheeks House

AND/OR COMMON

E. Foster Brown House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

__VICINITY OF

COUNTY Clay

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

Corning

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET Facade, viewed from the south

11 of 3



Sheeks House Clay County Arkansas Jacade + east elevation, viewed from the southeast

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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1 NAME

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Sheeks House

AND/OR COMMON

E. Foster Brown House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Corning

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Clay STATE Arkansas

? PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Facade and east elevation, viewed from the southeast

2 of 3



Form No. 10-301a (Pev. 10-7'+)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

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AND/OR COMMON

E. Foster Brown House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY Clay

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTOREFERENCE

Corning

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Hisotric Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Rear and west elevation, viewed from the northwest

3 of 3

Form No. 10-301 (Rev. 1Q-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
JUL 2 1975
RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED AUG 2 2 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sheeks House

AND/OR COMMON

E. Foster Brown House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

__VICINITY OF

Clay

STATE

Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey, Corning Quadrangle

SCALE

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Corning

DATE

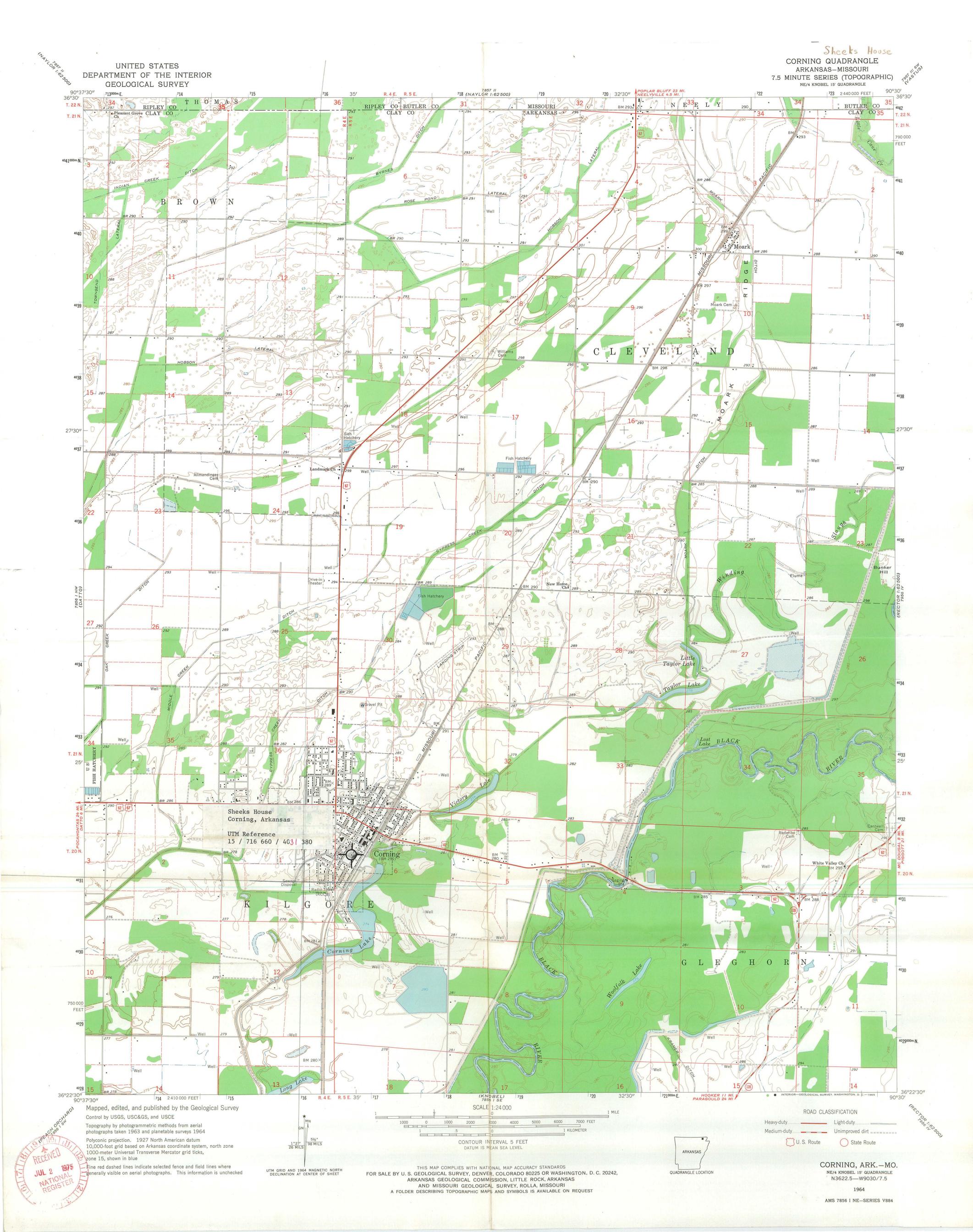
1964

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
- 2. NORTH ARROW
- 3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered AUG 2 2 1975

Name

Location

Sheeks House

Corning Clay County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan Hon. Dale Bumpers Hon. Bill Alexander

Regional Director, Southwest Region State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Gene Richardson
Acting Director
Department of Natural and Cultural Heritage
The Old State House
300 West Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

PR MMOTT: p1 8.27.75

INT: 2950-75



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



FIRST STATE CAPITOL • 300 WEST MARKHAM • LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

September 10,1975

Mr. Charles Herrington
Office of Nomination and Review
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Herrington:

The nomination form for the Sheeks House in Clay County, Arkansas, contains two owner's names, one of which is incorrect. Please remove the name of Mrs. Louise B. Scott, 609 Olive Street, as she is not the property owner. Mrs. E.V. Sheeks is sole owner of the property.

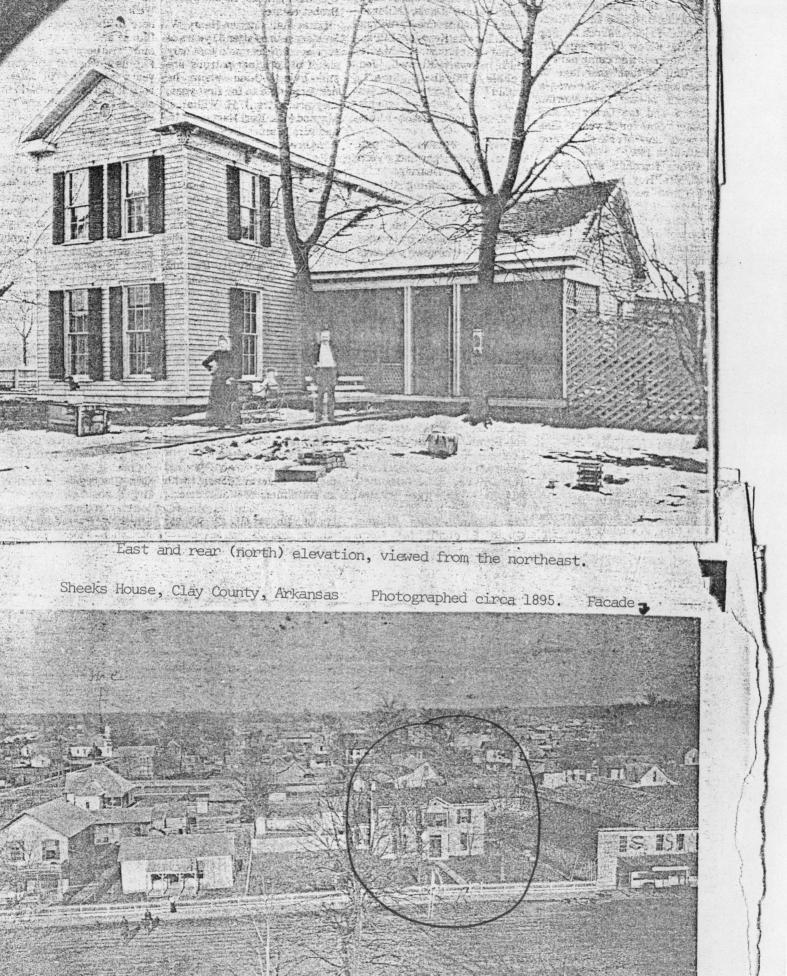
Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jack Doss, Historian

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

JD:jfs





st salreer (north) elevation, viewed from the northeastr

neels house, Clay County, Andansas Photographed Girca 1895. Hacade

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WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DIDO architectural style(s):	archite	major alterations: historic events:	master builder:	engineer:	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO architectural style(s): NEO - CLASSICAL REVIVAL ELE	MENTS	major alterations: historic events:	master builder:	engineer:	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO architectural style(s): NEO - CLASSICAL PEVIVAL ELE landscape architect/garden designer	MENTS	major alterations: historic events:	master builder:		
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO Barchitectural style(s): NEO-CLASSICAL PEVIVAL ELE Diandscape architect/garden designer NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: E. FOSTER BROWN - PRO	MENTS r: an interior decorator:	major alterations: historic events: ect: artist:	master builder:	engineer:	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO Parchitectural style(s): NEO - CLASSICAL PEVIVAL ELE Plandscape architect/garden designer NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: E. FOSTER BROWN - PRO EDWARD V. SHEEKS EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:	MENTS T: interior decorator: OMINENT AMORNEY - ORLE 5 - BUSINESSMAN - LAT	major alterations: historic events: ect: artist: SINGL OWNER. TEL OWNER.	master builder:	engineer: builder/contractor:	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO CONTRACTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO CONTRACTORICAL PEVIVAL ELE CONTRACTORICAL	MENTS T: interior decorator: OMINENT AMORNEY - ORLE 5 - BUSINESSMAN - LAT	major alterations: historic events: ect: artist: SINGL OWNER. TEL OWNER.	master builder:	engineer: builder/contractor:	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITTO CURRENT CURRENT	MENTS T: MINENT AMOUNEY - OFLE BYSINESSMAN - LAT FRAME, CLAPBOARDING HTRANCESIN SLIGHTLY PRO	major alterations: historic events; ect: artist: SINAL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER. JECTING SECTION D	Master builder: Action: MOULAR, HIPPED R WITH MASSIVE FULL-	engineer: builder/contractor: oof, Interior Chimney, Isr HEIGHT PEDIMENTED DISTAGE	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DIDO CONTENTLY: DIDO	MENTS T: MINENT AMOUNEY - OFLE BYSINESSMAN - LAT FRAME, CLAPBOARDING HTRANCESIN SLIGHTLY PRO	major alterations: historic events; ect: artist: SINAL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER. JECTING SECTION D	Master builder: Action: MOULAR, HIPPED R WITH MASSIVE FULL-	engineer: builder/contractor: oof, Interior Chimney, Isr HEIGHT PEDIMENTED DISTAGE	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITTO CURRENT CURRENT	MENTS T: MINENT AMOUNEY - OFLE S - BUSINESSMAN - LASS FRAME, CLAPBOARDING WITHANCESIN SLIGHTLY PRO RCH, IVE-STORY REAR G	major alterations: historic events; ect: artist: SINAL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER. TEL OWNER.	MOULAR, HIPPED R WITH MASSIVE FULL-	engineer: builder/contractor: oof, Interior Chimney, Ist HEIGHT PEDIMENTED DISTYLE NED POLCH; I-AND 2-STORY	
WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: RESIDENCE CURRENTLY: DITO CURRENTLY: DITO CURRENTLY: DITO CURRENTLY: DITO CONTINUED AND STORY FRONT CENTER E PORTICO, I-STORY FULL - WIDTH PORT	MENTS T: MINENT AMORNEY - OFLE S - BUSINESSMAN - LAN FRAME, CLAPBOARDING ENTRANCESIN SLIGHTLY PRO PICH, IVE-STORY REAR G. ICAL PENIVAL, BUILT F	major alterations: historic events; set: artist: SINAL OWNER. TEL OWNER.	MOULAR, HIPPED R WITH MASSIVE FULL-	engineer: builder/contractor: oof, Interior Chimney, Ist HEIGHT PEDIMENTED DISTYLE NED POLCH; I-AND 2-STORY	

reviewers initials gooff date 9/20/11