National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not comply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of sporting on the instructions.

| Signature of certifying of Arkansas Historic Press State or Federal agency/b | ervation Program oureau or Tribal Governmen y meets does not mee | Date t the National Register criteria. Date |
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| nationalsta Applicable National Register C | atewide <u>X</u> local | |
| level(s) of significance: | | ne ronowing |
| In my opinion, the property I recommend that this property | | et the National Register Criteria. |
| | | nts set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. |
| hereby certify that this X the documentation standards for | | etermination of eligibility meets National Register of Historic |
| As the designated authority un- | der the National Historic Prese | ervation Act, as amended, |
| 3. State/Federal Agency Cen | rtification | |
| Not For Publication: | Vicinity: County. | Tot Opining |
| Street & number: Bounded by V City or town: Malvern State: | | |
| 2. Location | The second secon | A |
| (Enter "N/A" if property is not | part of a multiple property lis | ting |
| | erty listing: | |
| Name of related multiple prope | | National Park Servi |
| Other names/site number:Name of related multiple prope | ioroid, motorio Biotriot | Al-Water of Historic |
| | nercial Historic District | Nat. Register of Historic |

Malvern Commercial Historic District Name of Property Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

| 4. National Park Service Certification | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| I hereby certify that this property is: | |
| entered in the National Register | |
| determined eligible for the National Register | |
| determined not eligible for the National Register | |
| removed from the National Register | |
| other (explain:) | |
| Jos Julhy | 9.28.2015 |
| Signature of the Keeper | Date of Action |
| 5. Classification | |
| Ownership of Property | |
| (Check as many boxes as apply.) | |
| Private: | |
| Public – Local | |
| Public – State | |
| Public – Federal | |
| Category of Property | |
| (Check only one box.) | |
| Building(s) | |
| District | |
| Site | |
| Structure | |
| Object | |

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

| Contributing 26 | Noncontributing 8 | buildings |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | <u> </u> | objects |
| 26 | 8 | Total |
| 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/ TRADE: busi | ness, professional, financial institu | |
| 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE: busing partment store, restaurant, phare SOCIAL: meeting hall GOVERNMENT: city hall RECREATION AND CULTI | etions.) ness, professional, financial institu macy | ntion, specialty store, |
| 6. Function or Use Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) COMMERCE/TRADE: busing partment store, restaurant, phare SOCIAL: meeting hall GOVERNMENT: city hall RECREATION AND CULTI | etions.) ness, professional, financial institutions. macy URE: theater / EXTRATION: communications | ntion, specialty store, |
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Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 7. Description | |
| Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions.) LATE 19 TH AND EARLY 20 TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOV | EMENTS: Commercial |
| Style MODERN MOVEMENT: Art Deco OTHER: Contemporary | |

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: __BRICK, CONCRETE, STUCCO, WEATHERBOARD, CERAMIC TILE, GLASS, SYNTHETICS: Vinyl, Plastic, STONE: Granite, METAL: aluminum, CONCRETE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The proposed Malvern Commercial Historic District is a short distance from where the train station stands. It is the oldest and longest utilized commercial development in Malvern. Its boundaries include thirty-five buildings and one ancillary structure. The building composition of this community consists of commercial structures, including the city hall. Contributing buildings range in date from c. 1897 to c. 1925. Most of the buildings are brick and many had new facades applied in the early to mid 1920s. The historic integrity of this community is 83% intact and contributing to its status as a historic district. The identity of this area is defined through its remaining historic structures and its location as the historic commercial center of Malvern.

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Narrative Description

Overview

The advancement of Malvern as a city began with its establishment as a railway station in the 1870s and within a few years, its acquisition of the title of Hot Spring County Seat. The region is known for its diversity in agricultural and mineral resources which have provided the infrastructure for Malvern's economic growth. The city has become known as the "Brick Capital of the World" due to its abundant production of bricks. These factors have influenced the physical and aesthetic development of downtown Malvern.

The district encompasses South Main Street from East First Street to East Fifth Street and includes City Hall on Locust Street. This portion of downtown is the most intact area of historic Malvern and represents the area from 1897 to the mid 1920s.

The earliest Sanborn Map from 1886 shows a very different Malvern with wood structures and a smaller commercial district. The most prominent concentration of commercial buildings faced the railroad tracks and Main Street from S. Second St., the last southern block in the city, comingled residential and commercial structures.

The city suffered devastating fires in 1896 and 1897 which destroyed the majority of downtown Malvern. One of the few surviving structures was Malvern Bank. All of the buildings facing the railroad along First Street and most of them along Main Street were demolished. Citizens rebuilt in brick, significantly changing the town's appearance. The 1897 Sanborn Map shows a concentration of new brick buildings and a few dwellings along Main Street at this time. Lots were available along First Street but because they were not significantly developed until the 1920s, it suggests that this area was not as desirable a location as Main Street had become.

By 1904, the city had filled in most undeveloped lots with early twentieth-century style commercial brick buildings and built more commercial structures on the west side of the fourth block (at Page Avenue) of Main Street where homes had been. In the late 1910s a few new buildings had been built on the east side of Main Street at E. Page Avenue, replacing warehouses and small service industries. Examples include Builders Lumber Supply and 228 S. Main Street.

During the 1920s most of the buildings within the historic district received new brick front façades, changing the look of downtown Malvern from one of primarily late 19th century buildings to one reflective of the 20th century. Examples include 202 S. Main St and 208 S. Main St. The late 1920s introduced the Art Deco style to Main Street. Charles Thompson, a well-known Little Rock architect designed buildings for E.F. Nunn using some cast Art Deco ornament on their friezes. A new city hall was built in 1935 with very ornamental stylized concrete panels on its front façade, glass tiles, and metal banding. Other buildings built at this time include Collie Chevrolet and the Ritz Theater. Then several buildings' storefronts were remodeled in the 1950s and 1960s using glass or plastic tiles, metal banding, and even hexagonal windows. Examples include the first floor of Miller's Drug Store, Chamberlain Drug Store, and Caldwell Hardware.

In the 1960s some of these historic structures had mid-century style slipcovers installed over their front facades. Examples include Malvern Hardware and 225 S. Main St. Since this time, the city has seen little change to its remaining historic buildings.

However, in 2006 nearly an entire city block on the west side of Main Street from East Third Street to East Page Avenue was demolished to build a Walgreens. But in all, the district remains mostly intact and a good representation of the evolution of the city from the early to the mid-twentieth century. The district

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has a significant number of antique stores but it also houses the Malvern City Hall, a functioning theater, pharmacy, doctor's offices, an attorney's office and a bakery.

Inventory:

HS0165, Builders Lumber Supply, 132 S. Main St., c. 1900, Non-contributing structure, 2 story stucco standard 19th century commercial building with blind arches on the second floor. The windows have been replaced and the center stair door is missing on the front. There is a ghost sign on a metal door in the back that reads "Builder's Lumber Supply, hours 7:30 to 5:00, Saturday 7:00 to 12:00". The building started as a restaurant on the south side and a meat market on the north side around 1904. By 1908 the north side had become a telephone exchange. In 1913, the telephone exchange was still here but the south side had become an office. In 1920 it is shown as offices on both sides. By 1930 it was a store and around 1940 the back addition was put on. It held lumber. This was likely a hardware store by this time. It is now rented by a local politician as her state campaign headquarters. The building is non-contributing because of the window and door arrangement and brick infill.

HS0166, Malvern Hotel, J. Elmo Young Building, 138 S. Main St & 104 & 106 W. Second St., c. 1910, Non-contributing structure, 2-story brick, tile, and EIFs. This is a standard commercial early 20th century style building. The exterior has decorative brick coursing with brick arched window openings. There are decorative vents in the frieze. 4 metal thresholds marked "Mesker & Bro. St. Louis Mo." are being used as a cap on a retaining wall enclosing parking in the back of the building. The front first floor façade has been covered with EIFS and tile. The Sanborn maps from 1913-1948 show the building as the Malvern Hotel with offices on the south side and upstairs, including J. Elmo Young's office. Around 1930 the building became the J. Elmo Young building. Young owned a store at one time and then a title and trust company. Today it is Edward Jones Investments. The building is non-contributing because of the window and first floor alterations.

HS0167, 202 S. Main St., c. 1890, Contributing Structure one-story brick building built in the standard late nineteenth century commercial style. The front façade has had corrugated metal added to it. The building has decorative grilles in the front frieze. There are a more ornamental decorative brick frieze and arched window openings on the 2nd St. side hinting to the building's original architecture. A partial ghost sign can be seen on 2nd St. but only the letters "D+R" can be read. There are metal grilles in the foundation of the 2nd St. side. A newer brick storefront appears to match the front of 208 S. Main St. and was probably added about 1920, changing the character of the building. The Sanborn map shows this as a grocery in 1897, dry goods and clothing store in 1904, clothing store 1908-1913, and store 1920-1948. Today it is Guapos clothing store.

HS0168, 208 S. Main St., c. 1910, Contributing Structure, One-story brick, standard 20th century commercial style building. The front façade matches the one next door at 202 S. Main St. Plywood has been placed over the transoms and board and batten siding covers part of the storefront. There is a metal threshold running the length of the front of the building that reads "Wind & Stevens Co. Little Rock AR." There are cast metal vents in the frieze and a metal anchor with a sign. The frieze also has decorative brickwork. The brick front appears to have been replaced around 1920. Today it is Country Garden Florist and the only building downtown with an ancillary building. The ancillary is a prefabricated shed set up behind the building and used for storage.

HS0169, Chamberlain Drugs, 210 S. Main St., c. 1896, Contributing Structure, one story brick building originally built in the standard nineteenth century style. Now displays Art Deco orange and black plastic tiles and awning which were later added. The exterior of the front entrance is tiled with "Chamberlain" written out in tile. The front of the building was altered around 1920 with a new brick façade, then again around 1950 with mid-century Art Deco features on the storefront. Interior cabinetry still exists from when the building was a drugstore including display shelves and a pharmacist's desk. An ancillary building was added around 1906 but was enclosed to become part of the building at some point. The building operated as a drug store from its construction date until the late 20th century. It is now an antique store.

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HS0017, Bank of Malvern, Spears Law Offices, 212 S. Main St., c. 1896, Listed, two-story late 19th century commercial style building with a very decorative front façade. The building has a Richardsonian-style granite arched entrance with decorative carved stone pilasters flanking the entrance. The first floor front is built of granite block with beaded red mortar. There is a stone plaque reading "BANK" above the door. The building also has stone window sills and the 2nd floor has a turned wood pilaster centered in the double window over the entrance. There is a decorative red brick or terra cotta band at the frieze between the 1st and 2nd floors. Someone has enclosed the store front with marble slabs. The metal after-hours depository is still under the front porch entrance. The building continually operated as a bank through the 20th century but is now Spears Law Firm owned by Donald Spears.

HS0170, Ritz Theater, 213 S. Main St., c. 1938, Contributing Structure, Brick theater building built in the standard 20th century commercial style with Art Deco cast-concrete plaques at the top of the frieze, upper windows, and awning brackets. There is also decorative tile banding at the windows in the upper frieze. A sign hangs from the frieze which reads "Ritz". This building has functioned as a theater since it was constructed in 1938.

HS0171, North Side of Caldwell Hardware, 214 S. Main St., c. 1897, Contributing Structure, One-story brick building originally constructed in the late 19th century commercial style. The front façade has been altered to match 218 S. Main St. in the mid-twentieth century. The entrances have been changed from facing the street to angled and are covered in black tile popular in Art Deco mid-century commercial architecture. There is also raised brick banding across the fronts which create a frieze. There is evidence of the late 19th century architecture along the back where arched brick window openings (now bricked in) can be seen above the current window openings. From 1897-1925 the building included 218 N. Main and together they operated as Caldwell Hardware. It is now a children's pay to play.

HS0172, 217 S. Main St., c. 1910, Contributing Structure, Brick one-story standard 20th century commercial style building with decorative brick coursing at the frieze. The storefront appears to have been replaced around 1960. There is now green stained concrete on the exterior front entrance floor. Around 1915 the building operated as a dry goods store. In 1938 and1948 it is marked as "store" on the Sanborn map. It is currently a TV repair shop.

HS0173, South Side of Caldwell Hardware, 218 S. Main St., c. 1897, Contributing Structure, One-story brick commercial building with mid-century Art Deco black plastic tiles on the front façade. The structure was first used as a millinery in the late 19th century. It then, along with 214 S. Main St., became Caldwell Hardware.

HS0011, Nunn Building #1, 219 & 220 S. Main St., d 1925, Contributing Structure. One-story blonde brick standard 20th century commercial style building with Art Deco cast ornament on the front parapet. Built by Charles Thompson as a retail space for T.E. Nunn. Concrete plaque in the frieze reads "19 Nunn 26". There is decorative tile on the recessed front entrance floors. One side has vertical board over the lower half of the store front. In 1928 one side of the building had a printer in it. In 1979 there was a jewelry store here. Currently there is a taekwondo studio operating in 219 S. Main and a Cheerleading Studio in 221.

HS0174, 223 S. Main St., c. 1930, Contributing Structure, One-story red brick building with a blonde brick front. Front appears in a mid-century standard commercial style. The very plain and unornamented front has two metal grilles in the frieze. The tax assessor's office states the building was built in 1930. The red bricks along the back and sides appear to be older and the mortar is failing in places. There is a building of similar shape on the 1904 Sanborn map which functioned as a grocery store. It is very difficult to tell the age of this building considering that the front façade has likely been changed, the sides are mostly covered by other buildings and the original back is blocked by a concrete-block addition. It is currently occupied by Sawyer Ad and Arkansawyer Outdoors.

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HS0175, 224 S. Main St., c. 1920, Contributing Structure, One-story brick standard 20th century commercial building with a blonde brick front and red brick back. The storefront appears to have been replaced around the mid-twentieth century and has plastic tiles surrounding the windows. It has a large metal awning shared with 226 S. Main St. However, the style of the frieze and the terra cotta tile that caps the front parapet suggest it was built the same time as other 1920s era buildings on the block. The Sanborn maps show another building footprint here from 1904-1948.

HS0176, 225 S. Main St., c. 1900, Contributing Structure, One-story brick commercial building with blonde brick mid-20th century style front and red brick late 19th century style back. Front has no ornament but has grilles in the frieze. The back reflects an older architectural style with arched brick window and door openings. Sanborn maps show the building operating as a furniture store and warehouse from around 1900-1912. In 1913 the building was split and the furniture store operated out of the north side while a barber worked out of the south side. By 1920 a millinery shop was in the north side and a barber was still in the south side. In 1930 both sides operated as stores then in 1948 a restaurant went into the north side and a store remained in the south side. Currently, it again is one business, an H&R Block tax service.

HS0012, Murray Building, 226 S. Main St, c. 1897, Contributing, Late 19th century commercial brick building with a decorative frieze with ornamental vents. There are little metal gabled caps on the end of the front parapet. A plaque with the name "MURRY" is in the frieze. There is also decorative tile on the exterior entrance floor that reads "MURRY". Currently there are mid 20th century era tiles on the storefront base. There is a glass cupola on the roof and arched windows in the back. The back is stucco-ed. The building was used as a drug store from its construction into the mid-twentieth century. In 1979 it was known as Allen Sewing Center. It is currently unoccupied.

HS0177, 227 S. Main St., c. 1900, Non-contributing Structure. Late 19th century brick commercial style building. Ornamental frieze with egg and dart brick or terra cotta ornament. A plaque in the frieze has been removed and replaced with or covered over with plywood, but beneath it a granite sill is still in place. There is fluted reed detailing on either side of the upper storefront. The storefront has been filled in with contemporary blonde brick, windows, and door. The building was first used as a grocery store and meat market until around 1925, possibly longer—the 1930-1948 Sanborn maps states a store was here. The meat market and grocery was run by George Hertzel. Hertzel had been a clown in a traveling circus that came through Malvern. When it left he stayed, marrying a local woman and opening this meat market. This building is non-contributing because of the infill.

HS0178, 228 S. Main St., c. 1897, Contributing Structure, One-story brick late 19th century commercial style building with a decorative frieze and ornamental vents. The Sanborn maps state c. 1897- c.1906 it operated as a grocery and c. 1907- c.1925 it was a hardware store. The 1930 and 1948 maps show it as a store. It appears to have recently (within the last decade) been split into two store fronts with two stores inside.

HS0014, Vance Building, 230 S. Main St and 104 & 108 W. Third St., c. 1900, Contributing Structure, Late 19th century standard commercial style building. Ornamental frieze includes blind arches on the front façade. There are brick capitals on the front parapet- one is missing. Oral history says it was struck by lightning. Arched and clerestory windows are visible on the 3rd St. side. The offices on 3rd St. were built when the building was constructed. C. 1900- mid 20th century the building operated as a jewelry store. In 1979 it was known as Buck's Fabric Store. Currently it is a bakery.

HS0015, Miller's Drug Store, 231 S. Main St., c. 1890. Contributing Structure, 2-story brick 19th century standard commercial style building with Art Deco details later added. The building displays a decorative frieze with applied concrete swags on the front. It also has cut granite bands at the windows. The arched windows on the 2nd floor have decorative hoods. The 1st floor exterior has been remodeled using Art Deco details including mid 20th century black tile, a hexagonal window, and mirrored storefront on the corner. This building has continually operated as a drug store since it was constructed. The second floor

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housed a Masonic Lodge from the time the building was built until at least 1940. The upstairs is currently used as storage.

HS0179, Coleman's Dress Shop, 301 S. Main St, d. 1960. Non-contributing Structure, One-story brick flat fronted blonde brick building with bay windows and recessed doors on the front and side. It is currently a resale shop.

HS0180, Fair Deal Store Building, 302 S. Main St., c. 1900, Contributing Structure, One-story red brick late 19th century standard commercial style building. Decorative brick and cast-concrete ornament on the frieze. Decorative brick coursing on 3rd St. Decorative tile entrance floor. Sanborn maps show this building as a dry goods store from 1900-1920. The 1930 and 1948 maps show it as a store. Currently, it is a clothing store.

HS0181, Walgreens, 308 S. Main St., d. 2006, Non-contributing Structure. Red brick block-shaped building with rough cut cast-concrete blocks at base and band around the top of the building used to create a frieze. Typical 21st century retail box style architecture. It was built on the block that once housed Western Auto. In the early twentieth century, this lot did not have a building on it, so farmers parked their wagons and, in the fall, would sell bales of cotton. Periodically, they would also trade horses on this lot. Henry McDonald later constructed an outdoor theater here called the Airdome. That was a popular summer spot in Malvern.

HS0182, 311 S. Main St., c. 1900, Contributing Structure, One-story late 19th century standard commercial style brick building. Decorative frieze with sign post attached. Brick infill is on the back of the building. When first built, it was used as a repository. C.1908-c. 1918 was a bakery. C. 1920 was used as a hardware store. C. 1948 was a paint store.

HS0183, Malvern Hardware, 315 S. Main St, c. 1900, Contributing Structure, Two-story brick commercial building. The building has a mid-century blondee brick slipcover over the front façade. The Wrigley's Spearmint gum sign painted on the side of the building reads "Buy it by the Box. The flavor taste". The original front had arched window openings that can still be seen from inside the building. This building was named Malvern Hardware. Later, Lindhai's Hardware moved from down the street to this location. Then it became Sterling Department store. It is currently Julie's, an antique store.

HS0024, Leiper Building, 317 S. Main St., d. 1923, Contributing Structure. Two-story brick standard 20th century commercial building. Decorative brick frieze has decorative vents and a cast-concrete plaque reading "Leiper 1923". The upstairs front windows are currently boarded up. The entrance has a terrazzo floor and an Art Deco style metal band runs across the entire front entrance but is hidden with an awning. The 1930 Sanborn map shows a store on the north side and a movie theater on the south side of the building. In 1948 the structure was three stores. A 1979 survey form states this was the JC Penney's store.

HS0026, Nunn Building #2, 321 S. Main St., d. 1925, Contributing Structure. One-story standard 20th century brick commercial building with Art Deco details on the frieze. There is also a cast-concrete plaque in the frieze that reads "19 NUNN 25". Sheet metal currently covers the area where transoms could be. Metal tiles are adhered to the exterior under the storefront windows. The structure was designed by Little Rock architect Charles Thompson. It has been used as a store since constructed.

HS0184, 327 S. Main St., c. 1910, Contributing Structure. One-story standard early 20th century commercial brick building. Recessed brick panels in frieze. The back of the building had arched window openings which are now enclosed. In 1910 the building was used as a hardware store (possibly the first Lindahls Hardware).

HS0185, Harper Building, 412 S. Main St., d. 1927, Contributing Structure, One-story standard 20th century commercial brick building. Flat blondee brick storefront with cast-concrete caps on the ends of

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the front parapet. There is a glass-block transom over the storefront. What serves as the north wall is what was left of the south wall of the now demolished building next door. The back has a brick projection which appears to be created from a left-over wall from the demolished ancillary building next door. The projection has been made into a storage space with a raised concrete walk. The building has historically and currently been used as a retail space.

HS0186, Richardson Building, 418 S. Main St., d. 1927, Contributing Structure, Two-story standard commercial 20th century brick building. Flat front parapet-ed building. Cast-stone plaque in frieze reads "19 Richardson 27". Cast-concrete window sills. Decorative glass in transom. Historically used as a store downstairs.

HS0187, 422 S. Main St, c. 1927, Non-contributing Structure. One-story standard 20th century commercial brick building with mid-century Art Deco stucco slipcover. Slip-covered façade is in the process of being torn out and ornamental brick can be seen underneath. Art Deco stucco banding is at the top of the frieze. Historically this building has been used as a store. This building is non-contributing because of its lack of ornament.

HS0188, 424 S. Main St., c. 1927, Non- Contributing Structure. One-story standard commercial 20th century brick building slip-covered in stucco with simple Art Deco banding at the top of the frieze. Black glass tiles surround the storefront. Part of stucco has been removed with the current remodeling next door. The back of the building is red brick. Several of the back openings have been infilled. C. 1930 this building operated as a store with a grocery warehouse in the back. Around 1948 the building became a movie theater. This building is non-contributing because of its lack of ornament.

HS0189, 426 S. Main St., c. 1927, Contributing Structure. One-story standard commercial 20th century brick building. Brickwork laid in a panel design creates a decorative frieze on the front facade. The storefront has been remodeled and bricked in. It now displays a new front which has doors with broken wood pediments and pilasters. The building has painted vertical board installed between the storefronts. Most openings in the back have been bricked in. Sanborn maps show this building as a furniture store in 1930.

HS0190, Collie Chevrolet, 430 S. Main St., c. 1935, Contributing Structure. One-story standard 20th century commercial building. The front façade of this building has little ornament except a decorative brick coursing. The Front and Page St sides have Flemish bond coursing and the back and north sides have horizontal mortar lines in the brick coursing. The front façade has a decorative brick pattern which creates panels in the frieze. The storefront has been remodeled with wooden pilasters and vertical board to match the building at 426 S. Main St.. The Page St side has metal warehouse-style windows. The back has aluminum infill windows. The 1948 Sanborn map shows this as a store.

HS0191, Malvern City Hall, 305 Locust St., c. 1935, Non-contributing Structure. Two-story Art Deco brick office building. The building has cast-concrete Art Deco detailing, including relief shell and scroll ornament, chevron design and fluted columns, around the front entrance. Over the front door lettering reads "Malvern City Hall". All windows are replacement windows. Some of the replacements are too small for the original window openings on the main building. One of the 3rd Street garage door openings has been filled in. The roof has been changed from a flat or parapet roof to a hipped roof with the addition of a metal roof. When the building was first constructed, it also housed the Fire and Street Departments. This building is non-contributing because the pitch and style have been changed.

HS0192, 112 &113 E. Third St., c. 1925, Contributing Structure. Two-story standard 20th century commercial brick building. The front façade displays a decorative brick frieze with ornamental grilles and cast-concrete sill between floors. Scalloped wood trim ornaments the awnings which are held up with wrought-iron bracket supports over the doors. Fluted pilasters are around each front entrance. Downstairs has historically been used as offices. The upstairs was a continuation of the Masonic Lodge that was in the attached building at 231 S. Main St (Miller's Drug Store).

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Break down by period:

| 1897-1922 | 16 Buildings | 45.71% |
|------------------|--------------|--------|
| 1923-1935 | 9 Buildings | 25.71% |
| 1936-1965 | 1 Buildings | 2.85% |
| Non-contributing | 8 Buildings | 22.86% |
| Listed | 1 Building | 2.85% |

Non-contributing Buildings:

Non-contributing buildings include one building built around 2006, after the fifty year cut-off at 308 S. Main St. Other buildings such as 132, 138, 227, 301, 422, and 424 South Main St. have had unsympathetic changes such as infill or the covering up of historic details and ornament. 305 Locust St. is considered non-contributing because the roof has been changed from a parapet to a gable roof.

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| ame of Prop | atement of Significance County and State |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0. 31 | atement of Significance |
| | able National Register Criteria |
| (Mark listing. | "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register) |
| X | A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. |
| | B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. |
| | C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. |
| | Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. |
| | ia Considerations "x" in all the boxes that apply.) |
| | A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes |
| | B. Removed from its original location |
| | C. A birthplace or grave |
| | D. A cemetery |
| | E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure |
| | F. A commemorative property |
| | G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years |
| | |

Hot Spring, Arkansas

| livern Commercial Historic District | Hot Spring, Arkansas |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| me of Property | County and State |
| Areas of Significance | |
| (Enter categories from instructions.) | |
| COMMERCE | |
| | |
| · | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Period of Significance | |
| | |
| c. 1897-1965 | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Significant Dates | |
| N/A | |
| 34/11 | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Significant Person | |
| (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) | |
| N/A | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Cultural Affiliation | |
| N/A | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| 4 - 1 to - 100 - 11 t | |
| Architect/Builder | |
| Charles Thompson, Architect | |
| | |

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

Name of Property

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Malvern Commercial Historic District is locally significant under Criterion A as the historic business and social center of Malvern. The physical appearance of the district reflects the evolution of the architectural community from around 1897 to 2006. The period of significance begins around 1897 when the city was rebuilt after two devastating fires and ends in 1965 at the 50 year cut-off.

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

The city of Malvern first emerged as a railroad stop on the Cairo and Fulton Railroad, which ran from Little Rock to Fort Smith, in 1873. A few years later, the "Diamond Joe" a luxury railroad running from Hot Springs, also established a route through Malvern. As the railway became the preferred mode of transportation over the river, the community prospered and was incorporated in 1876. It then won the title of county seat from Rockport in 1878, a town upon the Ouachita River, becoming the center of Hot Spring County politics and finances.

Early on, Malvern relied upon its land and timber for economic stability. Its main resources being good building stone, excellent potter's clay, cotton, hides, lumber, and fruits. It benefitted greatly from its location along the rail line, granting it access to the national marketplace.

The earliest brick plant was introduced to the region in 1887 when Tom Atchison and his father came to Perla, a town about two miles from Malvern, and purchased a pottery factory. The first bricks produced by the factory were created from red clay found less than a mile away from the plant. The company continued for many years, bringing brick manufacturing to the region. It quickly became a driving force of the county's economy.

In 1889, the community established the Bank of Malvern furthering financial activity in the county. ⁶ The town progressed so greatly that by 1890 Malvern had a population of 1,500 and contained a public school, a volunteer fire department, several grist mills and cotton gins, several stores and blacksmith shops, three lumber companies, two weekly newspapers: the *Arkansas Meteor* and the *Arkansas State Journal*, several telegraph and express offices, and two railroads. ⁷

Around 1893 Main Street, the wide but muddy main thoroughfare through town, consisted of about two blocks of mostly wooden store buildings on both sides of the street. A few homes were in the second, third, and fourth blocks going south. But tragedy struck in 1896 when one side of Main Street burned. Then the next year, the other side fell to the same fate. From Third Street to the depot was destroyed,

¹ Bruce Stacy, "The History of Hot Spring County," *The Heritage*, Hot Spring County, Historical Society, Vol. 4, 1977.

² Stacy.

³ Marvin Schultz, "Malvern," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, accessed at www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net

Polk's Arkansas State Business Directory & Gazetteer, vol. 1, 1884-1885.

⁵ Elizabeth Duffie Massey, A Pictorial History of Malvern and Hot Spring County, June 1990, 30 ⁶ Schultz.

⁷ Stacy.

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Hot Spring, Arkansas

County and State

only the brick buildings in Malvern survived.⁸ The Bank of Malvern and Cooper Hardware were among them.⁹

By 1911 the city was completely rebuilt and considered second class with a population around 3,500. The community had 50 businesses, 4 hotels, two railroads with an average of eight trains a day, two feed stables with a garage annex, five churches, and about six hundred children enrolled in school. It was equipped with gas mains on all the main streets and had just been granted a franchise for a water works to be built. The city banned any type of alcohol establishment within three miles of the school in order to encourage debauchery to move outside of town.¹⁰

A 22 mile electrical line was purchased in 1913 by the newly established Arkansas Power and Light Company to run current between Malvern and Arkadelphia, making it the only electrical transmission line in the state. The company served as Arkansas's primary utility line from 1913-1989. Their location in Malvern provided the residents with inexpensive electricity, promoting industrial development.

In 1920, Acme Brick Company out of Fort Worth, Texas, bought 120 acres near Malvern and built a competing brick factory in Perla. The Atchisons sold their plant to Acme in 1927, resulting in Acme's impressive presence in the region. ¹³ Although Acme operated several plants throughout the South, the Malvern plant was the company's largest. ¹⁴ In 1980 Malvern was dubbed the "Brick Capitol of the World".

About this time, downtown Malvern saw another building boom. Several new buildings were built in the district and others had new brick front facades put on them to update their appearance. ¹⁵

1936 saw a lot of changes in Malvern. A new three-story courthouse replaced the two-story one built in 1866 and the city built a new school building on the south side of town. Also around this time the city got a new city hall and fire department building, a new theater, and several new buildings along the southern end of Main Street. But to the townspeople, the biggest news was that President Roosevelt was coming to help celebrate Arkansas' 100th birthday. All the residents that lived upon the president's route worked for months getting their properties ready for the presidential visit. They whitewashed their barns and houses, planted shrubs and flowers, and anything else they could to beautify their homes. The Arkansas Highway Department even blacktopped the highway from Hot Springs to Malvern at this time. Roosevelt made a short speech in Rockport then drove down Main Street where thousands of people lined the streets to greet him as he traveled to the depot to board a train for Little Rock. ¹⁶

By the 1950s and 1960s Malvern was considered the southwestern point of what came to be known as the Arkansas Industrial Triangle. Little Rock and Pine Bluff formed the other two points. ¹⁷ Industry over the years has included textile mills, lumber mills, wood product manufacturers, furniture plants, bottling plants and most importantly brick and tile factories.

⁸ J. Frank Williams, "Malvern of Yesteryear," *The Heritage of Hot Spring County*, vol. 1, No. 1, II Edition, 1970. Reprinted from *Times-Journal*, Dec. 13, 1911.

⁹ Massey, 20-21.

¹⁰ Williams

Kenneth Bridges, "Arkansas Power & Light," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, accessed at www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net.

¹² R.P. Bowen, Malvern Daily Record, June 10, 1926.

¹³ Massey, 30-31.

¹⁴ Bowen

¹⁵ Chris Williams, telephone conversation with author, April 21, 2015.

¹⁶ Stacy.

¹⁷ Massey, 62.

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Name of Property

Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

Downtown growth slowed during the mid-twentieth century with the rise of the automobile. Construction of Interstate 30 which did not link to downtown, stymied the area's growth as it became less pedestrian-friendly and a pass-through to get to the interstate. Citizens and visitors chose automobile travel over the railroad and downtown facilities began to loose their popularity. During the 1950s, new businesses began along the highway resulting in homes and existing businesses being lead away from the downtown community. Less business traffic and the decline of the use of the railroad left the downtown in economic decline during the 1960s and 1970s.

Today, the city's economic base still depends on industry. Acme Brick Company has grown to be the largest brick producer in the nation. Some of the other industries which have an impact on the Malvern economy include Weyerhaeuser, Borden Chemical, Hexion Chemicals, Adams Face Veneer Company, Leggett & Platt Precision, Pactiv Corporation and Grapette International.

Significance of the Property

From the time of its founding in the 1870s, Malvern has been the center of Hot Spring County government and commerce. The town's title as county seat, its location along the railroad, and its abundance of natural resources were instrumental in it becoming the commercial center of Hot Spring county early on.

As the twentieth century emerged, Malvern exploited its bounty of underground resources and served as the base of a regional electrical grid, bringing large-scale manufacturing to the city. As the center of business and government affairs, it is only logical that the commercial community would serve as the social and economic center of the city, as well as, the surrounding small communities.

The architecture in the historic district serves as a physical example of the evolution of this community. and displays buildings from the earliest surviving era of building in the downtown, the late nineteenth century up until the early twenty-first century. Due to its importance as the commercial center of Malvern and Hot Spring County, the Malvern Commercial Historic District is being nominated under Criterion A with local significance.

| United States Department of the Interior | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| National Park Service / National Register of | f Historic Places Registration Form |
| NPS Form 10-900 | OMB No 1024-0018 |

| Malvern Commercial Historic District | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name of Property | |

Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Bridges, Kenneth "Arkansas Power & Light," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture.

Bowen, R.P. Malvern Daily Record, June 10, 1926.

The Heritage. "Malvern's First Funeral Home," Hot Springs County, Arkansas Historical Society, vol. 1, 1979.

Massey, Elizabeth Duffie. A Pictorial History of Malvern and Hot Spring County, June 1990.

Polk's Arkansas State Business Directory & Gazetteer, vol. 1, 1884-1885.

Richter, Wendy. "John Little McClellan," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, Malvern, Arkansas, 1920.

-- 1948.

Schultz, Marvin. "Malvern," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture.

Stacy, Bruce. "The History of Hot Spring County," *The Heritage*, Hot Spring County, Historical Society, Vol. 4, 1977.

Williams, J. Frank. "Malvern of Yesteryear," *The Heritage of Hot Spring County*, vol.1, No.1, Il Edition, 1970. Reprinted from *Times-Journal*, Dec. 13, 1911.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

| _ | _ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | _ previously listed in the National Register |
| | _previously determined eligible by the National Register |
| | _designated a National Historic Landmark |
| | _ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # |
| | recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # |
| | recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # |

Primary location of additional data:

| X | State Historic Preservation Office |
|---|------------------------------------|
| | Other State agency |

| | rn Commercial Historic District | | = | Hot | Spring, Arkansas |
|----|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------|------------------|
| | of Property Federal agency | | | Cou | nty and State |
| _ | Local government | | | | |
| | University | | | | |
| | Other | | | | |
| | Name of repository: | | | | |
| Н | listoric Resources Survey N | lumber (i | f assigned): | -3 | |
| 10 | 0. Geographical Data | | | | |
| A | Acreage of Property approx | x. 10 acres | 3 | | |
| U | se either the UTM system or | latitude/l | ongitude coordinates | | |
| | atitude/Longitude Coordin | iates | | | |
| (e | enter coordinates to 6 decima | l places) | | | |
| 1. | . Latitude: | | Longitude: | | |
| 2, | . Latitude: | | Longitude: | | |
| 3, | Latitude: | | Longitude: | | |
| 4. | . Latitude: | | Longitude: | | |
| | | | | | |
| U | or TM References Patum (indicated on USGS m | ap): | | | |
| | NAD 1927 or X | NAD 1 | 983 | | |
| 1 | Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517041 | Northing: | 3802533 |
| 2. | . Zone:15 | Easting: | 517089 | Northing: | 3802569 |
| 3. | Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517175 | Northing: | 3802558 |
| 4, | Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517293 | Northing: | 3802382 |

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Hot Spring, Arkansas

County and State

5. Zone: 15

Name of Property

Easting: 517307

Northing: 3802256

6. Zone: 15

Easting: 517262

Northing: 3802227

7. Zone: 15

Easting: 517158

Northing: 3802277

8. Zone: 15

Easting: 517091

Northing: 3802370

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

The boundaries run south from the north ½ of lot 6, all of lots 7-8 of block 21 then turns north at W. Second St. The boundary then turns east at lots 2-3 block 29 then runs west to the south 20 feet of lot 5, north 25 feet of lot 6 block 38 where it turns south until it hits S. Main St. Here it continues south along Main St until W. Fifth St. where it turns west at lot 12 block 46. It turns north at this alley until turning west again at the south 20 feet of lot 2 and all lots 3 through 12 except the north half of lot 7 block 37. Here it turns north on Locust Ave. until turning east at W. Third St. It then turns north at the north half of lot 7 block 37 and travels in this direction until meeting back at the the start.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The proposed boundaries have the most intact and contributing building fabric. There are a series of vacant lots to the north of the district. To the west lies the proposed Lawyer's Row Historic District, vacant lots and buildings that are out of date and scale for the historic district. To the south are also buildings that are out of date and scale to the district. To the east between Page and 5th Streets, the buildings are of the right period and scale but have been changed so significantly from their original designs, they are no longer considered contributing to the historic character of the district. The rest of the buildings to the east do not share the same scale or building styles.

name/title: Antoinette Johnson organization: Johnson Consulting street & number: 216 Linwood Court city or town: Little Rock state: AR zip code: 72205 e-mail_ajohnsonconsultant@yahoo.com telephone: 501-350-5931 date: April 2015

Malvern Commercial Historic District Name of Property Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Malvern Commercial Historic District

City or Vicinity: Malvern

County: Hot Spring State: AR

Photographer: Antoinette Johnson

Date Photographed: March 2015

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

1 of 14. HS0190, HS0188, HS0187, HS0186, HS0185, HS0180 West side of S. Main St. looking north from W. 5th St.

Malvern Commercial Historic District Name of Property

Hot Spring, Arkansas County and State

2 of 14. HS0184, HS0026, HS0024, HS0183, HS0182, HS0179, HS0015, HS0177, HS0176, HS0174, HS0011, HS0172, HS0170 East side of S. Main St. looking north from E. Page Ave.

3 of 14. HS0014, HS0178, HS0012, HS0175, HS0173, HS0171, HS0017, HS0169, HS0168, HS0167. West side of S. Main St. looking north from E. 3rd St.

4 of 14. HS0180 HS0181. West side of S. Main St. looking south from W. 3rd St.

5 of 14. HS0171, HS0017, HS0169, HS0168, HS0167. West side of S. Main St. looking north from 2nd block.

6 of 14. HS0166, HS0165. West side of S. Main St. looking north from W. 2nd St.

7 of 14. HS0167, HS0168, HS0169, HS0017, HS0171, HS0173, HS0175, HS0012, HS0178, HS0014, HS0180. West side of S. Main St. looking south from W.2nd St.

8 of 14. HS0170, HS0172, HS0011, Hs0174, HS0176, HS0177, HS0015, HS0179, HS0182, HS0183. East side of S. Main St. looking south from W. 2nd St.

9 of 14. HS0191, HS0181. East side of Locust St. looking south east from W. 3rd St.

10 of 14. HS0191, HS0180, HS0183. South side of W. 3rd St. looking east from Locust St.

11 of 14. HS0015, HS0177, HS0176, HS0174, HS0011, HS0172, HS0170. East side of S. Main St. looking north from W. $3^{\rm rd}$ St.

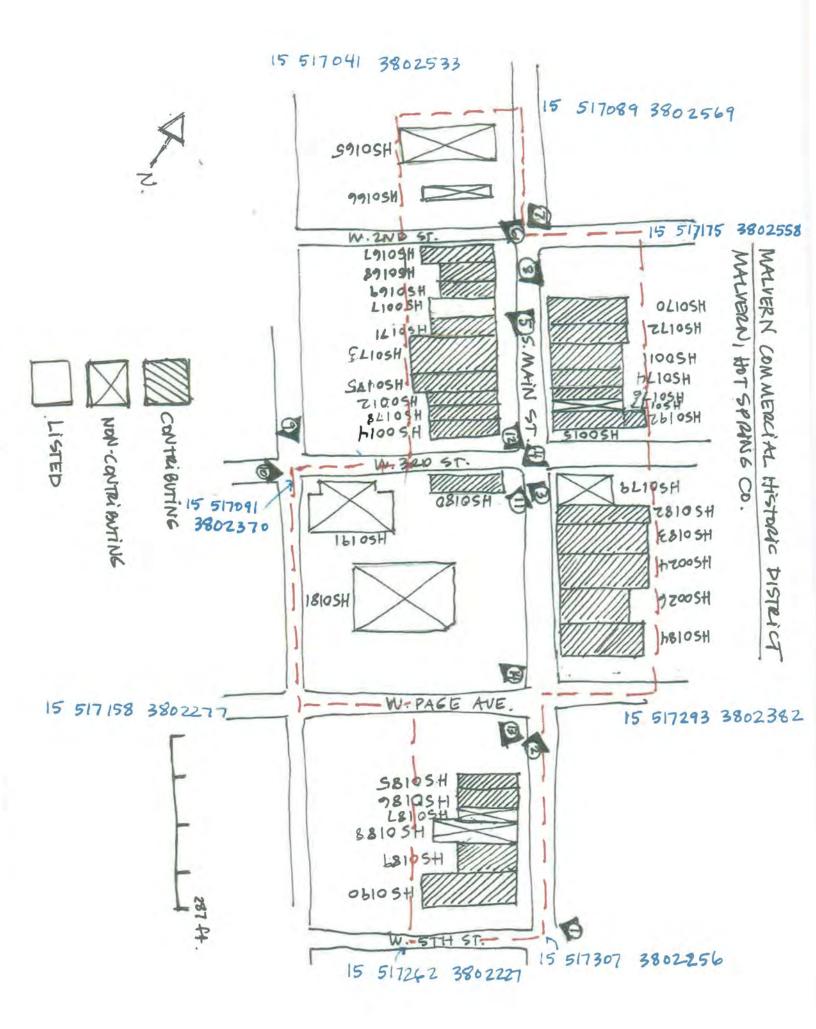
12 of 14. HS0179, HS0182, HS0183, HS0024, HS0026, HS0184. East side of S. Main St. looking south from W. 3rd St.

13 of 14. HS0185, HS0186, HS0187, HS0188, HS0190. West side of S. Main St. looking south from W. Page Ave.

14 of 14. HS0181, HS0180, HS0014. West side of S. Main St. looking north from W. Page St.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Malvern Commercial Historic District

Malvern, Hot Spring Co.

Arkansas





|---1500 ft---|

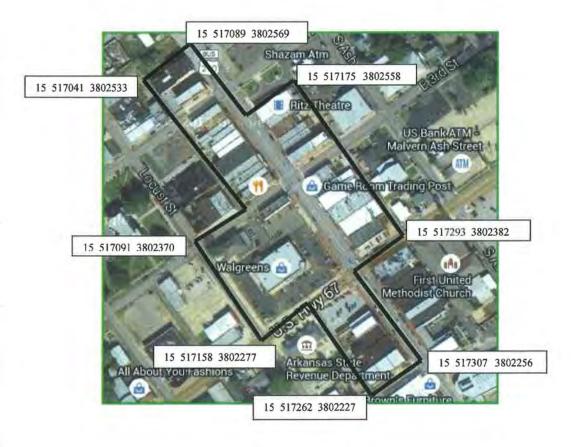
UTM:

| 1. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517041 | Northing: 3802533 |
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| 2. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517089 | Northing: 3802569 |
| 3. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517175 | Northing: 3802558 |
| 4. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517293 | Northing: 3802382 |
| 5. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517307 | Northing: 3802256 |
| 6. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517262 | Northing: 3802227 |
| 7. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517158 | Northing: 3802277 |
| 8. Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517091 | Northing: 3802370 |

Malvern Commercial Historic District

Malvern, Hot Spring Co.

Arkansas





|---1000 ft---|

UTM:

| 1 | . Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517041 | Northing: | 3802533 |
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| 2 | . Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517089 | Northing: | 3802569 |
| 3 | . Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517175 | Northing: | 3802558 |
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| 7 | . Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517158 | Northing: | 3802277 |
| 8 | . Zone: 15 | Easting: | 517091 | Northing: | 3802370 |
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATIO | NC |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PROPERTY Malvern Commercia | al Historic District |
| MULTIPLE NAME: | |
| STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, F | Hot Spring |
| DATE RECEIVED: 8/14/15 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/24/15 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: | DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/09/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/29/15 |
| REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000626 | |
| REASONS FOR REVIEW: | |
| | LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N |
| COMMENT WAIVER: N | 2011 |
| RETURN | REJECT 9-28.15 DATE |
| ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS: Mederation Cligible Commercial | Toshot |
| RECOM./CRITERIA/Acquet A | |
| REVIEWER & Combon | DISCIPLINE |
| TELEPHONE | DATE |
| DOCUMENTATION see attached of | comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N |
| | to the nominating authority, the |



August 5, 2015

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 1 4 2015

Nat. Register of Historic Places National Park Service

Asa Hutchinson Governor

> Stacy Hurst Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission

Delta Cultural Center

Historic Arkansas Museum

Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

Old State House Museum

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

RE: Malvern Commercial Historic District – Malvern, Hot Spring County, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Loether:

We are enclosing for your review the above-referenced nomination. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

If you need further information, please call Ralph S. Wilcox of my staff at (501) 324-9787. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program



323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Little Rock, AR 72201

> (501) 324-9880 fax: (501) 324-9184 tdd: 711

> > e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Stacy Hurst

Sincerely

State Historic Preservation Officer

SH:rsw

Enclosure