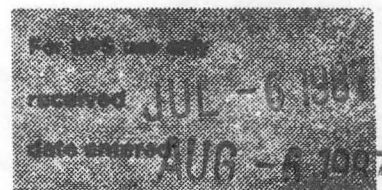


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

Continuation sheet

Item number 7 &amp; 8

Page 7

## INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

<b>SURVEY NUMBER</b> <u>0025</u>	<b>PROPERTY OWNER</b> <u>Episcopal Diocese of AR</u>
<b>PROPERTY NAME</b> <u>Old Bell Telephone Bldg.</u>	<b>ADDRESS</b> <u>Hale and Ash Streets</u>
<b>LOCATION</b> <u>100 block, Ash Street</u>	<u>Osceola, AR</u>
<b>CONSTRUCTION DATE</b> <u>1911</u>	

## DESCRIPTION

The Old Bell Telephone Company building was constructed in 1911 by prominent Osceola attorney and businessman R. C. Rose. This two-story flat-roofed brick building is characterized by simple rectangular shape and design. On the front elevation (east), two windows with louvered coverings and an entrance door on the right side with a transom mark the facade. To the left of the entrance is an original brass slot for collecting payments. A stone string course runs across the lower level of the first story, while a projecting cornice marks the top of the first floor. The front elevation of the second story is marked by a slightly recessed area containing three evenly spaced eight-over-eight sash windows with two stone pilasters topped by corbelled caps flanking the center window. The top of this recessed area is distinguished by stone corbelling above each window area. A stone cornice runs across the top of the building on the east elevation. Other elevations of this building feature four evenly spaced plate glass sash windows in the expanse of otherwise plain walls.

## SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Bell Telephone Building was built by R. C. Rose in 1911 to house the growing telephone exchange in Osceola's "new town". There were several other buildings constructed by Mr. Rose on the same block, which was historically referred to as the "Rose block". Rose was a prominent businessman in Osceola and owned extensive farmland. A small farming community not far from Osceola called Roseland is named for him. Mr. Rose, who was also a well known attorney, had owned the telephone exchange in Osceola's "old town". Rose was one of the first to move his business to "new town", housing the telephone exchange in one room before expanding the business in 1911 with the construction of this building. The Old Bell Telephone building with its simple early twentieth century commercial vernacular styling is significant in its representation of the growth of the town and technological advances made early in the twentieth century.

**ACREAGE** less than one**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION** Lot 9, Block 13, Townsite Addition**QUADRANGLE NAME** Osceola, AR-TN**QUADRANGLE SCALE** 1:24000**UTM REFERENCE: ZONE** 16**EASTING** 231600**NORTHING** 3954900

7/6/87

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG -6 1987

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic GroupName Osceola MRA  
State Mississippi County, ARKANSAS

## Nomination/Type of Review

Entered in the  
National Register

## Date/Signature

Cover

Keeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

1. Bank of Osceola

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

2. City Hall

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

3. Florida Brothers Building

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

4. Hale Avenue Historic District

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 9/14/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

5. Mississippi County Jail

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

6. Old Bell Telephone Building

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

7. Osceola Times Building

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

8. Planters Bank Building

Entered in the  
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 8/6/87

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

9.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

10.

Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_



8700/353

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Old Bell Telephone Building (Osceola MRA)  
Mississippi County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. JUL - 6 1987

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88

Date Due: 8/6/87 - 8/20/87

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 8-6-87

Entered in the National Register

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good ☐ ruins  
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_

Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*) \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_





OLD BELL TELEPHONE BLDG.  
100 BLOCK, ASH STREET  
OSCEOLA, AR 1911

Old Bell Telephone Building - 0025

Osceola MRA

Osceola, Mississippi County

Photographed by Carolyn Wallace

June 1986

Negatives on file at AHPP