### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# PHOIS 043 DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE ENTERED

RECEIVED APR 2 1 1975

JUN 5

1975

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

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STATE	Chester	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
	Arkansas	05	Crawford	033
CLASSIFIC	CATION			
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESI	ENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	X_PRIVATE	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESIDE
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	_IN PROCESS	XYES: RESTRICTED	X GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATI
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\_FAIR

### CONDITION

\_\_DETERIORATED \_EXCELLENT X GOOD RUINS \_UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_UNALTERED XALTERED

X ORIGINAL SITE \_MOVED DATE

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1887, the Colonel Jacob Yoes Building is a fine example of late nineteenth century commercial architecture in Arkansas. The original building is a two storey rectangular structure measuring approximately 47 feet by 100 feet. A one storey addition on the north elevation measures approximately 25 feet by 50 feet. Though the exact date is unknown, the addition was almost certainly made prior to 1900.

The two storey structure is topped with a roof which has about a two foot slope from front to back. Seventeen short chimneys project above the roofline. Double-hung sash windows with segmental arched heads and cast stone sills are uniform around the two storey section of the building. A narrow band of brick projects around the roofline of the entire structure.

The facade of the two storey section has some architectural features of special note. Cast iron label-style heads cover the brick window and door openings. The brick above the second storey windows is set in an ornamental pattern with three inset panels beneath dentil-like corbelling. The double door entries on both the first and second stories have transoms.

The north half of the lower facade and the facade on the one storey addition are guite similar and appear to be original. Both feature double door entries set between very tall and wide window openings. Sometime before 1900 a one storey porch across the entire facade replaced the original two storey porch.

The interior of the Yoes Building is divided into four main sections. The original building was intended to house a mercantile store on the north half of the first floor, hotel offices and facilities on the south half of the first floor, and hotel rooms on the entire second floor. The one storey addition, which once housed a saloon, is now empty.

The mercantile section of the building still contains many original furnishings, including the merchandise shelves built in St. Louis and shipped by rail to Chester in 1887. The hotel lobby and office spaces are now occupied by the Chester Post Office. The second storey hotel rooms, once furnished with marble topped tables and walnut furniture, are now empty.

The Yoes Building is being gradually restored to its original appearance by the present owner. After furnishing the store with authentic pieces from late nineteenth century general stores, Colonel Ramey plans to open Yoes Store to the public. The Yoes Building is in very good condition and has changed little during this century.

#### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW PERIOD \_\_COMMUNITY PLANNING \_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE \_\_ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC \_\_RELIGION \_\_PREHISTORIC CONSERVATION \_LAW \_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC SCIENCE \_1400-1499 \_\_LITERATURE \_\_1500-1599 \_AGRICULTURE \_\_ECONOMICS \_SCULPTURE \_\_1600-1699 \*ARCHITECTURE \_\_EDUCATION \_MILITARY \_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN \_1700-1799 \_\_ART \_\_ENGINEERING \_\_MUSIC \_THEATER X\_1800-1899 X\_COMMERCE \_\_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT \_\_PHILOSOPHY \_TRANSPORTATION \_1900-\_\_COMMUNICATIONS \_INDUSTRY \_\_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT \_OTHER (SPECIFY) \_INVENTION

SPECIFIC DATES

1887

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chester, Arkansas was a railroad boom town established in the late nineteenth century. As a division point on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad, Chester quickly grew from a single small store to a bustling business community. As the era of rail supremacy gave way to the gasoline engine, many Arkansas railroad communities, such as Newport and Morrilton, were able to change with the times; however, other towns, like Chester, declined as the importance of the railroads declined. Reaching its peak population in the 1890's, Chester is now home to less than a hundred people. Only one structure, the Jacob Yoes Building, remains as a symbol of Chester's boom town days.

In 1882 the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad completed the track running south from Fayetteville past a point near Captain James C. Wright's cabin in the valley of Howard's Fork Creek. The next year Captain Wright built a small frame store near the tracks, thus establishing the first business enterprise in Chester. The town was named in 1883 for the Iowa hometown of one of the locomotive engineers.

During the 1880's and 1890's Chester grew rapidly. A number of frame structures were built to house the new businesses attracted to the growing community. An 1893 business directory lists several businesses in the town, including mercantile stores, barber shops, a meat market, a blacksmith shop, and three carpenters. Chester also had doctors, drugstores, hotels, and saloons, along with churches and a combination school and Masonic Lodge hall. In 1887 the railroad built a two storey depot, water tower, and round house.

Of the many commercial structures built during Chester's boom town days, only one remains. Destructive fires in 1908 and 1936 destroyed all the early frame buildings. Other than the railroad track, the Jacob Yoes Building, a brick structure built in 1887, is the only visible link with Chester's more prosperous past.

The two storey Yoes Building was built by Colonel Jacob Yoes to house both a hotel and mercantile store. The entire second floor was devoted to guest rooms. The lower storey was divided with the hotel lobby, dining room, and kitchen in the south half and the mercantile store in the north half. Probably within a decade of the original construction a one storey addition

Detroit: R. L. Polk at Goodspeed Publishing Company.  Arkansas. Chicago: G. Ramey, Weldon O. Personal in January 23, 1975.	nd Company, 1893.  Biographical and Historical Compares on Publishing Compares on Publishin	ical Memoirs of Northway, 1890.	rest_
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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 APR 2 1 1975

DATE ENTERED 1975

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ITEM NUMBER 9

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Smith, Ora. "Chester, Arkansas." The Heritage, VII (October, 1963), pp.7-11.

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

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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**CONTINUATION SHEET** 

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE one

was made across the north elevation of the store. Butler's Saloon was housed in this early addition.

Jacob Yoes was a minister's son who grew up on a farm in Washington County, Arkansas. Born in 1839, he received little formal education, and left home at age seventeen to work in lead mines in Missouri. Unlike most Arkansans, Yoes fought with the Union Army during the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D, first Arkansas Cawalry, USA. In 1863 Yoes was shot and captured by the Confederates, but was later freed in a prisoner exchange. Though later known as "Colonel" Yoes, the title was honorary and unrelated to his military record.

After the war Yoes served as Washington County Sheriff from 1865 to 1868, when he was elected to the Arkansas legislature. His business interests in Crawford County expanded in 1887 when he built the large brick store and hotel at Chester. In 1890 the store was operated by Yoes' son, William, with his niece, Abigail Yoes, managing the hotel.

The Yoes Building is an excellent example of commercial architecture in late nineteenth century Arkansas. The two storey red brick building has segmental arched windows with cast stone sills. The facade features cast iron window and door heads, and brickwork panels and corbelling at the roofline.

This architecturally significant building is also historically important. It is the only structure remaining from the decade when Chester was established, and it represents the community's origin and complete dependence on the railroad. Though once at the center of a bustling railroad town, the Yoes Building now seems almost out of place in the quiet rural community. Its constant presence is a continual reminder of Chester's past.

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Federal Register Entry	Re-submit	INT:2106=74



Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED APR 2 1 1975

JUN 5

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Colonel Jacob Yoes Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Chester

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crawford

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Dianna Kirk

DATE OF PHOTO 1975

DATE ENTERED

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

facade and north elevation

1

#3003



Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED

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Colonel Jacob Yoes Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Chester

\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Crawford

STATE Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

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

detail of iron window and door heads, west elevation

РНОТО NO.

2

#2003

PROPERTY OF THE MATIONAL REGISTER



Form No. 10-301a (Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

RECEIVED APR 2 1 1975

DATE ENTERED JUN 5 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Colonel Jacob Yoes Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Chester

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Crawford

STATE Arkansas

3 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

interior of mercantile store

PHOTO NO.

3

#193

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

RECEIVED APR & 1 1975

DATE ENTERED 5 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Colonel Jacob Yoes Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Chester

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY Crawford

STATE Arkansas

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey

SCALE

1:24000

DATE 1969

**4 REQUIREMENTS** 

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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

### ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE ARKANSAS

Date Entered

JUN 5 1978

Name

Location

Steamboat House

Dardanelle Yell County

Yoes, Colonel Jacob, Building

Chester Crawford County

Knox, R. M., House

Pine Bluff Jefferson County

Plum Bayou Homesteads (Wright Plantation)

Wright

Jefferson County

Shiloh Church

Springdale

Washington County

Also Notified

Hon. John L. McClellan

Hon. Dale Eumpers

Hon. John P. Hammerschmidt

Hon. Ray Thornton

Regional Director, Southwest Region Stata Historic Preservation Officer

Mr. William E. Henderson

Director, Arkansas Dept. of Farks and

Touriam

State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkanses 72201

PR MMOTT: p1 6/9/75

<b>NATIONA</b>	AL REGI	STER	DATA	SI	133	T
NAME as it appears on federal regis Yoes, Col. Jacob, Building		OTHER NAMES:		3	6-5-75	@county code: 033
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WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: COMMERCIAL CURRENTLY: UNDER RESTORATION	6	dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:	1887		S ETHNIC GI ASSOCIAT	ROUP
architectural style(s):  VERNACULAR	@architect	:	master builder:	<b>⊗</b> e1	ngineer:	
andscape architect/garden designer	minterior decorator:	artist:	gartisan:	@builder/	contractor:	
NAMES give role & date  PERSONAL:  EVENTS:  INSTITUTIONAL:	/					
WATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP Vanious commercial entrances, full- arched windows and doors with law elements. First and only remaining	Brick, 12-story sections width front 1-story por wel moldings, many origina g 19thc. commercial str	s, rectangular, shed och, paneled frieze I commercial filling octure in Chest	roofwith low paramenth denticulated.  s; side addition ger.	pet, mumer covbeled pre-1900	ous side chii cornice, sec D. Italian	mneys, gmental- ate