

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Paris Commercial Historic District
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number Roughly bounded by N. Express, Short Mountain, N. First, E. Pine, E. & W. Academy Streets not for publication N/A
city or town Paris vicinity N/A
state Arkansas code AR county Logan code 083 zip code 72855

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Catherine Hatcher 3/17/09
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
 - determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet
 - determined not eligible for the National Register
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other,
(explain:)

Jan G. [Signature] 5/12/2009
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Name of Property

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
35	23	buildings
0	2	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
35	25	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall
 COMMERCE/TRADE/financial institution
 COMMERCE/TRADE/business
 DOMESTIC/single dwelling
 SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall
 COMMERCE/TRADE/restaurant
 COMMERCE/TRADE/business
 DOMESTIC/single dwelling
 SOCIAL/meeting hall
 VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Romanesque
 LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/
 Classical Revival
 LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
 AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Commercial Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE, BRICK, STONE
 walls BRICK, CONCRETE, STONE, WOOD, METAL
 roof ASPHALT, METAL
 other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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DESCRIPTION

Paris Commercial Historic District resources

#	Resource #	Physical address	Name	Owner	C/NC
1	LO0201	E. Carney St.	Wells Warehouse Outlet	John Paul Wells 119 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
2	LO0202	11 N. Elm	State Farm/Fitness	Ross Kent 11 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
3	LO0203	15 N. Elm St.	Scott's Flowers	George Hatwig C/o George Stengle 4500 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
4	LO0204	17 N. Elm St.	Ruthie's	Debbie Crane 4677 Cotton Town Rd. Scranton, AR 72863	C
5	LO0205	21 N. Elm St.	N. Logan Abstract & Title	Lona Hixson P.O. Box 646 Paris, AR 72855	C
6	LO0206	23 N. Elm St.	Slugout Boxing	Patsy Miller 513 Chism Paris, AR 72855	C
7	LO0207	25 N. Elm St.	Hometown Computers	Jim Kiefer 25 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
8	LO0208	114-124 N. Elm St.	Viv's boutique/Spec's	Mary Carolyn Pendleton 3422 Breckenridge Dr. Fayetteville, AR 72703	C
9	LO0209	15-29 S. Elm St.	Beauty Box	Rexene Clarkston 25 S. First Paris, AR 72855	C
10	LO0210	26-28 S. Elm St.	Warren's	Bill Warren P.O. Box 608 Paris, AR 72855	C
11	LO0211	31-33 S. Elm St.	Building at 31-33 S. Elm	Jose Malaigon ?	C
12	LO0212	106 S. Elm St.	Neumeiers Garage	Kay Neumeier 110 S. Pierce Paris, AR 72855	C
13	LO0213	112 S. Elm St.	Hannigan Fairing Company	Jerry Heil 112 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
14	LO0214	119 S. Elm St.	Wells Furniture	John Paul Wells 119 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C

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15	LO0215	121 S. Elm St.	Wells Furniture	John Paul Wells 119 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
16	LO0216	201-05 S. Elm St.	Scooters	Tom Gattis 201 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
17	LO0217	209 S. Elm St.	Building at 209 S. Elm	Curtis Wilhite 314 E. Rosedale Paris, AR 72855	C
18	LO0218	211 S. Elm St.	Building at 211 S. Elm	Skip Wiggins 710 Wiggins Dr. Paris, AR 72855	C
19	LO0219	200 block S. Elm St.	Vacant dwelling	Jerry Heil 112 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
20	LO0220	200 block S. Elm St.	Condemned building	Keith Thompson P.O. Box 20 Paris, AR 72855	NC
21	LO0221	215 S. Elm St.	Building at 215 S. Elm	Curtis Wilhite 314 E. Rosedale Paris, AR 72855	NC
22	LO0222	200 block S. Elm St.	Van Horn Building	Keith Thompson P.O. Box 20 Paris, AR 72855	C
23	LO0223	300-304 S. Elm St.	George A. Hall Building	Keith Thompson P.O. Box 20 Paris, AR 72855	C
24	LO0224	308 S. Elm St.	Building at 308 S. Elm	Keith Thompson P.O. Box 20 Paris, AR 72855	NC
25	LO0225	311 S. Elm St.	Mike's Body Shop	Mike Jorden 311 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
26	LO0226	315 S. Elm St.	Building at 315 S. Elm	Rod Friddle 317 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
27	LO0227	317 S. Elm St.	Building at 317 S. Elm	Rod Friddle 317 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
28	LO0228	14 S. Express St.	Building at 14 S. Express	Roy Lloyd 210 E. Chism Paris, AR 72855	C
29	LO0229	19 S. Express St.	Sharum's Boots	Ray Sharum 1001 N. Third Paris, AR 72855	C
30	LO0230	b/w 22&14 S. Express	Partial facade	City of Paris P.O. Box 271 Paris, AR 72855	NC

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31	LO0231	22 S. Express St.	Paris Express	Stephen's Inc. C/o Vickey Wiggins P.O. Box 551 Paris, AR 72855	C
32	LO0232	24-26 S. Express St.	Paris Heat and Air	Jason Richey P.O. Box 72 Paris, AR 72855	NC
33	LO0233	104 S. Express St.	Kathie's Corner	Kathie Story 104 S. Express Paris, AR 72855	C
34	LO0234	100 block S. Express	Paris Lumber & Hardware	Kay Neumeier 110 S. Pierce Paris, AR 72855	C
35	LO0235	Express x Walnut St.s	Small park	Steve Brown 6400 Northgate Rd. Rogers, AR 72758	NC
36	LO0236	16 N. Express St.	Tobacco Town	John Paul Wells 119 S. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
37	LO0237	20-24 N. Express St.	Paris Pizza	Elmer Price 13245 Royal Oak Rd. Mulberry, AR 72947	NC
38	LO0238	27-29 N. Express St.	Danielle's Salon	Jim O'Bar 509 E. Mary Paris, AR 72855	NC
39	LO0239	N. Express St.	City Hall and Fire Station	Paris City Office P.O. Box 271 Paris, AR 72855	NC
40	LO0240	N. Express St.	Masonic Lodge	C/o Ken Green 504 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
41	LO0241	11 W. Main St.	Nationwide	Doyle Philmon 11 W. Main Paris, AR 72855	NC
42	LO0242	15 W. Main St.	Paris Dental Clinic	Unknown	NC
43	LO0243	17 W. Main St.	Richard's Pawn Shop	Doyle Philmon 11 W. Main Paris, AR 72855	C
44	LO0244	23 W. Main St.	Logan County Historical Society	Elizabeth Titsworth C/o Carolyn Huber 209 E. Church Paris, AR 72855	C
45	LO0245	27 W. Main St.	Main Street Cinema	Randy Trusty 27 W. Main Paris, AR 72855	C
46	LO0246	31 W. Main St.	Sporting Goods	Glen Gilberth 35 W. Main Paris, AR 72855	C

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47	LO0247	35 W. Main St.	Castle Graphics	Glen Gilberth 35 W. Main Paris, AR 72855	NC
48	LO0248	Pine St.	Annex to Sharum's Boots	Ray Sharum 1001 N. Third Paris, AR 72855	NC
49	LO0249	12-18 E. Walnut St.	Union Coal Company	Rexene Clarkston 25 S. First Paris, AR 72855	C
50	LO0250	25 E. Walnut St.	Arkansas Eye Care	Dr. Perry Amerine Route 1 Paris, AR 72855	NC
51	LO0251	E. Walnut St.	Vision Center	Dr. Perry Amerine Route 1 Paris, AR 72855	C
52	LO0252	E. Walnut St.	Building at corner of First Street	Curtis Wilhite 314 E. Rosedale Paris, AR 72855	C
53	LO0252A	E. Walnut St.	One building to the west of the Building at corner of First Street	Curtis Wilhite 314 E. Rosedale Paris, AR 72855	C
53	LO0253	30 E. Walnut St.	Merle Norman	Fred Wurst 30 E. Walnut Paris, AR 72855	C
54	LO0254	10 W. Walnut St.	Warren's	Bill Warren P.O. Box 608 Paris, AR 72855	NC
55	LO0255	14 W. Walnut St.	Murray's Barber Shop	Ken Green 504 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	C
56	LO0256	16 W. Walnut St.	Granny's Attic	Rexene Clarkston 25 S. First Paris, AR 72855	C
57	LO0257	18 W. Walnut St.	Knick Knack Shack	George Hatwig C/o George Stengle 4500 N. Elm Paris, AR 72855	NC
58	LO0258	W. Walnut x Express	Site of former Logan Theater	Barbara Sterling, Dallas, TX	NC
59	LO0259	102 W. Walnut St.	Radio Shack	Roy Lloyd 101 W. Walnut Paris, AR 72855	NC
60	LO0018	City Square	Logan County Courthouse	Logan County #25 Logan Co. courthouse Paris, AR 72855	IL

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Summary

Located in the Ozark region of western Arkansas, Paris is a town with a population of 3,707 in 2000. It is the county seat of the northern district of Logan County, which established a second county seat at Booneville, in the southern district of the county, in 1901. At the junction of Highways 22 and 309 stands Paris' county courthouse, a Classical Revival building listed individually on the National Register. The blocks encompassing the courthouse square represent Paris' prosperous economy, beginning in the late nineteenth century. As the town grew, the commercial district expanded south from the square, along South Elm and South Express Streets. With the discovery of coal deposits in nearby Short Mountain, mining, as well as agriculture, formed the basis of the town's economy.

The district is the historic town center; buildings there housed mainly commercial businesses such as dry goods stores, grocery stores, and hardware stores. Included in the district is the county courthouse, the present city hall and fire station, garages, a former auto showroom and service garage, and former bank buildings. Thirty-five of the buildings in the district (57.38%) are contributing resources due to their age, architectural and historic significance, and integrity. Twenty-five buildings plus one site (a vacant lot, the site of a former commercial building) (40.98%) are non-contributing. In addition, one building (1.64%) is individually listed.

In form and styling, the buildings reflect their historic functions. Most of the buildings of the district demonstrate the popular one- or two-part commercial block form. These buildings have standard storefronts and flat roofs. Storefronts have a mix of original and replacement elements. Generally, stylistic elements are traditional and restrained, and include elements like parapets, brick corbelling, soldier courses, decorative brickwork, and the occasional arched window or door or storefront columns or pilasters. Styles represented within the district include Romanesque Revival, Classical Revival, and minimal Italianate influence. The prevalence of natural rock in the region's topography is evident in the town's architecture, as well. The district's buildings and landscape are reflective of Paris' status as a commercial and social center of Logan County in west central Arkansas during the late nineteenth and early 20th century.

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Inventory with Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Resource Numbers

1. LO0201, East Carney Street, Wells Warehouse Outlet
One-story, ca. 1890 warehouse of seven-course American bond brick construction and a curved roof of metal. Brick and concrete loading dock on façade has original wood bay doors. Windows are steel, fixed design. Side elevation is divided into twelve bays by brick pilasters. (C)
2. LO0202, 11 North Elm Street, State Farm and Ladies First Fitness
One-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1990 aluminum and glass display windows and doors and brick bulkheads. The upper façade is covered with metal panels. (NC)
3. LO0203, 15 North Elm Street, Scott's Flowers
One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1980 aluminum and glass display windows and brick bulkheads. The transom area is covered with metal panels. The upper façade has rebuilt brick vents and soldier course cornice. (NC)
4. LO0204, 17 North Elm Street, Ruthie's
One-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows and original brick bulkheads. The upper façade has textured and colored brick with outlined brick panel. In the panel is vertical and horizontal brick coursing. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)
5. LO0205, 21 North Elm Street, North Logan Abstract and Title
One-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows and original brick bulkheads. The transom has ca. 1940 structural glass blocks. The upper façade has four recessed brick panels with metal grilles. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)
6. LO0206, 23 North Elm Street, Slugout Boxing
One-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1945 aluminum and glass display windows and Carrara glass bulkheads. The transom area is enclosed with brick. The upper façade has two recessed brick panels with metal grilles. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)
7. LO0207, 25 North Elm Street, Hometown Computers
Two-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows, door and metal bulkheads. The upper façade has four arched window openings. The windows are one-over-one vinyl sash but retain original diamond-light transoms. Above windows are four recessed brick panels with metal grilles. (C)
8. LO0208, 114-124 North Elm Street, Viv's Boutique and Spec's
One-and-one-half-story, ca. 1910, four-bay building with a flat roof and storefront with original concrete bulkheads, single-light glass and wood doors, and eight-light transoms, most of which are painted. Each bay

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has an entrance flanked by fixed display windows. The upper façade bays are separated by tan and red brick pilasters. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice of red and tan brick. (C)

9. LO0209, 15-29 South Elm Street, Beauty Box

Two-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and multiple storefronts. The 25 storefront has ca. 1990 stone bulkheads and a metal door. The transom has been stuccoed. The 27 storefront has stone veneer bulkheads and stuccoed transom. The 29 storefront was rebuilt ca. 1990 with wood and stucco bulkheads. Windows on the upper façade are enclosed with wood panels. Below the roofline are three outlined brick panels, and at the roofline is a corbelled cornice. (C)

10. LO0210, 26-28 South Elm Street, Warren's

One-story, ca. 1920, stone and concrete building with a flat roof and a storefront with original stone bulkheads and ca. 1980 glass and aluminum doors and display windows. Above the storefront is a shed roof awning. The façade is divided into two bays by a stone pilaster. The upper façade has stone and concrete exterior and recessed metal vents. Across the roofline are five stone caps. (C)

11. LO0211, Building at 31-33 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof and a storefront with original brick bulkheads and ca. 1970 glass and metal door with single-light sidelights. Display windows are covered with wood panels, as are the transom lights above. The façade is divided into two bays by a brick pilaster. The upper façade has two recessed brick panels with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

12. LO0212, 106 South Elm Street, Neumeiers Garage

One-story, ca. 1920 brick building with a flat roof and two bays. The first bay has brick bulkheads, glass and wood display windows, a shed roof awning, and transom covered in metal paneling. The second bay has chamfered corner storefront and a square brick column supporting the upper façade that continues from the first bay. The pass-through has a pressed metal ceiling. This section has an original storefront with brick bulkheads, display windows and transom. The side elevation (East Pine Street) has two garage bay entrances with original wood doors and a stepped roofline. (C)

13. LO0213, 112 South Elm Street, Hannigan Fairing Company

Two-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof and multiple storefronts with a ca. 200 metal shed roof waning across the entire façade. Most storefronts have concrete bulkheads, original copper and glass display windows, transoms covered with metal panels, and ca. 1970 glass and aluminum doors. The upper façade has original twelve-light steel awning windows. Below the corbelled brick cornice are diamond-light brick panels. (C)

14. LO0214, 119 South Elm Street, Wells Furniture

One-story, ca. 1920, brick building with a flat roof and a storefront with four bays, each with original brick bulkheads, single-light glass and wood doors and display windows. The storefronts are recessed, and square,

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brick columns support the projecting upper facades. The upper façade of the first bay has tan brick and a panel of soldier course and sailor course brick. The remaining three bays have upper façades of dark brick. The transoms have been enclosed with wood panels. (C)

15. LO0215, 121 South Elm Street, Wells Furniture

One-story, ca. 1920, brick building with a flat roof and a storefront remodeled ca. 1970 with brick and metal and a shed roof awning with wood shingles. (NC)

16. LO0216, 201-205 South Elm Street, Scooter's

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with stucco veneer and a flat roof. The 201 storefront has original stone veneer bulkheads and ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows and door. The 205 storefront is similar, divided into three bays by pilasters. Its transom is enclosed with metal panels. A flat, aluminum awning spans the entire façade. The entire upper façade is brick and stucco. The side elevation is completely stuccoed and has four pilasters extending through the roofline. (C)

17. LO0217, Building at 209 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof. The storefront has ca. 1960 concrete bulkheads and aluminum and glass display windows and doors. The storefront is recessed on an angle. The transom above is enclosed with metal panels. The upper façade has an outlined brick panel and corbelling below the roofline. (C)

18. LO0218, Building at 211 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof. The storefront has ca. 1970 aluminum and glass display windows and doors. The upper façade has corbelling below the roofline. (C)

19. LO0219, Vacant dwelling at 200 block South Elm Street

Ca. 1920, abandoned dwelling with metal front. (NC)

20. LO0220, Condemned building at 200 block South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1970 concrete block wing on front of a house. (NC)

21. LO0221, Building at 215 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1970 concrete block building with a flat roof. (NC)

22. LO0222, 200 block South Elm Street, Van Horn Building

One-story, ca. 1930, stone commercial building added to the front of a house. It has a flat roof and a central entrance with a ca. 1990 door, with a stone surround flanked by original fifteen-light steel windows, also with stone surrounds. Above the entrance is a smooth concrete name insert with "Van Horn." (C)

23. LO0223, 300-304 South Elm Street, George A. Hall Building

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One-story, ca. 1949 brick building with a flat roof and two storefronts with original brick bulkheads and stone sills under display windows surrounded with structural glass blocks. A date stone reads, "George A. Hall, 1949." The door to the 300 section is original; the door to the 304 section is ca. 1980. (C)

24. LO0224, Building at 308 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1940, concrete block building with brick veneer on the façade and a flat roof with parapet. The entrance has ca. 1980 double doors and display windows of aluminum and glass. The cornice has stone and concrete embellishment. Below it, a ca. 2000 sheet metal canopy has been added on top of a ca. 1970 shed roof awning with wood shingles. (NC)

25. LO0225, 311 South Elm Street, Mike's Body Shop

One-story, ca. 1950 concrete block garage building with a stepped flat roof. There is a ca. 1970 addition of concrete block construction with stone veneer and a shed canopy covered in wood shingles. (NC)

26. LO0226, Building at 315 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1920 building with a flat roof, original stone and brick veneer, original wood double doors with a four-light transoms, and another four-light transom over the display window. There is brick quoining at the corners. Local artisan Tolbert Gill was involved in the construction of the property. (C)

27. LO0227, Building at 317 South Elm Street

One-story, ca. 1920 building with a flat roof, original stone and brick veneer, one original transom covered with wood paneling; original four-light transom over the display window. There is brick quoining at the corners. One original single-light door remained, though it has been retro-fitted into the center of the original two-door opening, which is infilled with wood paneling. Local artisan Tolbert Gill was involved in the construction of the property. (C)

28. LO0228, Building at 14 South Express Street

One-story, three-bay, ca. 1910 stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1970 altered storefront of aluminum and glass doors and display windows. Across the storefront is a metal awning. There is a three-light transom enclosed with wood panels. The upper façade has three vents with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

29. LO0229, 19 South Express Street, Chevy and Ford Motor Showroom/Sharum's Boots

One-and-one-half-story, ca. 1919, stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1960 remodeled storefront with replacement aluminum display windows and glass and metal door. The upper façade has cast iron rectangular vents with grilles and a corbelled brick cornice at the roofline. The interior has a pressed metal ceiling. (C)

30. LO0230, Empty lot between 22 and 14 South Express Street

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Building is missing except for the upper façade, attached to the two flanking buildings. This façade portion is of stretcher bond brick and has two vents with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (NC)

31. LO0231, 22 South Express Street, Paris Express

One-story, two-bay, ca. 1910 stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1990 altered storefront of board and batten wood paneling. One bay has ca. 1990 fixed windows flanking a ca. 1980 glass and metal door, all covered by an added shed roof awning; the second bay is completely covered with board and batten paneling. The upper façade has six recessed brick panels with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

32. LO0232. 24-26 South Express Street, Paris Heat and Air & 95.3 FM

One-story, ca. 1910 building with a flat roof and a ca. 1960 storefront of concrete block and stucco and replacement display windows. The façade has three bays, with the central one recessed and containing a ca. 1960 glass and metal entry door. Above the storefront is a ca. 2000 shed roof awning and metal panels covering the upper façade. (NC)

33. LO0233, 104 South Express Street, Kathie's Corner

One-story, ca. 1910, stretcher bond brick building with brick bulkheads below ca. 1960 replacement display windows and original single-light glass and wood doors. Above the storefront, a ca. 1970 shed roof awning with asphalt shingles has been added. The upper façade has eight recessed vents with metal grilles. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

34. LO0234, Paris Lumber and Hardware in 100 block South Express Street

One-story, ca. 1920 building with a brick foundation, corrugated metal siding, and a gable front roof covered in sheet metal. The façade has two original five-panel wood doors and four-over-four, wood sash windows. Similar windows are on the side elevation. A taller gable front section is at the rear of this building. To the side of the building is an ell-shaped, frame construction, lumber storage building with open storage bays and a metal roof with a canopy over the open bays. (C)

35. LO0235, Park at corner of West Walnut and North Express Streets

Site of former commercial buildings now has landscaping. (NC)

36. LO0236, 16 North Express Street, Tobacco Town

Two-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat, stepped parapet roof and a ca. 1970 storefront of glass and metal replacement windows and metal covering the upper façade. (NC)

37. LO0237, 20-22-24 North Express Street, Paris Pizza

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with ca. 1980 altered façade with replacement fixed glass and metal windows over brick bulkheads, aluminum and glass doors. Metal panels enclose the transom area. The upper façade has been stuccoed. (NC)

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38. LO0238, 27-29 North Express Street, Danielle's Salon

One-story, ca. 1910, building of stone construction with a flat roof. Storefront has original double doors. The 27 section has stuccoed bulkheads and ca. 1980 display windows. The 29 section has an original corner and display windows and ca. 1960 stone veneer bulkheads. Above the storefront is an added shed roof awning with wood shingles and a shingled upper façade. There is a corner pilaster stamped with "Mesker Bros., Front, St. Louis, MO" which indicates original front beneath added façade. (NC)

39. LO0239, 100 block North Express Street, City Hall and Fire Station

One-story, brick building constructed in 1962. The corner City Hall section was remodeled in 1990. The 1962 Fire Hall has slab stone exterior and two original garage bays. (NC)

40. LO0240, 100 block North Express Street, Masonic Building

This one-story building was constructed in 1938 with a random course field-stone exterior. The door and window openings have been enclosed with stone and concrete to match. (NC)

41. LO0241, 11 West Main Street, Nationwide

Two-story, ca. 1890, brick building with a re-bricked façade and metal on the upper façade. (NC)

42. LO0242, 15 West Main Street, Paris Dental Clinic

Two-story, ca. 1920, brick building with a ca. 1990 rebuilt façade. (NC)

43. LO0243, 17 West Main Street, Richard's Pawn Shop

One-and-one-half-story, ca. 1920, brick building with a flat roof and a storefront altered ca. 1960 with stone veneer bulkheads and a ca. 1980 door. It retains original glass and wood display windows. The transom is covered with metal panels. The upper façade has two recessed panels with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

44. LO0244, 23 West Main Street, Logan County Historical Society

One-and-one-half-story, ca. 1900, brick building has a storefront with original brick bulkheads. The original display window was arched and has been enclosed ca. 1980 with wood panels and aluminum and glass windows. The main entrance was originally a smaller arch, which has also been enclosed with brick and a single-light glass and wood door. Dividing these two bays is a brick and stone pilaster. The upper façade has recessed vents with metal grilles and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

45. LO0245, 27 West Main Street, Main Street Cinema

One-and-one-half-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1990 remodeled storefront with aluminum and glass display windows, brick bulkheads, and a flat, metal awning. The upper façade has original brick and corbelled brick cornice. (C)

46. LO0246, 31 West Main Street, Sporting Goods

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Two-story, ca. 1900, brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1970 remodeled storefront with aluminum and glass display windows and enclosed transom. The upper façade has original, arched, two-over-two, wood sash windows, two vents with pierced brick panels, and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

47. LO0247, 35 West Main Street, Castle Graphics

Two-story, ca. 1910 building has a storefront remodeled ca. 1970 with brick bulkheads and aluminum and glass windows. The upper façade has been stuccoed. Windows on the upper floor are ca. 1960, two-over-two, metal sash design. (NC)

48. Pine Street between South Express and South Elm Street, Office and Garage of Motor Showroom/Annex to Sharum's Boots

One-story, ca. 1920, stretcher bond brick garage facing West Pine Street has a flat roof and ca. 1980 metal panels and doors enclosing original garage bay opening; four original twelve-light, steel windows. A divider wall has a parapet rising above the main roof and that of a shorter addition in which a second garage bay has been infilled with concrete block. This smaller section also has block infilled window openings on the Express Street elevation and the vinyl siding applied below the roofline on both elevations. (NC)

49. LO0249, 12-18 East Walnut Street, Union Coal Company/Commercial Hotel

Two-story, ca. 1900, brick hotel building with a flat roof and a storefront with ca. 1970 aluminum and glass doors and display windows, and stone veneer above. Some original cast iron pilasters are visible. The upper façade has original one-over-one wood sash windows with stone lintels. Above the windows are six recessed brick panels with metal grilles. At the roofline is a corbelled cornice. On the side (South Elm Street) elevation, arched windows on the second floor have been boarded. (C)

50. LO0250, 25 East Walnut Street, Arkansas Eye Care

One-story, ca. 1910, (brick) building with a stuccoed façade and glass and wood display windows. (NC)

51. LO0251, East of 25 East Walnut Street, Vision Center

One-story, ca. 1910, brick building with a flat roof and storefront with ca. 1980 aluminum and glass door and original brick bulkheads. The display window is arched and covered by an added awning. The door has an arched transom. The upper façade has outlined rectangular panels with inlaid vertical and horizontal brick. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

52. LO0252 & LO0252A, Building at northwest corner of East Walnut & First Street

One-story, ca. 1910, brick and stone building with a flat roof and two storefronts with original stone façade and stone bulkheads. The western storefront has an arched display window with an added canopy and a ca. 1980 aluminum and glass door with an arched transom, all covered by an added awning. The upper façade has diamond-light brick vents. At the roofline is a corbelled brick cornice. The eastern storefront has three arches with radiating voussoirs, containing display windows flanking a central door, all of ca. 1990 anodized

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aluminum. At the roofline is a corbelled stone cornice. The side elevation has rectangular windows with jack arches and single-light anodized windows. (Both LO0252 and LO0252A are C)

53. LO0253, 30 East Walnut Street, Merle Norman

One-story, ca. 1900 building of stone construction with a flat roof and storefront enclosed with ca. 1970 brick and aluminum and glass doors. The upper façade has an exterior of stone veneer with a stepped parapet wall and rectangular stone caps. (C)

54. LO0254, 10 West Walnut Street, Warren's

Two-story, ca. 1900, stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof, altered with ca. 1980 storefront with replacement display windows and metal covering the upper façade. (NC)

55. LO0255, 14 West Walnut Street, Murray's Barber Shop

One-story, ca. 1910, stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and ca. 1960 storefront with replacement display windows and glass and metal door. The upper façade has four recessed brick panels with metal vents and a corbelled brick cornice. (C)

56. LO0256, 16 West Walnut Street, Granny's Attic

One-story, ca. 1910, stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1970 altered storefront with metal display windows and a glass and metal door. The original central bay retains a cast iron pilaster. The upper façade has cast iron rectangular vents with grilles and a corbelled brick cornice at the roofline. (C)

57. LO0257, 18 West Walnut Street, Knick Knack Shack

One-story, ca. 1910, stretcher bond brick building with a flat roof and a ca. 1980 storefront with replacement display windows and glass and metal door. The storefront is recessed on a diagonal. The façade was re-bricked in the mid-1990s after a fire. At the roofline, brick is stacked in steps up to the corner pilasters. (NC)

58. LO0258. Vacant lot at corner of West Walnut and South Express Street, adjacent to 18 West Walnut. Vacant corner lot site of former Logan Theater. (NC)

59. LO0259, 102 West Walnut Street, Radio Shack

Ca. 1990, one-story, brick, garage filling station with two bays, one recessed, flat roof with metal shed canopy; service island cover of metal. (NC)

60. LO0018, Logan County Courthouse

Two-story, brick, Classical Revival courthouse building constructed in 1908. The north and south elevations have seven bays; the east and west elevations have five bays. At the roofline, all sides have dentils and modillions. The south, east and west elevations have two-story, central porticos with Tuscan columns on brick piers and gable pediments with dentils and modillions. Entrances under these porticos have Classical surrounds with gable pediments. The north elevation, without a portico, has a slightly projecting central bay.

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On its upper floor, windows have arched heads with keystones. All other windows around the building have jack arches. Atop the building's flat roof is a one-story, octagonal clock tower cupola of frame construction. The cupola has pilasters that join four gable pediments. (IL)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance

Ca. 1879-1959

Significant Dates

1879 Incorporation
1880 Courthouse built
1908 Courthouse remodeled

Significant Person

(complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown
unknown

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A-G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- Criteria for previous documentation on file.

Primary location of additional data:

- Criteria for primary location of additional data.

Name of repository:

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Paris Commercial Historic District in Logan County, Arkansas, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its local significance in commerce and Criterion C for local significance in architecture.

Criterion A: Commerce

Located approximately forty miles east of Fort Smith and 118 miles northwest of Little Rock, Arkansas, Paris developed as a commercial and cultural center of Logan County. During the Territorial period, early nineteenth-century settlers established the town of Roseville on the Arkansas River. Steamboat traffic on the river enabled the transportation of products and passengers. The establishment of a new county influenced the gravitation of settlement away from Roseville to the center of the new county, at Paris. The influx of German Catholic farmers to the area bolstered Paris' status as a leading trading center of agricultural products, even though produce required transport by wagon to a river port or railroad depot. The laying of a rail line through Paris and the discovery of coal at Short Mountain and Horseshoe Mountain sparked an industrial boom that endured into the twentieth century.

Criterion C: Architecture

The buildings within the Paris Commercial Historic District represent architectural significance on the local level. One- and two-part commercial block buildings around the town square are modest examples of these common late-nineteenth and early-20th-century forms. Many of these buildings are extant and represent a period of growth at the turn of the twentieth century. The stone foundations and walls found along the west side of the square appear to be of late-nineteenth century construction. The north and east sides of the square include Romanesque Revival arches, remnants of prominent parapets, and frequently use of detailed brick corbelling. The five buildings on the south side of the square were built simultaneously in 1906, indicating a need for greater retail space due to a growing economy. At the end of the nineteenth century, mining became increasingly important to Paris' economy, an enterprise made possible by the arrival a of railroad line. The subsequent growth in population and business activity warranted the construction of a hotel, at the southeast corner of the square. This two-story building also housed the offices of the Union Coal Company, one of over thirty coal companies in operation at the peak of coal production in Paris. As the town grew, the commercial district expanded southward along South Elm and South Express Streets. This development included the presence of automobiles, evidenced by several auto-oriented buildings in these blocks. This area also included a large complex of the Paris Lumber and Hardware Company with a two-story office building facing South Elm and, behind the building, a lumber yard that extended the rest of the block to South Express. Though some storefronts of these commercial buildings have been altered, the district still possesses integrity of location, setting, and materials of an early-20th-century downtown commercial district.

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SUMMARY

Located in the Arkansas River Valley of west central Arkansas, Paris is a town with a population of 3,707 in 2000. It is the county seat of the northern district of Logan County, which established a second county seat in Booneville, in the southern district of the county, in 1901. Logan County is bounded on the North by Johnson County, on the east by Yell County, on the south by Scott County, on the southwest by Sebastian County, and on the northwest by Franklin County. Topographically, Paris is located between the Ozarks to the north and the Ouachita Mountains to the south. The altitude of the area ranges from 500 feet to 2,753 feet. This landscape has allowed successful farming in the rich river bottoms, timber harvesting in the rolling hills, and the discovery of mineral resources in the low mountains. German Catholic immigrants contributed to Paris' agricultural economy and also established skilled trades in town. Paris' economy became diversified beginning in the late nineteenth century with the discovery of coal deposits.

ELABORATION

Prior to the nineteenth century, the area of present day Logan County was home to nomadic native people. Their presence was evidenced through cultural artifacts from pottery and weapons to earthen mounds. Located in the Arkansas River valley, present day Logan County provided ample sustenance to both natives and European settlers. With the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, easterners arrived to settle in the wilderness of the Arkansas Territory. A small port town, Roseville, was established on the south side of the Arkansas River in present day Logan County, then Johnson County, around 1830. As native people were removed to Indian Territory (Oklahoma) along the Trail of Tears, their route passed through Roseville via the Arkansas River.¹

The earliest settlers to Johnson County arrived during the 1820s. Wild game was plentiful, and the rich river bottoms provided excellent soil for growing crops. Woodland forests were abundant with Oak, Walnut, Hickory, Cottonwood, and Cherry. Jack and Randolph Titsworth, Lorenzo Black, and the Hudson and McLean families were among the earliest settlers, who assisted one another to build log homes. In 1832, George Hicklin built the first house in present day Paris, at the location of the current post office (just north of the proposed boundary on North Elm Street). The dwelling was constructed of hewn post oak logs, chinked with mud, and at the ends had massive fireplaces constructed of native stone. The house was purchased in 1868 by R.D. Waddill and was henceforth referred to as the Waddill House. One-half mile to the south was the home of John Grover, an English loom-maker; one-half mile to the west was the home of Sam Nicholas. During this time, most settlers clung close to the river, eight miles to the north, in a town called Roseville. It was a prosperous port town, established in the 1820s. From Roseville, cotton and timber were transported to Little Rock and New Orleans.²

¹ *Logan County, Arkansas: Its History and Its People* (Paris, AR: Logan County Historical Society, 1987), 13.

² Elizabeth Titsworth, *Paris: One Hundred Years* (Paris, AR: Paris Chamber of Commerce, 1979), 9-10, 12-14.

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Though the issue of slavery had little effect on the small farmers of the region, the Civil War still impacted the area. The area supplied both Confederate and Union troops during the war, and both stripped the area of food, livestock, and supplies, leaving residents destitute. However, the moderate climate and rich soil were conducive to a resilience of the pre-war farming economy. Though this area was still very much a frontier landscape, Roseville resumed its pre-war status as a bustling port town. Farming, especially cotton, remained the basis of economy following the Civil War. Farmers relied on mules to haul cotton to market at the river town of Ozark, northwest of Roseville, and to Fort Smith. Empty wagons would, in turn, be loaded with merchandise to bring back to small towns. Horses, instead, were used for family and individual transportation and were an indication of affluence.³ Thus, prosperity became evident in the years following the war.

During Reconstruction, the region rebounded to the extent that a new county was created south of the Arkansas River, dividing Johnson County. Land from Johnson County and adjoining Yell, Scott, and Franklin Counties were used to create the new county. Established in 1871, it was named Sarber County, after a Republican senator and Union veteran.⁴ The decision to honor the Republican demonstrated the power of that party in the Reconstruction South.

The creation of the new county had a direct effect on settlement patterns. Roseville, the prosperous port town, was now at the county's fringes and began to decline as new towns sprung to life in the center of Sarber County. Still, without a rail line, residents of the interior had to haul goods to and from river ports Roseville and Dardanelle, or Altus, the point of the nearest railroad.⁵ After much disagreement among a special committee on the selection of a site for the new county seat, voters selected an undeveloped location on the Old Military Road. Jack Titsworth and R.D. Waddill are largely credited with the founding of the new town. The name of Marysville was chosen in honor of Waddill's daughter, but the Arkansas Registry already had a town by that name with a post office. The name Paris was chosen, instead, after the European city, and the town officially became the county seat. A small, one-story, log courthouse was built, located to the southwest of the current courthouse. In 1875, after Democrats regained control of the government, the county name was changed to Logan.⁶ The selection honored early settler, James Logan from Danville, Kentucky, who had settled in 1833 on Sugar Creek near Booneville, in the southern part of the county.⁷

In 1874, the first store known to open in Paris was a small grocery operated by Judge Willers. It was located near the Waddill home on North Elm Street. Soon thereafter, Lewer's General Store opened in the same block. A formal public square was laid out with blocks of 200 feet. Church meetings were held in available

³ *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 13-5.

⁴ Patricia L. Curry, "Logan County," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, accessed online December 1, 2008 at <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/>.

⁵ Titsworth, 14.

⁶ Curry, "Logan County;" Patricia L. Curry, "Paris (Logan County)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, accessed online December 1, 2008 at <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/>; Titsworth, 27.

⁷ *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 11.

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town buildings, and more merchants arrived to Paris. A fire burned the log courthouse in 1877, destroying the county's records. However, Paris persevered and was officially incorporated in 1879. A new, brick, Georgian style courthouse was completed on the square in 1880.⁸

The new courthouse, located prominently in the center square of town, was a two-story brick building. The 50' x 50' substantial building was completed at the cost of \$8,000. It contained a safe for valuable records and bonds. Offices were on the first floor, and the courtroom was on the second floor. The courtroom was also available for public functions such as schooling, meetings, and church services. The Waddill family owned much of the land area of Paris. Wishing to foster the growth of the town, R.D. Waddill donated or sold at the cost of \$1.00, many parcels for the establishment of churches and public buildings. A log jail was located on the north side of the square, near Waddill's home, out of which he operated the post office.⁹

During this period, a wave of German Catholic immigrants arrived in the states of Ohio and Illinois. The state of Arkansas assumed an active role in attempting to lure these immigrants as settlers to the frontier. Under Reconstruction, the Bureau of Immigration and State Lands produced a German-language promotional pamphlet to this end. The 1874 publication, however, did not produce the desired results.¹⁰ The first recorded German Catholic family, that of Martin Wahl, arrived in 1878, settling west of Paris. Others arrived sporadically: the Zeiler family came from Indiana, and Frank Seifert settled three miles south of Roseville.¹¹

The true catalyst for the wave of German Catholic immigrants to Paris and Logan County resulted from a collaboration between railroad companies and the Catholic church. Railroad companies, learning of the success of Midwestern German Catholic farming communities, were also eager to relocate these experienced farmers to Arkansas, where the success of new rail lines would depend on the shipment of farm produce. In 1877 the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad joined with Catholic Bishop Edward Fitzgerald of Little Rock to attract German and Swiss Catholic immigrants. The railroad offered cheap land for their settlement and funding for their religious facilities. Abbot Martin Marty, of south Indiana, wished to establish a frontier mission in Arkansas. He inquired of the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railroad as to available land, and St. Benedict's Colony was established that year near Paris. By the end of 1878, 150 families had come to live at St. Benedict's Colony.¹²

Catholic immigrants came to Paris by way of states like Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, even California, as well as directly from Germany, Italy and Ireland. Generally, Germans from Westphalia in the

⁸ Titsworth, 27-8.

⁹ Titsworth, 30-1.

¹⁰ Tom Dillard, "German Influx Changed River Valley Trade Landscape," *Wagon Wheels*, Fall/Winter, Vol. 25, No. 2, 2005, 31.

¹¹ Titsworth, 32.

¹² Curry, "Paris (Logan County)," *Ibid.*; Jamie Metrailler, "Subiaco Abbey and Academy," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, accessed online December 1, 2008 at <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/>.

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Rhineland settled to the east of St. Benedict's, while those who settled in Paris originated from Baden, further south in Germany. This trend was so distinct that the Germans near Short Mountain, west of Paris, referred to their settlement as "Little Baden." At first, the German immigrants tended not to venture into town, preferring to remain within their own community. However, they typically possessed trade skills and were well educated, and they began to establish stores and businesses in the town of Paris. George Zeiler opened a General store, and Michael Helios owned a wagon factory.¹³ Joseph Neumeier had a blacksmith shop at the southeast corner of North Express and Short Mountain Streets (immediately adjacent to the proposed boundary of the Paris Commercial Historic District).¹⁴ Further establishing the presence of German Catholics within the town of Paris was the completion of a church and school. In 1880, Saint Joseph Catholic School was established on land purchased from Mrs. Levisse Waddill. The land was sold for one dollar on the condition that the school was built. The school was staffed by Benedictine sisters as well as lay teachers. The Paris Academy, a non-parochial, private school was opened in 1885 to offer higher education to students completing grades one through eight within the small, one- and two-room schools located in the area around Paris.¹⁵

During the four decades from 1880 to 1920, Paris grew from a small frontier town of fewer than 500 to a bustling center of commerce and culture with a diversified economy. By 1883, the town square of Paris included a restaurant-grocery on the west side, a clothing store on the north side, and a hardware store on the east side. A new, two-story, brick jail was constructed in 1886 one block northwest of the square.¹⁶ At the root of the town's prosperity was agriculture. Farming in the Paris area produced an abundance of fruits, vegetables, and grains for human and livestock consumption. Cotton was the primary crop. By 1890, six cotton gins in the vicinity of Paris compressed cotton lint into 500-pound bales. These were hauled to river or rail towns, such as Dardanelle to the east. Cotton seed, extracted in the baling process was fed to livestock. Corn was another large crop among Paris farmers, feeding people and animals. Additionally, rye, wheat, oats, and barley were grown. Abundant nutrition was available in native grasses for year-round grazing of cattle, sheep, and hogs. In 1886, tax charts for Paris listed 4,710 horses, 1,900 mules, 19,212 head of cattle, 4,070 sheep, and 24,784 hogs.¹⁷

Other tangential agricultural crops, specifically nursery botanicals and grapes for wine-making, flourished as well. As early as 1879 J. W. Ayers established the Paris Nursery at the foot of Short Mountain. In this rich soil Ayers grew nursery stock for market, specializing in fruit and nut trees. His nursery grew to be one of the largest in the state. Viticulture in Arkansas originated among the Catholic immigrants from Germany and Switzerland who settled in the low mountains of the Arkansas River valley around Paris. They brought with them winemaking knowledge which easily transplanted in the topography and climate of this region. Early

¹³ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); Metrailer, "Subiaco Abbey and Academy;" Titsworth, 32.

¹⁴ *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 33.

¹⁵ Curry, "Paris (Logan County).

¹⁶ Titsworth, 34.

¹⁷ Titsworth, 35.

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wines were pressed from indigenous varieties of grapes, blackberries, and persimmons. However, these skilled growers soon began cultivating signature grapes. In 1880 Johann Andreas Wiederkehr, a Swiss immigrant, established the first vineyard in the state on St. Mary's Mountain in neighboring Franklin County.¹⁸ This area between the Ozarks and Ouachita Mountains drew numerous immigrants who established vineyards here. Their migration to the Paris area can be largely attributed to the establishment of the Catholic abbeys and settlement communities originally encouraged by the railroad companies.

When rail lines finally came to Paris, agricultural production was thriving. The bounty far exceeded what was needed in homes and farms of the area, and the surplus went to market, as the railroad companies had expected. The Arkansas Central Rail Line was completed in 1897, joining Paris with Fort Smith. Charles C. Goodman of Chicago and Joseph H. Larimar of Peru, Indiana, offered \$600,000 of railroad stock to investors. Paris provided land for a depot and \$20,000. The first train rolled into the new depot in 1898. The population of Paris at the time was around 800, up from approximately 550 in 1890. Financial difficulties arose in 1899, and the railroad went into receivership. It reorganized with the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad owning 98.9% of the stock. The railroad greatly expanded Paris' produce market, affording farmers a local depot for shipment. Also during this period, telegraph lines were installed, parallel to the railroad tracks, which improved communication for Paris residents.¹⁹

The city of Paris was debt-free by 1906. In that year, six brick buildings (resource numbers LO0254 through LO0258) were completed on the south side of Paris' courthouse square, which completely lined the square on all sides with commercial buildings. Businesses included two butcher shops, three drug stores, two hotels, a barber shop, four grocery stores, two hardware stores, seven general stores, a furniture and undertaker store, and two banks. Additionally, Paris had two newspapers, a Methodist, Baptist, and Catholic Church, the two private schools, a lumber yard, a feed and livery and sales stable, and blacksmith shops. Some of the more prominent establishments in Paris at the time included the Titsworth-Blair merchandise store, the P.B. Cox store (LO0246), the J.A. Ingle Drug Store and School Books Store (LO0247), the Union Coal Company stores (LO0249), and Roady Silvey's restaurant (LO0241), where a full meal cost fifteen cents.²⁰

Paris boasted several light industry enterprises. These included the Patent Roller Flour Mill, owned by A. Bartsch & Company. Mr. Bartsch also owned a controlling interest in the Paris Electric Light and Power Plant. As Waddill & Bartsch, he was also in the partnership that owned the Paris Planing Mill. When the Paris Cotton Seed Oil Mill was opened, its two presses had a capacity for crushing enough seeds to produce 1600 gallons of oil daily. Dr. A.M. Smith was president of the oil mill. Charles Zimmer and Peter Kock each operated wagon manufacturing and blacksmith businesses. Abel Nehust manufactured cigars. Frank

¹⁸ "Heritage of Wiederkehr Wine Cellar, Inc." promotional pamphlet; Guy Landcaster, "Wine Industry," Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, accessed online December 11, 2008 at <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/>.

¹⁹ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 15, 24; Logan County Museum, displays, Paris, Arkansas, viewed on November 25, 2008.

²⁰ *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 29; Titsworth, 36, 54.

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Bornman operated the Paris Bottling Works from 1905 to 1909. Clearly, Germans who immigrated to Paris in the 1880s had successfully established businesses within only a few years. The German American Bank was established in 1904, organized by A.F. Wolfe.²¹ The change of the bank's name to the American State Bank when World War I began suggests that the German community of Paris shunned the stigma of their motherland's politics and was becoming ensconced in local American culture.

The growth and prosperity experienced in Paris around the turn of the twentieth century is also illustrated by the 1908 reconstruction and expansion of the Logan County courthouse. The Classical Revival style building was built around the plainer, 50' x 50' 1880 courthouse, which can still be seen on the north elevation.²² The grander scale and elaborate classical detailing of the new courthouse embodied the prosperity of the town, symbolizing Paris' role as the commercial and cultural center of the county.

In 1910, brother doctors John James Smith and Arthur McDaniel Smith arrived to Paris and established the only hospital in Logan County for many years. The hospital offered what is thought to be the first medical insurance plan in the nation. Another occurrence, note-worthy on the state level, took place in Paris in 1914. When nineteen year old Amanda Stevens disappeared in 1913, her father obtained a warrant for the arrest of John Arthur Tillman, the girl's boyfriend. The girl's body, shot with a bullet to the head, was found in a local farmer's well. An autopsy revealed she had been four months pregnant. Tillman became the obvious suspect of the murder. Despite many successful attempts of escape, including from a moving train between Paris and the state penitentiary at Little Rock, Tillman was convicted of the murder. He was sentenced to hang, and on July 15, 1914, became the last person to be executed at a public hanging in Arkansas.²³

At this time in Paris' history, men returned home from service in World War I, to enjoy life in Paris. The town had continued steadily on a path of economic development since before the turn of the twentieth century. The discovery of coal deposits in Short Mountain and Horseshoe Mountain, to the west of Paris, was a boon both to Paris' economy and profitability of the railroad.

The first coal mine in Paris, opened in 1881, belonged to George Lump, a Paris Restaurant/grocery store owner, in partnership with Angelo Digiacomio. The coal supplied their blacksmith shop with 25 tons of coal. The mine produced enough coal to sell to local consumers, as well. However, not until the rail line came to Paris did a true mining industry develop. Thereafter, several other mining operations followed, including the Dixie Fuel Company, Watson Coal Mine, Paris Purity Coal Company, Jewel Coal Company, et al.²⁴ A report from 1898 claimed that "Logan County has 300,000 acres of coal-bearing land," the best located directly

²¹ Titsworth, 49-55.

²² Logan County Court Records from October 7, 1908 in Joyce Friddle, "The Courthouses of North Logan County," *Wagon Wheels*, Vol. 28, No. 1 & 2, 2008.

²³ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); Ryan Walters, "John Arthur Tillman," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, accessed online December 11, 2008 at <http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/>.

²⁴ Logan County Museum, displays.

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north of Paris in two beds. These deposits were under Short and Horseshoe Mountains, an area 8.5 miles by 2.5 miles.²⁵

Coal mining replaced agriculture as the primary economy in Paris, attracting workers to the town. The population of Paris grew to almost 1,500 in 1910. Before World War I, "solid shooting" was used in these mines; thereafter, machinery was in use. Mining of coal was directly responsible for the continued rise in Paris' population, up to 1,740 in 1920. The market for coal increased notably during the period between 1920 and 1924. Some of the principal coal companies in Paris included Dixie Fuel Company, Paris Purity Coal Company, Jewel Coal Company, Watson Coal Company, and Eureka Coal Company. The coal fields supported thirty-one mines at the peak of the industry, employing 2000 workers and producing 11,000 tons annually. As many as 13,000 coal cars left by rail from Paris. Coal from Paris was sold in Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, and North and South Dakota.²⁶

The lucrative mining industry increased Paris' business activity, and the town's retail stores enjoyed strong trade as a direct result of the robust economy. As the commercial and cultural center of Logan County, Paris attracted businessmen and shoppers, who enjoyed the town's abundant stores and stayed in one of two hotels. One of Paris' most prominent structures housed retail businesses, coal company offices, and hotel accommodations. The Union Coal Company & Commercial Hotel, with multiple storefronts, was home to some of the leading merchandise stores of Paris. At the southeast corner of the square, the two-story, brick building lies immediately east of Elm Street. This street was the main thoroughfare that brought travelers from the river on the north and from the train depot just south of town.

Between the hotel corner and the depot, Paris' commercial district continued to expand along South Elm Street, and to some extent on South Express Street one block the west. Paris Lumber and Hardware Company was located one block south of the square on South Elm Street. Behind the two story brick building was the company's lumberyard, accessed from South Express Street. Sharing the block was a garage building at the corner of Pine Street. On the other side of Elm Street were one-part commercial block stores. Continuing down Elm Street, Paris' commercial district was a similar mix of retail and industrial buildings. Facing South Elm in the 200 block were additional one-part commercial block buildings. Located behind these stores is a brick warehouse. Still another block further down Elm Street are a pair of small, one-story store buildings of native stone. Located more than three blocks from the square, proprietors of these small stores likely would not have been specialized in a particular kind of merchandise nor been concerned with display.²⁷

²⁵ Ibid.; Theodore Potts, "Coal Bed of north Logan," *Arkansas Magnet*, February 4, 1898, in *Wagon Wheels*, Spring/Summer, 2004, Vol. 24, No. 1, 32; Titsworth, 56.

²⁶ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); Logan County Museum, displays; Mines, Miners, and Mining in Logan County," *Wagon Wheels*, Spring/Summer, 2002, Vol. 22, No. 1, 8-9; Titsworth, 83.

²⁷ Titsworth, 38-9.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9 Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas

The growth of Paris' commercial district and population appear to have leveled off by 1930. In that year the population was 3,234. While mining flourished in the 1920s, market prices for agricultural products became unstable. Prohibition caused many farmers to turn to bootleg liquor for income. Vineyards of the area were allowed to produce sacramental wine for religious purposes during this period. Farmers further suffered from a drought. Years of erosion also negatively impacted farmland. Farm prices fell to an all-time low after 1930.²⁸

Work in the coal mines and in New Deal programs help to support the town of Paris during the Depression. In 1935, 1,044 workers were employed in Paris coal mines. The daily wage was \$7.50 per eight hours.²⁹ The Works Progress Administration built libraries in Paris and Booneville. The Civilian Conservation Corps began projects on nearby Mount Magazine building recreational facilities. Soil conservation practices were introduced, though the primary agricultural product of Paris ceased to be cotton.³⁰

By the 1930s, coal mining companies were in search of new deposits. The Paris Purity Coal Company abandoned its shaft mine and opened a slope mine on a different crop in early 1930. The Jewel Coal Company likewise left its shaft mine in 1938 and drove a rock slope on an eighteen-degree angle, hitting a coal bed at 550 feet. This company, begun in 1908, remained in operation until 1958, at which time few other mines continued.³¹

The economic down-turn of the Depression resulted in lasting changes to the economy of Paris during and after World War II. Camp Chaffee, west of Paris towards Fort Smith, offered employment opportunities. Farming became focused on cattle and dairy operations, which relied on the native grasses of the natural landscape. While the economy stagnated or declined in other parts of the state and country, employment opportunities in Paris' coal mines remained steady into the 1950s. In 1942, 1,000 men were employed in the coal mines. The daily wage increased to \$20.24 per 6.5-hour shift by 1958, but that year marked the near end of the industry. The mining industry that helped Paris become a thriving commercial center had lasted over sixty years, depleting the mountain of coal. Few companies continued in operation after 1958. During the 1960s recreational tourism increased with the completion of the Arkansas River Navigation Project. Mount Magazine, the location of a ca.1900 tourist hotel, again became a destination of outdoor recreation, beginning with the CCC and WPA projects that developed camping and picnic sites.³²

In the 1970s, natural gas was discovered in the area. New industries have located in Paris, including a charcoal plant, a lingerie factory, a shoe factory, and a gear manufacturer. Retirees and young families have

²⁸ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 15.

²⁹ Titsworth, 84.

³⁰ *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 16-17.

³¹ "Mines, Miners, and Mining in Logan County, 8-9; Titsworth, 83-4.

³² *Ibid.*; *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 16-17.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 10 Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas

been attracted to the small-town life Paris offers, and outdoor enthusiasts continue to flow through Paris, the "Gateway to Mount Magazine." In 2002 Mount Magazine was added to the Arkansas state park system, and a new private lodge is expected to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.³³

Paris, a town whose turn-of-the-century prosperity is attributed to coal mining, today embraces the greener industry of outdoor tourism. Visitors to nearby mountains, lakes, and streams, stop in Paris on their way through. The town's impressive Classical Revival courthouse, still in use as a public building, also represents Paris' past glory. The commercial district encompassing the courthouse is largely occupied by businesses such as restaurants, financial offices, retail stores, and a movie theater. While some storefronts have been altered, the form and styling of the buildings reflect their historic functions. Storefronts have a mix of original and replacement elements. Many stylistic elements are intact, such as parapets, brick corbelling, soldier courses, decorative brickwork, columns or pilasters. Downtown Paris retains a concentrated collection of buildings that collectively demonstrate historic and architectural integrity through elements of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Due to Paris' local historic and architectural significance and its existing integrity, the Paris Commercial Historic District meets the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

³³ Curry, "Paris (Logan County); *Logan County Arkansas: Its History and Its People*, 11.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas

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Paris Commercial Historic District

Logan County,
Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 13

UTM References

(place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>15</u>	<u>433545</u>	<u>3905828</u>	C	<u>15</u>	<u>433627</u>	<u>3905758</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>15</u>	<u>433627</u>	<u>3905828</u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u>433668</u>	<u>3905758</u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Andra Kowalczyk Martens,
organization Thomason and Associates date December 2008
street & number 1907 21st Avenue South telephone 615-385-4960
city or town Nashville state TN zip code 37212

Additional Documentation

submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 Or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Multiple
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the Paris Commercial Historic District encompass the town square, which includes buildings facing North Elm Street on the east, West Walnut on the south, North Express on the west, and West Main Street on the north; one block east of the square on East Walnut Street; three-and-a-half blocks south of the square on South Elm Street; two blocks south of the square on South Express Street; one north of the square on North Express Street; and one block north of the square on North Elm Street.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Paris Commercial Historic District boundary is drawn to encompass the concentrated collection of extant historic commercial properties in downtown Paris. The district includes the buildings at the center of public life for Paris' residents during the late nineteenth century and first half of the 20th century.

UTM REFERENCES CONTINUED

E. 15 433668E 3905704N	F. 15 433700E 3905704N
G. 15 433700E 3905633N	H. 15 433681E 3905633N
I. 15 433681E 3906545N	J. 15 433669E 3906545N
K. 15 433669E 3905530N	L. 15 433687E 3905530N
M. 15 433687E 3905454N	N. 15 433654E 3905454N
O. 15 433654E 3905397N	P. 15 433624E 3905397N
Q. 15 433624E 3905431N	R. 15 433586E 3905431N
S. 15 433586E 3905559N	T. 15 433547E 3905559N
U. 15 433547E 3905574N	V. 15 433520E 3905574N

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	Photos	Page	1	Paris Commercial Historic District Paris, Logan County, Arkansas
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Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan, Arkansas

Photos by: Thomason and Associates
Date: November 2008
Location of Negatives: Arkansas SHPO, Little Rock

- Photo No. 1: North Elm Street, east side of square, looking NE
- Photo No. 2: South Elm Street, looking NE
- Photo No. 3: South Elm Street, 100 block, looking SW
- Photo No. 4: South Express Street, looking NW
- Photo No. 5: Logan County Courthouse, looking NE
- Photo No. 6: North Express Street, looking NW
- Photo No. 7: City Hall & Fire Station, 100 block of North Express Street, looking NW
- Photo No. 8: West Main Street, north side of square, looking NE
- Photo No. 9: North Elm Street, east side of square, looking SE
- Photo No. 10: West Walnut Street, south side of square, looking SW
- Photo No. 11: Warehouse on Carney Street, looking NW

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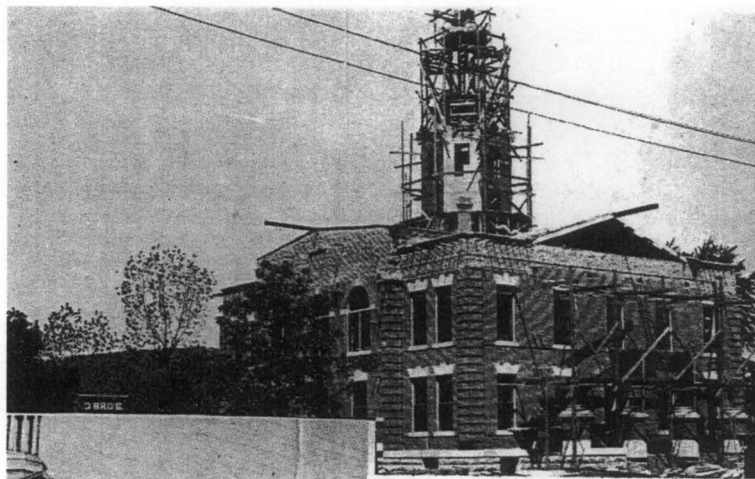
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Historic Photos _____ Page 1

Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas



1880 Logan County Courthouse



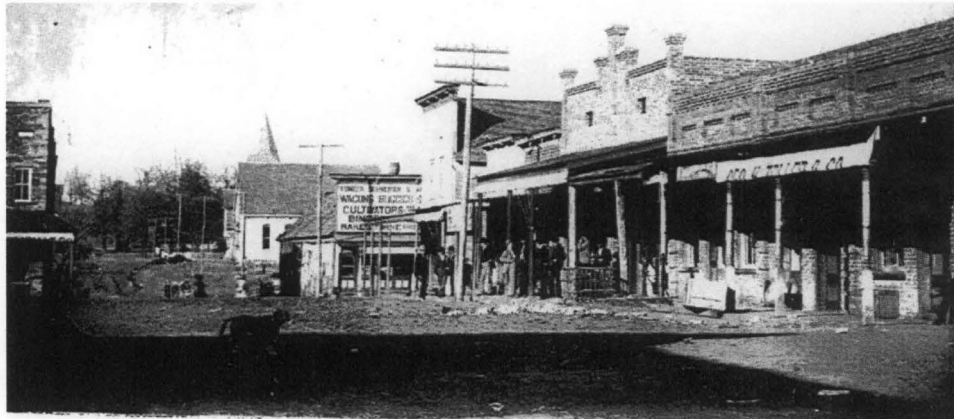
Expansion of courthouse, 1908.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Historic Photos _____ Page 2

Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas



East side of Paris, square, ca. 1900.



North side of Paris' square, ca. 1920.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Historic Photos _____ Page 3

Paris Commercial Historic District
Paris, Logan County, Arkansas



Photo from the 1950s, when coal mining in Paris was coming to a close. Workers Joe (Bryan) Martin, Francis Becker and Anton (Toad) Koch were employed by the Northside coal Company.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Paris Commercial Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Logan

DATE RECEIVED: 4/08/08 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/12/2009 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/22/08
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 09000314

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/12/2009 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Typical County Seat Commercial District - Centered on Courthouse Square and
Containing the 1 + 2 story Commercial buildings that mark the heyday
of Economic Activity for the Region. Paris was a Coal mining
Center & the District was on the wane by the mid 1950s.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Crit A+C

REVIEWER Carbur DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/~~N~~ see attached SLR Y/~~N~~

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



North Elm Street, looking NW
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0001
Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



South Elm Street, looking NW
Paris Commercial Historic
District

Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0002

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



HANNIGAN FAIRING CO.
Established SINCE 1914

NO
PARKING
ANY
TIME

STOP

South Elm Street, looking SE
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0003
Andra Martens

11/25/08

Photo CD - AR SHPO



South Express Street, looking NW
Paris Commercial Historic District

Logan County, Arkansas

photo 0004

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



Logan County Courthouse
Paris Commercial Historic District

Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0005, looking NW

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



North Express Street, looking NW
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0006

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



100 block North Express Street
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0007, looking NW
Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - AR SHPO



Castle Graphics
1000
1000
1000

Castle Graphics apinet
T-SHIRTS CAPS SIGNS BANNERS TROPHEES AWARDS & MORE... UNLIMITED CREATIVE POTENTIAL

MAIN STREET CINEMA

CINEMA 14

MAIN STREET CLINIC

Gulf

West Main Street, looking NE
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0008

Andra Martens

11/25/08

Photo CD - AR SHPO



North Elm Street, looking SW
Paris Commercial Historic District
Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0009

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD- AR SHPO



West Walnut Street, looking SW
Paris Commercial Historic
District

Logan County, Arkansas

Photo 0010

Andra Martens

11/25/08

photo CD - Ark. SHPO



Carney Street, Wells Warehouse Outlet
Paris Commercial Historic District

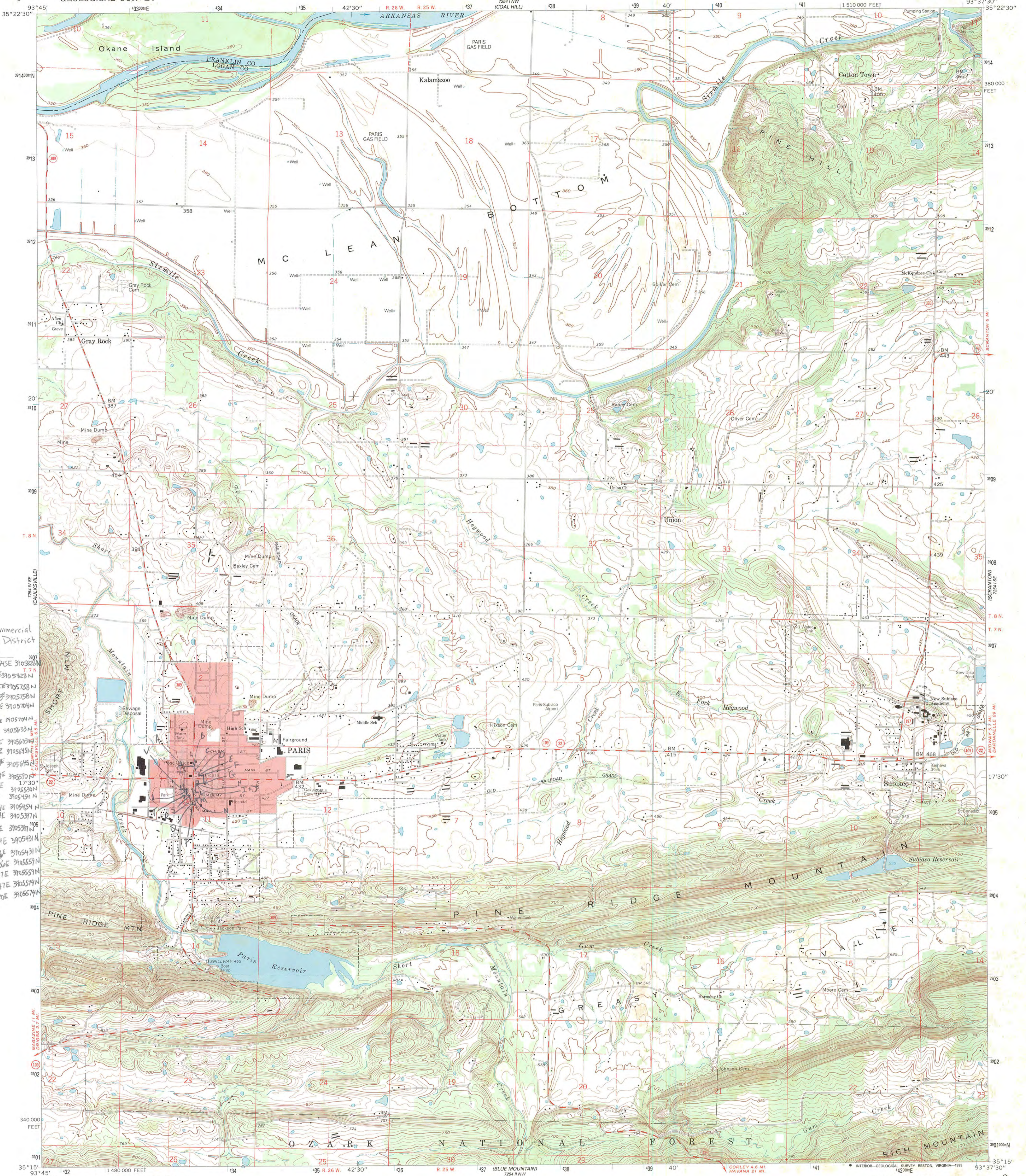
Logan County, Tennessee

Photo 0011, looking NW

Andra Martens

11/25/08

CD photo - AR SHPO

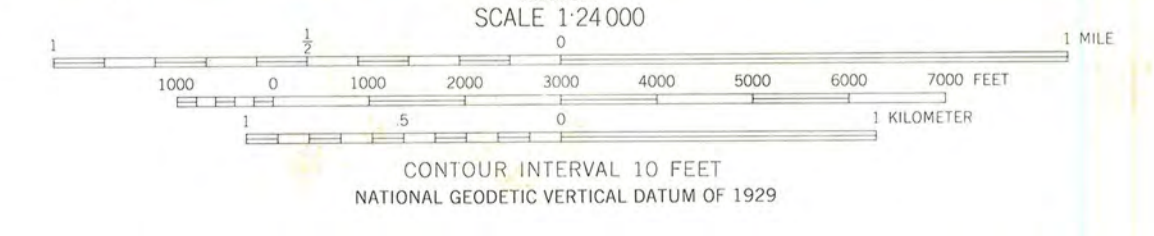


Paris Commercial
Historic District
UTMs

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O	15	433905E	3105428N
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Q	15	433946E	3105462N
R	15	433946E	3105496N
S	15	433987E	3105496N
T	15	433987E	3105530N
U	15	434028E	3105530N
V	15	434028E	3105564N

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
in cooperation with State of Arkansas agencies
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1958. Field checked 1961. Revised from aerial photographs
taken 1989-90. Field checked 1992. Map edited 1993.
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate
system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)
North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute
intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Unlabeled wells are gas wells
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

MAP SALES
AND
SERVICES
1100 Lakeside Bldg.
Little Rock, AR 72204
616-212-3388

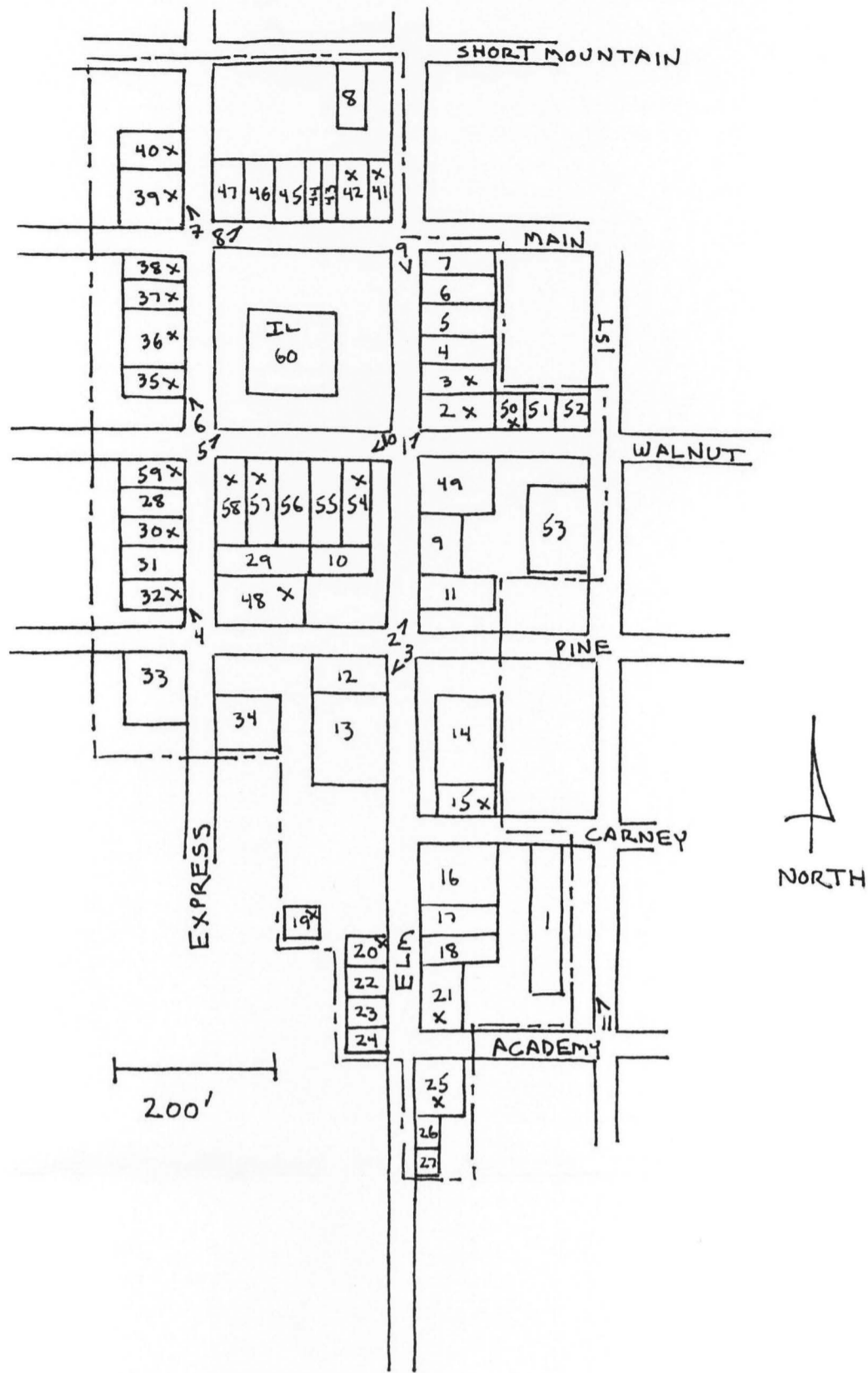


ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface ——— Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface ——— Unimproved road
Interstate Route ——— U.S. Route ——— State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72204
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PARIS, ARK.
35093-C6-TF-024
1993

DMA 7254 1 SW-SERIES V884



PARIS COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
 PARIS, LOGAN COUNTY, ARKANSAS

- = BOUNDARY
- IL = INDIVIDUALLY LISTED
- x = NON CONTRIBUTING
- > = PHOTO LOCATION



The Department of
**Arkansas
Heritage**

Mike Beebe
Governor

Cathie Matthews
Director

Arkansas Arts Council

*

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

*

Delta Cultural Center

*

Historic Arkansas Museum

*

Mosaic Templars
Cultural Center

*

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building
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tdd: (501) 324-9811

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.com

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April 1, 2009

Dr. Janet Matthews
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
8th Floor
1201 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Paris Commercial Historic District – Paris, Logan County,
Arkansas

Dear Dr. Matthews:

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.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:rsw

Enclosure