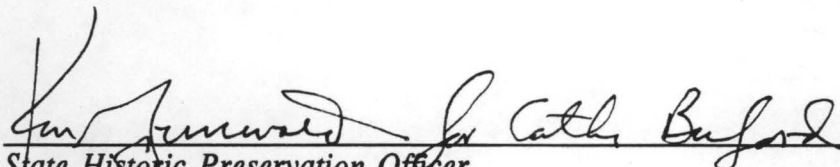


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REGISTERSection number 7 Page 1AMENDMENT TO THE BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT (BOUNDARY INCREASE)

BOUNDARIES

The original Batesville Commercial Historic District (NR-listed 10/07/82) included a total of twenty-five properties, the majority of which were historic commercial storefront structures for which the period of significance was 1870-1920. The district's significance was noted as being historical and architectural, as a majority of these buildings dated from the earliest period of Batesville's growth as a regional commercial and transportation hub and were reflective of the influence of both contemporaneous popular American architectural styles (primarily the Italianate) and Ozark Mountain vernacular masonry construction traditions. The eastern boundary of the district was established due to the predominance beyond of what was referred to as "... more recent buildings ...," though several significant commercial and institutional buildings from the original period of significance lay beyond this boundary (their concentration, however, was not considered sufficient to warrant the extension of the boundary to include them) and it was noted that virtually all of the commercial buildings beyond were of the same commercial storefront type. The passage of eight years since that original nomination was listed have allowed many of these "recent" buildings to become fifty years-old or older; more importantly, this period of time has also witnessed the execution of the first scholarly attempts to place in historical perspective the commercial architecture of the era between the World Wars and the various economic, demographic and visual forces that shaped it. In expanding the period of significance to 1870-1940, the amendment seeks to add a number of buildings that date from the original period of significance as well as to recognize the visual qualities shared by the more recent buildings with those already listed (one- and two-story, party-wall, masonry commercial storefront buildings forming a relatively continuous streetscape) - all the while admitting the shift in economic stimuli brought on chiefly by the automobile and the attempts of retailers to exploit the present and potential opportunities it introduced.


State Historic Preservation Officer

6-8-90
Date

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SUMMARY

The amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District seeks to add a total of thirty-six institutional and commercial buildings (twenty-three contributing, thirteen non-contributing) to the eastern end of the existing district, increasing the total number of included buildings from twenty-five to sixty-one. Several of the buildings within the amendment were constructed during the original period of significance (1870-1920), though the majority were constructed between 1920 and 1940. A variety of architectural styles from both periods are represented: the Italianate, Renaissance Revival and Classical Revival from the former, and the Craftsman, Spanish Colonial and Art Deco from the latter. Virtually all of the buildings within the amendment are one- to three-stories in height and of the party-wall, commercial storefront type; as such they extend to the east the character of Main Street's continuous, commercial storefront streetscape for which the original district was considered significant.

ELABORATION

The amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District adds thirty-six commercial and institutional properties to the eastern end of the existing district, bringing the total number of included properties to sixty-one. All of the buildings within the amendment - both contributing and non-contributing - are of masonry construction and most are of the party-wall, continuous storefront commercial type. Of the twenty-three contributing resources within the amendment, eleven date from the period of significance of the original nomination and twelve date from the period 1920-1940. They range in height from one to three stories, and as is typical of party-wall, commercial buildings of the period, feature rectangular plans almost exclusively. They reflect the influence of several of the architectural styles that were popular between 1870 and 1940.

The individual properties are listed below:

A1. 129 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with a later beige and brown brick facade lighted with glass block. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This building was erected c. 1875 as a two-story structure which later housed Batesville's first hospital, the Dorr-Kennedy Sanitarium. The second story was later removed and the new brick facade was added c. 1960; only the structural stone walls and some interior partitions remain from the original construction.

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A2. 159 E. Main Street c. 1925

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure constructed with sandstone for the walls and foundation. It is covered with a flat, tin roof set behind a raised parapet.

Constructed in the simple, vernacular stone masonry style indigenous to the Ozark region, this structure also reflects Craftsman influences in the use of four-over-one wood sash windows. The first floor storefront was remodeled in 1955.

A3. 189 E. Main Street (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure with two entries on the first floor and a modern buff brick facade above. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered by a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

The structure of this building was erected c. 1900; the facade was drastically remodeled in 1965 when it was completely covered with new buff brick.

A4. 187 E. Main Street (NC)

A combination of three originally separate stone masonry commercial buildings - two single story buildings and a two-story building - into a single business. All three are constructed of sandstone walls, though the single story section is covered with a flat, built-up tar roof and the two-story section is covered with a tin gable roof.

All three of these buildings were originally constructed prior to 1908; however they were substantially remodeled c. 1965 when the modern buff brick and tin facades were added to all three.

A5. 201 E. Main Street 1883

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure with a partially-stuccoed facade. It is supported by a concrete and stone foundation and covered with a flat, tar and gravel roof set behind a raised parapet. It features a diagonal corner entrance bay, with two bays extending to the east and six bays extending to the north.

Designed in the Italianate style, this structure features the slightly-projecting, arched window crowns which were typical of this style. The first floor storefront was remodeled in the early twentieth century with the addition of the black Vitrolux glass. It was originally constructed as an extension of the Maxfield store building to the east.

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A6. 217 E. Main Street (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry and stucco commercial building. Its sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and are covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

Originally constructed c. 1875-76, this structure housed the Maxfield store, one of the earliest stores in Batesville. The exterior was substantially remodeled when the original two rows of six arched windows which lighted the second story and the original half-story above were covered with stucco; as such, it now bears virtually no resemblance to its original appearance.

A7. 231 E. Main Street 1925

A three-story, brick masonry commercial building with Batesville marble trim. Its brick walls and facade are supported by a brick foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet coped with cast concrete.

This building was originally constructed c. 1908 by S.A. Hail, a prominent local merchant, as a single story commercial building to house his dry goods business. It was enlarged with a second story warehouse in 1914, and in 1925 a third story was added for more warehouse space along with the brick front. The square-headed windows with their decorative lintel "squares" and sills of Batesville marble (actually a type of limestone but called marble because of the visual similarities) and their nine-over-one double-hung sash windows reveal a subtle Craftsman influence in the design.

A8. 243 E. Main Street 1910

A one-and-one-half story, brick masonry commercial building with stone walls and a decorative, panel brick facade and parapet. It is supported upon a stone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

This building survives as an example of the simple commercial vernacular style which became popular throughout the state for smaller commercial buildings. Of note is the panel brick detailing beneath the projecting brick cornice.

A9. 255 E. Main Street 1925

A single story, brick masonry commercial structure with a stone and concrete foundation and a flat, built-up tar roof.

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Though the structure of this building was probably built before 1897, the entire facade was substantially remodeled in 1925 when the panel brick signage panels were added above what had been two separate shops. The first floor storefront facade has been changed in recent years, but the fine corbelling and panel brick work above remains intact, including the dentil course beneath the projecting cornice and the corbelling above the signage panels.

A10. 267-297 E. Main Street 1903-04

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building, constructed of sandstone walls with a facade of pressed and buttered brick trimmed with sandstone voussoirs, quoins and other decorative insets. The entire structure rests upon a sandstone foundation and is covered with a flat, standing seam tin roof.

This building, constructed as the Barnett Brothers Mercantile Company, remains one of the finest commercial buildings in Batesville. Its facade is designed in the Renaissance Revival style; significant details include the splayed stone voussoirs over the row of fourteen arched windows which light the second floor, the alternating stone quoins and the delicate corbelling in the panel brick work beneath the bracketed metal cornice.

A11. 301 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a glass block and brick facade. It rests upon a stone foundation and is covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

The structure of this building was erected in 1905; however, the later brick and glass block facade was added in 1960, thus drastically altering the original appearance of the building.

A12. 315 E. Main Street (NC)

This is a vacant lot; the stone structure which stood here burned within the last five years.

A13. 325-327 E. Main Street 1917-18

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with an original panel brick facade. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, tar paper roof set behind a brick parapet.

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This building is substantially intact from its date of construction on the portion of the facade above the first floor. Details of note include the stone quoins and coping along the cornice and the delicate dentil course at the top of each of the recessed brick panels.

A14. *347 E. Main Street* 1940

A single story, stone masonry commercial building faced with panels of Batesville marble and topped with a brick cornice laid to form a dentil course. It is supported by a cast concrete foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a parapet.

Also one of the Barnett Brothers buildings, this building was designed in an extremely spare interpretation of the Art Deco by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg, Deloney and Davidson and built by the Jones Construction Company. The sheerness of the Batesville marble facade is relieved only by the unusual row of brick headers at the cornice which forms a dentil course.

A15. *359-363 E. Main Street* (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with a cut sandstone and metal facade. It is supported by a cast concrete foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This building was constructed in 1959.

A16. *369-377 E. Main Street* 1939

A single story, brick and stone masonry commercial building. The facade features cream-colored brick with sandstone trim, glass block and structural black glass insets. It is supported by a concrete and sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet coped with concrete.

Designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg, Deloney and Davidson, this structure was designed to be able to carry a second floor. The original plans indicate the allowance for the construction of a hotel atop the present building which never materialized. The streamlined, Art Moderne influence in this otherwise spare building is displayed through the use of the black glass insets at the tops of the pilasters, the use of the glass block set in an alternating, checkerboard pattern, and the decorative, geometric patterning of the brick only on the pilasters so as to draw the eye

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and distinguish them from the surface of the facade.

A17. *389 E. Main Street* 1925

A single story, brick masonry commercial structure with some wood brackets and other trim. It is supported by a brick foundation and covered with a hipped, asphalt shingle roof.

This is one of the few originally detached structures in the amendment. It is designed in a style particular to automobile service stations of the first half of the twentieth century with its overhang designed to protect patrons of the gasoline pumps and the office area to the rear with its full complement of windows. The Craftsman influence is also revealed in the partially chamfered brick columns and the wood brackets which rise from them to support the roof.

It is in remarkably intact condition as only the gasoline pumps have been removed.

A18. *368 E. Main Street* 1904

A three story, brick masonry institutional building with Batesville marble trim. It rests upon a foundation constructed with brick and Batesville marble and is covered by a hipped, standing seam metal roof. It is five bays long by three bays deep and stands as a detached, separate structure.

This building was originally constructed by the federal government as the post office building for Batesville. It is designed in the Renaissance Revival style which was first made popular in the United States by the design for the Boston Public Library by the New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White and which was later adopted by the Treasury Department in particular for virtually all of their commissions throughout the first decade of the twentieth century, and for their post office designs in particular. Significant details include the segmented arch windows in the middle three bays on the main elevation, and the Batesville marble decorative panels, keystones and stringcourses. The heavy dentillated brackets beneath the cornice lend a rhythm which unites all four elevations.

A19. *332 E. Main Street* 1907

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with an original buff brick facade. The sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and the structure is covered by a flat, tin roof set behind a raised parapet. It is three bays across on the principal elevation; the side elevations are blank.

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Though the architect is unknown, this building stands as one of the earliest examples of the influence of the Spanish Colonial style in Batesville. Of special note are the stepped Spanish parapet with its central semi-circle and concrete coping, the Classical concrete cornice and stringcourse below, and the bracketed sills beneath the windows on the second story.

A20. 320 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with a later brick facade. It features two storefronts on the first floor that are surrounded with black structural glass and aluminum frames. Its concrete foundation supports brick walls that are covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

Though the original structure beneath dates from c. 1900, the facade was substantially remodeled in 1955 when it was refaced with the new brick.

A21. 308 E. Main Street 1940

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a facade that was refaced with new stone in 1940. The first floor consists of a single storefront and display area. The stone parapet above is blank except for the signage. The sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls and a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind the stone parapet.

The original structure (which can be seen looking to the south down Church Street) was constructed in 1887; however, the facade was largely refaced c. 1940 with newer cut stone capped with a thin band of coping. Though simple in style, this is one of several buildings remodeled between 1920 and 1940 that continues the vernacular, cut stone building tradition indigenous to the Ozark region.

A22. 296 E. Main Street (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building faced with red brick surrounding plate glass on both principal elevations. It is divided by the vertical glass panels into four bays on the northern elevation and twenty-three on the eastern elevation. Its stone foundation and load-bearing walls support a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This structure was erected in 1957 on the site of an earlier brick bank building which resembled the extant neighbor to the west (#23); however, this earlier building was either completely removed at that time or so substantially cut down and remodeled

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that nothing original remains on the exterior.

A23. 286 E. Main Street 1894

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with an original brick facade. The main or northern facade is three bays in length and is entered on the first floor through a beveled storefront to the east and an entry to the upper level to the west. The three segmental arch windows above consist of nine-over-one wood sash and are ornamented with simple stone sills and ashlar-faced stone voussoirs set in an unusual stepped pattern around a central keystone. The wall above is divided by a dentillated cornice into two separate fields, the lower featuring an alternating corbelled brick pattern and the upper featuring an alternating pattern of larger and smaller panels that are also corbelled at the top. Stone coping caps the main section of the facade, which is finished at the tops of the exterior brick pilasters with decorative metal caps.

This building survives as one of the finest examples in Batesville of the panel brick commercial building tradition which became popular across the United States in the 1890's. These buildings were typically simple in detail but often featured impressive panel brick detailing on the upper storys, especially near the cornice line. This structure has been further ornamented with stone trim placed at various places on the facade. The first floor storefront has been remodeled, but the stone pilasters to either side are extant and visible.

A24. 276 E. Main Street (NC)

A two-story, brick masonry commercial building covered with modern white metal siding above the first floor and a metal canopy over the first floor storefront. It is three bays in length and houses a single storefront and display area. Its stone and concrete foundation supports brick walls which are covered with a flat roof set behind a parapet.

The original structure behind the metal siding was constructed c. 1897; however, the brick facade was covered with the metal siding and canopy in the relatively recent past that has drastically altered its original appearance.

A25. 266 E. Main Street 1895

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a brick parapet above the first floor. The first floor is entered through a single central entry set into a beveled storefront. The stone foundation supports the stone walls and flat, built-up tar roof set behind the raised parapet.

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This building, like 286 E. Main (#23), stands as an example of the corbelled panel brick style which became popular among commercial buildings in the 1890's. Of note is the dentil course, created simply by turning the bricks at an angle and allowing the corners to create the dentils, and the corbelling at the cornice.

A26. 250 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with modern metal siding over the parapet above the first floor and over the eastern half of the first floor storefront. It is entered via a recessed storefront at the western end of the facade. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

This building was two separate buildings originally; the eastern half was built in 1914 and the western half was built in 1923. However, in 1965 the metal facade was added and the two buildings united into a single enterprise. Some of the original brick facade may remain behind the metal, but as it exists today the building bears no resemblance to its historic appearance.

A27. 248 E. Main Street 1914

A single story, brick masonry commercial building faced with dark tan bricks and trimmed with Batesville marble. It is entered via a single, central entry set into a beveled, plate glass storefront. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, gravel and tar roof set behind a raised brick parapet coped with stone.

This building is reflective of the trend in the commercial design of the early automobile era toward more simple, two-dimensional facades which present a simply organized display area for signage and advertising that could be easily read from the street. However, the use of the Batesville marble to imitate quoins and to otherwise ornament the facade indicates the residual influence of the traditional Classical architectural styles.

A28. 226 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with an attic. Its modern, decorative sheet metal and plate glass facade covers an original brick facade. It is two storefront bays in length, the eastern of which is angled from the eastern edge of the building to the entry, and the western of which features a central entry set into a beveled, plate glass storefront. Its brick walls are supported by a brick foundation and covered with a flat roof set behind a raised parapet.

Though the structure beneath the sheet metal was constructed c. 1907, the buildings

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entire facade has been so drastically remodeled that it bears no resemblance to its historic appearance.

A29. 220 E. Main Street 1903

A two-story, brick and stone masonry commercial building with a red brick facade fenestrated with one-over-one wood sash windows above and a beveled, plate glass storefront and central entry below. Its sandstone and brick walls rest upon a stone and concrete foundation and are covered with a flat, tar and gravel roof.

This building is another example of the simple, panel brick commercial style popular around the turn of the century. Its two second story bays are each lighted with a single one-over-one wood sash window set into a recessed, corbelled brick panel. The brick parapet is coped with stone.

A30. 206 E. Main Street 1927

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with a stuccoed exterior. Its northern elevation is divided into six bays and its western elevation is divided into twelve bays. The first floor of the Main Street elevation features a plate glass storefront and display area surrounded by green and black glass panels. Its sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and covered by a flat, tarred tin roof.

This structure was constructed after a fire in the mid-1920's which destroyed all but the exterior walls of the earlier building, which was built in the 1870's. It was of a vernacular commercial style, as it was designed as a simple, functional department store building with a balanced, symmetrical facade on both of its corner elevations; however, it reveals Craftsman style influences in the twelve-over-one wood sash windows found throughout the second floor.

**A31. 192 E. Main Street 1940
(Independence County Courthouse)**

A two-story, stone masonry institutional building with a raised basement and a Batesville marble exterior. It features a symmetrical, roughly "H"-shaped plan. The central, taller section of the building is five bays in length along the northern or Main Street elevation and accessed via a central, double-leaf entry. The lower, flanking sections are a single bay across. The eastern and western elevations are each five bays in length. The building is fenestrated throughout with metal casement and awning windows, virtually all of which are original. It rests upon a concrete foundation and is covered with a flat roof.

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The Independence County Courthouse was designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg and Deloney in 1940 to replace a High Victorian Gothic courthouse that had stood on the site since the 1880's but which burned in 1939 (this has been the site of the county courthouse since 1857). It was designed in the Art Deco style and remains Batesville's finest example of this style. Its symmetrical plan and elevations, coupled with the emphasis upon large areas of uninterrupted wall surface, and the spare and symmetrically-applied geometric, stylized Classical ornament render it a pure Art Deco design. The only landscape feature of note is the 1907 stone Confederate monument which was moved to this location in 1940.

A32. 158 E. Main Street 1926

A two-story, brick masonry commercial building with its original red brick facade above the first floor. The first floor storefront consists of a plate glass, beveled storefront and recessed central entry bordered with modern decorative sheet metal and covered with a modern metal canopy. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat roof set behind a raised brick parapet.

This building is a vernacular panel brick commercial building typical of this style as it was interpreted in the 1920's. The brick panelling and the corbelling become much shallower and less three-dimensional, the emphasis now being street visibility and uninterrupted surfaces for signage and advertising. It is fenestrated by a central group of three nine-over-one wood sash windows (revealing the Craftsman influence) and detailed only with a shallow dentil course near the cornice. It was constructed by Victor Wade to house his print shop and related offices.

A33. 148 E. Main Street 1929

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a beige and brown brick facade and a decorative, green clay tile roof. Its first floor storefront features a central entry and plate glass display windows set into an aluminum frame. Its sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls, and the roof behind the raised parapet is flat.

This building, built by Otto Guenzel in 1929 to house his dry cleaning business, was designed in a commercial vernacular interpretation of the Craftsman style. The use of decorative brick "parquet" patterning with the random placement of brick of two different colors lends a rough, unplanned character to the otherwise flat and unornamented facade. The green clay tile roof and exposed wood brackets further reveals the influence of the Craftsman style and renders this structure one of the more unusual buildings in downtown Batesville that reflects the influence of a traditional

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style.

A34. *140 E. Main Street* 1929

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a beige and brown brick facade laid in a running bond. The first floor store front is accessed via a central, recessed entrance dividing two plate glass display windows. The stone foundation supports the stone walls, and the entire structure is covered with a flat roof.

This building was erected at the same time as its neighbor (140 E. Main Street, #34) by the same owner, Otto Guenzel. This design, however, is substantially simpler than its neighbor. The bricks are set in a standard running bond, which does far less to break up the flat surface of the brick parapet. Furthermore, there is no signage nor any other decoration to add interest. Its only relief above the first floor is the two symmetrically-placed ventilation grates. However, it was probably never intended to be a building of any pretense, and is typical of much of the commercial vernacular architecture popular throughout the state during the period 1920-1940.

A35. *134 E. Main Street* (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with concrete and stucco facade on the first floor and a painted brick facade above. Its sandstone walls rest upon a stone foundation and are covered with a flat roof set behind a brick parapet.

This building, which was probably constructed c. 1925, was substantially remodeled in 1947. The brick and stucco date from these alterations, as do the metal storefronts.

A36. *124 E. Main Street* 1928

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with a stone facade and brick detailing. It features two entries on the first floor, one to the west which accesses the upstairs and one toward the center which accesses the first floor space. The sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls and a flat tin roof.

This building was designed in the local, vernacular stone tradition with some interesting variations. Brick is used not only for the stringcourse between the first and second floor and the coping atop the parapet but also for the decorative window lintels and sills. The second story is lighted with two symmetrically-placed pair of one-over-one wood sash windows.

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SUMMARY

The Amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District expands the period of significance for the original nomination from 1870-1920 to 1870-1940, thereby including a number of historic commercial and institutional buildings that were constructed between the World Wars, as well as almost as many that date from the original period of significance but which were excluded from the original nomination due to the more recent infill. In expanding the period of significance the amendment seeks to recognize the visual effect on the built environment of the gradual shift in downtown economic forces that occurred during the period of 1920-1940. The same advances in transportation and shipping methods that re-oriented railroad and river towns across the nation also transformed the streetscape of downtown Batesville into a modern retail center that, unlike many other similar communities, remained vital through its ability to absorb and respond to these developments.

ELABORATION

Batesville, Arkansas was the principal commercial and transportation hub in northeast Arkansas during the nineteenth century. It was founded in 1821 (at which time it was also named the Independence County seat, an honor it has retained ever since) on the site of a former trading post, but achieved its regional importance through its location at the intersection of the old Southwest Trail (that ran between St. Louis, Missouri and the Texas territory) and the White River, on which it occupied one of the prime passenger and cargo landing points at the southern edge of the Ozark mountains. This favorable site made it *the* point of contact for all access to the surrounding inland area and the principal trade center for local farmers who came to sell their produce here for shipping to larger regional and national markets. Batesville's importance as a regional commercial and transportation hub was recognized early, as it became the site of both the Federal Land Office in 1822 and the northern branch of the State Bank in 1838.

This status only increased after the Civil War, as by 1873 the Cairo and Fulton Railroad passed through Newport (Jackson County), a smaller White River port located approximately twenty-four miles to the southeast, and a spur was constructed to Batesville ten years later. This connection established Batesville as an overland, river and railroad intersection; not surprisingly, it was thereafter that it enjoyed its most prosperous period. Hotels, large mercantile establishments, theaters, banks and a variety of smaller businesses prospered by virtue of the bustling activity that resulted. Most of these businesses -- which became the nucleus of the commercial downtown of Batesville -- continued to prosper into the first decades of the twentieth century: the railroads continued to expand throughout the state and the nation, thereby increasing Batesville's connections to wider state, national and international markets; the state and federal authorities took their first steps toward recognizing the need for

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improved navigational maintenance throughout the nation's commercial waterways; and by 1920, the governor and the state legislature made the first admission that the previous system of roads, ferries and bridges throughout the state -- which had been controlled at the private and county level, resulting in widespread disparity in road quality and maintenance -- was not adequate to handle the increased usage brought about by the introduction of that particularly twentieth century invention, the automobile.

The initial attitude of most Americans toward the "horseless carriage" was typical of their attitude toward many of the inventions introduced just previous to the twentieth century (such as electricity): they considered it a fad and a curiosity, and most kept their horses. The popularity of the car grew in direct proportion to the ability of such entrepreneurs as Henry Ford to make it affordable through such manufacturing techniques as the assembly line, and it soon became evident that this method of transportation was here to stay. The ramifications of this popularity for the commercial streetscape and the particular form it would take in response was equally gradual.

The core of Batesville's early commercial center was located at the southwest end of town, around the intersection of the railroad and Polk Bayou, the small but navigable inlet used by the commercial boats travelling the White River for access to downtown Batesville. Main Street proceeded northeast from this point, rising up a series of subtle terraces and connecting the downtown with the principal residential area at the northeast end of the commercial district (the core of which is known as the Batesville East Main Historic District, NR-listed 12/22/83). Sanborn maps from the early twentieth century reveal that commercial development spread for a block to either side of Main Street between the commercial and residential areas, establishing this section of Main Street as a commercial corridor well before the popular acceptance of the automobile; however, significant changes occurred in the form of commercial development after 1920, and the role of Main Street as the principal thoroughfare connecting the older section of downtown and the residential area played an important role in those changes.

The party-wall, continuous storefront type of building -- and especially that featuring a flat or gable roof set behind a raised parapet -- had been the most common urban commercial type among European settlers in America since the late medieval period (note the continuous streetscape found in the center of many towns and villages today in Great Britain and France, not to mention the principal cities). Though its earliest incarnations tended to feature commercial space on the first floor and living quarters for the owner above, the growth in popularity of the suburb in America (brought on by improvements in both horse-drawn carriages and the development of such public transportation as streetcars and commuter trains) made it fashionable to live away from one's place of employment. This trend was also encouraged by the fact that the commercial centers of activity were almost always dirty, smelly, noisy and even dangerous places to live, as evidenced by the prevalence there of the steam locomotive, the steamboat and the horse. And in such early commercial centers as

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Batesville, this tendency to live away from one's place of work had been the case since before the Civil War. The residential community at the northeast end of Main Street was established early in Batesville's settlement and constructed by many of the families that owned businesses at Main Street's southwest end.

Thus Batesville's party-wall, continuous storefront streetscape had always had an exclusively commercial association. Businessmen, travellers and visitors of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century could simply look up Main Street from Polk Bayou or the railroad and know where to look for business contacts, goods and services simply by the types of buildings. Not surprisingly, these commercial buildings were designed to be read at the slower pace that necessarily characterized this period: advertisements stencilled on storefront windows or hand-painted on flat planks above the shop fronts were typical of the signage of the period. Likewise, the buildings themselves were designed to be read: the heavy, stone arches that characterize the original district lent an air of permanence and dependability to the businesses sheltered within.

The buildings, both commercial and institutional, included within the amendment that date from the original period of significance share these characteristics. The Renaissance Revival style of both the Barnett Brothers Building (#A10) and the original Post Office Building (#A18) generally continue the Classical theme first displayed in the heavier, Italianate stone buildings included in the original district. The Barnett Brothers Building even features commercial signage composed of white bricks set into the brown bricks.

The buildings constructed between 1920-40 reveal a rather different design emphasis. The increased speed offered by the internal combustion engine reduced the amount of time a potential customer had to survey the commercial streetscape for a particular good or service and hence the buildings had to address that need. The reduction of facade heights coupled with the development of "signage panels" (e.g., #A9 and #A27) literally built into the raised parapet brought the building down closer to the street and within easier view of the potential customer. Other buildings attempted to recall traditional styles, but in a reduced scale for easier reading from the street (note the attempt at Spanish Revival of #A33). The commercial buildings from this period generally tend to be smaller, more compact and much less ambitious, in terms of both architectural style and expense.

However, this phenomenon is not due to speed and advertisement needs alone. The rise of the automobile also brought about widespread real estate speculation in land thought to be of prime value along major automobile commuter corridors. This practice was especially evident in the larger urban-suburban complexes of the northeastern section of the United States, but was by no means limited to it. Speculators would frequently secure a lot with what has since become known as a "taxpayer building," which was usually nothing more than a simple and relatively inexpensive single story commercial structure that would be rented to a commercial

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tenant. The simplicity of the structure served two purposes: it kept down both construction costs and tax assessments. In return, the owner retained title to the land in the hope that future development along commuter corridors would increase the property values dramatically; the owner could then sell what had become prime commercial real estate at a handsome profit. Though the profit motives of the original owners are unknown, there is little doubt that at least some of the Batesville commercial buildings included in the amendment are reflective of this trend: Main Street was the main thoroughfare between the commercial and residential districts, and though the distance between them is so relatively small that it would be hard to consider the residential district a suburb, it is quite conceivable that several commercial property owners saw the growth of the downtown away from the older transportation center (the river/railroad intersection), focusing instead on the growing retail industry that would locate closer to the residential neighborhood. Regardless of their owners' motives, the buildings of this period nevertheless reflect the popular architectural trends of the period in downtown commercial design.

As such, the buildings included in the amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District are reflective of both the earlier, post-Civil War economy for which the original commercial district was listed and the later changes in the downtown economy brought about by the introduction of the automobile into the mainstream of American society, and the popular architectural trends for such commercial storefront buildings that followed.

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Acreege of property: Approximately 11

UTM References:

A)	15/621550/3959050	B)	15/621600/3959080
C)	15/621580/3959110	D)	15/621620/3959140
E)	15/621630/3959110	F)	15/621900/3959300
G)	15/621960/3959240	H)	15/621600/3958960

Verbal Boundary Description (as amended):

The Batesville Commercial Historic District, as amended, consists of the structures standing on Lots 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and the southern 125 feet of Lots 4 and 5, in Block 13, and on Lots 2, 4, 5, and the eastern 25 feet of Lot 1, Block 14, Old Town plat of Batesville; and the structures on Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, Block 15; Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 16; Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 17; Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 18; Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Block 19; and Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 20, Old Town Addition to Batesville (1837).

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes the highest concentration of commercial and institutional buildings in downtown Batesville that date from the expanded period of significance and that retain sufficient integrity to remain eligible.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: BOUNDARY INCREASE

PROPERTY NAME: Batesville Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Independence

DATE RECEIVED: 6/18/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/03/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/19/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/02/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001097

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: ☒ N

☐ ACCEPT ☒ RETURN ☐ REJECT 7/24/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

- 1- Official documentation (continuation sheet)
must be signed by SHPO or designee
(approval given for designee through
official process) (Main reason for return)
- 2- Please note that property A.12. is a vacant lot
counted as non-contributing - is it one of 13 non-
contributing buildings? Please adjust as appropriate
should it be 12 non-contrib buildings + one non-contrib
site? Do you usually count vacant
lots as non-contributing or are they
generally not substantial and therefore
not counted at all?

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER A Federman
DISCIPLINE Arch Hist 7/28/90
DATE

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

- 3- Please calculate UTM's for NEW addition to property; ^(only)
We have only old HD + new complete HD

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed Romy Federman Phone _____
Date 7/26/90

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National Park Service**

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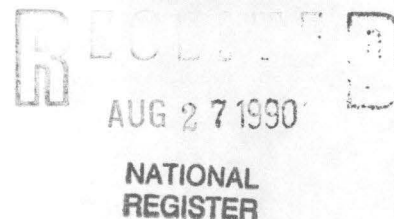
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Batesville Commercial Historic District

BOUNDARY INCREASE APPROVAL

Keeper

Amy Federman 10/5/90

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1AMENDMENT TO THE BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT (BOUNDARY INCREASE)

BOUNDARIES

The original Batesville Commercial Historic District (NR-listed 10/07/82) included a total of twenty-five properties, the majority of which were historic commercial storefront structures for which the period of significance was 1870-1920. The district's significance was noted as being historical and architectural, as a majority of these buildings dated from the earliest period of Batesville's growth as a regional commercial and transportation hub and were reflective of the influence of both contemporaneous popular American architectural styles (primarily the Italianate) and Ozark Mountain vernacular masonry construction traditions. The eastern boundary of the district was established due to the predominance beyond of what was referred to as "... more recent buildings ...," though several significant commercial and institutional buildings from the original period of significance lay beyond this boundary (their concentration, however, was not considered sufficient to warrant the extension of the boundary to include them) and it was noted that virtually all of the commercial buildings beyond were of the same commercial storefront type. The passage of eight years since that original nomination was listed have allowed many of these "recent" buildings to become fifty years-old or older; more importantly, this period of time has also witnessed the execution of the first scholarly attempts to place in historical perspective the commercial architecture of the era between the World Wars and the various economic, demographic and visual forces that shaped it. In expanding the period of significance to 1870-1940, the amendment seeks to add a number of historic properties that date from the original period of significance as well as to recognize the visual qualities shared by the more recent buildings with those already listed (one- and two-story, party-wall, masonry commercial storefront buildings forming a relatively continuous streetscape) - all the while admitting the shift in economic stimuli brought on chiefly by the automobile and the attempts of retailers to exploit the present and potential opportunities it introduced.

State Historic Preservation Officer8-13-90
Date

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SUMMARY

The amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District seeks to add a total of thirty-six institutional and commercial properties (twenty-three contributing buildings, twelve non-contributing buildings and one now-vacant lot or site) to the eastern end of the existing district, increasing the total number of included properties from twenty-five to sixty-one. Several of the buildings within the amendment were constructed during the original period of significance (1870-1920), though the majority were constructed between 1920 and 1940. A variety of architectural styles from both periods are represented: the Italianate, Renaissance Revival and Classical Revival from the former, and the Craftsman, Spanish Colonial and Art Deco from the latter. Virtually all of the buildings within the amendment are one- to three-stories in height and of the party-wall, commercial storefront type; as such they extend to the east the character of Main Street's continuous, commercial storefront streetscape for which the original district was considered significant.

ELABORATION

The amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District adds thirty-six commercial and institutional properties to the eastern end of the existing district, bringing the total number of included properties to sixty-one. All of the buildings within the amendment - both contributing and non-contributing - are of masonry construction and most are of the party-wall, continuous storefront commercial type. Of the twenty-three contributing resources within the amendment, eleven date from the period of significance of the original nomination and twelve date from the period 1920-1940. They range in height from one to three stories, and as is typical of party-wall, commercial buildings of the period, feature rectangular plans almost exclusively. They reflect the influence of several of the architectural styles that were popular between 1870 and 1940.

The individual properties are listed below:

A1. 129 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with a later beige and brown brick facade lighted with glass block. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This building was erected c. 1875 as a two-story structure which later housed Batesville's first hospital, the Dorr-Kennedy Sanitarium. The second story was later removed and the new brick facade was added c. 1960; only the structural stone walls and some interior partitions remain from the original construction.

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A2. 159 E. Main Street c. 1925

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure constructed with sandstone for the walls and foundation. It is covered with a flat, tin roof set behind a raised parapet.

Constructed in the simple, vernacular stone masonry style indigenous to the Ozark region, this structure also reflects Craftsman influences in the use of four-over-one wood sash windows. The first floor storefront was remodeled in 1955.

A3. 189 E. Main Street (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure with two entries on the first floor and a modern buff brick facade above. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered by a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

The structure of this building was erected c. 1900; the facade was drastically remodeled in 1965 when it was completely covered with new buff brick.

A4. 187 E. Main Street (NC)

A combination of three originally separate stone masonry commercial buildings - two single story buildings and a two-story building - into a single business. All three are constructed of sandstone walls, though the single story section is covered with a flat, built-up tar roof and the two-story section is covered with a tin gable roof.

All three of these buildings were originally constructed prior to 1908; however they were substantially remodeled c. 1965 when the modern buff brick and tin facades were added to all three.

A5. 201 E. Main Street 1883

A two-story, stone masonry commercial structure with a partially-stuccoed facade. It is supported by a concrete and stone foundation and covered with a flat, tar and gravel roof set behind a raised parapet. It features a diagonal corner entrance bay, with two bays extending to the east and six bays extending to the north.

Designed in the Italianate style, this structure features the slightly-projecting, arched window crowns which were typical of this style. The first floor storefront was remodeled in the early twentieth century with the addition of the black Vitrolux glass. It was originally constructed as an extension of the Maxfield store building to the east.

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A6. *217 E. Main Street* (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry and stucco commercial building. Its sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and are covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

Originally constructed c. 1875-76, this structure housed the Maxfield store, one of the earliest stores in Batesville. The exterior was substantially remodeled when the original two rows of six arched windows which lighted the second story and the original half-story above were covered with stucco; as such, it now bears virtually no resemblance to its original appearance.

A7. *231 E. Main Street* 1925

A three-story, brick masonry commercial building with Batesville marble trim. Its brick walls and facade are supported by a brick foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet coped with cast concrete.

This building was originally constructed c. 1908 by S.A. Hail, a prominent local merchant, as a single story commercial building to house his dry goods business. It was enlarged with a second story warehouse in 1914, and in 1925 a third story was added for more warehouse space along with the brick front. The square-headed windows with their decorative lintel "squares" and sills of Batesville marble (actually a type of limestone but called marble because of the visual similarities) and their nine-over-one double-hung sash windows reveal a subtle Craftsman influence in the design.

A8. *243 E. Main Street* 1910

A one-and-one-half story, brick masonry commercial building with stone walls and a decorative, panel brick facade and parapet. It is supported upon a stone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

This building survives as an example of the simple commercial vernacular style which became popular throughout the state for smaller commercial buildings. Of note is the panel brick detailing beneath the projecting brick cornice.

A9. *255 E. Main Street* 1925

A single story, brick masonry commercial structure with a stone and concrete foundation and a flat, built-up tar roof.

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Though the structure of this building was probably built before 1897, the entire facade was substantially remodeled in 1925 when the panel brick signage panels were added above what had been two separate shops. The first floor storefront facade has been changed in recent years, but the fine corbelling and panel brick work above remains intact, including the dentil course beneath the projecting cornice and the corbelling above the signage panels.

A10. 267-297 E. Main Street 1903-04

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building, constructed of sandstone walls with a facade of pressed and buttered brick trimmed with sandstone voussoirs, quoins and other decorative insets. The entire structure rests upon a sandstone foundation and is covered with a flat, standing seam tin roof.

This building, constructed as the Barnett Brothers Mercantile Company, remains one of the finest commercial buildings in Batesville. Its facade is designed in the Renaissance Revival style; significant details include the splayed stone voussoirs over the row of fourteen arched windows which light the second floor, the alternating stone quoins and the delicate corbelling in the panel brick work beneath the bracketed metal cornice.

A11. 301 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a glass block and brick facade. It rests upon a stone foundation and is covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

The structure of this building was erected in 1905; however, the later brick and glass block facade was added in 1960, thus drastically altering the original appearance of the building.

A12. 315 E. Main Street (NC)

This is a vacant lot. The stone structure which stood here burned within the last five years, and therefore the lot has lost its historic significance and has become a site.

A13. 325-327 E. Main Street 1917-18

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with an original panel brick facade. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, tar paper roof set behind a brick parapet.

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This building is substantially intact from its date of construction on the portion of the facade above the first floor. Details of note include the stone quoins and coping along the cornice and the delicate dentil course at the top of each of the recessed brick panels.

A14. *347 E. Main Street* 1940

A single story, stone masonry commercial building faced with panels of Batesville marble and topped with a brick cornice laid to form a dentil course. It is supported by a cast concrete foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a parapet.

Also one of the Barnett Brothers buildings, this building was designed in an extremely spare interpretation of the Art Deco by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg, Deloney and Davidson and built by the Jones Construction Company. The sheerness of the Batesville marble facade is relieved only by the unusual row of brick headers at the cornice which forms a dentil course.

A15. *359-363 E. Main Street* (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with a cut sandstone and metal facade. It is supported by a cast concrete foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This building was constructed in 1959.

A16. *369-377 E. Main Street* 1939

A single story, brick and stone masonry commercial building. The facade features cream-colored brick with sandstone trim, glass block and structural black glass insets. It is supported by a concrete and sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet coped with concrete.

Designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg, Deloney and Davidson, this structure was designed to be able to carry a second floor. The original plans indicate the allowance for the construction of a hotel atop the present building which never materialized. The streamlined, Art Moderne influence in this otherwise spare building is displayed through the use of the black glass insets at the tops of the pilasters, the use of the glass block set in an alternating, checkerboard pattern, and the decorative, geometric patterning of the brick only on the pilasters so as to draw the eye

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and distinguish them from the surface of the facade.

A17. 389 E. Main Street 1925

A single story, brick masonry commercial structure with some wood brackets and other trim. It is supported by a brick foundation and covered with a hipped, asphalt shingle roof.

This is one of the few originally detached structures in the amendment. It is designed in a style particular to automobile service stations of the first half of the twentieth century with its overhang designed to protect patrons of the gasoline pumps and the office area to the rear with its full complement of windows. The Craftsman influence is also revealed in the partially chamfered brick columns and the wood brackets which rise from them to support the roof.

It is in remarkably intact condition as only the gasoline pumps have been removed.

A18. 368 E. Main Street 1904

A three story, brick masonry institutional building with Batesville marble trim. It rests upon a foundation constructed with brick and Batesville marble and is covered by a hipped, standing seam metal roof. It is five bays long by three bays deep and stands as a detached, separate structure.

This building was originally constructed by the federal government as the post office building for Batesville. It is designed in the Renaissance Revival style which was first made popular in the United States by the design for the Boston Public Library by the New York architectural firm of McKim, Mead and White and which was later adopted by the Treasury Department in particular for virtually all of their commissions throughout the first decade of the twentieth century, and for their post office designs in particular. Significant details include the segmented arch windows in the middle three bays on the main elevation, and the Batesville marble decorative panels, keystones and stringcourses. The heavy dentillated brackets beneath the cornice lend a rhythm which unites all four elevations.

A19. 332 E. Main Street 1907

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with an original buff brick facade. The sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and the structure is covered by a flat, tin roof set behind a raised parapet. It is three bays across on the principal elevation; the side elevations are blank.

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Though the architect is unknown, this building stands as one of the earliest examples of the influence of the Spanish Colonial style in Batesville. Of special note are the stepped Spanish parapet with its central semi-circle and concrete coping, the Classical concrete cornice and stringcourse below, and the bracketed sills beneath the windows on the second story.

A20. *320 E. Main Street* (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with a later brick facade. It features two storefronts on the first floor that are surrounded with black structural glass and aluminum frames. Its concrete foundation supports brick walls that are covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

Though the original structure beneath dates from c. 1900, the facade was substantially remodeled in 1955 when it was refaced with the new brick.

A21. *308 E. Main Street* 1940

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a facade that was refaced with new stone in 1940. The first floor consists of a single storefront and display area. The stone parapet above is blank except for the signage. The sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls and a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof set behind the stone parapet.

The original structure (which can be seen looking to the south down Church Street) was constructed in 1887; however, the facade was largely refaced c. 1940 with newer cut stone capped with a thin band of coping. Though simple in style, this is one of several buildings remodeled between 1920 and 1940 that continues the vernacular, cut stone building tradition indigenous to the Ozark region.

A22. *296 E. Main Street* (NC)

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building faced with red brick surrounding plate glass on both principal elevations. It is divided by the vertical glass panels into four bays on the northern elevation and twenty-three on the eastern elevation. Its stone foundation and load-bearing walls support a flat, built-up tar roof set behind a raised parapet.

This structure was erected in 1957 on the site of an earlier brick bank building which resembled the extant neighbor to the west (#23); however, this earlier building was either completely removed at that time or so substantially cut down and remodeled

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that nothing original remains on the exterior.

A23. *286 E. Main Street* 1894

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with an original brick facade. The main or northern facade is three bays in length and is entered on the first floor through a beveled storefront to the east and an entry to the upper level to the west. The three segmental arch windows above consist of nine-over-one wood sash and are ornamented with simple stone sills and ashlar-faced stone voussoirs set in an unusual stepped pattern around a central keystone. The wall above is divided by a dentillated cornice into two separate fields, the lower featuring an alternating corbelled brick pattern and the upper featuring an alternating pattern of larger and smaller panels that are also corbelled at the top. Stone coping caps the main section of the facade, which is finished at the tops of the exterior brick pilasters with decorative metal caps.

This building survives as one of the finest examples in Batesville of the panel brick commercial building tradition which became popular across the United States in the 1890's. These buildings were typically simple in detail but often featured impressive panel brick detailing on the upper storys, especially near the cornice line. This structure has been further ornamented with stone trim placed at various places on the facade. The first floor storefront has been remodeled, but the stone pilasters to either side are extant and visible.

A24. *276 E. Main Street* (NC)

A two-story, brick masonry commercial building covered with modern white metal siding above the first floor and a metal canopy over the first floor storefront. It is three bays in length and houses a single storefront and display area. Its stone and concrete foundation supports brick walls which are covered with a flat roof set behind a parapet.

The original structure behind the metal siding was constructed c. 1897; however, the brick facade was covered with the metal siding and canopy in the relatively recent past that has drastically altered its original appearance.

A25. *266 E. Main Street* 1895

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a brick parapet above the first floor. The first floor is entered through a single central entry set into a beveled storefront. The stone foundation supports the stone walls and flat, built-up tar roof set behind the raised parapet.

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This building, like 286 E. Main (#23), stands as an example of the corbelled panel brick style which became popular among commercial buildings in the 1890's. Of note is the dentil course, created simply by turning the bricks at an angle and allowing the corners to create the dentils, and the corbelling at the cornice.

A26. 250 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with modern metal siding over the parapet above the first floor and over the eastern half of the first floor storefront. It is entered via a recessed storefront at the western end of the facade. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, built-up gravel and tar roof.

This building was two separate buildings originally; the eastern half was built in 1914 and the western half was built in 1923. However, in 1965 the metal facade was added and the two buildings united into a single enterprise. Some of the original brick facade may remain behind the metal, but as it exists today the building bears no resemblance to its historic appearance.

A27. 248 E. Main Street 1914

A single story, brick masonry commercial building faced with dark tan bricks and trimmed with Batesville marble. It is entered via a single, central entry set into a beveled, plate glass storefront. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat, gravel and tar roof set behind a raised brick parapet coped with stone.

This building is reflective of the trend in the commercial design of the early automobile era toward more simple, two-dimensional facades which present a simply organized display area for signage and advertising that could be easily read from the street. However, the use of the Batesville marble to imitate quoins and to otherwise ornament the facade indicates the residual influence of the traditional Classical architectural styles.

A28. 226 E. Main Street (NC)

A single story, brick masonry commercial building with an attic. Its modern, decorative sheet metal and plate glass facade covers an original brick facade. It is two storefront bays in length, the eastern of which is angled from the eastern edge of the building to the entry, and the western of which features a central entry set into a beveled, plate glass storefront. Its brick walls are supported by a brick foundation and covered with a flat roof set behind a raised parapet.

Though the structure beneath the sheet metal was constructed c. 1907, the buildings

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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entire facade has been so drastically remodeled that it bears no resemblance to its historic appearance.

A29. 220 E. Main Street 1903

A two-story, brick and stone masonry commercial building with a red brick facade fenestrated with one-over-one wood sash windows above and a beveled, plate glass storefront and central entry below. Its sandstone and brick walls rest upon a stone and concrete foundation and are covered with a flat, tar and gravel roof.

This building is another example of the simple, panel brick commercial style popular around the turn of the century. Its two second story bays are each lighted with a single one-over-one wood sash window set into a recessed, corbelled brick panel. The brick parapet is coped with stone.

A30. 206 E. Main Street 1927

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with a stuccoed exterior. Its northern elevation is divided into six bays and its western elevation is divided into twelve bays. The first floor of the Main Street elevation features a plate glass storefront and display area surrounded by green and black glass panels. Its sandstone walls are supported by a sandstone foundation and covered by a flat, tarred tin roof.

This structure was constructed after a fire in the mid-1920's which destroyed all but the exterior walls of the earlier building, which was built in the 1870's. It was of a vernacular commercial style, as it was designed as a simple, functional department store building with a balanced, symmetrical facade on both of its corner elevations; however, it reveals Craftsman style influences in the twelve-over-one wood sash windows found throughout the second floor.

A31. 192 E. Main Street 1940
(Independence County Courthouse)

A two-story, stone masonry institutional building with a raised basement and a Batesville marble exterior. It features a symmetrical, roughly "H"-shaped plan. The central, taller section of the building is five bays in length along the northern or Main Street elevation and accessed via a central, double-leaf entry. The lower, flanking sections are a single bay across. The eastern and western elevations are each five bays in length. The building is fenestrated throughout with metal casement and awning windows, virtually all of which are original. It rests upon a concrete foundation and is covered with a flat roof.

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The Independence County Courthouse was designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Wittenberg and Deloney in 1940 to replace a High Victorian Gothic courthouse that had stood on the site since the 1880's but which burned in 1939 (this has been the site of the county courthouse since 1857). It was designed in the Art Deco style and remains Batesville's finest example of this style. Its symmetrical plan and elevations, coupled with the emphasis upon large areas of uninterrupted wall surface, and the spare and symmetrically-applied geometric, stylized Classical ornament render it a pure Art Deco design. The only landscape feature of note is the 1907 stone Confederate monument which was moved to this location in 1940.

A32. *158 E. Main Street* 1926

A two-story, brick masonry commercial building with its original red brick facade above the first floor. The first floor storefront consists of a plate glass, beveled storefront and recessed central entry bordered with modern decorative sheet metal and covered with a modern metal canopy. It is supported by a sandstone foundation and covered with a flat roof set behind a raised brick parapet.

This building is a vernacular panel brick commercial building typical of this style as it was interpreted in the 1920's. The brick panelling and the corbelling become much shallower and less three-dimensional, the emphasis now being street visibility and uninterrupted surfaces for signage and advertising. It is fenestrated by a central group of three nine-over-one wood sash windows (revealing the Craftsman influence) and detailed only with a shallow dentil course near the cornice. It was constructed by Victor Wade to house his print shop and related offices.

A33. *148 E. Main Street* 1929

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a beige and brown brick facade and a decorative, green clay tile roof. Its first floor storefront features a central entry and plate glass display windows set into an aluminum frame. Its sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls, and the roof behind the raised parapet is flat.

This building, built by Otto Guenzel in 1929 to house his dry cleaning business, was designed in a commercial vernacular interpretation of the Craftsman style. The use of decorative brick "parquet" patterning with the random placement of brick of two different colors lends a rough, unplanned character to the otherwise flat and unornamented facade. The green clay tile roof and exposed wood brackets further reveals the influence of the Craftsman style and renders this structure one of the more unusual buildings in downtown Batesville that reflects the influence of a traditional

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style.

A34. *140 E. Main Street* 1929

A single story, stone masonry commercial building with a beige and brown brick facade laid in a running bond. The first floor store front is accessed via a central, recessed entrance dividing two plate glass display windows. The stone foundation supports the stone walls, and the entire structure is covered with a flat roof.

This building was erected at the same time as its neighbor (140 E. Main Street, #34) by the same owner, Otto Guenzel. This design, however, is substantially simpler than its neighbor. The bricks are set in a standard running bond, which does far less to break up the flat surface of the brick parapet. Furthermore, there is no signage nor any other decoration to add interest. Its only relief above the first floor is the two symmetrically-placed ventilation grates. However, it was probably never intended to be a building of any pretense, and is typical of much of the commercial vernacular architecture popular throughout the state during the period 1920-1940.

A35. *134 E. Main Street* (NC)

A single story, stone masonry commercial structure with concrete and stucco facade on the first floor and a painted brick facade above. Its sandstone walls rest upon a stone foundation and are covered with a flat roof set behind a brick parapet.

This building, which was probably constructed c. 1925, was substantially remodeled in 1947. The brick and stucco date from these alterations, as do the metal storefronts.

A36. *124 E. Main Street* 1928

A two-story, stone masonry commercial building with a stone facade and brick detailing. It features two entries on the first floor, one to the west which accesses the upstairs and one toward the center which accesses the first floor space. The sandstone foundation supports sandstone walls and a flat tin roof.

This building was designed in the local, vernacular stone tradition with some interesting variations. Brick is used not only for the stringcourse between the first and second floor and the coping atop the parapet but also for the decorative window lintels and sills. The second story is lighted with two symmetrically-placed pair of one-over-one wood sash windows.

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SUMMARY

The Amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District expands the period of significance for the original nomination from 1870-1920 to 1870-1940, thereby including a number of historic commercial and institutional buildings that were constructed between the World Wars, as well as almost as many that date from the original period of significance but which were excluded from the original nomination due to the more recent infill. In expanding the period of significance the amendment seeks to recognize the visual effect on the built environment of the gradual shift in downtown economic forces that occurred during the period of 1920-1940. The same advances in transportation and shipping methods that re-oriented railroad and river towns across the nation also transformed the streetscape of downtown Batesville into a modern retail center that, unlike many other similar communities, remained vital through its ability to absorb and respond to these developments.

ELABORATION

Batesville, Arkansas was the principal commercial and transportation hub in northeast Arkansas during the nineteenth century. It was founded in 1821 (at which time it was also named the Independence County seat, an honor it has retained ever since) on the site of a former trading post, but achieved its regional importance through its location at the intersection of the old Southwest Trail (that ran between St. Louis, Missouri and the Texas territory) and the White River, on which it occupied one of the prime passenger and cargo landing points at the southern edge of the Ozark mountains. This favorable site made it *the* point of contact for all access to the surrounding inland area and the principal trade center for local farmers who came to sell their produce here for shipping to larger regional and national markets. Batesville's importance as a regional commercial and transportation hub was recognized early, as it became the site of both the Federal Land Office in 1822 and the northern branch of the State Bank in 1838.

This status only increased after the Civil War, as by 1873 the Cairo and Fulton Railroad passed through Newport (Jackson County), a smaller White River port located approximately twenty-four miles to the southeast, and a spur was constructed to Batesville ten years later. This connection established Batesville as an overland, river and railroad intersection; not surprisingly, it was thereafter that it enjoyed its most prosperous period. Hotels, large mercantile establishments, theaters, banks and a variety of smaller businesses prospered by virtue of the bustling activity that resulted. Most of these businesses -- which became the nucleus of the commercial downtown of Batesville -- continued to prosper into the first decades of the twentieth century: the railroads continued to expand throughout the state and the nation, thereby increasing Batesville's connections to wider state, national and international markets; the state and federal authorities took their first steps toward recognizing the need for

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Section number 8 Page 2

improved navigational maintenance throughout the nation's commercial waterways; and by 1920, the governor and the state legislature made the first admission that the previous system of roads, ferries and bridges throughout the state -- which had been controlled at the private and county level, resulting in widespread disparity in road quality and maintenance -- was not adequate to handle the increased usage brought about by the introduction of that particularly twentieth century invention, the automobile.

The initial attitude of most Americans toward the "horseless carriage" was typical of their attitude toward many of the inventions introduced just previous to the twentieth century (such as electricity): they considered it a fad and a curiosity, and most kept their horses. The popularity of the car grew in direct proportion to the ability of such entrepreneurs as Henry Ford to make it affordable through such manufacturing techniques as the assembly line, and it soon became evident that this method of transportation was here to stay. The ramifications of this popularity for the commercial streetscape and the particular form it would take in response was equally gradual.

The core of Batesville's early commercial center was located at the southwest end of town, around the intersection of the railroad and Polk Bayou, the small but navigable inlet used by the commercial boats travelling the White River for access to downtown Batesville. Main Street proceeded northeast from this point, rising up a series of subtle terraces and connecting the downtown with the principal residential area at the northeast end of the commercial district (the core of which is known as the Batesville East Main Historic District, NR-listed 12/22/83). Sanborn maps from the early twentieth century reveal that commercial development spread for a block to either side of Main Street between the commercial and residential areas, establishing this section of Main Street as a commercial corridor well before the popular acceptance of the automobile; however, significant changes occurred in the form of commercial development after 1920, and the role of Main Street as the principal thoroughfare connecting the older section of downtown and the residential area played an important role in those changes.

The party-wall, continuous storefront type of building -- and especially that featuring a flat or gable roof set behind a raised parapet -- had been the most common urban commercial type among European settlers in America since the late medieval period (note the continuous streetscape found in the center of many towns and villages today in Great Britain and France, not to mention the principal cities). Though its earliest incarnations tended to feature commercial space on the first floor and living quarters for the owner above, the growth in popularity of the suburb in America (brought on by improvements in both horse-drawn carriages and the development of such public transportation as streetcars and commuter trains) made it fashionable to live away from one's place of employment. This trend was also encouraged by the fact that the commercial centers of activity were almost always dirty, smelly, noisy and even dangerous places to live, as evidenced by the prevalence there of the steam locomotive, the steamboat and the horse. And in such early commercial centers as

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Batesville, this tendency to live away from one's place of work had been the case since before the Civil War. The residential community at the northeast end of Main Street was established early in Batesville's settlement and constructed by many of the families that owned businesses at Main Street's southwest end.

Thus Batesville's party-wall, continuous storefront streetscape had always had an exclusively commercial association. Businessmen, travellers and visitors of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century could simply look up Main Street from Polk Bayou or the railroad and know where to look for business contacts, goods and services simply by the types of buildings. Not surprisingly, these commercial buildings were designed to be read at the slower pace that necessarily characterized this period: advertisements stencilled on storefront windows or hand-painted on flat planks above the shop fronts were typical of the signage of the period. Likewise, the buildings themselves were designed to be read: the heavy, stone arches that characterize the original district lent an air of permanence and dependability to the businesses sheltered within.

The buildings, both commercial and institutional, included within the amendment that date from the original period of significance share these characteristics. The Renaissance Revival style of both the Barnett Brothers Building (#A10) and the original Post Office Building (#A18) generally continue the Classical theme first displayed in the heavier, Italianate stone buildings included in the original district. The Barnett Brothers Building even features commercial signage composed of white bricks set into the brown bricks.

The buildings constructed between 1920-40 reveal a rather different design emphasis. The increased speed offered by the internal combustion engine reduced the amount of time a potential customer had to survey the commercial streetscape for a particular good or service and hence the buildings had to address that need. The reduction of facade heights coupled with the development of "signage panels" (e.g., #A9 and #A27) literally built into the raised parapet brought the building down closer to the street and within easier view of the potential customer. Other buildings attempted to recall traditional styles, but in a reduced scale for easier reading from the street (note the attempt at Spanish Revival of #A33). The commercial buildings from this period generally tend to be smaller, more compact and much less ambitious, in terms of both architectural style and expense.

However, this phenomenon is not due to speed and advertisement needs alone. The rise of the automobile also brought about widespread real estate speculation in land thought to be of prime value along major automobile commuter corridors. This practice was especially evident in the larger urban-suburban complexes of the northeastern section of the United States, but was by no means limited to it. Speculators would frequently secure a lot with what has since become known as a "taxpayer building," which was usually nothing more than a simple and relatively inexpensive single story commercial structure that would be rented to a commercial

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

JUN 18 1990

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 4

tenant. The simplicity of the structure served two purposes: it kept down both construction costs and tax assessments. In return, the owner retained title to the land in the hope that future development along commuter corridors would increase the property values dramatically; the owner could then sell what had become prime commercial real estate at a handsome profit. Though the profit motives of the original owners are unknown, there is little doubt that at least some of the Batesville commercial buildings included in the amendment are reflective of this trend: Main Street was the main thoroughfare between the commercial and residential districts, and though the distance between them is so relatively small that it would be hard to consider the residential district a suburb, it is quite conceivable that several commercial property owners saw the growth of the downtown away from the older transportation center (the river/railroad intersection), focusing instead on the growing retail industry that would locate closer to the residential neighborhood. Regardless of their owners' motives, the buildings of this period nevertheless reflect the popular architectural trends of the period in downtown commercial design.

As such, the buildings included in the amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District are reflective of both the earlier, post-Civil War economy for which the original commercial district was listed and the later changes in the downtown economy brought about by the introduction of the automobile into the mainstream of American society, and the popular architectural trends for such commercial storefront buildings that followed.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

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Liebs, Chester H., *Main Street to Miracle Mile*, Boston, Mass., 1985.

Longstreth, Richard, *The Buildings of Main Street*, Washington, D.C., 1987.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps, *Batesville, Arkansas*.

Venturi, Robert, Denise Scott-Brown and Steven Izenour, *Learning from Las Vegas*, Cambridge, Mass., 1972.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

Acreage of property: Approximately 6

UTM References:

A)	15/621660/3959145	B)	15/621900/3959300
C)	15/621960/3959240	D)	15/621740/3959045

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District abuts the northeastern end of the existing commercial district and consists of Lots 2, 3, and 4, Block 15; Lots 6, 7, 8 and 9, Block 16; Lots 5, 6, 7 and 8, Block 17; Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, Block 18; Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Block 19; and Lots 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, Block 20, Old Town Addition to Batesville (1837).

Boundary Justification:

This boundary amendment includes all the resources that continue the high concentration of historic commercial and institutional buildings in downtown Batesville that date from the expanded period of significance and that retain sufficient integrity to remain eligible.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Batesville Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Independence

DATE RECEIVED: 8/27/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/11/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001097

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 10/5/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept
REVIEWER A Federman
DISCIPLINE Archit History
DATE 10/5/90

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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

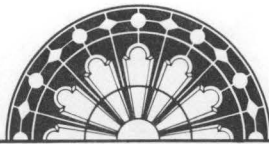
___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone

Signed Date



ARKANSAS
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
PROGRAM

RECEIVED
AUG 27 1990

NATIONAL
REGISTER

August 13, 1990

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Batesville Commercial Historic District

Dear Carol:

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

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB:dg

Enclosures





STREETSCAPE OF 100 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST



STREETSCAPE OF 300 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



STREETSCAPE OF 200 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



STREETSCAPE OF 100 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST



STREETSCAPE OF 200 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST



STREETSCAPE OF 300 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. DOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



STREETSCAPE OF 200 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



STREETSCAPE OF 100 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



STREETSCAPE OF 200 BLOCK; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. DOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHEAST



Gun Rack
GUNS - NEW & USED
KNIFE - SUPPLIES
ALCOHOL - CIGARETTES
BLACK PINKET CIGARETTES
BUY - SELL - TRADE
Pony & Pony 1111 1111

ELCOB'S

129 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST
A1



159 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A 2



189 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

43



187 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO
(WESTERN HALF)

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A 4



187 E. MAIN ST. (EASTERN HALF); AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST
A4



201 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A5



217 E. MAIN ST.; AMENOMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST
A6



231 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A7



243 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

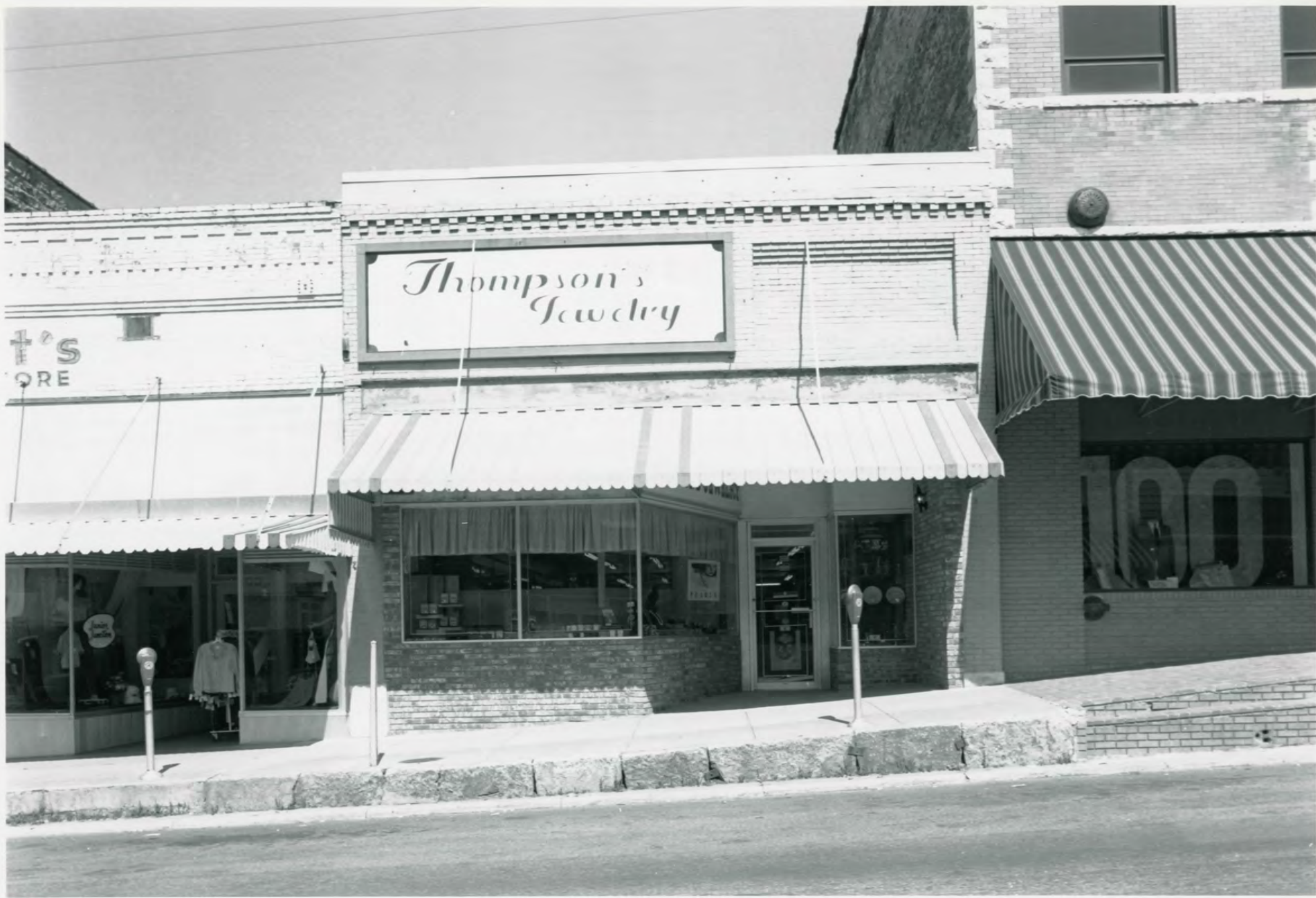
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A8



255 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A9



267-297 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVES ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A10



301 E. MAIN ST. ; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A 11



315 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

#A12



The **BYTE SHOP**

 **apple computer**
AUTHORIZED DEALER

Business & Home Computers

THU-FRI 9-11
SAT 9-12
CLOSED SUNDAY

325-327 ~~E.~~ E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A13



347 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A 14



359-363 E. MAIN ST. ; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A15



369-377 E. MAIN ST.; AMENDMENT TO
BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST
A 16

JUN 18 1988
JUN 18 1990



389 E. MAIN ST. ; AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. DOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING NORTHWEST

A 17



368 E. MAIN (OLD POST OFFICE / LIBRARY); AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A18



332 E. MAIN (LANDERS THEATER); AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE HISTORIC
COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A19



320 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHWEST

A20



308 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A21



296 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A22



286 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST
A 23



276 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A24



266 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A25



250 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A26



248 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A27



226 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC
DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A28

81 NR



220 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A 29



206 E. MAIN (FITZHUGH STORE); AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL
HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A30



192 E. MAIN (INDEPENDENCE B. COURTHOUSE); AMENDMENT TO

BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A 31



158 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST
A32



148 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. DOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST
A33



140 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A34



134 E. MAIN; AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. LOWE
APRIL, 1988
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST
A 35



114 E. MAIN, AMENDMENT TO BATESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
(LEFT)
BATESVILLE, ARKANSAS

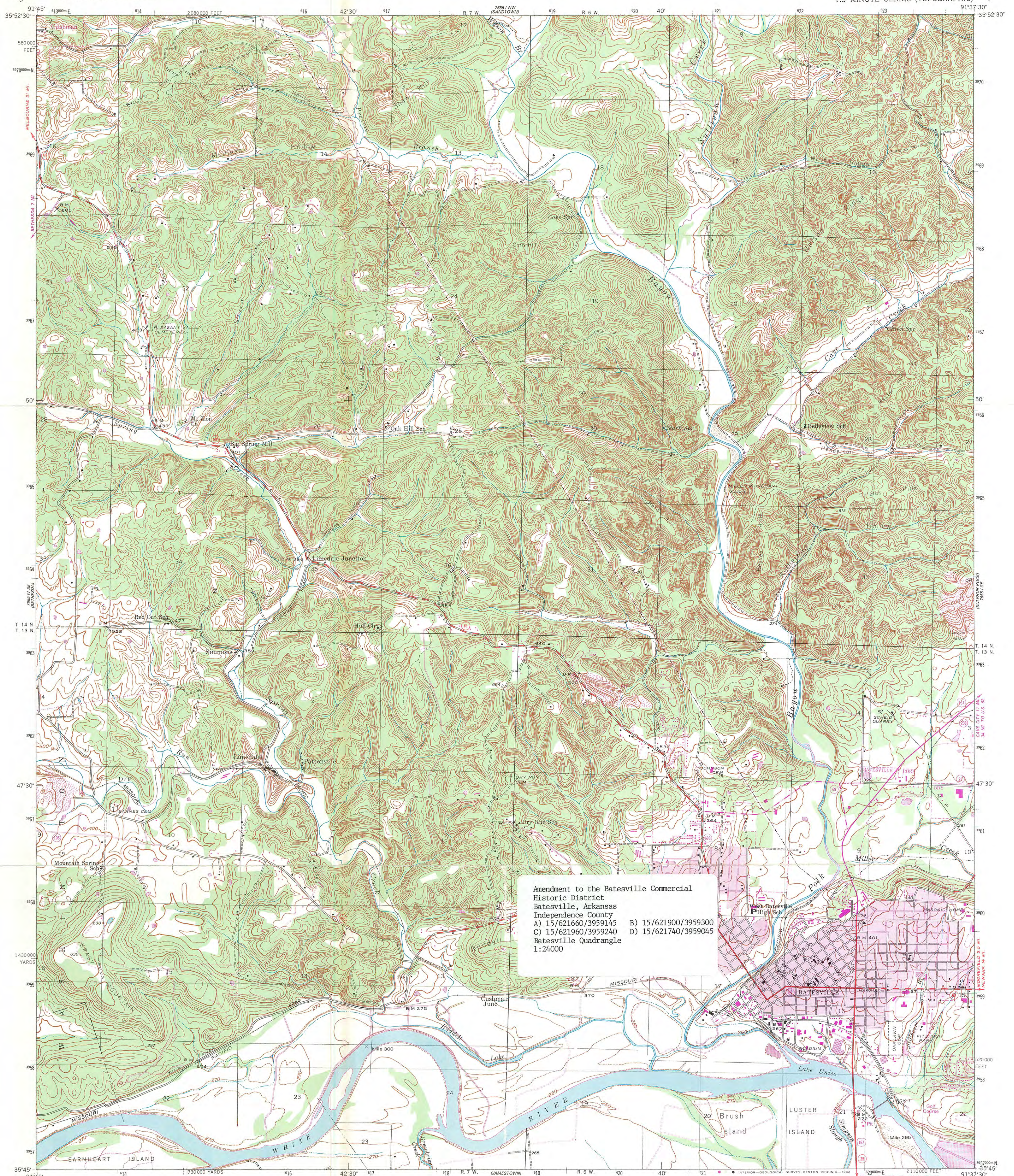
PHOTOGRAPHED BY N. DOWE

APRIL, 1988

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP

VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

A 36



Amendment to the Batesville Commercial
Historic District
Batesville, Arkansas
Independence County
A) 15/621660/3959145 B) 15/621900/3959300
C) 15/621960/3959240 D) 15/621740/3959045
Batesville Quadrangle
1:24000

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Planimetry by photogrammetric methods and topography by
planimetric survey 1942

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
5,000 yard grid based on U. S. zone system, C

10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas (North)
rectangular coordinate system

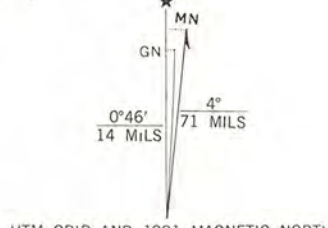
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 15, shown in blue

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 5 meters south and

13 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken
1975 and 1980. Map edited 1981. This information not field checked

Purple tint indicates extension of urban area



SCALE 1:24 000

1 000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DASHED LINES REPRESENT 10-FOOT CONTOURS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

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



Primary highway, all weather, hard surface

Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface

Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface

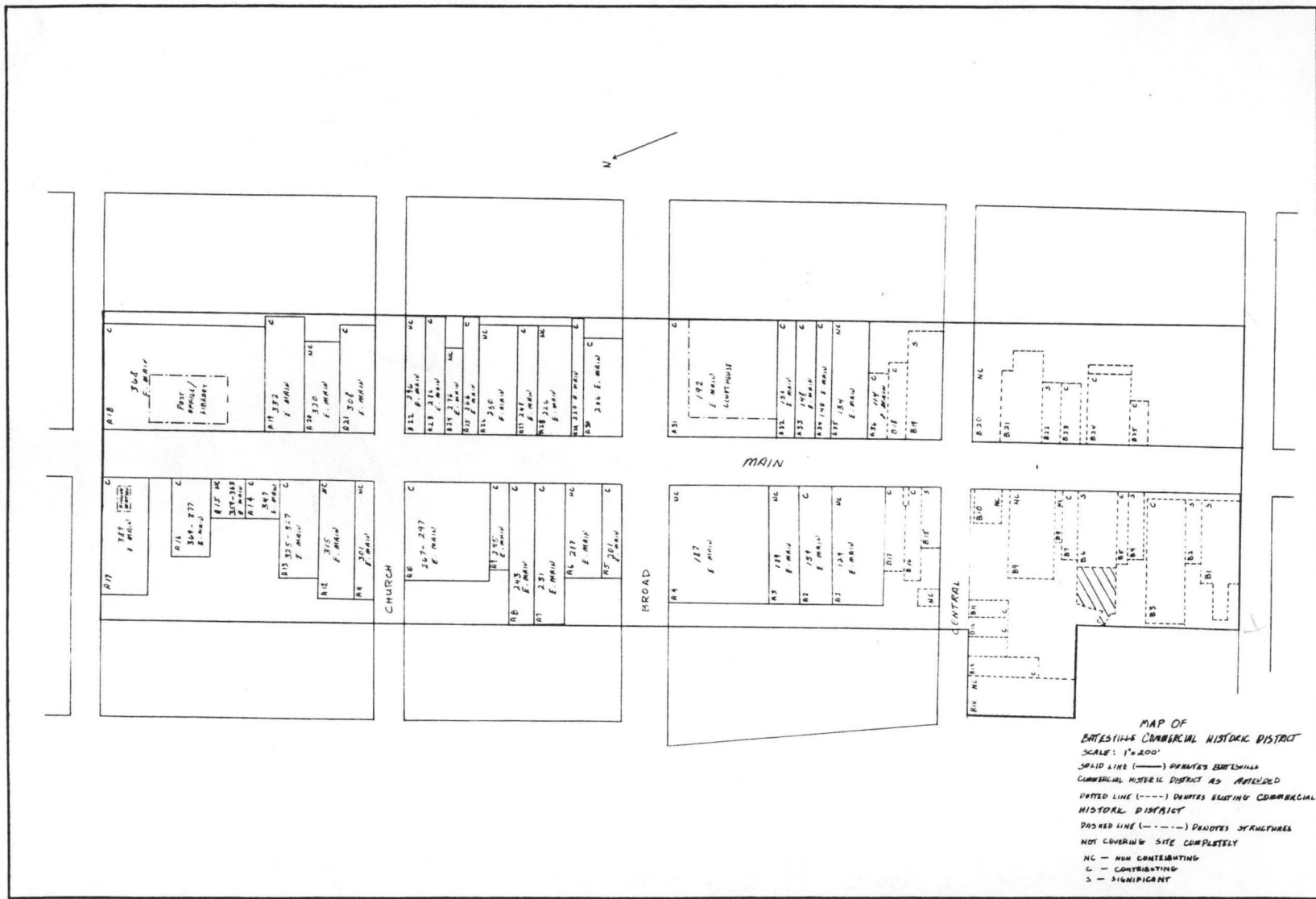
Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

BATESVILLE, ARK.
N3545-W9137.5/7.5

1943
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 7655 1 SW-SERIES V884

AUG 27 1980



JUN 18 1990

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 5 Page

Revised resource count for the Batesville Commercial Historic District is:

	Contributing	Noncontributing
Buildings	44	16
Sites		
Structures		
Objects		
Totals	44	16

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page

In the Amendment to the Batesville Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase), the period of significance for the district was extended from 1870-1920 to 1870-1940. The Melba Theatre, located at 115 West Main Street, had been assigned a noncontributing designation during the original 1982 nomination. The building was not reevaluated taking into account the extended period of significance, and was therefore erroneously left as noncontributing. Through historic photos and survey information, we have confirmed that the Melba Theatre retains its original 1940 Art Deco appearance. Therefore, it should be considered a contributing resource to the Batesville Commercial Historic District.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Batesville Commercial Historic District (Boundary Increase)

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: ARKANSAS, Independence

DATE RECEIVED: 8/20/02 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/04/02
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90001097

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

___ACCEPT ___RETURN ___REJECT ___DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

~~Additional Documentation Accepted~~

RECOM./CRITERIA

REVIEWER

DISCIPLINE

TELEPHONE

DATE

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



The Department of Arkansas Heritage

Mike Huckabee, Governor
Cathie Matthews, Director

Arkansas Arts Council

Arkansas Natural Heritage
Commission

Historic Arkansas Museum

Delta Cultural Center

Old State House Museum



Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

1500 Tower Building
323 Center Street

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501)324-9880

fax: (501)324-9184

tdd: (501)324-9811

e-mail:

info@arkansaspreservation.org

website:

www.arkansaspreservation.org

August 14, 2002

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of the Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Suite 400
800 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Additional Documentation, Batesville Commercial Historic District-
Batesville, Independence County.

Dear Carol:

We request that the above-referenced District be amended to make the Melba Theatre, located at 115 West Main St. a contributing resource. The property was part of the original district and considered non-contributing. When the period of significance for the District was extended to 1940, the property was erroneously left as non-contributing. The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program has complied with all applicable nominating procedures and notification requirements in the nomination process.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathie Matthews,
State Historic Preservation Officer

CM:zc

Enclosures



96-1097

23
20
4

