United States Department of the Interior Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*Type all entries—complete applicable sections

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Type an entites complete applie	` /		-
1. Name Eveni	ng Shade Mul	tiple Resource	e area
historic Historic Resources o	f Evening Shade		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
and/or common			
2. Location			
street & number The incorpora	ation limits of Evening	Shade	N/Anot for publication
city, town Evening Shade	N/A_ vicinity of	congressional district	1st
state Arkansas	code 05 county	Sharp	<b>code</b> 135
3. Classification	1		
Category Ownership  district public building(s) private structureX both site N/APublic Acquisition object in process X Multiple being conside Resources	$\frac{X}{X}$ yes: restricted	Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum X park X private residence religious Scientific transportation other:
4. Owner of Pro	perty		
name Multiple Ownership			
street & number See continuat			
city, town	N/A vicinity of	state	
5. Location of L	egal Descripti	on	
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Sharp County Courthou	şe	
street & number	Highway 167 North	<del>,</del>	
city, town Ash Flat	· · ·	state	Arkansas
6. Representati	on in Existing	Surveys	
title See continuation sheet	has this pro	operty been determined el	egible? yesX no
date			te county loca
	ansas Historic Preserva		
little Rock	ansas miscoric Freserva		Arkansas
city, town		state	

### 7. Description

Condition       Check one       Check one        excellent      deteriorated      unaltered      original site        good      ruins      altered      moved       date	
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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

#### SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Evening Shade was first surveyed in 1976 by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's staff. All historic structures within the incorporate limits were identified and photographed. As a result of this survey the Herrn House was listed in the National Register.

A follow-up survey was conducted by Sarah Brown and Jaci Carfagno of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program in April of 1981. At this time the historic data of Evening Shade was gathered from state and local depositories, interviews of local historians and home owners were conducted, and every structure was located on a city map. Onsite evaluations were made. Structures meeting the minimum National Register eligibility requirements of architectural and/or historic significance were identified, mapped, described, photographed and given a survey number. The Arkansas Archeological Survey was consulted concerning the possible existence of prehistoric and historic archeological sites. All structures and sites determined eligible for listing in the National Register have been included in the multiple resource nomination for Evening Shade.

#### DESCRIPTON

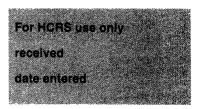
Evening Shade, population 404, is a small rural town located in Sharp County. Situated in northcentral Arkansas at the edge of the Ozark Mountains. Sharp County has traditionally contained little population and evidenced little economic development. Other towns within the county are small and rural in character with farm land and buildings within their incorporate limits. Evening Shade typifies their environmental, architectural, and historical quality. Most structures are one and two-story wood frame or native stone buildings with few high style influences. Few modern utilities have been provided. The largest communities in Sharp County are located along Highway 167, a major artery running north-south through the county. While all other towns on Highway 167 are platted north-south to compliment the highway, Evening Shade, the county's oldest community, is platted east-west.

Evening Shade was incorporated and made the Sharp County Seat in 1870; it was the most prosperous town in the county. By 1875 it boasted: four general stores, four drug and grocery stores, one hotel, seven blacksmith shops, a tobacco factory, a saddle and harness shop, a tanyard, four physicians, three lawyers, one weekly newspaper, a watch maker, one saloon, two mills, a cotton gin, a sawmill, a shingle mill, a woolen factory, a Masonic Lodge, three churches, and a college. The Coger House (ES-4) and the John W. Shaver House (ES-6) already stood opposite each other on Main Street and the Charles W. Shaver House (ES-8) appeared as it does today, on Court Street. The Sharp Mill (ES-1) was a major manufacturer. Other structures in 1875 Evening Shade included wood frame and log buildings. These log buildings were constructed during the early settlement period (1840-1865) and most of them disappeared by 1880.

From 1870 to 1895 Evening Shade propered. Many one and two-story wood frame residences (ES-2, 3, 7 & 10) and commercial structures (ES-4) were built using lumber and shingles from the local mills. By 1888, the railroad had entered the area. Batesville, 25 miles

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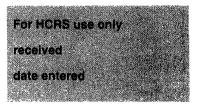
# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet	Item number 4	Page
Property Name	<u>Owne</u>	<u>r</u> . 5:
Mill Site	Mrs. T. J. C 1312 Gracela Newport, AR	nd Drive
Metcalfe House	Robert L. Kn Nice Realty Highway 167 Batesville,	Company N
Stokes House	Mrs. Gertie Cammack Stre Evening Shad	et
Cochran Store	Kate Herrn E c/o Bess Nor Salem, AR 7	thcutt
Plum Spring Site	Town of Even City Hall Evening Shad	•
John W. Shaver House	Mr. Dewey N. Main Street Evening Shad	
Sam Davidson House	Mrs. Emma Va 4015 Lucost Fairfax, VA	Street
Charles W. Shaver House	Caruth S. Mo Court Street Evening Shad	
Coger House	Mr. C. A. Th Main Street Evening Shad	
W. A. Edwards House	Vernon Houty Main Street Evening Shad	e, AR 72532
McCaleb House	Mrs. Clara C Main Street Evening Shad	•
Wilkerson House	Archie Foree Sidney Road Evening Shad	e, AR 72532

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Evening Shade Historic District Survey; September, 1976; Arkansas Historic Preservation Program; Little Rock, Arkansas.

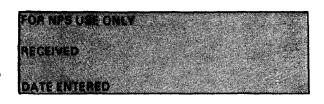
Evening Shade Multiple Resource Survey (continuation of previous district survey); May, 1981; Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Little Rock, Arkansas

Herrn House; September 9, 1976; National Register of Historic Places; Washington, D.C.

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

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



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to the south, and Hardy, 20 miles to the north, became railroad stops while Evening Shade was bypassed and soon began to decline. Hardy challenged Evening Shade for the County seat. Although Evening Shade retained the county seat, the county court divided in 1896 placing courthouses in both Hardy and Evening Shade. In spite of Evening Shade's continuing decline, a few residences including the Herrn House (ES-11) were constructed after 1900.

Evening Shade has retained its historic rural charcter. A late 19th century land map shows that Evening Shade's streets and lots are today much as they were before the turn of this century. The town's fifteen streets wind irregularly along the soft rolling Ozark hills as does a creek south of Main Street called Town Branch. Five of these streets, Main, South Cammack, West Court, Highway 11, and Highway 167, are paved with asphalt. All other streets are covered with chat, a white lime gravel. Curbs and sidewalks exist only in the main commercial block. There are no water hydrants or stop lights and only a few stop signs along these streets.

The town's principal residential area occupies the north, west, and south parts of town. With few modern intrusions this area retains much of its late 19th century character. Much open space exists between these structures but their density increases to four or five on a block, in the immediate vicinity of the commercial area to the east. All houses face the town's streets and are shaded by many trees and shrubs. This residential area is comprised of 107 houses, including 93 wood frame, four stone, three stucco, and one concrete block structures of one,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ , and two-story construction. All but one of Evening Shade's two-story structures are wood frame houses. Most of Evening Shade's historic houses were designed with traditional floor plans, such as the Central hall house (one-story) or the I-House (two-story) with ells and additions.

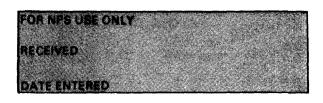
The styles interpreted in Evening Shade's residences are Greek Revival (ES-2, 8, & 13) Queen Anne (ES-7, 10 & 12). The impact of Greek Revival, popular during the town's formative years is evidenced throughout the town's building stock. The two Shaver Houses (ES-6 & 8) and the Metcalfe House (ES-2) are Greek Revival influenced. The Wilkerson House (ES-13) built circa 1900 is also Greek Revival. Its construction, however, took place after the popularity of the style had waned in Arkansas. All of Evening Shade's houses built before 1920 have returns in the gable ends. The more ecletic and decidely Victorian McCaleb House (ES-12) and the Herrn House (ES-11) are unusual in this environment of central hall floor plans and Greek Revival influence.

Evening Shade's commercial area, or "downtown", is located on Main Street beginning at Cammack Street and extending east to Highway 167. It is comprised of 35 commercial buildings including ten stone, eight wood frame, eight sheet metal, five brick and four concrete block structures. All but one of the commercial structures are onestory and all are vernacular with few high style influences. The first commercial block

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contains a high density of stone structures. The building becomes less dense on the eastern extremes of the commercial district. Along Highway 167 are gas stations and a Purina Feed Mill, a major employer. A 1940 fire destroyed all but one (ES-4) of the pre 20th century wood frame commercial structures.

Four church buildings contribute to Evening Shade's architectural character, including a wood frame Methodist church with some Gothic influence, two brick churches, and one concrete block structure. Three of these churches are located east of the main commercial block; the other is sited on West Main. Only one public school with grades one through twelve services Evening Shade. This school is a complex of five vernacular buildings: two brick, two stone and one wood frame structure.

The thirteen eligible properties included in this multiple resource nomination are: an historic site, an archeological and historic site, a commercial building, and ten houses. These resources are representative of the rural character of the town of Evening Shade. To insure the protection of this environment, entire house lots are included within the boundaries of each individual property.

#### ARCHEOLOGY

This small rural town is a potentially valuable archeological survey area. Each house plot is a potential site. A record of main structure, outbuildings and numerous artifacts may be recovered which will aid in the interpretation of the 19th century rural town in Arkansas. The Mill Site is also a potentially valuable archeological resource (see ES-1). A survey for the identification of prehistoric sites has not yet been conducted.

### 8. Significance

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799X 1800–1899X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C  archeology-prehistoric agriculture architecture art commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning conservation economics education engineering X exploration/settlemen industry invention	landscape architectu law literature military music t philosophy politics/government	re religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific dates	1817-1904	Builder/Architect See	e individual survey	forms

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### SUMMARY

Evening Shade is the oldest settlement in the area that is now known as Sharp County. As a result of its early settlement, Evening Shade was platted east-west in response to its geographical and topographical features while other established towns in Sharp County, located on Highway 167, were platted north-south to complement the highway. The early development of Evening Shade centered on a mill and a spring. The mill, founded in 1817, was one of the first industries established in northeast Arkansas. This mill, in turn, stimulated the establishment of a general store on Plum Spring one mile to the north. As these two enterprises attracted settlers and other businesses, Evening Shade began to prosper In 1868, Evening Shade was 1870 designated the county seat of Sharp County and its new political prominence brought additional impetus to the town's prosperity. From 1875 until 1895 Evening Shade's citizens, whose ranks included many professionals and merchants, continued to build new residences and commercial structures. However, the introduction of the railroad in the 1880's drastically impacted the development of Evening Shade. was bypassed by the railroads and its merchants began to abandon the town seeking greater opportunities in the larger railroad stops, Batesville to the south and Hardy to the north. Predictably a decline in Evening Shade's population followed. Since the turn-of-the-century Evening Shade has retained many of its historic resources and much of its rural character. Evening Shade's historic resources truly reflect the appearance of the town before it fell victim to the railroad and are significant to the history of its commerce (ES-2, 3, 4, 5, & 6), its industry (ES-1 & 2) and its settlement (ES-1, 5, 6, 9, 8). All included properties contribute greatly to the built environment of Evening Shade and all represent the rural characteristics of this Arkansas town.

#### **ELABORATION**

In 1817 Captain William Thompson of Tennessee brought his milling equipment and other belongings by flatboat up the White River to the area of northeast what is now Batesville. He then travelled northward for 25 miles where, on Mill Creek, he erected a cabin, a sawmill, and a grist mill (ES-1). At this time there were few mills in northeast Arkansas and settlers frommiles around came to Thompson's mill to grind corn. Among his customers were Cherokees from the Indian Territory on the southern side of the White River.

By 1847 Thompson had a thriving enterprise. Prior to this date the mail, which came from Batesville, was delivered every two or three months, so Thompson petitioned for the establishment of a local post office. According to legend this event prompted the naming of the settlement. While filling out the petition, Thompson saw the shade cast upon his mill by tall pines and named the post office Evening Shade. The

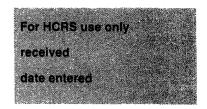
## 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

		-		
10. Geograph	ical Data	See individua	l survey forms	
Acreage of nominated property  Quadrangle name Evening S  UMT References	411		<b>V</b>	scale 1:24,000
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Verbal boundary description	ı and justification			
See individual survey fo	orms			
List all states and counties	for properties overla	pping state or co	ounty boundaries	
state N/A	code	county		code
state	code	county		code
11. Form Prep	ared By			
name/title Sarah Brown, I	Historian			
organization Arkansas Histo		Program de	ate May 10, 19	81
street & number Suite 500, (	Continental Build	ing te	lephone (501)) 371	<del>-</del> 2763
city or town Little Rock				2201
12. State Hist	oric Prese			
The evaluated significance of thi	s property within the st			
As the designated State Historic 665), I hereby nominate this propaccording to the criteria and produced Historic Preservation Office	perty for inclusion in the cedures set lortal by the	National Register	and certify that it has	been evaluated
	or originature of the	MAIN	F109	7
For HCRS use only I hereby certify that this process Keeper of the National Registe	operty is included in the	a National Register	date 3	/31/82
Attest: Chief of Registration			date	

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petition was granted by President James K. Polk, Thompson's second cousin, and Thompson became the first post master.

In April of 1849 a merchant named Samuel Cammack arrived at Batesville. A Batesville merchant suggested that Cammack seek Thompson's assistance in ascertaining an appropriate location for a general store. Thompson suggested a site at Plum Spring one mile north of the mill. Cammack cleared a road to the site and began operating a general store out of a tent. Today, this site is marked by the Plum Spring Springhouse (ES-5).

In 1851 John Wesley Shaver, who settled in the area in 1844, acquired the Cammack enterprise. By this time, Cammack's tent had been replaced by a wood frame building. Shaver also succeeded Thompson as postmaster and relocated the post office to his place of business. The Plum Spring settlement was known thereafter as Evening Shade. In 1854 Shaver built a brick house near his store. The John W. Shaver House (ES-6), still extant, is the oldest and most historic structure in Evening Shade.

By 1868 settlers came and the area began to prosper; Sharp County was formed. The county was named for Ephraim Sharp, a resident of Evening Shade, who represented the area in the state legislature. Two years later Evening Shade was incorporated and became the county seat.

As Evening Shade prospered so did the mill thrive. The mill changed hands several times in succession beginning with the entrepreneurship of J. H. Beveridge, who improved the saw and grist operations, and followed a short time thereafter by Isaac Sharp, Ephraim Sharp's nephew. In 1876, after Isaac Sharp's death, John S. Medley took over the operation of the water-powered mill. Medley also built a steam powered-sawmill three miles west of the Sharp Mill.

The Medley mill began producing high quality lumber and shingles in great quantities. This lumber was used in the construction of Evening Shade's houses and commercial buildings between 1875 and 1900, the town's peak period of prosperity. Among these structures are: the Metcalfe House (ES-2); the Stokes House (ES-3); the Cochran Store (ES-4); the Sam Davidson House (ES-7); the W.A. Edwards Blance (ES-10); the McCaleb House (ES-12); and the Wilkerson House (ES-13).

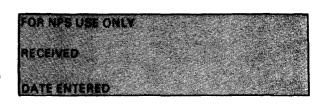
By 1888 the railroad had entered the area bypassing Evening Shade. Hardy, the only railroad stop in Sharp County, soon challenged Evening Shade for the county seat. Although Evening Shade retained the county seat, the county court divided in 1896 placing courthouses in both Hardy and Evening Shade. The combined impact of the railroad and the division of the county court resulted in the decline of Evening Shade's prosperous economy.

Better transporation systems after 1900 made the commercial enterprises of Batesville, a larger town and railroad stop to the south, more accessible to the residents of Evening Shade. This increased competition caused some merchants to leave Evening Shade. A decline in population followed.

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

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM



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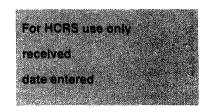
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Evening Shade has retained many of its resources and much of its rural character since its turn of the century decline. The town, which has within the last ten years experienced a population growth of 33%, is deeply interested in protecting its resources.

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Heritage. Evening Shade: 1975.

Moore, Caruth Shaver. <u>Early History of Sharp County.</u> Evening Shade: June, 1979

Evening Shade's Old Mill Recalls History of A Frontier Arkansas Town.

Evening Shade: 1975.

"Historic Homes of Evening Shade." Batesville, Arkansas: Independence County

Chronicle, July, 1963.

Powell, Wilson. "Evening Shade." Little Rock: The Arkansas Gazette, August 14, 1966.

NPS Form 10-900-a (7-81) OMB NO. 1024-0018 EXP. 10/31/84

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

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group dnr-11

Stat	e <u>Arkansas</u>			
Nom	nination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
1.	Cochran Store	Entered in the A	Keeper	Selow Byers of
			Attest	
2.	Shaver, Charles W., Hous	e Substantive Review	Keeper	Brun be bruge 9/2
		1	Attest	accept - Patuck Andrus
3.	Plum Spring Springhouse	and Site NY almanative Review	Keeper	Refeet 12
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4.	Wilkerson House		Keeper	Helous Byers 6/
			Attest	
5.	Sharp Mill and Thompson	<b>Subst</b> antivo <i>Tevi</i> aw	Keeper	j t sis
	Mill Site		Attest	•
6.	McCaleb, John, House	Entered in the National Register	Keeper	Selous Byen 4/21
		National water	Attest	
7.	Stokes House	deserved in the	Keeper	Delous Byers 6/2
		North Male Marketing	Attest	
8.	Coger House	Substantive Review	Keeper	accept - Beth Grovenor 6,
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		National Register	Attest	Selver Begen 6/
1 0	Davidson, Sam, House	Martine In 1930 North Com. December	Keeper	Selver Begen 6/

\* Removed from national Register \$/82 Resubmetted, as Dec/ owner objection **United States Department of the Interior National Park Service** 

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EXP. 12/31/84

OMB NO. 1024-0018

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Multiple Resource Area Thematic Group

•	Name Evening Shade Multiple Resource Area	
	State Arkansas	
	Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
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		Attest
	12. Edwards, W. A., House Bullone Control	Keeper delous Byus 6/2/8
		Attest
	13.	Keeper
		Attest
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*	15. Wilkerson House	Keeper Seth Grovena 8/17/82
	DOE/OWNER OBJECTION	Attest Patrick Andres 8/17/82
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