

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF DALLAS COUNTY  
DALLAS COUNTY, ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number DA-15

Owner Paul Schaffner

Property Name Amis House  
2nd St,

Address 408 West 2nd Street

Location Fordyce

Fordyce, AR 71635

Significant Date/s c. 1900

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Amis House is located on Second Street in Fordyce. This gable roofed frame structure is clad in weatherboards and rests on a continuous brick foundation. The plan of the structure is basically that of an I-house with a two-story gabled bay. This bay which projects from the center of the front facade has decorative shingles in the gable. The bay contains, on the first floor, an entry composed of a single door with an oval light flanked by panels each with one oval light. Above the entry is a two-light transom. The second floor of the bay contains a pair of double-hung windows of five vertical lights over one light. Flanking the bay on both floors are two six-over-six double-hung windows on each side. All windows and doors are crowned with a moulding that rises into a triangular pediment. Dividing the front facade horizontally is a flat roofed porch supported by four round columns. The columns are jointly a balustrade of turned posts. Flanking the main I, which has an exterior brick chimney on the west gable end, one two one-story wings. While the west wing is unfenestrated, the east wing has one window identical to those on the I.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Amis House is one of two I-houses extant in Dallas County. The I-house was a popular form of the more prosperous families throughout rural 19th century Dallas County. Because of the form's rural identity, the Amis House is of special interest in its urban setting. The dwelling reflects the impact of the outside popular culture on the local traditional architecture that began in the late 19th Century. The prosperity brought in by the railroad and lumber industries began the transition from the traditional rural architecture to the ever increasing popular style house plans that became more available and acceptable as Fordyce developed into an urban center. The builder applied popular style elements to a traditional form to create a more desirable urban dwelling.

The house is also significant in its representation of the "triple A" variation of the I-house. Arkansans used this vernacular interpretation in many of their one-and-one-half and two story dwellings in 19th and early 20th centuries.

Survey Number DA-15  
Property Name Amis House  
page 2

Acreage: less than 1

Quadrangle Name: Fordyce

Quadrangle Scale: 1:24000

UTM Reference: 15 554090/3741160

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property, located within the S $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Block 1, Wilkins Addition to Fordyce, is bounded on the south by Second Street, on the west by Mark Street and on the north and east by lines running parallel to and 50' from the north and east facades of the house.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

9/15/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 3

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Dallas County Multiple Resource Area  
State Arkansas

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Amis House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

2. Atchley, Henry, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

3. Brazeale Homestead

Substantive Review

Keeper

Bob Grosvenor 10/28/83

Attest

4. Brewster House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

5. Butler-Matthews Homestead

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

6. Dallas County Courthouse

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 3/27/84

Attest

7. Elliott House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 3/27/84

Attest

8. Fielder House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

9. First Presbyterian Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

Bob Grosvenor 10/28/83

Attest

10. First United Methodist Church

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 10/28/83

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Amis House (Dallas County MRA)  
Dallas County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. SEP 14 1983

Fed. Reg. Date: 7-5-85

Date Due: 10/13/83 - 10/29/83

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10/28/83

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

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

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

Entered in the  
National Register

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

Reviewer's comments:

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

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good      | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair      | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed    |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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



---

## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

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

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

### 10. Geographical Data

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

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

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

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

---

### 11. Form Prepared By

---

### 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

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

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

---

### 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

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

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

*Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet*



DA-15  
Schaffner House  
Sarah Brown, photographer  
June 15, 1982  
Negative on file at the AHPP  
View from the South





DA-15  
Schaffner House  
Don Brown, photographer  
May 2, 1983  
Negative on file at the AHPP  
View from the Southeast

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000025