United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form  

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

1. Name  

Historic  .. HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT  

and or common  

2. Location  

Street & number  (See individual forms)  

City, town  Hot Springs  

State  Arkansas  code 05 county Garland code 051  

3. Classification  

(See individual forms)  

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<td>work in progress</td>
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<tr>
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<td>in process</td>
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4. Owner of Property  

Name  (See individual forms)  

Street & number  

City, town  

5. Location of Legal Description  

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.  Garland County Courthouse  

Street & number  Ouachita Avenue  

City, town  Hot Springs  

6. Representation in Existing Surveys  

Title  Hot Springs Survey  

Has this property been determined eligible?  ____ yes  ____ no  

Date 1977  

Depository for survey records  Arkansas Historic Preservation Program  

City, town  Little Rock  

State Arkansas
7. Description

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Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

The Central Avenue Historic District possesses one of Arkansas' richest collections of historic commercial buildings. Ranging in date from 1886 to 1930, these structures reflect the growth of this town into the State's most significant resort community. Located in this district, along Hot Springs' major thoroughfare, is a wide variety of hotels, stores, restaurants and office buildings, all constructed to serve the needs of the visitors to Bathhouse Row. This district illustrates not only the rapid growth of Hot Springs, but also the evolution of building styles, materials and technology that occurred during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

ELABORATION

Described in 1873 as "the most wonderful hot springs in the world," the numerous springs located in the valley between the North and West Mountains in Hot Springs, Arkansas, have attracted visitors for hundreds of years. Early settlement occurred in close proximity to the springs, consisting at first of crude frame shacks. Originally called Valley Street, Central Avenue, located in the valley of the Hot Springs Creek, has been the center of commercial activity since the city's inception. In 1874 Charles Cutter wrote that "The town of Hot Springs is situated in the valley of the same name; is mostly located on one street, which is about a mile long, following the Hot Springs Creek."²

Though Hot Springs experienced a building boom in the 1870's as a result of increased visitation and settlement, none of the structures built along Central Avenue during this decade remain. Typically one to three stories in height, the buildings were of frame construction, with board and batten a common siding. Commercial structures most frequently had gently sloped or gabled roofs and a one story shed-roofed porch facing the street. High parapets and false fronts were typical. Residences and hotels, which closely resembled one another in all features but size, usually had gable roofs and a minimum of one porch. In describing the surge of building activity in 1874, Cutter wrote, "...several of the hotel buildings would honor cities with a population of ten to twenty thousand; though, on account of the unsettled condition of land titles, most all the buildings are put up cheaply, for present wants. Lumber is cheap - $15-$20 per thousand; and houses costing from $100 to $1,000 are the order of the day, for both residences and business houses. It was the demand for larger hotels, and more of them, boarding houses, etc., for the accommodation of visitors who have increased in number every year, that has caused the improvements that are now found here. Buildings are going up in every part of the place, and evidences of prosperity are everywhere to be seen."³ The uncertainty of land ownership greatly influenced the quality of construction that occurred in Hot Springs during the 1870's. Not only were commercial buildings and residences built of the inexpensive and readily available lumber, but so too were the
majority of bathhouses. Cutter explained that "No one owns a foot of land in the Valley, and no one can tell how long he will be allowed to remain. When fully considered, the wonder is, not that so little has been done, but that so many comfortable houses have been built." Cutter defended the quality and nature of building activity during this decade when he wrote that "Considering the unsettled condition of land titles, which prevent the erection of substantial brick or stone houses, the distance from market, and the mountainous country for miles around the Springs, the hotels of Hot Springs may be considered first class." Not only was new construction occurring in the boom town, but existing buildings were being improved and enlarged. "Hotels and boarding-houses are building additions and preparing for an increased number of guests; and everybody who has anything to sell, or business to do, seems to be making money." 

The building activity of the 1870's continued into the '80's and '90's as the population of Hot Springs and its number of visitors continued to increase. The settlement of land ownership litigation, as well as the covering of the troublesome Hot Springs Creek, encouraged the construction of more substantial buildings and resulted in an escalation of construction activity. In 1885 Cutter enthusiastically reported that "Never in its history has the city shown such growth and progress as it does at the present time. A building boom has evidently commenced in earnest but not any too quick, for the large hotels now in course of erection and in contemplation have been needed for years. Other improvements are contemplated, and probably more money will be spent in fine buildings this year than ever before." 

To meet the ever growing demand for accommodations, new hotels and boarding-houses replaced the smaller and less sophisticated structures of the previous decades. "With all the improvements now being made at the different hotels and boarding houses, and added to the list, there will soon be accommodations for four or five thousand visitors at one time, and allowing thirty days as an average time for visitors to remain here, there could be entertained at our hotels and boarding houses fifty thousand visitors in one year." While the earliest hotels constructed in Hot Springs were frame with Queen Anne, Greek Revival and Second Empire the predominate stylistic influences, hotels built after 1880 were usually of brick construction, larger in size than their frame predecessors and more able to provide the amenities desired by visitors. Most offered several large porches, balconies and elevators. The most common stylistic influences of this period were the Italianate and Second Empire. Prior to 1880, hotels ranged in height from one to three stories, a typical example of which was the Hot Springs Hotel, c. 1876, a three story frame Greek Revival structure with a pedimented two story full front porch, capable of accommodating forty to fifty guests.
One of the first brick hotels to be constructed was the first Arlington (1875), a four story building consisting of two wings with a 190 foot facade. Constructed in 1882, the five story brick Avenue Hotel had a projecting center frontispiece capped with a balustraded mansard roof. Paired brackets supported a wide overhanging cornice of pressed metal. The oldest surviving hotel in the present district is the four story Hotel Hay (HS-1), a brick Italianate structure with pressed metal detailing.

As the hotels improved, so too did the other commercial buildings along Central Avenue. "The business part of the city is of a substantial and permanent character and shows decided improvement ... Several solid business blocks have recently been, and are now being erected, and still greater changes may be looked for in the near future. Stores and shops are well stocked with everything calculated to contribute to the material well-being and happiness of visitors and residents." Brick replaced wood as the standard building material, though the majority of commercial structures continued to average two to three stories, with most possessing flat roofs that sloped from front to rear. Lots were narrow and deep, thus a rectangular plan was typical. Most buildings had straight brick loadbearing party walls, with loadbearing brick rear walls penetrated by windows and a rear entrance. Ornament was concentrated on the front facade, where a variety of material and detailing were frequently combined. The first floor of the front facade was typically devoted to one or two wood and glass storefronts, many of which included an entrance to stairs leading up to the second floor. Upper floors consisted of long corridors, off of which were offices and furnished rooms. Other common features include high parapet walls, double-hung upper story windows and canvas awnings. By 1893 promotional literature was claiming that "No city in the land can boast of a retail row, that, for attractiveness, variety and oddity, can compare with the business side of Central Avenue." In close proximity to the bathhouses and the best hotels, Central Avenue experienced construction activity well into the twentieth century, partly in response to the increased demands of the tourist industry, but also because buildings were frequently lost to fire. By the mid-1890's, the visitor to Hot Springs had a number of retail establishments from which to choose, as evidenced by the following description of the city's main thoroughfare, "Jewelry stores, book stores, dry goods stores, saloons, drug stores, pool rooms, restaurants, furnishing goods stores, grocery stores, more jewelry stores, doctor's offices, more drug stores, shooting galleries, more saloons and so on and so forth - each with a distinct picturesqueness of its own - until one almost wearies of the endless, and, in many cases, striking contrasts."11

The most typical commercial building of the late 1880's and '90's was two stories in height, constructed of brick, with an elaborate pressed metal cornice. The Rix-Adamson Building (HS-47), the Douglas Building (HS-7), and the Simon Meyer Building (HS-8) are good examples of this type. Less frequently constructed were buildings with stone facades, such as the Romanesque Revival-
inspired Southern Club (HS-21) and the Stitt Building (HS-46). Examples of the prevalent pressed metal facades include the Nickolas Hotel (HS-27), 230 Central (HS-13), the Gaines Building (HS-45), the McTague Building (HS-6) and the McLaughlin Building (HS-55). Though cast iron was frequently incorporated in facade designs, little of this material remains, as it was typically used at the street level and has been removed or covered up by remodeling. Storefronts were constructed of wood mullions, wood panels and glass, with paneled wood and glass doors. Transoms generally extended the width of the facade.

Several important hotels were constructed during the latter part of the nineteenth century that attempted to surpass the quality of earlier establishments, thus perpetuating continued competition among the hotels. The Hotel Eastman was a mammoth five story hip-roofed structure with a six story central tower adorned with oriel corner projections. The L-shaped hotel had three floors of covered balconies that provided 675' of promenade. Other distinguishing features included a 52' x 70' rotunda, clothes closets in each of the 506 guest rooms and six public rooms in addition to the 70' x 150' dining room. Built in 1891, the five story Park Hotel also had an L-shaped plan and rotunda. A popular feature was the open-air loggia atop the tower intersection of the two wings. Two floors of elaborately detailed covered iron balconies encircled the building, providing 1200 feet of promenade. In an effort to equal the competition, a second Arlington Hotel was built in 1891 on the site of the original, which had been torn down. Designed by McClure, Stewart and Mullgardt of St. Louis, the brick and stone replacement was four stories tall with two balconied corner towers and three stories of porches. Perhaps the most significant feature of this building was its use of the Spanish Renaissance style, which undoubtedly attracted attention. "The style of the architecture is of the Spanish Renaissance, which is admirably adapted to the location and in striking contrast with that of other hotel structures in this city."  

Commercial buildings dating from the first decade of the twentieth century were usually two stories in height and constructed of brick, such as Oscar's Bakery (HS-10), the Simon Mendel Building (HS-42) and Schneck's Drug Store (HS-54). Unlike those buildings constructed before the turn-of-the-century, buildings of this decade frequently possessed terra cotta ornament or were built of brown or buff, rather than red brick as was 111-121 Central (HS-57), a two story brown brick building with terra cotta capitals. Two outstanding buildings of this decade are the Dugan-Stewart (HS-22) and Sumpter-Little (HS-51) Buildings which are four and five stories respectively. Constructed of buff brick, these atypically tall office buildings both feature terra cotta ornament. The only surviving facades to have incorporated pressed metal, a material infrequently used during this decade, are the Spear Building (HS-34) and the Ohio Club (HS-28).

A number of hotels were constructed during the first decade of the twentieth century, an important example being the Majestic (HS-2), which was built in 1902
on the site of the Avenue Hotel. Originally this five story brick structure featured a one story classically-detailed balustraded front porch. Other distinguishing features include the Palladian-inspired doors which originally opened onto balconies and the projecting rounded corners of the building. Smaller in scale and simpler in design is the Savoy Hotel (HS-31), a two story structure with a commercial storefront on the first floor. A 1910 list of hotels reveals that four hotels existed with a guest capacity in excess of 500, nine could accommodate 100-200, twenty establishments had rooms for 50-100 and sixteen could accommodate 50 or less. This list did not include the numerous boarding houses and furnished rooms also available to the visitors.13

While the construction of the standard two story brick commercial building continued, as evidenced by the Kress Building (HS-53), the Albert Mendel Building (HS-16) and the Rector Building (HS-17), several innovative buildings were constructed between 1911 and 1920. Dating c. 1915, the DeSoto Mineral Springs Building (HS-11) is one of the district's earliest and finest classically-inspired facades. Originally only two stories in height, this building was constructed by one of the many water companies established to market bottled spring water. Shortly after the building's completion the DeSoto Mineral Springs went bankrupt, forcing the sale of the building to Mountain Valley Springs, which leased it to the operator of a fashionable dance hall proprietor who added the third floor. Also indicative of the popularity of the Classical Revival is the Thompson Building (HS-29), a five story office building designed by George Mann. The white glazed terra cotta facade features fluted columns and pilasters with Corinthian capitals, an ornate cornice, a balustraded parapet and metal panels with decorative relief.

The continued building activity between 1910 and 1930 can be attributed in part to the destruction caused by three fires that occurred during this twenty-year period. Between 1920 and 1930 two outstanding commercial buildings were constructed on Central Avenue: the Wade Clinic designed by Charles L. Thompson (NR listed 12-22-78) and the Medical Arts Building designed by Almand and Stuck (NR listed 12-1-78). Constructed on the site of the burned U.S. Hotel were three yellow brick buildings, the Holly Apartments (HS-36), the National Luggage Shop (HS-37) and the W. C. Woodcock Building (HS-38). Also erected during this decade were the Howe Hotel (HS-59), designed by Sanders and Ginocchio, and the Park (NR listed 12-22-82) and the Majestic Hotels (HS-3), designed by Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio. Designed by George Mann and Eugene John Stern and constructed in 1925, the third Arlington Hotel (HS-60) is one of Hot Springs' most imposing and picturesque structures. Sited on a pivotal corner lot, the design of this hotel was clearly influenced by the Spanish Renaissance hotel that preceded it. Designed by two of Arkansas' most gifted architects, the Arlington is the largest hotel in Hot Springs today. Built in 1925, the Howe and Majestic are both constructed of red brick and feature terra cotta detailing.
The Majestic was built on the site of the Hiram Whittington House and is connected to the 1902 Majestic.

The Central Avenue Historic District clearly illustrates the evolution of the commercial core of Hot Springs, possessing representative examples of a variety of building periods, types and styles that reflect the ever-changing needs and tastes of this spa community between 1880 and 1930. The majority of storefronts have been "face lifted" or "modernized" over the years, with aluminum and glass being the most commonly used replacement materials, though several feature structural glass or tile. Most transoms have been covered, the doors replaced and the awnings removed. A modern wood, steel and fiberglass canopy covers the sidewalk in front of each building, significantly detracting from the district's appearance. The majority of first floor interiors have been altered in an effort to create a modern retail atmosphere appealing to tourists, whereas the upper floors have retained a high degree of integrity. The facades of several historic buildings have been covered with contemporary materials, such as corrugated metal and cast stone panels.

Survey Methodology

A reconnaissance survey of Central Avenue was first undertaken in March and April of 1977 by Inez Cline and Sharon Slagle. A second reconnaissance survey of the area was performed by the AHPP staff in February 1984. Evaluation of collected data determined the highest degree of significant historical and architectural fabric was located between 205 Park and 702 Central. That area composes the basis of the nomination, with the exclusion of Bathhouse Row which was listed on the National Register in November 1974.
FOOTNOTES


2. Charles Cutter. The Hot Springs As They Are. 1874, p. 41.

3. ibid, p. 41.

4. ibid, p. 41.

5. ibid, p. 44.

6. ibid, p. 50.


8. ibid.


10. ibid, p. 51.

11. ibid, p. 51.

12. ibid, p. 51.

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### DATES OF CONSTRUCTION

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<td>1870-1889</td>
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I. **1870-1889**

1. HS-47: Rix-Adamson Building (1886)
2. HS-1: Hotel Hay (c. 1887)
3. HS-13: 210 Central (1889)
4. HS-27: Nicholas Hotel (c. 1890)

II. **1890-1899**

1. HS-45: Gaines Building (1890)
2. HS-23: 304 Central (c. 1890)
3. HS-24: 308 Central (c. 1890)
4. HS-6: McTague Building (c. 1891)
5. HS-7: Douglas Building (c. 1891)
6. HS-8: Simon Meyer Building (c. 1891)
7. HS-9: O'Bryan Building (c. 1891)
8. HS-21: Southern Club (1893)
9. HS-46: Stitt Building (1895)
10. HS-55: McLaughlin Building (c. 1895)
11. HS-56: 702 Central (c. 1895)

III. **1900-1920**

1. HS-14: 212-218 Central (c. 1900)
2. HS-57: 111-121 Central (c. 1900)
3. HS-2: Majestic Hotel (1902)
4. HS-22: Dugan-Stuart Building (1904)
5. HS-51: Sumpter-Little Building (1904)
6. HS-10: Oscar's Bakery (c. 1905)
7. HS-28: Ohio Club (c. 1905)
8. HS-34: Spear Building (c. 1905)
9. HS-41: Kempner's Building (c. 1905)
10. HS-30: The Chicago Flats (c. 1905)
11. HS-31: Savory Hotel (c. 1910)
12. HS-33: Hale Block (c. 1910)
13. HS-42: Simon Mendel Building (c. 1910)
14. HS-54: Schneck's Drug Store (c. 1910)
15. HS-29: Thompson Building (1913)
16. HS-53: Kress Building (c. 1915)
17. HS-16: Albert Mendel Building (c. 1915)
18. HS-17: Rector Building (c. 1915)
19. HS-11: Desoto Mineral Springs Building (c. 1915)
# National Register of Historic Places

## Inventory—Nomination Form

### IV. 1920-1930

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<td>HS-60: Scheer Cadillac Building (c. 1925)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>HS-59: Howe Hotel (1926)</td>
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<td>HS-62: Wade Clinic (1927)</td>
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<td>HS-19: Medical Arts Building (1929)</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>HS-38: W. C. Woodcock Building (1929)</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>HS-35: Blake Jewelry (c. 1930)</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>HS-36: Holly Apartments (c. 1930)</td>
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<td>12</td>
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### V. 1931-Present

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<td>5</td>
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<td>Fountain and Central</td>
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*C = Contributing Structures  
NC = Noncontributing Structures
## National Register of Historic Places
### Inventory—Nomination Form

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<td>HS-8</td>
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# National Register of Historic Places
## Inventory—Nomination Form

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

### Continuation sheet

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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form  

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### United States Department of the Interior
### National Park Service
### National Register of Historic Places
### Inventory—Nomination Form

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<td>Bernice F. Mendel</td>
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| HS-49 | First National Bank  
530 Central | First National Bank  
(Walnut Associates)  
Central and Court  
Hot Springs, AR 71901 |
| HS-50 | Security National Bank  
606 Central | First National Bank  
Address Above |
| HS-51 | Sumpter-Little Building  
610-614 Central | Leo & Sam Gortenberg  
208 Burchwood  
Hot Springs, AR 71901 |
| HS-52 | Paramount Theater  
616-618 Central | A.B. Gaines Estate  
c/o First National Bank  
Address above |
| HS-53 | Kress Building  
620 Central | Helena Goff  
2300 Beechwood  
Little Rock, AR 72207 |
| HS-54 | Schneck's Drug Store  
624-26 Central | Angelo, Peter, & John Papas  
323 6th Street  
Hot Springs, AR 71913 |
| HS-55 | McLaughlin Building  
700 Central | Hill Wheatley  
135 Central Avenue  
Hot Springs, AR 71901 |
| HS-56 | 702 Central | Hill Wheatley  
(Address Above) |
| HS-57 | 111-121 Central | Hill Wheatley  
(Address Above) |
| HS-58 | Downtowner Hotel  
135 Central | Hill Wheatley  
(Address Above) |
| HS-59 | Howe Hotel  
201 Central | Jenq Shyong Chen  
201 Central Avenue  
Hot Springs, AR 71901 |
| HS-60 | Scheer Cadillac Building  
209 Central | Arlington Hotel, Inc.  
Central & Fountain  
Hot Springs, AR 71901 |
|  | Parking Lot | Arlington Hotel, Inc.  
(Address Above) |
| Item number | HS-62 | Wade Clinic  
231 Central | Arlington Hotel, Inc.  
(Address Above) |
|-------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|
| HS-63       |       | Arlington Hotel  
Fountain and Central | Arlington Hotel, Inc.  
(Address Above) |
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Cutter, Charles. The Hot Springs As They Are. 1874.


The Hot Springs Of Arkansas In A Nut Shell, St. Louis, MO.: Con. P. Curran Printing Co., 1910.


Hot Springs Fire Department Records. 1928, 1941-1944. (Garland County Archives, Hot Springs).

Hot Springs Illustrated Monthly, 1878.

The Hot Springs Picture Book. 1893.


9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheets.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property app. 22 sq. acres

Quadrangle name Hot Springs North, Ark.

UTM References

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The district begins at 205 Park and runs south along the west side of Central Avenue to 702. On the east side of Central Ave, the district runs from 111 Central to the Arlington Hotel at Fountain and Central. (Legal descriptions for each building on individual survey form.)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julie Vosmik and Jeff Lewellen

organization AHPP

date June 8, 1984

street & number Suite 200, 225 Markham

telephone 501-371-2763

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   X   state
   _   local
   _   national

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Chief of Registration

8-31-84
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The oldest hotel in the district, the Hotel Hay, is a four story brick building with an 82-foot wide facade embellished with a tall, elaborately-detailed cornice, pilasters and quoins of pressed metal. Windows are one-over-one double-hung with the exception of those of the first floor which have been replaced. An interesting feature of the building is its irregular arrangement of fenestration, consisting of three pairs of windows, flanked to the left by two single windows and to the right by four single windows. Though no longer in existence, ornate hood mouldings originally adorned the windows located on the upper floors between the pilasters. The original store front consisted of two bay windows at the left, two doors, and three windows. A 1910 photograph reveals that the bay windows had been removed by that date. Considered one of the City's finest hotels when constructed, the Hotel Hay was built in front of and was connected to the Hay House, a small frame hotel it was intended to supplement. The 40 room hotel boasted wide airy hallways and rooms en suite, with an office, parlor and reading room on the first floor. Sometime before 1915, the Hay House was demolished.

Alterations to the building include the addition of the existing canopy, the addition and removal of a two story front porch, the stuccoing of the first floor and the painting of the brick.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is the oldest remaining hotel in the Central Avenue District. It was built in front of the 1870's Hay House around 1887. They were incorporated and joined together as the Hotel Hay and later the St. Charles Hotel until the rear section containing the Hay House was destroyed around 1910. The 1887 addition remained to experience several remodelings over the years, but the basic 1880's structure remains. The Hotel Hay was built circa 1887 and was among the first major hotels in Hot Springs to change from frame to brick construction. The four-story building at Division and Park contained water-closets on every floor, and claimed to be the only hotel in Hot Springs heated by steam. It was altered and changed around the turn of the century and renamed the St. Charles Hotel. It was remodeled again in the 1920's with H. Dougherty as owner and manager. It is now called the Tavern and has been owned by the Majestic Hotel since 1967.
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Though nowhere near the size of the Eastman, Park or Arlington, the Majestic was a large hotel for its day. Constructed on the former site of the Avenue Hotel in 1902, this symmetrical five story brick structure originally had a classically-detailed one story balustraded porch in front of the central entrance. Several features distinguish this building from all others in the district, the most notable being the rounded projecting corners, the fifth floor bulls-eye windows, the Palladian-inspired windows and doors with dentilled detailing that originally opened onto balconies, and the two bay projections. With the exception of those already mentioned, windows are one-over-one double-hung with stone lintels and sills. The entrance and storefronts have been altered and the brick painted.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The original 1902 Majestic is one of the oldest of the large resort hotels in the Central Avenue District. It remains one of the most successful and distinct hotels in Hot Springs. The original 1902 Majestic Hotel at Whittington and Park stands on the site of the Avenue Hotel which was built in the early 1880's. The four story brick structure also contained a bathhouse under the same roof. In 1902, the Majestic was owned by Harry Jones. It was purchased by Southwest Hotel Company in 1929.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-3

Property Name Majestic Hotel

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1926

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed on the site of the Whittington House in 1926, the second Majestic Hotel is an eight-story brick structure connected to the first Majestic Hotel on the right and the Lanai Suites (1958) on the left. Designed by Sanders and Ginocchio, the building has a one-story entrance and lobby projection, the parapet of which is adorned with urns, that faces the street. Windows are six-over-one double-hung with the exception of the one-story section that has multi-paned casement windows with fixed sidelights and transom. Four pairs of windows on the seventh floor have wrought iron balconies. One of the most distinguishing features of this hotel is the rich classically-inspired cast ornament that embellishes the two top and bottom floors, such as the inset panels, the rinceau and running Greek banding, corner quoins and cornice projection have recently been added. In 1934 the firm of Thompson, Sanders and Ginnochio was responsible for some alterations, the nature of which is not known.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The 1926 Majestic Hotel represents the growth and importance of the Majestic Hotel Company as one of the most successful and important resort Hotels in Hot Springs. It shares in its architectural distinction with the 1926 Howe Hotel (HS-59) which was also built in 1926 by the same architects as the Majestic. The 1926 Majestic Hotel stands next to the 1902 Majestic on the site of the 1830’s house of Hiram Whittington. The architects on the 1926 Majestic were Theo Sanders and Frank Ginocchio. Sanders and Ginocchio also built the Howe Hotel (HS-59) in 1926 on Central Avenue and the Leo N. Levi Hospital on Whittington Avenue in 1911. Sanders and Ginocchio then formed a partnership with Charles Thompson and designed the Wade Clinic (HS-62) in 1926, and the Park Hotel at 210 Fountain and the Riviera Hotel at 719 Central both in 1930. All three of these buildings were included in the National Register in 1982 for the Charles Thompson thematic nomination. Both Majestic Hotels were purchased by Southwest Hotel Company in 1929, and H. Grady Manning was manager.
HS-3  Majestic Hotel (1926) Park & Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmil-photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-4
Property Name 110 & 112 Central Avenue
Location  Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  c. 1935

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Owner  E. M. Thrash, Inc.
Address  628 Broadway
Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

A three story red brick building possessing two storefronts, 110 & 112 Central was constructed c. 1935. This three bay commercial structure has one-over-one double-hung windows. Typical of the majority of commercial buildings on Central, the plan is rectangular and the roof is flat.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This three story brick building was built in the late 1930's and housed various grocery stores and shops. The Sherman Apartments were on the second and third floors in 1946. It is now Clinton Antiques and a Liquor Store. This building represents the less ornate and more practical commercial buildings that appeared on Central avenue during the 1930's and 1940's.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-5
Property Name  Medic Drugs
Location  Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  c. 1940

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed c. 1940, this two story buff brick structure has a single storefront embellished with black structural glass. The asymmetrical fenestration accommodates stairs at the right that lead from the street to the second floor. The four double-hung windows of the second floor are in groups of two, with four vertical lights-over-one. The plan and roof are typical of the commercial buildings in the district.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was built in the 1940's at 114 Central and has remained a drug store. It is an example of the plainer, more practical commercial buildings appearing on Central Avenue in the 1940's.
Left to right
HS-10 Oscar's Bakery 130-142 Central
CONTRIBUTING
HS-9 O'Bryan Building 128 Central HS-6
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HS-8 Simon Meyer Bldg. 126 Central HS-5
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HS-7 Douglas Bldg. 122-124 Central HS-4

McTague Bldg. 120 Central
CONTRIBUTING
Medic Drugs 114 Central
NON-CONTRIBUTING Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
110-112 Central
NON-CONTRIBUTING
March 1984 A. Jones & Julie Yosmik, photographers
Negatives at AHPP
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number HS-6
Property Name Wm. J. McTague Building
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s 1891

Owner Donald C. Harbour and Rex L. Norton
Address P. O. Box 1328
Hot Springs, AR 71902

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This three story brick structure has one of the district's finest examples of a pressed metal facade. Each of the two upper floors are penetrated by eleven one-over-one double-hung windows separated by pilasters. Panels above each window feature foliated relief. The most distinguishing features of this Italianate-influenced building is the massive projecting cornice detailed with medallions, paired brackets, squat finials at each corner, the name of the original owner and the date of construction. A door at the far right of the storefront, though now covered, originally provided access to the street leading to the second floor. None of the original storefront remains.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McTague Building is important in both its architectural style and its association with its builder. The style is typical of 1890's commercial buildings in Hot Springs, but the uniqueness is the role it plays in the grouping of 1890's buildings adjacent to it in the 100 Block of Central. The four buildings (HS-6, HS-7, HS-8, and HS-9) constitute the largest grouping of early 1890's buildings on Central Avenue. The McTague is the largest of the four buildings, and remains the dominant structure in the 100 Block. William McTague had this building built in 1891. McTague had been involved in local gambling since the 1870's. McTague survived the gambling feuds of the 1880's between Frank Flynn and Major S. A. Doran. In 1884, the townspeople and city officials expelled both Flynn and Doran from the town for crooked gambling practices, but McTague managed to stay on in the gambling business for many years. The building was a saloon run by Thomas Hanely in 1914, and later was the Piggley Wiggley Grocery Store with the G. W. Pitts Furnished Rooms on the top floor in the 1920's. It was then Lowery's Food Palace until the 1970's with the Southern Hotel on the upper floors. It was then bought by Eugene and Mary Francis Stonecipher for the Personal Touch Gift Shop. McTague's first saloon (built in 1876) was on the lot of the Southern Club (HS-21) which replaced it in 1893.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-7
Property Name  Douglas Building
Location  Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  c. 1891

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1891, the same year as its two contiguous neighbors, the Douglas Building is a two story three bay structure, with a massive bracketed and pedimented pressed metal cornice that bears the original owner's name. Brick pilasters flank each of the three second floor arched fenestrations which are composed of three one-over-one double-hung windows with transoms. Though substantially altered, the storefront still retains four cast iron pilasters and the transom above the central stair door.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Douglas Building at 122-124 Central was built circa 1891. By 1892, 122 was a meat market and 124 was the Lyrie Grocery Store. 124 remained a grocery store until 1915 when it became a restaurant. 122 was a drug store from 1908 to the mid-1920's, and the upper floor contained the Utah Rooms. In the 1940's, it contained the Apple Apartments and the Dixie Coffee Shop. It was recently the Magnolia Cottage Gift Shop at 124, and the Night Train Nightclub at 122. The upper floor then contained the Lansing Apartments. The Douglas Building is in the middle of the group of late nineteenth century buildings on the 100 Block of Central Avenue. They share similar architectural styles and similar backgrounds in their uses over the years. Together, they are the largest grouping of 1890's buildings adjacent to each other in the Central Avenue District. the Douglas Building is an example of the 1890's stores involved with groceries and dry goods.

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number HS-8
Owner E. M. Thrash, Inc.

Property Name Simon Meyer Building
Address 628 Broadway

Location Hot Springs, AR Hot Springs, AR 71901

Significant Date/s c. 1891

**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

Two stories in height with a pressed metal cornice, the Simon Meyer Building is of brick construction with four double-hung windows on the second floor. The altered single storefront has been changed from the original, though the placement of the door leading to the stairs has been retained. Alterations include the addition of a second floor wrought iron balcony, the covering of the second floor windows with louvered shutters and the stuccoing of the facade below the balcony roof following the removal of the original pressed metal front.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Simon Meyer Building is part of the grouping of nineteenth century buildings on the 100 Block that stand as the largest grouping of 1890's buildings adjacent to each other in the Central Avenue District. The Simon Meyer Building also represents one of the first businesses run by Mr. Meyer who was one of the most successful merchants in 1890's Hot Springs. Simon Meyer had this building constructed at 126 Central for his clothing store in the early 1890's. In 1923, it was a dry goods store owned by Mrs. Rosa Meyer. It later became the Walkowitz General Store and more recently the Oyster Bar Restaurant. The building was altered in 1956 along with 128 Central by Derrell Sims.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Though retaining an ornate cornice, the majority of the facade of this building was altered during a mid-1950's remodeling. Removed at the time was most of the original pressed metal from the second floor, after which the brick was stuccoed to match the Simon Meyer Building next door. Other alterations include the covering of the three pairs of double-hung second floor windows and the addition of the wrought iron balcony.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The O'Bryan Building is an excellent example of the late nineteenth century buildings constructed along Central Avenue as a saloon or private club. It is a vital element in the group of early 1890's buildings that are adjacent to each other on the 100 Block of Central. Few groupings of 1890's buildings such as this remain in Hot Springs. The O'Bryan Building at 128 Central was constructed for M. C. O'Bryan as a saloon in the early 1890's. The saloon was run by J. S. Wilkins in 1914, and has remained a saloon to this day. It was bought and remodeled by Derrell Sims in 1956 when it became the Black Orchid Bar and Nightclub.
HS-9  O'Bryan Bldg.  128 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984  Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number HS-10
Owner Hill Wheatley

Property Name Oscar's Bakery
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1905

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Though simply detailed, Oscar's Bakery is typical of the commercial structures constructed along Central Avenue at the turn-of-the-century. An unusual feature of this building is the length of its facade. Second floor one-over-one double-hung windows are paired within arched openings and four regularly spaced round vents penetrate the facade above the first floor. Three pairs of closely spaced pilasters indicate the original placement of three doors within the storefront. Though individual storefronts have been altered over the years, the original configuration has been retained, as have been the pilaster. Though transoms remain, they have been covered.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 130-142 Central stands as an example of an early 1900's building that housed a variety of different commercial stores and operations. The two-story brick building at 130-142 Central was originally Oscar's Bakery in the early 1900's. This was the site of the Central Bathhouse in the 1880's which was destroyed at the turn of the century. In 1915, it became the William Wilson Bakery. In the 1920's it was the Sanitary Bakery. In 1923, W. O. Graham operated a restaurant here as well. In the mid-1970's it contained the Terminal Hotel, a flower shop, and two night clubs owned by Bob Blanque.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number    HS-11
Property Name    DeSoto Mineral Springs
Location         Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c.1915

ARMSKAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner     Mountain Valley Springs Co.
Address    150 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR. 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed c. 1915, the DeSoto Mineral Springs building occupies a corner lot on Central and is one of the district's finest illustrations of the Classical Revival. Always painted white, this five bay brick building was originally two stories in height. Sometime between 1915 and 1925 a third story was added to accommodate plans for a dance hall. As with all Central Avenue structures, the architectural ornament is concentrated on the front facade. The two square brick corner columns of the facade have moulded capitals detailed with bands of bead and rell, rinceau and egg and dart moulding. Identical bands of detail adorn the four fluted Ionic columns. The elaborate cornice has two rows of egg and dart moulding surmounted by a row of high relief cast acroteria with a cartouche at each corner. The third story addition has an overhanging metal cornice, a standing seam double hip roof and fenestration that repeats that of the first two stories. Alterations to the building have been minimal, making it one of the most intact structures in the district. At an unknown date a canopy was removed from above the central entrance and six light posts were removed from the front parapet when the third floor was added.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is unique because of its architectural beauty and its contribution to the commercial development of Central Avenue. It is the only building remaining on Central Avenue that was built specifically to serve as a mineral water depot. In addition, it represents the growth of luxury dance halls on Central Avenue during the 1920's. It is also associated with the most successful and famous mineral water company to be formed out of Hot Springs as it has served as the Mountain Valley Water Company's headquarters since the mid-1930's. This was originally the DeSoto Mineral Springs Building when it was built circa 1910. It originally had only two stories. The spring and bottling plant were directly behind the building on West Mountain. The third floor was added circa 1920 and a luxurious dance hall was opened. It remained the DeSoto Spring Water Depot and DeSoto Dance Hall until 1936 when Mountain Valley Water moved into the building.

Mountain Valley Water Company was one of the earliest and most successful mineral water companies formed around Hot Springs. The springs are located near Blakely Mountain about 12 miles north of Hot Springs. Peter E. Green bought the land in 1872 and constructed a hotel there. The Mountain Valley Water Company was formed in 1883 with G. G. Latta, Samuel Fordyce and Samuel Stitt as large investors. Zeb Ward, director and lessee of the Arkansas State Penitentiary System and a large contractor and developer out of Little Rock, was
Continued (Page 2)

Survey Number       HS-11
Property Name       DeSoto Mineral Springs

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (cont)

early 1900's the August Schlafley family out of St. Louis purchased the Mountain Valley Company. Schlafley later purchased the DeSoto Springs Water Company in 1924, and merged the two enterprises in 1936 when he moved the Mountain Valley office from a storefront on Central to the DeSoto Building.
HS-11  DeSoto Mineral Springs 150 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-12

Property Name

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Parking Lot.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-13
Property Name 210 Central
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s 1889

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Owner Peter & Mildred Nicksic
Address 2805 Malvern Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

One of the district's most significant examples of a pressed metal facade, 200 Central is a three bay three story structure with an elaborate cornice supported by paired brackets. A metal sunburst ellipse extends above the top of the cornice line and bears the date of construction. Three pairs of one-over-one double-hung windows are located between fluted and ribbed pressed metal pilasters. Third floor windows are capped by arched label moulds. Though the definition of the three bays has been retained on the first floor, the storefront has been substantially altered.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 210 Central is the oldest building in the Central Avenue area originally devoted to the saloon and hotel industry. It is also unique because of its architectural distinction it lends to the 200 Block. The building at 210 Central was built in 1889. It was originally a saloon with furnished rooms on the top two floors. In the early 1900's it was known as the Weir Hotel. In the 1920's it was the Central Hotel. In the late 1930's it became the Illinois Hotel and Bar and remained that through the 1940's. It was later Doug's Restaurant, and by the mid-1970's was named the Cajun Bog, a restaurant and club owned by Mildred and Peter Nicksic.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast

HS-13 210 CENTRAL
CONTRIBUTING
216/218 Central is a one story brick structure, the facade of which was covered with white sheet metal panels approximately thirty years after construction. The uppermost row of metal panels have green stripes just below the parapet coping. Though altered, this building is an important resource in this district, as it is one of the few commercial structures to have retained its original storefronts, which are wood and glass with continuous transoms.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 212-218 Central is a good example of an early twentieth century building containing several different stores in the same structure. It housed some of the more successful early drug stores and pharmacies in Hot Springs. This one story building was constructed circa 1900. It has contained a variety of shops and small stores through the years. In 1905, 218 was Jackson's Pharmacy. This later became Angles Drug Store. In the 1920's, it contained Anderson's Cleaners, Reed Restaurant, and Mooter Photo Shop. In 1928, it contained Dr. D. C. Lee's office and the laboratory of Clinical Medicine. By 1930 it remained doctor's offices, and in 1935 it returned to being a cleaners, a restaurant, and the Too Cute Photo Shop. By the 1940's it was a liquor store, a news stand, and Honeycutt furnished rooms. More recently it housed the La Petit Galleries, the Pancake Shop, and the Illinois Bar.
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HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmek, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast

| HS-13  | 210 CENTRAL | CONTRIBUTING |
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-15  
Property Name  All State Liquor News  
Location  Hot Springs, AR  
Significant Date/s  c. 1965  

Owner Margureite Jackson  
Address 120 Flint Street  
         Hot Springs, AR 71902

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Consisting of one story with a corrugated metal facade and metal and glass storefront, this building dates from c. 1965.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

All State Liquor and News is an example of one of the modern commercial buildings used to fill in between the older structures on Central Avenue. Built in the mid-1960's this building has been a news agency, a health food store, and is now a news stand and liquor store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT  

Survey Number  HS-16  
Property Name  Albert Mendel Building  
Location  Hot Springs, AR  
Significant Date/s  c 1918  

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
Owner  Rector Estate  
Address  P.O. Box 509  

Hot Springs, AR 71901  

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION.

This simple structure illustrates the continued construction of two story brick commercial buildings during the first two decades of the twentieth century. Constructed c. 1918, this modest building has five pairs of double-hung windows all of which have been covered by plywood panels. An off-center stair provides access to the second floor. Alterations include the replacement of the original storefronts and the painting of the facade.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Albert Mendel Building is a typical commercial structure built between 1915-1920. It stands as one of the last buildings constructed by Albert Mendel, one of Hot Springs most successful clothing merchants in the early 1900's. Built circa 1918, this building served as a clothing and dry goods store. Albert Mendel had a store here since the turn of the century. It was damaged, however, around 1918 by fire and had to be rebuilt.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number HS-17
Property Name Rector Building
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1918

Owner Rector Estate
Address P. O. Box 509
Hot Springs, AR 71902

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed of brick c. 1918, this building was stuccoed at undetermined date. Five steel casement windows penetrate the second floor of this two story flat-roofed structure. A modern metal and glass storefront replaces the original. Stairs to the second floor are located to the right of the storefront. The entrance to the stairway retains its original transom.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rector Building is an example of a typical commercial building constructed before 1920. The Rector Estate originally owned this land. 226 Central was a variety of shops in the early 1900's. This building was damaged in the same fire as the Albert Mendel Building and had to have major repairs. It is now the Belltonge Hearing Aid Store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast

HS-13 210 CENTRAL
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number   HS-18
Property Name
Location   Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner   Rector Estate
Address   P. O. Box 509
           Hot Springs, AR  71902

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Parking Lot.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number _ HS-19 ____________
Property Name _ Medical Arts Building ____________
Location _ Hot Springs, AR ____________
Significant Date/s _ 1929 ____________

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner _ Medical Arts Partners ____________
Address _ Central Towers Building ____________
__________ 236 Central Avenue
__________ Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Listed in the National Register 12-1-78.
HS-19 Medical Arts Bldg. 236 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
J. Vosmik, photographer
May, 1984 Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the East
Listed Individually in the NR
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number    HS-20
Property Name    Aristocrat Motor Inn
Location        Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1965

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Aristocratic Manor, LTD.
c/o Federal National Mortgage
Address Associates

2001 Bryan Tower-Suite 1200

Dallas, TX 75201

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

A seven story cast concrete structure, this hotel was constructed c. 1965. Its symmetrical plan consists of two splayed wings with open space between. Windows are single panes of fixed glass with painted metal panels below.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Aristocrat Motor Inn is an example of the modern motels that are replacing older hotels that were lost in recent years. This is the original site of the Waukesha Hotel and Bathhouse. The Aristocrat was built in the mid-1960's.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-21
Property Name  Southern Club
Location  Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  1893

Owner  Josephine Tussaud
Address  Wax Museum
         250 Central Avenue
         Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

One of Central Avenue's most outstanding structures, the Southern Club is the only building in the district to demonstrate the influence of the Romanesque Revival. Two stories in height, the dressed stone arcaded second floor features six arched one-over-one double-hung windows that rest on a band of moulding and are separated by pairs of columns with Romanesque capitals. A line of egg and dart moulding defines the outside curve of each arch. A simple band of moulding between the windows and cornice delineates a change in the size of stone block. The dentilled cornice projects only slightly and includes a band of egg and dart moulding. The center parapet stone features a carved beribboned shield in relief. Originally the first floor had three large arches that spanned the width of the facade. These were removed when the existing glass, metal and structural glass storefront and canopy were added.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Southern Club is an example of the lavish gambling clubs and bars that sprang up around Central Avenue and Hot Springs in the late nineteenth century. The Southern Club was built in 1893 by Dungan and Stuart, local Hot Springs businessmen. It was originally a private gambling club, bar, and restaurant that thrived until the crackdown on gambling forced it to close in the 1960's. The extensive remodeling to the first floor took place during the 1940's. After the club was closed, it became the Madame Tussaud Wax Museum which contains to use the building.
Josephine Tussaud
WAX MUSEUM

HS-21    Southern Club    250 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984    Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-22
Property Name Dugan-Stuart Building
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s 1904

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR. 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1904 as a medical office building, this imposing five story structure has two identical splayed wings between which was originally located a one story entrance with a column-supported pediment. This was removed c.1960 and replaced with the existing storefront. Built of banded buff brick that form pilasters, both wings have arched upper floors. The facade of each wing is three bays wide with two storefronts on the first floor. The regular fenestration of each floor consists of three pairs of one-over-one double-hung windows, with those on the top floor being arched. The arched fifth floor is detailed with pilaster capitals of egg and dart moulding, acanthus keystones and a round window above each arch intersection. Rich terra cotta ornament embellishes the top of each banded corner and a massive cornice is detailed with dentils and modillions. Storefronts, though altered, are intact above the sidewalk canopy.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dugan-Stuart Building stands as a dominant architectural element of the Central Avenue area. It remains as an example of the first office buildings constructed in the early twentieth century in Hot Springs. Dugan and Stuart built it in 1904 primarily to take advantage of the need for office space for the rapidly growing population of doctors in the town. The ground floor has always contained a variety of drug stores and specialty shops. The center section contained an ice cream parlor at one time with stairs leading to a bowling alley in the basement of the main building. It was remodeled 25 years ago when it was purchased by Hill Wheatley.
HS-22  Dugan-Stuart Bldg. 256-264 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984   Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-23

Property Name Gaines Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1890

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley

Address 135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

An outstanding example of a pressed metal and cast iron storefront, this structure is distinguished by two three-sided elaborately detailed second floor bay windows that are supported by a pair of console brackets. The bay projections are embellished with a dentilled cornice and arched one-over-one double-hung windows. Metal pressed to imitate smooth and rusticated stone blocks covers the second floor. Though it still retains two cast iron corner pilasters, the storefront has been altered.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building's fine 1890's facade is a reminder of the outstanding late nineteenth century commercial structures that lined the west side of Central Avenue opposite the Bathhouses. Built by the Gaines estate circa 1890, this building included a doctor's office in 1892 and a drug store from 1896 to 1925. It was one of the first Walgreen's stores out of Chicago in the early 1900's. It later became the Colonial Drug Store in 1923. It is now Rickey's Toy Shop.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number   HS-24           ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Owner       Hill Wheatley
Property Name  308 Central Avenue
Address     135 Central Avenue
Location    Hot Springs, AR
            Hot Springs, AR 71901
Significant Date/s  c. 1890

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Dominated by a single large arched second floor opening within which are four
double-hung windows an elliptical transom, 308 Central is a two story brick
building with an over-sized pressed metal cornice. Two fluted cast iron corner
pilasters flank a modern brick and glass storefront, above which is the original
transom.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Possessing an outstanding 1890's facade on the upper floor, it has served the
downtown area of Hot Springs through a variety of commercial establishments.
This building was constructed circa 1890 originally as a drug store. In 1901 it
contained offices, and in 1908 it was a candy store. In 1915 it was the Morris
Simon Cigar Store. It later became the Diamond Exchange Jewelry Store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
HS-42 Simon Mendel Bldg. 424 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HS-41 Kempner Bldg. 420-422 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-42

Property Name Simon Mendel Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c.1910

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner First National Bank

Address (Walnut Associates)

Central and Court

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The most distinguishing feature of this building is the four arched double-hung second floor windows with fan-shaped transoms. Projecting brick window arches and pilasters add interest to the simple facade. The storefront has been modernized with black and off-white structural glass. The transom is exposed.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building along with the Kempner Building (HS-41) were the only buildings on the 400 Block that survived the 1928 fire without any major damage. It was built by Simon Mendel, a successful Hot Springs clothing merchant, for his ladies clothing store around 1910. Hubert Mendel later ran the store and had the firm of Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio remodel the building in 1937. It has always remained a clothing store, with the last business being Fines.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-25
Property Name
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner City of Hot Springs
Address c/o Hon. Jim Randall
P. O. Box 700
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Parking Lot.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-26

Property Name 328-330 Central

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1920

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley

Address 135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This early 1920's building has two glass and metal storefronts of approximately equal size. Constructed of red brick, the structure has double-hung windows now covered with painted plywood sheets. The plan is rectangular with its length oriented toward the street. In the late 1970's the facade was painted white.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building represents the evolution of a 1920's store through several modern adaptations and remodelings. This originally was built in the early 1920's for a variety of shops. In 1923 it contained Jacob Marcos Shoe Repair, J. C. Leonard Shoe Shine Shop, L. L. Peterson Souvenirs, and B. E. Maloney Photography Shop. It later became Schrader's Mens Wear and Hall's Gift Shop. The facade was extensively remodeled in the late 1970's.
HS-26  328-330 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number ______ HS-27 ________

Property Name ______ Nicholas Hotel ______

Location ______ Hot Springs, AR ______

Significant Date/s ______ c. 1890 ______

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner ______ Hill Wheatley ________

Address ______ 135 Central Avenue ______

_________ Hot Springs, AR 71901 ________

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

One of the oldest hotels in the district, this three story structure possesses an outstanding pressed metal front that is rich in detail. Though altered, the storefronts have retained their original configuration and the central door leading to the second floor is only slightly changed. The projecting curved bay of the second floor was added sometime between 1908 and 1915. This projection has five gothic-arched window openings with an iron railing at the top. A door replaces the center window on the third floor. Both storefronts are faced with structural glass.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nicholas Hotel is the oldest remaining hotel across from Bathhouse Row. It was built circa 1890 as one of the smaller hotels to be affordable to people who could not stay at the more expensive hotels. The front was remodeled around 1910 when it became the Saratoga Hotel. The impressive facade of the upper two floors has remained intact to the present. Over the years, the ground floor has contained restaurants and gift shops while the top two floors were run as a hotel. In 1915 the first floor contained the Ostrich Plume while the Saratoga Hotel was operating above. The building later became the Plaza Hotel with the Crystal Gift Shop and the National Cafe on the first floor. In the late 1970's, the first floor contained the Evans Auction House and Granny's Kitchen. The Plaza Hotel continues to serve Hot Springs as an affordable hotel in the heart of Hot Springs.
HS-28 Ohio Club 336 Central
CONTRIBUTING
HS-27 Nicholas Hotel 332-334 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DI;
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
View from Southeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-28

Property Name Ohio Club

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1905

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley

Address 135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This narrow two story structure with a single storefront is dominated by a second floor curved bay projection identical to that of the Nicholas Hotel next door. Constructed c. 1905, this elaborately detailed building has one of the only examples of a pressed metal facade dating from this period. Pressed metal corner pilasters imitate rusticated stone and are topped by finials. The gabled parapet has a simple dentilled cornice. Unlike the Nicholas Hotel, the bay of the Ohio Club has a domed roof. Though the storefront has been altered, the original transom remains.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Originally owned by Otis McCraw, the Ohio Club was built circa 1905 as a private club with a saloon and restrained gambling. It remains one of the few private clubs built in this time period. Its architecture reflected a desire to return to the glory days of the gambling saloons of the late nineteenth century. It also represents the evolution of these gambling clubs through the years. In 1914, the club was still flourishing under the management of W. B. Beall. During the prohibition years, it became the Ohio Cigar Store with the offices for the Porter Austeel Taxicab Company upstairs. After prohibition it again became the Ohio Club and flourished as a gambling and saloon club until the 1960's crackdown on gambling in Hot Springs. By the 1980's it had become the Our House Restaurant and Lounge.
HS-28  Ohio Club  336 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-29

Property Name Thompson Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1913

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

One of the most imposing and elaborately detailed buildings in the district is the Thompson Building, designed by George Mann and constructed in 1913. Richly ornamented, the white glazed terra cotta facade is five stories in height. Classical Revival in inspiration, this building is the best representation of this style on Central Avenue. The first floor is devoted to storefronts, with a center entrance to the building lobby flanked by cast iron light fixtures. Fluted Corinthian columns rise from the top of the first floor to support the massive cornice between the fourth and fifth floors. The elaborate cornice is richly detailed with modillions, dentils, a rinceau frieze and egg and dart moulding. Five pair of casement windows, some of which have been replaced, are located between each rounded pilaster on the upper floors. Beneath each pair of windows are metal panels with bas-relief ornament. Windows located between the flat pilasters of the slightly projecting corner sections are spaced a bit further apart. The fifth floor, sitting atop the massive cornice, has the same fenestration as the lower floors but decorative terra cotta panels take the balustrade rests on a second, less elaborate cornice.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Thompson Building is one of the most outstanding architectural buildings in the Central Avenue area. It reflects the importance of its architect, George Mann, in Hot Springs. It also was one of the most important office building in Hot Springs built in the early 1900's. The original Thompson Building was a two-story brick building with Jackson's Pharmacy on the first floor. It burned shortly after 1910.

The second Thompson Building was constructed in 1913 to be an office building, primarily used by local doctors. It now contains a variety of shops on the ground floor and apartments are rented on the top floors.

The architect for the 1913 building was George Mann. Mann did work in Missouri, Ohio, and Illinois at the turn of the century, and also worked quite extensively in the State of Arkansas. He designed the Arkansas State Capitol in Little Rock in 1899 and the Pulaski County Courthouse in 1912. Mann and his partner, Eugene Stern, were responsible for the construction of the new bathhouses on Bathhouse Row in Hot Springs during the early 1920's, as well as the third Arlington Hotel (HS-63) built in 1925.
HS-29  Thompson Bldg.  340-346 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE, HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984  Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-30
Property Name Chicago Flats
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1905

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Known as Chicago Flats when first constructed, this two story buff brick building has an arcaded second floor with six one-over-one double-hung windows. Banded brick pilasters with projecting brick header "dentils" and simple stone capitals separate each of the windows and support the corresponding brick arches. Four courses of corbeled brick extend from the stone band at the base of each pilaster. The cornice of corbeled brick, a row of brick dentils and a band of stone is located above six rectangular recesses. The stair door at the right of the aluminum and glass storefront is flanked by two cast iron pilasters with foliated relief.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 348 Central reflects the importance of buildings containing affordable furnished rooms that were constructed in Hot Springs in the early 1900's. It later became important as one of the many medical offices and small sanitariums that filled Hot Springs before 1920. It was originally built as furnished apartments circa 1905 and called the Chicago Flats. In 1909 it became the Chicago Stag Apartments and catered only to men. By 1913 it was the Central Sanitarium run by Dr. Winegar. During the 1920's it housed more convential commercial establishment such as the J. E. Turner drug store and Zomb Oriental Goods Store. In later years, the upper section was called the Welford Hotel. By the 1970's, it contained the City Hotel and Esskay Art Galleries. It is presently Golden's Jewelers.
HS-30  Chicago Flats  348 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-31

Property Name  Savoy Hotel

Location  Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s  c. 1910

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner  Hill Wheatley

Address  135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The facade of the three story Savoy Hotel is an eclectic combination of materials, with a dressed stone first floor, buff brick upper stories and a red tile capped parapet. The five double-hung windows on each of the two upper floors have been covered with wood panels. The cornice is an unusual combination of two courses of arched brick beneath a stone band. The stone facing of the first floor terminates with a stone band with heavy modillions just below the second floor window sill. The storefront of aluminum and glass is topped by the original transom. The building's most outstanding feature is the stair entrance at the right, which has a carved coquillage door head and a paneled wood door.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Savoy Hotel is an example of the smaller hotels that were built in Hot Springs in the early 1900's to attract the less affluent tourists that may not be able to afford the larger resort hotels. It later became one of the important early auction houses in Hot Springs. It was built circa 1910 and contained shops or restaurants on the first floor, with the hotel operating on the top floor. It later contained Hammond's Oyster House and Bailey's Auction House. It now contains Buckley's Auction House.
HS-31  Savoy Hotel  350 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-32

Property Name

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s

Park.

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner City of Hot Springs

Address c/o Hon. Jim Randall

P. O. Box 700

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number   HS-33

Property Name  Hale Block

Location       Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s  c. 1910

ARMSKANS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner   Hill Wheatley

Address  135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Though constructed c. 1910, this two story block of four storefronts was radically remodeled in 1956. Original storefronts have been altered at various times over the years, with all now consisting of modern glass and metal. Wood planking covers the original transoms and only one cast iron pilaster remains visible. Other alterations include the application of a buff brick veneer and the replacement of second floor windows.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1910, the Hale Block Building has contained a unique blend of commercial businesses and shops covering 360-366 Central. They were predominantly drug stores, offices for doctors, restaurants, or drug stores. The building had a major remodeling in 1956 when it was owned by Hill Wheatley.
HS-33 Hale Block 360-366 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosmek, photographers
March, 19 Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number __ HS-34 ________________

Property Name __E. O. Spear__________

Location __Hot Springs, AR________

Significant Date/s __c. 1905________

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner __Selim E. G. Natter________

Address __C/o ABT Trust Division___

_____________________________

ABT Center

_____________________________

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Sited on a corner lot, the Spear Building has a deceptively intact pressed metal front. Though the four pair of second floor double-hung windows and transom have been covered, few other alterations have occurred on the second floor. Pilasters separate window openings with paneled metal between pairs. The metal cladding above the windows was pressed to resemble stone. A comparatively simple cornice is topped by a projection that would have originally borne the building's name. The aluminum, glass and blue structural glass storefront replaced the original which had two storefronts with recessed entrances and a central stair.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

E. O. Spear built this building circa 1905 to take advantage of the important commercial spot available at the corner of Mountain Street and Central Avenue directly across from Bathhouse Row. The businesses that inhabited the building were successful through the years because of Spear's good sense in acquiring this choice location. From the early 1900's to the 1920's it was Mobb's St. Louis Drug Store. During the 1920's it was owned by Selim Mattar, a successful Turkish immigrant, who ran an Oriental goods store and an auction house for many years. It continues to be owned by the Mattar Estate, and is now Lord's Art Galleries.
HS-34  Spear Bldg.  368 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones  J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 4  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-35

Property Name  Blake Jewelry Store

Location  Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s  c. 1930

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner  Diamond K Realty Co.

Address (Lauray's Jeweler's)  402 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Completely covered over with cast stone panels, all original features of this store are disguised. Most likely originally constructed of brick, this building has a long and narrow plan with a single storefront.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Blake Jewelry Store was at 402 Central in the late 1920's. It was badly damaged during the 1928 Lyric Theater fire and the building was rebuilt circa 1930. It is now Lauray's Jewelry Store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-36

Property Name Holly Apartments

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1930

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Bernice F. Mendel

Address 640 Quapaw

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This two story yellow brick apartment building was constructed on the site of the U.S. Hotel following its destruction by fire. Salvaged from the hotel and incorporated in the storefront of the new building were cast iron pilasters. Two pairs of double-hung windows pierce the second floor. The storefront, which has been altered, retains the original transom and has three pilasters covered with blue and white structural glass. A stair entrance is located at the right.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is unique because it has details that survived the 1928 fire of the 400 Block. The Holly Apartments building at 404 Central has details of the original building which stood on this site in the 1890's. The first of 1928 destroyed most of the building, which then had to be rebuilt circa 1930 with only a few of the original elements remaining. It served as apartments until very recently. It is presently a gift shop.
HS-37 National Luggage Shop 408 Central
CONTRIBUTING
HS-36 Holly Apartments 404-406 Cen+ 1
CONTRIBUTING
HS-35 Blake Jewelry Store 407 Cen

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones and J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHP
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-37
Property Name  National Luggage Shop
Location  Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  c. 1930

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner  Claude Stonecipher
Address  362 Central Avenue
         Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This one story building has a yellow brick facade with a parapet capped with red tiles. Two story structures with facades of the same material are located on either side. Aluminum and glass storefronts replace the original.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of the group of late 1920's, early 1930's buildings that replaced the buildings on the 400 block of Central that were lost in the 1928 fire. This was the site of the Fellheimer Furniture Store and the U.S. Hotel which were built circa 1890. They burned in 1928 during the Lyric Theater fire. Most of the buildings from 402-418 Central were built shortly after the fire in the late 1920's or early 1930's. This building was later a jewelry store, a gift shop, and more recently, a hungarian restaurant.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-38

Property Name W. C. Woodcock Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1929

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Claude Stonecipher

Address 362 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Built on the site of the U.S. Hotel, this two story yellow brick building was constructed in 1929. The single storefront is faced with black tile beneath the glass display windows and has a covered transom. A door at the left leads to the second floor. Two pair of double-hung windows flank a single window of the same type on the second floor. An incised stone panel bears the name of the building and its date of construction.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is the center of the buildings on the 400 Block that were constructed after the disastrous Lyric Theater fire in 1928. W. C. Woodcock was the owner of the U.S. Hotel at the time of the fire, and he remained the owner of most of the buildings on the 400 Block that replaced the burned structures. The building bearing his name was built in 1929 and was used as a souvenir shop in 1930. By 1938 it was a jewelry store, and by the late 1940's it was a beauty shop and a massage parlor. In more recent years it has served mainly as a variety of gift shops.
HS-38 W.C. Woodcock Bldg. 410 Central
CONTRIBUTING
HS-37 National Luggage Shop 408 Central
CONTRIBUTING

RIDE THE "White" DUCKS
DEPARTURE TIME 9:00 - 11:00 2:00 - 4:00 - 6:00

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-39
Property Name Palace Apartments
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c.1930

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Owner Hill Wheatley
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed after the U.S. Hotel fire, the Palace Apartments building is the
only structure in the district with a white glazed brick facade and a curved
parapet. Paired double-hung windows penetrate the upper floor and three
storefronts occupy the first floor. An off-center stair door is located between
the two storefronts on the right. The farthest storefront on the right is high-
lighted by black and white tile and still possesses a canvas awning.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was one of the largest structures built on the 400 Block after the
1928 Lyric Theater fire. This was the actual site of much of the 1888 U.S.
Hotel building. In the early twenties, the U.S. Hotel was known as the Palace
Hotel. After the 1928 fire, W. C. Woodcock constructed this two-story building
to be used for furnished apartments. In 1930, it was known as the Palace
Apartments. It remains the Palace Apartments to the present day. At one time
the Moody Bible Institute operated out of part of the ground floor. The pro-
property remained in the Woodcock family until it was recently purchased by Hill
Wheatley.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-40

Property Name and Rock Co.

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1965

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Lester Houston

Address P. O. Box 204

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Built c. 1965, this one story building has a single glass and metal storefront with wood sheathing above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in the mid-1960's, this building has been a souvenir shop and a health food store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number    HS-41
Property Name    Kempner's
Location         Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s  c.1905

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner    Hill Wheatley
Address  135 Central Avenue
                      Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Three stories in height, this early twentieth century buff brick commercial structure has two upper floors of double-hung windows with continuous stone heads. Ornament is concentrated above the third floor and includes two terra cotta panels, decorative brickwork between two bands and a cornice. The altered storefront is faced with sandstone.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building at 420-422 Central and the adjoining building at 424 are the only buildings on the 400 Block that survived the 1928 fire and the subsequent reconstruction and remodeling. The Kempner Building at 420-422 was built circa 1905 and contained the Kempner's Shoe Store and Kempner's Clothing Store. In 1906, the upper floors were the Kempner Apartments. By 1923, the top floors were called the Kempner Hotel. The first floor continued as a clothing or dry goods store until recent years. A shop known as French Creations was the last occupant. It is now vacant, but the interior is being renovated by Hill Wheatley.
Parking Lot.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-44
Property Name Frankie's Restaurant
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1965

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner E. M. Thrash, Inc.
Address 628 Broadway
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

A five bay one story tan brick building with glass and metal infill between all but one bay, this restaurant was built c. 1965. The four bays with fenestra-
tions have projecting canopies.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in the mid-1960's as Frankie's Restaurant, it continues to be a restaurant. It is now Cap's Restaurant.
The majority of this two story facade is clad with pressed metal. The second floor has a central cantilevered bay window with double-hung windows flanked by pilasters. Above the windows are panels of pressed metal and a bracketed cornice with spherical finials and a small ornamented pediment at the top center. At the south end of the storefront, which has been modernized with aluminum and glass, is a replacement door to the second floor stair.

The Gaines Building shares a unique and important relationship with its neighbors at 516 Central (HS-46) and 518-520 Central (HS-47). All three buildings were built in the late 1800's, and in 1895 they reached a party wall agreement. The three buildings remain an important architectural grouping among the Central Avenue commercial buildings. The Gaines Building at 514 Central was built in 1890 by the Gaines Estate with B. H. Goode, trustee. The building has been used primarily as a restaurant. In 1891, it was the Cafe d'Orleans and Billard Hall with W. H. Blahut, manager. In 1906, the upper floor contained Eagles Hall. It was later purchased by the Rix estate and has housed a variety of stores and shops. The impressive pressed tin front of the second floor remains, as does the bracketed cornice and the ornamental pediment. As with the other two adjoining buildings, the architectural richness of the upper front facades present a taste of what the Central Avenue business district looked like in the late 1890's.
HS-45  Gaines Bldg.  514 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Yosmik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-46

Property Name Stitt Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1895

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner E. M. Thrash, Inc.

Address 628 Broadway

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

One of only two buildings with a stone facade, the front of the Stitt Building is faced with tooled limestone. A bay windowed projection with pressed metal cladding and an ogee-shaped roof highlights the upper floor. Also a pressed metal, the dentilled cornice conforms to the shape of the bay. The first floor of the facade has a small part of its original detail extant, principally two cast-iron pilasters at either corner and a smaller one defining the south end of the doorway jamb to the stair to the second floor.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is the youngest of the three adjoining buildings on the north corner of the 500 Block of Central Avenue. Built in 1895 by Samuel Stitt, it was in the center between two older structures. Stitt arranged for a party wall agreement with both the owners of 518-520 Central (HS-47) and 514 Central (HS-45). The architecture is similar to its neighbors except tooled limestone was used instead of metal. All the original facade of the top floor remains, as does some original details of the first floor store front. Stitt was one of the most famous developers in Hot Springs in the late nineteenth century with involvement in the Arlington Hotel (HS-63), the Iron Bathhouse, and Mountain Valley Water (HS-11). An immigrant from England, Stitt arrived in Hot Springs in 1870 and immediately began investing in several enterprises in the development of the resort town. Together, these buildings on the corner of the 500 Block reflect the architectural as well as commercial development of Hot Springs through the influence of men such as Samuel Stitt. The building housed the Clyde Hotel in the 1940's and the Moses Mendel dry goods store. One of the original tenants was the Western Union Telegraph Office.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-47

Property Name Rix-Adamson Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1886

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner E. M. Thrash, Inc.

Address 628 Broadway

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The first floor of the Rix-Adamson Building has two storefronts separated by a stair to the second floor. The principle material of this second story facade is brick, which has decorative brick label moulds over the window groupings, across the building at the base of the cornice, and at the top of the windows. The double-hung windows are grouped; three, two, three, with shallow brick arches over each grouping, and an incised design in the wooden header of each group. The whole facade is capped with a bracketed pressed metal cornice, with urn-shaped metal finials and a small pediment with small stained glass windows in the center.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rix-Adamson Building is the largest and the oldest of the three buildings on the north end of the 500 Block of Central. It was constructed in 1895. All three buildings share an architectural richness and an historical background that reflects the architectural and commercial development of Central Avenue in the late nineteenth century. The Rix-Adamson Building was constructed in 1886 by Ida Adamson and Charles Rix to be used as speculative commercial property. Rix was an early Hot Springs developer and businessman with ties to the Imperial Bathhouse and served as the first cashier and later president of the First National Bank (HS-45). The building has housed a variety of shops and stores including the Eddy Hotel and offices for Dr. E.F. Winegar.
HS-47   Rix-Adamson Bldg. 518-520 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984       Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number    HS-48
Property Name    Walgreen's
Location         Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s   c. 1920

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner    Ulman, Meyer, Cohen, Schorf & Klein
Address    210 East 15th, Apt. 7-D

New York, NY 10003

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Two stories in height, this flat-roofed symmetrical building has a stucco facade with a large glass and metal storefront. The six long and narrow fenestrations on the second floor are glazed with glass blocks.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This was the second site of Walgreen's drug store after it moved from 304 Central (HS-23). Walgreen's constructed this building circa 1920 and has remained there to the present day. The original facade has been completely covered for several years.
HS-48  Walgreen's Bldg  524 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March 1984  Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the East
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-49
Property Name First National Bank
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s 1977

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner First National Bank
Address (Walnut Associates)
Central and Court
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed in 1977, this bank building occupies a deep corner lot and land to the rear of the Walgreen Building. Designed by Edward Durrell Stone, its exterior is sheathed with cast stone panels.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is the original site of the Arkansas National Bank built in 1883 with Charles N. Rix as cashier and John B. Roe as President. The building was destroyed in 1977 when the present building was constructed. The 1977 building was designed by the renowned architect, Edward Durrell Stone.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Survey Number  HS-50

Property Name  Security National Bank

Location  Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1923

Owner  First National Bank

Address (Walnut Associates)  Central and Court

Hot Springs, AR  71901

Architectural Description

Possessing one of this district’s two dressed stone facades, the Security National Bank occupies a corner lot, and had therefore, an exposed side elevation also faced with stone. Both the front and side facades have evenly spaced flat pilasters and a full entablature with a dentillated cornice, above which extends a stone parapet wall, the center of which has projecting carved stone ornament. The front entrance was removed when the existing glass and aluminum storefront was added. Three of the four recessed panels on the side elevation have windows at the top that would have originally illuminated the banking lobby inside.

Statement of Significance

This building at 606 Central represents one of the six active banks in Hot Springs during the 1920's. Built in 1923 to house the Security National Bank, the bank existed until it merged soon after with the First National Bank. Following the merger, the building remained the property of the First National Bank and housed a variety of shops and stores.
HS-50  Security National Bank 530 Central
NOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
J. Vosmik, photographer
May, 1984    Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-51

Property Name Sumpter-Little Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1904

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Like the Dugan-Stuart Building constructed in the same year, the Sumpter-Little Building was intended to accommodate medical offices. Designed by Charles L. Thompson, the four story brick facade is composed of four flat pilasters, one at each corner and two above the entrance, between which alternate pilasters of banded brick and one-over-one double-hung windows. One of the first buildings in the district with terra cotta ornament, its use is less extensive than that of the Dugan-Stuart Building, as it is restricted to the four pilaster capitals. The facade possesses a distinctive textural quality achieved by the juxtaposition of banded and smooth brick surfaces. Though the wood and glass of the storefronts have been replaced, their configuration, the lobby entrance and the Ionic pilasters and columns still remain.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1904, this was one of the first buildings in Hot Springs built to specifically be an office building. Shortly after, it became used as an important downtown hotel under various owners. Its original owners were John Sumpter, a banker and insurance man who established the Arkansas State Bank in 1874; and William J. Little, the superintendent of the National Park Reservation in the 1890's who attempted to make Central Avenue more attractive by fixing up not only Bathhouse Row, but also the commercial area on the west side as well. He owned several businesses on Central Avenue and was involved in placing attractive hot water fountains along the sidewalks on both sides of Central Avenue. The Sumpter-Little Building was designed by Charles Thompson, a prolific and influential architect in Arkansas from the turn of the century to the 1930's. Much of Thompson's work was included in a thematic nomination to the National Register in 1982 including the 1927 Wade Clinic (HS-62) which is part of the Central Avenue district, and also the Park Hotel (210 Fountain) and Riviera Hotel (719 Central) both built in Hot Springs in 1930. The Sumpter-Little Building housed the Hotel Almis in 1910, and the Central Hotel in 1915. The ground floor has been occupied by a variety of stores and shops. The top floors remain a hotel called the Alvin Hotel. The building remains an architectural reminder of Thompson's work and the emergence of the early office buildings in Hot Springs, and also as a reminder of the work of two of Hot Springs' early developers and businessmen.
HS-51  Sumpter-Little Bldg.  610-614 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HS-50  Security National Bank  606 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-52
Property Name Paramount Theater
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1940

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION
This Art Deco-inspired two-and-a-half story structure has a symmetrical stucco facade with an open and recessed two story entrance at its center. Two narrow fluted metal panels on either side of the entrance extend from the marquee to the parapet.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
Sidney Nutt constructed a theater at this site in 1911. It has remained a theater of some sort to this day. The present building was advertised as the new Paramount Theater around 1940 when the present structure was put in place. It has remained the Paramount ever since.
HS-52  Paramount Theater  616-618 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984   Negatives at AHPP
NON-CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE  
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number  HS-53

Property Name  Kress Building

Location  Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s  c. 1915

Owner  Helena Goff

Address  2300 Beechwood  
Little Rock, AR  72207

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Two stories in height, this c. 1915 structure has been altered at an undetermined date. The single storefront has been modernized, the second floor windows replaced and red and cream structural glass has been applied over the buff brick from the top of the storefront to the sill of the windows above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building was constructed circa 1915 as the Kress Five, Ten, and Twenty-five cent Store. It later became exclusively a men's clothing store. The front was completely covered during recent modernizations. It remains the home of the Kress store.
HS-53  Kress Bldg.   620 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
Julie Vosnik, photographer
May, 1984   Negative at AHPP
Viewed from Northeast
NON-CONTRIBUTING
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Corrugated metal and metal mesh disguise the distinguishing features of this early twentieth century structure. Constructed on a corner lot, the plan is long and narrow. A single glass and metal storefront faces the street. The side elevation still retains the arched fenestrations and decorative brickwork at the cornice. Similar detailing still exists beneath the metal covering on the front facade.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1915 as Schneck's Drug Store, the upstairs also included three doctors' offices and a masseur. The front of the building was completely covered during a modernization; however, much of the south side of the building is untouched. It has also included such businesses as National Insurance and Mode O'Day clothing store.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-55

Property Name McLaughlin Building

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s c. 1895

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Hill Wheatley

Address 135 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Constructed at approximately the same time as its neighbor, this building occupies a corner lot at the south end of the district. The extraordinarily exuberant pressed metal facade that continues for several feet on the side elevation makes this building one of the district's finest examples of its type. The single storefront, though modernized, retains its configuration corner cast iron columns and a canvas awning. The upper story of the facade is clad in metal, with three double-hung windows separated by colonettes resting on bases adorned with squares of floral relief. The massive cornice is elaborately detailed with a variety of bands and brackets and a center projection bears the name of the builder. Double-hung windows with brick label mouldings are regularly spaced on the side elevation.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The McLaughlin Building at 700 Central stands as one of the most outstanding architectural commercial buildings in the Central Avenue area. Built by J. H. McLaughlin circa 1895, it also represents one of the most active and colorful saloons operating in the early 1900's. In 1906 the saloon was run by A. T. Palmer and in 1914, Mark Boizalara was the owner. In 1912, the upper floor housed the Hot Springs Business Men's Social Club. Over the years, the colorful and slightly shady background of the building has disappeared and been replaced by more conventional businesses including Sidney's Shoe Store during the late 1960's and 1970's. It is presently used as the Hot Springs Heritage Gifts and Museum.
HS-55 McLaughlin Bldg.  700 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984    Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Northeast
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number  HS-56
Property Name  702 Central
Location       Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1895

Owner  Hill Wheatley
Address  135 Central Avenue
         Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The facade of this two story brick structure is distinguished by a five-sided second floor bay projection, clad in pressed metal with elaborate banding and garland swag detailing. The bottom of the projection is belcast and the top is capped with a tent roof and finial. A pressed metal cornice conforms to the bay, which is flanked by arched window openings, each with two one-over-one double-hung windows with elliptical transoms. Though the storefronts have been altered, the central stair entrance is still intact.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built circa 1895, the building at 702 Central shares the architectural richness of late nineteenth century commercial structure with its neighbor at 700 Central (HS-54). 702 Central, however, did not share in the colorful activities of the McLaughlin Building (HS-54). In 1896, the building at 702 Central housed a restaurant and a photo parlor on the second floor. It remained a restaurant on the ground floor until the 1940's. Until 1923 it was the Merchants Cafe, and in 1946 it was the Blue Grille Cafe. It has recently housed several specialty shops, and is currently Central Wigs. As with its neighbor, 702 Central remains a fine example of late nineteenth century architecture because of its upper story facade.
702 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984 Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the East
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Survey Number HS-57
Property Name 111-121 Central
Location Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s c. 1900

Owner Hill Wheatley
Address 135 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Representative of the materials popular at the turn-of-the-century, this two story commercial building is constructed of dark red and brown brick with terra cotta detailing and two copper cornices. The unusually long facade is divided by pilasters into sections, each with a stair entrance and two storefronts. Five double-hung twelve-over-one windows are paired in the center section, whereas the fenestration of the flanking sections consists of five single windows of the same type. The pilasters have terra cotta capitals and terminate at the height of the window heads. Paired brackets above each capital support the copper cornice, above which is a low parapet with terra cotta coping. The three stair entrances have remained unaltered. A copper cornice is positioned above the storefront transoms, the majority of which are covered.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building on the east side of Central Avenue contains some of the last first-floor storefronts on Central Avenue that have not experienced major remodeling or modernization. The building was constructed circa 1900 and has been the site of several different stores, restaurants, and shops. The most notable tenant was the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce who had offices at 113 and 115 in the mid-1940's. Presently, 113 and 115 are vacant, 111 is the Colonial Pancake House, 117 is a salon, 119 is an antiques store, and 121 is a coin shop. The upper floor over 121 has long been used as furnished apartments. The building's storefronts remain the best examples of the simpler commercial store fronts used in Hot Springs around the early 1900's.
HS-57  111-121 Central
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984  Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest
CONTRIBUTING
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number   HS-58
Property Name   Downtowner
Location        Hot Springs, AR
Significant Date/s   1963

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
Owner    Hill Wheatley
Address     135 Central Avenue
            Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

This ten story hotel was constructed of dark red brick with cast concrete projecting balconies which have regularly spaced wood panels between each floor. A cast concrete one story projection has glass and metal storefronts.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1963 by Hill Wheatley, the Downtowner was built on the site of the Virginia Apartments and Boarding House. Along with the Aristocrat (HS-20) it is one of the modern motels constructed in Hot Springs for the active tourist trade.
HS-57 111-121 Central
CONTRIBUTING

HS-58 Downtowner Motor Inn 135
NON-CONTRIBUTING

HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
A. Jones & J. Vosmik, photographers
March, 1984
Negatives at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number HS-59

Property Name Howe Hotel

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1926

Owner Jeng Shyong Chen

Address 201 Central Avenue

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Built in the same year as the second Majestic Hotel, the Howe Hotel is also of red brick construction. Designed by Sanders and Ginochio, it has eight floors, the uppermost of which is a penthouse. Symmetrical fenestration consists of six three-over-one double-hung windows on the third through the seventh floors. The first floor is devoted to aluminum and glass storefronts and entrance that replaced the original materials as part of a remodeling, the date of which is not known. A projecting canopy functions as a terrace for the second floor. Third floor windows are topped by recessed brick arches with terra cotta corner blocks, within which are centered round blue and white glazed terra cotta panels with urns in relief. Terra cotta quoins highlight the two front corners of the facade and join a band of the same material above the seventh floor windows. Terra cotta squares and cartouches are combined with decorative brickwork between the terra cotta band and cornice.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Howe Hotel was one of the most important hotels built on Central Avenue during the 1920's. Built by William Howe in 1926, the Howe Hotel was designed by the same architects that worked on the 1926 Majestic Hotel (HS-3). Theo Sanders and Frank Ginochio worked in Hot Springs throughout the early 1900's to the 1930's. Both men designed the Leo N. Levi Hospital on Whittington Avenue in 1914. Sanders worked alone on the Como Hotel at Central and Ouachita in 1915. Both men worked together in the early twenties on Bledin Hotel which was at 225 Central and is now the location of the Arlington parking lot. Sanders and Ginochio then joined with Charles Thompson on the Wade Clinic (HS-62) in 1927, and the Park Hotel and Riviera Hotel which were both built in 1930. The Howe Hotel was purchased in 1946 by Mr. and Mrs. John Asimos and renamed the DeSoto Hotel. It is currently owned by Jeng Shyong Cheng, and continues to be called the DeSoto Hotel.
HS-59    Howe Hotel    201 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
J. Vosmik, photographer
May, 1984    Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest
CONTRIBUTING
HS-59   Howe Hotel   201 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
J. Vosnik, photographer
May, 1984    Negative at AHFP
Viewed from the Southwest
CONTRIBUTING
ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Partially destroyed by fire, this building, originally designed as a car dealership, is now a parking garage. The showroom space occupying the right half of the building has a glass and metal storefront. The first floor to the left of the storefront is penetrated by an open entry flanked by automobile entrances. The second floor has continuous fenestration consisting of four-over-four metal double-hung awning windows. Other distinguishing features include fluted corner pilasters that are stepped at the top and glass block insets flanking the pedestrian entrance to the garage.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Built in the late 1920's as a Cadillac dealership, the Sheer family owned the building until it was severely damaged in a fire. The fire gutted the building and damaged all the windows as well as some of the front details of the building. After the fire, the Arlington Hotel bought the building and rebuilt the damaged elements. It is now used as the Arlington Garage and Parking Deck and contains a small restaurant.
HS-60 Scheer Cadillac Building 209 Central
NON-CONTRIBUTING
Hot Springs Central Avenue Historic District
A. Jones & J. Vosnik, photographers
March, 1984 Negatives at AHPF
Viewed from the Northwest
Survey Number: HS-61

Property Name: 

Location: Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s: 

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Parking Lot.
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number  HS-62

Property Name  Wade Clinic

Location  Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s  1926

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner  Arlington Hotel, Inc.

Address  Central & Fountain

Hot Springs, AR  71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Listed in the National Register 12-22-82.
HS-62 Wade Clinic 231 Central
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVE. HISTORIC DISTRICT
J. Vosnik, photographer
May, 1984 Negative at AHPP
Viewed from the Southwest
LISTED INDIVIDUALLY IN NR
HOT SPRINGS CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT

Survey Number HS-63

Property Name Arlington Hotel

Location Hot Springs, AR

Significant Date/s 1925

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Owner Arlington Hotel, Inc.

Address Central & Fountain

Hot Springs, AR 71901

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The largest and most imposing structure on Central Avenue, this hotel, the third to bear the name of Arlington, occupies a strategic site at the intersection of Fountain and Central, facing Bathhouse Row and the site of the first two hotels. Designed by Mann and Stern, who also designed the Fordyce Bathhouse, this structure replaced the second Arlington that had been lost to fire. Clearly inspired by its Spanish Renaissance predecessor, the symmetrical structure boldly addresses the intersection of Central Avenue. Constructed of buff brick, the central portion of the building is eleven stories tall with two splayed seven-story wings. Domed towers with balconies rise from the point of intersection of the wings and the central mass. The projecting two-story loggia is stuccoed and trimmed with inset colored tile and a red tile parapet coping. One-story arcaded loggias extend in front of each wing. The entrance has an elaborate curvilinear stone parapet with upright consoles and yellow planters. Each uppermost level of the hotel is stuccoed with colorful ornament highlighting the stucco surface of the wings. The first floor arcade of each wing is embellished with a carved stone panel and colored tile surrounding a sculpture encircled by a niche.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Arlington Hotel is one of the most famous and successful hotel enterprises in the history of Hot Springs. Its architecture is vital to the image of Central Avenue due to its pivotal location at the center of the downtown area and its close ties to Bathouse Row. Many of the early influential and important early developers of Hot Springs have been involved in the history of the hotel.

The present Arlington Hotel is the third hotel to bear the name. The first Arlington was built across the corner at the north end of the land containing Bathhouse Row in 1875. Samuel Stitt was the main founder of the hotel. Along with such men as Samuel Fordyce and William Gaines, Stitt developed many of the late nineteenth century bathhouses on Bathhouse Row as well as such enterprises as the Mountain Valley Water Company (HS-11). The three men also built the impressive Eastman Hotel across town in 1890. Fordyce also financed the building of the Opera House and the first Army-Navy Hospital in Hot Springs, which were both built in 1892.

In 1893, the original four-story frame Arlington Hotel was razed and a larger brick structure designed by Alexander Hail Stewart, Craig McClure, and Louis Christian Mullgardt of St. Louis. Mullgardt had worked with Henry Ives Cobb in Chicago on the Newberry Library, the Chicago Athletic Club, and the 1893 Fisheries Building for the Chicago Fair. The St. Louis firm dissolved in 1894,
and Mullgardt traveled to California where he designed the "Court of the Ages" at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915. This magnificent structure burned in 1923, but its influence on the architectural growth of Hot Springs and Central Avenue remained for many years.

The third and present Arlington Hotel was moved across the intersection of Fountain and Central to its present location. The site of the first two Arlingtons is now a small park. The third Arlington Hotel was built in 1925. The impressive eleven story structure was designed by George Mann and Eugene Stern. George Mann drew the plans to the Arkansas State Capitol in 1899 and in Hot Springs, designed the Thompson Building (HS-29) in 1913. Together with Eugene Stern, Mann built the Fordyce Bathhouse in 1914, and the Quapaw, Ozark, and U.S. Bathhouses between 1910 and the early 1920's, all of which were part of Hot Springs' Bathhouse Row.

The 1925 Arlington Hotel stands in the center of the Central Avenue commercial district, and continues to contribute to the history, architectural beauty, and commercial success of the resort town of Hot Springs.
Contributing
Viewed from the Southwest
May 1984
Negative at AHP
J. Vosmik, Photographer
Hot Springs Central Ave. Historic District
Fountain & Central
HS-63
Arthurian Hotel
May 5, 1988

Ms. Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
United States Department of Interior
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
1100 "L" Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Central Avenue Historic District
Hot Springs, Garland County

Dear Carol:

Please accept the enclosed additional information for the Central Avenue Historic District. These properties lie within the boundaries of the district as it was nominated, but are not mentioned in the original nomination.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cathy Buford
State Historic Preservation Officer

CB/TJ/ww

Enclosures
CENTRAL AVENUE HISTORIC DISTRICT

209 Exchange Street (contributing)

c. 1884; originally constructed for storefront space on street level and rental apartments on upper two stories; was purchased along with 211 Exchange by the Eddy Hotel (now demolished) and used as "housekeeping rooms" for guests; known as the "Eddy Annex".

Three-story, two-bay building with street level alterations c. 1920; upper stories distinguished by a prominent pair of two-story bay windows; facade is capped with corbelled cornice and barrel-tile coping.

211 Exchange Street (contributing)

c. 1907; also originally storefront with rental apartments above. Soon after construction became part of the "Eddy Annex", along with 209 Exchange (above).

Two-story, two-bay brick building with parapeted roofline and heavily corbelled cornice. Street level features entrance and single window with a window above each marking the second story. All openings have wide concrete lintels; original windows recently replaced with contemporary fixed glass.
SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 85001370  Date Listed: 6/25/85
Hot Springs Central Avenue Historic District  Garland  AR
Property Name

County  State

N/A

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action 6/30/88

Amended Items in Nomination:

The date of construction for 209 Exchange Street should read c. 1894 instead of 1984.

This information was accepted as part of additional information on June 30, 1988.

Discussed and concurred in by Arkansas SHPO on June 30, 1988.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)
HOT SPRINGS
CENTRAL AVENUE
HISTORIC DISTRICT
211 Exchange Street
Central Avenue Historic District
209 Exchange Street
Central Avenue Historic District