

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Dickerson, N. E., Store

Other Name/Site Number: JO 0092

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2. Location

Street & Number: E. of State Hwy. 215

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Oark

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Johnson Code: AR 071 Zip Code: 72852

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3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification
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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Slater

Signature of certifying official

August 17, 1995

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- _____ entered in the National Register _____
_____ See continuation sheet.
- _____ determined eligible for the _____
National Register _____
_____ See continuation sheet.
- _____ determined not eligible for the _____
National Register _____
- _____ removed from the National Register _____
- _____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: Commerce Sub: Department Store

Current : Vacant/Not In Use Sub: _____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Plain Traditional
Other: Box Construction

Materials: foundation Stone roof Metal
walls Wood other Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Constructed circa 1902, the N. E. Dickerson Store is a single-story, rectangular-plan, box-constructed mercantile store that is covered by a corrugated metal gable roof. Located east of State Highway 215 in Oark, the building is currently vacant and used for storage.

Elaboration

Constructed circa 1902, the N. E. Dickerson Store is a single-story, rectangular-plan, box-constructed mercantile building that is located east of State Highway 215 in the heart of the small community of Oark in Johnson County. The board-and-batten exterior walls rest upon a simple stone foundation, which is largely unseen, and are covered by a corrugated-metal gable roof that is punctuated by an interior brick chimney.

The front, or northern, elevation consists of a shed-roof porch that extends the width of the facade and is supported by four simple wood posts. The porch floor is poured concrete, and the connecting sidewalk that extends to the west bears the inscription, "Joe Elmer, age 10 on 1933." Entry is gained through a central single-leaf door, which is flanked by two four-over-four, double-hung windows. The gable end is clad with roll asphalt siding, which was used to cover the entire exterior before its recent removal.

Both side elevations contain a single opening north of center that probably originally occupied by a four-over-four window. The west elevation now accommodates a single-leaf door, while the east elevation opening has been partially filled and a nine-pane stationary window (undoubtedly a sash from a nine-over-nine window) installed. The rear, or southern, elevation features a large roof overhang and is fenestrated by two four-over-four windows.

The interior is largely unchanged and contains no extraordinary detail. The N. E. Dickerson Store is currently used for storage.

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B. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1902

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

The N. E. Dickerson Store is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example in Oark and the surrounding community of a single-story, box-constructed mercantile building.

Elaboration

The N. E. Dickerson Store came into being as a response to an increased demand for groceries and supplies in the small and isolated agricultural community of Oark in Johnson County. The adjacent Oark General Store (Arkansas Register of Historic Places, 3/3/95), which had served the Oark community since 1889, could no longer meet the demand for goods by the turn of the century. Consequently, F. M. Melson, the owner of the Oark General Store, assisted N. E. Dickerson in constructing the nominated property c. 1902. Apparently, the two stores always had a mutual operating agreement.

Dickerson, who purchased 315 acres in 1902, built his home behind the store. Although Dickerson sold some of the land in 1919, the 1/8 acre containing the store remained in his possession until 1942 when it was purchased by Chester Arbaugh and Elmer Dewberry. Arbaugh later sold his interest in the store to Dewberry and purchased the Oark General Store.

The N. E. Dickerson Store operated well into the modern period and, at some point, was refurbished with red asphalt roll siding over the exterior walls. This siding has since been removed by Delbert and Bessie Abercrombie, who purchased the Oark General Store and the vacant Dickerson Store in 1993.

As it is the best extant example of a historic, box-constructed commercial building in Oark and the surrounding community, the N. E. Dickerson Store is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Deed Abstracts. Curran's Abstract & Title, Inc. Clarksville, Arkansas.

Information submitted by Bessie Abercrombie. October, 1994.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreeage of Property: 1/8 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>448140</u>	<u>3949410</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

A part of the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter and a part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section Twenty, Township Twelve North, Range Twenty-four West described as follows: Beginning in the middle of road 40 feet North and 330 feet East, up said road from the Southwest corner of the NW 1/4 NW 1/4, thence South 65 feet, thence East 66 feet, thence North 65, thence West 66 feet, containing 1/8 of an acre, more or less.

Boundary Justification:

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the store that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: August 11, 1995

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201







