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

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register* of *Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

#### 1. Name of Property

historic name C. E. Thompson General S	Store and Residence	
other names/site number		
2. Location		
street & number 3100 Hollywood (High	way 26)	not for publication
city or town Arkadelphia		🗋 vicinity
state Arkansas code A	AR county <u>Clark</u> code	e 019 zip code 71923
3. State/Federal Agency Certification		5 (M) //
request for determination of eligibility meets the de Places and meets the procedural and professional r does not meet the National Register criteria. I rece nationally statewide locally. (See co Signature of certifying official/Title Arkansas Historic Preservation Progr State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does n comments.)	am	lational Register of Historic ne property I meets I
Signature of certifying official/Title	Date	
State or Federal agency and bureau		
4. National Park Service Certification		
I hereby certify that the property is     entered in the National Register.     See continuation sheet     determined eligible for the     National Register.	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
National Register. See continuation sheet determined not eligible for the National Register. removed from the National Register.		
other, (explain:)		

### C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence

Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas County and State

5. Classification	
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)
private Duilding(s)	Contributing Noncontributing
<ul> <li>public-local</li> <li>district</li> <li>public-State</li> <li>site</li> </ul>	7 2 buildings
public-Federal structure	/ Z oundings
	sites structures
	structures
	00jects
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)	Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture 1910-	-1965 N/A
6. Function or Use	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC – Single Dwelling	DOMESTIC – Single Dwelling
COMMERCE TRADE - Department Store/General Stor	
TRANSPORTATION - Road Related (vehicular)	
7. Description	
Architectural Classification	Materials
(Enter categories from instructions) LATE 19 <sup>th</sup> AND EARLY 20 <sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN	(Enter categories from instructions)
	foundation BRICK walls WOOD Weatherboard
MOVMENTS – Bungalow/Craftsman	waits wood ~ weatherboard
	roof ASBESTOS
	other

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

8. Statement of Significance

#### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.

**C** moved from its original location.

D a cemetery.

**E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

**F** a commemorative property

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

#### SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

Clark County, Arkansas

County and State

Levels of Significance (local, state, national) LOCAL

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE

TRANSPORTATION COMMERCE

**Period of Significance** Ca. 1936-1950

Significant Dates Ca. 1936, Ca. 1939

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Significant Person} \ (\text{Complete if Criterion B is marked}) \\ N/A \end{array}$ 

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked) N/A

Architect/Builder Unknown

C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence	C.	Ε.	Thompson	General	Store	and Residence
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Name of Property

9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)	
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   #	
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property	
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1       15       491060       3774980       3         Zone       Easting       Northing       4	g
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.) South part of the SE ½ / NE 14 in Section 24 Township 75 and Range 20 West.	

Beginning at a point which is 671 feet North of the Southwest corner of said SE ¼ / NE ¼ and said point being on the north right of way of Highway 26 and Highway 51 proceed north 580.8 feet to the south right of way of Highway 8; next proceed east along said right of way of its intersection with said north of right of way of Highway 26 and Highway 51 /594 west along said north right of way to Hwy 26 and Highway 51; finally proceed 759 feet to the point of beginning.

#### **Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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The selected boundary encompasses seven historic resources and two non-historic resources, all of which are associated with C.E. Thompson General Store and Residence and retain their integrity of location, setting, design, feeling, workmanship, association, and materials.

### 11. Form Prepared By

PO or FPO &

name/title Kara Mills			
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	date	December 7, 2000	
street & number 323 Center Street, 1500 Tower Building	telephone	(501) 324-97	87
city or town Little Rock	state <u>AR</u>	zip code	72201
Additional Documentation			
Submit the following items with the completed form:			
Continuation Shorts			

C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence	Clark County, Arkansas County and State			
Name of Property				
Property Owner	1. To 2.			
Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)				
name Bob Thompson				
street & number3100 Hollywood	telephone			
city or town Arkadelphia	state AR zip code71923			

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.





Clark County, Arkansas County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

#### SUMMARY

Located at the junction of Highway 26 West and Highway 8 West in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, in Clark County is the Thompson residence historically known as the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence. Originally constructed for the Thompson family circa 1936 as a weatherboard-clad building with a brick foundation, this building served as a residence and general store. Gas was sold at this location from circa 1936 until the mid 1980s when the store closed. This building is the only extant Craftsman-style residence/general store in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. The garage, well house, wash house/smokehouse, privy, shed, and barn/warehouse are all contributing resources to the nomination while the two trailers/mobile homes are counted as noncontributing resources.

#### ELABORATION

The weatherboard-clad Craftsman-style building sits atop of a continuous brick foundation (historically brick piers) and supports a multi gabled roof that is sheathed in composition shingles and pierced by two brick chimneys. All of the doors and windows on this building date to the 1930s and have wood casings. All of the wood doors display three vertical panes of glass that sit atop of three wood panels. Unless noted otherwise, all of the windows on the building are double-hung windows that display three vertical panes of glass over one single pane. The only structural alteration that has occurred to this building was the historic enclosure of a back porch completed shortly after the construction of the building (probably late 1930s – circa 1939).

#### Front Elevation/Northeast Elevation

Located on the east end of the northeast and southeast elevations is a small wraparound porch. Four battered columns on brick piers and one solid brick pier support the porch. Beginning near the east corner of the façade is a pair of windows followed by a door. The defining feature of the façade is the bay that extends away from the body of the building toward the junction of Highways 26 and 8.

The gable roof canopy supported by two battered columns on piers accentuates this bay. The northeast elevation (façade) of the bay presents a wood door flanked by two double-hung windows with four vertical panes over one single pane. Ornamentation is confined to the louvered vent located in the apex of the gable roof. The east side of the bay displays a small single pane window and the north side of the bay is fenestrated with two single pane windows. The first gas pumps, which were gravity pumps, were located a few feet away from the canopy. Later pumps were located approximately twenty to thirty feet from the car canopy.

#### Side Elevation/Northwest Elevation

The northwest elevation is fenestrated with two sets of three-over-three windows. A side door, sheltered by a small porch, provides access to the interior of the building. Located on the gable end, beneath the cave of the roof, are five evenly spaced knee braces and a louvered vent that is nestled in the peak of the gable.

#### **Rear Elevation/Southwest Elevation**

The rear elevation is fenestrated with one set of double-hung windows followed by three ribbons of windows, each ribbon comprised of three double-hung windows. A portico extends from the center of the rear elevation. Two battered columns on brick piers support the gable roof of the portico. Other Craftsman architectural features include the exposed rafter tails, which are evident on the rear and front elevations.

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#### Side Elevation/Southeast Elevation

One section of the wraparound porch is evident on this elevation. The southwest elevation is fenestrated with one set of doublehung windows followed by three individual double-hung windows. Looking at the roof from this direction it has two gables each trimmed with knee braces and decorated with a louvered vent sited in the apex of the roof.

#### **Additional Resources**

Also located within the selected boundaries are six additional contributing resources, all of which were probably constructed circa 1936 at the time the main house was built and two non-contributing trailers.

#### Garage

Located behind the house is a garage of frame construction that sits atop a continuous concrete foundation and is crowned with a gable roof with exposed raftertails.

#### Well House

There is also a rectangular, frame well house located southwest of the residence/store that sits atop a brick pier foundation and is topped by a gable roof sheathed in metal. There are no windows that light this building only two doors by which to enter the well house.

#### Wash House/Smokehouse

An almost identical building is sited near the rear of the property and it served as a wash house and smokehouse and it too sits atop a brick foundation and supports a gable roof sheathed in metal. Casement windows (2 light and single light configurations) adorn this building. Still evident in the smokehouse section of the building are the ties from which meat was hung from the ceiling.

#### Shop/Warehouse

Also located within the boundaries is a shop/warehouse. This large frame building was used to repair tools and machinery used at the lumber mill located across the street and it was also used to store supplies that were being sold in the grocery store. This building is of frame construction and is crowned by a gable roof with exposed raftertails that is sheathed in metal. A small covered storage area extends off of the southeast elevation.

#### Shed

There is a small rickety shed located near the rear of the property that is void of any architectural details except for the exposed raftertails, located on the façade, beneath the overhang of the flat roof sheathed in metal.

#### **Two-seater** Privy

Located near the rear of the property is a "two-seater" privy constructed out of wide lumber and topped with a shed roof covered with metal. Mill laborers working in the mill across the street used this privy.

#### 2 Trailers/Manufactured Homes

Also located within the boundaries of the property are two noncontributing trailers/manufactured homes that sit on the periphery of the property.

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#### Integrity

Located at the junction of Highways 8 and 26, the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence, constructed circa 1936, is an excellent example of Craftsman architecture as applied to a residence/commercial building. The exterior is pristine, as it resembles its historic appearance displaying the simple yet practical design and workmanship of the builder (unknown) and the original materials. Although development is encroaching upon the building which was once in a rural setting, the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence is still located just inside the city limits and is surrounded on two sides by woods. From circa 1936 until the mid 1980s the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence provided gas and groceries for those people in the Arkadelphia vicinity and it also served as a landmark for those traveling historic Highways 8 and 26 as well as those exiting Interstate 40.

Clark County, Arkansas County and State

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### National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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#### SUMMARY

Constructed circa 1936, the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence is being nominated with local significance under Criterion C because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of Craftsman-style architecture and it is the best example of this style as applied to an automobile related building in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. The C. E. Thompson General Store is also being nominated under Criterion A for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture, which is documented extensively in the multiple property listing. This building is significant for its architecture and for its association with transportation culture and is being submitted under the multiple property listing "Arkansas Highway and Transportation Era Architecture, 1910-1965" in conjunction with the historic context "Arkansas Highway History and Architecture, 1910-1965." The garage, well house, wash house/smokehouse, privy, shed, and barn/warehouse are all contributing resources to the nomination while the two trailers/mobile homes are counted as noncontributing resources.

#### **ELABORATION**

In 1903, approximately 85 years after the settlement of Arkadelphia, the "horseless carriage" came to town when a man from Hot Springs, Arkansas (name unknown), passed through Arkadelphia introducing the townspeople to the automobile. Nearly five years later (1908), Captain Henderson, a well-known railroad man and banker, became the first resident of Arkadelphia to own an automobile. By 1910, nearly two years later, approximately 25 residents in town owned automobiles. The advent of the car changed Arkadelphia as it did every town throughout the United States... existing business began selling gasoline and eventually new buildings were constructed to meet the growing demand for fuel.

In 1912 the owners of the Arkadelphia Hardware Company, which for years had sold buggies, surreys, hacks, wagons, etc., decided to capitalize on the growing market for cars and they accepted a contract to sell Ford cars at their store. This was just the first of many locations in Arkadelphia that would sell cars (the most prominent being Ford and Chevrolet) and eventually car showrooms were built to house and display the various models and makes of automobiles available. As the demand grew for cars so to did the demand for gasoline.

Just as existing businesses, such as Arkadelphia Hardware Company, began selling cars they too began selling gasoline. Some of the first gas stations in Arkadelphia resulted from the installation of pumps at the curbside of existing businesses. Oftentimes, all that a company had to do was install a tank and a pump and drivers would begin to park their cars along the curb and wait for attendants to fill their cars. By World War I (1914-1919) most people could purchase gasoline along most Main Streets, taxpayer strips, and rural crossroads in America. Also, after World War I, assembly lines began producing inexpensive cars - as the availability of cars increased at a rapid rate so too did the demand for gas, which contributed, to the rise in gas stations around the country.

Although many businesses in Arkadelphia sold gas from the curbside, it was 1920 before the first drive-in service station appeared in town. According to local historian Wayne McAffee in his article "The 'Honk-Honk' comes to town: Early Days of the Automobile in Arkadelphia," Mr. Johnson built the first drive-in service station in Arkadelphia. This station had a restroom to accommodate the ladies and a garage for maintenance work. At the station one could have their car repainted and one could purchase Texaco gasoline, Republic tires, and Willard batteries. By the 1930s several gas stations and service stations proliferated the streets of Arkadelphia, Arkansas, and so it was in to this atmosphere that the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence arrived.

### C.E. Thompson General Store & Residence SITE MAP

Arkadelphia, Arkansas Clark County



Clark County, Arkansas County and State

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

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Section number 8 Page 2

#### C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence

Built "in the country" the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence was constructed circa 1936 to replace an earlier general store on the same site. This building was constructed for the Thompson family who were residents of Arkadelphia. In addition to the general store the Thompson's owned and operated a sawmill located east of the building across Highway 8. At the time the C. E. Thompson General Store was built it was in a rural area just inside of Arkadelphia's city limits. At the time it was constructed several outbuildings were also built that include a garage, well house, wash house/smokehouse, warehouse/shop, and a shed. The warehouse/shop was used to repair machinery used at the mill as well as to store supplies used in the general store.

The location of the building at the junction of Highway 8 leading to Amity, Arkansas, and Highway 26 leading to Hollywood, Arkansas, insured that the residents of this rural area had access to groceries and gasoline. The store sold general food supplies such as milk, butter, eggs, bread, sugar, flour, food, etc. Also available from the store was "short" which was finely ground corn that was mixed with water and used to feed hogs. Willie Thompson, the grandmother of the present owner, operated the store for over forty years. Today, located inside the store are some of the original glass display cases and signage.

Bob Thompson, Willie's grandson, believes that the very first business contracted to sell gas was Continental Oil Company (CONOCO). The very first gasoline pumps that used at the store were gravity pumps and the owner still has the green glass disk displaying the Conoco logo that originally sat atop of one of the store's gravity pumps. The owner also has in his possession one of the pumps also used at the store that probably dates to the 1940s. Throughout the years various companies supplied gas to this rural store, those include Conoco, Phillips 66, Cities Services, and Texaco. The Thompson General Store sold gas until the 1980s, when like many stores, it was necessary to have the underground tanks removed due to environmental hazards resulting from the unstable underground tanks. The C. E. Thompson General Store served the public for nearly 50 years providing food, supplies, gas, and a front porch where locals could sit and visit.

The C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence was not the first place to sell gasoline in Arkadelphia, nor is it the best example of Craftsman-style architecture in town. But it is significant because it is the only surviving residence/store from the 1930s in Arkadelphia designed in the Craftsman-style. The building served as a general store from 1936 until the mid 1980s and it still possesses a strong sense of integrity as it remains virtually unaltered since its date of construction. Most importantly this building, sited on the edge of development, serves as a landmark for those traveling east on Highway 8 and Highway 26 and it serves as a reminder that local businesses were once the main service providers in Arkadelphia before the usurpation of land by corporate businesses.

#### Significance

Constructed in circa 1936, the C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence is being nominated with local significance under Criterion C because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of Craftsman-style architecture and it is the best example of this style as applied to an automobile related building in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. The C. E. Thompson General Store is also being nominated under Criterion A for its association with the development of Arkansas highway culture specifically the area of Arkadelphia and surrounding communities. The garage, well house, wash house/smokehouse, privy, shed, and barn/warehouse are all contributing resources to the nomination while the two trailers/mobile homes are counted as noncontributing resources. C. E. Thompson General Store and Residence

Name of Property

Clark County, Arkansas County and State

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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### Bibliography

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