

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 Lee Service Station
other names/site number FA1274

2. Location

street & number 28 South Broadway not for publication
city or town Damascus vicinity
state Arkansas code AR county Faulkner code 045 zip code 72039

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets
Does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Corbie Matthews 12/3/04
Signature of certifying official/Title 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 for additional
comments.)

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

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Lee Service Station
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955"

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/Business

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Concrete
walls	Cut Stone
	Brick
roof	Composition Shingles
other	

Narrative Description

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

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1940

Significant Dates

c. 1940

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens, Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Lee Service Station
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>5553557</u>	<u>3913551</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Benita Duvall, National Register Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 9-10-04
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone 501-324-9789
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form

Continuation Sheets

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
- A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Robert Loyd
street & number 1605 Robinson Avenue telephone 501-329-9866
city or town Conway state Arkansas zip code 72034

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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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SUMMARY

Built circa 1940, the Lee Service Station located in Damascus, Arkansas, is an excellent example of a mixed masonry commercial building veneered by Silas Owens. Predominantly Craftsman in style, this structure borrows freely from other styles, with its cross-gabled moderately-pitched roof and small eave-overhangs. The station exemplifies Owens's work, with its herringbone pattern of rock, quoins at each original corner and a three-in, three-out cream-brick pattern bordering the sides and top of all doors and windows. The sills of all windows are made of brick in a rowlock position. Additions have been made to the building, but do not compromise the original architecture.

ELABORATION

Located at 28 South Broadway in Damascus, Faulkner County, the Lee Service Station was constructed circa '940 for Clayton and Exie Lee. The rock and brick-veneered structure has some of the original windows, but retains all of the original window openings. The original bay was enclosed to enlarge the interior of the store, and a new cinder block bay was built on the north elevation. The building has been used for various purposes, and is currently unoccupied.

East Elevation

The front, or east elevation of the station faces South Broadway. With quoins of cream brick on the corner, it has one large bay window, followed by a door, both surrounded by the cream three-in, three-out brick pattern. Above and to the right of the door is a gable. Centered just below the gable roof is a round window opening surrounded by a starburst pattern of brick in soldier position. The window has been filled in, and a portion of a two-by-four extends where a sign once hung. To the right of the gable, the bay area has been altered to make an extension to the interior. The bay was closed in to make a bay window, leaving only one side of the window with the brick pattern. The corner quoins remain to divide the original store portion from the bay of the building. Following this, the newer cinder-block bay lies with the entrance facing the street. A concrete drive runs in front of portions of the building, though some of it is covered in gravel and grass.

North Elevation

The cinder-block addition has four two-over-two windows. The gable end is made of vertical lumber with a large centered window.

West Elevation

The west elevation completes the cinder-block addition with an enclosed bay door, and a smaller door in its place. Following is the original structure, containing three windows. The first has been enclosed with

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plywood, and the second is of the same size, but has the original six-over-six window in place. The third is much smaller, and has also been enclosed. Above the original window, an attic apartment was added, with a small wooden deck and staircase. The staircase and deck are rapidly deteriorating, leaving only the attic entrance as proof of the alteration to the original structure. A concrete slab runs the length of this elevation to the point of the beginning of the attic staircase.

South Elevation

The south elevation contains all of the original openings, with no additions. Centered above the gable is a small sliding window. There are two doors with a small window between, which has been enclosed. The window is nearer to one door, and has too little space to carry the three-in, three-out pattern on that side. The south elevation also contains a bay window toward the front of the station. A concrete sidewalk runs from front to back.

INTEGRITY

The Lee Service Station, built circa 1940, retains integrity. The location and setting have not changed. The design has not significantly changed, and neither has the workmanship. Though it is now vacant, it still appears ready for business, just as it did when Silas Owens completed his work on the mixed masonry Craftsman style service station.

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SUMMARY

Constructed circa 1940, the Lee Service Station is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local **significance** under **Criterion C** as the only example of a Craftsman style mixed-masonry service station in Damascus. The service station, located in Damascus, Faulkner County, Arkansas, was veneered by Silas Owens at the height of his career as a mason. This nomination is being submitted under the multiple property context **"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."**

ELABORATION

The Lee Service Station in Damascus was built circa 1940, for Clayton and Exie Lee of Damascus. Silas Owens, a local African-American mason, veneered the structure adding his signature features to the exterior, found in the cream brick three-in, three-out pattern, quoins and herringbone rock pattern.

The Lees sold grocery items, general merchandise, and gasoline under the name Conoco. The bay also allowed standard vehicle servicing. The station's location on U.S. 65, a major highway across Arkansas, meant a steady stream of customers for the Lees. When the Lees grew closer to retirement, in the late 1950s, they sold the business to Dick Mayhan. Mayhan transformed the rear of the building into a barbershop. The service station saw many other uses, including a restaurant and flea market before lying vacant, waiting for another occupant.

Robert Loyd who grew up in Damascus and remembers the Lees, now owns the building. Loyd is waiting for another business to move in and utilize the space. The Lees have since passed away, and have no children to carry on their story of the station.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed circa 1940, the Lee Service Station is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local **significance** under **Criterion C** as the only example of a Craftsman style mixed-masonry service station in Damascus. The service station, located in Damascus, Faulkner County, Arkansas, was veneered by Silas Owens at the height of his career as a mixed-mason. This nomination is being submitted under the multiple property context **"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."**

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Oral History as told by *Silas Owens, Jr.*, now deceased son of Silas Owens, Sr. Personal interviews by Special Projects Historian Holly Hope from January 2002, through January 2004.

Oral History as told by *Loyd, Robert*. Owner of station. Interview by National Register Historian Benita Duvall, September 9, 2004.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

From the northeast corner of the Lewis Drive and Highway 65 intersection, proceed northeasterly 160 feet along the northeast side of US 65 North to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning, proceed northeasterly 60 feet, thence proceed northwesterly 80 feet, thence proceed southwesterly 60 feet, thence proceed southeasterly 80 feet to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes all land historically associated with the Lee Service Station.

Lee ...
...
12/55 ...

DAMASCUS QUADRANGLE ARKANSAS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

