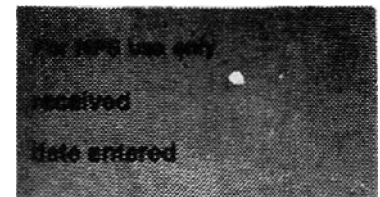


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INDIVIDUAL DATA SHEET

| | |
|---|--|
| SURVEY NUMBER <u>0015</u> | PROPERTY OWNER <u>Parks Newspaper</u> |
| PROPERTY NAME <u>Osceola Times Bldg.</u> | ADDRESS <u>112 N. Poplar</u> |
| LOCATION <u>112 N. Poplar</u> | <u>Osceola, AR</u> |
| CONSTRUCTION DATE <u>1901</u> | |

DESCRIPTION

Among the first of the remaining buildings constructed in Osceola's "new town" was the Osceola Times building. This early twentieth century commercial building is of brick construction and is rectangular shaped with a flat roof. On the first story of the facade (west elevation) the original doorways with transoms and plate glass windows appear. The door to the right was the entrance for the newspaper offices while the door on the left led to the second floor apartment where the editor and his family lived. Originally a panel appeared above the first floor plate glass windows which contained "THE OSCEOLA TIMES". The second story of the facade is marked by three tall windows with elliptical arched brick lintels. Three recessed brick areas above the windows contain decorative vents. A brick parapet rises above a dentiled cornice at the top of the building.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Osceola Times building was constructed in 1901 and is significant to Osceola in its representation of the newspaper that helped to build and develop "new town". Construction of this two story building which houses Mississippi County's oldest newspaper, helped to insure the success of "new town" by its placement. The paper's editor, Leon Roussan, was a strong leader of Osceola from its incorporation in 1875, and was elected to be the first Mayor of the small

ACREAGE less than one

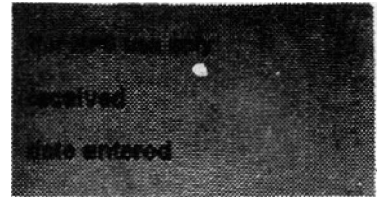
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Lot 5, Block 11, Townsite Addition

QUADRANGLE NAME Osceola, AR-TN **QUADRANGLE SCALE** 1:24000

UTM REFERENCE: **ZONE** 16 **EASTING** 231390 **NORTHING** 3954890

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town. Roussan was one of the first proponents of the move to "new town" and did much to encourage and support the move of the City's business district closer to the new railroad lines. As in many turn of the century two story commercial buildings, the first floor housed the newspaper offices and the second floor contained an apartment in which the Roussan family lived. The Osceola Times is the oldest weekly newspaper in northeastern Arkansas and throughout the years has played an important role in local issues. Upon Mr. Roussan's death, his wife, Adah Roussan, took over ownership and became the editor of the Osceola Times. Her term with the paper continued strong support of drainage, law enforcement, and honest elections. The paper historically has had a base of readership and in the first three decades of the twentieth century regularly featured advertisements from businesses in St. Louis, Nashville, Louisville, Memphis and Little Rock. Mrs. Roussan is best remembered for her editorials encouraging the efforts in drainage and flood control. Throughout the many years of flood control successes and failures faced by the City, the Osceola Times, through the Roussans, consistently worked to develop community pride and confidence.