

Sharp County
Evening Shade
Charles W. Shaver House

Listed on the N.R. 09-30-82

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF EVENING SHADE
SHARP COUNTY, ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Survey Number ES-8

Owner Mrs. Caruth S. Moore

Property Name Charles W. Shaver House

Address Court Street

Location Court Street, Evening Shade

Evening Shade, AR 72352

Significant Date/s 1874

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Charles W. Shaver House is located on a large corner lot facing south on Court Street. The house, constructed in 1874, is a one-story central hall structure with an original ell on the west side of the rear (north) elevation. Its load-bearing brick walls are of common bond. The house is covered with two gable roofs, one running east-west over the main structure and one running north-south over the rear ell. A plain entablature and box cornice with returns in the gable ends cap the structure.

On the front (south) facade two windows flank a central rectangular porch on a natural sandstone foundation. The flat-roofed porch is supported by four box columns and two pilasters. Cut panels form the balustrade. This porch marks the main entry which contains a single door (originally a double-door) flanked by sidelights of two panes over wood panels and a two-light transom.

The east and west gable ends contain exterior brick chimneys. Each chimney is flanked by two windows.

Typical of the central hall house, the Charles W. Shaver House contains a hall running north-south flanked by two larger rooms. The hall contains horizontal boards above a chair-rail and square wood panels. The flanking rooms are distinguished by plastered walls, chair railings, and original mantels. The ell contains a room similar in design to the front rooms and a modern kitchen. An enclosed porch is located behind the central hall.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Charles W. Shaver House is significant to the architectural history and character of Evening Shade. The house was built by Charles W. Shaver, son of the first permanent settler, John W. Shaver. Although confined to a wheelchair at age fourteen, Charles W. Shaver became a local hero during the Civil War by making daring trips through Federal lines into Missouri. These trips were made in order to acquire contraband items (salt, medicine, and gunpowder) to supply Evening Shade residents. His success as a merchant carried through the Civil War into the Reconstruction era, allowing him to construct his brick home in 1874. The construction of substantial (brick) houses, such as the Charles W. Shaver House, during Reconstruction was rare in Arkansas and unique in Evening Shade.

Charles W. Shaver built his house following the design and technology of his father's 1854 house. This created a dwelling which is an outstanding example of post-Civil War architecture using the Greek Revival esthetic. The use of Greek Revival design and particularly load-bearing brick construction in domestic structures in Arkansas was rare by 1874. Although unusual throughout the state after the Civil War, Greek Revival is a dominate character in Evening Shade's architecture. The Charles W. Shaver House set the tone for the majority of the post-bellum structures. Using the house as an example, the

(continued)

Survey Number ES-8
Property Name Charles W. Shaver House
page 2

architecture of Evening Shade through the turn of the 20th century contains Greek Revival elements.

The Charles W. Shaver House is the second oldest and one of two historic brick structures in Evening Shade. Outstanding in its retention of original fabric, the house survives today as a rare rural example of Reconstruction architecture in Evening Shade and in Arkansas.

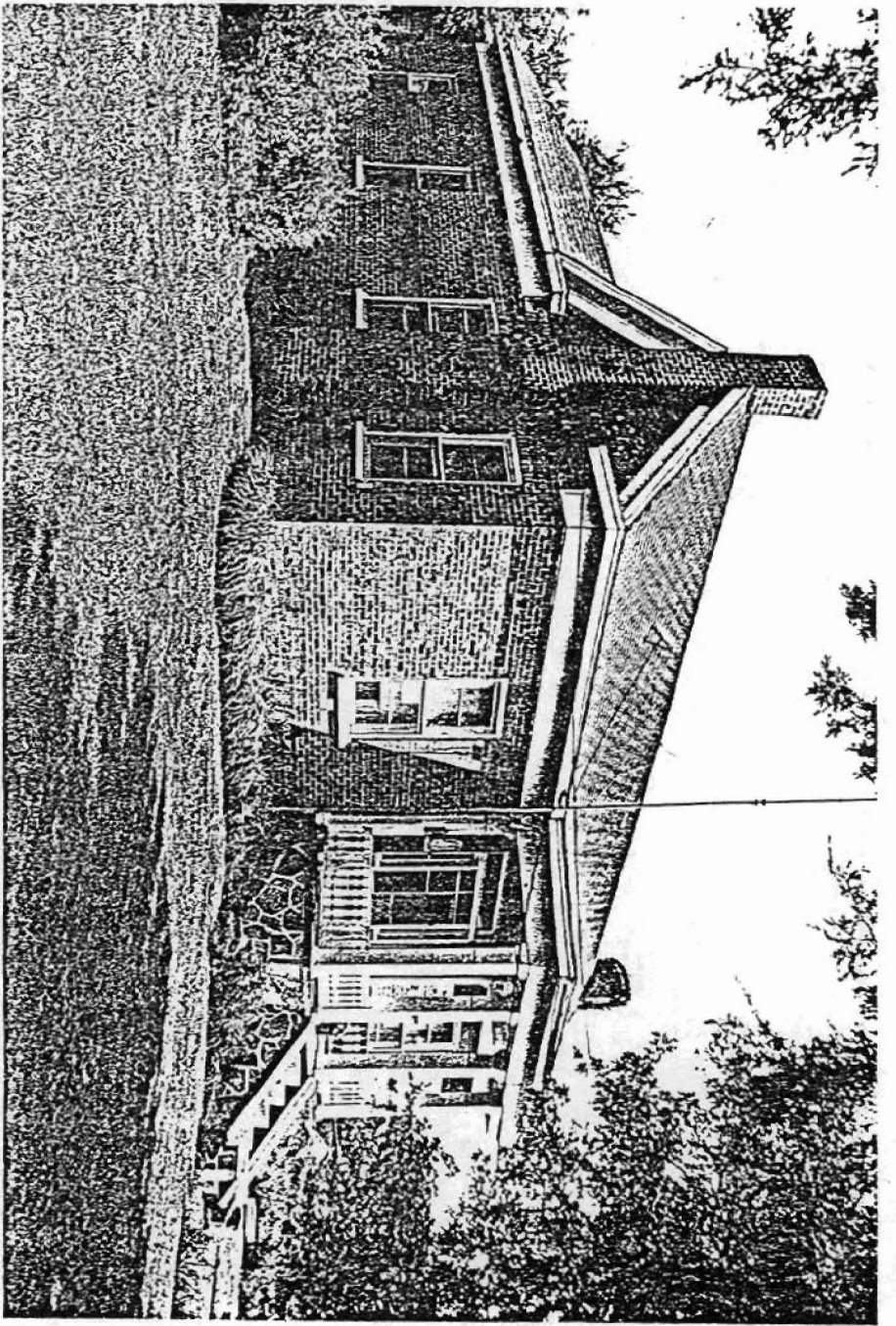
Verbal Boundary Description 3-16-6, Town Lot: southwest quarter of 6

Acreage less than one

Quadrangle Name Evening Shade Quadrangle Scale 1:24000

UTN Reference

Zone 15 Easting 6244220 Northing 3992690



ES-8
Charles W. Shaver House
Bob Dunn, Photographer May, 1981
Negative at the Ark. Hist. Pres. Program
View from the southwest
No. 9 of 16

Significance

Area of Significance—Cross and justify below

Architectural style Architectural description

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- summary paragraph completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

The cover nomination implies that the initial settlement date from the establishment of the mill and was progressing by the 1840's. In this light, this house does not seem to relate to the "early settlement." Having precisely what is the architect been built by the town founder's son is not sufficient to link the house to the earliest days of the town. Precisely what is the architectural significance of the house? Why is it significant that it resembles the John Sheen House? What qualities make it unique—in what way were the "earlier" house forms different from those in 1874? Are there others left from an earlier period? The cover form specifies several types of construction materials as characterizing Evening Shade, but brick is not one of them. Are there many or few houses of brick? Is this significant?

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By-

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Beth Grovorn

Signed Beth Grovorn Date 6/2/82 Phone: 202 272-350

Property: Site Charles W. House
State, County: AK, Sharp
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 4/22/82-1167
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 5/20/82 - 6/6/82
Action: ACCEPT
 RETURN 6/2/82
 REJECT

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

photos
maps _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria Return
Reviewer Harvona
Discipline Historian
Date 6/2/82
 see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category Ownership Status Present Use
Public Acquisition Accessible

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition: excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed
Check one: unaltered altered
Check one: original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection