

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 any 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 Beech Street Historic District

Other Names/Site Number MI0024-MI0031; MI0070; MI0238; MI0244-MI0317

2. Location

Street & Number Roughly Beech Street between 14<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Streets  not for publication

City or Town Texarkana  vicinity

State Arkansas Code AR County Miller Code 091 Zip Code 71854

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 forth 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.)

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 commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

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 the Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

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 the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
58	16	buildings
	7	sites
		structures
		objects
58	23	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

2

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC/Hotel

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals/Colonial

Tudor, Spanish, and Classical

Late 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American

Movements/Bungalow/Craftsman

Other/Modern

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Foundation - Brick, Concrete

Roof - Wood Shingle, Aluminum, Asbestos,

and Terra Cotta

Walls – Brick, Wood, Vinyl, Stucco, Concrete

**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 a birthplace or a grave.
- 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.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

**Levels of Significance (local, state, national)**

**Local** \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

**Community Development** \_\_\_\_\_

**Architecture** \_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

**1904-1960** \_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

**1904** \_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Witt & Seibert, Architect/ Witt, Seibert & Wells,

George T. Conway, Builder

John H. Kniffen, Builder

Wilson & Seibert, Builder

Robert Ferguson, Builder

**Primary Location of Additional Data**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

\_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

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**Acreage of Property – 31.7 Acres**

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	403347	3701174	3	15	403447	3700768
2	15	403452	3701173	4	15	403493	3700768

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.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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name/title Barbara Smart, Vice-President

organization Hutchins & Wunnenberg Engineering, Inc. date July 21, 2009

street & number 110 Harrison Street telephone (870) 836-9331

city or town Camden state AR zip code 71701

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**Additional Documentation**

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

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)

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**Property Owner**

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

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

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**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 listings. 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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### **SUMMARY**

The Beech Street Historic District is located in Texarkana, Arkansas between County Avenue and Ash Street. Texarkana became the county seat of Miller County in 1874. The city is split between Arkansas and Texas with State Line Avenue dividing the city between the two states, with Arkansas being east of State Line Avenue and Texas on the west side of State Line Avenue. The city of Texarkana was founded in December 1873 as the result of the completion of the Cairo & Fulton Railway into Texarkana. According to the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce, the population today is 26,230 residents.

The Beech Street Historic District is made up of 83 properties, seventy-four houses and seven vacant lots. Not included in this count is the Dean House at 1520 Beech Street and the Beech Street Brick Street. The Dean House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976 and the Beech Street Brick Street was listed in the National Register of Historic Places May 22, 2007. The majority of the seventy-four houses were built prior to 1940. Thirty-one (42%) of the houses in this district were built between the years of 1905-1920. From 1920-1940 another 26 houses (35 %) were built. From 1941-1960, only 9 (12%) were constructed and the final 8 (11%) were built between 1960 and 1998. There are fifty-eight (69.9%) contributing properties, twenty-three (27.7%) non-contributing properties, which includes 7 vacant lots, and two (2.4%) individually listed property in the Beech Street Historic District.

### **ELABORATION**

The street itself has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places as Beech Street Brick Street. The dirt street was paved with bricks in 1904. The bricks of the original 3,425 feet brick street remain in all but a few feet at the south end of the 1400 block. The predominant styles of buildings in the Beech Street Historic District are Late 19<sup>th</sup> & Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements/ Bungalow/Craftsman, Prairie and American Four Square. Block after block you see examples of these styles that were so popular during the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The other styles that are seen throughout the Beech Street Historic District are Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revivals with examples of Classical, Colonial, English, Tudor, and Spanish Revivals. There are several houses that also reflect modern styles, such as the Ranch Style.

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There are numerous excellent examples of most of the styles. For example, the Frost House built c.1916 at 1519 Beech Street is a classic example of the Craftsman style. Many of the characteristics are present, such as an asymmetrical brick and stucco front façade, a full-width front porch with a gable, square columns supporting the porch (some set on large pedestals), exposed rafters, a porte cochere at the south side of the east-facing front porch, wide over-hanging eaves, knee braces under the gables, double-hung and casement windows, and an original red tile roof.

The house built c.1924 at 1702 Beech Street is a much smaller, less ornate house, but it retains many of the traits of the classic Craftsman style. The brick and stucco facades with off-centered gable-roofed porches are all in keeping with the style. There are also square columns supporting the gable roofs covering the front (East) facing porch and the North facing side porch. The windows are double-hung and casement.

The Poseph House at 1711 Beech Street is another excellent example of the Craftsman style. It too, has brick and stucco wall material as well gable and hip roofs. Square columns support the porches as well as the porte cochere.

The house at 1723 Beech Street, built in 1915, is another good example of the Bungalow form of the Craftsman style. The wall material is asbestos and stucco. The fenestration is symmetrical, with double-hung windows with multiple panes over a single pane. The gable roof of the front (east) porch is supported by square brick columns. Though a rental property, it has been well maintained.

The Waters House at 1804 Beech Street was built in 1920 in the Prairie style. The brick house has a clipped gable roof and a  $\frac{3}{4}$  front porch facing west. The porch has a shed roof and is supported by six square columns. A brick balustrade runs the width of the partially-screened porch, with an opening in the balustrade for entry. There is an arch within a gable which is supported by two cement columns. A porte cochere is located on the side (south) façade.

The property at 1808 Beech Street was built in 1905 in the Craftsman style. The walls are weatherboard. There is a clipped gable roof which has composition shingles. A dormer window is in a gable on the back (north side) of the house. Four wooden tapered columns support the sloped roof of the porch on the front (south) side of the house.

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There is also an eyebrow dormer in the slope of the roof near the peak of the roof in the front (south) side of the house. The wide overhanging eaves have exposed roof rafters.

The Longino House at 1824 Beech Street was built in 1915 in the Craftsman style. The house has been in the Longino family since c.1924, being handed down from one generation to the next generation. Mr. Longino has made some improvements, while retaining the integrity of the style. The original one-story house has an added two-story addition connecting the former garage to the house. The walls of the house are stucco and brick. A one-half recessed porch with a hipped roof is on the asymmetrical front (west) façade. The porch roof is supported by columns on piers. The windows are casement and stationary. The wide overhanging eaves have exposed roof rafters.

The Wilson-Meredith House at 1901 Beech Street was built in 1915 and it too is classic Craftsman with its gable roof, frame construction, brick and stucco wall material and the columns on piers supporting the roof of the recessed porch. The windows are double-hung and casement. A large dormer with a gable roof with brackets is in the center of the slope of the side-gabled roof. The wide overhanging eaves have exposed roof rafters.

The Paulk House at 1919 Beech Street is being carefully restored by its owners. This classic Craftsman house was built in 1915 by Louis A. Paulk, Secretary/Treasurer of Trigg-Hill Lumber Co. Beaverboard, which was sold by the lumber company, is used in much of the house. The house has original weatherboards on the exterior walls with a hipped roof and a gable on the front (east) facade. A dormer is in the rear (west) façade in the slope of the hipped roof. A wrap-around porch is covered by a hipped roof which is supported by columns on piers. The house also has a wide variety of windows with light/pane arrangements of 24/1; 22/1; 40/1; 31/1; 6/1; 18/1; and 12/1.

The Johnston-Wyrick House at 2015 Beech Street is another excellent example of the Craftsman style. Built c.1908 by the C.A. Johnston family, it is a two-story L-shaped house with weatherboard wall material and a hipped roof. A dormer with a hipped roof is set in the slope of the hipped roof of the house on the front (east) façade. A porch with a hipped roof supported by large square brick columns covers the front entry in the asymmetrical front (east) façade. The porch continues uncovered to the north side of the house where French doors are covered by a shed roof with brackets and exposed rafters.

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The deep over-hang of the hipped roof also has exposed rafters. A porte cochere is on the north side of the house.

The Munz-Tackett House at 2021 Beech Street was built c.1910. George T. Conway, a former Texarkana mayor, built this home as well as at least two others on Beech Street. This large two-story house has many of the attributes of a Craftsman house, including a hipped roof with exposed roof rafters. It also has a dormer with a hipped roof located on the slope of the roof of the house. The wrap-around porch on the asymmetrical front (east) façade has a shed roof with a gable placed on the roof so it is aligned with the front entry to the house. The porch roof is supported by tapered wood columns set on a solid brick balustrade that runs the length of the porch, with an opening to the steps and entrance to the house. The weatherboard that was original to the house has been covered with vinyl siding.

There are numerous other examples of the Late 19<sup>th</sup> & Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Movements styles that were so popular in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In order to give a full view of the Beech Street Historic District, equal time should be given to Late 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> Century Revival styles. In this group of properties there are Colonial, English, Classical, Tudor, and Spanish Colonial.

The Mugno House, located at 1902 Ash Street, was built c.1939. It is an example of the Colonial Revival style. The red brick two-story house has an asymmetrical front (west) façade with an off-center front door. The double-hung windows have 8/8 pane arrangement and are symmetrically placed and deeply set in the façade. Louvered shutters adorn the second-story windows. A fanlight is over the main entry door with sidelights on each side of the door. On the roof of the one-story projection on the south façade is a balcony with a wooden balustrade.

The McArtor House at 1601 County Avenue was built c.1920. It is another example of the Colonial Revival style. It is a large, asymmetrical house with a prominent one-story portico covering the full width of the front (east) façade. The hipped roof of the portico is supported by large square columns. A wrought iron balustrade runs the width & length of the portico, with an opening for the off-set steps which lead to the front entry. Below the hipped roof of the two-story house is a boxed cornice. The windows are double-hung with 9/1 pane arrangement. Louvered shutters are on the windows on the front (east)



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façade. The ornamentation in the corners of the columns of the portico is not original to the house.

The Danziger House at 1609 County Avenue was built in 1920 in the Colonial Revival style. The large two-story brick house has a hipped roof with a central chimney. A wide portico covers almost the width of the front (east) façade. The flat roof of the portico has a balcony with a low balustrade around it. A wooden balustrade is also around the portico, with a wide opening for the steps that lead to the front entry. The front façade is symmetrical with the front entry door and the door leading to the balcony on the second-story aligned and matching, with side lights on each side of the doors. The double-hung windows have 6/1 and 8/1 pane arrangements.

The Colonial Revival style is also found in the Tennison House at 1923 Beech Street. This brick and stucco two-story house was built c.1920 by Arthur Temple, a lumberman and industrialist. The original house was a double-pile with a central hall. Additions were made to the house c.1930, and then again c.1952. The full front porch is covered by a flat roof only over the center portion of the porch protecting the front entry, which faces east. The front entry is flanked by two sets of French doors. The roof of the porch is supported by six tapered columns on a short round base. The three chimneys in the house are all centrally located, providing extra heat during the winters. The side gable roof has three dormers in the front (east) façade, each dormer topped with a gable. End gables are located on the north façade and on the south façade rising above the roof level. There is a pair of end gables on the one-story addition. Double-hung windows are on the front (east) second story façade with 9/9 pane arrangement. Casement windows are in the end gable on the south side.

The Jackson House at 1907 County Avenue is one of only two Spanish Colonial style homes in the Beech Street Historic District. The one-story house, which faces east, has stucco walls and a gable roof with composition shingles. A shed roof covers the narrow front porch. Two arched entries open onto the porch and lead to the front door. Three small multi-paned casement windows are on the north side of the front (east) façade and arched stationary windows are on the south side of the front (east) façade. Other windows along the north and south facades of the house are double-hung windows with 6/6 pane arrangement and casement windows.

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The Dove-Gleason House at 2016 Beech Street is the other Spanish Colonial style home in the district. Built in 1928, this house is an exact replica of the home Robert G. Dove lived in while serving on the Philippine Islands during the war. The one-story house has a red tile gable roof and the walls are stucco. The casement windows have numerous pane arrangements, with 10; 12; 6; 8/8; 6/6; 8/0; and 4/0 panes. There is a partially recessed corner porch on the north side of the front (west) façade with stucco-covered columns and a shed roof. A tile-covered gable is centered in the front (west) façade with a set of four decorative casement windows on the wall under the front gable with another tile-roofed gable over them.

The house at 1923 County Avenue was built in 1935 in the Tudor Revival style. This style of architecture was popular in America primarily from about 1880 – 1940. The style mimicked the style which developed in England during the years of the Tudors, from 1485-1558. The asymmetrical house is of frame construction with brick and stucco walls and a gable roof with composition shingles. False half-timbering is applied over some of the stucco surface. The steep gables are crossed and interlaced with strapwork, the narrow strips of wood used for ornamentation. The wide overhang of the eaves reveals large beams or roof rafters. Across the front (east) façade are three sets of three-multi-paned casement windows. Other windows on the house are double-hung with 3/1; 4/1; 4/0; 65/1; and 12/0 pane arrangements.

The H. H. Watson House, built at 2020 Beech Street in 1924, is an example of the Classical Revival style. The two-story house has a symmetrical front (west) façade. The five-bay façade across the upper story has an arrangement of two large casement windows on each side of a set of three small casement windows, which made the fifth unit. Two sets of six casement windows flank the front entry door. Sidelights with a multi-pane arrangement flank the door as well as a set of lights over the door. The windows are aligned both vertically and horizontally. The first-story windows and entry are protected by a composition shingle awning. In the center of the awning is an arch covering the front entry. The arch is supported by exposed brackets. A porch on the south side of the house has a hip roof and is supported by six large columns that rest on the brick floor of the porch.

The Smiley House at 2107 Beech Street, built c.1920, is another example of the Classical Revival style. This two-story house has a symmetrical front (east) façade. The windows

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line up horizontally and vertically and are double-hung with varying pane arrangements such as 14/14; 10/10; 6/6; 4/4; and 12/00. The shutters on the windows are functional. The house has a gable roof with an eyebrow dormer on the front façade. The outside walls are covered with wood shingles. On the flat roof of the one-story section of the house is a balcony surrounded by a balustrade. The front entrance is protected by an elliptical arch with a wood shingled roof covering it. Two decorative columns support the arch.

The J. R. Wilson House at 1508 Beech Street was built c.1915 and is a good example of an American Foursquare. It is a two-story house with a steeply pitched hipped roof. There is a large bay projection on the south side of the second story. The original wall material was weatherboard, but has had some vinyl siding added in the past. A screened-in one-half front porch has a hipped roof supported by metal posts. Some of the windows are stationary and some are double-hung with varying pane arrangements; 9/1; 1/1; 6/1; and 12/1. Some windows in the house are boarded because renovation is in progress.

#### **INTEGRITY**

The Beech Street Historic District is a cohesive neighborhood composed of houses built from early to mid-twentieth century. The district's eighty-three properties retain their original integrity of purpose and location. The setting of the neighborhood is much unchanged. The beech trees still line the street and the old brick street, which was one of the reasons the residents wanted to live in the neighborhood, is still intact. The houses in the Beech Street Historic District significantly display the strong influence of building styles that were popular in the first half of the twentieth century when this district was being developed. Among those were Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival, Spanish Revival, Classical Revival, English Revival, Craftsman, Prairie, American Foursquare, and Bungalow. The houses in the Beech Street Historic District continue to maintain their integrity of association as they have continued to serve in their original purpose.

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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	Map	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0244	1417 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	1	NC
MI0245	1418 Beech Street	House at 1418 Beech Street	2	C
MI0246	1419 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	3	NC
MI0247	1420 Beech Street	House at 1420 Beech Street	4	NC
MI0248	1424 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	5	NC
MI0249	1425 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	6	NC
MI0250	1502 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	7	NC
MI0251	1503 Beech Street	Biglow House	8	NC
MI0252	1508 Beech Street	J. R. Wilson House	9	C
MI0024	1519 Beech Street	Frost House	10	C
MI0070	1520 Beech Street	Dean House	11	IL
MI0253	1600 Beech Street	Trice House	12	C
MI0254	1601 Beech Street	Jones House	13	NC
MI0255	1608 Beech Street	House at 1608 Beech Street	14	C
MI0256	1609 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	15	NC
MI0257	1610 Beech Street	House at 1610 Beech Street	16	C

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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Map</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0258	1618 Beech Street	House at 1618 Beech Street	17	C
MI0259	1619 Beech Street	Rivers House	18	C
MI0260	1624 Beech Street	House at 1624 Beech Street	19	C
MI0261	1700 Beech Street	Murray House	20	NC
MI0262	1701 Beech Street	Seibert House	21	C
MI0263	1702 Beech Street	House at 1702 Beech Street	22	C
MI0264	1704 Beech Street	D'Arrigo House	23	C
MI0265	1711 Beech Street	Poseph House	24	C
MI0266	1723 Beech Street	House at 1723 Beech Street	25	C
MI0267	1801 Beech Street	J. M. Tennison House	26	C
MI0268	1804 Beech Street	Waters House	27	C
MI0269	1808 Beech Street	House at 1808 Beech Street	28	C
MI0270	1819 Beech Street	O'Neal House	29	C
MI0271	1823 Beech Street	Offenhauser House	30	C
MI0272	1824 Beech Street	Longino House	31	NC

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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Map</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0273	1901 Beech Street	Wilson House	32	C
MI0274	1902 Beech Street	Burrus House	33	C
MI0275	1904 Beech Street	Bennett House	34	C
MI0276	1906 Beech Street	Vacant Lot		
MI0277	1919 Beech Street	Paulk House	35	C
MI0278	1920 Beech Street	Vacant Lot	36	NC
MI0025	1923 Beech Street	Tennison House	37	C
MI0279	2001 Beech Street	House at 2001 Beech Street	38	NC
MI0026	2002 Beech Street	Beasley House	39	C
MI0028	2015 Beech Street	Johnston House	40	C
MI0027	2016 Beech Street	Dove House	41	C
MI0031	2020 Beech Street	H.H. Watson House	42	C
MI0029	2021 Beech Street	Tackett House	43	C
MI0030	2101 Beech Street	Conway House	44	C
MI0280	2102 Beech Street	House at 2102 Beech Street	45	NC

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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Map</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0281	2106 Beech Street	House at 2106 Beech Street	46	C
MI0282	2107 Beech Street	Smiley House	47	C
MI0283	2108 Beech Street	O'Dwyer House	48	C
MI0284	2120 Beech Street	House at 2120 Beech Street	49	C
MI0285	2121 Beech Street	Briley House	50	C
MI0286	2201 Beech Street	Hardy House	51	C
MI0287	2202 Beech Street	House at 2102 Beech Street	52	C
MI0288	2208 Beech Street	Dawson House	53	C
MI0289	2215 Beech Street	House at 2215 Beech Street	54	NC
MI0290	2222 Beech Street	Hoover House	55	NC
MI0291	2224 Beech Street	Sims House	56	C
MI0292	2225 Beech Street	Beech Street Baptist Parsonage	57	C
MI0293	2302 Beech Street	Stickney House	58	NC
MI0294	2305 Beech Street	House at 2305 Beech Street	59	C
MI0295	2306 Beech Street	Hyatt House	60	C

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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Map</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0296	2307 Beech Street	Williams House	61	C
MI0297	2323 Beech Street	Harris House	62	C
MI0298	2324 Beech Street	House at 2324 Beech Street	63	C
MI0299	1522 Ash Street	Vacant Lot	64	NC
MI0300	1902 Ash Street	House at 1902 Ash Street	65	C
MI0301	1912 Ash Street	House at 1912 Ash Street	66	NC
MI0302	1918 Ash Street	House at 1918 Ash Street	67	NC
MI0303	1924 Ash Street	House at 1924 Ash Street	68	NC
MI0304	2002 Ash Street	House at 2002 Ash Street	69	C
MI0305	1601 County Avenue	McCartor House	70	C
MI0306	1609 County Avenue	Danziger House	71	C
MI0307	1619 County Avenue	Adams House	72	C
MI0308	1717 County Avenue	House at 1717 County Avenue	73	C
MI0309	1723 County Avenue	Ferguson House	74	C
MI0310	1801 County Avenue	House at 1801 County Avenue	75	C



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<u>Resource No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Property Name</u>	<u>Map</u>	
			<u>No.</u>	<u>C/NC/IL</u>
MI0311	1819 County Avenue	House at 1819 County Avenue	76	C
MI0312	1823 County Avenue	Harrington House	77	NC
MI0313	1903 County Avenue	O'Dwyer House	78	C
MI0314	1907 County Avenue	House at 1907 County Avenue	79	C
MI0315	1923 County Avenue	House at 1923 County Avenue	80	C
MI0316	402 E. 18th Street	House at 402 E. 18th Street	81	NC
MI0317	303 E. 23th Street	Fuzey House	82	C
MI0238	Beech Street	Beech Street Brick Street	83	IL

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### SUMMARY

The Beech Street Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with the growth and development of Texarkana north, away from the railroad line in the early twentieth century. The Beech Street Historic District is also being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for the quality and number of early 20<sup>th</sup> century to mid-20<sup>th</sup> century styles of architecture. This district has, for the most part, retained the integrity of the styles of homes that were built during the period of significance from 1904 – 1960.

### ELABORATION

It is believed that the Caddo Indians called this area home during the 1600s. The Great Southwest Trail was the main route between the Native American villages of the Mississippi River area and those who lived in the west. As the settlers traveling the Southwest Trail seeking land moved into the area, the Native Americans slowly migrated west. By 1840, a poorly organized permanent settlement had begun to take form. This was not ignored by the owners of the railroads, who were quick to see the possibilities of this new territory. The Cairo & Fulton Railroad was steadily pushing across Arkansas to meet the Texas & Pacific line. The point where the two railways met was the ideal place for a new town. The city was founded and the first lots were sold in December 1873. The two railroads met at the Texas – Arkansas state line approximately a month later. The city of Texarkana was named for TEXas, ARKansas, and LouisiANA. Texarkana, Texas (Bowie County) was incorporated in 1875. Texarkana, Arkansas (Miller County) was incorporated on October 17, 1881.

Beech Street Historic District is important not only for the amazing homes that line the streets of the district and the impact it has had on the growth and economic development of Texarkana during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, but also for the Beech Street bricks that have paved this street since 1904. Beech Street Brick Street was placed in the National Register of Historic Places in May 2007. The source of the bricks is not known, but a prudent contractor would have purchased the best from the closest source, probably southwest Arkansas or east Texas. A likely source would have been Acme Brick, which was located in Malvern, Arkansas, and Perla, in Hot Spring County, Arkansas. A short section of the 3,425 feet of pavement that makes up Beech Street has

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been repaired by repaving with asphalt. This section is located in the south end of the 1400 block.

With the completion of the Cairo and Fulton Railroad and the Texas and Pacific Railway the timber industry became the largest industry in Texarkana. Two residents in the Beech Street Historic District were major players in the timber and lumber industry.

Enoch W. Frost (1519 Beech Street) was a prominent businessman in the timber industry as well as a stockholder of Texarkana Building and Loan Association as early as 1905. Enoch Frost began his career in the lumber business with a small portable sawmill in the Texarkana area c.1881. He was with a group of men who formed the Frost-Trigg Lumber Company in 1881. The company made several mergers and eventually, under the leadership of E.A. Frost and his son Edwin Ambrose Frost, the company became the largest lumber manufacturer in Northeast Texas and Northwest Louisiana. Following the death of E.A. Frost in 1950, the stockholders voted to sell to Olin Industries, who shortly thereafter sold to International Paper Company, who is still in operation in the Texarkana area.

The most widely known man in the timber industry was Arthur Temple, Sr. (1923 Beech Street). He was born on April 20, 1894, in Texarkana, Arkansas. He was educated at Williams College and was trained in the family lumber business by his father, Thomas Lewis Temple, who founded the Southern Pine Lumber Company. When his father died in 1935, Arthur Temple became the president of the family business during the Great Depression. During the following years, Arthur Temple was responsible for the growth and direction of the family business as well as being president of many companies, some of which he had founded. Temple Lumber Company, Temple Manufacturing Company, Temple Cotton Seed Oil Company, Grim Hotel Company, Temple Builders Supply, and numerous other concerns profited by the leadership of Arthur Temple.

The builders and architects who lived and worked in the Beech Street Historic District were well-known in Texarkana. The architecture firm of Witt, Seibert and Halsey designed and built in the "Quality Hill" neighborhood as well as several of the Beech Street Historic District homes. "Quality Hill" is an area with two and three story homes and large ornate churches built c.1890s – 1920s. The homes in "Quality Hill" have far more classical ornamentation than the residences found in the Beech Street Historic District. The predominant style of architecture in the Beech Street Historic District is the

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Craftsman style which emulates a simpler time. The style is much less ornate than the Classical styles found in the “Quality Hill” neighborhood. The Craftsman style house is exemplary of the beauty in simplicity and the artistry in the handcrafted. Most of the Craftsman style houses are one and one-half story with wide porches supported by heavy piers as opposed to Corinthian columns often found in earlier styles. The effort was to show that the house was hand made, proudly exposing the construction joints. The popularity of the Craftsman style led to a wide range of imitations that lacked the unique aspect of the handcrafting found in the hand-built beams and the hand-carved posts of a true Craftsman home. Firms such as Aladdin Company and Sears, Roebuck and Company were mass-producing prefabricated bungalows mimicking the Craftsman style by the end of World War I.

Among the builders in the Beech Street Historic District was George Conway, who built the homes at 2021 Beech Street c.1910 and at 2101 Beech Street in 1923, and at least two other homes in the district. The firm of Witt and Seibert was also a building contractor as well as an architectural firm. The firm of Wilson and Seibert built the c.1915 house at 1901 Beech Street in 1927. The firm of Witt, Seibert & Wells built the c.1908 house at 2015 Beech Street. Robert Ferguson was another contractor. He built the house at 1723 County Avenue c.1927 as well as the house at 1629 County Avenue c.1918. Paul Hardy was a contractor during the early 1930s working in the Beech Street area.

The firm of Witt, Seibert & Halsey, was probably the most prominent architecture firm in Texarkana. The firm began in 1908 as Witt & Seibert, and in 1910 it became Witt, Seibert, & Co. (Fred H. Halsey Co.). The firm became Witt, Seibert, & Halsey in January 1912 and lasted until March 10, 1937, when Eugene Seibert went into practice on his own.

Not only did Witt, Seibert, & Halsey design houses for some of Texarkana’s most influential families, but they also designed public buildings as well, including the Texarkana, Arkansas, Municipal Building (NR listed January 21, 2004) and parts of the Buhrman—Pharr Hardware Company complex (NR listed September 24, 2004). The influence of the Witt, Seibert & Halsey firm also went beyond Texarkana, and included commissions for the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro (NR listed October 16, 1986), and the Methodist Episcopal Church in Smackover (NR listed June 14, 1990). In addition, Eugene C. Seibert of the firm also did work on his own, including the Dr. H. A. Longino House in Magnolia (NR listed June 14, 1982), the Miller County Courthouse

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(NR listed May 29, 1998), and the Sidney A. Umsted House in Camden (NR listed June 30, 1995).

The new brick street was a factor in the growth of the Beech Street Historic District. No longer did the residents have to slosh through the muddy roads during the cold rainy winters nor did they have to deal with the dust and grime from the dirt roads during the hot summer days. Another factor in the growth of the district was the electric trolley which ran just a block off Beech Street on County Avenue to the downtown business district. Most of the residents who lived on Beech Street were professionals that would require office space, factory space, a storefront or access to the banking industry. A short ride on the trolley from their homes to their work place was very appealing.

Texarkana, Arkansas, grew in stages, beginning with the original city which grew north and east from State Line Avenue. The commercial district with office buildings, hotels, stores, livery stables, and factories and all the different businesses required for a new town, were found in the original city plat, as well as the railroads with all the soot and grime that accompanied them.

Initially, Texarkana's most prestigious residential area was just to the northeast of downtown in the Quality Hill neighborhood. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Quality Hill neighborhood was home to Texarkana's most prominent families and had homes in popular nineteenth century styles, some of which remain today, including the Alvah Horace Whitmarsh House (NR listed August 29, 1980), the Augustus M. Garrison House (NR listed March 25, 1982), the Bottoms House (NR listed on June 8, 1982), the Claude Foulke House (NR listed April 22, 1982), and the Patrick Ahern House (NR listed on January 20, 2005).

Although Quality Hill was the place to live in Texarkana in the late nineteenth century, annexations to the city were occurring to the north. These areas, although they were starting to be annexed beginning in the 1880s, really did not start to develop until around the turn of the twentieth century. These areas, particularly Beech Street, became the favored residential area of Texarkana's wealthy after 1900, and illustrated the beginning of Texarkana's development more to the north rather than to the east. As a result, as the neighborhood developed, the premier examples of early-twentieth-century architecture were built on Beech Street.

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The second Annexation to the city was on August 31, 1887, according to the Minutes Book 3 Page 183. This addition included the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Beech Street known as the Duetchman's third subdivision.

The third Annexation was on February 13, 1904, according to Ordinance B-28. This annexation included the 1600 block of Beech Street, odd side only, known as McColloch's Subdivision; the 1700 block of Beech Street, known as the J.C. Smith Subdivision; and the 1800 and 1900 Blocks of Beech Street known as Conway and Arnold Subdivision.

The fourth Annexation was on March 13, 1912, involving blocks 2000 and 2100 of Beech Street which were known as Scott & Jones 2<sup>nd</sup> Subdivision, and the 2200 block of Beech Street, known as Scott & Jones 1<sup>st</sup> Subdivision according to Resolution Book 8 Page 115.

The first house in the Beech Street Historic District was built by John H. Kniffen, at 1609 Beech Street c.1905. Mr. Kniffen was a well-known building contractor who built several of the houses in the Beech Street Historic District. The Kniffens sold the house to the Churchill family c.1945, and they lived there until 1982, when Jeff Brown, who owned an antiques business, bought it. The house burned in 1984. The property was bought by Charles Brown in 1999, and he is the current owner.

The house at 1808 Beech Street might be called "the house with a past." Built in 1905 in the Craftsman style, according to the Quality Hill Neighborhood Association Tour of Homes Brochure, the building was used as a brothel. It later was remodeled and the space was leased as a three room apartment and a detached garage apartment. In the 1970s, Jeff Brown remodeled and enlarged the home. The garage apartment is no longer on the property.

Dr. Stanford Rivers owned the house at 1619 Beech Street, which was built c.1906. He was in private practice in Texarkana, and lived in the house from c.1906 – 1910. Several owners followed the Rivers family. Dan Dewberry, who owned a real estate company at 216 Vine Street in Texarkana, resided in the house from 1922 – 1929. The house was converted to an apartment building c.1983.

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The Frost House at 1519 Beech Street was built in 1912. Enoch W. Frost had numerous business interests and was a stockholder of Texarkana Building & Loan Association as early as 1905. Mrs. Frost was a member of the Democratic National Committee in Arkansas from 1937 – 1943. She was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention in 1940. Their grand craftsman style home and spacious grounds were ideal for entertaining their friends and the influential people of Texarkana with whom they had close contact.

Though no personal information was found on Thomas Mercer Dean other than the fact that he had the house at 1520 Beech Street built in 1911, the property is important enough to mention. The architect and builder of the Dean House was the notable firm of Witt & Seibert, who built several of the houses on Beech Street. The home was built in the Colonial Revival style. The house was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. The Reverend and Mrs. Oma Daniel bought the home in 1976. Douglas McBride, who is a contractor, then purchased the house in 2004. Mr. McBride is in the process of restoring the house.

The Seibert House, at 1701 Beech Street, was built in 1916. Mr. E. I Seibert was both architect and builder. He designed and built his home on Beech Street as well as homes in the “Quality Hill” neighborhood. Mr. Seibert was a former Mayor of the City of Texarkana, serving for three terms from 1934 - 1939. He and his family lived in the home from 1916 – 1944, when he sold it to the Harrington family. The Langston estate has owned the home since c.1970. Mrs. Langston’s daughter, Trudie Knight, is now restoring the craftsman-style home of her late mother.

The Poseph House located at 1711 Beech was built c.1922. Mr. Poseph was a Jewish Judge in Texarkana, Arkansas. There were many stories surrounding this house, among them was that former President Bill Clinton had a close relationship with the Poseph family and was a frequent guest in this home during the summer and on holiday breaks during his college years.

The Colonial Revival style house at 1819 Beech Street was built in 1910 by W.W. O’Neal who was associated with National Creosote Company. The O’Neals owned the home from c.1910 – 1966. The current owners bought the home c.1978.

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The Offenhauser House at 1823 Beech Street was a wedding gift from A. J. Offenhauser to his son Truitt and his new bride Marjorie Lombard in 1915. They lived in the home until 1931. According to the 1899 – 1900 Texarkana City Directory/ Classified Business Directory, Mr. Offenhauser owned a flour & feed business and a retail grocery store. In an article in the Texarkana newspaper in 1906, there was a description of the grand scale of the Elks Reception, billed as the “Success of the Season.” In this article was a description of the wife of A. J. Offenhauser, who was on the planning committee for the affair. “Mrs. Offenhauser was attired in white satin, with garnitures of white gardenias, and in addition to which were amethysts.” The Truitt Offenhausers sold the home to the Hardy family who lived in the home from 1931 – 1940, at which time the Postmaster of Texarkana, Hayden Newbold, purchased the property and lived there from c.1940 – 1977. The property is currently a rental property.

Hugh and Phyllis Longino are the current residents in the home at 1824 Beech Street. Built in 1915, Hugh’s parents, Dr. & Mrs. Hugh W. Longino, Sr., purchased the house in 1924. Together they raised their children in the house until his death in 1941. His widow continued to live in the house until her death in 1985. Mr. Hugh Longino, Jr., with his wife, Phyllis, bought his siblings interest in the property and they still live in the home. They enlarged the house by creating a two-story addition between the main house and the detached garage, causing very little change to the integrity of the style. Mr. Longino is a retired attorney. He is also an unpublished author. He wrote a book about the homes and the occupants of these houses with some interesting personal stories. He covered Beech Street from 1600 – 2300 blocks, and from the years 1901 – 2000 and entitled his book, A Street Named Beech.

The Wilson House was built in 1915 at 1901 Beech Street. The Craftsman style house was built by Stuart Wilson and the Wilson family continued to live in the home until 1973. Mr. Wilson was the First Executive of State First National Bank for 62 years. The bank is now Regions Bank. Mr. Longino received a lot of his information in his book from Mrs. Kenneth Dickey, who grew up in this house. Dr. Paul and Sarah Meredith purchased the home c 1982 and are the current owners.

The Paulk House at 1919 Beech Street was built c.1915 in the Craftsman style by Louis A. Paulk, Secretary/Treasurer of Trigg-Hill Lumber Company. The lumber company sold beaverboard and it was widely used in the house. The house was vacant from



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1972 – 2005, when the current owners bought it. The current owners are restoring the home with a great deal of attention to detail and integrity to the original design.

The site of the Nancarrow House is at 1920 Beech Street. This property is important not only for the fact that Charles B. Nancarrow was a former mayor of the City of Texarkana, serving for three terms from 1927 – 1931. It was Charles Nancarrow who planted the trees that line the streets in the Beech Street Historic District. He had been transferred to Texarkana by Standard Oil to manage a barrel building company and was quoted as saying they could make great barrels from the lumber from these trees that he had planted. Nancarrow owned a wholesale grocery company as well. Perhaps his greatest accomplishment was that he was also the father of a very famous son. His son was Samuel Conlon Nancarrow, 10/27/12 – 8/10/97. Samuel Conlon Nancarrow was a composer who specialized in writing music for the player piano. He lived on this property as a child. As an adult, he spent much of his life in Mexico, finally becoming a Mexican citizen in 1955. He is remembered as “one of the most original and unusual composers of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.” The Nancarrow home was built at 1920 Beech Street in 1911 and burned to the ground c.1987.

The Temple-Tennison House was built c.1920 at 1923 Beech Street in the Colonial Revival style. This property was originally owned by Arthur Temple from c.1920 – 1939. Temple was President of the Southern Pine Lumber Company, Temple Lumber Company, Temple Manufacturing Company, Temple Cottonseed Oil Company, Grim Hotel Company, and the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce. He sold his home to Alfred Tennison, Sr., and his wife Harriet E. Dorsey Tennison c.1934. Mr. Tennison was Manager / Secretary/Treasurer of Tennison Brothers Metal Works. The family had business interests throughout Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Kansas, and Nebraska.

The Beasley House was built in 1920 in the Colonial Revival style by G.H. Beasley and they occupied the property until c.1977. The Beasley family owned the Beasley Music Company in downtown Texarkana.

The Johnston/Wyrick House is at 2015 Beech Street. The Johnston family built the home and lived there from 1908 – 1968. The Craftsman style house was built by architects Witt, Seibert & Wells. Kelvin and June Wyrick purchased the home in 1977 and continue to live there. Mr. Wyrick is an attorney in Texarkana.

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The Dove – Gleason House at 2016 Beech Street was built c.1928 in the Spanish Revival style. The home was built by Robert G. Dove as an exact replica of the house he lived in on the Philippine Islands while serving in the military. When he returned from the war he owned the Chrysler/Buick Dealership. Mr. Gleason, the present owner of the home, purchased the house c.1984.

The Tackett – Munz House is at 2020 Beech Street. This c.1910 Craftsman style home was built by George T. Conway, who was a former mayor of the City of Texarkana from 1923 - 1927. It is believed that “Harry” Henry Munz owned the property until 1942. Mr. Munz married Georgia Temple, the daughter of Arthur Temple (1923 Beech Street). Mr. Munz was associated with Temple Industries and Southern Pine Lumber Company. Boyd and Norma Tackett lived in the home from c.1952 – 1983, and are the grandparents of the current owner, Jeff Harrelson.

The Smiley House at 2107 Beech Street was built in 1920 by Dr. H. H. Smiley who lived here until c.1936. Dr. Smiley was the Texarkana Health Officer.

The O’Dwyer House at 2108 Beech Street was built by Dr. William O’Dwyer c.1922. The O’Dwyers lived in the home from c.1922 – 1945. T.M. Arnold, Attorney at Law, purchased the home c.1957 and lived there until 1978. The current owners purchased the property c.2006.

The Danziger House is located at 1609 County Avenue. Built c.1920, the Danziger family lived on the first floor and rented out two apartments upstairs. Sol Danziger was a tailor who had a shop on East Broad Street in Texarkana. When the home passed to the heirs, Zelik Joseph and Belle Danziger, they shared the home. The property was transferred to Regions Bank Trust Department c.2006.

The Ferguson House was built c.1927 at 1723 County Avenue. Bobby and Martine Ferguson are lifelong residents of Texarkana and have lived in this house most of their married life. Mr. Ferguson is a former mayor of the city of Texarkana serving from 1975 - 1992. During his terms in office, 850 blocks of street were paved and curbed, mostly in the eastern areas of Texarkana. He also completed the Bi-State Justice Center, a police facility that straddles State Line Avenue.

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The styles that were employed in the houses in the Beech Street Historic District illustrated the latest trends in architectural fashion in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. For example, the Colonial Revival style, grew out of the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876 as well as the widely publicized 1877 New England tour of the popular architects McKim, Mead, White, and Bigelow to study historic Georgian and Adamesque buildings first-hand. The popularity of the style was also influenced by two publications in the first part of the twentieth century. The first publication was *The American Architect and Building News*, which in 1898 started a large series titled "The Georgian Period: Being photographs and measured drawings of Colonial Work with text." The second publication was the *White Pine Series of Architectural Monographs*, which began in 1915, and extensively documented colonial buildings through photographs. These two publications, among others, brought more accurate information on colonial buildings and styles, which allowed a wider audience to have a better understanding of the style. As a result, buildings designed in the Colonial Revival style during the 1915-1935 period tend to more accurately resemble colonial buildings than previous attempts at the style did. The Smiley House at 2107 Beech Street is a good frame example of the style, while the Tennison House at 1923 Beech Street is a good masonry example of the style.

Another exposition, the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, also influenced architectural trends at the time the Beech Street Historic District was developing. The planners of the exposition required that buildings be designed in a classical theme, and many of the architects designed dramatic buildings with colonnades around the ground's central courtyard. Since the exposition grounds were widely photographed and attended by thousands of people, it was only natural that the latest designs from the exposition would eventually make it into the mainstream vocabulary and influence residential design around the country, including in Texarkana. Although there are no pure examples in the district, the Dean House at 1520 Beech Street, with its monumental front portico, does hint at the style.

The influence seen from the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 also occurred on a much smaller scale after the 1915 Panama-California Exposition which was held in San Diego. Although some Spanish influence was seen in residential architecture before the exposition, it was usually free adaptation of Mission style buildings. However, Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, who designed the exposition buildings, looked beyond Mission precedents to get Spanish influence from throughout Spain and Latin America. As other

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prominent architects looked at his buildings, they also found influence in Spanish and Latin American architecture, and if eventually trickled down to the masses, reaching its popularity in the 1920s and 1930s, right at the time that parts of the Beech Street Historic District were developing. The house at 1907 County Avenue, with its stucco wall finish and arches shows the style's influence as does the Briley House at 2121 Beech Street with its clay tile roof. Another good example of the style is the Dove House at 2016 Beech Street.

At the time that the Beech Street area of Texarkana was developing, it was not just Spain and Latin America or classical motifs where architects were gaining their inspiration. After World War I particularly, influences were coming from other parts of Europe, specifically England. As soldiers returned to the United States, they had houses designed and built that were influenced by the picturesque manors and cottages that they had seen in cities and towns throughout England. Although some English influence was seen in the early 1900s, the Tudor or English Revival exploded on the scene in the 1920s. The rise in popularity at the same time of using a masonry veneer meant that even a modest house could exhibit brick and stone techniques similar to English cottages. The style is best exemplified in the house at 1923 County Avenue, with its half-timbering and steeply-pitched roof and in the O'Dwyer House at 2108 Beech Street, which is a good example of a masonry house in the style.

Although many of the styles found in the Beech Street Historic District were influenced by historical precedents in other countries, this was not always the case. The Craftsman style, for example, was mainly an American style phenomenon, and one of the most popular architectural styles during the first decades of the twentieth-century. According to Virginia and Lee McAlester in *A Field Guide to American Houses*, the height of popularity for the Craftsman style was from 1905 until 1930, the period of greatest development in the Beech Street District. The style was mainly inspired by the brothers Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene who practiced architecture together in Pasadena, California, from 1893 until 1914. It was a style that emphasized the craftsmanship and materials that went into a building's construction. Some of the best examples of the style in the district include the Sims House at 2224 Beech Street, the Offenhauser House at 1823 Beech Street, the House at 1808 Beech Street, the Waters House at 1804 Beech Street, and the Frost House at 1519 Beech Street, a large and eclectic example that also shows influences of several other styles.

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The Beech Street Historic District is significant for the fact that it illustrates a shift in residential development in Texarkana. Where the residential areas in the nineteenth century were mainly to the east of downtown, but the early twentieth century development was occurring more to the north of the city's commercial area. Quality Hill, which was "the" place to live in Texarkana, was being bypassed by new neighborhoods on the north side, with Beech Street being the cream of the crop.

The Beech Street Historic District also illustrates the architectural trends of the first part of the 1900s. As revival styles like the Colonial Revival Spanish Revival and the Neoclassical style rose in popularity, they were used for the homes built in the district. In addition, the distinctly American Craftsman style, which was one of the most popular styles during the period of the district's development, is well illustrated. The Beech Street Historic District is a microcosm of early twentieth century architectural styles, and contains the best examples of these styles in Texarkana.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Beech Street Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** for its large number of early architectural styles, which have retained the integrity of style and purpose. The Beech Street Historic District is also being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its relationship to the growth and development in the city of Texarkana, Arkansas.

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Beech Street Historic District

Miller County, Arkansas

Name of Property

County and State

**United States Department of the Interior**

National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

## **Continuation Sheet**

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### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Beginning at center of Beech Street, proceed easterly to south end of the property at 1418 Beech Street, continue east to alley behind 1418 Beech Street and proceed northerly to 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn east onto 16<sup>th</sup> Street and proceed east to curbside on west side of County Avenue. Turn north on County Avenue and proceed to 17<sup>th</sup> Street; Turn west onto 17<sup>th</sup> Street and proceed to alley behind east side of Beech Street. Proceed northerly to point between 1715 County Avenue and 1717 County Avenue and turn east between the two houses and proceed to west curbside of County Avenue and turn north.. Travel northerly to 20<sup>th</sup> Street and turn west and proceed to alley behind house at 2002 Beech Street and turn north. Travel northerly from this point to south side of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, and proceed west to alley behind 2323 Beech Street. Turn south onto alley and proceed south to point behind 303 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and turn west at that point and travel to Ash Street. Turn south on Ash Street and travel to E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and turn east on E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and travel to alley behind 2225 Beech Street and turn south onto the alley. Travel southerly down the alley to the center point between properties at 2014 and 2002 Ash Street. Turn west and go to curb on east side of Ash Street. Turn south and travel southerly to E. 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn east on E. 19<sup>th</sup> Street, and travel easterly to alley behind 1923 Beech Street. Turn onto alley and travel southerly to 16<sup>th</sup> Street. At 16<sup>th</sup> Street turn west and travel to Ash Street past the empty lot at corner of Ash Street and 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Turn east between the empty lot and the house at 1516 Ash Street and travel to the alley behind 1503 Beech Street. At the alley, turn south and travel to point between the empty lot at 1417 /Beech and 1413 Beech Street. Proceed easterly to beginning point in center of Beech Street.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This boundary was drawn to include properties in the Beech Street Historic District that maintain the highest level of historic integrity in architecture. The Beech Street Historic District is also important for the relationship of these properties to the growth and leadership in Texarkana during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.



Beech Street Historic District  
Name of Property

Miller County, Arkansas  
County and State

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

# **National Register of Historic Places**

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BEECH STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT

Name of Property  
 United States Department of Historic Places  
 National Park Service  
 National Register of Historic Places

MILLER COUNTY - ARKANSAS

County and State

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION  
 SKETCH MAP  
 SHEET 1 OF 1

**LEGEND**

- BOUNDARY
- 1 BUILDINGS
- X NON-CONTRIBUTING
- > PHOTO LOCATIONS
- ABCS STREET SCAPES/PHOTOS

