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# Restaurants of Arkadelphia

Sharon Windham  
*Ouachita Baptist University*

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RESTAURANTS OF ARKADELPHIA

BY

Sharon Windham

Special Studies 491  
Mr. Harry H. Squires  
May 16, 1967

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## P U R P O S E

The assigned Special Studies project was to make a survey of the restaurants and eating establishments of Arkadelphia. This survey and report are to be compiled with other surveys and reports of various areas in a business directory of Arkadelphia.

The purpose of this business directory, it was my understanding, was not only to give its readers ready reference to these organizations but also to give the student making the survey a first hand knowledge of these organizations. This survey has well served its purpose of giving the student, in this case, me, a working knowledge of the restaurants or eating establishments.

I learned not only the construction of these restaurants as to management but also I learned just how difficult some people can be. I had learned this fact the previous semester while doing my research on corporations, but I had forgotten to some extent. However, my memory was vividly refreshed while conducting this survey.

In summary, you can easily boil the purpose of this paper down to four items:

1. To compile a business directory of Arkadelphia, Arkansas.
2. To give the readers of this directory a quick guide to the organizations listed in it.
3. To give the student doing the research a fundamental knowledge of the construction and form of these organizations.
4. To learn to cope with people in business--all types of people.

SURVEY OF BUSINESS  
Department of Business Administration  
Ouachita Baptist University  
Arkadelphia, Arkansas  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Type of operation: Manufacturing \_\_\_\_, Wholesaling \_\_\_\_, Retailing \_\_\_\_, Service \_\_\_\_.

Lines of products handled or produced \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Form of Organization: Corporation \_\_\_\_, Partnership \_\_\_\_, Proprietorship \_\_\_\_.

If a Corporation, the name of the:

Chm of Board \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

President \_\_\_\_\_ Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

V. President \_\_\_\_\_ Manager \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

If a Partnership or Proprietorship:

Name of Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Position or Major Duty: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is annual statement made available to the public? Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Annual Sales \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_

## RESTAURANTS OF ARKADELPHIA

After receiving the fifteen questionnaire forms from Mr. Harry H. Squires, I began my Special Studies project which consisted of calling on fifteen designated restaurants in Arkadelphia to discover their various formations and just how these organizations operate..

In general, business is organized as:

- (1.) Single proprietorship
- (2.) Partnership
- (3.) Corporation

Of the fifteen calls I made, seven restaurants considered themselves proprietorships in structure, three considered themselves partnerships, three considered themselves corporations, one had gone out of business, and one very rude owner vehemently declared she was much too busy to bother with such things.

### PROPRIETORSHIP

A business operated by an individual as a single proprietorship does not issue stock and bonds. Ordinarily, such a business has no piece of paper which evidences ownership in it (unless there is a bill of sale).

A proprietorship has definite advantages that distinguish it from partnerships and corporations. These advantages are:

1. The owner alone decides the duration of the business.
2. The owner controls the enterprise.
3. The owner has the right to change the nature of the business at any time he desires to do so without consulting others.
4. The owner has the sole right to select the name of the business.
5. The owner may change the method of operation and the policy of his business at any time he wishes without consulting others.
6. Any property, real or personal, owned by the business would be his, with the sole right to sell, exchange, or improve the property.<sup>1</sup>

Although the proprietorship does have definite advantages, it also has definite disadvantages. These disadvantages are:

1. The death or disabling illness of the proprietor may jeopardize the business or bring about its termination.
2. As the business grows, the responsibility of making all decisions may become too great for one person.
3. Creditors are reluctant to extend too much to any business organization supported by the finances of only one person.<sup>2</sup>

Keeping these facts in mind, we see that seven out of fifteen of the calls made during this project were, however, proprietorships.

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<sup>1</sup>Robert R. Rosenberg and William G. Ott, College Business Law, 3d ed. (New York, 1966), p. 398.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid.



## ARK-CHIC

The address of the Ark-Chic for those who do not know is: Highway 67 North, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

The Ark-Chic drive in and restaurant is mostly patronized by college and high school students. One positive factor behind this would probably be the restaurant's location--relatively close to the campus of both Henderson and also Ouachita.

The owner of the Ark-Chic, Mr. George Leoporder, was very nice to talk and work with and seemed interested in the survey.

The Ark-Chic is a retailing and service operation primarily that handles cooked food to the largest degree. Mr Leoporder gave the number of employees as five. There is no annual statement made available to the public. \$35,000 was the amount of annual sales estimated by Mr. Leoporder.

## ARKANSAS RESTAURANT

The Arkansas Restaurant located at 819 South, Highway 67, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a long time favorite of the college students. It is a familiar scene to walk in the Arkansas Restaurant and see two or three of your friends eating pie or salad and drinking coffee or tea.

Mr. H. G. Fowler, the owner, who leases the Arkansas Restaurant from the Arkansas Motel owners was a very nice person to work with and proved to be most helpful.

The Arkansas Restaurant is generally a retailing operation that handles primarily food, cigarettes, candy, cold drinks, and coffee.

Mr. Fowler told me there was no annual statement made available to the public by the restaurant. The Arkansas consists of thirteen employees, who are usually kept quite busy. The estimated annual sales normally equal anywhere from \$90,000 to \$125,000 a year.

#### CADDO VALLEY CAFE

The Caddo Valley Cafe located on Highway 67 North, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a very small cafe mostly patronized by truck drivers.

When I went into this cafe the first time, the owner was not there; and a waitress that worked there told me she would have the owner fill it out, and I could pick it up later. Everytime I went back, the owner wasn't there, and she hadn't remembered to have the questionnaire filled out. After several weeks, I returned and found the owner in the cafe back in the kitchen. I went to the kitchen and asked him the questions only after rudely being ushered that way by his wife.

The Caddo Valley Cafe is classified as a retailing operation and handles all lines of prepared foods.

The owner, Mr. Harold Francis, said that there was no annual statement made available to the public. Two employees make up the work force at this cafe which is attributed to its small size.

Mr. Francis also declined to give any information about the estimated annual sales since he thought that question was too personal.

#### DAISY QUEEN

The Daisy Queen located at 102 South 10, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, was formerly the Dairy Queen No. 1 located at the same location.

The owner, Mrs. Merrick, was hesitant about answering some of the questions on this questionnaire since she said she at one time got into some "hot water" over a student survey (she didn't say from which school).

The Daisy Queen is considered a retailing operation and handles such things as sandwiches, drinks, ice cream, and other things usually handled by ice cream places.

Mrs. Merrick said that no annual statement was made available to the public. She estimated her number of employees as twelve, although there is quite often a turn over of workers.

As to the estimated annual sales, she declined to say.

#### GABLES RESTAURANT

Gables Restaurant located at 112 North 10, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a nice restaurant with a great deal of friendliness displayed throughout the atmosphere.

Mr. Connie M. Shepherd, the owner, was one of the most congenial of all the people I interviewed. He seemed to have a definite desire to please people and get everything right, even in this questionnaire.

Gables is a retailing operation and the lines of products that it handles are beef and other general lines of food for restaurants, the most common known brands of food. One of the specialties that Gables is often known for is its quail dinners.

Mr. Shepherd said that there was not an annual statement made available to the public. He gave his number of employees as fifteen. Estimated annual sales ordinarily equal anywhere from \$80,000 to \$110,000.

#### HANK'S RESTAURANT

Hank's Restaurant has not only moved out into the country areas, but it also has changed its name to a much more fitting one--Hank and Sarah's Country Kitchen, Hank and Sarah's Country Kitchen has its new location on Route 3, Arkadelphia, Arkansas. As the advertisements go, "a little bit more for a little bit better," that is exactly what this Country Kitchen exemplifies. Even though you have to go a little bit further to get to it, you get so much more from it. It definitely has a "home atmosphere" as well as warmth and friendliness reaching out to you from all sides. The food also displays the good side of "good ole home cooking."

Hank and Sarah's Country Kitchen is an example of a retailing organization and handles all types of prepared foods. Mr. Hank Thompson, the owner, was very cordial. He gave the number of employees as one. Mr. Thompson said that they did not make an annual statement available to the public. He declined to give the estimated annual sales as he felt that question was too personal.

#### HILL'S CAFE

Hill's Cafe located at 1601 West Pine, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a small cafe in the Negro area of town. This cafe though small was very neat and clean.

I must admit, with some feeling of guilt as well as shame, that I experienced some feeling of dread when I saw where this cafe was located. This feeling of dread was quickly removed when I met the owner, manager, and cook, Mrs. John Hill. She was one of the nicest people I talked with, and she seemed quite concerned about the project.

Mrs. Hill classified her cafe as a retailing organization. She told me that she made no annual statement available to the public, unless it was to her creditors. She also told me she only had one employee, and I believe by that she meant she was the only one working there. She later estimated her annual sales at approximately \$300 a month or \$3,600 a year.

## PARTNERSHIPS

A partnership is a business operated under an agreement by two or more individuals (partners). It does not issue stocks and bonds. The only formal evidence of ownership that is commonly found in such an organization is a written partnership agreement which set forth the various interests and rights of the partners. Partnerships are governed by special laws applicable to partnerships, but in general the partners are liable without limit for the debts of the partnership.<sup>3</sup>

A partnership is created when two or more competent parties agree to combine their assets, labor, and skill, or some of them, for the purpose of carrying on a lawful business, with the understanding that the profits and losses arising from the undertaking will be shared between them.<sup>4</sup>

There are advantages to a partnership just as there are advantages to a proprietorship. These advantages are:

1. Each partner contributes his knowledge, ability, skill, and experience to the common success of all.
2. Active participation by the partners reduces the expense of hiring additional employees.
3. Efficiency is promoted through cooperation, division of labor and responsibility, and the reduction of competition.
4. The combined financial resources of the partners permit greater expansion, large-scale production, and more extensive operations. Creditors are also willing to extend more credit.

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<sup>3</sup>Jerome B. Cohen and Arthur W. Hanson, Personal Finance-- Principles and Case Problems, 3d ed. (Illinois, 1964), p. 530.

<sup>4</sup>op. cit., p. 399.

In contrast to these advantages, the partnership also has disadvantages:

1. Each partner is personally liable for all the debts of the partnership incurred either by **himself** or by his copartners in behalf of the firm, even to the extent of his personal assets.
2. Each partner is liable for all business torts and acts committed by his copartner in the course of the firm's business.
3. Serious illness or death of one of the partners may disrupt the partnership business or cause its dissolution.
4. Disagreement among the partners may result in forced dissolution.
5. Should one of the partners become involved in a legal suit related to his personal affairs, a judgment against him may result in a forced sale of his interest in the partnership business.

After realizing all the disadvantages a partnership has to offer, you can more easily see why the partnership is readily becoming extinct. Out of the fifteen visits I made to restaurants, only three were partnerships.

#### TOM'S DRIVE-IN

Tom's Drive-In located at 320 North 10, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a small drive-in that has a rather shabby exterior appearance and is almost hidden from view because it is pushed back so far from the highway. Its interior appearance is much better even though it is rather on the old side and somewhat dimly lighted.

The owner, manager, cook, and cashier, Mr. Otis Arnold, was the first person I talked with at this drive-in, and he seemed willing to help and somewhat interested in the project. He told me that Tom's Drive-In would be considered a retailing operation which handled barbecue chicken and sandwiches, primarily, as well as other types of lunches and short orders along with cold drinks.

Mr. Arnold told me they did not make an annual statement available to the public. He numbered their employees at two, and told me I would have to ask his wife, Mrs. Grace Arnold, the book-keeper, about the estimated annual sales.

I then talked to Mrs. Arnold about the estimated annual sales only to learn very clearly that she did not think that was any of my business whatsoever.

#### TOWN HOUSE

The Town House Restaurant located at Tenth and Caddo, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a very popular eating place among the Arkadelphia inhabitants as well as students. One of the big reasons for the popularity of the Town House is that their prices on their buffet are so reasonable, and the buffet offers such a variety of food it is surely to have a little of what everyone likes. Another big reason for its popularity is its location which is in walking distance of both campuses, the church, the show, etc.

The Town House is a retailing and service organization which handles food of all kinds and descriptions in its raw form and then after it is prepared, it is made available for serving.



The owners who share in this partnership are Mr. Ken J. Bowen and Mr. Harold Adams. The manager who I talked with, told me that no annual statement was made available to the public. There are thirty-four employees that keep the Town House running smoothly even during rush hours which can prove to be hectic. The manager also told me that no estimation of annual sales was available to the public.

#### WATSON'S FREEZE KING

Watson's Freeze King located at 1413 Pine Street, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a place where the crowd can gather. At night you will be able to find just about anyone at Watson's. During the day you will still find these college students at Watson's but only in the midst of what seems like three hundred screaming elementary students who are all clamoring for lunch. It's a madhouse at noon.

Watson's Freeze King is considered a retailing establishment and handles such products as drinks, sandwiches, and soft ice cream.

Mr. B. D. Watson is the bookkeeper and all around flunky. Mrs. Grace Watson, his wife, is the manager and is the one I interviewed. Mrs. Watson was most cordial and interested in the project.

Mrs. Watson told me that they did not make an annual statement available to the public. She estimated her employees at six.

I noticed on the door as I went in a sign that read, "Help wanted for summer months." This seems to be an indication that students make up their main work force during the school term, and during the summer other types of employment are needed.

Mrs. Watson also told me that their annual estimated sales is approximately \$37,000.

## CORPORATIONS

A corporation may be defined as an artificial person created by law usually through a general or special act of a state legislature. Statutes give a corporation the legal capacity of a person. It may sue and be sued in its name, may make contracts, acquire and dispose of personal and real property, and may do all the other things that a natural person might do if he were engaged in the same type of business.

Today the corporation is the type of business structure selected by most new business ventures anticipating growth and long-term existence.

The corporation has advantages just as the proprietorship and partnership.

1. The corporation can outlive those who form it.
2. The corporation is controlled by the vote of the owners, who are the stockholders rather than by a few partners.
3. The corporation name, selected by its organizer, is made part of the corporation charter and may not be changed without the permission of the stockholders.
4. The decision of the corporation in other than regular operational matters are reached by the combined judgment of all the stockholders.
5. The stockholders are protected against any claims made on their personal property should the corporation be insolvent or bankrupt.
6. The pooling of the financial strength invested in the business by the stockholders permits ventures that would otherwise be impossible.

The exact opposite of these advantages are definite disadvantages of a corporation. These disadvantages are:

1. Stockholders are not always familiar with the operating problems of the corporation and may not make wise decisions when voting at the annual stockholders' meeting.
2. A corporate business is limited to the activities set forth in the corporation charter.
3. Corporations, because of Federal and state laws are subject to close scrutiny in all their financial planning.
4. Dissolution of a corporation often entails expensive liquidation and argument among the thousands of stockholders, who are the owners.
5. The profits of a corporation are divided among the<sup>5</sup> stockholders who may number hundreds of thousands.<sup>5</sup>

Keeping these advantages and disadvantages in mind, we must remember that the corporation is the largest structure of business money wise while it is second behind the proprietorship in the number of corporations that are in existence.

#### HOLIDAY INN

The Holiday Inn located on Interstate 30, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a nice, relatively new motel with a restaurant attached. This is not one of the most popular eating places with the students primarily because of the distant location-- it is not within walking distance from campus--the high prices, and the degree of fanciness that is present in the atmosphere. This is a restaurant that is very popular for special dinners, buffets, or special dates.

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<sup>5</sup>Ibid., pp. 399 and 340.

When I went to the Holiday Inn to interview the manager, he told me he would have to talk to the Board of Directors before he could answer any questions. He asked me if I would leave the form with him, and he would ask the questions when he talked to them. I, of course, understood his position clearly and told him I would pick up the questionnaire the next day. The next afternoon I went after the questionnaire. When I finally got the manager's attention, he immediately began looking for the form. After he found the form he walked over to me and told me he had talked to the Board of Directors, and they had told him not to answer any of the questions. They said the questionnaire applied to personal information.

The manager was very nice but, of course, not very helpful although he could not help that.

#### HOMER'S

Homer's Cafeteria located at 619 Clinton, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a nice, spacious cafeteria. Homer's is another place which is reserved for such things as banquets and showers.

I took the questionnaire form to Homer's only to find the manager in full charge. I interviewed the manager only to have her tell me after the interview that she shouldn't tell anything until she had talked to the Board of Directors. When asked how long it would be before they came in, she answered that they should be in that very afternoon. She told me to leave the questionnaire, and she would get the owners to sign it.

Upon return to pick up the supposedly completed questionnaire, I found my job not yet done. The manager had forgotten to get the owners to sign the questionnaire and had in the meantime lost it. Therefore, my job had only really begun. I had to find another form to be filled out and then pump the information out of the manager. Come to find out, she really didn't know very much.

Homer's is classified as a retailing organization and handles prepared foods as its product. She did not know the members of the Board of Directors and was unable to be any help in that area.

She told me that no annual statement was made available to the public and neither was the estimated annual sales. She counted the number of employees under her employ as nine.

#### TASTEE FREEZ

The Tastee Freez located on Highway 67 North, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is another famous hangout for the college students as well as the high school students and adults.

It is so popular because of its reasonable prices, its good location, the drive-in facilities, and the quality of food they produce.

The Tastee Freez is classified as a retailing organization. Mr. Glen Wheeler, the manager, was very easy and pleasant to work with.

Mr. Wheeler listed the following products as being handled by the Tastee Freez: hamburgers, cheeseburgers, corn dogs, barbecue, toasted cheese, frito pies, chili burgers, hot dogs, french

fries, tastee taters, fish sandwich, steak sandwich, malts, shakes, Coca cola, Pepsi, Dr. Pepper, Root beer, Orange, Lemon lime, and grape drink.

Since the Tastee Freez is a corporation it must have a Board of Directors. The Board members are:

President	Glenn Wheeler
Vice President	Homer Moore
Secretary	Sherwin Williams
Treasurer	Glenn Wheeler
Manager	Glenn Wheeler

Mr. Wheeler said no annual statement is made available to the public. There are twelve employees to enable this short-order organization to go off smoothly in its management.

Mr. Wheeler also estimated the annual sales at \$80,000 per year.

## UNAVAILABLE

## BEA'S CAFE

Bea's Cafe which is located on Highway 67 North, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is a small cafe.

The first day I took the Special Studies questionnaire to this cafe, a nice elderly lady told me she would get the manager to fill it out, and I could pick the form up the next day.

The next day I returned and found no elderly lady but a middle-aged woman who acted very rude. I asked her where the owner was because I had a form I would like for her to fill out. This lady replied that she didn't think the owner would want to take the time to fill out this questionnaire. I stood there dazed and with my mouth hanging open as she turned and walked away.

The next time I went back, I found only the same middle-aged lady in the cafe. I again asked her, as politely as I knew how, if I could speak with the owner. She told me at this time that she was the owner. As I gulped, I again asked her if she would mind filling out this short questionnaire. She at that time told me in no indefinite terms, "I don't have time for any of that nonsense." I then left the cafe feeling very much like a dog that had been badly whipped.



## SOUTHERN CAFE

Southern Cafe located at 707 Clinton, Arkadelphia, Arkansas, is no longer in existence. As I was visiting this place, I ran into the moving van company that was busily moving furniture out of the hotel part that was connected with the cafe. At this same time, the men came to take the machines of various types that had been used in the cafe.

While watching the men move these things, I talked with Mr. Nowlin of Nowlin Furniture Store who is the landlord of the property that the Southern Cafe and Hotel had been renting. Mr. Nowlin told me for about the last month the leasee of this property had not been making his payments. At last he finally just left.

I also talked with Mr. Sturgis who was busily moving the furniture out of the hotel part of this building. He had sold this furniture to the man who had leased the Southern Cafe and Hotel and was now repossessing it after full payment was not made and there was no indication that it would be made. He was sending this furniture to the Arkansas Children's Colony in Conway, Arkansas.

Although I did not learn anything from this experience about corporations, partnerships, or proprietorships, I did learn a great deal about people and their financial problems.

## CONCLUSION

In summary of this paper and this Special Studies project, I would like to say that I have enjoyed working on it immensely. It is not that I like to be chewed out and made to feel terrible but because I feel now that I can stand up and talk to these people--it is about time that I begin to feel this way since I will be out in the world on my own in the very near future. These Special Studies projects have given me knowledge, of course, but more than that I feel as if they have given me experience in dealing with people which is certainly necessary in the world of business just as it is in every other aspect.

My knowledge of the make-up of corporations, partnerships, and proprietorships has also been strengthened through working on this paper.

This has been a very worthwhile project, and I only hope that the other areas of business in Arkadelphia will be included as planned in this Business Directory of Arkadelphia.

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