

## Eagle Mills, Arkansas

The Eagle Mills community was named for the Eagle Lumber Company. This company came into being during the "sawmill" years of Ouachita County's history. An area now known as Eagle Mills was nothing but woods when it became the site of a new sawmill around 1889. Once the site was selected a working saw mill was up and running within two years, with approximately five hundred employees who worked six days a week for then cents an hour.

In that it was a company town, the company built and supplied everything that was needed for life. During its productive years, Eagle Mills had several company houses; a school; a commissary-a company store where people could purchase items for the home, managed by Edwin Scales; and two churches-a Baptist and a Methodist. Also, a post office was housed inside a one-room building, with Mrs. Pearl Martin serving as the postmistress for twenty-six years. These structures were erected between 1889 and 1900. The houses were for management personnel. Also, a company doctor was provided and Dr. Henry, and his son, Dr. Hugh Henry, provided the medical services that were offered in Eagle Mills.

Today, little remains to document the existence of this community from the past. A sign on the highway still displays the name "Eagle Mills," but the historic trappings of what once was for the most are gone. Another memory of what once was in Ouachita County.