

Best, Arkansas

Contributed by Carolyn Cox, 2014

The community of Best was located about a mile east of Bearden on the Cotton Belt Railroad. The Cotton Belt Lumber Company was erected on that location in 1885. In 1904, the lumber company established the Bearden & Ouachita River Railroad. The tracks ran from Best fourteen miles due south into Calhoun County. There they joined Freeman-Smith Lumber Company's Ouachita Valley Railway to make possible a connection to the Rock Island at Stark. Best is shown on two maps of Ouachita County published by Rand McNally in 1895 and in 1915.