

NK LISTED 03/17/94

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: W. R. Bunckley House

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 509 East Parker Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Hamburg

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Ashley code: AR 003 zip code: 71646

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Slater
Signature of certifying official

2-2-94
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.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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5. National Park Service Certification

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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 Keeper

Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use

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Historic: DOMESTIC

Sub: Single dwelling

Current: DOMESTIC

Sub: Single dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Folk Victorian

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>Brick</u>	roof	<u>Asphalt</u>
	walls	<u>WOOD/Weatherboard</u>	other	<u>Turned wood porch</u>
				<u>posts and</u>
				<u>ornamental</u>
				<u>work; jig-sawn</u>
				<u>wood trim</u>

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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8. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1903

Significant Dates: 1903

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- 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 # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>15</u>	<u>612720</u>	<u>3676540</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	<u>15</u>	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

The western 122 feet of Lot 3, Block 34, Bunns Survey of Hamburg, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 02/02/94

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-988

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Summary

The W. R. Bunckley House, located on the south side of East Parker Street near downtown Hamburg, is a one-and-one-half story, wood frame residence designed in a rather elaborate interpretation of the Folk Victorian style. Constructed in 1903, its rambling, asymmetrical floor plan is augmented by the typical single-story, wrap-around porch that dominates its northern and eastern elevations. All four elevations also reflect this asymmetricality in their irregular massing.

Elaboration

The W. R. Bunckley House is a one-and-one-half story, wood frame residence designed in a rather elaborate interpretation of the Folk Victorian style. Constructed in 1903, its rambling, asymmetrical floor plan is augmented by the typical single-story, wrap-around porch that dominates its northern and eastern elevations. The two brick chimneys rise through the taller central section, with each being placed equidistant from the gable ends. The asphalt shingle roof and wood novelty-sided walls rest upon brick piers.

The northern or front elevation is composed of the projecting beveled bay at the western end and the single-storey, hipped, wrap-around porch that extends to the east. The beveled bay is fenestrated with a single one-over-one wood sash window on each of its facets, the central window being slightly larger than the others. The gable pediment above is sheathed with weatherboard and ornamented with a central vent -- cut in a flower blossom pattern -- surrounded by a rectangular raised wooden molding. The wrap-around porch to the east is accessed via a raised staircase that abuts the eastern wall of the beveled bay and leads to a single-leaf door in the side gable wall beyond. To the east a single two-over-two window lights the interior and the elevation wall terminates in another beveled bay, facing east. The hipped porch roof is supported upon a series of turned wood posts and ornamented with an assortment of jig-sawn cornice, post and balustrade trim. The tall roof rises above, capped by the two brick chimneys.

The eastern elevation features the beveled bay to the north and the side gable wall extending to the south. The pediment above the beveled bay is blank except for the wood weatherboard that sheathes it. The beveled bay below is of an overall configuration identical to that seen on the northern elevation. The side gable wall to the south is divided into two distinct and identical groupings, each of which is composed of a pair of two-over-two wood sash windows flanking a single-leaf entrance. The enclosed section at the porch's southern end is blank, as is the gable end of the house's central gabled section above.

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The southern elevation is composed of the gable end of the rear ell to the east and the rear wall of the western gabled section. The kitchen gable end is flanked by two shed roof rooms, both of which are lit with a single two-over-two wood window. The gable end itself is lit with a single central two-over-two wood window and accessed via a single-leaf entrance and raised wooden stairway to the east. The rear wall of the western gable is augmented with a shed roof room that is lit with a single central window. The wall to its east intersects with the western wall of the ell and contains a single-leaf entrance. The western pediment above is blank.

The western elevation is composed of the side of the western gabled section, the side of the shed roof room on its end, and the side wall of the rear gabled ell that is sheltered by the non-historic carport. The wall dormer above is ornamented with a vent identical to the one in the pediment on the northern elevation. The side gable wall to the north is fenestrated with a total of five two-over-two windows, placed somewhat irregularly. The side wall of the shed roof room is blank, and the side gable wall of the rear ell is lit by two windows flanking a single-leaf entrance. The projecting shed roof room at its southern end is blank.

Significant exterior details are plentiful, as one might expect on a high-style interpretation of this particular aesthetic. Most of the ornament is concentrated on the northern or principal elevation. Details of note include the elaborate jig-sawn and turned work above the beveled bay window and all along the wrap-around porch. The jig-sawn work in particular ranges from the robust to the delicate, with the larger pattern of the decorative balustrade being set off by the more thin incisions at the post-cornice intersections above and on the beveled bays. The more delicate patterns are echoed on the oak front door. Finally, the upper sash throughout the living room at the northwest corner of the house is filled with decorative stained glass.

The interior is in a remarkable state of preservation. Such features as original built-in oak cabinets and china closets, decorative oak door and window trim (including incised oak corner blocks), and at least two handsome decorative oak fireplace mantels all remain and are in very good condition.

Alterations to the house have been minimal. The Craftsman-influenced carport at the southwestern corner of the house, the enclosure of the rear of the porch to accommodate a bathroom and the loss of the original decorative chimney caps are the principal changes.

Also included in the nomination is a non-historic outbuilding. It is non-contributing.

The W. R. Bunckley House is in very good condition.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number 8 Page 1**Summary****Criterion C, local significance**

The W. R. Bunckley House is locally eligible under Criterion C as the finest extant example of a Folk Victorian-style residence in the city of Hamburg. Its asymmetrical massing and floor plan, beveled bays and abundance of turned and jig-sawn wood ornament define it as a particularly high-style example of this popular national aesthetic. Alterations throughout are minimal, as the interior also retains virtually all of its original defining architectural features.

Elaboration

The community of Hamburg was selected as the county seat when Ashley County was formed by act of Legislature in 1848. The town experienced a significant period of growth in the 1850's, largely through immigration from southern states to the east. As it did on so many southern cities, the Civil War took its toll on Hamburg, but the city resumed slow growth after Reconstruction and continued to be an important regional civic center through to the end of the nineteenth century.

As was also the case with many such small Arkansas county seats -- and particularly those not located on a navigable waterway -- the arrival of the railroad infused the community with great aspirations that fueled a dramatic spurt of growth. Though the Mississippi River Hamburg & Western Railroad would not complete its line between Luna Landing on the Mississippi River and Crossett to the west until 1902, the beginning of construction in 1900 was enough. The booming growth in the timber industry in other parts of the state lent weight to the assertions the great things that it would do for Ashley County with its abundant stands of pine and many envisioned Hamburg as a regional transportation and business hub for it all. Between 1900 and 1902, Hamburg could boast of no fewer than 150 new residences, five new brick buildings and, most significantly, the impending construction of a massive new sawmill at the railroad's western terminus in Crossett. Other local improvements included the construction of the town's first paved sidewalk (which happened to run along the northern edge of East Parker Street, directly opposite the site of the soon-to-be-built W. R. Bunckley House) and an ice house. By 1903, Little Rock architect Frank W. Gibb would be commissioned to design a new county courthouse to be constructed in Hamburg.

It was in that same year that construction began on the W. R. Bunckley House. By one account, Captain W. R. Bunckley was a Civil War veteran who lost a leg during that conflict. He married Ella Mae Watson, the daughter of Elijah David Watson, a successful hardware store proprietor who gave his daughter and her new husband the land upon which they would build their first

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home. Located just to the east of her father's grand residence, the W. R. Bunckley House was completed by 1903 and stood as one of the most modern, up-to-date residences in town when it was finished.

Constructed in the Folk Victorian style (a relatively vernacular interpretation of the high-style Queen Anne Revival), the W. R. Bunckley House remains, by far, the best example of this style in the entire community of Hamburg. The asymmetricality throughout, in both plan and elevation, is the most salient characteristic of this style. However, the W. R. Bunckley House adds such other typical features as the abundant use of both jig-sawn and turned decorative work to ornament the front and side elevations. Also employed are such "carpenter" touches as the decorative trim below the windows on the western elevation. Finally, the use of the stained glass in what was obviously intended to be the principal guest parlor was both a common element of the Folk Victorian style and a virtual celebration of the arrival of the railroad and the fancy, decorative products it made readily available and relatively inexpensive. The W. R. Bunckley House, then, stands not only as the best local example of a particular style, but also as a testimonial to the changing tastes brought on by the railroad and their influence.

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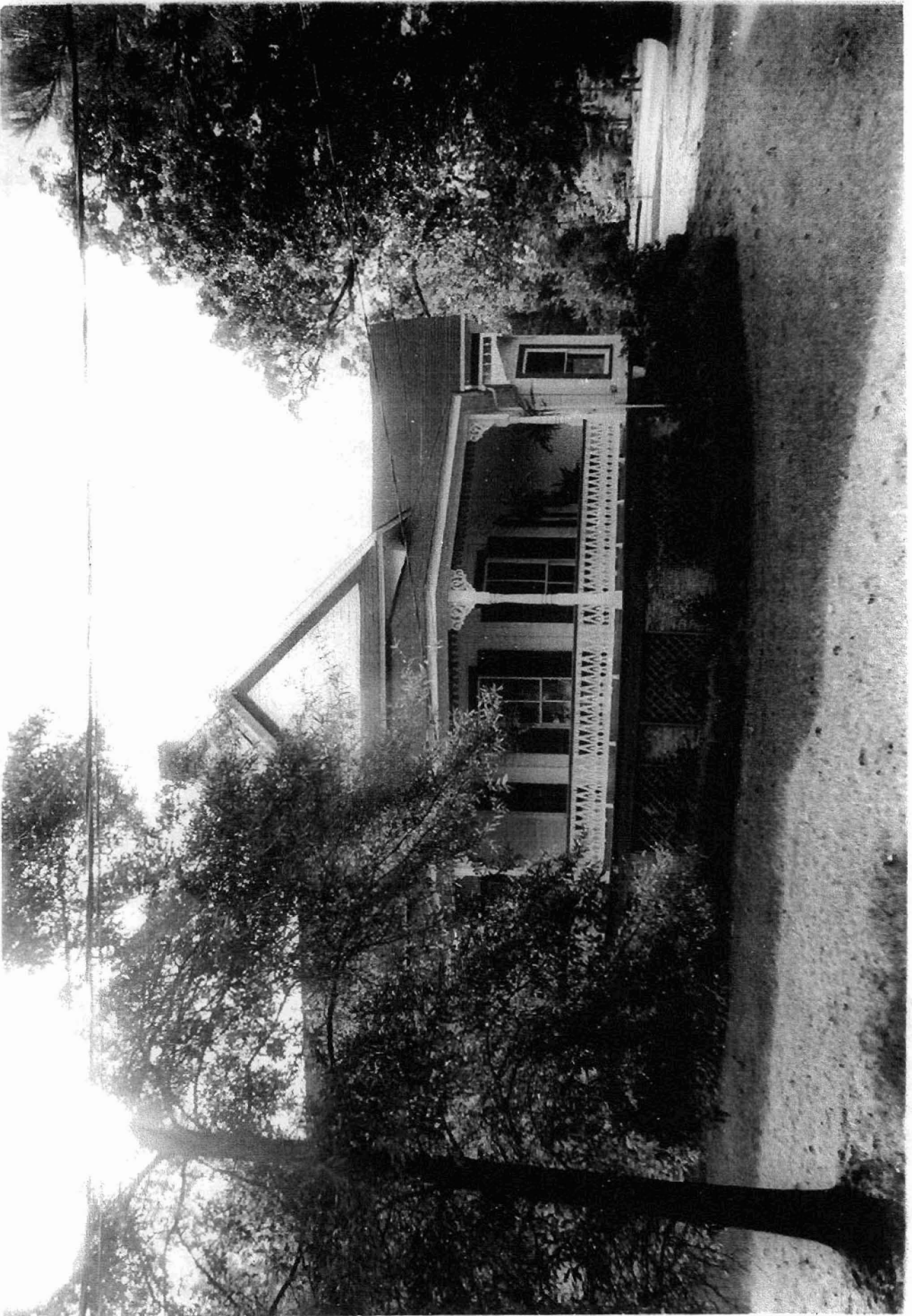
Continuation Sheet

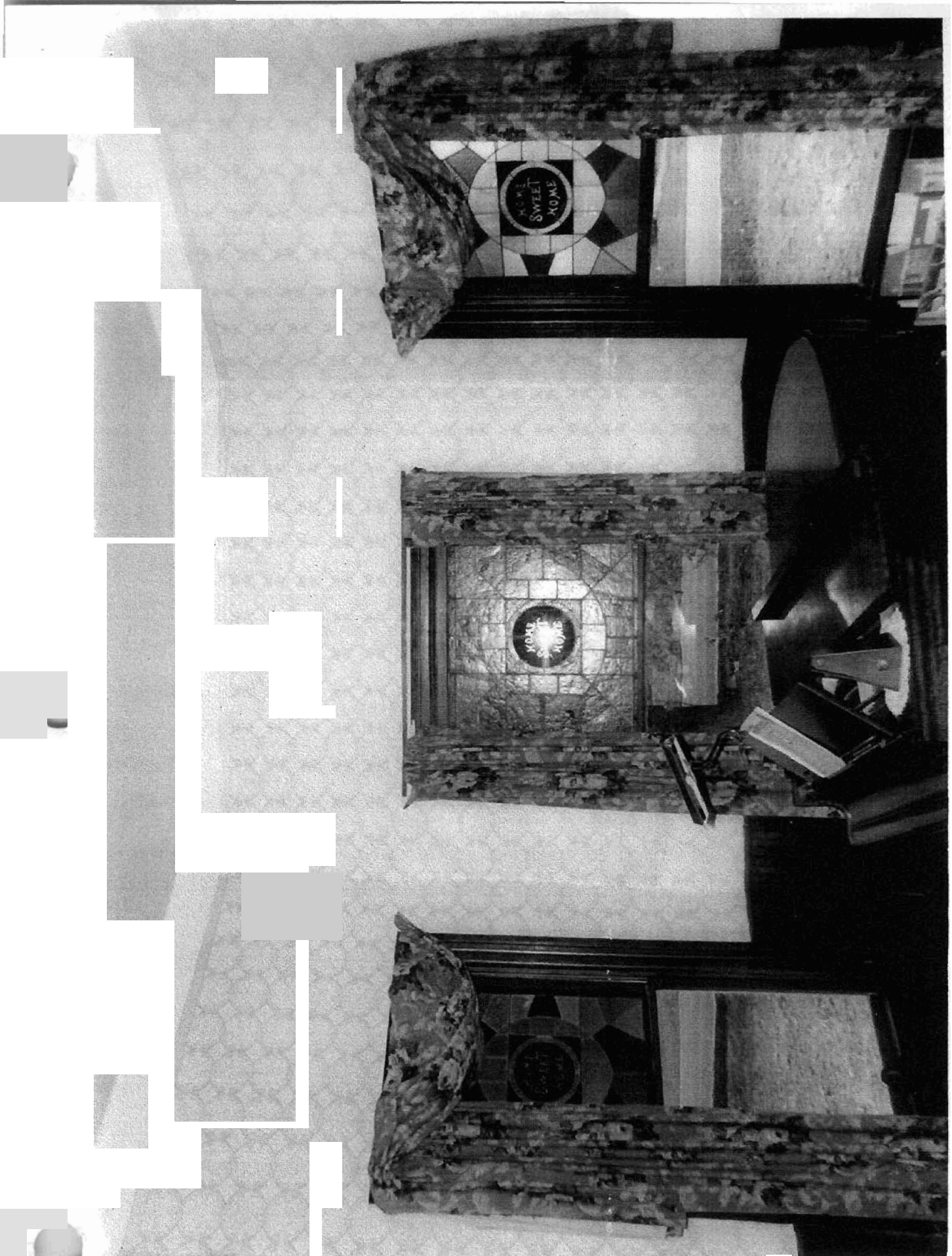
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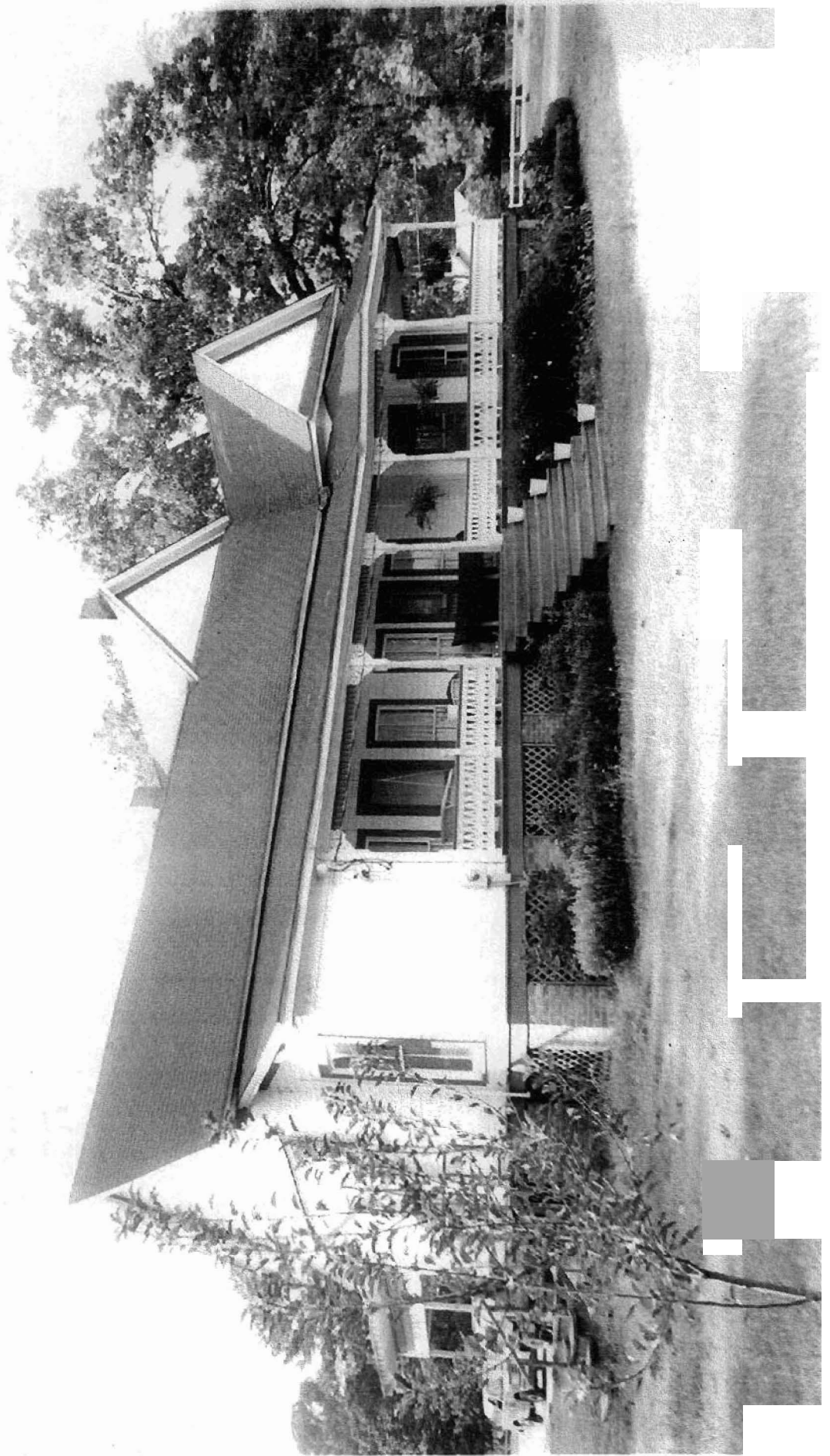
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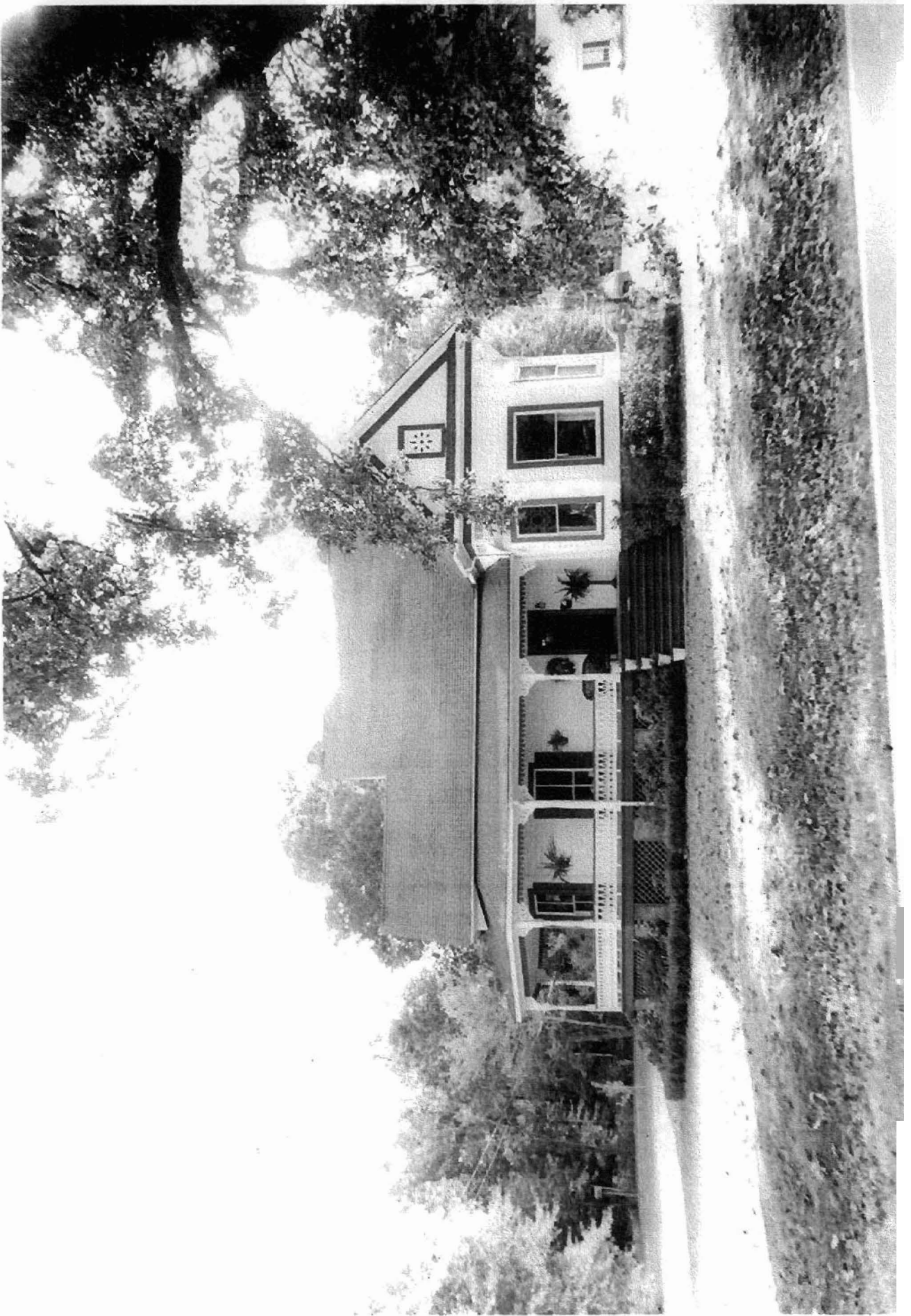
Etheridge, Y. W., *History of Ashley County*, (Van Buren, Arkansas: 1959).

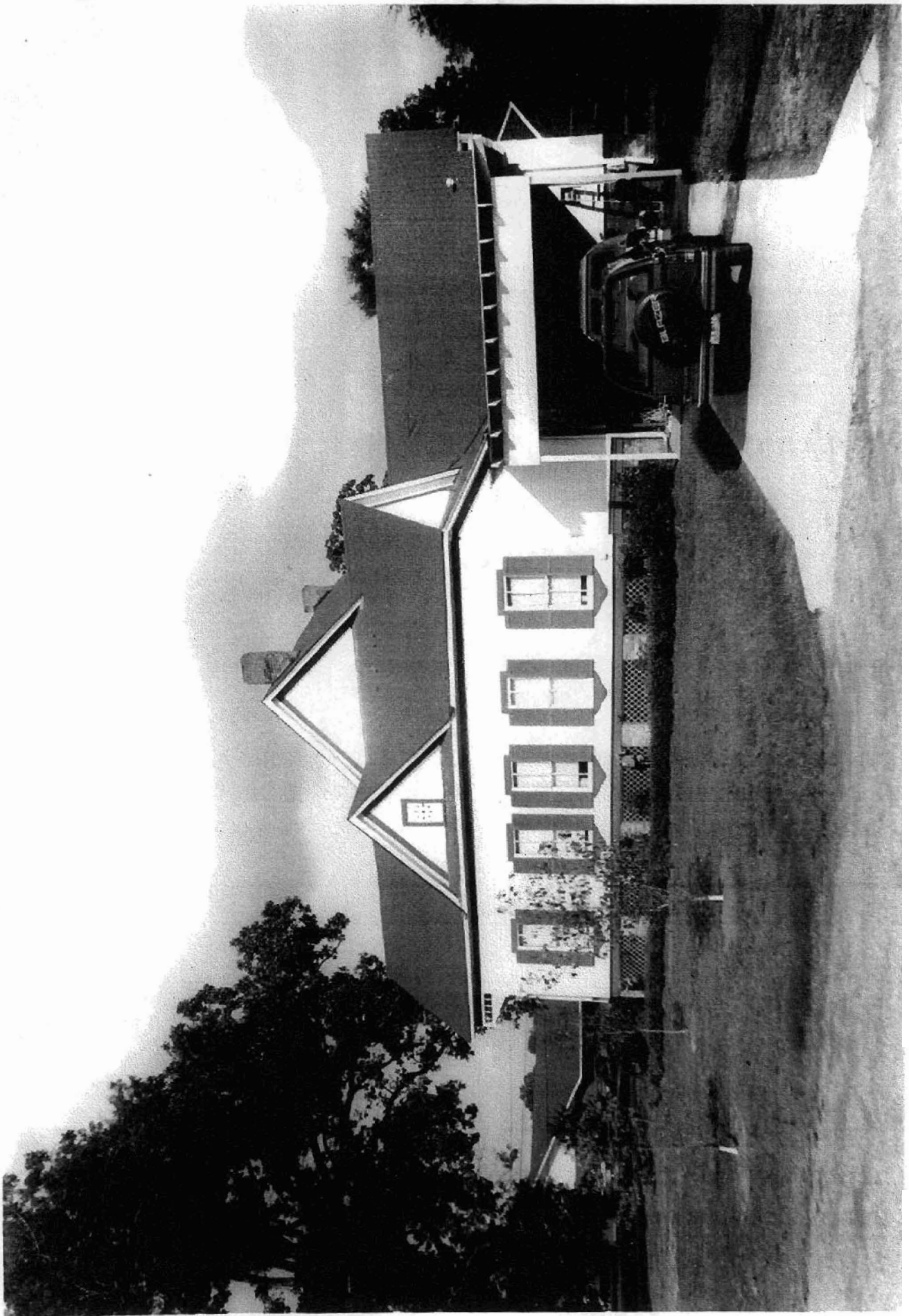
Historical information provided by Mr. and Mrs. Alan Davis, owners of the W. R. Bunckley House, Hamburg, Arkansas.

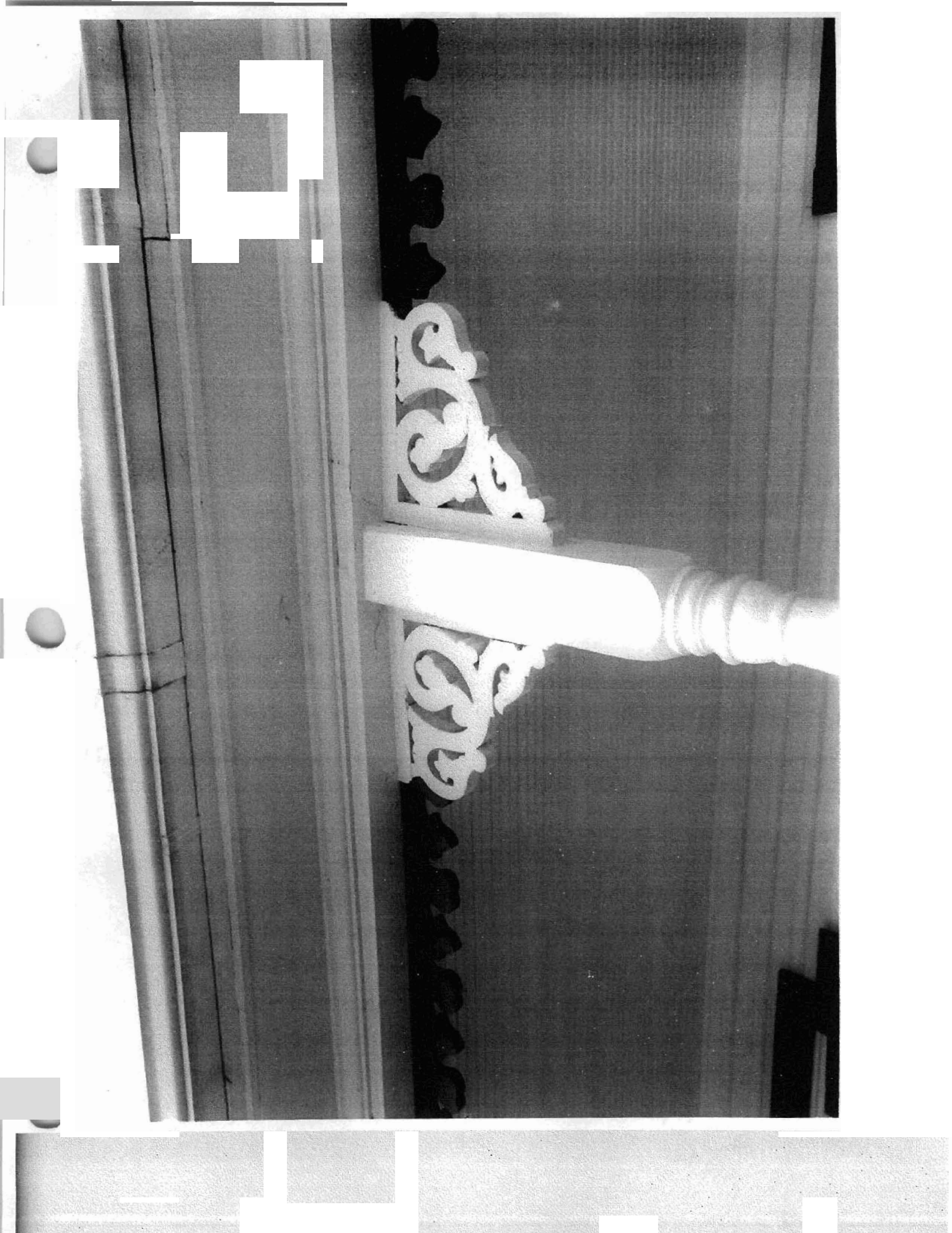


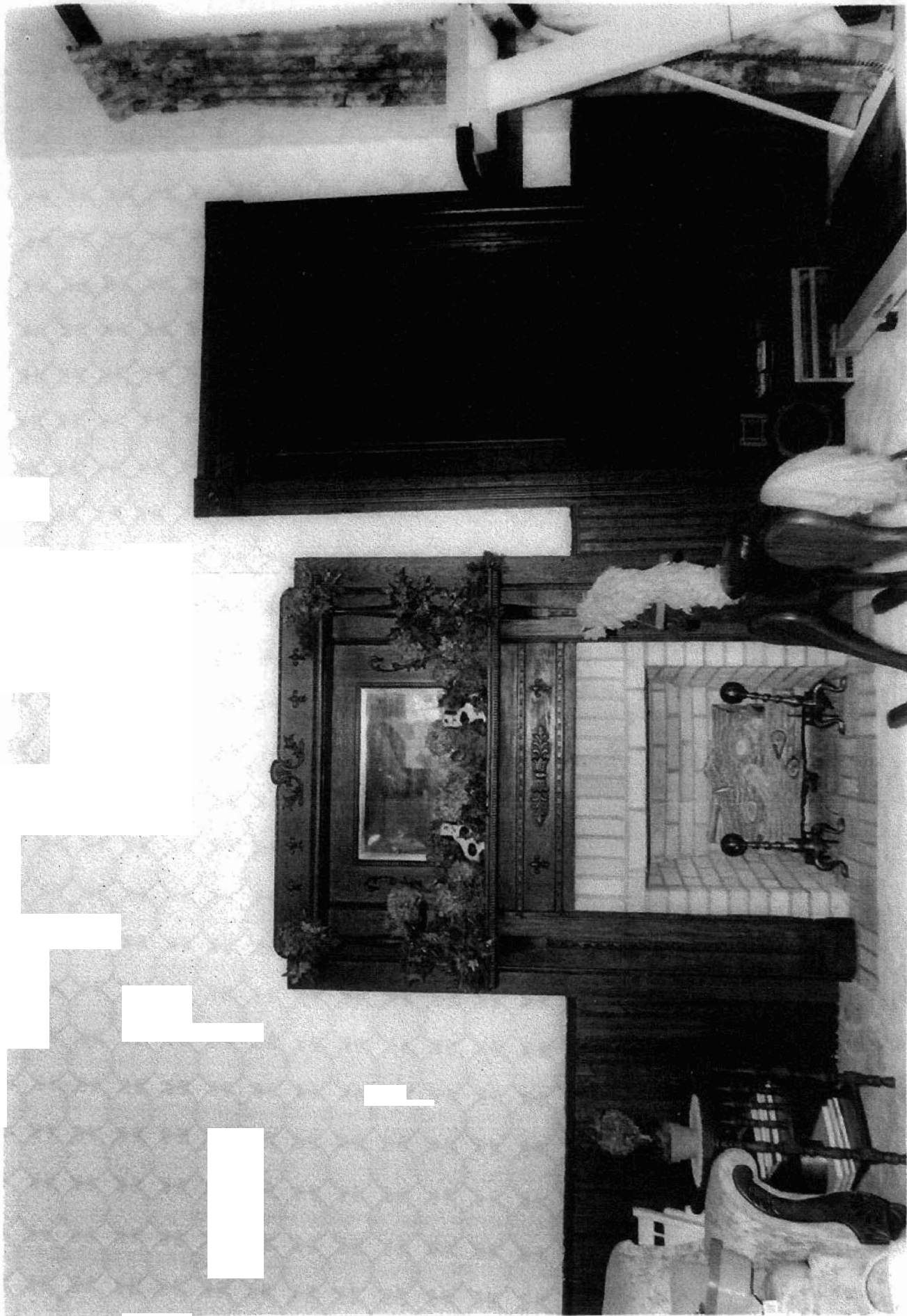






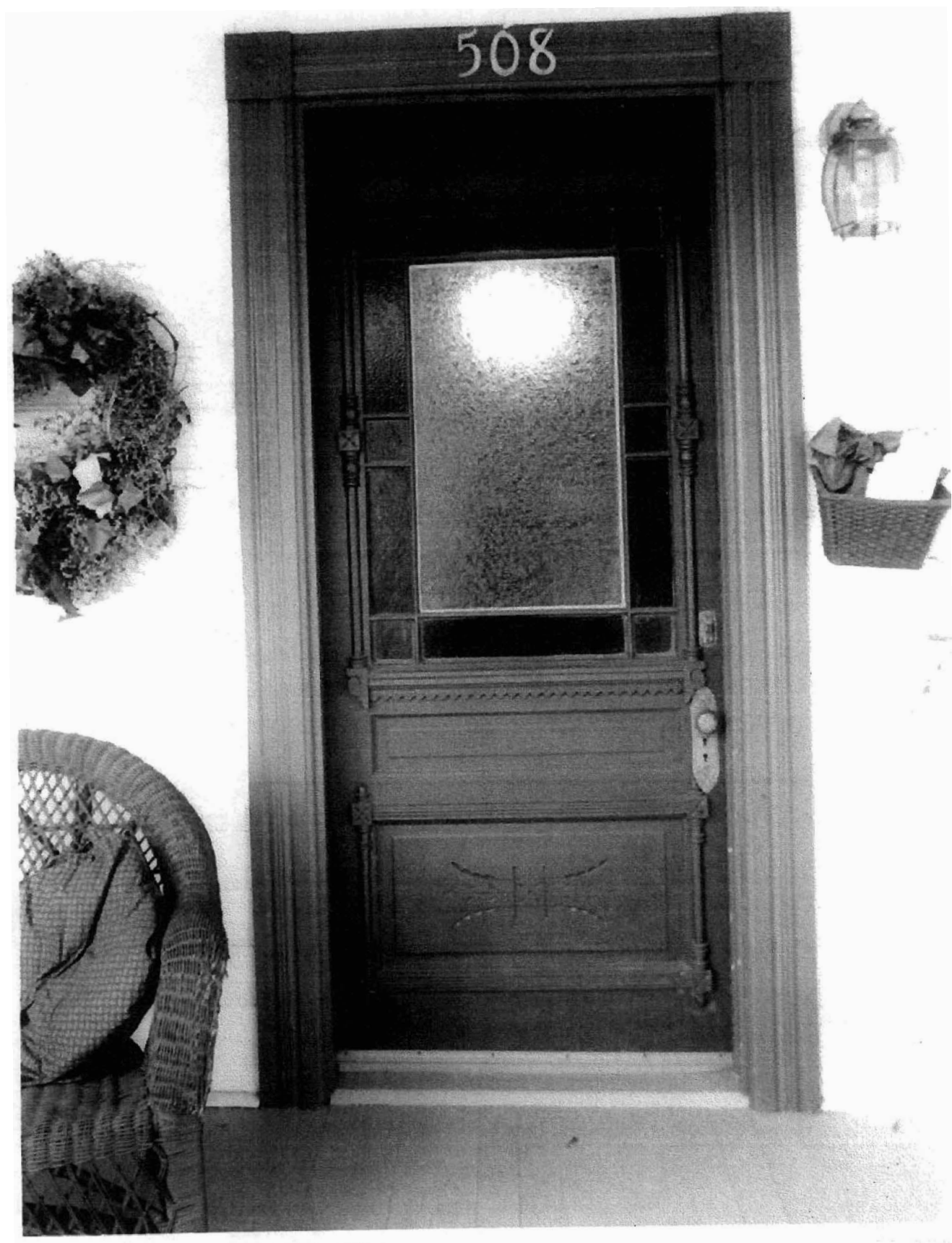




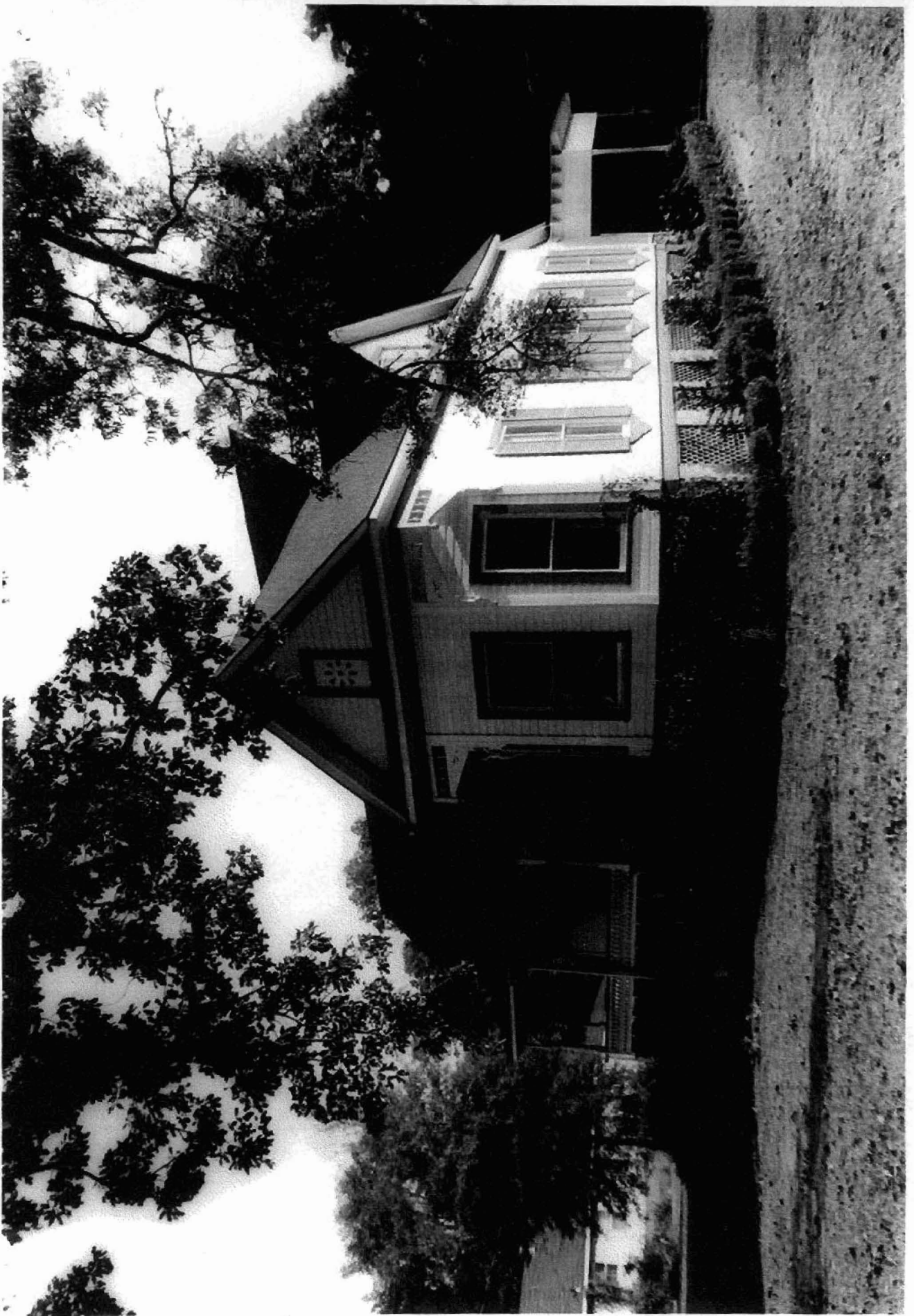












HAMBURG QUADRANGLE

ARKANSAS-ASHLEY CO.

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

NE 1/4 CROSSETT 15' QUADRANGLE

