

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR 1-29-07

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 an 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 Horace Mann School Historic District

other names/site number Norfolk Public School; BA 0051, BA0144, BA0145, BA0146

2. Location

street & number City Hall Circle not for publication

city or town Norfolk vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Baxter code 005 zip code 72658

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 for 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.)

Cochi Maccher 12/08/06
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 certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, (explain:) _____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

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

"An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts & Architecture in Arkansas, 1933 - 1943."

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/school

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/specialty store, SOCIAL/meeting hall, RECREATION AND CULTURE/sport facility, VACANT/NOT IN USE, OTHER/storage

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY, AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE, BRICK, CONCRETE, walls STONE, BRICK, roof ASBESTOS, ASPHALT, other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property or 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 birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1936 - 1957

Significant Dates

1936 - 1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Engineers: O.O. Monigle and O.L. Jacobs

Foreman: Otis Mabrey

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

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:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State Agency
Federal Agency
Local Government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Norfolk Public School Board archives, Norfolk City Hall

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>564377</u>	<u>4006744</u>	3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Written by Donna Hinton/Recorder & Treasurer; Edited by Sarah A. Jampole/Survey Historian

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date September 11, 2006

street & number 323 Center Street, Ste. 1600 telephone 501.324.9874

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

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.)

Property Owner

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

name City of Norfolk

street & number 49 City Hall Circle, P.O. Box 239 telephone 870.499.5225

city or town Norfolk state Arkansas zip code 72658

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 listing. 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 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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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SUMMARY

The Horace Mann School Historic District consists of approximately two acres containing four buildings utilized by Norfolk's school community. A paved road runs through the campus, connecting the four school building with one another. The Works Progress Administration (W. P. A.) built the Main School Building in 1936, with the National Youth Administration (N. Y. A.) building both the Home Economics and Agricultural Vocational Education buildings in 1937. The W. P. A. is also responsible for the construction of the Gymnasium/Auditorium, with work on that building commencing in 1940. All of the buildings are in the Craftsman style. The single-story Main School Building is sheathed in buff-colored field stone with red brick quoins, belt course, chimneys, and door and window surrounds. The open rake runs along the roof-wall junction of the entire building. A partial basement, which once housed the cafeteria, runs under the western portion of the building. The gable-on-hip roof is covered with composition shingles. Both the interior and exterior of the Main School Building retain many of the original features and architectural detailing. As mentioned above, the W. P. A. built the Main School Building, and the architect is unknown.

The single-story Home Economics Building is sheathed in buff-colored field stone, with wood door and window surrounds. No basement is associated with the building. The gable roof is covered with composition shingles. The exterior of the building retains many of the original features and architectural detailing, while the interior is more modern than the 1937 construction date. A cornerstone on the right support column of the front porch gives credit for the construction of the building to the N. Y. A., though no mention of the architect for the project is made.

The single-story Agricultural Vocational Education Building is also sheathed in buff-colored field stone, with wood door and window surrounds. As with the Home Economics Building, no basement is associated with this building, though it is interesting to note that the concrete floor of the "hands-on" portion of the building is sloped to accommodate the use of water for animals and plants. The gable-on-hip roof is covered with asbestos shingles. A cornerstone, set into the floor of the porch, credits the N. Y. A. for construction of the building. The cornerstone is barely legible, so while the stone might make mention of the architect, the information on the stone is too hard to decipher, other than the words "National Youth/Administration," located at the center of the stone.

The multi-story Gymnasium is sheathed in a gray-colored field stone, with field stone door and window surrounds. The lintels and sills are concrete, as are the casings and decorative crowns on the doors. A partial basement, which once housed changing rooms and bathrooms, runs under the western portion of the building. The main level of the building housed two classrooms, the basketball court, bleacher seating for 300, and a large stage area. The main portion of the building is covered in a gable roof with composition shingles, and the shed roof 1990 additions are also covered with composition shingles. The 1990 addition, located on the right bay of the north façade houses a lobby and concession area for the gymnasium. Vertical board sheaths

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the addition. The Gymnasium retains many of the original architectural detailing and features on both the interior and exterior. The W. P. A. is credited with the construction of the building, though the building plaque cannot be found, and is possibly obscured from view by the 1990 lobby and concession area addition.

The district is bound on the north by Arkansas Highway 5 South, and by a fence line and the community cemetery on the south. The eastern border of the district is City Hall Circle, and the western boundary is agricultural fields.

ELABORATION

Main School Building

The large, single-story building sits on a small knoll about 200 feet back from Arkansas Highway 5 South as it bends through the city of Norfolk. The gable-on-hip roofed Craftsman building was constructed in 1936. Originally covered in diamond-shaped asbestos shingles, the roof is now covered in composition shingles. The west elevation, or front façade, is fenestrated north to south by four ribbons of nine-over-nine, double-hung, wood-framed windows, all of which have been covered with either vinyl siding, vertical board or plywood. The outside of the building measures 48 feet wide and 149 feet long.

Two main entries are located on this elevation. Both entries are located about one-fourth of the way from the northwest and southwest corners of the building. A flight of 16 stairs each accesses these entries. The newel posts are red brick, square in shape, and capped with concrete. The exterior sides of the stairways are veneered with buff-colored field stone, and the banisters are concrete. Both concrete landings are framed with brick and fieldstone side posts that lead into flat roofs. Rectangular pediments top both entries, faced with the same buff-colored field stone as the rest of the building. Red brick outlines the entryway, and is used to delineate an arch in both pediments. Double doors were originally located at both entries, with a 12-light transom above each door, and both doors originally featured wood door frames. The entry on the left still retains the 12-light transom; however, while the right door at this entry is still in place, a plywood door has replaced the door on the left. The original wood door frame is still intact. The entry on the right has a single, centrally-located wooden door, and the extra space has been in-filled with vertical board. The transom is no longer in place, but the wood door frame is. The left pediment has two concrete blocks set into the field stone. The block on the left reads "Dist." and the block on the right reads "61." Set into the pediment over the right entry are another pair of concrete blocks. The block on the left reads "19" and the block on the right reads "37." On the newel post, a school bell rang for decades, announcing the beginning of the school day. Unfortunately, the bell was removed at an undisclosed date.

Centered in the middle of the front façade, between the two middle ribbons of windows, is a metal plaque in the shape of a shield that reads "USA/1936/WPA."

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Three entries into the basement are located on this elevation, as well, all of which are connected by the front concrete walk. The first entry is roughly five feet from the northwest corner of the building, and is sheltered by a gable-roofed stoop supported by simple metal posts. A single wood, wood-framed door provides access to this portion of the basement. As with the other doors in this building, the door surround is red brick. The second, basement-level entry is about five feet to the left of the left main stairway. The doorway is sheltered by a gable-roofed stoop supported by simple metal posts, just as the first basement entry. As with the first entry, a single wood, wood-framed door provides access to this portion of the basement. This door is protected by a screen door. The door surround is red brick. The third entry to the basement is around five feet to the left of the stairway on the right side of the building. A shed roof shelters the stoop, and the roof is supported by three wood posts. The single, wood, wood-framed door is protected by a screen door. The door surround is red brick. Three small, six-over-six, double-hung windows fenestrate the basement level of the Main School Building. The first of these windows is five feet to the left of the left stairway. The second window is five feet to the right of the second basement door, and the third is five feet to the left of the third basement door.

The far right bay of the west elevation has neither doors nor windows at the basement level. It does, however, have two coal chutes for the boiler room. Both chutes are located at the very bottom of the belt course, with the chute on the left being three feet from the stairway, and the second chute centered on this section of the belt course. Both chutes have a metal door that is painted off-white. While it is not known when the coal chutes were added, a photograph of the west elevation of the building dating to 1940 does not show any evidence of the chutes.

The north elevation, or side façade, has no fenestration. The buff-colored field stone walls with red brick quoins belt course are uninterrupted. A tall, red brick chimney rises from roof, centrally located on the hip portion of the roof. The gable end is stucco, and at the peak is a metal vent.

The east elevation, or rear façade, is divided into three bays. The bay on the far left is fenestrated by two ribbons of windows, which have been boarded over with horizontal board. The window surrounds are the same as with the south elevation—red brick. A new door has been punched into this bay, close to the junction of the two groups of windows. Three chimneys rise from the roof covering this side of the building—one is a red brick interior chimney, while the other two red brick chimneys are located on the exterior end of the elevation.

The middle bay is fenestrated by a long ribbon of windows. The original wood-framed, double-hung windows have been boarded over with vertical board; however, the three groups of covered windows on the right side still have the bottom sash of the original wood-framed middle window exposed. The windows appear to have an original light pane arrangement of nine-over-nine. The red brick window surrounds are still visible and intact. The small, single, window on the left side of this bay has been covered, and appears to be three-quarters the height of the other windows. This window is original to the building, and the

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window height was never altered, as it has the same red brick window surround as the other windows in the building. A new door has been added to this middle bay, and is located in the first group of windows, just a few feet to the right of the small window.

The right bay on the east elevation is comprised of a mixture of window grouping and doors. Starting on the far left, a door is adjacent to the left interior corner. This entrance faces north, and appears to be original to the building, as the red brick door surround is present, and the eaves overhang slightly to provide a bit of a shed roof covering over the stoop. The original double doors are no longer present—they have been replaced by double, plate glass doors. The original transom opening is intact; however, it has been covered over with plywood. This entrance leads into the original auditorium (used prior the construction of the c. 1940 gymnasium), now used for community meeting space, plays, and other activities.

Adjacent and to the right of this entrance is a short ribbon of windows. The first, single window is covered over with plywood, and is grouped together with a pair of windows that have also been covered with plywood. The left window in this pair now houses a very small, four-light, vinyl window, located in the bottom sash of the original window. It is likely the original windows comprising this ribbon were wood-framed, double-hung, with a light pane arrangement of nine-over-nine.

The final ribbon of windows on this elevation, on the far right side of this bay, is comprised of two groups of windows. The left group of windows is covered with plywood. The group on the right has been altered to some extent. The glass in first left and middle windows in the group has been painted white, while the glass in the top sash of the right window has been covered with plywood. A new door has been placed at this window, taking in the bottom sash of the window. This door is not original to the building, as the red brick door surround is not present, and very obvious repair work has occurred to the surrounding field stone exterior wall material.

The south elevation, or side façade, originally was not fenestrated. However, in the mid-1980s, a wood-framed lean-to storage area was attached to the left side of this elevation. The storage area is covered with corrugated metal. At the same time, an exterior chimney was added, slightly left of center on the elevation, and just behind this exterior chimney, another, smaller, chimney was added. Both chimneys were added to accommodate a heating system upgrade. About four feet to the right of the new chimney, a loading dock was constructed and a garage door was punched into the wall.

The building originally housed grades one through 12. Five large classrooms with very high ceilings, wooden floors and slate chalk boards—most of which are missing—were located at the front of the building on the main floor. One end of the building was devoted to elementary classes while the other end was occupied by high school-level students. This left the middle grades to the class rooms in between.

One of the county's first hot lunch programs was started in the basement of the Main School Building. Simple, but warm, lunches were prepared and served by W. P. A. student workers, and much of the food was

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supplied by the Federal Surplus Commodities. However, the school gardens, planted and tended by the agricultural students, supplied many of the vegetables, which were preserved and canned throughout the year by the home economic students and W. P. A. student workers.

Home Economics Building

The Home Economics Building is located at the northwest corner of the campus and was constructed in 1937. The Craftsman style building still contains all of the original windows, although the windows on the southern elevation, or side façade, have been covered with plywood. The building is sheathed in buff-colored fieldstone, and rests on a continuous cast concrete foundation. The end-gabled roof is covered in composition shingle. Exposed rafter tails are seen at the front and rear of the building. Half-timbering detail is seen in the gable ends, and in the front-gabled porch roof. The building's main entrance is located on the east elevation. Access is gained through a single wood door with a single-pane window. Ten-light sidelights adorn both sides of the door, and a 12-light transom is above the door. This entrance is sheltered by a front-gabled porch roof. The right support column contains the cornerstone which reads, "ERECTED BY/NATIONAL YOUTH/ADMINISTRATION/IN COOPERATION WITH/NORFORK SCHOOL DISTRICT/MEMBERS OF THE BOARD/JACK BONNER, PRES./E. E. FARRIER, SECY./TOM LACKEY/JOHN SOUTHERD/PAUL HOGAN." To the left of the entrance is a ribbon of three groupings of three windows, all of which are double-hung, wood-framed, with a light pane arrangement of six-over-six.

Three sets of windows fenestrate the south elevation, and all windows are covered in plywood. The window on the far left is a single window, while the middle and right sets are comprised of pairs of two each. The gable-end is detailed with half-timbering, and located at the upper portion of the gable end is a wooden attic vent.

Four six-over-six, wood-framed, double-hung windows fenestrate the west elevation, with the two left windows grouped together. A few feet to the right of this window pairing is a single window, and a few feet to the right of that window is another single window. A few feet to the right of this fourth window is a rear entry door, which is approached by a flight of ten steps. The rear door stoop is sheltered by a shed roof supported by decorative brackets.

The north elevation is fenestrated by three single windows, all of which are wood-framed, and double-hung, with a light pane arrangement of six-over-six. An exterior fieldstone chimney is also located on this elevation. The windows and chimney are spaced evenly along the façade, with the chimney located between the middle window and the window on the far right of the elevation. As with the gable end on the south elevation, decorative half-timbering is found in the gable peak, as is a wooden attic vent.

This building was dedicated in June 1938. It was equipped with an up-to-date kitchen, and the classes held in the building taught female students all aspects of home economics. In January 1940, a library facility equal to libraries found in many larger communities was opened in the living room area.

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Because the integrity of the Home Economics Building has not been compromised, and the building was built by the N. Y. A., it is considered contributing to the nomination.

Agricultural Vocational Education Building

It is fitting that a school, located in an area of the state where a large portion of the economy revolved around agriculture, would have a building solely used to teach agricultural skills. The Craftsman building faces north toward the Home Economics Building. The buff-colored fieldstone building rests on a cast concrete foundation, and is sheltered by a gable-on-hip roof which is covered in asbestos shingles. The central entrance is approached by five concrete steps, with the landing sheltered by a shed roof covered with asbestos shingles. The entrance is flanked on both sides by a single wood-framed, double-hung, four-over-four window. Moving out towards both the corners of the building is a pair of wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-nine windows. While the windows on the left side are intact, the windows on the right side have been damaged. The bottom sash of the left window in this pair has been boarded over and is missing some glass, while the upper sash of the right window is missing all of the muntins and glazing. Moving out once again towards both corners of the building is a single nine-over-nine, wood-frame, double-hung window, each located a few feet from the corner of the building. These two windows are in fair condition, with a pane of glass missing from the window on the far right. All window frames, sills, and surrounds are made of wood.

Wide, wooden double doors are located on the east elevation, flanked on both sides by a wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-nine window.

The south elevation is fenestrated by a long ribbon of five wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-nine windows, located on the far right corner of this elevation. A few feet to the left of this ribbon is a single wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-nine window. Rising from the roof, centered between the ribbon of windows and the single window, is a red brick chimney. Although the window members are in relatively good shape, a few panes of glass are missing here and there. The remainder of the façade is free of fenestration.

The west elevation, or side façade, is fenestrated by a ribbon of six wood-framed, double-hung, nine-over-nine windows, located on the far right of this elevation. There is no other fenestration on this elevation.

The main interior was divided into a classroom area, located on the west side of the building, and a shop area was located in the center of the building, where practical agricultural skills were taught. The agricultural program at Horace Mann was successful--one student won the County Championship in 4-H work in 1937; another won first place in corn production in 1938; and yet another was high point man in the Arkansas State Livestock judging contest in 1939.

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Due to the building's association with the works of the N. Y. A. in Arkansas, and the fact the integrity of the building has not been compromised, the Agricultural Vocational Education Building is a contributing resource within the boundaries of this nomination.

Gymnasium

The Gymnasium is located across City Hall Circle, south of the Main School Building. Constructed circa 1940, the Craftsman style building was built by W. P. A. labor. The large gray fieldstone building is sheltered by a front-gable roof that is covered in composition shingle. The original building rests upon a continuous stone foundation. A 1990 addition that houses the lobby and concession area was built onto the right side of the north elevation. This addition is sheathed in vertical board, and sheltered by a shed roof covered in composition shingle, and rests upon a continuous concrete block foundation. All of the windows are covered with plywood, thus it is not possible to determine the original window configuration. The window sills and lintels are concrete.

The entryway extends out from the right bay of the north elevation, and is part of the 1990 addition. The entry door itself faces east, and is a modern plate glass door. Another entry door is located on the left bay of the north elevation. The metal door is topped with a transom; however, this transom has been covered with plywood. Three sets of windows fenestrate the east elevation, and as with the other windows, they are covered with plywood. Two doorways are located on this elevation as well. One is located a quarter of the way in from the right corner of the building, and the second doorway is located about the same distance from the left corner of the building. This second entry is sheltered by a partially-enclosed porch that is sheltered by a composition shingle shed roof. The rear façade, or south elevation, is free of fenestration, with the exception of a door located a few feet in from the right corner of the building. The west elevation is fenestrated by five pairs of windows, all of which are covered by plywood. The upper window is each pair is just below the eaves, with a small wood vent located in the left half of each window.

The beautiful wood interior is original to the gymnasium, from the hardwood basketball court, to the beaded board ceiling. The original bleacher seating for 300 is intact, as well. When the building was turned into a facility for the Norfolk Boys and Girls Club, volunteer labor was utilized to clean and renovate the interior. Many of the volunteers were former students who helped with the construction of the building, and remembered playing on the new basketball court.

As reported in the February 22, 1940, edition of the *Calico Rock Progress*, a special election was held approve to retire a loan from the State Revolving Loan fund—a loan that would fund the construction of a combination gymnasium/auditorium. The measure passed, 87 for and zero against. The building, as stipulated in the measure is a double-faced rock structure consistent with the other school building. It included the gymnasium, bleacher seating for 300, large stage and class rooms. It would also include four dressing rooms with showers to be located in the basement of the building. The cost of the structure was

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\$25,000, with the government expending more than \$20,000 for labor and materials, and the district contributing about \$4,000.

Although an addition containing the lobby and concession area was built onto the front façade of the Gymnasium in 1990, it is sympathetic in design to the original building plan, and does not detract from the original character of the building. Thus, the Gymnasium contributes to the nomination of the Horace Mann School Historic District.

INTEGRITY

The Horace Mann School Historic District maintains a high degree of integrity. All four buildings that are within the boundaries of this nomination remain as they were when first constructed, making this the most intact historic school in Norfork. The location and setting of the school is almost exactly how it would have appeared with the school was constructed with a cemetery to the southwest and acres of agricultural fields on the other sides. The beautiful Craftsman design of the four buildings exemplifies the workmanship and materials used in construction during the years of 1939 to 1940. Minor alterations have occurred with all four resources in the nomination, mainly being the application of plywood covers to the original windows; however, the alterations are temporary does very little to detract from the buildings. An addition dating to 1990 was built onto the front of the Gymnasium; however, this addition is sympathetic in design, and scale, and does not detract from the integrity of the building. More importantly, the functions that the four buildings served, and the fact the buildings were built utilizing W. P. A. and N. Y. A. labor, contributes to the historic feeling of the school historic district.

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SUMMARY

The Horace Mann School Historic District contains four contributing buildings and no non-contributing buildings all sited on roughly two acres of land in Norfork, Baxter County, Arkansas. The City of Norfork now owns the buildings, and the complex was closed for use as a school in the mid-1980s. The 1936 Main School Building, 1937 Home Economics Building and Agricultural Vocational Education Building, and circa 1940 Gymnasium are all wonderful examples of Works Progress Administration (W. P. A.) and National Youth Administration (N. Y. A.)-built school in Arkansas. Minor alterations have occurred to the 1936 main building and circa 1940 gymnasium; however, the alterations have been sympathetic to the overall architecture and massing of the buildings that the two buildings continue to contribute to the overall appearance of the historic district. The small district reflects the development of the community and the importance placed on educational and cultural activities by its residents. The fact that none of the district's buildings have been removed makes the school very unique, especially in this rural area of the state hit hard by school district consolidation and the desire of many to demolish the old schools. The Horace Mann School Historic District is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C** for its Craftsman style of architecture, and under **Criterion A** for the educational role it has played in the town of Norfork and for its association with the W. P. A. and the N. Y. A. It is being nominated with **local significance** as a good example of an extant school historic district in Norfork, Baxter County, Arkansas.

ELABORATION

Baxter County was the 68th county created in Arkansas. It was created from parts of Fulton, Izard, Marion, and Searcy counties on March 24, 1873, and was named for the Governor of Arkansas at that time, Elisha (Elizah) Baxter. The county seat was established at Mountain Home when the county was created.

Situated at the junction of the White and the Northfork Rivers, the town of Norfork was settled around 1818 by the Wolf and Adams families from Kentucky, according to A.C. Jeffery in his 1877 history of the area. Of German descent, Major Jacob Wolf was born in South Carolina in 1786 and had moved to Kentucky in his youth. In 1809, President Thomas Jefferson appointed Wolf as Indian Agent to the Cherokee Nation and to help administer the affairs of other tribes living in the northern section of the District of Arkansas in the Louisiana Territory. Wolf constructed his house c. 1825, and a small village and trading center called "Liberty" grew up around the house. With the advent of steamboats on the White River, Liberty became an important riverport for north central Arkansas and south Central Missouri.

Around 1901, the White River branch of the Iron Mountain Railroad was constructed through Liberty, and the community was renamed "Devero" in honor of the French railroad engineer Devereaux. Devero became a center for the timber industry in Baxter County due to its advantageous location on both water and rail. Logs were floated down the White River and its tributaries, the Buffalo and Northfork rivers, to the town where they were loaded onto railroad cars to be transported. As a result of this activity, two mercantile

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stores, a butcher shop, barber shop, bank, and post office were opened. In 1910, F. L. Chastain and Charley Blevins, who owned the town site, platted and incorporated the town under yet another name—Norfolk.

The City of Norfolk, Arkansas, is approximately 15 miles south of the county seat of Mountain Home on State Highway 5. It is currently a community of about 500 people nestled in the confluence of the White River and the North Fork River. It is a beautiful river valley with bluffs and cliffs overhanging the White River and the North Fork River.

On August 20, 1910, a petition requesting incorporation of Norfolk was signed by 20 citizens and presented to county Judge G. W. Walker. A hearing was set for October 5, 1910, and the petition was granted shortly thereafter. The city was incorporated on November 5, 1910. In the early 1930s, one of the original petitioners for the city's incorporation donated property for a school. This is the location of the Horace Mann School Historic District, which is comprised of roughly two acres. It consists of six buildings, four of which are the original buildings on campus, and comprise the historic district. Programs set up under the New Deal became the source of labor to construct the school.

The W. P. A. constructed the Main School Building under the direction of Tom Collier, W. P. A. Supervisor, at a cost of \$18,564, with \$3,995.85 of that being donated by citizens of the Norfolk school district. The W. P. A. program was established to allow men and women who could not otherwise find employment to work on public projects so that they could earn money to provide for their families. Two of the buildings at Horace Mann were constructed by the W. P. A. —the Main School Building (1936), and the Gymnasium (c. 1940). The gymnasium cost \$25,000, with the government expending more than \$20,000 of the cost for labor and materials. The Norfolk School District funded \$4,000 for the project.

A similar program designed to target younger men and women during this time was the N. Y. A. The N. Y. A. constructed the Home Economics Building (c. 1937) and the Vocational Agricultural Vocational Education Building (c. 1937). In accordance with N. Y. A. guidelines, both N. Y. A. -built building projects had to be jobs which youths could do, jobs for which there was a need, and the end-product had to be something used by youths when completed. Dedication of three of the four buildings was held in June 1938, prior to the start of the school year.

At the dedication of the Main School Building and the Agricultural Vocational Education Building, B. B. Foster, W. P. A. county examiner, commented on the naming of the school after Horace Mann, a 19th century education reformer:

One hundred years ago, Horace Mann gave up a lucrative job to take a \$1,500 job of secretary to a board of education. He said that education should be for all children of all people. At that time practically everyone with money sent his children to private school. Public schools were thought fit for only paupers. But school is the place for the child to learn the lessons of democracy and without

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education, democracy is bound to fail. These ideals for which Americans stand can be taught better at schools than any other place.

The Horace Mann School Historic District, constructed in phases beginning in 1936 through c. 1940, and therefore during the period covered by the historic context "An Ambition to be Preferred: New Deal Recovery Efforts & Architecture in Arkansas, 1933 - 1943," is a representative example of stone school buildings constructed for a rural school district by the W. P. A. and N. Y. A. in Norfolk. Its documented construction by the W.P.A. and its use during this period as a local school building clearly identifies it with this historic context and with this property type. It is significant locally under Criteria A and C through its direct associations with both the history of the evolution of the public school system in the Ozark Mountain region of the state during this period and the W. P. A., and for its W. P. A. and N. Y. A.-built architecture.

The W. P. A. was involved in public construction projects throughout Arkansas during the 1930s and early 1940s. This national organization that hired unemployed men and women to work on a variety of public projects throughout the nation was one of many federal programs established by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and his administration in response to the dire economic circumstances brought upon the American people by the Great Depression. The W. P. A. as instituted by the Roosevelt Administration was managed by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (F. E. R. A.). Other federal programs administered by F. E. R. A. were the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Public Works and Civilian Works Administrations, and regional projects such as the Tennessee Valley Authority. The Rural Colonization Projects in Dyess, Clover Bend, and Plum Bayou, Arkansas, were also under the direction of F. E. R. A. The W. P. A. constructed or repaired a number of schools in Arkansas, and the school buildings at Norfolk were erected as part of this statewide effort.

Horace Mann School provided the first free tuition educational opportunity available to secondary students in rural Baxter County, serving over 50 small districts. High school students from 13 of those districts, an area of 126 square miles, were provided free transportation by the state to attend Horace Mann. The school opened at the start of the 1938 school year with a student body of less than 200 students, growing to over 400 students in the first four years. The school body fluctuated during the year, as many students would drop out and then return, according to the needs—economic and physical—of the family. During those same four years, the budget grew from \$4,100 to \$11,600; however, that budget did not include the salaries for the librarian or lunch room staff, nor did it include a budget line for transportation. The curriculum grew to include a full line of commercial courses, vocational agriculture vocational education and home economics. Music was also available with several musical groups and activities being an occasion for all to enjoy. The Agricultural Vocational Education building was the first of its kind in Baxter County, as was the "state of the art" Home Economics building. Male students were typically members of Future Farmers of America (F. F. A.), and female students usually joined the Home Economics club.

The school offered a hot lunch program that was staffed by students employed with the W. P. A., with much of the food coming from the Federal Surplus Commodities. Some additional items were purchased for use

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by the hot lunch program, but a school garden supplied many vegetables for the staff to can and preserve for use throughout the year.

The Horace Mann School played an important role in the Norfolk community. In addition to the hot lunch program offered at the school for students and the vegetable crops cultivated in the school garden, the school also boasted of a library, housed in the living room area of the Home Economics Building that opened on January 1, 1940. The library facility rivaled that of many large communities the area, in regards to number of books in circulation, and programs provided. The gymnasium was also an integral part of the community, hosting banquets and parties. The 1940 class play, performed on the gymnasium stage, raised an amazing \$39, a large sum for the times.

The school buildings were the center of educational activity in the area from 1938 until the mid-1980s, when student population outgrew the facilities. A new school was built on the hill to the south of the Horace Mann School. During the time that school was held at the old location, additional buildings were constructed to the east of the main building to serve the elementary grades and to the west of the main building to serve as the Head Start facility. After the new school was built, the property including all the buildings was *quit claimed* to the City of Norfolk. The Head Start Building, which is not included in the boundaries of the historic district, became, and still remains, the City hall. The Home Economics Building served as a senior center for a period of time, but is currently not usable due to an unstable floor. The Agricultural Vocational Education building is currently being used as storage for the city water system supplies and equipment. The Main School Building is used for the storage of items sold by the community Thrift Store, proceeds which benefit the local food bank. The elementary building, also not included within the boundaries of this historic district, houses the Thrift Store. All buildings are still structurally sound.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Horace Mann School Historic District is a very important part of the growth and development of the community of Norfolk and the educational development of northern Arkansas. It is a wonderful example of the product of federal programs—the W. P. A. and the N. Y. A.—designed to help individuals through a period of financial depression that resulted in the overall betterment of several generations that followed. The historic district itself is significant because it was constructed by employees of the W. P. A. and N. Y. A., two programs designed to help men and women who were struggling through the Great Depression. Through these two programs, the men and women involved were able to help themselves and their families financially, while also making a positive contribution to society. The concept of a tuition-free high school education marks the beginning of a higher level of education offered to all students, including the poor. This was a major step forward in education and the progress of the community. With **local significance**, the Horace Mann School Historic District, comprised of four buildings—the Main School Building, the Home Economics Building, the Agricultural Vocational Education Building, and the Gymnasium—is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its association with the

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educational role it has played in the town of Norfolk and for its association with the W. P. A. and the N. Y. A. efforts in the town. The school is also eligible for inclusion in the National Register under **Criterion C** as an outstanding example of the Craftsman style of architecture in Norfolk, Baxter County, Arkansas.

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<http://www.myfamily.com>

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Verbal Boundary Description

A tract in the NE Corner of Section 29 and tract in the NW Corner of Section 28, Baxter County, Arkansas. This is a part of the following legal description.

Part of the NE Fr. 1/4 Section 29, and part of the NW Fr. 1/4 of Section 28, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, L.B.W.R., Baxter County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows: Begin at the corner to Section 20, 21, 28, and 29, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, run thence N. 86° 52' 02" West, along the North line of Section 29, 39.22 feet to a point on the South R/W line of State Highway No. 5 and the point of beginning for the tract herein described; run thence South 67° 23' 48" East, 42.91 feet; thence run South 01° 47' 27" E., 113.45 feet; thence run South 01° 07' 15" E., 144.51 feet; thence run S. 03° 44' 29" W., 228.32 feet to a point on the North line of cemetery; thence run N. 86° 52' 05" W., 125.82 feet to a point on the NE line of Railroad R/W; thence run Northwesterly along said R/W line, said line being a curve to the right with radius of 1741.86 feet and central angle of 20° 17' 54", a curved distance of 617.09 feet to a point on the North line of said Section 29, the chord of this curve bearing N., 32° 22' 11" W. with a length of 613.87 feet; thence run S. 86° 52' 02" E., along said section line 423.84 feet to the point of beginning, containing 3.69 acres, more or less.

Also:

Part of the NW fractional 1/4 Section 28, Township 18 North, Range 12 West, L.B.W.R., Baxter County, Arkansas, described as follows:

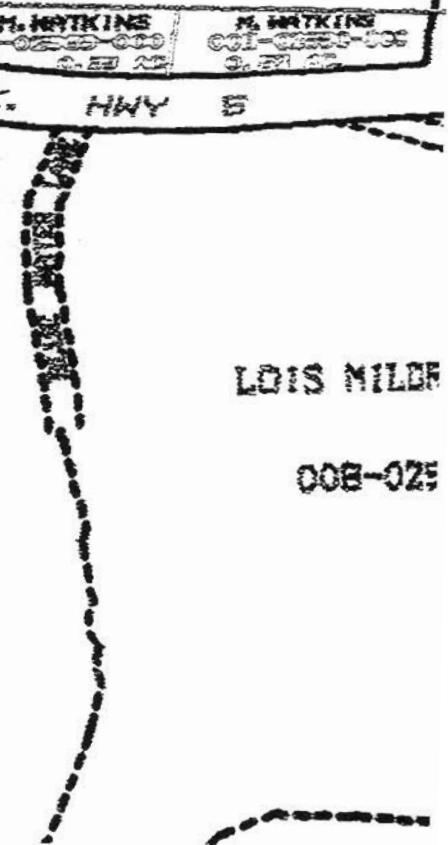
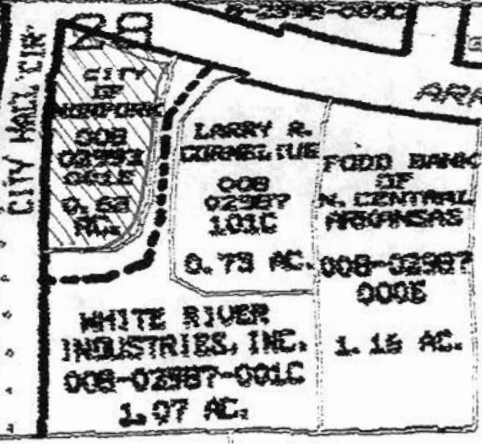
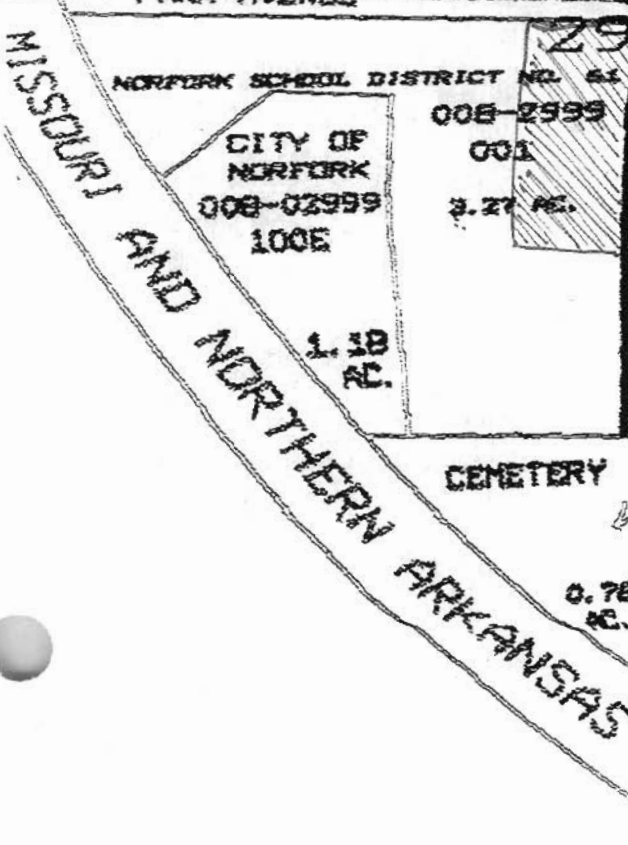
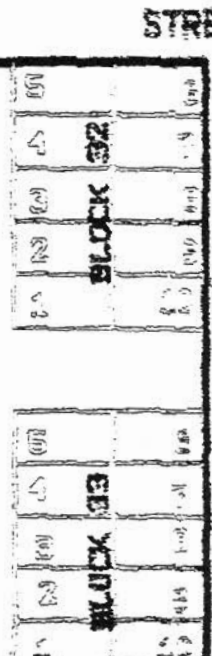
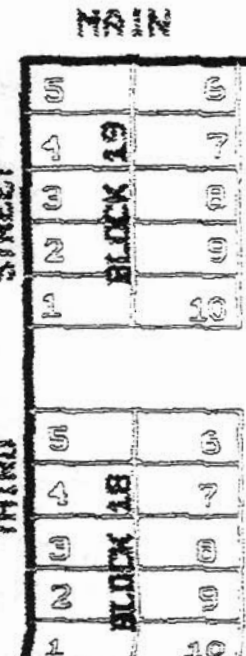
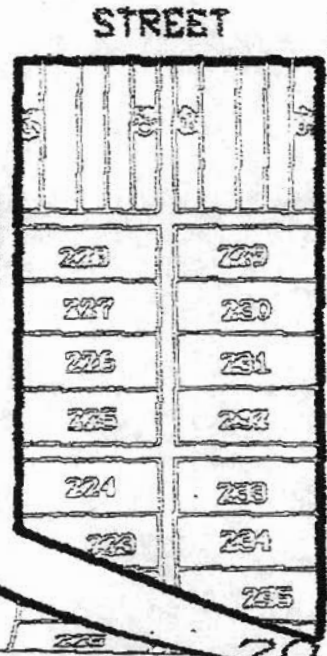
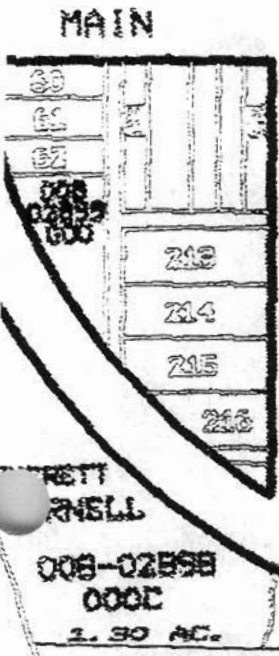
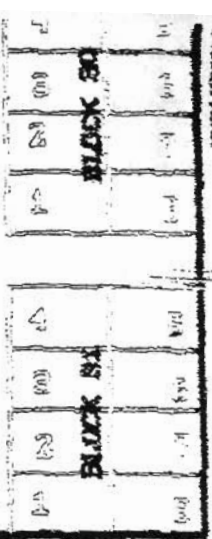
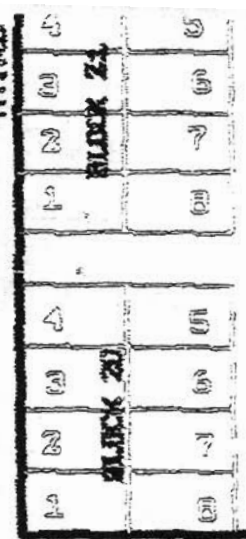
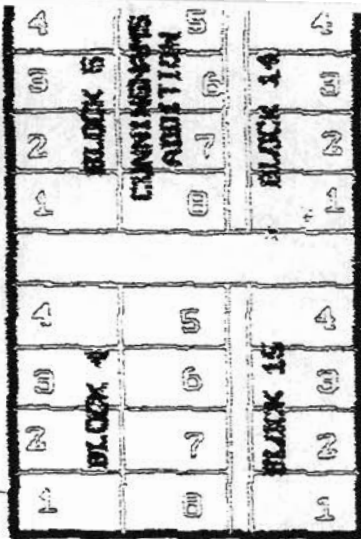
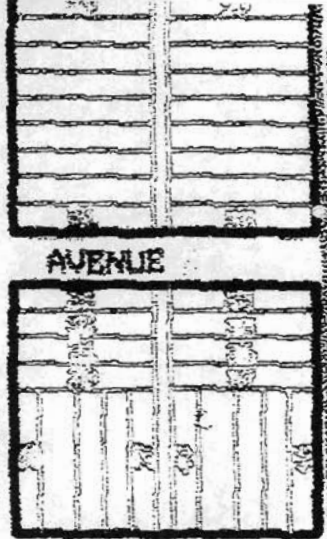
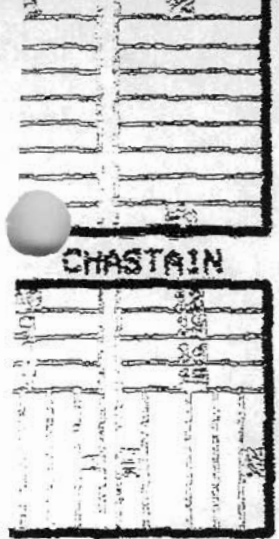
Begin at the NW corner of said Section 28 and run South 01° 15' 07" West, 100.00 feet; thence run South 88° 45' 32" East, 30.35' to a point on the East R/W line of existing street, and the point of beginning for the tract herein described: thence continue South 88° 45' 32" East, 106.10 feet; thence run South 01° 56' 20" West, 176.61 feet thence South 16° 10' 40" West, 33.49 feet: thence South 53° 22' 26" West, 26.57 feet; thence North 87° 33' 39" West, 69.21 feet to a point on said R/W line; thence North 03° 44' 29" East, 51.74 feet; thence North 01° 07' 15" West, 145.72 feet; thence North 01° 47' 27" West, 26.57 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.51 acre, more or less, the same being Tract 1 of Survey done by Slater Surveying and Mapping, dated April 18, 1988.

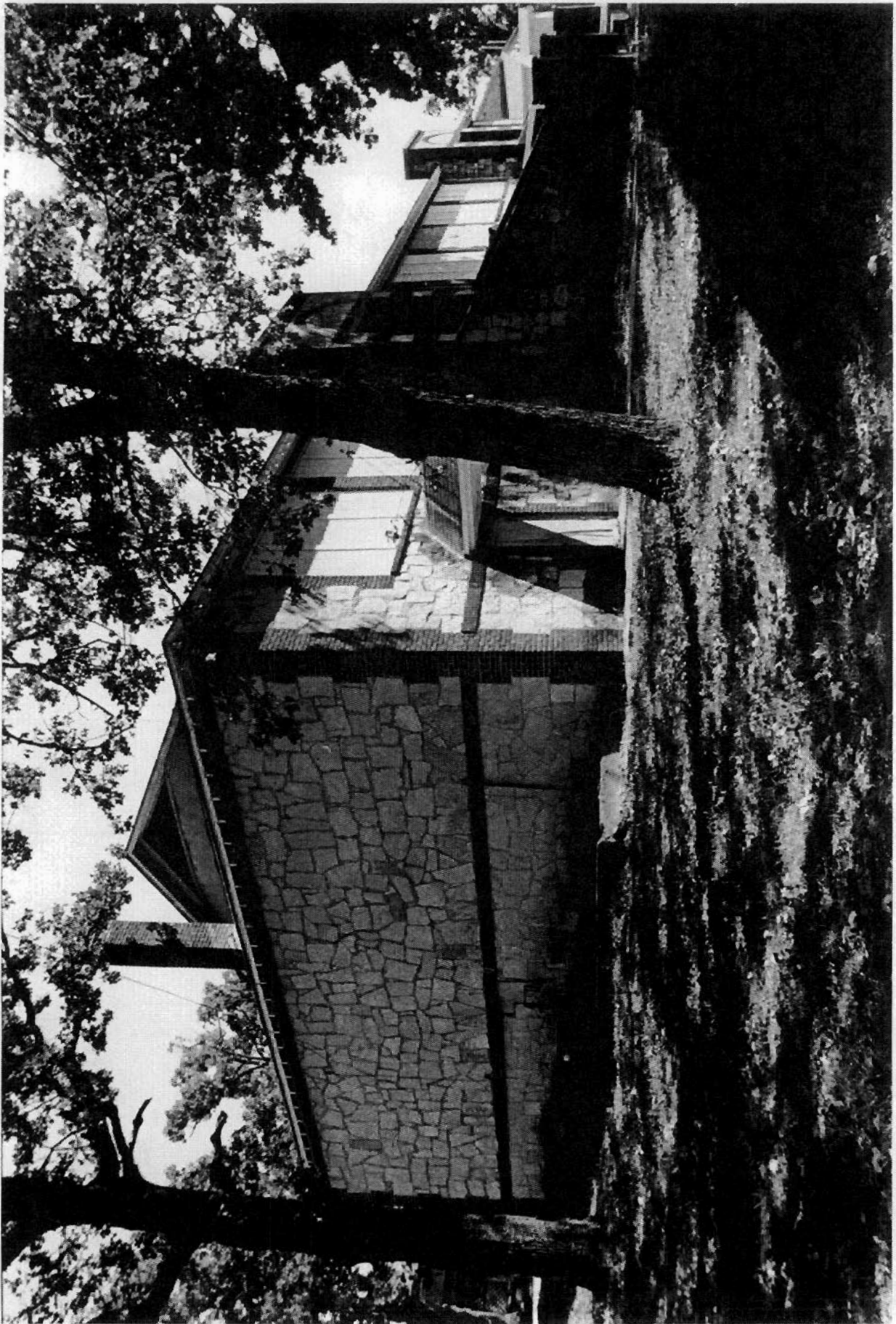
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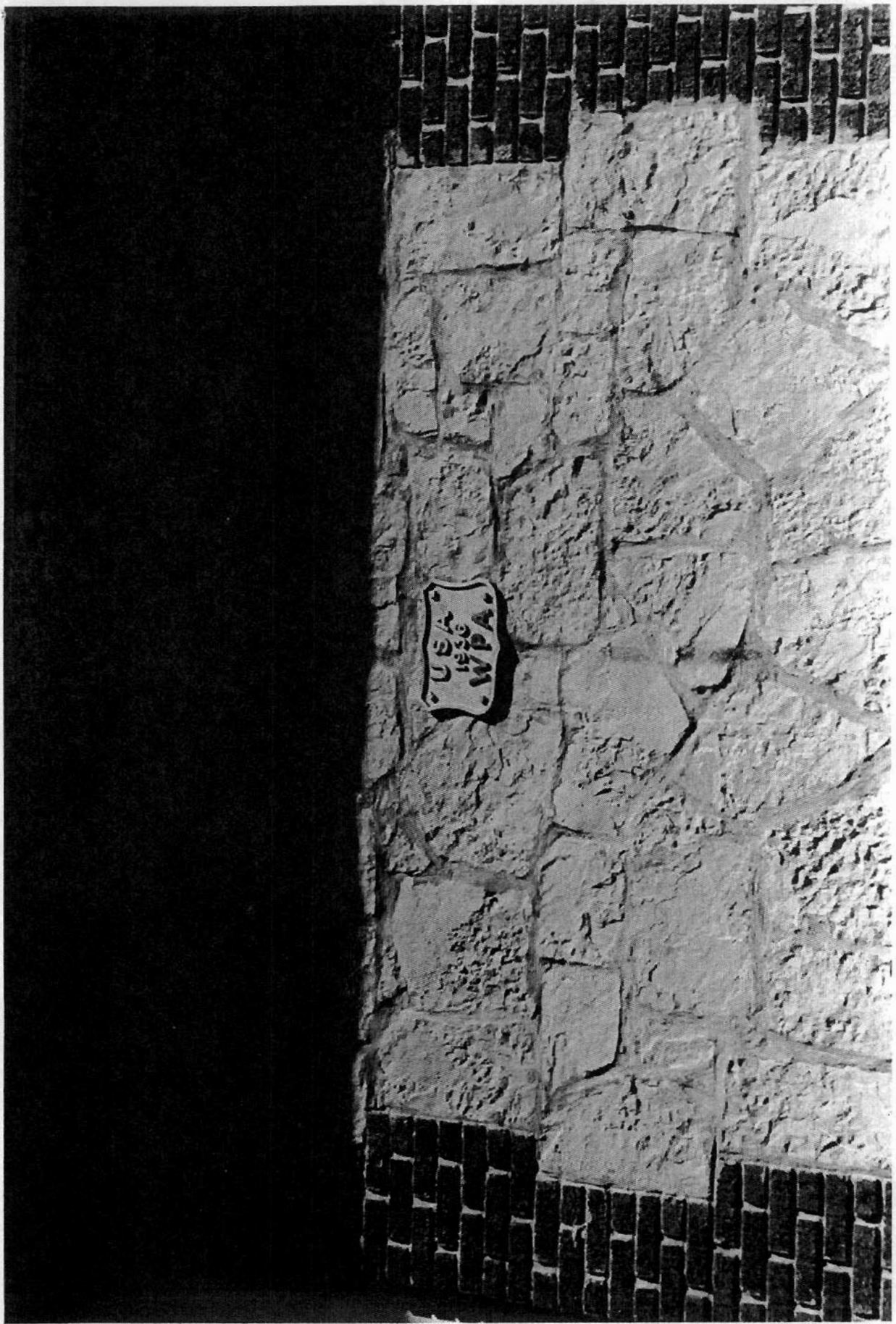
Boundary Justification

The above verbal boundary description includes all land historically associated with the Horace Mann School Historic District.









WILLIAM WILKINSON

W. WILKINSON

W. WILKINSON

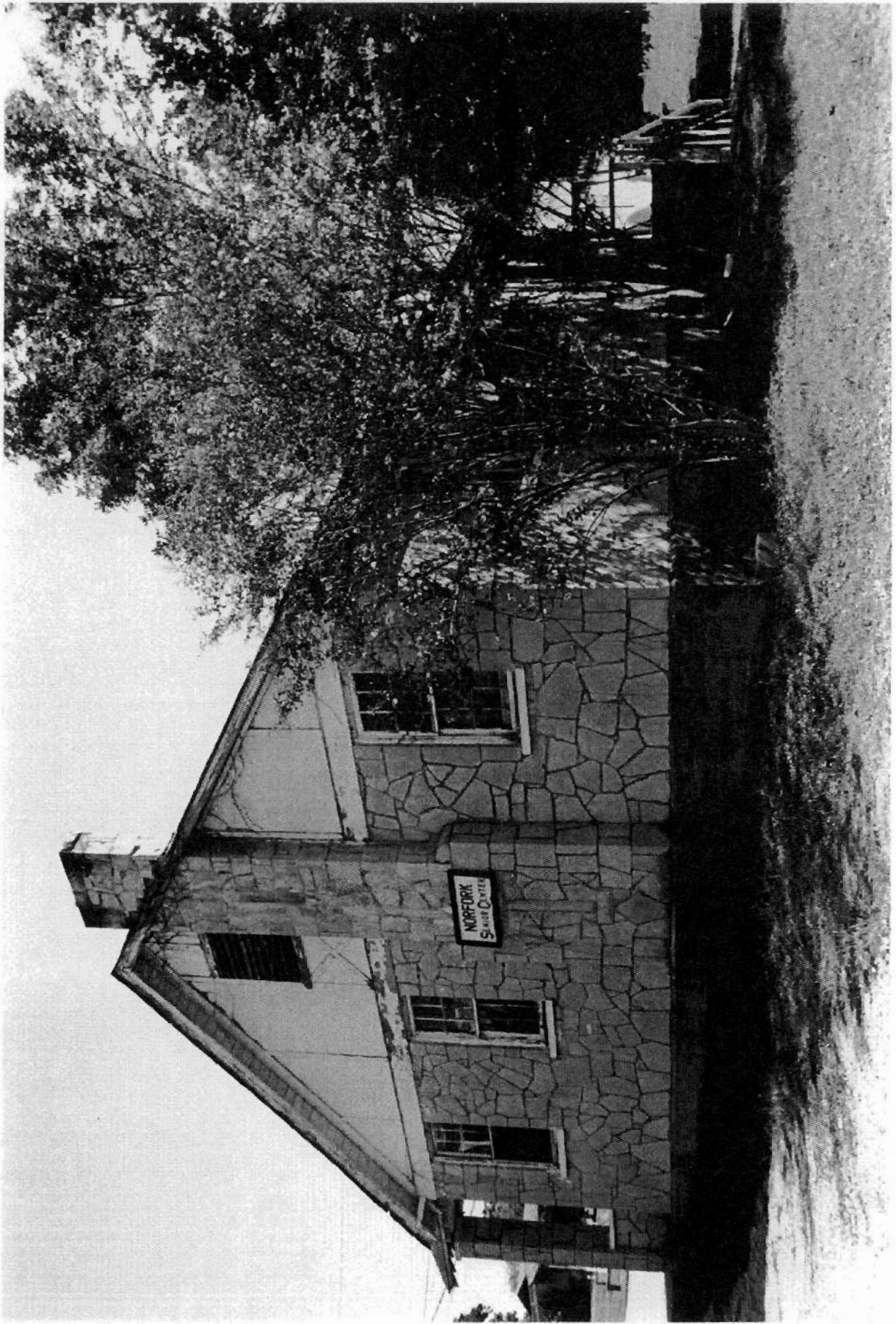
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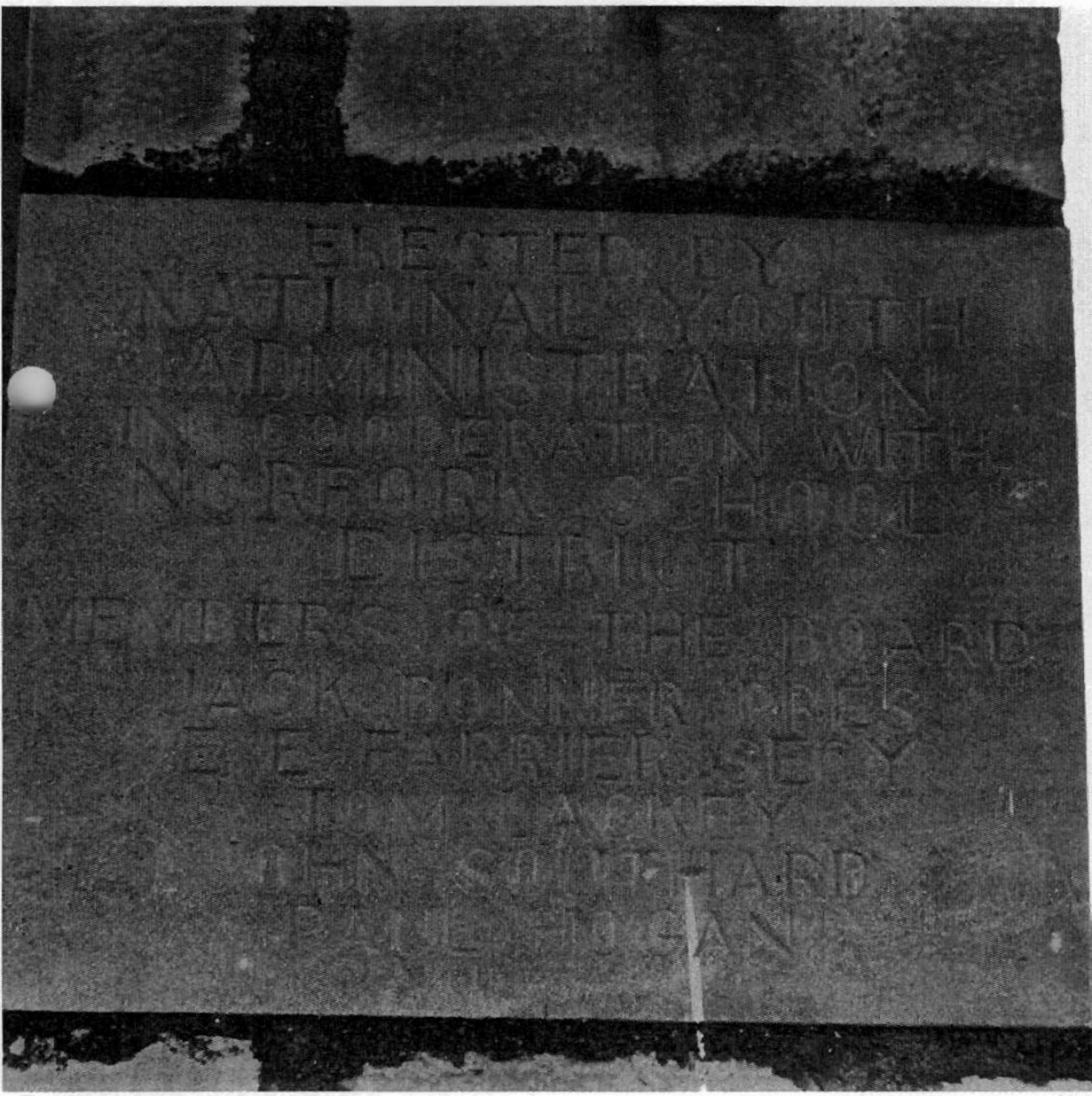
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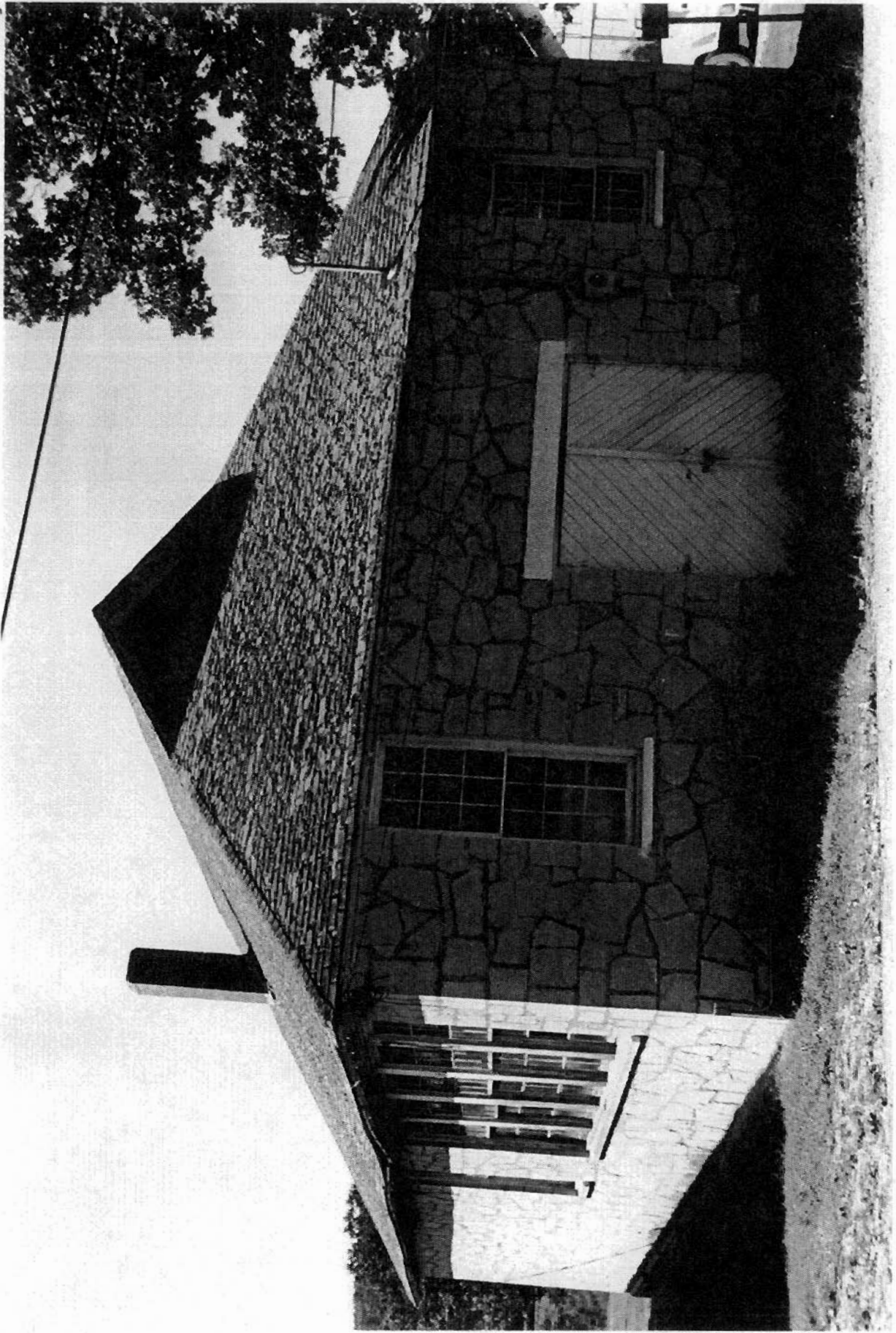
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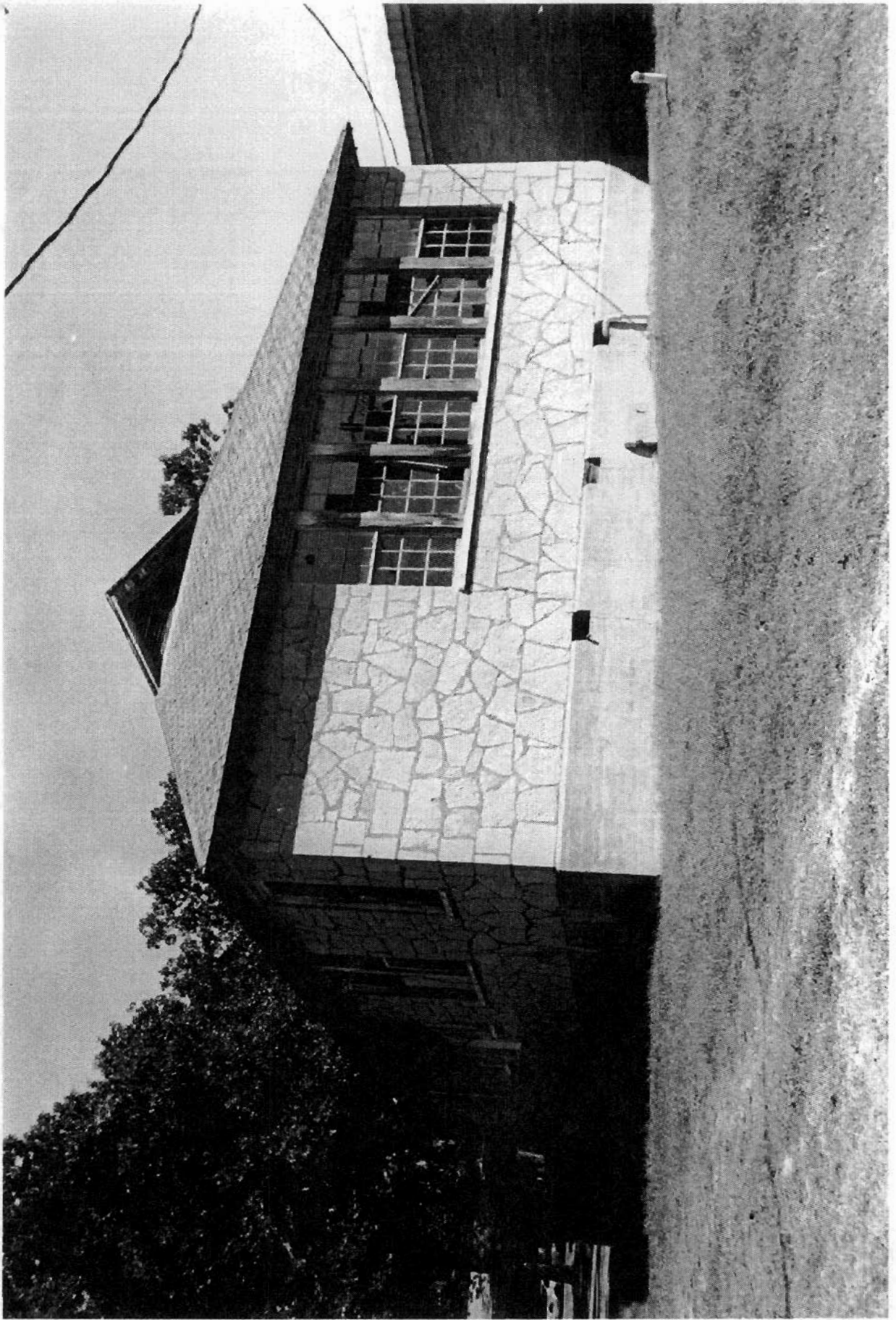
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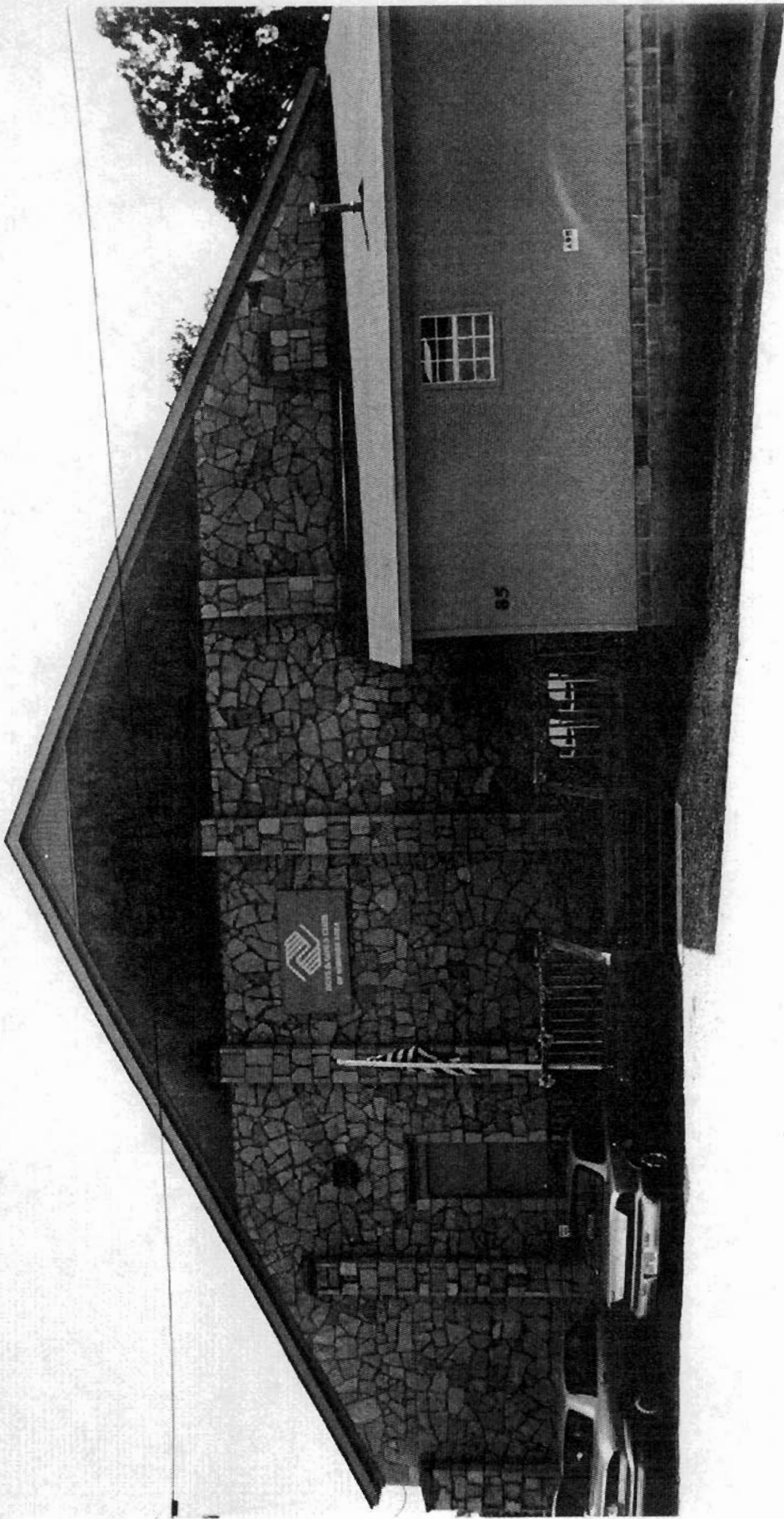


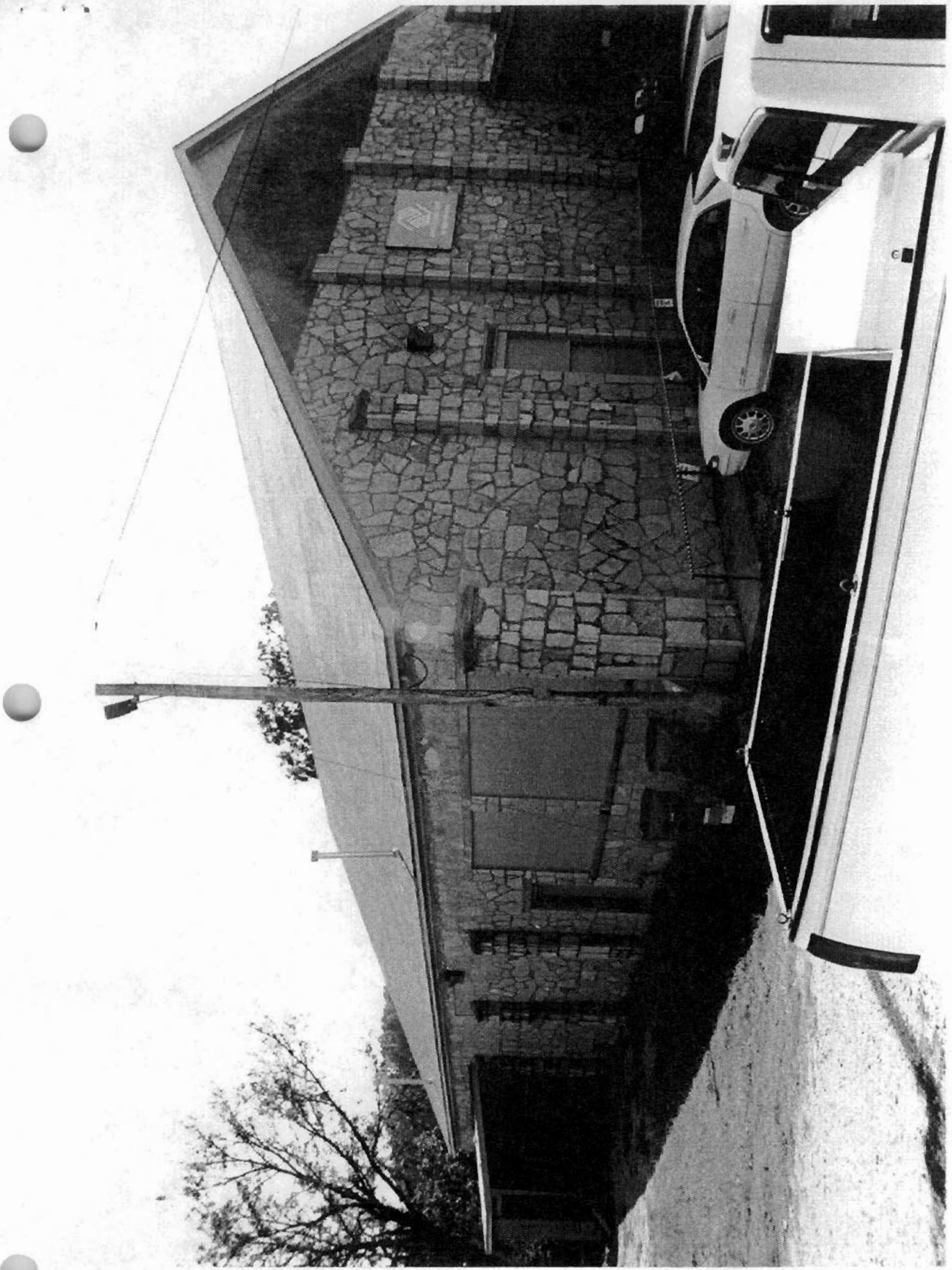


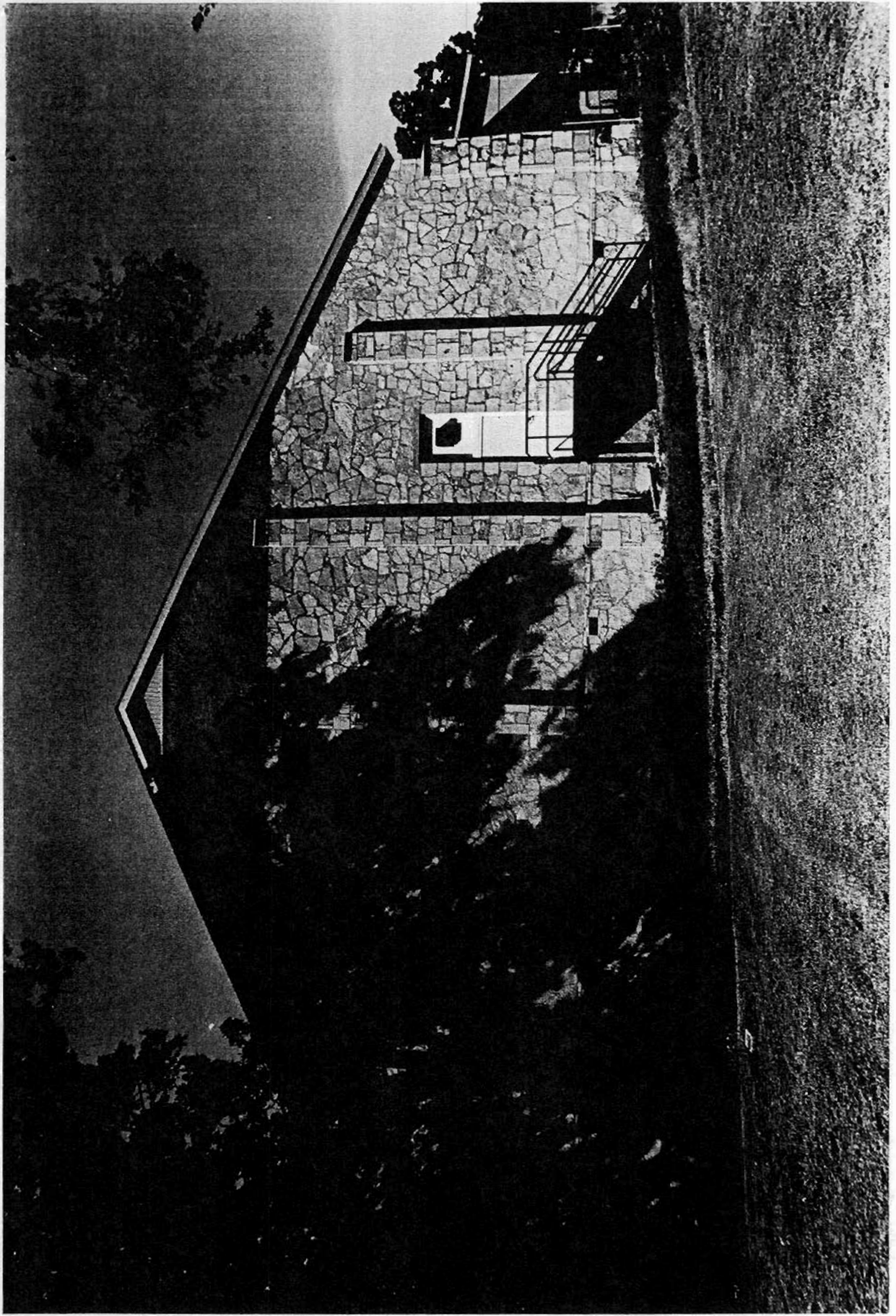


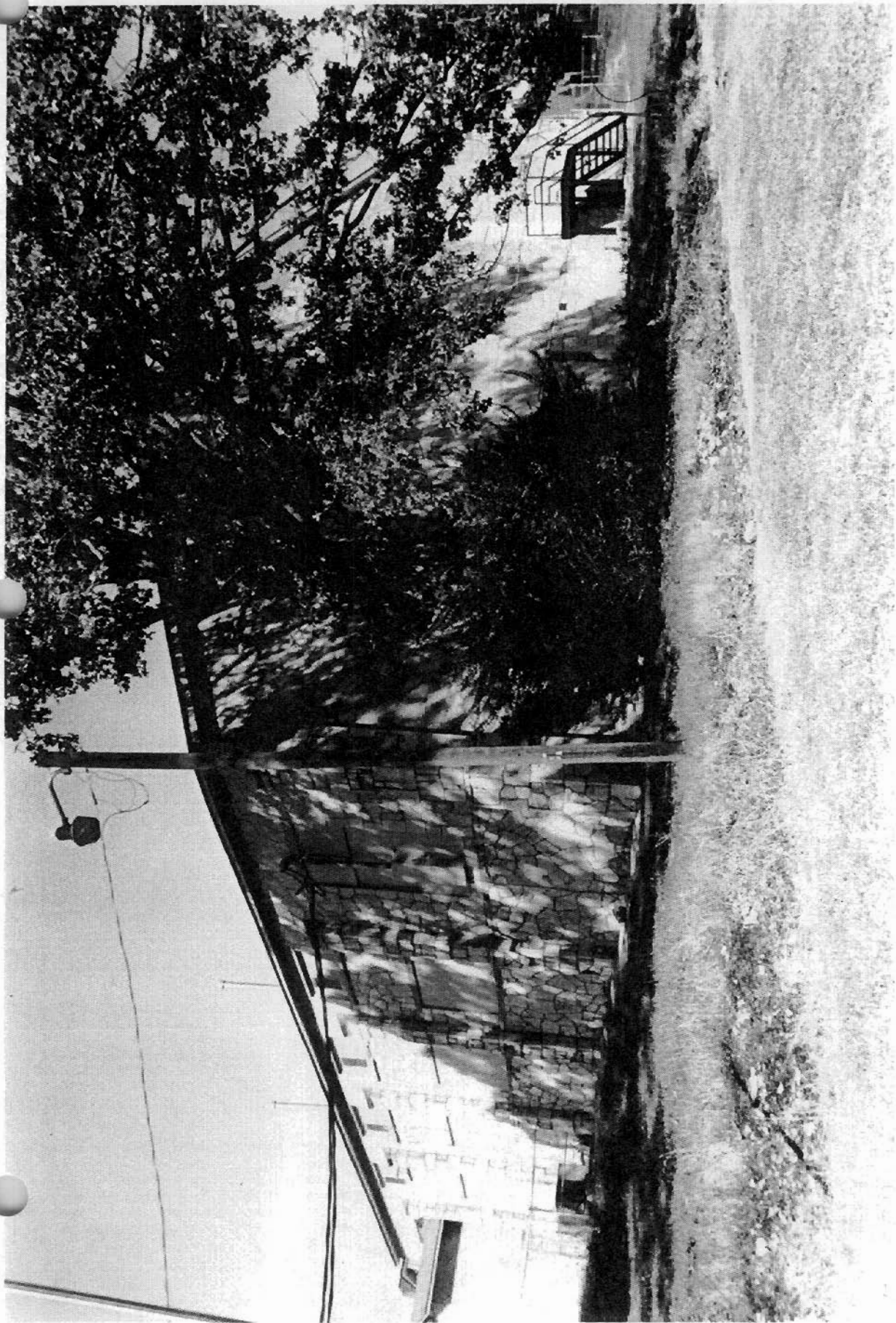


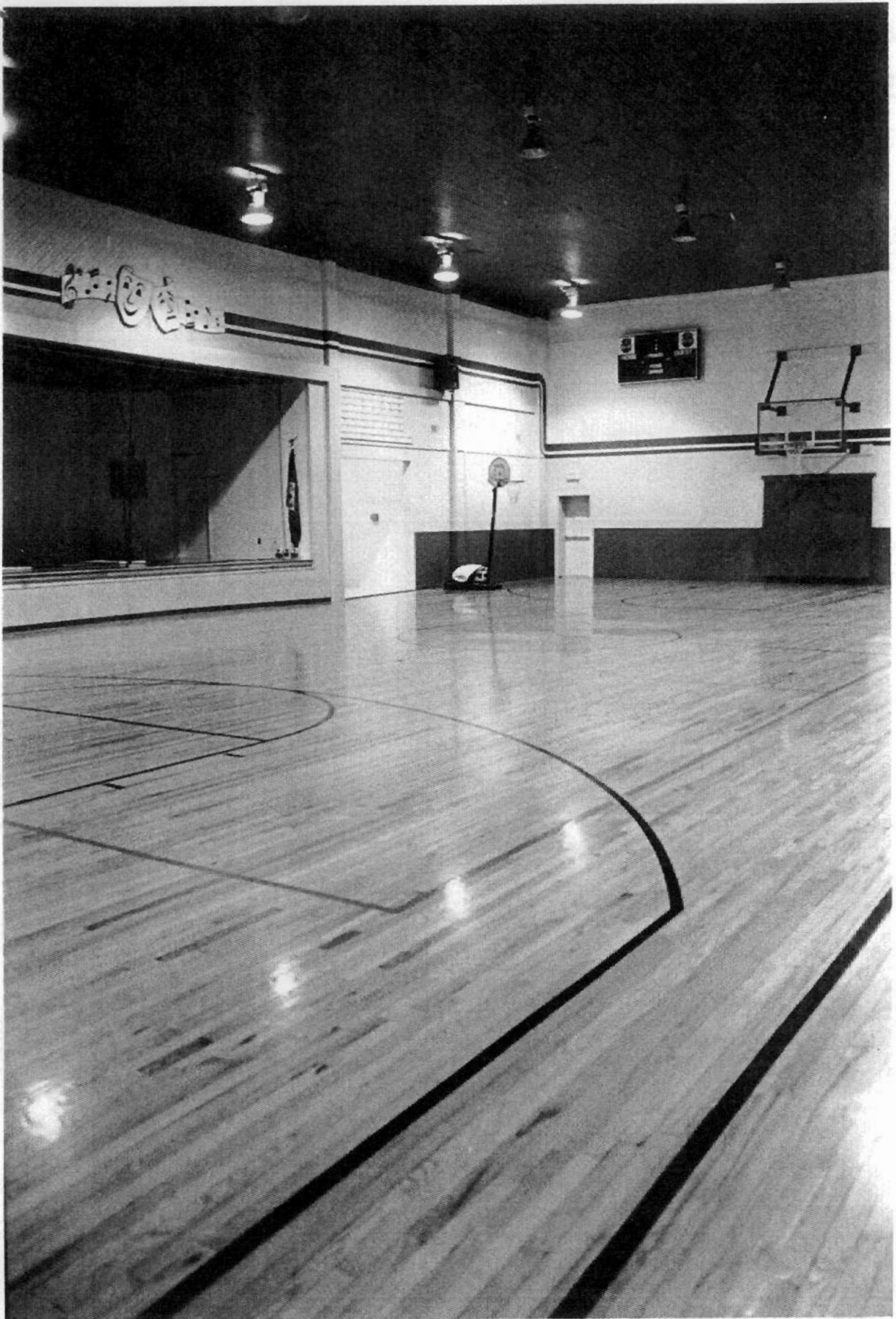
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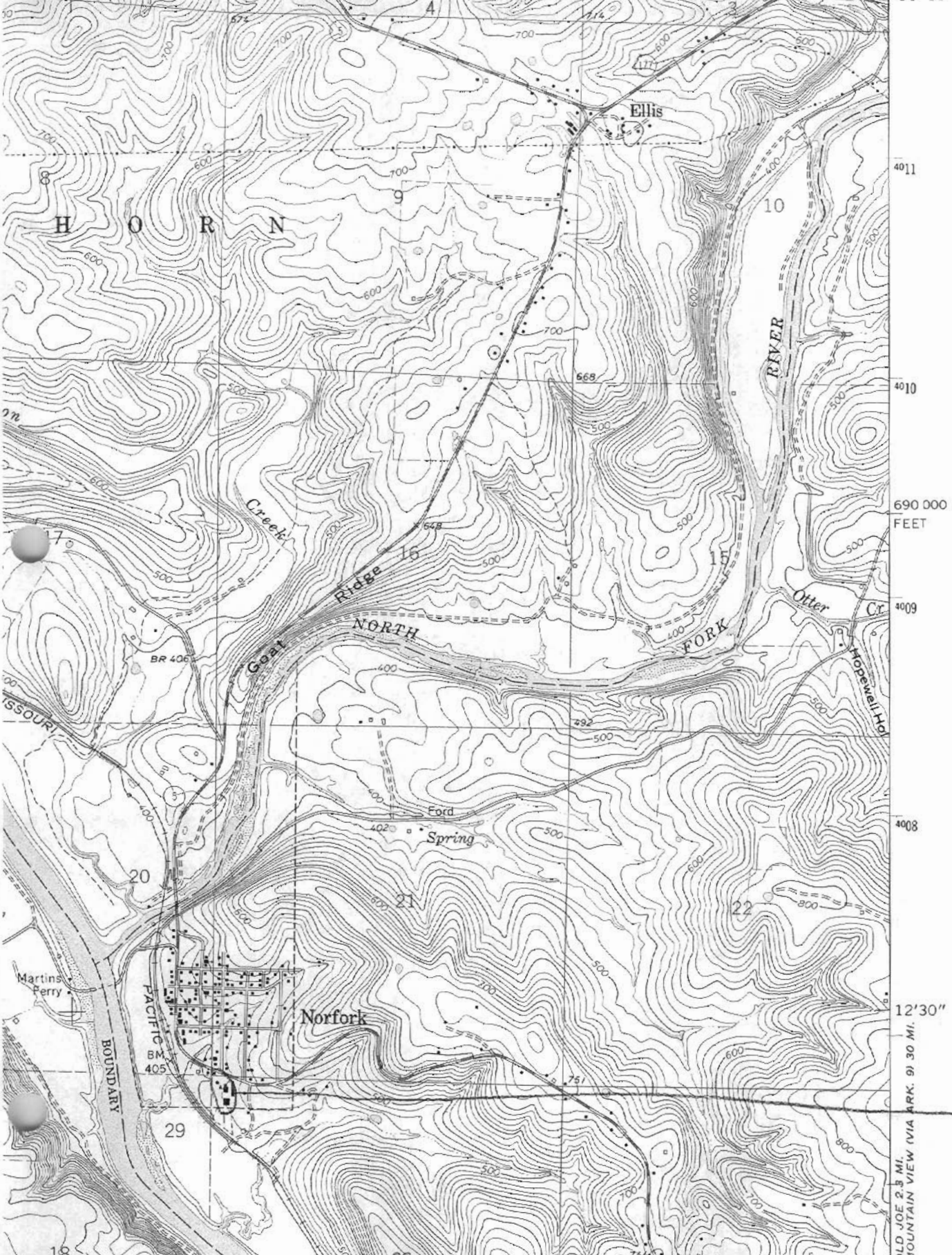




NORFORK QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS—BAXTER CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

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NORFORK DAM NORTH

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Herde Mann School District
Norfolk, Baxter Co, AR
UTM 15/564301/4000957

3LD JOE 2.3 MI.
MOUNTAIN VIEW (VIA ARK. 9) 30 MI.