

*Bradley County  
Warren  
Davis-Adams House*

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

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**1. Name of Property**

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Historic Name: Davis-Adams House

Other Name/Site Number: (BR0013)

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**2. Location**

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Street & Number: 509 North Myrtle Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Warren

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Bradley Code: AR011 Zip Code: 71671

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**3. Classification**

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Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</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.

Cheryl A. Slater \_\_\_\_\_ 1-14-99  
Signature of certifying official 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 : VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

OTHER: I-House

Folk Victorian

\_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation BRICK roof ASPHALT

walls weatherboard other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

**Summary**

Located at 509 North Myrtle Street in Warren in Bradley County, the Davis-Adams House was built around 1860. The neighborhood surrounding the two-story Davis-Adams House is now largely composed of single story Craftsman-era houses and modern ranch-styled residences. A similar I-house was once located in the same neighborhood; however this house was relocated north of Warren and artificial siding now covers its original weatherboard.

Sometime in the 1890s the Davis-Adams house was given a Victorian facelift by the installation of gingerbread trim and a turned spindle balustrade on its two-story front portico. Other notable exterior features include jigsaw dentils applied to the eaves, a pair of large exterior chimneys, and cornice returns on the gable ends of the two-story portion of the house. Although the breezeway in the rear ell of the house exhibits some broken windows and other signs of deterioration, the house retains much of its historic integrity from its turn-of-the-century alteration. There are no contributing outbuildings to this nomination.

### laboration

The Davis-Adams House is a two-story Plain Traditional house (with some Classical Revival influence evident in the return cornices) built c. 1860 and later given Folk Victorian inspired decorations on its two-story portico. Underneath, hand-hewn log sills raised on brick piers support the house. Six-over-one double-hung wood framed windows are found throughout the two-story section and two-over-two double-hung wood frame windows are found on the ell addition. Weatherboard clads the exterior walls. Asphalt shingles cover the side-gabled roof replacing the historic wood shingles.

A two-story gabled portico with a return cornice dominates the front, or south, facade. The portico is centered between two six-over-one windows on both the first and second stories. Four square wooden columns with simple capitals and bases support the first story portion of the porch. Interestingly, a pair of turned spindle pilasters with jigsaw brackets is found on this level as well. On the second story, a turned-spindle balustrade connects four turned-spindle columns. Jigsaw trefoils and saw-tooth trim lend a more Victorian feel to the second story porch. Above in the gable end a semicircular stationary window lights the attic. Beneath the porch, entrance is gained to the interior through a single-leaf French-styled glass door capped by a transom. The difference in weatherboard cladding beneath the porch points to the possibility that the entrance was probably larger at one time, either being filled by double-leaf doors or left open as a breezeway. A pair of three pane sidelights flanks the five-panel single-leaf second story entrance.

The west and east facades are nearly identical. Both contain exterior brick chimneys centered between a pair of six-over-one windows on both the first and second stories. However, the west facade contains the rear ell addition. A small single story portico with boxed eaves protects the side entrance to the ell. This entrance was once an open breezeway but was historically infilled with a five-panel wood door flanked by a pair of eight pane sidelights. Fenestrating the rest of the elevation are two pairs of evenly spaced two-over-two windows and a single two-over-two window. The rear (northern elevation) of the ell contains a two-over-two window rearranged into a two-beside-two casement window to make room for an interior kitchen sink. Above the window in the gable end is a wood louvered vent.

The rear, or northern elevation, contains the L-shaped shed-roofed porch. The part of the porch nearest the two-story portion of the house and a small section of the other leg of the porch have been enclosed for storage. Fenestration on this elevation includes one, two-over-two window, a stationary two-pane window, and one six-over-six window in each story. One window has been infilled on the eastern elevation of the ell addition. The eastern elevation of the ell contains a five-panel wood door.

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The interior is simple but highlighted by board and batten wood ceilings, an original staircase, original mantelpieces, and a pair of Victorian-era French doors. The owner has recently removed the wallpaper and cheesecloth exposing the flush horizontal plank walls.

There are no extant outbuildings associated with this property.

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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: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1860

Significant Dates: c. 1860

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:

**Summary**

The Davis-Adams House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with local significance. Located in a residential area just a couple of blocks outside the commercial center of Warren, the Davis-Adams House is an excellent example of a c.1860s I-house

With later Folk Victorian decorative elements. Although the house has deteriorated somewhat with age and neglect, it retains a large amount of its historic integrity and stands out from its twentieth century neighbors.

Bradley County, at the time of its formation in December 1840, comprised all of the territory now included in Cleveland, Lincoln, Ashley and Drew Counties. The seat of government was established at the home of Captain Bradley with the first county court being held there on April 5, 1841. In 1842 the town of Warren was laid out on a donated tract of land about forty acres in size. Warren was officially incorporated April 8, 1851. Before it became one of Arkansas' leading timber industry towns, the town survived as a county seat and trading center for half a century.

Although the house dates as far back as the 1860s, the first known owner is Dr. S. M. Davis, a medical doctor, who acquired the property in 1888. He and his wife had three children: Ina Davis, Aubert T. Davis, and Zena Davis. Mrs. Zena Davis Adams lived in the house all her life and was deeded the property in 1929 after the death of her mother in 1928. She continued to live in the house after her husband died (name not known) and had interest in a local grocery store called Adams and Green Grocery. The Greens ran the business for her. With large grocery chains beginning to locate in Warren in the 1950s, the neighborhood grocery stores were squeezed out.

According to oral tradition, Mrs. Zena Davis Adams mortgaged her home to keep the store solvent and upon notice by a local banker that her home was to be auctioned to satisfy the debt, she died in the his presence in the South East bedroom of the house. This was the room she used almost exclusively in her later years. Mrs. Davis Adams was seventy-nine-years old at the time of her death in 1966. Fred Curry, a local carpenter, purchased the house for three thousand and eight hundred dollars. He rented the house until 1977, when Mrs. Myrtle Turner who lived in the house until her death in the mid-nineties purchased it. Brenda McKinnon purchased the house in January 23, 1998 from Mrs. Turner's son, Jacob Turner of Wisconsin. McKinnon's parents have lived in the house next to the Davis-Adams House since 1951.

Located just a couple of blocks outside the commercial center of Warren, the Davis-Adams House is an excellent example of a c.1860s I-house with later Folk Victorian decorative elements. Although the house has deteriorated somewhat with age and neglect, it retains a large amount of its historic integrity. For these reasons, the Davis-Adams House is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C with local significance.



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Verbal Boundary Description:

A parcel of land beginning at a point 943.24 feet North of the Southeast Corner of Section 31, Township 12 South, Range 9 West 117.12 feet; thence South 9712 feet; thence east 117.12 feet; thence North 97.12 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary contains all of the property associated with the Davis-Adams House that retains its historic integrity.

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**11. Form Prepared By**  
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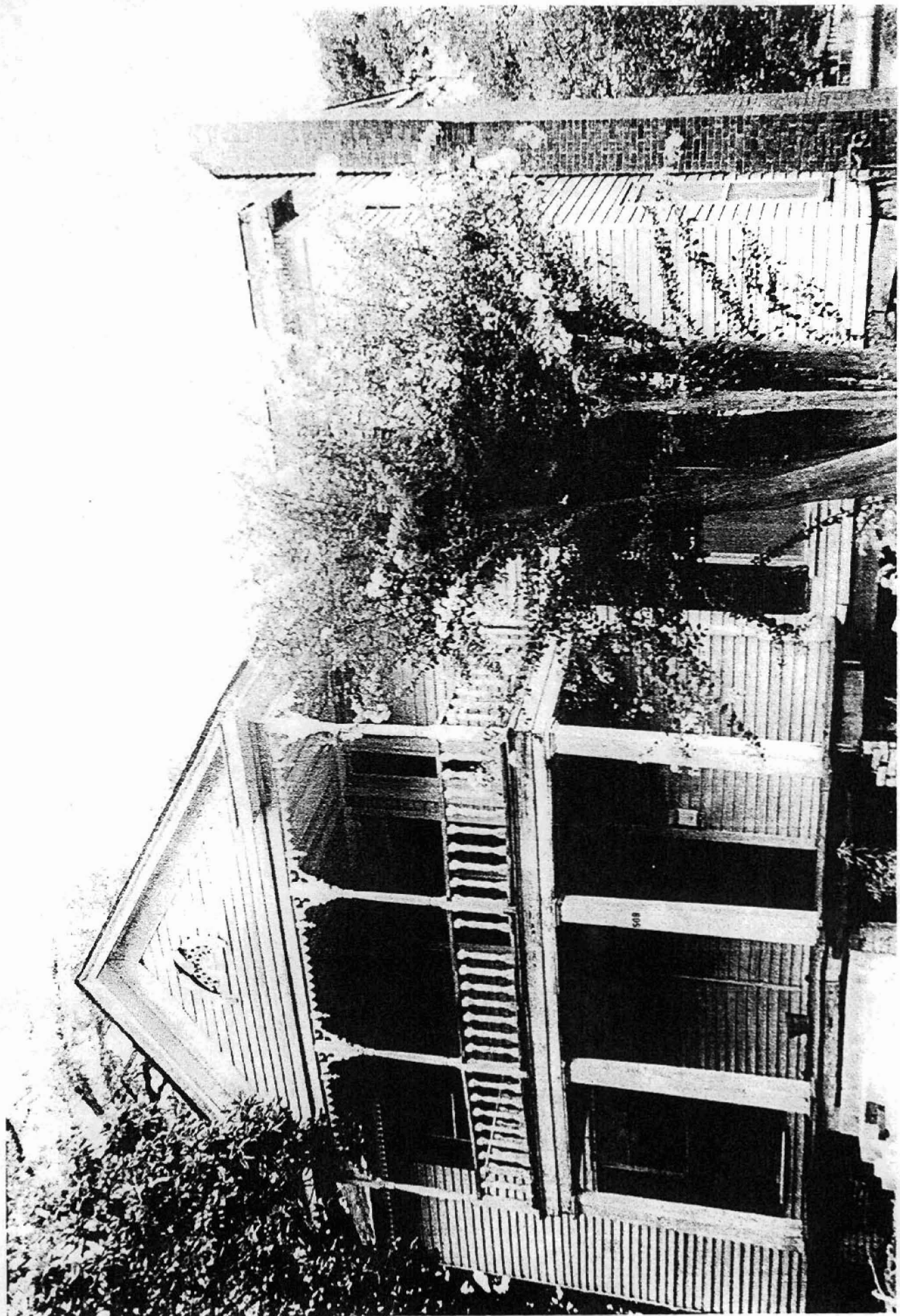
Name/Title: Amy Bennett, Survey Historian

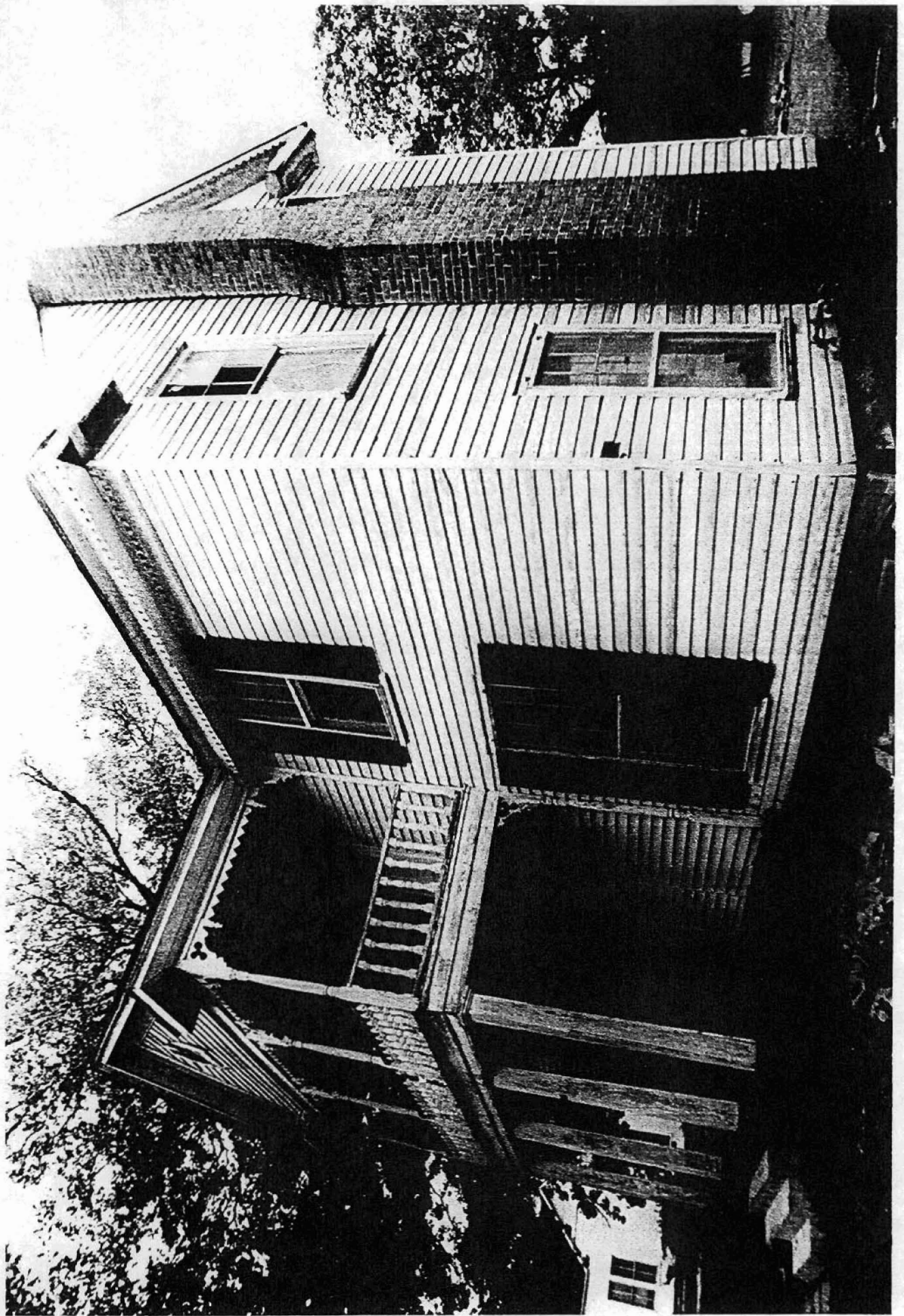
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 1/13/99

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

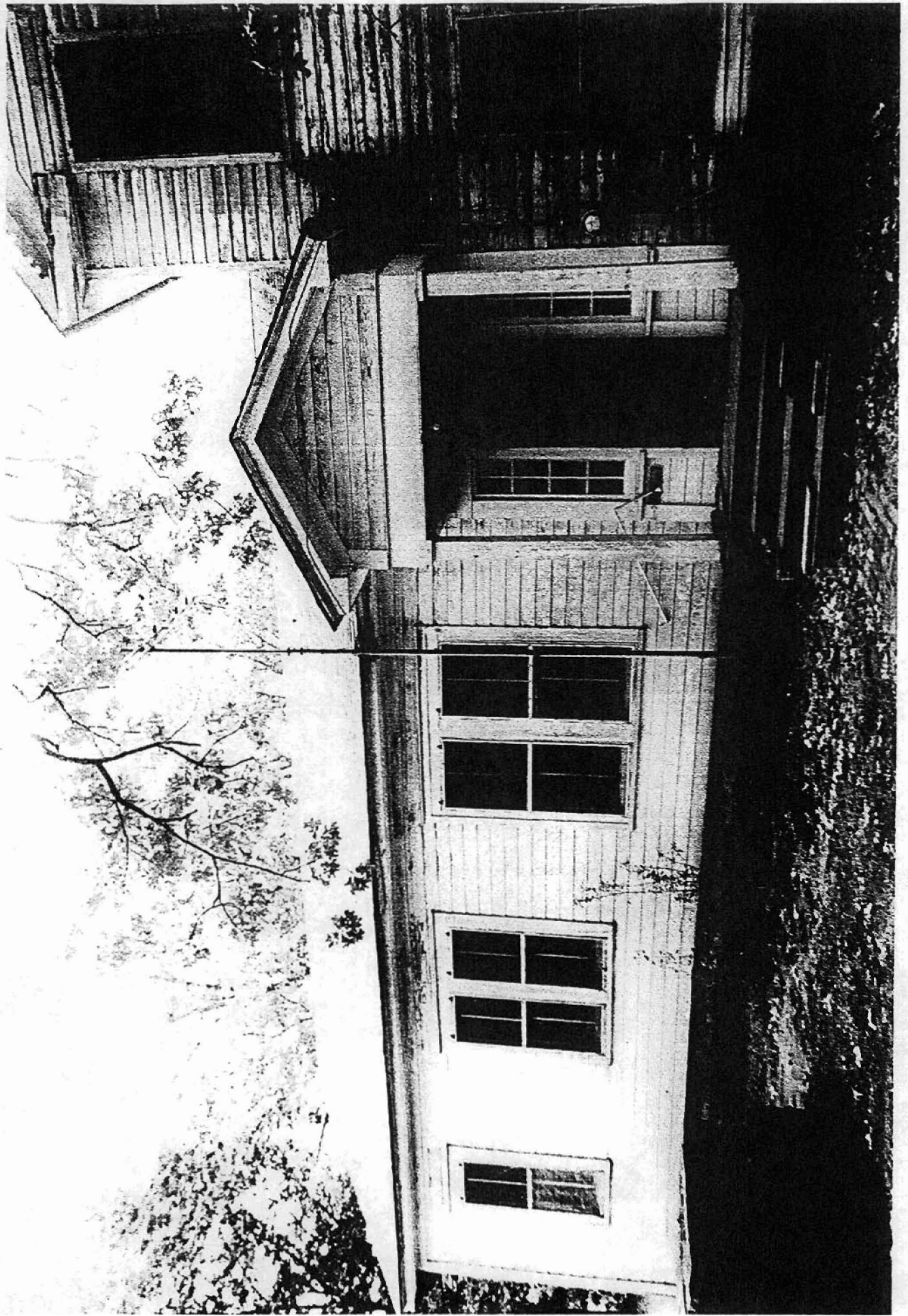
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

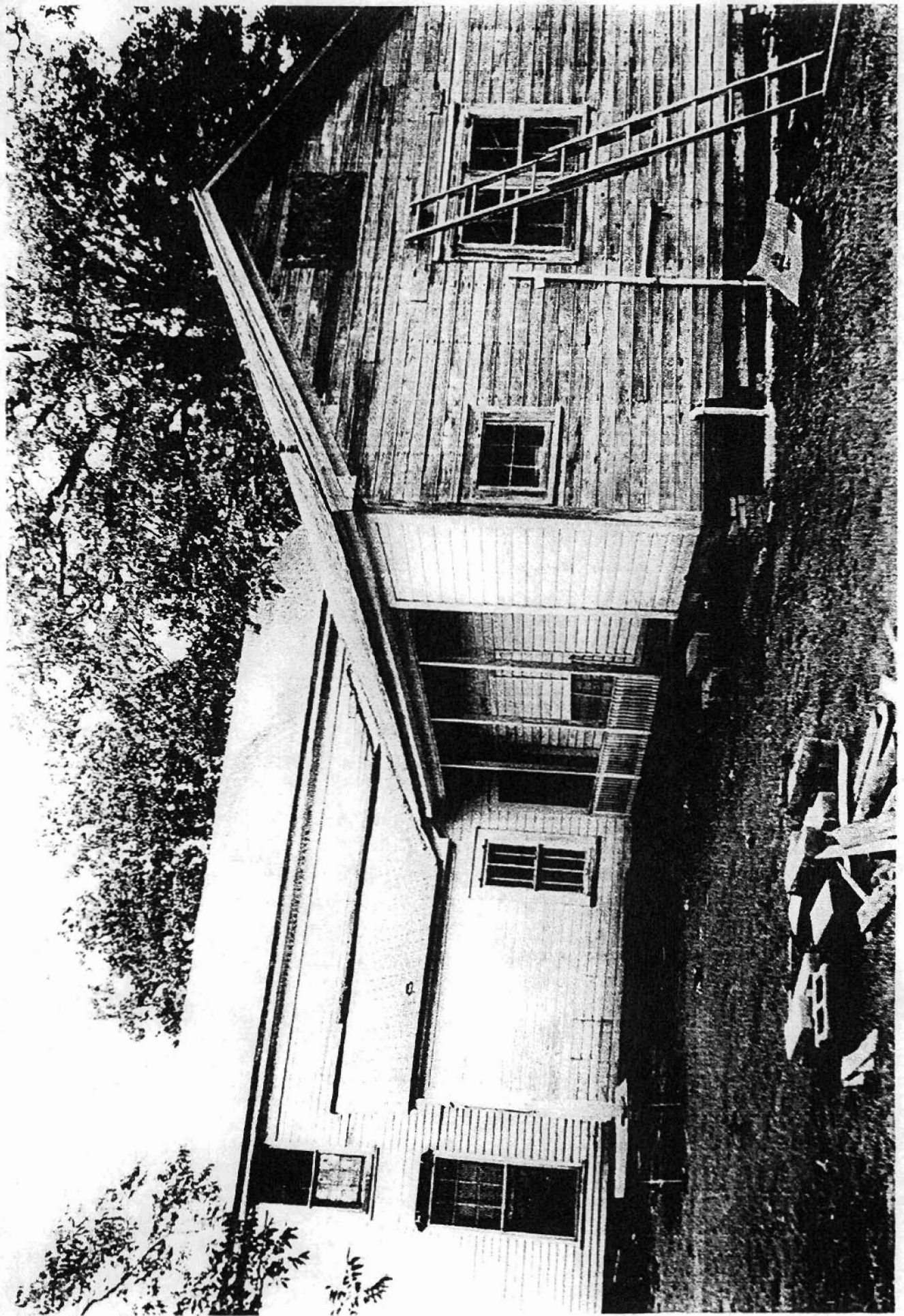


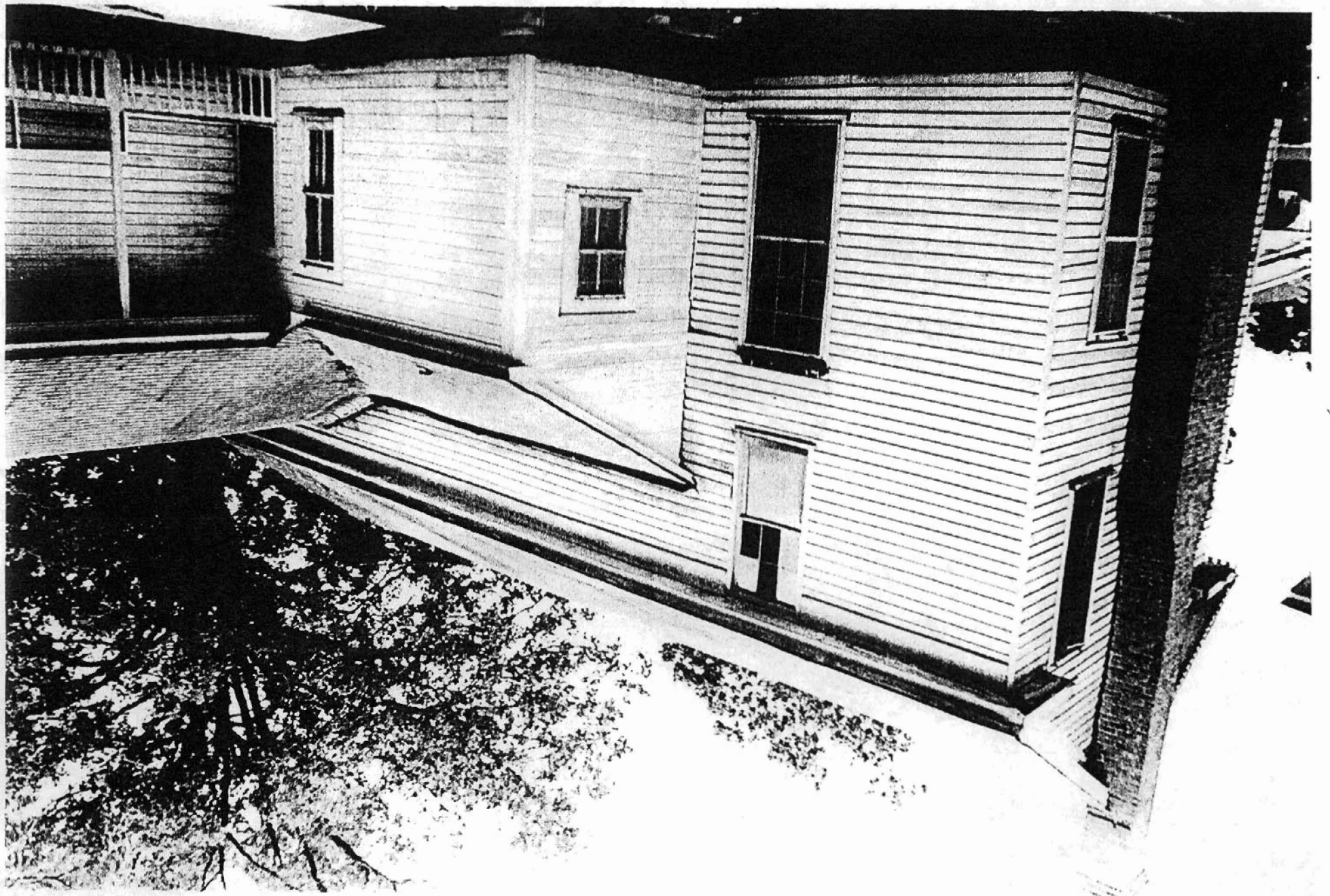


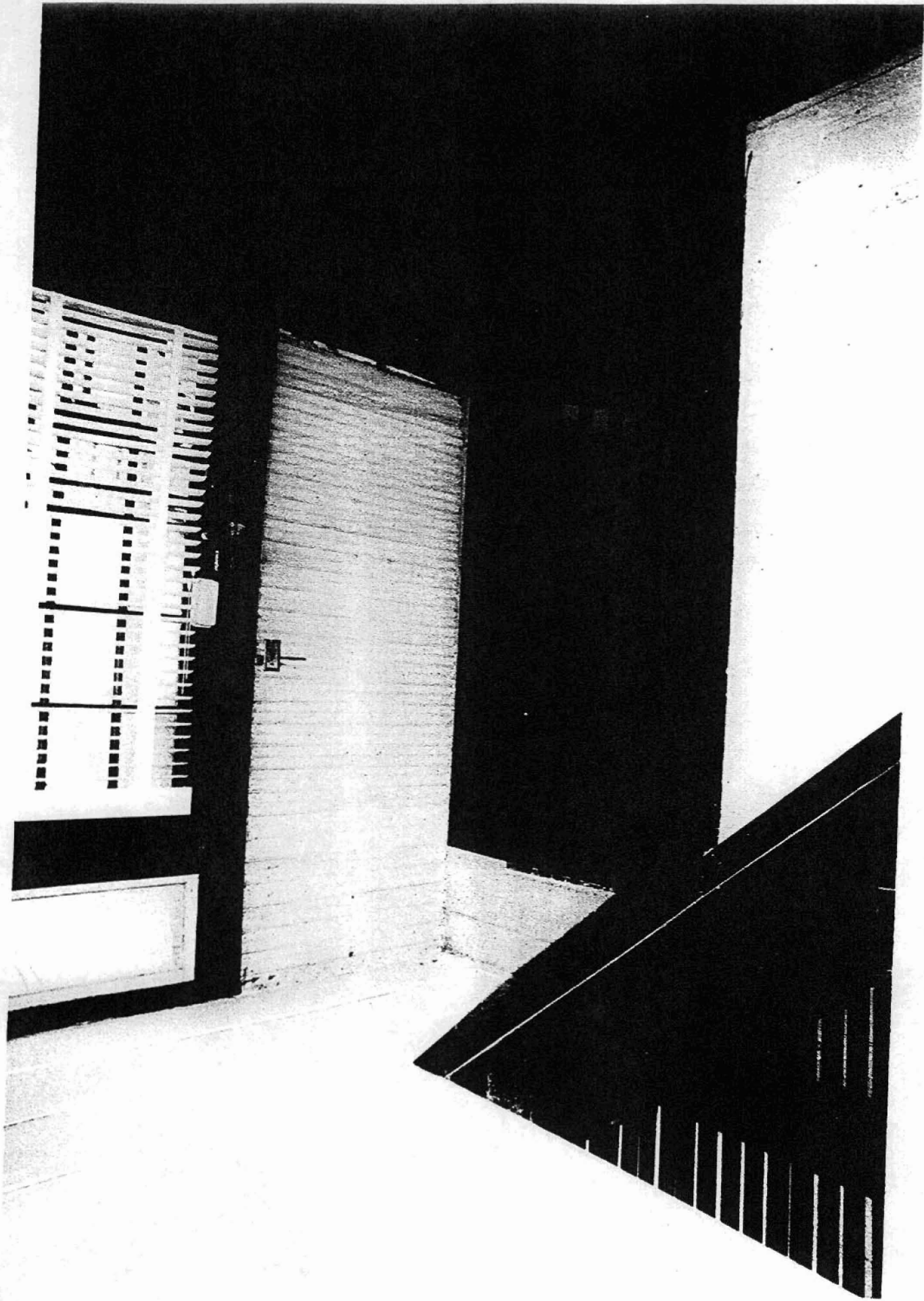


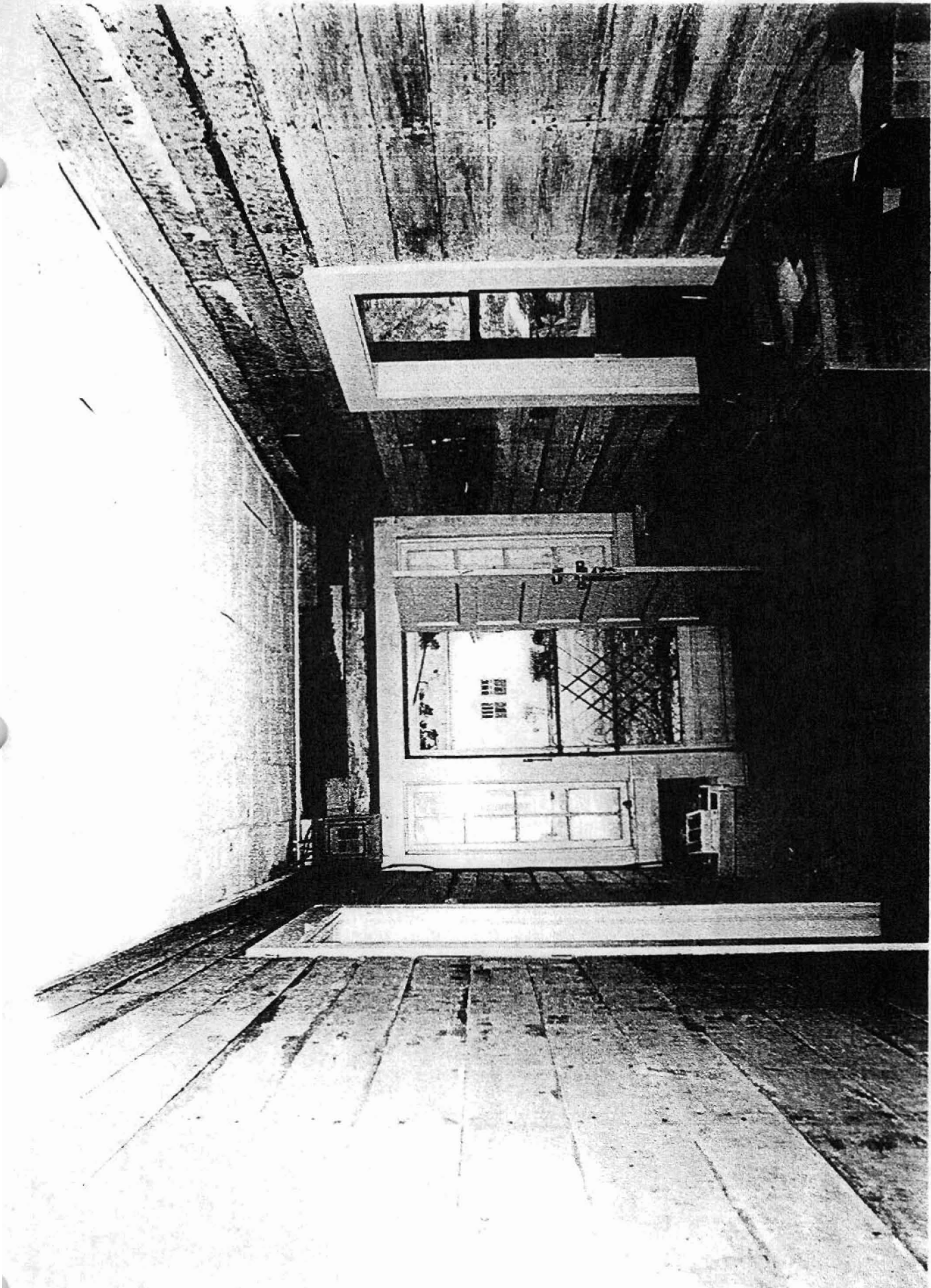




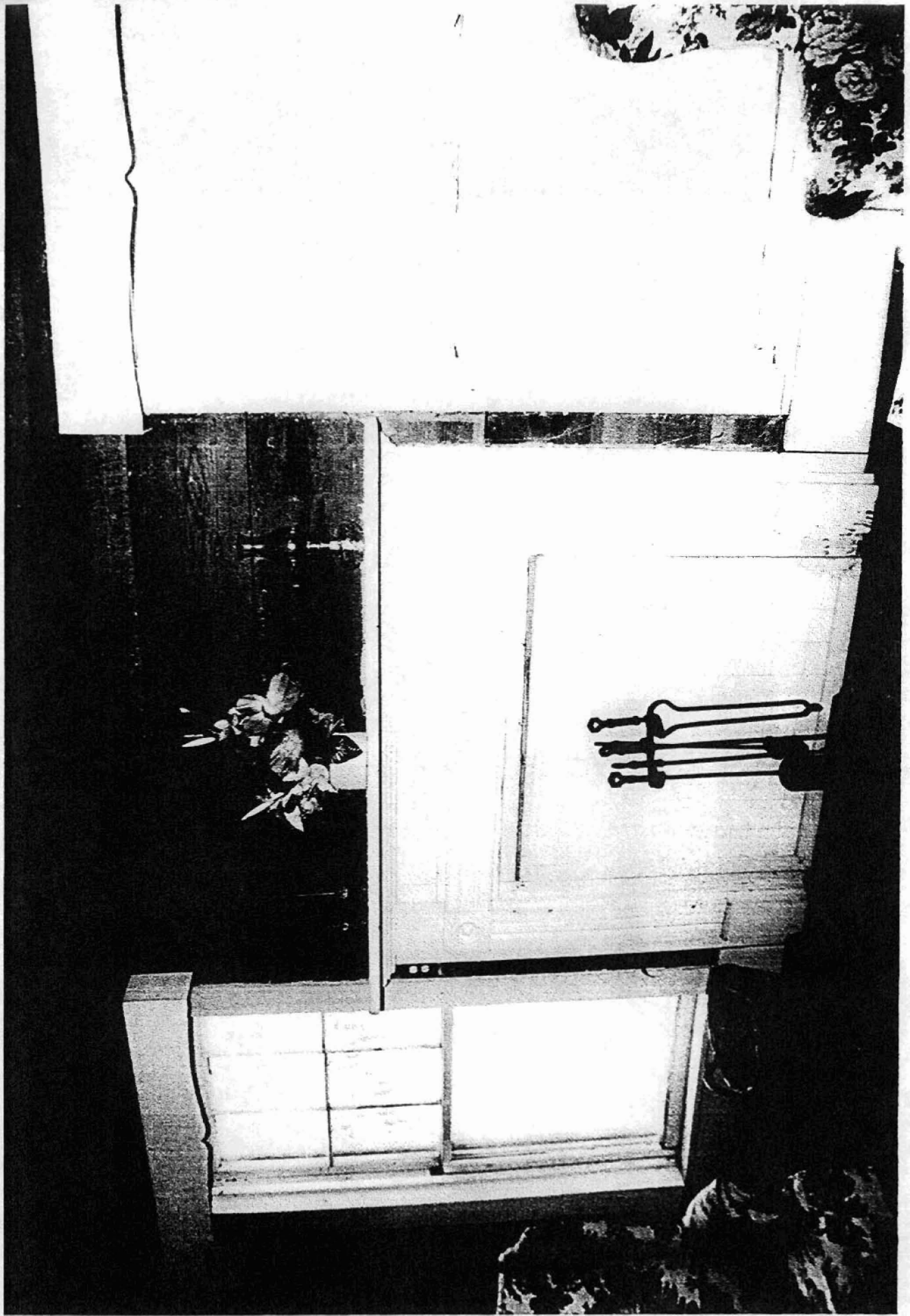












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Warren, Bradley Co., AR  
UTM Reference:  
15/586850/3720100

