

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR Listed 1-21-04

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 Warren Post Office

other names/site number Site #BR0018

2. Location

street & number 236 South Main Street (US 63B)

not for publication

city or town Warren

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Bradley

code 011

zip code 71671

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.)

Cathie Matthews

11/20/03

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

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

Warren Post Office
Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

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

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/post office

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/

Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK

walls BRICK

roof 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 for 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

Politics/Government

Period of Significance

1935-1954

Significant Dates

1935-1936

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)**Architect/Builder**

Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect

Barnes Building, Builder

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: _____

Warren Post Office
Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property Less than one.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u> Zone	<u>586774</u> Easting	<u>3719406</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> 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 Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date September 10, 2003
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9787
city or town Little Rock state AR 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 Warren, Arkansas
street & number 104 North Myrtle, PO Box 352 telephone 870-226-6743
city or town Warren state AR zip code 71671

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Warren Post Office, located at 236 South Main Street, is a one-story brick building built in 1935-1936 and designed in the Colonial Revival style. The building features a brick foundation and walls and a flat roof behind a brick parapet with concrete cornice trim. It is essentially square in plan with a basement and main floor, which housed the lobby and postal service functions. The Post Office was abandoned in 1998, and purchased by the City of Warren in 2002. The city is planning to renovate the building for city offices.

ELABORATION

The Warren Post Office, located at 236 South Main Street, is located in the heart of downtown Warren, the county seat of Bradley County. The one-story brick building was designed in the Colonial Revival style and was begun in late 1935 and finished in 1936. The building is located at a prominent location in downtown Warren at the northwest corner of Main and Church streets, about a block and a half south of the courthouse. The Post Office has a brick foundation and walls and a flat roof behind a brick and concrete parapet. The corners of the building also feature brick quoins.

The building features a square plan with a basement and a main floor, which housed the lobby and postal service lobby. A wing off the rear of the building housed the loading dock. The Post Office used the building until 1998, when a new facility was constructed. The building was purchased by the City of Warren, and it is planned to renovate the building for city offices.

East/Front Façade

The front, or east, façade features a central entrance to the building. The entrance currently contains an aluminum-framed, glass-panel door with a sidelight on the left hand side. (The original doors were two wood-panel doors with six panes of glass in the top half of each.) The glass front door has an aluminum-framed transom. The area above the front door is topped with a decorative, semi-circular fanlight window with a spider-web muntin design. A wide decorative concrete band outlines the front door, including the fanlight, and a keystone is set at the top of the arch. A broad set of stairs with decorative metal railings lead from the sidewalk to the front door. A handicapped access ramp, added in January 1995, proceeds from the entrance to the southeast corner of the building, and then proceeds along the south façade.

The front entrance is flanked on each side by decorative metal lamps that are mounted on the front of the post office. The entrance is also flanked on each side by two eight-over-eight, wood-framed, double-hung windows. Each window has a stone sill and lintel. A brick beltcourse at the bottom of the entrance level, and a stone cornice near the top of the façade, also span the façade, and brick quoins exist at both corners.

Originally, above the cornice were the words "UNITED STATES POST OFFICE / WARREN, ARKANSAS." The cornerstone is also located at the southeast corner of the building. A stone capping crowns the entire façade.

United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

South/Side Façade

The east part of the south façade comprises the lobby portion of the building. It contains three wood, double-hung, eight-over-eight windows with stone sills and lintels, matching the windows on the front façade. The lobby portion of the building also features a brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade and a stone cornice near the top of the façade. The corners of the lobby portion also feature brick quoins. The southeast corner features a handicapped accessibility ramp, which wraps around to the front entrance.

The rest of the south façade is comprised of the work space in the rear of the building. The façade is indented slightly from the lobby portion, and features four wood, double-hung, eight-over-eight windows. Each window also has a four-pane transom over it. The brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade continues along this portion of the side of the building, and the stone cornice continues along this portion as a brick beltcourse. A stone capping crowns the entire façade.

The loading dock is at the rear of the building. The south façade of this portion of the building features an open porch on the west side and a recessed brick panel on the east on the first floor that mimics the windows on the second floor. The second floor contains two wood, double-hung, six-over-six windows. The brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade also continues along this portion of the side of the building.

West/Rear Façade

In the center of the rear façade is the loading dock area for the post office. The first floor contains the open loading dock, which has large brick columns at each end and two metal posts on concrete bases evenly spaced across the opening. A large, flat awning gives protection from the elements, and is supported by four supports anchored into the top of the wall. The second floor of the loading dock wing contains three bays. The left two bays have wood, double-hung, six-over-six windows. The right bay has a recessed brick panel that mimics the two windows.

The loading dock area is flanked on either side by a single wood, double-hung, eight-over-eight window. Each window also has a four-pane transom over it. The brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade continues along this façade as does the brick beltcourse towards the top of the façade.

North/Side Façade

The east part of the north façade comprises the lobby portion of the building. It contains three wood, double-hung, eight-over-eight windows with stone sills and lintels, matching the windows on the front façade. The lobby portion of the building also features a brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade and a stone cornice near the top of the façade. The corners of the lobby portion also feature brick quoins.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

The rest of the north façade is comprised of the work space in the rear of the building. The façade is indented slightly from the lobby portion, and features four wood, double-hung, eight-over-eight windows. Each window also has a four-pane transom over it. The brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade continues along this portion of the side of the building, and the stone cornice continues along this portion as a brick beltcourse. A stone capping crowns the entire façade.

The loading dock is at the rear of the building. The south façade of this portion of the building features an open porch on the west side and a wood, double-hung, six-over-six window the east on the first floor. The second floor contains two wood, double-hung, six-over-six windows. The brick beltcourse towards the bottom of the façade also continues along this portion of the side of the building.

Interior

Although the interior plan remains intact from the time of the building's construction, some of the interior features have been modernized. Acoustical ceilings were added in some portions of the building in 1945, and new entrance doors were installed in 1948. New mailboxes, which have since been removed, were installed in the lobby in 1957.

Integrity

The Warren Post Office retains a very high degree of integrity. The exterior of the building is virtually unaltered from the time of its completion in 1936, based upon historic photographs. The replacement of the front door and the construction of the handicapped access ramp, are the major exterior changes to the building. Likewise, the plan of the interior remains virtually unaltered from 1936. Although some of the interior finishes have been changed, these are minor changes and have little affect on the building's overall integrity. The Warren Post Office remains an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style of architecture.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Warren Post Office is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of a Colonial Revival style government building. In addition, it is being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with federal postal operations in Warren and Bradley County.

ELABORATION

Bradley County, Arkansas, was formed by the Arkansas legislature on December 18, 1840, and named for Captain Hugh Bradley, the first representative of the area under territorial legislation. Captain Bradley first arrived in the area in about 1825, after relocating from Lafayette County. As originally formed, Bradley County embraced the area that today includes most of Ashley, Drew, Lincoln, Cleveland, Dallas, and Calhoun counties. It did not reach its current size of 652 square miles until April 1873 when Cleveland County was formed. On April 17, 1843, it was decided that the County Seat of Justice would be located in Warren, and the town was officially incorporated on April 8, 1851.

Postal service in the area was first established in 1832 at Cabeens, which was likely named after J. T. Cabeen, an early surveyor. The name of Cabeens was changed to Warren in 1843. Prior to locating at 236 South Main Street, the post office was located in a building on the corner of South Myrtle and East Church streets. In 1935, however, it was decided that a new post office was needed.

The site chosen for the building was located at the northwest corner of Main and Church streets in downtown Warren, only a couple of blocks south of the Courthouse. The site had been the location of the Bradley Commissary, which had been demolished. After the Commissary's demolition, the location was used by the county and city as a park, and just prior to the purchase of the site by the Treasury Department, it was the location of a miniature golf course.

The construction of the Warren Post Office was awarded to Mr. James I. Barnes of Barnes Building in Logansport, Indiana, on October 10, 1935, and the notice to proceed was dated October 29, 1935. The Supervising Architect for the project was Louis A. Simon, who did extensive design work on federal buildings. He designed several other post offices around Arkansas, including the Lake Village Post Office (NR listed 08/14/98) and the Crossett Post Office (NR listed 01/08/03), as well as buildings in at least twelve other states and the District of Columbia.

Louis Simon chose the Colonial Revival style for the design of the building. It was a style that he would also use two years later in the design of the Lake Village Post Office (NR listed 08/14/98). The increased popularity of the Colonial Revival style in the late nineteenth and early twentieth-centuries was a direct result of the 1876 Centennial Exposition held in Philadelphia, which brought about a renewed interest in America's colonial heritage. In addition, an increased number of publications in the early 1900s on colonial architecture

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

also helped to fuel a renewed interest in the style. No doubt, Simon was familiar with some of these publications, which likely influenced his choice of the style for the building.

James I. Barnes, the building's contractor, was no stranger to the building trade as well. Born in Logansport, Indiana, in 1872, he eventually became a well respected builder and architect in the Logansport area. The range of buildings he worked on was quite vast, ranging from residences and apartments to commercial buildings, churches, and fraternal lodges. However, the fact that he went into architecture is not surprising given the fact that his father, who was born in England, was a builder for over fifty years, and his grandfather was a stonemason. The Warren Post Office was not the only building that Barnes and Simon worked on together. They also designed and built the Auburn Post Office in Auburn, Washington (NR listed 04/21/00).

Once the notice to proceed with construction of the post office was granted in October 1935, work on the building proceeded quickly. By December 2, 1935, the basement had been excavated, and construction of the foundation had begun. The first floor was in place by the beginning of 1936, and the walls were finished by February 25. The windows had been installed by March 27, and the construction of the building appeared to be completed by May 26. However, it is unknown exactly when the building opened to the public.

The Warren Post Office was an asset to the community and was in service from its completion in 1936 through July 1998 when a new facility was opened on North Main Street about one half mile to the north. The building has been vacant since that time. The City of Warren purchased the Post Office site from the U.S. Postal Service in March 2002, and has hopes of renovating the building for city offices. The Warren Post Office remains today an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style, and a reminder of the development of the postal service in Warren and Bradley County.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Warren Post Office is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of a Colonial Revival style government building. In addition, it is being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with federal postal operations in Warren and Bradley County.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1890.

Dan Robinson & Associates, Inc. *Asbestos and Lead Based Paint Survey and Related Services*. 1 August 1996.

Historic photographs of the construction of the Warren Post Office in the possession of Bill Hargis, Warren, Arkansas.

Hurdis, Frank, Chief of Survey and Registration, Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology. Telephone conversation with Ralph S. Wilcox. 22 August 2003.

Survey Plat and Legal Description in the possession of Haley, Claycomb, Roper & Anderson, Attorneys at Law, Warren, Arkansas.

Telephone conversations during July 2003 between Bertia Mae Lassiter and:

David W. Eales, U.S. Postal Service, Arlington, Virginia.

Tina Norwood, U.S. Postal Service, Arlington, Virginia.

Cynthia Goodwin, U.S. Postal Service, Denver, Colorado.

U.S. Postal Service. *Historic Significance Survey: Warren Post Office*. 1 June 1981

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

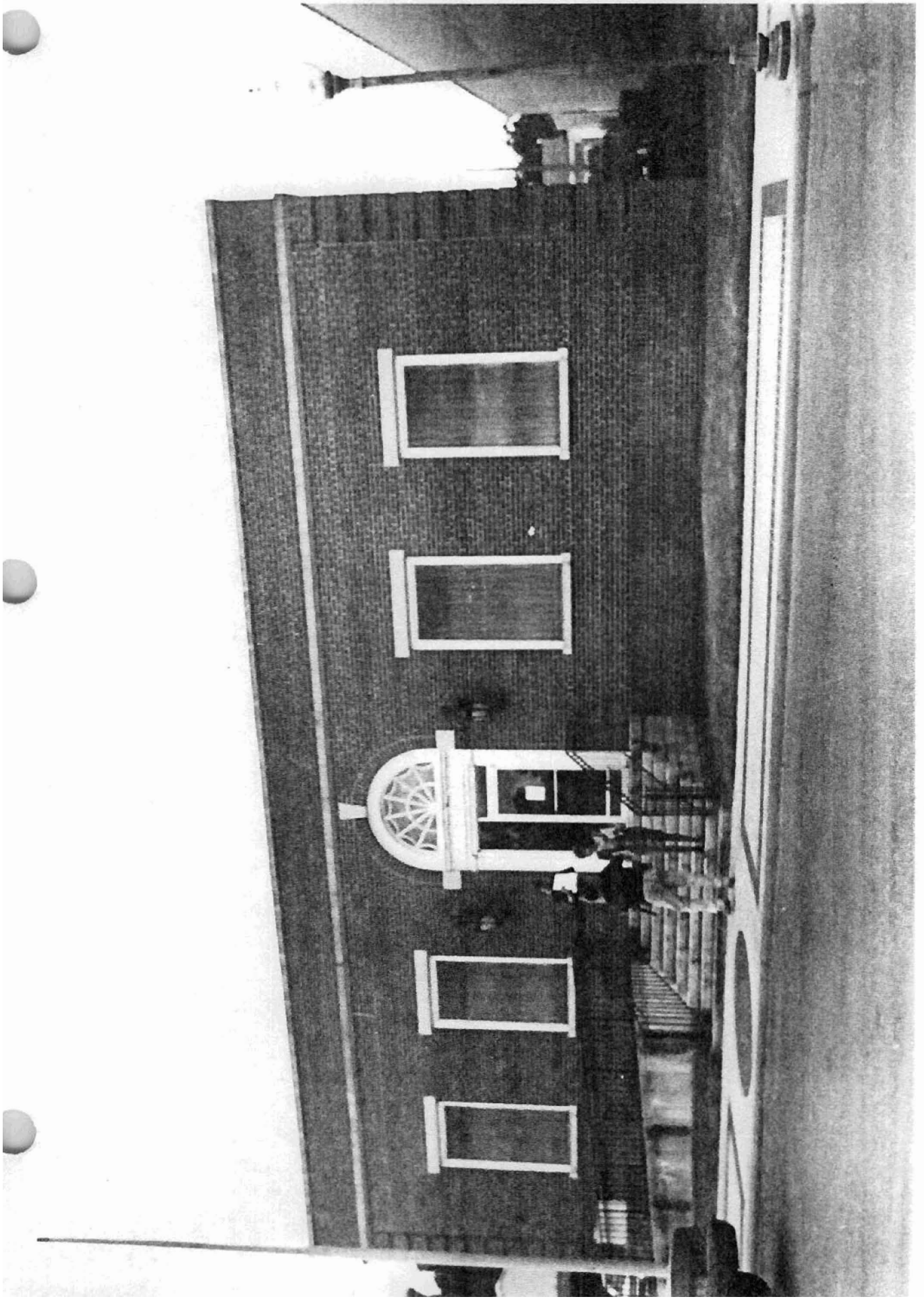
Section number 10 Page 1

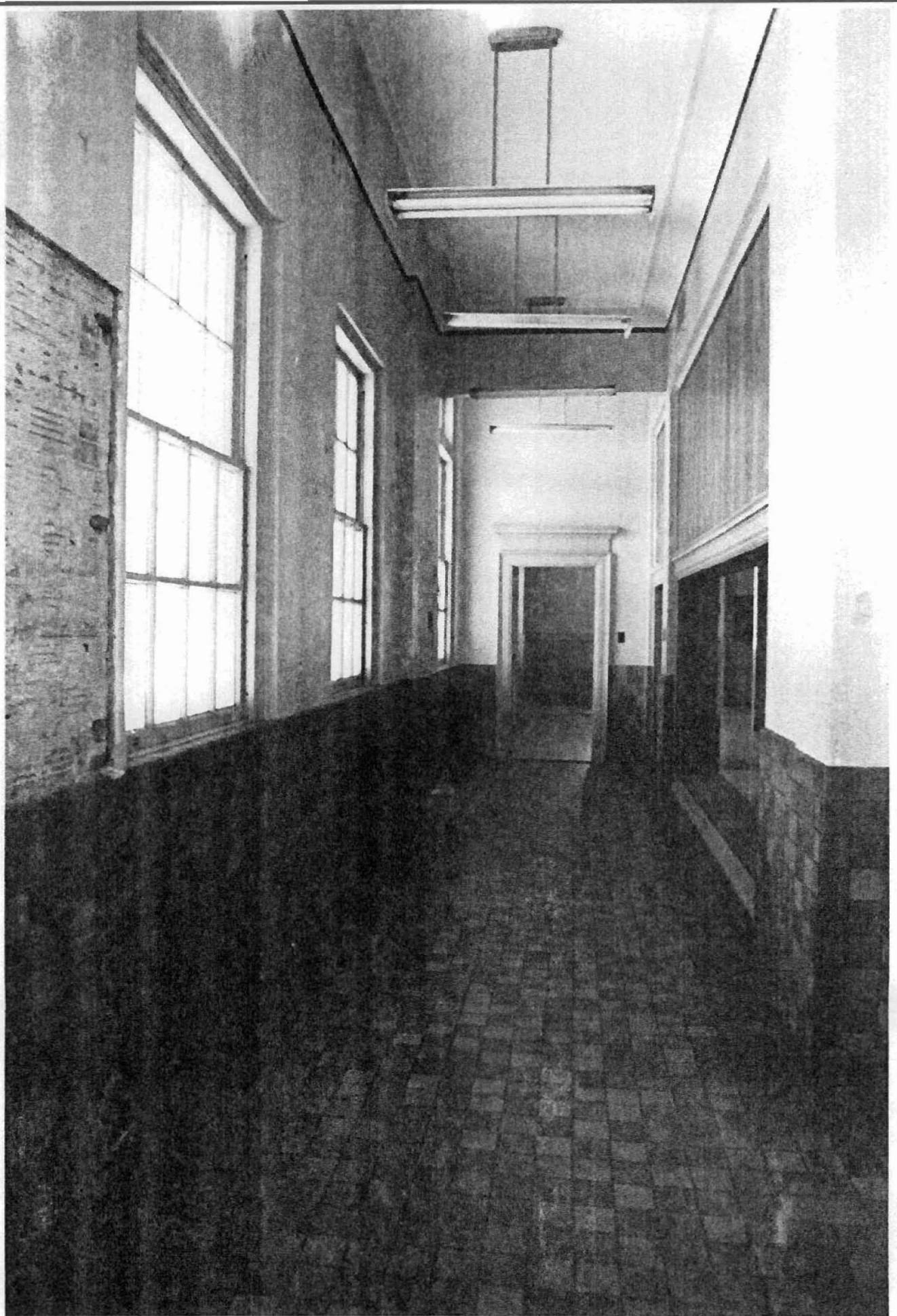
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

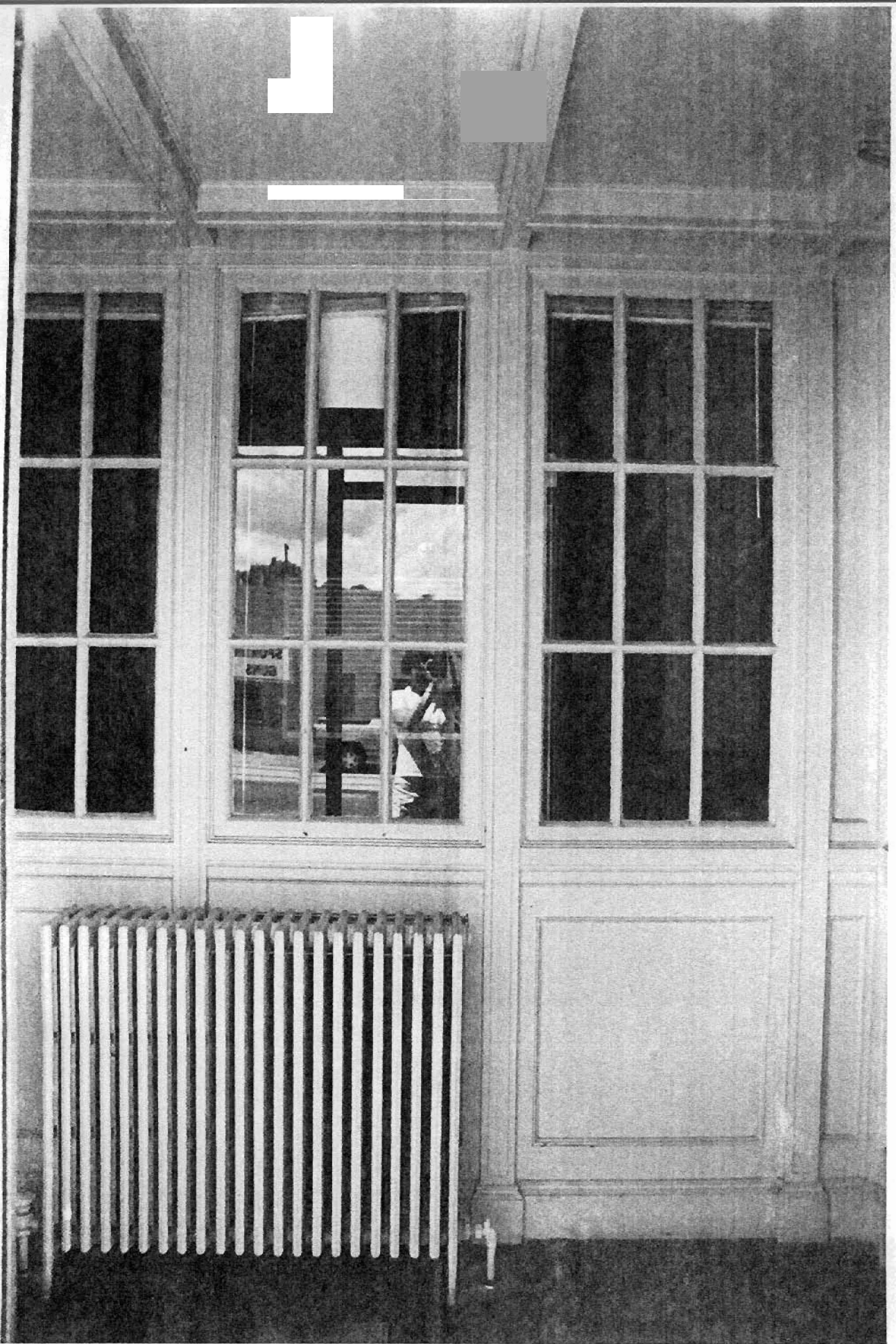
A lot in the City of Warren, Arkansas, described as commencing at the back of the south curb on West Cypress Street at the intersection of the south line of Cypress Street with the west line of Main (Vine) Street, and running south no degrees and 34 minutes east 416.60 feet to the beginning point of the lot herein conveyed, thence running south 34 minutes east 72.65 feet, thence north 86 degrees 42 minutes 30 seconds west 150 feet, thence north 34 minutes east 70 feet, and thence south 87 degrees 43 minutes east 149.80 feet, to the point of beginning, being part of Lots 11 and 12 of Block 38 of Turner's Map of Warren, Arkansas.

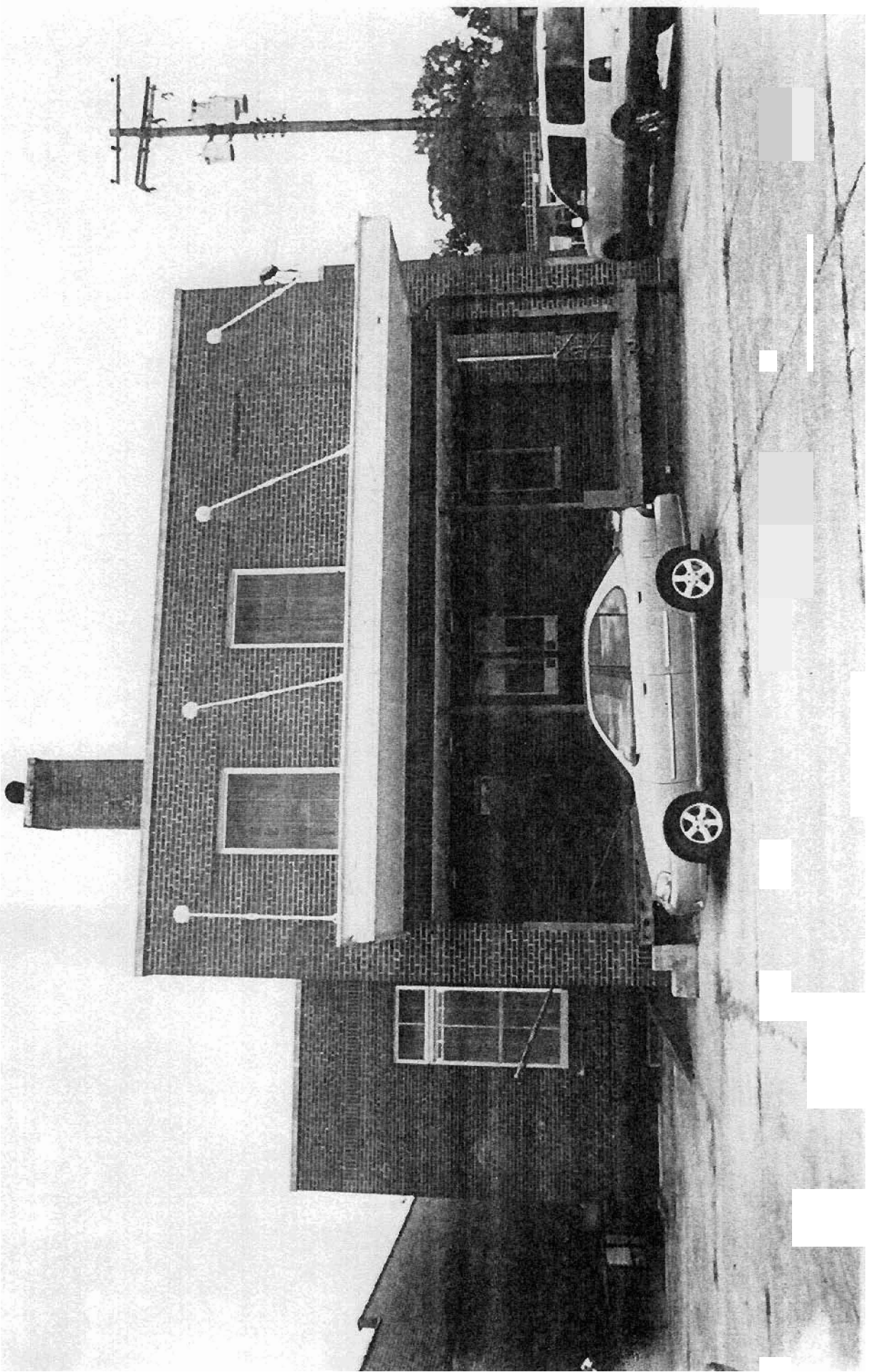
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

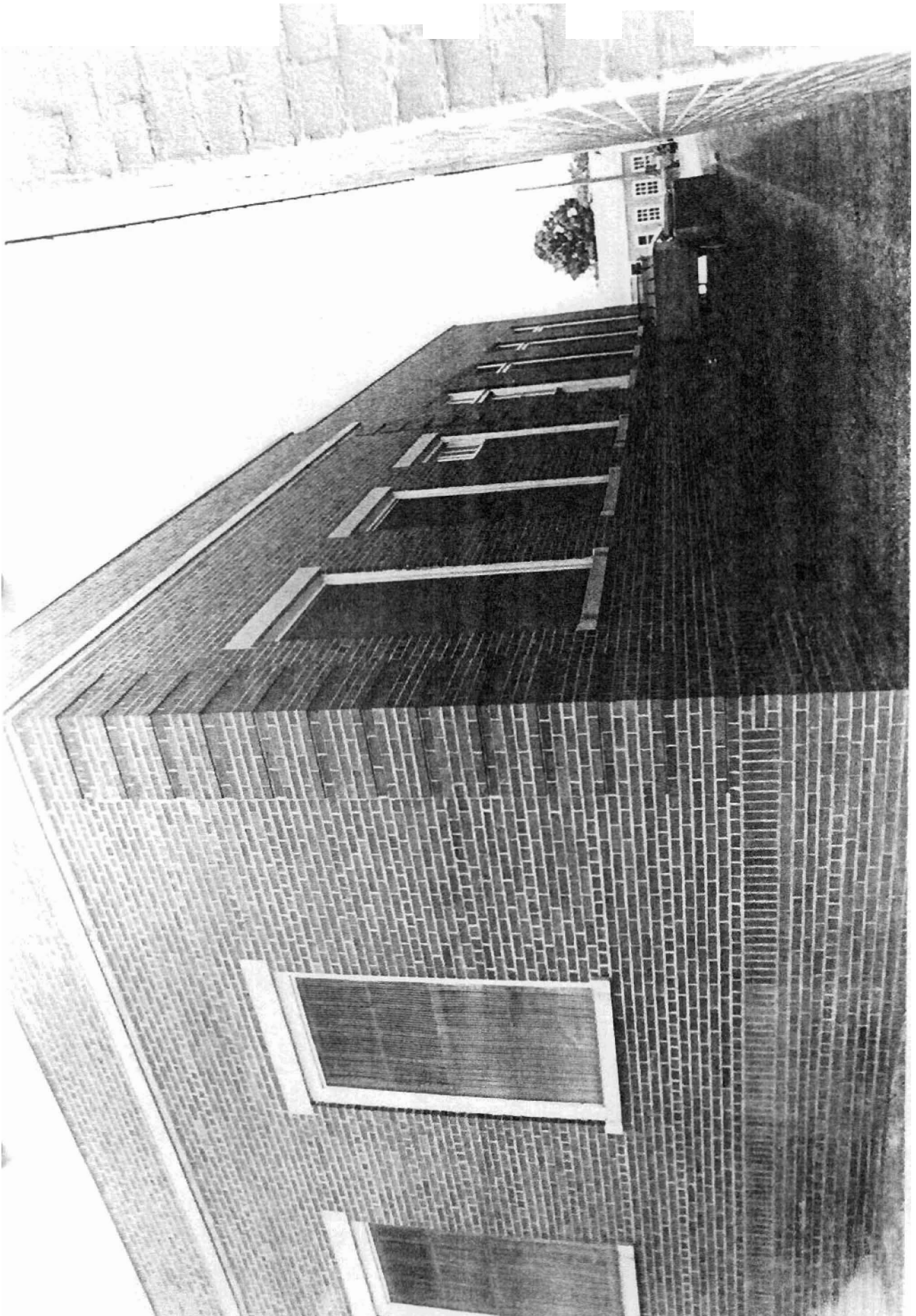
The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Warren Post Office.

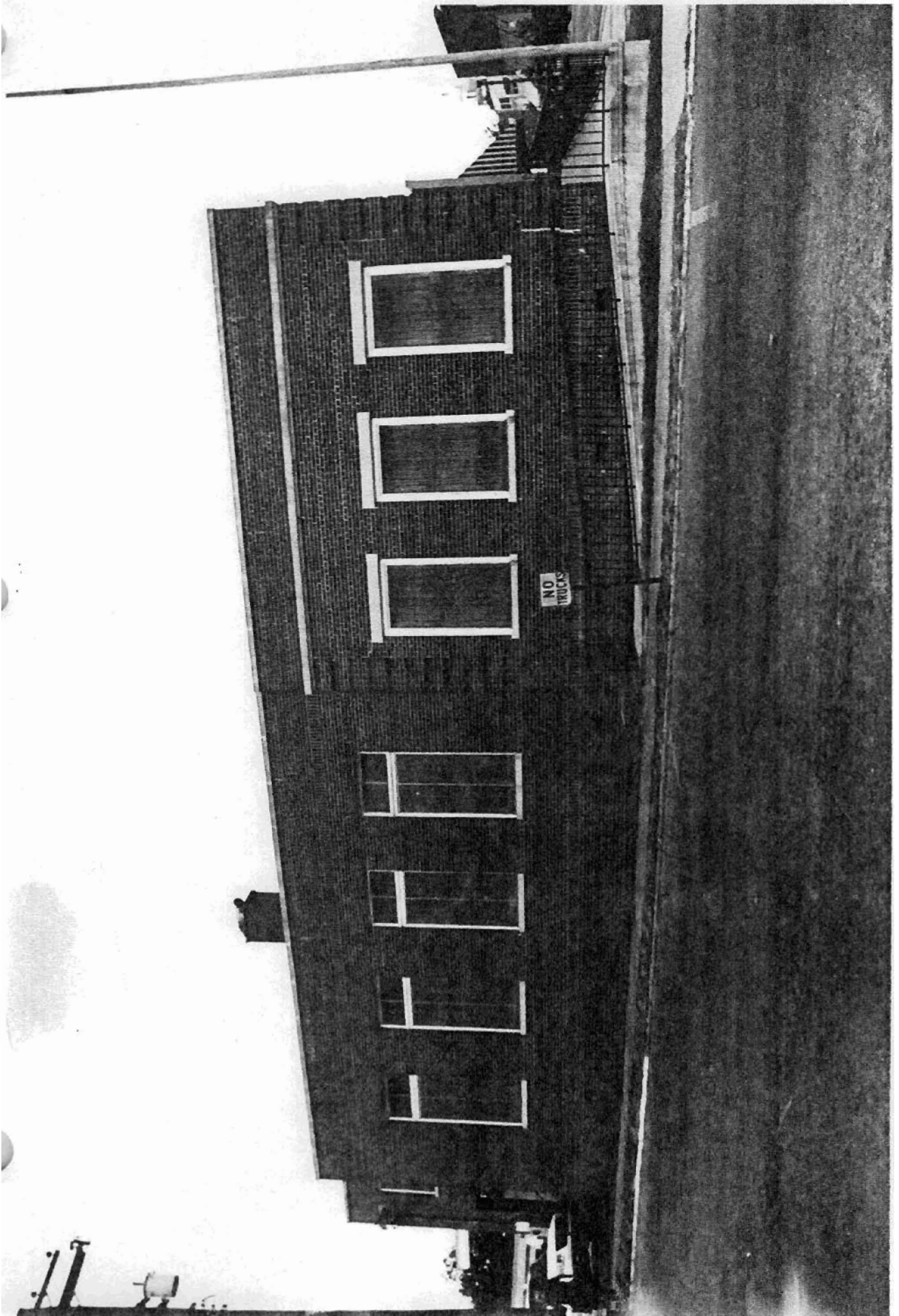












NO TRUCKS

WARREN QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

751
NORTH

92°00' 33°37'30"
1:990,000 FEET
2'30" 189
188
3 LUFF 45 MI.
2 MI.
Sewage Disposal
Branch
Basalide Sch
R.N.
HANKINS ST
Rest Home
Hospital
Oakland Cell
BRADLEY ST
340 000 FEET
318
317
WILMAR 4.7 MI.
MONTICELLO 13 MI.



WARREN POST OFFICE
WARREN, BRADLEY
COUNTY, AR
T. 12 S.
UTM:
T. 13 S.
15/586774/3719406