

NRLISTED 11/19/93

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Frauenthal, Clarence, House

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 210 N. Broadway Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Heber Springs

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Cleburne code: AR 023 zip code: 72543

3. Classification

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.

Carlynn A. Slator _____ 10-6-93
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

=====

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

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: Domestic _____ Sub: single dwelling _____

Current : Domestic _____ Sub: Single dwelling _____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Craftsman

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation sandstone roof asphalt
walls wood shingles other _____

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

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8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1914

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>588190</u>	<u>3927980</u>	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, Block 23, north addition to the original town of Heber Springs, Cleburne County, Arkansas.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the resources that retains its integrity.

=====

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/04/93

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

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Summary

Constructed in 1914, the Clarence Frauenthal House is a single-story Craftsman-style residence resting upon a 24" thick cut-sandstone foundation. The wood-frame walls are sheathed with redwood siding, and the multiple-gable roof, which is punctuated by a single exterior sandstone chimney, is covered with modern composition shingles. Essential Craftsman details such as exposed rafter tails and false projecting beams are present in quantity. The interior remains in original condition and is more reminiscent of the Prairie style with a living room that features a beam ceiling bolstered by two stained-oak square columns. There are no extant outbuildings. Located at the southwest corner of Sugarloaf and N. Broadway Streets in Heber Springs, the Clarence Frauenthal House is in good condition.

Elaboration

Constructed in 1914, the Clarence Frauenthal House is a single-story Craftsman-style residence resting upon a 24" thick cut-sandstone foundation. The wood-frame walls are sheathed with redwood siding (currently painted white), and the multiple-gable roof, which was originally covered with cypress shingles, is now covered with composition shingles. A single exterior sandstone chimney punctuates the roofline on the southern elevation. Essential Craftsman details such as exposed rafter tails and false beams (grouped in a stack of three beams with each projecting progressively) are present in quantity.

The front, or eastern, elevation is composed of the gable end of the main roof with a shed-roof porch projecting from the southern half. This porch is supported by two single wood columns (not tapered) on wide stone piers that also serve as the head of the stoop. Centered underneath this porch, though asymmetrical in relation to the whole facade, is the single-leaf entry composed of a bevelled-glass, nine-pane (various sizes), African mahogany wood door. On either side of the door is a double-hung wood-frame window that features a geometric, Prairie-style sash configuration of fourteen various-size panes over a single large pane. The wall area north of the porch is fenestrated by a group of three of these windows with a larger-than-standard central window flanked by two narrower windows. Originally, an open pergola-type porch, supported by four column-on-piers, was connected to the shed-roof porch and wrapped around to the north side of the house. At some point, this porch was replaced with a flat roof supported by pseudo wrought-iron columns to form an extended porch and carport.

Double-leaf, fifteen-pane French doors exit onto this carport area on the eastern end of the northern elevation and is centered underneath a projecting gable. To the west of the carport is a pair of the Prairie-style windows. Originally, the western end of the elevation was a screened

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porch; however, it was damaged by fire in 1937 and subsequently enclosed when repaired. The wall is shingled to match the exterior, and a single-leaf entrance and a pair of small double-hung windows with the same sash configuration of its larger brethren was added.

At the northern end of the western elevation and just underneath the main roof, a small gable-roof room projects to the west. When the house was first completed, this was an elevated wood deck over the well and electric pump (when constructed the city did not yet have a water or sewer system). Apparently at the time of the screen-porch enclosure, this deck was screened in to replace it. A short, shingled bulkhead and a roof with trim that matched the rest of the house blended most sympathetically with the unknown architect's original design. The open foundation below was enclosed with weatherboard, and the original wood steps were supplanted by concrete and stone steps. In 1983, the screen was enclosed with wood panels on the northern elevation (with a false half-timbering effect), two small one-over-one glass windows on the western elevation, and an identical window and door on the southern elevation.

The remainder of the western elevation is fenestrated by a small Prairie-style window and a standard-size window of the same configuration. At the peak of the gable end is a pair of small six-over-six double-hung windows. The foundation below is tall enough on this elevation to allow a full-height single-leaf entry wood door that appears historic. The southern elevation is only wide enough for a standard-size Prairie window (and a smaller two-over-two window on the foundation) before being interrupted by a projecting gable-roof bedroom or "sleeping porch". The western elevation of this porch is fenestrated by three unusual windows which are single hung with the entire sash receding into the wall below. Otherwise, the sash configuration appears like the other Prairie-style windows. Three more of these windows are utilized on both the southern and eastern elevations of this room. A wood door identical to the other foundation door allows entry into the basement on the western elevation of the sleeping porch, and a small two-over-two window is placed opposite of it on the eastern elevation foundation.

While the sleeping porch projection dominates the western end of the southern elevation, the exterior chimney provides a visual balance at the eastern end of the elevation. It is flanked by two small casement windows of the fifteen-pane, Prairie-style sash. The wall is also fenestrated by a pair of standard-size double-hung windows adjacent to the sleeping porch.

The interior of the house remains in pristine condition. Narrow-width oak flooring and a wood-beam and plaster ceiling define the living room, which is divided by two stained-oak square columns resting on built-in cabinets with glass doors. In the south half, an elaborate fireplace, which features a secondary mantel that projects just above the firebox, was constructed from numbered buff bricks shipped from St. Louis in barrels and is decorated with egg-and-dart

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molding and dentils. The original plastered walls were replaced with sheetrock approximately twenty years ago; however, their appearance is practically indistinguishable from the original fabric. The northern half of the room, which was the dining room before the 1937 renovation also features a mid-height plate rail. Each room is lighted by a leaded-glass chandeliers with solid brass chains that are identical, but on a smaller scale, to those in the Cleburne County Courthouse. All of the doors, with the exception of one, are original to the house. The current dining room, which was first built as the kitchen, light fixture is original as well. Interestingly, when the screen porch was enclosed in 1937 to create the new kitchen, the resulting space was smaller, and much narrower, than the previous arrangement.

Originally there was a barn and chicken house which matched the house in design and colors. Unfortunately, these structures were removed in 1983 under the ownership of Joe Wood, Jr. There are no other outbuildings.

Located on four city lots at the southwest corner of Sugarloaf and North Broadway Streets and just west of Spring Park, the Clarence Frauenthal House is in good condition.

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Summary

The Clarence Frauenthal House is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance as the best example in Heber Springs of this particular subtype of the Craftsman style.

Elaboration

The area now occupied by the town of Heber Springs was first settled in 1835 by John Magness, who homesteaded a 40-acre tract on which free-flowing sulphur springs were located. The Magness property was located near an inverted cone mountain, called Tonawanda by the Indians, but known as Sugar Loaf Mountain by the white settlers. In 1837 Magness sold his land to John T. Jones, Richard B. Lee, Richard D. C. Collins, and William McKim who intended to capitalize on the springs by developing a resort community. Responding to a proposal by Jones, the General Assembly of the state of Arkansas approved an act in 1838 to incorporate the White Sulphur Springs Company. Governor James Sevier Conway signed the act which recognized the group's desire to improve the land "for the purpose of making it a convenient and healthy resort for the good citizens of Arkansas."

The land and springs, however, remained undeveloped. Jones secured sole ownership of the land through a series of transactions and purchased an additional 50 acres west of the original site. Jones, who had entered politics and was serving as circuit judge, sold the entire tract to Max Frauenthal in 1881, with the exception of one acre in the vicinity of the springs. Frauenthal was a prosperous Jewish merchant with holdings in nearby Conway and in Memphis, Tennessee. A month after purchasing the property, he organized the Sugar Loaf Springs Company and sold stock to ten shareholders. The new company, which was more interested in establishing a town than building a resort, did set aside four city blocks (ten acres), which they designated as Spring Park.

The town of Sugar Loaf Springs grew quickly based on the healing reputation of the mineral waters and achieved the distinction of being incorporated in the same year it was founded. When the townspeople submitted their request for a post office however, the name "Sugar Loaf" was rejected because there was already another post office in the state by that name. The town fathers instead chose to honor Dr. Heber Jones of Memphis, the son of the long-time owner of the town site, John T. Jones. Like many other towns in Arkansas, the separate names of the post office, Heber, and the town, Sugar Loaf, were used interchangeably until 1910 when the names of both institutions were officially changed to Heber Springs.

Spring Park, of course, became the principal attraction of the new town. An 1886 booklet

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entitled, *The Famous Health Resort of Sugar Loaf Springs and Cleburne County*, the author described the springs in relation to their location in the park:

These [the springs] are found in the spring park, which corners upon the hotel lawn. The first reached are five in number, White Sulphur, Arsenic, Chalybeate, Iron and Freestone, being all found in a few steps of each other; then the Red Sulphur, Saltpetre, Powder and Eye Springs, only a few yards from the first, and then comes the best and last, the Black Sulphur, making ten in all.

The benefit from partaking of these waters was ". . . a sure cure for dyspepsia, headache, biliousness and hundreds of other ailments." Today, only seven of the springs are recognized and maintained (absent the Chalybeate, Freestone, and Saltpetre springs).

In 1892, a visitor to the town wrote:

Nestled at the foot of the Ozark mountains, in the Little Red River valley, it is a surprise to the traveler who has made a day's drive from the railroad through a thinly settled country. The town is thirty miles from the nearest railroad point, but during the ten years of existence its population has reached 500 and is continually increasing. The most peculiar features of the town are its mineral springs, which have attracted no small amount of attention in the State [sic], though unknown outside of Arkansas.

Though it would be another sixteen years before the Missouri & North Arkansas railroad connected Heber Springs with the rest of the world, the town grew steadily around the tourism industry associated with the sulphur springs. The various hotels became centers of social life, and the activities conducted there were reported with great frequency in the local newspaper, *The Jacksonian*. The summer months were the most popular among the tourists, who would usually stay for weeks at a time to drink and enjoy the medicinal waters.

Clarence Frauenthal was the son of the town founder, Max Frauenthal, who was born in Marienthal, Bavaria in 1835. After selling his lucrative Conway business in 1892, Max moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where he was engaged as a cotton buyer.¹ Frauenthal visited Heber Springs frequently to look after his real estate holdings and business concerns, which included the first hotel constructed in town, the Frauenthal House. After moving back to Conway for a

¹For a more detailed sketch of the early history of Max Frauenthal's life, see the Frauenthal & Schwarz Building nomination (Conway, Faulkner County) that was listed on 10/23/92.

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short stint, Frauenthal, along with his wife, Sally, and their large family, moved to Heber Springs about 1908 and lived there until his death in 1914.

The Frauenthals had nine children, and three of their sons, Clarence, Mortimer, and Arthur, also went into business in Heber Springs. Mortimer practiced law and Arthur was a jeweler. Clarence, however, was like his father in that he was involved in several different ventures, but each had a common theme - entertainment. Prior to the first World War, he operated an ice cream parlor, the dance pavilion, the skating rink, and the Clarice Air Dome Theatre named for his wife Clara. Clarence later worked as a traveling salesman as well. In 1914, he had a new residence constructed for him and his wife at the southwest corner of Sugarloaf and N. Broadway Streets on four city lots that were just across from the celebrated Spring Park. After the war, Clarence limited his efforts to a grocery store and a jewelry business. His wife opened the first beauty shop in Heber Springs in the front two rooms of the house in 1929, but moved it in 1933 to a Main Street building. Clara maintained this business until her death in 1976. Ownership of the house then passed to the Frauenthal's son, Julian. In 1992, the house was sold to the current owners, Michael and Nancy Prince.

The Clarence Frauenthal House is primarily significant, however, as the best example in Heber Springs of this subtype of the Craftsman style. It was designed by an architect whose identity is not currently known, yet he was obviously well versed in this style of architecture. His use of a multiple-gable roof, wood shingle siding and Prairie-style windows distinguishes this house from the more common vernacular examples of the Craftsman style. Although there are other relatively high-style Craftsman residences in Heber Springs (the Allen House at Sugarloaf and First Street is comparable), the Clarence Frauenthal House is the only example combining the above mentioned characteristics and is thus being nominated under Criterion C with local significance.

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Bibliography

Berry, Evalena. *Sugar Loaf Springs*. Conway, Arkansas: River Road Press, 1985.

Berry, Evalena. *Time and the River*. Little Rock, Arkansas: Rose Publishing Co., 1982.

Information supplied by Julian Frauenthal, April 1993.

HEBER SPRINGS QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS—CLEBURNE CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7855 III SW
(GREENS FERRY DAM)



Clarence Frauenthal
House
Cleburne Co., Arkansas
UTM:
15/588190/
3927980

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DRASCO 15 MI.

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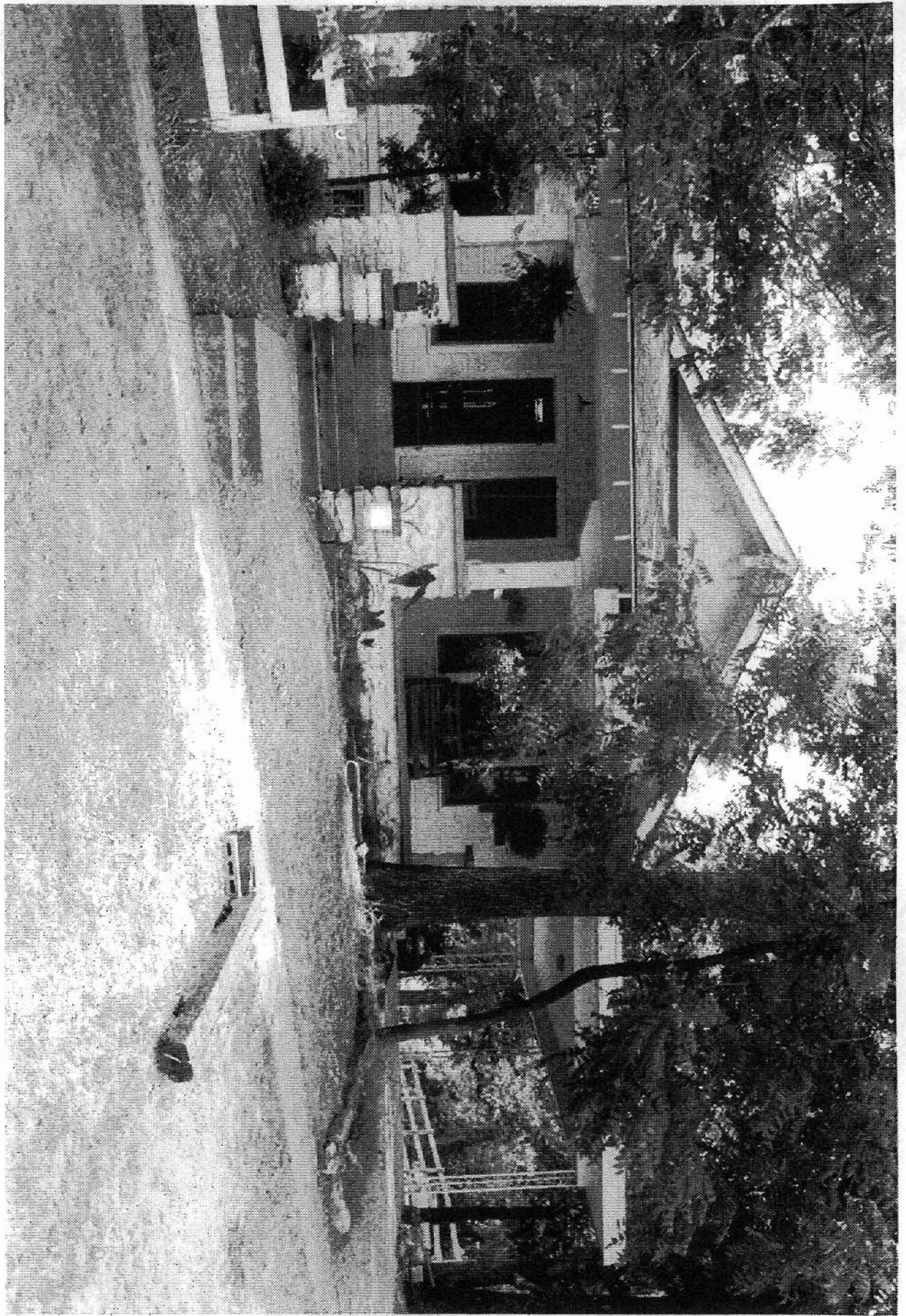
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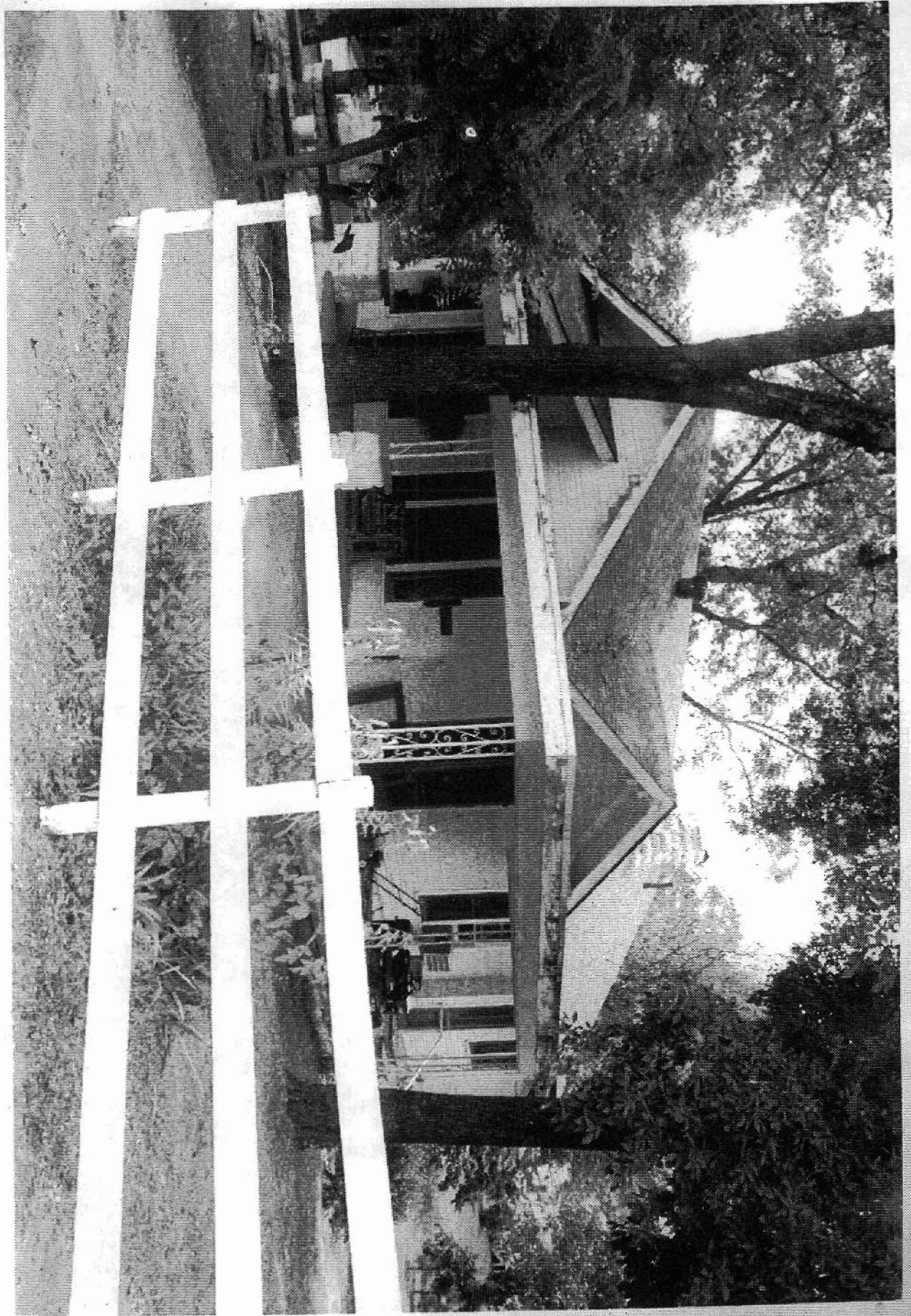
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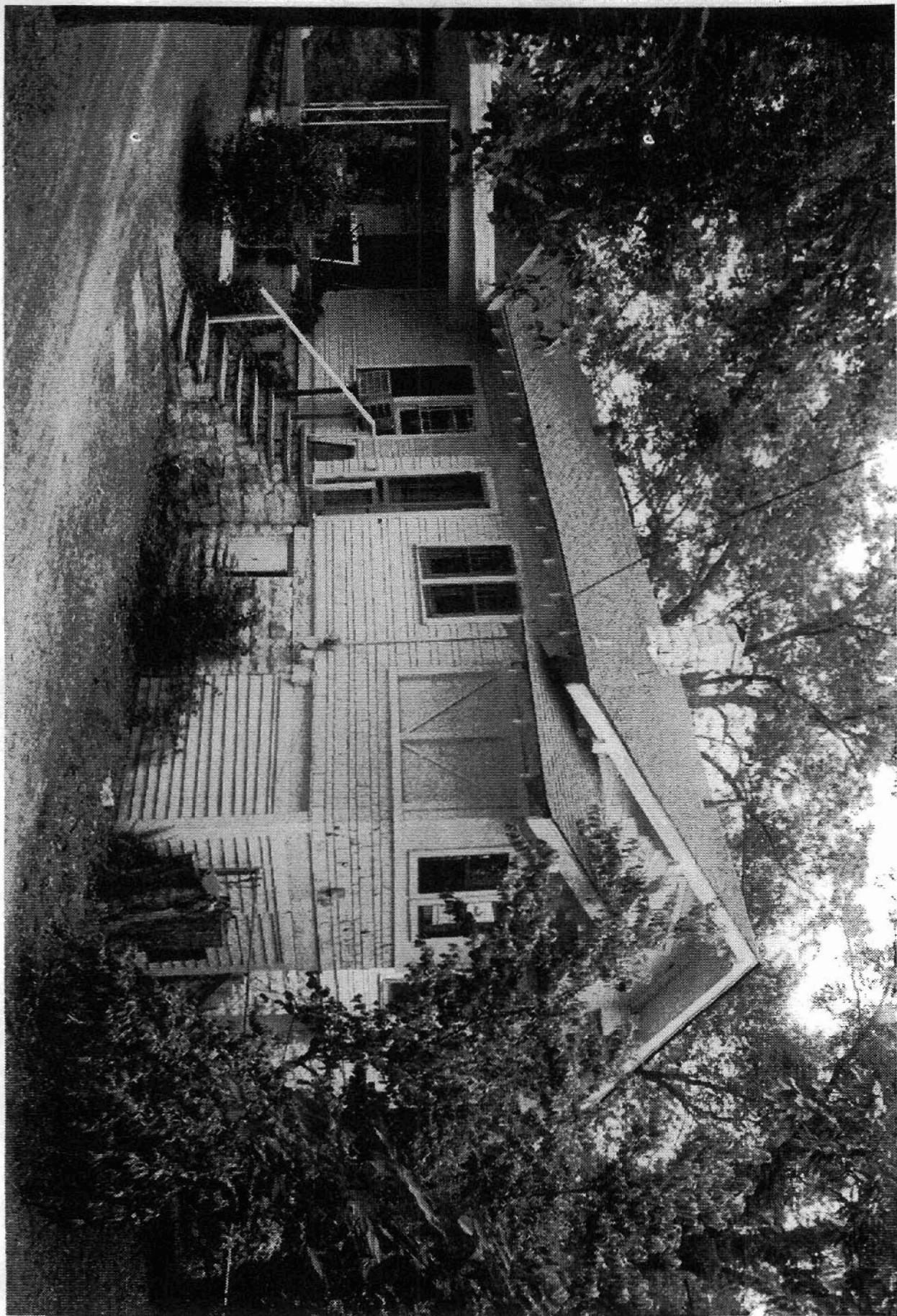


Cleburne Co., Arkansas
Photographs by Patrick Zolner
July 1993

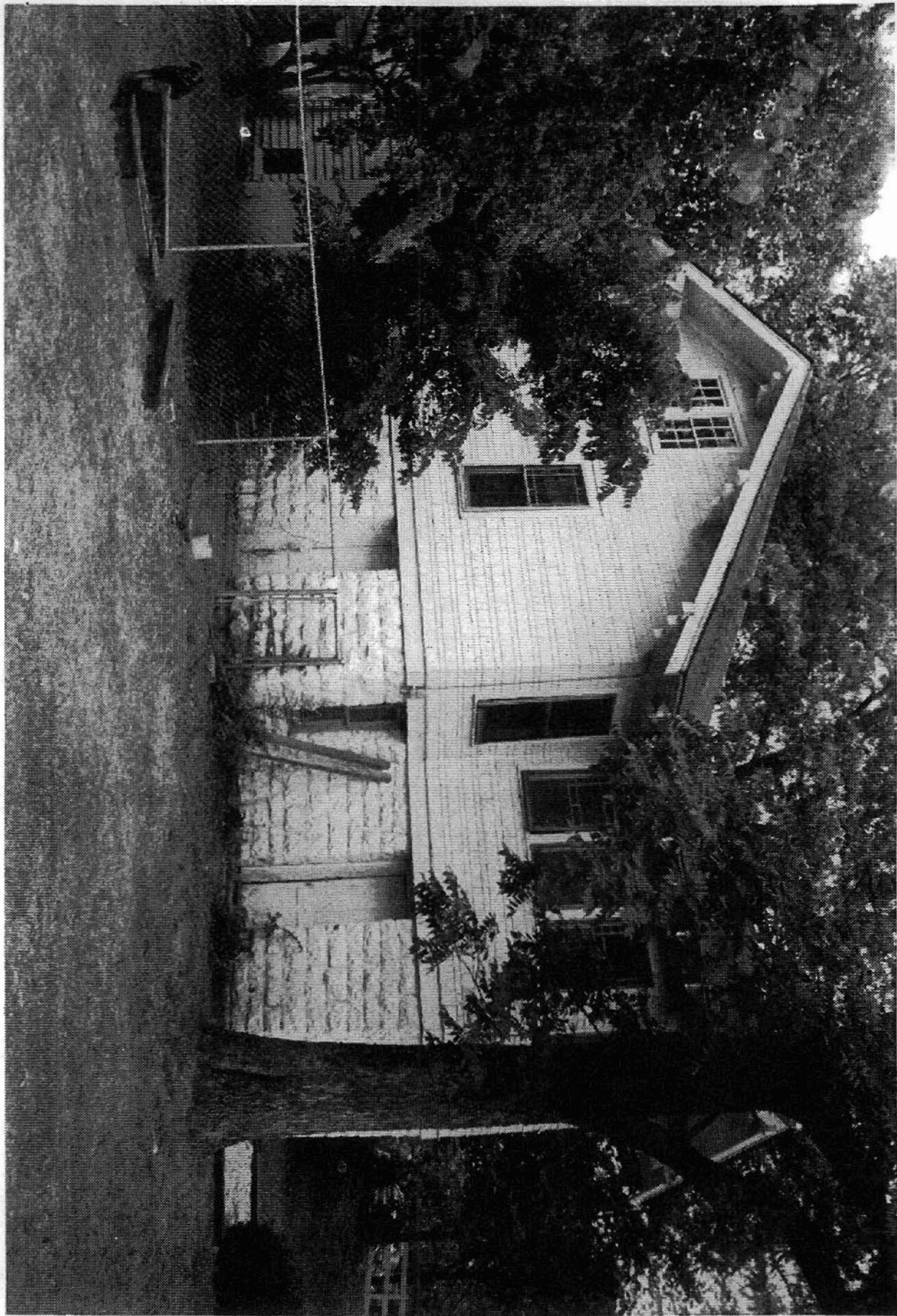
Negative on file at AHPP
View of the front, or eastern, elevation



Wasson, Clarence, House
Cleburne Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
July 1993
Negative on file at AHHP
View from the northeast



Fruenthal, Clarence, House
Cleburne Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
July 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the northwest

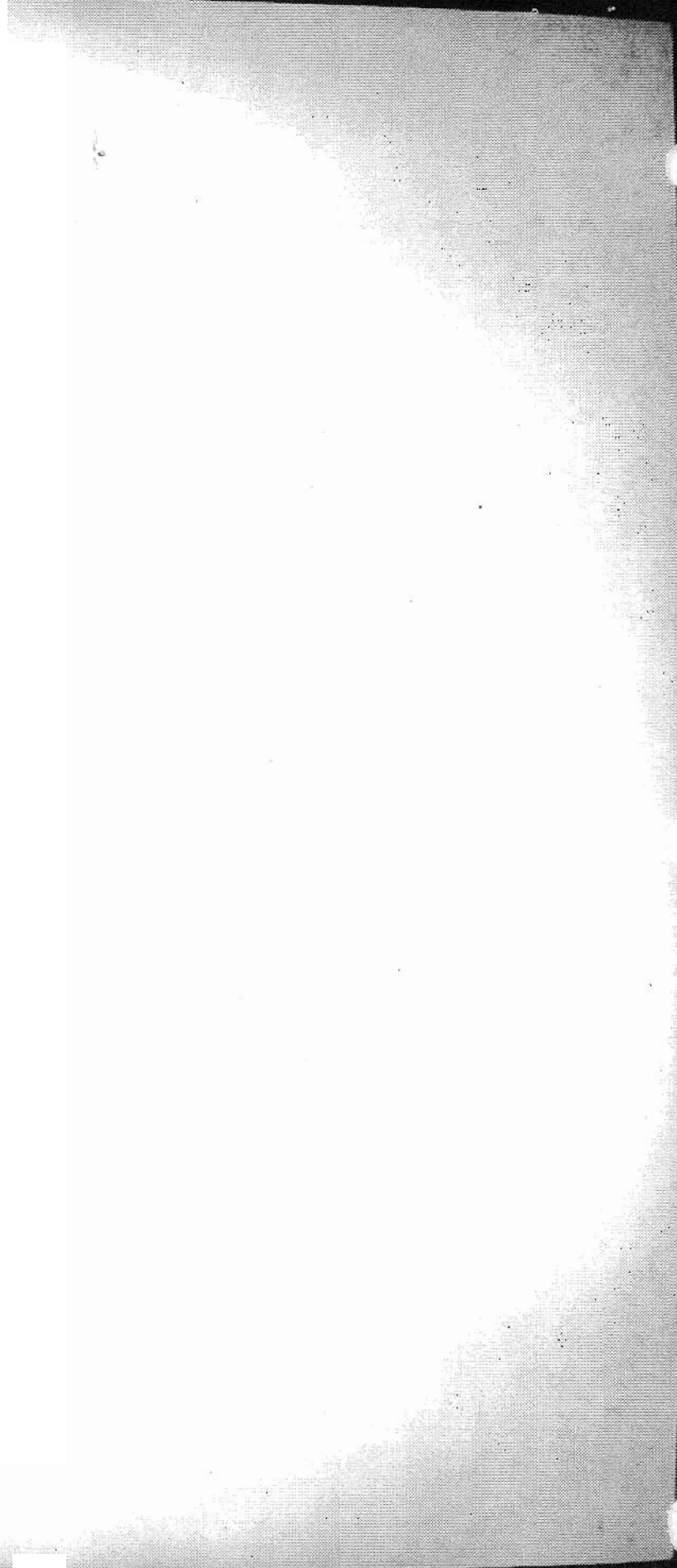


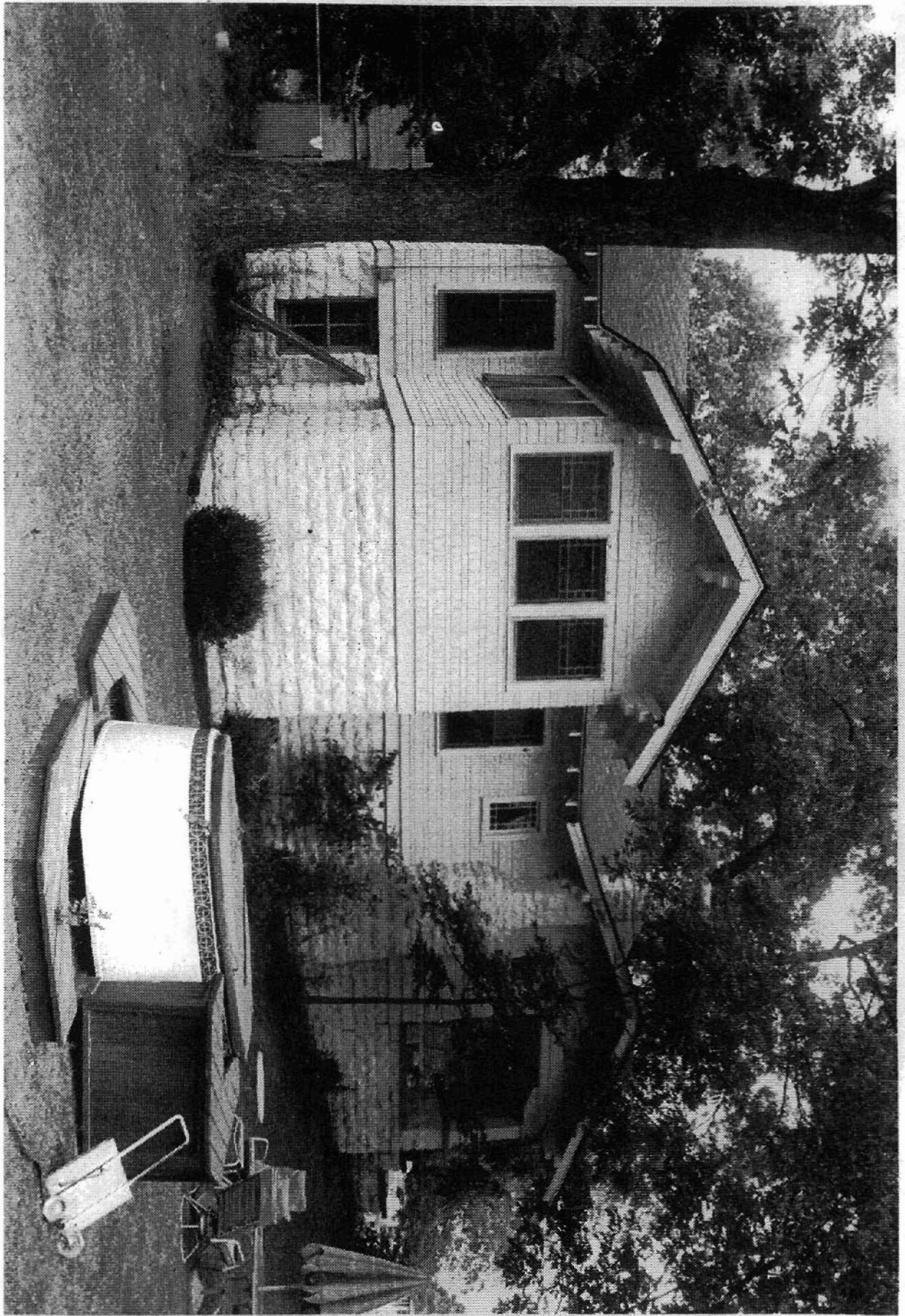
Montreal, Clarence, House
Gleburne Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zolner

July 1993

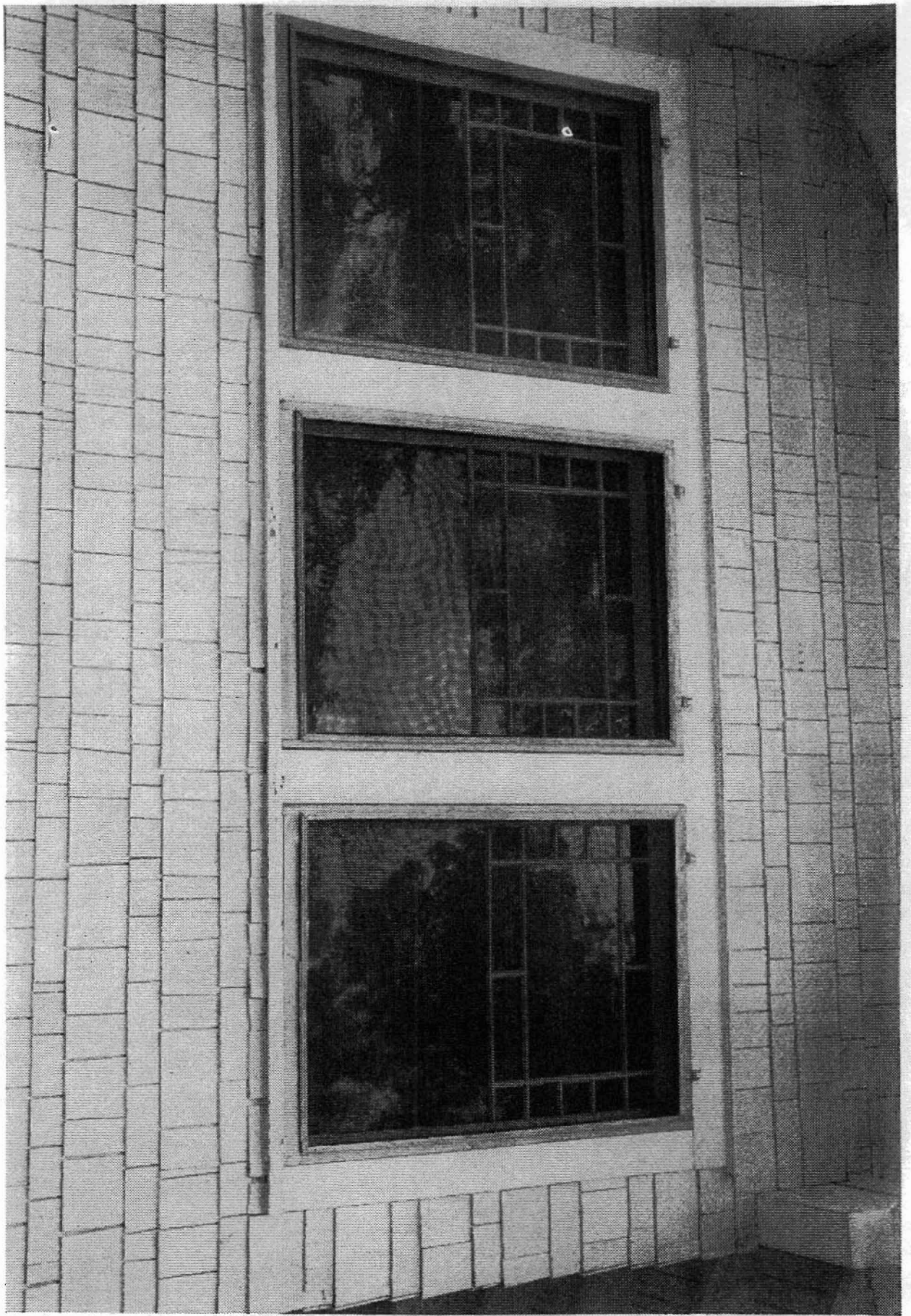
Negative on file at AHPP

View of rear, or western, elevation





Cleburne Co., Ar Kansas
Photograph by Patrick Zolner
July 1993
Negative on file at AHP
View from the south



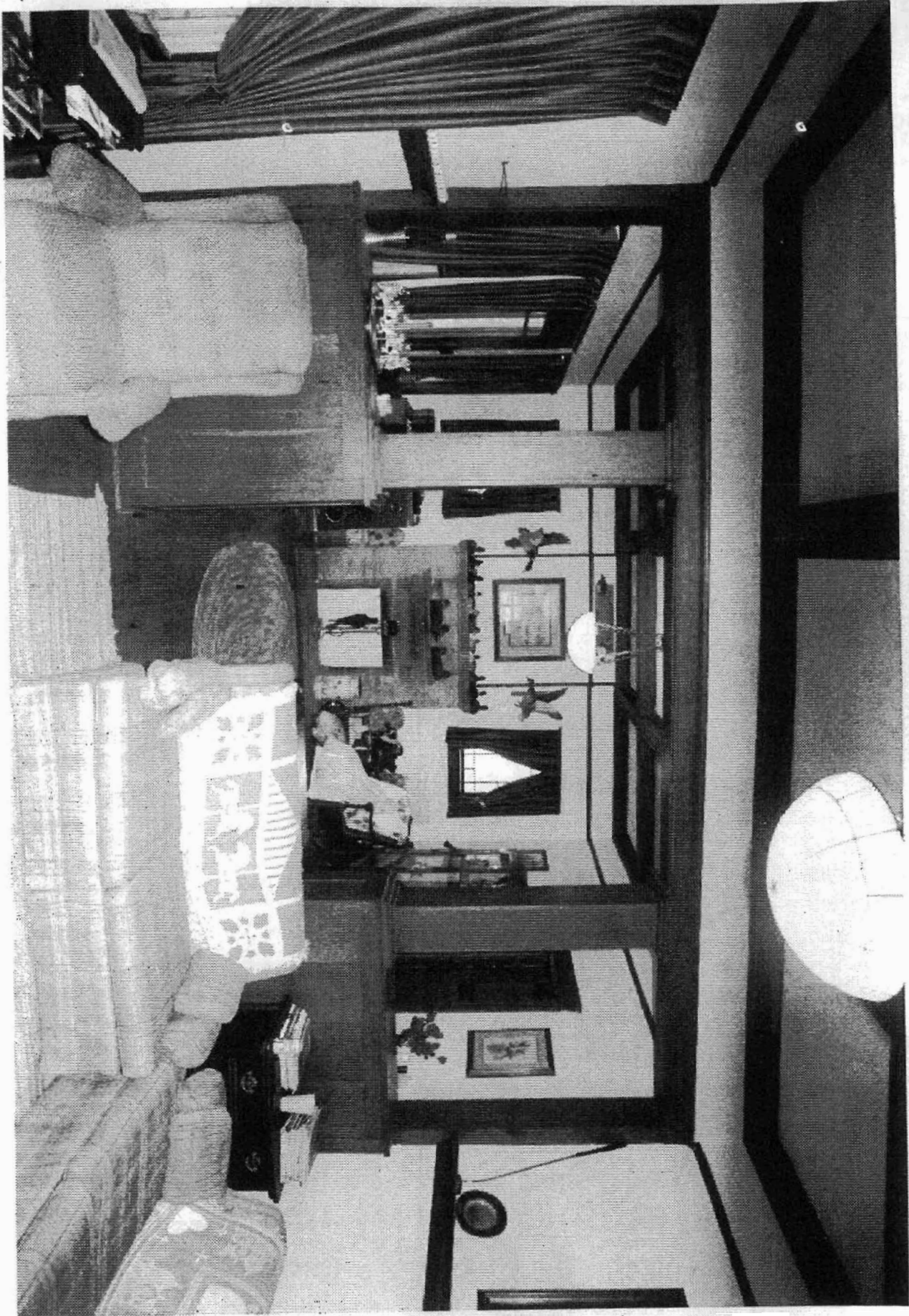
Frauenthal, Clarence, House
Cleburne Co., Arkansas

Photograph by Patrick Zollner

July 1993

Negative on file at AHP

View of sleeping porch windows
from the south



Cleburne Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
July 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View of the interior from the north