

14-39-1050-61

*Listed in the N.R. 8-26-82*

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only  
received \_\_\_\_\_  
date entered \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Name**

historic Kate Turner House

and/or common \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 709 West Main Street N/A not for publication

city, town Magnolia N/A vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district Fourth

state Arkansas code 05 county Columbia code 027

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Donald M. Moody

street & number 709 West Main Street

city, town Magnolia N/A vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ state Arkansas

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office  
Inventory Records, Book D, Page 111

street & number Columbia County Courthouse, Court Square

city, town Magnolia state Arkansas

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date \_\_\_\_\_ N/A federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

### SUMMARY

Majestically sited on a corner lot surrounded by large oak trees, the Kate Turner House stands as one of few late Victorian houses still extant in Magnolia. Built in 1904, the house represents the transitional style of architecture of its period juxtaposing the asymmetrical plan and massing of the late-nineteenth-century Queen Anne style against the more classical, Colonial Revival taste of the turn of the century. Features of the developing Colonial Revival style include the building's steep hip roof with cross gable, gabled dormer and classically detailed wrap-around porch while its projecting bays and bell-cast cupola reflect the earlier Queen Anne esthetic. This two and one-half story, horizontal weatherboarded wood-frame house on brick piers was constructed by local carpenters following blueprints prepared by the architectural firm Sidney and Stewart of Texarkana, Arkansas.

### ELABORATION

The north elevation of the Kate Turner House exemplifies the fine marriage of Queen Anne and Colonial Revival elements that distinguish the building. A strong vertical orientation is created by two projecting bays that, together with the receding entrance bay, comprise this facade. The northwest corner of the facade features a projecting chamfered bay with an overhanging cross gable. Large rectangular double-hung windows in simply articulated surrounds with prominent sills, typical in this structure, pierce each side of this bay on the first and second story elevations alike. A single square leaded-glass window appears in the center of the gable end which also features imbricated shingles, a deep cornice and cornice moulding. This angular chamfered bay is complemented by the turret-like semi-circular bay that defines the opposite (northeast) corner of the building. The gently rounded bay, also featuring three rectangular double-hung windows in each story and imbricated shingles in the second story facade, terminates in a bell-cast roof that gracefully rises above the house's steep hip roof and appears as a cupola in the roofscape. A prominent, though unembellished overhanging cornice with simple cornice moulding enriches the building, following the distinctive lines of the projecting bays and successfully uniting them with the central entrance bay.

The Queen Anne derived verticality of the north elevation is balanced by the delicacy of the offset classically designed one-story flat-roofed porch that wraps around the building. In plan, the porch is quite active, projecting first from the front of the chamfered bay, then extending forward to form a half-circular portico in front of the principal entrance, and finally receding to wrap around, in a sweeping curve following the profile of the semi-circular northeast bay, to the east side of the house. Simple round columns, with square blocks forming their bases and capitals, and a full entablature comprise the porch. The entablature is composed of a prominent though unembellished cornice which is deeper than the cornice that caps the house but detailed sympathetically with that analogous element, an unornamented frieze and an architrave. A single wood band distinguished the frieze from the architrave. Though originally constructed of wood, the porch floor has been covered with concrete (circa 1920) and the semicircular concrete steps that lead to the porch were also constructed at that time. A single door with oval light and transom is located in the top of these steps, placed asymmetrically in the facade adjacent to the chamfered bay. This door leads directly into the dining room.

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Although the north elevation of the Kate Turner House is its most esthetically pleasing facade, its plan renders the east elevation the building's principal facade. The semicircular bay and wrap-around porch that so distinguish the north side of the house are much in evidence here. The porch projects forward once again, at a 90 degree angle, to articulate the change in facades more abruptly than the curving northeast corner allows and a range of steps located at the center of this rectilinear part of the porch provides the principal access to the house. Another single door with rectangular light and transom flanked by two rectangular windows of slightly smaller proportions than those of the north elevation pierce the first story of the east elevation and two like designed windows appear in the second story facade. As in the north elevation, the steeply pitched hip roof rises above the principal facade of the building, but here the roofscape is enriched by a self-consciously Colonial dormer as well as by the bell-cast cupola. The gable-roofed dormer is faced with imbricated shingles and penetrated by a round-arched double-hung window. Cornice moulding and gable-end returns complete the dormer. The east facade of the house was altered circa 1918 by the addition of a one-story flat-roofed structure at the south extreme of this elevation. The small addition, which is clad in the same weatherboard that faces the original part of the structure and features three narrow double-hung rectangular windows placed side by side, is not unsympathetic to the design of the original section of the house. A single door with an oval beveled glass light leads into the addition from the front porch.

Neither the west (rear) nor the south (side) elevation of the building is nearly as distinguished as the finely articulated north and east facades of the house, but they do reveal much information about its physical evolution. The asymmetrical plan of the building is evident in its west elevation where a hip-roofed arm of the house, slightly lower in height than the front and north elevations, projects from the side of the chamfered bay. Two rectangular casement windows appear in the second floor elevation of this facade. Also prominent on the west elevation of the building are the enclosure of a one-story shed-roofed porch and the addition of a long, narrow one-story hip-roofed storage room.

In 1922, the appearance of the building was impacted by the attachment of a one-story one room maid's quarters, previously located elsewhere on the grounds, to the southwest corner of the house. The maid's quarters, constructed in 1904 with the Kate Turner House and built of like materials, has one large rectangular double-hung window on its west facade. After the

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structure was moved next to the house, its side (south) porch was enclosed. In 1976 the present owner of the house enclosed the area left open between the two buildings with glass and sliding glass doors.

The south elevation, though esthetically undistinguished, clearly shows the two one-story additions to the house. The second story and hip roof of the predominant 1904 section of the house rise behind the later additions orienting and unifying this secondary facade.

The typically Victorian asymmetrical plan of the Kate Turner House provides a series of spacious rooms. On the first floor, a large foyer offers access to all dwelling rooms. The parlor and dining room are located on the north side of the house while the kitchen occupies the rear (south) end of the house. The entrance foyer contains the principal stairway and a fireplace was provided adjacent to the stairs. Upstairs, three bedrooms are arranged on either side of the central stairhall. Interior details of the building are surprisingly plain, lacking any distinctive ornamentation but in keeping with the classicism of the Colonial Revival taste. Decoration is most evident in the central staircase, fireplace mantels, and window surround corner blocks. Since 1972, the house has been the subject of continuing restoration efforts by its owner and plans are being made to restore three fireplaces to working order.

A one and one-half story out-building survives at the southwest corner of the Kate Turner House site. Built as a carriage house and since used as a barn, the lofty gable-roofed single pile structure with shed-roofed lean-to is clad in weatherboard similar to that found on the dwelling house. The roofs are constructed of corrugated metal. The owner also plans to restore the carriage house to near-original condition.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1904 Builder/Architect Sidney & Stewart

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

At the time of its construction, the finely detailed and elegantly finished Kate Turner House was acclaimed by a local newspaper as one of the most handsome and most costly homes in Magnolia, then a developing agricultural town. Today, it stands as one of few late Victorian homes still extant in the city. Built as a residence for J. W. Turner, then owner and operator of Turner Hardware Company, and his wife Kate Kelso Turner on land given to her by her father, J.M. Kelso. The Kelsos were a pioneer family in Magnolia. Kelso, originally of Oxford, Mississippi, surveyed the original site of the Magnolia court square, practiced law in Magnolia for over sixty years, and served in the Arkansas State House of Representatives. In addition to its historical associations, the house is not only unique in terms of its survival in Magnolia, but is also significant as a fine example of the transitional style of architecture that developed in Arkansas around the turn of the century. While the asymmetrical plan and massing of the house recall the architecture of the late-nineteenth century, its steep hip roof, cross gable and classical porch and interior detailing suggest an interest in the burgeoning Colonial Revival style. Particularly noteworthy are the juxtaposition of elements of these two phases of architecture as evidenced by the relationship of the delicate wrap-around porch to the massive projecting bays of the principal and north elevations, and the tension in the roofscape created by the contrast of the bell-cast cupola with the gable-roofed dormer on the east, the projecting cross gable on the north, and the dominantly rising hip roof. In spite of additions to the rear of the house, the principal facades of the Kate Turner House retain compelling integrity of architectural form. Still as commanding in the Magnolia townscape as it was at the time of its construction, the building survives in a fine state of preservation to communicate the elements intrinsic to the transitional style that was so pivotal in the development of Arkansas' architectural history.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Banner News, local newspaper of Magnolia, Arkansas, June 16, 1904 p.3; September 22, 1904 p.3; October 20, 1904 p.3; March 31, 1921 p. 3; and December 3, 1953 p.1.
2. Interview with Mr. Jim Brown, November 20, 1980, Magnolia, Arkansas

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2 acres

Quadrangle name Magnolia Auadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>5</u>	<u>4</u> <u>7</u> <u>6</u> <u>8</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u>		B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the Northeast corner of Lot 20 of the Kelso and Smith Addition to the City of Magnolia and run West 400 feet, thence south 210 feet, thence East 400 feet, thence North 210 feet to the point of beginning

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Donald M. Moody & Walter Petty, edited Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

organization Property Owner date May 5, 1981

street & number 709 West Main Street telephone (501) 234-6011

city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Wilson Stiles*

title GARRO date 3-5-82

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

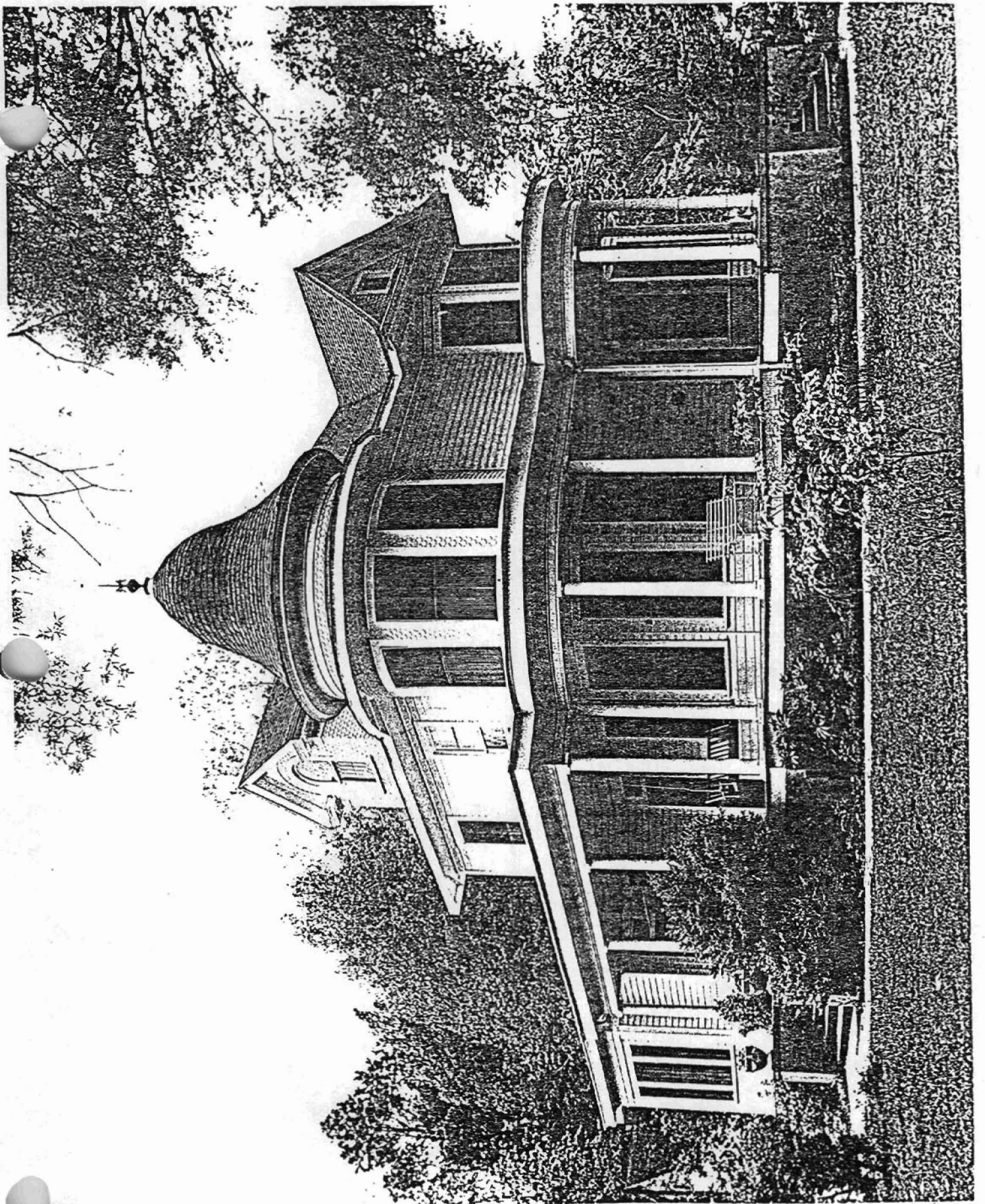
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

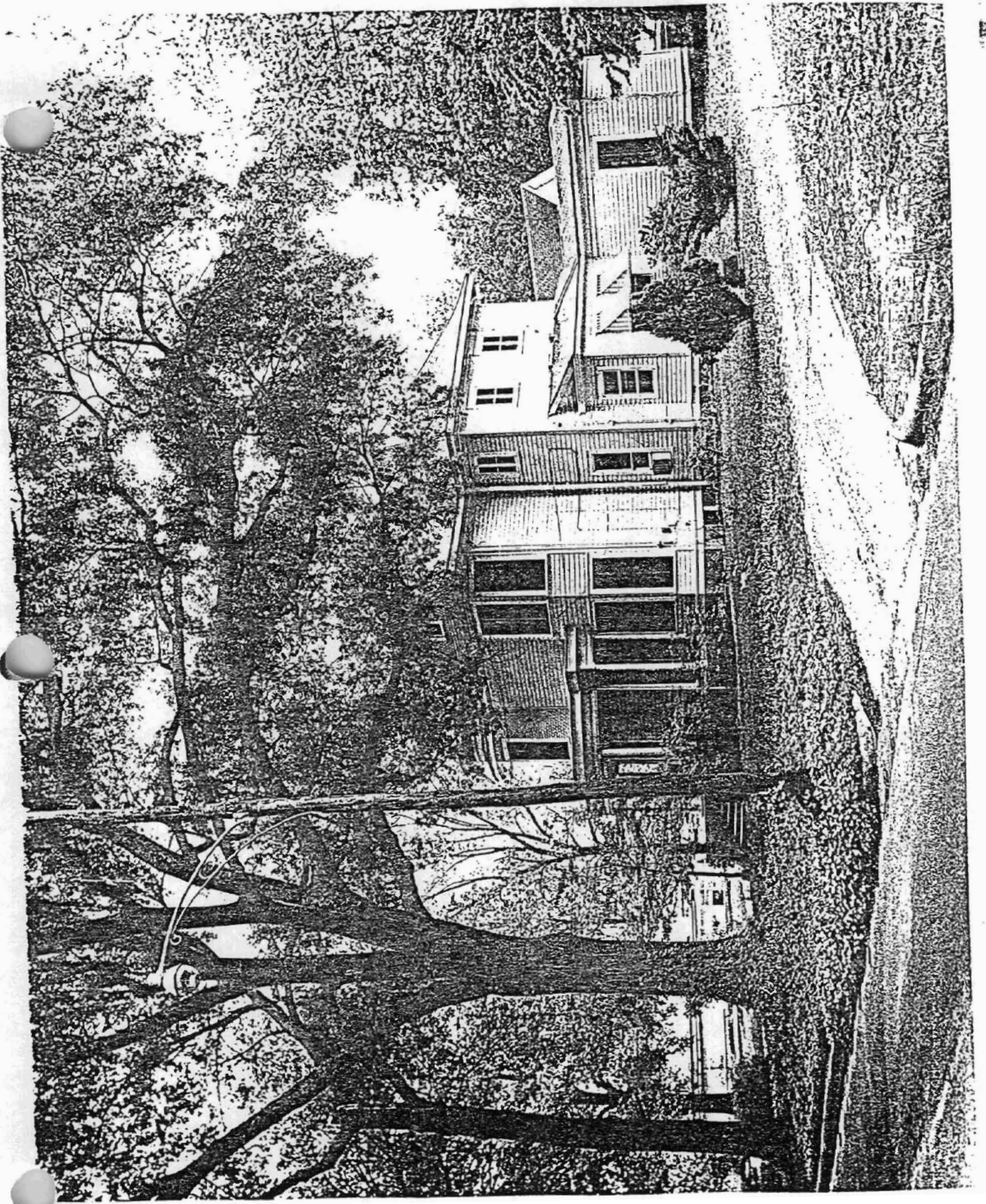
date

Chief of Registration









Kate Turner House  
 Magnolia, Arkansas  
 Columbia County  
 Quad. Name: 11  
 UTM Reference:  
 Scale  
 15 476890/3680700



(MACEDONIA)  
 7350 III NE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

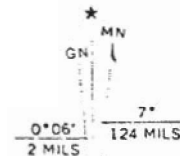
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
 zone 15, shown in blue

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



UTM GRID AND 1968 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET