

NR Listed 04/19/84
CT 0086

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*

Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company

and or common Old Citizens Bank

2. Location

street & number Military Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Marion

N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas

code 05

county Crittenden

code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Vacant

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. James Roy Pugh, III

street & number Route 1, P. O. Box 135

city, town Proctor

N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Crittenden County Courthouse

street & number Courtsquare

city, town Marion

state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date October, 1971 federal state county local

depository for survey records Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

city, town Little Rock

state Arkansas

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

The Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company stands on the south side of Military Road near the center of Marion, Arkansas. Built in 1919, the building has served as headquarters for five different financial institutions during the six decades of its history, and today remains one of Marion's most prominent landmarks. It is also significant architecturally as the finest local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style and for its eloquent use of fine materials.

ELABORATION

The front (north) facade of the Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company possesses the bilateral symmetry and monumentality characteristic of the Neo-Classical Revival. Clad in white-painted limestone, the facade is flanked by two fluted Doric columns and matching pilasters which support a portico spanning the width of the facade. The heavy architrave which originally bore the legend "Crittenden County Bank & Trust Co." is surmounted by an ornamental balustrade. The facade of the portico is faced with rusticated limestone and contains two large openings. On the right, at the top of a flight of limestone steps, is the main entrance with a single wooden door, glazed with one large light, and flanked by side lights. Two fixed transoms with side lights are found above. The left-handed opening is similarly treated, except that a three-foot limestone panel forms the sill of the central casement windows.

The east and west facades are, by contrast, quite plain. Clad in red brick, the use of stone is limited to the sills of the high windows which line the main banking room and the smaller windows to the rear. The rear facade is similar in design to the east and west facades except for a masonry chimney flue and a small wood-frame shed which protects a staircase to the basement.

The interior consists of the main banking room, a rear office, restroom, partial basement, and an unfinished room on the second floor. The main banking room is entered directly from the front door and occupies the entire front two-thirds of the building. Divided into a banking lobby and a tellers' area by the original marble tellers' row, the main banking room is characterized by fine materials and dignified Classical detailing. The lobby section features pink marble flooring with a black marble border and base. White marble wainscoting extends to the sills of the high double-hung windows with transoms which extend along both the east and west walls. White plaster walls with restrained Corinthian pilasters extend to the high plaster ceiling, with its exposed plaster-encased beams. Around the ceiling runs a plaster cornice with egg and dart moulding. The three original ceiling chandeliers have been replaced with fluorescent light fixtures.

The white marble tellers' row features the original bronze cages and plaques identifying each window's function. Black marble inserts are set flush with the wood surface of the tellers' counter tops. At the north end, the tellers' row gives way to a low marble rail and translucent glass partition which originally defined the President's and Vice-President's offices. The flooring in this area is linoleum, with a wood base. A

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gas space heater is suspended from the ceiling, apparently replacing the original radiators which have been removed. To the rear of the building are two vaults, the restroom and a private office. Stairs afford access to the basement, containing the original boiler, and to an unfinished room on the second floor.

3. Significance

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

Specific dates 1919 Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company, representing the finest local example of the Neo-Classical Revival style, has for over sixty years been a prominent landmark in Marion, Arkansas. Constructed in 1919, it was originally the home of the county's oldest bank. It is architecturally significant because of its elegant detailing and use of fine materials.

ELABORATION

Over the years the building has served as the headquarters for some five different banking institutions. In 1919 the Crittenden County Bank & Trust Company, founded c. 1905 and the oldest bank in the county, moved into its new building located on Military Road in the center of Marion. Under the direction of President Louis Barton, the bank had branches in Crawfordsville and Earle and advertised total deposits in excess of \$1 million. By 1924 the bank had failed, however, and was acquired by the new Crittenden County Bank. This institution was short-lived though; in 1926 it was declared insolvent and the building was sold to the Bank of Crittenden County. In 1929 it also went under. The building was then sold to the Bank of Marion, which maintained headquarters there until 1938 when it too failed. The new Citizens Bank acquired the building in 1940 where they were to remain until the construction of their present headquarters in 1956. Since that time the building has been occupied by a variety of office and commercial tenants, although it is presently vacant.

The building's architecture is characterized by the symmetrical front facade and Doric detailing which are typical of the Neo-Classical Revival style. Inside, the main banking room is elegantly understated in its use of marble floors, wainscotting and tellers' cages, all of which are washed by natural light from the tall side windows. The total ambience is that of serenity and quiet strength. While modest in size, the building's scale achieved a certain monumentality which seems in keeping with its long history as headquarters for the town's principal financial institutions.

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Crittenden County Chancery Court, "In the Matter of the Crittenden County Bank",
no. 3316, February 5, 1926.

Crittenden County Courthouse, Bank Commissioner's Deed, Charles McGee to Crittenden
County Bank, April 3, 1924.

Crittenden County Courthouse, Commissioner's Deed, Grover S. Jernigan to Citizens
Bank, October 21, 1940.

Crittenden County Courthouse, Quitclaim Deed, Mrs. Elizabeth Beck Lawrie and Donald
J. Lawrie to Bank of Marion, November 26, 1929.

Crittenden County Courthouse, Warranty Deed, Mary Smith Barton to Crittenden County
Bank & Trust Company, March 25, 1919.

Fogelman, Mrs. J. F., Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June
19, 1980.

Hoskins, Mrs. Mary L., Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June
23, 1980.

Weeks, A. A., "Historical Record and Survey of Crittenden County, Arkansas, Earle,
Arkansas, 1919.

Weedman, Mrs. George, Interview with James F. Williamson, Marion, Arkansas, June
19, 1980.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name West Memphis Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	7	5	5	2	9	0	3	9	0	2	0	5
Zone				Easting				Northing					

B

Zone				Easting				Northing					

C

Zone				Easting				Northing					

D

Zone				Easting				Northing					

E

Zone				Easting				Northing					

F

Zone				Easting				Northing					

G

Zone				Easting				Northing					

H

Zone				Easting				Northing					

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at a point on the south side of Military Road 202 feet east of the northeast corner of T. F. Koser's Store; thence south 80 feet to a stake; thence west 24 feet to a stake; thence north 80 feet to a stake; thence east along the south side of Military Road 24 feet to the point beginning.

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mr. James F. Williamson, Jr., edited by staff of the AHPP

organization Mr. James F. Williamson, Jr. Architect date March 14, 1984

street & number 2004 Lincoln American Tower telephone (901) 526-2800

city or town Memphis, TN 38103 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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *William F. Williams*

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 3-14-84

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

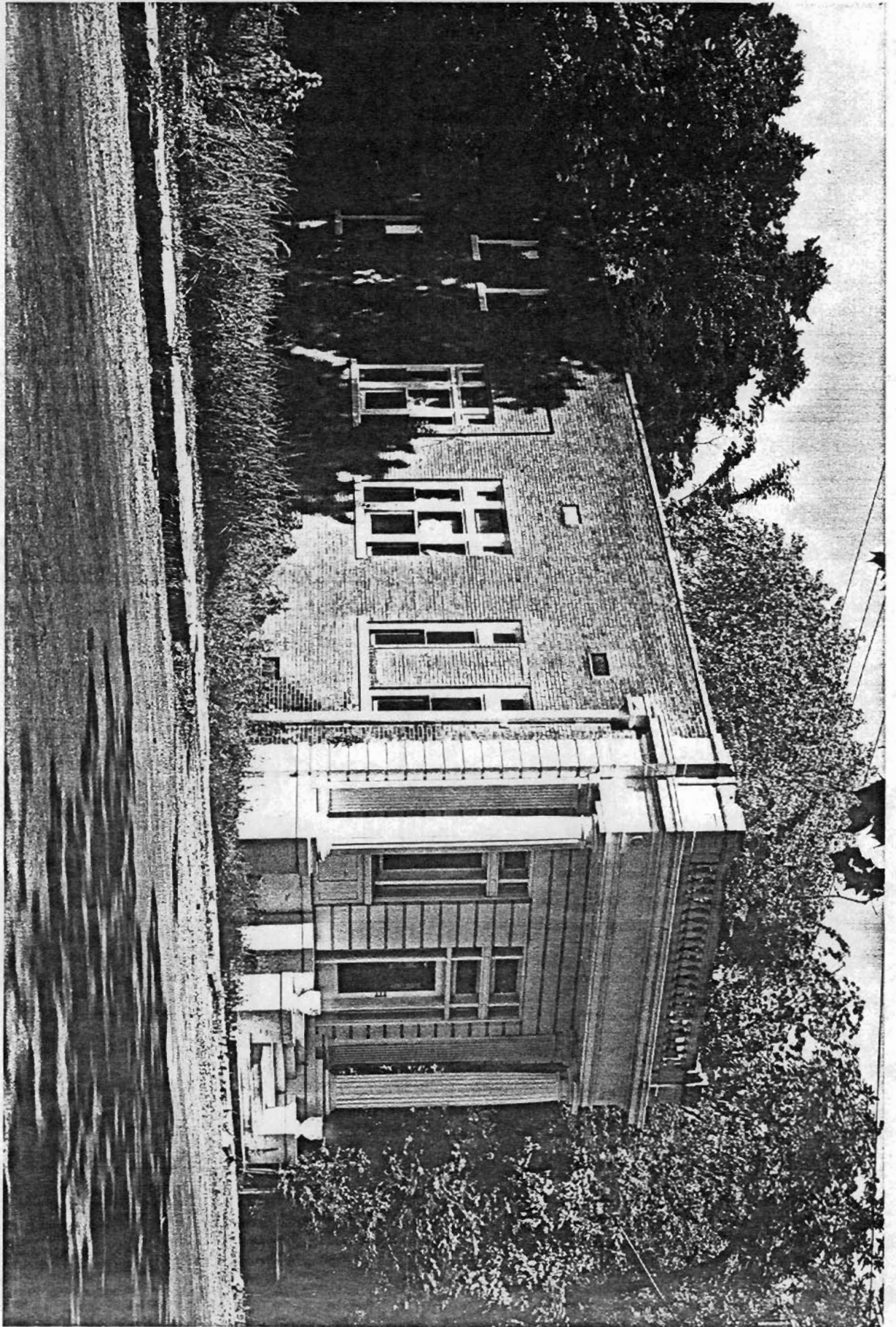
date

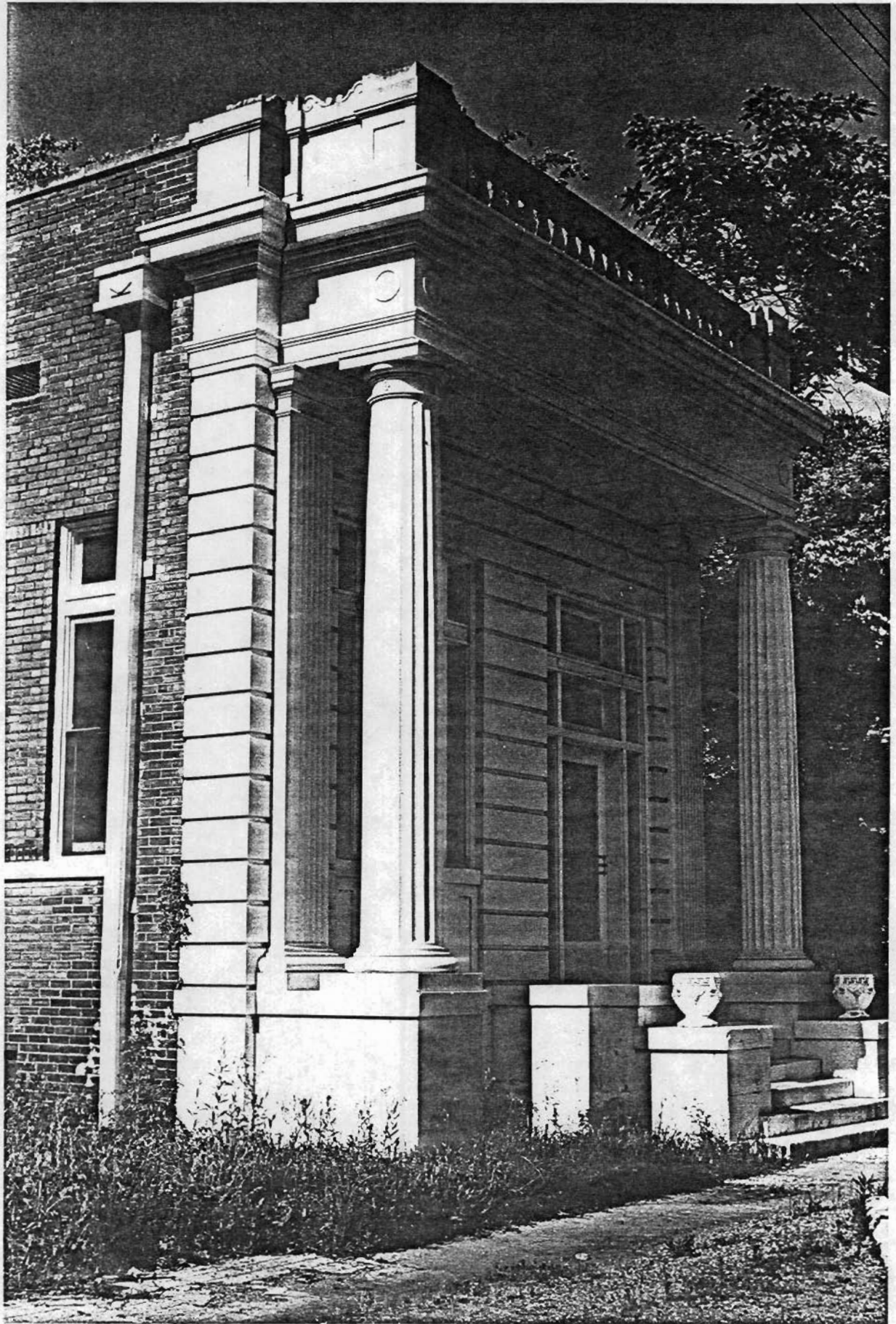
Keeper of the National Register

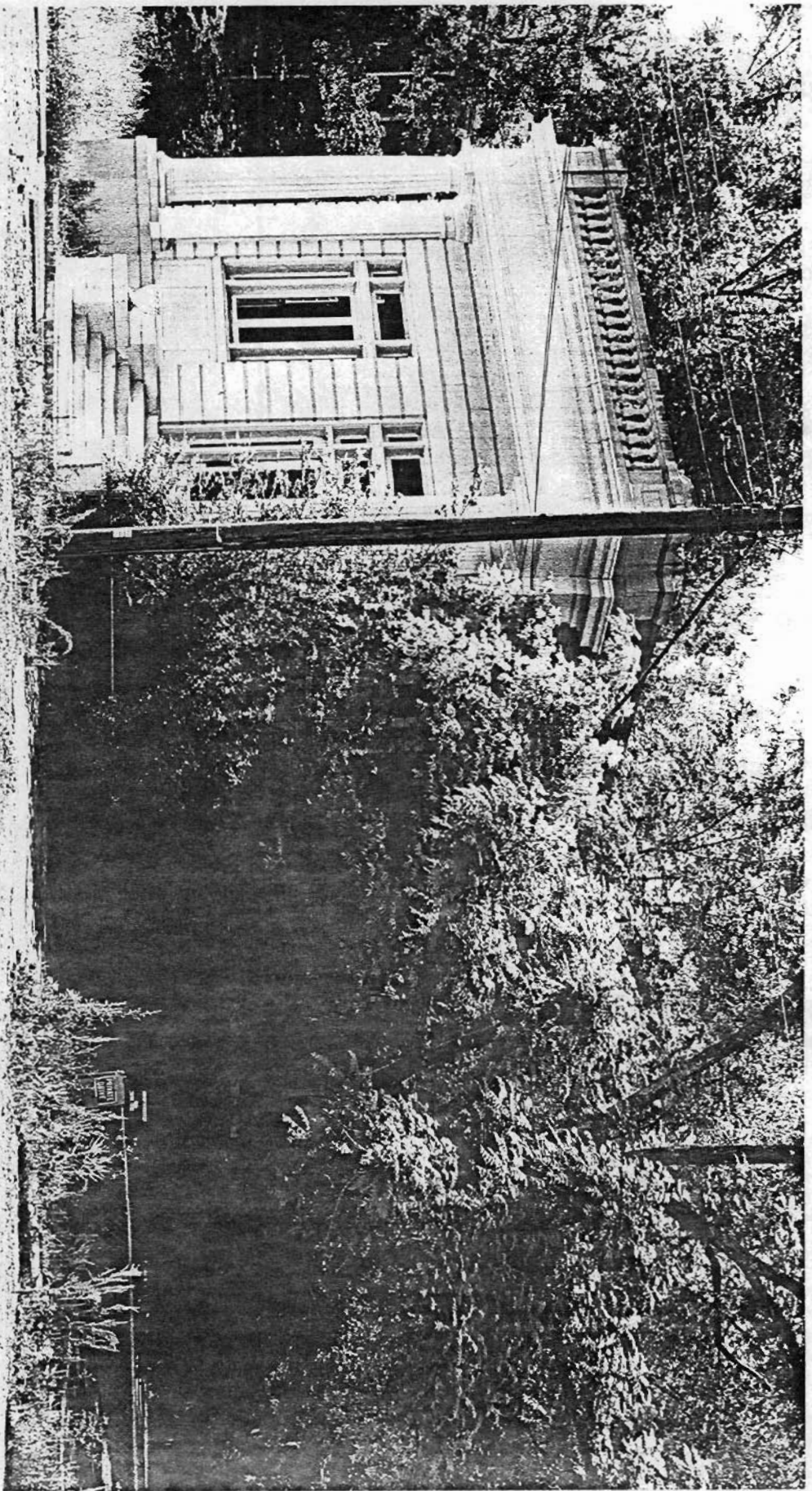
Attest:

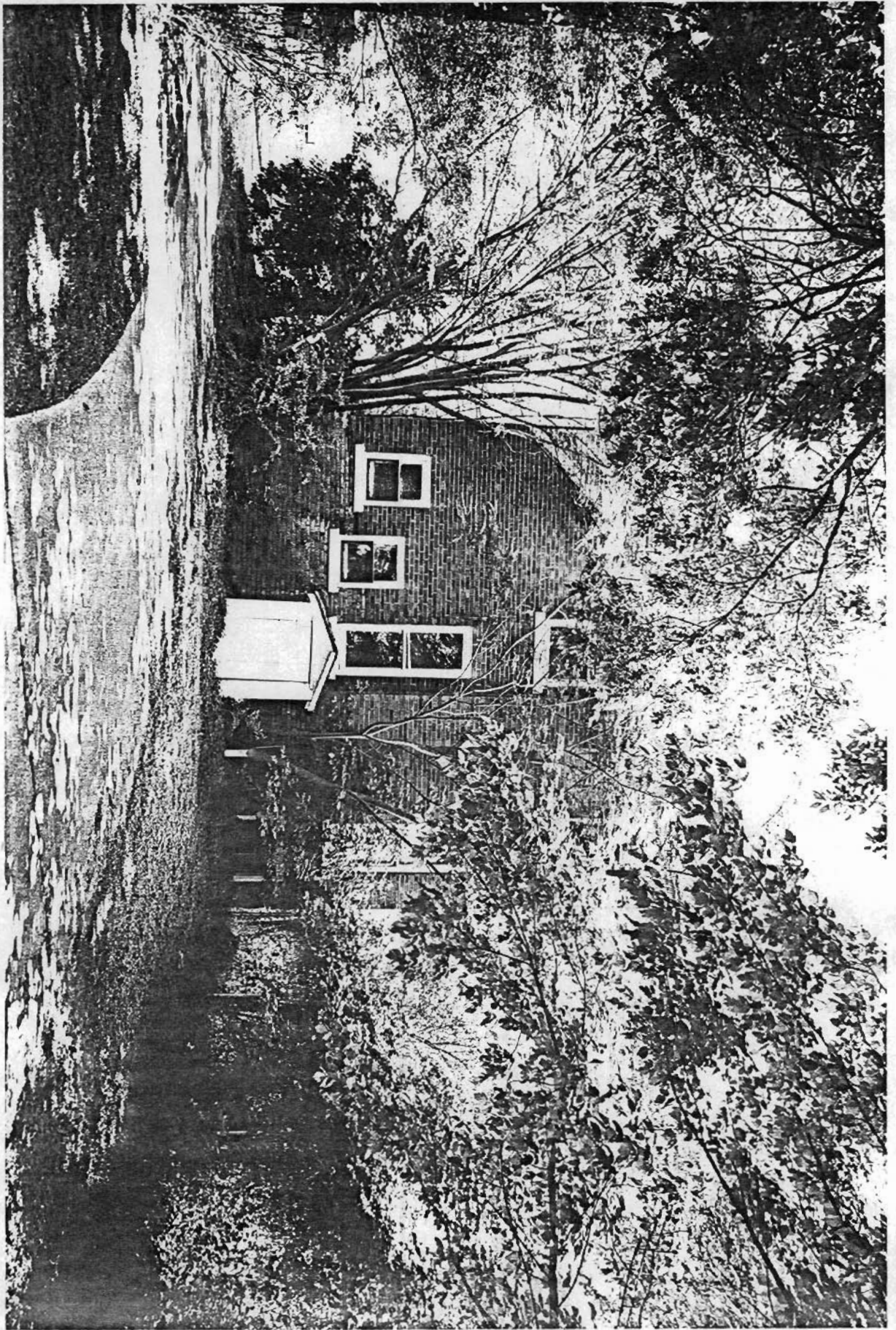
date

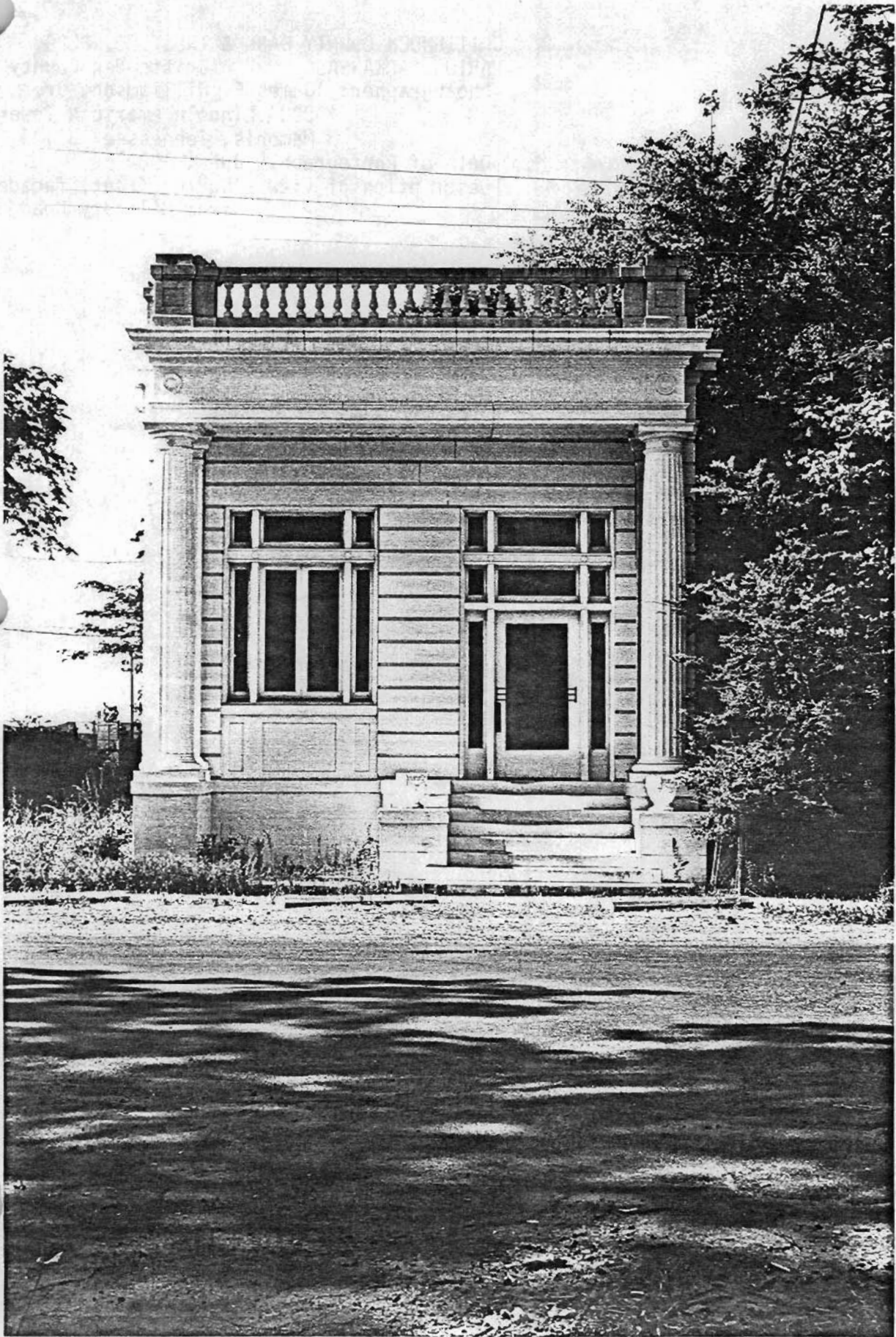
Chief of Registration

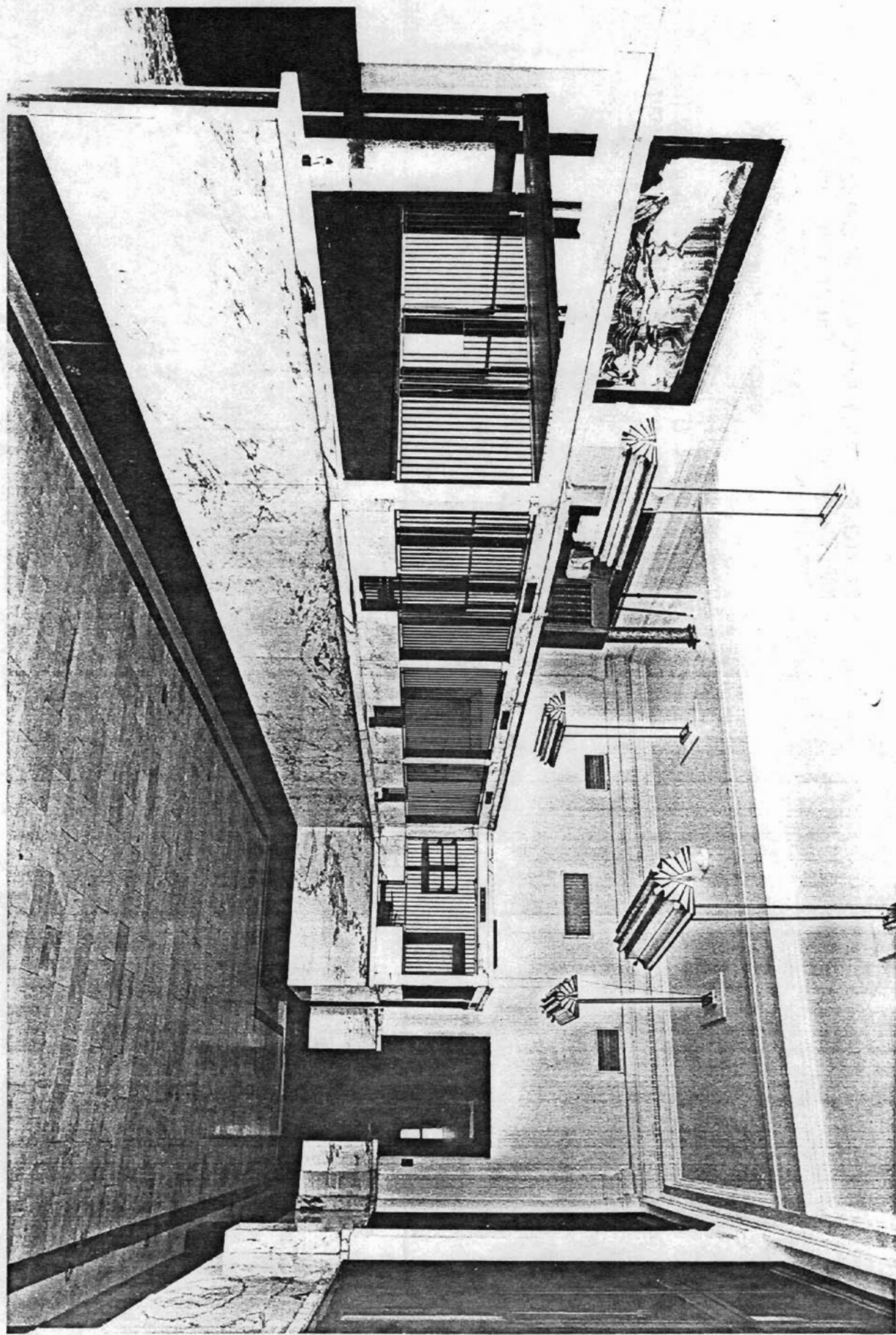












40 000 FEET (TENN.)

12'30"

755

7954 1 SW
(JERICHO)

Crittenden County Bank & Trust
 Company
 Marion, Arkansas
 Crittenden County
 Quad Name: West Memphis, Ark-Tenn
 Scale 1:24000
 UTM Reference - 15 755290/390205

