

NR LISTED

DEC 07 1995

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AHPP

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Wesley Chapel Church

other name/site number: N/A C.V0010

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2. Location

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street & number: State Highway 15

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Woodlawn

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Cleveland code: AR 025 zip code: 72030

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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.

Carlton A. Slaton _____ 10-17-95
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: RELIGION Sub: Religious facility

Current : SOCIAL Sub: Meeting hall

Acreage of Property: Approximately three

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>588570</u>	<u>3762750</u>	B	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u>15</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: See continuation sheet.

STATE OF ARKANSAS
COUNTY OF CLEVELAND

Beginning in the South East of the North East Quarter of the North East Quarter of Section 30, and measuring 32 poles running along the East Boundary line of said Section to or mean a certain big Black Oak Tree, surveying 15 poles due West to a corner post, there made, thence running due South 32 poles to another similar corner post, thence to the point of beginning in the South East corner of the above measured Block, said plat of said land containing three acres, more or less in Township Eight South of Range Nine West in the above named County and State aforesaid.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Ken Story, NR/Survey Coordinator

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/02/95

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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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Greek Revival

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Concrete roof Asphalt
walls Wood other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance. See continuation sheet.

Summary

The Wesley Chapel is a single-story, wood frame church building designed in a restrained version of the Greek Revival style. Its strictly rectangular plan features a pair of western or front entrances and another on the southern elevation placed toward the eastern end. A single brick flue (now removed) rose through the center of the ridge. Its asphalt shingle gable roof and weatherboarded walls rest upon pyramidal concrete block piers.

Elaboration

The Wesley Chapel is a single-story, wood frame church building designed in a restrained version of the Greek Revival style. Its strictly rectangular plan features a pair of western or front entrances and another on the southern elevation placed toward the eastern end. A single brick flue (now removed) rose through the center of the ridge. Its asphalt shingle gable roof and weatherboarded walls rest upon pyramidal concrete block piers.

The western or front elevation is punctuated with a pair of single-leaf doors, symmetrically placed. A pair of gable returns provide the only other detail. The eastern elevation opposite is fenestrated with a pair of six-over-one wood windows (originally six-over-six, the lower sashes were broken by vandals; they are scheduled to be replaced) placed directly opposite the doors, and also features gable returns. The northern elevation is fenestrated with four regularly-placed windows; the southern elevation is similar, the only exception being the substitution of a single-leaf entrance for the second window from the east.

The interior of the building is entirely finished in wood. The plank wooden floors, and the board-and-batten walls and ceiling are original, as is the rostrum at the eastern end of the sanctuary. Most of the heavy wooden pews are also original.

The changes to the Wesley Chapel are few and all relatively minor. The original wood shingle roof was replaced with asphalt shingles in 1952 and the wooden steps were replaced with concrete steps in 1953; it was probably at this time also that the original wood blocks upon which the building rested were replaced with the present concrete blocks.

The Wesley Chapel is in very good condition.

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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: Locally

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE

Period(s) of Significance: 1872

Significant Dates: 1872

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Norton, John J.
Jackson, W. D.
Black, James, et al

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

Summary Criterion C, local significance

The Wesley Chapel is locally significant by virtue of its being the last known example of a late nineteenth century building of any type in this area that reflects the residual effect of the Greek Revival style.

Elaboration

The small, rural community of Woodlawn (located approximately twelve miles south of Pine Bluff in northern Cleveland County) is the site of the Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church (commonly known simply as the Wesley Chapel), the congregation of which was first established in 1870. Apparently Woodlawn has always been relatively rural, as Goodspeeds' Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas, published in 1890, does not record Woodlawn as one of the established post offices within the county, though it does mention nearby Randall.

The land for the construction of the Wesley Chapel was donated to the church trustees by Augustus R. B. Bridges and his wife, Margaret C. Bridges. The church was on the Lehi Circuit of the Pine Bluff district, Little Rock Conference of the United Methodist Church.

This frame building was constructed by men of the community in 1872; no architect was known to be involved. However, the identity of some of the builders is known: John Jackson Norton, W. D. Jackson, James Black, Allen Dorman, John H. Dixon, Henry Allred, and members of several other local families.

The Wesley Chapel served the local Methodist community throughout the late nineteenth century and well into the twentieth, supporting an active congregation through the 1960's. Since then the congregation has dwindled, and now the building is in the hands of a group of interested local residents who have not only maintained the building but have sensitively refurbished the building, inside and out, within the past two years.

The Wesley Chapel remains one of the few known intact historic structures in this vicinity. Though it is likely that other buildings and structures of this era survive, most have probably been sufficiently altered or modified over time to render them unrecognizable as such. However, the most noteworthy quality of the building -- aside from its preservation -- is its minimal yet identifiable Greek Revival detailing. The low overall proportions so common to Greek Revival buildings are complemented by the projecting pediment eaves and the gable end returns with friezeboards that ornament the eastern and western elevations. It is well known that the Greek Revival style remained popular throughout Arkansas for approximately a decade after the Civil War, to which several surviving examples around the state attest; however, this is the only example of this phenomenon in the Woodlawn area. It stands as a reminder both of the architectural landscape of the state in the first few years after the Civil War and of the small congregations that proliferated in town and country alike.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Information provided by Ms. Corinne Harrison, Rison, Arkansas, February, 1995.

___ 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 # _____

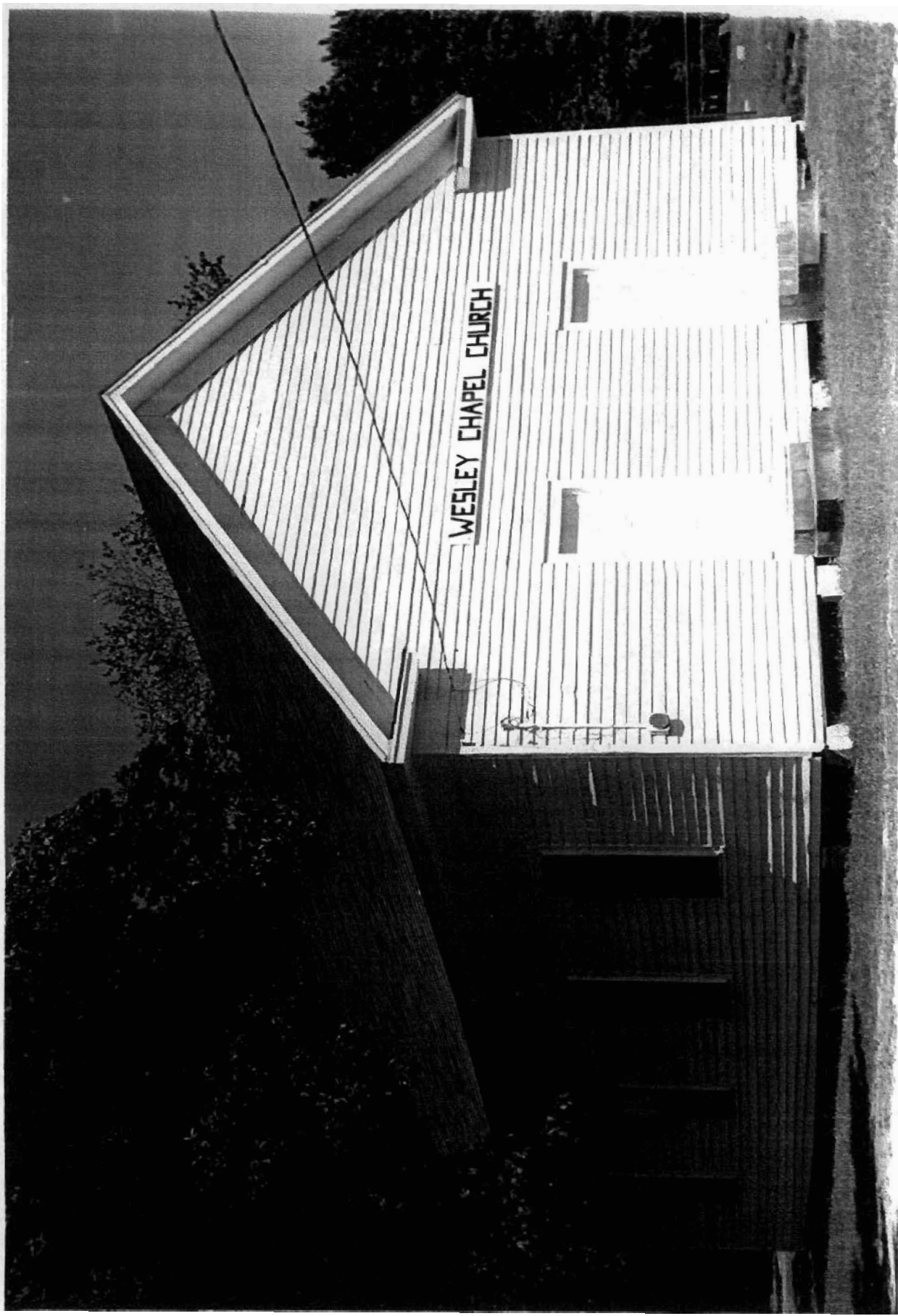
Primary Location of Additional Data:

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

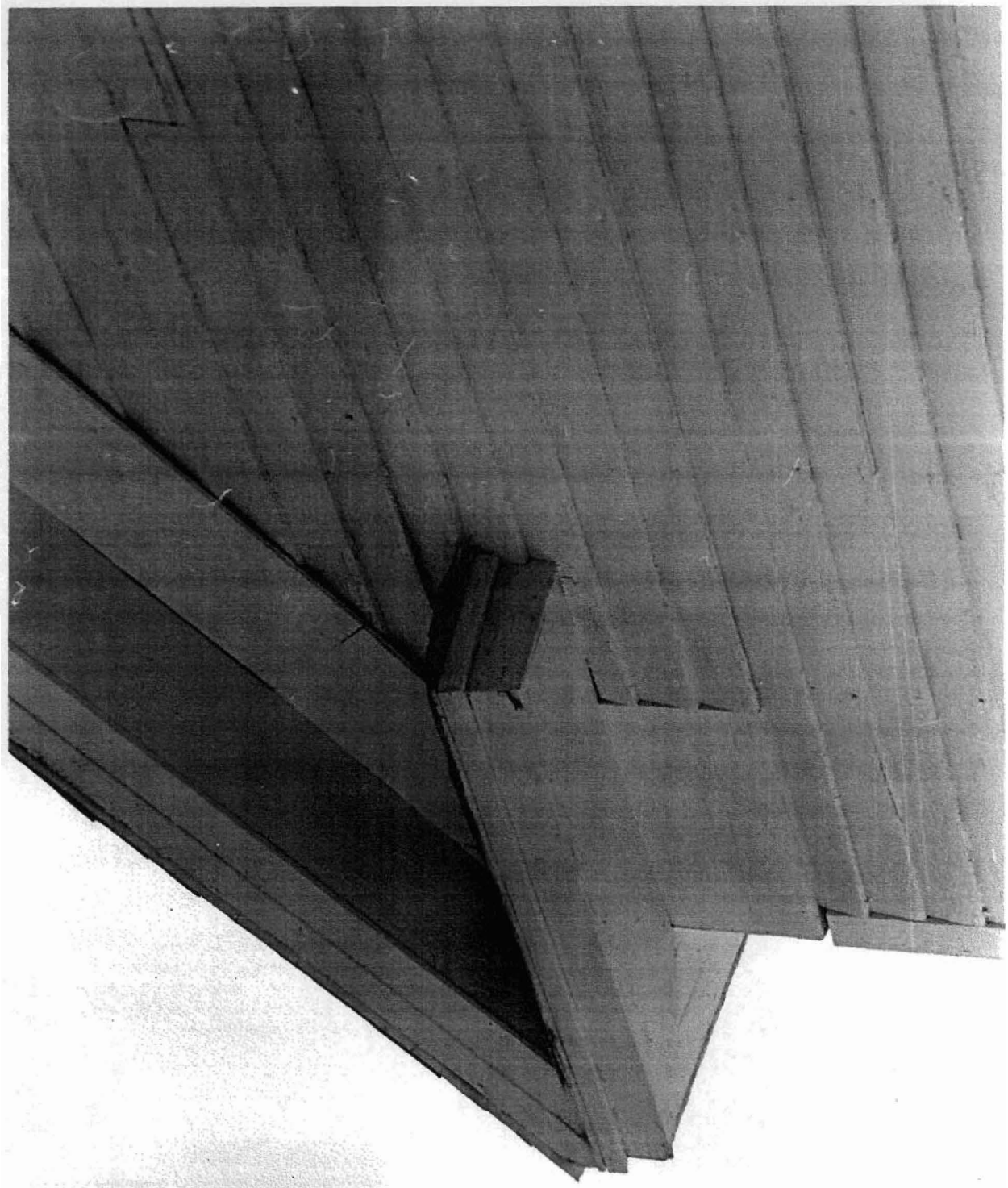
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10. Geographical Data

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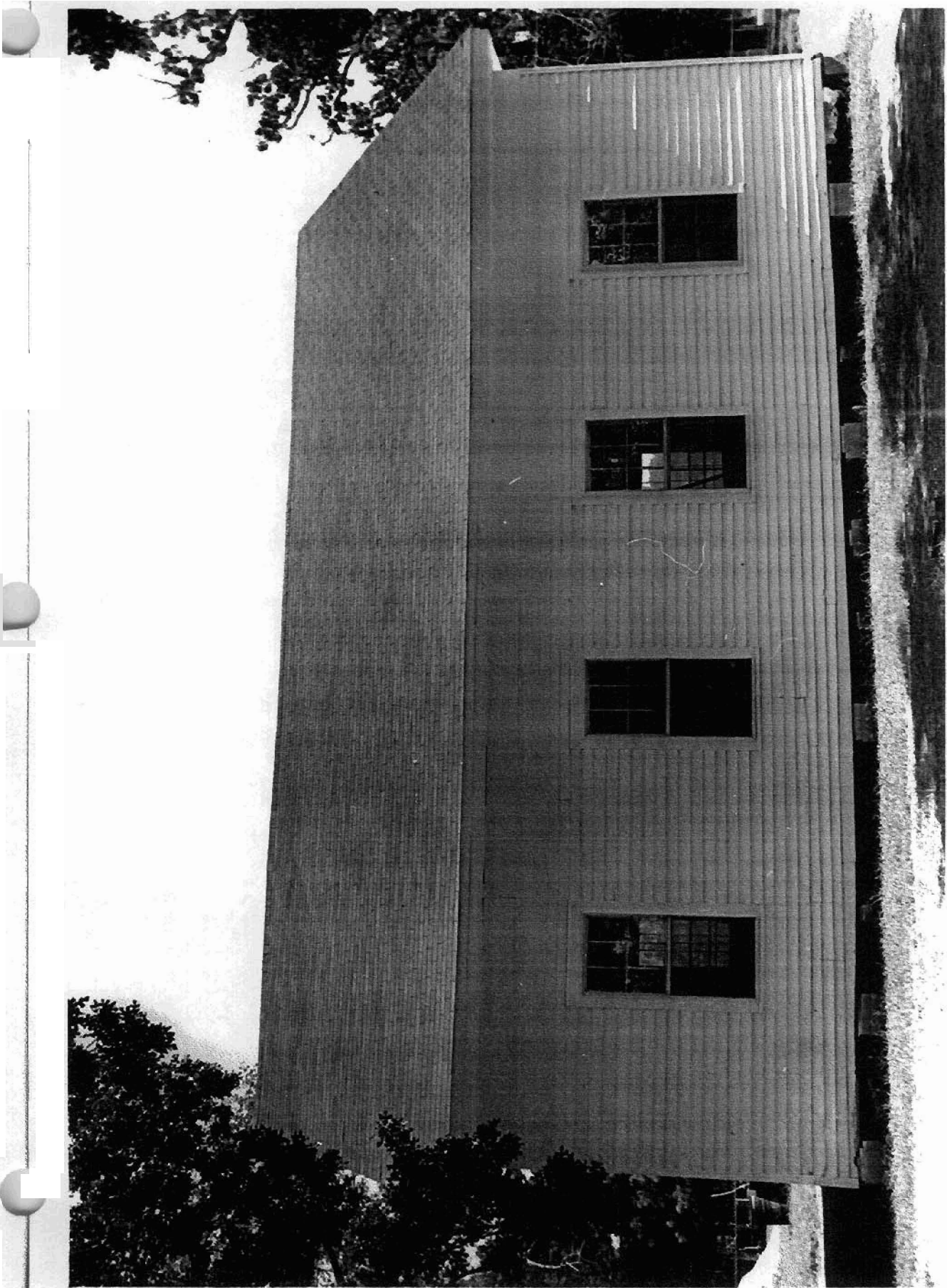


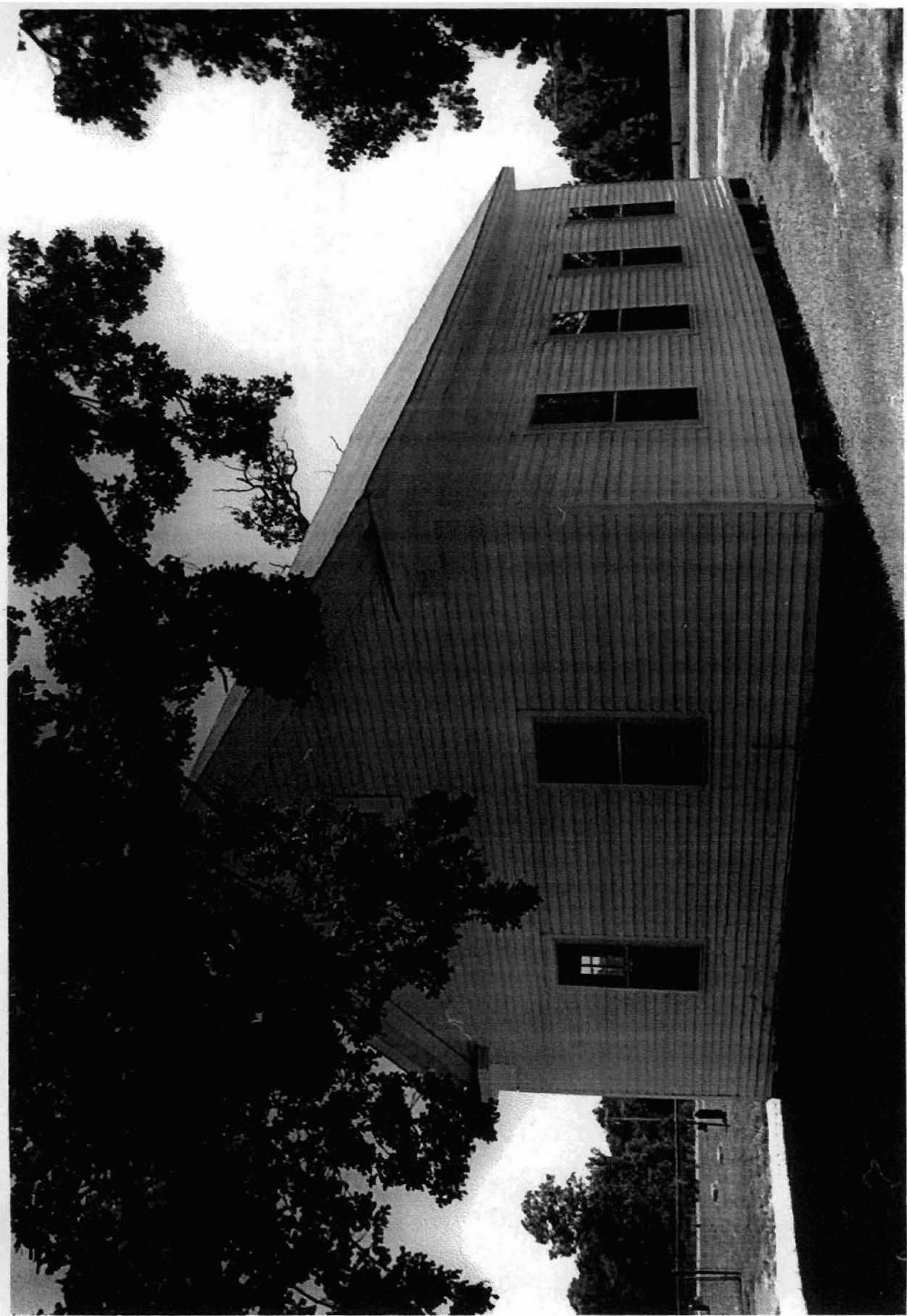
WESLEY CHAPEL CHURCH



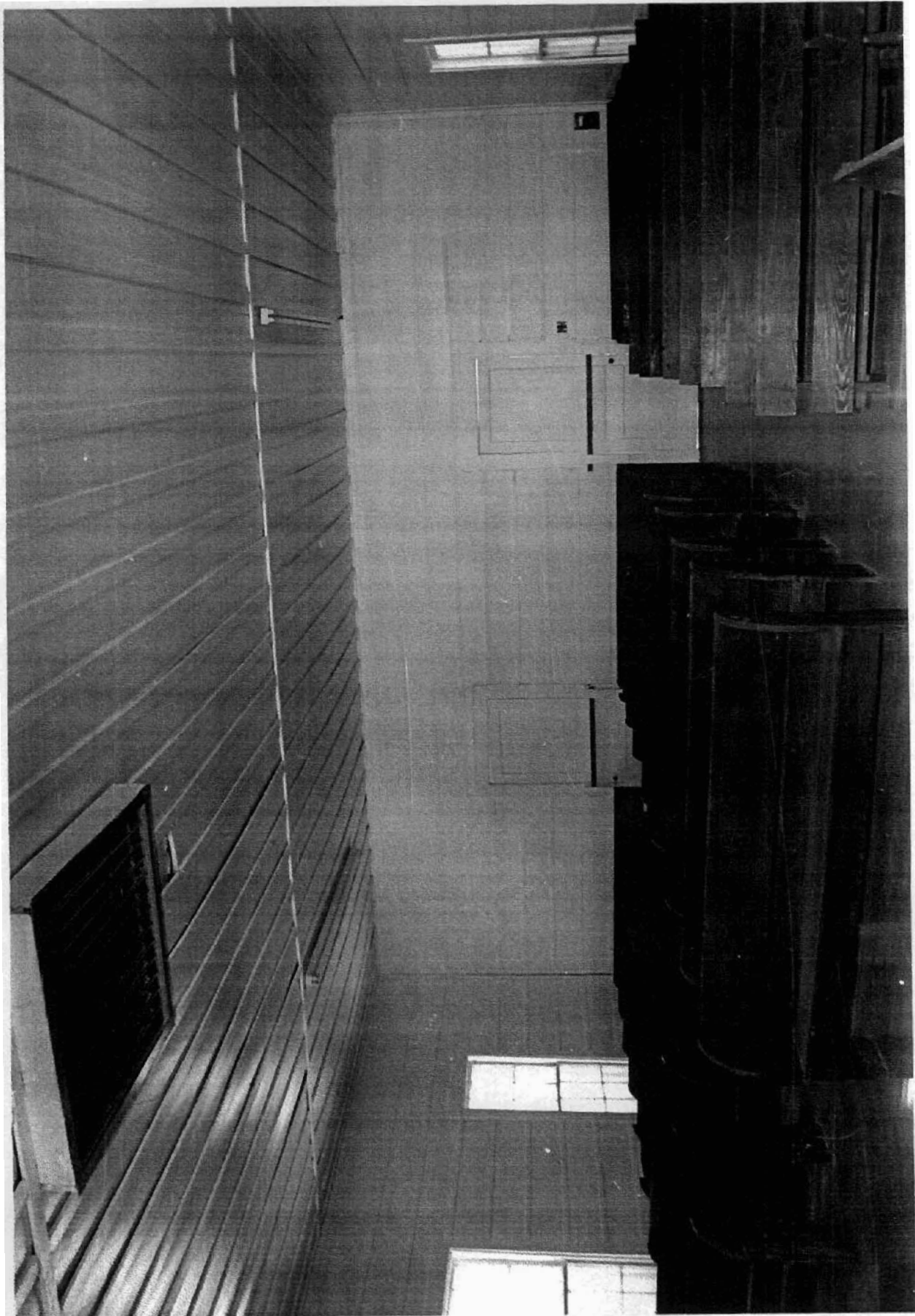


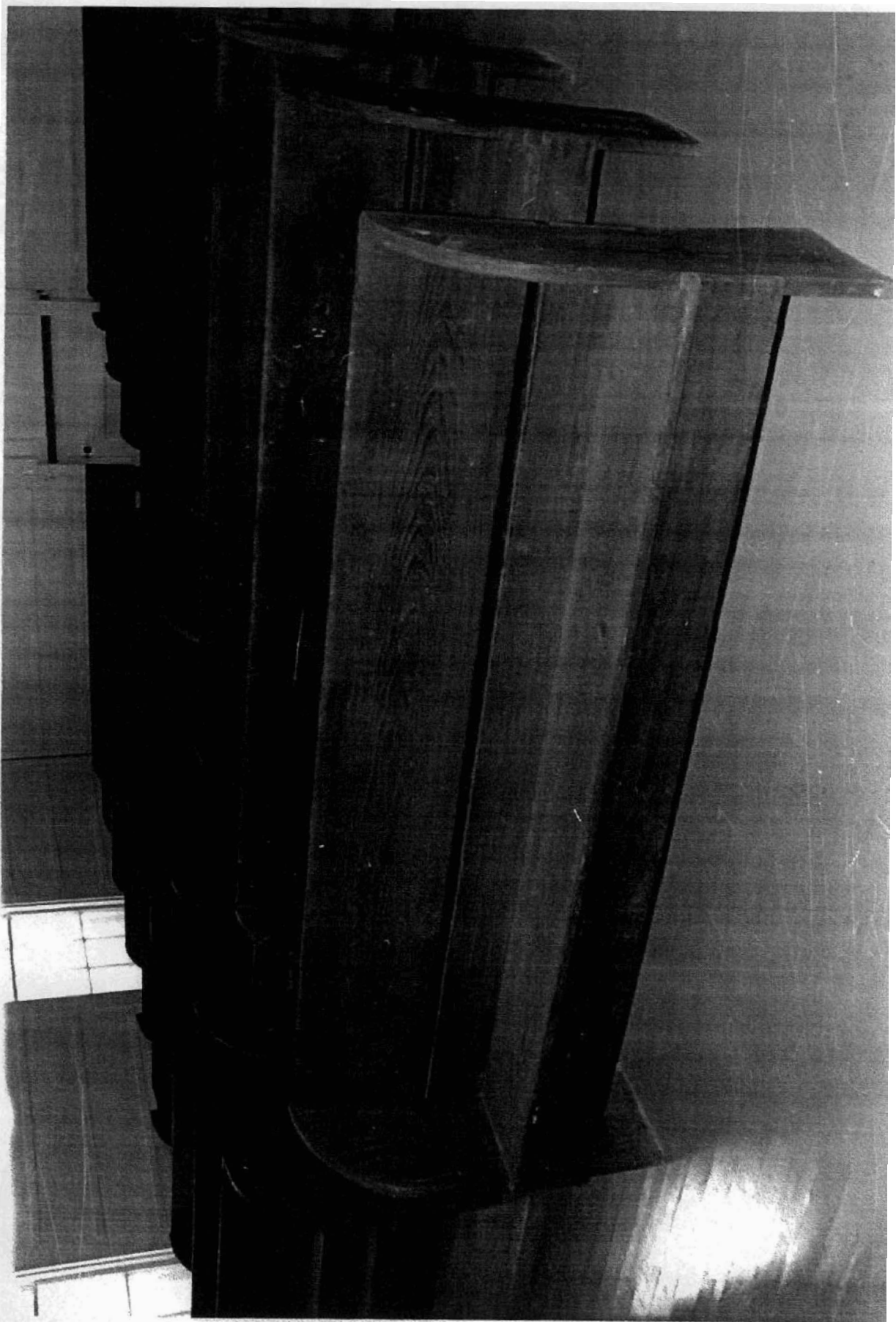


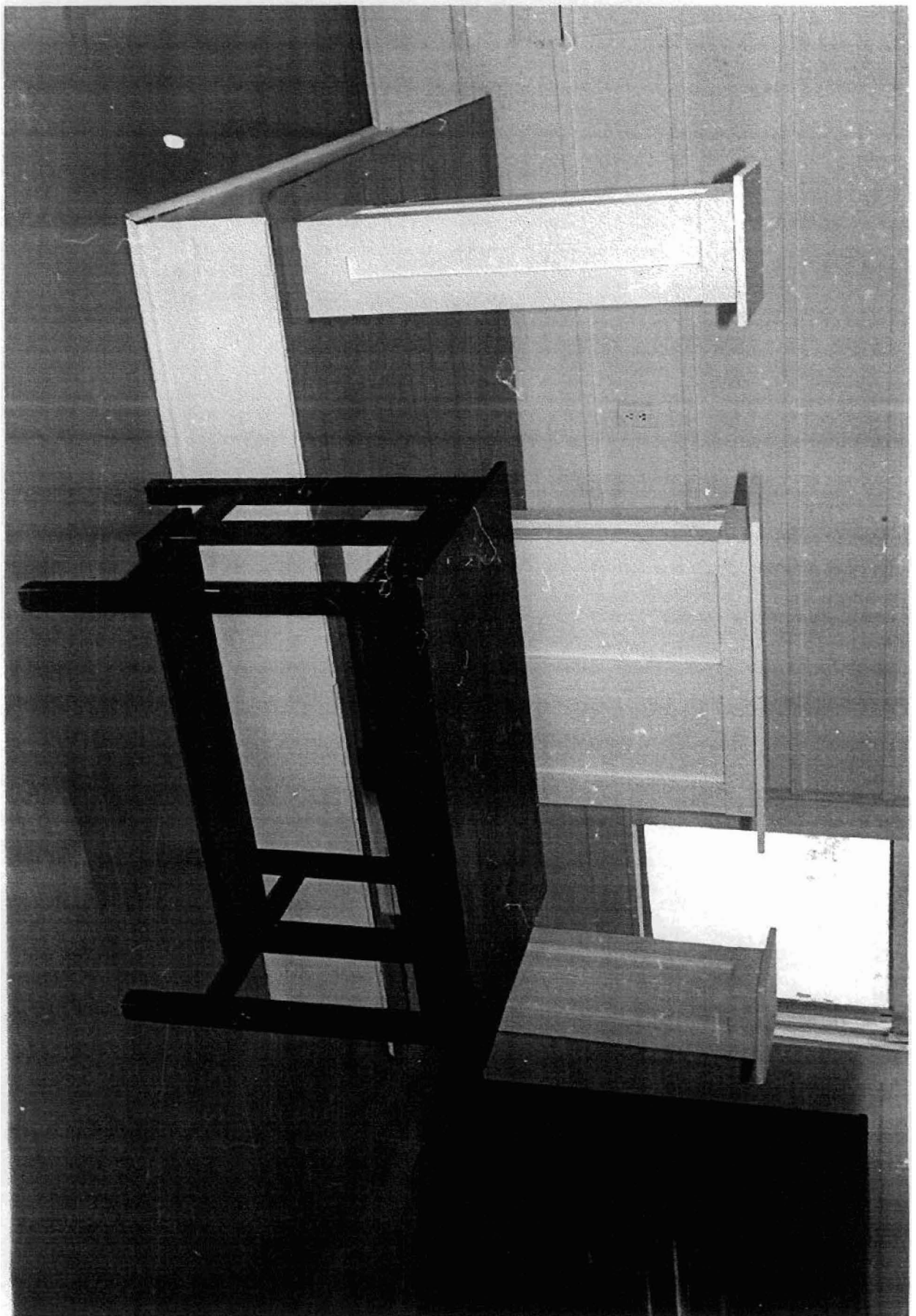


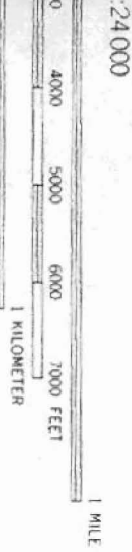
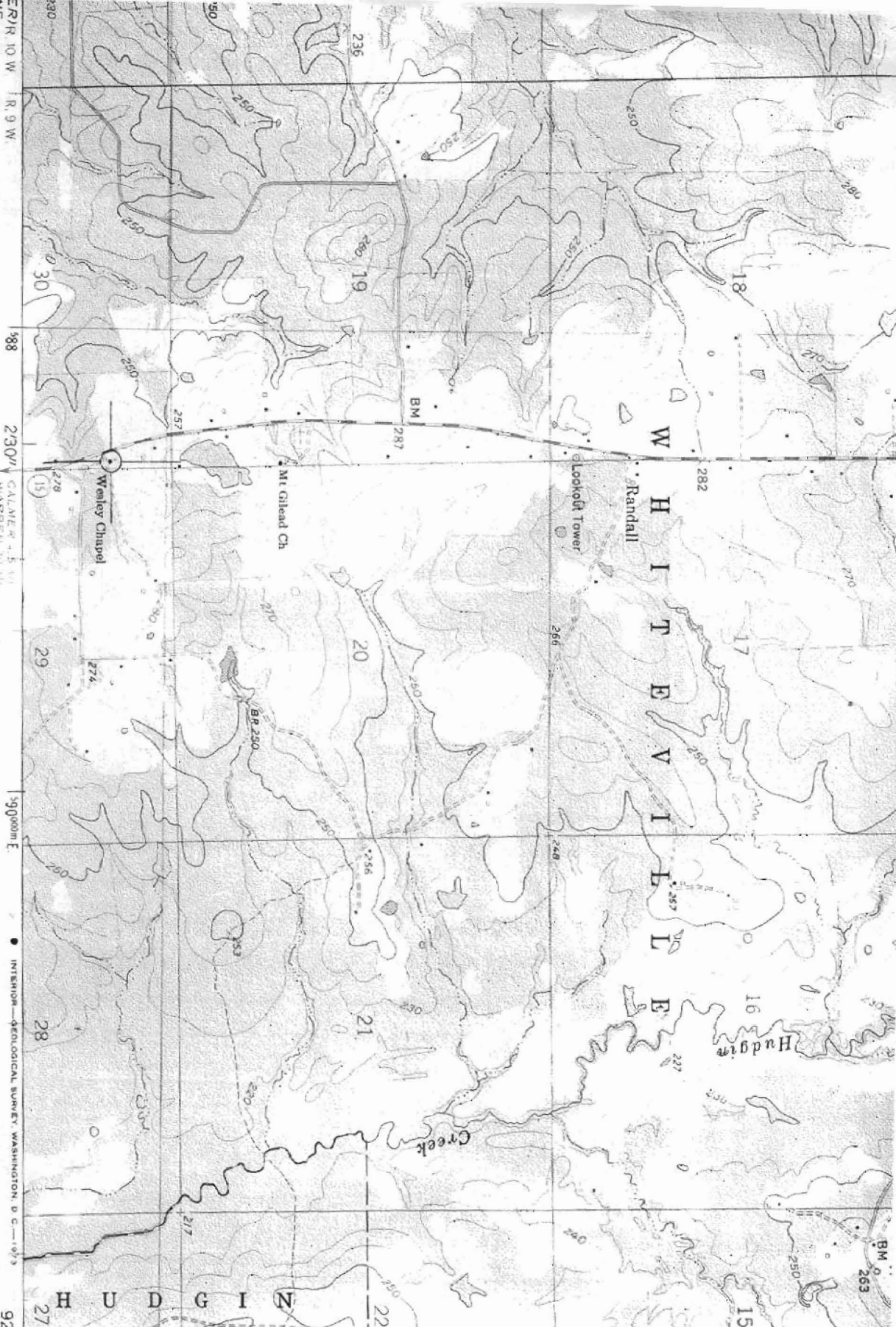






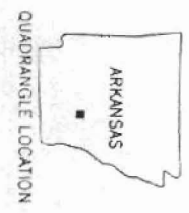






Vertical Accuracy
 Horizontal Accuracy
 North Arrow
 Contour Interval
 Elevation in Feet

Vertical Accuracy: ± 1.0 feet
 Horizontal Accuracy: ± 1.0 feet
 North Arrow: True North
 Contour Interval: 20 feet
 Elevation in Feet: 1000



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Medium-duty
 Light-duty
 Unimproved dirt
 State Route

FAITH, ARK.
 N 3400—W 9200/7.5

765' IN
 102.500
 (FRENCHVILLE)

WESTLY (MOUNTAIN)
 COLUMBIA RIVER
 AIC
 15/588570/
 3262750

3163000 N.
 34°00'
 92°00'