

NR 2/15/05

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 Silas Owens, Sr. House
other names/site number FA1258

2. Location

street & number 157 Solomon Grove Road not for publication
city or town Twin Groves vicinity
state AR code AR county Faulkner code 045 zip code 72058

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.)

Cassie Matthews 12/17/04
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

Silas Owens, Sr., House
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR
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.)

A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry
Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

-6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER./vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	Concrete
walls	Cut Stone
roof	Composition
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 moved from its original location.
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

Period of Significance

c. 1948

Significant Dates

c. 1948

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens, Sr.

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:

Silas Owens, Sr., House
Name of Property

Faulkner Co., AR
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property _____

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>551419</u>	<u>3908598</u>	2	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

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 Holly Hope
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 12/13/04
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone 501 324-9880
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 Pauline Morris
street & number 157 Solomon Grove Road telephone 501 335-7346
city or town Twin Groves state AR zip code 72058

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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Silas Owens, Sr., House, located at 157 Solomon Grove Road in Twin Groves was constructed in the Mixed Masonry style circa 1948. The building served as the primary residence of the well-known Faulkner County rock mason, Silas Owens, Sr., and his family. Owens' home is influenced by Craftsman massing with open rafter tails, now obscured by a fascia board, and paired windows. A Mediterranean influence can be seen in a full, arcaded front porch. Cream brick trim is used sparingly on this building; however the artistic use of stone coursing is typical of the fine masonry executed by Silas Owens, Sr.

LABORATION

The Silas Owens, Sr., House is a rectangular plan on a concrete foundation with a gabled and clipped gable roof. The sloping lot provides space for a partial basement at the rear of the building. The home was altered with the replacement of original wood windows with two-over-two aluminum sashes in the early 1990s; however, with the application of one-over-one storm windows this modern alteration is less evident and presents a more appropriate appearance. The original window openings are also the same dimension. The home was constructed with a tin roof, which was replaced at the same time as the windows with composition shingle. Neither of these modifications detracts from the original form or the creative rockwork, which is the hallmark of a Silas Owens, Sr., Mixed Masonry.

South Elevation

The northern, front elevation of the Silas Owens, Sr., House presents a full, arcaded porch. The three baskethandle arches of the porch are outlined to the area of the spring with cream bricks. A small one-over-one window at the apex of the gabled porch roof is outlined in a header and stretcher pattern of

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cream bricks. This elevation is fenestrated on the west and east corners with a pair of two-over-two, double-hung aluminum windows flanking a single-leaf front door. The typical Silas Owens, Sr., use of header and stretcher patterns in brick around the windows is absent on this house and is replaced with a wide concrete lintel and concrete sill.

East Elevation

A single, narrow baskethandle arch trimmed with cream brick is located at the northeast end of the porch. The eastern elevation is fenestrated north to south with a pair of windows, a single opening and two more pairs of windows. A single-light stationary basement window topped with a concrete lintel is situated beneath the paired windows at the southeast corner.

South Elevation

The rear, southern elevation contains a pair of short double-hung windows at the southeast corner. The roof on this elevation features a jerkinhead gable on hip and a narrow shed roof supported by two square posts extends over the pair of windows to the southeast. A small arcaded porch with rock half-wall capped with concrete and two baskethandle arches extends a few feet south from the back wall. The porch is reached by a short flight of concrete steps. Two adjacent single-leaf doors open onto the back porch.

West Elevation

The southwest corner of the back porch features a single arch. A gabled bay extends approximately two feet west from the main wall flanking the back porch. A single double-hung window is centered in the bay. Two jagged shards of broken mirror glass are placed within the mortar joints above the window.

Silas Owens, Sr., House

Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR

County and State

United States Department of the Interior

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The main wall is fenestrated south to north with two pairs of windows and the northwest corner of the porch is marked by a single arch.

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Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Silas Owens, Sr., House in Twin Groves, Arkansas, constructed circa 1948 is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion C as a good example of a Craftsman and Mediterranean influenced Mixed Masonry residence. The Faulkner County home was constructed and veneered by master craftsman Silas Owens, Sr., and features the creative stone coursing emblematic of Owens work. The nomination is being submitted under the multiple property context, "A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."

ELABORATION

The Silas Owens, Sr., House was built circa 1948 by Silas Owens, Sr., to serve as the principal residence for his wife, Georgia and their six children. The main vocation of most of the African American families in Twin Groves atop Batesville Mountain in Faulkner County was farming and Silas, Sr.'s, family as a whole participated in raising foodstuffs grown on their property. Owens' true love though was masonry and he trained his children – boys and girls – in laying bricks and stone. After Silas Owens, Sr.'s, death in 1960 the home remained in the family and his daughter Pauline Morris continues to reside there with her son Jeffery Morris.

The town of Twin Groves was not incorporated until 1991 but the area retains the feel of a rural, farming community. The Silas Owens, Sr., House retains its commanding view of the wooded fields and valleys

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stretching to the north and south and is thus evocative of mid-twentieth century rural life in Faulkner County and Twin Groves.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Silas Owens, Sr., House in Twin Groves, Faulkner County, Arkansas is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with local significance under Criterion C as an excellent example of a Craftsman and Mediterranean influenced Mixed Masonry residence featuring the superior craftsmanship of Silas Owens, Sr. The nomination is being submitted under the multiple property context, "A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."

Silas Owens, Sr., House
Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Morris, Pauline. Daughter of Silas Owens, Sr., Twin Groves, Arkansas. Telephone interview with author, 07 September 2004.

Morris, Jeffery. Grandson of Silas Owens, Sr., Twin Groves, Arkansas. Telephone interview with author, 27 September 2004.

Owens, Silas, Jr. Son of Silas Owens, Sr. Twin Groves, Arkansas. Personal interview with author, 22 March 2002.

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 551419 3908598
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____

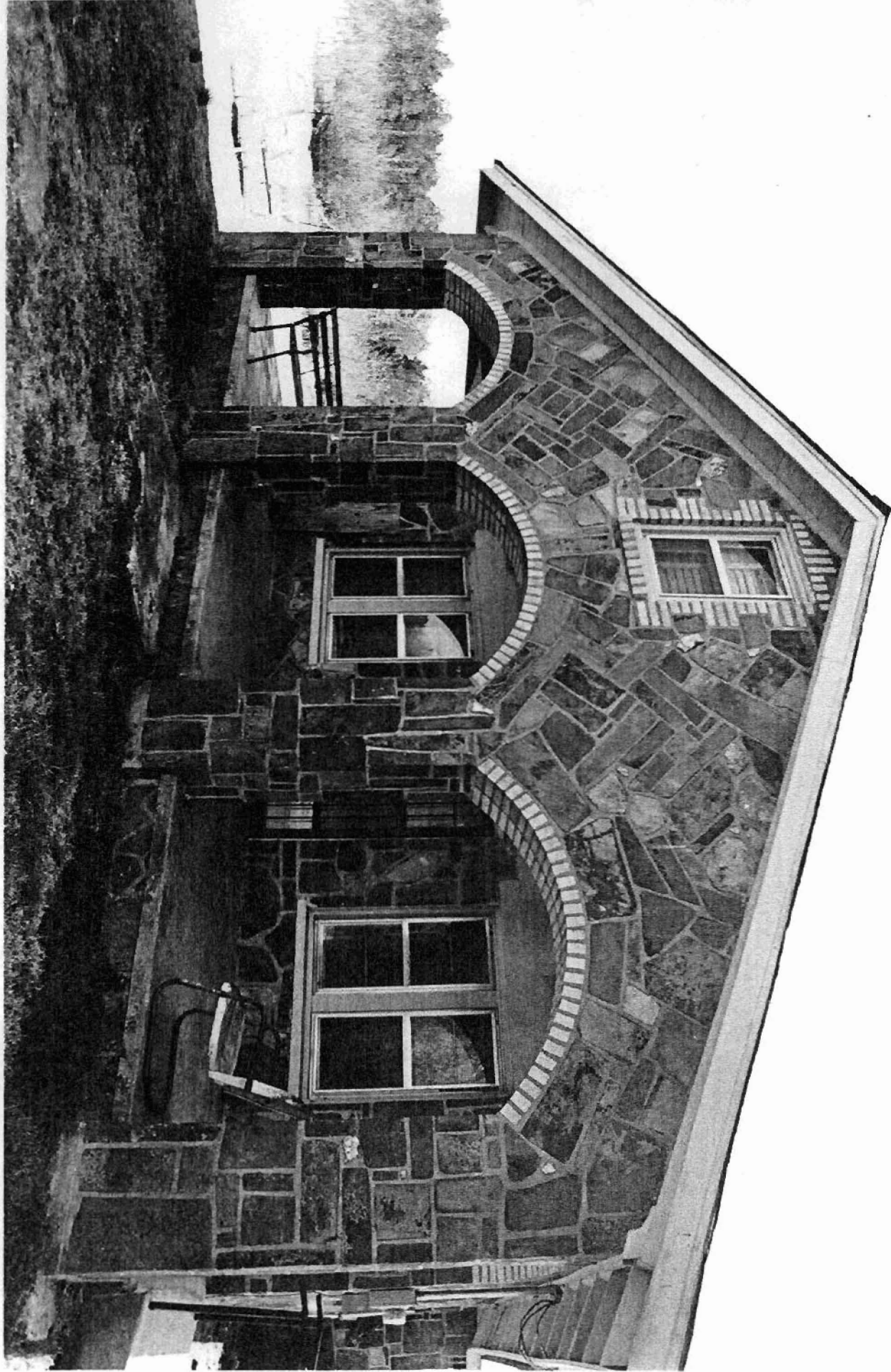
See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

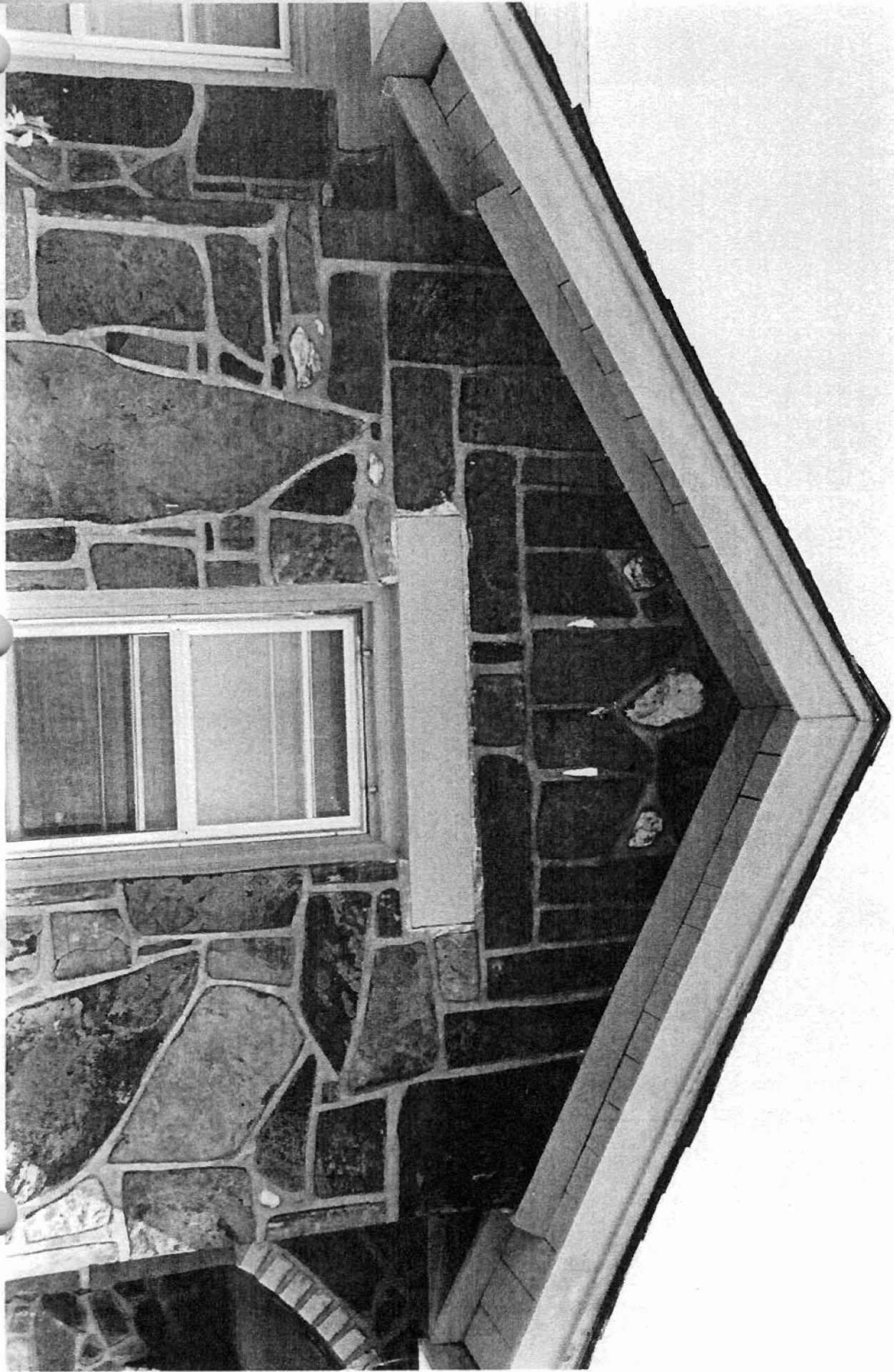
Beginning at a point on the south side of Solomon Grove Road proceed south approximately 100 feet toward the far property line of 157 Solomon Grove Road. Then proceed east approximately 30 feet turning north toward Solomon Grove Road, approximately 100 feet then approximately 30 feet west to point of origin.

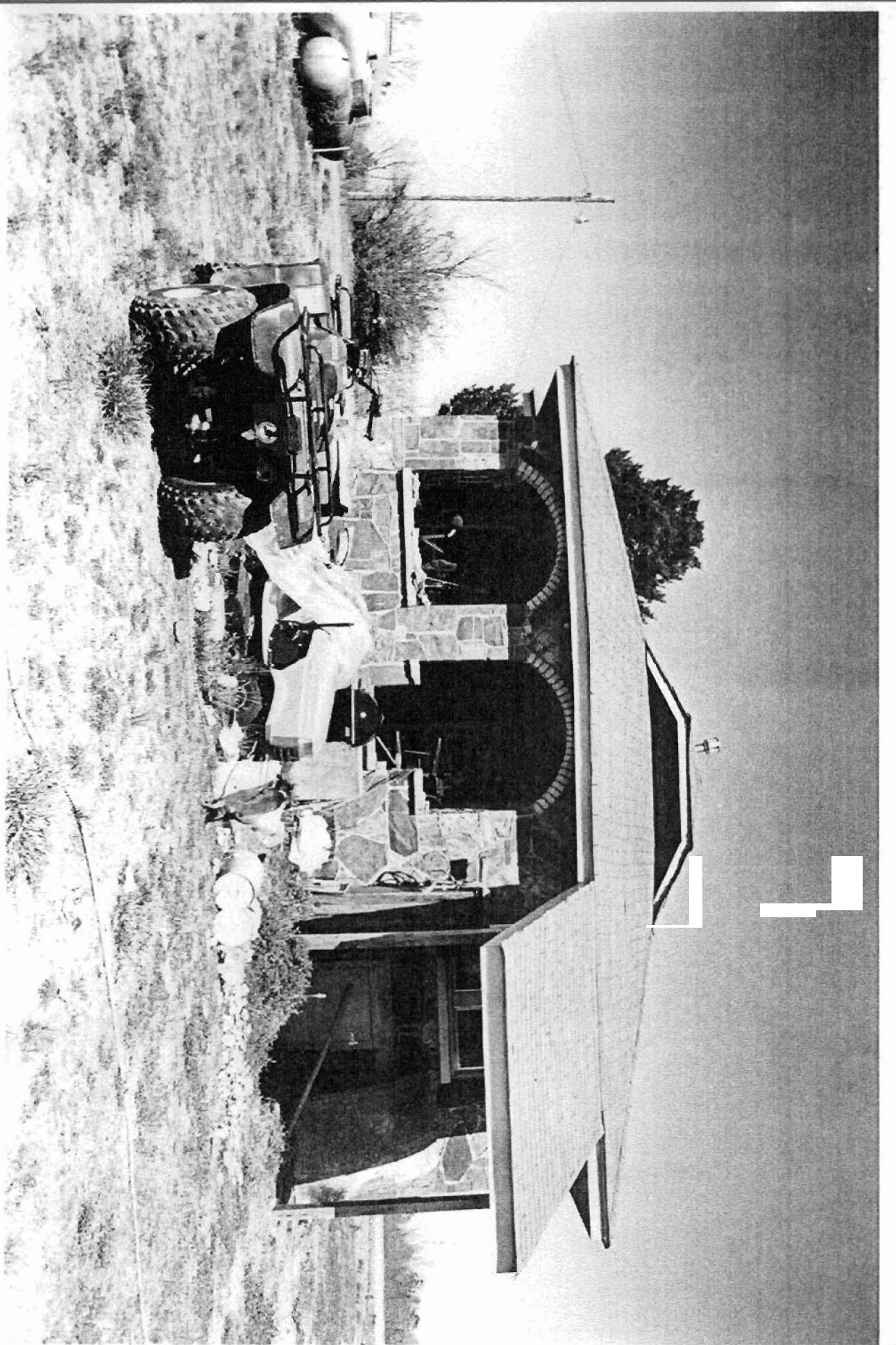
Boundary Justification

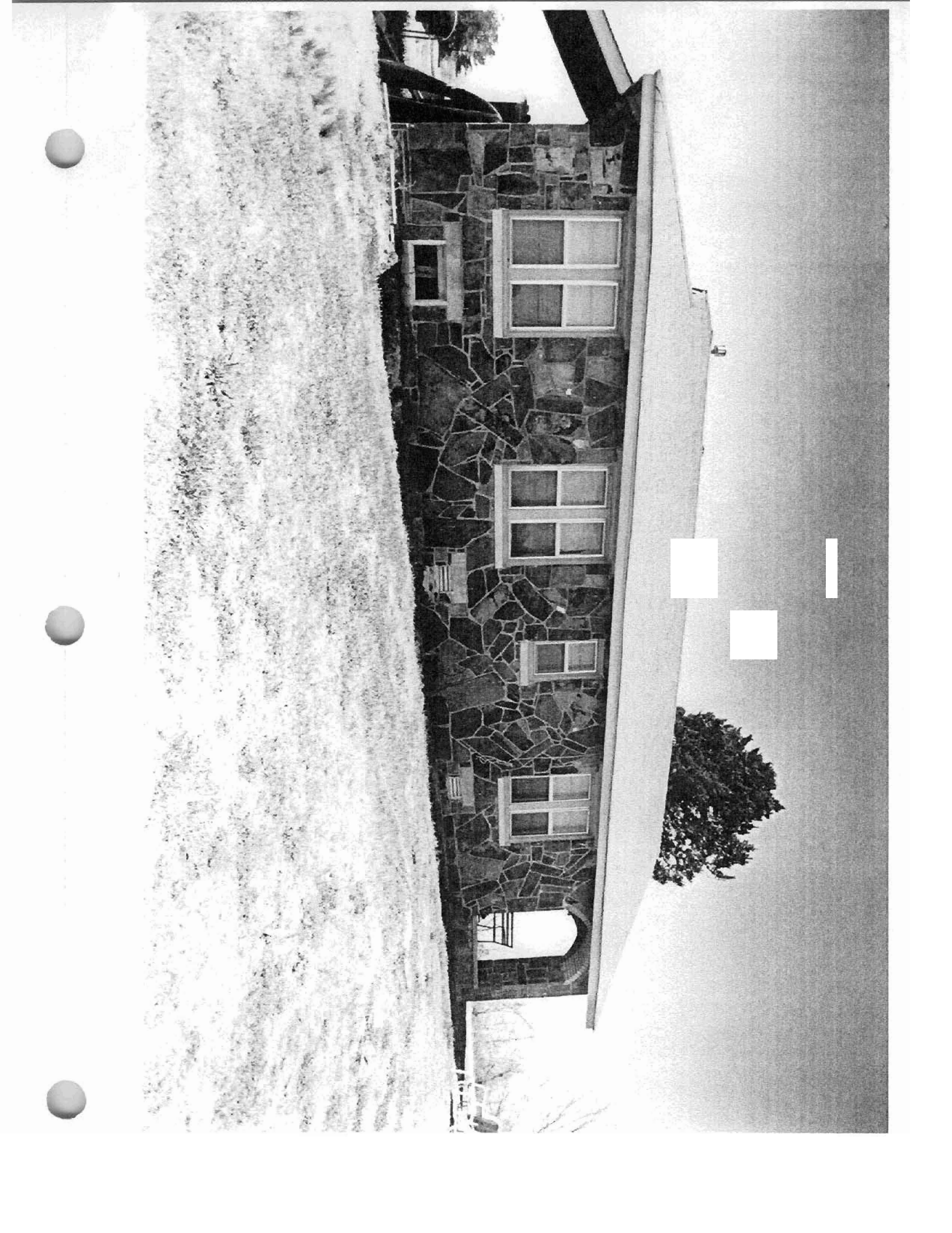
The boundaries include all land currently associated with the Silas Owens, Sr., House.











15/551417/3908578

548

27' 30"

550

551

R 14 W R 13 W

VAN BUREN CO
FAULKNER CO 429

Silas Owens, Sr. House
Twin Grove
Faulkner Co, AR

BM

832

N

3

35

36

2

1

Spires Cem

10

11

12

PIPELINES

RESERVATION

BOUND

15

14

13

Martinville Cem

OLD

Creek

645

265

SPRING

