

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Faulkner County – Conway
Earl and Mildred Ward House
1157 Mitchell Street
NR 10/19/05

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 Earl and Mildred Ward House

other names/site number FA1302

2. Location

street & number 1157 Mitchell Street

not for publication

city or town Conway

vicinity

state AR

code AR

county Faulkner

code 045

zip code 72034

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.)

Catherine Matthews
Signature of certifying official/Title

9/7/05
Date

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

Earl and Mildred Ward 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	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		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/ Mixed Masonry

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/ Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Cut limestone

roof Asphalt

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.
[X] 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:

- [X] 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

1949

Significant Dates

1949

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens, Sr., Mason

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
[X] 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

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
[] Other State Agency
[] Federal Agency
[] Local Government
[] University
[] Other

Name of repository:

Earl and Mildred Ward House

Name of Property

Faulkner County, AR

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 550164 3883467
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
Zone Easting Northing
4

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

From the point of beginning at the northeast corner of Mitchell Street proceed north approximately 70 feet, thence proceed west approximately 40 feet, thence proceed north approximately 70 feet to point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Holly Hope/ Special Projects Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 08/09/05
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 Earline Russell
street & number 1157 Mitchell Street telephone 501 329-3305
city or town Conway state AR zip code 72034

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,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The 1949 Earl and Mildred Ward House in Conway is the only example of a granite Mixed Masonry veneered by Silas Owens, Sr. The home displays a slight Craftsman influence and is located in a neighborhood consisting of a mixture of late nineteenth and early- to mid-twentieth century houses.

ELABORATION

The front, northern façade of the Earl and Mildred Ward House features a centered, gable-roofed porch with central arch. Three concrete steps lead to the concrete floor of the porch. Fenestration from east to west features a pair of two-over-two, aluminum, double-hung windows. The single-leaf front door is centered under the porch roof. A three-light stationary window opens at the northwest corner of the house.

The western elevation of the house is fenestrated north to south with a pair of windows and a single window adjacent to an extended gable with a single, centered window.

The rear, southern elevation features a single-leaf paneled door with three horizontal lights beneath a metal awning at the southwest corner. Four concrete steps lead directly to the door. Openings extending east of the door consist of a short window shaded by a metal awning, a pair of windows and a single window.

The eastern elevation is fenestrated south to north by three single windows.

Earl and Mildred Ward 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

Section number 7 Page 2

OUTBUILDINGS

One contributing shed-roofed garage is located to the southwest of the house. The front, northern elevation features a large opening for automobile access. The western elevation is fenestrated by a single, double-hung window. The rear contains no openings and the eastern wall is punctuated by a single-leaf, paneled door with three vertical lights. The sloping shed roof of the garage is obscured by a straight parapet.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

In a departure from the usual building materials utilized by Silas Owens, Sr., the mason produced a building that revealed the minimal lines of mid-twentieth century architecture that would soon become prolific on the World War II cottage and Ranch styles. The Earl and Mildred Ward House is being nominated to the National Register under **Criterion C** with **local significance** as a good example of a Craftsman-influenced Mixed Masonry. It is also 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

Earl and Mildred Fason-Ward both hailed from Conway and after their marriage they initially lived there on Locust Street. In 1949 the couple built a home together on Mitchell Street in Conway, hiring Silas Owens, Sr., to do the rockwork.

Ward requested that the masonry veneer be composed of granite from the Boone County town of Zinc rather than the traditional sandstone that Owens usually employed. The Twin Groves mason was up to the task; however, he favored sandstone as far as aesthetics and ease of handling. The Ward House is the only granite Mixed Masonry by Owens that has been documented thus far and one of only two noted in Conway. Silas Owens, Jr., noted that his father's dislike of working with such stone likely resulted in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

this being a rare example. Most granite Mixed Masonries may be found in northeast Arkansas and many of those are trimmed with red brick, rather than the cream type found on the Ward House.

Earl Ward was employed as a barber at the OK Barber Shop in Conway and his daughter, Earline, who currently resides in the house, felt that her father likely got information about Silas Owens' abilities as a mason from customers in the shop. His well known reputation as a fair and qualified businessman and mason persuaded Ward to hire Silas Owens, Sr.

Earl retired from the barber shop in 1979 and lived with Mildred in the house on Mitchell Street until his death in 1993. Mildred continued to live there until she passed away in 2004. Their daughter Earline, one of three children, currently lives in the home.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Earl and Mildred Ward House, built in the late 1940s, was on the cusp of a mid-twentieth century architectural revolution. The small, low lines of the house with central, gabled front porch hails from the Craftsman style; however, the extended side gable, large stationary picture window and horizontal muntins of the double-hung windows hint at the beginnings of the World War II cottage style that gave way to the longer, Ranch style. The home is unaltered except for the replacement of the picture window, which had suffered a crack, with the current three-light opening in 1999. The Earl and Mildred Ward

Earl and Mildred Ward 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

Section number 8 Page 3

House in Conway, Faulkner County, Arkansas is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of an Craftsman influenced Mixed Masonry, and as the only granite type constructed by Silas Owens, Sr. The nomination is also being submitted under the multiple property context, "A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."

Earl and Mildred Ward 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

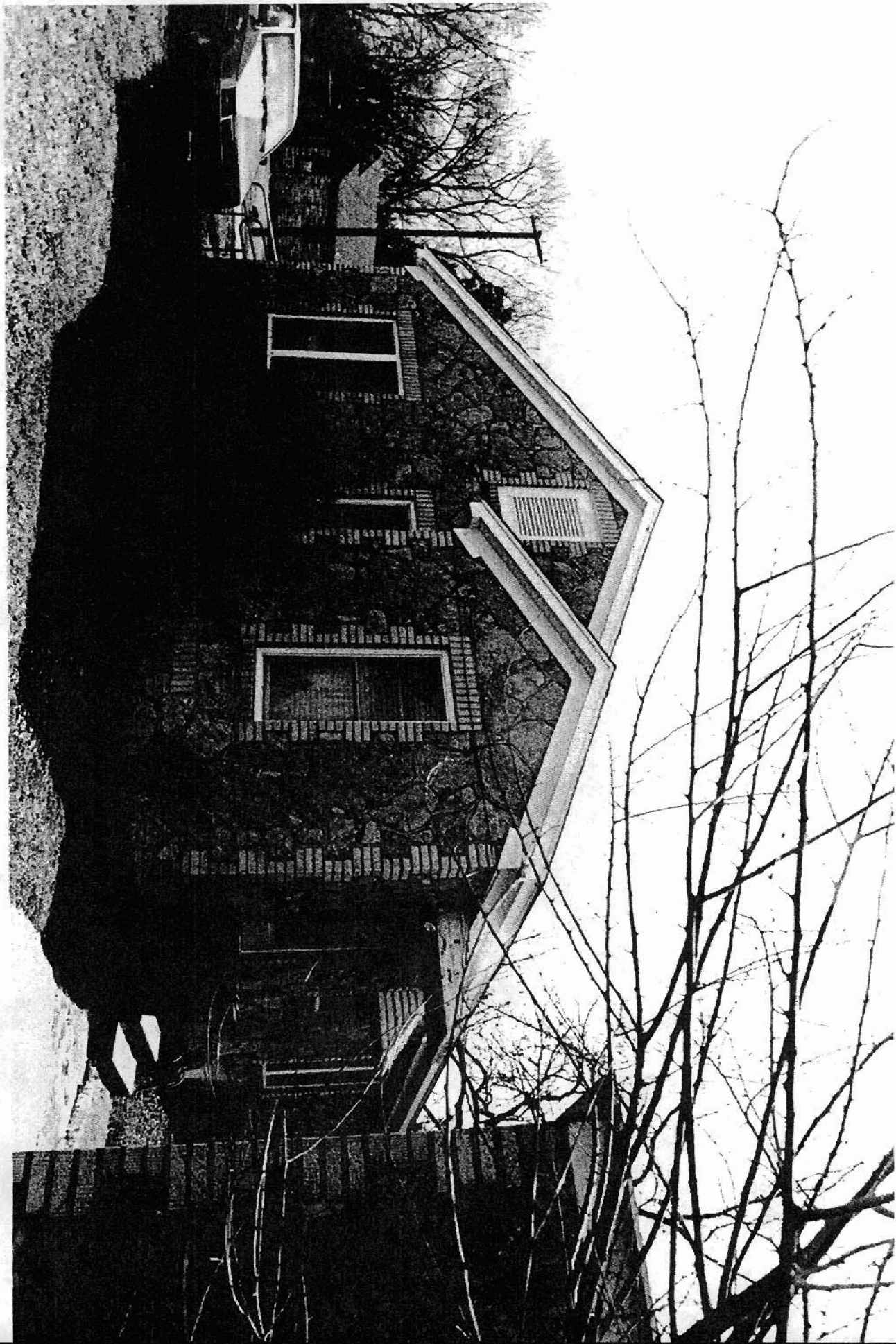
9. Major Bibliographical References

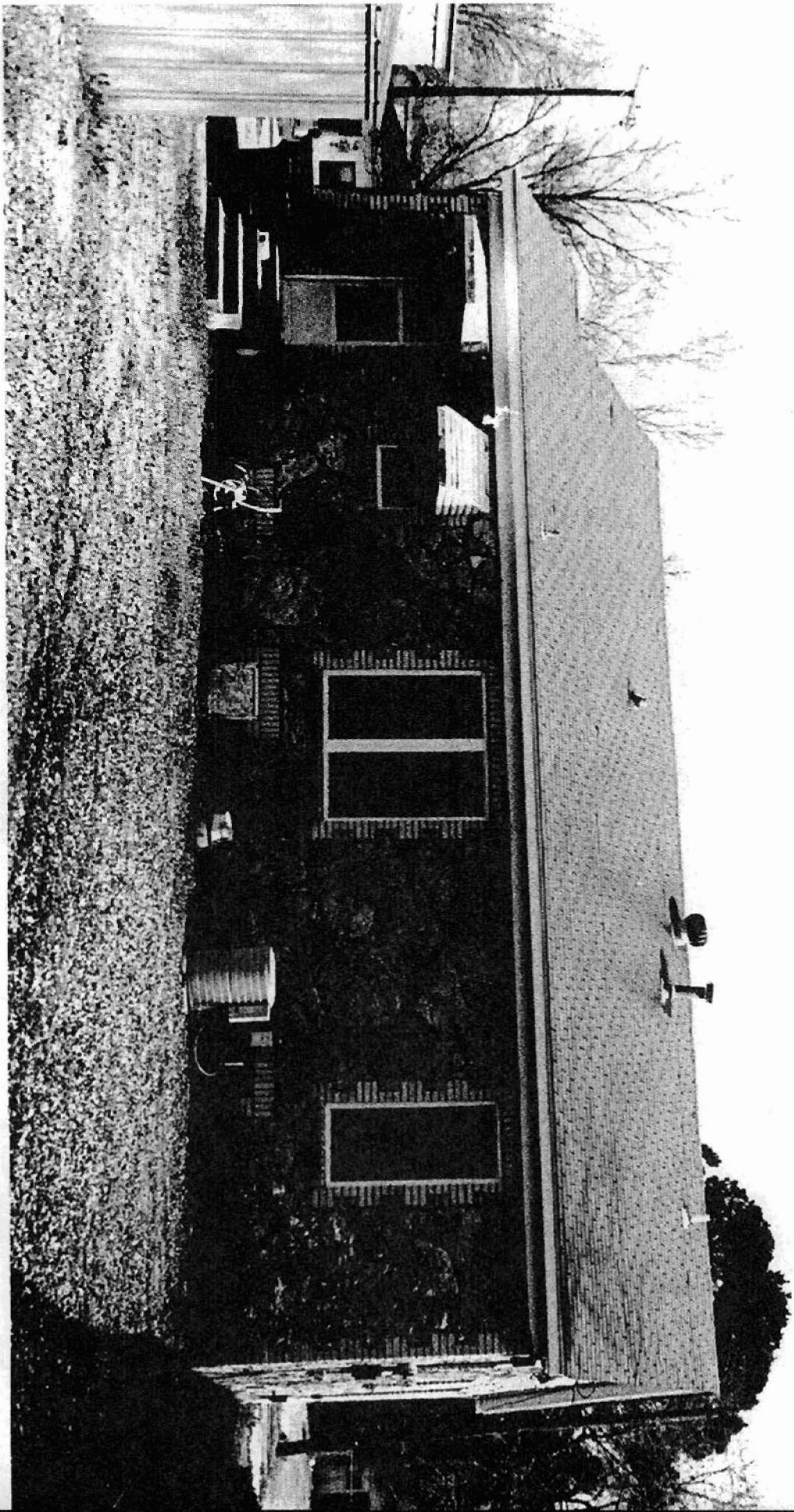
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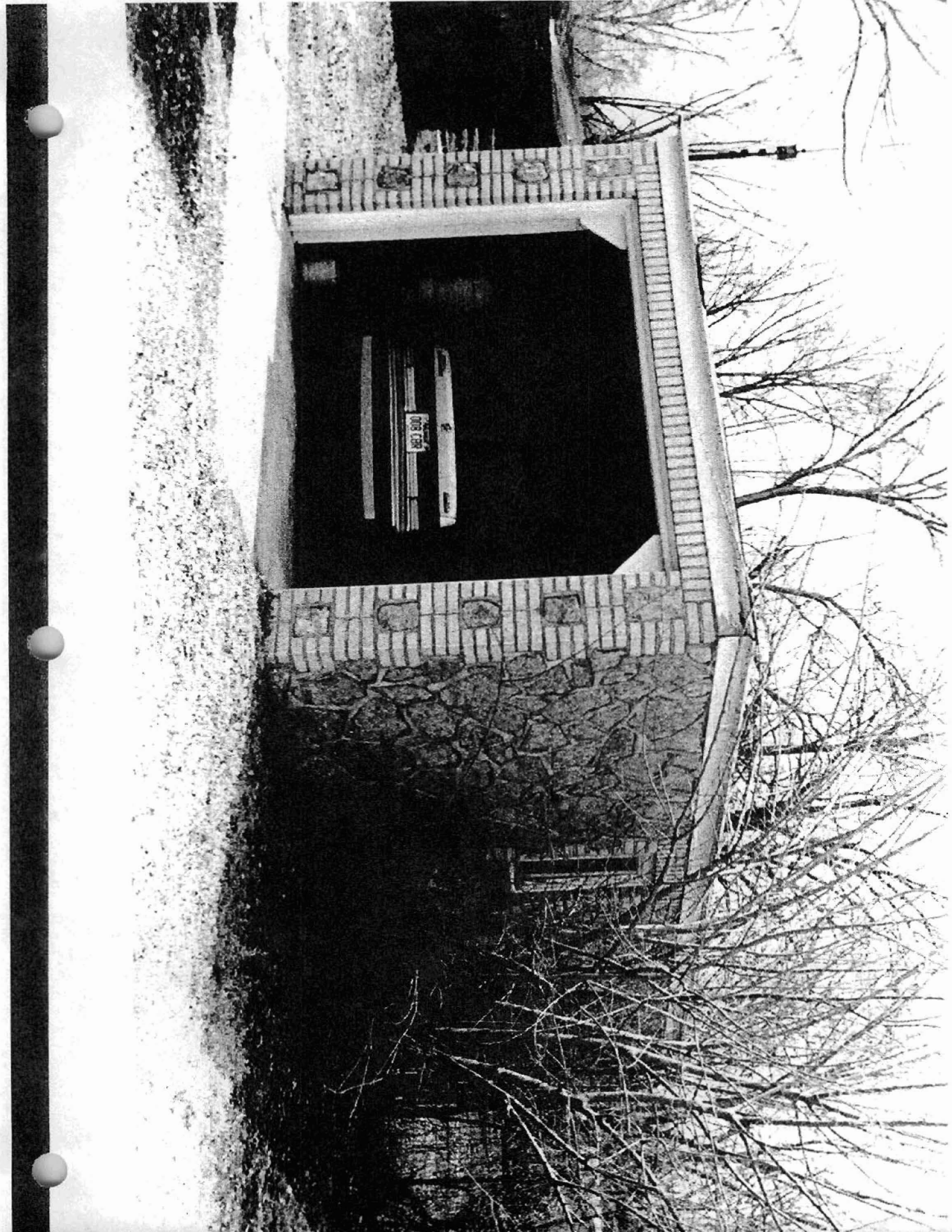
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Russell, Earline. Daughter of Earl and Mildred Ward, Conway, Arkansas. Telephone interview with author, 18 May, 2005.









Earl + Mildred Ward House
Conway, Faulkner Co AR
15/550164/3883467

