

NR listed 9/13/90

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name T. H. Morris House  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number Southeast corner of 6th and Bethel Streets  not for publication N/A  
city, town Mammoth Spring  vicinity N/A  
state Arkansas code AR county Fulton code AR 049 zip code 72554

### 3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>2</u>	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>3</u>	_____ Total

name of related multiple property listing: N/A  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

### 4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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 forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Byrd 8-13-90  
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

### 5. National Park Service Certification

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 the Keeper

Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling

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Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/Hotel

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Other: American Foursquare

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Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone

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walls WOOD/Weatherboard

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roof Asphalt

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other 

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

**8. Statement of Significance**

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1908  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**0. Geographical Data**

acreage of property Less than one

**UTM References**

A 15 630440 4039600  
Zone Easting Northing

B \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_

D \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

See continuation sheet

**1. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date July 31, 1990  
street & number 225 E. Markham St., Suite 200 telephone (501) 371-2763  
city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### Summary

The T.H. Morris House is a two-and-one-half story, wood frame residential building of the architectural type known as "American Foursquare." It features a single story front porch with balustrades on both the porch deck and the roof. The building is sited on a hillside in a residential neighborhood of Mammoth Spring which is adjacent to the downtown.

### Elaboration

The T.H. Morris House is a two-and-one-half story, wood frame residential building designed in vernacular architectural style that has become known as "American Foursquare" with slight Colonial Revival detailing. The plan of the main part of the house is rectangular; a single story, hipped roof, combination novelty sided kitchen and wood lattice porch extends from the southern or rear elevation of the house, to which is also attached a smaller, shed roof well-house, which is also sheathed with novelty siding below lattice. The front porch extends across almost the entire front and is covered with a flat roof. Two brick chimneys -- one placed in the center of the main block and the other attached to the exterior wall at the rear of the house -- vent the structure. The cut-stone and brick foundation supports the weatherboarded walls, all of which is covered with a hipped, composition shingle roof.

The northern or ~~front~~ <sup>rear</sup> elevation of the house is symmetrical with the sole exception of the placement of the single-leaf front entry off-center to the east. The windows on the second story are one-over-one wood sash. The eastern window on the first floor is also one-over-one wood sash; the western window, however, features a 77-pane, leaded stained-glass window above a large, single-pane fixed window below. The house is entered via the single story porch, which is accessed by the tall, wood staircase with its simple, square newel posts and balusters. The porch itself consists of four box columns and two attached pilasters, all with simple capitals and bases, supporting a boxed entablature and flat porch roof. The baluster on the first level is turned, while that above is composed of solid, square posts. A central, hipped dormer with six fixed panes completes the elevation.

The western elevation is fenestrated with two symmetrically-placed one-over-one wood sash windows on the second floor. On the first floor, an identical double-hung window is placed to the north and a three-sided, hipped roof bay projects from the wall to the south. A single-leaf entry provides access to the hipped roof ell at the back of the house and a pair of smaller one-over-one wood sash windows to the south finishes the elevation. The eastern elevation is lighted with two evenly-spaced one-over-one wood sash windows on the second floor and a central, smaller fixed stained glass window placed between the floors to light the stairwell inside. The first floor is lighted with a large single pane window surmounted with a fixed stained glass transom to the south and a tall, one-over-one wood sash window placed to the

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north. The hipped roof ell and its shed extension are sheathed with novelty siding below and lattice above; the shed roof section is entered via single-leaf entries placed on both its northern and southern elevations. Like the front, both the eastern and western elevations also feature a six-pane hipped roof dormer placed centrally on the main block of the house.

The southern elevation is lighted by a grouped pair of one-over-one wood sash windows (the upper sash of which have been ornamented with false, diamond-shaped muntins) placed centrally in the wall of the rear, hipped roof ell.

Apart from the balustrades and the stained glass, the noteworthy exterior details are few. The trim around the windows is simple and features slightly projecting, decorative lintel and sill trim on some of the windows.

The interior of the house has recently been restored to its original appearance. The windows and doors throughout feature the typically simple molded wood trim, stained a dark mahogany color. Dark, panelled wood pocket doors divide several of the rooms on the first floor. A pair of glass French doors separate the main parlor from the entrance hall near the front of the house; the focal point of the entrance hall is the mahogany-stained, half-turn pine staircase. A corner fireplace in the dining room is finished with a carved oak mantelpiece and beveled mirror. The ceilings are plaster and visually divided into squares with decorative, thin wood strips, and the wood floors are the original stained, long needle pine.

The T.H. Morris House remains virtually unchanged in appearance. The current owner recently cut a breakfast nook into one corner of the rear kitchen; otherwise the house is just as it was when it was constructed. The roof balustrade on the porch had been removed some time in the past, but has since been restored.

Included in the nomination is the entire yard, which includes the original wrought iron fence, a concrete storm cellar and an associated wood frame, gable roof outbuilding that served as both a coal cellar and an equipment storage shed.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1**Summary** Criteria C, local significance

The T.H. Morris House is the best surviving example in Mammoth Spring of the type of residence known as "American Foursquare," widely considered to be a Colonial Revival subtype, though there is little overtly Colonial Revival detailing on the building itself.

**Elaboration**

In 1908, Mammoth Spring, Arkansas was a bustling resort community, conveniently located as it was on the Kansas City, Fort Scott and Memphis Railroad (later known as the St. Louis and San Francisco, now called the Burlington Northern), the only railroad that traversed Fulton County. The community was named for the underground spring which surfaces at this location, forming the sole source for the Spring River (measuring 180 feet in diameter, the spring discharges a constant volume of 45,000 cubic feet per minute, regardless of season; it is considered to be the largest such spring in the United States). The earliest settlement in the area was located across the state line in Missouri, but the entire community largely relocated after the railroad came through in 1883.

With the arrival of the railroad, the Arkansas community of Mammoth Spring became one of the largest resort communities in this section of the Ozarks. By 1908, its tourist industry supported three large hotels, several boarding houses, an opera house, a mill near the mouth of the spring which produced 500 barrels of flour per day, a cotton gin, several churches, two local newspapers and several successful businesses. One of these businesses was Mammoth Spring Hardware, owned by Mr. T.H. Morris. This enterprise not only sold hardware, but as was common for hardware stores of the period, also sold coffins, with Mr. Morris serving as funeral director.

At the time of its construction, Bethel Street formed the spine of the most select residential neighborhood in Mammoth Spring. The most prominent families of the community built new homes on Bethel Street around the turn of the century, and Mr. Morris was no exception. Mr. Morris built this house for his wife and his four children, which included three daughters and one son, but he also built it for the presentation it made as one looked up the hill from the business district of Mammoth Spring.

The T.H. Morris House is significant within its neighborhood in Mammoth Spring as the most pure example of an American Foursquare house. Other contemporaneous residences on Bethel Street are similar in plan and elevation, but all others also exhibit the overt influence of some other traditional architectural style. As a vernacular solution to the need for greater usable space coupled with a massive, palatial presence, the T.H. Morris House stands as the best example of this particularly American type.

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## Bibliography

Goodspeed's *History of Northeastern Arkansas*, 1889, pp. 264-265.

Herndon, Dallas T., *Annals of Arkansas*, 1947, pp. 680-681.



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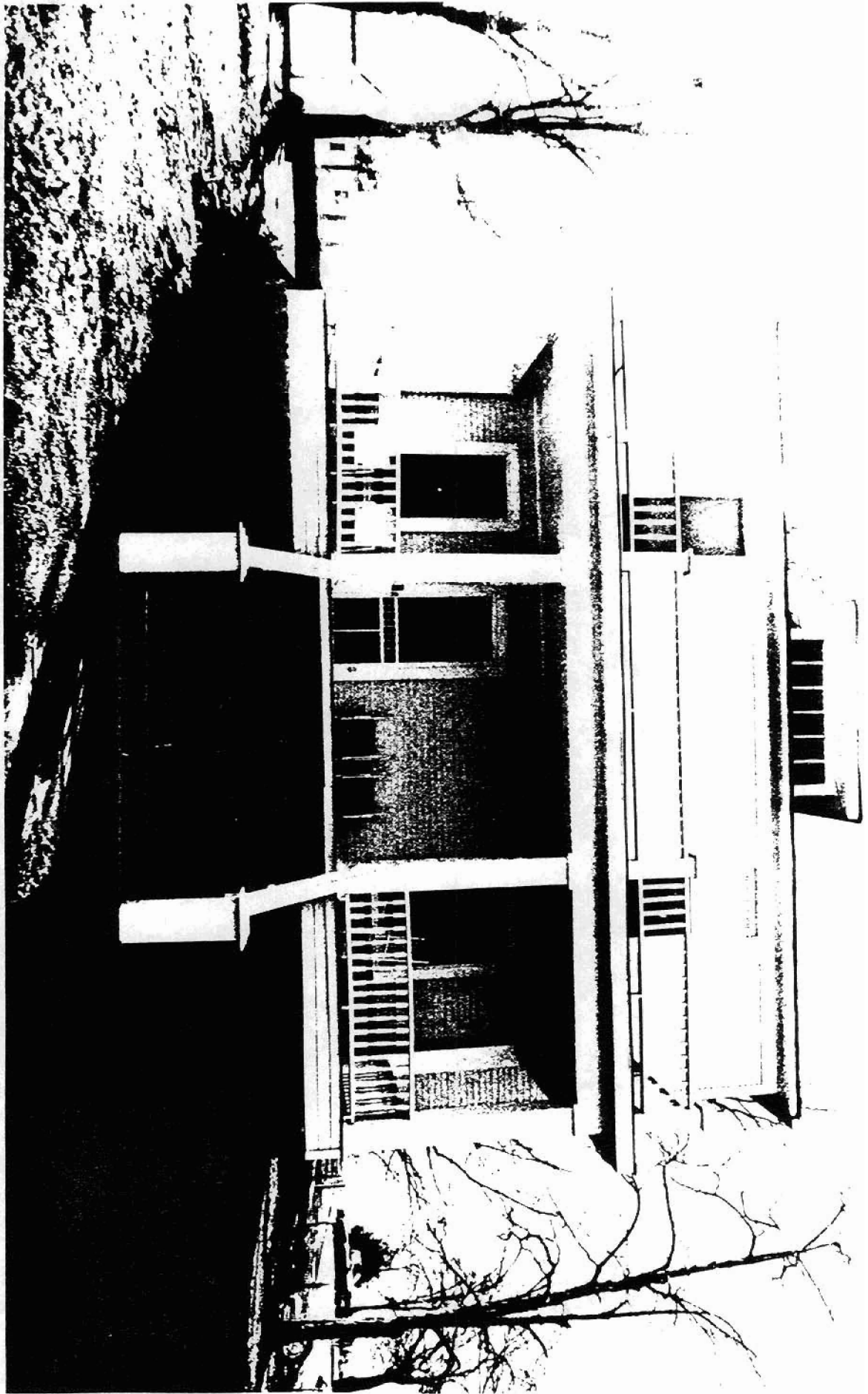
## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

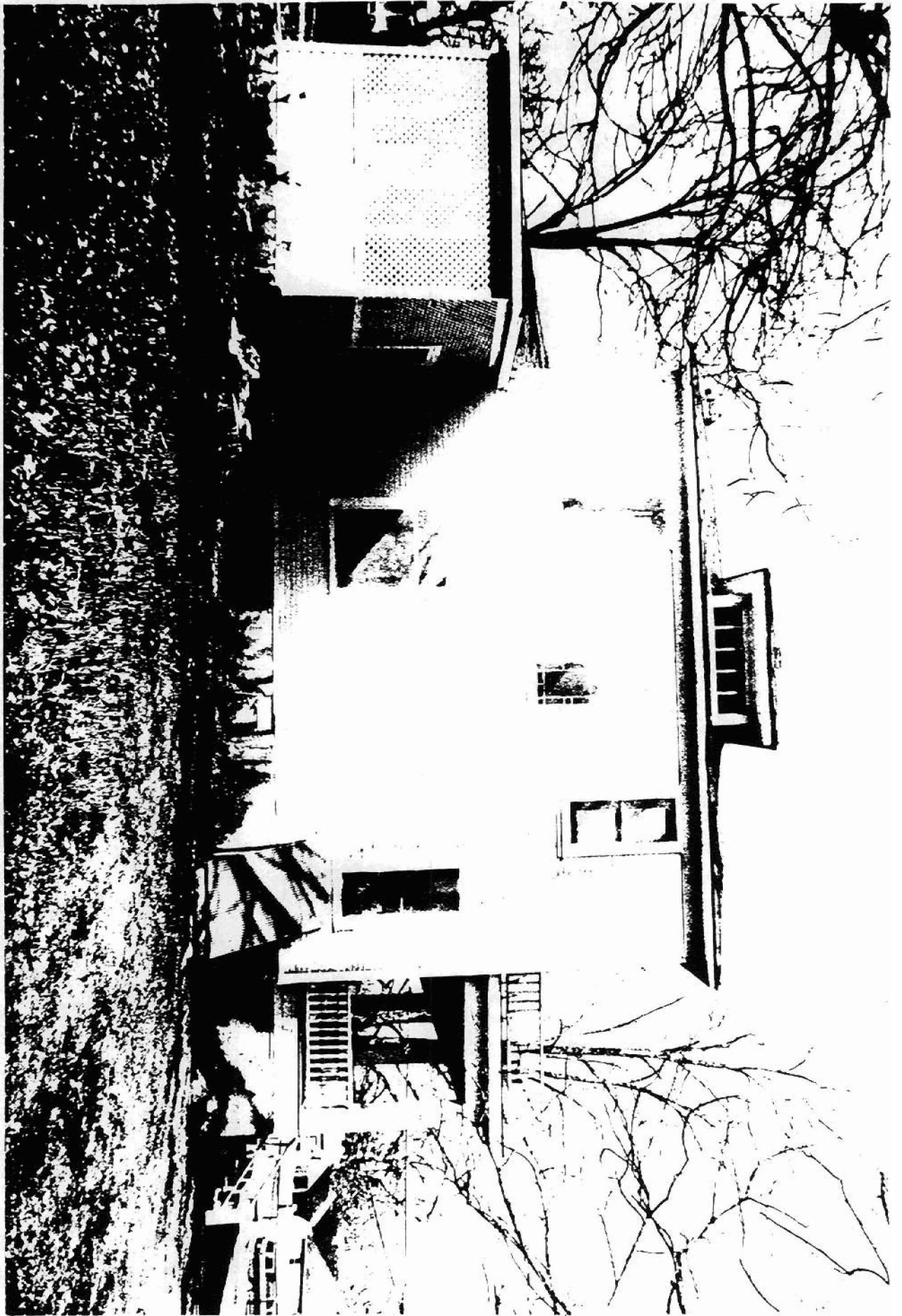
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### Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at the point formed by the intersection of the eastern edge of 6th Street with a perpendicular line running along the southern elevation of the coal storage/equipment storage shed, proceed easterly along said line to its intersection with a perpendicular line running along the eastern elevation of the coal storage/equipment storage shed; thence proceed northerly along said line to its intersection with a perpendicular line formed by the southern edge of Bethel Street; thence proceed westerly along said edge to its intersection with the eastern edge of 6th Street; thence proceed southerly to the point of beginning.



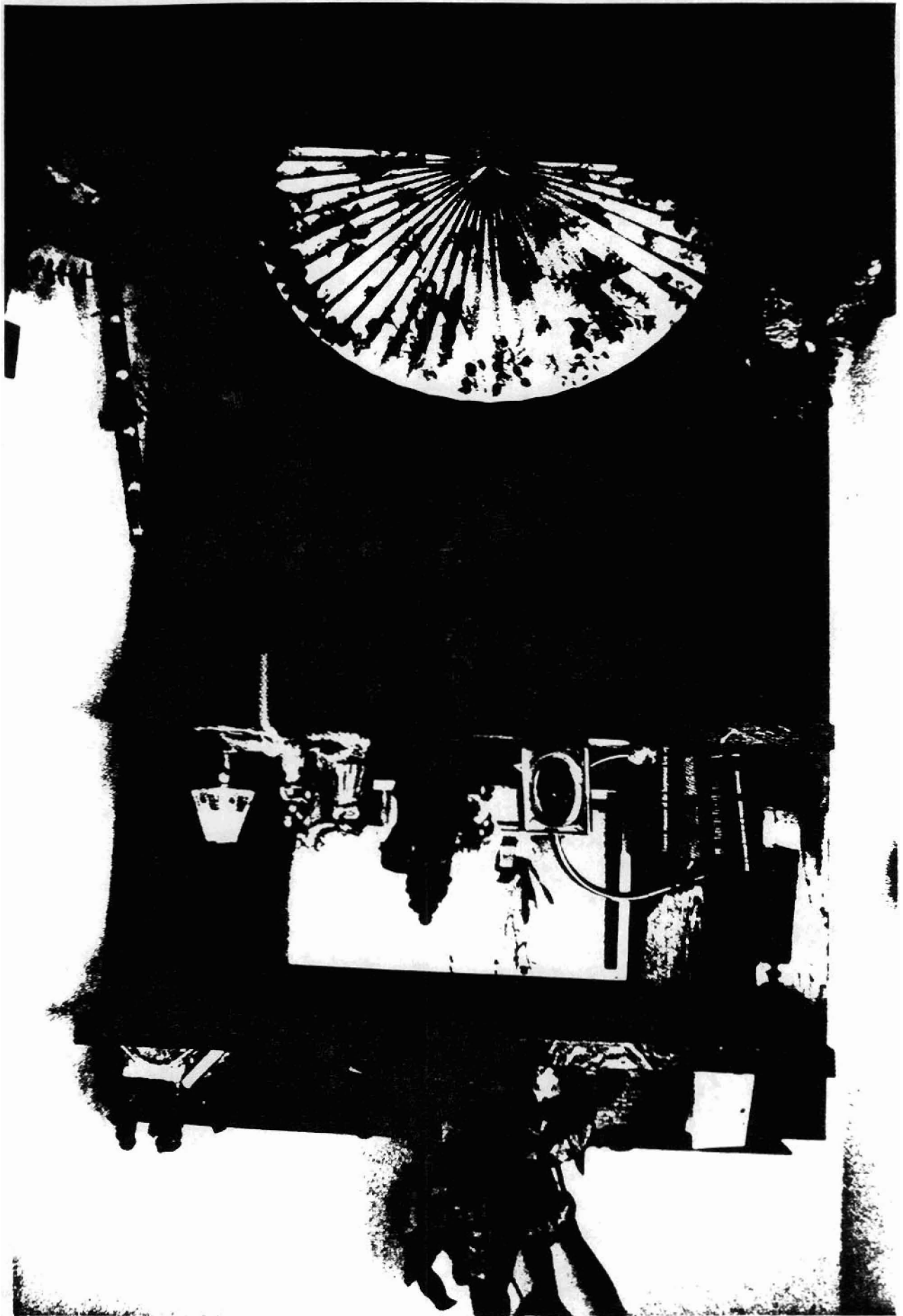


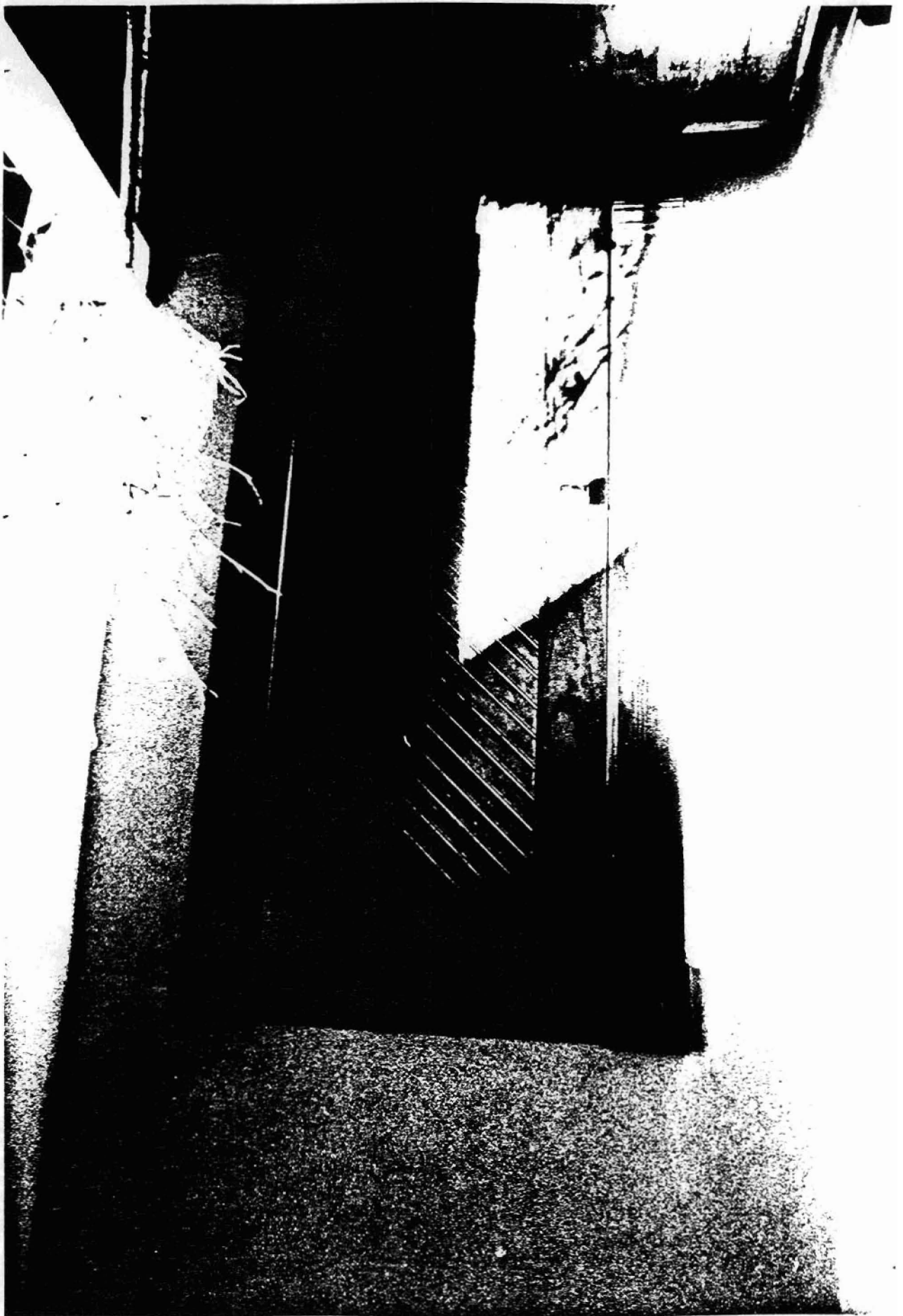




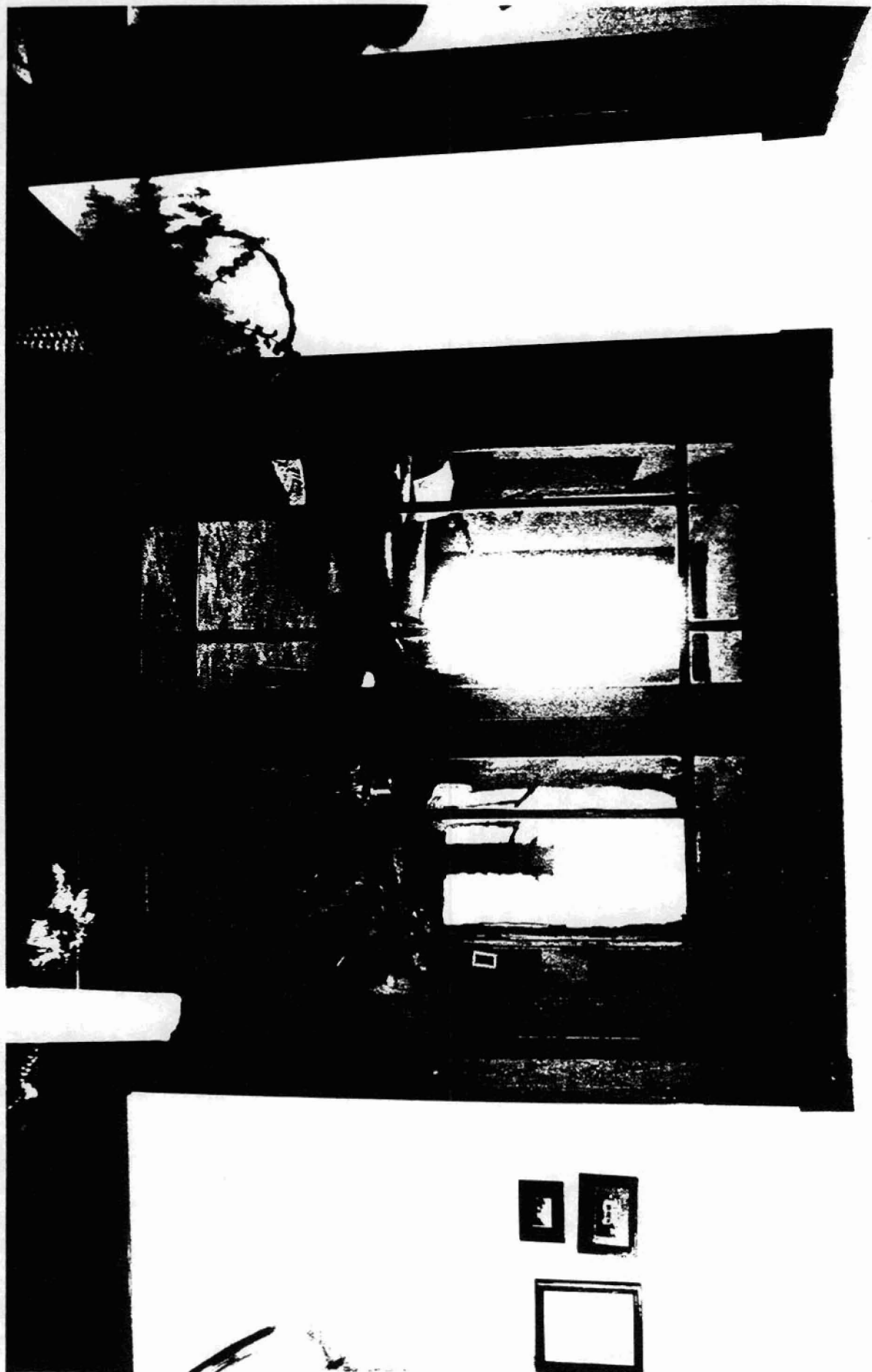




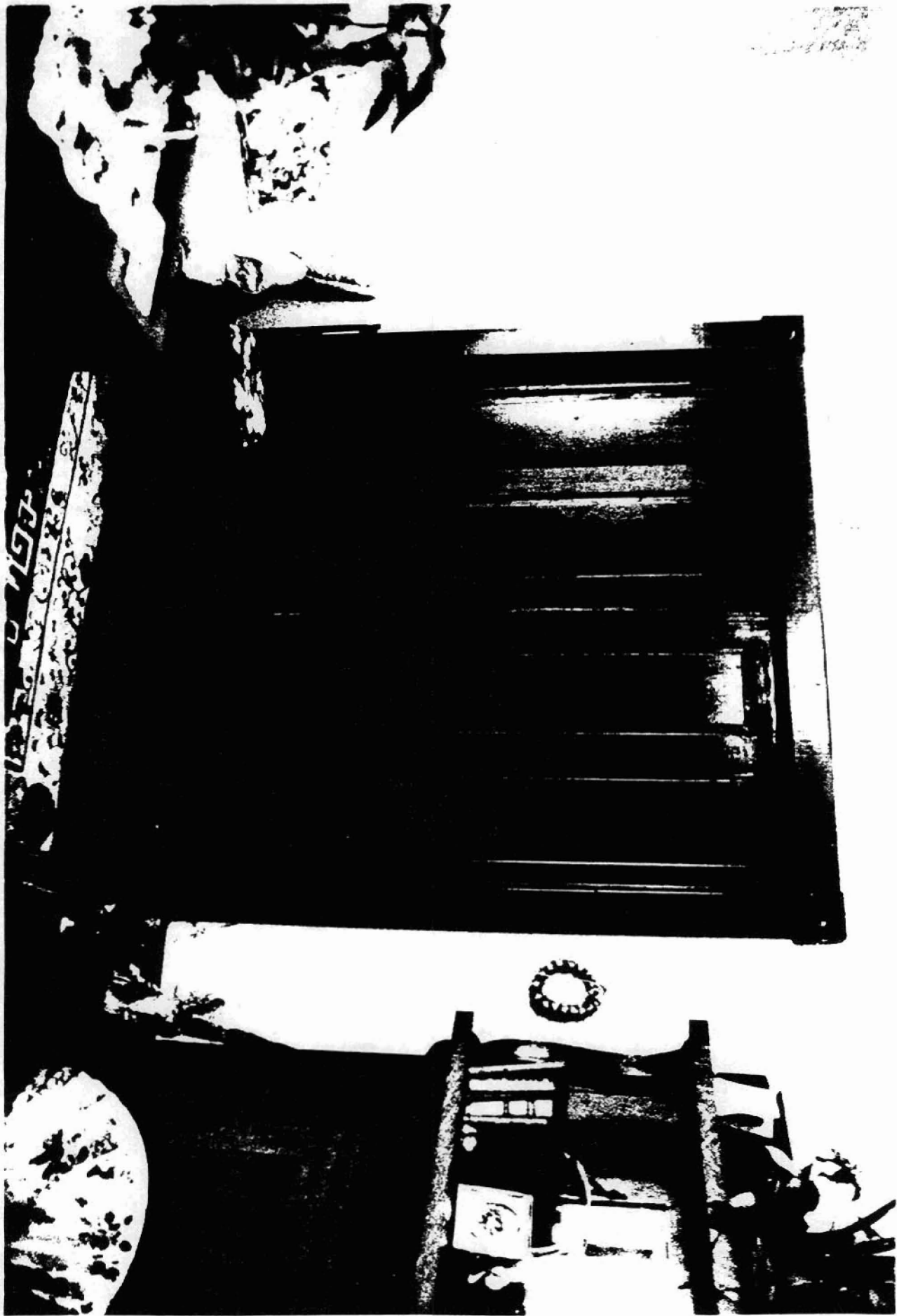


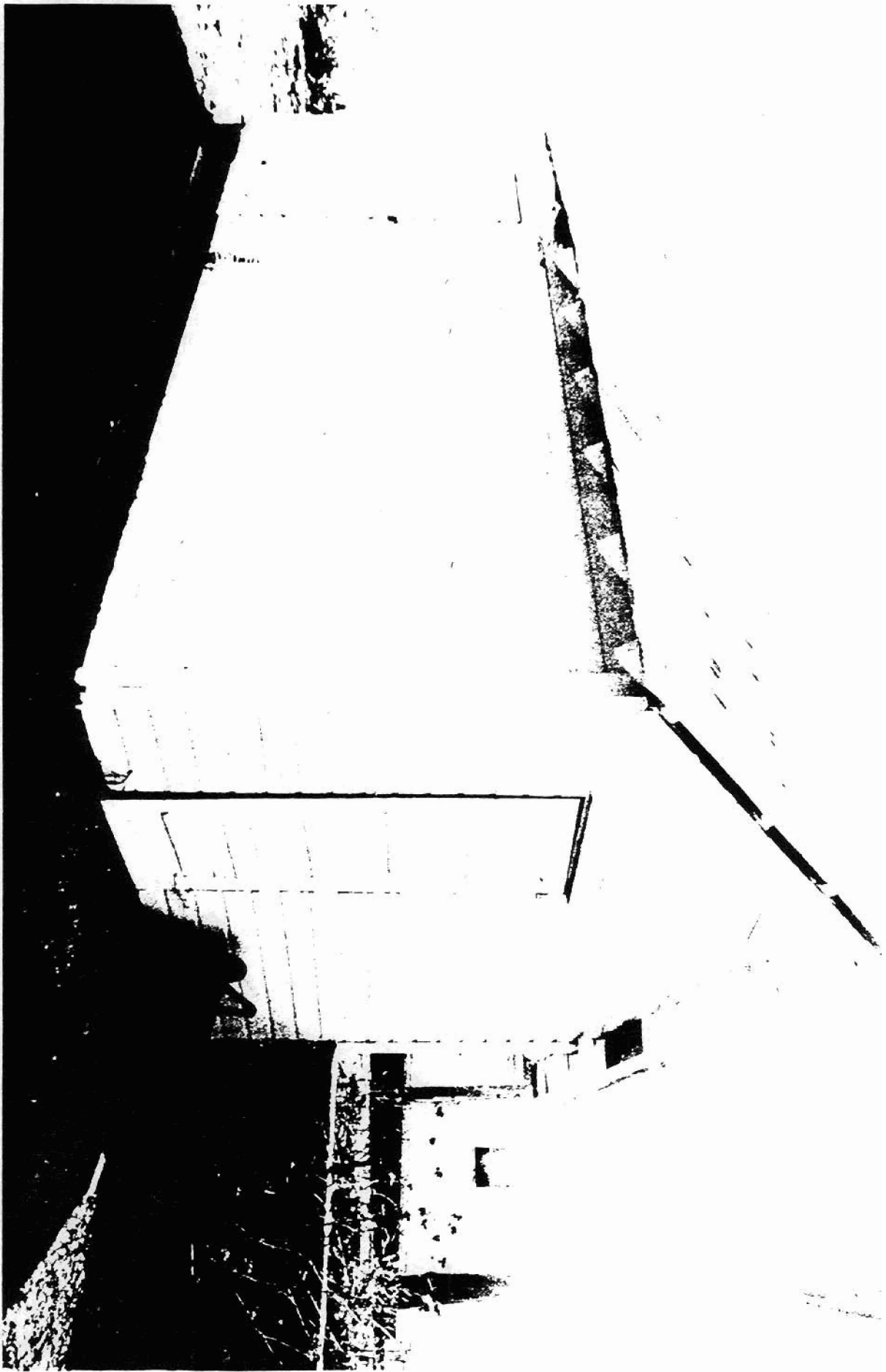












625000

MISSOURI  
ARKANSAS

Mammoth Spring

OLD TOWN

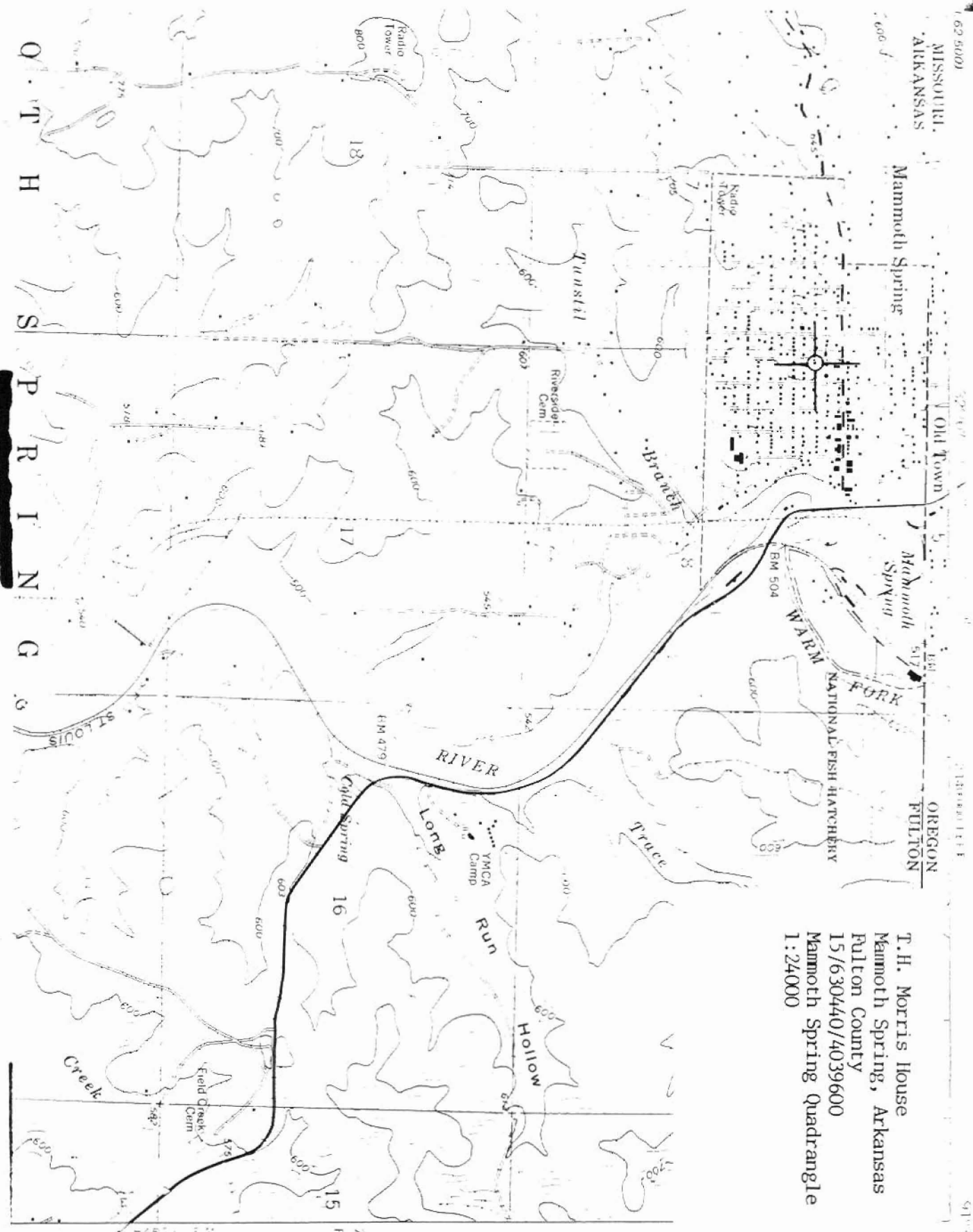
Mammoth Spring

OREGON  
FULTON

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

ARKANSAS - MISSOURI

T.H. Morris House  
Mammoth Spring, Arkansas  
Fulton County  
15/630440/4039600  
Mammoth Spring quadrangle  
1:24000



Q T H S

P R I N G S

780 000  
FEET

51°30'  
90°30'