

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 Humphreys-Ryan House

other names/site number GA0494

2. Location

street & number 137 Garland Avenue

not for publication

city or town Hot Springs National Park

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Garland

code 051

zip code 71913

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 A. Scott
Signature of certifying official/Title

4-24-00
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

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	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

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)

Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Weatherboard

roof Composition

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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:

- 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

1910

Significant Dates

1910

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

SEE 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.)

Information submitted by Margaret Ryan-Francis, daughter of Richard M. Ryan, Oral History, 1999 and .000.

1912, 1915, 1917 Hot Springs City Directory.

"Jennie Jones' Town," Inez Cline, *The Record*, Hot Springs, Garland County Historical Society Yearbook, 199. PP1-2.

Arkansas Abstract Company, Supplemental Abstract #1096, Prepared for Richard M. Ryan and Nelle O. Ryan.

The Arkansas Gazette, Sunday, December 13, 1953, *The Arkansas Angle*, John L. Fletcher, Writer, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

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: _____

Humphreys-Ryan

Name of Property

Garland County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>494700</u>	<u>3817340</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Lot 25, In block 2 of Park Hill Subdivision of Blocks G,H,I and K of Hobson's Subdivision, Garland County, Arkansas, being in the SE 1/4 of Sec. 5., Twp. 3 South Range 19 West of the 5th Principal Meridian in AR.

Boundary Justification

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

This nomination includes all of the property historically associated with the Humphreys-Ryan House in Hot Springs, Arkansas that retains its integrity.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	<u>Kathy Robicheaux/edited by Holly Hope</u>
organization	<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>
street & number	<u>1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street</u>
city or town	<u>Little Rock</u>
date	<u>03/06/00</u>
telephone	<u>501 324-9880</u>
state	<u>AR</u>
zip code	<u>72201</u>

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SUMMARY

Constructed in 1910, the Humphreys-Ryan House is a one-and-a-half story wood frame residence with a gabled roof located at 137 Garland Avenue. The house is situated in one of the oldest residential neighborhoods in Hot Springs, called Jonestown. The streets surrounding the home contain diverse architectural styles, many of which are intact. The majority of the homes are Craftsman bungalows, but Tudor Revival, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival structures can be found. The Humphreys-Ryan House rests on a continuous brick foundation, originally composed of brick piers and lattice-work, and is clad in hand-milled weatherboard. The overtly decorative historic elements on this otherwise very simple Colonial Revival house are the cornice detailing over each window and door, the scrolled applique on the front porch gable, and a slight bay on a side elevation. A stick balustrade borders the full front porch supported by four Tuscan columns. A short concrete retaining wall dating from 1910 borders the front and western side of the lot.

ELABORATION

Humphreys-Ryan House

The front or northern facade features a full front porch with a beaded ceiling supported by four Tuscan columns that are spanned by a simple stick balustrade. The balusters are not original but closely resemble those constructed in 1910. The end posts resting against the house wall are from the original porch but the current balusters are spaced farther apart than the original. Four centered concrete steps bordered by wrought-iron railings lead to the wooden porch floor (The original porch steps were wooden). A single, wide one-over-one double-hung wooden window lights the east corner of the house. The adjacent paneled single-leaf front door originally featured a single beveled light, however the current owner replaced it with a stained glass panel by Hot Springs artist Michael Garrett in 1999. A ribbon of three windows opens into the living room at the west end of the house. The center window is much wider than the other flanking pair and has been referred to as a "casket window." The porch roof is hipped with a slight center gable decorated with a wooden scrolled applique. A ribbon of three one-over-one windows in an off-center gable lights the upper story. Cornice returns and gingerbread trim applied to the apex of the gable in

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1999 embellish the upper floor. At the peak of the roof is a flat surface of approximately twelve-by-fifteen feet.

The eastern elevation is lit south to north by a one-over-one aluminum window, and four evenly spaced wooden windows. A gabled dormer with a pent roof beneath the pediment opens into the upper level and contains a one-over-one window. The northeast gable end of the upper story contains a single window and features cornice returns.

The southern, rear elevation features one of the few alterations to the home since its construction. In the 1970s a small screened-in porch was removed for the enlargement of the kitchen which consists of a small gable-roofed wing. A single aluminum window at the west corner, a modern door and a second aluminum window at the east corner light the wing. The eastern corner of the main house wall is fenestrated by a single window. A single window fenestrates the upper story.

A pair of windows lights the western elevation at the north corner. These windows replaced an original rectangular window placed high in the wall in the 1920s. A slight bay in the center of this elevation contains a ribbon of three windows, the center one being slightly larger than the flanking two. A pair of short windows and a single aluminum window is placed at the southwest corner of the house. A single window is centered in the gable end of the upper story.

Interior

Although the interior of the Humphreys- Ryan House has been extensively altered through the enlargement and addition of rooms, it still retains original hardwood floors, moldings, and an oak mantelpiece.

Garage

A detached one-car garage was built on the back of the lot to the south of the house circa 1950s. It is an L-shaped building sheathed in board-and-batten siding. Due to its recent construction date the garage is considered noncontributing to this nomination.

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SUMMARY

The Humphreys-Ryan House has maintained its original integrity throughout the years since its construction. Exterior alterations to the home have been inconspicuous and in keeping with the original architectural flavor of the home. The current owner has taken pains to interview the Ryan's daughter, Margaret Ryan Francis and has obtained information that has enabled her to be faithful to the 1910 appearance of the house. While the attic of the house has been modernized into living space, and the kitchen and bath have been enlarged and updated through the removal of a rear porch, the building retains the majority of its historic integrity.

ELABORATION

The Humphreys-Ryan House is located southwest of downtown Hot Springs in the Jonestown neighborhood. The area was named for Jennie Ward Jones the daughter of John H. Ward who began buying land in the area as early as 1850. Jennie and her brother Job, who was a lawyer, continued purchasing land and by the mid-1870s owned a large portion of that section of Hot Springs. Some of the streets in the addition bear Mrs. Ward's family name (Ward Avenue) and those of prominent state personalities such as; Garland Avenue for Arkansas governor Augustus H. Garland; and Rector Street for the Civil War governor, Henry Massey Rector.

In 1909, 137 Garland Avenue was a vacant lot. At that time Charles J. Humphreys borrowed money to build on the land. Mr. Humphreys is listed in the 1912 Hot Springs city directory as manager of the Southern Pharmacy, 262 Central. Mr. Humphreys sold the lot to the Earl family in 1912, who sold the to the Biggadikes in 1918. There was no significant information found on the Earl family or the Biggadikes. In 1920 attorney Richard M. Ryan purchased the home.

Mr. Ryan grew up in Mount Vernon, Missouri. He attended Mount Vernon High School and the University of Missouri Law Department and was admitted to the Missouri Bar in 1905. Football occupied Ryan's time outside of the law office. For six years he was coach for the Mount Vernon High School, a position he accepted with no pay due to his love for the game. He moved to Hot Springs in 1911 to serve as legal adjuster for the John Robinson Circus. He was admitted to the Arkansas Bar that same year in a ceremony before Circuit Judge C.T. Cotham. Mr. Ryan's love for football continued during his residency in Hot Springs. Considered a football authority, he practiced law four days of the week and was allowed to pick and choose officiating jobs on the weekends. For many years he officiated major Southwest Conference college and high school football games.

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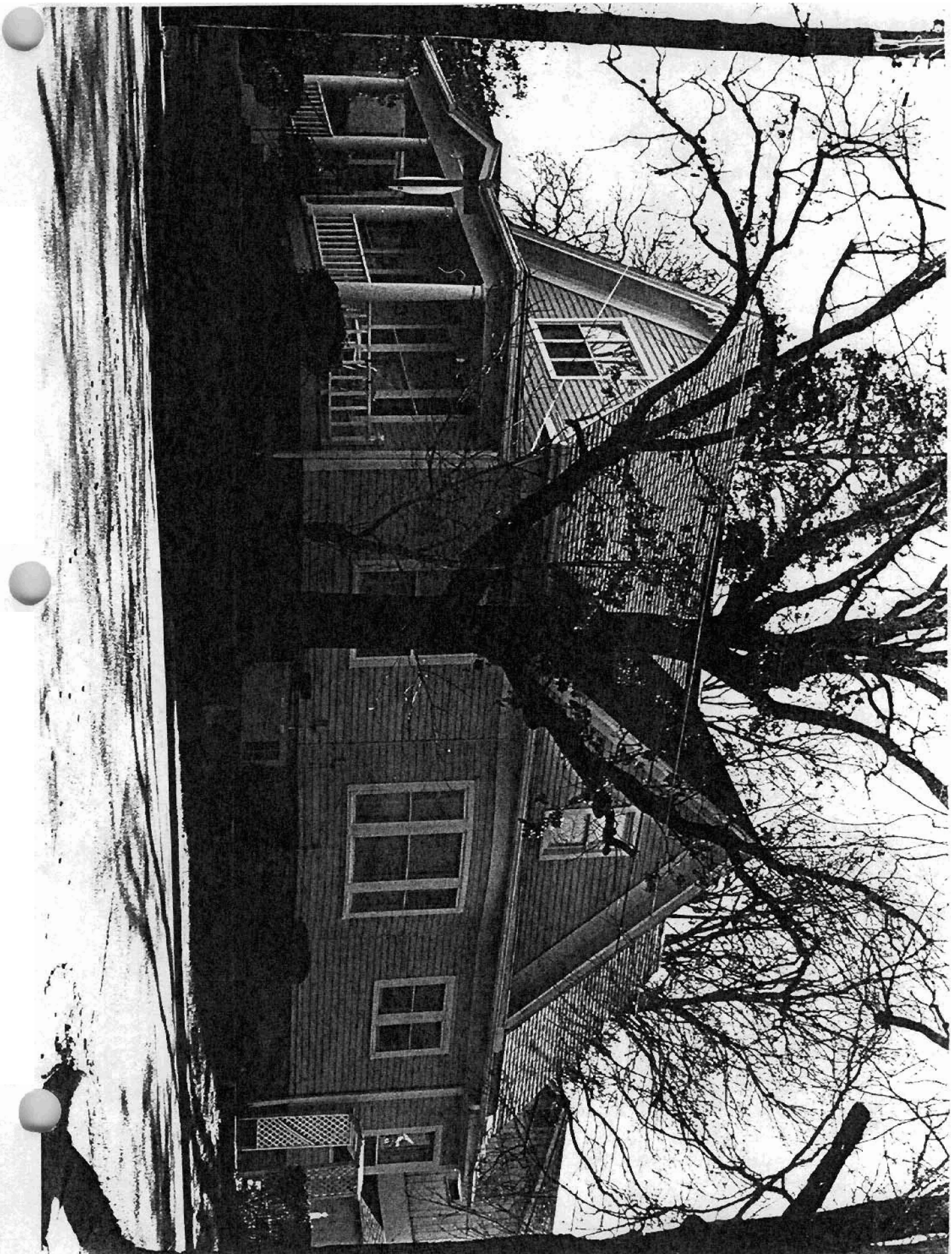
In 1915 Ryan's law office is listed in the Hot Springs city directory as being located at 126 Garland. The house he then shared with his wife of one year, Nelle, is listed as 1536 Central and his brother, George Ryan is listed as residing at 1525 Central. His daughter, Margaret indicated that they lived in the Frank Rowels Apartments, 110 Garland in 1917 down the street from her mother's dream house, 137 Garland Avenue.

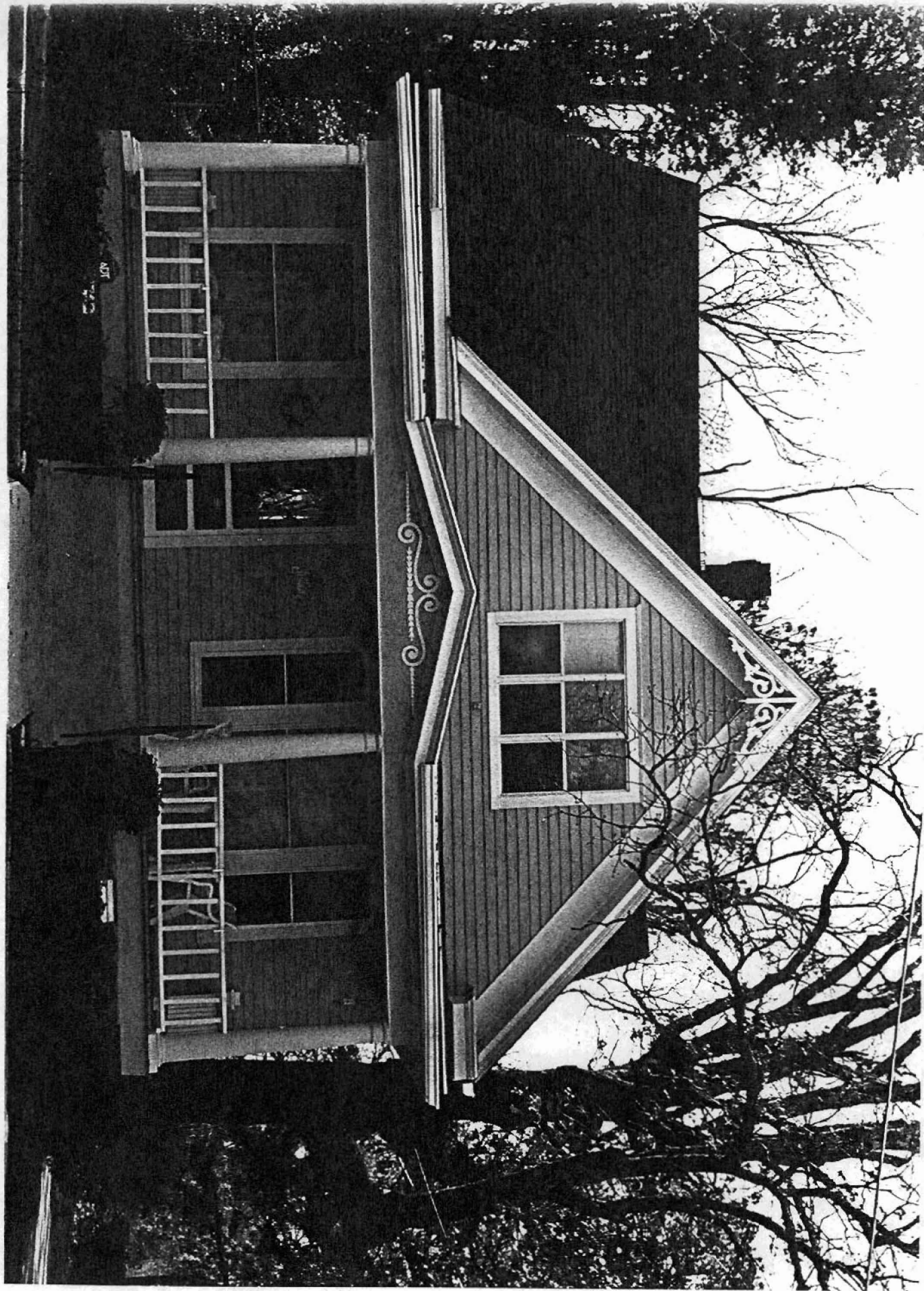
Ryan never ran for public office but he was considered "Mr. Republican" in Garland County for more than a generation. In 1923 he was appointed Republican member of the County Board of Election Commissioners. In this capacity he helped to select judges and clerks for general elections. Ryan served as chairman of the Republican County Committee for twenty-three years. He voluntarily retired from both positions in 1950. Ryan became assistant attorney for the Missouri Pacific Lines in 1925, trying about four hundred civil cases. The attorney defended about fifty persons charged with murder and only one was sentenced to a twenty-one year term, however he was pardoned about two years later.

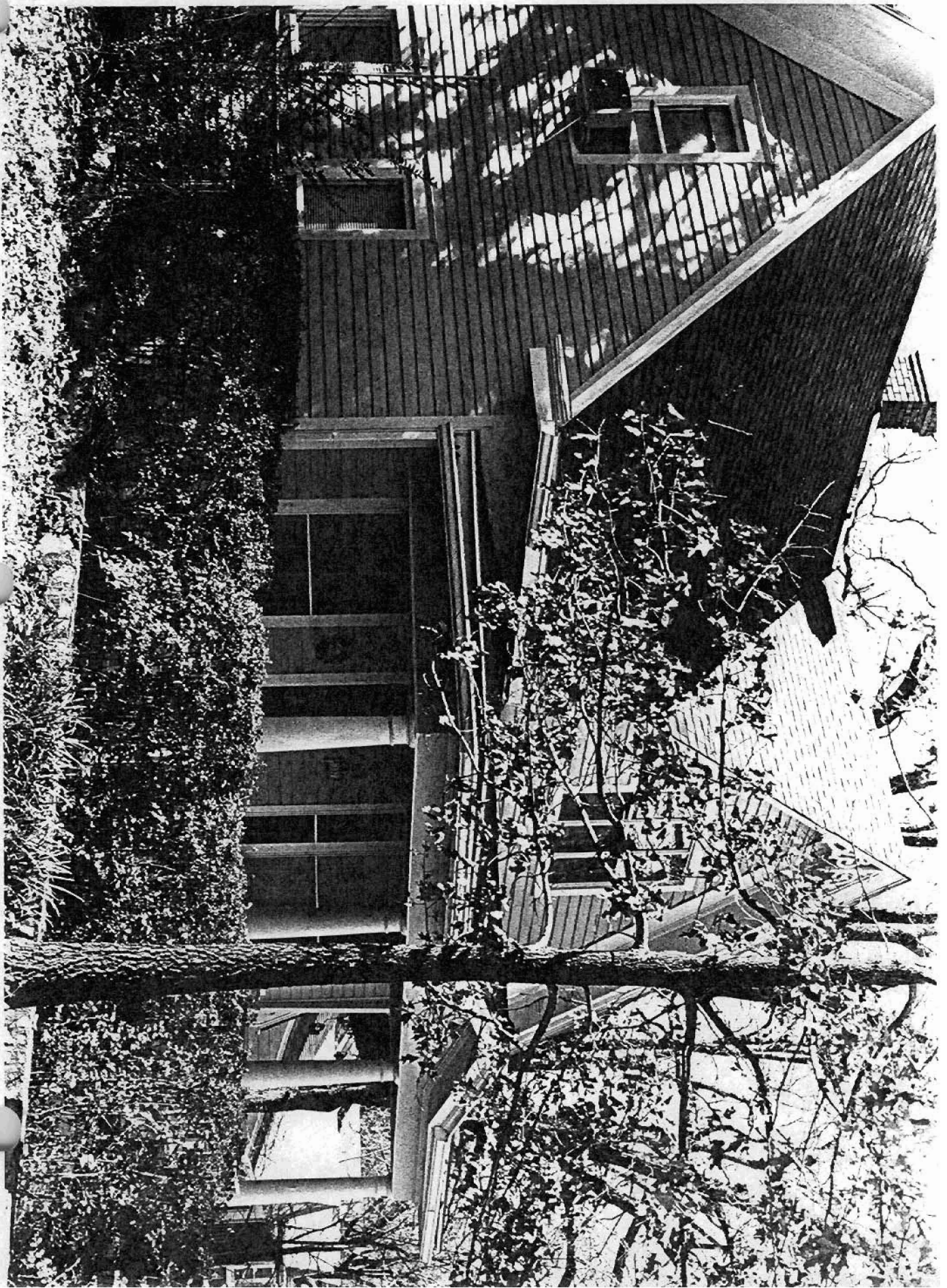
Ryan was active in the Masonic Lodge of Mount Vernon, the Masonic Chapter #47 of Hot Springs, Royal Arch Masons and the Commandery #5 of Hot Springs, Sahara Shrine of Pine Bluff, and was exalted ruler of the Hot Springs Elks. The Ryans occupied the Humphreys-Ryan House from 1920 to 1957, the date of his death. His wife Nelle lived there until her death in 1977. Their daughter, Margaret and her husband, Paul Francis, then postmaster of Hot Springs, lived in the home from 1977 to 1982. The next occupants were their son, Paul Francis Jr., and his wife, who lived there until 1989. The current owner has occupied the house since 1997.

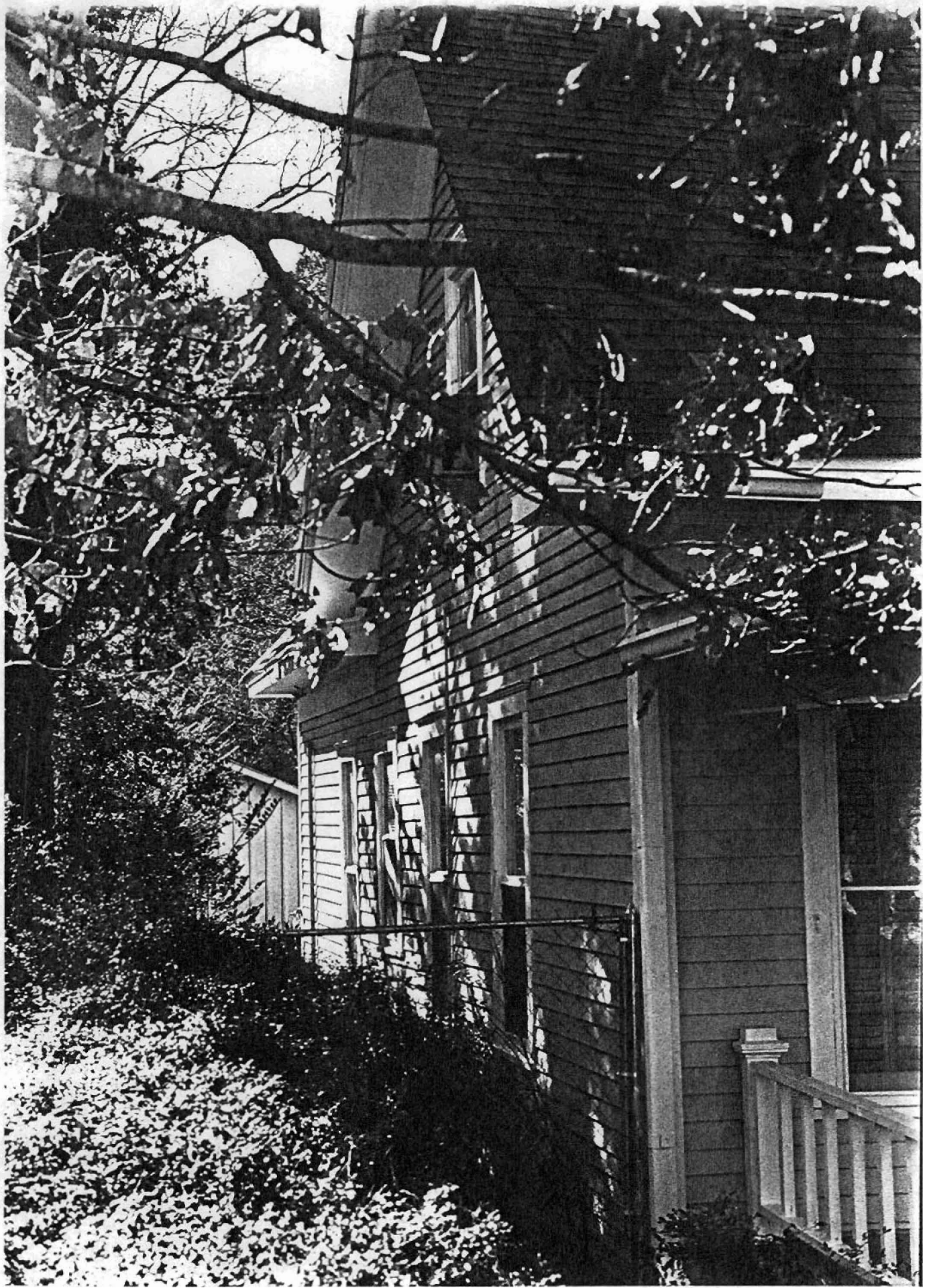
Significance

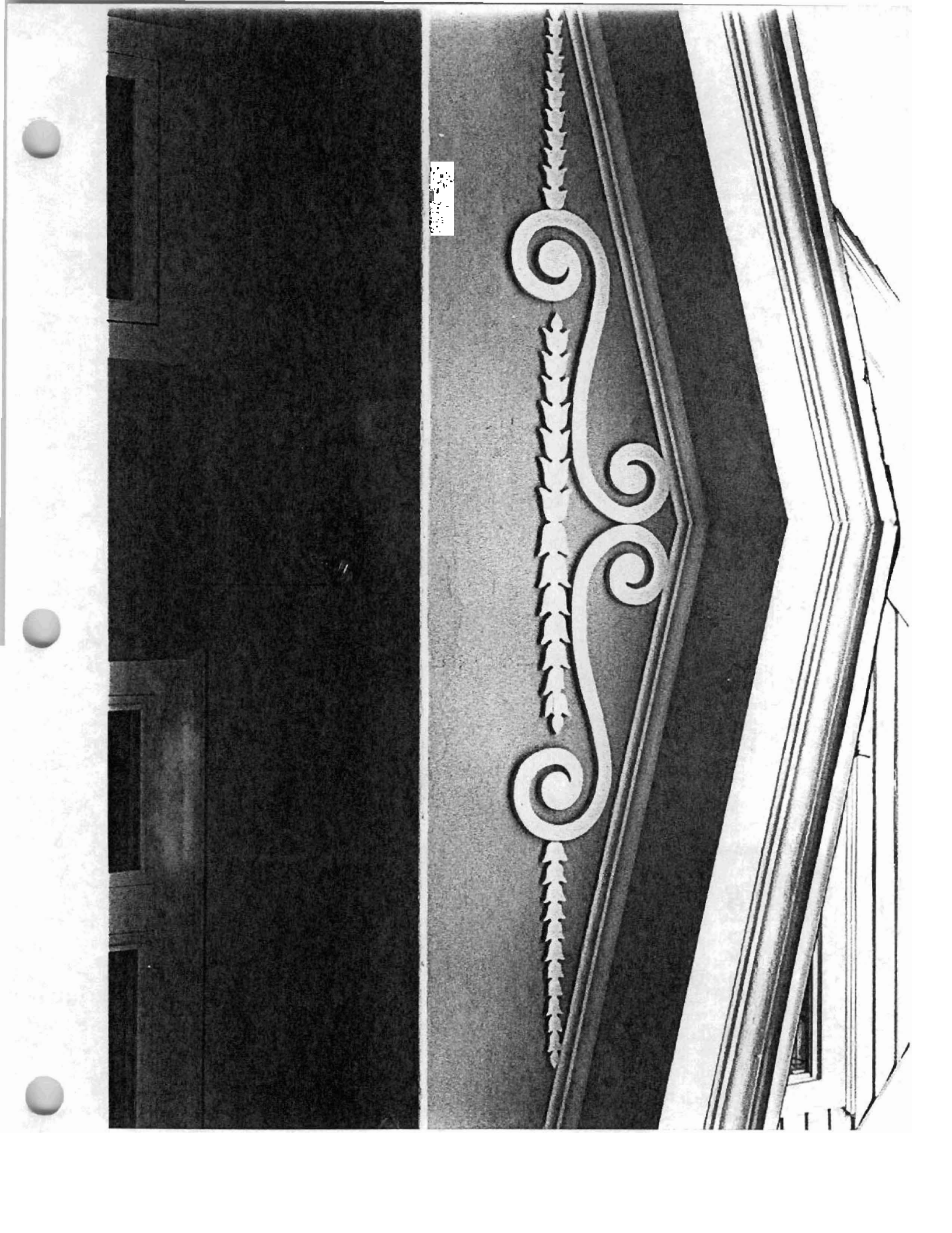
The Humphreys-Ryan House is a largely intact example of a Colonial Revival cottage in the Jonestown neighborhood of Hot Springs. Constructed in 1910, the house continues to evince the early twentieth-century character of Jonestown and Hot Springs. The few exterior alterations are slight and do not disrupt the original lines of the house. As the most intact example of early twentieth-century Colonial Revival styling on Garland Avenue, the Humphreys-Ryan House is being nominated to the National Register with local significance under Criterion C.

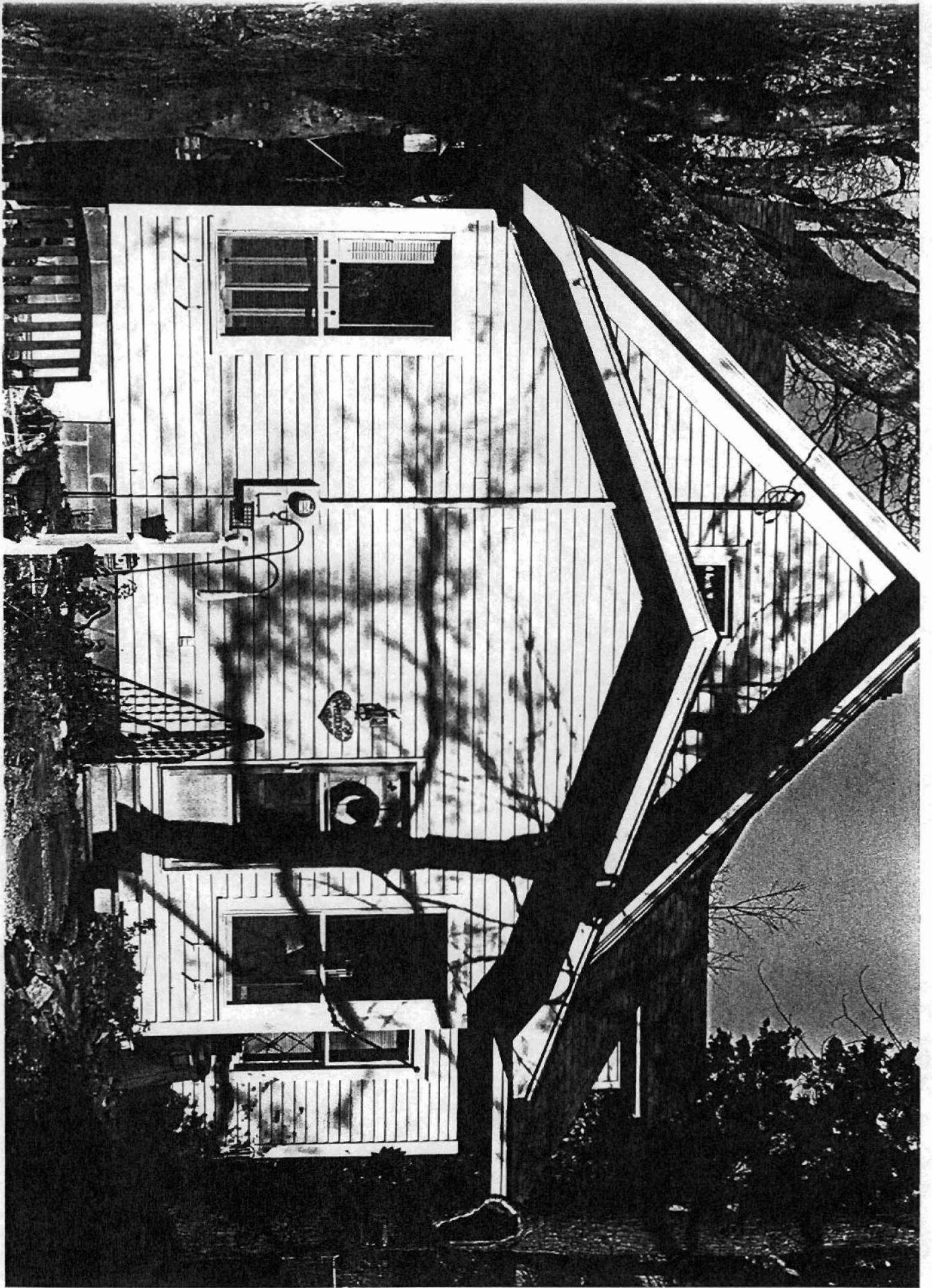












Tumpneys-Ryan House
Garland Co, AR
UTM: 151494700/3817340

LITTLE ROCK (VIA U. S. 70) 53 MI.
1 MI. TO JUNC. U. S. 70 & 270 7353 11 SE
(HOT SPRINGS NORTH)

2 MI. TO ARK. 5
HOT SPRINGS (CH.) 0.4 MI.

496 2'30"

497

1 690 000 FE

