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NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

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OMB No. 1024-0018

NOV 07 1996

United States Department of the Interior **AHPP**
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Hot Spring County Courthouse

Other Name/Site Number: HS0008

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 210 Locust Street

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Malvern

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR County: Hot Spring Code: AR Zip Code: 72104

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u> 1 </u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u> 1 </u>	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: Structures in Arkansas Represented By The Charles L. Thompson Design Collection - A Thematic Group

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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.

 Cathryn A. Sater 8-26-96
 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: Government Sub: Courthouse

Current : Government Sub: Courthouse

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Art Deco

Materials: foundation Brick roof Other
walls Brick other Stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Located on 210 Locust Street near downtown Malvern, the Hot Spring County Courthouse is a two-and-one-half-story, brick and steel frame construction courthouse designed in the Art Deco style. Built in an "H"-shaped plan with a flat roof, the rigid symmetry of plan and elevation, the setback of the building's main components, and the flattened and stylized Classical detail render this building a relatively good example of a public building executed in this nationally-popular aesthetic. A full basement is also included in the design.

Elaboration

Designed by the architectural firm of Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio, the Hot Spring County Courthouse in Malvern is a two and one-half story frame structure which is faced in a buff brick. The "H"-shaped plan of the building rests on a continuous brick foundation and the courthouse is covered with a flat built-up tar roof. The top story is only partial and projects from the center portion of the "H".

The front or northeastern elevation is composed of the tall, central, two and one-half story block symmetrically-flanked by the two projecting wings that form the "H"-shaped plan. The facade is symmetrically organized overall, with each of the projecting wings divided into three window bays on each floor and the central block divided into five principal bays, separated by brick pilasters. The windows on the projecting bays are uniformly one-over-one metal sash. The four first floor windows on the central block are single pane paired casement windows, each pair flanked by a single side-light, and three lights above and below. The windows on the second story are of the same configuration, except that the three lights at the top are taller than those seen on the first floor. The twelve windows at the upper-most level are double-hung ten-over-ten in configuration, and are separated from the rest of the elevation by a decorative frieze which features an abstract geometric pattern. Another less elaborate band encircles the building directly above these upper-story windows, while another decorative band (which features a fluted pattern) rests atop the second story windows, spanning the area between the pilasters. Other decorative treatments on the facade include simple flat stone lintels on the top of the first story windows, and stone facing at the basement level.

The primary decorative feature on the northeastern facade is the main entrance, which contains a double-leaf entrance and a large transom light above. The door and transom light both feature decorative ironwork in an abstract decorative pattern. This entrance is surrounded by an elaborate Art Deco style portico in stone which features a fluted pilaster on either side and a stylized eagle on each corner at the top. "Hot Spring County" is inscribed at the center, with the county seal centered directly above. The main entrance is flanked by a tall free-standing globe light on either side.

The northwestern and southeastern ends are virtually identical. The central projecting bay on each contains two second-story windows above a double-leaf entrance. The flanking wall sections are fenestrated with three one-over-one windows per floor on all floors. The upper-most level which is recessed behind the side elevations contains three ten-over-ten double-hung windows like those described on the northeastern elevation.

The rear, or southeastern elevation is similar in configuration to that opposite. However, the projecting wings are narrower, each containing a single one-over-one window at each story allowing the center block additional width. This center section has recently undergone some alterations in order to conform with the American Disabilities Act. The exterior of the second story has been encased in a glass walkway which covers the casement windows which mimic those on the opposite elevation. Unlike the window configuration of the opposite elevation, a single casement pair is located near the center, filling the space between the brick pilaster and the narrow brick chimney which is located at the center of this elevation. This elevation is also fenestrated by eleven small ten-over-ten windows on the upper-most story, and ten four-over-four double-hung windows on the first story. The location and configuration of the entrance to this elevation was changed during the ADA alterations, and now protrudes from southern half of the facade, and features a double-leaf entry with a monumental door surround.

The significant interior details include patterned tile floors, decorative iron hand-rails, and wood wainscoting.

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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: Local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1936

Significant Dates: 1936

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio

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

Summary

Designed by the Little Rock architectural firm of Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio and constructed in 1936 by the contractor William Peterson, the Hot Spring County Courthouse is locally significant by virtue of its status as the most finished and erudite example of the Art Deco idiom in Malvern and all of Hot Spring county. This nomination is an amendment to the statewide Multiple Property Submission for Charles L. Thompson designed structures.

Elaboration

The current Hot Spring County Courthouse is the fourth constructed by the people of the county. The first two courthouses were located in Rockport, as Malvern was not created the county seat until 1878. The territorial legislature created Hot Spring County on November 2, 1829, making it the 20th county formed before statehood. The courthouse in those early days was a simple frame structure which was replaced by a brick courthouse in the 1860's. This brick courthouse was destroyed by fire on January 23, 1873 and at that time the county clerk and the county judge moved to the lower level of the county jail building. After the county seat relocated to Malvern, a new brick courthouse was erected at a cost of \$16,000 in 1888. The structure was built in the Queen Anne style, and was said to be one of the most

impressive courthouses in the state upon its completion.

Completed in 1936 at a cost of \$150,000, the new Hot Spring County Courthouse was far different from the three earlier structures. Designed by the firm of Thompson, Sanders and Ginocchio, the building is an example of high-style Art Deco architecture. The frieze band, the entrance portico, and many other elements combine to form a wonderful synthesis of the style which is unique to the county. For these reasons, The Hot Spring County Courthouse in Malvern is being nominated under criterion C with local significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Malvern Daily Record, Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition, October 7, 1941.

Cheatham, Bernard. *History of Hot Spring County*. Master's Thesis, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska, 1953-54.

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 -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property: less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A 15 517040 3802190 B _____
C _____ D _____

Verbal Boundary Description:

Block 31 Lundhill Survey, Malvern

Boundary Justification:

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

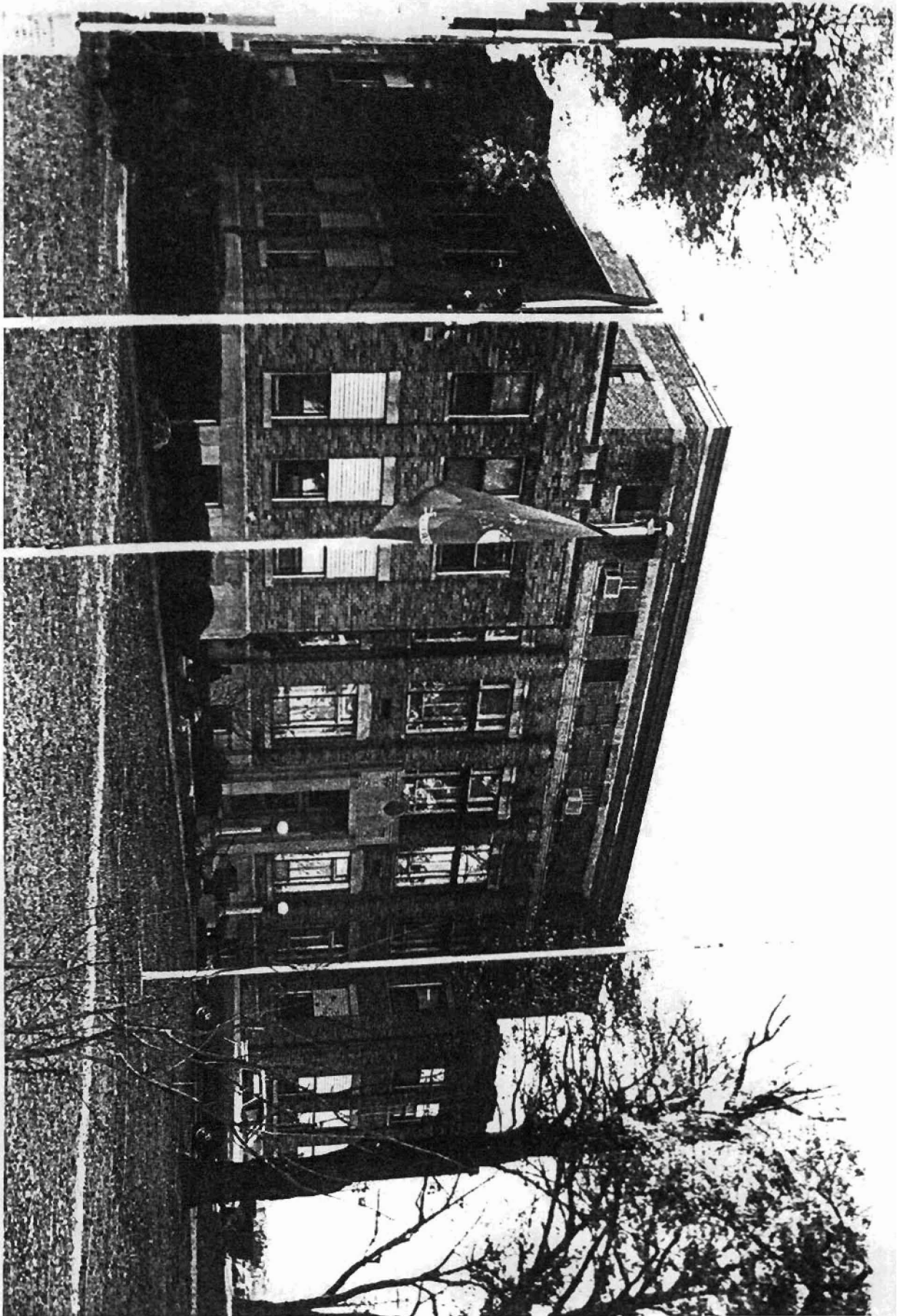
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11. Form Prepared By
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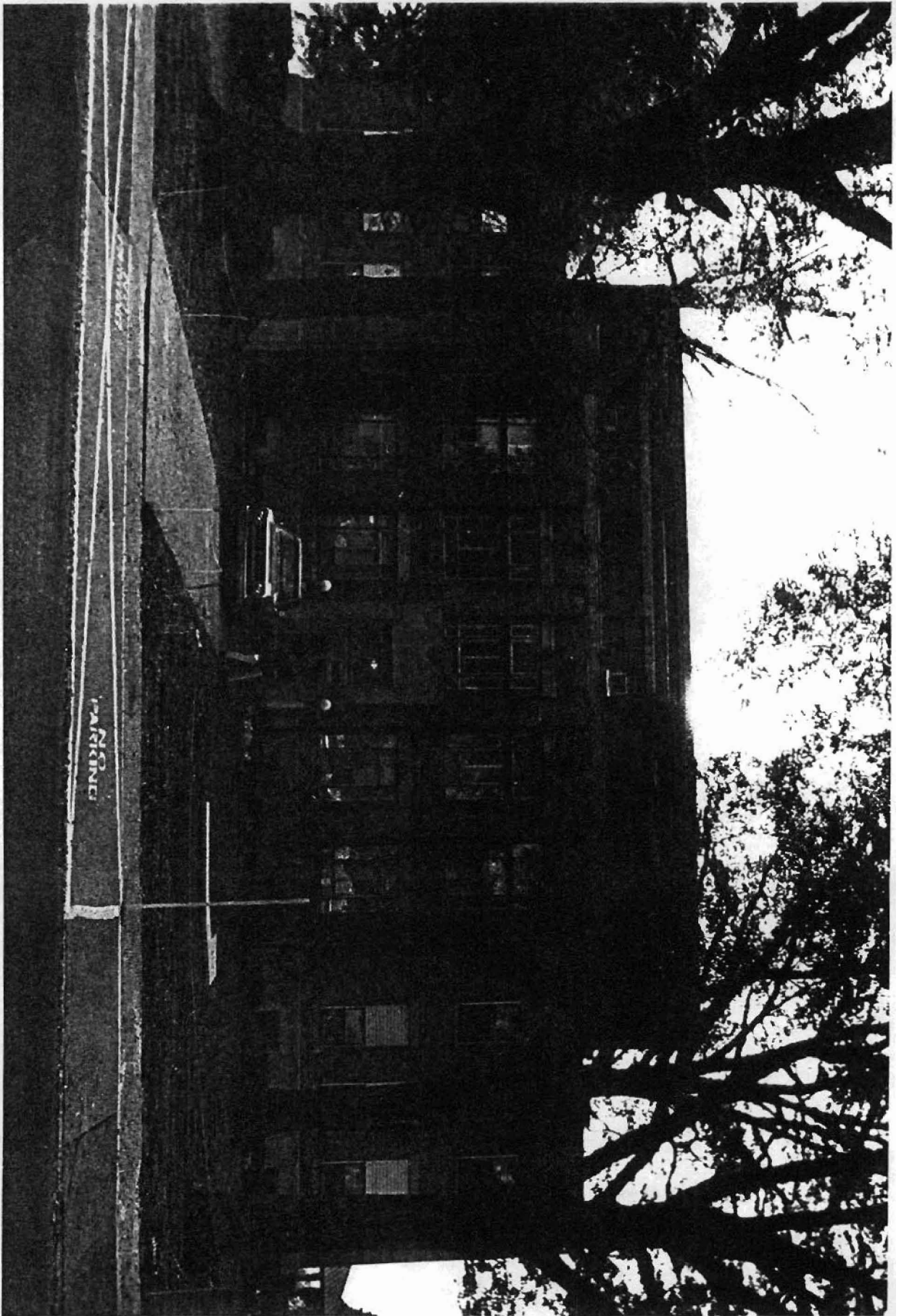
Name/Title: Helen Barry/Survey Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 8-25-96

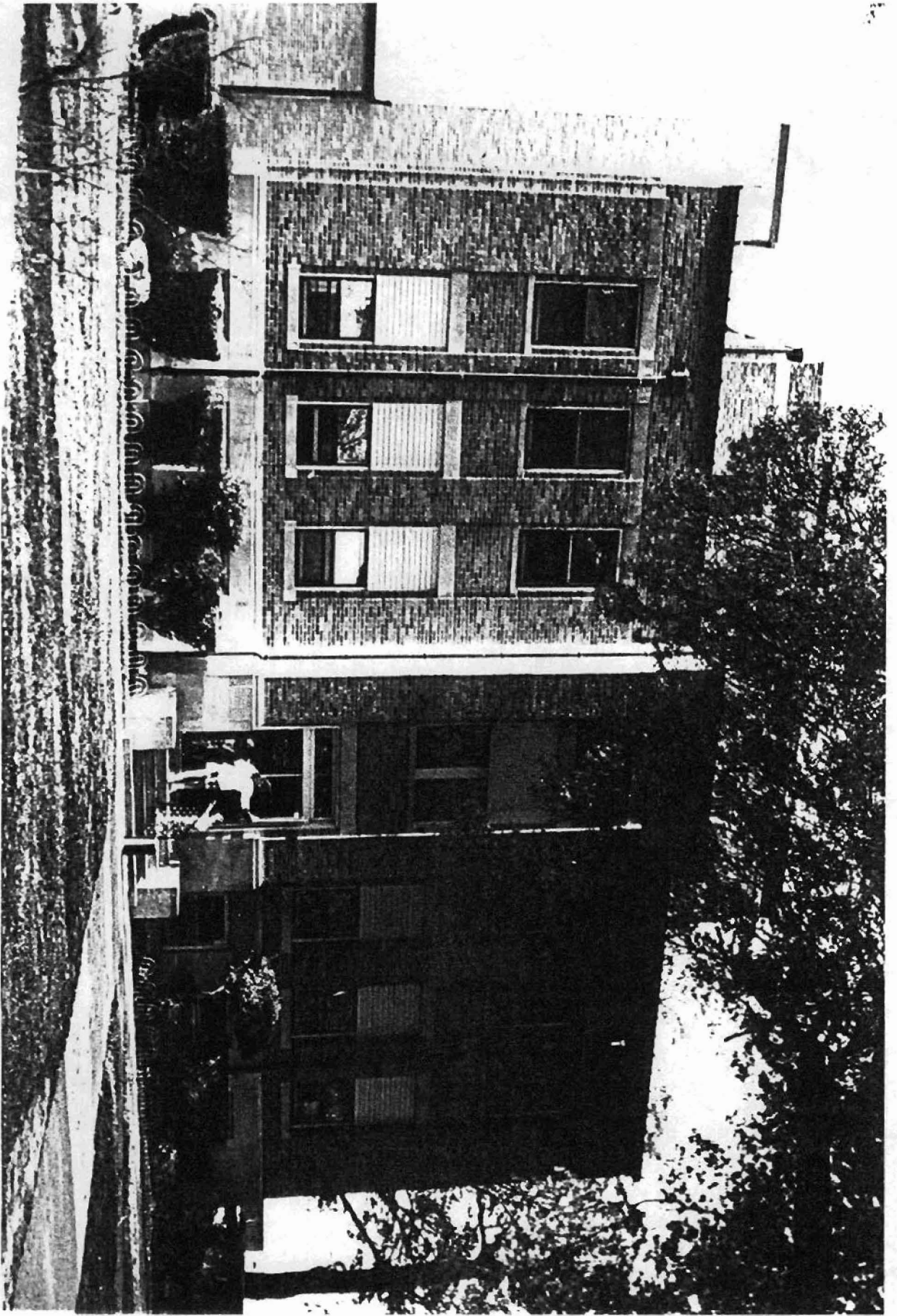
Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201

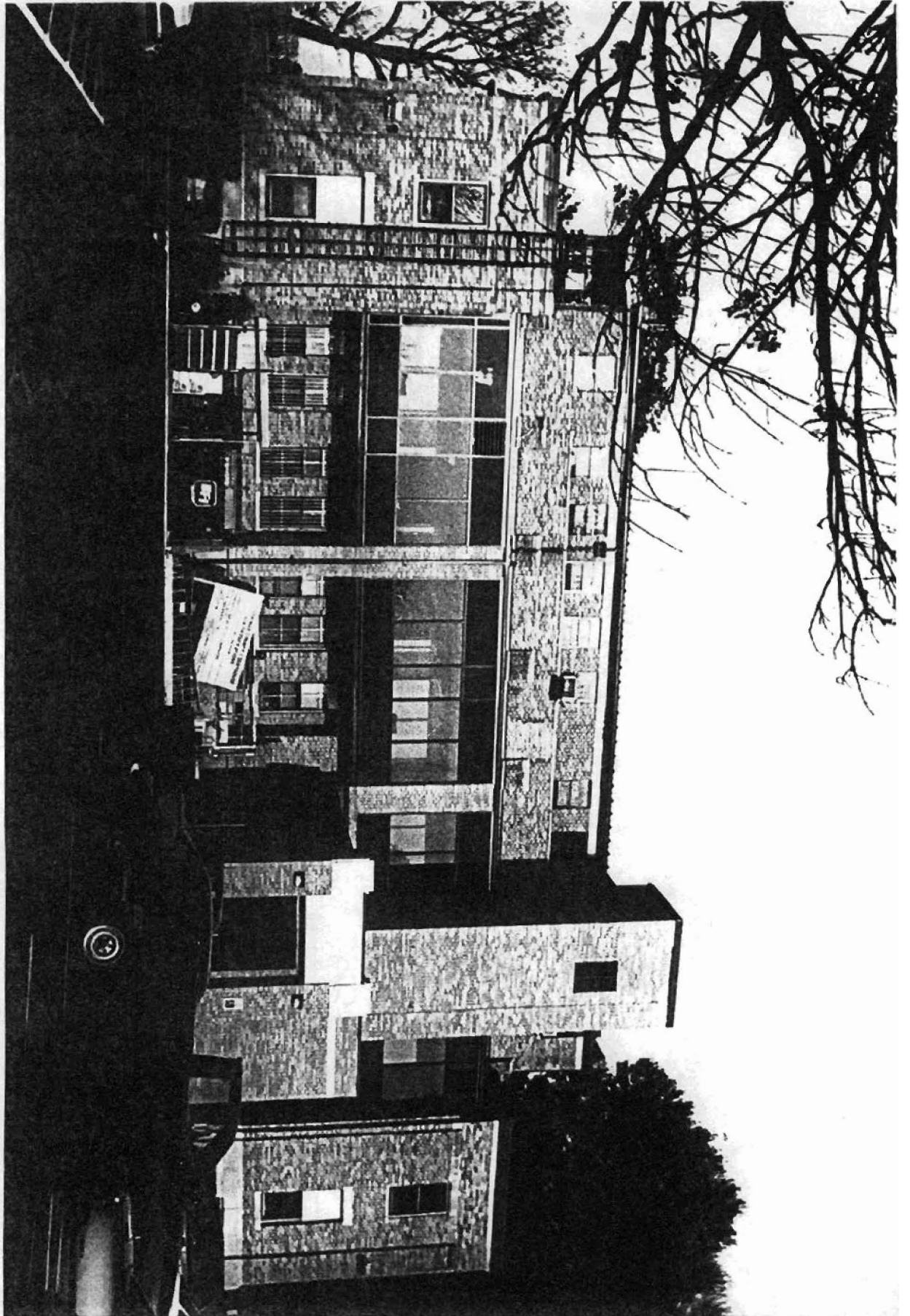


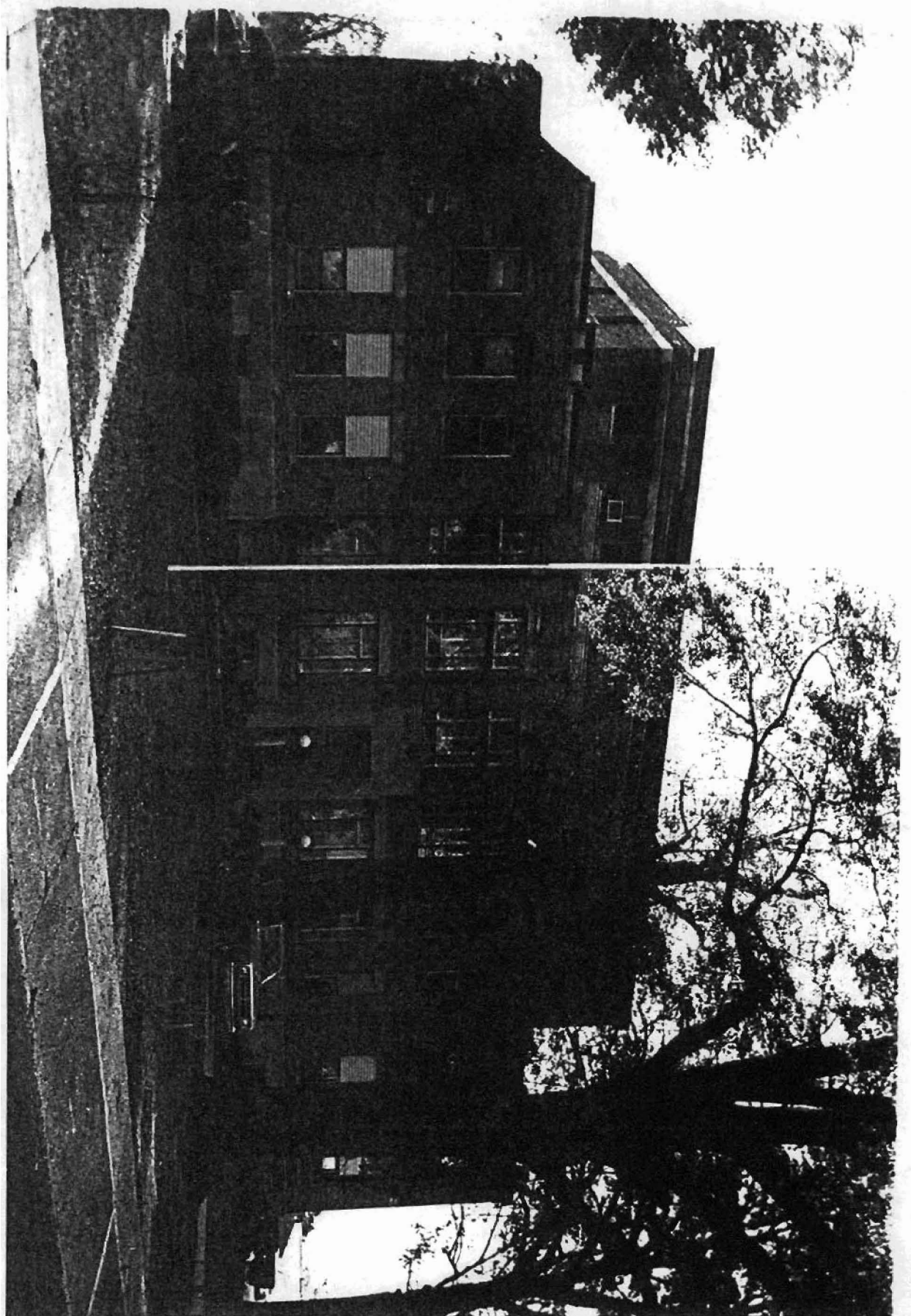


PARSONS











STATE OF ARKANSAS
 GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

Hot Spring County Courthouse
 Locust and 3rd Streets
 Malvern
 Hot Spring Co, Arkansas
 UTM: S/517040/3802190

50" 7452 IV NE (MALVERN NORTH) 47'30" 18 50" BUTTERFIELD 3.8 MI. HOT SPRINGS 21 MI.