

NR 3-13-87

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bank of Malvern

and/or common (same)

2. Location

street & number 212 South Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Malvern

vicinity of

state Arkansas

code 05

county Hot Spring

code 059

3. Classification

Category

- district
- building(s)
- structure
- site
- object

Ownership

- public
- private
- both

Public Acquisition

- in process
- being considered

Status

- occupied
 - unoccupied
 - work in progress
- ### Accessible
- yes: restricted
 - yes: unrestricted
 - no

Present Use

- agriculture
- commercial
- educational
- entertainment
- government
- industrial
- military
- museum
- park
- private residence
- religious
- scientific
- transportation
- other:

4. Owner of Property

name Malcolm Moore

street & number 420 Harrison Street, P.O. Box 2151

city, town Batesville

vicinity of

state AR

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hot Spring County Courthouse

street & number 224 Locust

city, town Malvern

state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date

federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

SUMMARY

The Bank of Malvern, built in 1889 and reconstructed following a fire in 1896, represents two distinctly different architectural styles. The base or ground floor is of rough cut granite with a round arch entryway, characteristic of the Richardsonian Romanesque style. The upper level of brick with terra cotta detail is characteristic of a later, more modern style. Although the interior reveals a 1950 renovation, the original (1896) detailing, such as the pressed-tin ceiling and painted wall friezes, still exist beneath the present surfaces. Despite its altered condition, this structure is representative of the town of Malvern as it began a period of economic development.

ELABORATION

The Bank of Malvern is located in a row of commercial structures on Main Street, yet it is distinctive from the surrounding structures due to its unique detailing and design. The building is a single story in height and rectangular in plan; however, the elevation is divided into two distinct levels.

The facade consists of two bays which are asymmetrical in design. The entrance bay is emphasized by projecting slightly forward from and higher than the second bay. The ground floor, which remains from the original 1889 structure, is made of rough-cut granite. The entryway consists of a round arch supported by engaged squat columns with cushion capitals on rounded pedestals and a recessed double door. These features give the building a Richardsonian-Romanesque appearance. The second bay on the ground level contains a large window with a stationary pane and two transoms placed in a large marble panel, which is the result of a renovation at an undetermined date.

The second level, the product of reconstruction following the 1896 fire, is delineated by horizontal bands of terra cotta "trellis" and is made of brick. A pair of casement windows separated by a single colonette are centered above the entrance and there are two square windows with ornamental grillwork, rather than panes, in the second bay. All of the windows have lintel heads. A belt course or modified cornice runs above the upper terra cotta band and signifies the parapet, which has chimney-like extensions at each corner and completes the facade.

The interior of the structure reveals major alterations from the 1950 renovation; however, many of the original ornamental details remain intact. The entryway is floored with mosaic tiles. Beneath the present wall covering, the painted frieze is still visible and above the suspended ceiling the pressed-tin ceiling can still be found. The ornate door-surround of the vault is in excellent condition. It has fluted, composite pilasters at each side and an architrave and cornice with dentils, as well as a lions head keystone, above.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1889, 1896

Builder/Architect unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Bank of Malvern is significant both architecturally and for its role in the economic development of the community. The Richardsonian-Romanesque style of the original structure is not one which is commonly found in Arkansas. The bank was founded in 1889 and is the oldest chartered state bank still in existence. It survived the Great Depression without reorganizing or borrowing money and aided the community financially and otherwise as the transition from an agricultural-based to an industrial-based economy was made.

ELABORATION

The building of the Bank of Malvern coincided with the founding of the bank itself in 1889. The bank was the tenth chartered state bank in Arkansas, and is the oldest one still in existence today, although no longer occupying its original location. It has never closed its doors, even during the Great Depression, and in 1935 became the 80th bank in the United States to be chartered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Through the bank records the growth and development of the dairy and timber industries of the area are visible, as well as the support for cotton farmers by the establishment of the International Shoe Company textile mill. The development of electric power, the carrying of electricity to farms, and new industries such as a brick plant have also been part of the economic services of the Bank of Malvern.

The bank has also served the community in other ways, such as directing drives during both World Wars and at other times, giving not only financial aid, but time and labor as well. The role of the bank has been described as "an integral part of the everyday life of the area."

The structure is significant in the community because of its romanesque style as well as its interior detailing, neither of which is often found in a town the size of Malvern. The Richardsonian-Romanesque style is not common in the state regardless of the town size, and the fact that the original wall paintings are still visible under the current wall coverings and that many details of the tin ceiling also exist make this interior a candidate for restoration. Despite its altered condition, the structure is representative of the town of Malvern as it began its own "industrial revolution."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Malvern Daily Record, April 30, 1955.
Minutes from Board of Director's Meeting, Bank of Malvern, August 16, 1889.
Program for Open House, Bank of Malvern, June 24, 1950.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Malvern South, Arkansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 15 517140 3802260
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Commencing at the southeast corner of Lot 8, Block 30 in Malvern, Arkansas, proceed 22 feet north on Main Street. Then proceed west 150 feet. Then proceed south 22 feet. Then proceed east 150 feet to the point of beginning, thus encircling the property.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title AHPP Staff

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 10-17-86

street & number 225 East Markham telephone 371-2763

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 2-7-87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

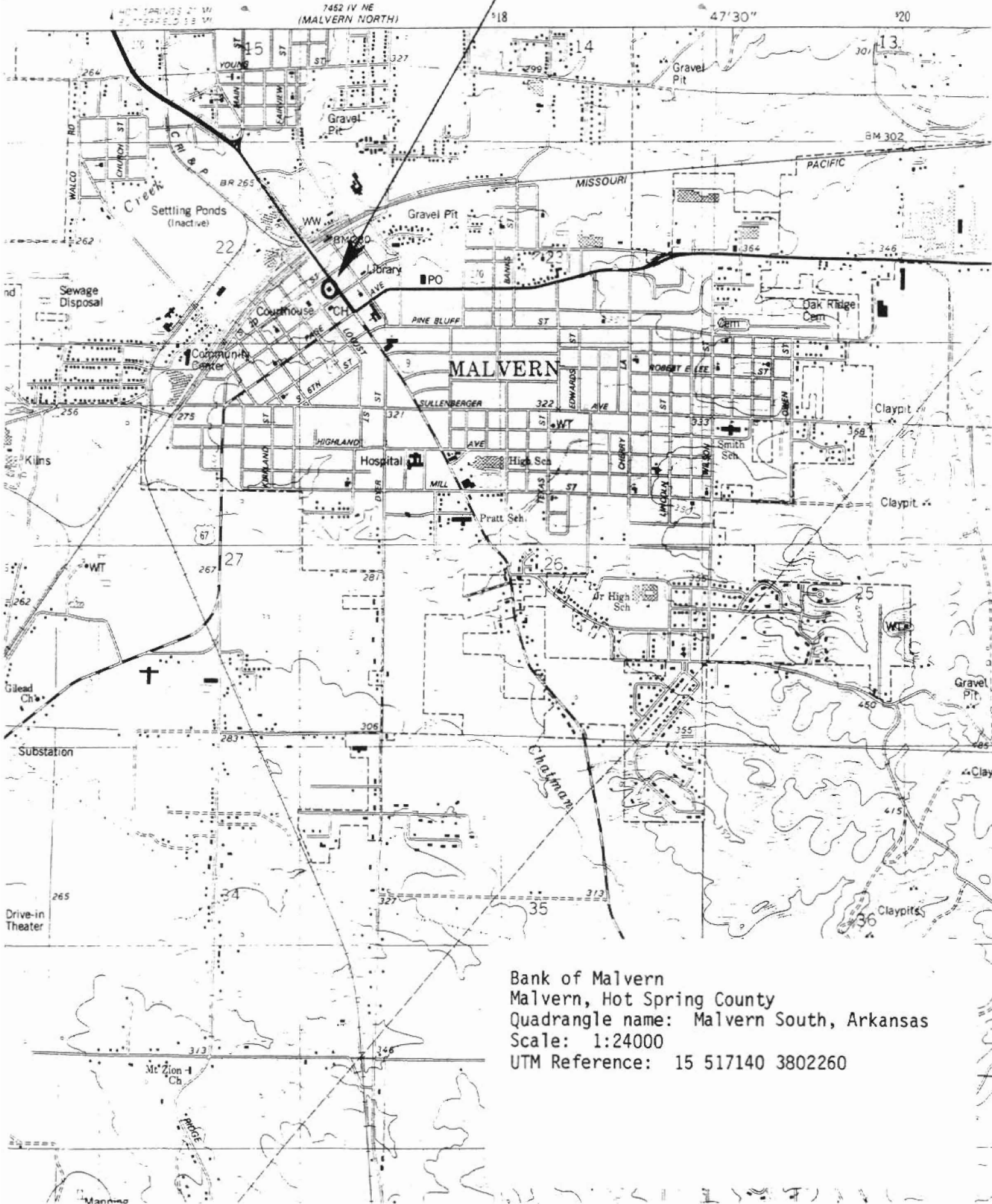
date

Chief of Registration

Bank of Malvern

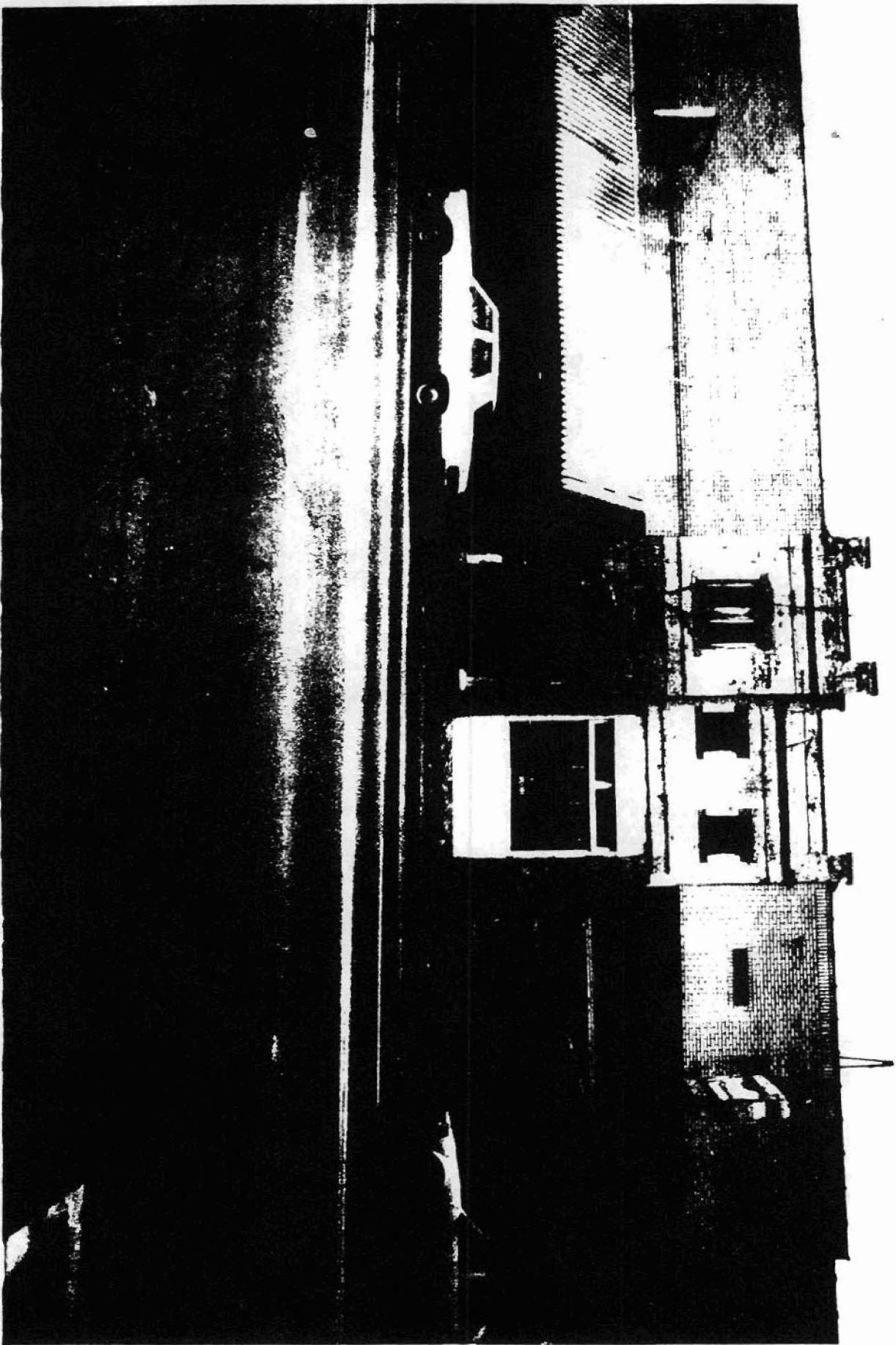
STATE OF ARKANSAS
GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION
LITTLE ROCK

7452 IV NE
(MALVERN NORTH)

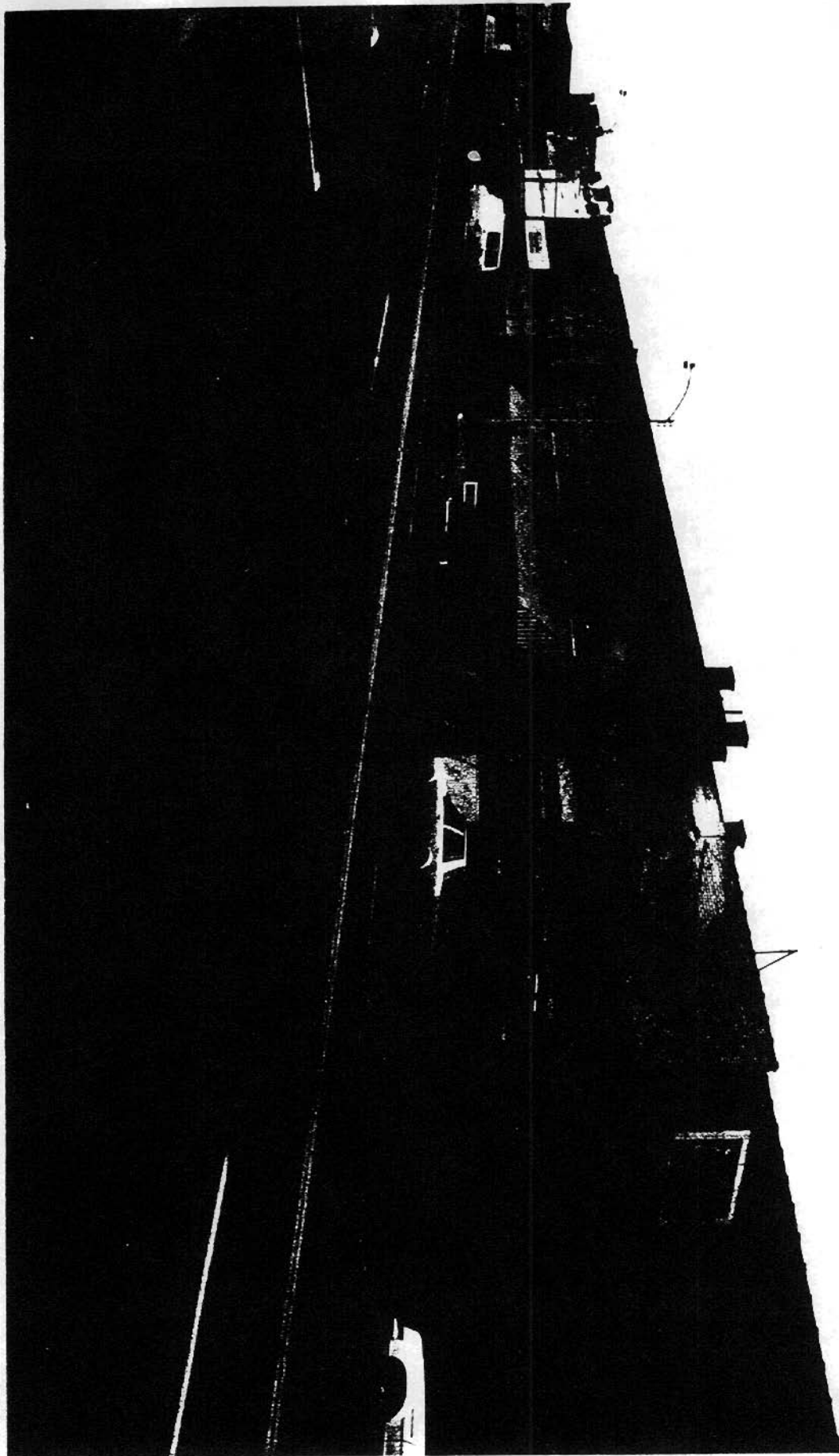


Bank of Malvern
Malvern, Hot Spring County
Quadrangle name: Malvern South, Arkansas
Scale: 1:24000
UTM Reference: 15 517140 3802260

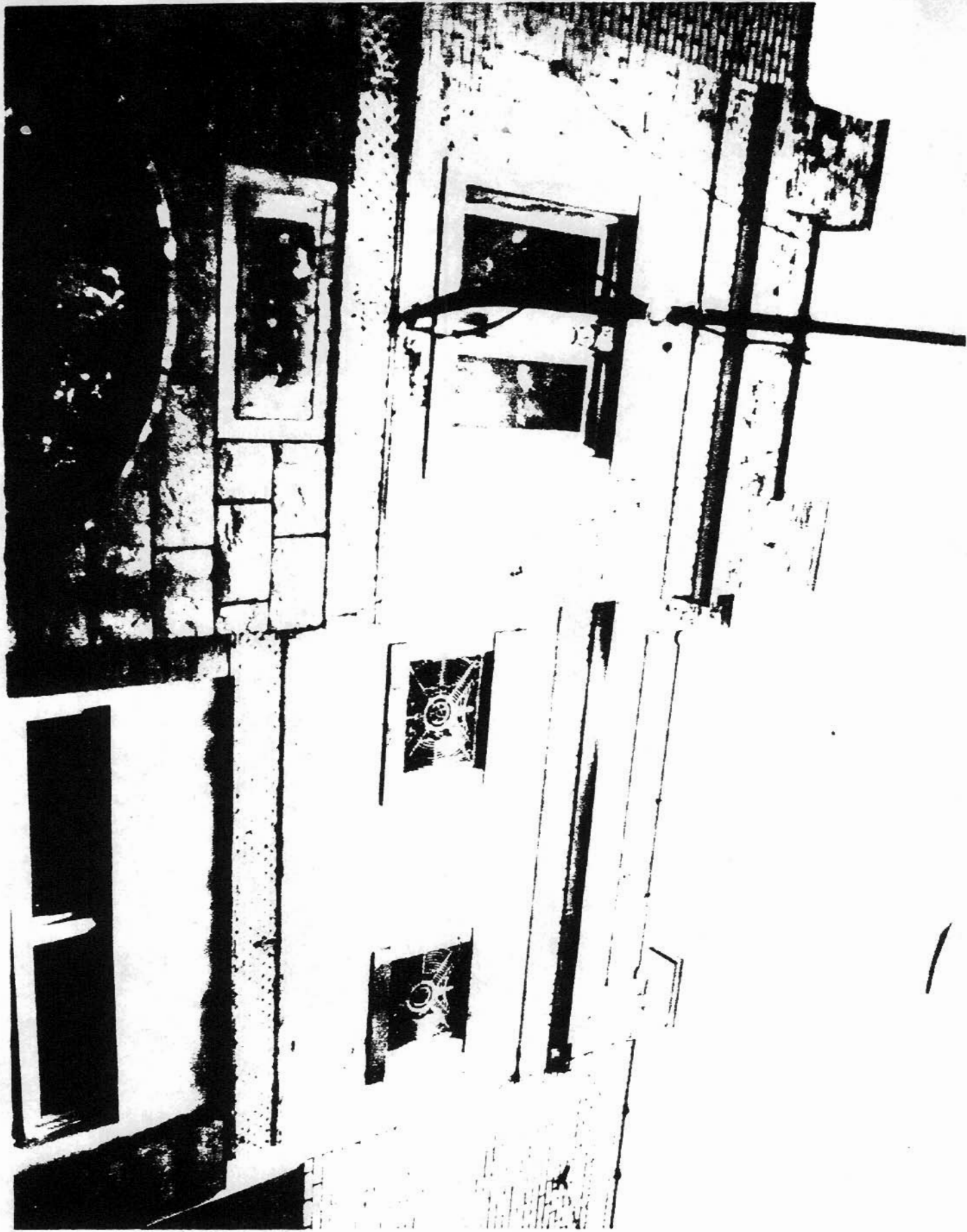




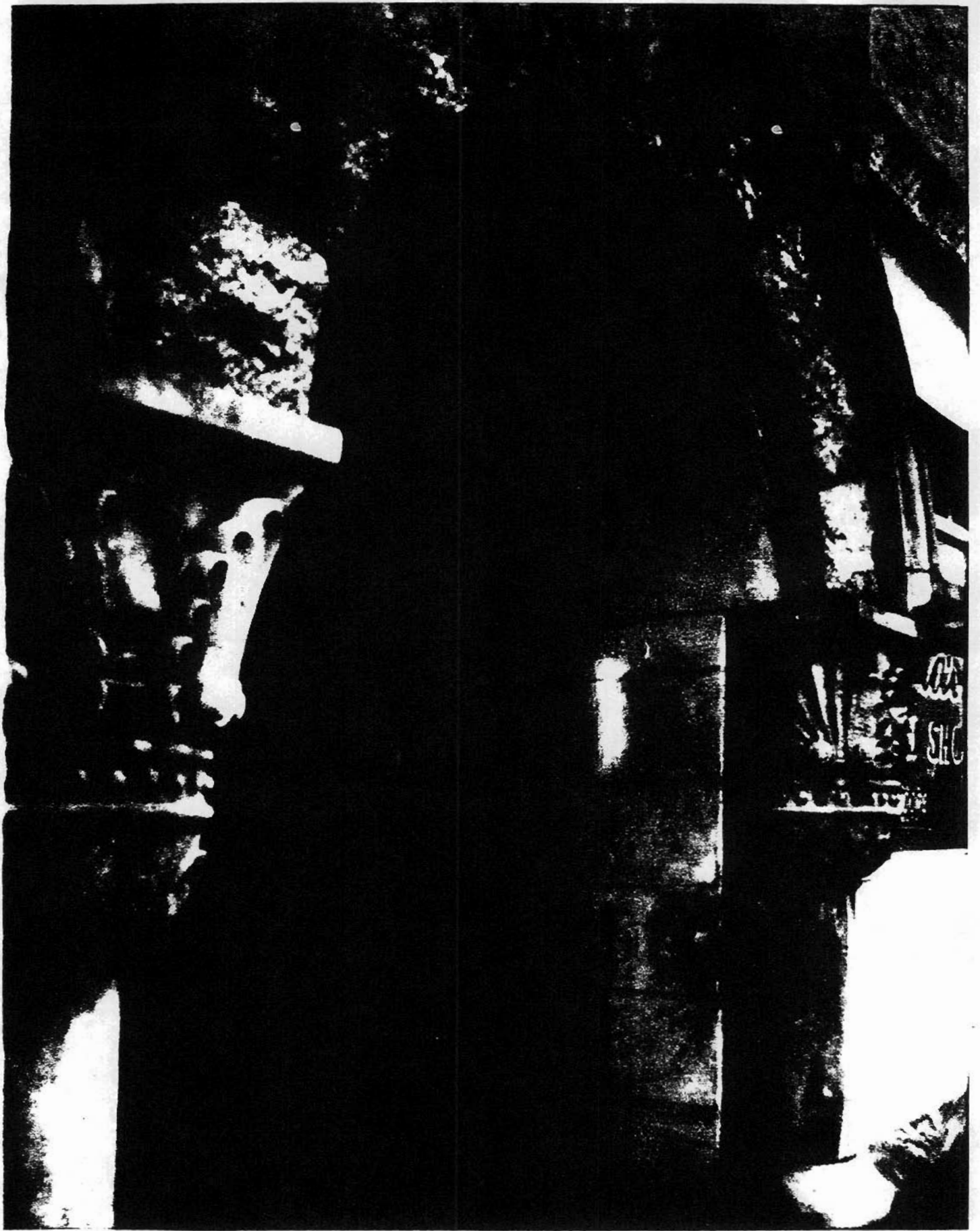
Bank of Malvern
Malvern, Hot Spring County
Front elevation
Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985
Negatives on file at AIHP



Bank of Malvern
Malvern, Hot Spring County
Streetscape
Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985
Negatives file at AHPP



Bank of Malvern
Malvern, Hot Spring County
Exterior detail
Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985
Negatives on file at AIHP



Bank of Malvern
Malvern, Hot Spring County
Exterior detail
Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985
Negatives on file at AHPP



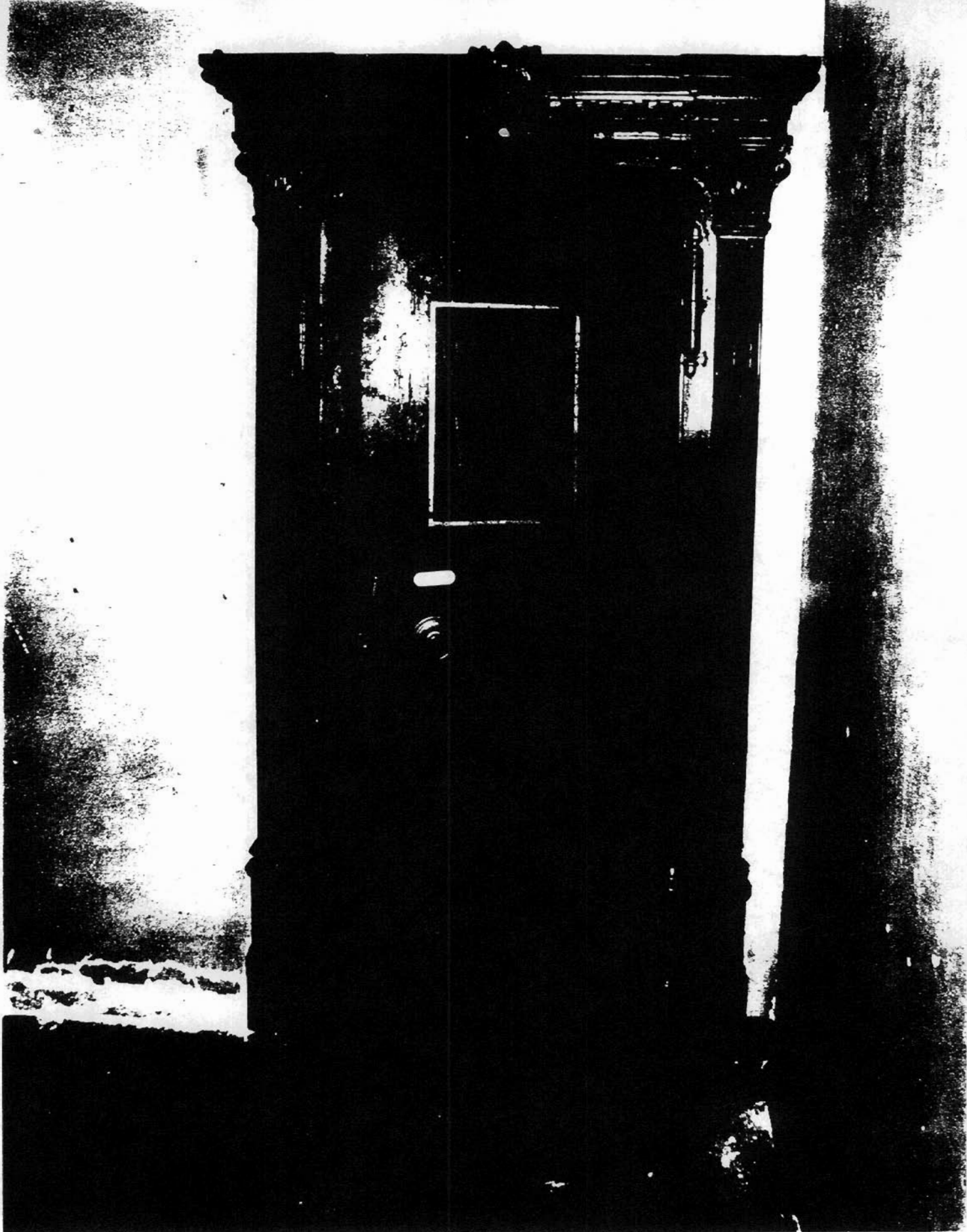
Bank of Malvern

Malvern, Hot Spring County

Interior detail

Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985

Negatives on file at AHPP



Bank of Malvern

Malvern, Hot Spring County

Interior detail

Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985

Negatives on file at AHPP



Bank of Malvern

Malvern, Hot Spring County

Exterior detail

Photographed by Julie Vosmik, 1985

Negatives on file at AHPP