

34-55-1050-61

NR 12-28-77

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Emmie-Van Dyke House
AND/OR COMMON

Dr. John C. Peyton House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

403 Laurel

CITY, TOWN

Newport

STATE

Arkansas

___ VICINITY OF
CODE

05

___ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

COUNTY

Jackson

CODE

067

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

___DISTRICT

___PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

___AGRICULTURE

___MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

___UNOCCUPIED

___COMMERCIAL

___PARK

___STRUCTURE

___BOTH

___WORK IN PROGRESS

___EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

___ENTERTAINMENT

___RELIGIOUS

___OBJECT

___IN PROCESS

___YES: RESTRICTED

___GOVERNMENT

___SCIENTIFIC

___BEING CONSIDERED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___INDUSTRIAL

___TRANSPORTATION

NO

___MILITARY

___OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Dr. & Mrs. John C. Peyton

STREET & NUMBER

403 Laurel

CITY, TOWN

Newport

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jackson County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Square

CITY, TOWN

Newport

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Empie-Van Dyke house was designed in the Queen Anne style and constructed in 1891. The two-story house is constructed entirely of wood frame and is sheathed with bevel siding (4" wide). The building's plan is essentially rectangular with a projecting bay to the west and a corner projecting bay in the plan's northwest corner. The house's appearance is entirely asymmetrical with window and door placement dictated more by interior function than exterior balance. The front (North) elevation was originally dominated by a pyramidal tower above the corner bay. (The tower's roof peak was later removed).

A one story entry veranda starts at the northeast corner and continues to the protrusion of the corner bay. (Approximately one-third of the elevations's total width). A matching side porch (west elevation) creates a secondary entry. The roofs of both the veranda and side porch are supported by Greek Doric columns and a simple entablature.

The steeply pitched roof was originally wood shingled but has since been replaced by asphalt composition type shingles. The roofs four gable ends, a mansard wall area to the rear, and a small mansard band over the veranda, side porch and around the projecting bay remain covered with the original imbricated wood shingles. The gable ends are decorated by round wooden louvered vents.

The simply trimmed wooden windows are double hung with a single upper and lower light. All exterior doors are decorative with enriched wood trim and large glass lights (in some cases stained glass) and transoms. Some plan changes have occurred in the rear service areas but with the exception of room finishes (modern carpet, wall paper, etc.) the interior appears much as it did originally. Many early light fixtures remain, as do original plaster cornice and ceiling rosettes; the main spiral stair, with it's florally trimmed square oak newel posts and turned oak balusters; and oak interior doors and millwork.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

RIOD

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 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/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891

BUILDER/ARCHITECT W. B. Empie

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Empie-Van Dyke House in Newport is architecturally significant as one of the first homes built in Newport in the late Victorian style of architecture. Additionally, it is one of the few older homes remaining in Newport, which has remained unaltered. It has survived several fires, including the disastrous one of March 1, 1926, which destroyed about thirty blocks of the city, as well as many of Newport's finest residences. The path of the fire came within one block south of the Empie House to Hazel Street and destroyed many of the houses on Hazel Street. The White River Flood of 1927 destroyed even more of Newport's older resources. Therefore the Empie-Van Dyke House is very significant to Newport as representative of Victorian architecture before the turn of the century.

William Burford Empie and his wife, Louise Rimmel Empie, obtained lots 1 and 2, Block 4 of Hirsch's First Addition in 1881 from Aaron and Lazar Hirsch and wives. At that time the property was assessed at \$400, which remained its valuation until 1885 when it was assessed at \$300. In 1891 Jackson County revised its property tax valuation schedule and the assessment increased to \$800. By the 1891 entry was a penciled notation indicating a \$1700 improvement, and in 1892 the property was assessed at \$2500. These tax records indicate that the present house was constructed in late 1891.

The W. B. Empie Family was a very successful and prominent family in Newport. He bought a steam mill in 1877 and added a planing mill. From 1889-1894 he operated the White River Lumber Manufacturing Company. Local residents report that Mr. Empie saved the choicest lumber and other materials for his own house until he had saved enough to begin construction. The quality of the materials and workmanship attest that only the best were used in the construction.

In 1905 Lula Empie married P. H. Van Dyke and the house remained in the Empie-Van Dyke family until 1969 when it was sold to R. L. "Buzz" Harper, Jr. Mr. Harper used the house as an antique shop. In 1975 Dr. John C. Peyton bought the house and presently resides there.

The Empie-Van Dyke House is a large, two-story Victorian frame house constructed in 1891. The house has remained basically unaltered on the exterior and interior except for the removal of a tower on the northeast corner and the use of flocked wallpaper in the downstairs rooms.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Centennial History of Newport, Arkansas 1875-1975 Jackson County Historical Society, 1975. page 26 "Early Industries."
Newport Independent, August 11, 1975, page 3d.
Report on Jackson County Historical Society Committee on Cemeteries and Historic Sites. On file at Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.
The Stream of History, October, 1970, pp. 4-12.
Souvenir Program, June 5, 1965, p. 32.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	715	651591010	3194121810			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING
C						NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dan Chapel, Architect & Donna DuVall, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

3-8-77

STREET & NUMBER

Suite 500, Continental Building

TELEPHONE

501-371-2763

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 Anne Bartley

TITLE

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

3-8-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

PAGE One -

Jackson County Tax Records, Real Estate Lots 1 and 2, Block 4,
Hirsch's Addition, City of Newport. 1879-1892.



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM



February 3, 1977

Suite 500, Continental Building, Main and Markham
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Telephone: (501) 371-2763

Dr. John C. Peyton
403 Laurel
Newport, Arkansas 72212

Re: Empie-Van Dyke House
Newport, Jackson County

Dear Dr. Peyton:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the Empie-Van Dyke House which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their March meeting. If approved, the nomination will be submitted to the National Register office in Washington for final consideration.

The National Register of Historic Places is a listing of historic sites, buildings, objects and districts from all across the country that are worthy of preservation.

Entry in the National Register is an honor which places no obligation on a private owner. It does, however, provide protection through comment by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from federally financed, assisted or licensed projects that might affect a National Register property.

On October 4, 1976, the President signed a Tax Reform Act of which Section 2124 refers to tax incentives for historic properties. Enclosed you will find an information sheet on that tax act.

If you have any questions concerning the program or this property's nomination, please contact Donna DuVall of our staff.

Enclosed are two copies of this letter. Please complete the form below, sign and return the original to our office. The copy is for your files. We would appreciate receiving any comments you might have concerning the nomination of this property. If we do not hear from you within 30 days your approval will be assumed.

Sincerely,

Barbara Woodard

Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

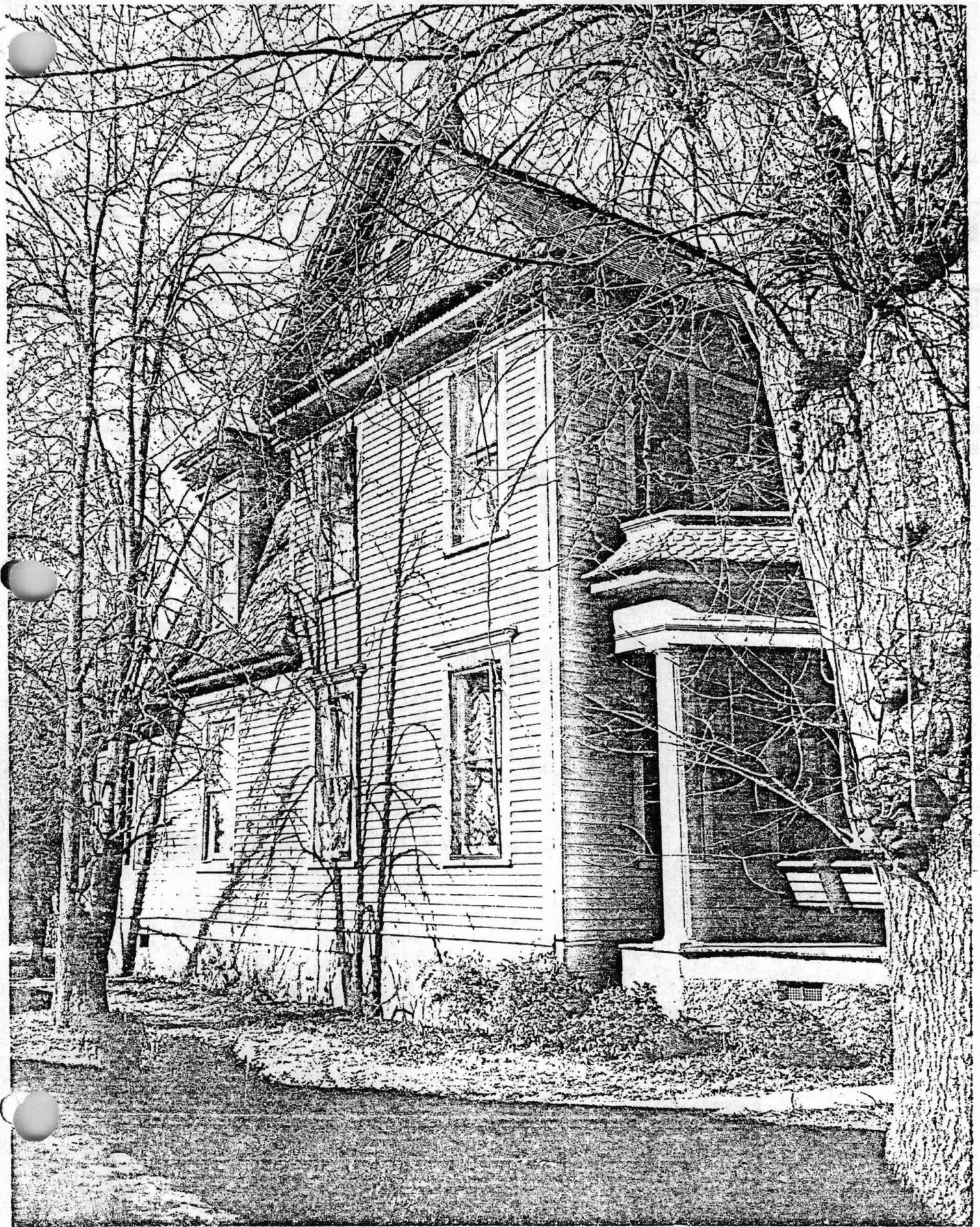
I approve of the above property being nominated
to the National Register of Historic Places.

 ✓
Yes No

Comments:

13 FEB 77
Date

John C. Peyton
Signature



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR INFO USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Empie-Van Dyke House

AND/OR COMMON

Dr. John C. Peyton House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Newport

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jackson

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

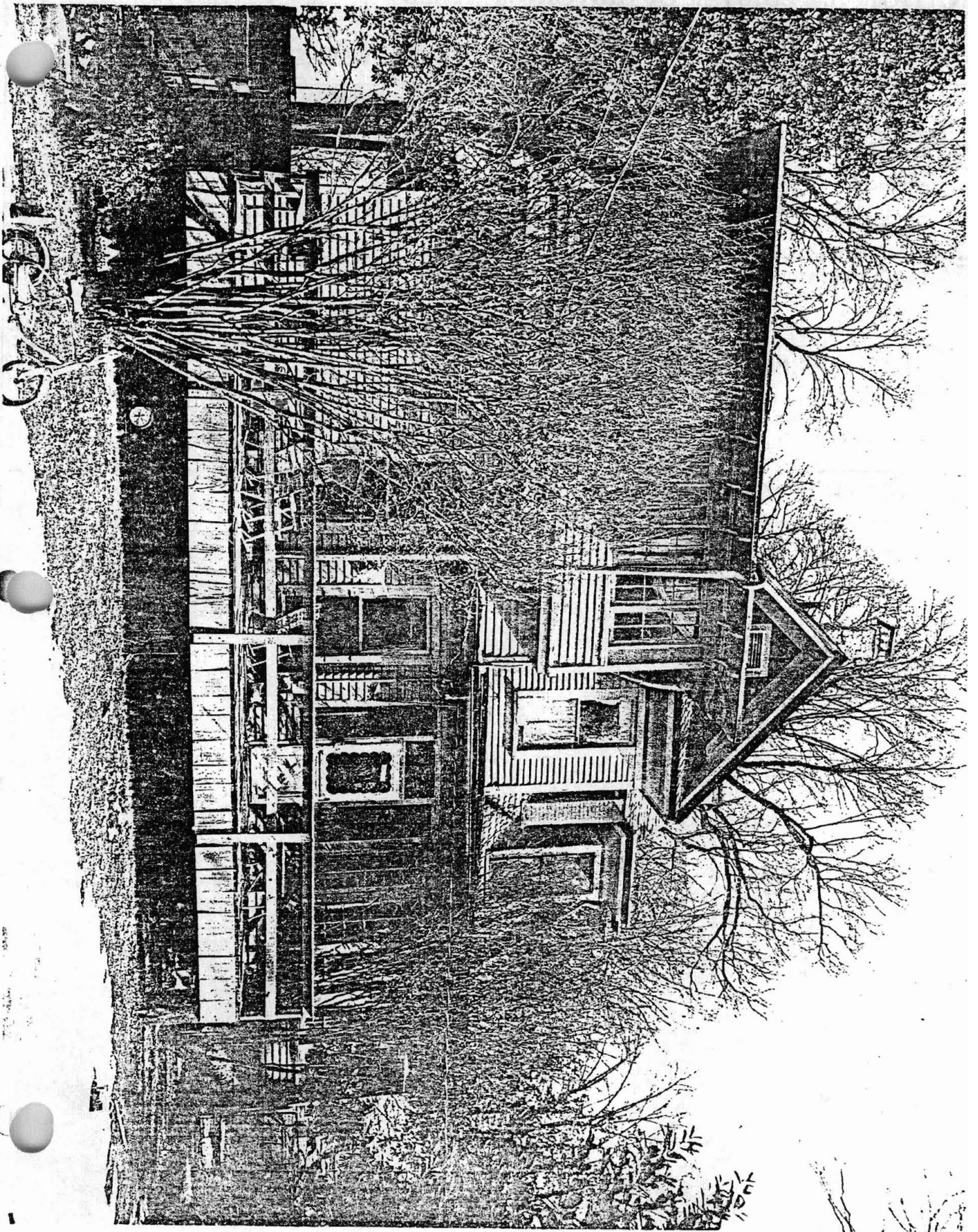
4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

view of east elevation

PHOTO NO.

2



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STATE

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

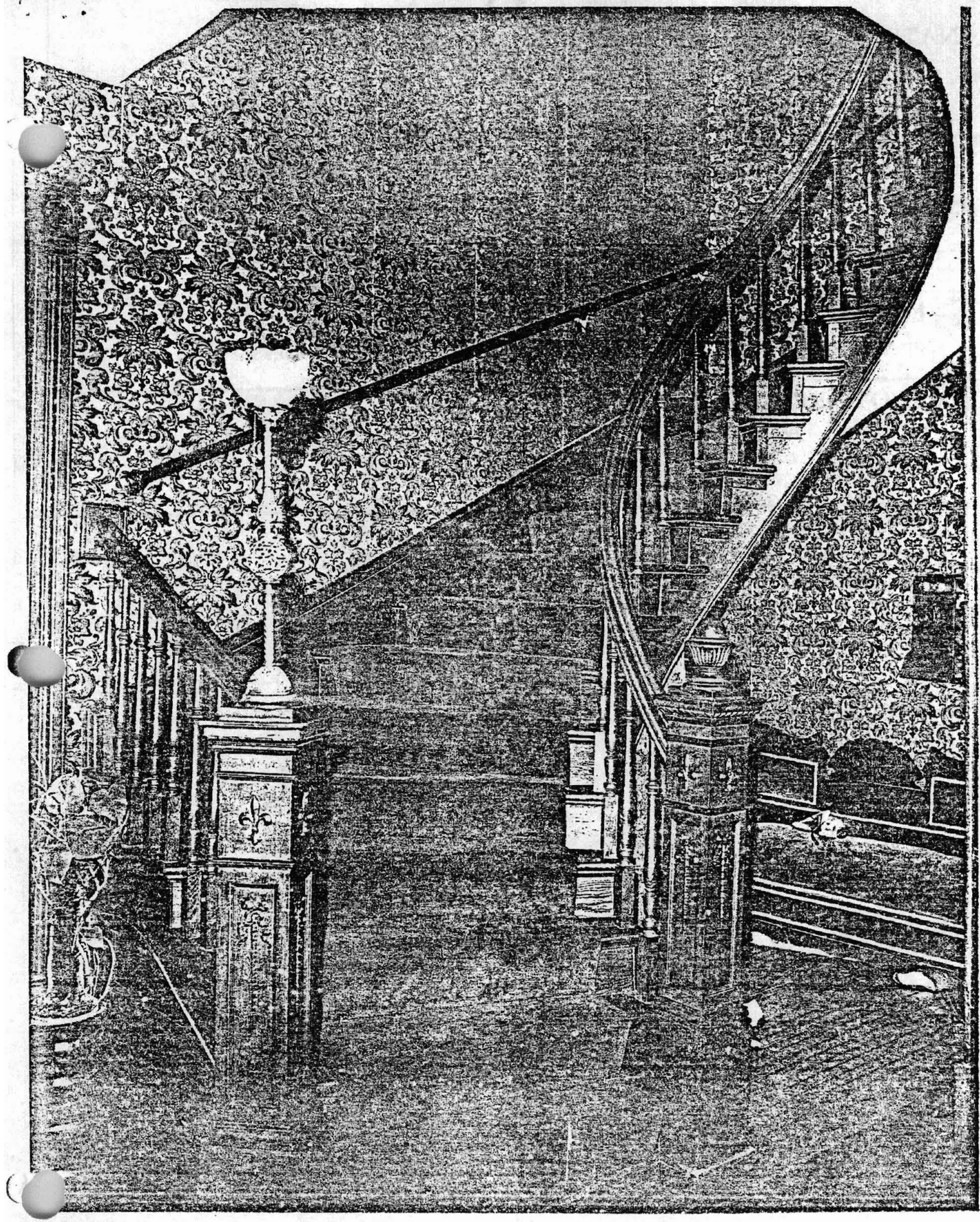
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View of south elevation

PHOTO NO

3

INT: 2983-75



FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

NAME

HISTORIC Empie-Van Dyke House

AND/OR COMMON Dr. John C. Peyton House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Newport VICINITY OF COUNTY Jackson STATE AR

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn DATE OF PHOTO 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

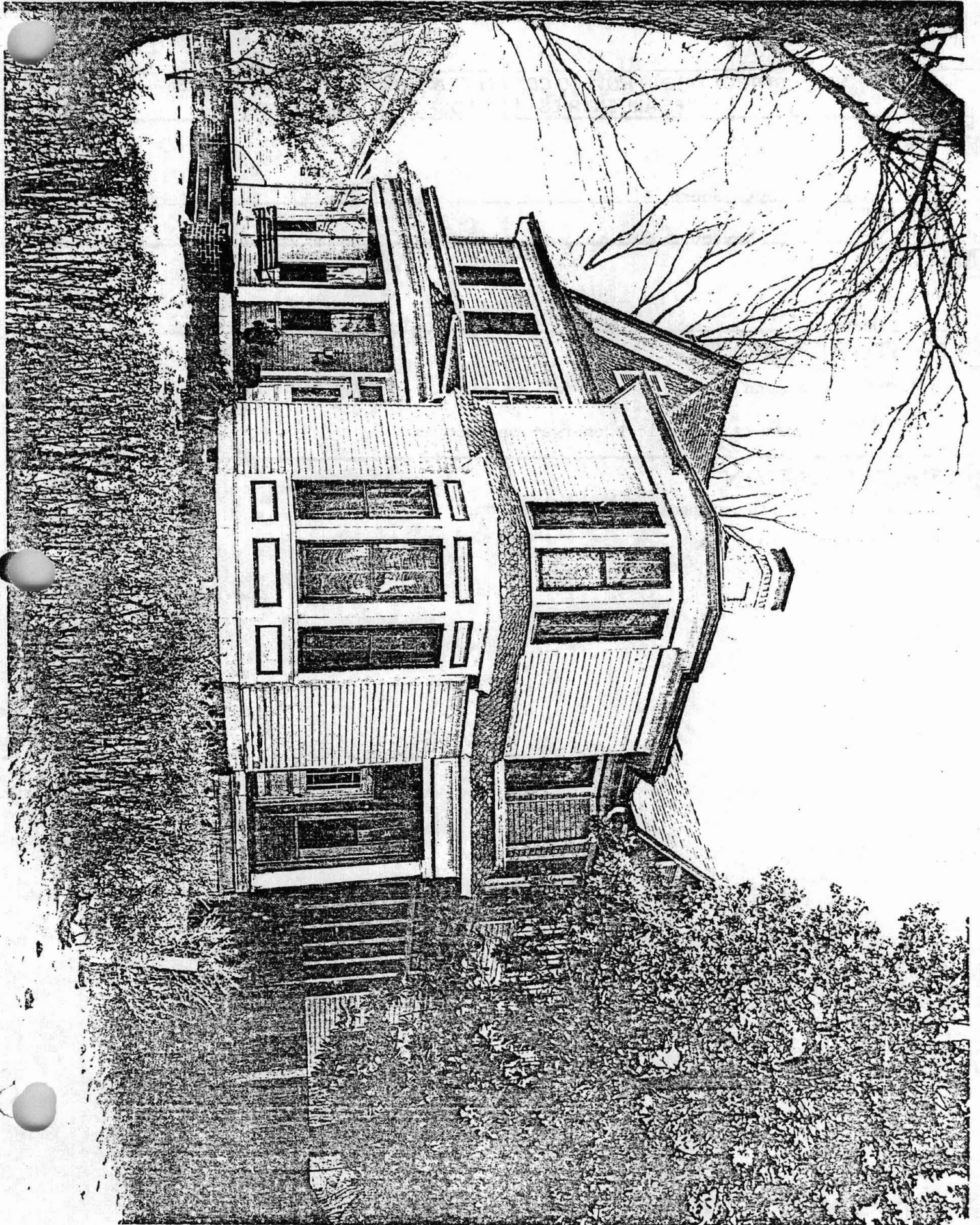
4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Interior view

PHOTO NO.

4



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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Empie-Van Dyke House

AND/OR COMMON

Dr. John C. Peyton House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Newport

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jackson

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Bob Dunn

DATE OF PHOTO 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View of north elevation

PHOTO NO.

1

INT: 2983-75

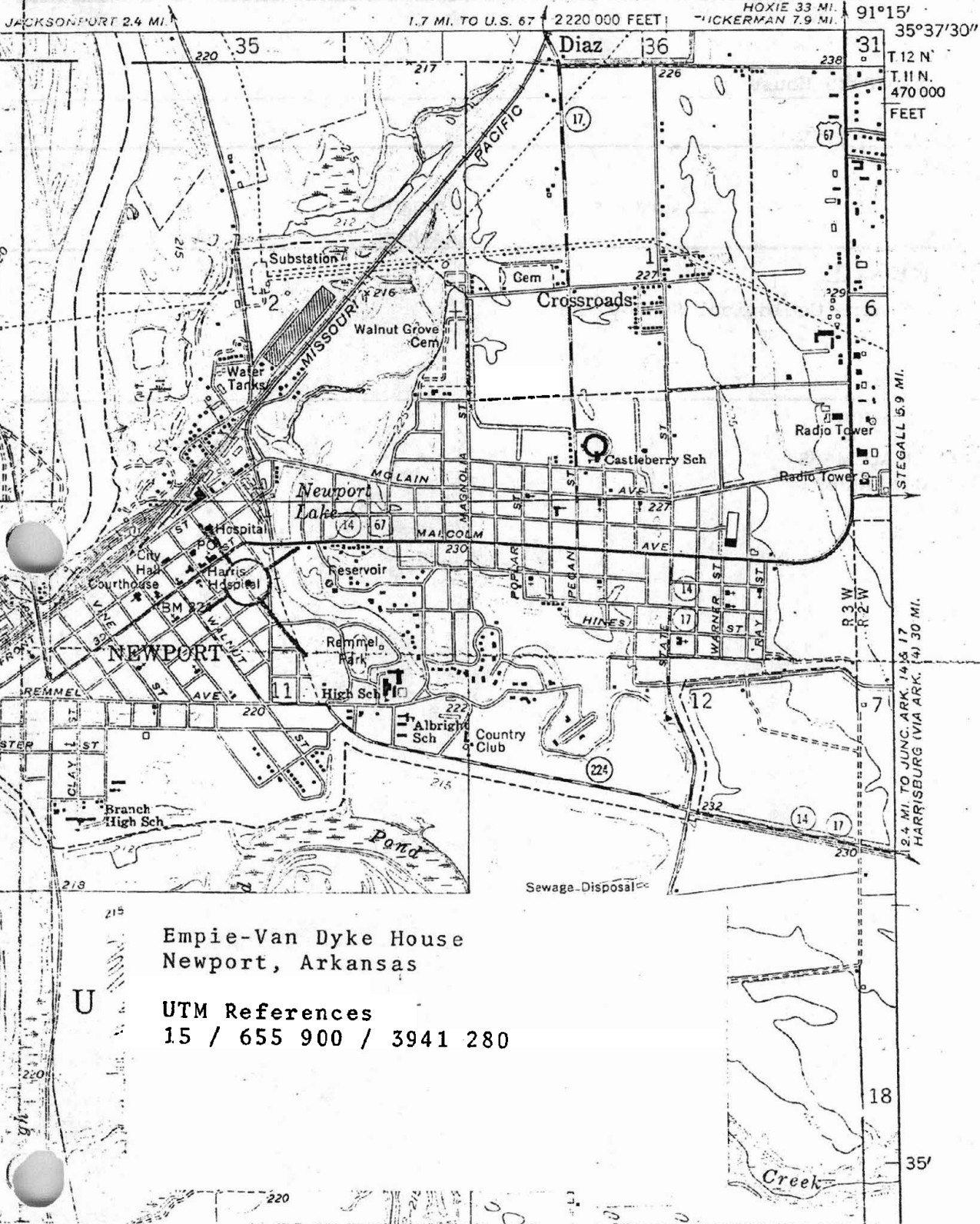
NEWPORT QUADRANGLE

ARKANSAS

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SE/4 NEWPORT 15' QUADRANGLE

(TUCKERMAN 1:62 500)



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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Empie-Van Dyke House

AND/OR COMMON

Dr. John C. Peyton

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Newport

___VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Jackson

STATE

Arkansas

MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey Map

SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1962

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES