

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

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1. Name of Property

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historic name: Paris Hospital

other name/site number: Smith Hospital (preferred)

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2. Location

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street & number: Northern terminus of Express Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Paris

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Logan code: AR 083 zip code: 72855

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u> Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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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. Slater
Signature of certifying official

3-3-94
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: Health Care

Sub: Hospital

Current : Vacant/Not In Use

Sub: _____

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

See "Other"
Colonial Revival
Craftsman

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation Sandstone, Brick roof Asphalt
walls Brick other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

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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: B,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Health/Medicine
Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1913-1944

Significant Dates: 1913, 1923

Significant Person(s): Smith, Dr. John James
Smith, Dr. Arthur MacDaniel

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Dawson, Charles W.
Wheeler, Carnall
Paine, R. L. (builder)

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
X See continuation sheet.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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X See continuation sheet.

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:

- X 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: Approximately four

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>433580</u>	<u>3906130</u>	B	___	___	___
C	___	___	___	D	___	___	___

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point 40 feet West of the Northeast corner of Southeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section 2, Township 7 North, Range 26 West, running thence West 482.65 feet, thence South 617.75 feet, thence East 200 feet, thence South 10 feet, thence East 64.15 feet, thence South 12.34 feet, thence East 120 feet, thence North 585 feet to place of beginning. LESS AND EXCEPT Beginning at the Northeast corner of Fractional Block 9, Porter and McCrae Addition to the Town of Paris, Arkansas, and run thence North 17 and 2/3rds feet, thence West 192 feet, thence South 17 2/3rds feet, thence East 192 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes the hospital, three noncontributing outbuildings, all of the property historically associated with this resource that retain its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By

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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 3/3/94

Street & Number: 323 Center, 1600 Tower Bldg. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Smith Hospital was constructed in 1913 as a Plain Traditional-style, two-story brick building with a full basement. In 1923, a three-story brick annex with an elevator was added. The interior is essentially unaltered since the 1923 construction, and most of the original furnishings and equipment remains. Also included in the nomination are three noncontributing outbuildings.

Elaboration

The Smith Hospital was constructed in 1913 as a two-story red brick building with a full basement. The foundation is composed of cut fieldstone and is bolstered on the eastern elevation by several brick buttresses that were most likely installed at the time of the 1923 addition (the brick matches). A shallow-pitched gable roof hidden behind a parapet covers the structure. There is an interior and an exterior brick chimney present; however, the exterior chimney, which is on the western elevation, does not appear in a 1913 photograph taken shortly after construction. It may have also been added during the 1923 construction.

Originally, the front, or southern, elevation featured a single-story hipped-roof porch that was supported by six Tuscan columns. Entry was provided by centrally placed double-leaf doors, which are flanked on each side by an oversize one-over-one double-hung window. The second story was fenestrated by four conventional-size, one-over-one double-hung windows with the center two windows paired. All of the windows feature limestone sills, but, curiously, no matching lintel. This front elevation was altered in 1923 when a gable-roof, two-story hall was added to connect the older structure to the new three-story section. Approximately half of the front porch was removed, and the remainder was re-oriented to provide access from a staircase ascending from the east and adjacent to the front elevation wall. The porch, still resting upon brick piers as did the original, is now supported by six of the original Tuscan columns with a simple stick balustrade added.

With this exception, the other three elevations of the 1913 structure are essentially intact. The eastern elevation is lighted by four regular one-over-one double-hung windows on each floor. The rear, or northern, elevation also contains four windows per floor; however, the center two windows are paired, and the western window on the upper floor is a huge single-pane design. An inspection of the undisturbed lintel reveals that the window opening, at least, is original. This elevation has been altered historically by the addition of a small one-story shed, which is clad with novelty siding and covered by a shallow-pitched gable roof, in the center of the

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facade. The western elevation is composed of four one-over-one double-hung windows per story, though of different sizes and placement.

As originally constructed, this building contained doctor's offices, examining and treatment rooms, and provided a fifteen-bed patient care unit. Kitchen facilities were placed in the basement, as was the coal-powered, low-pressure steam furnace.

By 1922, the demand for services from the Paris Hospital exceeded the capacity of the 1913 structure. Dr. J. J. and Dr. A. M. Smith decided to enlarge the existing hospital and contracted with the architect, Charles W. Dawson of Muskogee, Oklahoma and his associate, Carnall Wheeler of Fort Smith to design a three story annex. R. L. Paine of Fort Smith gave an estimated cost of \$25,045 to construct the building and was hired as the contractor. By the end of 1923, the newly augmented hospital was completed.

The new three-story brick-constructed annex is situated to the southwest of the front elevation of the 1913 building. The aforementioned two-story connecting hall extends perpendicular from the front of the 1913 facade and articulates to the southwest. It contains a transomed, double-leaf entrance underneath the old porch on the eastern elevation and is also lighted by three six-over-six double-hung wood-frame windows (two on the second story). The western elevation of the connector has an enclosed, wood-frame first-story shed that is not fenestrated and two second-story six-over-six windows. This hall leads into a four-story brick elevator shaft that is shielded by a gable roof with three Craftsman brackets in each gable end. On the eastern elevation, fenestration is limited to a small single-hinge, three-pane casement window in the gable end. The western elevation, however, contains a three-pane casement window on each floor. The electric elevator owns the distinction of being the first of its kind in Logan County.

The main body of the three-story addition is arranged in a rectangular plan with slightly indented center walls on the three principal elevations. Like the 1913 structure, its roof, an asphalt-covered hipped design, is completely concealed by a brick parapet, which is, interestingly, lower on the center wall section of the western elevation.

A total of eighteen six-over-six double-hung windows are symmetrically arranged with six per story on the eastern (or southeastern) elevation. The southern (or southwestern) elevation features a flat-roof single-story porch, which is supported by four brick columns, placed to the east of center. Underneath, a single-leaf door with transom and sidelights provides access to the interior from this end of the hospital. A single six-over-six double-hung window is positioned to the east of the doorway, and its twin is located to the west of the porch. The two

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upper stories borrow from the older structure in their composition with four six-over-six windows per story and paired center windows.

The western (or northwestern) elevation is somewhat more complex in its order. Each of the two end "towers" with the taller parapets contains a six-over-six window on each of the three stories. The center wall section is divided into four window bays with the southernmost bay revealing the presence of a staircase. A single-leaf entry is positioned between the basement and the first story, a regular-size six-over-six window is placed between the first and second stories, and another six-over-six window with an integrated six-pane transom is found between the second and third floors. The two center bays have a smaller-size six-over-six window on each floor while the northernmost bay reverts to the conventional-size windows.

With the construction of the new annex, the number of patient care rooms was increased to thirty, and the 1913 portion of the hospital was retrofitted to meet new needs. The basement of the older section (the basement of the 1923 annex was not dug until the late 1940's) housed the kitchen, a laboratory, and the new gas-fired furnace. The first floor of the addition was devoted to private patient rooms with the exception of a special four-bed ward that was furnished for emergencies or overflow. In the 1913 building, doctor's offices, the waiting room, the business office, the head nurse office, a lab room, and the library were located. The second floor of the 1923 portion housed the obstetrics patient rooms and nursery, while the older end contained the delivery room, x-ray room, dark room, surgery facilities, etc. Private patient rooms comprise the entire third-floor wing. Each room contained a bed, stand, clothes area, chairs, and a radiator for heating.

Although some of the plaster walls and ceilings have deteriorated, the interior is in relatively good shape and remarkably unaltered since the 1923 construction. In fact, virtually all of the furnishings and equipment necessary to operate a hospital in the 1920's remain in place.

The nomination also includes three noncontributing outbuildings located on the hospital grounds. In 1944 and 1946 a barn and laundry building respectively were constructed. Both are similarly constructed of brick. The barn is covered by a metal-clad, saltbox gable roof, while the laundry building has a conventional gable roof with exposed rafters. A brick-constructed, flat-roof, three-car garage building was also erected at a later date.

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Summary

The Smith Hospital is being nominated under Criterion B with local significance for its association with Dr. John James (Jim) and Dr. Arthur MacDaniel (Mac) Smith who founded the first hospital in Logan County and initiated a pioneer hospitalization insurance plan. Under Criterion C, the hospital is also locally significant as a virtually unaltered example of an early Twentieth century medical facility as well as an example of the evolution of hospital architecture and scale.

Elaboration

The origins of the Smith Hospital¹ in Paris begin with two brothers, John James and Arthur MacDaniel Smith, who grew up on a farm near Chismville in Franklin County. Their father had homesteaded the land there in 1860, but was killed while fighting for the Confederacy in 1863. The elder brother, J. J. or "Jim" as he was known, aspired to become a doctor. After finishing the grades offered by the nearby one-room school, Jim taught for three years in addition to tending the farm, to earn tuition for medical school. He graduated from Jefferson College in Nashville (now known as Vanderbilt University) and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Tulane University. Returning home, he practiced medicine all over Logan County before moving to Paris in 1899 where he established an office. Dr. Jim was joined in practice by Arthur, or "Mac" as he was known, in 1901. Dr. Mac had shared his brother's ambition and attended the same medical schools.

Paris became the Logan County seat in 1874 as the result of a county election to determine the center of county government. The town grew gradually and prospered with the completion of the Little Rock-Fort Smith Railroad which extended through Paris in 1876. Considerable Swiss-German immigration accompanied the arrival of the railroad to stake claim to the abundant railroad-owned land. At the turn of the century, the town is reported to have contained two butcher shops, three drug stores, seven general merchandise stores, one furniture and undertaker store, two banks, two newspaper plants, lumber yards, blacksmith shops and other businesses. In addition, six or seven thousand bales of cotton were marketed and shipped annually from town, while approximately three hundred tons of coal were exported daily. Indeed, the coal mining industry would remain important to the town's economy through the 1950's.

¹ Although the historic name of the hospital was "Paris Hospital," the structure is commonly known throughout the town and county as the "Smith Hospital," and it shall be referred to by that name for purposes of this nomination.

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It was in this atmosphere that the Smith brothers dreamed of establishing Logan County's first hospital. They envisioned building on the hill top north of the square where the old Potts residence was located. Although it was once one property, the land had since been subdivided, and the Smiths began purchasing one parcel at a time until they could obtain the necessary acreage for a hospital. In 1910, the Smith brothers opened the old Potts home, where Dr. Mac had lived temporarily, as a hospital. By retaining their downtown offices, the Smith doctors were able accommodate up to twelve patients in the makeshift hospital. Electricity at that time was provided by a private generator owned and operated by August Bartsch.

Two obstacles remained to the construction of their new hospital. The first, the presence of a cemetery only a few feet from the building site, was dispensed with rather easily by today's standards. The town, eager to have a new hospital, simply relocated the graves to the present Oakwood Cemetery. A more serious problem, however, was a lack of water on the hill. As no pressurized "city water" was available, a special pipeline had to be constructed from Dr. Mac's homestead lower down the hill to the hospital. Despite these hindrances, the hospital was completed in 1913. The Smith brothers were joined in practice at this time by Dr. I. H. Jewell.

By 1922, the hospital had become overcrowded and could no longer adequately accommodate the needs of the populace. Dr. Jim and Dr. Mac decided to expand the current structure, and in the following year the three-story annex was completed. Dr. Jewell left at this time to build a hospital of his own in Paris in conjunction with his brother. He was replaced by Dr. H. M. Keck, who worked at the hospital for five or six years before moving to Fort Smith and opening the Colonial Hospital in partnership with another doctor.

In 1926, the first of the second generation of Smith doctors joined the staff. Dr. John Smith, oldest son of Dr. Mac (Dr. Jim had no children), graduated from the University of Arkansas and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Tulane University. Dr. John became the anchor of the hospital and served as administrator, general practitioner, and surgeon. He also was responsible for introducing the X-ray machine to Logan County. In 1929, Dr. Mac's middle son, Charles, began work for the hospital. Dr. Charles, who had followed the same education path as John, bore the brunt of the general practice and brought his knowledge of radiology to the hospital. The death of Dr. Mac in 1930 signified the passing of the first generation of Smith doctors, although Dr. Jim was to work for six more years before officially retiring. The youngest of Dr. Mac's sons, Dr. James, added his services to the hospital in 1939. Like his brothers, he attended the University of Arkansas *en route* to medical school at Tulane University. Dr. James was especially adept at keeping abreast of the rapid pace of medical advances through the years.

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During World War II, Dr. Charles and Dr. James served in the armed forces for three plus years, while Dr. John was left with the sole responsibility of running a three-doctor hospital. Dr. Charles spent three years in North Africa and Italy as Chief of Staff in Radiology, while Dr. James spent his time in the South Pacific theater. Both doctors were discharged in 1945 with the rank of major. After the war, they returned to Paris to continue their work. Dr. John died in 1960, and Dr. Charles and Dr. James carried on until Dec 31, 1971 when the hospital was closed due to financial losses. Both doctors, however, continued to use the office space to see patients. Dr. Charles was killed in a car accident in 1979. Dr. James is currently retired.

Aside from the tremendous medical services the hospital provided to the residents of Logan County for over fifty years, the Smith Hospital is perhaps most significant for the pioneer hospitalization insurance that it offered. In 1920, Dr. Jim and Dr. Mac established the Hospitalization Plan of the Paris Hospital where families paid \$1 a month and in return received hospital benefits. As these benefits were more restricted than the services most people needed, the coverage was expanded in 1926, the name changed to the Peoples Hospital Association, and the rate increased to \$2 a month. It has been asserted this was the first known plan of its kind in the United States.²

The Smith Hospital is being nominated under Criterion B with local significance for its association with Dr. John James and Dr. Arthur MacDaniel Smith, who founded the first hospital in Logan County and established an innovative insurance plan that extended health care to practically all of its citizens. Architecturally, the Smith Hospital is significant as an excellent and virtually unaltered example of an early twentieth-century hospital. Aside from reflecting the burgeoning demand for hospital care in only a ten year period, the expanded Smith Hospital reveals the increased proportions required by a modern hospital as well as the first exposure to a rural county of modern medical and technological advancements such as the X-ray room, laboratories, the electric elevator, etc. To a lesser degree, the hospital demonstrates the evolution of architectural styles from the earlier Plain Traditional/Colonial Revival style to the later Craftsman/Colonial Revival style, although the 1923 annex was undoubtedly designed to blend with the older structure in this regard. For these reasons, the Smith Hospital is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance.

²Paris Express. December 27, 1941

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Bibliography

Information submitted by Jim L. Maddox, North Logan Mercy Hospital, June 1993, which included interviews with Dr. James Smith in February and April, 1993.

Paris Express. December 27, 1971.

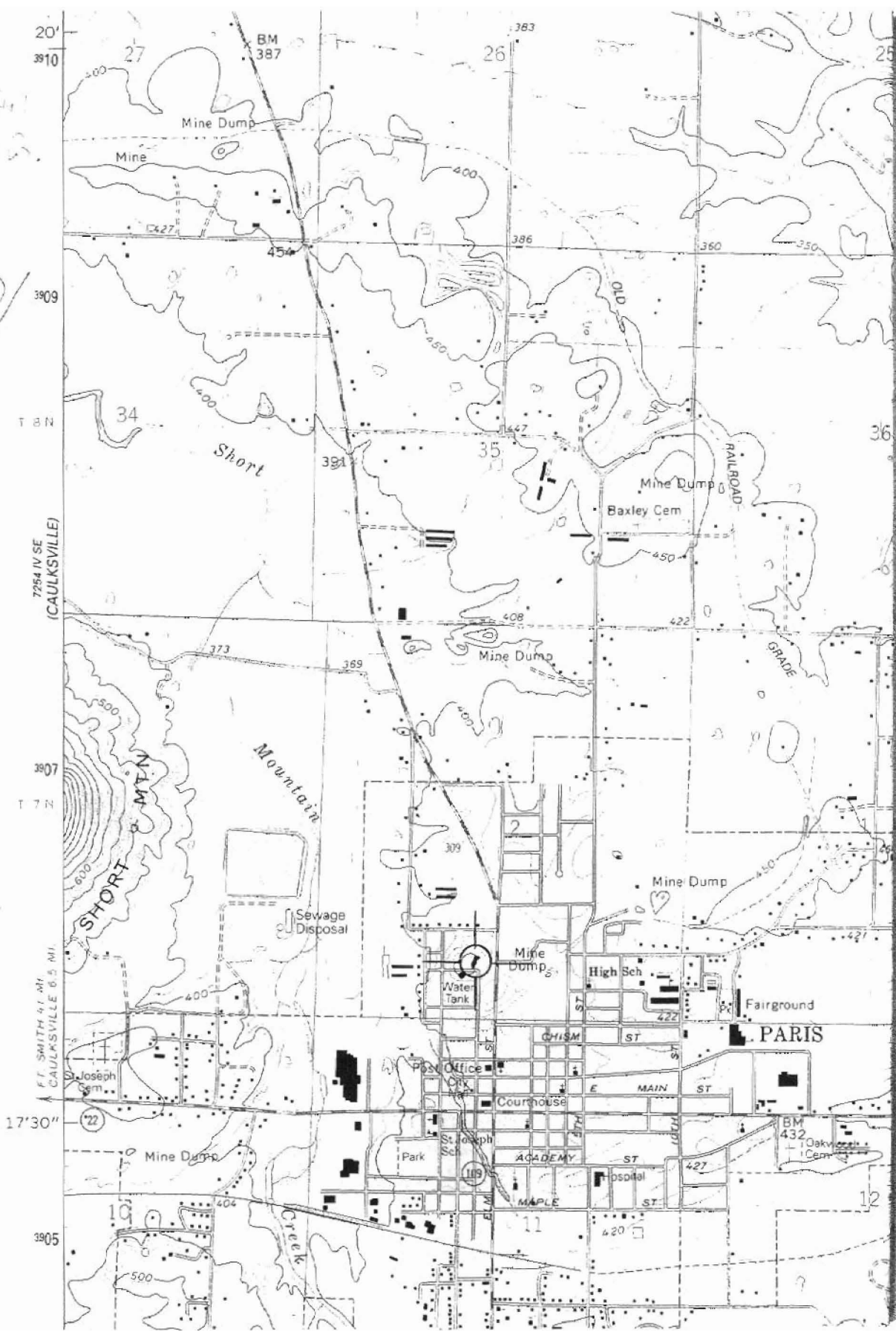
Paris Progress. August 23, 1971.

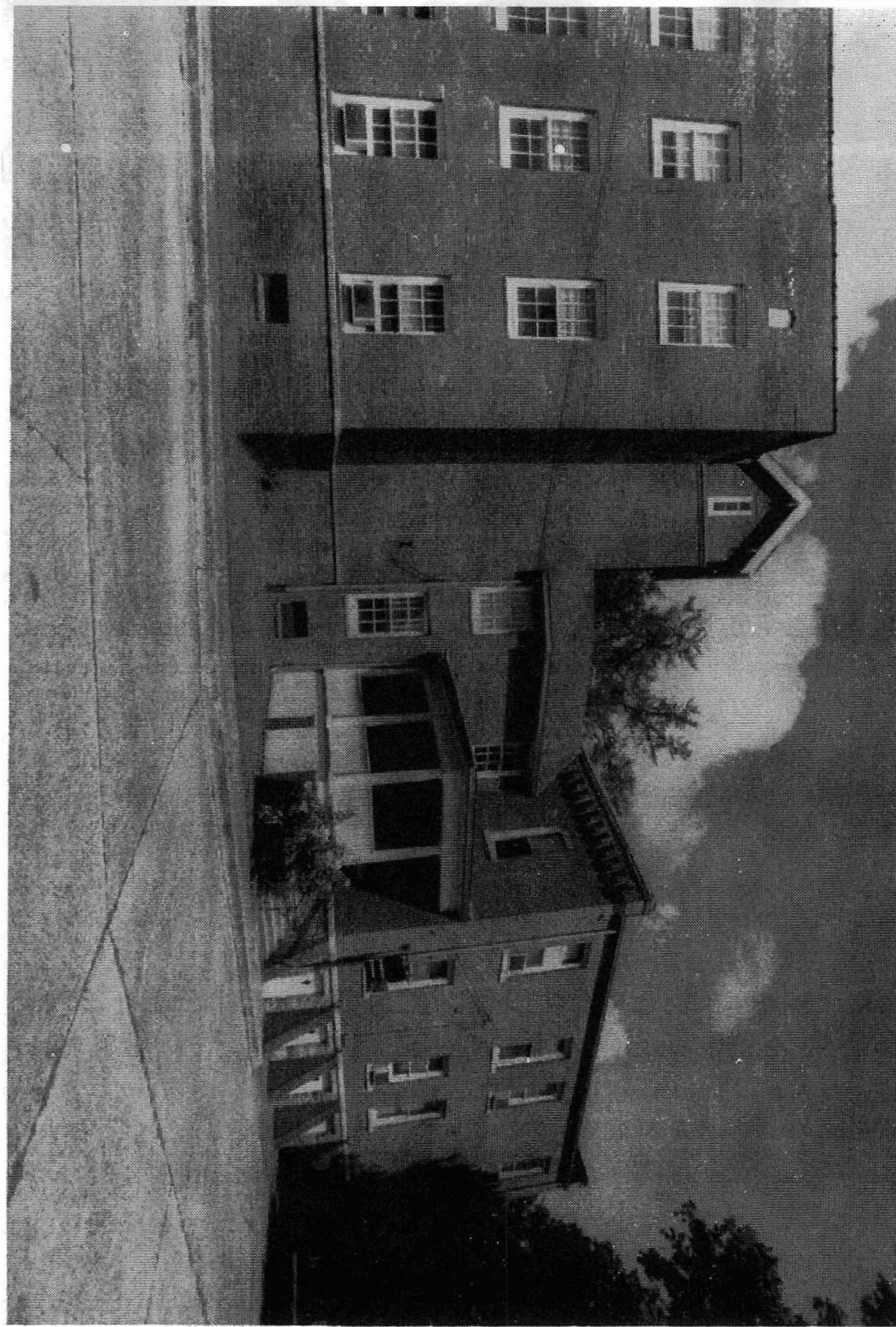
Southwest Times Record. November 22, 1971.

Titsworth, Elizabeth. "Feature Story on the Paris Hospital."

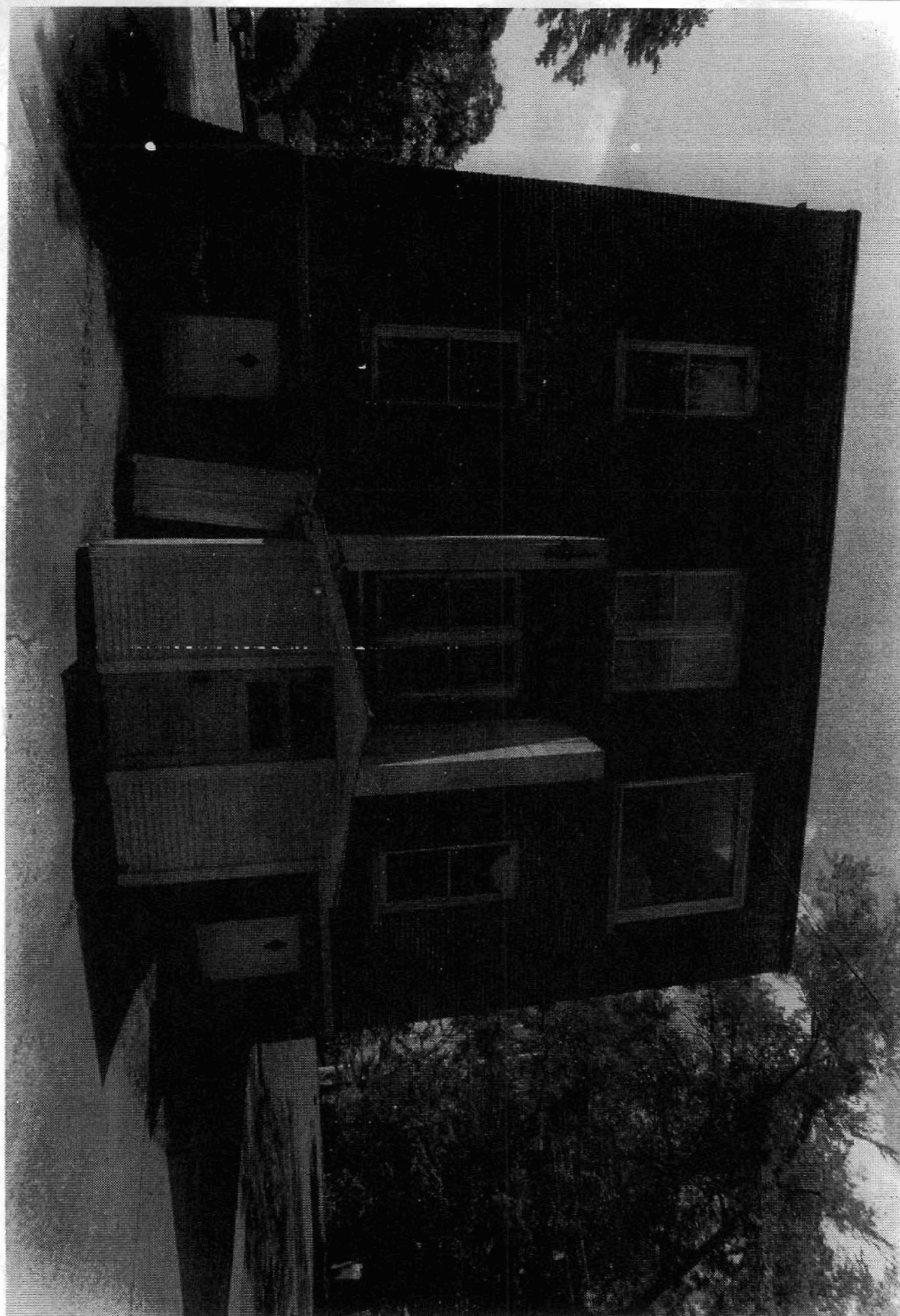
Wagon Wheels. Logan County Historical Society, Vol. 3, No. 3, Fall 1983 (historic photograph on cover).

Smith Hospital
L. Logan Co.
H. S. L.
UTN:
15/42320/
326130

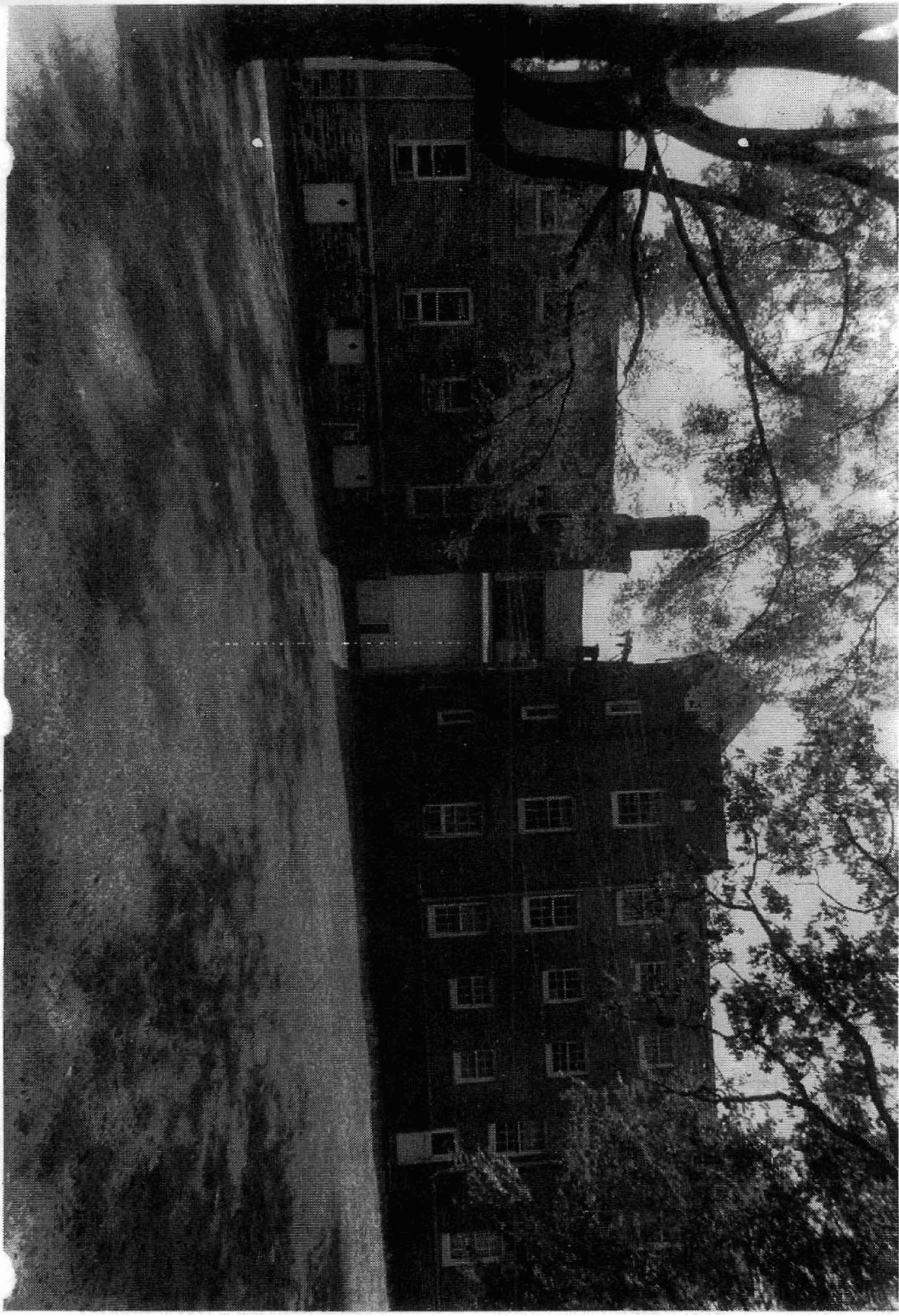




Smith Hospital
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHTP
View from the east



Smith Hospital
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the north .



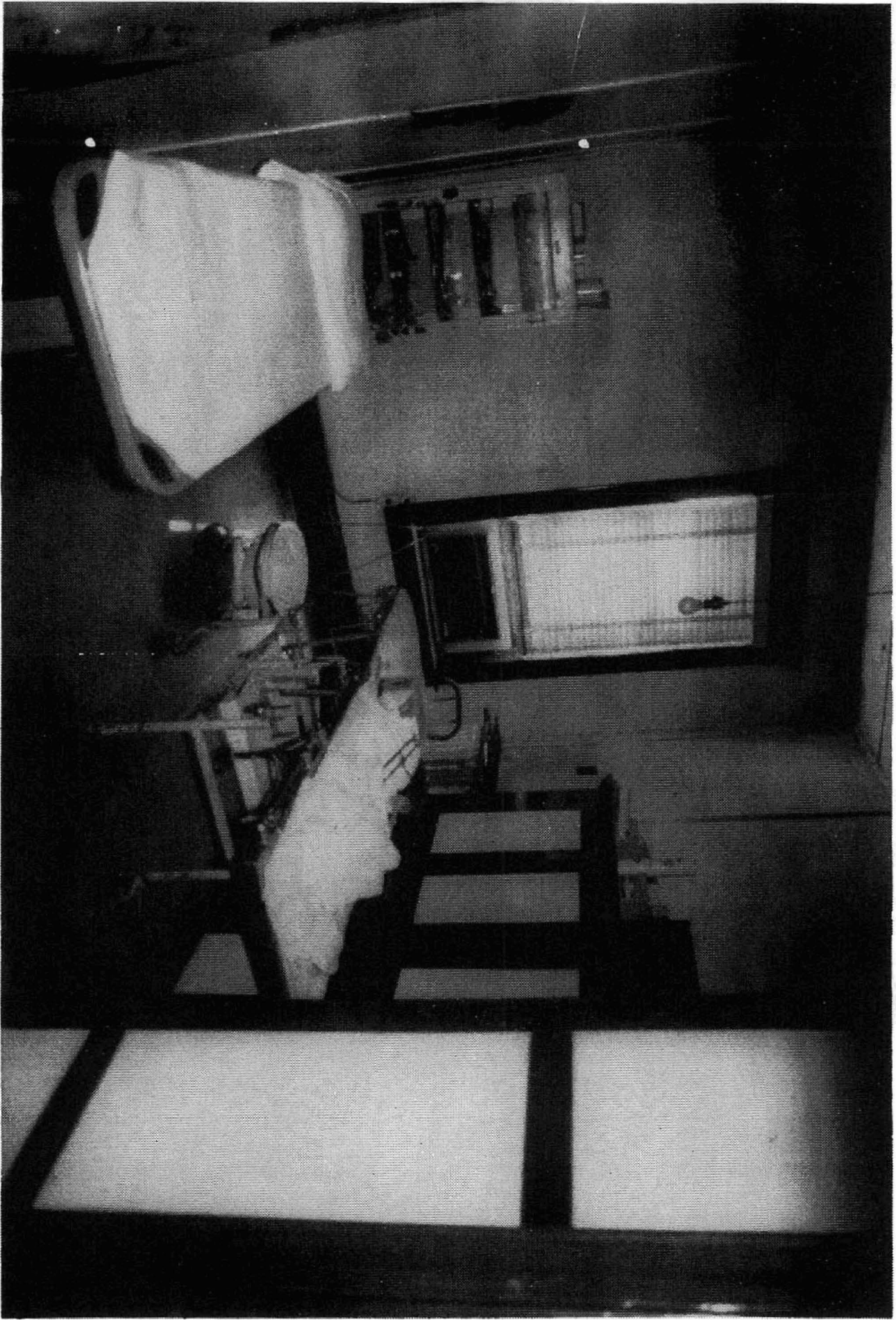
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Farguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the west



Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992.
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the south / southwest

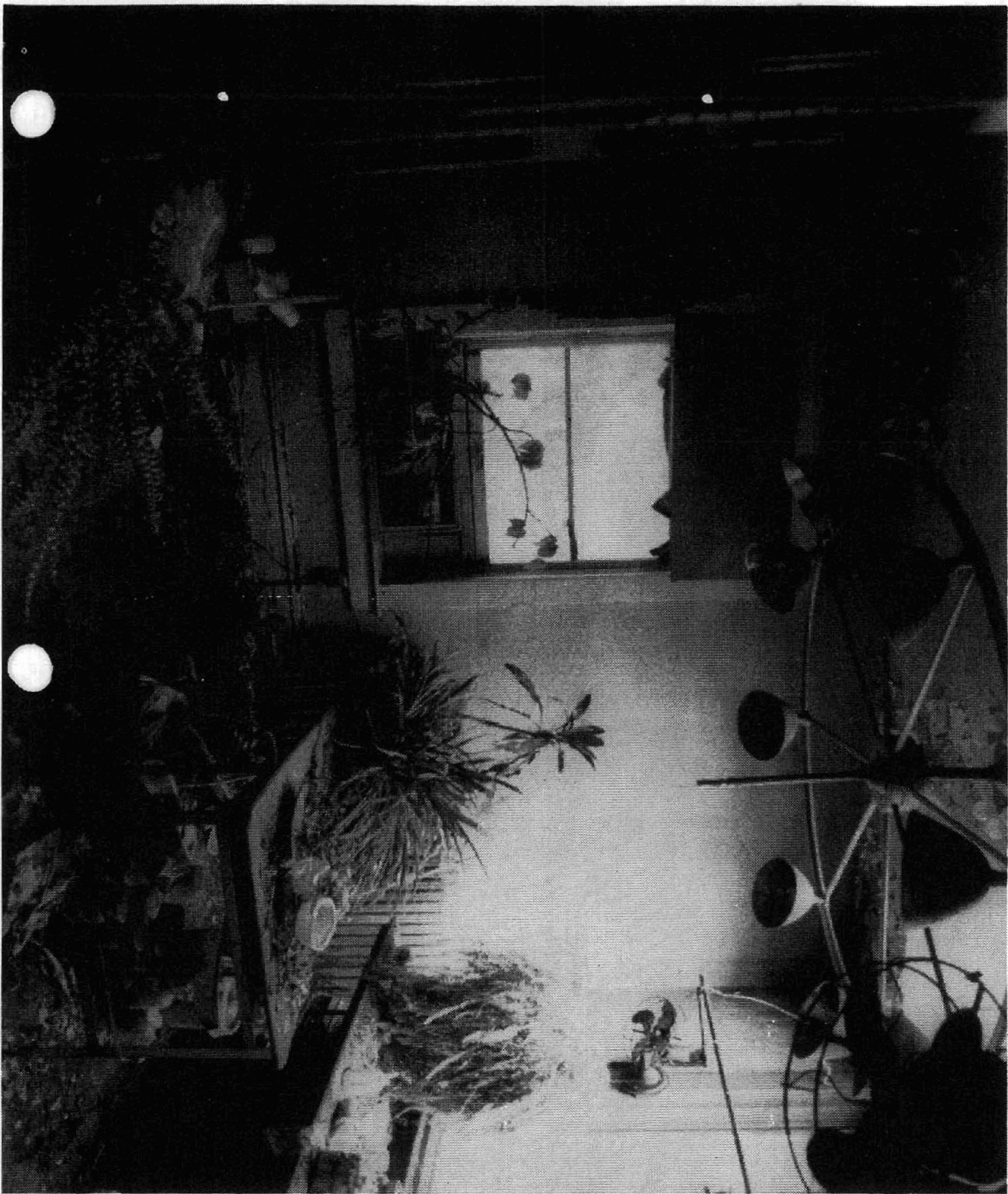


Smith Hospital
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the south / southeast



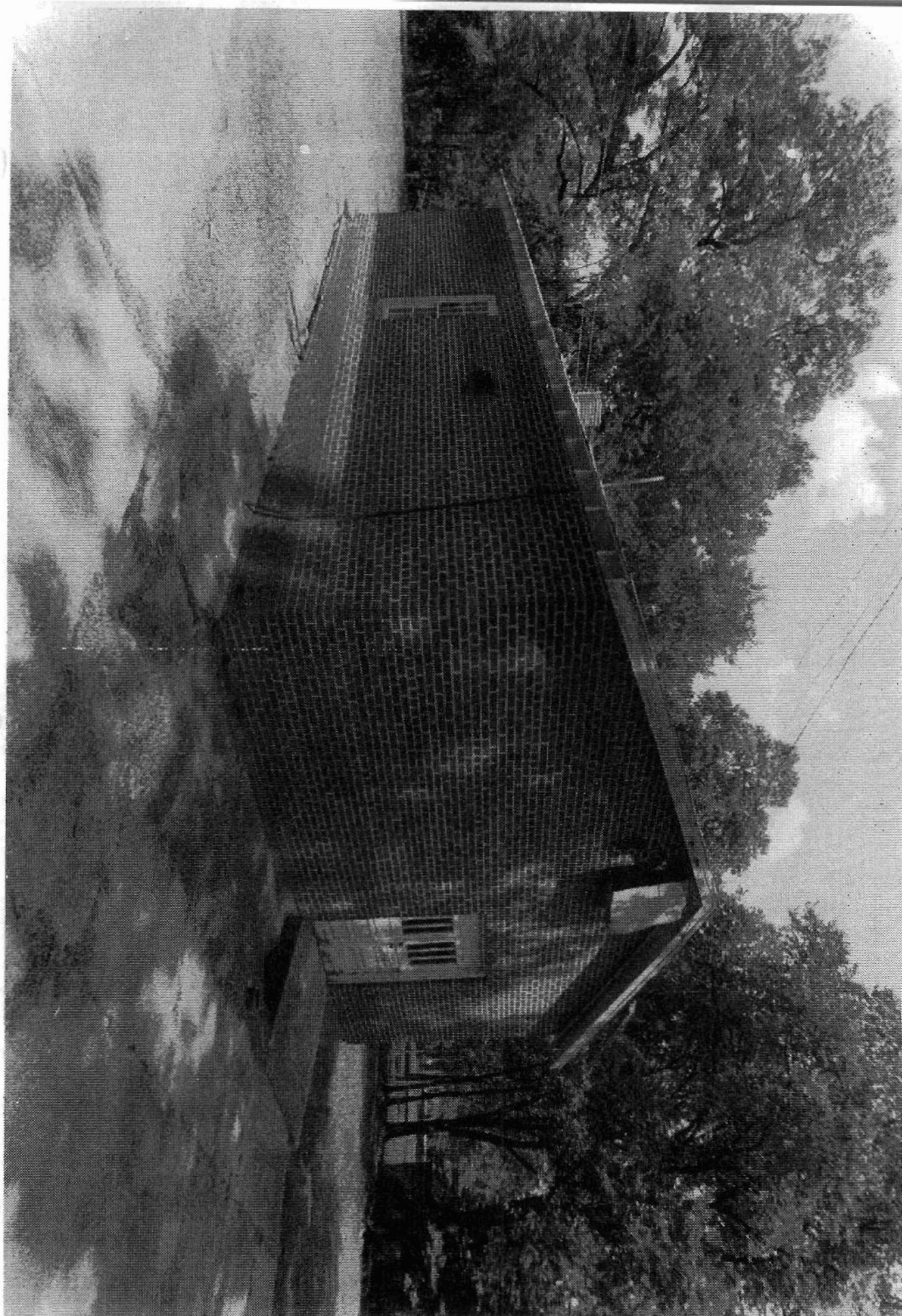
Smith Hospital
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHPP
view of interior examining room

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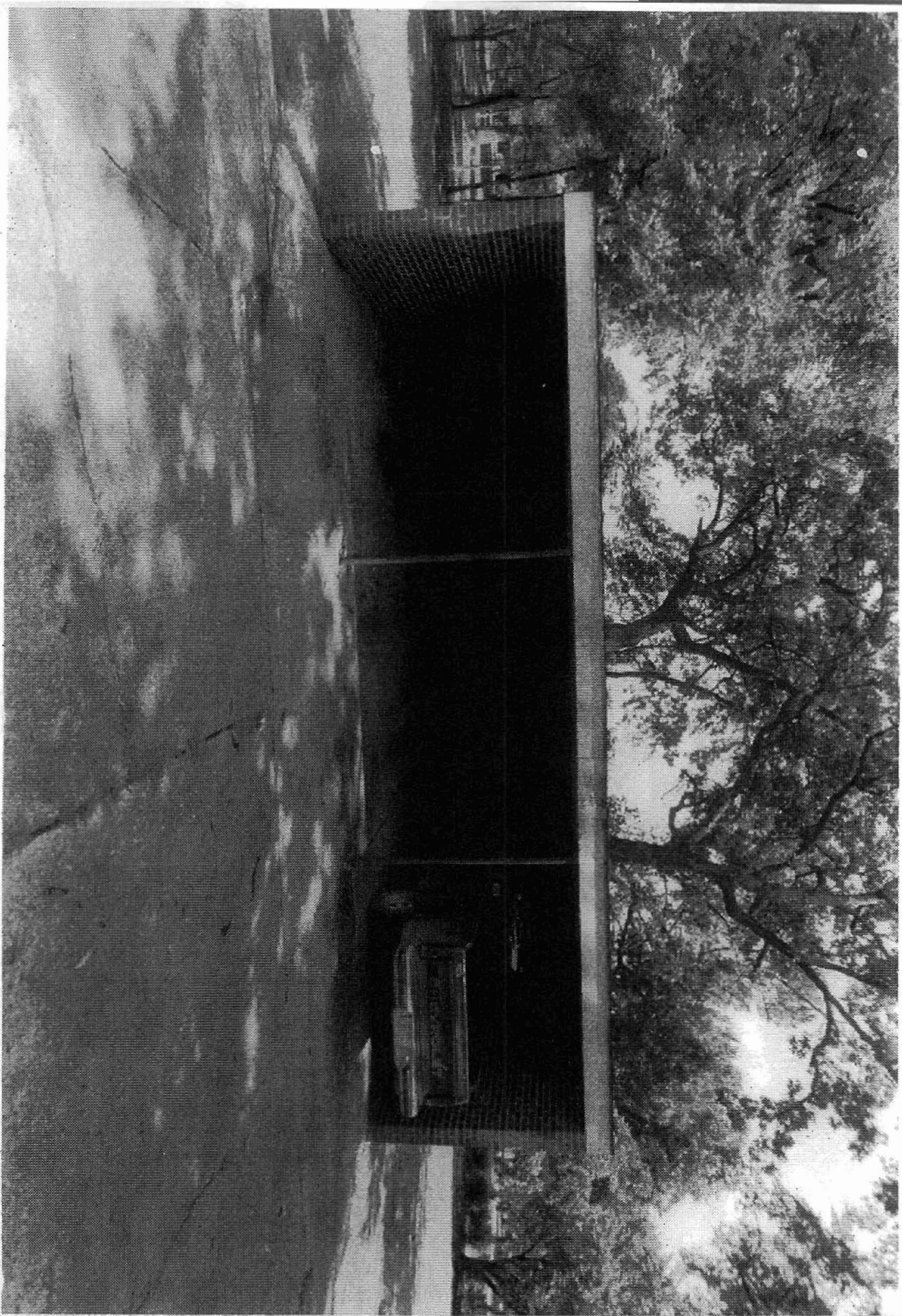


Smith Hospital
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHP
View of operating room,

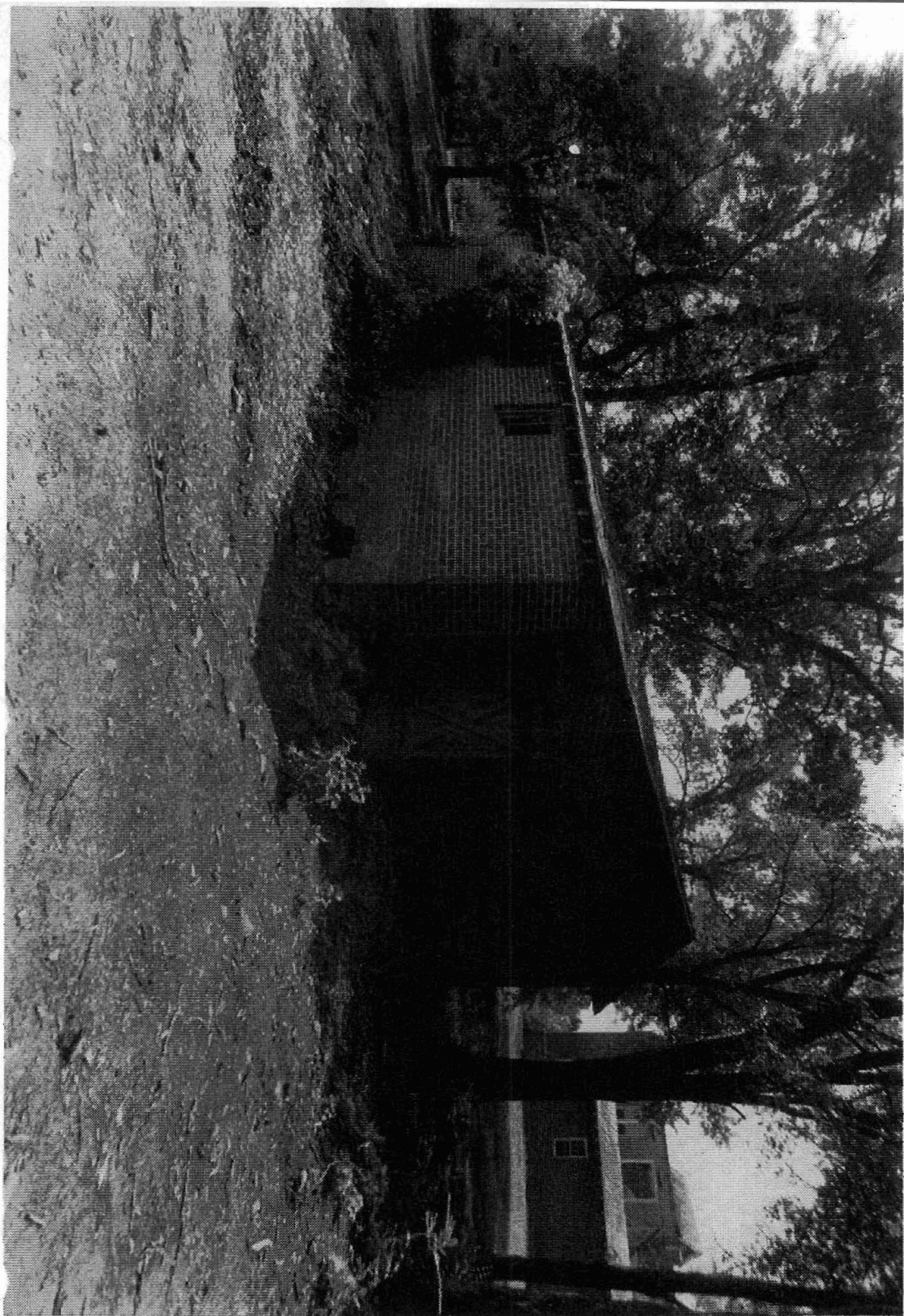
1913 section



Smith, Virginia
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHF?
View of laundry bldg.
from the southeast



Smith Nospiral
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at ANPP
View of garage from
the south



Smith, Rosanna
Logan Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Todd Ferguson
July 1992
Negative on file at AHPP
View of barn from the
northwest