

44-33-K038-62

NR

3-25-82

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only

received

date entered

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

## 1. Name

historic Bank of Kingston

and/or common Madison Bank and Trust

## 2. Location

street &amp; number 101 Public Square

N/A not for publication

city, town Kingston

N/A vicinity of

congressional district Third

state Arkansas

code 05

county Madison

code 087

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Steve Smith, President, Jim McDougal, Chairman of the Board, Bank of Kingston

street &amp; number 101 Public Square

city, town Kingston

N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Circuit Clerk's Office

street &amp; number Madison County Courthouse

city, town Huntsville

state Arkansas

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Arkansas Historic Preservation  
Program Surveyhas this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1976

 federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

city, town Little Rock

state Arkansas

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

### SUMMARY

The Bank of Kingston is a free-standing one-story stone structure situated on the north side of Kingston's town square. Built in 1911 by local contractor Smith Bradshaw at a cost of \$2,580.99 (a figure that appalled some of the bank's founding stockholders), the bank building is the most architecturally outstanding structure in the commercial streetscape of this rural Northwest Arkansas town. **Although its principal elevation presented a typical storefront, an unusually unassuming treatment for a bank building, the use of galvanized pressed metal on three elevations gives the building a distinctive appearance. While the metal applied to the building's side elevations is not ornate, the principal elevation features a richly decorated frieze, cornice and parapet that truly exploit the decorative potential of the material.**

### ELABORATION

The symmetrical principal (south) facade of the Bank of Kingston is an unaltered wood paneled storefront which is composed of a centrally located, recessed entrance and two flanking display windows. **Two vertical lights set on wood paneled bases and surmounted by transoms form the storefront windows. Splayed side-walls, containing like detailed vertical lights on wood panels, provide a smooth transition into the entry area. This main entrance is comprised of double doors, each featuring one rectangular light over four-panel base, with transom. A cloth awning, supported on a metal frame and extending across the full width of the principal elevation, shades the storefront. The building's prominent pressed tin entablature and parapet attractively complete the principal facade. An unornamented architrave, bearing the sign "Bank", caps the storefront and a band of ovolo moulding separates the architrave from the entablature's distinctive frieze. Fluid scroll designs embellish the frieze. Above the frieze, a slightly projecting cornice is articulated with pressed metal translations of dentils and modillions. The parapet that caps the entablature features a decorative raised pattern that creates the appearance of a balustrade. Documents found in the bank's original safe indicate that the exterior and interior pressed metal was purchased from Mesker & Brothers of St. Louis, Missouri and shipped to Arkansas by rail.**

The bank's east and west elevations are distinguished by pressed metal veneer fabricated in imitation of masonry. **Otherwise these side elevations are uninterrupted and undistinguished. In 1981 the bank was extended to the rear (north). However, sympathetic use of pressed tin siding renders this one-story addition relatively undistinguishable from the predominant original section of the building. Further, the addition is virtually invisible from the public square and thus does not intrude upon the integrity of the bank's fine principal facade. The entire building has recently been painted in period colors of beige with maroon, black, and white trim.**

The interior of the Bank of Kingston, the subject of recent restoration, retains the same integrity of original fabric that so distinguishes the building's exterior. In plan, the banking room and its lobby occupy the front half of the structure, offices are located behind it, and a conference room occupies the rear addition. **The teller's**

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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cage is quite classical in design featuring Ionic colonnettes and dentiled cornices that frame the teller's windows, egg and dart moulding, paneling, beading, and applied garlands. As on the exterior, pressed metal contributes significantly to the quality of the interior design. The pressed tin walls, cornice mouldings and ceiling panels are replete with ornate designs. The interior of the rear addition continues the esthetic established in the original banking room by utilizing new pressed tin components obtained from the same firm that provided the original fabric. The banking room floor is covered with white tiles and the "1911" construction date is inlaid in a darker color tile. Two original safes have been restored and one, a barrel safe manufactured in 1916, occupies the banking room lobby. The building is heated by a replica of an 1895 wood heater.

## 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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 1911 Builder/Architect Smith Bradshaw, contractor

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bank of Kingston is a fine example of rural Northwest Arkansas commercial architecture, unusual for a bank building, unique in its streetscape, and significant to the town of Kingston's commercial history. As the first and presently the only banking institution in Kingston and one of only three banks in Madison County to survive the depression of the 1930s, the Bank of Kingston has been at the foundation of the town's commercial development since it was chartered in April 1911. Most of the community's merchants and civic leaders were included as original stockholders. The bank's founder and first president, Joel N. Bunch, was prominent in Madison County's commercial development since the 1880s, a critical time in Kingston's history for the town rebuilt slowly after the Civil War, and his enterprises included a grocery store, the Kingston Milling Co. (saw, grist and flour mills) and the town's first industry -- a wagon spoke plant. The bank building's outstanding architectural character, exhibiting a fine survival and great integrity of original fabric, enhances its historic significance. Its literal storefront design is unusual for a bank building in Arkansas where, even in rural areas, this building type is invariably treated with a self-consciously "high style", often Classical, facade or vested with some degree of monumentality in the downtown streetscape. Nonetheless, in spite of its modest scale and proportions the Bank of Kingston is architecturally prominent, deriving its stature from the creative use of decorative pressed metal on its interior and exterior alike. The quality and effect of this material is particularly evident on the building's actively ornamented entablature and parapet. The building's painstakingly restored interior also reflects the structure's historicity and architectural eminence. Still appearing much as it did at the time of its construction, the Bank of Kingston remains an important and unique example of the bank building type in Arkansas, closely tied to the development of its community.

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Verbal boundary description and justification:

Commencing at the NW corner SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 15 Township 16 North Range 24 W. Thence South on Section line 32 rods thence S  $88^{\circ}$  E 5 rods 22 $\frac{1}{4}$  links for a beginning point. Thence S  $88^{\circ}$  E 25 feet. Thence N  $20^{\circ}$  E 190 feet to a stone in the center of the Kingston Branch. Thence S  $88^{\circ}$  W 25 feet. Thence S  $20^{\circ}$  W 190 feet to beginning point. Said land being on the north side of the Public Square in the town of Kingston and being a part of the SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 15 Township 16 North Range 24 W.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Goodspeed's History of Northwest Arkansas (1889); A History of Kingston (1972); "Pioneer Identity Retained by Kingston", Carroll County Historical Quarterly (1976); "Death Claims Joel N. Bunch", Madison County Record, 18 August 1927 p.1; "Statement of Condition, Bank of Kingston", 2 March 1912; "Minute Book, Bank of Kingston", (1911 - present: Report of the State Bank Department, 1913 - 1980)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Kingston Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UMT References

A 

1	5
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4	5	3	4	0	5
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3	9	8	9	5	2	5
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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

See continuation sheet.

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

state Not Applicable code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Don Brown, Historian  
Ethel Goodstein, Architectural Historian

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date May 8, 1981

street & number 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

*Wilson Stiles*

title SHPO

date 2-12-82

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

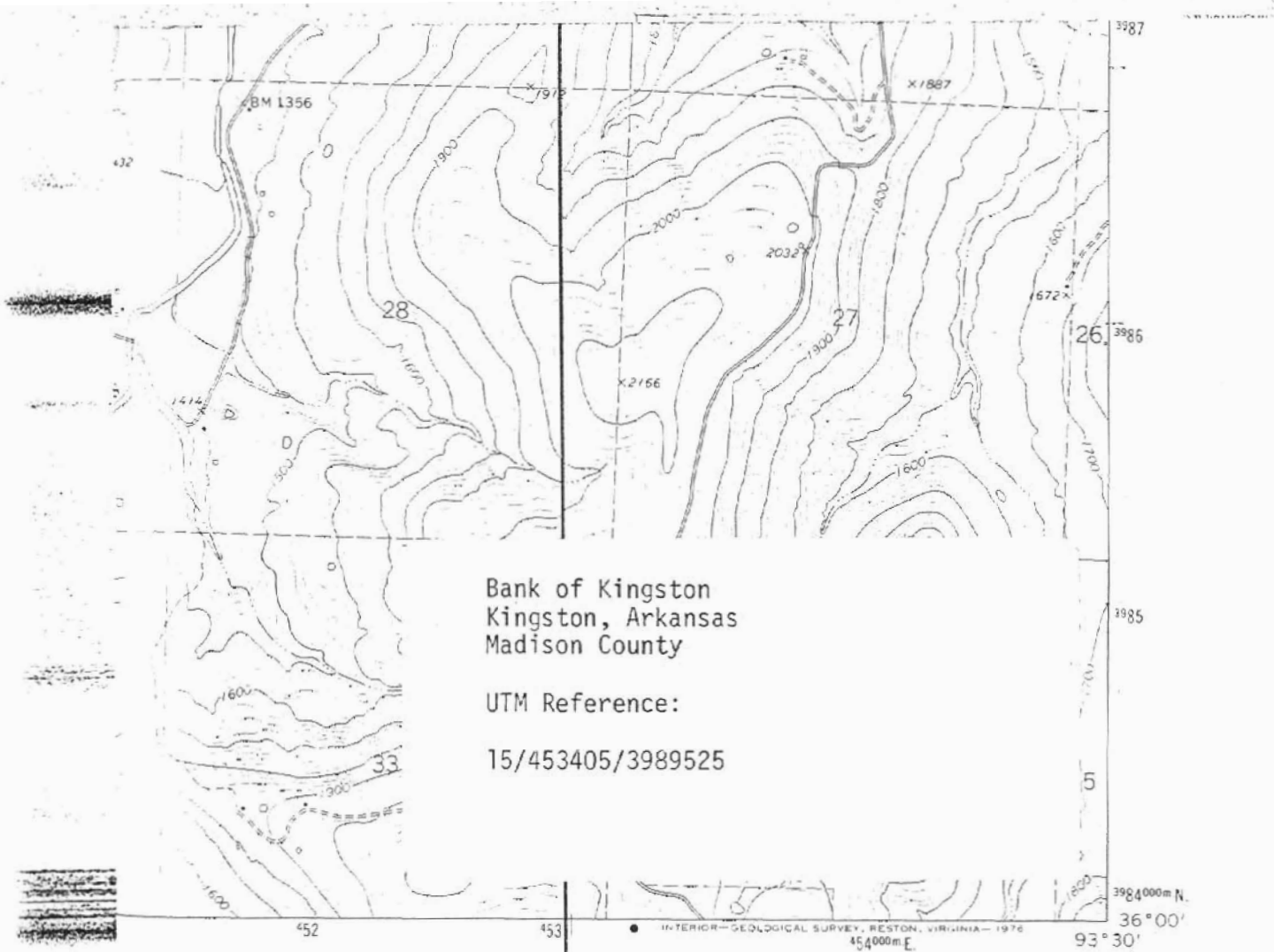
date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration



Bank of Kingston  
Kingston, Arkansas  
Madison County

UTM Reference:  
15/453405/3989525

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- |                                    |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Primary highway,<br>hard surface   |  | Light-duty road, hard or<br>improved surface |  |
| Secondary highway,<br>hard surface |  | Unimproved road                              |  |
| Interstate Route                   |  | U. S. Route                                  |  |
|                                    |  | State Route                                  |  |

180 ft NW  
1356

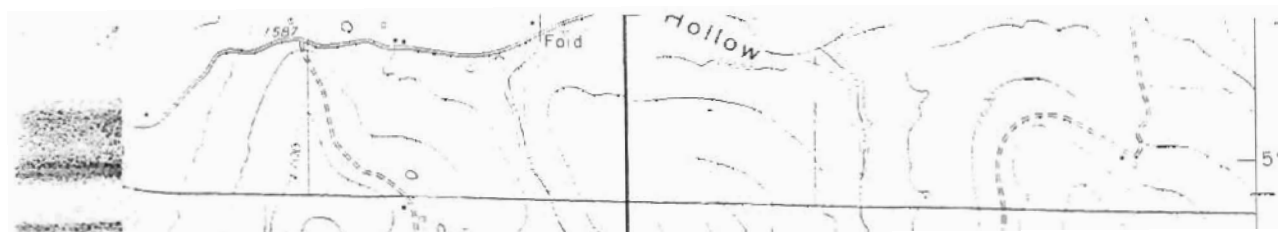


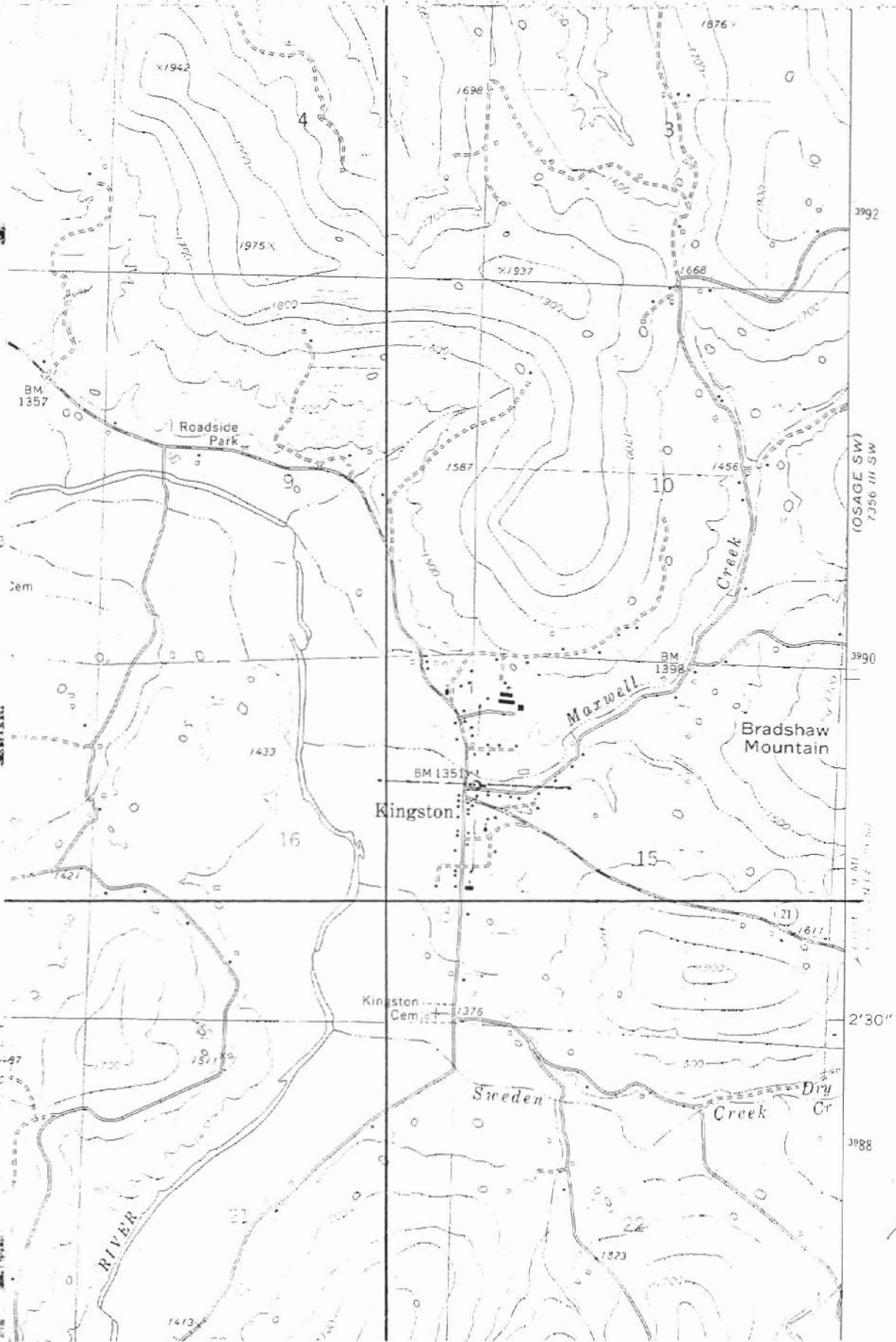
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

KINGSTON, ARK.  
N3600—W9330/7.5

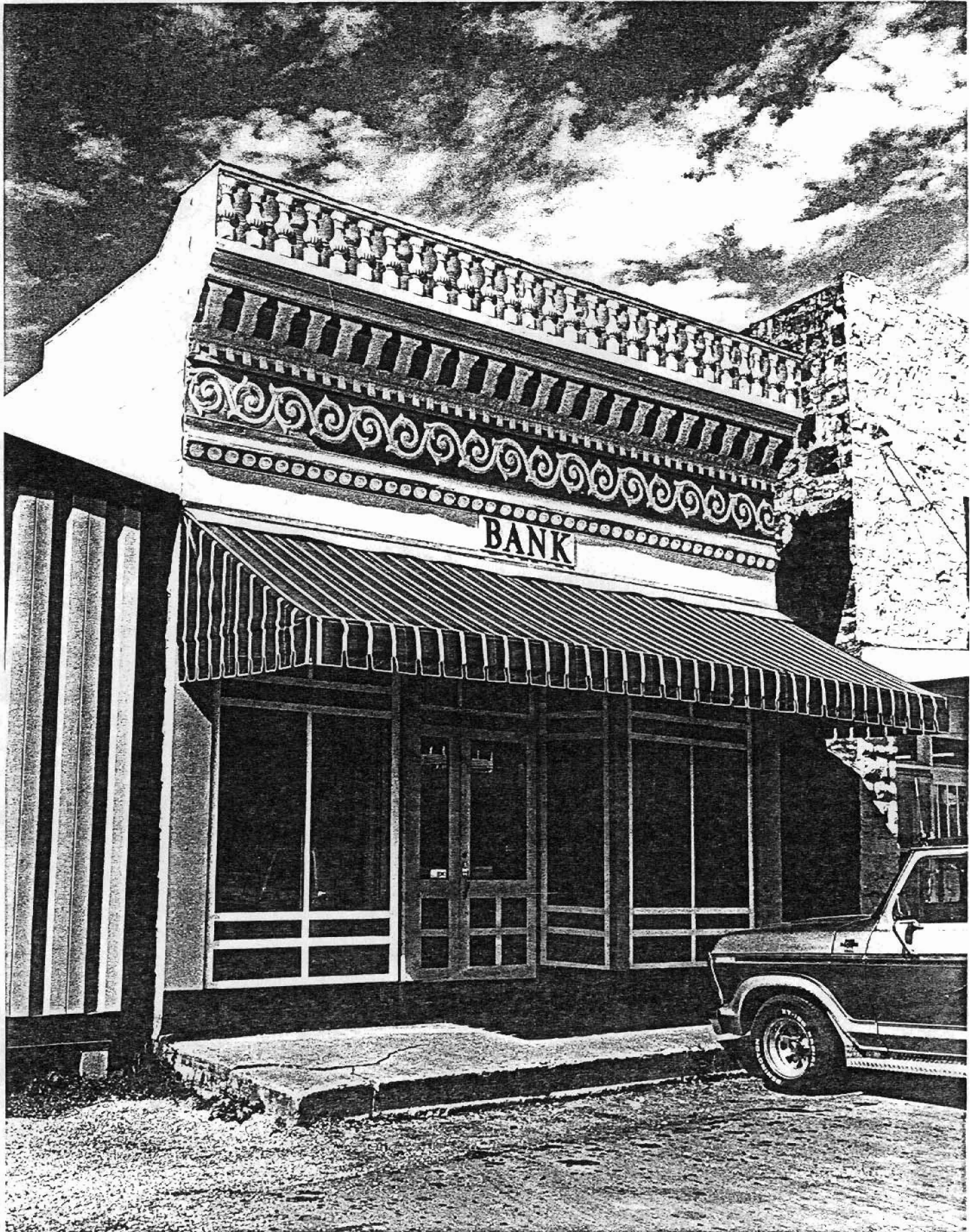
1973

AMS 7256 II SE—SERIES V684









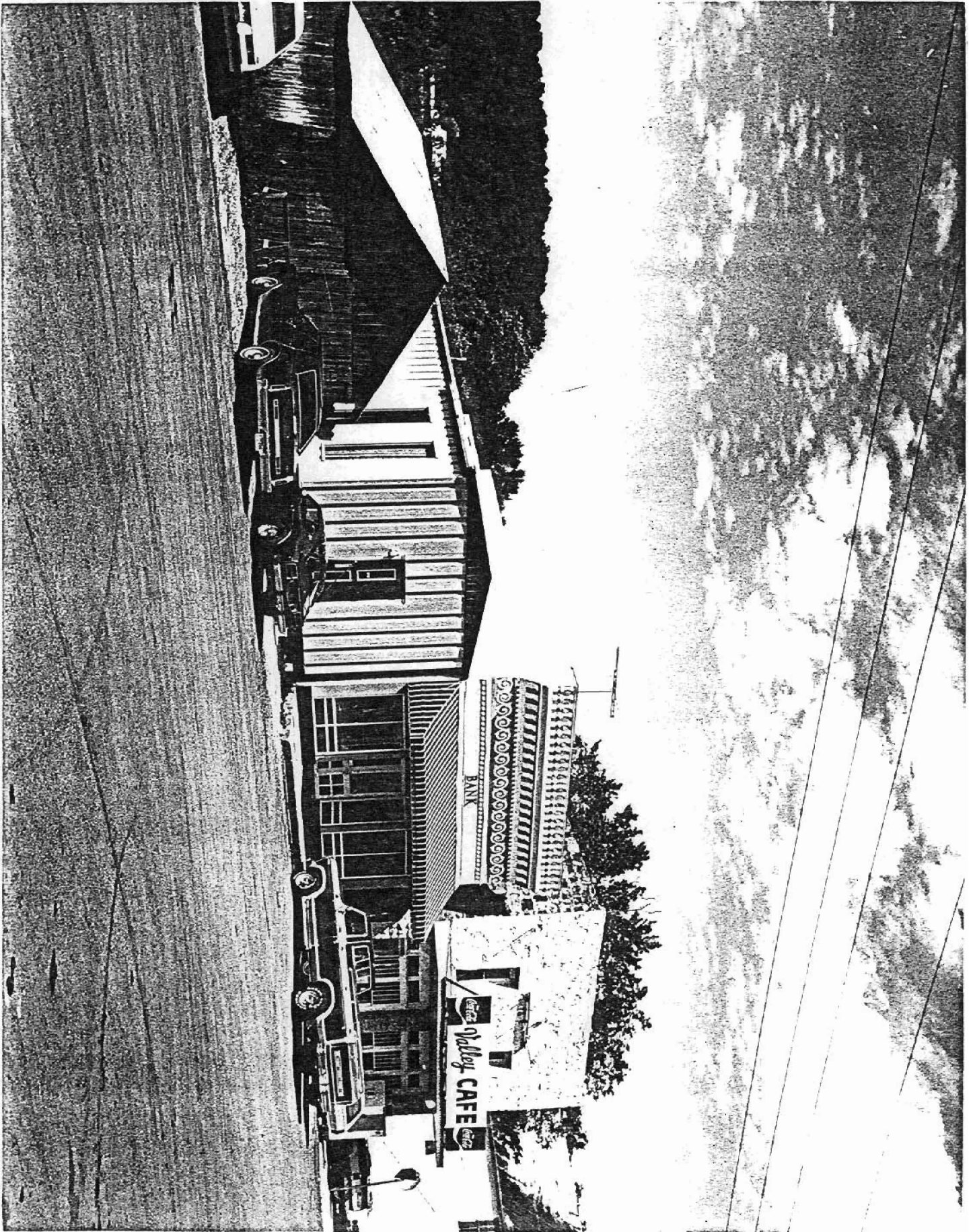
Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County

Bob Dunn, Photographer.

Photograph taken 30 April 1981.

Negative filed at Ark. Hist. Pres. Program

Front (south) elevation from the southwest.  
Photograph 2 of 7.



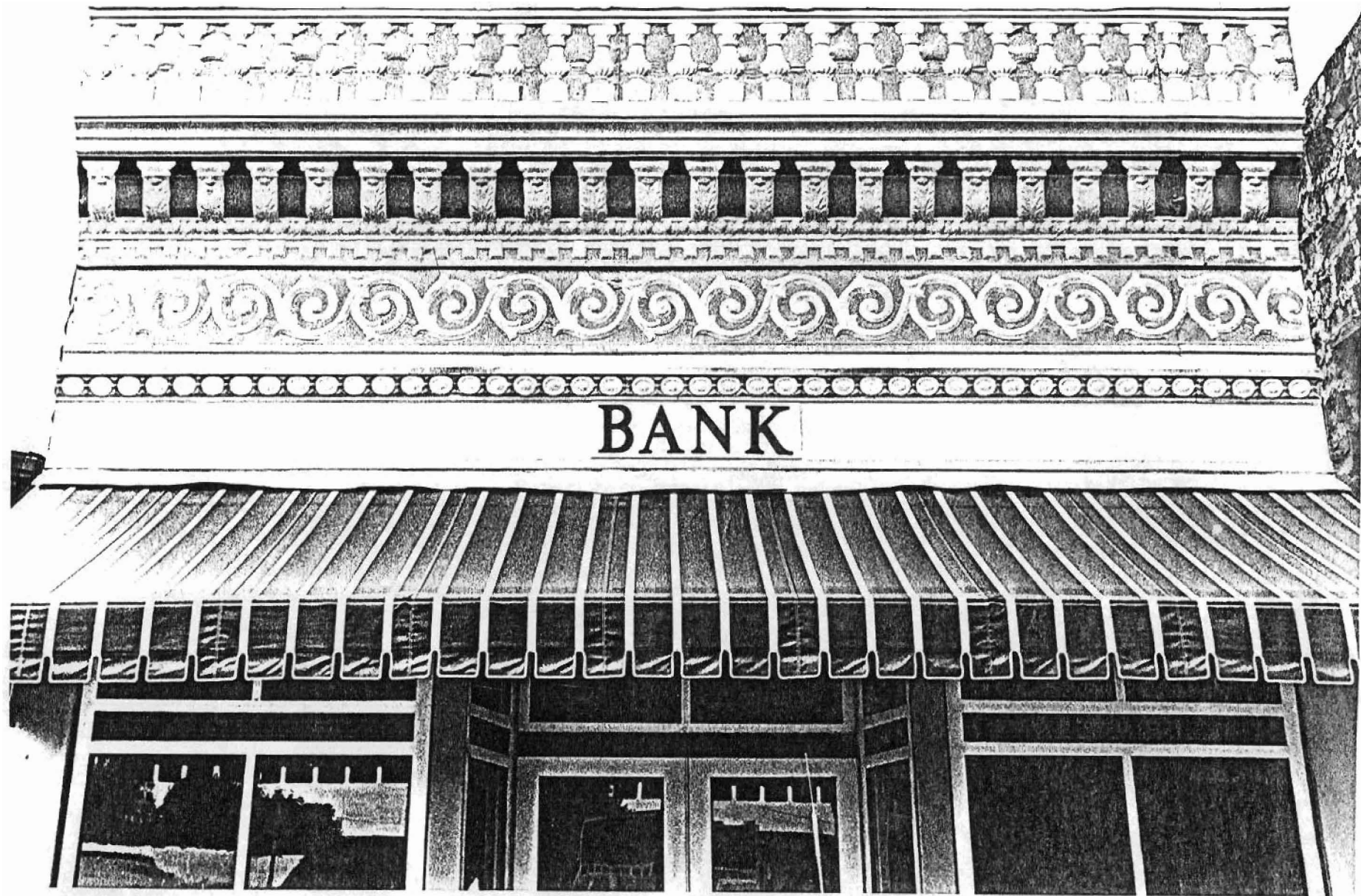
Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County

Bob Dunn, Photographer.

Photograph taken 30 April 1981

Negative filed at Ark. Hist. Pres. Program

View of the townsquare from the southwest.  
Photograph 1 of 7.



Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County.

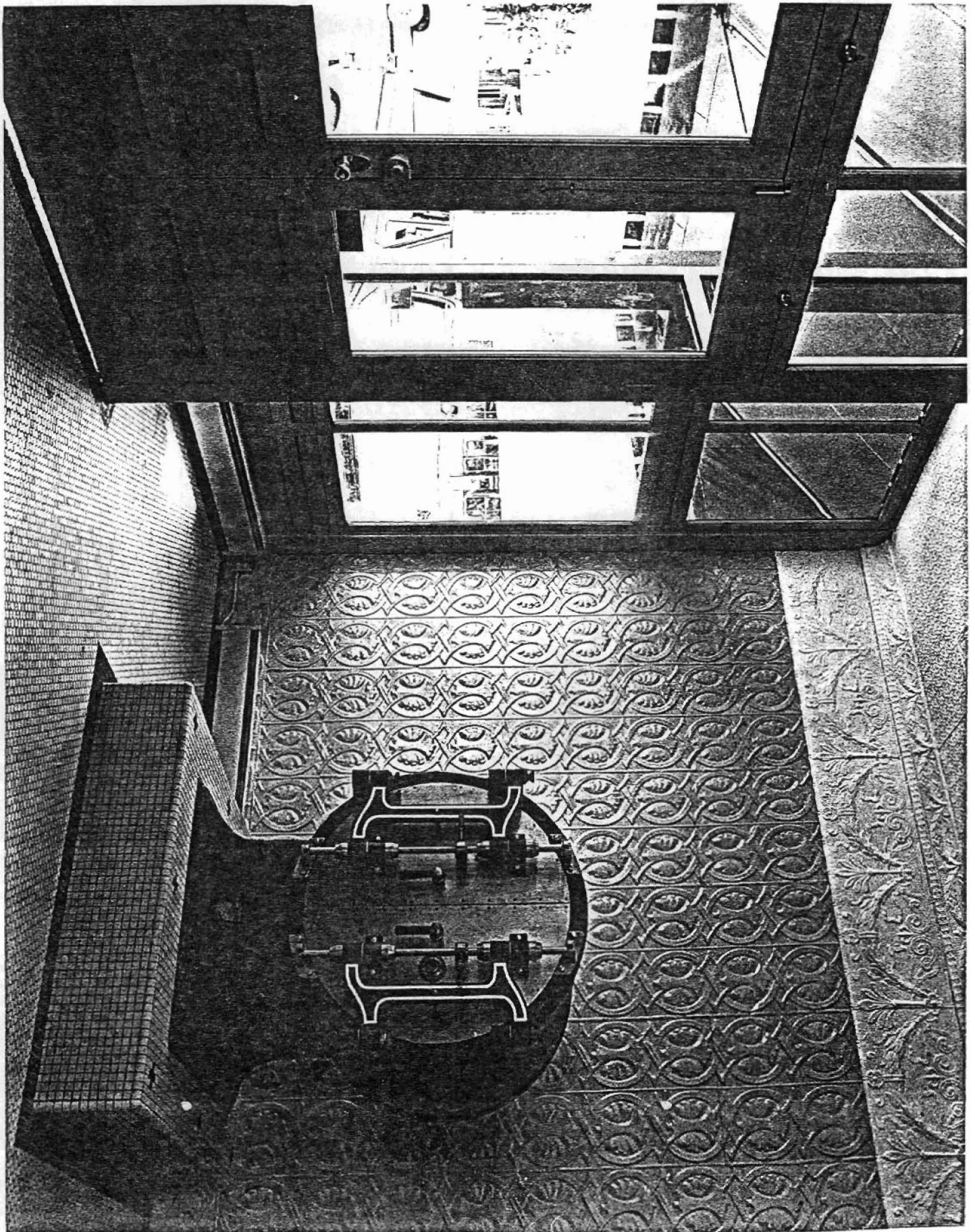
Bob Dunn, Photographer.

Photograph taken 30 April 1981.

Negative filed at Ark. Hist. Pres. Program

Front (south) elevation, cornice detail  
from the south.

Photograph 3 of 7.



Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County.

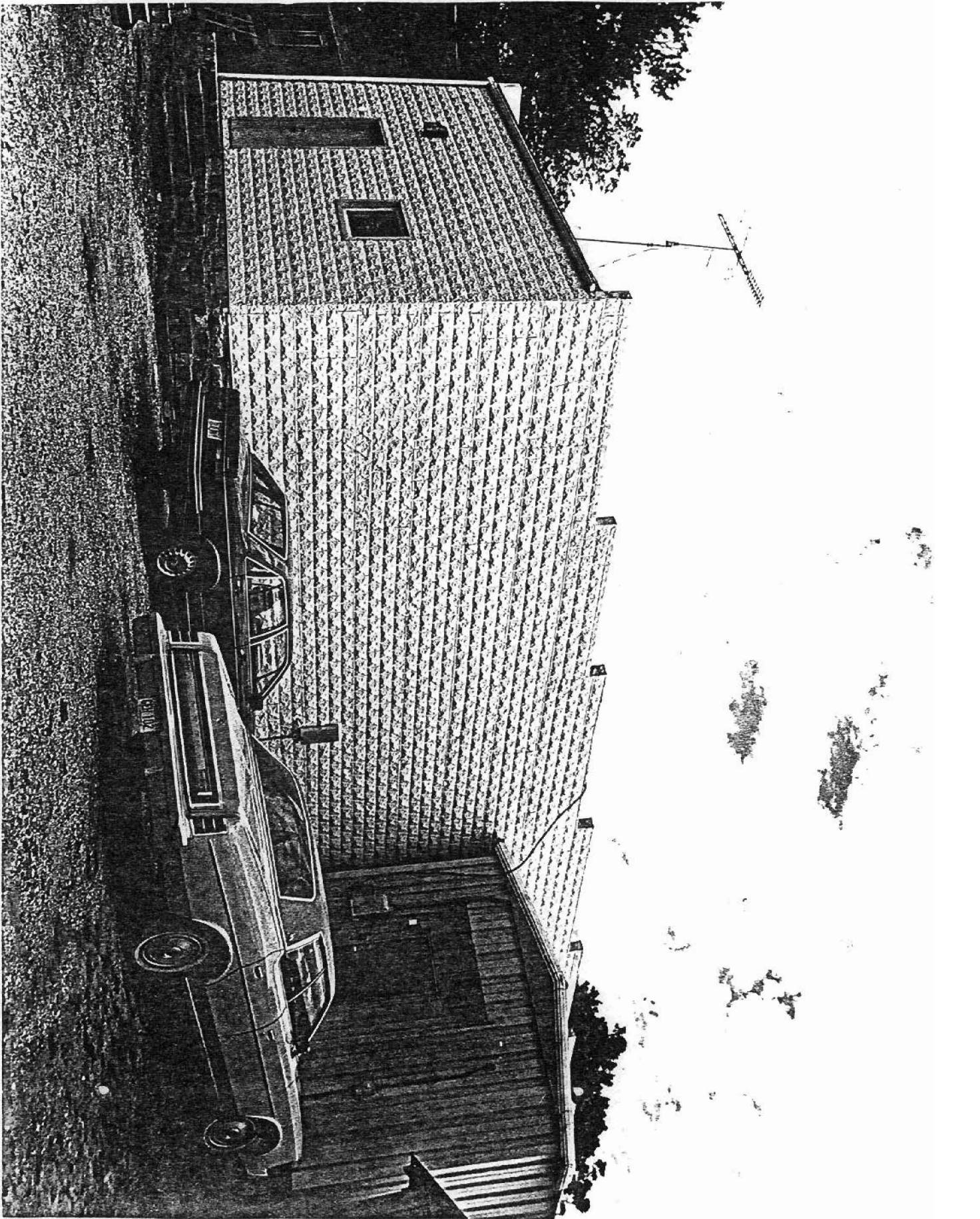
Bob Dunn, Photographer.

Photograph taken 30 April 1981.

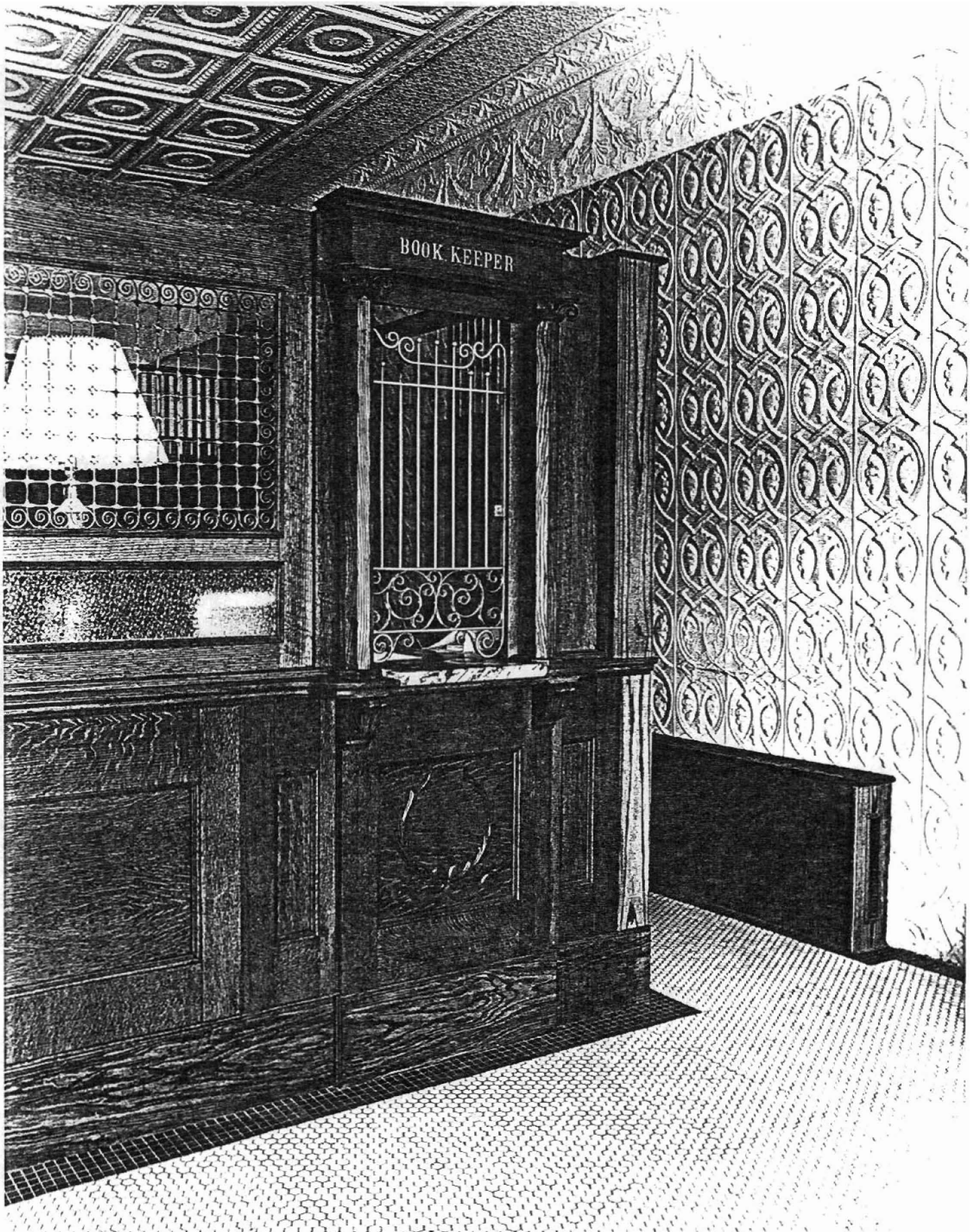
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Interior. Banking room from the northeast.  
Photograph 6 of 7.









Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County.

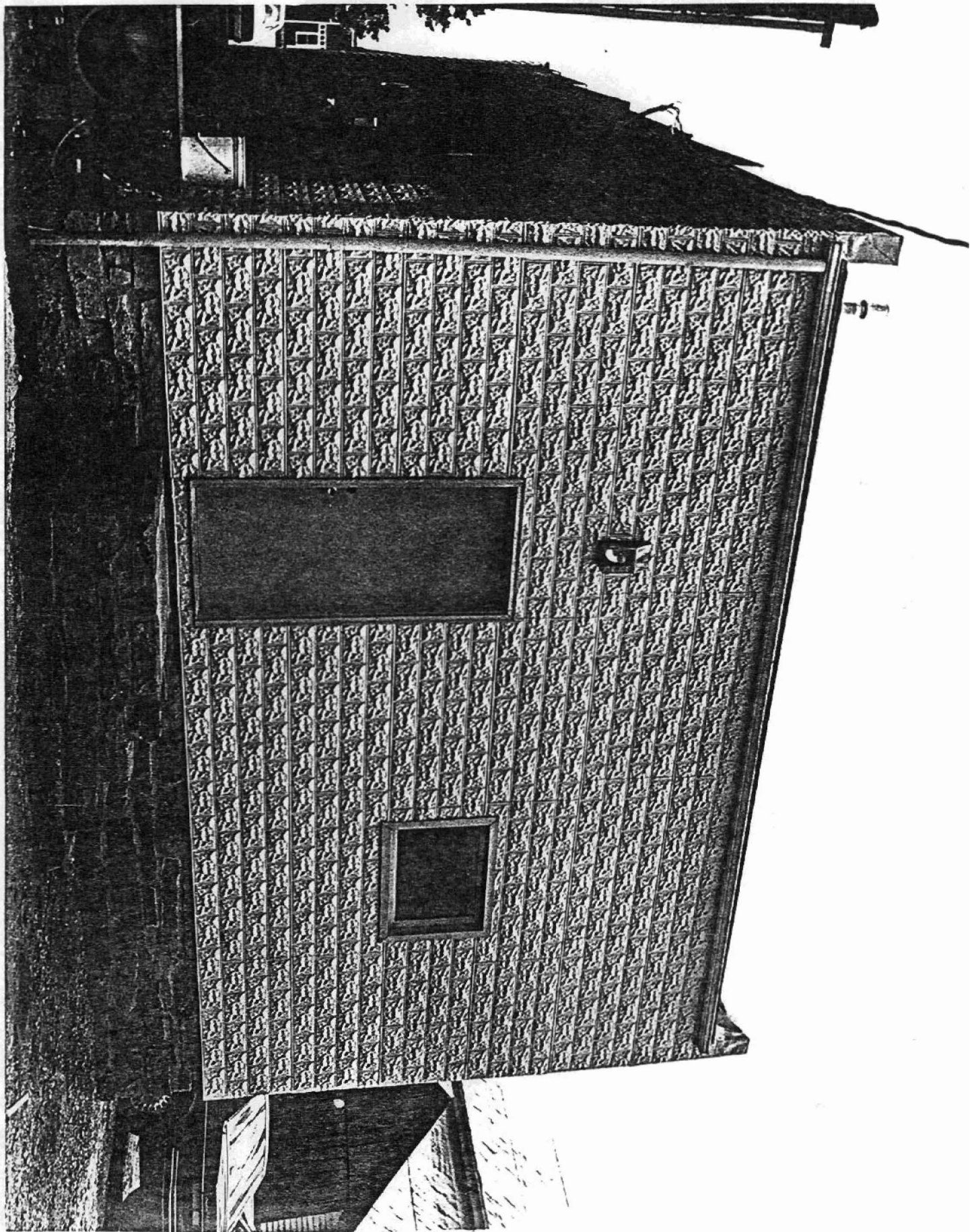
Bob Dunn, Photographer.

Photograph taken 30 April 1981.

Negative filed at Ark. Hist. Pres. Program.

Interior. Banking room. Detail of  
teller's cage.

Photograph 7 of 7.



Bank of Kingston, 101 Public Square,  
Kingston, Arkansas. Madison County.  
Bob Dunn, Photographer.  
Photograph taken 30 April 1981.  
Negative filed at Ark. Hist. Pres. Program  
Rear (north) elevation from the northeast.  
Photograph 5 of 7