

NR listed 6/08/93
OMB No. 1024-0018

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Pea Ridge School Building

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: E. of County Rd. 6; approx. 4 mi. S. of Bruno

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Bruno

vicinity: X

state: AR county: Marion code: AR 089 zip code: 72675

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<u>1</u>	_____ sites
<u>1</u>	_____ structures
<u>2</u>	_____ objects
	_____ 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.

Clayton J. Slater _____ 4-15-93 _____
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

=====
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
=====

Historic: Education _____ Sub: school _____

Current : Vacant/Not In Use _____ Sub: _____

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7. Description

=====

Architectural Classification:

N/A

Other Description: Plain Traditional

Materials: foundation stone roof tin
walls wood 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: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1899

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

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:

- 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 two

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>521900</u>	<u>3994270</u>	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

A part of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 Section 26, Township 17 North of Range 17 West, beginning at a stone two rods from the Northwest corner of the School House, running thence South one hundred and forty yards more or less to the south line; thence East seventy yards more or less to the Northeast corner of above described division, thence North one hundred and forty yards more or less, thence West seventy yards more or less to the place of beginning, containing two acres more or less.

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

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

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, National Register Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 04/14/93

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Summary

The Pea Ridge School is a single-story, wood-frame, one-room school building constructed in the Plain Traditional style c. 1899. A continuous fieldstone foundation supports the native-pine board-and-batten walls. The gable roof is steeply pitched and covered with corrugated tin. Flush horizontal planking covers the interior, which is largely original, with the eastern wall painted black for a chalkboard. A historic cistern is located near the southwest corner of the building. Located approximately four miles south of Bruno, the Pea Ridge School is in fair condition with the only principal alteration being the loss of the original belfry.

Elaboration

Constructed c. 1899, the Pea Ridge School is a single-story, wood-frame, one-room school building designed in the Plain Traditional style. A continuous fieldstone foundation supports the native-pine board-and-batten walls. The gable roof is steeply pitched and covered with corrugated tin, which was added sometime in the 1920's to replace the original split shakes.

The front, or western, elevation is composed of two single-leaf, five-panelled wood doors with a single four-over-four double-hung window placed between. Both side elevations are fenestrated by three symmetrically placed four-over-four double-hung windows, and the rear, or eastern, elevation is blank.

The interior is walled with flush, light-green painted, horizontal boarding with a portion of the rear wall painted black for use as a chalkboard. The original central brick chimney, suspended from the ceiling and connected to the stove by stovepipe, has been removed as has the original school chair/desks. Church pews now provide the seating. The school building was wired for electricity c. 1950, but otherwise the interior is largely original.

There is a historic fieldstone and concrete cistern located near the southwest corner of the building that is included in the nomination. An associated historic cemetery, also located southwest of the school but adjacent to the road, is not included in the boundaries of this nomination.

Originally the exterior was painted red, then white with red trim, and at the last painting in the 1940's, it was left all white. The building has suffered from deterioration and vandalism - most of the glass in the windows have been broken - over the years; however, the only principal alteration has been the removal of the original belfry in the 1920's when the new metal roof was added.

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The Pea Ridge School is located in Marion County approximately four miles south of Bruno on County Road 6.

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Section number 8 Page 1

Summary

The Pea Ridge School is being nominated under Criterion C as the best known example in Marion County of a one-room, board-and-batten school building.

Elaboration

The Pea Ridge School was constructed to replace the Tomahawk school that burned in the spring of 1899. The earlier school, which was located approximately one mile from the site of the present Pea Ridge School on the dry prong of the Tomahawk Creek, was the scene of an incident on Memorial Day 1899 which led to the destruction of the school a few nights later.

According to local tradition, a fierce brawl ensued on the church grounds after the Memorial Day services when a "gang of toughs" accosted a young man named Wayne Adams and accused him of lying. After Adams knocked one of the ruffians to the ground and was subsequently assaulted by the entire gang, other male members of the congregation, namely relatives of Adams, joined in the fray. As the tide of battle turned against the roughnecks, one of them pulled a knife but was effectively neutralized when a spectator, Uncle Green Adams, grabbed him from behind by the throat and did not relinquish his hold until the delinquent collapsed from lack of oxygen. Although the boy regained his breath, the experience was sufficient to discourage him from rejoining the fight. The leader of the gang did not fare as well as his confederate, however, when Levi Taylor, a brother-in-law of Wayne Adams and described as "a big Goliath of a man," felled him with a blow from a broken tree limb.

By this time Uncle Jesse Adams, an old Federal soldier, decided it was time to end the ruckus and yelled to a neighbor to go and fetch him his Winchester. "I've settled worse fights than this, and I can settle this one," exclaimed Adams. Faced with this new development, the ruffians quickly dispersed with the exception of Taylor's opponent, who remained unconscious in a coma for several days. As word passed through the community that the man would die, Taylor held that he couldn't possibly have killed him with "that little rotten stick." A few days later, after the man recovered, Levi admitted, "I knew if I didn't kill him I'd come damn nigh doing it." The incident became widely known and discussed in that area of southern Marion County, and in the telling and re-telling of the story, the schoolyard brawl was soon dubbed the "Battle of Santiago" after its namesake in the recent Spanish-American War.

There were no more fights between the gang and the Adams family, but unfortunately, a few nights after the fracas the Tomahawk school burned. Although the story does not directly attribute the school's destruction to the gang's vengeance, the implication is clear.

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The children of community were deprived of a school for the summer while construction on the new school at Pea Ridge (there is no mention of why this location was chosen over the existing site) was in progress. Once the red-painted school was completed an approximate average of 30 children attended the school each year through 1947 when the school was consolidated with Bruno. The school drinking water was usually carried from the spring in the hollow to the north of the school even though there is a cistern located near the southwest corner of the building. Appropriately, the boys and girls outhouses were located in the hollow to the south of the school.

During the active years of the school, the building was also used as a regular meeting place for Sunday school and church meetings. Decoration Day was also held there on either Mother's Day or the second Sunday in May until the 1940's. Although Sunday night singing and Christmas parties were held in the building as late as the 1960's, the Pea Ridge School has been unoccupied since then. Currently, there is a group that has organized to restore the old school.

The Pea Ridge School is considered locally significant under Criterion C as the best example in Marion County of a one-room, board-and-batten school building.

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Bibliography

Bolt, Jennifer. "Restoration Planned at Pea Ridge." *Harrison Daily Times*. May 1984.

Herrington, Beth. *Tomahawk Tales*. No publisher or date given.

Information supplied by David Davis, Secretary/Treasurer Pea Ridge Board of Directors. June 1992.

ST. JOE QUADRANGLE
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7456 11 NW
(YELLVILLE)

1 770 000 FEET 520

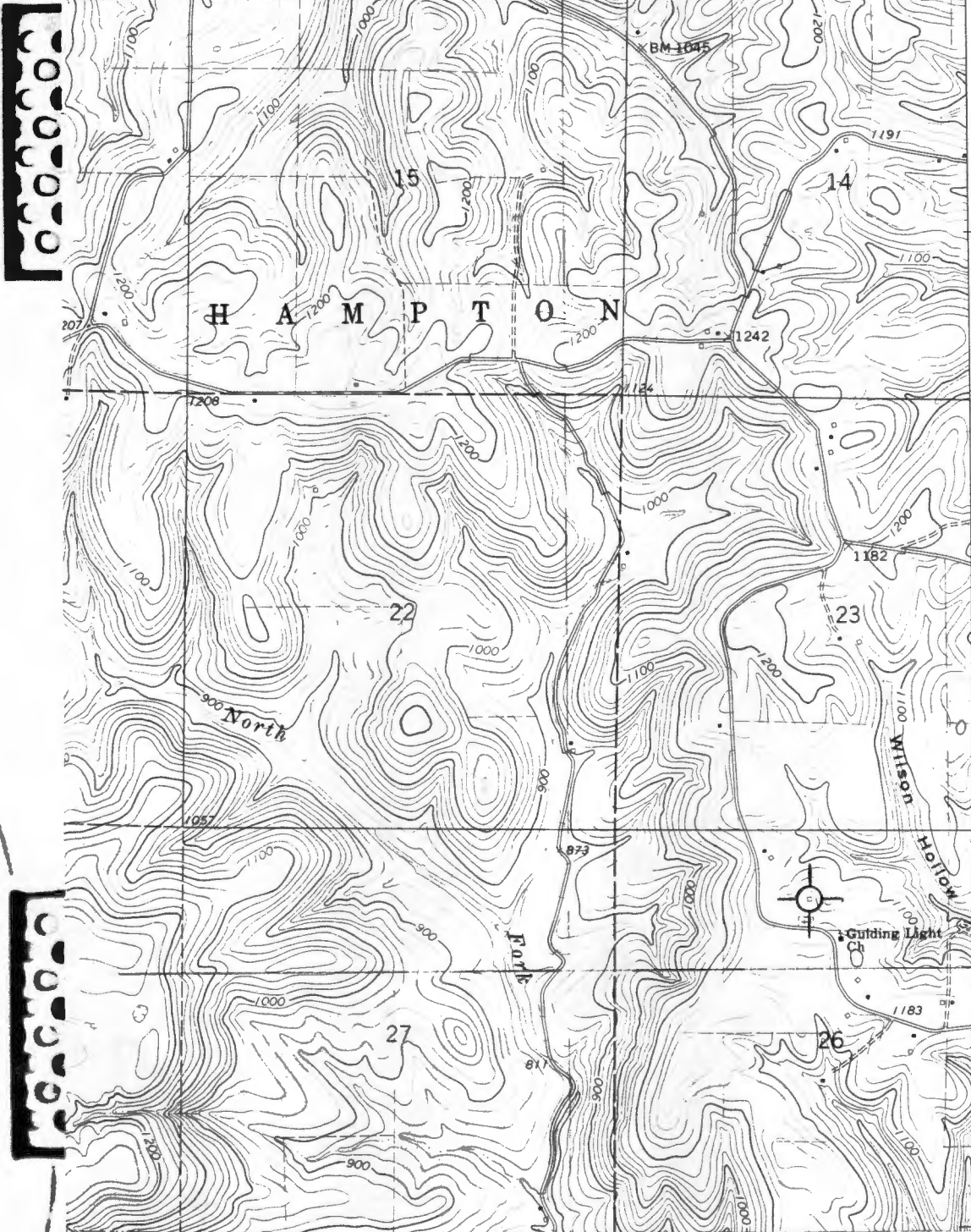
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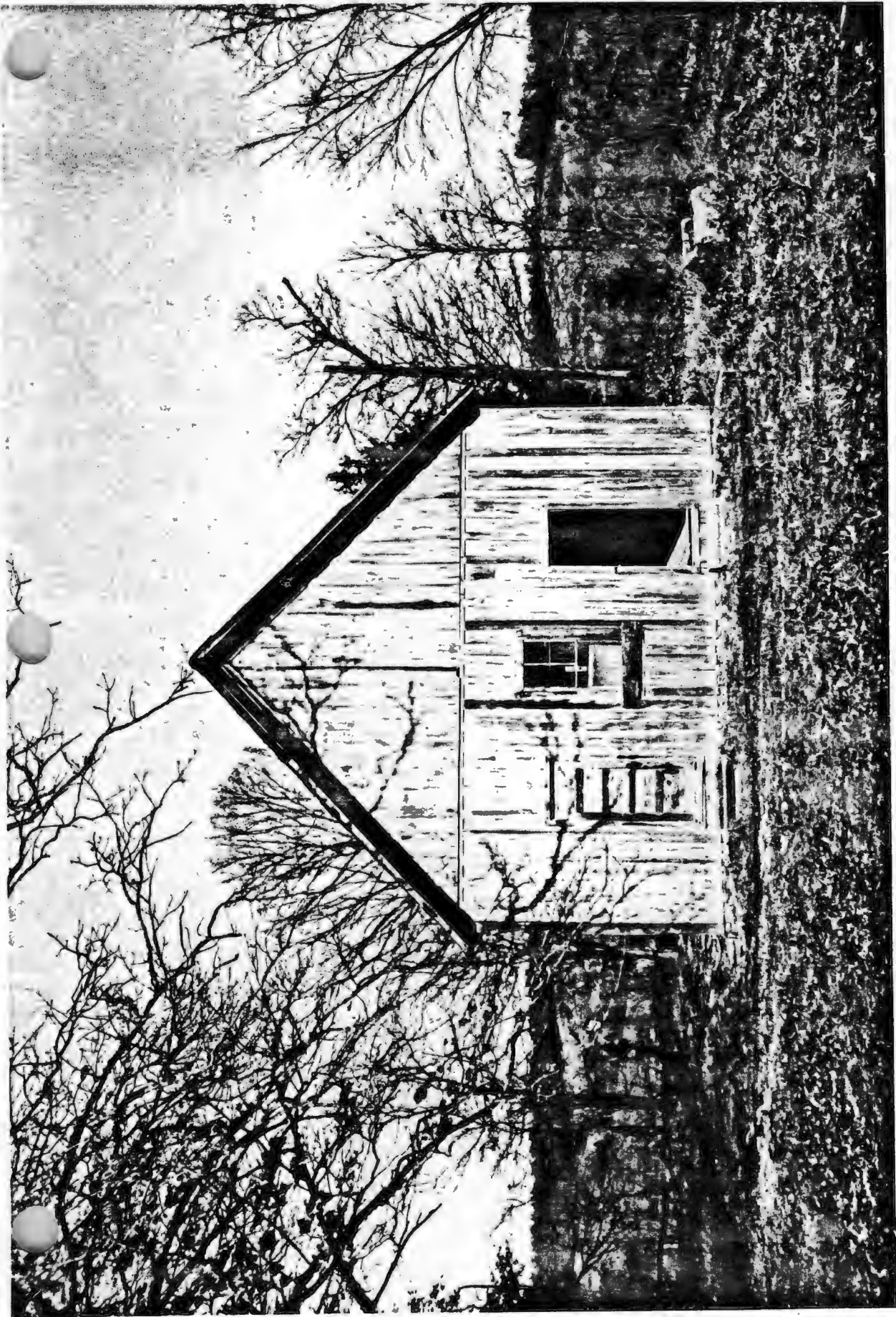


Pea Ridge School
Bruno vic., Marion Co
Arkansas

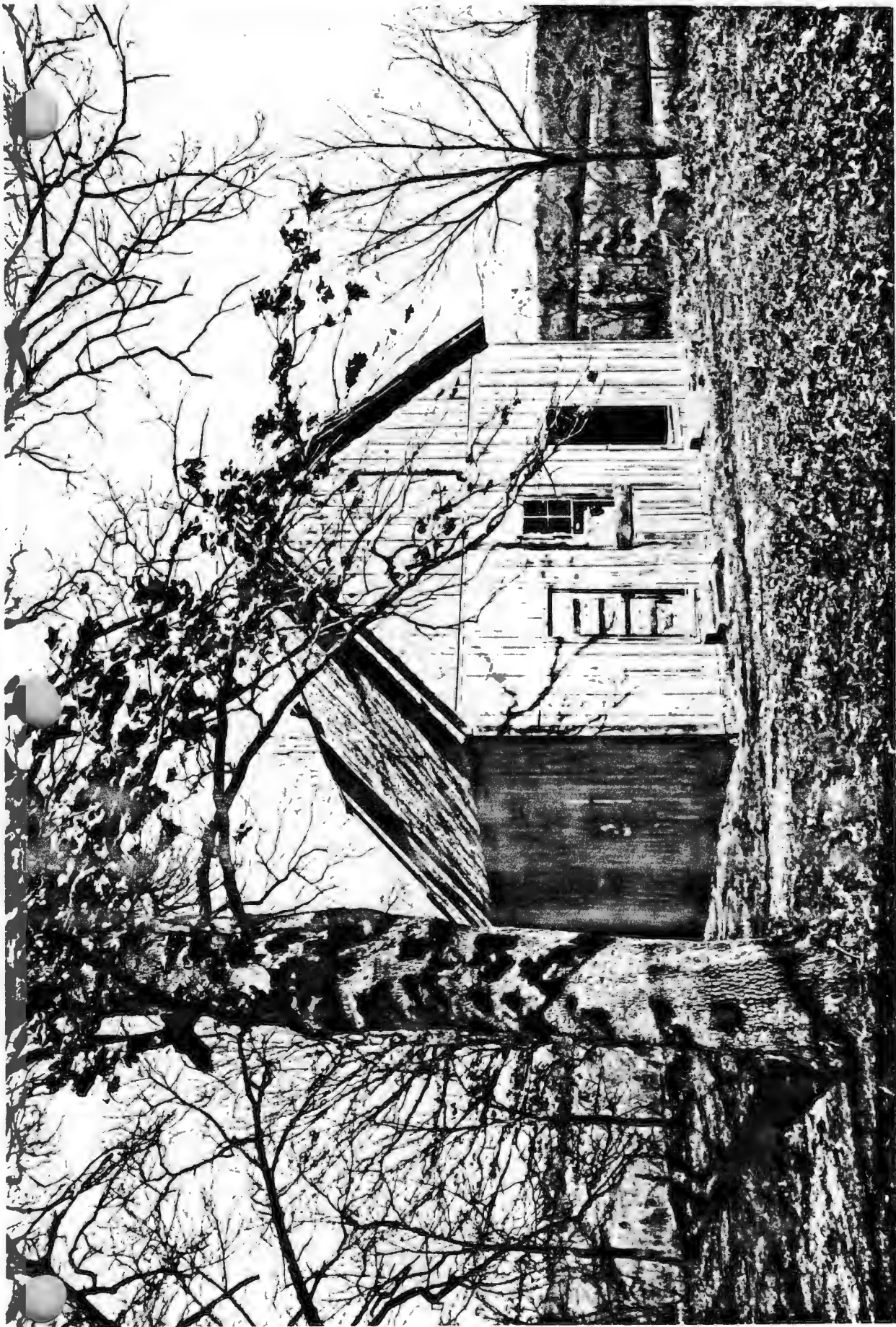
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Doa Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zoller
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the west



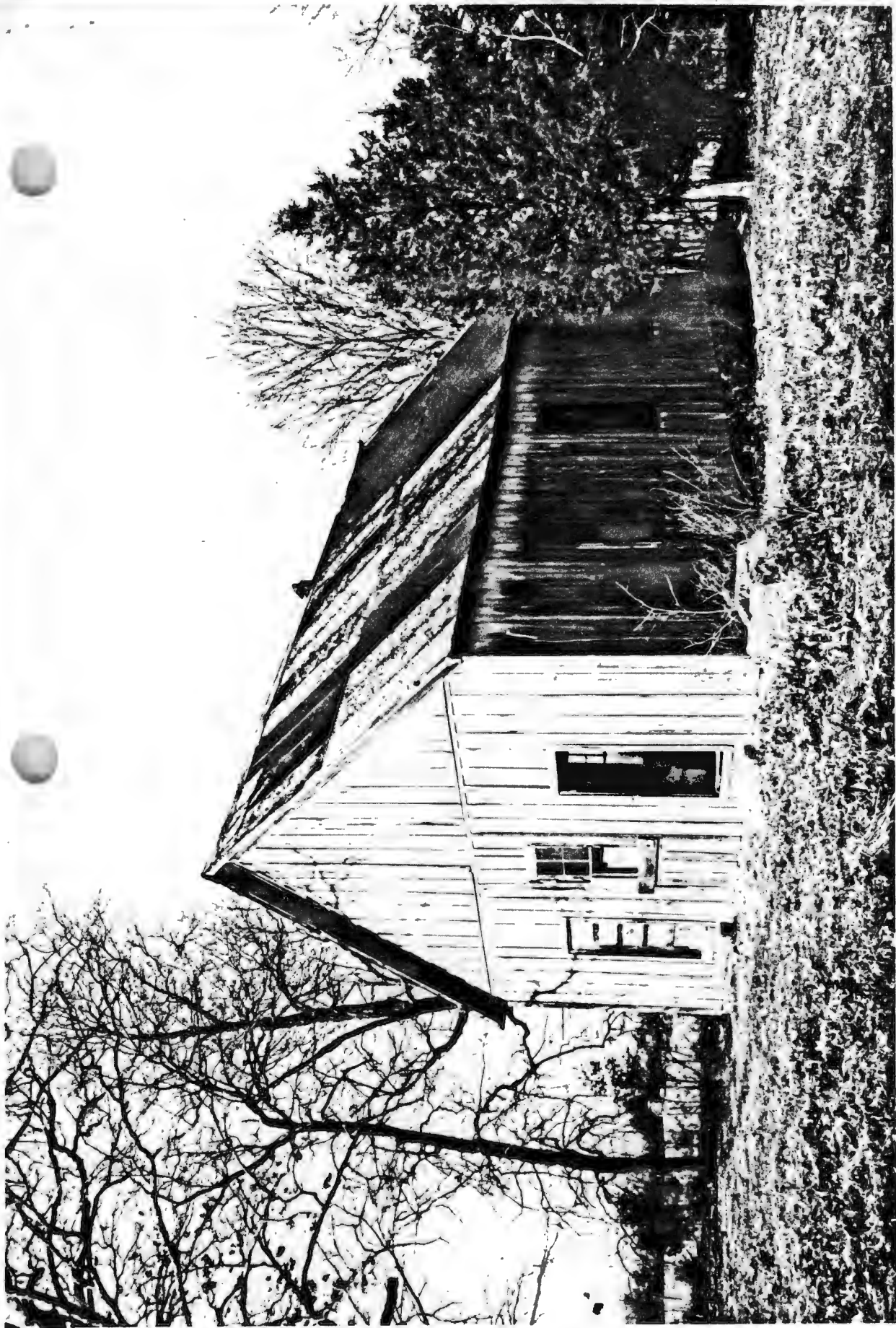
Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zoller
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the west



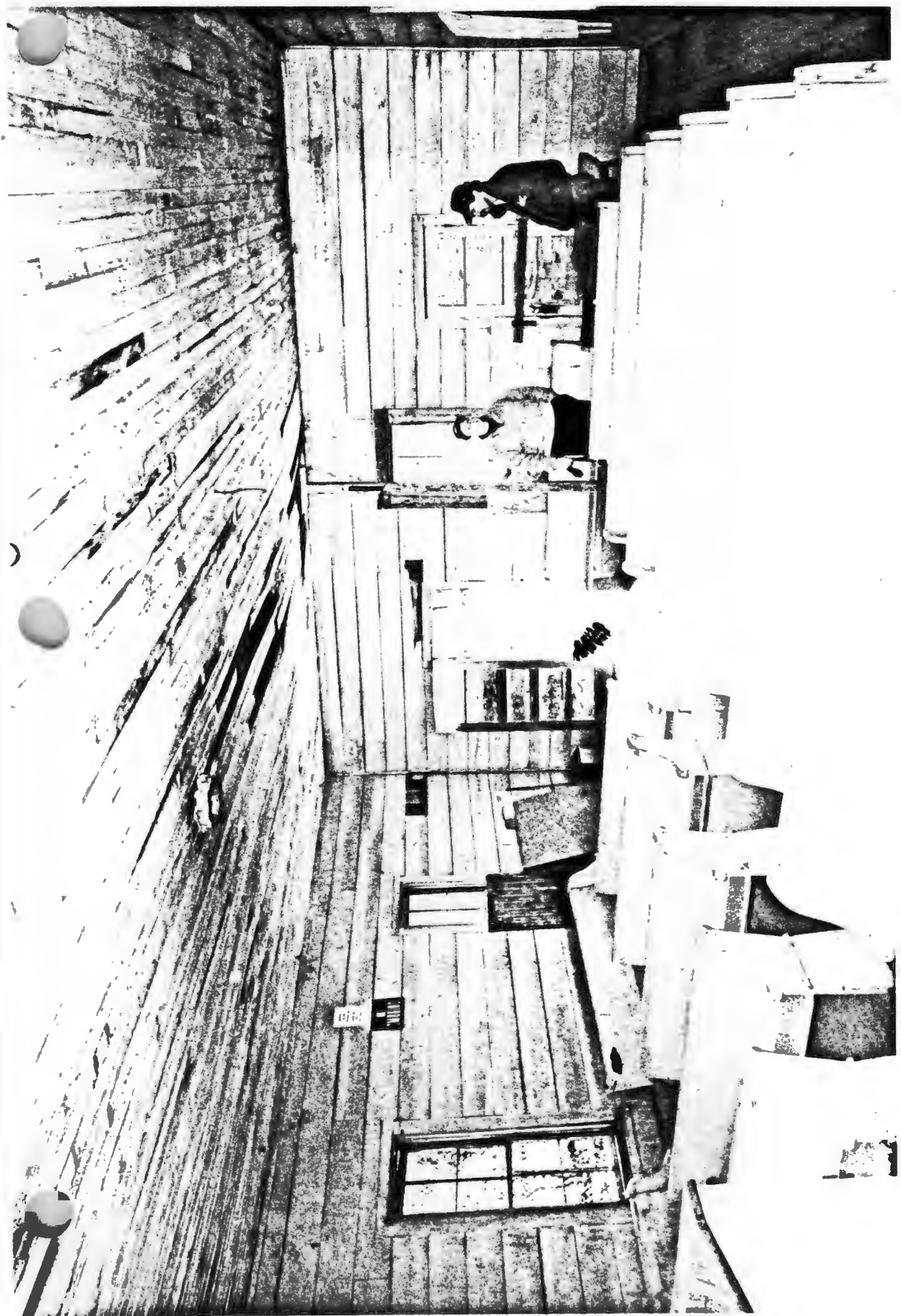
Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zolner
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPD
View from the northwest



Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zolker
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the northeast



Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photographed by Patrick Zolner
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View from the southwest



Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zoller
January 1993
Negative on file at AHPP
View of interior from the
east



THE PEAK RIDGE Schoolhouse HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1890-1900

Pea Ridge School
Marion Co., Arkansas
Photograph by Patrick Zollner
January 1993
Negative on file at AHP
View of interior from the
west.