

600-195-11100

Listed: 12-6-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Faucette Building

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Fourth and Main Streets

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

North Little Rock

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Arkansas

VICINITY OF

CODE

05

COUNTY

Pulaski

CODE

119

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

Mrs. Mon D. Thaxton

STREET & NUMBER

5321 Centerwood

CITY, TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Circuit Clerks Office

STREET & NUMBER

Pulaski County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Little Rock

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICALS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1891

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Faucette Building, located on North Little Rock's Main Street, is historically significant in its representation of William C. and James Peter Faucette. The Faucette brothers were instrumental in the establishment and development of the city of North Little Rock.

"The story of the city of Argenta begins and ends with the Faucette brothers, William C. and James Peter," who first arrived from Mississippi at the swampy settlement of Argenta in 1878 when William was thirteen and James was eleven. In 1885, both men settled in the 'city of lakes,'<sup>2</sup> a farming village inhabited by 600 people without any form of municipal government except a constable and several justices of the peace.<sup>3</sup> Although Argenta did boast a post office, there were no street lights and no paved streets, only plank sidewalks; there existed no water and sewage systems, no police department and no fire department, with volunteer forces and a local bucket brigade to handle such contingencies. Both brothers would be instrumental in establishing Argenta as a city and in molding its future both politically and economically. Both men would also serve three terms as mayor of the city they helped to build.

The Cairo and Fulton Railroad (now the Missouri Pacific) had their shops on the north side of the Arkansas River with access to Little Rock from the south only by the Baring Cross Railroad Bridge. The Faucette brothers worked as engineers on the railroad until 1890 when they purchased from the Little Rock and Memphis Railway Company Lot #6, Block 30 in the town of Argenta, a piece of property located on the NE corner of Newton Avenue and Beulah Streets (now Main and 4th Streets). On this 25' x 90' site, the brothers built a rectangular two-story structure with a restaurant-saloon on the ground floor and a rooming house for railroad men on the second floor. The two brothers purchased a generator and installed the first electric lights in Argenta at this same location.

Subsequently the brothers opened the area's first electric power plant which they later sold to the city of Argenta (now called the North Little Rock Electric Company). The brothers also built the first ice factory in Argenta and opened a private bank called Faucette Brothers (later renamed the Twin City Bank) at 405 Main Street.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

Also in 1890, the aspiring community of Argenta filed papers to incorporate; however, Little Rock, its affluent neighbor across the river, quickly responded by passing legislation to annex Argenta and thereupon made it the 8th Ward of Little Rock. W.C. Faucette even served as one of the two elected alderman to represent North Little Rock after the annexation.

"The Faucette brothers fought against (this) annexation of Argenta by Little Rock in 1890 and lost. It was thirteen years later when (the two compatriots) instigated legislation that enabled the 8th Ward north of the river to establish itself independently." W.C. Faucette was elected to the state legislature in 1902 to introduce the innocent looking Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill, actually a clever plan he devised for separating North Little Rock from Little Rock which was drawn up by James P. Clarke, later U. S. Senator. Once this goal was accomplished, Will Faucette was elected first mayor of North Little Rock in 1904 and the city's name reverted back to Argenta. It was the Faucette Brothers' Bank that financed the fledging city's payroll until revenues were collected to support city employees. Will served as mayor until 1909 and his brother Jim, the third mayor of North Little Rock, served as mayor from 1911-1917. Although W.C. Faucette had planned the City Hall (listed on the National Register of Historic Places 8-6-75), he died before it was finished. His brother Jim would see it completed and dedicated City Hall to Will's initiative and memory in the form of a bronze tablet.

On January 17, 1930, J.P. Faucette acquired an additional 25' x 90' from the Choctaw Oklahoma and Gulf Railroad Company and had two additional softre buildings built and attached to the original structure erected in 1891. It has remained in the Faucette family from 1891 until the present.

1017  
248  
HERBY

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Faucette Building, located on Main Street in North Little Rock, is a rectangular mass stuccoed, commercial brick structure. The west (fronting Main) elevation is divided into three (3) bays. The center bay contains two (2) windows, and the flanking bays contain one each. There is a single-story addition on the east. The north addition and the first story of the west elevation are sheathed in sheet metal and the area around entrance on that elevation is black ceramic tile. Windows on the west elevation are plate glass on the first story and double hung one over one (1/1) lights on the second. Windows on the north and south elevations are irregularly placed and are boarded over. The roof is flat with false parapets on the east and west.

The first floor of the interior has been altered with pannelling. The second floor has its original molding and light fixtures.

The original stair in the rear of the structure is altered.

Editors note:

The east (rear) elevation has a cast iron front, somewhat hidden by the porch addition. It would appear that this is the original front of the building and faced the non-removed North Little Rock Railroad Depot. The structure was built as a cafe to service the depot.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Item 9, page 1.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Less than one acre.

### UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	5,6,8,0,8,0	3,8,4,6,1,6,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot #6, Block 30 City of Argenta

### 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

Mrs. Mon D. Thaxton

Edited by

Frezil Miller, Sandra Taylor Smith

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Continental Building

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

*Anne Barteaux* 9/29/78

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

1. Article: "Argenta - Birth of North Little Rock."  
Evelyn K. Eubanks, Sunday News - A Distinctive Weekly Journal,  
Vol. XVI, Number 191, April 14, 1974.
2. Article: "Jim Faucette Reminices on North Little Rock's Early History."  
Homer Hendrickson, Arkansas Democrat, Vol. Number
3. Hendrickson, above.
4. Obituary - Arkansas Gazette



ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Suite 500, Continental Building - Markham and Main - Little Rock, Arkansas 72201.

Phone: (501) 371-2763

August 10, 1978

Mrs. Mon D. Thaxton  
5321 Centerwood  
Little Rock, AR 72207

Re: Faucette Building  
North Little Rock, Pulaski Co.

Dear Mrs. Thaxton:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is preparing a National Register nomination for the above-captioned property which will be presented to the Arkansas State Review Committee at their September 12 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 Mike Shinn 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*

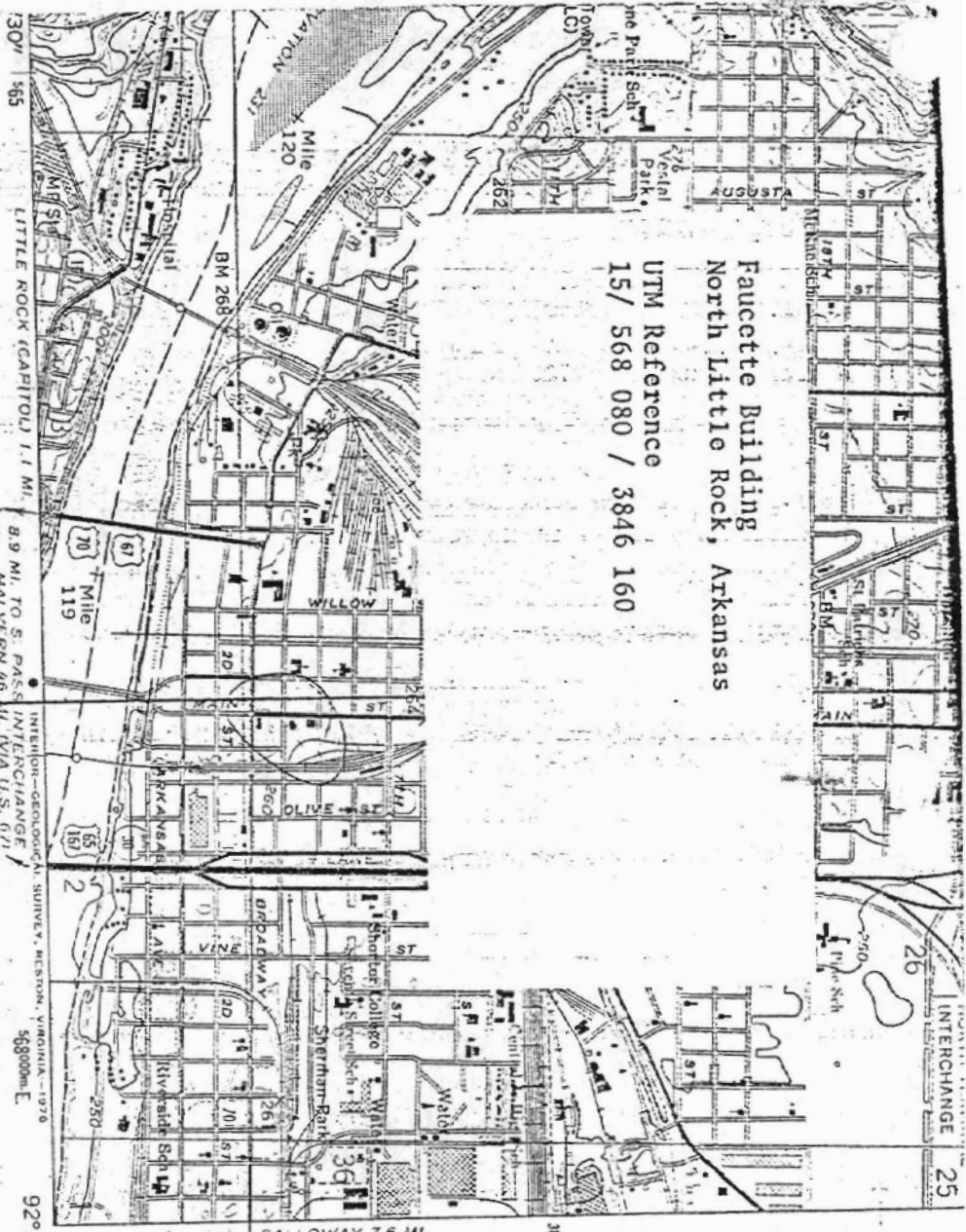
Barbara Woodard, Deputy Director  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

I approve of the nomination of the above property to the National Register of Historic Places   /   Yes        No

Comments:

Aug 12, 1978  
Date

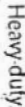


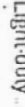

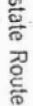

Margaret Faucette Thaxton  
Signature



Fawcett Building  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

UTM Reference  
15 / 568 080 / 3846 160

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy duty 
- Medium duty 
- Light duty 
- Unimproved dirt 
- Interstate Route 
- U.S. Route 
- State Route 



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

N3445-W9215/7.5

1961

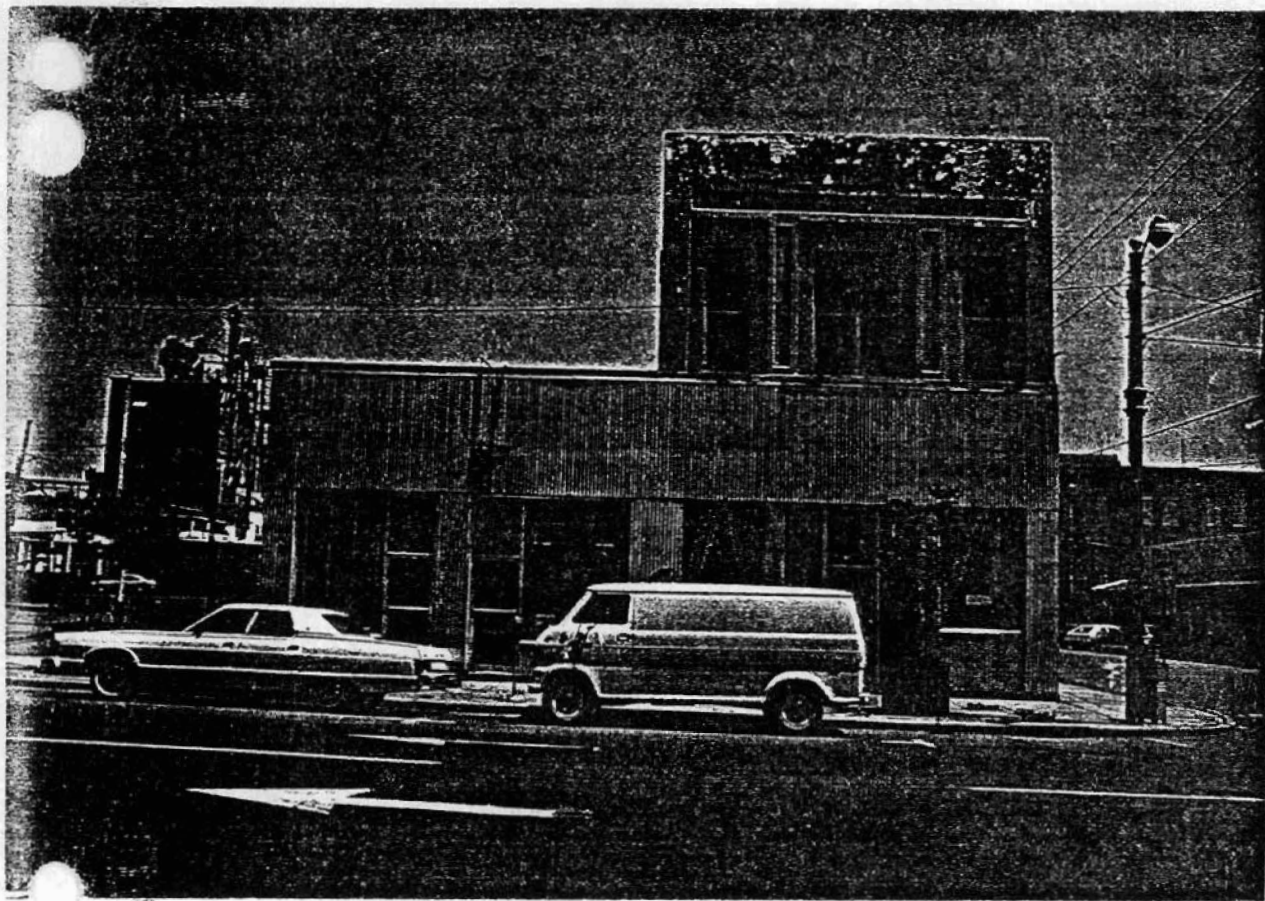
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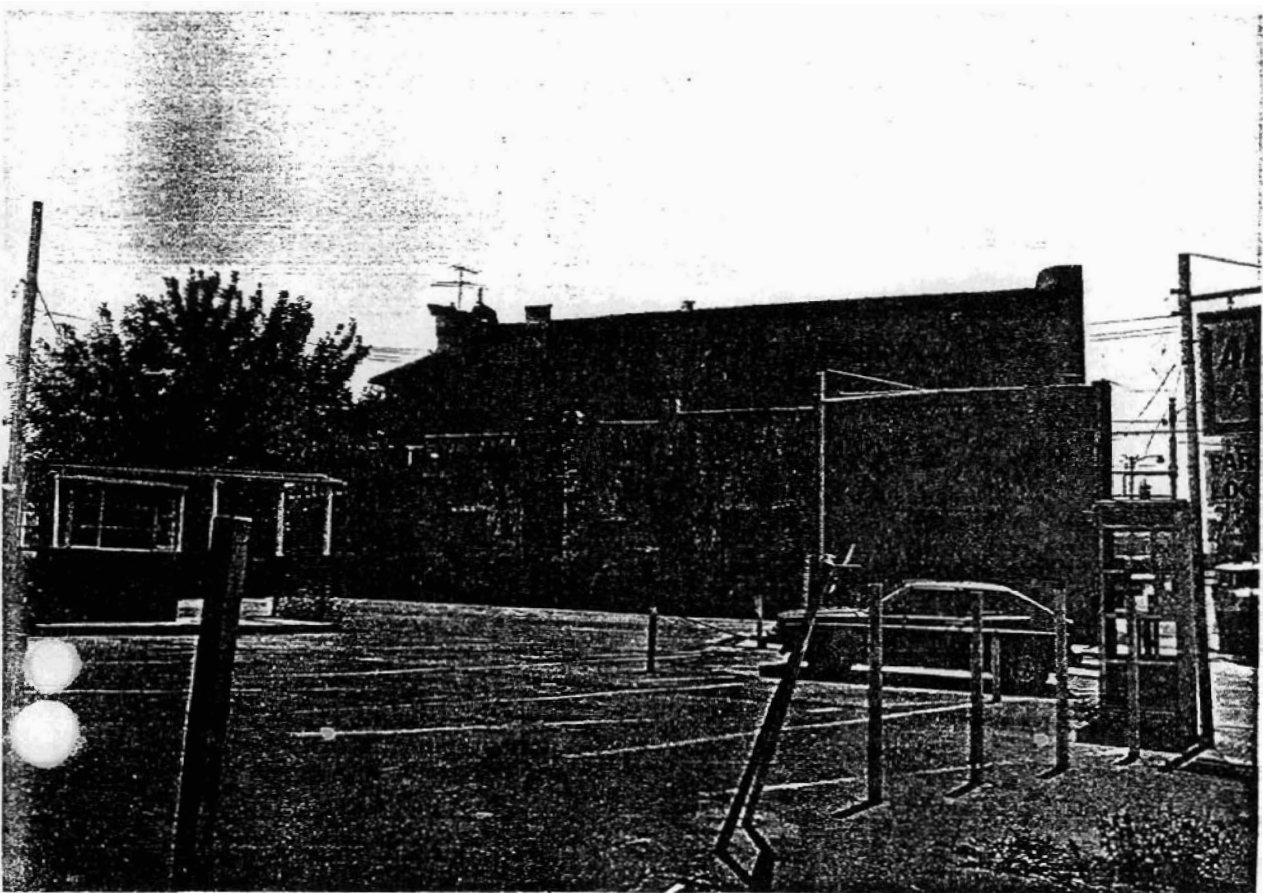
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7553 II NW

-3045

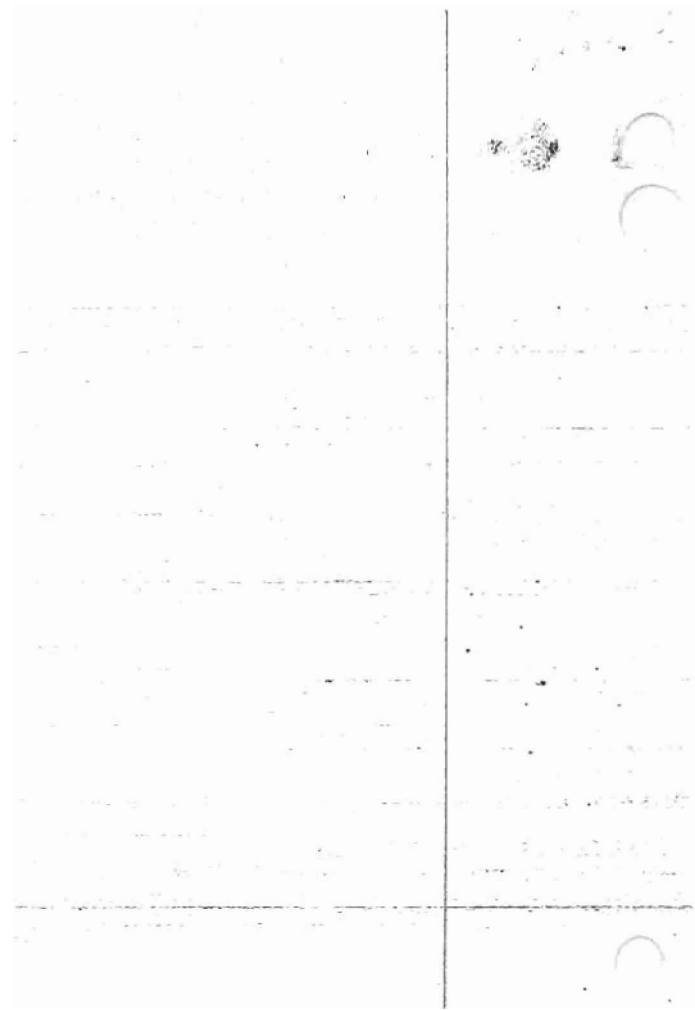




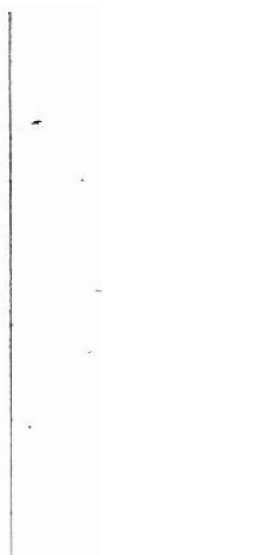
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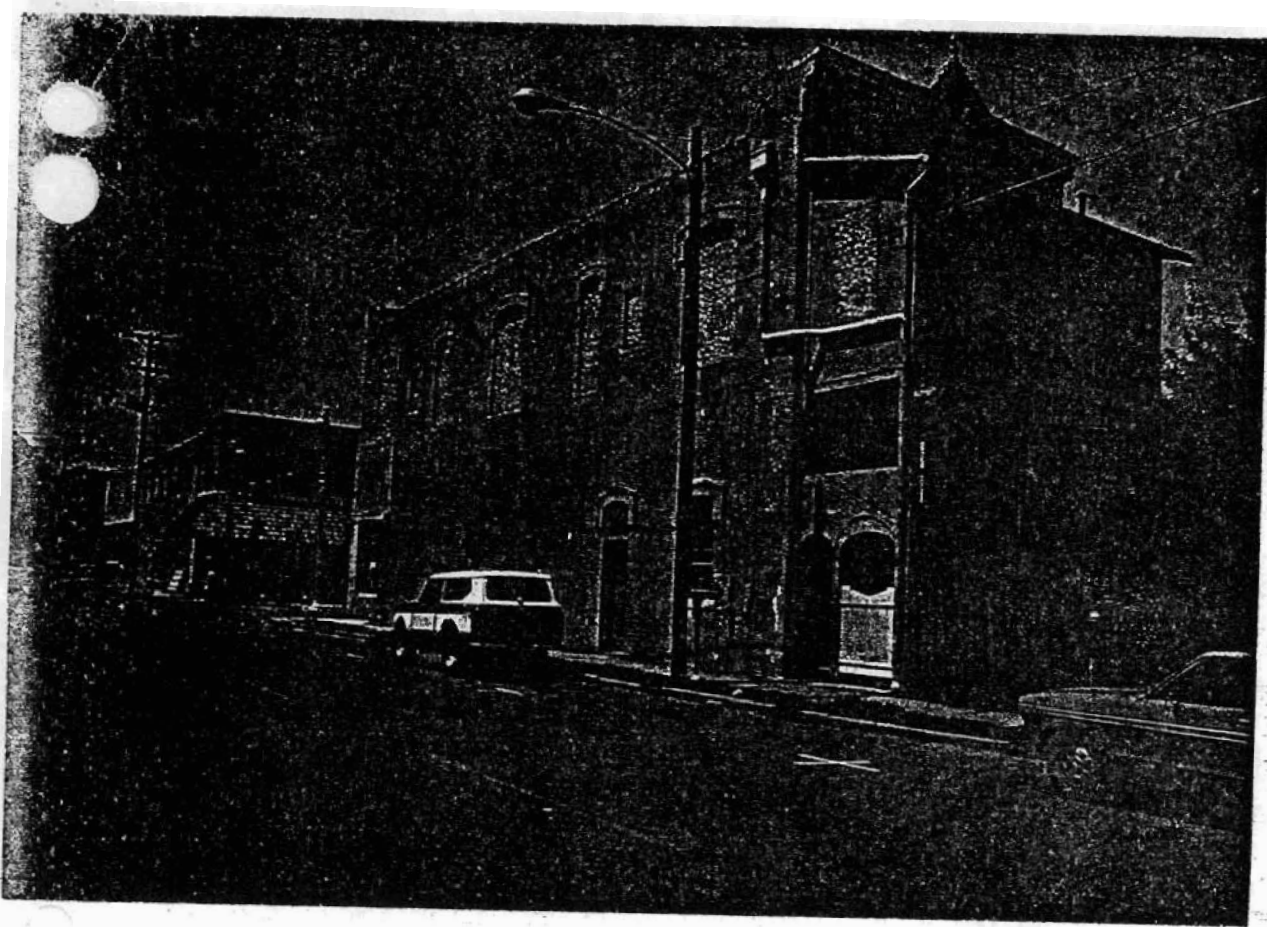


1. Faucette Building
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the west
7. photo # 1

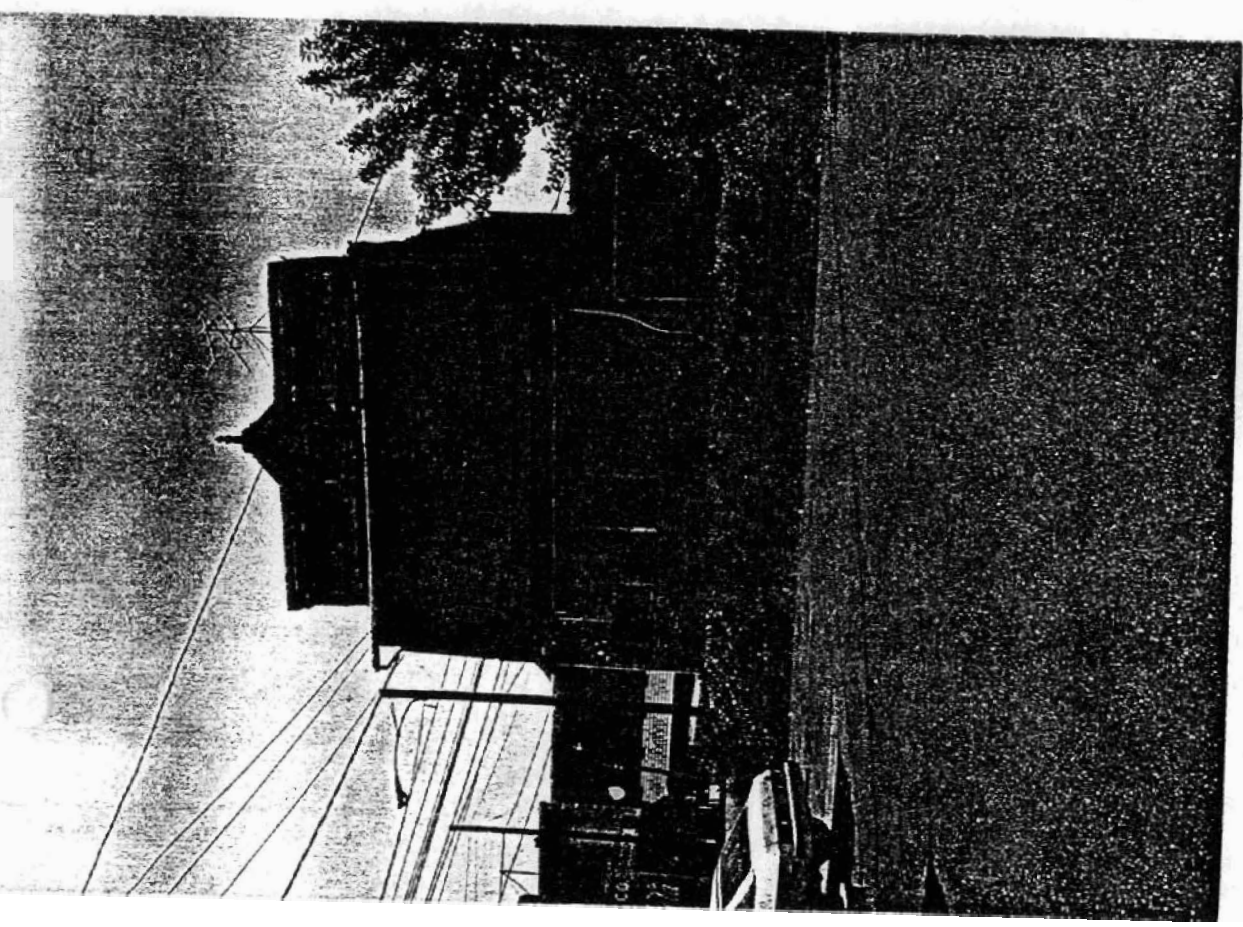


1. Faucette Building
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. Viewed from the north
7. photo # 2

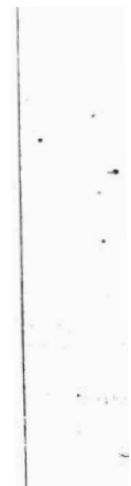
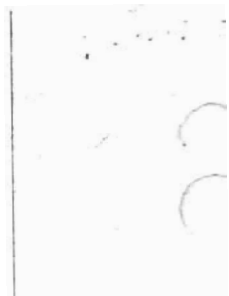




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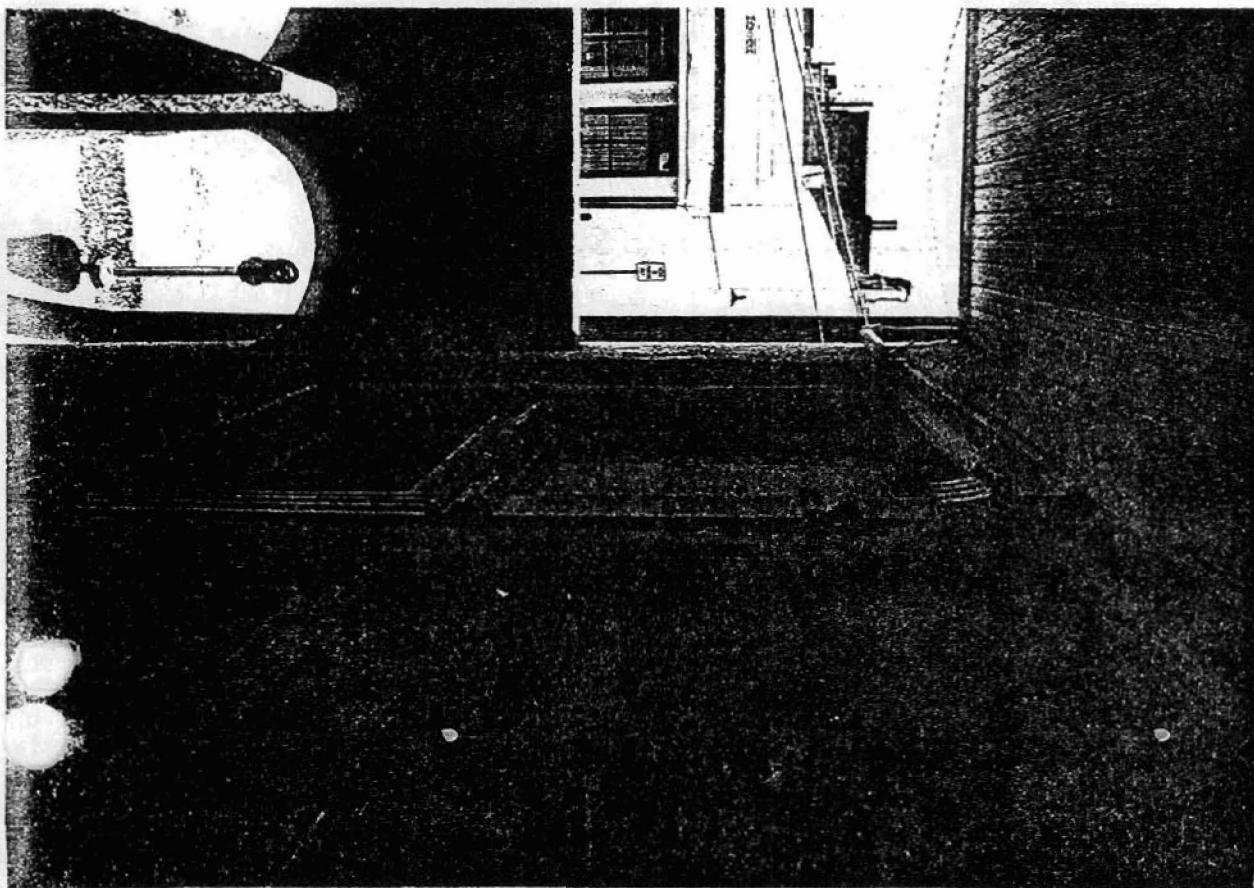
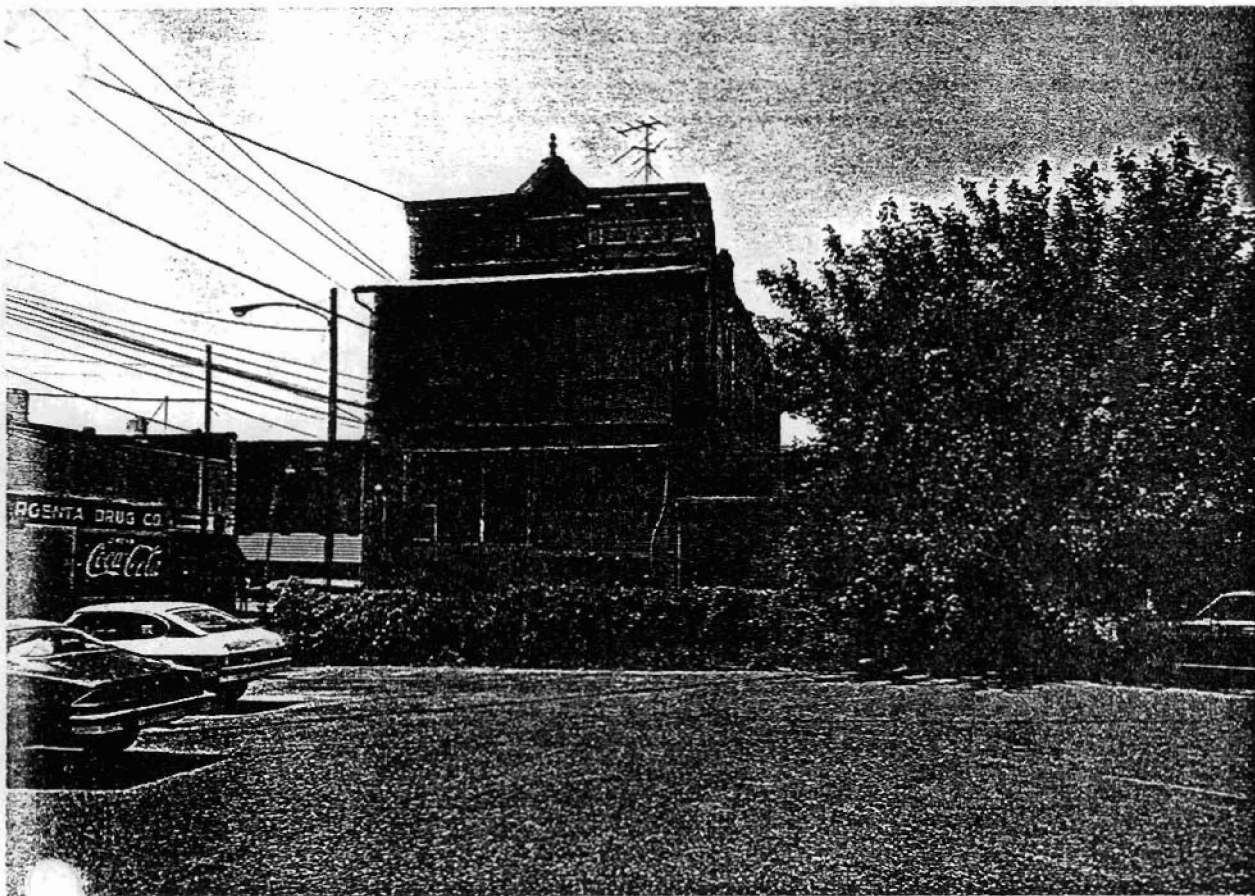


1. Faucette Buiding
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the east
7. photo # 4

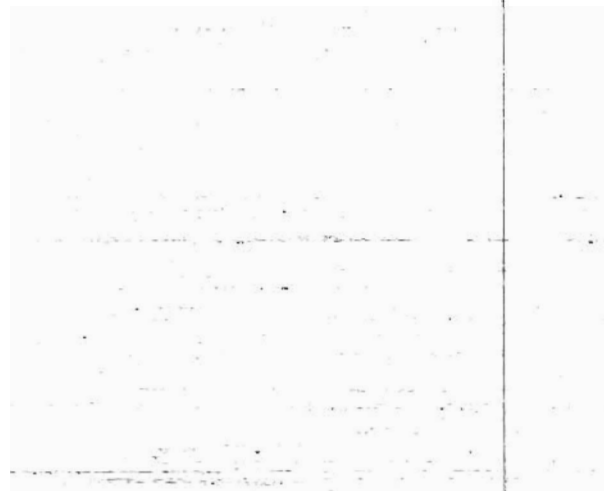


1. Faucette Building
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the southeast
7. photo # 3





1. Faucette Building
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. viewed from the northeast
7. photo # 5



1. Faucette Building
2. North Little Rock, Arkansas
3. August, 1978
4. Frezil Miller
5. Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
6. detail of cast iron features on east elevation
7. photo # 6