

*Pulaski House
North Little Rock
Matthews-Godt House*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Matthews-Godt House

other name/site number: PU 0080

2. Location

street & number: 248 Skyline Drive

not for publication: N/A

city/town: North Little Rock

vicinity: N/A

state: AR

county: Pulaski

code: AR 119

zip code: 72116

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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

Name of related multiple property listing: Pre-Depression Houses and Outbuildings of "Edgemont in Park Hill"

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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. Byrd
Signature of certifying official

4-2-92
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: Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling

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Description
=====

Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20 Century Revivals/English Revival

Other Description: _____

Materials: foundation Brick _____ roof Wood Shingle
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: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A,C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture
Community Planning and Development

Period(s) of Significance: 1928-1940 _____

Significant Dates: 1928-1940 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

Architect/Builder: Designed by Frank Carmean/
Built by the Justin Matthews Company

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: Less than one

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>567800</u>	<u>3848900</u>	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Lot 9, block 107, Park Hill Addition to the City of North Little Rock

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all of the original lot historically associated with this resource.

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

Name/Title: Cheryl G. Nichols/consultant/edited by AHPP staff

Organization: History, Inc. Date: 3/31/92

Street & Number: 1721 S. Gaines St. Telephone: (501) 375-2686

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72206

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National Park Service

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Summary

With a wide, low profile unusual for a 1920's period revival house, the brick-veneered Matthews-Godt House is an interesting early example of the "split-level" floorplan that became so popular during the 1950's and 1960's. Although its front-facing gables and screened porch with "medieval" framing place it generally in the English Revival style category, the house has many features that are not typical of that style, including the generally low profile with moderately (rather than steeply) pitched gables. Built speculatively in 1928 by the Justin Matthews Company, the Matthews-Godt House is one the least changed of all the houses constructed in the Edgemont section of Park Hill before the Depression.

Elaboration

Situated with its back to the view across the Arkansas River for which the Edgemont section of Park Hill is noted, the Matthews-Godt House stands on a wedge-shaped lot at the outside edge of on Skyline Drive's several curves. Its generally wide, low profile gives the impression of a one-story house, though it actually has three living levels plus an attic and full basement. The house's gabled roof is covered with wooden shingles.

When the house first was advertised for sale in the fall of 1928, it was described as a "very unique brick veneer with three floor levels." The levels are obvious only at the rear (south facade) of the house, where a projecting bay contains the two bedrooms--one up from the main level and one down--that comprise the "split-level" section of the house. Also visible at the rear of the house are the original basement-level, two-car garage and maid's quarters, the latter comprising one room and a bath. Located immediately above the garage, on the main level of the house is the dining room's triple window which takes advantage of the spectacular view to the south. To the east, above the maid's quarters, are windows marking the locations of the breakfast room and kitchen.

All of the windows in the rear facade are double hung, either six-over-six or four-over-four. The windows in the other three facades, however, are multi-paned casements.

The main entrance to the Matthews-Godt House is located just right (west) of center in the north, or main, facade. Sheltering the entrance is a small wood-shingled shed roof. The entrance abuts a gable-roofed, one-room ell, containing the master bedroom, that projects northward from the west end of the main facade. Adjacent to the entrance on the east is the living room, marked

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by double casement windows. A screened porch--the only one among the original Edgemont houses that has not been enclosed--anchors the east end of the main facade. With its hammer-braced "medieval" framing system, the porch also is the most pronounced English Revival feature of the house.

The interior of the Matthews-Godt House is as intact as the exterior. Like nearly all of its pre-Depression neighbors, the Matthew-Godt House features the use of arched openings between rooms. It also has rough-textured plaster walls, another common interior feature of the Edgemont houses. wrought-iron grillwork, mentioned in a September 1928 newspaper ad for the house, still adorns arched niches that flank the living room entry. On the walls on either side of the same entry hand original "Riddle" light fixtures. Also virtually unchanged in the main level's "tiled bath with built-in equipment" mentioned in the 1928 ad for the house.

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Summary

Criteria A and C, local significance

The Matthews-Godt House is one of sixteen residences representing a unique phase in the development of what now is the Park Hill Addition to the City of North Little Rock. This phase, spanning the years 1927-1931, occurred when developer Justin Matthews first attempted to cater to affluent homebuyers by creating an enclave of upper-middle-class homes to be known as "Edgemont in Park Hill." Built speculatively by the Justin Matthews Company in 1928, the Matthews-Godt House went unsold until 1940, thereby also illustrating the effects of the Depression on the development of Edgemont. Finally, the Matthews-Godt House is significant architecturally as an atypical, and very intact, 1920's example of the English Revival style with a split-level floorplan.

Elaboration

Completed in the fall of 1928, the Matthews-Godt House was one of the first six houses erected in the Edgemont section of Park Hill. It was under construction when a promotional brochure, "Edgemont in Park Hill," was published sometime earlier in 1928.

The house was one of ten in Edgemont built speculatively by the Justin Matthews Company, and, like four other of these "spec" houses, the Matthews-Godt House was not sold until the effects of the Depression began to wane. It finally changed hands in 1940, when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Paul O. Godt. Paul Godt was program director for KARK radio. Prior to being purchased by the Godts, the house had been rented to several tenants, including the manager of a Sears store and a chiropractor. Surprisingly, the house remained owner-occupied only briefly. The Godts sold it in 1943 to their next-door-neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Elzie W. Daniel, and it was maintained by the Daniel Family as rental property until being sold to the present owners in 1965.

The Matthews-Godt House is significant as a very intact but rather unusual example of 1920's domestic architecture. While it has been altered very little since it first was advertised for sale in September of 1928, its split-level floorplan and wide, low profile set it apart from other houses of its vintage in Park Hill.

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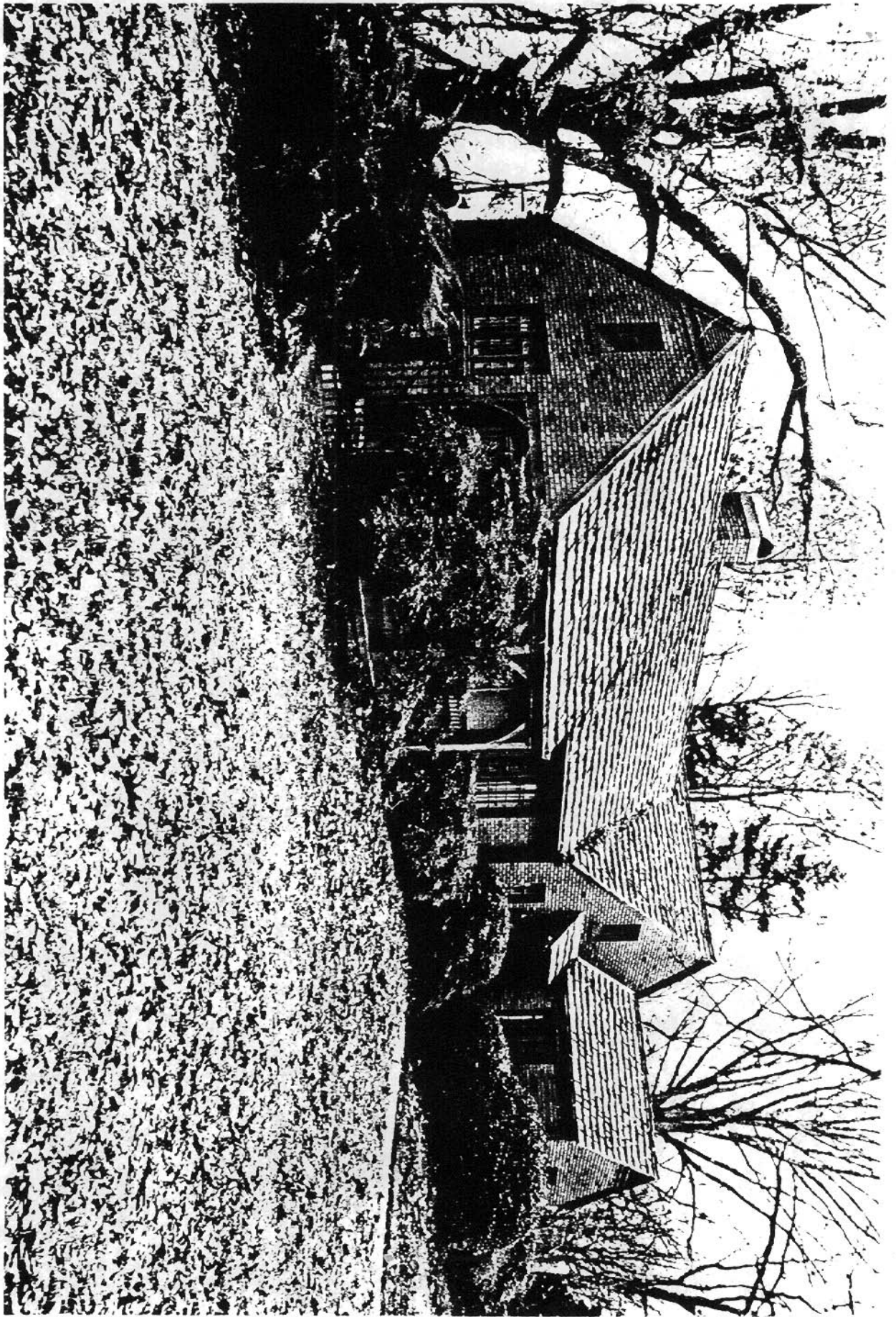
Bibliography

Arkansas Gazette, September 16, 1928, Part II, p. 21.

"Edgemont in Park Hill" Brochure, 1928.

Little Rock-North Little Rock city directories for the years 1928 through 1965.

Pulaski County Deed Records: Book 199, p. 630; Book 229, p. 72; book 273, p. 298; book 295, p. 352; Book 446, p. 479; Book 936, p. 30.



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Matthews - Godt House

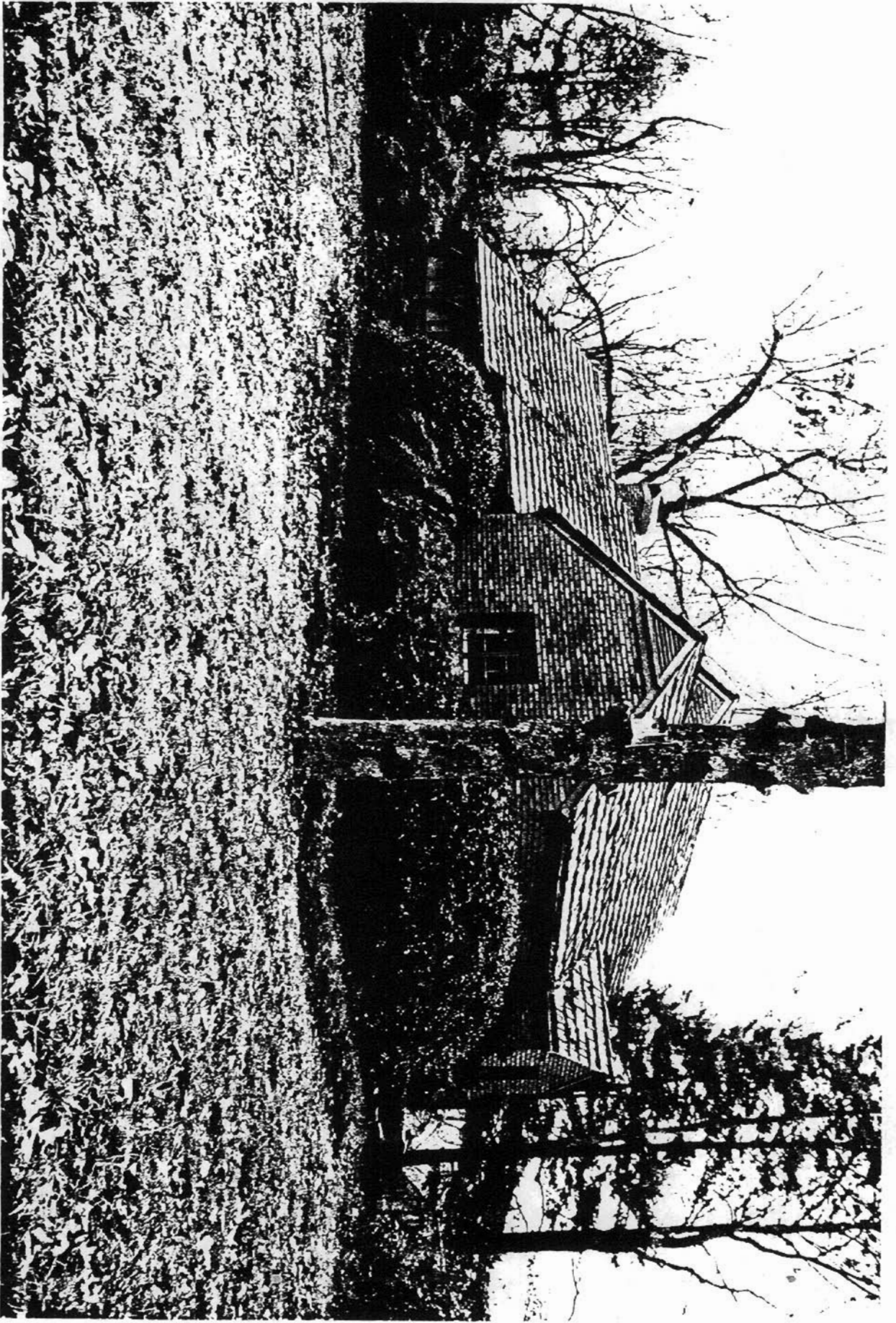
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Cheryl Nichols

December 6, 1990

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

View looking southwest



Mathews-Godt House, 248 Skyline Dr. (1990)

North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

December 6, 1990

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

View looking southeast



Matthews - Gott House, 248 Skyline Dr. (keyword)

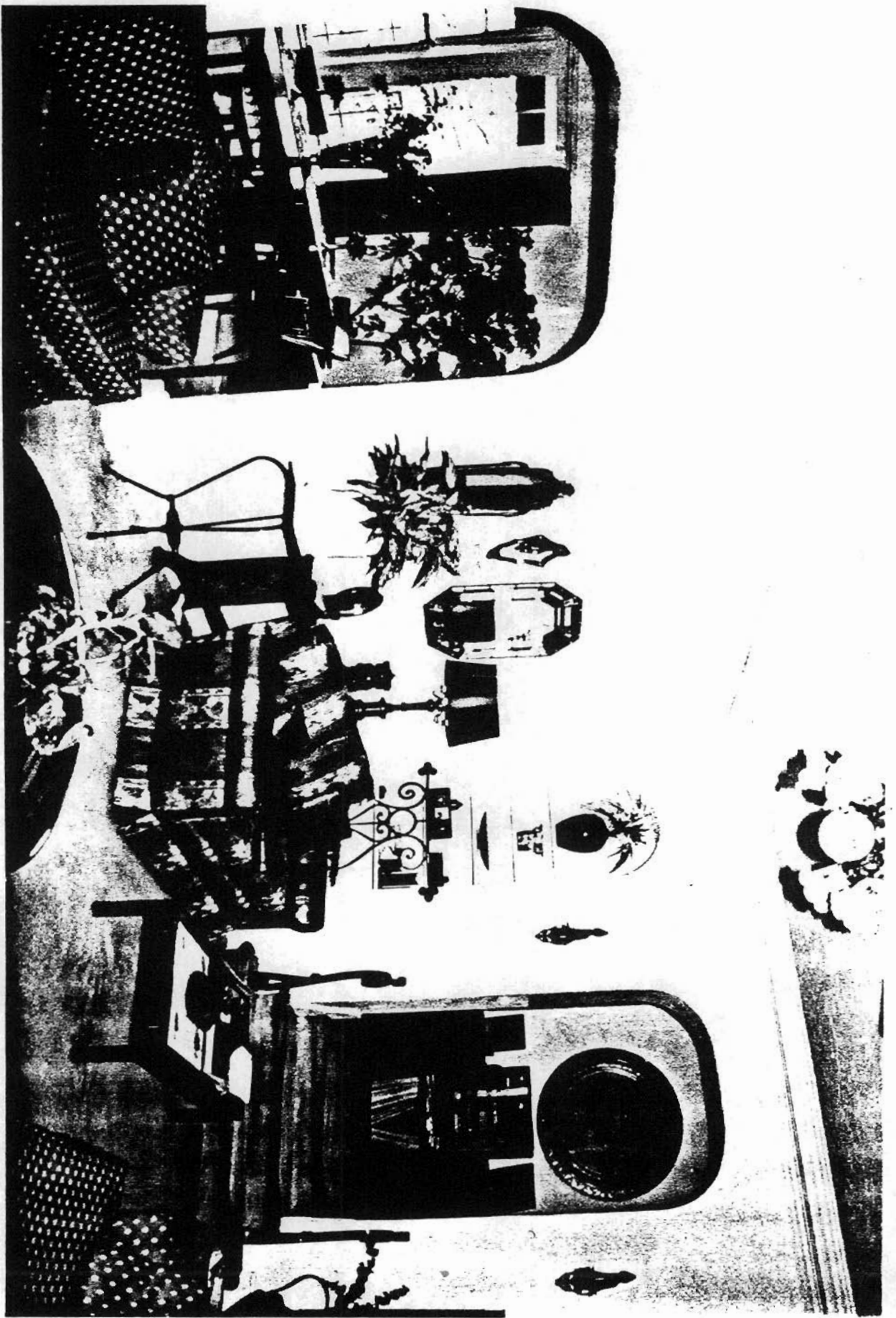
North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

December 6, 1990

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

View looking northwest



Mathews - Godt House, 248 Skyline Dr. (1900000)

North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

December 6, 1990

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Living room, looking southwest

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Matthews. Godt House, 248 Skyline Dr. (P. 0082)

North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

December 6, 1990

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

Living room, looking west toward entry

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