

*Pulaski Co.  
North Little Rock  
Matthews-Dillon House*

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

**1. Name of Property**

historic name: Matthews-Dillon House

other name/site number: PU 0090

**2. Location**

street & number: 701 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not for publication: N/A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>2</u>	<u>    </u>	buildings
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	objects
<u>2</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"

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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### Bibliography

"Edgemont in Park Hill" Brochure, 1928.

Little Rock-North Little Rock city directories for the years 1928 through 1951.

"Lot 8, Block 103, Park Hill," file at Metropolitan Trust Company, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Nash, Michael. Son of Nora Nash (and former resident of Matthews-Dillon House), Frederick, Maryland. Telephone interview, June 19, 1991.

Pulaski County Deed Records: Book 199, p. 629; Book 202, p. 276; Book 229, p. 133; Book 287, p. 497; Book 303, p. 181.

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

Late 19th and 20 Century Revivals/  
English Revival

Other Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Materials: foundation Brick roof Other/Composition Shingle  
walls Brick/Stucco 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: 1928-1942

Significant Dates: 1928-1942

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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**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 H. Buford  
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**  
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Historic: Domestic  
Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling  
Secondary Structure

Current : Domestic  
Domestic

Sub: Single Dwelling  
Secondary Structure

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### Summary

The Matthews-Dillon House's prominent chimney and steeply-pitched gable roof are characteristics associated with the English Revival style, but the overall massing of the house, as well as many of the details, suggest its designs was inspired more by 17th century colonial American architecture than by the English originals. The picturesque nature of the house's design is enhanced by the brickwork's "oozing" mortar joints.

### Elaboration

Viewed from the east, the Matthews-Dillon House has a tall, narrow "saltbox" profile very reminiscent of 17th century Colonial American houses with English antecedents. The house's steeply-pitched, side-gabled roof with one small front-facing cross gable adds to this impression, as does the front porch, where the door is flanked by very small, multi-paned windows. The absence of any eave overhang is another characteristic of 17th century Colonial architecture. The prominent chimney that breaks through the main (north) facade's eave line, however, is more typical of the English Revival style, as is the use of stucco for the house's gables.

Unusually tall, narrow, multi-paned windows--both casements and double-hung sashes--distinguish the main facade, again underscoring the influence of 17th century Colonial architecture. Six-over-six, double-hung windows of standard 1920's proportions are used elsewhere in the house.

At the rear of the house, two shed-roofed dormers of different sizes project from the "saltbox" section of the roof, which extends down over a porch that has been enclosed. The differences in the dormers' designs may be a picturesque conceit, intended to suggest the dormers were added at different times in the "history" of this "17th century" house. A broad cross gable at the rear of the house adds depth to the house, which otherwise--like many 17th century Colonial homes--would be just one-room deep.

Like several of its Edgemont neighbors, the Matthews-Dillon House has a mixture of interior features that do not "match" its exterior architectural style. The living room's fireplace mantel, for example, is patterned after the 18th century Adam style, and heavily-textured plaster walls add a "Spanish" touch. Arched doorways, the ubiquitous Edgemont feature, also are present.

Behind the house stands an original two-story outbuilding designed to accommodate two cars on

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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>568100</u>	<u>3848910</u>	B	_____	_____
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Lot 8, block 103, Park Hill Addition to the City of North Little Rock

Boundary Justification: \_\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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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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**Summary**

Criteria A and C, local significance

One of the first three houses completed in "Edgemont in Park Hill," the Matthews-Dillon House is architecturally significant because it represents an uncommon period revival style: medieval English architecture as it was translated during the 17th century in the American colonies. Despite its distinctive architecture, the house, which was built speculatively in 1928 by the Justin Matthews Company, suffered the same fate as several other Edgemont houses in not being sold until the effects of the Depression began to wane in the 1940's.

**Elaboration**

The Matthews-Dillon is one of the three completed houses pictured in a 1928 promotional brochure for "Edgemont in Park Hill." Its photo is labeled simply, "New home in Edgemont." The house did not sell, and in July of 1930, Metropolitan Trust Company leased it to Mr. and Mrs. A. Frank Reed, who agreed to pay rent of \$80 per month. The Reeds were the first of a list of at least six tenants who rented the house over the next twelve years. In June of 1942, the house finally sold, but its new owners apparently never occupied it and sold it less than two years later, in February of 1944, to Velda Dillon.

Mrs. Dillon occupied the house for forty-six years, until her death early in 1990 at the age of ninety-one. She made her living in the millinery business, operating the millinery concession at a Little Rock specialty store, M.M. Cohn, in conjunction with a friend, Nora Nash. Mrs. Nash's son remembers Mrs. Dillon's story of obtaining a mortgage from Union Trust Company (now Union National Bank), where she reportedly was told she was receiving the largest loan the bank ever had made to a woman.

Its unusual architecture style establishes the Matthews-Dillon House's architectural significance, while its place as one of Edgemont's first three houses--and as one of the houses that was not sold until the 1940's--underscores its significance with relationship to the development of Edgemont.

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the ground level with maid's quarters above. The outbuilding shares the same brick veneer, stuccoed gables, and six-over-six, double-hung windows as the main house.





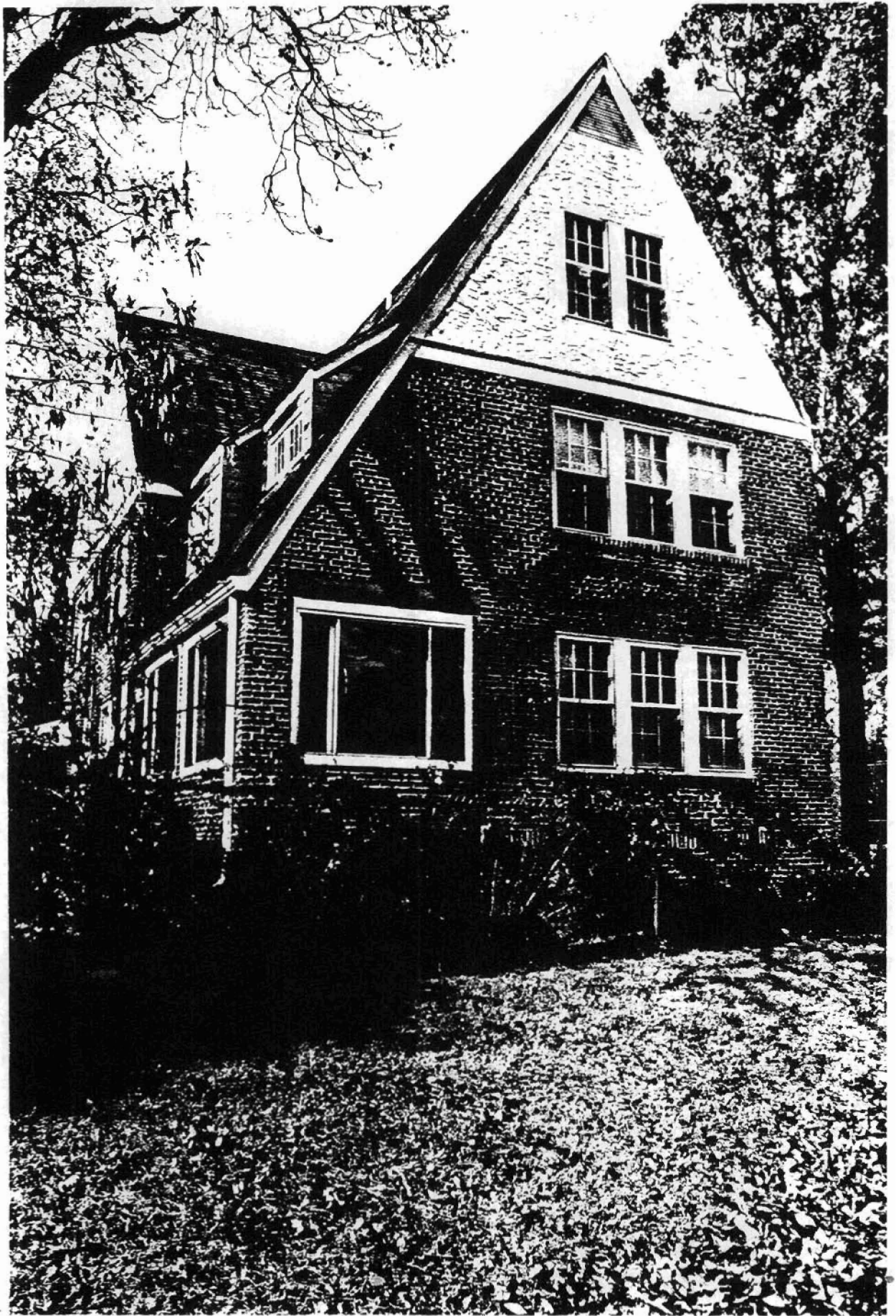
Matthews: Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr.  
North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

Nov. 20, 1990

Main facade, looking southwest

(NEGATIVE ON FILE AS AHPP)



Matthews-Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr. (PO 2290)

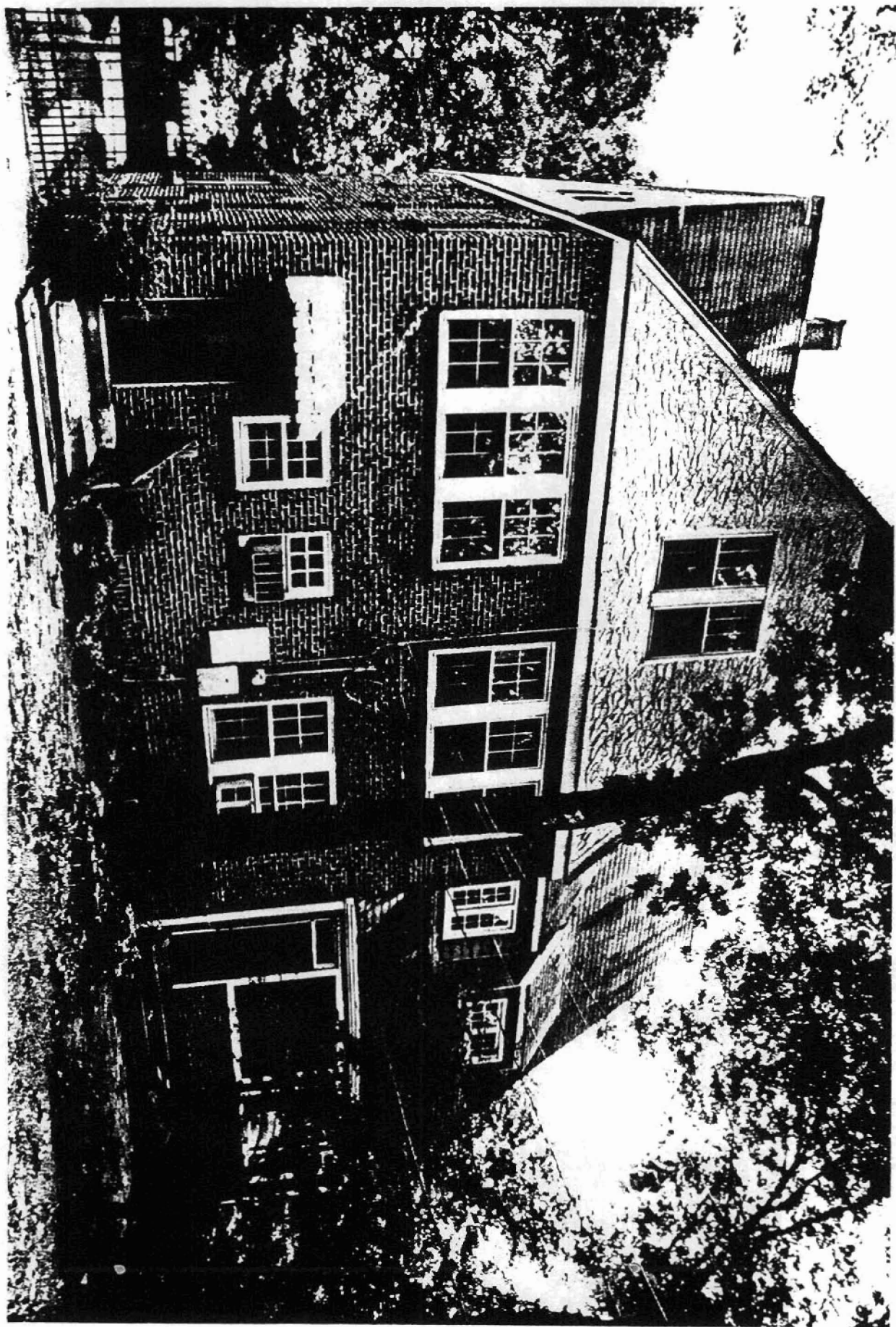
North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

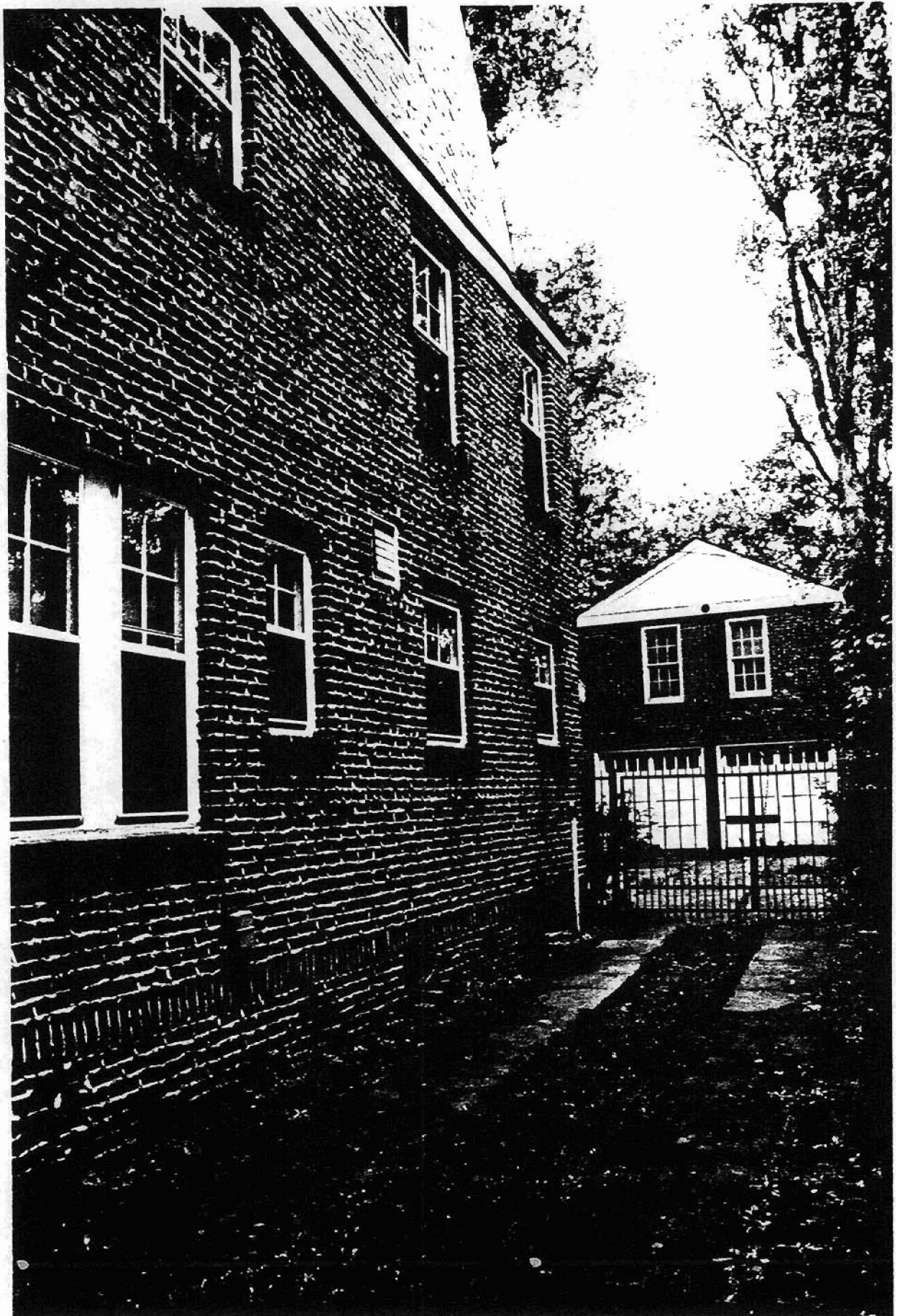
Nov. 20, 1990

View looking west

NOTE ON FILE AT AHP



Matthews-Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr. (ru 0090)  
North Little Rock, AR  
Cheryl Nichols  
June 28, 1991  
View looking north (rear facade)  
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP



Matthews-Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr. (PU 0090)  
North Little Rock, AR

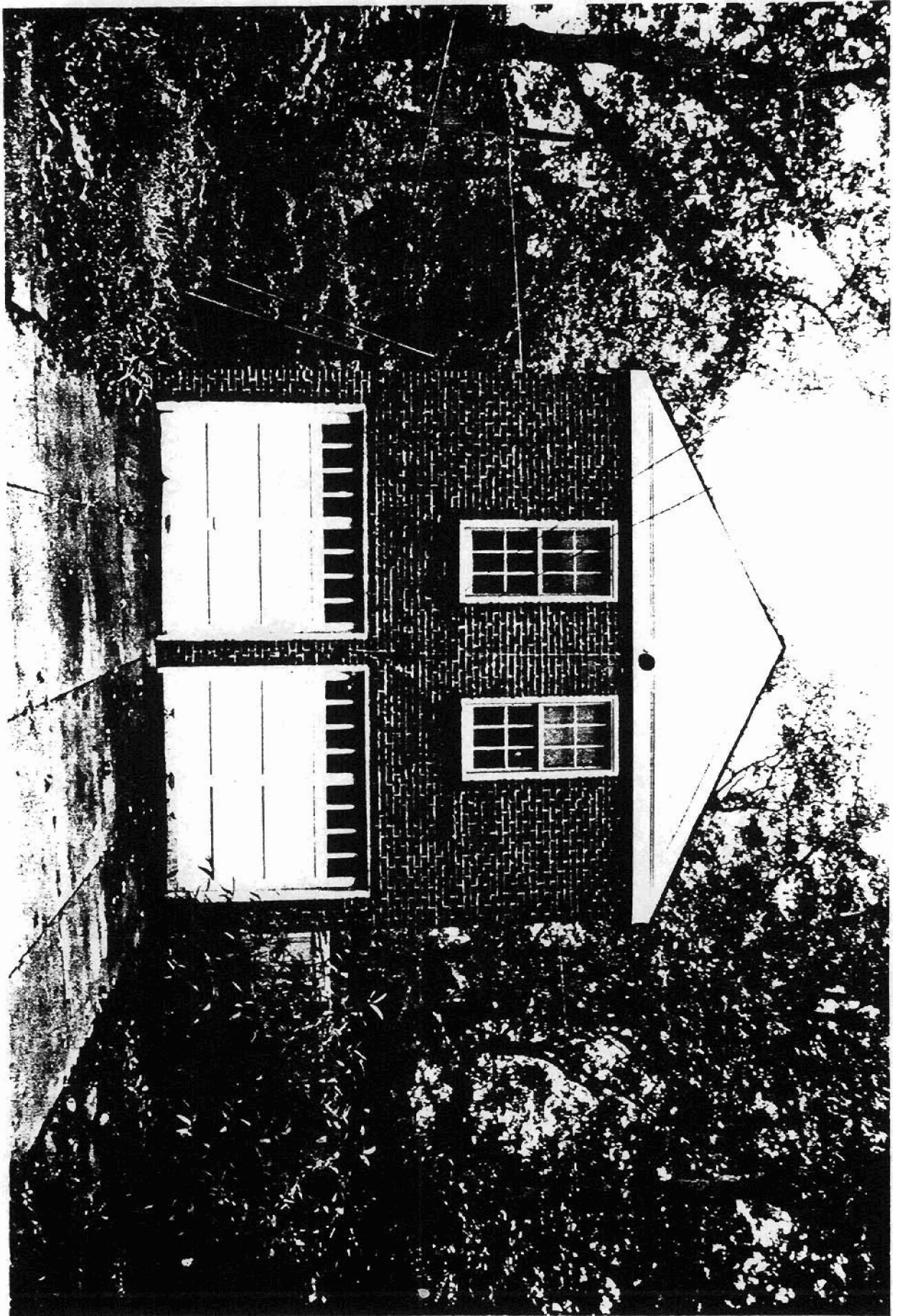
Cheryl Nichols

June 28, 1991

View looking south along west end of house

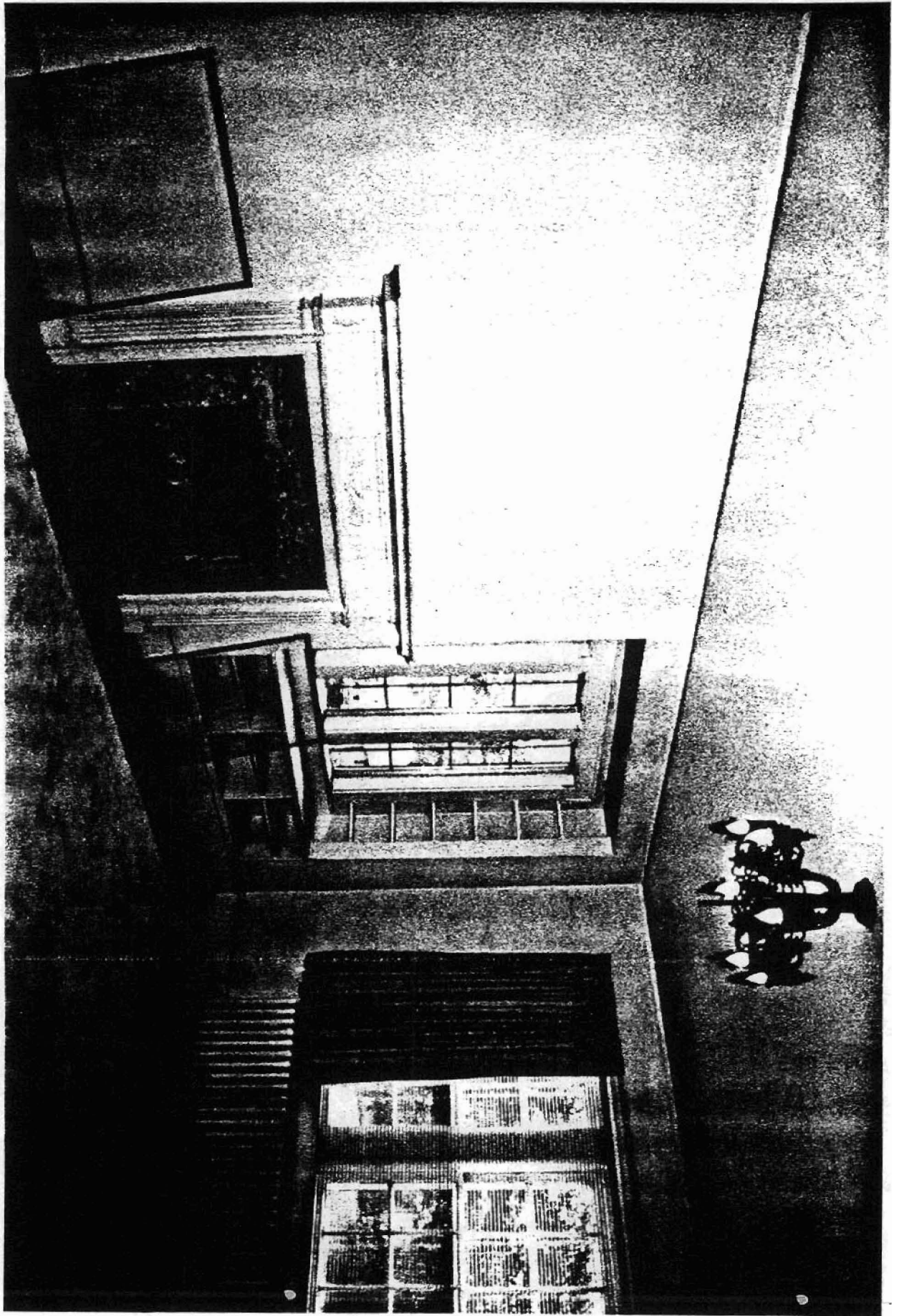
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP





Mathews - Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr  
North Little Rock, AR  
Cheryl Nichols  
June 28, 1991  
Garage, looking southwest  
• NEGATIVE ON TIE AT AHPP

(PU 0090)

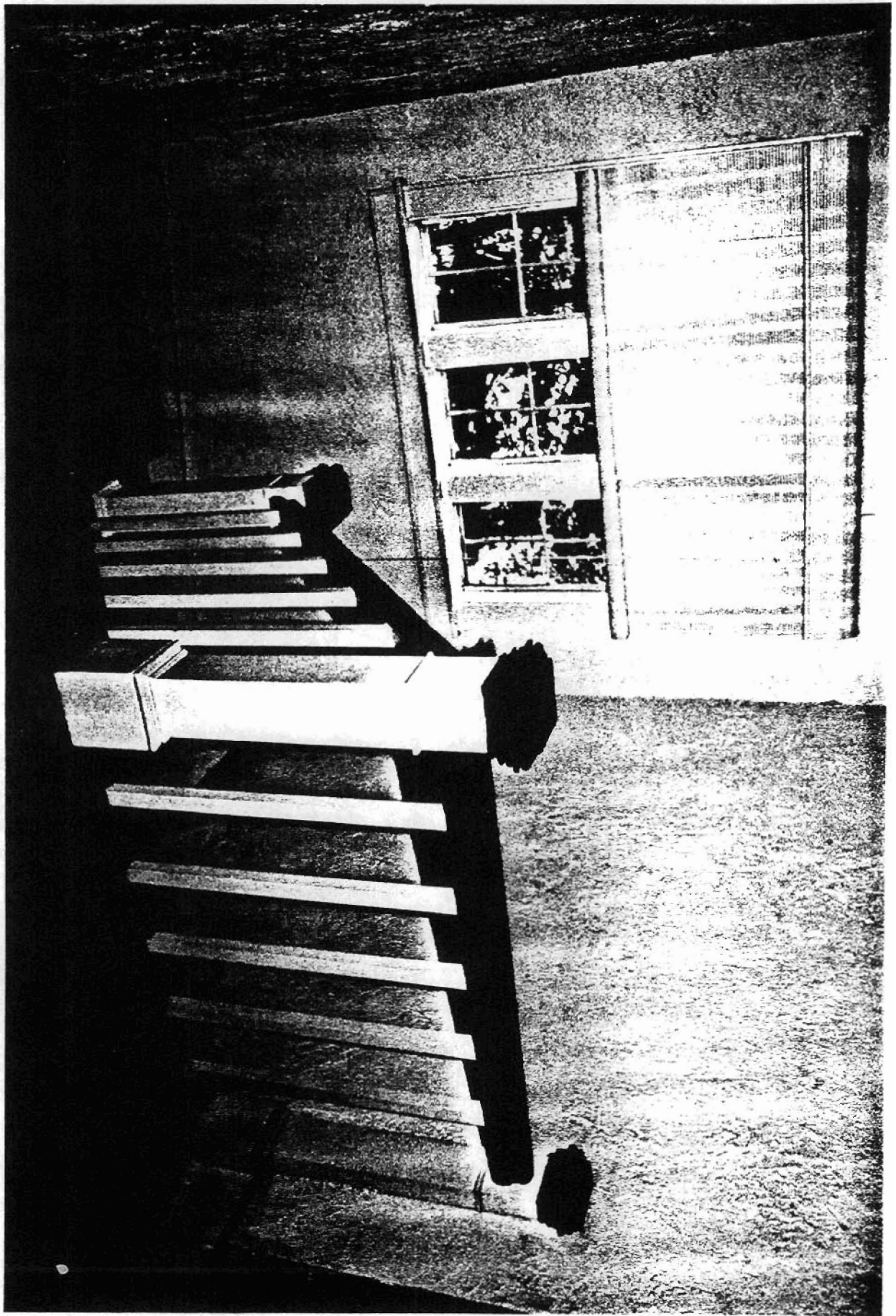


Mathews-Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr. (PU 0090)  
North Little Rock, AR

Cheryl Nichols

June 28, 1991

Living room, looking northeast  
NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AHPP



Matthews - Dillon House, 701 Skyline Dr. (PU 0090)  
North Little Rock, AR  
Cheryl Nichols

June 28, 1991

Stairwell, looking north

NEGATIVE ON FILE AT AIPP