

600-193-L110 - NR listed 5/7/80

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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

received
date entered 5/7/80

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

1. Name

historic Compton-Wood House

and/or common "Doll House"

2. Location

street & number 800 High Street' _____ not for publication

city, town Little Rock _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Second

state Arkansas code 05 county Pulaski code 119

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 type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Katherine L. Wood

street & number 800 High Street

city, town Little Rock _____ vicinity of _____ state Arkansas 72202

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Pulaski County Courthouse

street & number 400 West Markham

city, town Little Rock _____ state Arkansas 72201

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title _____ has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

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 Compton-Wood House is situated on a corner lot one block from the Arkansas State Capitol. Built in 1902, the late Queen Anne structure is a two-story, detached single family dwelling. Its roof is gabled at the four elevations and is dominated by a three-story stair tower with a pyramid roof and spiral finial. Together, these characteristics establish a strong vertical orientation for the building. The original wood shingle roof has been covered with asphalt shingles. The first story of the building is faced with horizontal lapped cypress siding while cypress shingles cover the second story, including the gable-ends. The second story's north elevation projects from the building with scrolled brackets under the cantilever.

The principal (east) elevation is distinguished by an "L" shaped porch which extends around to the north side of the building. This wooden porch is supported by five Doric columns and is decorated with a turned wood balustrade. The front door is made of oak with an oval beveled light. A variety of sizes of double-hung windows appear on the house. Windows on the second floor and in the gables have multiple panes in their upper sashes (16/1 and 9/1 lights). A round-arched opening in the north gable is flanked by wooden vents. Four twelve-inch double-hung (6/1 lights) in the stair tower identify its second floor landing.

There are three major rooms on each floor. The east parlor room and entry hall have oak floors with double 3/4" mahogany borders. The remaining floor area consists of pine and cypress. There are two fireplaces on the first floor, the parlor room having a corner fireplace with a glazed-brick rectangular opening and a shouldered oak architrave, frieze and cornice. An applied ribbon design adorns the frieze. A rectangular beveled mirror, flanked by two oval beveled mirrors and capped by a cornice, embellishes the overmantel. In the dining room, the fireplace has two Ionic columns supporting the mantel shelf. Applied floral and scroll designs enrich the frieze. The overmantel is scroll shaped and surrounds an oval beveled mirror. Tongue and groove paneled wainscoting in the kitchen is also noteworthy.

A quarter sawn stair with two landings provides access to the second floor. A two-foot wide balcony overlooks the stairwell and is distinguished from the exterior by the four miniature windows in the stairtower. The east bedroom has a corner fireplace with a plain mantel with no overmantel. Two consoles support the shelf. The north bedroom's heating system is indicated by the ceiling flue sleeve located in the center of the room which served an early stove. The second floor bathroom has original fixtures including a claw foot tub and a lavatory mounted with cast iron brackets.

Original pine panel doors, trim, symmetrically moulded corner blocks, transoms, and brass hardware remain throughout the house. The owner is in the process of reinstalling the original brass converted light fixture.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Exterior alteration includes the aforementioned change of roof material and minor modifications to the rear porch. A small balcony on the east elevation was removed due to deterioration. Hinges found at some of the windows indicate that the building once had shutters. Interior alterations include the enclosure of the stairway with pine paneling for security purposes. The owner took care not to damage the stair or balustrade. A bathroom was added next to the kitchen. A spiral stairway located in the back of the building was removed and put in storage.

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 type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1902 Builder/Architect W. A. Compton

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Compton-Wood House is architecturally significant because, with its striking late Queen Anne design, the building is the only visible representation of a type of architecture that characterized a once prominent upper-middle class residential area immediately south of the Arkansas State Capitol grounds. The house's dominant stair tower and steep cypress-shingled gables, in near original condition, stand in stark contrast to the present-day progressivism of government buildings, modern transportation networks and vacant lots which now surround it. The house was built in 1902 during the construction of the Arkansas State Capitol and the stair tower of the house afforded a panoramic view of the largest construction project to that date in Arkansas. **The surrounding neighborhood was well established by the twentieth century.** Residents of this neighborhood--politicians, lawyers and railroad workers--included many of Little Rock's leading citizens. William A. Compton, first owner and probable builder of the house, was a prominent lawyer and politician. He served in the Arkansas General Assembly from 1886-1888 and later as county judge in Pulaski County from 1892-1896. Compton built the house one block west of his father's home. The elder Compton was an Associate Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. The four block area that includes the house is referred to as the Compton addition. The present owner's father, Journey Wood, purchased the house in 1919. An engineer for the Missouri-Pacific Railroad, Wood was employed during the heyday of the railroad industry in Arkansas and Little Rock.

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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#9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Abstract of Titles, Little Rock Abstract Company, 214 Louisiana,
Little Rock, Arkansas; date 9-21-54.

Goodspeed, Arkansas (Central), Arkansas Library Commission.

Mase, S. W. "Journey Wood and Fate," Missouri Pacific Lines. May 1928
Private papers of Katherine L. Wood.

Sanborn, List of Residences, Arkansas History Commission.

Tax Records, 1901-02, Pulaski County Court House, County Clerk.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Little Rock

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	5	5	6	5	0	8	0	3	8	4	4	6	2	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

Zone	Easting				Northing									

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Zone	Easting				Northing									

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Zone	Easting				Northing									

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Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

Bk 412, Lots N $\frac{1}{2}$ 1, 2, 3.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title K. L. Wood, 800 High, Little Rock, AR and Jim Pfeifer, #1 Spring St., Little Rock,

Edited by: Don Brown, Historian

AR

organization Ark. Historic Preservation Program

date January 8, 1980

street & number Suite 500, Continental Building

telephone 501/371-2763

city or town Little Rock

state Arkansas 72201

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

Jean Williams Baldridge

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 3-12-80

For HCERS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

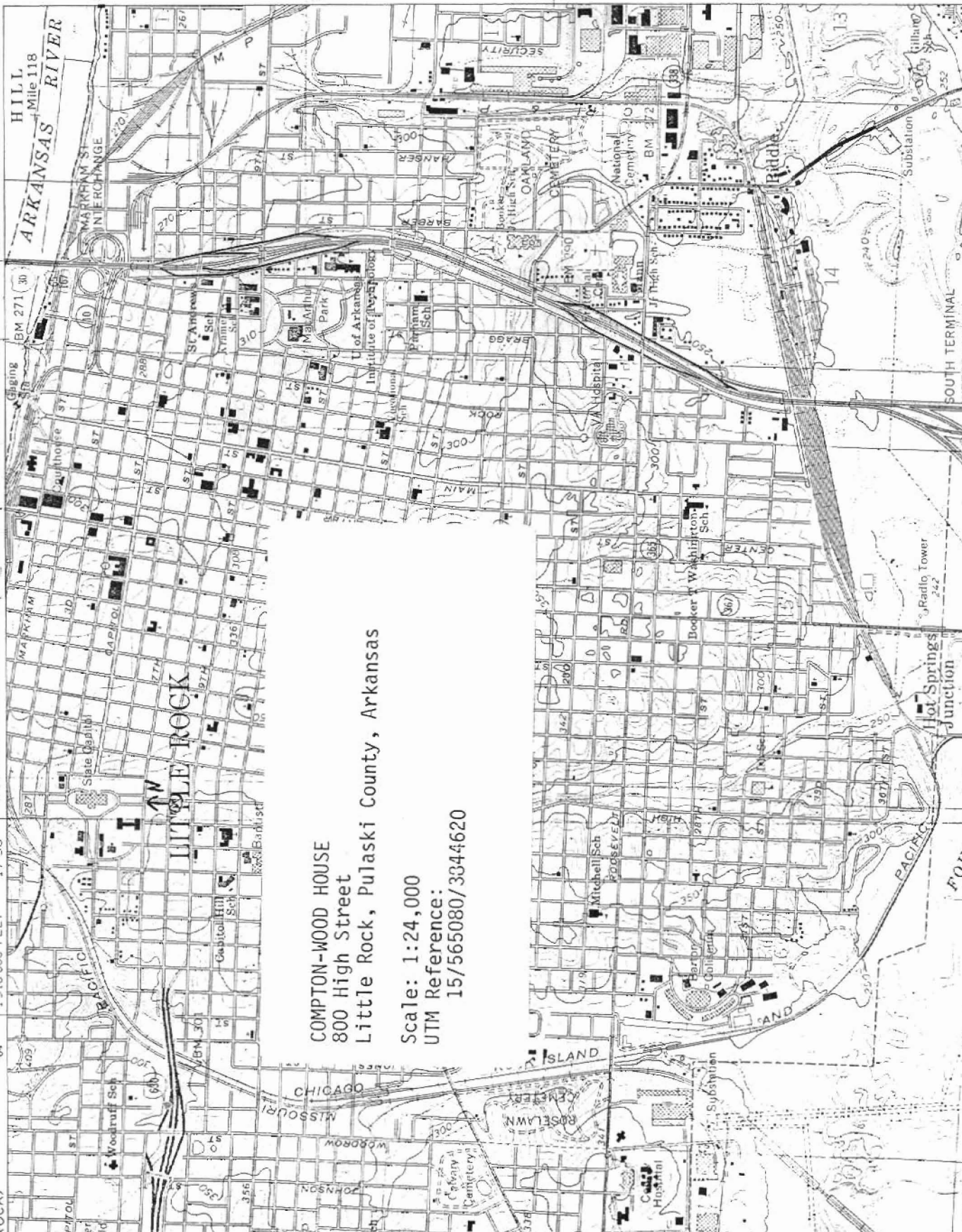
LITTLE ROCK QUADRANGLE
 ARKANSAS
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

1:24,000
 1:50,000
 1:62,500
 1:75,000
 1:100,000
 1:125,000
 1:150,000
 1:200,000
 1:250,000
 1:300,000
 1:400,000
 1:500,000
 1:600,000
 1:750,000
 1:1,000,000

1910 000 FEET
 17 30'

1910 000 FEET
 17 30'

1910 000 FEET
 17 30'



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE
 800 High Street
 Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Scale: 1:24,000
 UTM Reference:
 15/565080/3344620

AREA PLANNING
 PULASKI COUNTY

MC
 755

92°15'
 34°45'

3845

3844

3843

750 000
 FEET

3842

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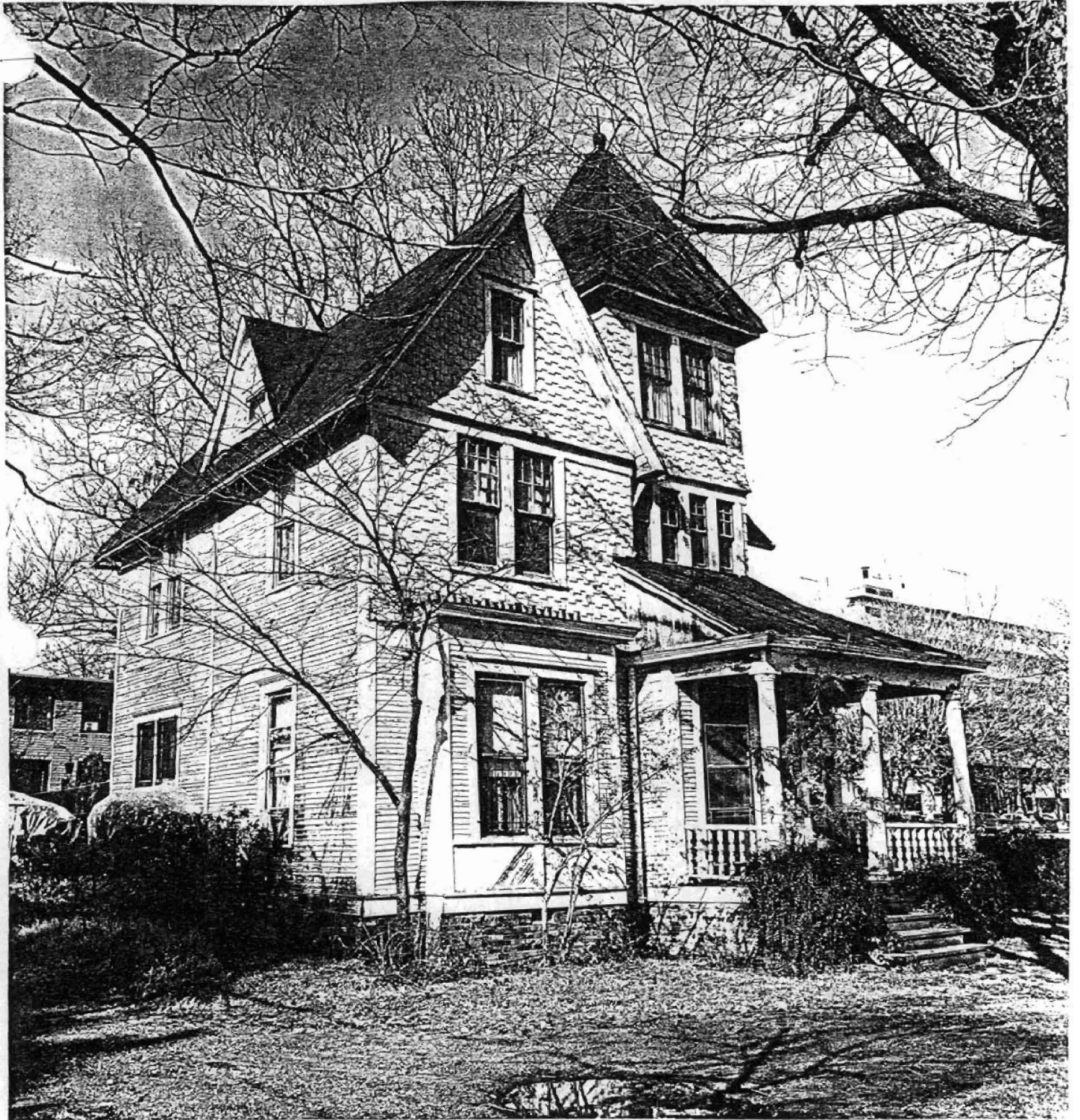


COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
East elevation from east

2 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
South and east elevations from southeast

7 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Northeast elevation from northeast



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Northeast elevation from northeast

3 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
North and west elevations from northwest
4 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
West elevation from west

5 of 10

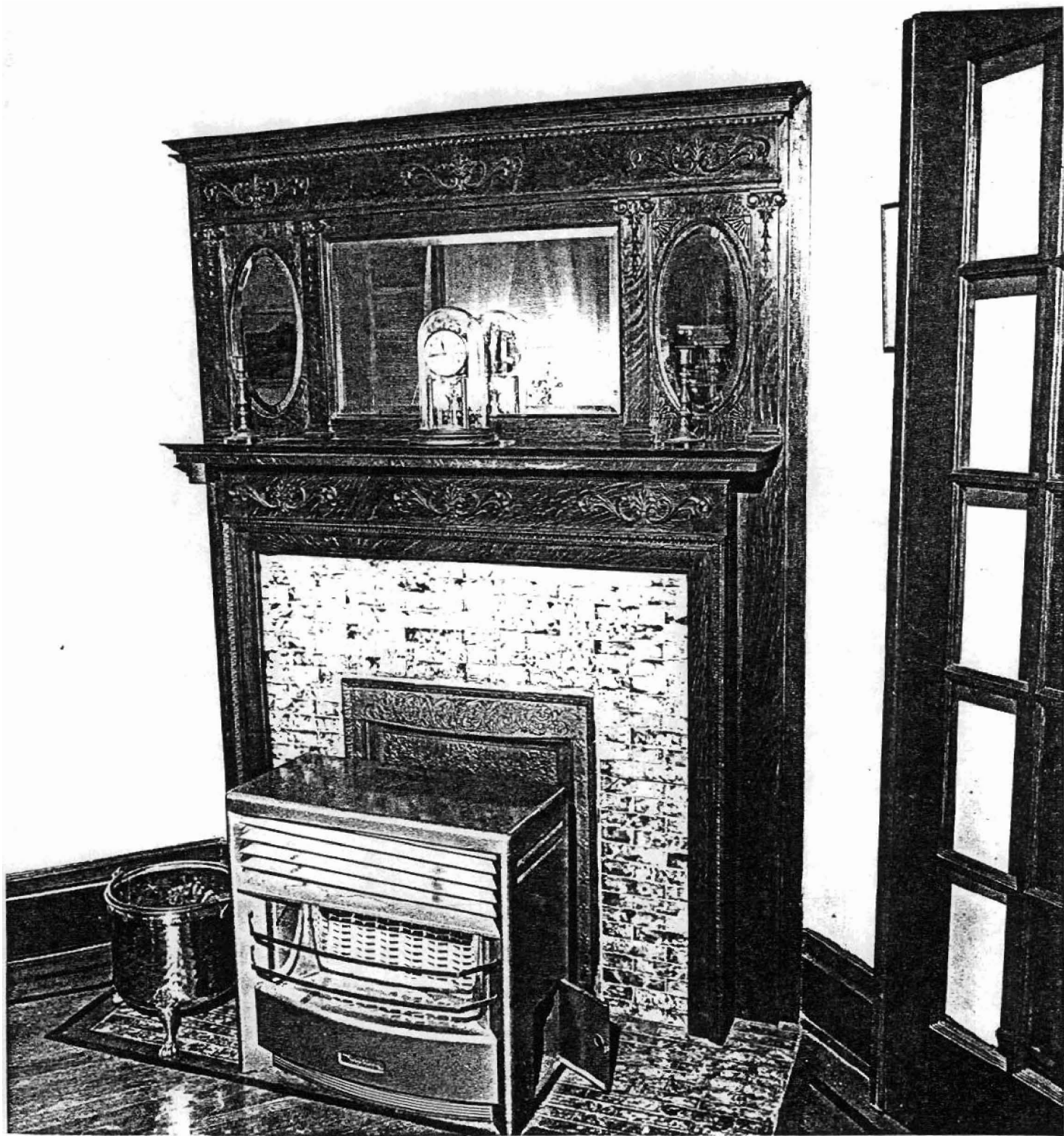


COIPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
South elevation from south

5 of 10

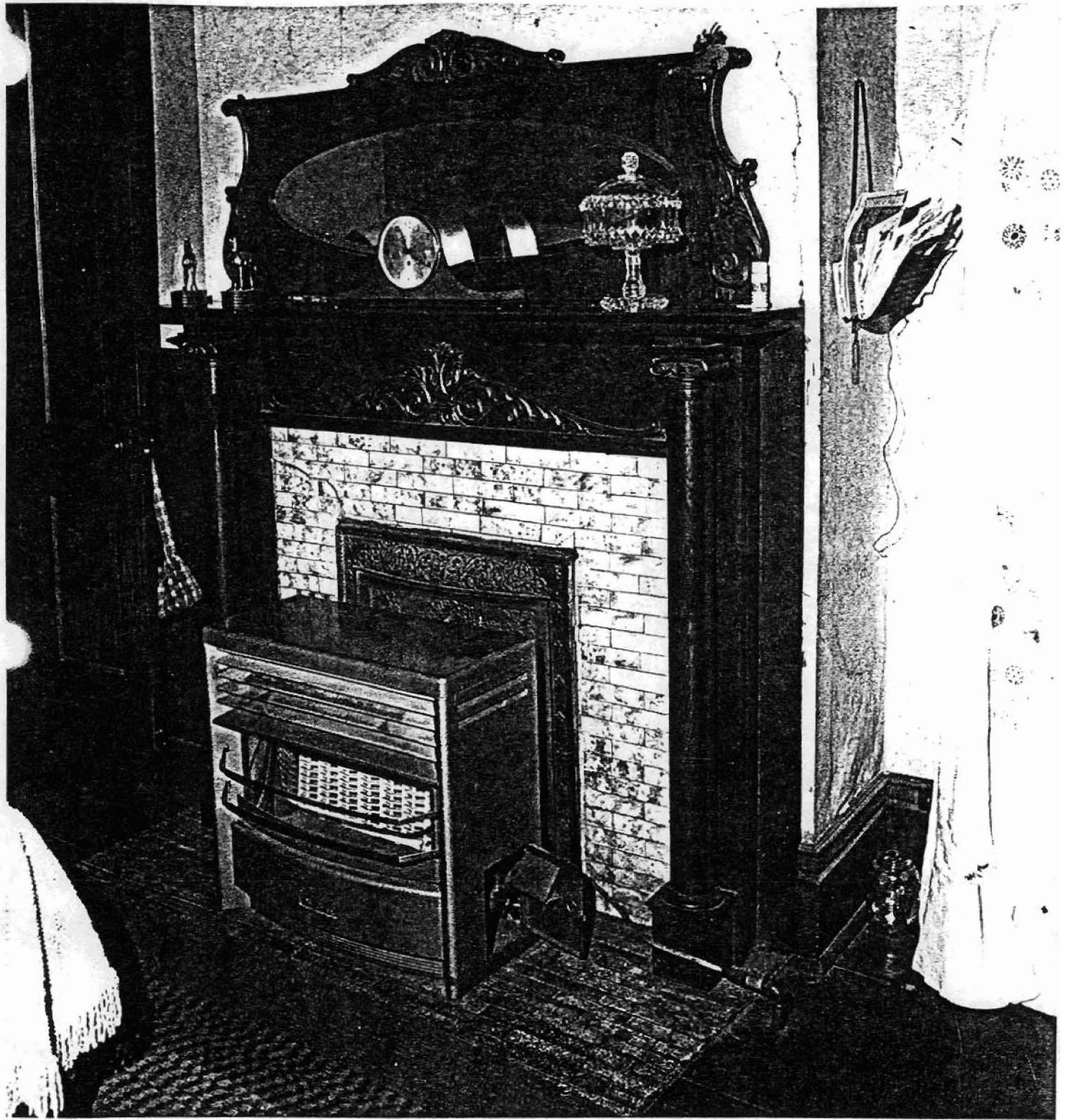


COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Parlor room fireplace from southeast

3 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dúnn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Dining room fireplace from northeast

9 of 10



COMPTON-WOOD HOUSE

800 High
Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas

Robert Dunn, January 7, 1980
Negative location: Arkansas Historic
Preservation Program
Door, trim, molded corner block from east

10 of 10