

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Family

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Family

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

Mediterranean Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Brick

roof Ceramic Tile
other Concrete

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1928-29

Significant Dates

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

McDonald, D.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one

UTM References

A

1	5	5	2	5	5	1	0	3	6	9	1	4	5	0
Zone			Easting					Northing						

B

Zone			Easting					Northing						

C

Zone			Easting					Northing						

D

Zone			Easting					Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 1 - 6, Sub Lot 1, Original Town of Smackover, Arkansas

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

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

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date November 16, 1990
street & number 225 East Markham, Suite 200 telephone (501) 324-9346
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Summary

The D. McDonald House is a two-story, brick residence designed in a simplified Mediterranean villa style. Its hipped two-story section, adjoining single-story ell and porte cochere are all covered with red clay tile. The walls are faced with beige brick and the windows are primarily twelve-over-sixteen wood sash. A continuous brick foundation supports the structure.

Elaboration

The D. McDonald House is a two-story, brick residence designed in a restrained interpretation of the Mediterranean villa style. Its irregular plan consists of the main, two-story hipped-roof block, a full length, single-story, flat roof porch/sun room section attached to the eastern elevation, a two-story hipped roof section and an attached single-story hipped roof room to the south, a single-story, flat roofed porch on the western elevation and a single-story, hipped roof porte cochere attached to the northern elevation. One exterior brick chimney is attached to the northern elevation, just to the west of the porte cochere; the other rises through the southern plane of the hipped roof over the main block of the house. Both are tall and rise to punctuate the roofline of the house. The hipped roofs are covered with red clay tile throughout, the walls are beige brick, and all is supported by a continuous brick and concrete foundation.

The eastern or front elevation of the house consists of a projecting, single-story porch and sunroom on the first story and the main block of the house above. The porch is placed at the northern end of the elevation and features an open design, with square brick columns supporting the flat roof behind the parapet and decorative round, wood columns set *in antis* and framing the stairs and entrance. The single-leaf entrance is lighted with a large glass pane. The entrance to the porch is covered with a later metal canopy and the parapet above is ornamented with an original emblem containing the letters "M", "c" and "D" in clear reference to the McDonald family that built the house. To the south, the wall is lighted with two sets of three large, multi-pane double-hung wood sash windows. The wall of the projecting single story, hipped roof section at the end of the elevation is blank. The second story is lighted with two multi-pane, double-hung sash windows directly above the entrance and a set of three to the south, toward the end of the main block, and another set of three in the wall of the projecting hipped roof section to the south. The porte cochere projects to the north.

The western elevation consists of the main block to the north and the projecting, two-story hipped roof section to the south. The main block features but one double-hung sash window in the second story and the flat roof, single story porch below. This porch is entered via a single-leaf entry with a single window to the north. To the south, the otherwise continuous

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wall surface is interrupted by a three-sided bay. A single double-hung window lights each floor to the north of the projecting bay, and a set of three identical windows light the second story to the south of this bay while a pair of identical windows light the wall below. The three-sided bay is lighted on the first floor with a central twelve-over-sixteen window and the flanking faces are each lighted with narrower, nine-over-twelve windows; the second story is lighted with a central eight-over-eight window and flanked by two six-over-six windows. A shed roof dormer is placed just above this projecting bay and vents the attic. The wall of the single story, hipped roof room at the southern end of the elevation is lighted by a single central double-hung sash window, the other flanking windows having been covered.

The northern elevation is dominated by the single-story, hipped roof porte cochere at the eastern end of the elevation. The roof is supported on three large, rectangular brick columns that are ornamented only with small quarter-circle "brackets" that join them to the soffits to either side. Two smaller windows light the wall beneath the porte cochere roof, and a pair of larger double-hung sash windows directly above is augmented by a smaller stairwell window placed just to the west of the roof. The exterior brick chimney to the west separates a single, double-hung sash window to the east on the first floor and two smaller, double-hung windows to the west, one on each floor. The blank wall of the western porch finishes the elevation. The southern elevation features the filled windows and the smaller, single window in the wall of the single-story room. Above, the second story is lighted with two pair of double-hung sash windows. To the east, the first floor is lighted with three large double-hung sash windows while the second story is lighted with a single, smaller double-hung sash window.

Though many of the interior walls have been panelled recently, a great deal of the original detail remains. Stained wood doors, plaster archways between rooms, wood cabinets and the dark stained wood sash all remain. Of special note are the two fireplaces on either side of the southern chimney. The northern firebox is ornamented with a decorative terra cotta facing while that to the south features a decorative, blind brick arch above a wood mantel shelf and a square firebox below. Both fireboxes also feature their original gas heaters.

Also included in the nomination are two outbuildings, one contributing and one non-contributing. The two-car garage was built at the same time as the house and was designed in the exact same style as the house itself. Its beige brick walls and red clay tile roof are identical to the materials of the house. To the south of the garage stands a small, wood frame, hipped-roof picnic shelter set upon a concrete slab.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1**Summary**

Criterion C, local significance

The D. McDonald House, through its use of red clay tile roofing, monochromatic beige brick for the walls and tall double-hung sash windows placed close to the floor on the first story survives as a remarkably good example of a large scale, Craftsman style home with strong Mediterranean influences. Though other residences in Smackover reflect the general influence of the Craftsman style, this is the best example locally of this specific subcategory.

Elaboration

As one would expect, the prosperity and wealth brought by the oil boom that literally "made" Smackover in the early 1920's produced some relatively ambitious domestic architecture in addition to an abundance of commercial development (see Smackover Historic Commercial District; NR-listed 6/14/90). Of such residences in Smackover that remain, by far the most distinctive is the D. McDonald House. Located at the southwest corner of 8th Street and Broadway and just to the south of the commercial center of Smackover, the D. McDonald House is unusual by virtue of both its style - Mediterranean villa, a style not found in any other building in Smackover - and its relative opulence: DeKalb McDonald, who built the house for himself and his family, was otherwise one of Smackover's more retiring and unostentatious residents, a man who contributed much to his community but who preferred to work quietly "behind the scenes" in serving the greater good.

DeKalb McDonald was a native of nearby Mt. Holly who relocated to Smackover when the first oil well "blew in." The first commercial structures along Broadway, Smackover's commercial strip, were constructed of wood; however, the glorious prospects for the future brought on by the oil boom, combined with the combustibility of wood frame construction, soon encouraged local entrepreneurs to build in brick masonry instead. D. McDonald, as he became known, owned a row of wood frame commercial buildings, covered with sheet metal, at the south end of Broadway; when they burned in 1925, he was one of the first to begin rebuilding in brick and constructed a full half-block masonry commercial building on the opposite side of 8th Street from where he eventually built this house. This commercial structure sheltered as many as six tenants at one time and served as one of the anchors of the commercial district (this building survived into the 1960's, when it was removed for the new Smackover State Bank building).

However, D. McDonald was just as influential through his social and charitable contributions to Smackover. He was very active in the community's school system, making lavish contributions of both money and time in attempting to bring high-quality public education to town. He was also active in the establishment and support of several local churches, especially

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through his expertise as a builder and contractor. During all these activities, however, McDonald shunned the limelight, preferring to remain relatively unnoticed.

D. McDonald began the construction of this home in 1928, on the site of an earlier residence. Though some contemporaneous newspaper accounts described the building as "an example of American architecture with a delightful touch of Spanish design," it was actually a combination of the Italian Renaissance and Spanish Colonial styles that is better described under the more general rubric of the Mediterranean villa style. Built at a cost of \$25,000, as originally constructed the D. McDonald House contained formal living and dining rooms, a master bedroom, a parlor, den breakfast room, kitchen, sleeping porch and a bath, just on the lower level. The upper level contained a library, three bedrooms, another sleeping porch, two baths and another den. It was heated by three fireplaces and cooled by ceiling fans that were complimented by twelve forced air ventilators. In addition, lush flowers and shrubbery adorned the spacious grounds surrounding the house. Another contemporaneous newspaper account referred to the residence as being "one of the showplaces of the oil city."

The D. McDonald House was probably the only example of the Mediterranean villa style constructed in Smackover, and it is certainly the only example of which any record has survived. Its spreading red clay tile roof, overhanging eaves, monochromatic beige brick and tall, multi-pane, double-hung sash windows render it a particularly good and quite intact example of this style.

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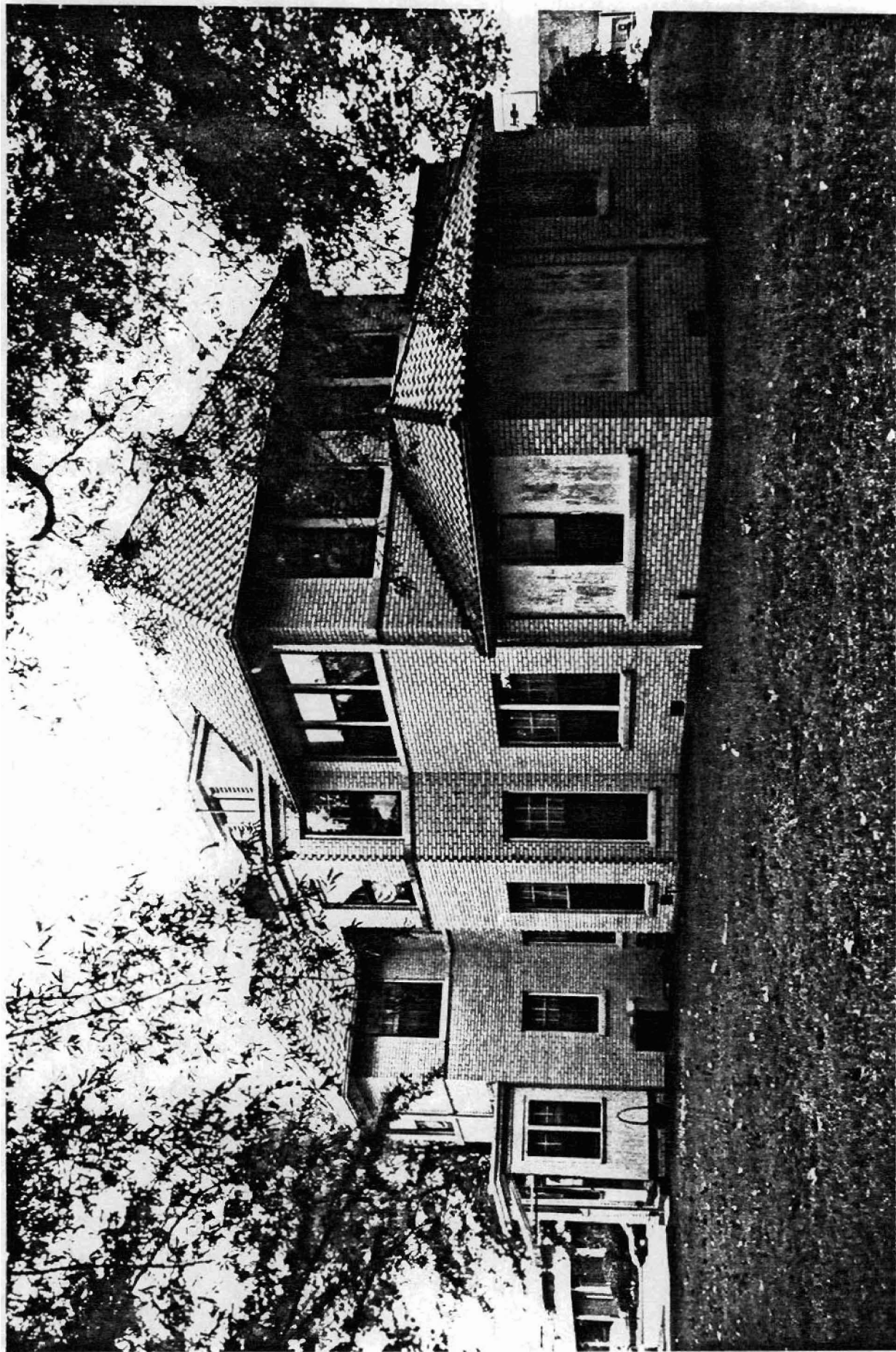
Bibliography

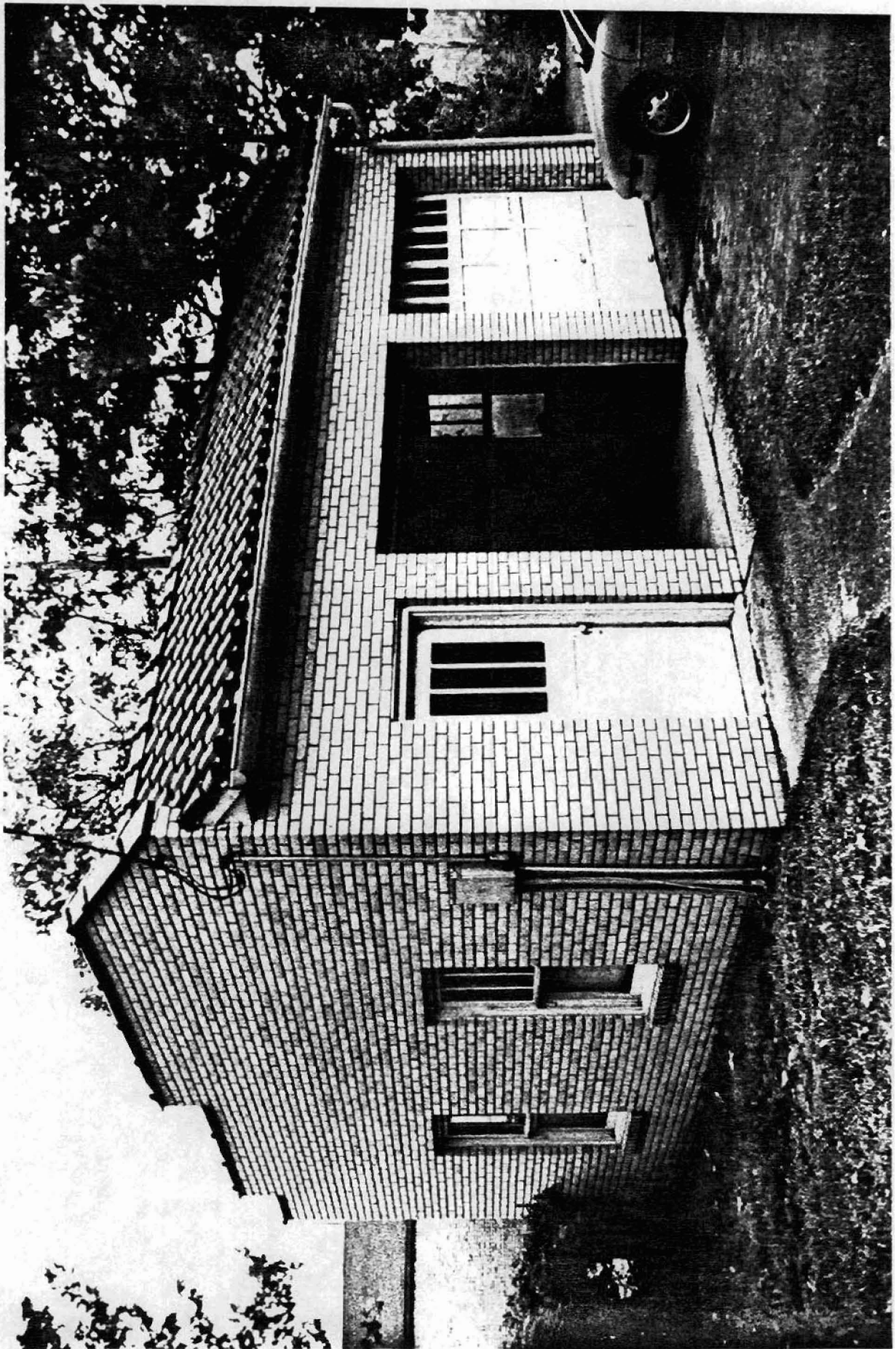
"D. McDonald Has Dodged Publicity But Has Been Real Power Behind the Throne in Smackover's Development," *Smackover Journal*, July 28, 1939, p. 3.

Green, Juanita Whitaker, *The History of Union County, Arkansas*, (1954).

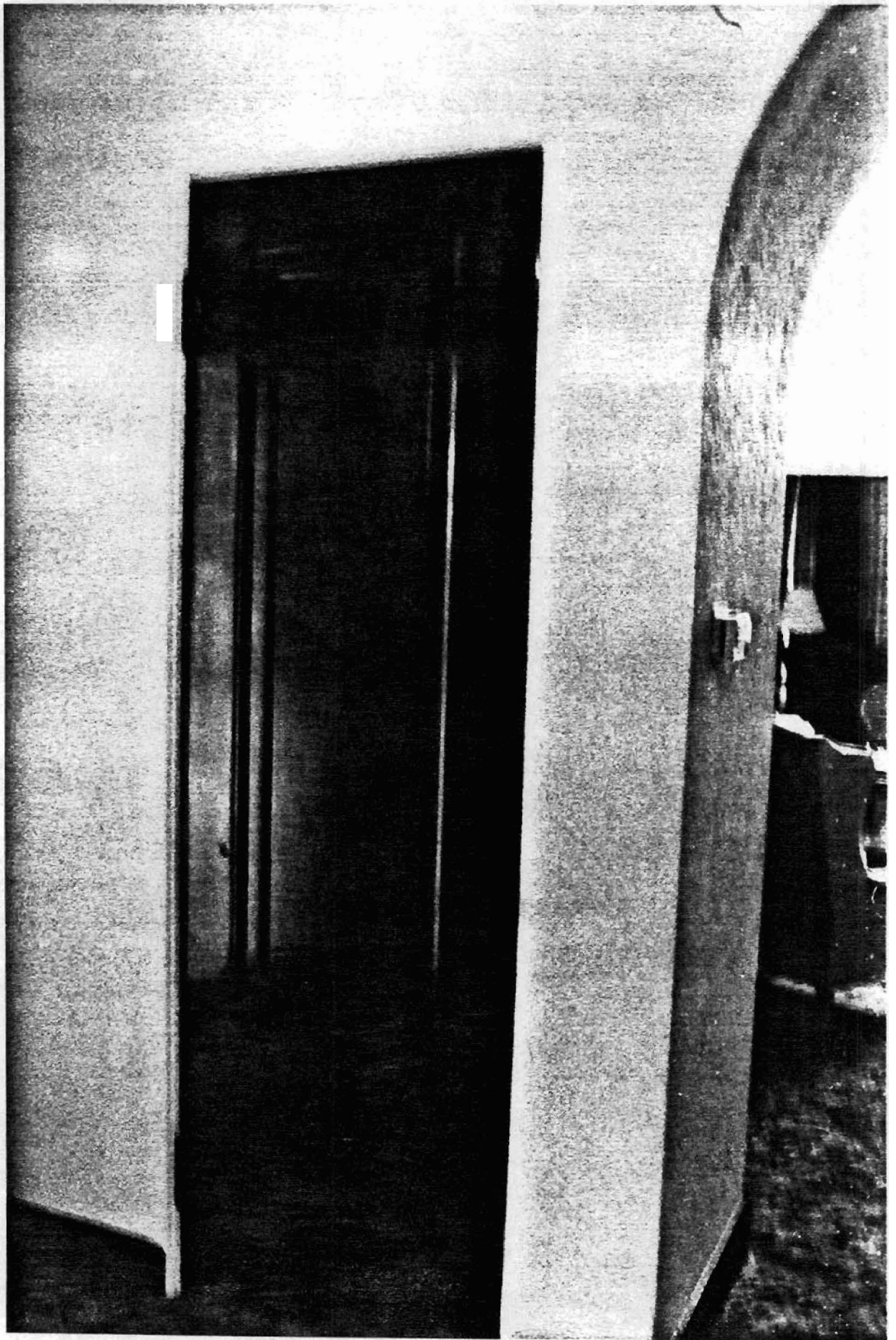
Lambert, Don, *Smackover, Arkansas' Boom Town*, (Monroe, LA, 1987).

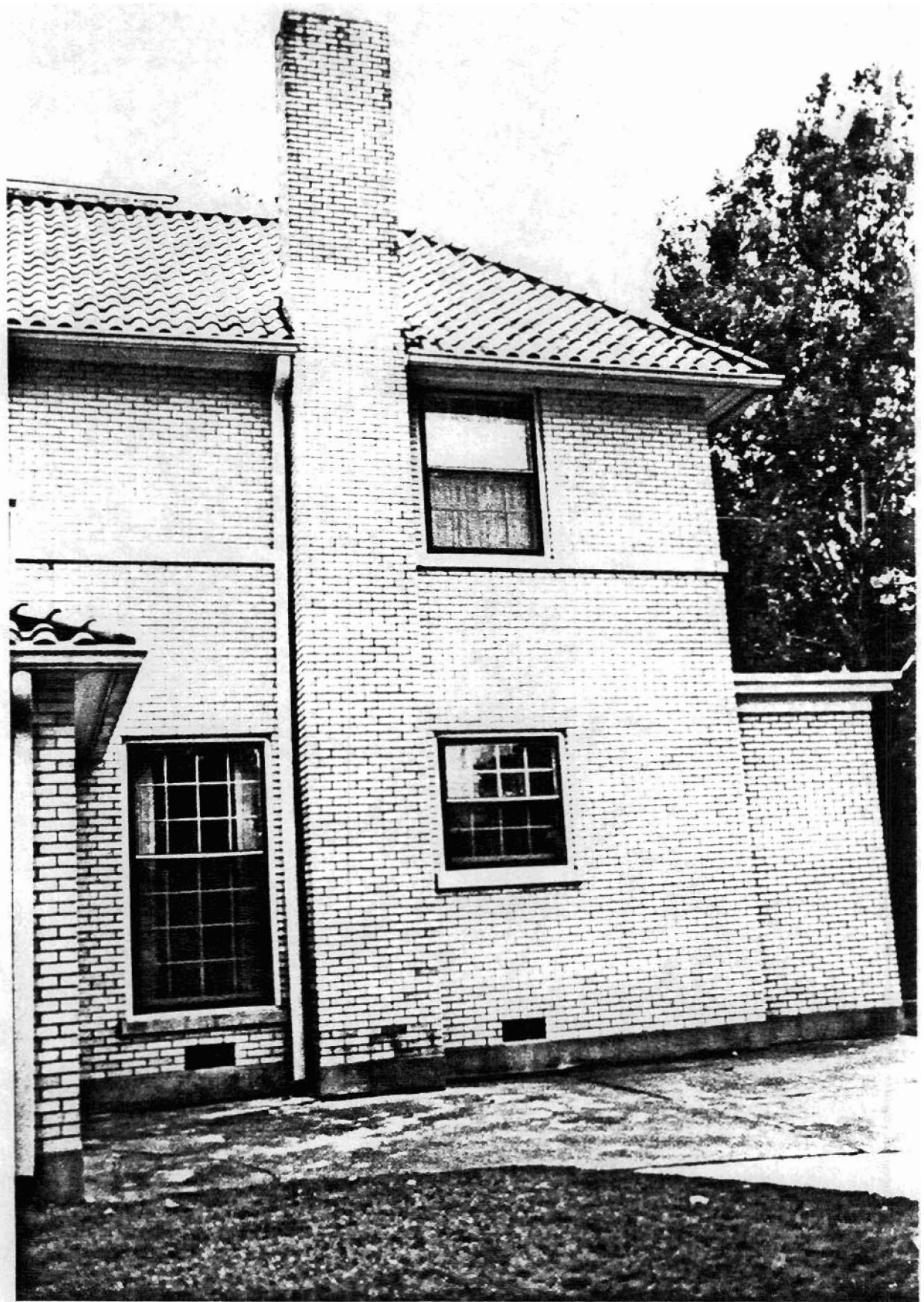
_____, " 'Goodbye Rose' Part V," *Smackover Journal*, March 22, 1990, p. 3.











D. McDonald House
Snackover, Arkansas
Union County
15/525510/3691450
Snackover Quadrangle
1:24000

R

R. 16 W. R. 15 W.

42'30"

CROSS ROADS 3.4 MI.

925

74 (S.M.)

