

NR 12-1-78

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED

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

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Washington County Jail  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
College Avenue at County Avenue  
CITY, TOWN  
Fayetteville  
STATE  
Arkansas  
VICINITY OF  
Third  
COUNTY  
Washington  
CODE  
05  
143  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: vacant

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Washington County  
STREET & NUMBER  
College Avenue at Center Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Fayetteville  
STATE  
Arkansas  
VICINITY OF  
12701

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC  
Circuit Clerk Washington County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
College Avenue at Center Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Fayetteville  
STATE  
Arkansas

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
TE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE  
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

# 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		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Washington County Jail falls into the stylistic category of Richardsonian Romanesque. The brown stone walls are accented by arches, lintels, pilasters, and creelated towers of light cut stone. Some stained glass squares are included in the three facade arches. Originally, straght steps led from the street to the main entrance, an arched double door in the large tower. Above the door is a stone carved "WASHINGTON".

The interior is constructed of wood frame with plaster, with decorative milled door and window trim. A wooden stairway leads from the main floor to the second floor. Jail cells in the base-ment and on the second floor are inside a concrete core, the enclosures being steel walled with steel slatted doors. The main floor was used as living quarters for the sheriff's family and is arranged accordingly.

Alterations include rebuilding the main stair-entryway from a straight run to a "T" shape to allow widening of College Avenue; original stone and trim were used. The south colonaded porch has been screened. Presently unoccupied, the jail has withstood cosmetic damage by a community group using the building as a Halloween Haunted House.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
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 1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT W. B. Reese

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

After prisoners repeatedly escaped from the old wooden jail on the Square in Fayetteville, the Washington County Quorum Court, on November 11, 1895, authorized County Judge Frank Hill to acquire land for and proceed to build a new jail. J.M. Phillips was appointed jail commissioner and W. B. Reese retained as architect. Land was acquired and construction started by March, 1896. Final bills to the architect and suppliers were paid by December, 1897.

The significance of the Washington County Jail lies in its architecture and relationship with county government. The building is constructed of brown stone accented with cut stone details. The Richardsonian Romanesque style of architecture dominates the building's appearance.

The Washington County Jail forms an important visual terminus at the end of Mountain Street, leading away from the downtown business square. Its medieval style is unusual to Fayetteville and blends with the later and more refined Washington County Courthouse (Added to the National Register 2-23-72). The Courthouse is the visual center of the area.

The Washington County Historical Society has petitioned the Quorum Court for use of the Jail as their office and library. It is hoped that the Society will be able to utilize this building, thus encouraging its preservation.

# MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Campbell, W.S., One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1829-1928.  
 Washington County Court Records: Book "N" Jan.5, 1891-Dec.12,1896  
 Book "O" Jan.4, 1897-Oct.27, 1900

## GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre  
 UTM REFERENCES

A	1 5	3 9 5 7 2 0	3 9 9 1 2 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Carolyn L. Newbern

ORGANIZATION

Washington County Historical Society

DATE

June 20, 1978

STREET & NUMBER

118 East Dickson

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Fayetteville

STATE

Arkansas

## 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

*Annabeth*

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

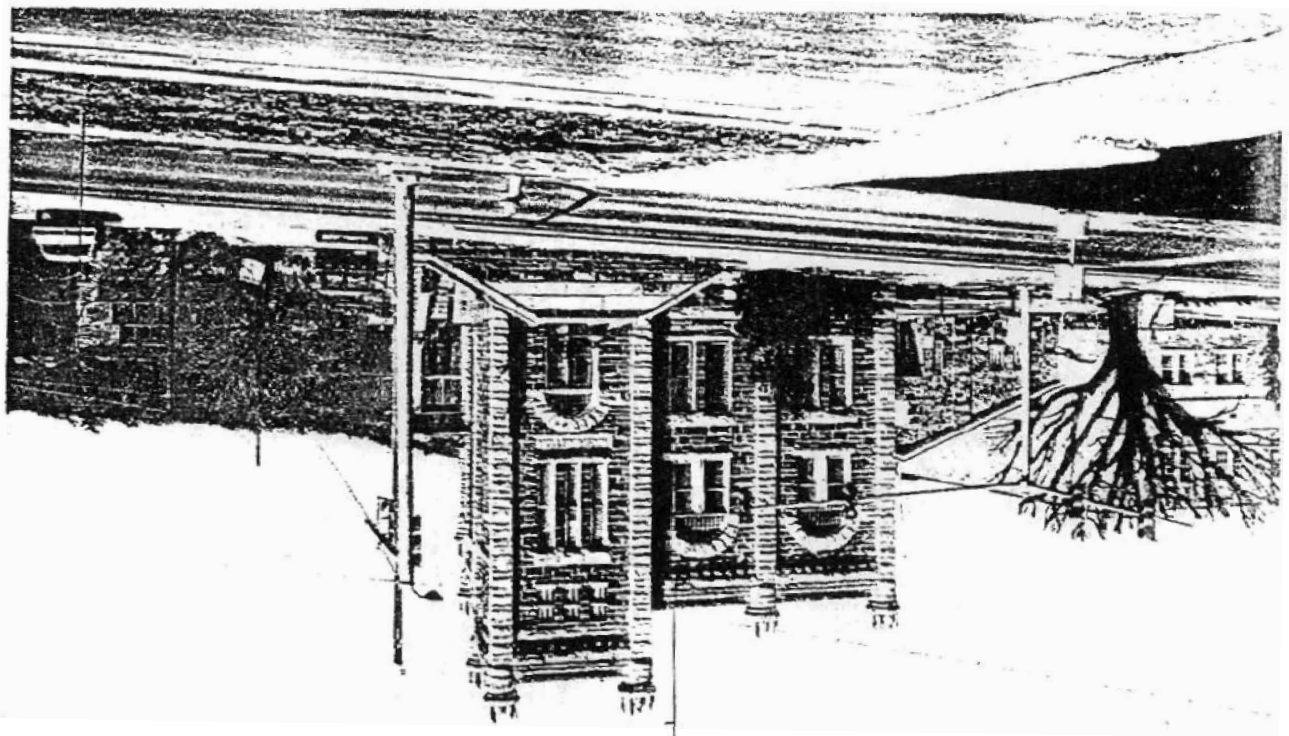
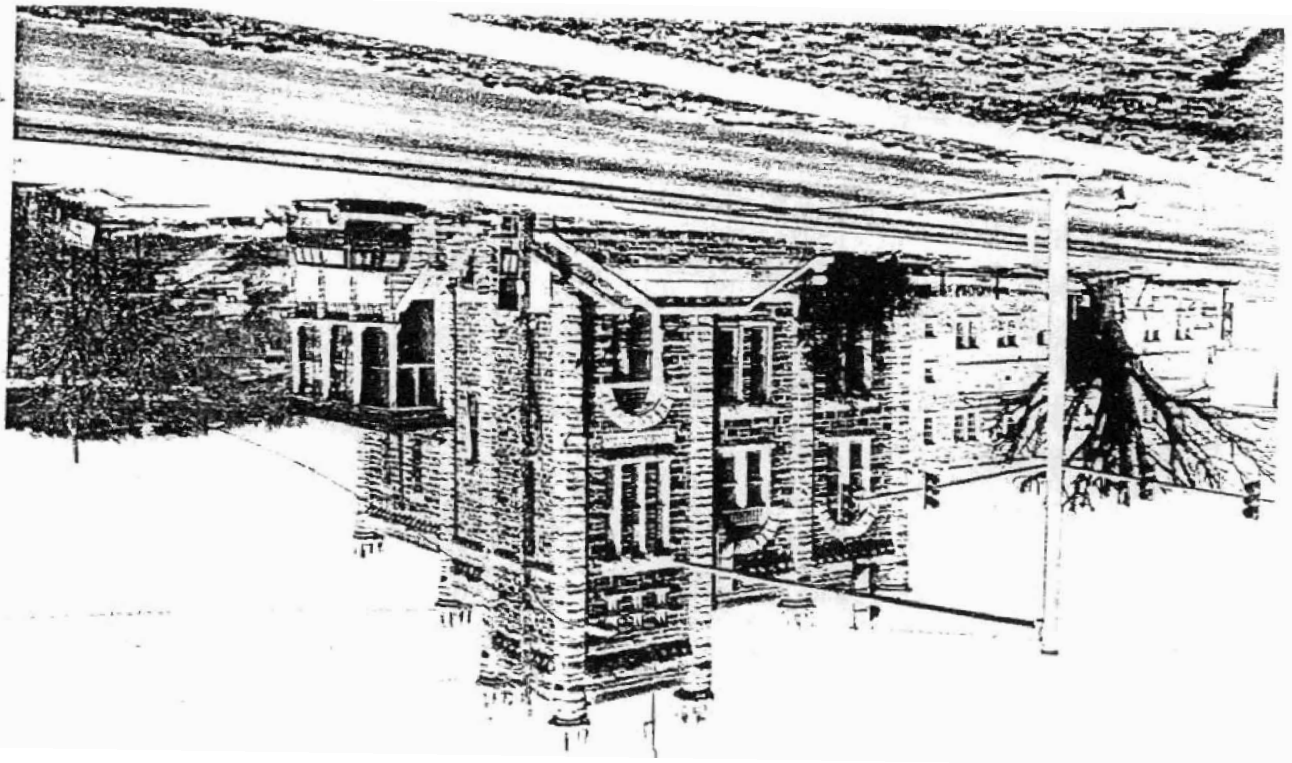
DATE

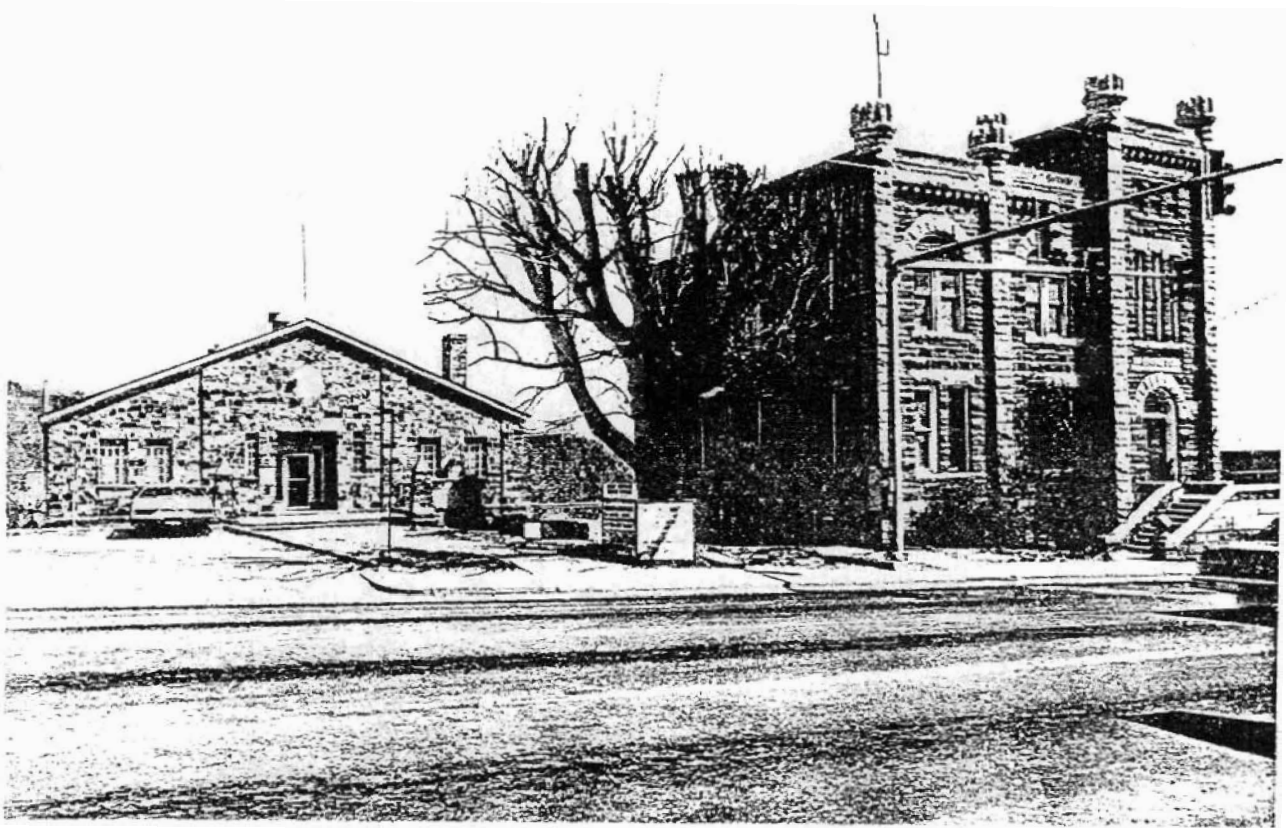
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





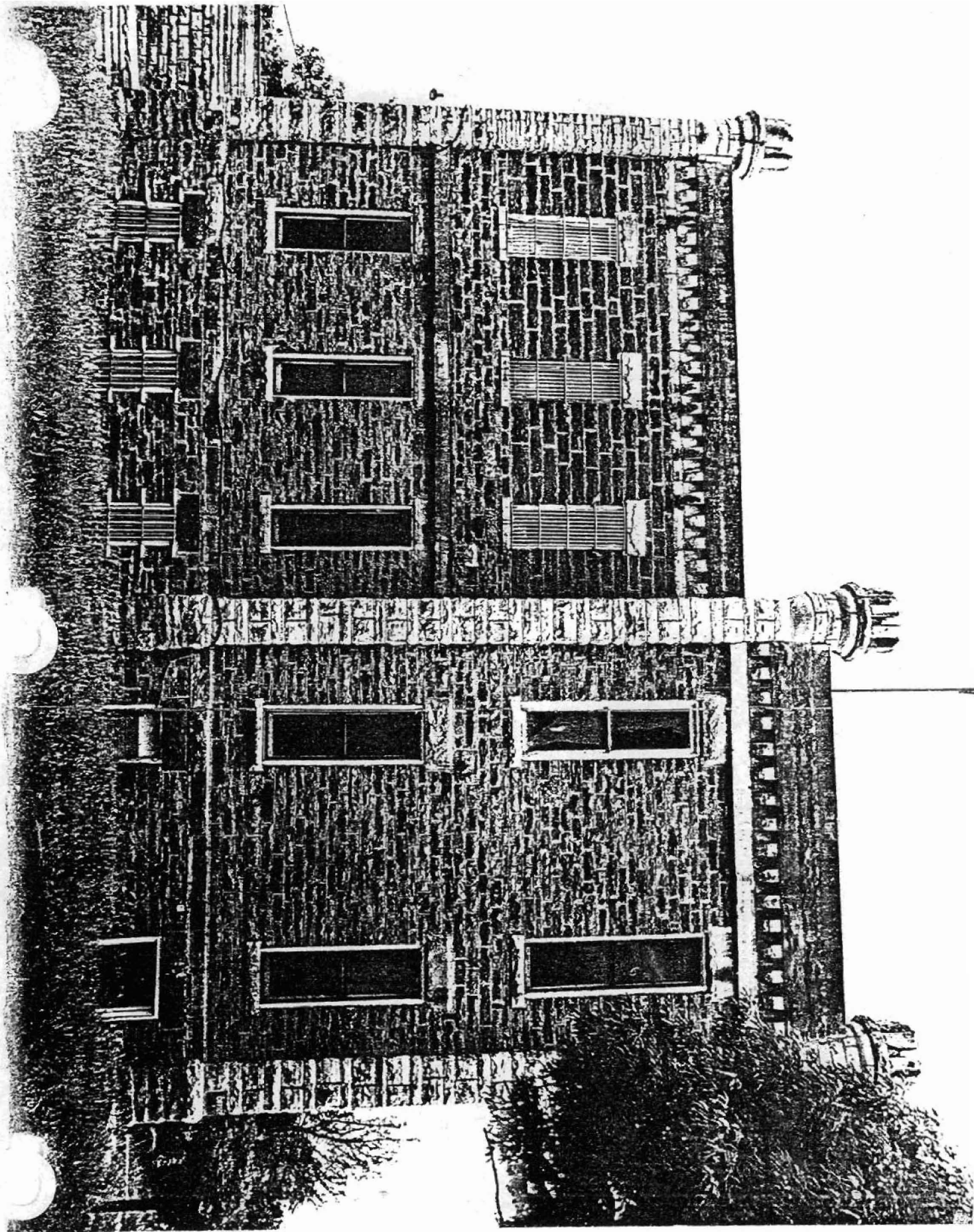
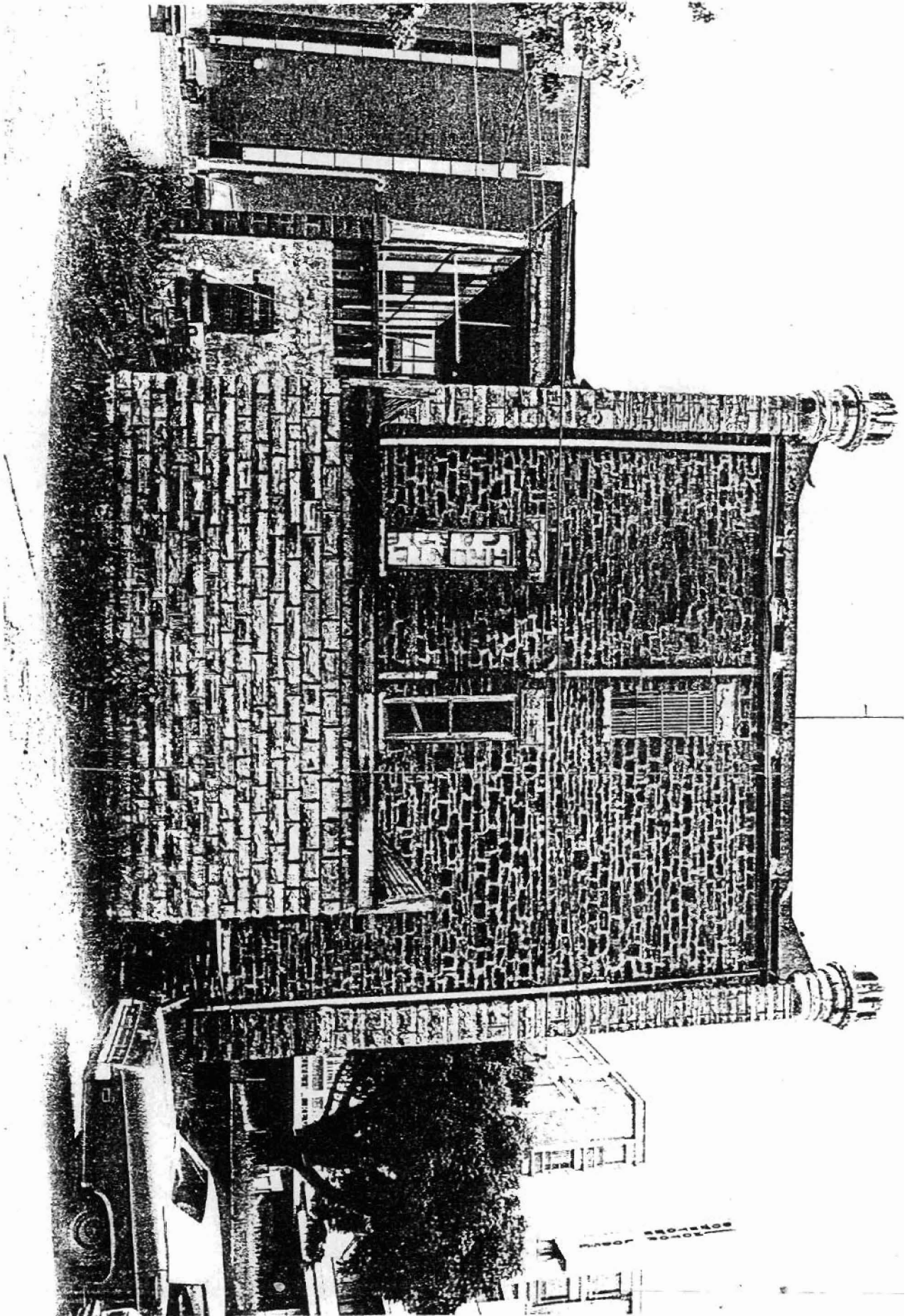
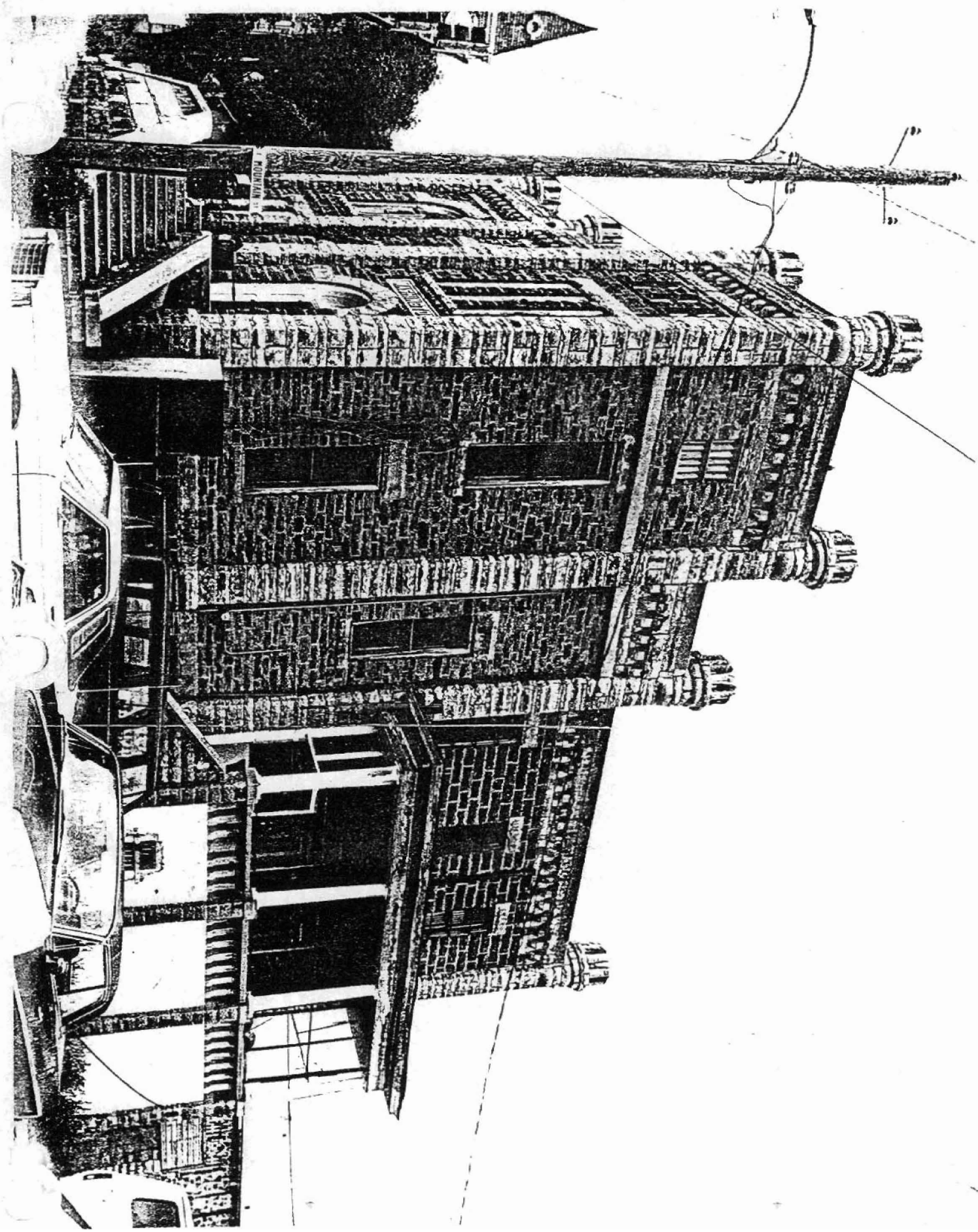
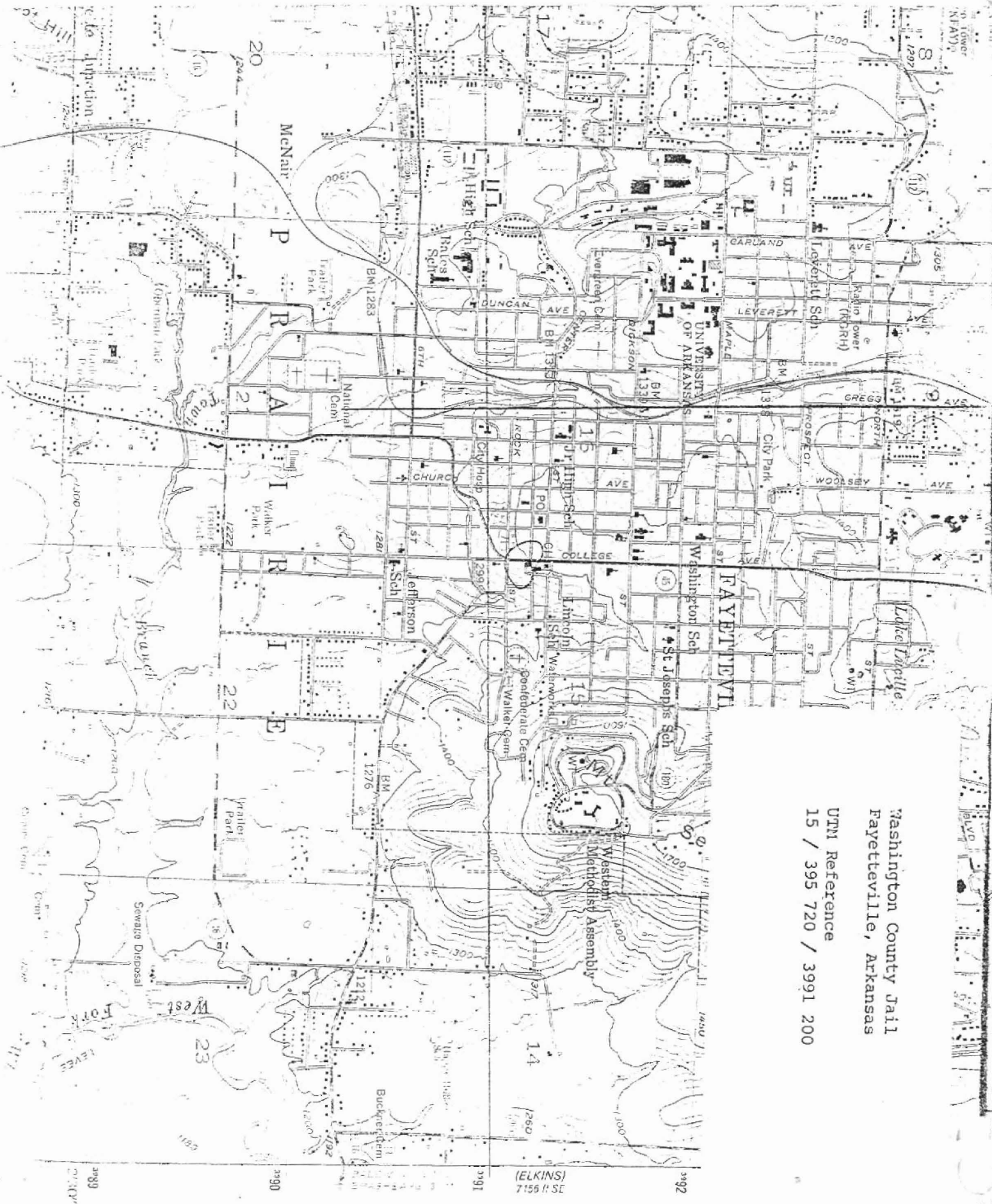


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES









Washington County Jail  
 Fayetteville, Arkansas

UTM Reference  
 15 / 395 720 / 3991 200

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