NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

NR listed 3/07/94 OMB No. 1024-0018

nited States Department of the Interior Mational Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

REGISTRATION FORM						
1. Name of Property		=====				
historic name: Cane						
other name/site num	nber: N/A					
2. Location		=====				
street & number:	Running along State Highway 45 and County Roads 29 284 and 285					
	not for publication	: <u>N/A</u>				
city/town: Cane	Hill vicinity	: <u>x</u>				
state: <u>AR</u> county:	Washington code: AR 143 zip code:	<u>72717</u>				
3. Classification						
Ownership of Proper	ty: <u>Private</u>	====				
Category of Propert	y: <u>Site</u>					
Number of Resources	within Property:					
Contributing	Noncontributing					
1	buildings sites structures objects Total					
Number of contribut Register:4	ing resources previously listed in the National					
Name of related mul	tiple property listing: N/A					

		====		=======================================
4. State/	Federal Agency Certification	====		
of 1986, request for standards Historic set forth does sheet.	signated authority under the Nas amended, I hereby certify tor determination of eligibility for registering properties in Places and meets the procedura in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinot meet the National Registe	hat to y mee the b l and nion,	his <u>X</u> nomination ts the documentati National Register professional required the property <u>X</u>	on on of irements meets
Carro	A Slate		1-27-6	1
Signature	of certifying official			T
	Historic Preservation Program Federal agency and bureau			
Register	nion, the property meets criteria. See conti	nuati	does not meet the on sheet.	National
Signature	of commenting or other offici	aı	расе	
State or	Federal agency and bureau			
5. Nation	al Park Service Certification			
I, hereby	certify that this property is	:		
dete	ed in the National Register See continuation sheet. rmined eligible for the ional Register See continuation sheet. rmined not eligible for the			
Nat	ional Register ved from the National Register			
othe	r (explain):			
		Si	gnature of Keeper	Date of Action
6. Functi	on or Use			
Historic:	AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE LANDSCAPE DEFENSE	Sub:	Agricultural Fiel Forest Battle site	d
Current:	AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE LANDSCAPE	Sub:	Agricultural Fiel Forest	đ

7. Description				
	Classification			
Other Descript	cion: N/A			
Materials:	foundation walls	N/A N/A	roof other	N/A N/A
Describe prese sheet.	ent and histori	c physical appear	rance. <u>X</u>	See continuation
8. Statement o	of Significance	<b>48</b> 5		
Certifying off	cicial has cons	idered the signi: : Statewide	ficance of this	
Applicable Nat	ional Register	Criteria: A		
Criteria Consi	iderations (Exc	eptions): <u>N/</u>	<u>A</u>	
Areas of Signi	ificance: MIL	ITARY		
,				
Period(s) of S	Significance:	1862-1865		
Significant Da	ates: <u>1862</u>			
Significant Pe	erson(s): N/A			
Cultural Affil	liation: N/A	·	<del></del>	
Architect/Buil	lder: N/A			

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.  $\underline{X}$  See continuation sheet.

9. l	<b>Major</b>	Bibliogra	phical	Reference	:====== èg ==========				
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<u>x</u>	See	continuat	ion she	eet.					
Pre	vious	documenta	tion or	n file (NI	PS):				
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See continuation sheet.

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

Beginning at a point on the western edge of State Highway 45 formed by its intersection with the southern edge of County Road 436, proceed southeasterly approximately 500 feet to a point on the western slope of the ridge that forms the eastern bank of Jordan Creek [Lincoln Quadrangle, UTM point A]; thence proceed southwesterly approximately 3.57 miles to a point [Evansville Quadrangle, UTM point B]; thence proceed easterly approximately 1.3 miles to a point [Evansville Quadrangle, UTM point C]; thence proceed southeasterly approximately 3 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point D]; thence proceed southerly approximately 2.58 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point E]; thence proceed southwesterly approximately 1.52 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point F]; thence proceed norther approximately 1.96 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point G thence proceed northwesterly approximately 1.99 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point H]; thence proceed northwesterly approximately 1.09 miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point I]; thence proceed westerly miles to a point [Strickler Quadrangle, UTM point I]; thence proceed westerly

approximately 1.66 miles to a point [Evansville Quadrangle, UTM point J]; thence proceed northerly approximately .8 miles to a point [Evansville Quadrangle, UTM point K]; thence proceed northwesterly approximately 1.78 miles to a point [Lincoln Quadrangle, UTM point L]; thence proceed northeasterly approximately 1.25 miles to a point [Lincoln Quadrangle, UTM point M]; thence proceed northerly approximately 1.23 miles to a point [Lincoln Quadrangle, UTM point N]; thence proceed southeasterly approximately .875 miles to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property upon which the associated Union and Confederate forces engaged during the Cane Hill battle, as documented through the Official Records and other primary sources. This boundary contains sufficient area to either side of the principle historic roadway along which this running battle took place to include not only the engagement sites but also the areas through which cavalry units and skirmishers passed.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### 11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Kenneth Story, Architectural Historian

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 01/20/94

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201

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#### Summary

The Cane Hill Battlefield — the site of the Battle of Cane Hill (which occurred on November 28, 1862), a Civil War engagement between Union forces under the command of U. S. Brig. Gen. James G. Blunt and Confederate forces under the command of Gen. John S. Marmaduke — extends to the north and south of the small modern community of Cane Hill and follows several modern and historic roads. Due to the fact that this was a running battle, occurring over a period of nine hours and stretching over approximately twelve miles, the property included within the nomination includes all of the property across which these units moved until the active engagement ceased. Incompatible and non-historic intrusions, though found in considerable number, are relatively small in scale and not of sufficient concentration in any one area to require the exclusion of any significant portion of the original battle site.

#### Elaboration

The site of the Battle of Cane Hill covers a section of southwestern Washington County characterized by low rolling hills at the northern end that blend into the foothills of the Boston Mountains lying to the south and east. The northern third of the battlefield forms the southern extreme of a large agricultural section that extends to the north and which historically produced such crops as cotton, wheat, potatoes, oats and corn, and which also sustained a number of apple orchards. The southern two-thirds -- located within and among the Boston Mountains' foothills -- becomes more heavily forested at its southern end, and the valleys narrow between the steeper elevations. Jordan Creek, Fly Creek and Cove Creek are all narrow, winding streams that drain the principal valleys through which this running battle took place.

The boundary of the battlefield as identified for the purposes of this nomination includes few man-made features that are known to have existed at the time of the battle (the ridge of hillocks that forms the topographical feature known as Cane Hill actually supported three small hamlets in the immediate vicinity of the modern Cane Hill community at the time of the battle, Newburg, Boonsborough and Russellville; however, any standing remnants of these hamlets have since disappeared, the only exception being that some of the antebellum structures remaining in Cane Hill today may have been considered part of Boonsborough during the Civil War). Most of the modern roadways that form the axis of the district boundary follow the Civil War-era roadbeds (primarily the historic main road running between Fayetteville to the northeast and Van Buren to the southwest); those historic roadbeds that have since been abandoned are also included when known. Some original stone walls — built primarily to mark these historic roads — also remain and are included. Finally, fourteen of the fifteen historic resources listed on the National

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Register as part of the Historic Resources of Canehill Multiple Property Nomination (NR-listed 11/17/82) are included within this boundary, though for the scope of this nomination, only four existed substantially as they appear today at the time of the battle and so contribute to the significance for which the battlefield is being nominated: the Canehill Cemetery (CH-04), the Methodist Manse (CH-09), the William Welch House (CH-12) and the Earle House (CH-13). As noted in these nominations, the standing structures reflect such nationally popular architectural styles of the antebellum period as the Greek Revival.

The two-hundred-and-eighty-five (285) non-contributing resources (consisting of historic residences constructed outside the period of significance, non-historic residences, chicken houses and other such non-historic buildings as churches and other farm buildings) are relatively small in scale and not of sufficient concentration in any one area to require the exclusion of any significant portion of the original battle site. Neither has the basic topography of the landscape changed to any appreciable degree: the northern third of the site that was largely devoted to agricultural planting and some pasturage remains so today, and the southern two-thirds retains its hardwood cover that was known to exist at the time of the battle. Thus the Cane Hill Battlefield retains its historic appearance and largely resembles the same landscape across which the Union and Confederate soldiers fought in late November of 1862; it would be recognizable to those soldiers today.

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#### Summary

Criterion A, statewide significance

The Cane Hill Battlefield is of statewide significance under Criterion A as the site of one of three major military engagements that occurred as part of the Confederates' ambitious plan to push all Federal forces from northwest Arkansas and proceed into southwestern Missouri (the other related engagements occurred at Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove). Considered within this overall historic context the Battle of Cane Hill stands as one of the principal military actions that ultimately solidified Union control of the region and spelled defeat for Gen. Hindman's winter campaign.

#### Elaboration

The first half of 1862 had not gone well for the Confederates in Arkansas. Sterling Price's Missourians (which also included units from Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana) had been pushed out of the southwestern corner of their home state by the Federals the previous winter, and General Earl Van Dorn's command, consisting of the Missouri units plus three regiments of Indians from the Five Civilized Nations in Indian Territory, were effectively defeated at Pea Ridge the following March by Union forces under the command of General Samuel R. Curtis. Furthermore, prospects looked no brighter at the end of the summer: while Union forces east of the Mississippi River threatened to march south from southern Tennessee and invade Vicksburg, the Federals in southern Missouri had successfully launched a two-pronged attack into northern Arkansas, with one prong under Curtis and General Frederick Steele securing the White River valley from Batesville to Helena, and the other — the "Army of the Frontier" — under the command of General James G. Blunt occupying northwest Arkansas and pushing the Confederates back across the Boston Mountains to Van Buren. It certainly appeared as if the Federals were preparing for an all-out offensive that would effectively sever the trans-Mississippi west from the Confederacy.

General T. H. Holmes, commander of the Confederate trans-Mississippi Department, well perceived this threat and took what action he could to eliminate it. The two army corps at his command, the I and II Corps, consisted of approximately 27,335 soldiers. The II Corps, under his direct command, maintained a thin line running along the western bank of the White River, approximately 45 miles east of Little Rock. The I Corps, under the command of Arkansas native General T. C. Hindman, was positioned along the Arkansas River and keeping an eye on Blunt's movements. General John Sappington Marmaduke's cavalry division and General Nelson's infantry were stationed at Van Buren. Lacking confidence in the fighting ability and size of his army, Holmes directed his commanders to concentrate on purely defensive operations through

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the winter of 1862, the sole objective being to not lose any more ground until further orders.

In mid-November the Army of the Frontier began to move. Blunt left his Second and Third Divisions under the command of General F. J. Herron at Yellville and proceeded west with the First Division to Fayetteville, with the goal of destoying any Confederate resistance there in anticipation of marching south to rout Hindman and take both Van Buren and Ft. Smith. Blunt occupied Fayetteville soon thereafter and began making his preparations to move south.

In the meantime, Hindman, in spite of Holmes' orders to the contrary, had not relinquished his dream of retaking southwestern Missouri and marching on to St. Louis. Through scouts, spies and other intelligence Hindman was quite aware of Blunt's new position and he could well imagine what other mischief would ensue. Instead of remaining content to fight a defensive battle—as Holmes had ordered—Hindman countered with a plan to destroy Blunt's entire command through a two-pronged action of his own. Marmaduke's cavalry would ride to Cane Hill and take up positions there to serve as a diversion and draw Blunt southward from Fayetteville. Meanwhile Hindman would circle to the east, behind Blunt's anticpiated advance, to attack the Union rear with his main army. If successful, Hindman would then rejoin Marmaduke and proceed northeasterly to overwhelm Herron and proceed virtually unhindered into southern Missouri and en route to St. Louis. Reluctantly, Holmes agreed.

Marmaduke arrived at Cane Hill at dawn on November 25 and almost immediately ordered patrols to head in the direction of Fayetteville to draw the attention of the Federal forces encamped there (unbeknown to Hindman and Marmaduke, Blunt had learned of the full scope of their strategy through scouts and spies. Blunt planned to march south to encounter Marmaduke, and so to appear as if he had fallen into the trap; however, his strategy was to disperse Marmaduke's fighting force at Cane Hill with his superior numbers and armament and then turn to face Hindman's front, with Herron marching down from Yellville to attack Hindman's rear and thus destroy Hindman's command. The road would then be virtually open between his army and Van Buren). Marmaduke's command included a company of Quantrill's cavalry under Lieutenant W. H. Gregg, Colonel Joseph O. Shelby's Iron Brigade (composed of Benjamin F. Gordon's, George W. Thompson's and Beal G. Jean's regiments, Benjamin F. Elliott's battalion of scouts and Joseph Bledsoe's horse-drawn artillery), Colonel Charles A. Carroll's Arkansas Brigade (composed of J. A. Johnson's and James C. Monroe's regiments and Shoup's battery), and Colonel Emmett McDonald's Missouri cavalry.

Blunt marched south from Fayetteville to meet Marmaduke on the morning of November 27. His command consisted of the Second Kansas Cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel Owen A. Bassett, the Sixth Kansas Cavalry under Colonel W. R. Judson, the Eleventh Kansas Infantry

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under Colonel Thomas Ewing, Jr., the Second Indiana Battery under Captain John W. Rabb, the Second Kansas Light Artillery under Captain H. Hopkins, the First and Third Indian Home Guard Infantry (Cherokee) Regiments, and Tenny's Battery. After camping some distance north of Cane Hill on the evening of the 27th, Blunt marched his men along the Fayetteville road and approached Marmaduke's position at dawn on the 28th.

This running battle did feature four distinct engagements, all occurring sequentially as Marmaduke retreated southward toward Van Buren, wherein the Confederates temporarily sought to hold and defend ground against the oncoming advance rather than covering their retreat. The first occurred just to the north of the modern town of Cane Hill, where Marmaduke had placed artillery units to guard the principle northern approach roads to Cane Hill. The Federal advance force was repulsed by Shelby's howitzers and muskets, only to be reinforced by the main body of Blunt's force, which, now appearing in full numbers, persuaded Marmaduke to fall back to the rugged Boston Mountains to the south where he could use the difficult terrain to his advantage. He ordered Shelby's units to cover his retreat, and Shelby formed his companies into two lines on either side of the road. Once the enemy was sighted, the first company would fire, then move back to the head of the column where they would reload and await their next turn. In this way the advancing Union soldiers always faced a steady wall of fire.

The second engagement occurred on a small hill at the base of the Boston Mountains (located just to the north and east of the modern-day town of Clyde), where Marmaduke's men dismounted and deployed to make another stand, only to be forced back by a barrage of Federal shells. The third engagement took place not long thereafter, atop a more defensible hill located just to the northwest of the road's intersection with Cove Creek. Here the Confederates held the hill more successfully, as its height rendered Blunt's field pieces ineffective. He ordered a general charge instead, and after being repulsed once, the Union forces, including the Indian units, gained control of the hill and sent the Confederates into retreat once again.

The fourth and final engagement occurred after Marmaduke's units entered the Cove Creek valley, where the road turns almost due south and heads toward Van Buren. Here the mountains on either side of the valley become much steeper, and in certain locations are quite close to the road. Marmaduke entered the valley and quickly deployed the main body of his force into the valley. However, here Marmaduke ordered Carroll's Arkansans to charge up the road and attempt to check the running Federal advance. The Arkansans did so, only to be routed and sent headlong into retreat by the large Federal force. As the Federals followed in hot pursuit, both Shelby's and McDonalds units opened fire at point blank range from their elevated positions to either side of the road, effectively stopping the advance, though the Federals formed a line

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across the road at this point and held ground. Blunt, upon receiving adequate reinforcements of infantry, cavalry and artillery, had reformed and was preparing to advance into this narrow defile when he espied a Confederate officer approaching under a white flag. The officer carried a request from Marmaduke that the Confederates be allowed to remove their wounded and dead from the battlefield. This he granted, though he considered it a ruse. Blunt said of his decision to grant the truce, "... convinced though I was at the time that it was a cowardly trick, resorted to to enable them to make good their retreat and save their guns." Blunt ordered his exhausted men back to Cane Hill to spend the night, and indeed, Marmaduke did take advantage of the hiatus to march his units to the south and out of harm's way, thus ending the battle.

The Battle of Cane Hill was a pivotal engagement in the history of the Civil War in Arkansas by virtue of the fact that it both stemmed the Confederate advance and strongly tempered Hindman's ambitious plans to secure northwest Arkansas for the Confederacy and so threaten Missouri. However, it was also important by virtue of the "cover and retreat" strategy developed by Joe Shelby and how well he taught his men to execute it. Finally, it played an important role as a precursor to the pivotal battle that would occur at Prairie Grove on December 7th, just a few days later, in which Blunt's Union forces would effectively prevail over Hindman's Confederates and so place northwest Arkansas under Union control for the duration of the war.

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#### Bibliography

Blunt, Gen. James G., Report of Battle at Cane Hill, Arkansas, November 28, 1862 [December 3, 1862], The War of the Rebellion; A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, (70 vols., in 128, Washington, 1880-1891), ser. I, vol. XXII, 2 (pp. 43-46).

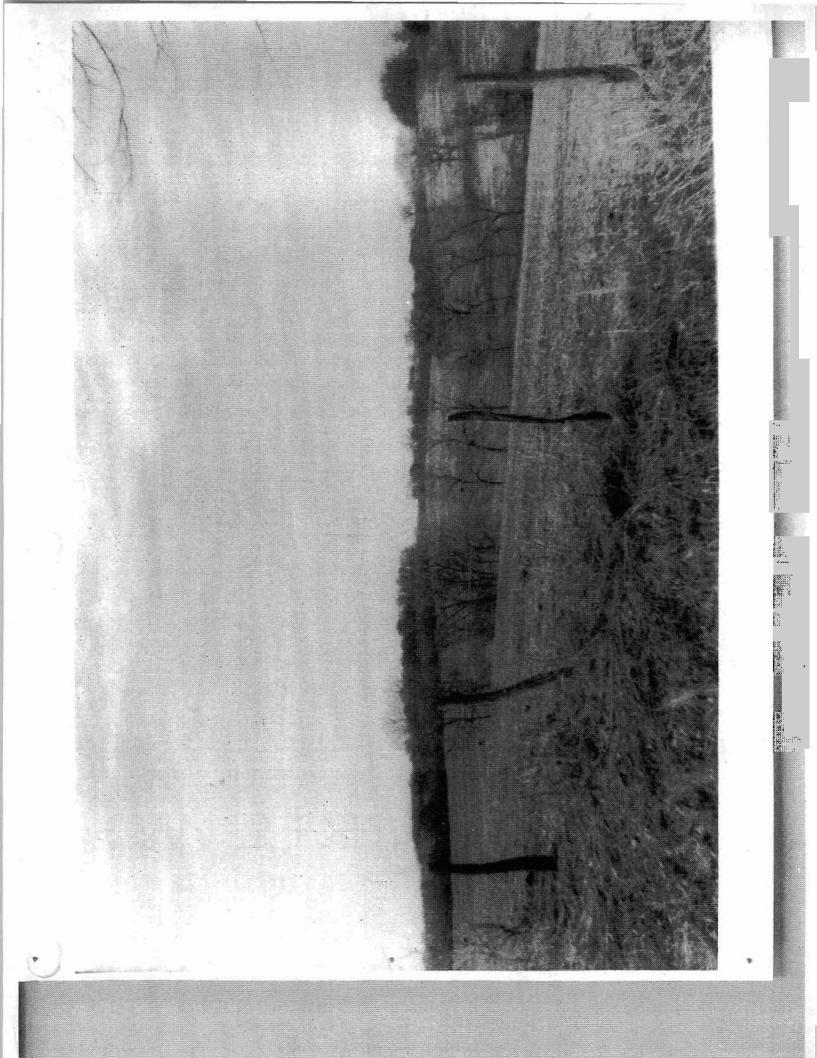
Oates, Stephen B., "The Prairie Grove Campaign, 1862," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XIX, No. 2 (Summer, 1960), pp. 119-141.

Oates, Stephen B., "Cavalry Fight at Cane Hill," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XX, No. I (Spring, 1961), pp. 65-73.

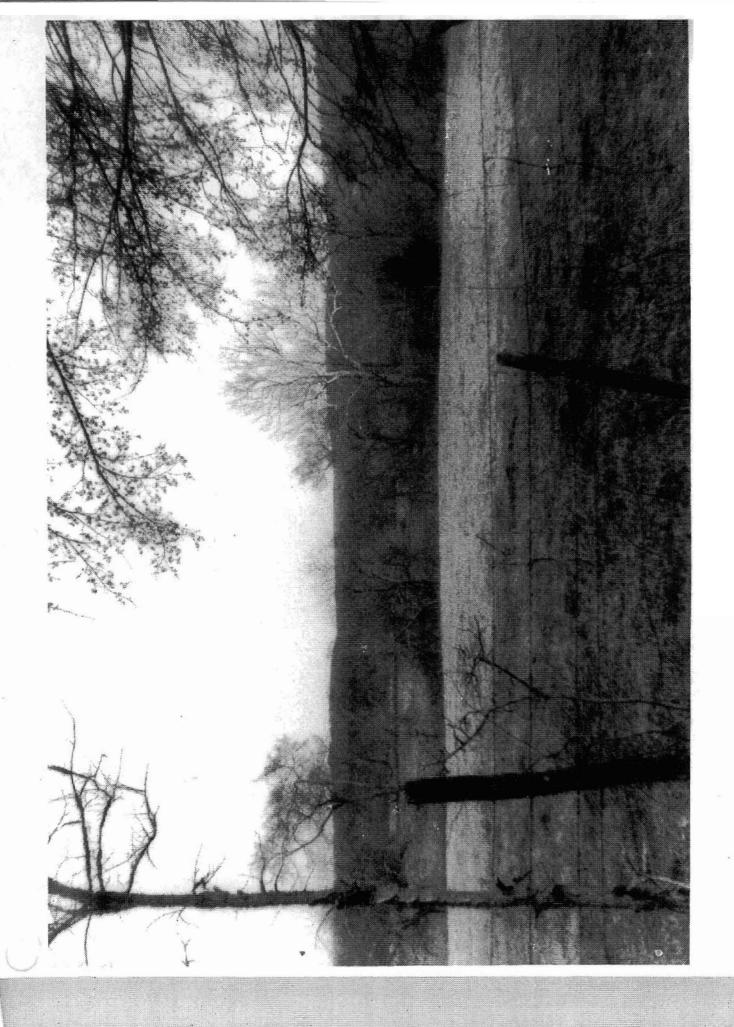
Scott, Kim Allen, "The Fighting Printers of Company E, The Eleventh Kansas Volunteer Infantry," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. XLVI, No. 3 (Autumn, 1987), pp. 261-281.



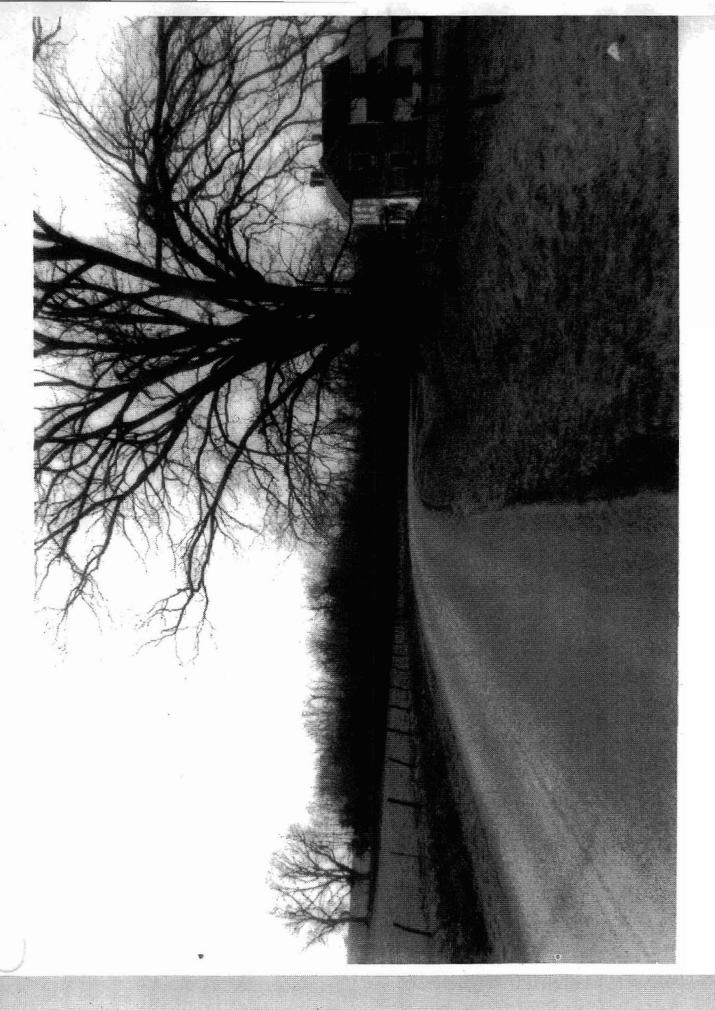
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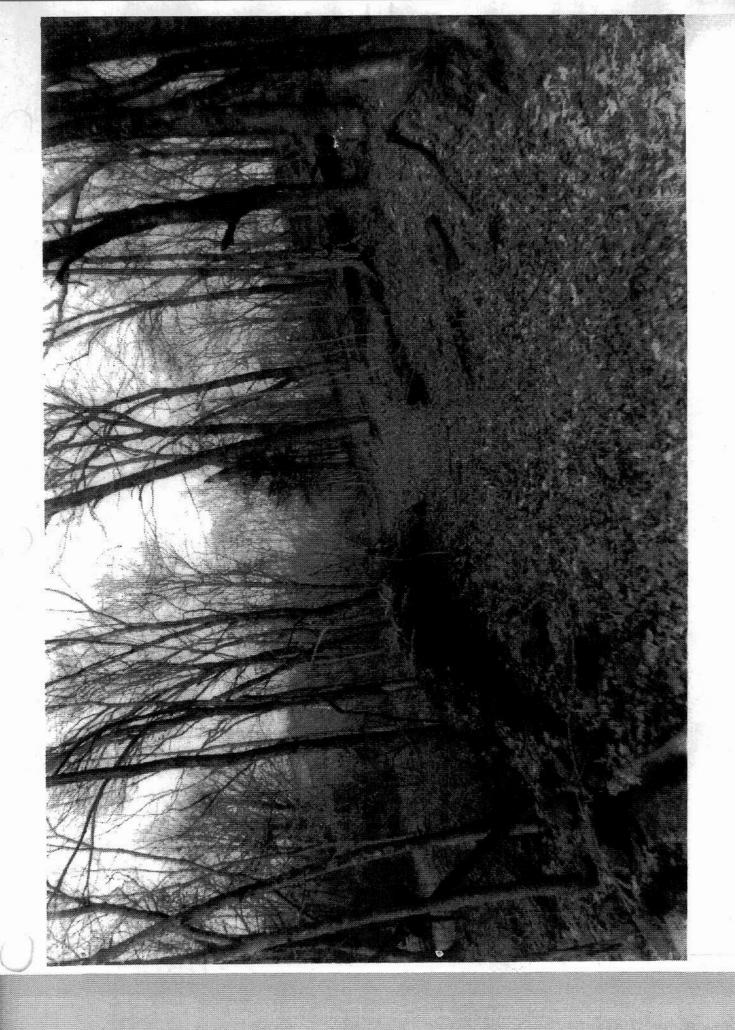
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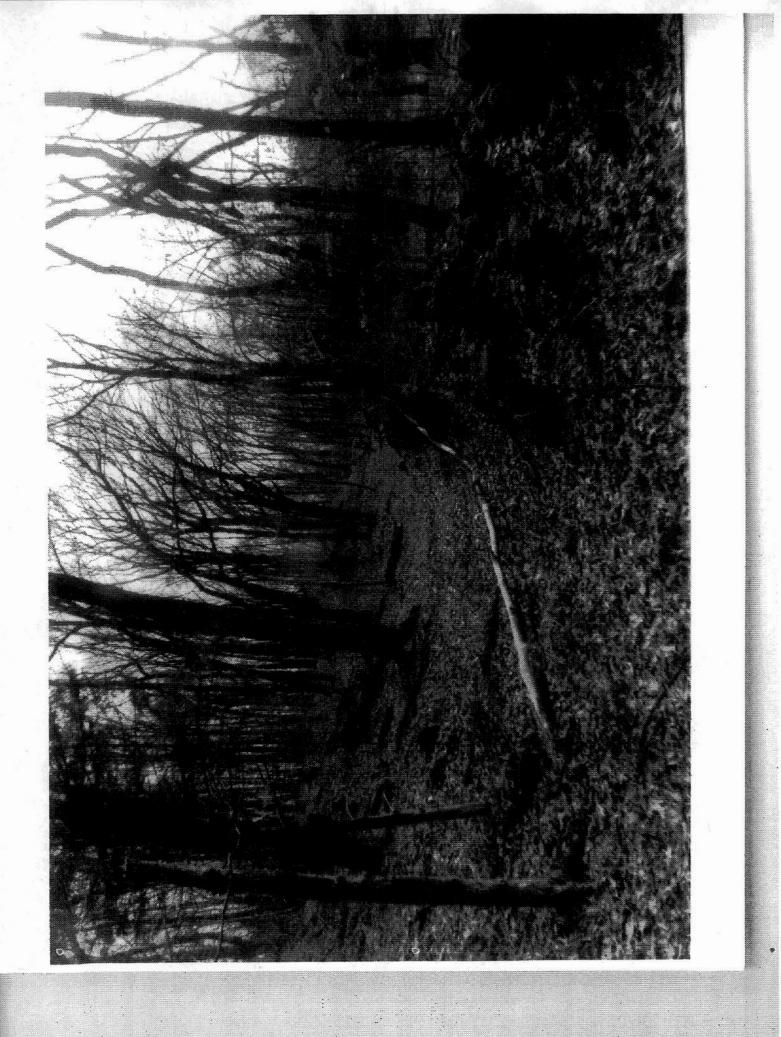
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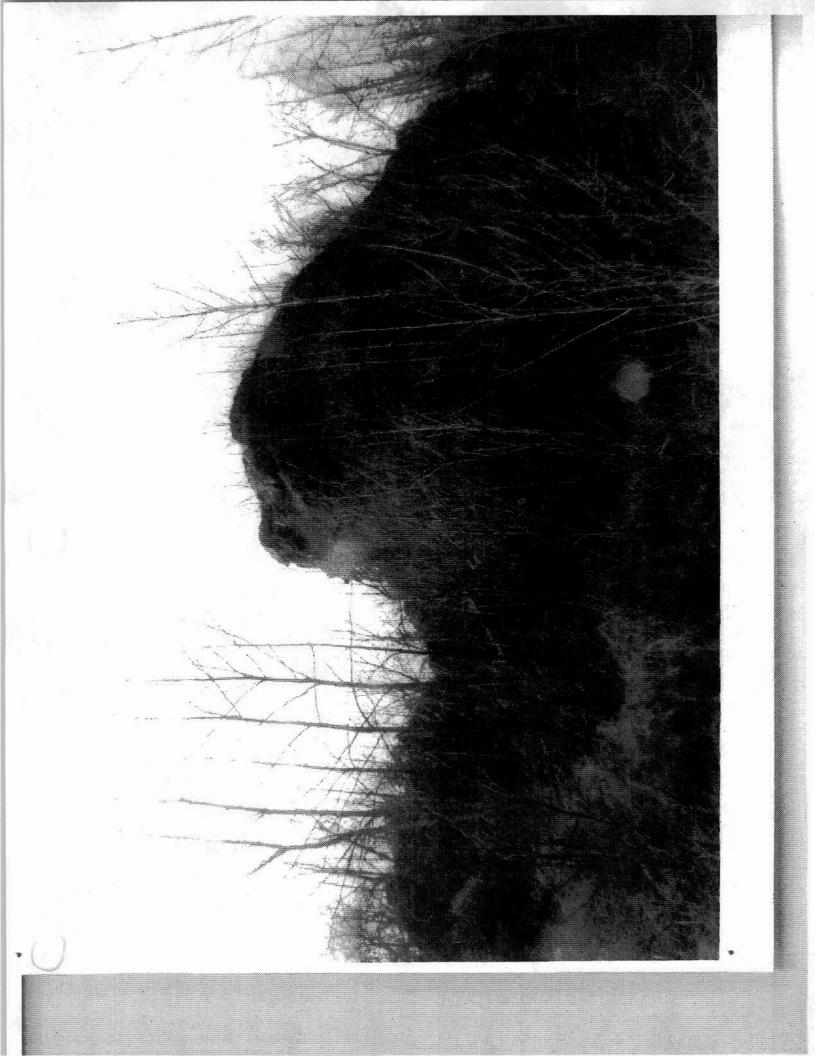


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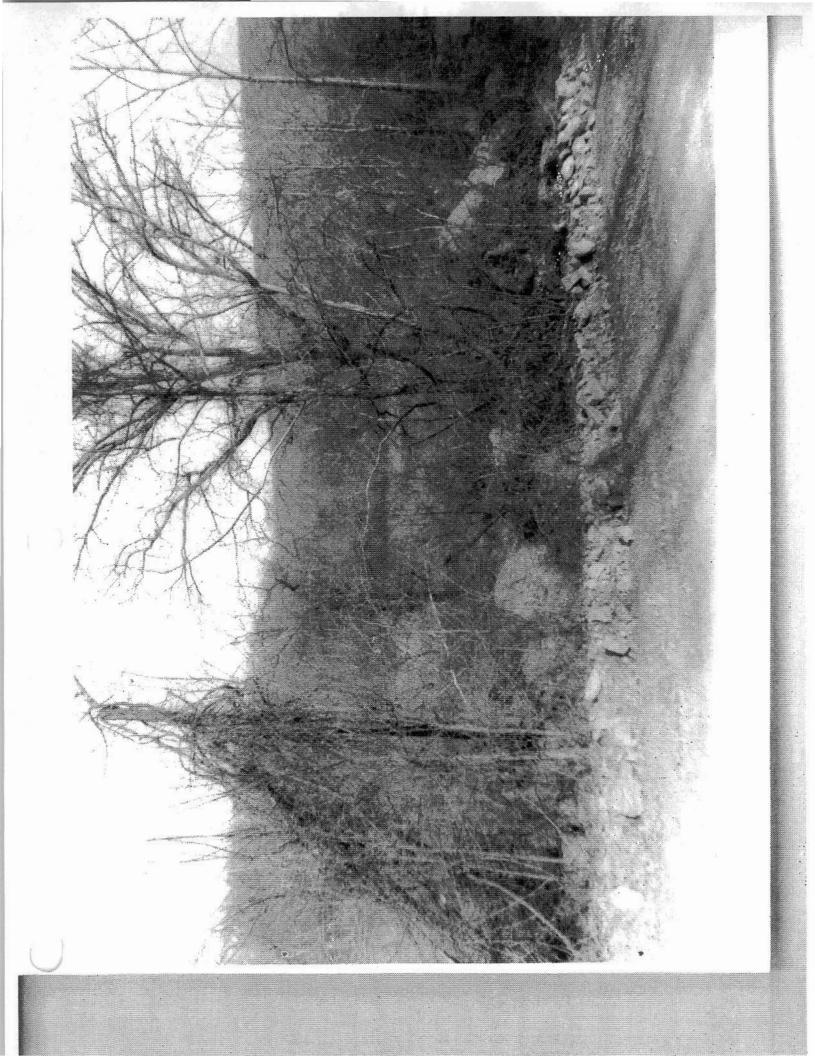
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