

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Lair House

Other Name/Site Number: MO0125

2. Location

Street & Number: Stone and Elm Streets

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Holly Grove Vicinity: X

State: AR County: Monroe County Code: AR095 Zip Code: 72069

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	Buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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.

Anthony J. Sator
Signature of certifying official

3-16-98
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

_____, hereby certify that this property is:

_____ entered in the National Register _____

_____ determined eligible for the National Register _____

_____ 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

Historic: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
Queen Anne

Materials: foundation brick roof composition Shingle
walls weatherboard other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Located at the northeast corner of Stone and Elm Streets in Holly Grove, the Lair House is a two-and-one half story frame Queen Anne Revival residence built in 1905 for H.C. Lair. The house is situated on three lots in an older residential area of Holly Grove. The front, or southern, elevation faces Stone Street across from the former site of the railroad tracks and a railroad warehouse building. Significant architectural details include: an irregular plan, a parallel and cross gable roof, two story cutaway bays, stick detail, dentil molding and Italianate brackets. The full front porch was converted to the Craftsman style, and is screened. The porch supports consist of square brick columns on concrete piers.

Elaboration

Located at the northeast corner of Stone and Elm Streets in Holly Grove, the Lair House is a two-and-one-half story frame Queen Anne Revival residence built in 1905 for H.C. Lair. The house is situated on three lots in an older residential area of Holly Grove. This flamboyantly detailed home has been largely unaltered on the exterior, save for the conversion of the front porch to the Craftsman style and a succession of gable and shed-roofed additions on the northern, or rear, elevation. The building's irregular plan rests on a continuous brick foundation with no basement and is covered by a parallel-cross gable roof. There is an abundance of detail in the form of stickwork, dentil molding, cutaway bays, a bay window, Italianate brackets and turned spindles.

Roofing material consists of composition shingles. The original portion of the house contains double-hung one-over-one windows and fixed windows with

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one large light topped by a transom. The rear, or northern, elevation features metal double-hung windows and wooden two-over-two plus four-over-four double-hung windows.

The symmetrical front, or southern, elevation contains identical two-story cutaway bays topped by imbricated gables. The first floor on the southern facade is covered by a full, screened-in, front gabled Craftsman style porch which was a later addition. A wide entablature tops four square brick posts on concrete piers. Four concrete steps surrounded by a stucco half wall lead from the central screen door to the yard. The paneled front door is centered and holds a single light topped by a transom. The first-story fenestration of the bays matches the second-story with the exception of the southern windows being decorated with a section of dentil molding between the transom and lower light. At the apex of the gables are decorative stickwork trusses. On the pediment of each gable are fanlights framed by a plain molding. Returns are adorned with gingerbread brackets. The molding outlining the fenestrated cutaway bays are trimmed with dentil work that extends around the east and west cornices. Each of the side angles on the bays are covered with an extended boxed eave supported by a spindlework gingerbread corner bracket.

A central setback spans the space between the bays. Topping the setback and centered between the two primary gables is an elaborate gabled dormer. Echoing the stickwork and dentil molding of the double front gables, the dormer holds two wooden double-hung windows opening onto a balconet surrounded by turned balustrades, two square chamfered posts and jigsaw fan brackets. Beneath the dormer under a wide eave, Italianate brackets alternate with dentil molding. Directly beneath the eaves on the second story is a single central window consisting of a large fixed pane topped with a transom. The matching bays hold one window in each of the three angles. The southern exposures are centered with one large fixed pane window with a transom. Each side angle holds a one-over-one double-hung wooden window.

The eastern elevation contains one double-hung window on the first floor. Toward the rear of the first floor is a three-sided bay window with a flat, hipped roof covered with composition shingles. Stickwork and dentil molding decorate the bay which holds three windows. A band of wooden molding separates the first and second stories. In the molding above each first floor window is a section of dentil work. A stepped, gabled ell addition on a continuous cinder block foundation extends to the north elevation. The first section of the ell addition holds a short double-hung window and the second section holds a similar, yet larger window. The second story is symmetrically fenestrated with two windows. A louvered cross gable crowns the second story.

Due to later additions the rear or northern facade is asymmetrical. The second story is similar to the south in the three parallel gables; however, there is no exuberant detailing on this exposure. The central gabled dormer holds one four-over-four double-hung wooden window. A shed-roofed addition on the second story separates two double-hung one-over-one wooden windows. The first story gabled ell addition is centered with a shingle fifteen-light french door. A short metal double-hung window is to the west of the door. Stepped back to the side of the ell is a sloping shed-roofed addition with another fifteen-light french door and short metal double-hung window. Yet another stepped back shed-roofed addition features one two-over-two double-hung wooden window.

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The most uncomplicated elevation of the home is the west elevation which faces Elm Street. There are two double-hung windows on the second floor and two similar windows on the first floor. The dentil work and molding seen on the east side are present on this facade also. The roof is topped with a louvered gable similar to the east elevation.

The interior of the home has been altered, but for the most part follows the original floor plan. Extensive woodwork fills the home. Paneled doors with rosette trim, transoms and hardwood floors are seen throughout the original rooms of the first floor. The foyer features half walls with square posts. Decorative corner and crown molding adorn the walls. The original staircase between each floor has turned spindle balusters and square newel posts decorated with fluted pilasters, fluted newels and sunburst patterns.

8. Statement of Significance

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

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1905

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and period of significance noted above:

Summary

The Lair House is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C with local significance as a largely intact example of the Queen Anne style. The Lair House is also the best representation of that style in Holly Grove.

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Elaboration

The Lair House is located in an older part of Holly Grove at the corner of Stone and Elm Streets. Stone Street, originally known as Main Street, runs in front of the property. Elm Street runs along the west side of the property. The building stands across the street from the former site of the railroad tracks and a railroad warehouse building.

Although Holly Grove is and has always been a farming community, the development of the railroad was the major factor in the formation of the town. The land incorporated in Holly Grove was originally included in a land grant of November 15, 1836 to Henry Augustus Fay. In 1836 Holly Grove was a small community of plantation families. A more heavily populated community called Lawrenceville was located south of the railroad on Maddox Bay and was the governmental center of Monroe County until 1857 when Clarendon became the county seat. With the coming of the railroad in 1873, the population shifted from Lawrenceville and other surrounding areas to concentrate near the railroad tracks. On July 25, 1876 the town of Holly Grove was officially incorporated. The name Holly Grove was derived from the many thickets of holly trees in the area.

James and Jack Kerr, two plantation owners, gave the land for development of the town. It experienced a surge of growth in the early twentieth century. Around 1910 a local farmer, June Davidson, acquired a contract with the railroad for the manufacture of cross-ties. This contract brought virtually universal prosperity to the area. By 1917 Holly Grove had established a newspaper; a theater opened in 1920 and in 1927 a modern gas station was constructed. Today the population is basically composed of families whose ancestors farmed the thousands of acres of rich delta land surrounding the town.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Materials provided by Lynda Bailey, Holly Grove, February, 1997.

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: N/A

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- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than 1 acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>15</u>	<u>665420</u>	<u>3829450</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is located on lots 43, 44 and 45.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the Lair House.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Holly Hope/Survey Historian

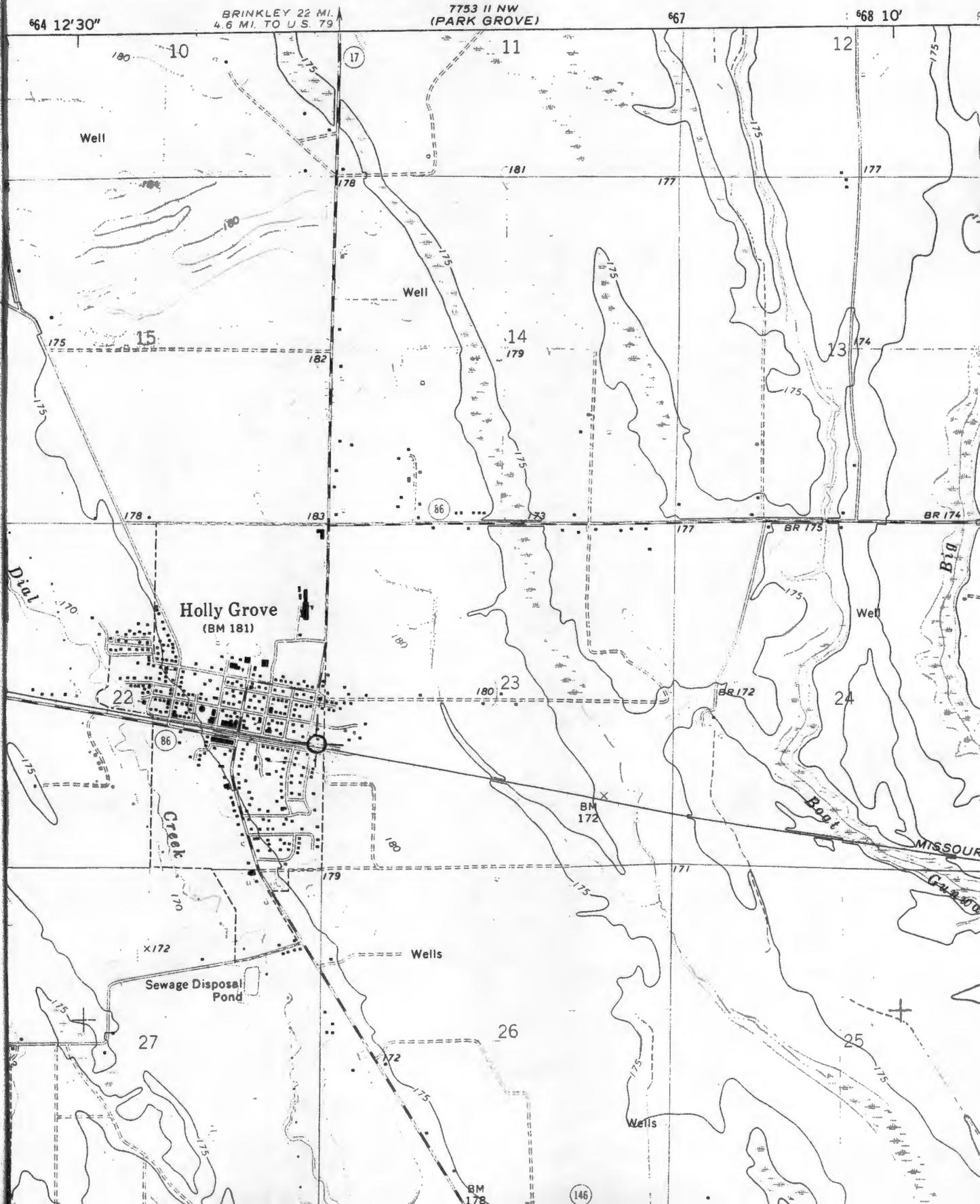
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 12/23/97

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

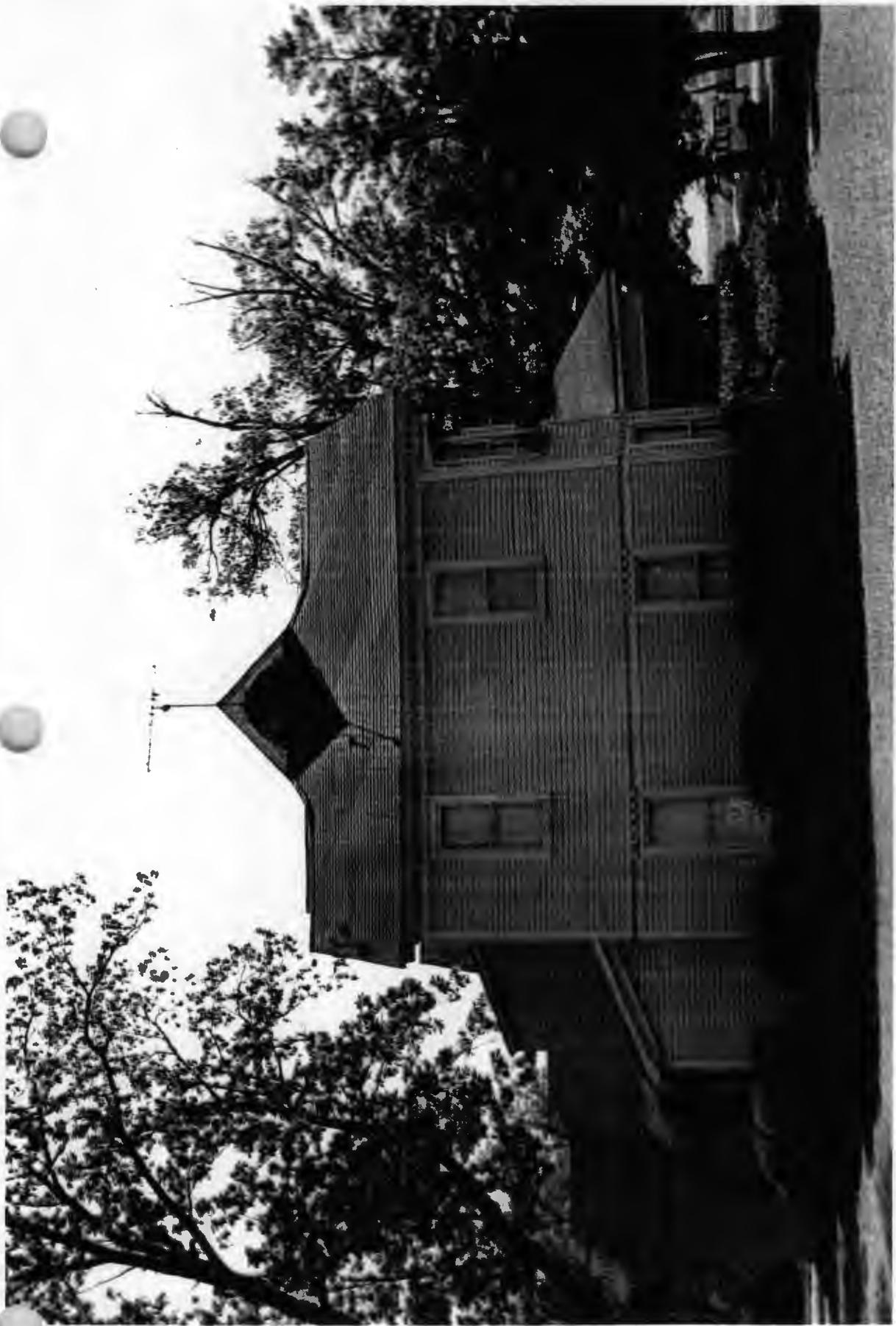
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201



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