

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

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

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

For HCRS use only
received _____
date entered _____

1. Name

historic Gustav Grauer Farm

and/or common Maple Springs Farm; Creminscroft

2. Location

street & number Rural Route 5, Box 110B (Bouquet Road) _____ not for publication

city, town Pacific ☒ vicinity of _____ congressional district _____

state Missouri 63069 code 29 county Franklin code 071

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Leo P. Cremins, Jr.

street & number 736 South Hanley Road

city, town Clayton _____ vicinity of _____ state Missouri 63105

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Franklin County Courthouse

city, town Union _____ state Missouri 63084

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date August 1983 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Program, Department of Natural Resources
Box 176

city, town Jefferson City _____ state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Gustav Grauer Farm is a forty-two acre square, a quarter-section of a quarter-section, acquired by Gustav Grauer in 1866. It is located about a half mile west of Bouquet Road, which is in St. Louis County, but the property itself is in Franklin County. The access road crosses land that was originally the farm of Gustav's father Gottlieb Grauer; it fords two streams tributary to the Tavern Creek, one of which issues from the springhouse that is included in this nomination. Hills rise to the north, south and west of the property, restricting accessibility but enhancing the unchanged appearance of the setting. Five buildings are included on the property, all of which were built by Grauer: house, with attached summer kitchen; barn; smokehouse; springhouse; and shed.

House. As the accompanying photos indicate, the house is a two-story (actually about one-and-two-thirds story) enclosed dogtrot log structure that was clapboarded sometime early in this century. The east, front elevation suggests symmetry, but the part south of the door is about four feet longer than the part to the north, and the shuttered six-over-six windows are differently spaced. The two left second-floor windows were inserted later but are indistinguishable from the others. The front door with its two-pane transom light is sheltered by a steeply pitched gabled roof, which is supported by four anta-like posts with capital moldings. The disappearance of the railing from the porch enhances the temple-like appearance probably intended. The main roof, sloping more gradually than that of the porch, was formerly shingled with cedar shakes but is now covered with metal.

From the south the house has a saltbox profile, which was created by the early addition of a kitchen behind the south log room, the dining room. This room superceded the detached kitchen located behind the house on axis with the center hall. The present owners have added a small entry room at the south side of the kitchen, giving access to it and to the basement, which was enlarged from one room to protect the logs from rot. This operation required an opening to be made in the log west wall of the north room, the living room; it has been closed with a bay window similar to one in the kitchen. The living room has a fireplace in its north wall, where the stove was formerly located. The fireplace is faced with fieldstone gathered on the site and has a brick chimney. Another necessary modernization was the installation of a bathroom under the stairs at the west end of the center hall. Plaster and lath were removed from some of the interior walls, revealing extensive remains of whitewash, which had apparently been applied to the exposed logs for many years before plaster was installed.

The steep stairs lead to an upper center hall and two bedrooms, both with low windows, walls breaking with the roofline at about two-thirds ceiling height, and beaded tongue-in-groove (so-called "porch roof") ceilings. The south bedroom has a closet constructed of the same material. Floors are painted random-width boards.

The old summer kitchen is a square board-and-batten structure whose roof is a continuation of the screened breezeway leading from the main house. A recent cupola and weathervane rise from the west end of the roof ridge.

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1866 Builder/Architect Gustav Grauer

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Gustav Grauer Farm is eligible for the National Register under Criteria A and C. It is associated with an event that made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of Missouri's history, namely the German immigration of the mid-nineteenth century. With its unspoiled setting and five original structures, the farm evokes to an unusual degree the life that less affluent German farmers found in Missouri. The house, the barn, and the smokehouse embody the distinctive characteristics of log construction, and the house in particular is a typically German example.

Charles van Ravenswaay in his magisterial work The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri has identified features associated with log buildings built by Germans in Missouri.¹ German builders often let wide gaps between the logs to facilitate recaulking. They tended to use V or half-dovetail notches, whose slopes drained water away from the joints. Log ends were trimmed flush with the walls. To create more useable attics, walls were raised four or five courses above the first-floor level. In the planning of the house, stoves were preferred to chimneys. All these features are found in the Gustav Grauer house. The smokehouse, with its wood-chip chinking, has flush V notches, while the interior of the barn displays V notching on one side and half-dovetailing on the other.

The Grauer farm is also typical of the persistence of log construction, which remained "the cheapest and most satisfactory form of construction in the area until after the 1890's" according to van Ravenswaay.²

While a few settlers of German descent had come to Missouri from the eastern United States after the Louisiana Purchase, the high tide of immigration from Germany began about 1830 and lasted well into the 1850's, stimulated in the latter part of the era by the abortive Revolution of 1848.³ The Grauer family came to Missouri in 1852. Gottlieb Grauer, the father of Gustav, had been schoolmaster in the village of Oelbrunn, near Maylbronn in the Kingdom of Wuerttemberg, where Gustav had been born March 29, 1840.⁴ In September of 1852, Gottlieb bought 172 acres from Frank M. Braly.⁵ The property lay along Tavern Creek on Bouquet Road (just east and south of the nominated tract), straddling the line between Franklin and St. Louis Counties. Braly had assembled the tract beginning in 1835. This transaction was typical of the German immigration, too. By this time most of the land in eastern Missouri had been claimed, although not always developed, and the Germans bought farms from "the older American settlers, who were in many cases getting restless and anxious to sell in order to move still farther west," as William L. Thomas characterized the sellers.⁶

Gustav (also called Gustave and Gustavus) joined the Missouri Home Guard in 1861, when he was described as "age 21, height 5 ft. 8 ins., complexion healthy, eyes blue, hair sandy, occupation a farmer."⁷ He was captured by the Confederate Army at Union

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Continuation sheet Gustav Grauer Farm

Item number 7

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Barn. The barn is a broad gabled structure with a double-sloped roof that descends from two stories at the center to less than a full story at the edges. Remnants of cedar shingling can be seen under the present metal roofing. The main entries to the barn are at the centers of the long sides, where the roof has been raised a foot or so. The vertical siding is without battens. Several small square four-pane windows are distributed irregularly. Inside the support structure of the barn is largely of hewn oak and walnut logs. Log enclosures at east and west ends flank the center aisle. The logs on the east side are joined with V notches, while those on the west are half-dovetailed. Above both these log structures platforms permit additional storage under the higher part of the roof.

Smokehouse. The Smokehouse is located directly northeast of the house. It is a small structure of squared V-notched logs, with weatherboarded gables and a shake roof. The primitive board door is in the south gable end. Chinking consists primarily of small bits of wood inserted diagonally.

Springhouse. The springhouse is built facing north toward the barn and nestled into the lee of the hill at the southeast corner of the property so that it is shaded much of the time. Dry-laid stone retaining walls support additional embankments at the sides of the springhouse. It is a fieldstone rectangle with a vertical board door below the weatherboarded gable. When the farm was purchased by the present owners, the roof of the springhouse had collapsed and the walls were ruinous. The walls have been righted and remortared and a new roof installed comparable to that on the smokehouse.

Shed. The shed sits west of the barn and directly south of the house. It is a simple board-and-batten structure painted white with a low gabled roof. Double doors open at the east end, while the west end has space for a small chicken coop.

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Continuation sheet

Gustav Grauer Farm

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City Tennessee, on July 10, 1863, and imprisoned at Richmond, Virginia, until paroled at City Point, Virginia, December 28. He then resumed active duty with the Missouri Cavalry Volunteers until honorably discharged at Vicksburg, Mississippi, February 20, 1865.⁸ That December he married Mary Rosenbaum of nearby St. Albans, and the next year he purchased the 42.08 acres on which the house sits. The sellers were Frederick and Bertha Steffens, who had gotten it from the Pacific Railroad in 1859. The tract bordered Gottlieb Grauer's farm east and south. Gottlieb died in 1874, but his estate was not settled until 1879, when the farm was purchased by a son-in-law, Robert Lenz. Two days later, Lenz sold Gustav a 40-acre parcel which lay immediately south of his own farm. In 1913, after Robert Lenz died, Gustav purchased from his heir William Robert Grauer (the son of his own brother William Grauer) a strip 208 feet wide bordering the east edge of his property. This brought his farm to its ultimate size of about 94 acres. That this was not enough to support a prosperous way of life is attested to by the inventory that was made in 1922 at the time of Gustav's death.⁹ It was strikingly more meager than his father's of half a century before; although Gustav's two sons had been farming with him, his livestock consisted of only two cows, and the items of greatest value were the farm wagon at \$25 and the kitchen stove at \$20. Mrs. Grauer, born in 1843, had died sixteen months previously. They had twelve children, six of whom survived them. Julia (1876-1961) and Augusta (1874-1949) purchased the farm from their two married sisters and two brothers in 1923. Their deed specified that the property was to be called "Maple Springs Farm."¹⁰ The present owners acquired the property from Julia Grauer's estate, and they have adopted the name "Creminscroft."

Notes

1. Columbia, Mo.: University of Missouri Press, 1977, pp. 113-115.
2. ibid, pp. 126-127.
3. ibid, pp. 23-28.
4. Information on the Grauer family has been collected by the present owners from descendants. Included in this material is a copy of Gustav Grauer's baptism certificate made October 21, 1909, in Oelbrunn, Germany.
5. Franklin County Recorder of Deeds, Book N⁶, page 67. The present owners have a complete set of copies of deeds for the contiguous Gustav and Gottlieb property, twelve in all.
6. William L. Thomas, History of St. Louis County, Missouri (St. Louis: S. J. Clarke, 1911), p. 45.
7. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, September 8, 1894. One of a group of documents received from the National Archives, Washington, D. C.

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8. Copies of Gustav Grauer's discharge papers are retained by the family.
9. Franklin County Probate Court.
10. Franklin County Recorder of Deeds, Book 94, page 561.

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State Contact Person

2. Jim Denny, Chief, Survey & Registration
Department of Natural Resources
1915 Southridge Drive
Jefferson City

May 1984
(314) 751-4096
Missouri 65101

9. Major Bibliographical References

Van Ravenswaay, Charles. The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri.
Columbia, Mo.: University of Missouri Press, 1977.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 42.08 acres

Quadrangle name "Eureka, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UMT References

A

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6	9	7	1	2	5
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4	2	7	0	9	8	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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4	2	7	0	5	7	0
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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification The southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 12, Township 44 North Range 2 East, encompassing 42.08 acres, the same tract acquired by Gustav Grauer in 1866.

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

state Missouri code 29 county Franklin code 071

state _____ code _____ county _____ code _____

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Esley Hamilton

organization _____

date May 1984

street & number 1169 Ursula Avenue

telephone (314) 727-0428

city or town University City

state Missouri 63130

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



Fred A. Lafser, Director and State Historic Preservation
title Officer, Department of Natural Resources

date

7/10/84

For HCRS 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

n
↑

7861 III SE
(LABADIE)

32°30"

4268

WASHINGTON 19 MI.
GRAY SUMMIT 5.9 MI.

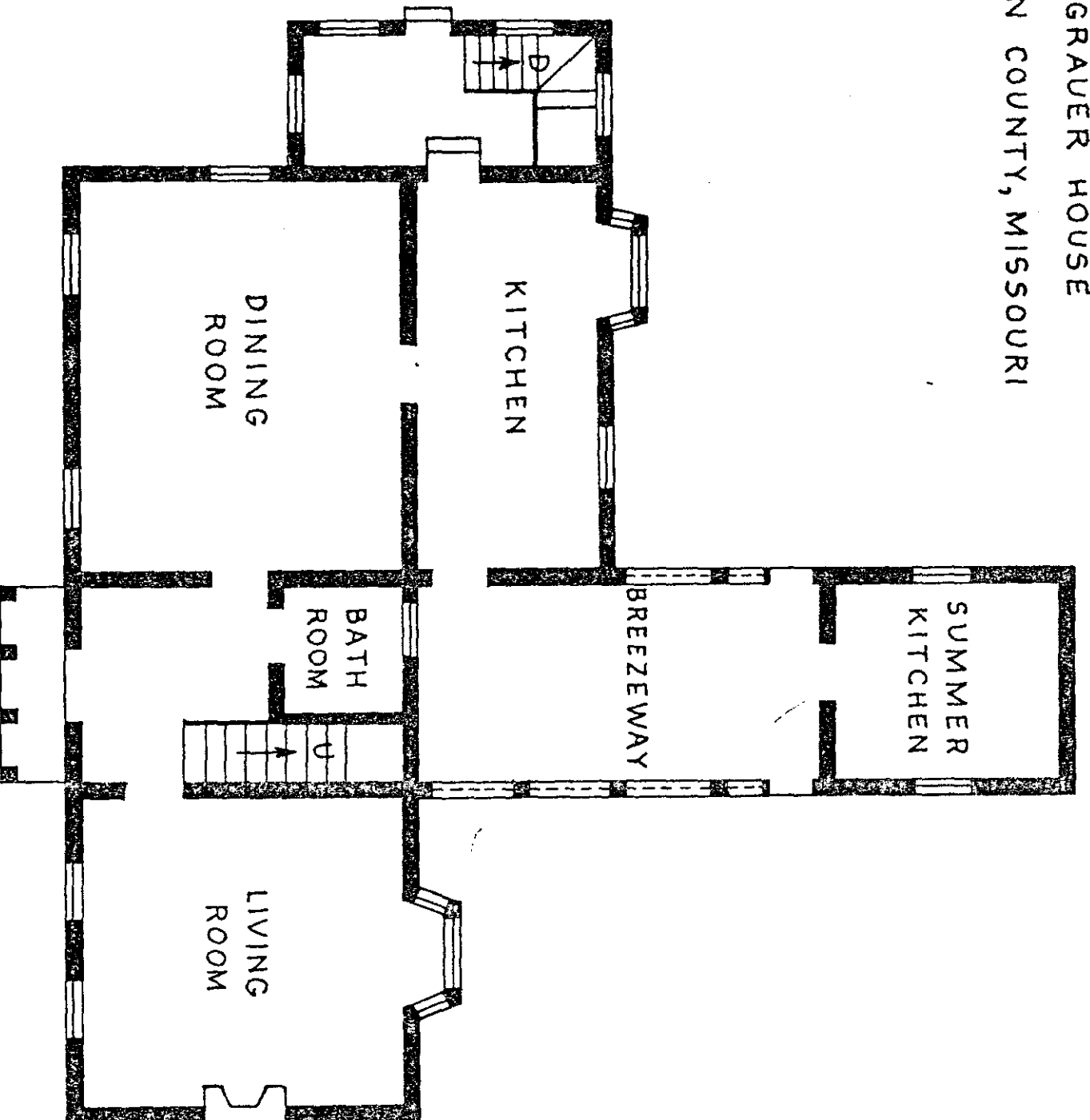
GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Franklin County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5' Scale: 1: 24,000
"Eureka, Mo." Quadrangle (1954, rev. 1982)

UTM REFERENCES:

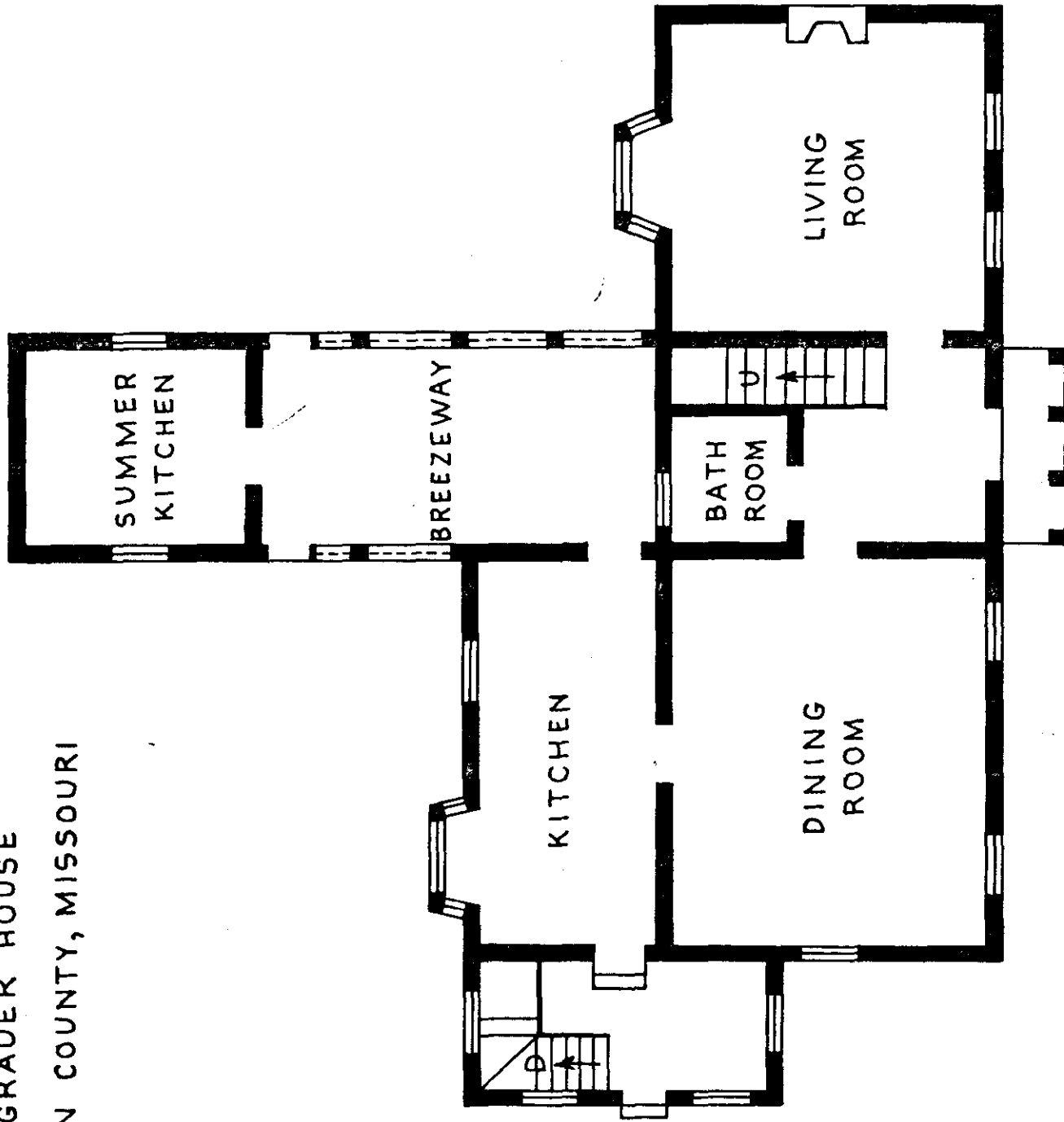
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- B. 15/697130/4270570
- C. 15/696765/4270565
- D. 15/696760/4270975

GUSTAV GRAUER HOUSE
FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI



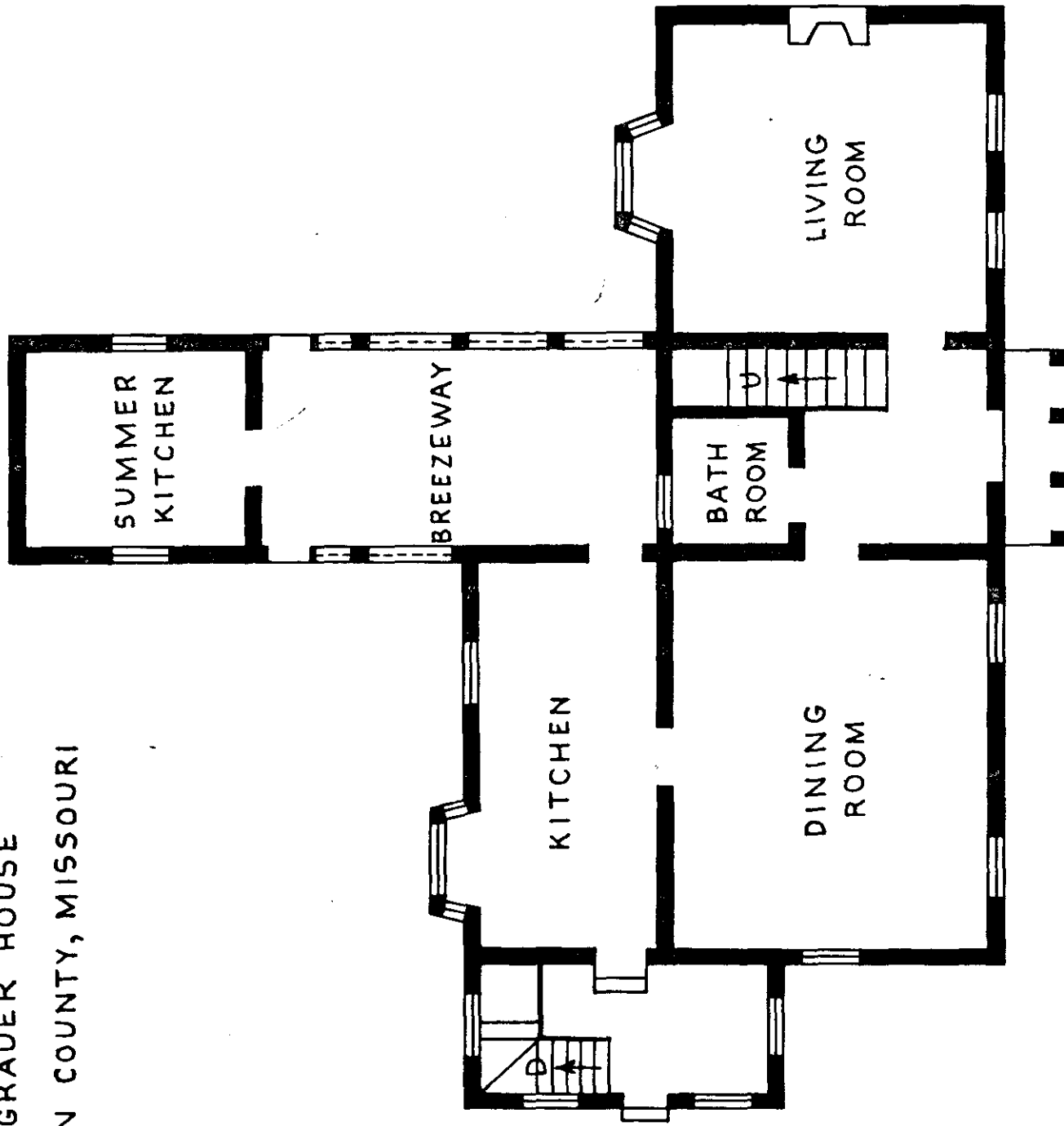
$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'0''$

GUSTAV GRAUER HOUSE
FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI



$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'0''$

GUSTAV GRAUER HOUSE
FRANKLIN COUNTY, MISSOURI



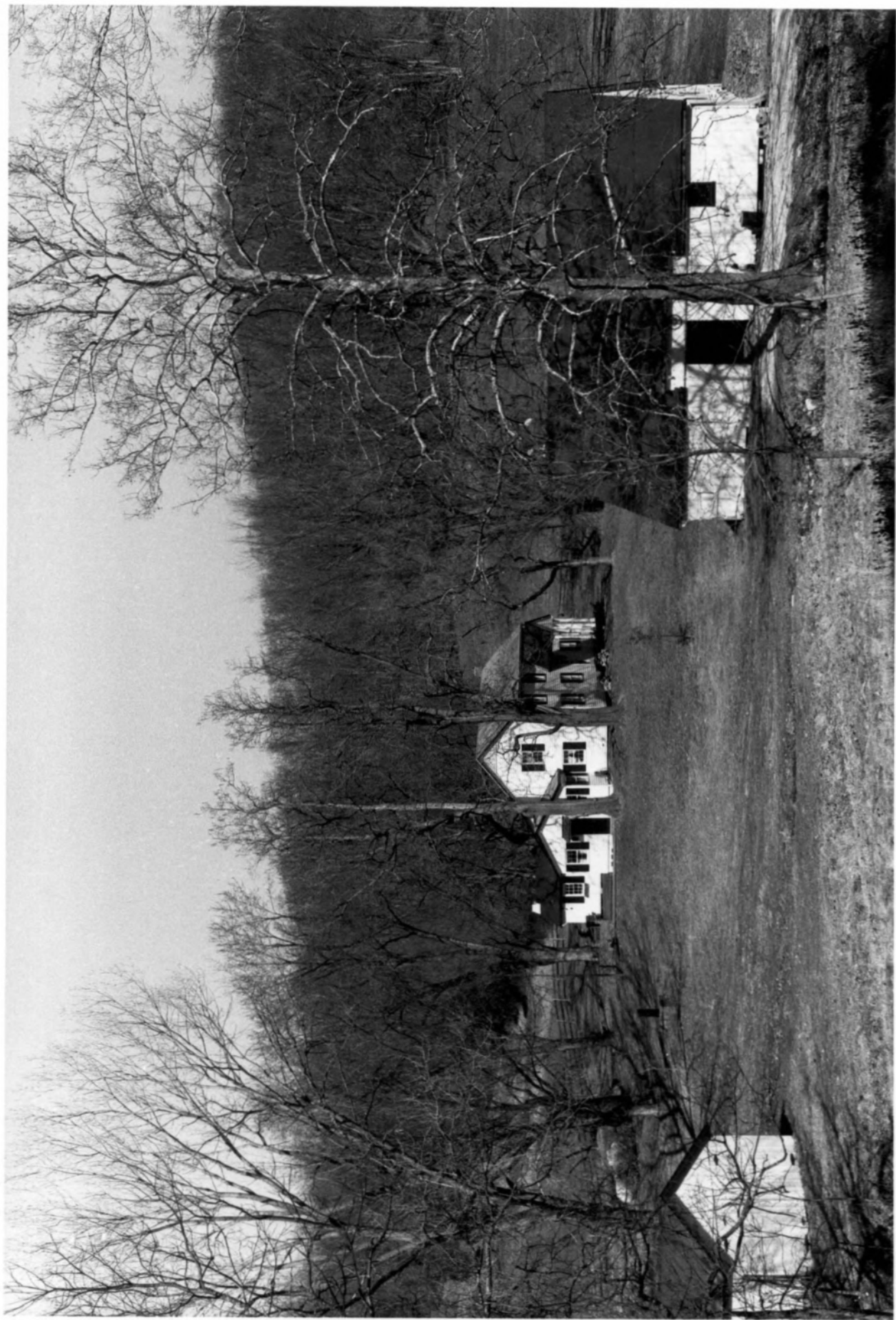
$\frac{1}{8}'' = 1'0''$

GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

1 of 14

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from southeast showing site:
shed left, house center, barn right



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM 2 of 14
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: unknown, possibly 1920's
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from southeast showing shed left,
house center, and edge of barn right



3 of 14

b. 1984

View from east showing barn left and smokehouse right rear



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

4 of 14

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

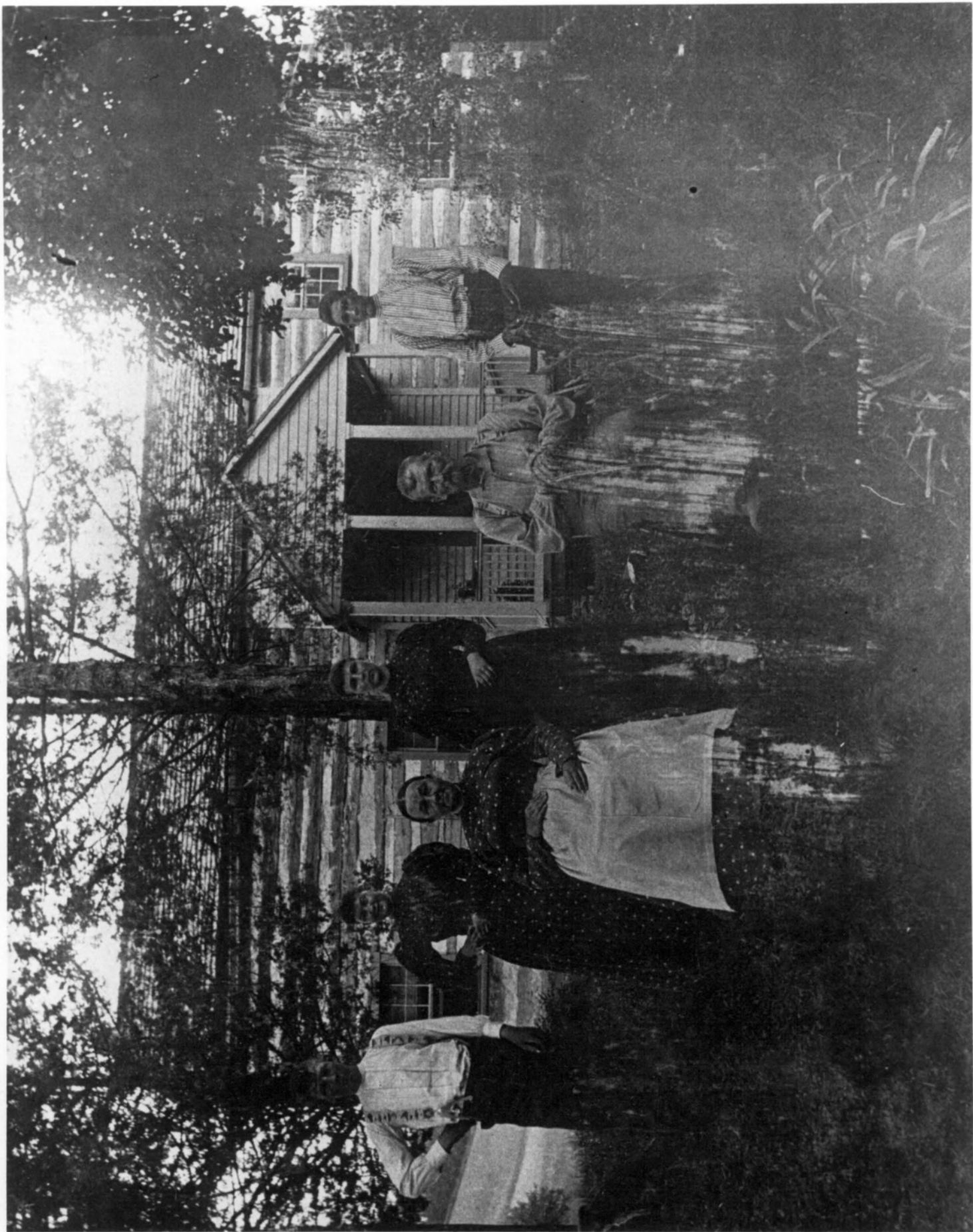
View from southeast of house



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM 5 of 14
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: unknown, ca. 1900
Neg. Loc.: on site

View of house from east with Bertha and
Gustav Grauer seated and children Augusta,
Julia, William, and Louis



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

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Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

Interior view from southwest corner of
dining room toward center stair and parlor



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM 7 of 14
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

Interior view from northwest corner of
parlor toward front door



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM 8 of 14
Box 110B, Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

Detail of southwest corner of parlor, showing
notching, marks of trimming, and adhering
flakes of whitewash.



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM

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Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984

Neg. Loc.: on site

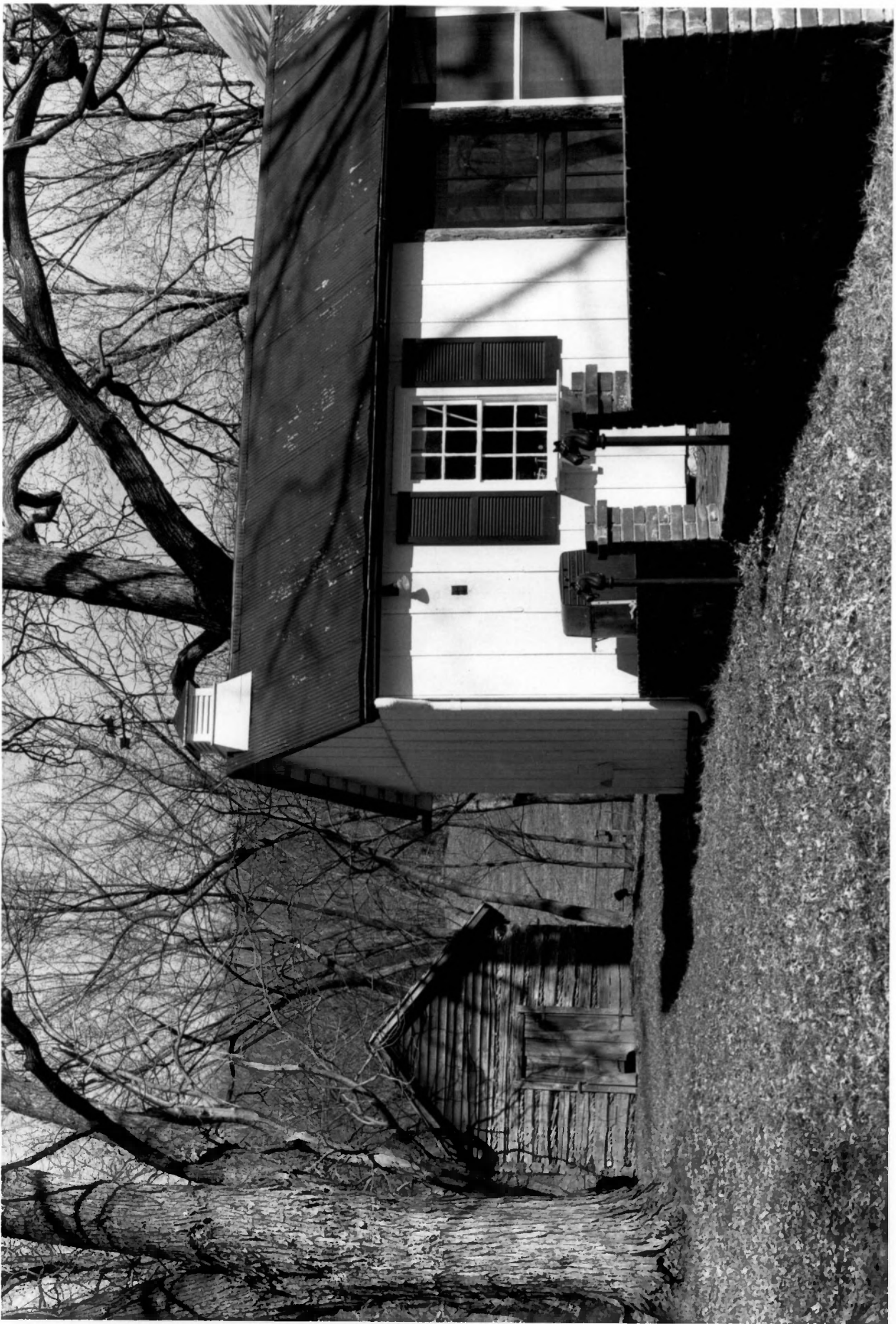
Interior view from southeast corner of north
bedroom, showing board ceiling and angle
of roof



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM 10 of 14
Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from south showing summer kitchen
and breezeway to house, right, and
smokehouse, left



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

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Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from southeast of smokehouse



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

12 of 14

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from southeast of barn



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM
Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

13 of 14

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984
Neg. Loc.: on site

View from east of shed



GUSTAV GRAUER FARM

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Box 110B Bouquet Road (Rural Route 5)
Pacific, Missouri 63069

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, Feb. 1984

Neg. Loc.: on site

View from northeast of springhouse

