

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

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

1. Name

historic Odd Fellows Home District

and/or common Winner Hotel; Reed Springs, Reed Mineral Spring; Reed Sulfur Spring

2. Location

street & number Rt. 6, Box 194; Mo. Hwy. 291 not for publication

city, town Liberty vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county Clay code 047

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 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"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: hospital; nursing home

4. Owner of Property

name 1. Reed Springs Community, Partnership 2. Grand Lodge of Missouri I.O.O.F.

street & number 17 West Kansas P. O. Box 204

city, town Liberty, Missouri vicinity of Columbia state Missouri

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Clay County Courthouse

city, town Liberty state Missouri

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date August, 1986 federal state county local

depository for survey records Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program

city, town P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Odd Fellows Home District is located one mile south of the courthouse square in Liberty, a town important in western Missouri's settlement. The thirty-six acre site is located on rich, rolling farmland just north of the Missouri River, and contains a collection of institutional buildings, outbuildings, and a cemetery. The site is organized around four major buildings, which are situated in a north-south line on a ridge, facing west towards Missouri Highway 291. Upon entering the site on the west, one crosses over a bridge by a spring-fed lake, and follows a circular drive around a large, landscaped yard terraced up to the four buildings. From south to north, the four buildings are: The Administration Building, the Nursing Home (non-contributing), the Old Folks Building, and the Old Hospital. The three contributing buildings are all two-story, red brick, gable-roofed Jacobethan Revival structures. All three possess a high degree of integrity in design, materials, workmanship, setting, and location, having had little to no alteration. In spite of some remodeling of the first floor interior of the Old Folks Building (lowered ceilings, paneling), all three retain clear associations with the historic period of significance as institutional homes and hospital. The Nursing Home, a modern flat-roofed, red brick, one and two-story structure, is the only building which is currently in use. The three historic buildings are beginning to suffer from neglect, particularly the Old Hospital. There are three related one-story outbuildings (two brick and one tile) behind the Administration Building and Nursing Home, and a bunker situated in the hill behind the Old Folks Building. One, the power plant, is missing its tall tower, but all retain their integrity in terms of material, workmanship, setting, and location. The cemetery is on a hill east of the Old Hospital.

The Administration Building is a two-story Jacobethan Revival structure. The floor plan is a modified "H", approximately 145' x 100', with two large wings on each end, and a smaller center wing extending to the rear. The building has a full basement and sits on a brick and stone foundation, which is quite high on the south and east. The walls are common bond brick, with stonework used as ornament around windows, doors, and on the roof parapets. The west and north elevations are the most heavily decorated. These windows have stone sills, lintels and quoins; the south windows have stone lintels and sills, and the rear windows have only a stone sill. Most of the windows are the original 2/2 double-hung sash. The composition shingle, gable roofs are steep-sided and are interrupted by several gable wall dormers on the south, west and north; the east has gable roof dormers. On three sides, the dormers and gable ends are parapeted, with the gable ends having pommel decorations. The west entry has a two and one-half story projecting gable bay. The gable parapet, which is missing its pommel decorations, is flanked by a pair of tall chimney stacks. The stone arched entry is partially obscured by an aluminum awning; the doors have been replaced with plate glass. The front entry bay has two stone decorative panels, one with the words "Odd Fellows Home", and the other with the symbols of the three links representing friendship, love, and truth. There is a one-story, five-bay porch with square brick columns and low-pitched triangular arches along the north, added in 1913. A simpler one and one-half story porch (apparently original by construction and earliest photos) on the south covers four bays and is in deteriorating condition. Both porches house fire escapes.

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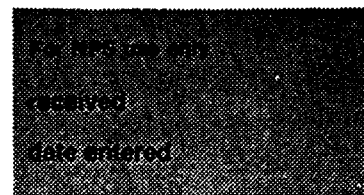
Inside, the Administration Building retains much of its original character. The front lobby has a tiled entry, with the initials "I.O.O.F." in the floor at the front door. The first floor has been altered with the paneling of the lobby and some offices. Throughout the rest of the building, the walls are plastered directly onto the brick.

The woodwork is painted (six-panel doors, windows, molding), but the oak floors are stained and in fairly good condition considering the amount of traffic received. The central double stairs have decorative iron risers with worn wood treads. The original steam radiators are still in place. The lighting fixtures are a mixture of old and new (fluorescent). The first floor contains offices and a living room in the central portion; the wings contain several small bedrooms, each with a window and a closet. The second floor contains five large dormitories with pressed metal ceilings, a few smaller rooms, and large bathrooms with old fixtures. The attic floor has considerably lower ceilings than the rest of the building. There are four large classrooms with chalkboards at the ends of each attic wing. The central portion of the attic has small, sloped ceiling rooms formerly belonging to the staff. There is some noticeable water damage in the attic ceilings. The basement has large rooms under the wings and smaller utility rooms under the central portion.

The Administration Building was originally built in 1900 to house all the inmates, employees, and functions at the complex. The specifications required a slate roof, iron staircases, and fireproofing throughout in response to the burning of the first Home. When the construction bids for the new building came in too high, some changes in the original plans were made, mainly simplifying some ornamentation, such as omitting stone quoins on the south and stone buttresses at the west entrance. After a school building was built in 1904, the classrooms were converted into smaller rooms for the aged. In 1911, a steam laundry was established in the rear basement room. In 1922, wooden floors were replaced with concrete, and the plastered ceilings were replaced with pressed metal in the larger rooms. A baking and bread room was also added to the kitchen at this time.

The Nursing Home is a non-contributing, flat-roofed brick structure, about 80' by 200'. The two-story front portion was built in 1955, and the one-story rear portion in 1978, on the site of the 1904 School Building. Today it is attached to the Old Folks' Building on the north with an enclosed brick passageway.

The Old Folks Building was built in 1907-1908 in the same style as the Administration Building. The Jacobethan Revival features include the steep gable roofs with parapets, pommel decorations, tall chimney stacks, and brick walls with stone window sills, lintels, and quoins. The plan is a modified "E", approximately 150' x 180', with the longer portions of the wings extending to the rear. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash, and the roof is composition shingle. The two-story front porch extends the full length between the two wings (seven bays). The central portion of the porch is particularly elaborate. Between two large square brick columns (which rise the full two stories and are topped with pommels), there is an arched stone entry containing many symbols of the International Order of Odd Fellows. Above that are two simple Doric columns

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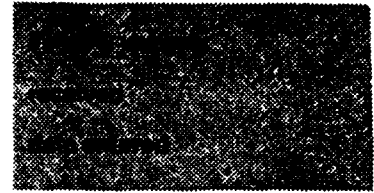
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supporting a stone tableau with the words "Odd Fellows Home". The rest of the porch has square brick columns on the first level, and square wooden supports replacing the simple columns on the second. On the south, a two-story porch extends five bays with square brick columns and triangular arches on the second level. Both wings also have similar porches in the rear (east) which have been enclosed. All three "granitoid" porches (as they were called) were added in 1912-1913. The north entry has a small, one-story, one-bay porch executed in the same style, with handicap access. At the same time the porches were constructed, all three wings were enlarged to accommodate more people, provide sanitarium and hospital space, and enlarge the kitchen and dining room. The two end wings were extended 86 feet; the central wing, 16 feet. The cross gables and parapets on the north and south were also added at this time.

The interior has undergone alteration, primarily on the first floor. The front lobby has the original double staircase on either side, but presently has a dropped ceiling and carpeting over linoleum. To the left of the lobby is a large parlor which has original wood columns and ceiling braces, as well as the original fireplace mantel. The end wings on both floors, and central wing on the second, contain small bedrooms which have a closet and window. The first floor bedrooms are the most altered, with several having dropped ceilings. The first floor central wing contains the dining room and kitchen, with some original columns and woodwork remaining. The large community bathrooms still have old fixtures, such as cast-iron tubs and marble stalls. Throughout the building, the two-panel doors and woodwork are stained and varnished, although the wood floors are covered with linoleum tile in the halls. The attic is accessible only by ladder in closets on the second floor. The partial basement is reached through the kitchen.

The Old Hospital, a two-story brick structure on a stone foundation, was built in 1923. It was also designed in the Jacobethan Revival style, but is less imposing in size, scale, and detail. The "F"-shaped building, about 155' by 90' on north wing, has slate gable roofs, except for the rear central wing, which is flat-roofed. The front is long (eighteen bays), and the central portion (nine bays) is set off from either side with a higher roof line and parapets. It is also more heavily decorated, with stone quoins around the windows, and an elaborate stone entry with pilasters, medallions, swags, and finial. The doors have been replaced with plate glass, and there is a modern fiberglass portico. The entry is flanked by two wall dormers. The windows on either side of the central portion have stone sills and lintels. All windows are six-over-six double-hung sash, and on the front have aluminum awnings. The parapets on the gable ends of the building have the pommel decorations found in the other two historic buildings.

The interior of the Old Hospital is much simpler and more stark than the other two structures. There is very little wood trim; the simple window sills and flush doors are painted. The floors are linoleum tile. The walls are plastered directly onto brick (exterior walls) or gypsum block (interior). The basement contains storerooms and a kitchen. There is an elevator and stairs from the basement to all floors on the north. The central entry also has an elevator and stairs from the first to second floor. All the hallways and door openings are narrow, which caused problems from the beginning with the movement of hospital patients and equipment. The first floor contains large rooms at both the south and north ends, with several small rooms in the two wings. The second floor has one large room on the northwest end, with the rest of the floor devoted to the

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smaller rooms. The large northwest rooms on both floors have wood paneling. The central wing has suffered severe water damage. The gypsum block is exposed on several of the interior walls; the ceiling joists are also exposed. The damage is also apparent on the exterior, where several bricks near the roof are loose and the mortar crumbling.

The grounds were originally terraced west from the buildings down to the spring-fed lake in 1907. Today the terraces are somewhat worn, but still apparent. "Granitoid" walks were also installed in 1907, and ornamental trees and shrubs planted. The walks are laid out in a formal pattern, with a long, stepped walk leading from the property entrance directly to the Administration Building. In 1911, a four foot "granitoid" walk was constructed connecting the property to the city limits. The cemetery, originally located near the Administration Building, was moved northeast in 1911 to higher ground. Twenty new grave markers were installed at this time, and it has remained in use up to the present. Situated on a hill overlooking the complex of brick buildings, the cemetery has an institutional appearance. Twelve straight rows of identically shaped and evenly spaced headstones line up north/south, with the stones on the east. Each row of markers is set on a continuous band of concrete. The headstones are triangular gray granite, with polished fronts and rough cut sides. The name and year of birth and death were usually all that were inscribed; sometimes the three links of the Odd Fellows were added. The original portion of the cemetery, approximately 130' x 180', is surrounded on three sides by an outer ring of trees and historic iron fencing. On the south, however, the cemetery has been extended another 150'. This portion has chain link fencing with the original iron arched entry gate incorporated into the south end.

The historic Odd Fellows Home Cemetery retains its integrity as to plan, marking, fencing, and landscaping except where the southern extension has been located. (see attached map). Although no grave markers have been placed within this southern section, its chain link fencing is not compatible with the iron fencing of the original cemetery. The original iron gate for the cemetery has, unfortunately, been moved and incorporated into this southern extension. The old cemetery was an integral part of the Odd Fellows complex; over 65% of its graves date to the period of historic significance; all markers used on graves in the original cemetery are of the same mode of construction and placement and all markers are surrounded by the iron fencing and trees placed around the cemetery during its period of significance. These graves and the associated fencing and tree landscaping are part of a contributing element to the district. The chain link fencing and relocated gate are not.

Between the Old Hospital and the Old Folks Building, an area was enclosed with chain link fence and a picnic shelter (non-contributing) was erected in the 1960's. There are four contributing structures: a concrete bunker, a gable-roofed brick garage, a gable-roofed tile garage, and a flat-roofed brick power plant (all now used for storage). The power house was moved in 1911 from 750 feet behind the Administration Building to 150-200 feet behind the School Building. Also nearby were children's play equipment, a water tower and tank to the east, a pavilion over the springs, and an ice house to the west near the lake. The spring is approximately 1000 feet west of the Old Folks Building; a creek runs north-south near the western property edge.

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Resource count: The district is extremely intact. There are three contributing buildings, four contributing structures, one non-contributing building, and one non-contributing structure and one contributing site. These are keyed and identified on the enclosed map.

Boundary: The boundary of the 36 acre district, outlined with a broken line on the enclosed boundary map, encompasses the significant concentration of historic resources, including the buildings, terraced lawn, drive, cemetery site, walks and structures associated with the period of significance. The boundaries follow legally recorded boundary lines for two sets of owners.

Originally, the Odd Fellows complex contained approximately 240 acres. Thirty acres were lost in the 1970s when Missouri Highway 291 was widened. In the early 1980s, the Missouri Grand Lodge sold off two parcels of land, and retained ownership of the Nursing Home, drive, and terraced front lawn (approximately 27 acres). One of the sold-off parcels (nine acres) contains all the contributing historic buildings and structures. This parcel and the 27 acres still owned by the Lodge together comprise the 36 acre district, which contains the most critical elements of buildings and setting. The remaining 180 acres contain the former cropland, two barns, and a deteriorating two-story, gable-front-and-wing farmhouse. All are slated for development by the owners, responding to the surrounding suburban expansion on Liberty's south side. The present boundary is as follows: the west is bounded by Missouri Highway 291; the north follows the historic property lines 2000' to a point on the northeastern edge of the cemetery plot, then south 200' and back west 286' to enclose all of the historic cemetery; from that point, the eastern boundary goes south 700', running behind the main buildings some 200-300'; the south boundary then goes west 1500' to the Missouri Highway 291 right-of-way, and is approximately 20' beyond the southernmost edge of the circle drive (see accompanying boundary map).

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

Specific dates 1900-1935

Builder/Architect Ittner, Knell, Eckle, Felt, & Hitt

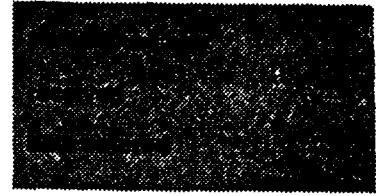
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Odd Fellows Home District is architecturally and historically significant for the comprehensive way in which it represents the historic development of the Missouri Odd Fellows complex from 1900 to the present. In terms of architecture, the district is significant for the intact examples of Jacobethan Revival structures, one of which was designed by William B. Ittner, a nationally recognized architect of this style. In terms of social/humanitarian, the resources document the emerging concept of care by a fraternal organization for the elderly, indigent, and orphaned at the turn of this century. Several residents were important in the history of the Missouri International Order of the Odd Fellows, or were leaders in their hometowns. These areas of significance support the district's eligibility under National Register Criteria A and C.

Architecture

The Odd Fellows Home complex is architecturally significant as a collection of Jacobethan Revival educational and institutional buildings. The three remaining historic buildings, the Administration Building, the Old Folks Building and the Old Hospital, were all designed by different architects over a period of twenty-three years, yet all are cohesive in their design and embody the distinctive characteristics of the style (Criterion C). After the first structure used as the home was burned in February, 1900 in an attempt to unthaw frozen pipes, the Grand Lodge of Missouri I.O.O.F. advertised for designs of a "completely fireproof" building to house offices, classrooms, dormitories for the orphans, and rooms for the elderly. The architects selected were Albert Knell and William B. Ittner of St. Louis. The latter is an important figure in Missouri architecture. As Commissioner of School Buildings in St. Louis from 1897-1910 and "consulting architect" to the Board of Education until 1914, Ittner had an opportunity to achieve prominence with the design of fifty St. Louis school buildings. In addition, Ittner's firm produced hundreds of schools in over 25 states. While most Jacobethan designs were for houses, some feel the style had its greatest impact on educational architecture at the turn of the century. Ittner's series of schools in St. Louis are viewed as worthy examples of this style, and comparison with those would place the Odd Fellows complex in its statewide architectural context. The Administration Building designed by Ittner set the precedent for the rest of the Odd Fellow complex buildings. All reference this unique style although designed by other, later, architects. Ittner's impact on Missouri architecture is only now becoming recognized but still awaits comprehensive scholarly treatment.

There were three other buildings designed in this style on the site. One, the School Building, was torn down in the early 1950s to make way for the newer hospital. The School Building was built in 1904, and designed by J. H. Felt & Co. of Kansas City, who also designed some later additions at the Odd Fellows. The Old Folks Building, at first called the Old Folks Pavilion, was designed by E. C. Eckle and built during 1907-1908 in order to accommodate the growing number of

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applications for admittance. The Old Hospital was built in 1923, and designed by Samuel M. Hitt of Kansas City. Viewed together, the three remaining buildings not only document the evolution of this style over a quarter of a century, but the typical building technology and materials for institutional structures as well.

Social/Humanitarian

In the social/humanitarian area, the Odd Fellows Home is significant as an early 20th century example of a statewide home providing care and education for the orphans and elderly members of a fraternal organization. At the time it was built, there was only one other such home in the state, the Masonic Home in St. Louis. One of the main reasons for the existence of the International Order of Odd Fellows (and other fraternal societies) was to provide for the care of its members, widows, and orphans. The establishment of statewide homes such as the Missouri Odd Fellows in Liberty was viewed as a form of health and life insurance; as long as members were in good standing, they could count on the Odd Fellows taking care of them or their family if misfortune should arise. This was, therefore, not looked upon as charity. To insure against charity residents at the home were expected to work on the 240-acre farm if physically able. This emerging concept of self-help was just developing in "almshouses" during the latter half of the 19th century in Missouri. The almshouse tradition was different from the then prevalent boarding-out or leasing system of relief in which the poor were sent to live with various families. The almshouse method was to buy or lease land, and bring all the poor under one roof. Unfortunately, the structure in which the inmates were housed in Missouri at that time was often very crude. The Odd Fellows Home was significant in that when it was built, it was a modern facility, complete with heating, plumbing, and other conveniences. Fraternal organization homes were different from almshouses in other ways: both children and the elderly resided on the same site. For the most part, children were kept out of almshouses, due in part to the fact that orphanages were well-established institutions by this time. The fraternal organization method of caring for their own less-fortunate was significantly different from the care received by the general public in the 19th century. From its inception until the advent of the social programs of the 1930s, the Missouri I.O.O.F. home was clearly associated with this up-to-date, benevolent method of caring for members of a fraternal society, thus supporting its nomination under Criterion A.

Historic Background

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) is one of the largest fraternal and benevolent orders in the United States. The chief purpose of the Order of Odd Fellows is to give aid, assistance, and comfort to its members and their families. It is a secret society, and has its own system of rites and passwords. The first lodge was organized in Missouri in 1835 and incorporated in 1843. In 1883, the first petition to establish a state Odd Fellows Home was recorded at a session of the Grand Lodge. In 1894, bids for sites were requested, and seven cities submitted proposals. The Odd Fellows Home was established for the care and maintenance of members of the Order who were unable to earn a livelihood by reasons of age or

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affliction, those who were indigent, and for the wives and orphans of members. In order to be admitted, members must have been in continuous good standing in their lodges for five years previous to their application. Application was made through the member's lodge. The list of past residents includes some of the early founding members of Missouri I.O.O.F. and Rebekah lodges, as well as many leading citizens of small towns across Missouri.

Liberty was finally selected as the site of the home on the 4th ballot. As inducement to locate in Liberty, the City and Liberty Lodge #49 offered \$17,000 as consideration, and the Liberty School Board offered free tuition to Liberty High School for the children reared at the home. Manheim Goldman, Liberty business owner and twice mayor, is credited with the effort to bring the Odd Fellows Home to the area. Mr. Goldman, known as late as 1922 as the first and "only Hebrew who ever spent many years in Liberty", realized that the establishment of a statewide home and school, albeit for a secret Christian society, would be a credit to a community already known for its educational system. The residents apparently agreed, for this was not the first effort Liberty made to secure such an institution, nor was it to be the last. In 1888, the City offered \$30,000 in land and money for the Masonic Orphans Home, but failed in its efforts. A 1909 brochure listed the benefits of Liberty to the Pythian Lodges, in hopes of locating their children's home here.

In 1895, the large, two-story frame Winner Hotel and 12 acres was purchased by the Odd Fellows, along with an option on 230 additional acres. The Winner Hotel was built in 1887, known as the year of the "Great Boom" in Clay County real estate. One of the largest real estate owners was the Winner Investment Company, purchaser of 18,000 acres of Clay County land. The hotel was first called the Reed Springs Hotel by a syndicate of investors who built the plush hotel on the Reed Sulphur Spring site. Hoping that the healing properties of the mineral water would produce as much interest as it did in nearby Excelsior Springs, an elaborate subdivision, "Reeds Springs", was platted in 1888. Plans called for a hotel, half-mile race track, park areas, and an area for homes. Only the hotel was built, along with wooden pagodas over the springs, gravel paths, and a boathouse on the lake. In 1891, W. E. Winner, the well-known investor and promoter, bought the hotel and 12 acres, changing the name to the "Winner Hotel". The hotel was sold to the Odd Fellows in 1895 as Mr. Winner's fortune declined, and by 1897, with the depression and sale of an additional 9000 acres to satisfy bond debts, the "Winner Boom" was over.

The Odd Fellows members supported the cost of running the Home by paying an assessment tax. In 1899, this yearly tax was 50 cents per capita. After the frame structure was destroyed by fire in 1900, each member paid an additional assessment of \$1.00 per member to cover the cost of the new building. Donations were always welcome, and lodges later became responsible for their own members and their rooms. Today in the Old Folks Building, the signs on the doors tell which lodge was the benefactor of the room and its inhabitant.

The Home was also supported by the produce of the farm. After purchasing all the surrounding farmland on which it had options, the Board decided in 1900 to take

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control of all 247 acres of farmland at the Home and cease renting out portions of the land. It was felt that the home could be self-supporting through farming. By 1905, the farm operation had grown to the point that a practical farmer was hired to produce better results. Because the farm was important to the existence of the Home and for reasons stated earlier, many of the children and adults helped with daily chores. Although the farm reports were often incomplete, they give a good example of the size of the farming operations at the home. In 1901, for example, it produced 838 bushels of oats, 2,000 bushels of corn, 500 bushels of Irish potatoes, 3 tons of hay, 7,863 gallons of milk, 1,714 lbs. of butter, and 325 dozen eggs. Livestock included 3 horses, 52 cattle, 175 poultry, and 15 hogs. Nearly everything was kept for consumption at the Home, but occasionally some sales brought in needed revenue.

The profile of the typical resident changed over the history of the Home. In the early years, children far outnumbered adults. In 1912 for example, 52 residents were adults, and 111 were children. Most of the children were orphans, and the average adult age was in the 50s. By the late twenties however, the proportion of adults increased dramatically. During the years 1932-1933, there were 236 adults and 98 children (the largest number ever). Some were people who were just "down on their luck", undoubtedly due to the economics of the period, and would stay until financially able to make it on their own. A greater number of non-orphans were also admitted during this time, as their families were unable to care for them. The decline in numbers at the Home began after the advent of social programs for the poor and elderly in the 1930s. Newly developed local nursing homes were more attractive alternatives to the elderly, enabling them to remain near friends and family. By 1951, there were no longer any children at the Home, and most applicants were permanent hospital patients.

The first need for Home-based hospital care was recognized by 1905. Because the Grand Lodge made it impossible for the Home to reject an applicant because of a physical disability, many residents required hospital care beyond that provided by the staff nurse and doctor. Hospital facilities were moved to the Old Folks Building, but by 1910 it was apparent that a separate hospital building would be needed. It wasn't until 1923 that the hospital (now known as the Old Hospital) was constructed. For a period, the hospital was the only medical facility in Liberty; it even had its own laboratory. The hospital soon proved to be outdated, as the halls and doorways were not wide enough to permit easy movement of bed patients and equipment. In 1955, the Nursing Home was built, and remains in use today. The Grand Lodge voted at that time to permit the admittance of paying, non-members to the hospital.

The Odd Fellows Home provided an excellent basic education for the children and orphans of Missouri Odd Fellows, and encouraged development in other areas as well. The education received at the Home was often much superior to what the children might have received in their hometowns. High school attendance, not a typical option for children at the turn of the century, was a matter of course at the Home, and even college tuition was provided as early as the 1920s. In 1908, the first

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Section number 8 Page 4

instrumental music classes were offered and eventually a boys' band was organized which made annual tours of the state. By the early 1940s, the decrease in children resulted in discontinued use of the School Building, and classes were moved back to the Administration Building. By 1951, there were no longer any children at the Home.

Beyond the basic necessities of food, shelter, medicine, and education for the children, the Home attempted to enrich the residents' lives in other ways. Music and literary recitals by the children were performed for the elderly. Books and subscriptions to newspapers and magazines were always available. In the 1920s, several of the boys constructed crystal radio sets. "Moving pictures" were provided free of charge. Sunday School meetings were conducted at the Home, and transportation was provided to the church services of choice in Liberty. Holidays were always celebrated, often complete with presents and refreshments provided by the Home or from donations of lodges. A monthly birthday dinner was held for the children celebrating birthdays in that month.

As the chief purpose of the Odd Fellows' society was to give aid, assistance and comfort to members and families, the Grand Lodge of Missouri helped in times of death as well as in sickness and misfortune. A cemetery plot, headstone, and burial services were all just one part of the large system of benefits that were available to the Odd Fellows. Most usually, the elderly residents of the Home who had no other arrangements were buried there, but occasionally it was the wish of a long-time lodge member to remain at the Liberty complex.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See attached.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 36.3

Quadrangle name Liberty, Mo.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	3	7	8	1	3	0	4	3	4	3	1	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

1	5	3	7	8	8	0	0	4	3	4	3	1	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	5	3	7	8	8	0	0	4	3	4	3	1	1	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

1	5	3	7	8	6	3	0	4	3	4	3	1	1	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

1	5	3	7	8	6	3	0	4	3	4	2	8	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

1	5	3	7	8	2	1	5	4	3	4	2	8	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title 1. Deon Wolfenbarger & Lacey Alkire/ private consultants

organization

date July 1, 1987

street & number 1908 Patterson Drive

telephone (816)524-7479

city or town Lee's Summit

state Missouri 64063

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 National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

for Frederick A. Brunner, Ph.D., P.E., Director, Department of Natural Resources and
title State Historic Preservation Officer date 8/3/87

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

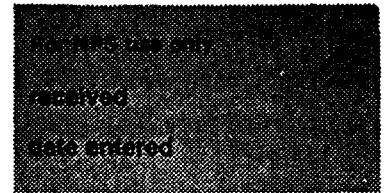
Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet Odd Fellows' Home District Item number 9 Page 1

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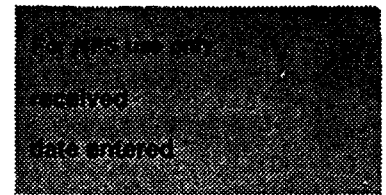
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Continuation sheet Odd Fellows' Home District Item number 9 Page 2

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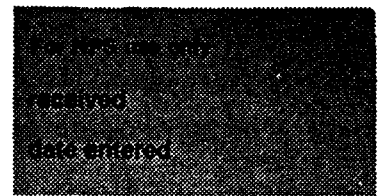
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National Park Service**

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

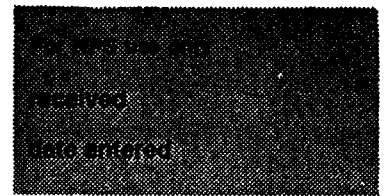


Continuation sheet Odd Fellows Home District Item number 10 Page 1

Thirty-six acres of the original 242 acres associated with the Odd Fellows Home are being nominated. Approximately thirty acres of the original site were lost when Missouri Highway 291 was widened. One hundred eighty acres are scheduled for commercial and multi-family development starting in 1987. Once developed, it will lose the historic characteristics of farmland which were associated with the Odd Fellows. The remaining 36 acres follow the legally recorded boundaries for two sets of owners who support the nomination and are interested in preserving the historic characteristics of the site. The most significant concentration of resources making up the district are encompassed by these boundaries, and include the three historic buildings (the most critical elements of the district), four contributing structures, the cemetery, the walkways, drive, and the landscaped, terraced lawn. The critical elements of setting, feeling, design, workmanship, materials, and location are all retained within the boundary, described in detail in Item number 7, and shown on the accompanying map.

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National Park Service**

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Inventory—Nomination Form**



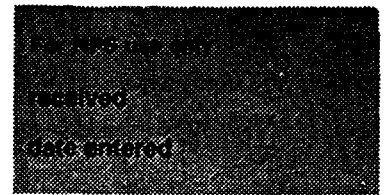
Continuation sheet Odd Fellows' Home District Item number 11

Page 1

2. Hugh Davidson
Preservation Planner and
State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Parks, Recreation,
and Historic Preservation
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Date: July 27, 1987
Telephone: 314/751-5377

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation sheet Odd Fellows Home District Item number Photographs Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs: Name-Odd Fellows Home District. Location-Liberty, Missouri. Location of original negative - Mick McGee Photography, 9257 Wedd, Overland Park, KS 66212.

Overall view
Mick McGee
March 3, 1987
Looking east from west boundary
#1

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, central
living room; looking southeast
#7

Terraced front lawn
Mick McGee
March 3, 1987
Looking east
#2

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 15, 1987
Interior; first floor, north wing
hall; looking west
#8

Administration Building
Mick McGee
March 3, 1987
Primary (west) facade; looking east
#3

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 15, 1987
Interior; first floor, typical
small room, looking north
#9

Administration Building
Mick McGee
March 3, 1987
Primary & south facade; looking northeast
#4

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; second floor, typical
small room doorway, looking west
#10

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
East & north facades; looking southwest
#5

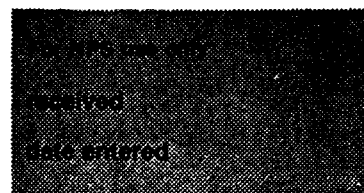
Administration Building
Gary Worth
March 6, 1987
Interior; second floor, northwest
dormitory; looking northwest
#11

Administration Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, entry lobby;
looking west
#6

Administration Building
Gary Worth
March 6, 1987
Interior; second floor, dormitory
metal ceiling detail
#12

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Continuation sheet Odd Fellows Home District Item number Photographs Page 2

Old Folks Building
Mick McGee
March 6, 1987
Primary (west) facade; looking east
#13

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, living
room; looking southwest
#19

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Primary & south facades; looking northeast
#14

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, typical
small room; looking south
#20

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
South & east facades; looking northwest
#15

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, door
detail; looking south
#21

Old Folks Building
Mick McGee
March 6, 1987
North facade; looking south
#16

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; second floor, central
stair landing; looking southeast
#22

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
March 6, 1987
Entry detail; primary facade; looking east
#17

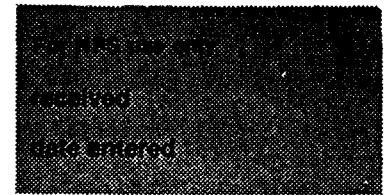
Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; second floor, typical
small room central wing; looking
north
#23

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; first floor, entry lobby stairs;
looking east
#18

Old Folks Building
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Interior; second floor, typical
small room doorway; looking
south
#24

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet Odd Fellows Home District Item number Photographs Page 3

Old Hospital
Gary Worth
April 12, 1987
Primary (west) facade; looking east
#25

Old Folks Building
Mick McGee
March 21, 1987
Interior; first floor, typical
small room, looking northwest
#32

Old Hospital
Mick McGee
March 6, 1987
North & primary facades; looking
southeast
#26

Brick garage
Gary Worth
March 6, 1987
West & south facades; looking
northeast
33

Old Hospital
Mick McGee
March 6, 1987
South & east facades; looking northwest
#27

Brick power plant & tile garage
Gary Worth
April 15, 1987
West & south facades; looking
northeast
#34

Old Hospital
Mick McGee
March 21, 1987
Interior; first floor, entry lobby, stairs,
& elevator; looking east
#28

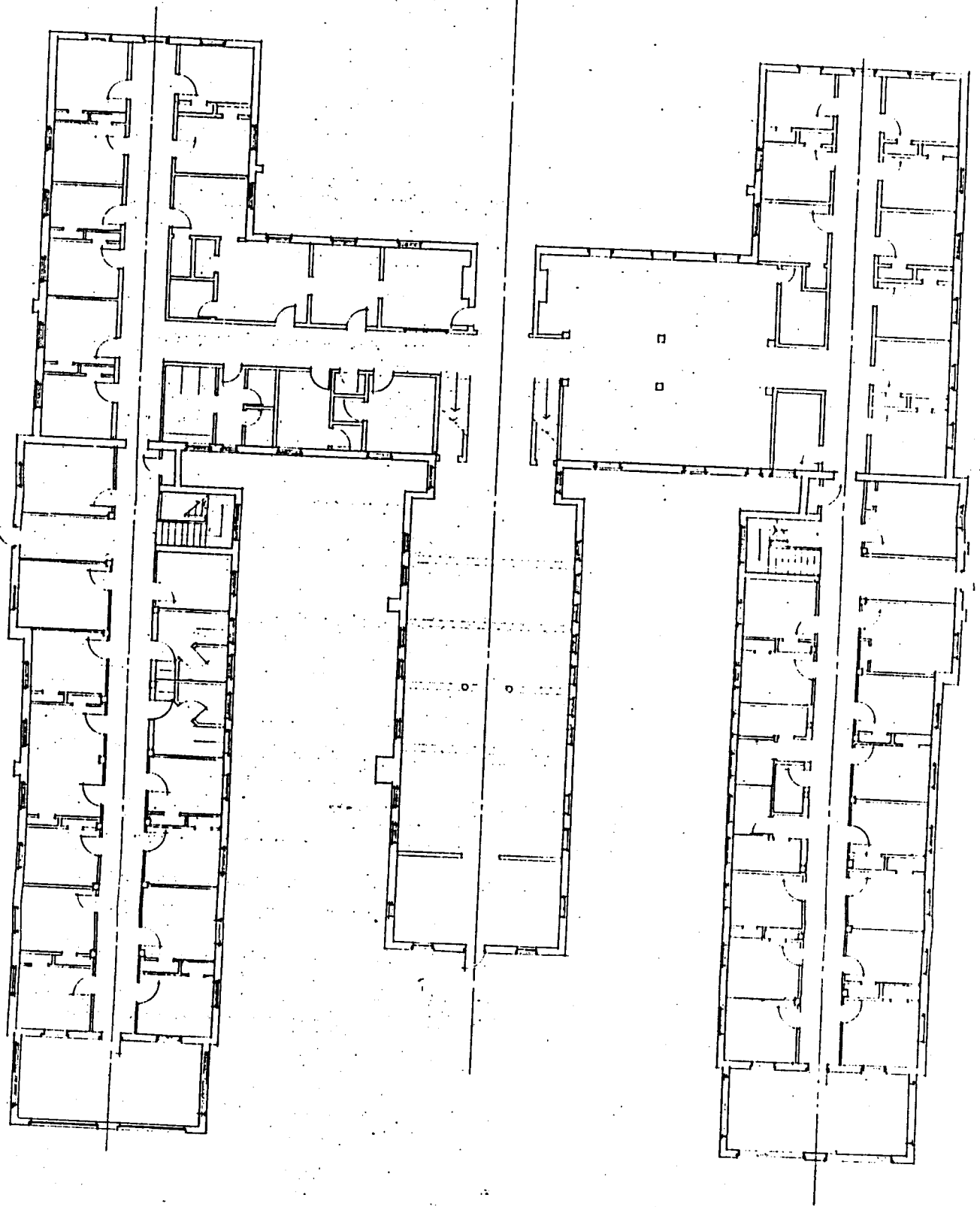
Cemetery gate
Mick McGee
March 6, 1987
Looking northeast
#35

Old Hospital
Mick McGee
March 21, 1987
Interior; first floor hall; looking east
#29

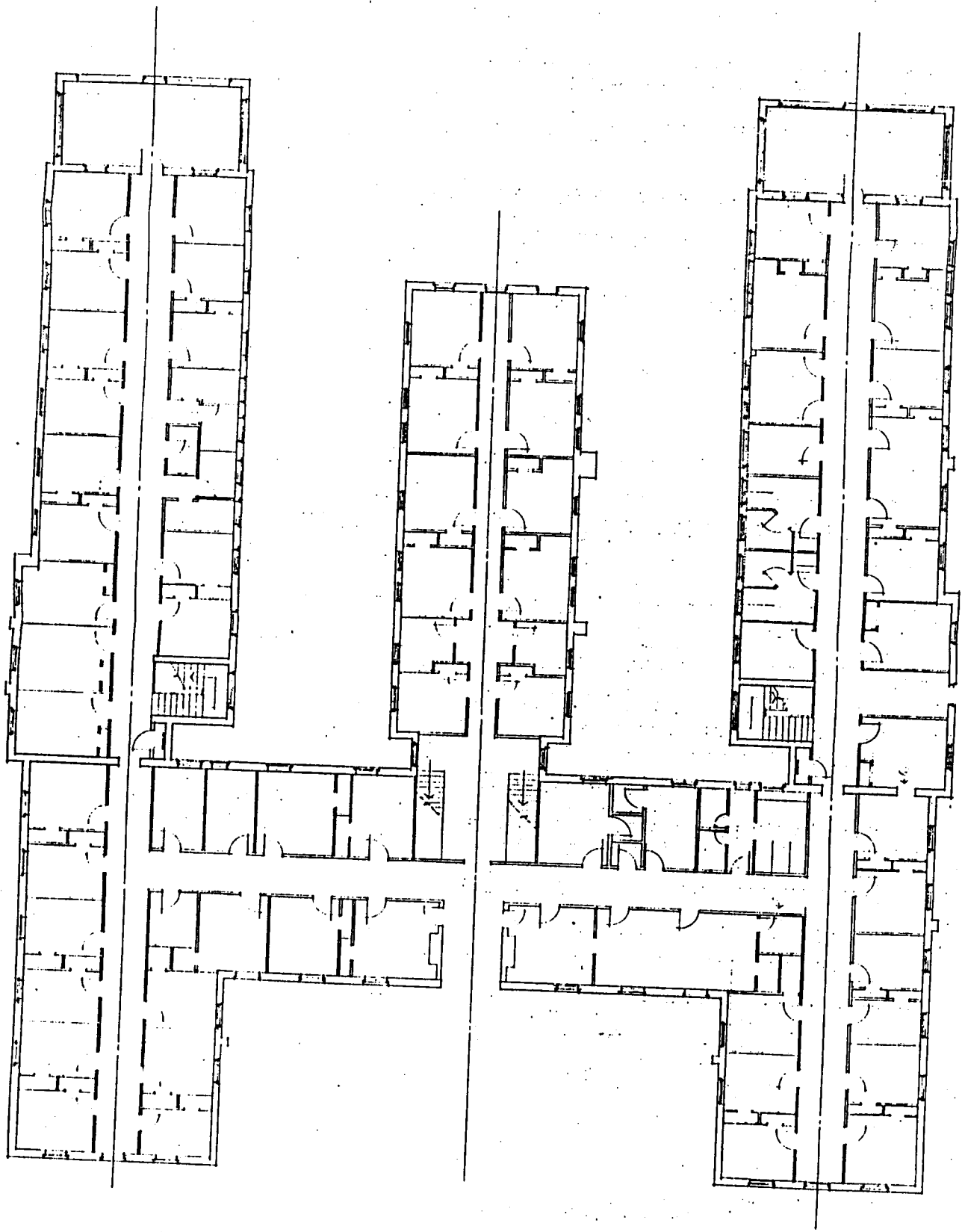
Cemetery
Mick McGee
June 20, 1987
Looking northeast
#36

Old Hospital
Gary Worth
April 15, 1987
Interior; first floor, south large
room; looking south
#30

Old Hospital
Gary Worth
April 15, 1987
Interior; first floor, typical small
room, looking northeast
#31

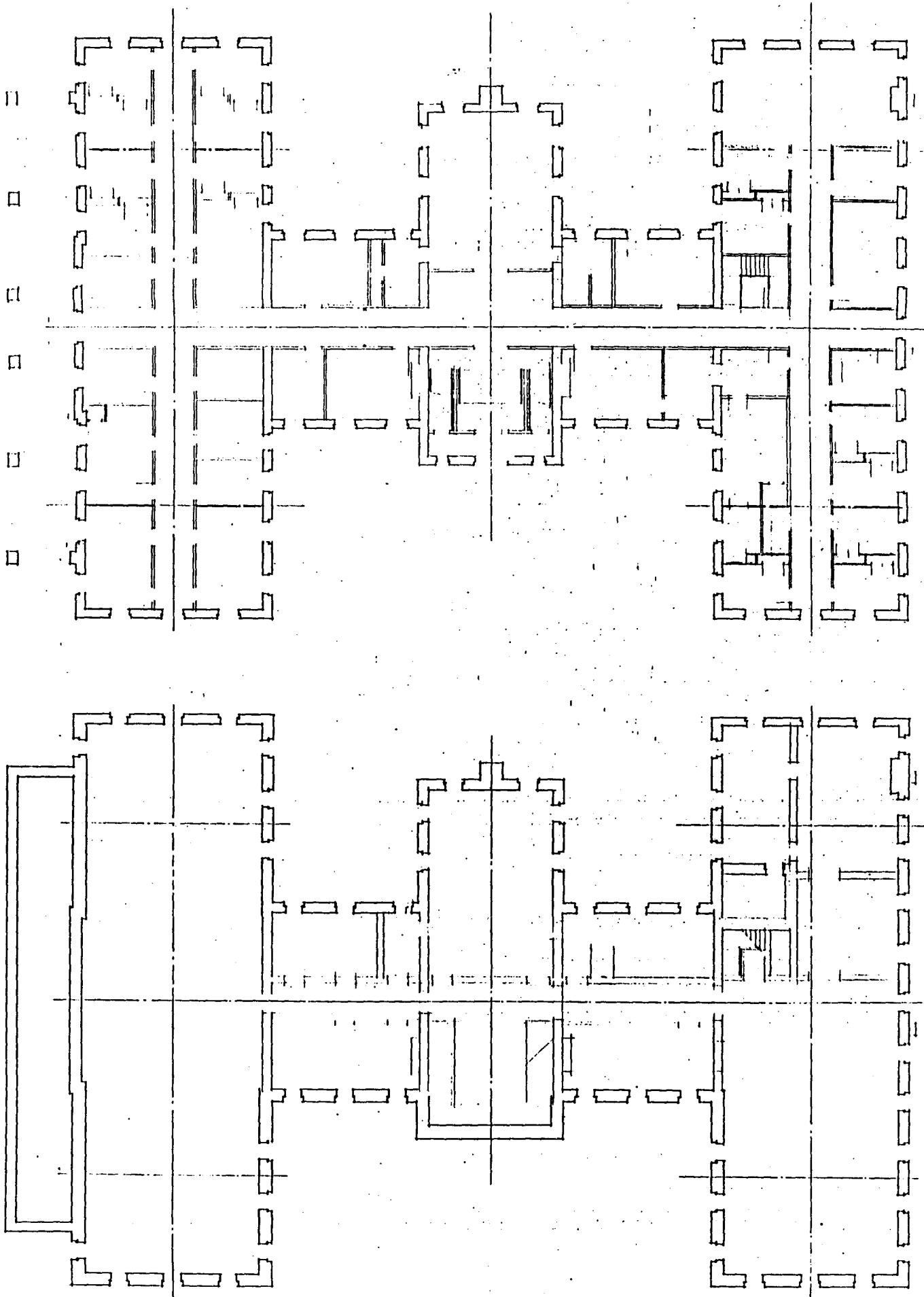


Odd Fellows Home
Old Folks Building
1st story floor plan



Odd Fellows Home
Old Folks Building
2nd story floor plan

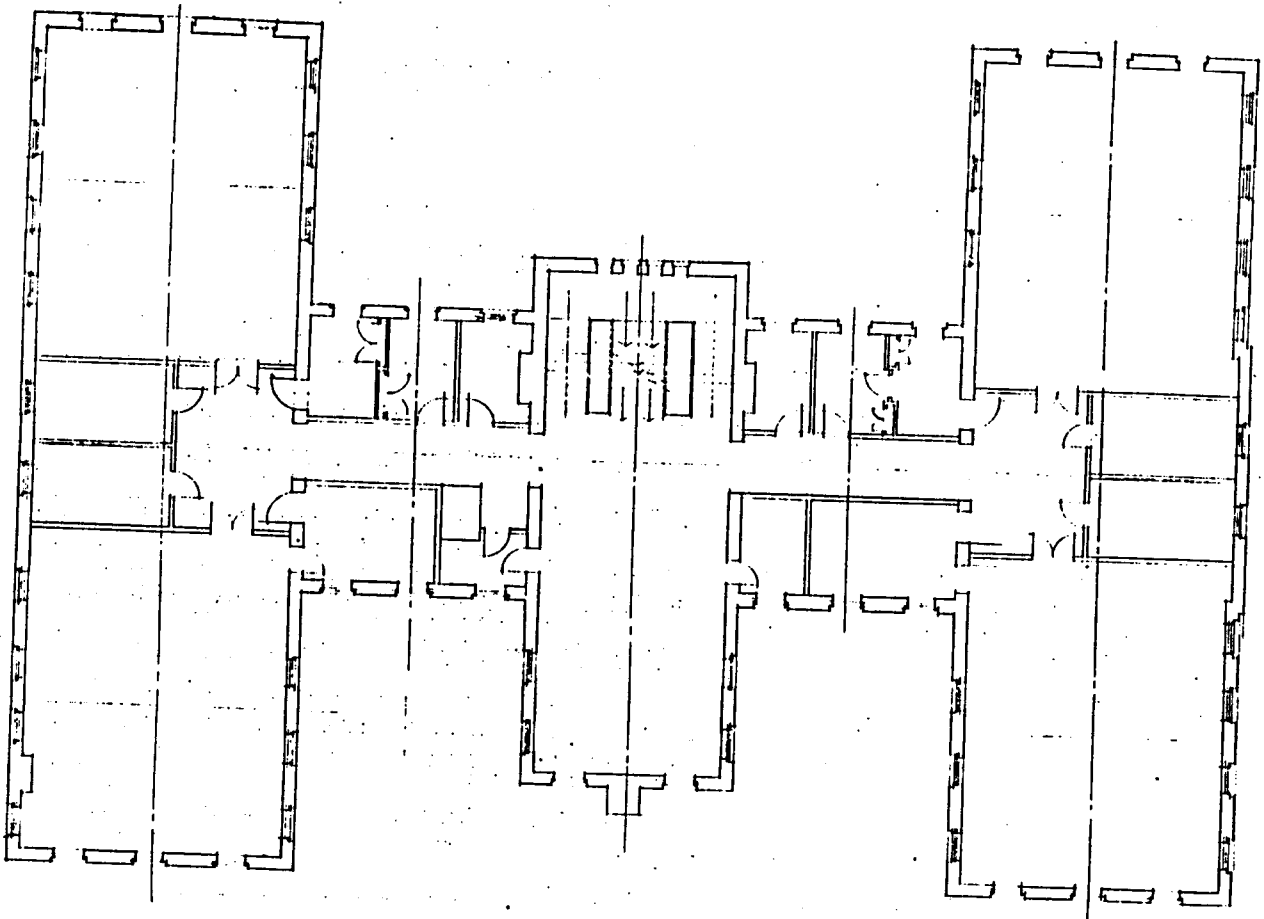




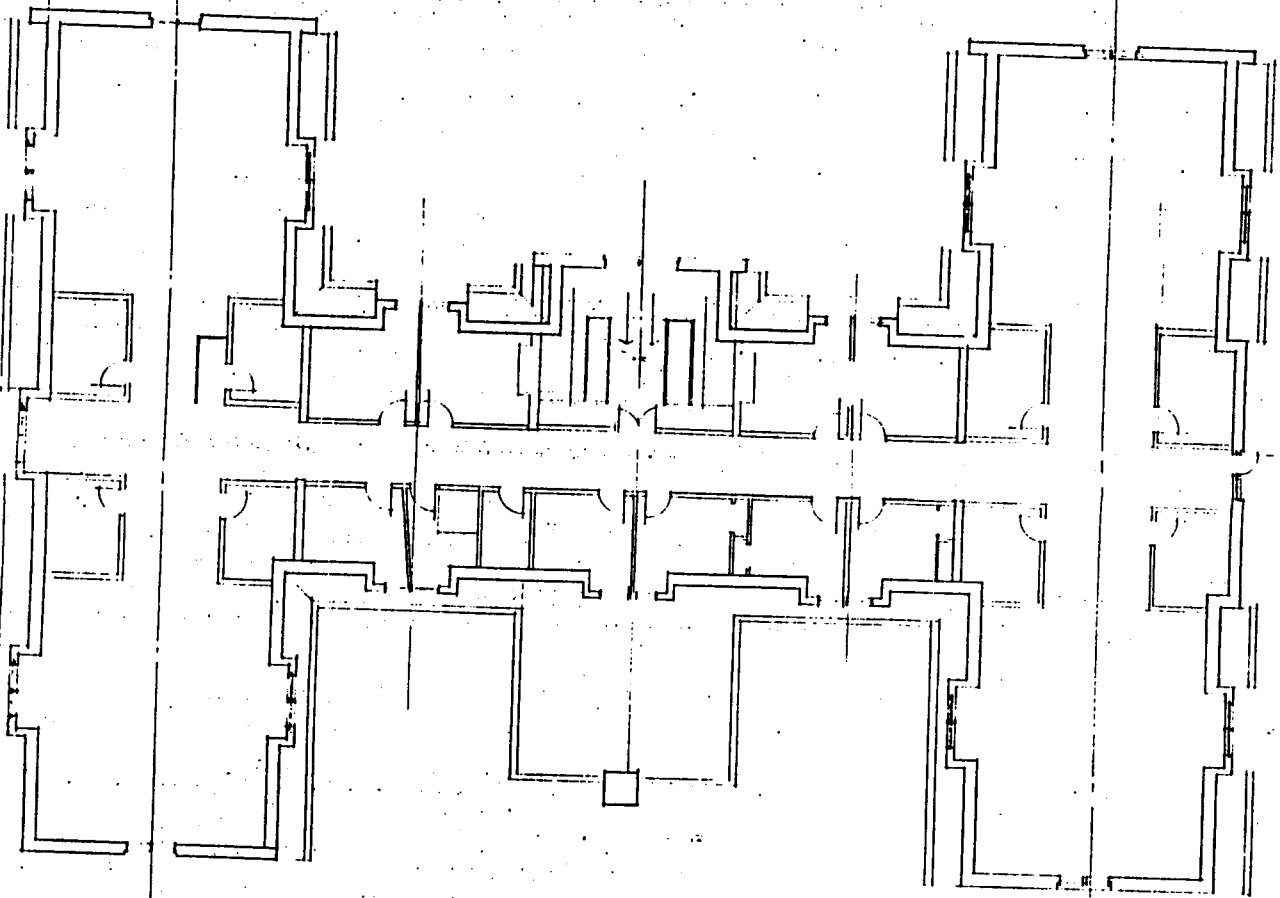
LOWER FLOOR PLAN
1910

Odd Fellows Home
Administration Building
(l) lower floor plan
(r) 1st story floor plan

UPPER FLOOR PLAN
1910



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

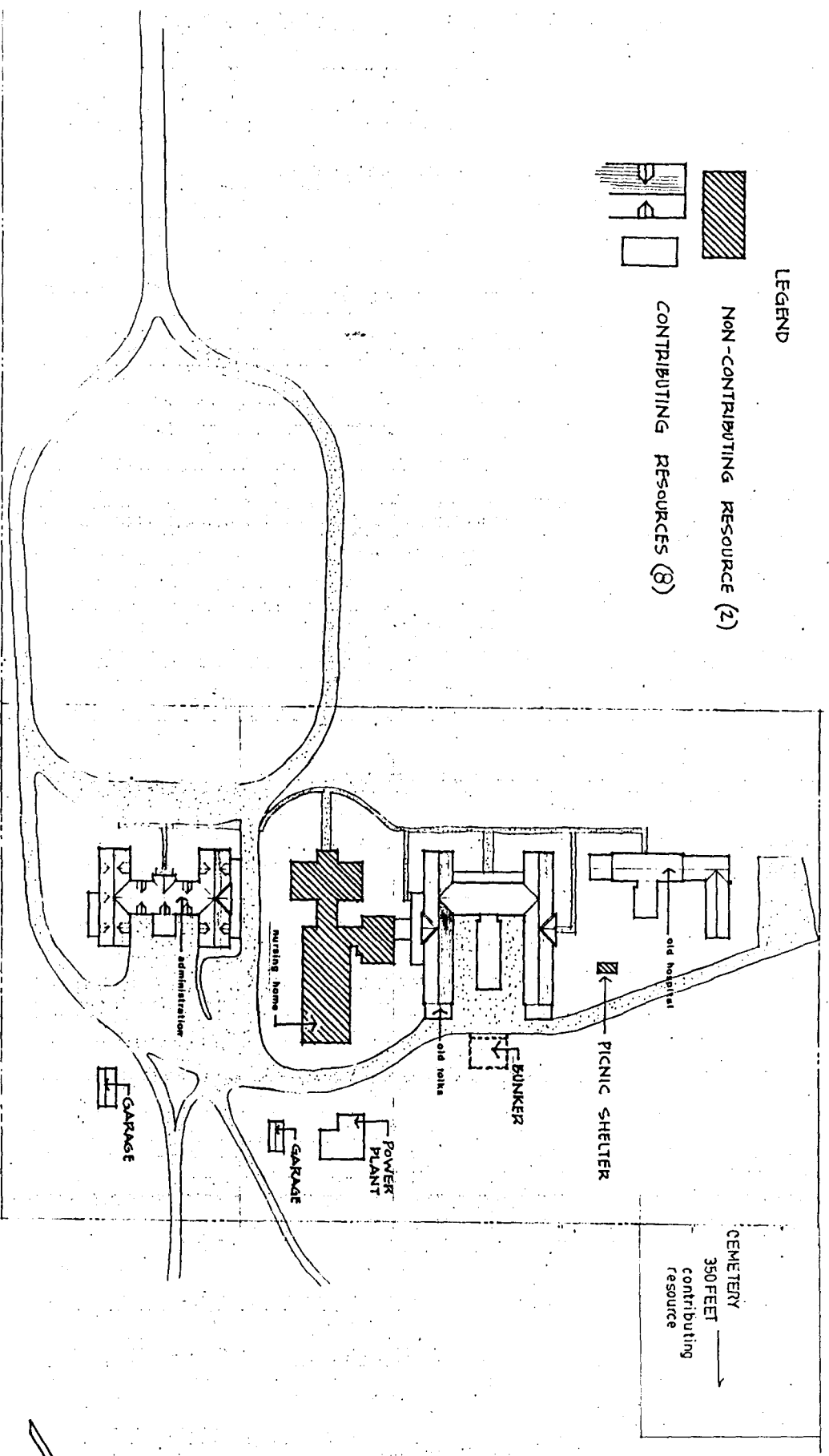
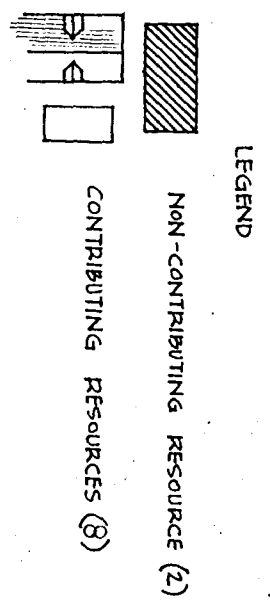


Odd Fellows Home
Administration Building
(1) 2nd story floor plan
(r) 3rd story floor plan

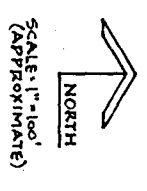
THIRD FLOOR PLAN

ODD FELLOWS HOME DISTRICT
 Missouri Hwy. 291
 Liberty, Clay County, Missouri

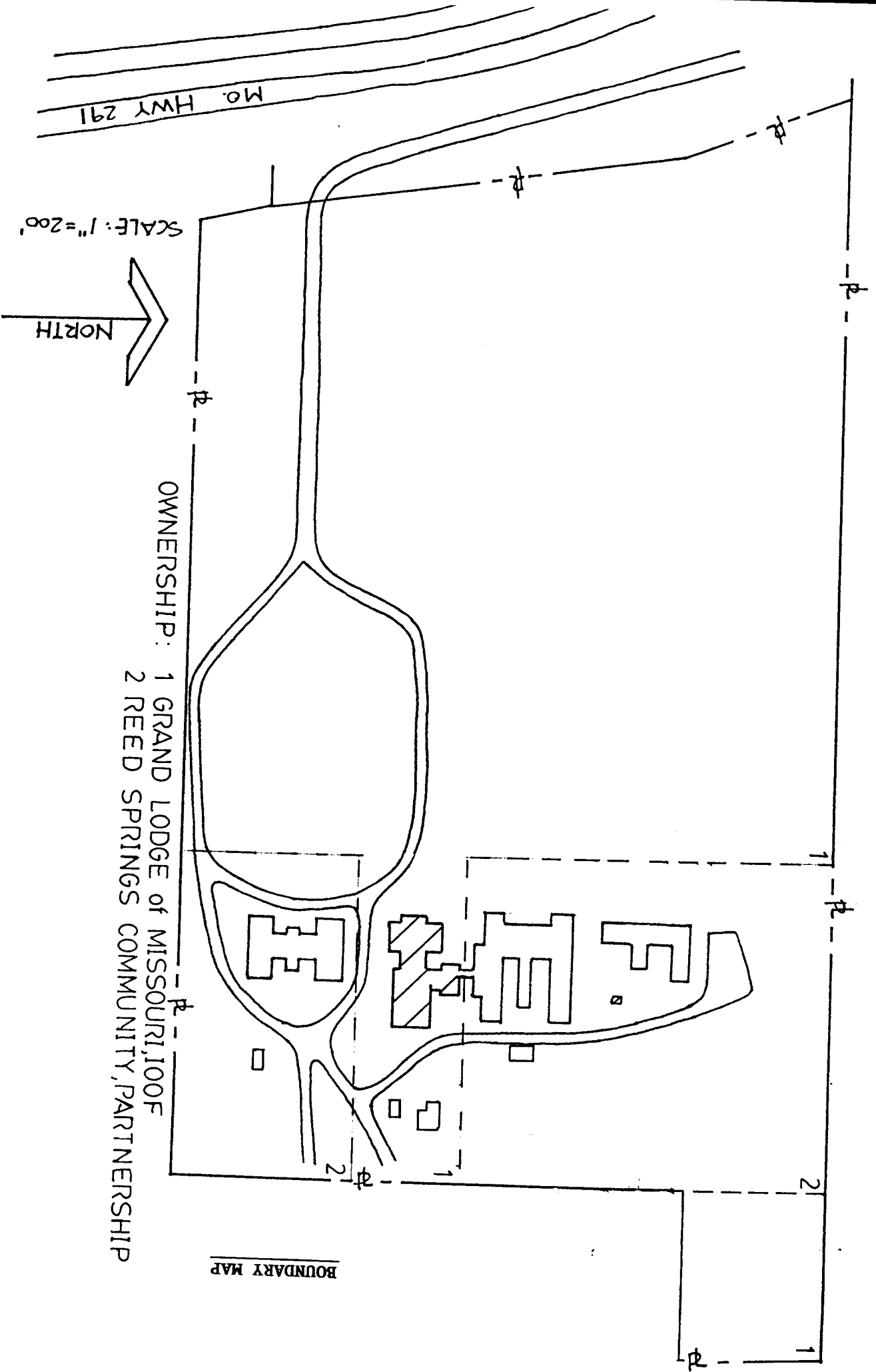
MAP OF CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES



SITE PLAN

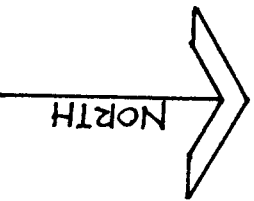


ODD FELLOWS HOME DISTRICT
Missouri Hwy. 291
Liberty, Clay County, Missouri



OWNERSHIP: 1 GRAND LODGE of MISSOURI, IOOF
2 REED SPRINGS COMMUNITY, PARTNERSHIP

SCALE: 1"=200'

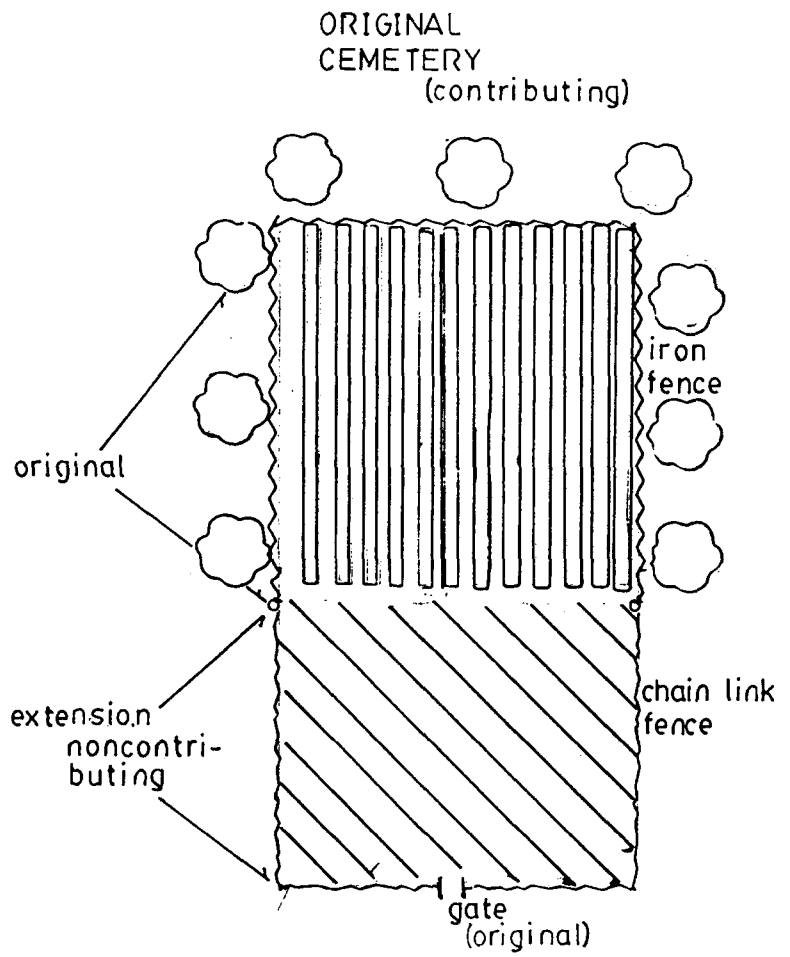
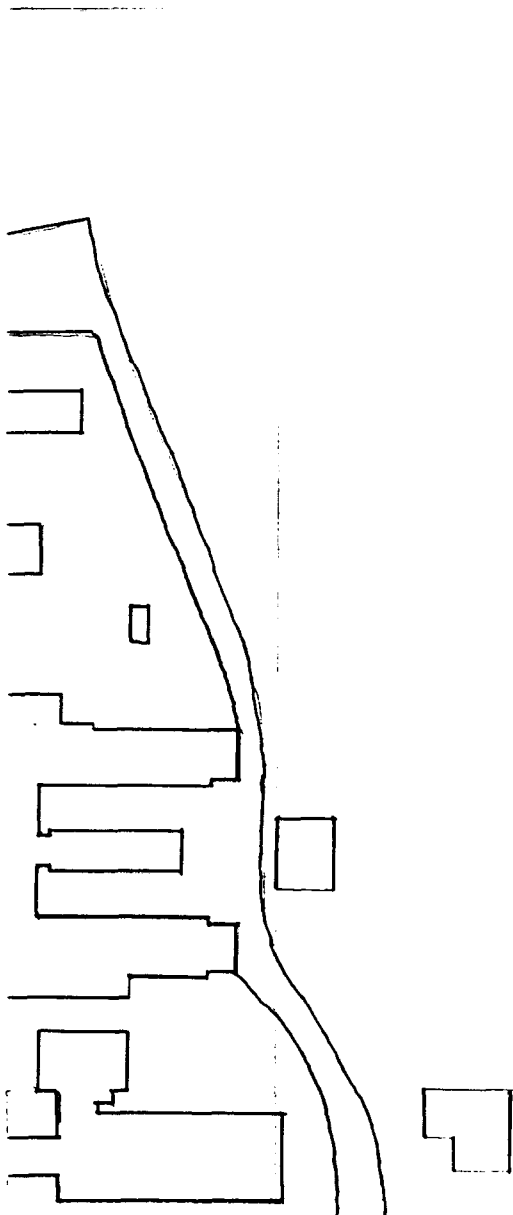


BOUNDARY MAP

ODD FELLOWS HOME DISTRICT
Missouri Hwy. 291
Liberty, Clay County, Missouri



scale 1'-100'
approximate



LIBERTY QUADRANGLE
MISSOURI
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

7162 IV SE
(KEARNEY)

25' 2.2 MI. TO U.S. 69

RICHMOND 31 MI.
EXCELSIOR SPRINGS 13 MI.

530 000 FEET

381 94° 22' 30"

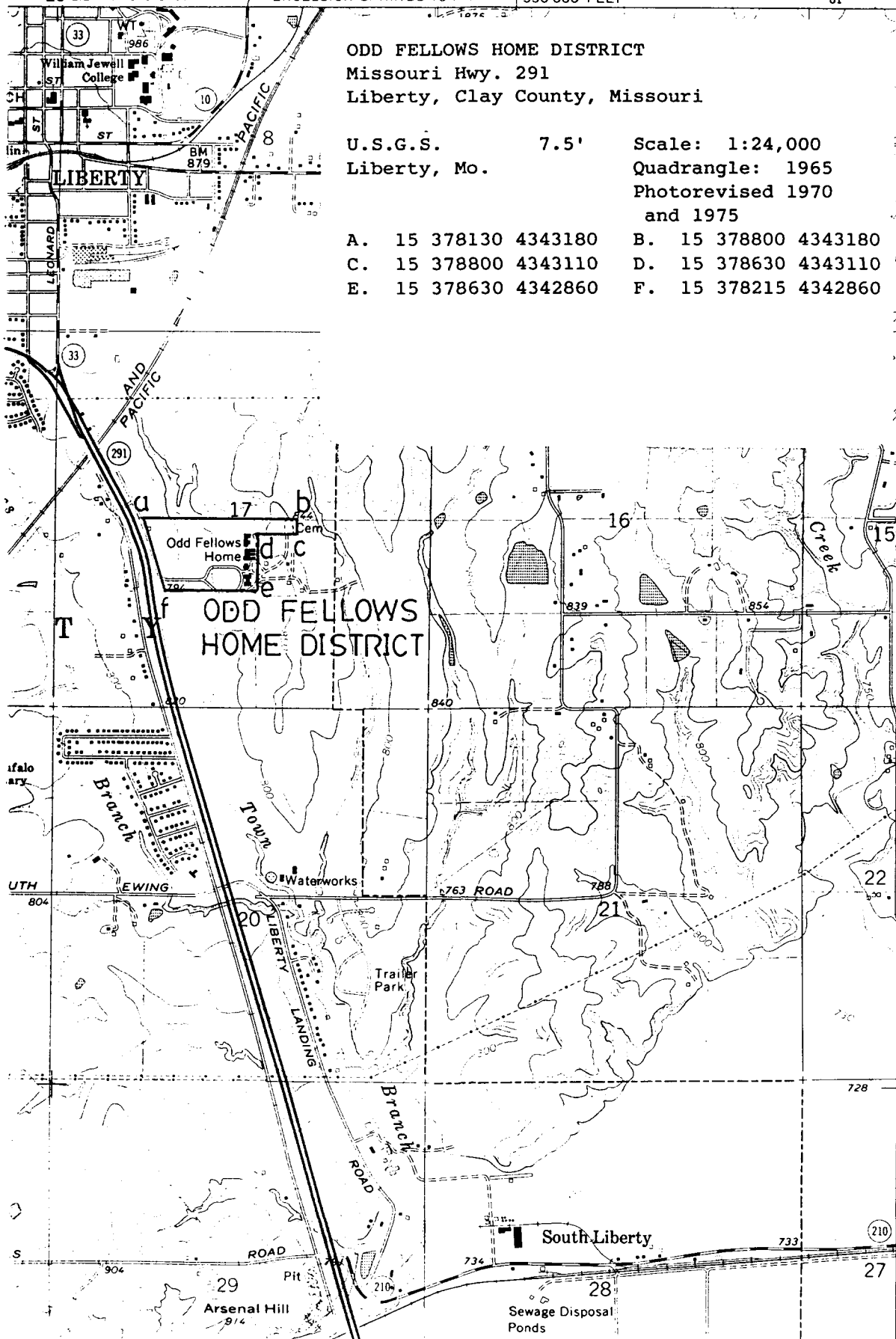
39° 15'

ODD FELLOWS HOME DISTRICT
Missouri Hwy. 291
Liberty, Clay County, Missouri

U.S.G.S. 7.5'
Liberty, Mo.

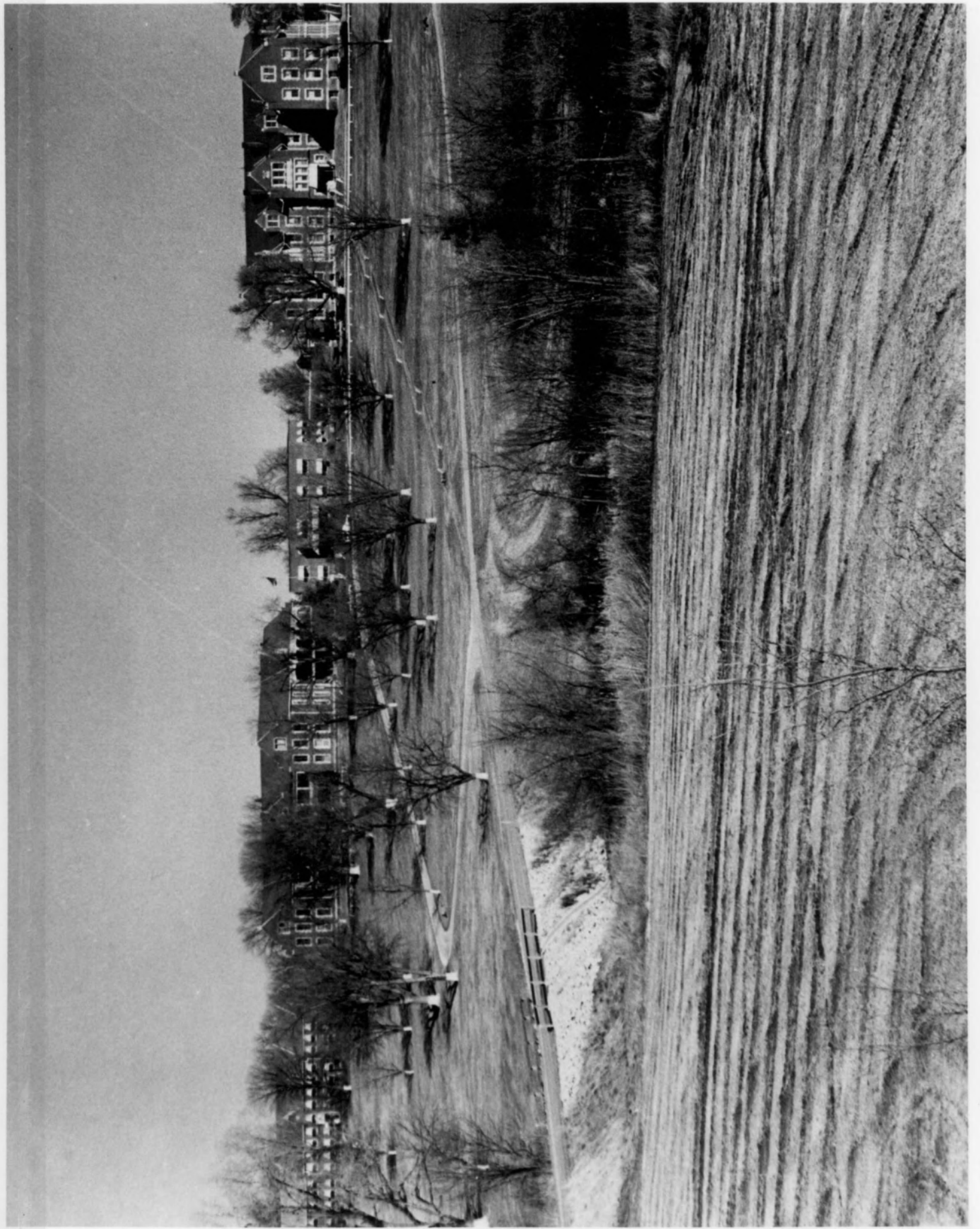
Scale: 1:24,000
Quadrangle: 1965
Photorevised 1970
and 1975
1 120 000
FEET

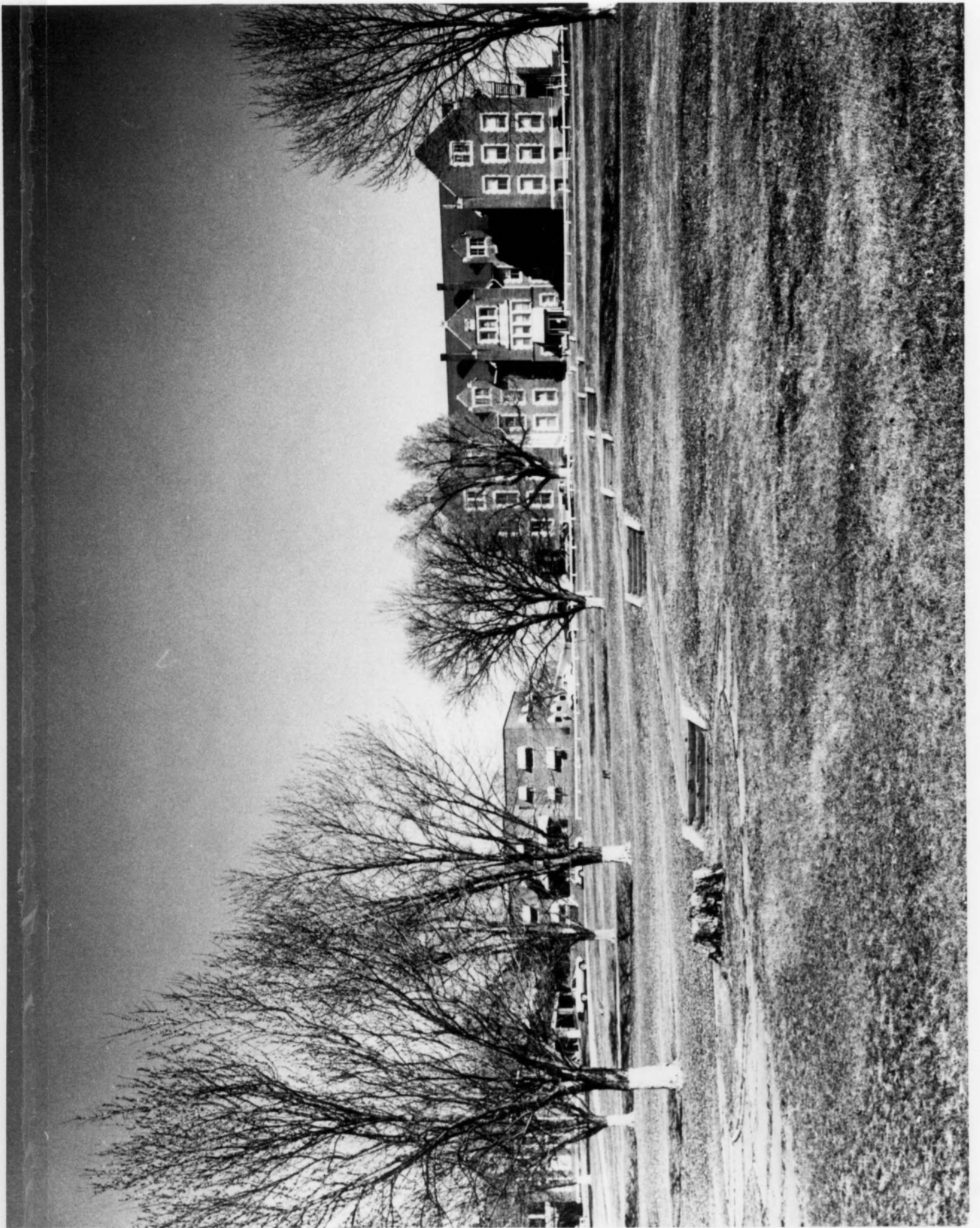
A. 15 378130 4343180	B. 15 378800 4343180
C. 15 378800 4343110	D. 15 378630 4343110
E. 15 378630 4342860	F. 15 378215 4342860

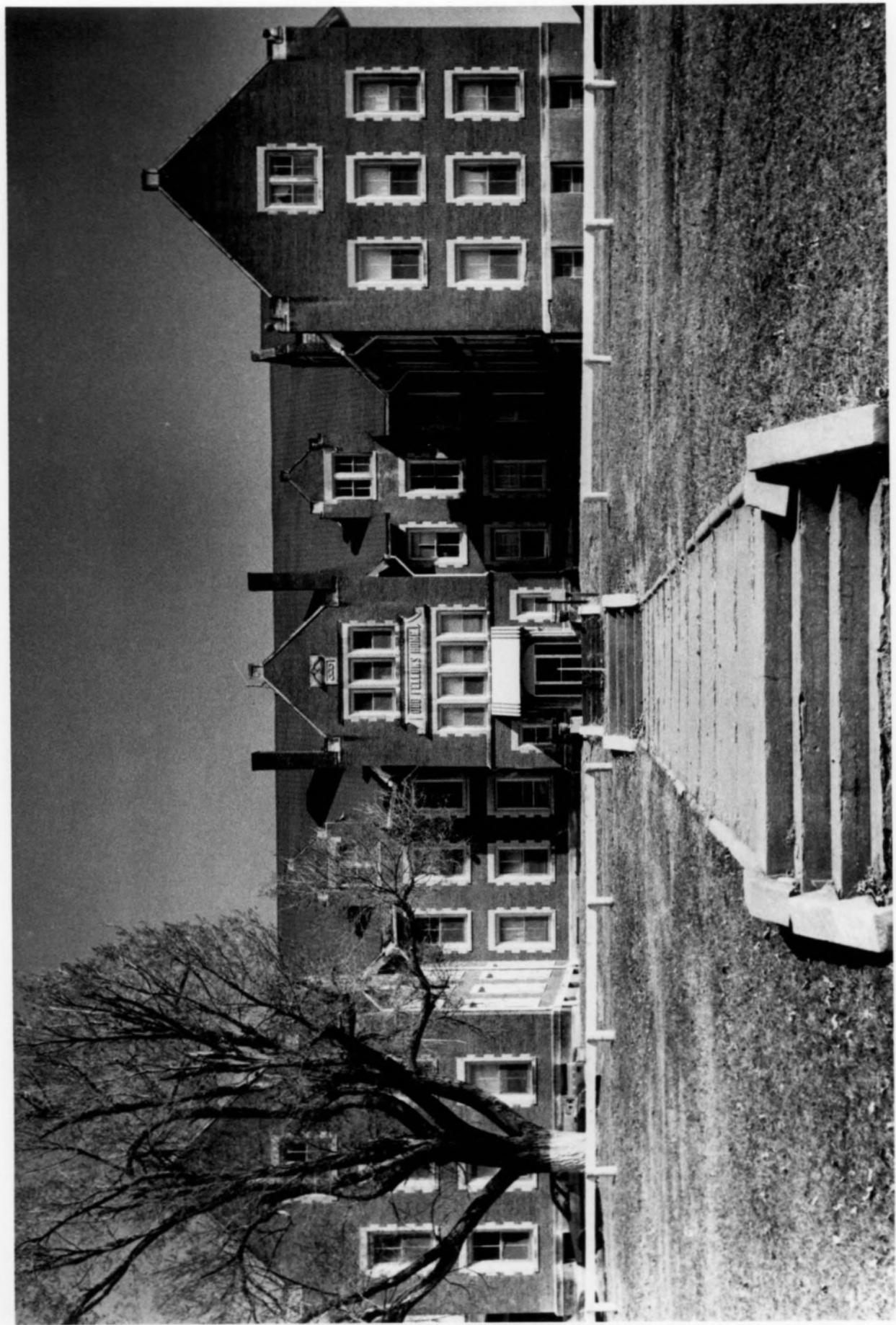


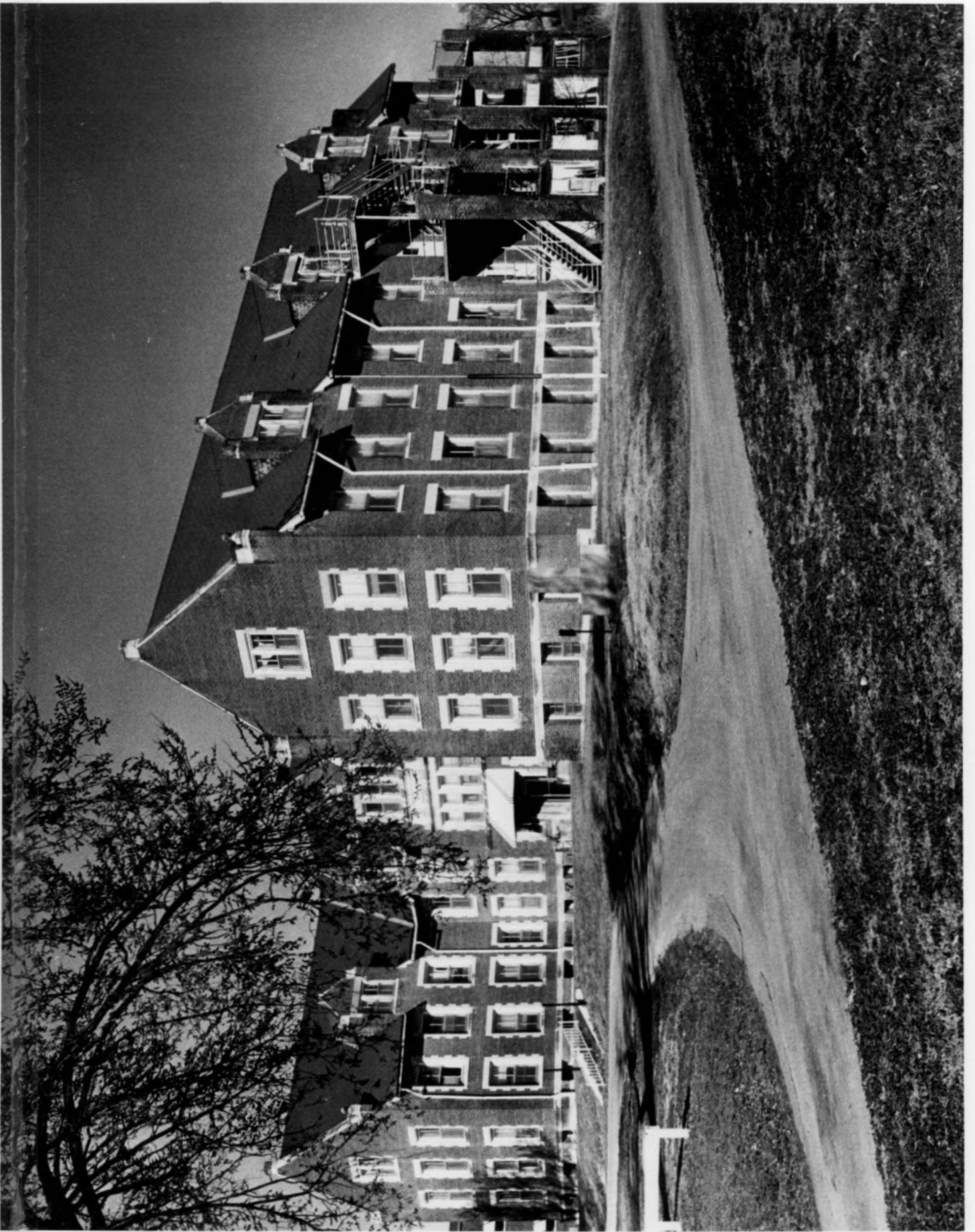
a	378130 mE
	4343180 mN
b	378800 mE
	4343180 mN
c	378800 mE
	4343110 mN
d	378630 mE
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e	378630 mE
	4342860 mN
f	378215 mE
	4342860 mN

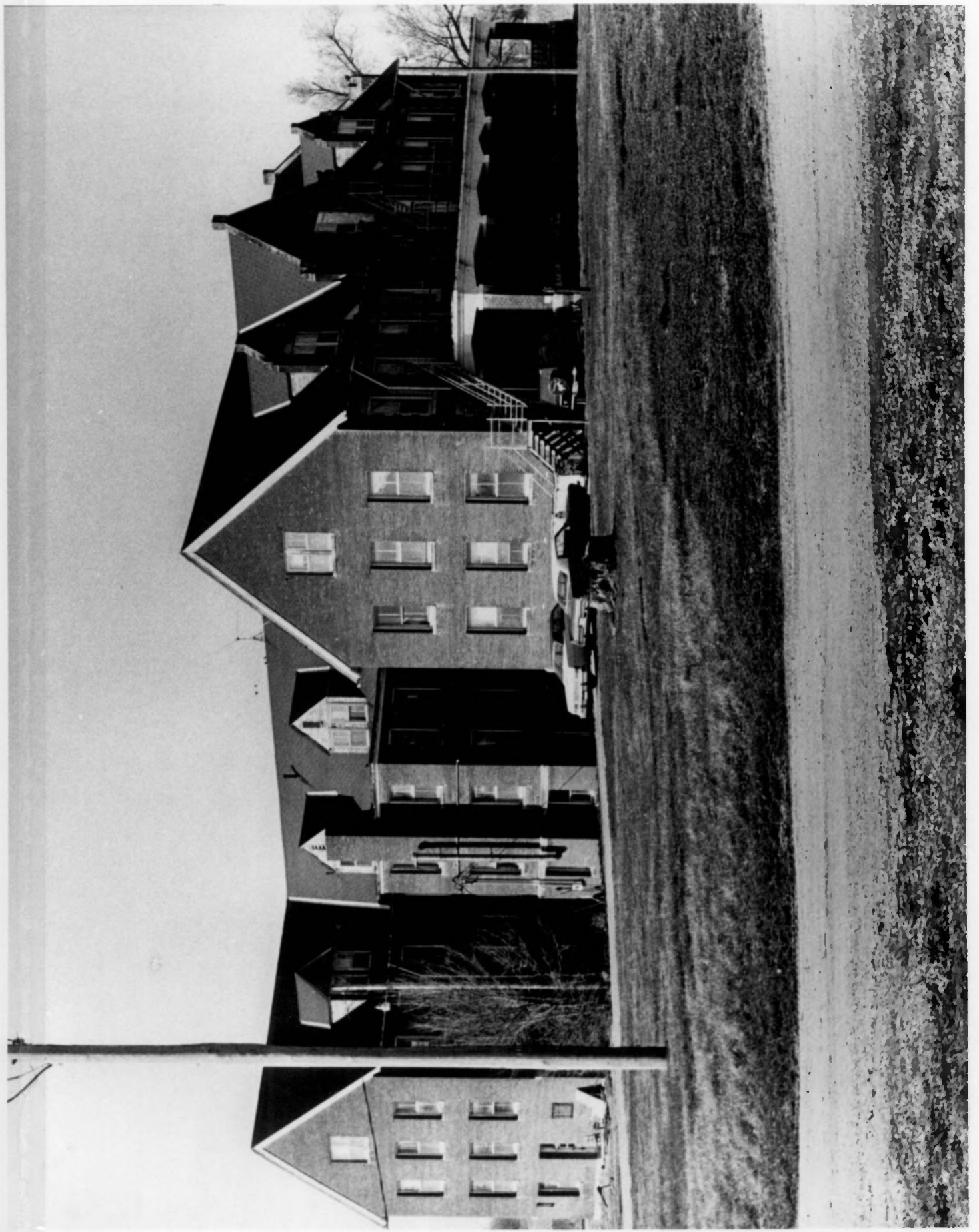
LIBERTY 5 MI.
RICK 15 MI.

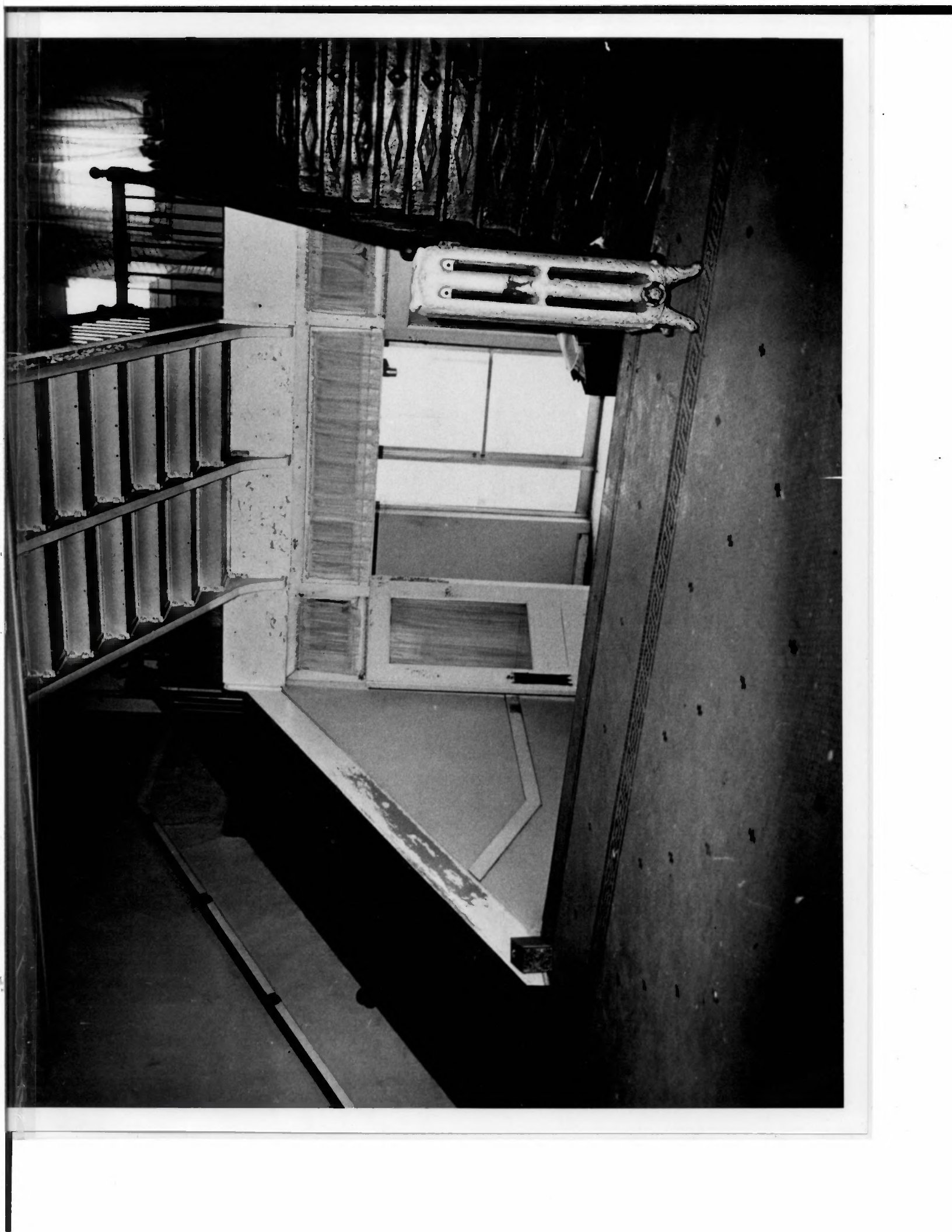


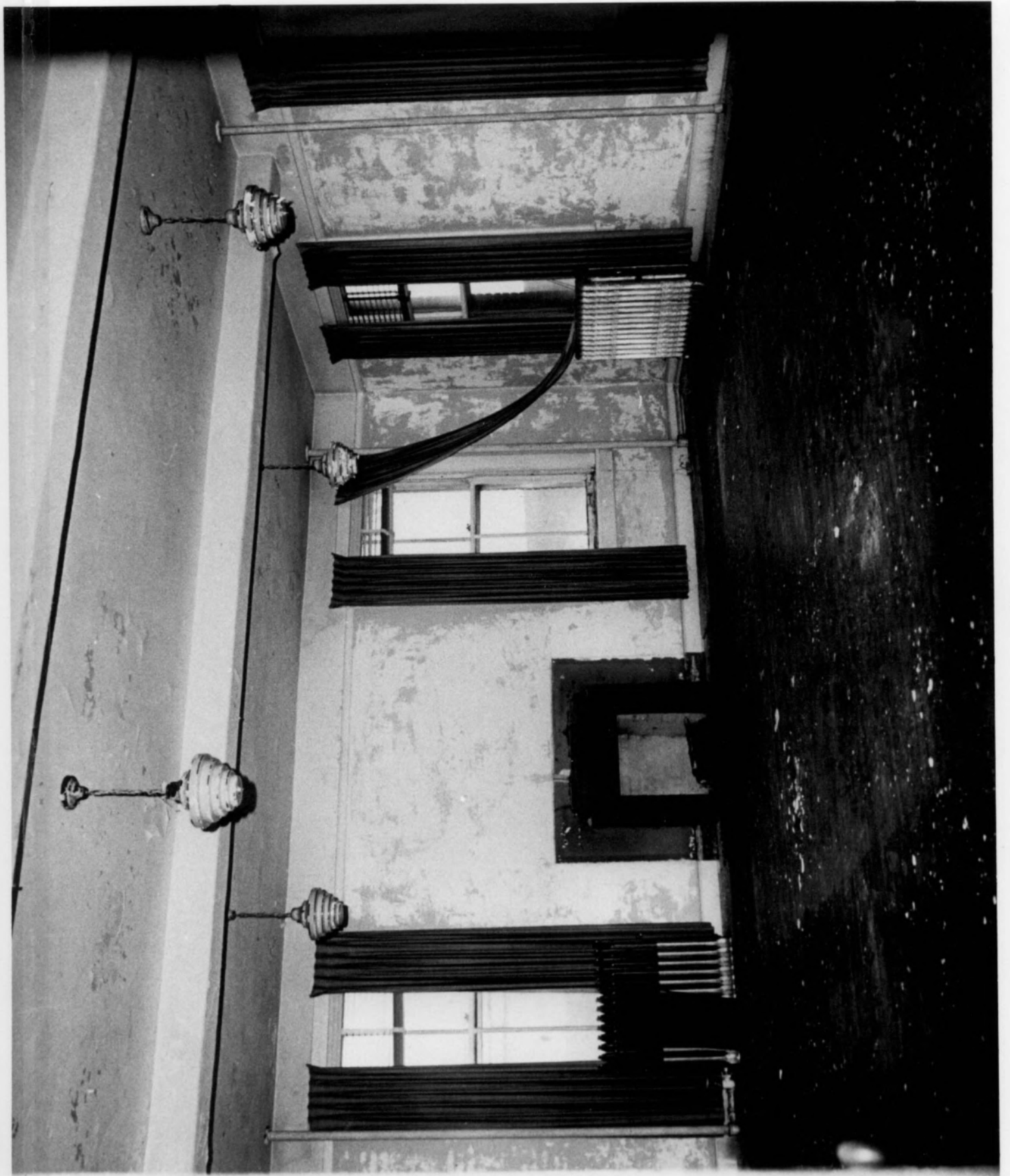




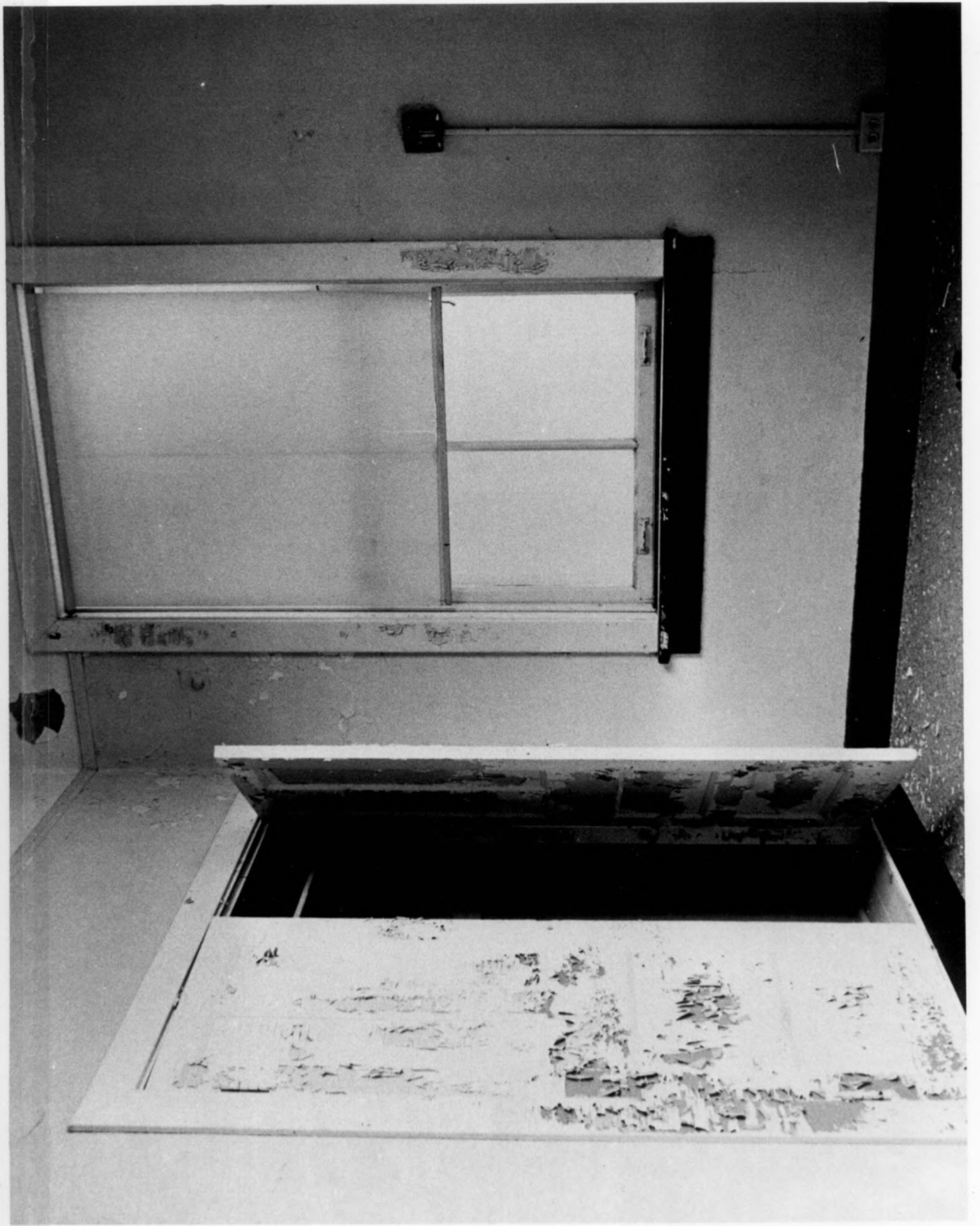




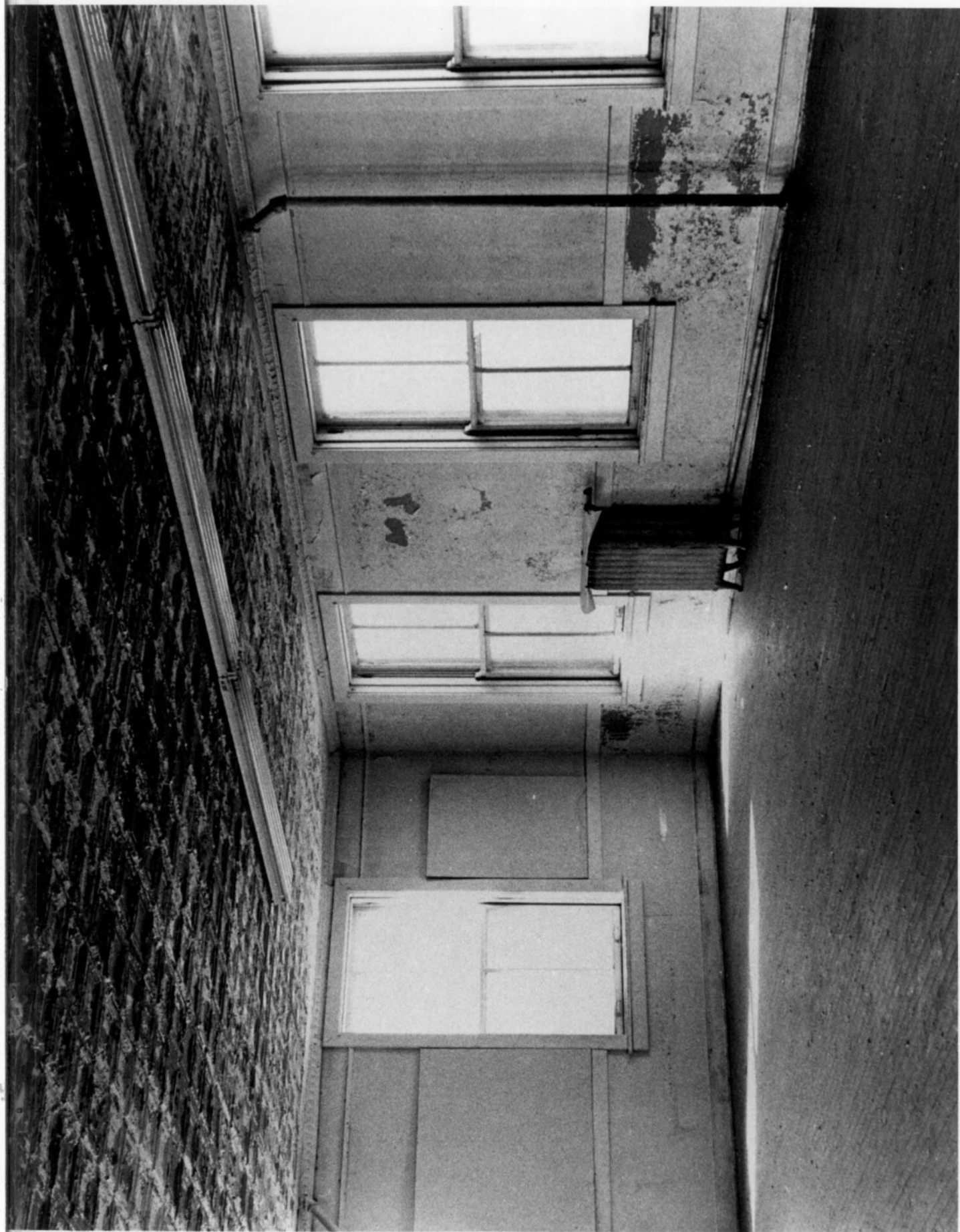




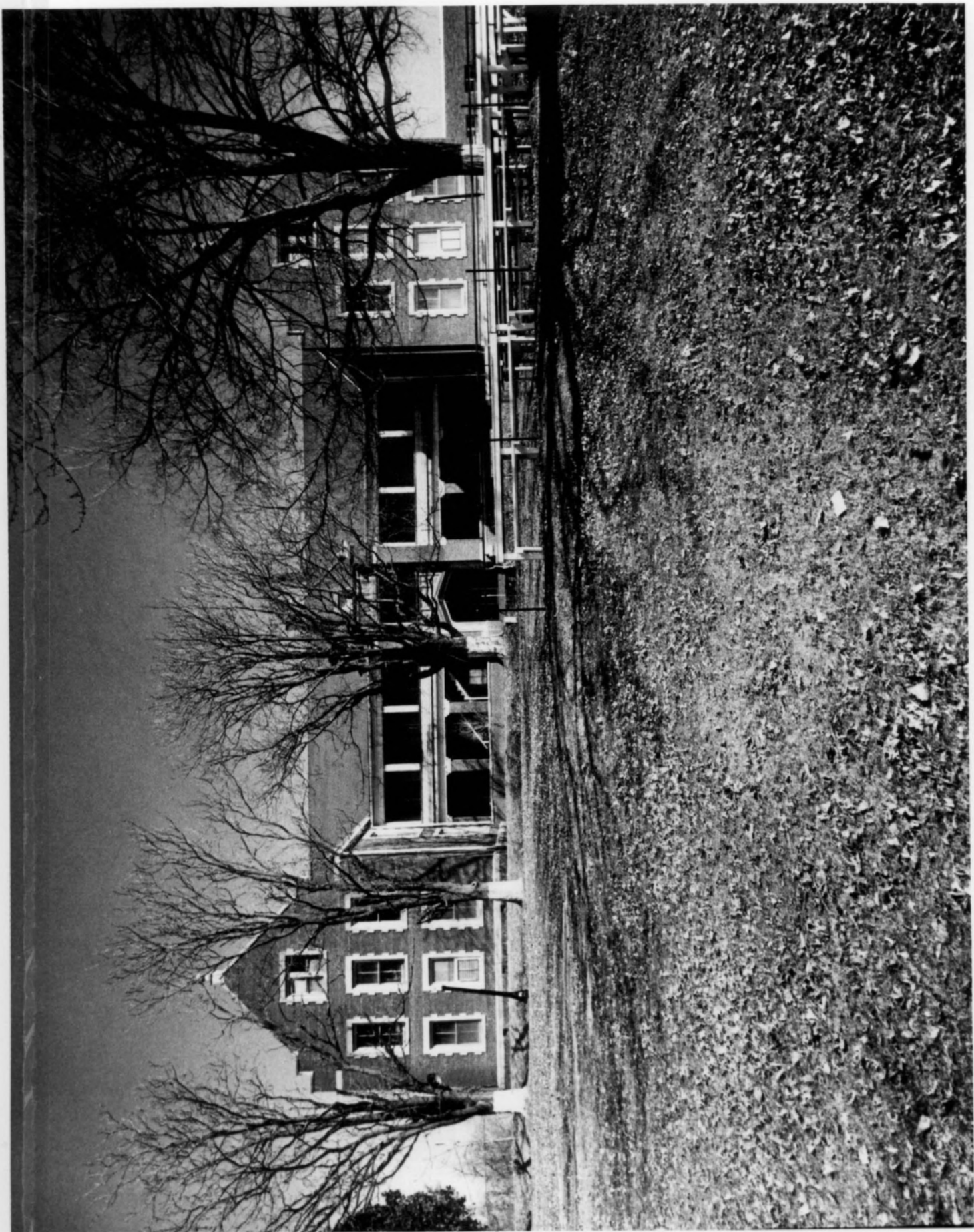


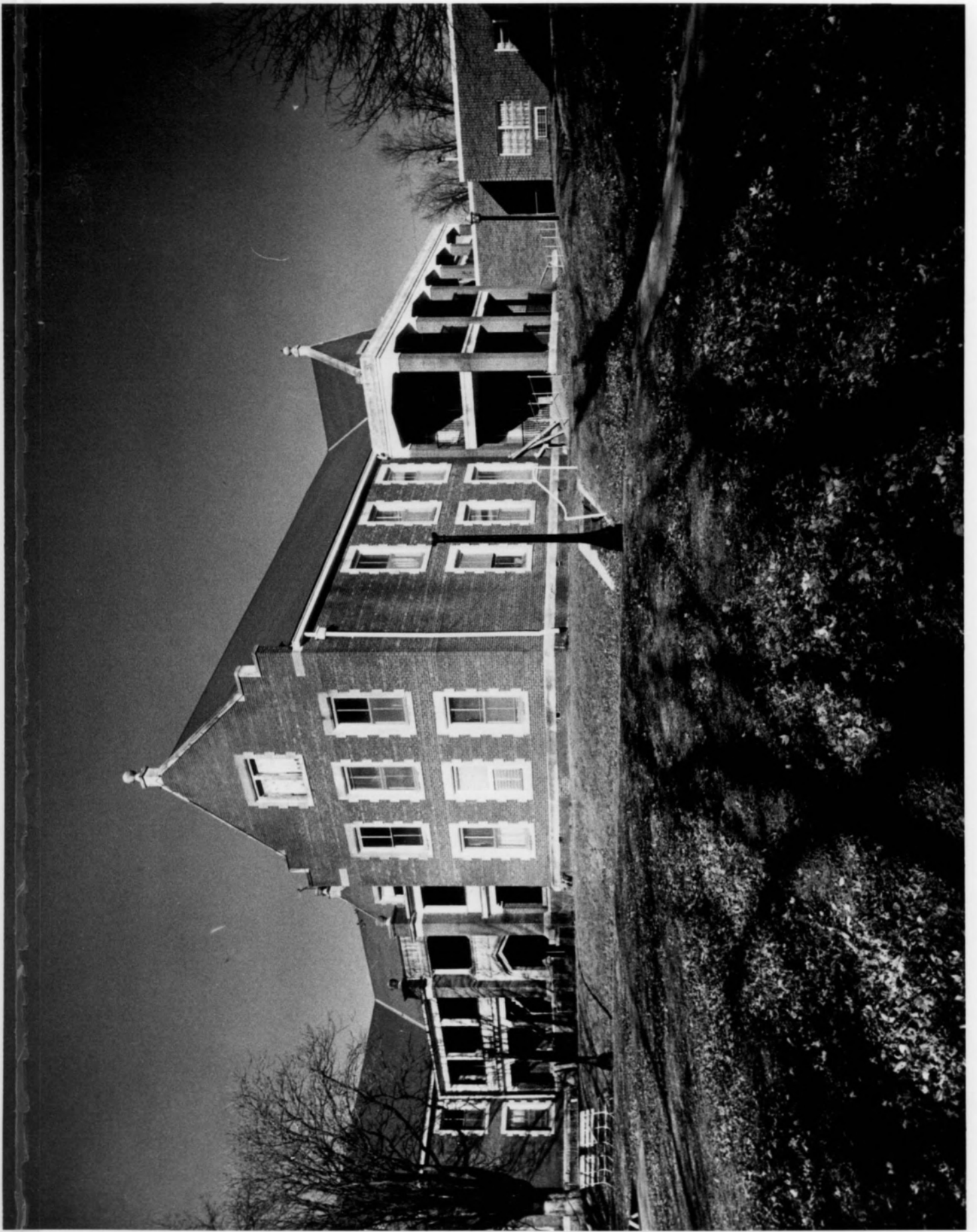


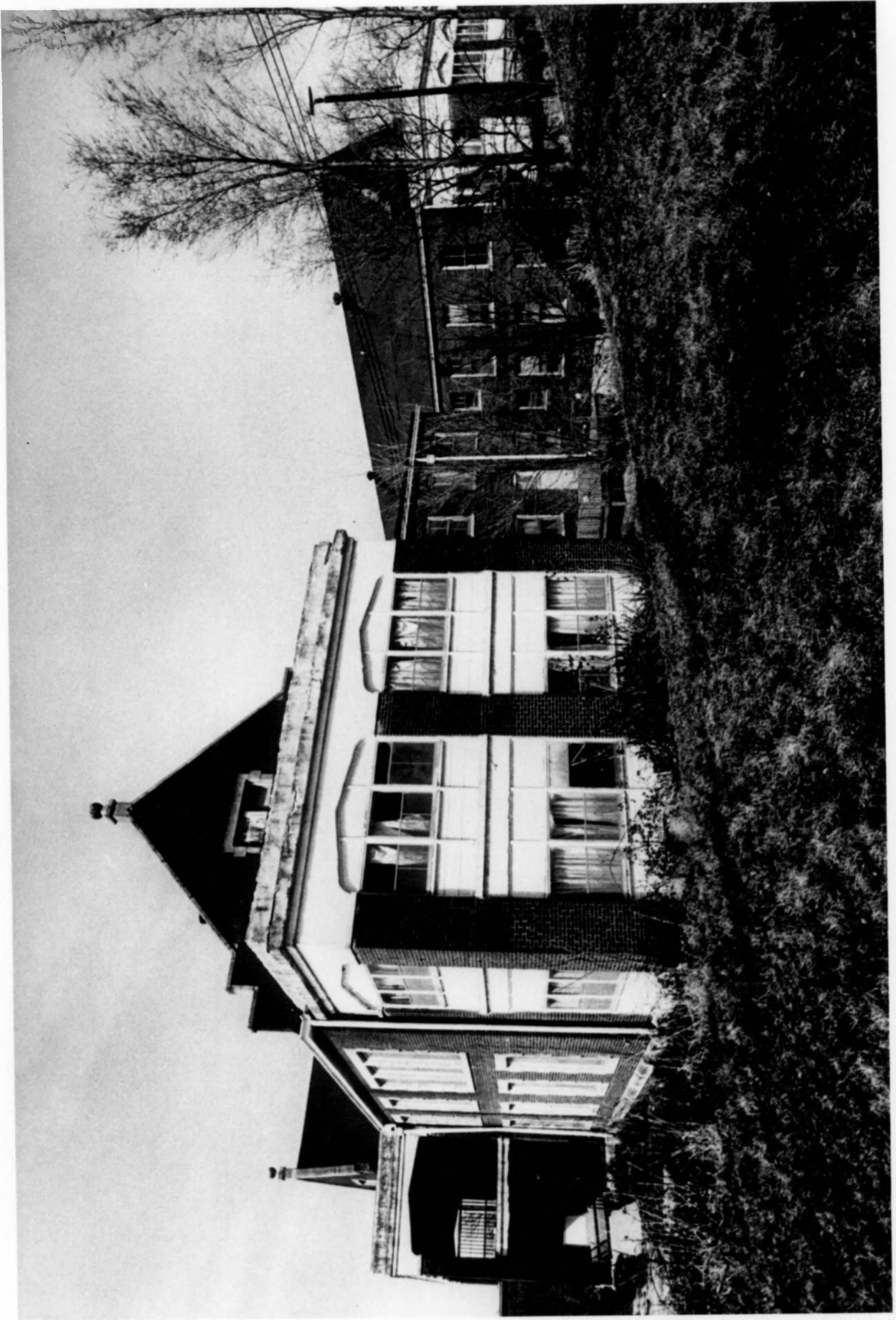






















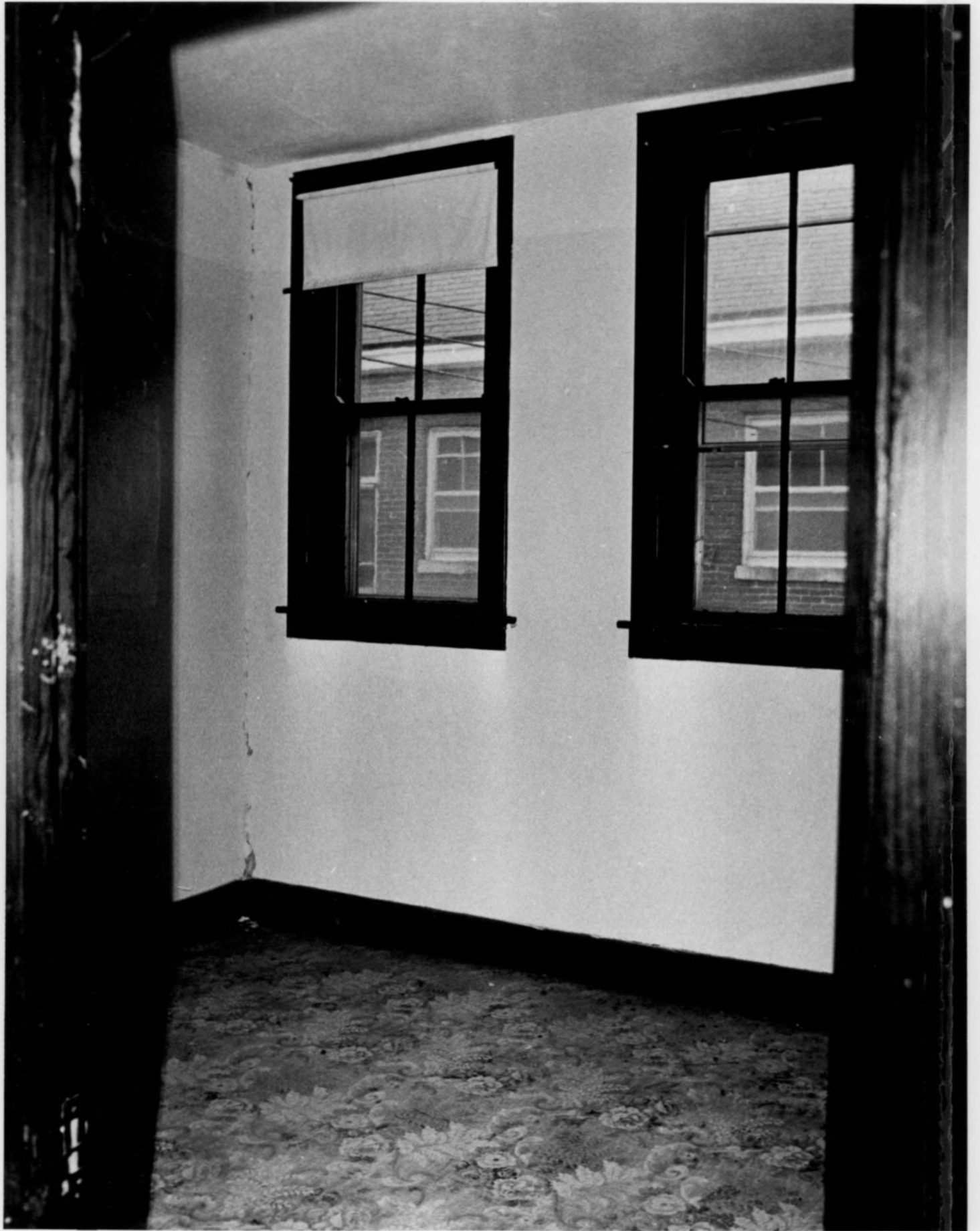


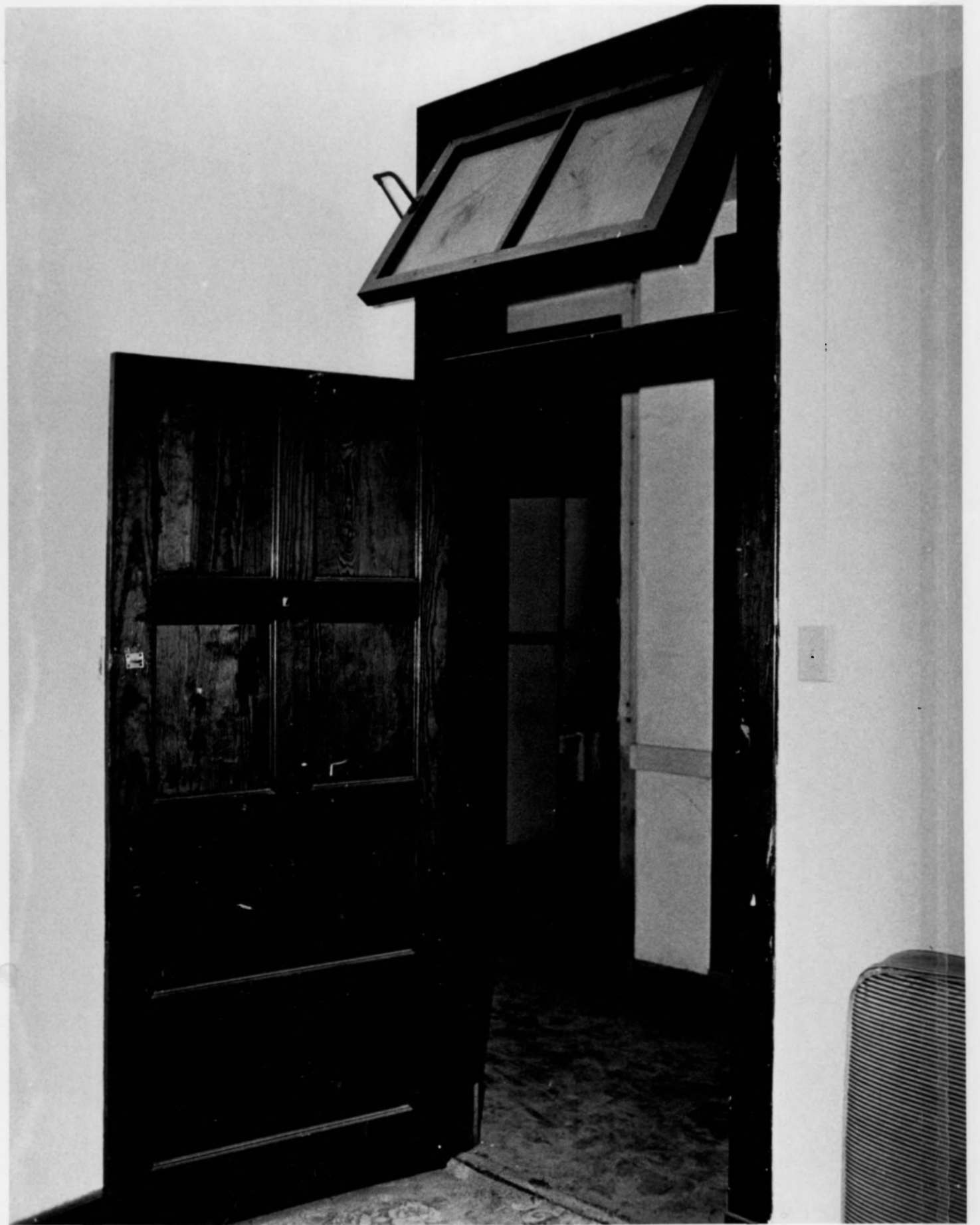
30

FREDERICKTOWN REBEKAH LODGE
No. 10

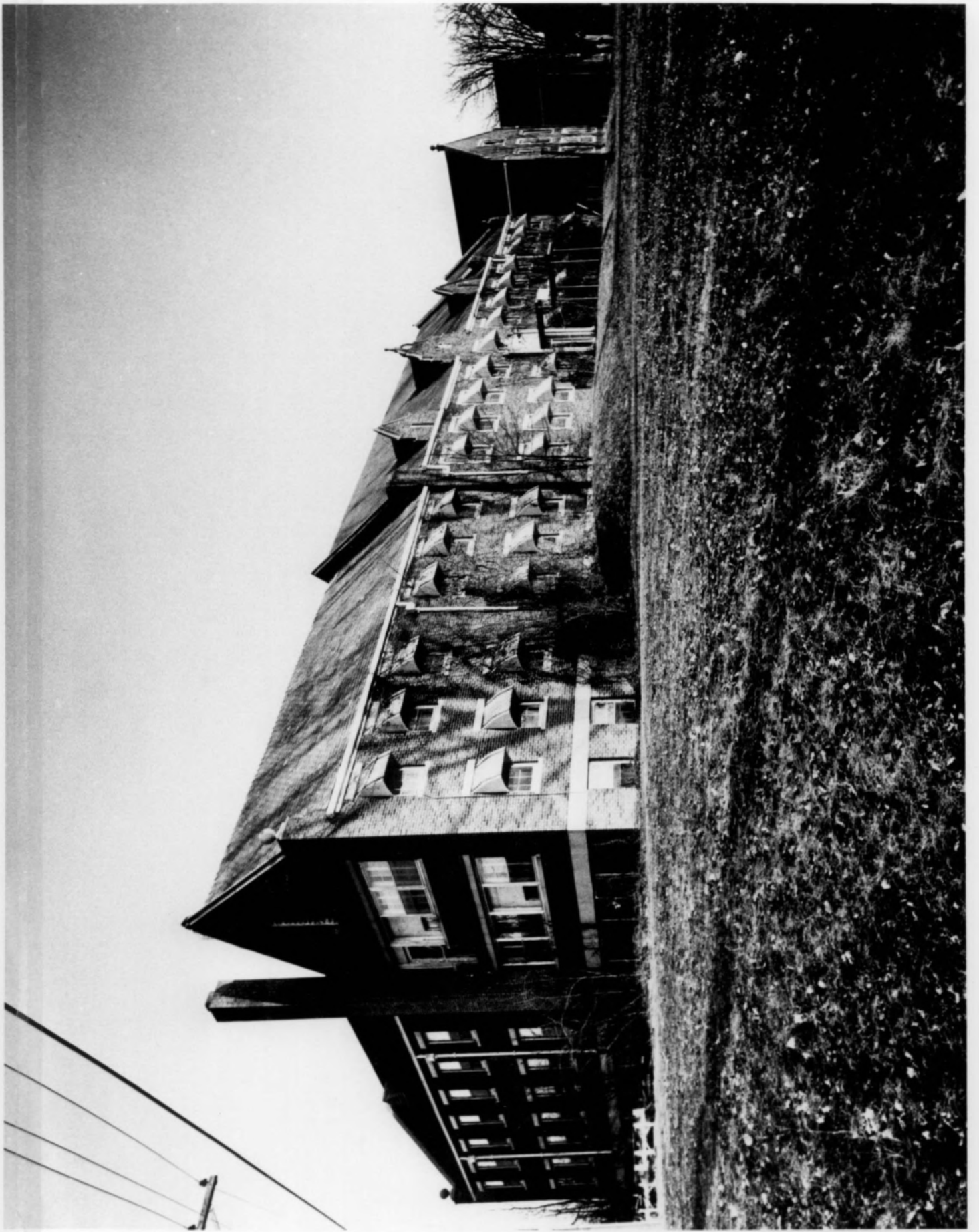
















EXIT



