

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name Thomas, Fabrishous and Sarah A., House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 302 East Second Street [n/a] not for publication

city or town Salisbury [n/a] vicinity

state Missouri code MO county Chariton code 041 zip code 65281

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [x] locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)


Signature of certifying official/Title Claire F. Blackwell/Deputy SHPO

19 May 1998
Date

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria.
(See continuation sheet for additional comments [].)

Signature of commenting official/Title

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date

[] entered in the National Register

See continuation sheet [].

[] determined eligible for the National Register

See continuation sheet [].

[] determined not eligible for the National Register.

[] removed from the National Register

[] other, explain see continuation sheet [].

5. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
		contributing	noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	1	1 building
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	0	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-state	<input type="checkbox"/> site	0	0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	0	0 objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	1	1 total

Name of related multiple property listing.

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register.

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Function
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions
DOMESTIC/single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
LATE VICTORIAN: Italianate

see continuation sheet [].

Materials
foundation Brick

walls Wood: weatherboard

roof asphalt

other

see continuation sheet [].

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet [x]

**Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri**

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

ARCHITECTURE

Periods of Significance

1873 c.

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person(s)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency

Local Government

University

Other:

Name of repository: Mid-Continent Public Library,
Independence, Missouri

**Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri**

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

A. Zone	Easting	Northing	B. Zone	Easting	Northing
15	517380	4363510			
C. Zone	Easting	Northing	D. Zone	Easting	Northing

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Rosin and Sally F. Schwenk
 organization Historic Preservation Services, LLC date November 15 1998
 street & number 818 Grand Boulevard, Suite 1150 telephone (816) 221-5133
 city or town Kansas City state Missouri zip code 64106

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Melissa and Tim Minnish
 street & number 302 East Second Street telephone (660) 388-6222
 city or town Salisbury state Missouri zip code 65281

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Section 7 Page 1

Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri

The *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* is a two story, wood-framed Italiante dwelling located at the southeast corner of East Second Street and Weber Avenue (Missouri Highway 129) in Salisbury, Chariton County, Missouri. Resting on a foundation of soft, red bricks and concrete blocks, the dwelling has an irregular footprint. The exterior walls are sheathed with weatherboard with approximately a three-inch lap. Asphalt shingles clad the cross-gable roof. Few changes have been made to the dwelling, and it retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Its asymmetrical plan and copious ornament are representative of high-style residential construction in Missouri in the 1870s and give the dwelling its architectural distinction.

Northwest of the dwelling, at the corner of East Third Street and Weber Avenue, is a square, one-bay, wood frame garage. Although non-contributing to the historic character of the property, the garage appears to have been constructed c. 1920. The steeply pitched hip roof with exposed rafter tails and vertical board siding suggest its date of construction.

Weber Avenue (Missouri Highway 129) is a major thoroughfare that skirts the east edge of Salisbury. Immediately north and west of the *Thomas House* are several commercial buildings, including a convenience store. To the north of the small commercial enclave are railroad tracks and the town's grain elevators. The business district is located several blocks west. The *Thomas House* stands on the edge of an older residential area. The surrounding blocks were platted in 1867, and many of the neighboring saddlebag houses and folk Victorian cottages appear to date to this period. A majority of the houses have been extensively altered, although some retain remnants of Victorian scrollwork ornamentation. West of Weber Avenue is a similar residential neighborhood. The Victorian ornament and larger floor plans of many dwellings in this neighborhood suggest that the building stock is slightly newer, dating perhaps to the final decade of the nineteenth century.

Exterior

The *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* has an irregular footprint, with a truncated perpendicular block projecting slightly off-center from the main block. The primary, two-story, front (south) -facing gable block is bisected on the west by a secondary two-story cross-gable wing. A small entrance porch is located at the juncture of the blocks at the southeast corner of the dwelling. Two-story bays project from the south and west gable ends. The bay on the west is semi-hexagonal, while the bay on the south is rectangular. An enclosed, flat roof porch is located along the west side of the dwelling, north of the cross-gable. A one-and-one-half story, front gabled block covers the rear (north) of the dwelling. The asymmetrical roofline of this block, the manner in which this wing integrates into the main block, and the steep sloped eaves suggest that this element was a later addition to the dwelling. The siding and trim details match those on the main dwelling. The absence of trim on the west side of this block intimates that this elevation originally may have been an open porch.

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Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
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Two brick chimneys pierce the roof of the dwelling's main block. The larger of the two is an interior chimney located on the ridge at the north end. The smaller chimney is also an interior stack that rises through the west roof slope between the first and second bays at the south end of the dwelling. The soft brick of the south chimney is spalling. The north chimney is parged.

Single windows pierce the walls of the dwelling at regular intervals. There are five bays of windows along the east and west sides of the dwelling. Each of the openings has a wood frame capped by a heavy peaked lintel and is filled by 2/2 double-hung sash. Illuminating the bays are pairs of windows in the front elevations and single windows in the sidewalls. The double-hung windows in the bays are narrower than those on the body of the dwelling. They are in a 1/1 configuration and are trimmed with flat frames with slightly raised lintel moldings. Double-track aluminum storm windows have been installed over most of the window openings. Two windows on the east side of the dwelling have been sided over, although the decorative window frames remain intact.

Several doors provide access to the dwelling. The main entrance is located in the porch at the southeast corner. The wood door has a pair of arched windows and is protected by an eight-light wood storm door. Above the door is an etched glass transom window. There are four other entrances to the first floor of the dwelling: in the west elevation; immediately north of the projecting cross gable; in the north block in the first bay north of the cross gable; and in the rear (north) elevation. The basement is accessed via a doorway in the east elevation. On the second story, a door immediately above the main entrance accesses the roof of the front porch and a door in the north wall of the west cross gable provides access to the flat roofed enclosed porch at the northwest corner of the main block. With the exception of the west door in the rear block, all of the secondary entrances have surrounds with peaked lintels matching those on the windows.

The applied decoration conveys the Italianate style of the dwelling. Wide cornice returns mark each of the second story gable ends. Pairs of scrolled brackets adorn dentiled frieze boards at regular intervals below the wide boxed eaves. At each corner of the dwelling, cornerboards are detailed with Doric capitals just below the frieze. Flat members with articulated, capital-like bands also mark the divisions between the windows of the projecting bays. The upper eave line of each bay features crown molding but no additional ornament. At the first story of each bay, paired brackets adorn projecting eaves. Recessed panels are located below the first story windows on each side of the bays.

Matching the eave line of the dwelling, the semi-octagonal, one-story front porch has a dentiled frieze with single scrolled brackets at each of the turned spindle posts. Below the frieze decorative triangular scrollwork with a quatrefoil motif flank each of the posts. The tongue-and-groove floor of the porch is raised only about one foot above the ground. Concrete blocks have replaced the low brick footings on which it originally rested. A low railing encircles the south side of the porch. It is comprised of 1x4-inch slats carried between a flat 1x4-inch top rail and a 2x4-inch bottom rail.

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Interior

On the interior, the rooms of the first and second floors radiate from a central hall. On the first floor the hall creates a foyer at the southeast corner of the dwelling. Doors off the foyer access the front parlor in the south bay, the main parlor along the west side and the rear parlor that fills the north end of the main block. The block across the rear (north) of the dwelling, which contains the kitchen, is accessed from the rear parlor. Off the main parlor, a small bathroom has been created in the enclosed porch along the west side of the main block. North of the bathroom, a porch on the west side of the rear addition has also been enclosed.

From the foyer, the staircase rises up to the second floor. Four rooms are arranged along the central hall. The rooms on the north, south and west are substantial in size. The room along the east is approximately half as large as its counterpart to the west. A fifth room is located at the north end of the dwelling in the rear addition. The floor height of the fifth room is lower than that of the rooms in the main block of the dwelling. Access to the attic is achieved through a trap door in the ceiling of the second floor hallway.

The rectangular basement below the main block is accessed from an exterior door in the east side of the dwelling. Stairs lead down to the south end of the basement. The large brick base of the south chimney divides the basement into two sections. The north section occupies approximately two-thirds of the area and the south section occupies the remaining one-third. A channel has been cut in the concrete floor along the south wall, apparently to relieve drainage problems. The brick base of the south chimney extends approximately three-quarters of the width of the basement. It almost abuts the east wall, and appears to have been cut at this end. The large brick base of the east chimney dominates the north end of the basement. The upper portion (approximately 2 courses) of the basement walls is concrete block, while the lower portion is parged brick.

The main block also retains many of its original Italiante appointments. Ceilings on the first floor are approximately 10 feet high while those on the second floor are approximately 8 feet high. Hardwood floors on the first story feature varnished 2 inch wide tongue-in-groove boards. On the second floor the floorboards are 3 inch wide and varnished as well as painted in the front (west) room. Wide baseboard moldings stand approximately 1 foot tall. Window and door trim surrounding the first floor openings is heavy and rounded at the outer edges. On the second floor the trim has simpler molding. Recessed panels fill the area below each opening of the bay windows on both floors. The first floor wood trim has been painted white, but on the second floor the trim remains unpainted. The plaster and lathe walls are papered on both floors. The plaster ceilings on the first floor have been covered with acoustical tile, although they do not appear to have been lowered significantly. Bare bulb fixtures hang in the center of the upstairs chambers. On the first floor the hanging bulbs in the main rooms are cloaked with turn-of-the-century crystal fixtures. All of the doorways feature operable transom windows and box locks with porcelain knobs.

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From the foyer, the stair case rises elegantly to the second floor landing. At the top of the stairs a small landing wraps back to overlook the foyer. The railing is carried on turned balusters and terminates at a multi-faceted newel post with recessed panels in each facet and a turned cap. Scrollwork appliques have been placed below each riser.

Decorative mantels surround fireplaces on the west wall of the front parlor and the east wall of the central parlor. Although both of the fireboxes have been bricked in, both retain their original multi-faceted marbelized slate mantels. The mantel in the central parlor has been painted white, however the mantel in the front parlor retains its original finish, simulating marble with inlaid Eastlake detailing.

The fixtures and features of the first floor bath suggest that this room was converted to its current use in the early 20th century. Notable features include the enameled cast iron bathtub encased in plaster and the scored plaster wall surface below the chair rail that simulates tile. Both the sink and bathtub have independent hot and cold water spigots.

Setting

The property is informally landscaped. A deciduous hedge encircles the south and west sides of the yard, with a concrete path leading to the front door from East Second Street. A windblock of deciduous trees marks the east property line. A mature maple tree fills the southeast corner of the yard. Several red buds are scattered around the north and west side yards, and substantial pin oaks are located in the west easement strip and next to the garage. A cast iron handpump stands at the northeast corner of the dwelling. It is stamped with the words "Red Jacket, Davenport."

Outbuildings

Approximately 20 feet north of the dwelling, at the corner of East Third Street, is a square, hip roofed garage. The wide vertical board siding and rafter tails visible below the composition shingle roof suggest that the garage was constructed c.1920. It is non-contributing.

Integrity

The *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* has changed very little since its construction in the 1870s. Architectural details on the interior and exterior make the Italianate style instantly recognizable. Construction of the rear addition and garage, enclosure of the original side (west) porch, and addition of the first floor bathroom and crystal light fixtures all appear to have occurred in the first quarter of the 20th century. It is likely that William Slaughter made these modifications after acquiring the property in 1918. The incorporation of Italianate details on the exterior of the rear addition suggests that it may have replaced an original kitchen ell. Although these changes had a minor impact on the property's

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integrity of design and materials, they have not significantly impacted the original character of the property. Having been made approximately 80 years ago, they could be considered to have achieved historic significance in their own right. The setting of the property has changed slightly since the 1870s due to the construction of the garage, the increase in traffic along Highway 129, and the changes made to nearby properties. Overall, the property is immediately recognizable as an excellent example of Italianate architecture and as the oldest of the fine homes remaining in Salisbury.

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Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri

Summary

The *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* is significant under CRITERION C in the area of ARCHITECTURE as a representative example of a frame Italianate style residence dating from c. 1873. Due to its intact condition and high degree of architectural integrity, the residence is an excellent example of the high-style property types of the late nineteenth century in general and specifically of the Italianate style. The irregular plan with a cross-gable roof is representative of a subtype which incorporates an asymmetrical plan and either a cross-gabled or a cross-hipped roof which comprises about twenty percent of the extant examples of the style found in the United States.¹ The residence is also representative of the compressed, deep Italianate plan adapted for narrow city lots. The incorporation of a single-story entrance porch at the front corner is especially typical of the sub-type. Characteristic of the style, the residence features elaborate ornamentation at the windows, cornice, porches and doorways. The tall, narrow rectangular windows with elaborately molded crowns used in combinations of bays and individual units with both two-over-two and one-over-one glazing are typical of the style. Dominant carved cornice brackets also convey the style, as do the double-leaf front doors with arched windows. All of these defining features contribute to the residence's architectural integrity as a representative example of the late Victorian genres which dominated American house design between 1850 and 1880, and was particularly common in the expanding towns and cities of the Midwest.²

History of the Property

The *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* is located on Lot 9, Block 26 in the city of Salisbury in Chariton County, Missouri. Chariton County was organized November 16, 1820 near the confluence of the Chariton and Missouri Rivers. Salisbury is located approximately 12 miles north of the Missouri River approximately 95 miles east of Kansas City and 150 miles west of St. Louis. Judge L. Salisbury, George Williams and Ott Lushner are credited with platting the original town site on April 1, 1867. However, historical sources note the establishment of business houses and dwellings prior to the platting.

Between 1870 and 1890 the town's population grew from 626 to 1,700, and in 1882 Salisbury became a Fourth Class City. By the 1890s, Salisbury was acknowledged as the "Metropolis of the County." Much of the growth of this agricultural market center was due to the town's location on the main line of the Wabash Railroad that connected to the Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City markets. The thriving city boasted such amenities as its own post office, school system and electric plant; seven churches; three parks with artificial lakes; an amusement park; two ice houses; a photographic gallery; and an opera

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), 211.

² *Ibid.*, 212.

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house seating 1200. Commercial concerns included canning, cigar and soda pop factories; two banks and a building and loan association; three hotels; two newspapers; two merchant and tailoring establishments; a machine shop; marble works; two flour mills; two livery stables; a lumber yard and hardware establishment. Among the professionals and craftsmen who resided in Salisbury were six physicians, seven lawyers, and a dentist, a silversmith, a carpenter, a bricklayer, a plasterer and a painter.³

Land records indicate that Frabrishous Thomas and Sarah A. Thomas appeared in person before the county clerk on September 12, 1873, and signed a one-year promissory note for \$1,696.50 with lots 9, 10, 11 and 12 of Block 26 pledged as collateral. Lending the funds were Sanford Richardson and William A. Thomas.⁴ The record entry notes that they had previously acquired the property under "The Homestead Law."⁵ From this information, it is possible that Frabrishous and Sarah Thomas acquired the property sometime between 1862, when the Homestead Act became law, and 1873, when they executed the mortgage. As required under the Homestead Law, a residence would have been erected on the property within five years of acquisition. Unfortunately no record could be found to document on which lots or adjacent land the improvements were made. The design of the existing house in a manner that conforms with the long narrow town lots confirms a date of construction after the platting of the town in 1867. Based on this information and on extant architectural elements such as the turned porch supports, newel posts and stair spindles, the Eastlake design metal fireplace, and other interior trim elements, the date of construction appears to be in the early 1870s.⁶ It is possible the mortgage in 1873 is associated with the building of the residence.

Documented information about Frabrishous Thomas is sketchy. The 1860 census records do not show Frabrishous or Sarah Thomas residing in Chariton County. They do show a "Fabrius" Thomas residing

³ Historical, Pictorial and Biographical Record of Chariton County, Missouri, (Salisbury: Pictorial and Biographical Publishing Company, 1896, reprint, Marceline, MO; Walsworth Publishing Company, Inc., 1976), 31. (page references are to reprint addition)

⁴ Chariton County Recorder of Deeds, Deed Book J, Page 103. Keytesville, Missouri.

⁵ The 1862 Homestead Act gave settlers 160 acres for living on the land for five years and improving it. According to Missouri's Public Domain United States Land Sales 1818 -1922, (Jefferson City: Missouri Secretary of State, 1980), a few public land sales occurred in Chariton County in the 1860s and 1870s.

⁶ Stephen Calloway and Elizabeth Cromley, ed., The Elements of Style A Practical Encyclopedia of Interior Architectural Details from 1485 to the Present, (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1991), 277 -282, 290-291, 295-296.

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Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri

in Henrico County Virginia.⁷ An 1883 history lists an F. B. Thomas as residing in Salisbury. F.B. Thomas was a trustee for the first school district in 1867 and a later member of the Board of Education.⁸

Frabrishous and Sarah Thomas defaulted on the loan and, in October 1877, William A. Thomas purchased the property in a Trustees' sale.⁹ A search of county histories and census records do not show a William A. Thomas living in Chariton County. A William S. Thomas is listed in the 1883 history. Nonetheless, a review of the deed books shows numerous land transactions during the 1870s and 1880s involving a William A. Thomas.

William Coleman acquired Lot 9 from William A. Thomas. Review of deed records at the Chariton County Court House did not identify the exact date of the transaction. Coleman is listed in the 1870 census as living in Salisbury Township, Chariton County. The census records for 1880 list a W.S. Coleman as a thirty-year-old maker of harnesses, shoes, and boots residing in Salisbury Township.¹⁰ W. S. Coleman is also mentioned in an 1883 county history as a member of the White Stone Royal Arch Chapter No. 57. and as a trustee of the First Baptist Church of Salisbury.¹¹

After the death of William Coleman, the property passed to his heirs. On November 20, 1916 the Probate Court of Chariton County ordered the guardian of Pauline Coleman to sell the minor child's 20% interest in real estate, which included Lots 9, 10, 11, and 12, Block 26. On January 20, 1917, the Court reviewed three appraisals of the property and approved the bid of \$150.00 by Amy Coleman. On February 28, 1918 William Slaughter purchased for \$2,000 lots 9-12 on Block 26 from Amy Coleman, Karleen (sic) Coleman Franklin and Percy Franklin, Nola Coleman Walton, James O. Coleman and Leila Coleman. -- all of whom then resided in Denver, Colorado.¹²

⁷ May Barte Couch, comp., Federal Census for Chariton County, Missouri, (Marceline, Mo.: 1987), vol. 3 and, Ronald Vern Jackson, Search 9 1860 Inclusive Index (Computer Output Microfiche (COM), 1995), 986, Richmond Township, East Division, Microfiche. Note: No other initials or similar names appear in the 1860 Federal Census Index.

⁸ History of Howard and Chariton Counties, Missouri: written and compiled from the most official authentic and private sources, including a history of its townships, towns and villages together with a condensed history of Missouri, (St. Louis: National Historic Company, 1883), 468-469.

⁹ Chariton County, Missouri Recorder of Deeds, Deed Book 18, page 600, Keytesville, Missouri.

¹⁰ May Barte Couch, comp., 1870 Federal Census for Chariton County, Missouri, (Marceline, MO: 1987), Vol. 3 and May Couch, comp., 1880 Federal Census for Chariton County, Missouri Salisbury Township, (Marceline, Missouri: 1987). Note: W. S. and William are the same person as indicated by the fact that among the children listed in the 1880 census are Olivia Karleen aged 9 and James Oliver aged 7, both of whom are listed as owners of the property in 1918.

¹¹ History of Howard and Chariton Counties, Missouri, 467, 709.

¹² Chariton County, Missouri Recorder of Deeds, Deed Book 108, page 196, Keytesville, Missouri.

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William R. Slaughter and his wife, Mary E. Slaughter came to Salisbury in 1870 from Jackson County, Missouri. He is listed in 1873 as a farmer, tobacconist, grain dealer, flour mill owner, and as a dealer in farm implements. In the 1890s he served on the Salisbury School Board.¹³

In 1928, George Herring purchased the residence located on Lot 9 from Florence Slaughter Hall, daughter of William Slaughter. Herring remained the owner of the property until July 30, 1962, when he conveyed the property to his nieces, Vivian and Carlene Yung.¹⁴ Cemetery records show George Herring was born March 16, 1885 and died December 28 1967.¹⁵

Vivian Yung was born in 1925 and died in 1972.¹⁶ Carlene Yung was born in 1927. An article written by students at Salisbury MISSOURI R-IV High School documents Carleen (Carlene) Yung as owner of the property in 1982.¹⁷ Tim and Melissa Minnish purchased the property from Lula Vassar in 1997.

Historic Context - Architectural Style

Located in the extended area of the "Little Dixie" region in central Missouri along the Missouri River, the *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* is part of a larger collection of extant resources which span the history of Anglo-American building traditions in the South and lower Midwest identified by folklorist, Howard Wright Marshall. As he has documented, 19th century houses in this area in central Missouri,

*... compress into about a hundred years some three hundred years in the development of forms and techniques of construction based on old models and intentions ranging from America's medieval seventeenth century up to the end of the robustly complicated Victorian era of the early twentieth century. . . Architectural traditions here compose a narrative that is particularly Midwestern and particularly nineteenth century, but also clearly rooted in earlier days and faraway places.*¹⁸

¹³ The Illustrated Historical Atlas of Chariton County, MO., (Philadelphia: Edwards Brothers, 1876, reprint, Marceline, Mo.: MBC Genealogy Publishing, 1992), 6. (page reference is to reprint addition) and Historical, Pictorial and Biographical Record of Chariton County, Missouri, 104. (page references are to reprint addition)

¹⁴ Chariton County Recorder of Deeds, Deed Book 171, page 320, Keytesville, Missouri.

¹⁵ Robert and May Barte Couch, Chariton County, Missouri Cemeteries (Marceline, Mo." 1985), Vol. 6 Elliott Grove, Brunswick Township and Salisbury City, Salisbury Township, Chariton County, Missouri Cemeteries.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Leslie Baker, Paula Penrod, Paula Pegelow and Danna Ward. "A Historical Story," Happenings At School. (May 1982): 1.

¹⁸ Howard Wight Marshall, Folk Architecture in Little Dixie: A Regional Culture in Missouri, (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1981), 1, 30.

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Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri

The *Thomas House* is an excellent example of a high-style Italianate residence. The irregular plan, often with a cross-gable roof, is a subtype that comprises about twenty percent of the extant examples found in the United States. The Italianate style began in England as part of the Picturesque Movement, which departed from the formal Greco-Roman classical ideals in art and architecture that dominated residential and commercial design for about two hundred years. In particular the irregular plans of informal Italian farmhouses were adapted for the new Italian villa-inspired architecture.¹⁹

In the United States the Italian version of these Renaissance traditions inspired both the Italianate and the later Italian Renaissance styles. American Italianate houses were modifications and adaptations of the Picturesque Movement and emerged early on as a truly native style with only vague references to Latin origins.²⁰ In part, the inventiveness of American architects and builders was made possible by new building technologies, an abundance of raw materials, a profusion of architectural and housekeeping publications, and the financial ability of many Americans to build their own homes.²¹

One of the most important technological developments affecting design choices was the advent of balloon frame construction. The use of inexpensive uniform-size (usually two-by-four inch) boards for upright studs and cross members held together by cheap, mass-produced nails for framing revolutionized home building and made spacious residences accessible to the middle class. Advanced manufacturing techniques led to mass produced windows, doors, brackets and decorative turnings typically more elaborate and often less expensive than their handmade counterparts. Along with plentiful building material, America's middle class also had access to an increasing variety of trade catalogues, pattern books and architectural periodicals. These factors coupled with the industrialization and national prosperity of the last quarter of the nineteenth century, and the growth of cities and towns along the railroad corridor, meant that for the first time in the history of the United States, grand houses could be built on an extensive scale.²²

The indigenous Italianate style came to dominate American house construction between 1850 and 1880. The popularity of the style had much to do with the influential pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing, beginning in the 1840s, which featured "cottage" designs based on the Italian Renaissance motif. The proliferation of Downing's pattern books gave builders and homebuyers for the first time a choice of styles; Greek Revival, Gothic Revival and Italianate became favorites. By the 1860s, the

¹⁹ McAlester and McAlester, 212.

²⁰ Ibid., 212-214.

²¹ Calloway and Cromley, 272.

²² Ibid.

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Italianate style dominated other high style options. A decade later, the financial depression of the 1870s led to the decline of the style, along with that of the closely related Second Empire style. When prosperity returned in the late 1870s and early 1880s, new "modern" housing fashions, particularly the Queen Anne style, rose quickly and supplanted the Romantic house styles erected between 1820 and 1880.²³

The Italianate style is principally expressed by elaborate treatment of windows, cornices, porches and doorways. Most American examples show a free intermixing of details derived from both informal rural European models as well as formal city houses. The *Thomas House* incorporates many of the typical treatments of high-style Italianate design. The compact, irregular plan is representative of the narrow, deep Italianate house form adapted for narrow city lots.²⁴ The use of bay windows and double-hung sash utilizing both two-over-two and one-over-one configurations is typical of glazing patterns used in the style. Also representative are the tall, narrow rectangular windows with elaborate molded crowns.²⁵ Cornice-line brackets are an element that consistently marks American houses having Italian Renaissance roots.²⁶ The eave brackets of the Frabrishous *Thomas House* dominate the cornice. The brackets are placed on a deep trim band topped with dentils. Paired brackets always appear on each side of the projecting corners and centered in the space between corners regardless of the length of the space. Also typical of Italianate design are the front door with paired arched windows and the incorporation of a single-story entrance porch at the southeast corner of the plan. The turned spindle porch supports are an interesting departure from the norm and herald the advent of the budding Queen Anne style.²⁷

As a whole, this high-style wood-frame Italianate house reflects the wide-spread use of formal design concepts promulgated by the carpenters' manuals and pattern books that popularized fashionable house styles. The home also reflects the popularity of the Italianate style itself and is a rare resource in Salisbury, Missouri. A review of historic publications show that there were a number of high-style Queen Anne and Stick style residences built for middle and upper middle class families in Salisbury during the late 1880s and early 1890s.²⁸ A windshield survey of the town identified only a few two-story residences dating from the latter part of the nineteenth century, which retain architectural integrity. Of

²³ McAlester and McAlester, 177.

²⁴ Ibid., 222.

²⁵ Ibid., 211-212.

²⁶ Ibid., 6.

²⁷ Ibid., 210-215.

²⁸ The Illustrated Historical Atlas of Chariton County, Missouri and Historical, Pictorial and Biographical Record of Chariton County, Missouri

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these the *Thomas House* is the only example of the Italianate style. The community does have a collection of one-story houses dating from the mid- to late-nineteenth century. These folk houses demonstrate a number of plans - the hall and parlor, saddlebag, double pen and the popular farmer's mansion, the I-house. All have varying degrees of integrity and stylistic ornamentation reflecting vernacular traditions.

Erected by a community leader and owned by a succession of middle and upper middle class families, the *Thomas House* today conveys significant information about Italianate style residences built after the Civil War in Missouri and throughout the Midwest. The frame residence attests to the popularity of the style, even in moderate-sized agricultural and railroad towns. The house also provides information about its sub-type and the ornamental variation present in American Italianate homes. As such it is an excellent example of its style and the forces which made it the choice of many of American homebuilders in the mid- to late-nineteenth century.

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Chariton County, Missouri

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 9, Block 26, Salsibury, Chariton County, Missouri.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFCATION

The boundaries of the *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House* are contiguous with the city lot which the house occupies. This single lot is one of four lots owned by the Thomas' at the time the dwelling was constructed and is the only one that retains integrity in association with the dwelling. Subsequently, the other three lots were subdivided and houses constructed upon them. Visual dating of the neighboring dwellings suggests that this occurred around the turn of the century.

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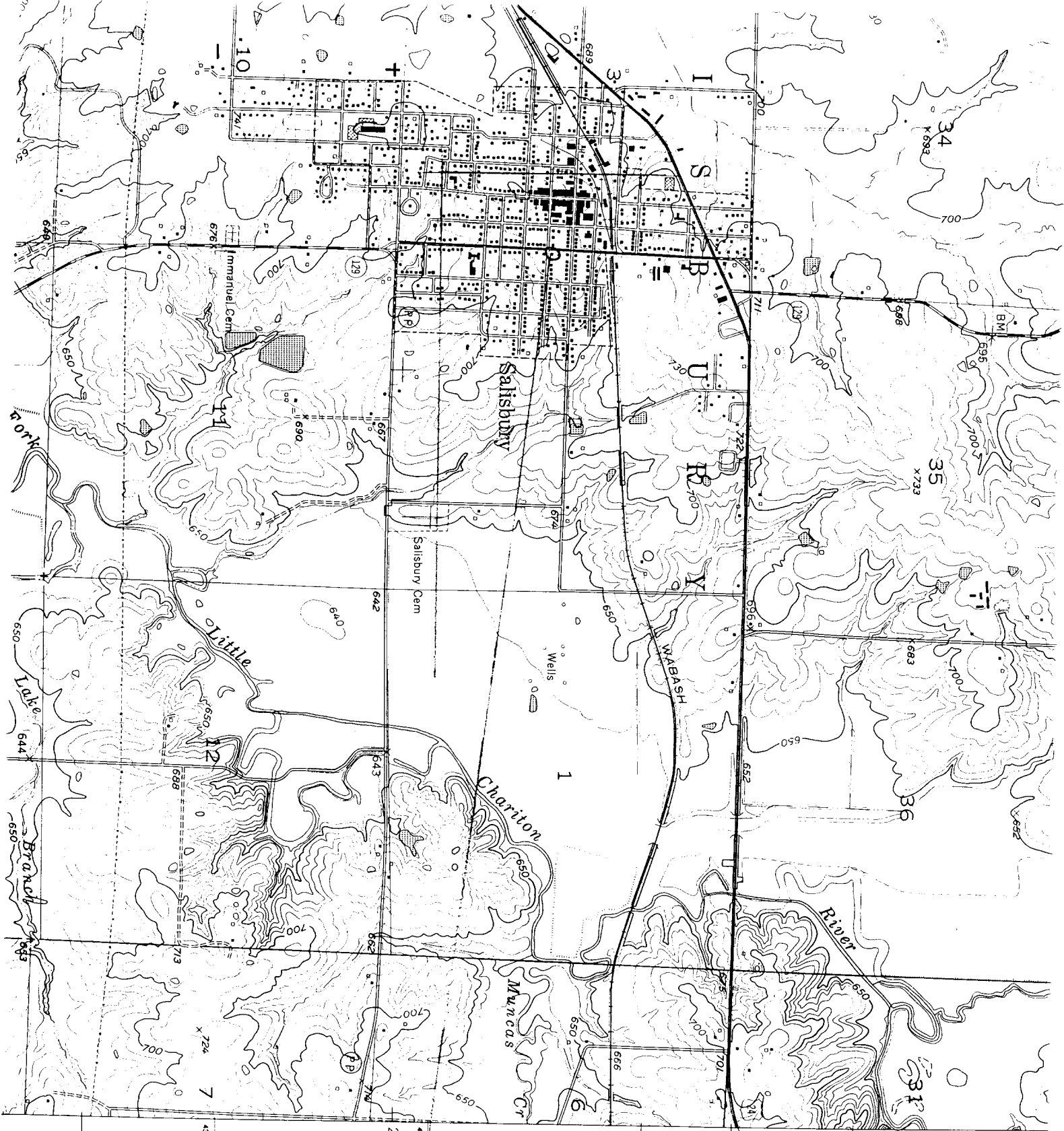
Section photographs Page 15

Thomas, Frabrishous and Sarah A., House
Chariton County, Missouri

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Elizabeth Rosin
Date of Photograph: November 3, 1998
Location of Negatives: Melissa Minish
302 East Second Street
Salisbury, MO 65281

- 1) *Frabrishous and Sarah A. Thomas House*. View looking northeast.
- 2) Front porch and east side of dwelling. View looking northwest.
- 3) North and east sides of dwelling. View looking south.
- 4) West bay and trim details. View looking northeast.
- 5) Hand pump and north end of the dwelling's west side. View looking southeast.
- 6) Staircase with newel post. View looking northeast.
- 7) Landing at top of staircase. View looking west.
- 8) Pocket doors in Front Parlor. View looking north.
- 9) Fireplace mantel in Front Parlor. View looking west.
- 10) Garage. View looking east.



CLIFTON HILL 4.9 MI
 ROBERLY (CITY HALL) 18 MI

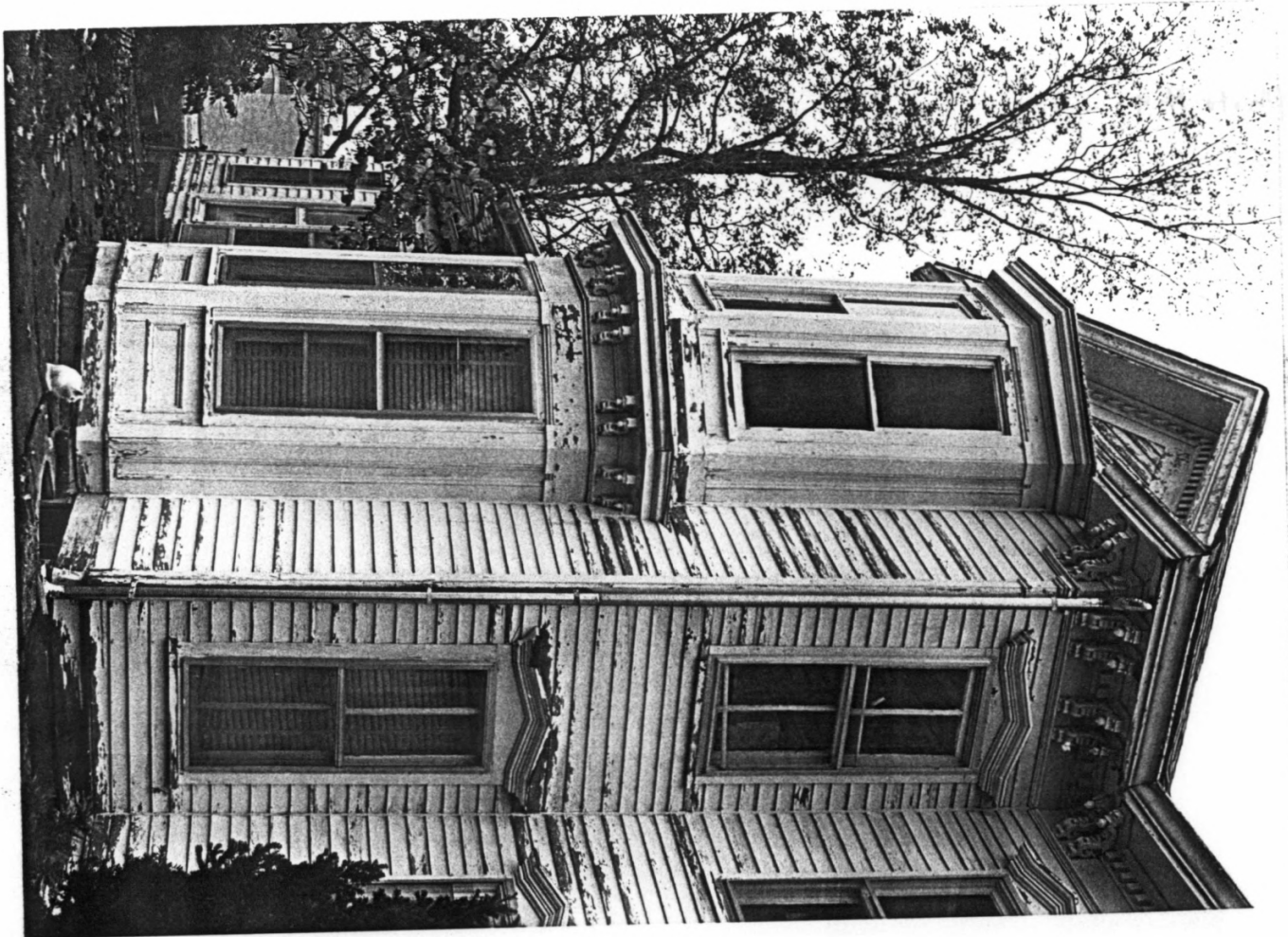
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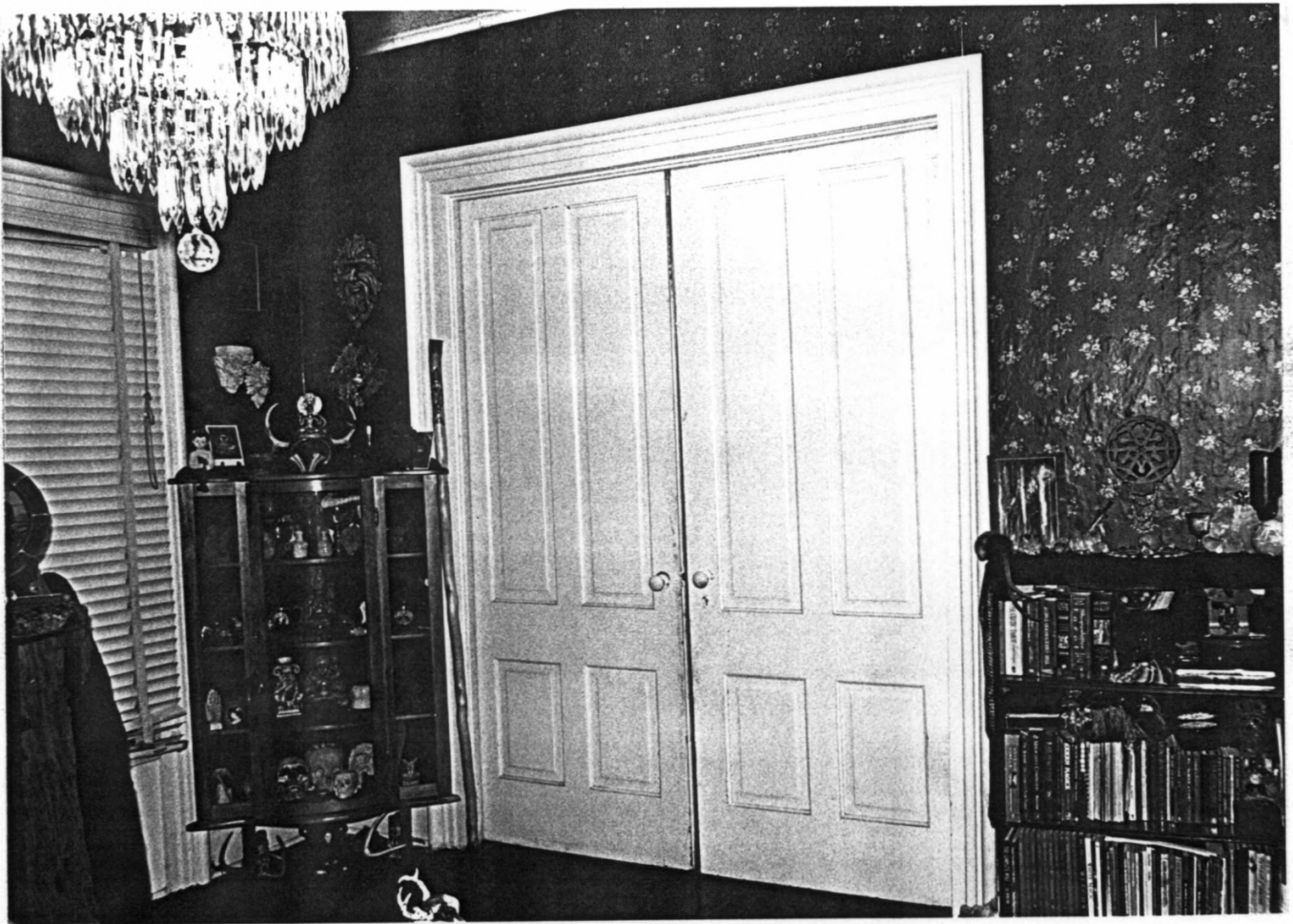
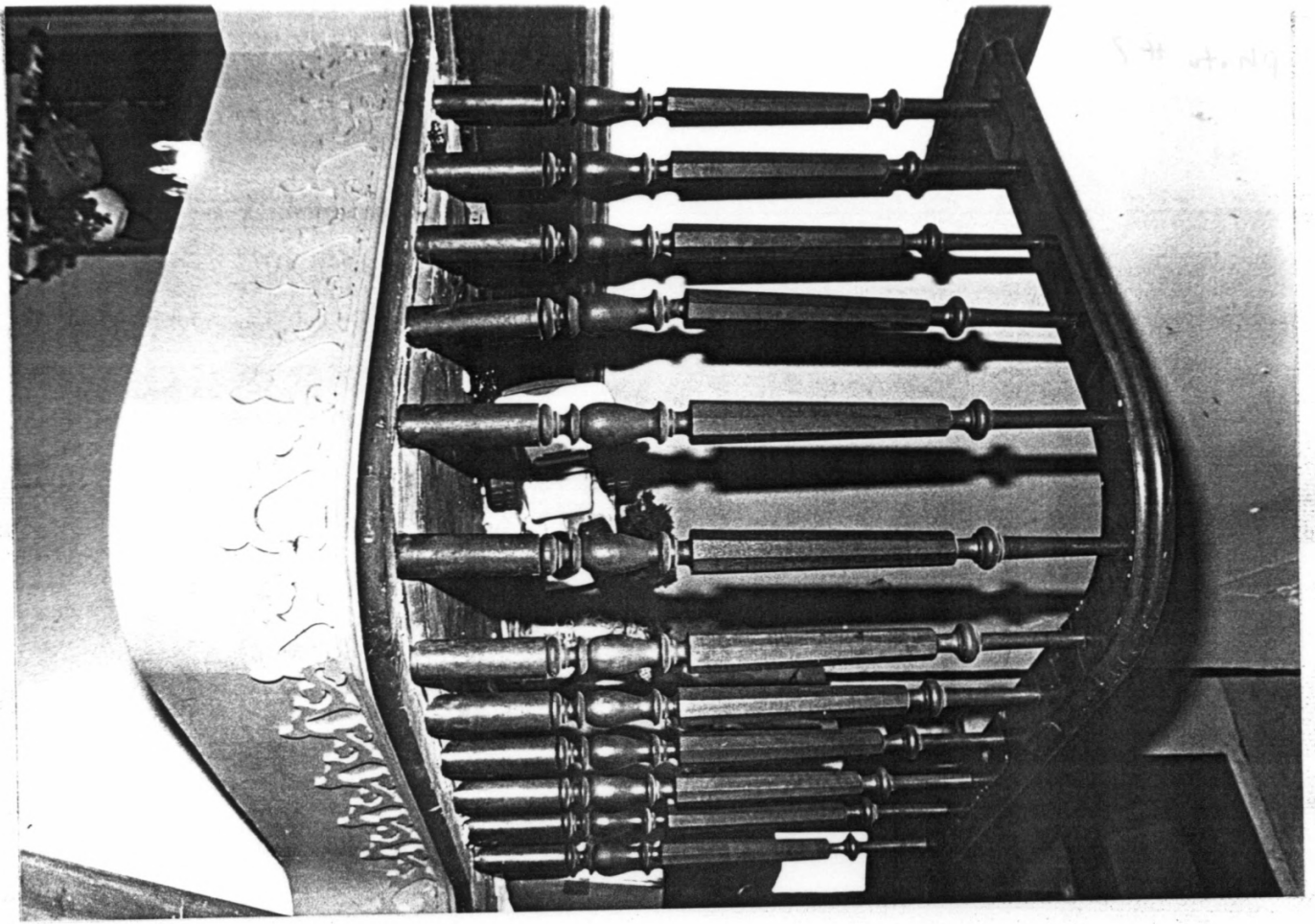
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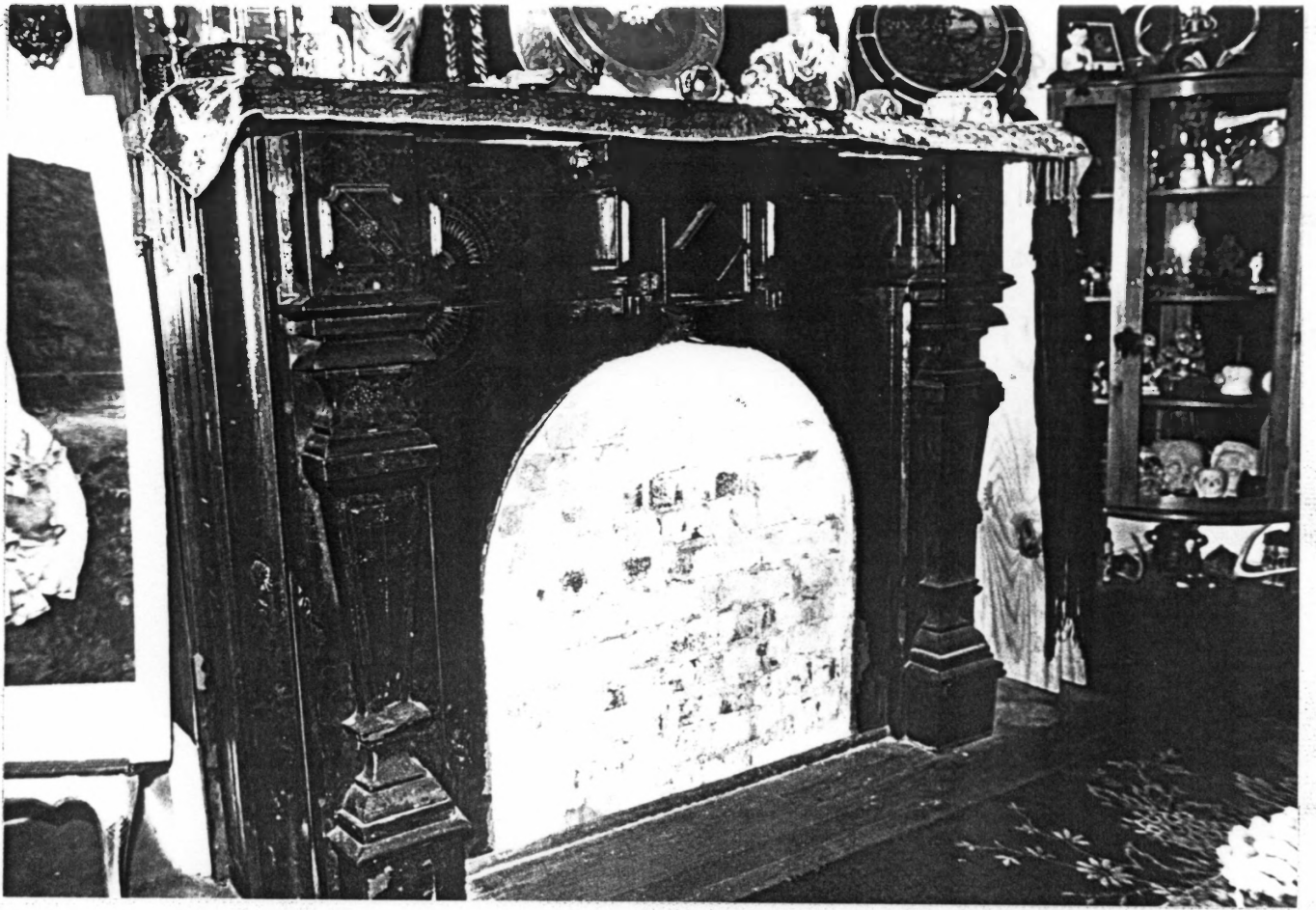
483
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EXTRA
PHOTOS















