

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

NR 9/19/07

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Hermitage City Hall & Jail

other names/site number Site #BR0038

2. Location

street & number 112 South Oak Street

not for publication

city or town Hermitage

vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Bradley code 011 zip code 71647

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Debbie Matthews

7/5/07

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

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 certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Hermitage City Hall & Jail  
Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing                      Noncontributing

1	buildings
_____	sites
_____	structures
_____	objects
1	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register**

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT/city hall  
GOVERNMENT/correctional facility  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/Plain-Traditional  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK  
walls BRICK  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof ASPHALT  
other  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions of property significance.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions of property characteristics.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

LOCAL

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

LAW

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

c.1945-1957

Significant Dates

c.1945-1957

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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):

- Criteria for previous documentation on file (NPS) with checkboxes.

Primary location of additional data:

- Criteria for primary location of additional data with checkboxes.

Name of repository:

Hermitage City Hall & Jail

Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than one.

UTM References

(See additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 576825 3701377
Zone Easting Northing
2

3
4
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 Ralph S. Wilcox, National Register & Survey Coordinator

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

date March 13, 2007

street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street

telephone (501) 324-9787

city or town Little Rock

state AR

zip code 72201

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

15 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 City of Hermitage

street & number PO Box 120

telephone

city or town Hermitage

state AR

zip code 71647

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

### SUMMARY

Located northeast of the downtown commercial area at 112 South Oak Street in Hermitage, Bradley County, Arkansas, the Hermitage City Hall & Jail, is a small rectangular building built out of large yellow brick. The building is fenestrated by three-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows in the front portion, while the rear portion has wood-frame window openings covered with iron bars. The building is crowned by a gable roof with a false front at the front.

### ELABORATION

Located northeast of the downtown commercial area at 112 South Oak Street in Hermitage, Bradley County, Arkansas, the Hermitage City Hall & Jail, is a small rectangular building built out of large yellow brick. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation.

The building is fenestrated by three-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows in the front portion, which served as the city hall, while the rear portion, which was the jail, has wood-frame window openings covered with iron bars. The building is crowned by a gable roof with a false front at the front and exposed rafter tails along the sides.

#### Front/East Façade

The front façade of the building is dominated by the entrance, which consists of a wood door with three horizontal recessed panels in the bottom half and three vertical window panes in the top half. A small projecting front porch with front-facing shed roof that is supported by two metal posts protects the entrance. A short concrete sidewalk leads to the entrance and a single concrete step is located in front of the entrance. Above the entrance, a rectangular opening with metal screen vents the attic space.

Although the building has a gable roof, the front of the roof is not visible due to the rectangular false front, which is built out of the oversized yellow brick like the rest of the building.

#### Side/South Façade

The south façade of the building is fenestrated by two three-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows that are located towards the front of the building. Both windows are covered with wire mesh. There is no fenestration on the south side for the jail portion of the building.

#### Rear/West Façade

The rear façade of the building is fenestrated by two wood-frame window openings covered with iron bars, one near each side. The gable portion of the building, rather than built out of brick, is covered in horizontal wood boards. In the center of the gable peak is a rectangular, louvered attic vent.

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### Side/North Façade

Like the south façade, the north façade of the building is fenestrated by two three-over-one, double-hung, wood-frame windows that are located towards the front of the building. Both windows are covered with wire mesh. There is no fenestration on the south side for the jail portion of the building, although a PVC vent pipe is located on the façade near the west end of the building.

### Integrity

The Hermitage City Hall & Jail has excellent integrity. The exterior of the building retains its original design and materials from the time that it was built c.1945. In addition, Hermitage has remained a small town, and the setting around the building still reflects the time of its construction.

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National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

### SUMMARY

The Hermitage City Hall & Jail, which is located at 112 South Oak Street, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent intact example of a mid-twentieth-century jail and city hall building. Built c.1945, the Hermitage City Hall & Jail is a good example of a mid-twentieth-century small-town jail and city hall. The city hall and jail served the Hermitage community from c.1945 until c.2000, and is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with governmental activities and law enforcement in Hermitage.

### ELABORATION

Bradley County was named after Captain Hugh Bradley, who sailed up the Red River in 1818 on an exploration expedition. In the early 1820s, he reached Long Prairie in Lafayette County, but became dissatisfied with the area. He headed east along with his companions and arrived in Bradley County c.1825, just as other early settlers Isaac Pennington and Aaron Johnston were also settling in the area. The population of the area continued to increase throughout the 1830s, and by 1840 enough people existed in the area to establish a separate county.<sup>1</sup>

Bradley County was formed on December 18, 1840, and at that time, encompassed much of the area that is now Ashley, Drew, Lincoln, Cleveland, Dallas and Calhoun counties. However, as the population in southeast Arkansas, parts of Bradley County were taken away to form other counties including Dallas County (January 1845), Drew County (November 1846), Ashley County (November 1846), Calhoun County (December 1850), Lincoln County (March 1871), and Cleveland County (April 1873), which brought the county to its present size.<sup>2</sup>

Little is known about the early history of the Hermitage area, although it is known that there was a post office in the area by 1854.<sup>3</sup> However, by 1890, the post office was not listed in the list of thirteen post offices included in the *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*, indicating that settlement in the area may have been sporadic in the early years.<sup>4</sup> The community was named after Andrew Jackson's hometown in Tennessee.<sup>5</sup> Although settlement in the area may have been sporadic in the nineteenth century, the community was healthy enough to incorporate in 1907.

<sup>1</sup> *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890, p. 741.

<sup>2</sup> *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890, p. 742.

<sup>3</sup> Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988, p. 104.

<sup>4</sup> *Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890, p. 743.

<sup>5</sup> Information on Hermitage from <http://local.arkansas.gov/local?agency=Hermitage>.

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In the early years of the community's history, there apparently was no building dedicated as a city hall or jail. However, by the 1940s, the city had grown enough that they needed to construct a building to be used specifically as a city hall and jail. The building that was constructed was utilitarian in nature, and had one half dedicated for the city hall and the other half dedicated for the jail. It was built just to the east of the city's commercial core. Although the exact date of construction is not known, the use of three-over-one windows and the large yellow brick, a brick type found on other buildings in Warren, the county seat, built in the 1940s and 1950s, indicate that it was likely built c.1945.

The building on South Oak Street remained the community's city hall and jail until the city hall was relocated to the east of town on the bypass c.2000. However, the Hermitage City Hall & Jail remains as a reminder of the growth of the community's governmental growth in the mid-twentieth century. It also remains a good example of a small-town jail and city hall.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hermitage City Hall & Jail, which is located at 112 South Oak Street, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion C** as an excellent intact example of a mid-twentieth-century jail and city hall building. Built c.1945, the Hermitage City Hall & Jail is a good example of a mid-twentieth-century small-town jail and city hall. The city hall and jail served the Hermitage community from c.1945 until c.2000, and is also being nominated to the National Register with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its associations with governmental activities and law enforcement in Hermitage.

Hermitage City Hall & Jail

Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Baker, Russell Pierce. *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1971*. Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

*Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Southern Arkansas*. Chicago: The Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1890.

Information on Hermitage from <http://local.arkansas.gov/local?agency=Hermitage>.

Hermitage City Hall & Jail

Name of Property

Bradley County, Arkansas

County and State

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

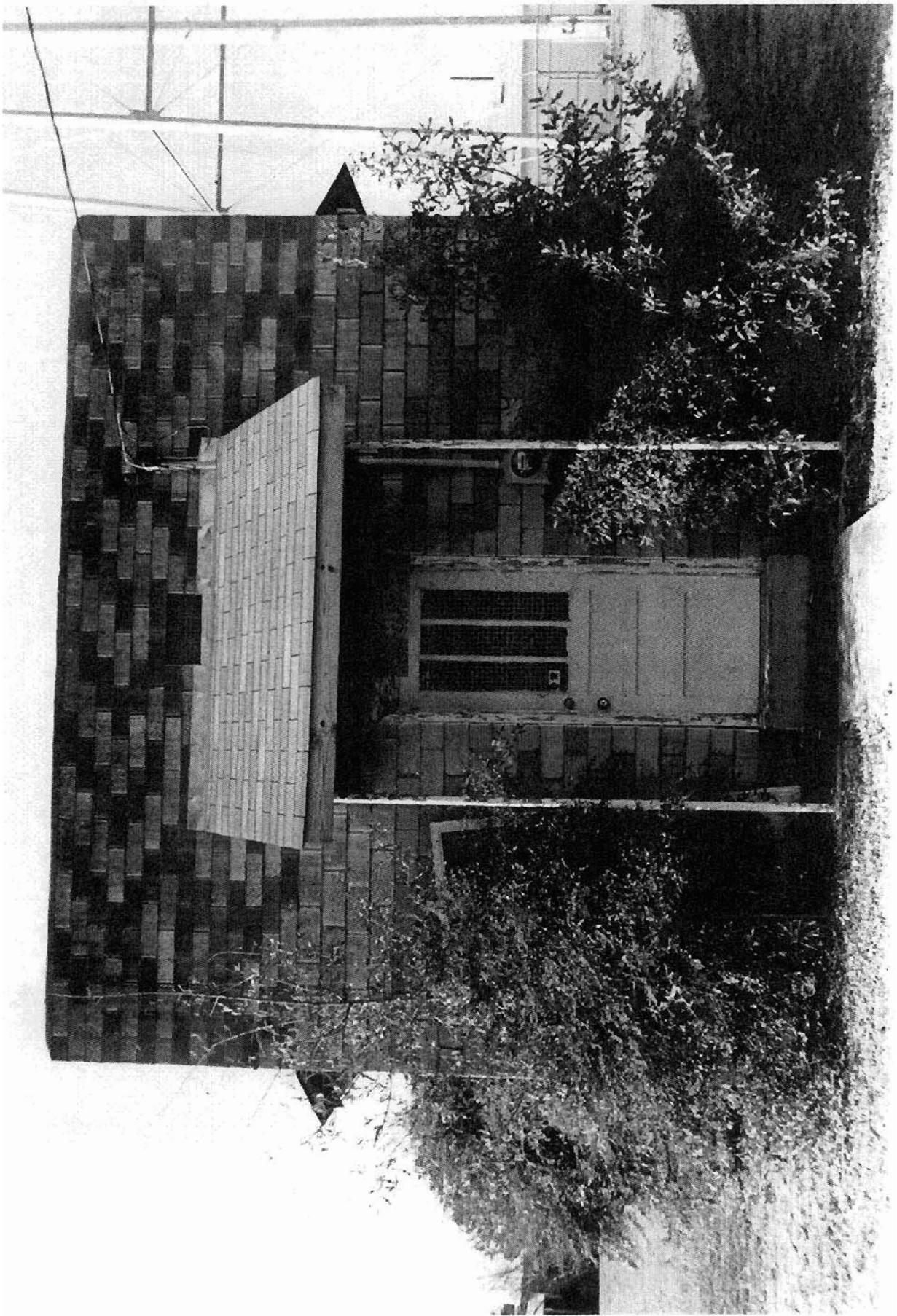
Section number 10 Page 1

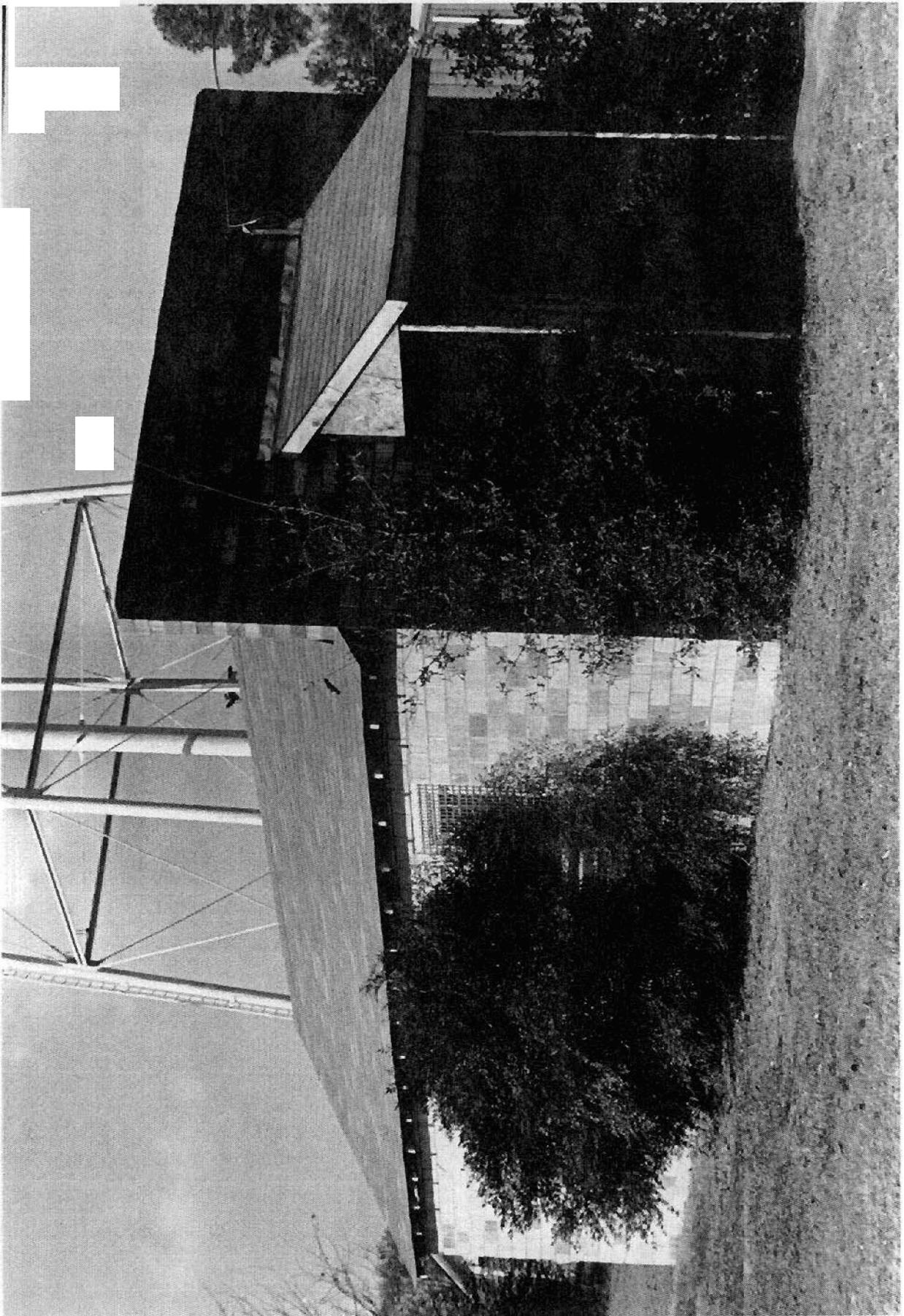
## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

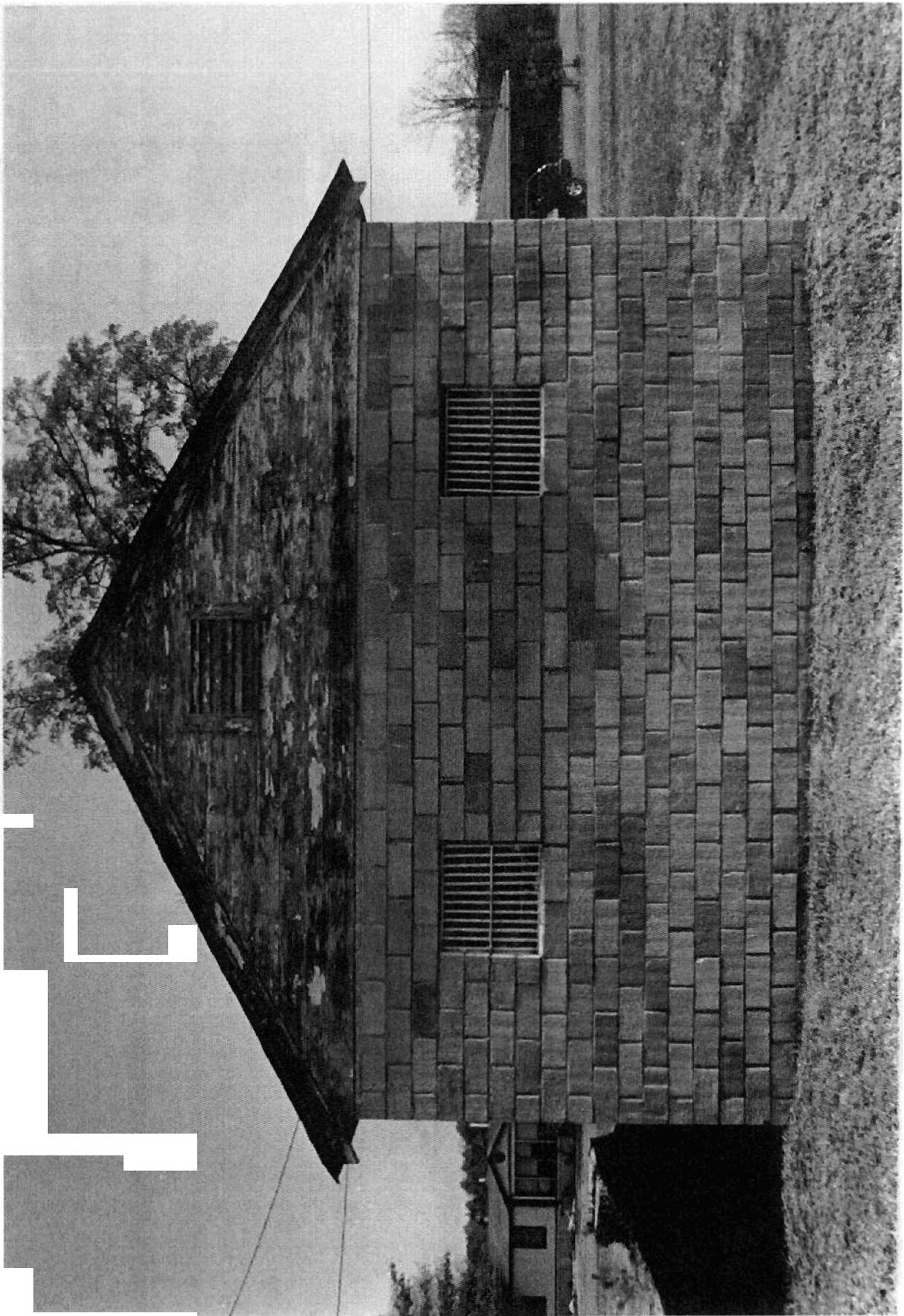
From the southwest corner of the E. Grand Avenue and S. Oak Street intersection, proceed southerly along the west side of S. Oak Street for 145 feet to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning, proceed westerly perpendicular to S. Oak Street for 125 feet, thence proceed southerly parallel to S. Oak Street for 85 feet, thence proceed easterly perpendicular to S. Oak Street for 125 feet, thence proceed northerly parallel to S. Oak Street for 85 feet to the point of beginning.

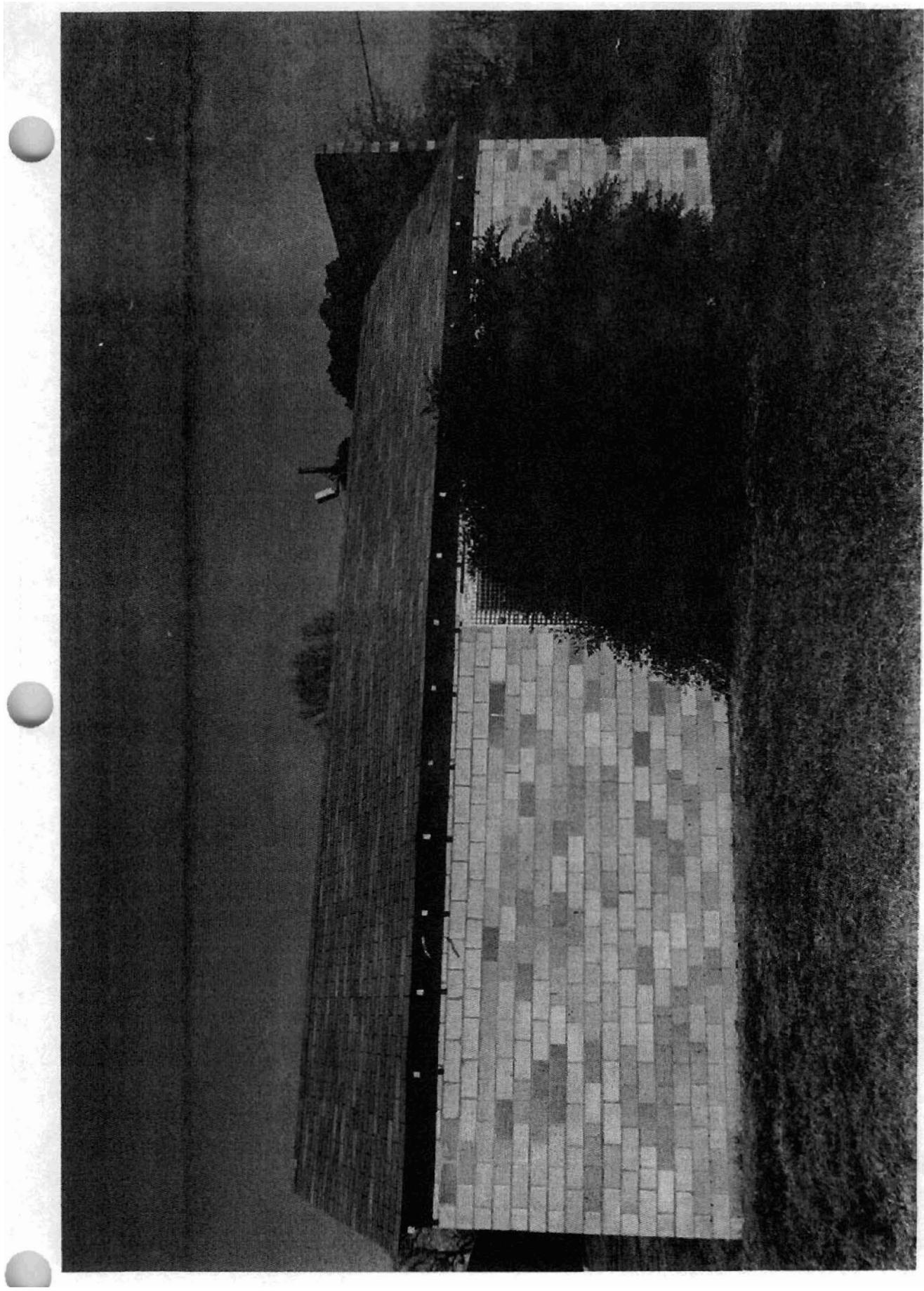
## BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

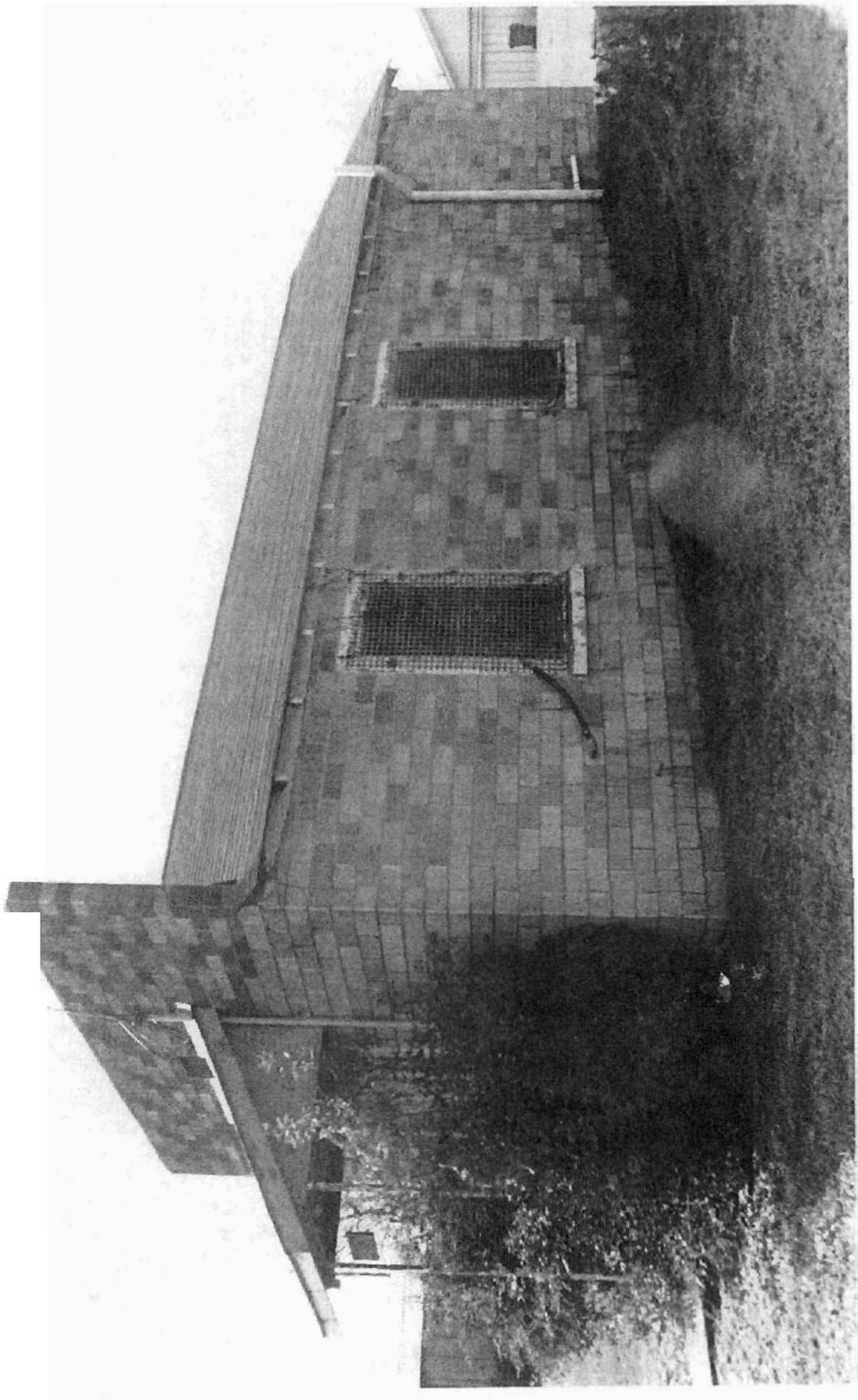
The boundary contains the land that is historically associated with the Hermitage City Hall & Jail.













27°30'

3702

HERMITAGE TWP  
 HULL JAIL  
 BRADLEY COUNTY,  
 AR

UTM:  
 3701  
 15/570825/3701777

T. 14 S.

T. 15 S.

(SUMPTER)  
 7550 1 NE

3699

3698

25'