

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Faulkner Co. - Twin Groves  
Ealy, Richard & Mettie, House  
280 Solomon Grove Rd.  
NR 9/30/05

### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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 Richard and Mettie Ealy House

other names/site number FA1240

#### 2. Location

street & number 280 Solomon Grove Road

not for publication

city or town Twin Groves

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Faulkner

code 045

zip code 72039

#### 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.)

*Cade Matthews*

9/12/05

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:

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):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Richard and Mettie Ealy House  
Name of Property

Faulkner 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	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
1	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
1	_____	Total

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

"A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955"

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

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

DOMESTIC/Single-family dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

DOMESTIC/Single-family dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

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

LATE 19<sup>th</sup> AND EARLY 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE  
walls STONE  
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.)

- 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

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

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
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.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1942

Significant Dates

1942

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Silas Owens Sr.-Mason

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):

- 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:

Richard and Mettie Ealy House  
Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas  
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one.

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 15 550226 3907631  
Zone Easting Northing

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Zone Easting Northing

4 \_\_\_\_\_

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 A. James, National Register Historian  
organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date June 22, 2005  
street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone (501) 324-9789  
city or town Little Rock state AR zip code 72201

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 Richard Ealy  
street & number 285 Solomon Grove Road telephone 501-335-7756  
city or town Damascus state AR zip code 72039

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

### SUMMARY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 on Soloman Grove Road in Twin Groves, Arkansas. The house has an open arcaded porch on the front façade which displays a Mediterranean influence on the design of the home. The arcade is a trademark of the work of Silas Owens. The home has a rectangular plan with a combination cross-gable and gable-on-hip roof plan.

This home exhibits many of the techniques Silas Owens repeatedly used. The house utilizes the three-in, three-out brick pattern around all entrances (including doors, windows, louvers, and porch entries), brick quoins at every corner, and the above mentioned arcaded porch.

### ELABORATION

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 when the wood frame home that the family previously occupied was destroyed by fire. Silas Owens was related to the Ealy family, and helped them with the construction of their new home. Since the time of its construction the house has changed very little. The exterior of the home is in tact with the exception of the soffit and windows. Richard Ealy Jr. had them replaced in March of 2002 due to deterioration and rot. However, the configuration of the roofline, entrances and windows, and stonework are original to the home. This building has enough integrity to justify its nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

### Southeast Elevation – Front

The front of the Ealy House faces southeast toward Soloman Grove Road. The front wall is rocked from the roofline to the ground. There are two arches on the south corner that open to a covered porch. The arches are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern. Four concrete steps lead up to the poured concrete porch floor. The porch has a painted wood ceiling with a small centrally located light fixture. A single modern vinyl double-hung window is on the recessed southeast wall and covered by the porch. The window opening is trimmed in the three-in three-out brick pattern and has a concrete sill and lintel. A southwest facing door accessed from the porch is the main entrance to the house. The porch is integrated into the building so that it shares the house roofline. A small gable above easternmost arch is an architectural clue indicating is as the entrance to the home. Three windows comprise the remainder of the southeast façade. The windows are modern vinyl double-hung and set in a single opening trimmed in patterned cream brick on the sides and concrete lintel and sill on the remaining sides. Beneath the window there is access to a crawlspace. The opening is presently covered with sheet metal, but was constructed with a concrete lintel.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

### Northeast Elevation – Right Side

The northeast side of the building is a single plane with five window openings along the length of the elevation. The different roof framing techniques are visible on this façade. The east end has a gable profile, while the portion extending to the north displays the side of the gable-on-hip roofline. Beneath the gable peak is a vent opening. The opening is trimmed in patterned cream brick and presently sealed with a sheet of vinyl siding. All window openings on the northeast elevation are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern with concrete sills and lintels. The first three openings, from left to right, each have two modern vinyl double-hung windows. The last two openings look onto a mud room, and there are currently no windows in the openings.

### Northwest Elevation - Back

The back of the house is rocked from the roofline to the ground. The gable-on-hip roof is visible as it slopes down to the northwest and the gable peak is centered on the hip. The gable peak has wood weatherboard siding and a small rectangular wood slat vent. There are three openings along the northwest wall. From left to right, there is a door and two window openings. All are trimmed in cream brick. However, all the trim around the door and trim the left side of the middle window is strictly headers, while the remaining trim is laid in the three-in three-out pattern. The window and door on the far left share a single concrete lintel. Both windows are modern vinyl double-hung and have concrete sills.

### Southwest Elevation – Left Side

The southwest side of the building is a single plane with four window openings along the length of the elevation and an arch open to the front porch at the south corner. The different roof framing techniques are visible on this façade. The southernmost end has a gable profile, while the portion extending to the west displays the side of the gable-on-hip roofline. Beneath the gable peak is a fixed four pane window, the only remaining original window on the house. All window openings on the southwest elevation are trimmed in cream brick laid in the three-in three-out pattern with concrete sills and lintels. The openings on this elevation each contain a modern vinyl double-hung window. The arch is trimmed in patterned cream brick.

### INTEGRITY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House, built in 1942, retains its integrity despite its loss of most original windows and application of vinyl to the soffits. The building remains in its original rural setting in Twin Groves and still expresses its use as a small home for a family living in a small agricultural community. Most importantly, the artistry of Silas Owen's stonework remains in excellent condition.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

### SUMMARY

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House was built in 1942 in Twin Groves, Faulkner County. The house is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under **Criterion C** as the best example of a Silas Owens home in the Twin Groves vicinity. The Ealy house is representative of Owen's proclivity toward the Mediterranean style. The house features a large porch with a double arched entry. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House represents several Silas Owen's trademarks including the herringbone pattern, cream brick quoins at the corners, and cream brick around the windows and doors in the three-in, three-out pattern. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is being nominated under the multiple property listing "A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."

### HISTORY

Richard Sr. and Mettie Ealy commissioned Silas Owens to build them a new home in 1941. They previously owned a wood home on Soloman Grove Road. However, the original family home was destroyed by fire. In an effort to prevent a similar tragedy from occurring, Richard Ealy Sr. asked his first cousin, Silas Owens, to build him a new rock home in place of the burned one. Silas Owens completed the home in 1942, and the Ealy family moved in.

Richard and Mettie had a son, Richard Jr. Richard Jr. was the first mayor of the town of Twin Groves. He and several other community members were upset when they were unable to obtain county funds to fix their roads. Their solution was to join the adjacent communities of Zion Grove and Soloman Grove, which they incorporated as the town of Twin Groves in 1991. Richard Ealy Jr. was a vital part of the process and served as the first mayor of the town.

Richard Ealy Jr. lived in the Silas Owens home that his father built until 1987 when he built himself a new home across the street. Over the years he has maintained his childhood home. He replaced the windows and trim due to rot, however, the stonework remains in its original condition. Since vacating the home in 1987 he has used it as a rental property and a center for family gatherings. Richard Jr. hosts a Fourth of July party for his family at the house each year.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

---

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is located in Twin Groves, Faulkner County. The house is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local** significance under **Criterion C** as the best example of a Silas Owens home in the Twin Groves vicinity. The Ealy house is representative of Owen's proclivity toward the Mediterranean style. The house features a large porch with a double arched entry. The home was built in 1942. The Ealy House represents several Silas Owen's trademarks including the herringbone pattern, cream brick quoins at the corners, and cream brick around the windows and doors in the three-in, three-out pattern. The Richard and Mettie Ealy House is being nominated under the multiple property listing "A Storm Couldn't Tear Them Down: The Mixed-Masonry Buildings of Silas Owens, Sr., 1938-1955."

Richard and Mettie Ealy House

Name of Property

Faulkner County, Arkansas

County and State

 **United States Department of the Interior**  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number   9   Page   1  

---

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Oral History as told by Silas Owens, Jr., Personal Interviews by Special Projects Historian Holly Hope from January 2002, through January 2004.

Oral History as told by Ealy, Richard Jr. Owner of house. Interview by National Register Historian Elizabeth A. James, May 24, 2005.

Richard and Mettie Ealy House

Name of Property

Faulkner 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

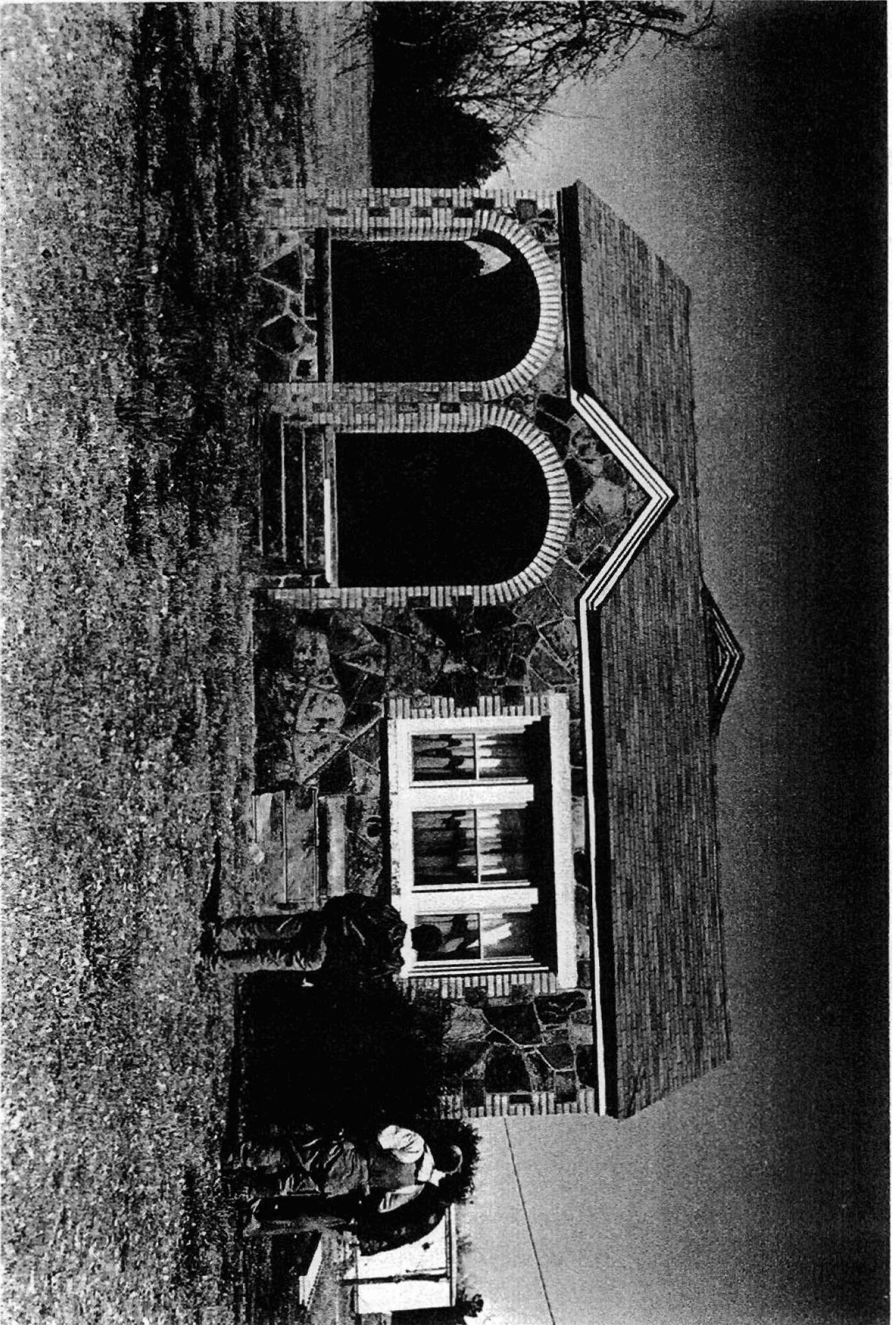
---

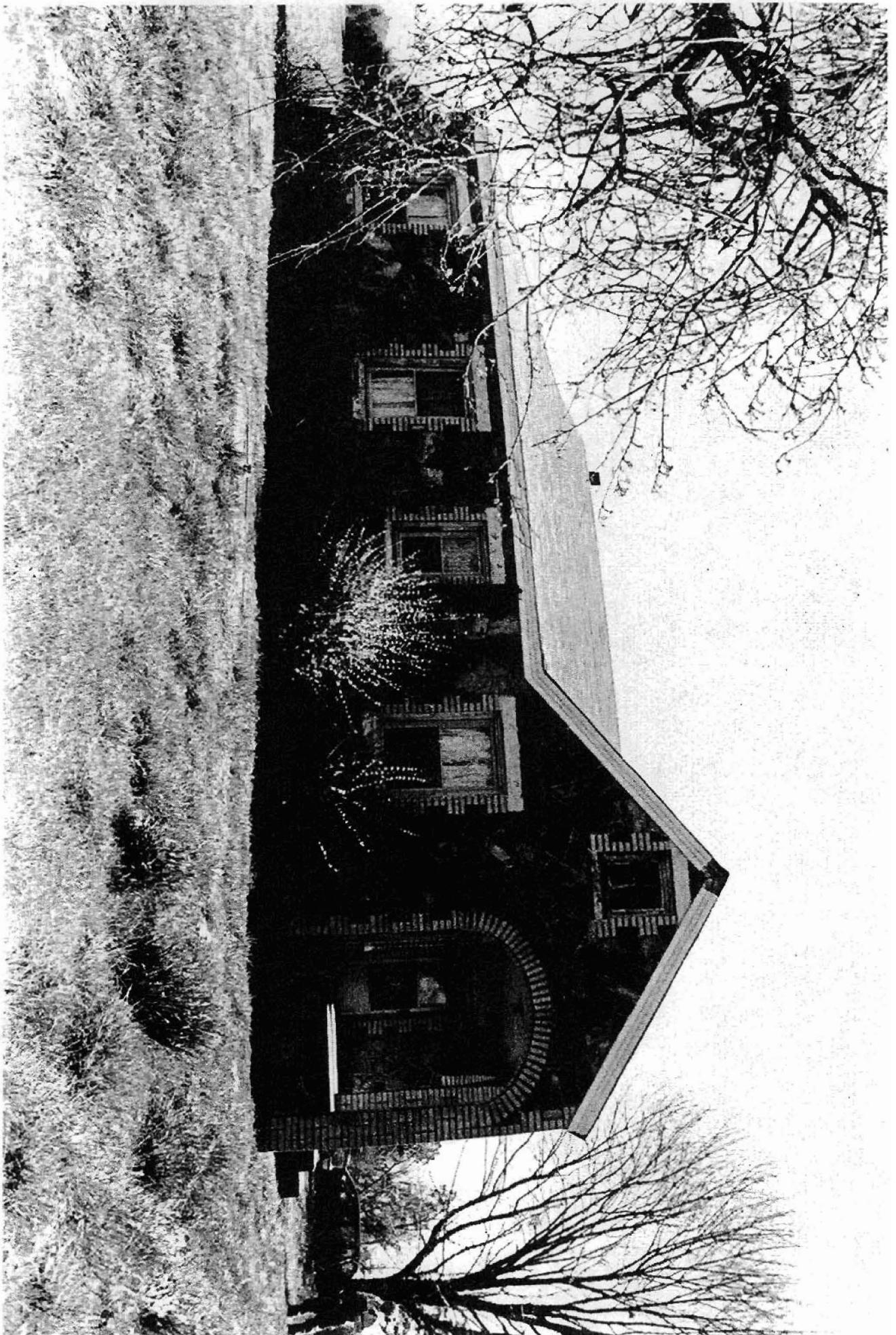
### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

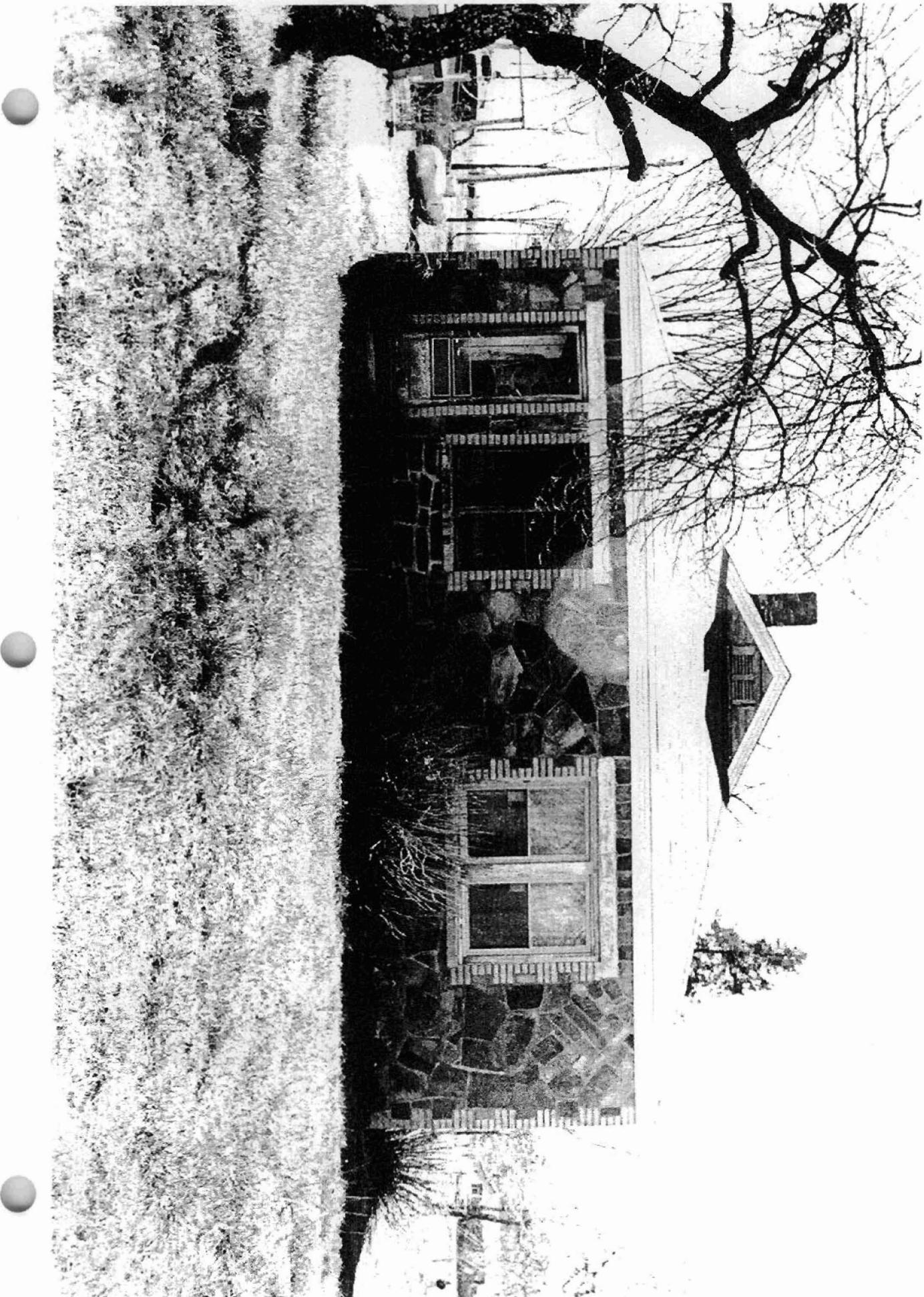
From a point at the intersection of Soloman Grove Road and Doc Lane proceed westerly 247.5 feet along Soloman Grove Road to the point of beginning. From the point of beginning proceed westerly 144.3 feet, thence proceed northerly 144.3 feet, thence proceed easterly 144.3 feet, thence proceed southerly 144.3 feet to the point of beginning.

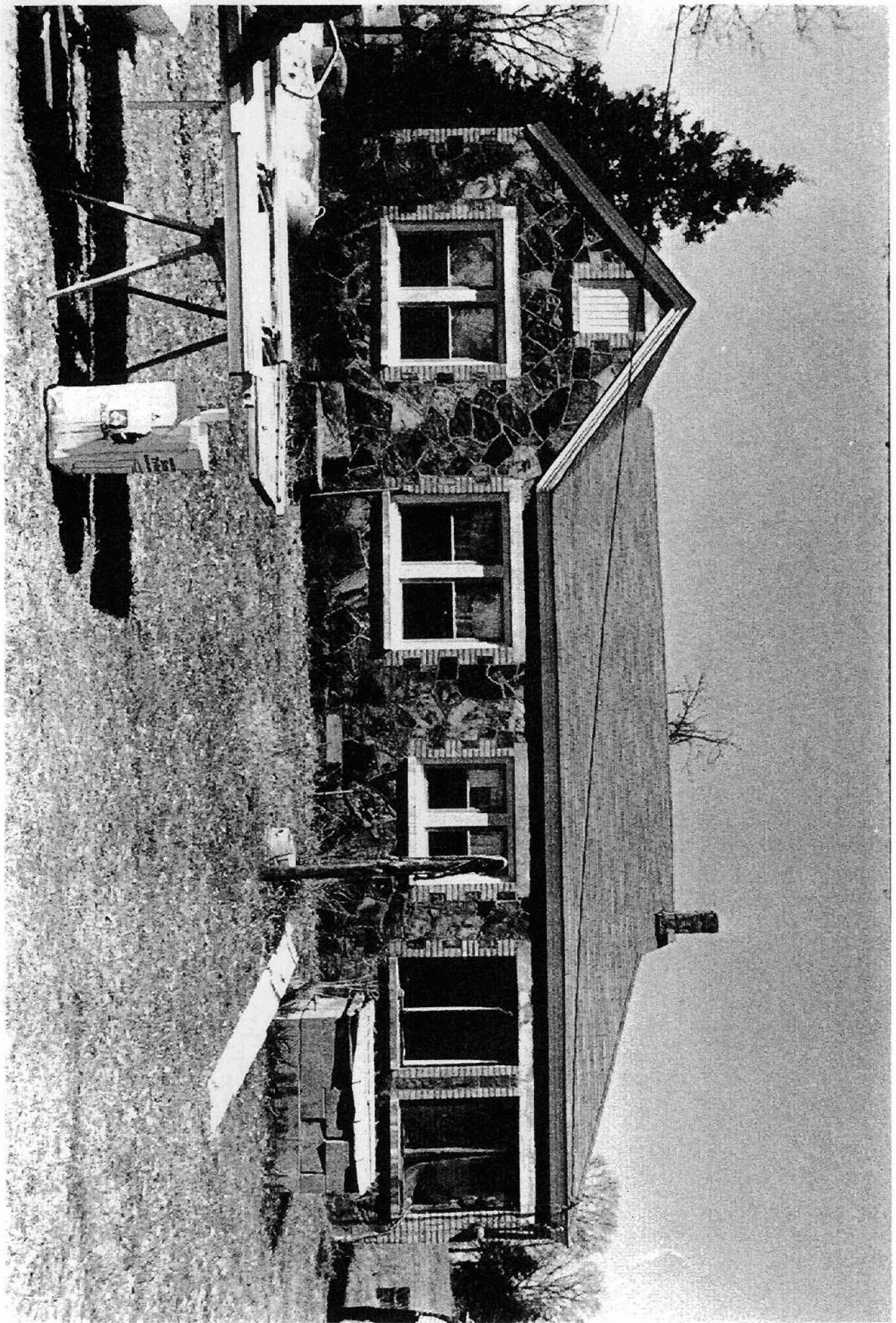
### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

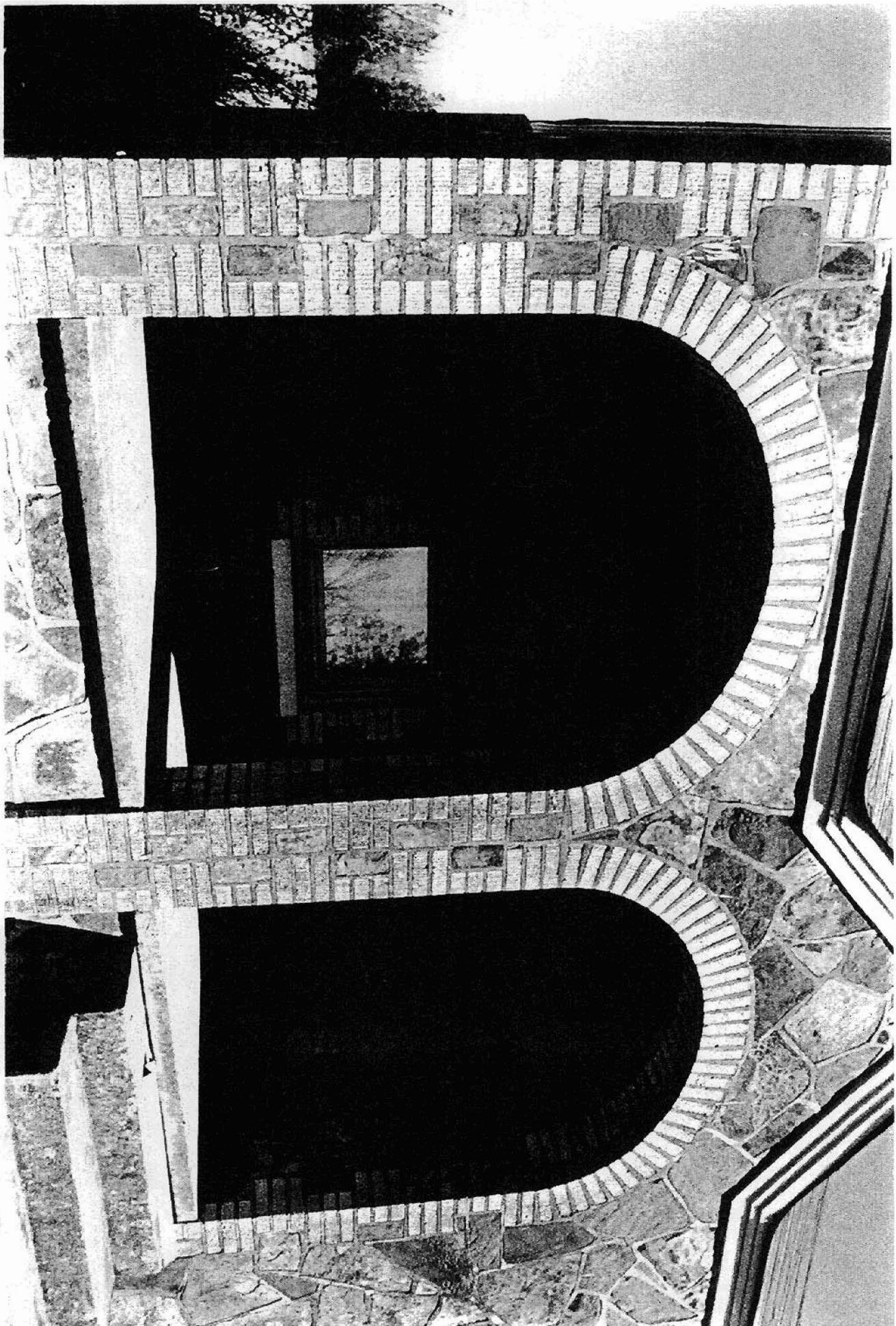
This boundary includes the Richard and Mettie Ealy House and its immediate setting.





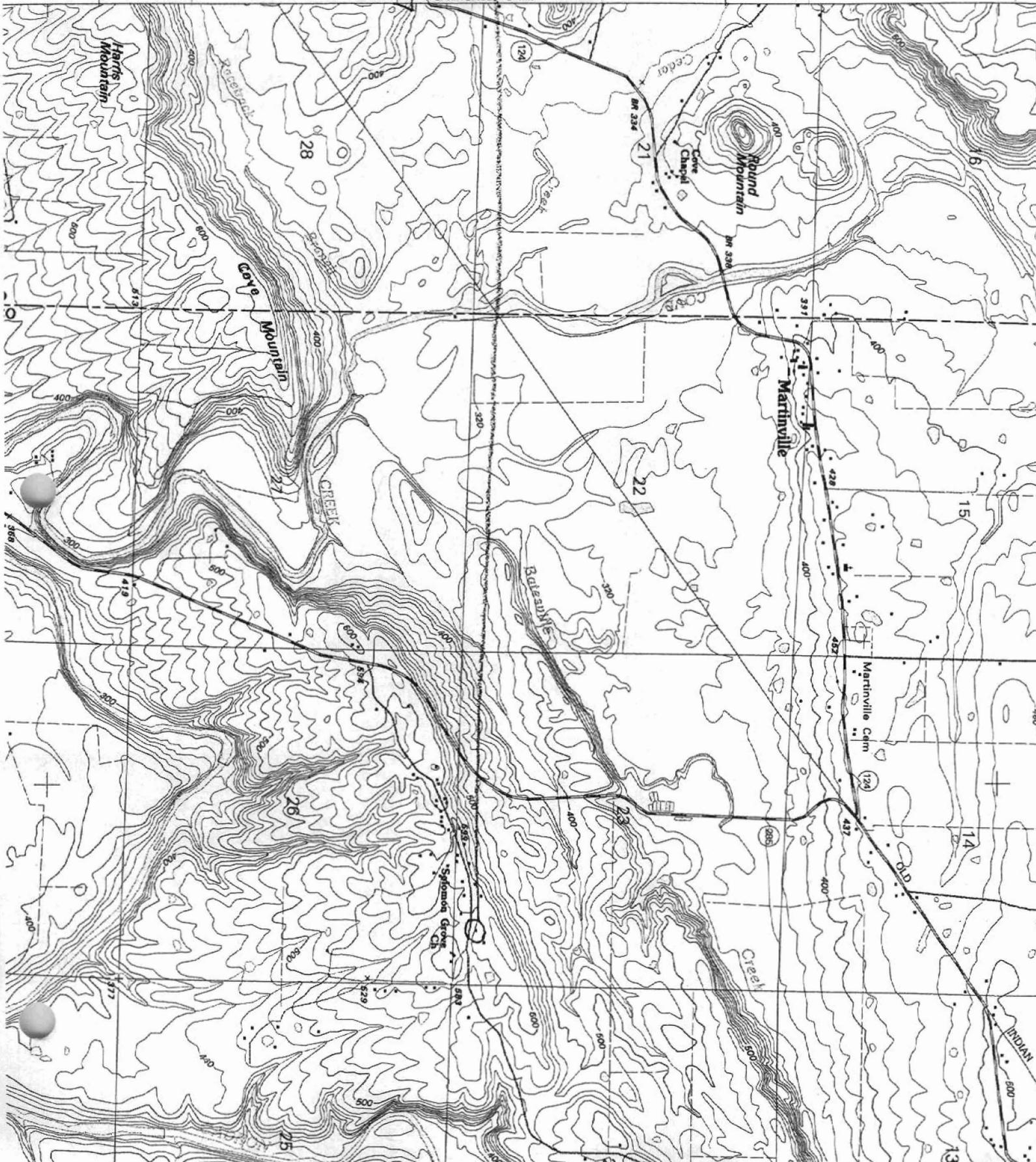






20' 00"

RICHARD AND  
NETTIE EALY  
HOUSE  
TWIN GROVES,  
FAULKNER CO,  
AR  
UTM:  
15J 549954 2811827  
SPRINGFIELD 5 MI.



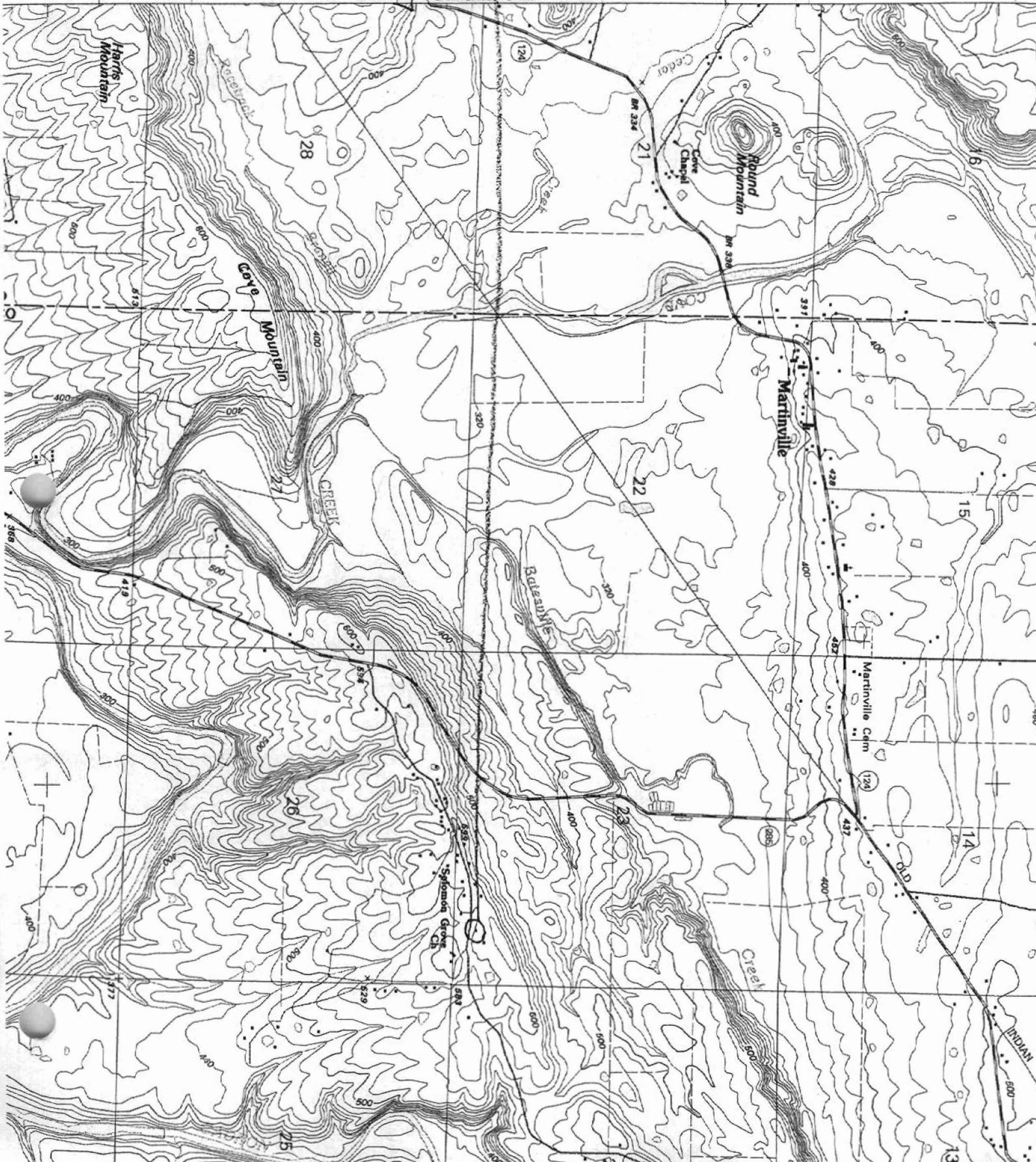
1 30"

3906

3908

3909

3907



1 30"

3906

3908

3909

3907