

*Listed in the N.R.  
9-20-84*

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

**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 Elbert W. Holt House

and/or common \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Location**

street & number 902 N. Main N/A not for publication

city, town Nashville N/A vicinity of

state Arkansas code 05 county Howard code 061

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Dr. and Mrs. James R. Blacklock

street & number P. O. Box 5659

city, town Little Rock, N/A vicinity of state AR 72205

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Circuit Clerk's Office

street & number Howard County Courthouse

city, town Nashville state Arkansas

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title N/A has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no N/A

date N/A  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records N/A

city, town N/A state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

### Condition

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

### Check one

unaltered  
 altered

### Check one

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

### SUMMARY

Constructed as a residence for its builder and his family, the Elbert Holt House in Nashville is a fine example of a comfortable and well-built early twentieth century domestic structure that has received little alteration over the years. One-and-a-half stories in height, this frame house consists of a hip-roofed central portion that is intersected by five gabled projections. Freely interpreted Classical features, characteristic of the Colonial Revival, are incorporated with the irregular plan, resulting in an asymmetrical design clearly reminiscent of the previously popular Queen Anne. Dominating the front elevation is a porch that extends across two-thirds of the facade and continues around the south corner. Other significant features include the wood decoration embellishing three gable ends and the use of pressed sheet metal in the two rear gable ends and interior hallway.

### ELABORATION

Having already established a reputation as an accomplished and quality builder, Elbert W. Holt constructed for himself this residence in 1910, which today stands as a reminder of its owner's high standard of workmanship and attention to detail. Incorporating elements of both the Queen Anne and the Colonial Revival styles, the latter having replaced the former in popularity, the amalgamate design of this house reflects the early twentieth century concern for comfort, livability and craftsmanship. Features characteristic of the Queen Anne include the irregular plan and asymmetrical elevations, the complex arrangement of roofs, spacious front porch and the decorative band sawn and spindle decorative trim in three gable ends. The contemporary influence of the Colonial Revival is subtly expressed through the incorporation of Classical details, the use of novelty siding and the predominance of one-over-one double-hung windows.

Clad with novelty siding, the Holt House has a wood shingle roof and rests upon brick piers. Only the north side elevation has brick infill between the piers. Originally painted pearl grey with white trim, the house has recently been painted pale yellow with white trim, a color scheme still suitable for a house of this period. Two interior brick chimneys pierce the hip roof, as does a single gabled dormer centered in the front slope of the hip roof. The largest and most decorative chimney, with three bands of corbeling and one row of alternately recessed headers, serves the two back-to-back fireplaces in the wall shared by two bedrooms. The smaller, less decorative chimney functions as a flue for the kitchen stove. A single one-over-one double-hung window in the dormer, detailed with flanking pilasters, illuminates a large attic space.

All windows are double-hung, and with the exception of two windows on the front elevation, are one-over-one in their configuration. Centered within the front gabled projection at the northwest corner is a window, which, like that to the right of the off-center entrance, is highlighted with a decorative upper sash consisting of muntins in a diamond pattern along the top and bottom rails, the interior points of which are connected. Windows are simply framed, detailed with architrave window heads and exterior screens of the period.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 7

Page 1

The front porch, with its gently pitched shed roof and beaded board ceiling, extends from below the cornice of the central hip-roofed section. **Supported by six Doric columns**, it curves around the south corner, terminating at a door in the gabled projection of the side elevation. **Consistent on each elevation is the incorporation of cornerboards with simple capitals and a handsome cornice that continues across the width of each gable end.** Wood decoration of sawn and turned wood, a common feature of Queen Anne houses, appears in the gable ends of the front and both side gables. The front entrance, positioned slightly off-center, is composed of a single wood door with an oval beveled glass center and a single light transom. A wood-framed screen door with a five slat bottom configuration, while not original, is typical of the period. The front door opens directly into a long narrow hallway that intersects the depth of the house, leading to a rear door on axis with the front.

A five-sided projecting gable-roofed bay with three windows separated by simple pilasters at each corner, dominates the north side elevation. **This bay serves as the exterior wall of the dining room, to which it adds light and spatial interest.** Other fenestrations on the north elevation include two kitchen windows to the left and a window to the right of the projection.

The asymmetrical rear elevation consists of identical gabled corner projections, with a shed-roofed porch between. Both projections have two windows and pressed sheet metal pediments. With the exception of a missing gabled well shed, the porch, which is a reconstruction, duplicates the original. Slender square columns with railing between, support the porch roof. The rear hall entrance, which is slightly recessed, differs in configuration from the front door, as it is composed of double wood paneled and glass doors with a two-light transom. Two other doors lead to the rear porch, one from each gabled projection.

The interior of the Holt House has received little alteration. Wood floors, walls and beaded ceilings are found throughout. The central hall, with its fourteen foot ceiling, is an impressive space ornamented with pressed metal wainscoting of vertical panels with a stylized foliage and grid pattern. Five doorways, each with simple surrounds and operable transoms lead from the hall to the principal rooms. The kitchen, with beaded board wainscoting, is located at the left end of the hall, next to the dining room. **Two interconnecting rooms on the right each feature a fireplace with typical Colonial Revival architrave mantel shelf and over-mantels detailed with Doric and Ionic colonettes.**

Though no longer in existence, several outbuildings were originally located at the rear of the house. A **smokehouse, with pressed metal gable ends faced south, behind which was located a chicken house.** A cow barn, completely covered with pressed metal was situated to the left of a one car novelty-sided garage. A privy was located behind the garage.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics: government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1910 Builder/Architect Elbert Holt

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

#### SUMMARY

The Elbert W. Holt House stands as a fine example of the turn of the century work of Elbert W. Holt, a local builder in Howard County. Holt constructed a variety of public buildings and residences in Nashville and surrounding communities, including schools, commercial buildings, and the 1905 Howard County Courthouse. **The residences built by Holt** were primarily based on the Colonial Revival style of which the Elbert W. Holt House remains as one of the best examples in Nashville. **Built** by Holt in 1910, the exterior of the Elbert W. Holt House remains intact except for alterations to the back porch. **The interior remains basically** unchanged, including the original pressed tin wainscoting in the hallway and the beaded ceilings. **Most of the construction Holt was responsible** for was brought about by the boon to the Nashville area following the completion of the railroad from Hope to Nashville in 1884, and the move of the county seat from Centre Point to Nashville in 1905. Holt continued to work up into the late 1920's, and was therefore responsible for much of the construction in Nashville during the most significant period of growth for the town.

#### ELABORATION

Elbert Washington Holt was born in 1867 four miles east of Nashville in Bingen, Arkansas. He was the son of J. H. Holt (1842-1929), a Confederate Civil War veteran, and Margaret E. Hutchinson Holt (1845-1882). Elbert Holt lived in Bingen where he learned to be a carpenter and builder. He married Laura J. Ramage in 1886, and they moved to Nashville in 1900 where their first home was on Leslie Street across Dodson Creek from the 1910 Elbert W. Holt House. **Holt teamed up with a masonry contractor** named A. B. Cupp to construct many of the important public and commercial buildings in Nashville in the early 1900's, including the 1907 Nashville High School and the 1912 Nashville Baptist Church. **Holt was also responsible** for the Howard County Courthouse and jail built in Nashville in 1905. In addition, Holt constructed buildings in surrounding communities, including the 1914 schoolhouse in Old Washington, the "peach" hotels in Corinth and Highland where seasonal fruit pickers lived, and the first **buildings at the Murfreesboro diamond mine.** One of the churches in Nashville for which Holt was responsible is listed on the National Register - The First Christian Church (1911).

Elbert W. Holt built his 1910 home not far from his uncle Flavius Holt's House (NR) which was built in the early 1870's, and across the road from the Womack-Parker House (NR) which was built in 1878. **Holt died in** 1930, and his wife remained at the house until she died in 1941.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property - 1.72 acres  
Quadrangle name Nashville, Ark.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 

1	5	4	2	1	1	9	0	3	7	5	7	8	1	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

E 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

F 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

G 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

H 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

### Verbal boundary description and justification

A part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 23, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, more specifically describes as follows: Beginning 399 feet North of the Southwest corner of the said SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of S23, and running thence East 500 feet

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julie Vosmik, Architectural Historian, AHPP  
Jeff Lewellen, Intern, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date March 7, 1984

street & number Suite 200, 225 E. Markham telephone (501) 371-2763

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas, 72201

# 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 *Wilson J. ...*

title \_\_\_\_\_ date 8-15-84

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**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 9

Page 1

Interview with Mrs. Iva Holt Merrill (87), daughter of Elbert W. Holt (Interviewed by Parker Westbrook, August, 1983 at Nashville, Arkansas)

Interview with Mrs. Hopie Holt (91), and Mrs. Addie Holt Martindale (89), sisters of Elbert W. Holt. (Interviewed by Parker Westbrook, January, 1984 at Nashville, Arkansas)

Interview with Parker and Lucille Westbrook by AHPP staff, January 24, 1984 at Nashville, Arkansas.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OMB NO. 1024-0018  
EXP. 12/31/84

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

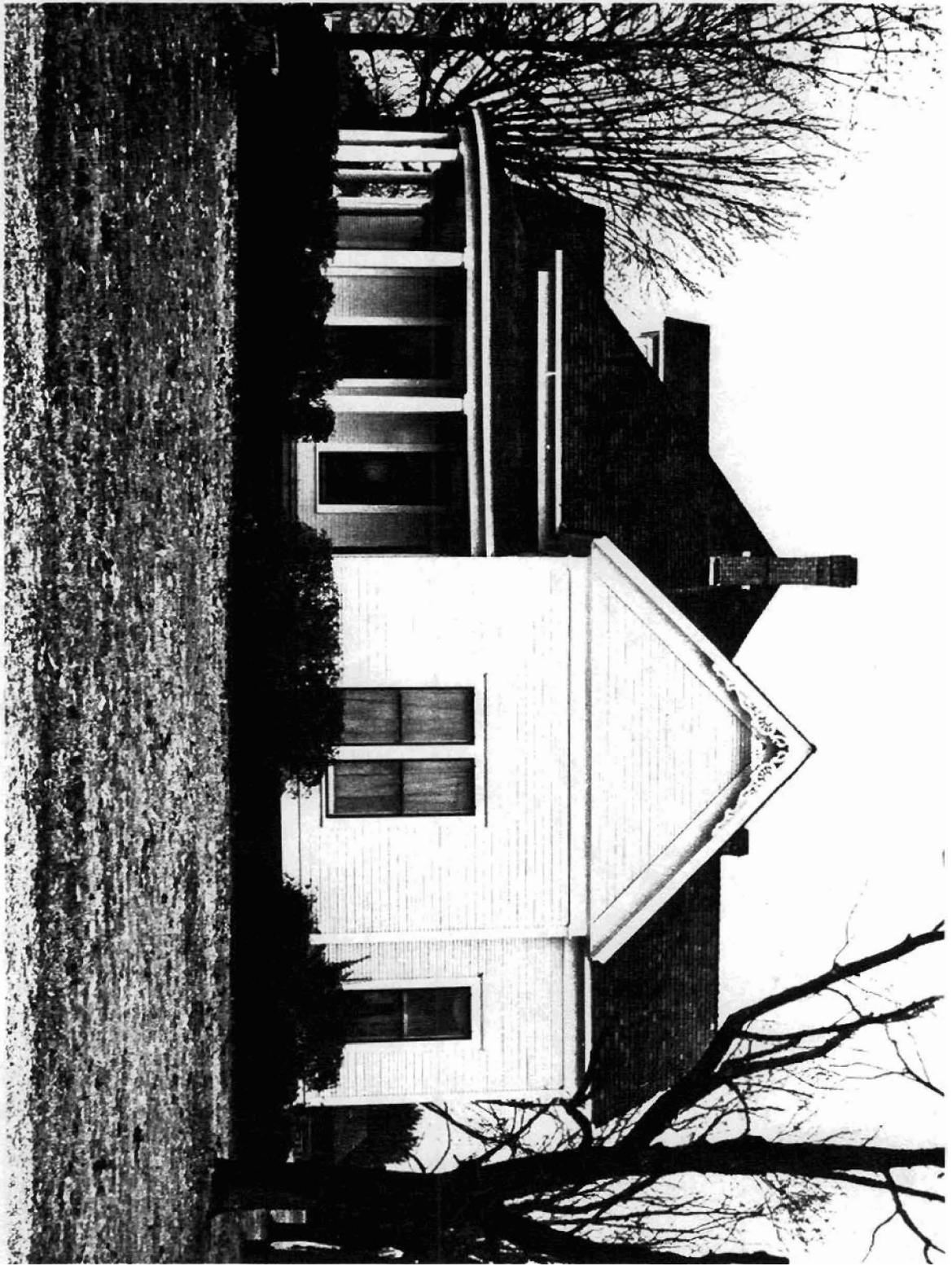
Item number 10

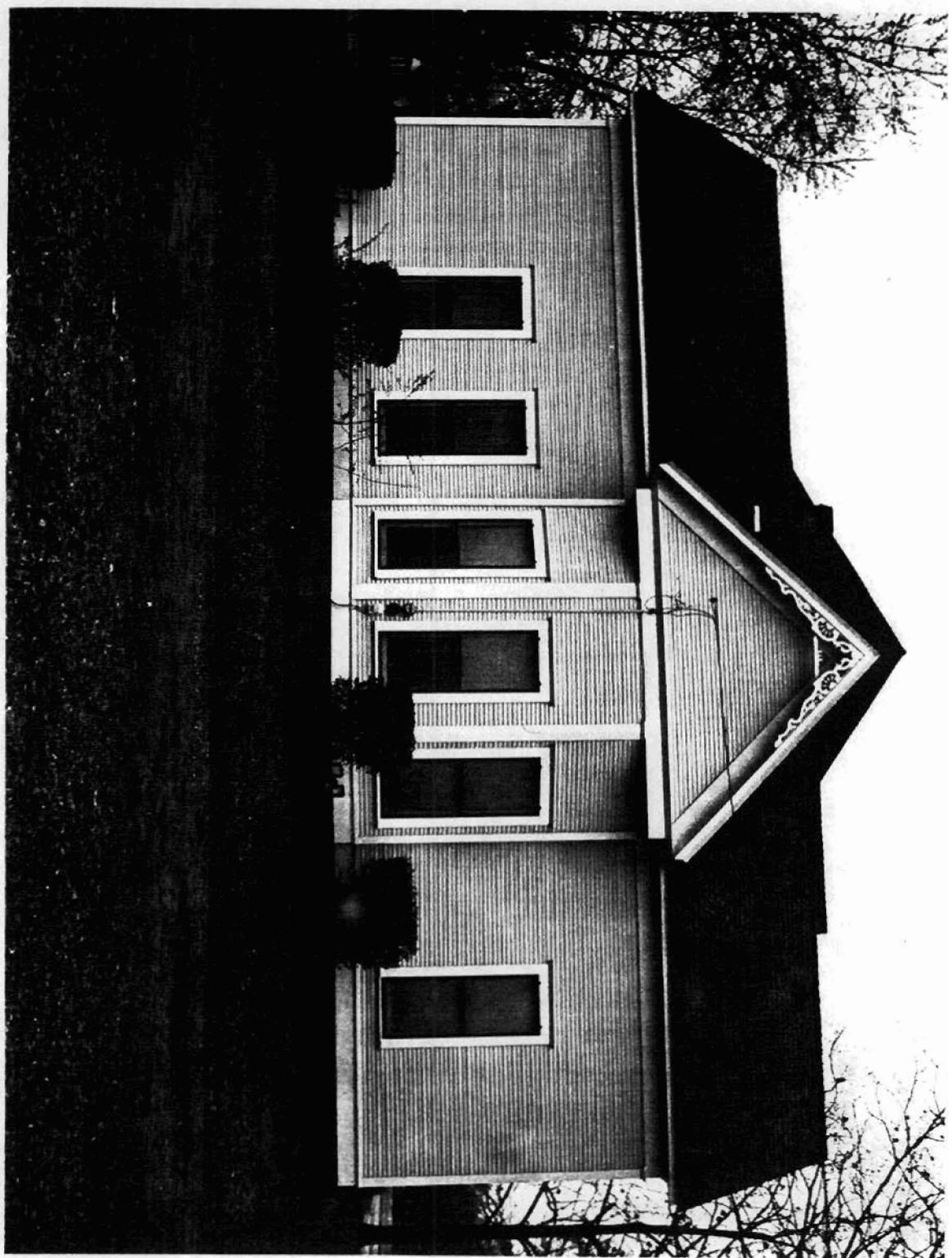
Page 1

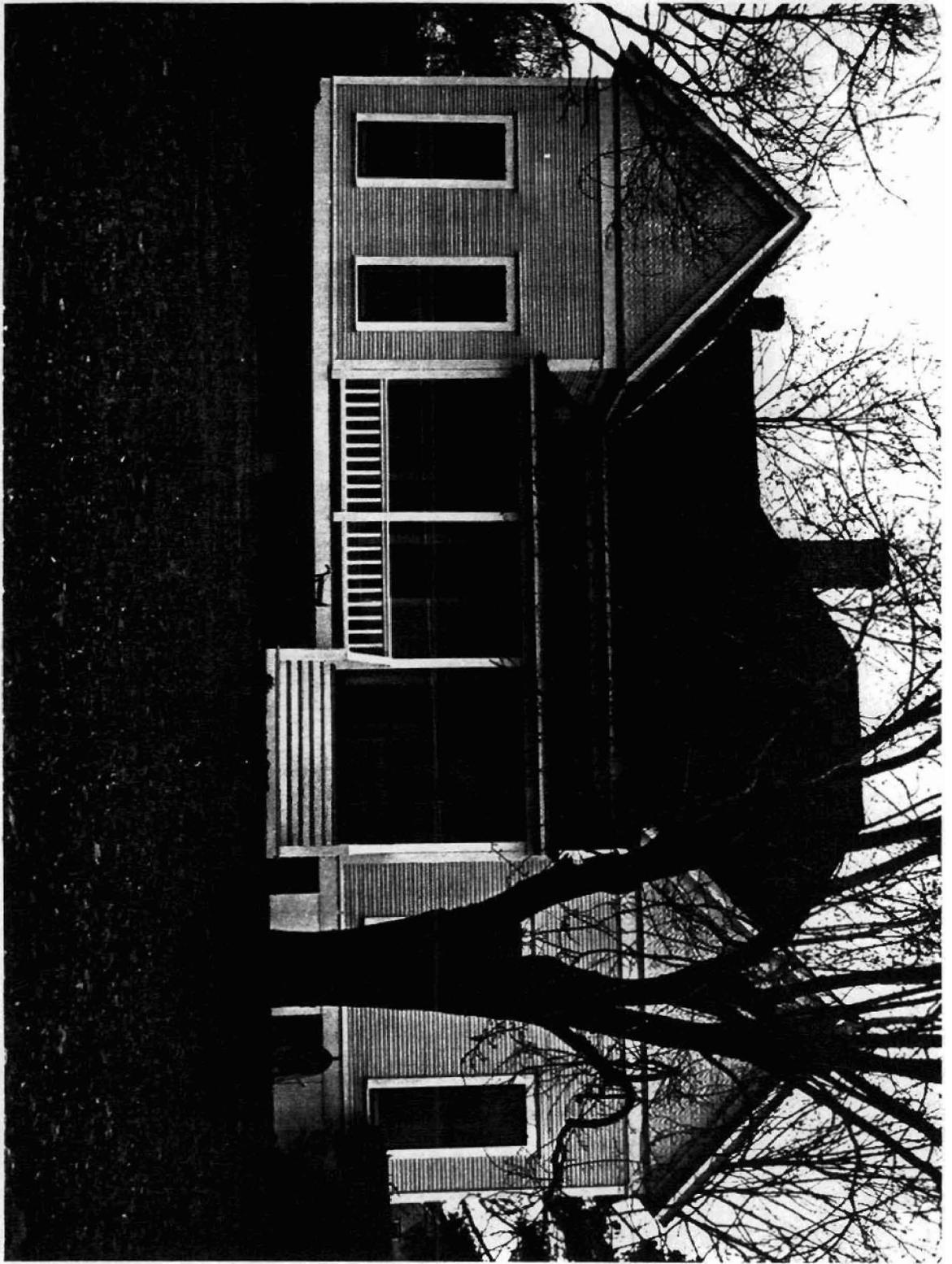
Legal Description continued

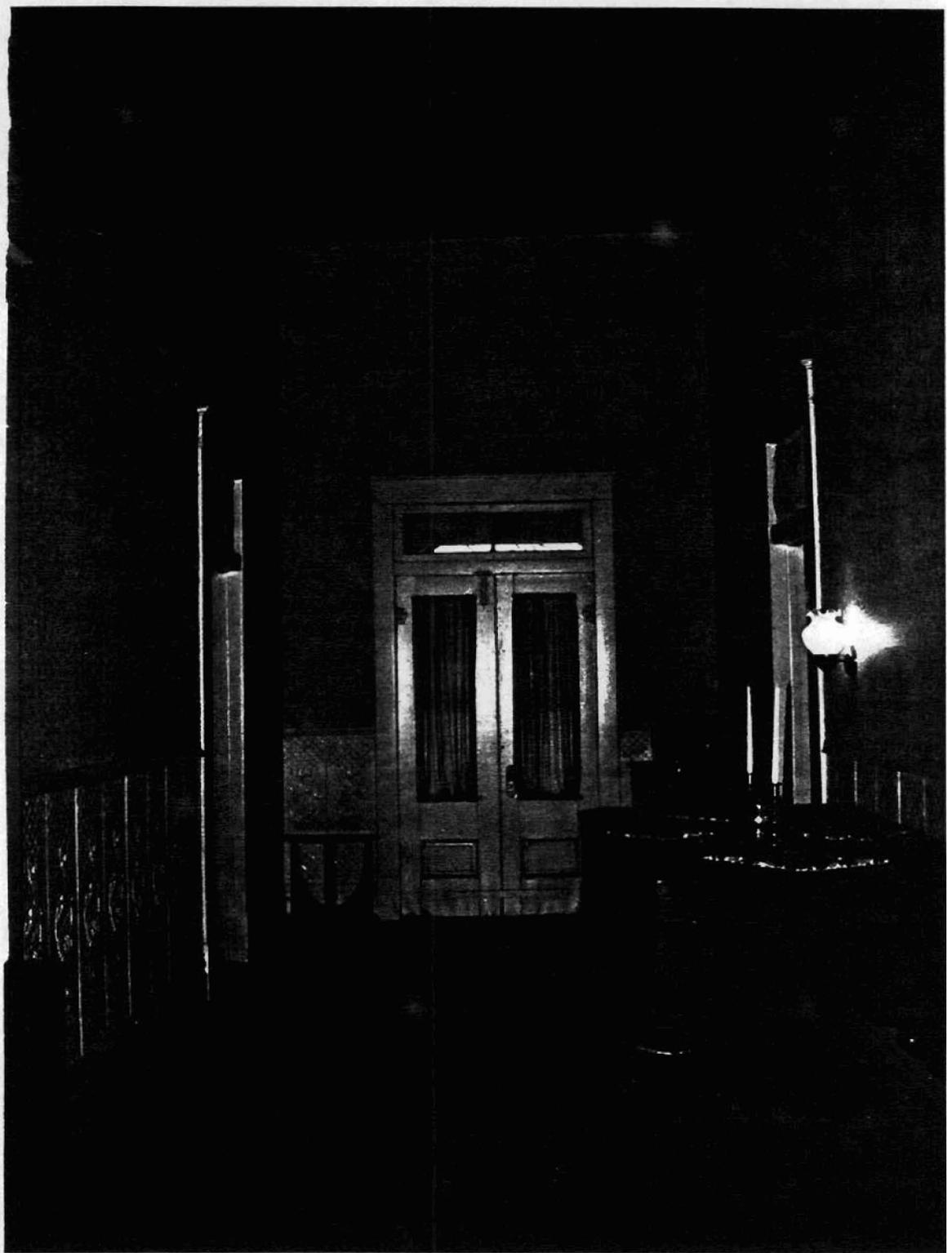
thence South 150 feet to the point of beginning, containing 1.72 acres,  
more or less, in the City of Nashville, Howard County, Arkansas.

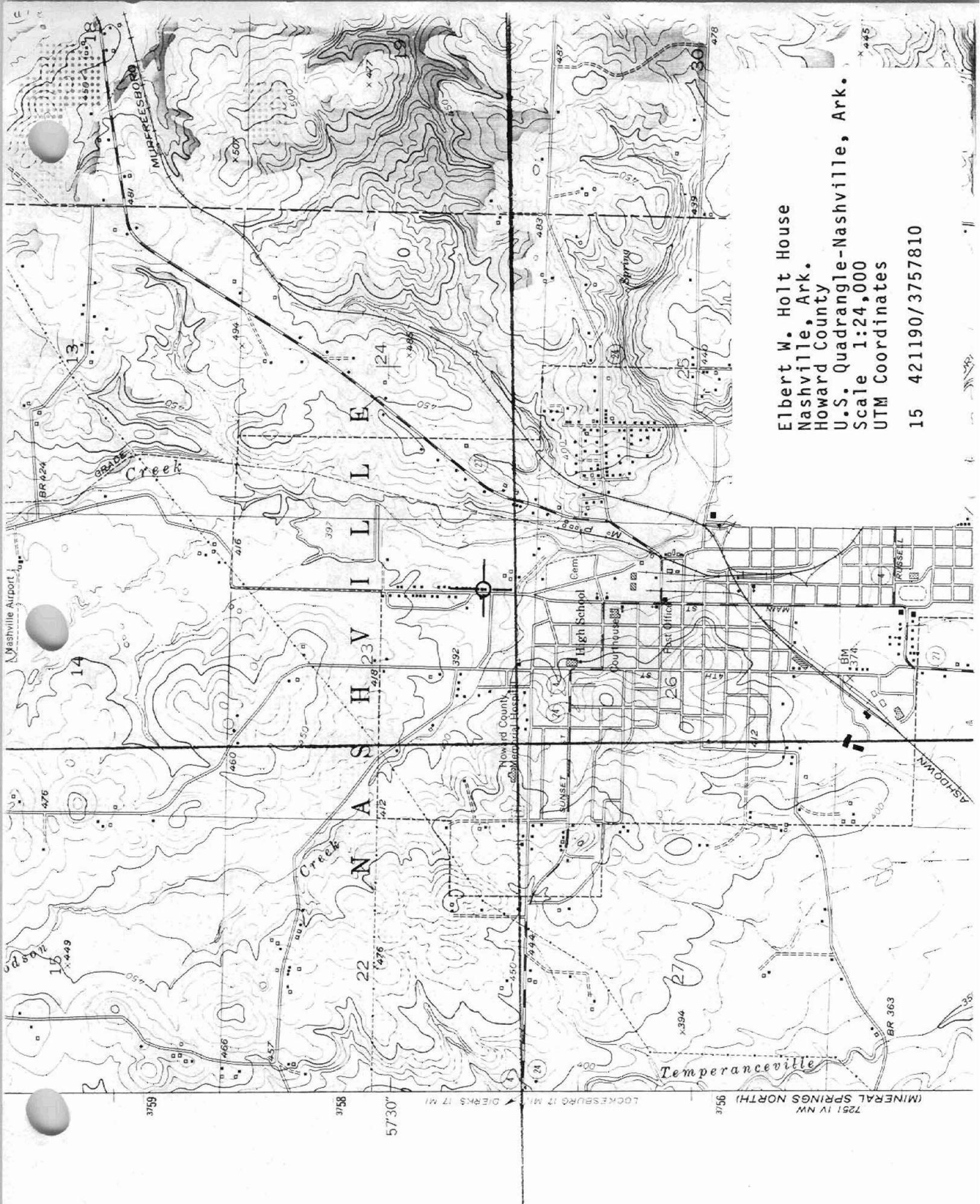












Elbert W. Holt House  
 Nashville, Ark.  
 Howard County  
 U.S. Quadrangle-Nashville, Ark.  
 Scale 1:24,000  
 UTM Coordinates  
 15 421190/3757810