

NR 10-23-86

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 Holt-Poindexter Store Building

and/or common Ogemaw General Store

2. Location

street & number Ouachita County Road No. 101 N/A not for publication

city, town Ogemaw Community (rural, unincorporated) vicinity of 4 miles north of Stephens

state Arkansas code 05 county Ouachita code 103

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mildred Holt Poindexter and Kenneth W. Poindexter

street & number Route 2, Box 217

city, town Stephens _____ vicinity of _____ state Arkansas

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Ouachita County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Camden _____ state Arkansas

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

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

date _____ federal state county local

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ 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

Located to the east of the Cotton Belt Railroad in the rural community of Ogemaw, Ouachita County, the Holt-Poindexter Store was built in 1904 by H. L. Holt. The Holt-Poindexter Store typifies the rural vernacular architecture of county stores through its simplistic plan and rustic appearance. Originally built to serve the lumber community established in the area in the 1890's, the Holt-Poindexter Store is the oldest continually-operated general store in south Arkansas and maintains a high degree of its original architectural integrity.

ELABORATION

The Holt-Poindexter Store is sited east of the Cotton Belt Railroad and Ouachita County Road No. 101 in the rural unincorporated community of Ogemaw, four miles north of Stephens, Ouachita County. The store is a one-story, rectangular, frame structure built with unknotted virgin pine lumber. The store has six-by-six oak sills that rest on large rocks and wood blocks have been replaced with concrete blocks.

The facade is fronted by a shed porch supported by four plain square posts and covered in tin which lies on exposed rafters. The front-facing gable is centered with a wood louver air vent. A squared falsefront was once originally a part of the facade but was removed in 1948 due to leakage.

Original hand-planed pine double-doors provide entry into the store and are flanked by double one-over-one double-hung sash windows. With bars handcut by H. L. Holt from sheets of iron, the front windows were covered by order of the U. S. Post Office Department following an attempted robbery of the post office and store during the Great Depression. Two small casement windows are placed next to the cornice on both north and south elevations.

In 1925 a ten-by-twenty addition was constructed on the north side of the building for use as a post office. In 1948 the post office addition was removed and a new addition was constructed on the rear elevation to accomodate a feed storage room, an office, and a bathroom. The addition is accessible through a doorway on the north elevation with a shed-covered landing.

Due to deterioration of the wood the entire exterior of the structure has been covered in brick roll siding. The original tin roof is intact.

The interior possesses original pine floors, walls, and ceilings. North and south walls are lined with shelves and bins and a stove is positioned at the center of the room.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)	

Specific dates 1904 **Builder/Architect** Curtis Smith, an Ogemaw carpenter

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SUMMARY

The Holt-Poindexter Store is a classic example of the small general store which once typified the retail economy of rural America. Built in 1904, it has been continuously operated by three generations of the same family, and is reputedly the oldest general store in South Arkansas.

The building is located in the Ogemaw Community, which was settled in the 1890's by sawmill interests and which was also in the vicinity of the first oil well drilled in Arkansas, in 1920 (Lester & Halton #1 Well Site, NR listed 4/3/76). The timber industry abandoned Ogemaw in 1948, however, and the real oil-producing wells proved to be farther to the southeast in Union County, and Ogemaw never equalled its commercial heyday of the early 1900's when its population reached 500. Even so the general store, which was begun by the present owner's grandfather, has maintained operation to the present day.

ELABORATION

H. L. Holt (b. 1869) had interest in various sawmills in south Arkansas and operated general merchandise commissaries at the mill sites. In 1904 he had the Ogemaw store constructed at what was then the location of a thriving timber community. Holt himself lived in Junction City, on the Arkansas-Louisiana border, until 1914 when his mill there burned and he moved his family to Ogemaw and personally took over operation of the general store.

Holt was appointed postmaster in 1915, and the store doubled as a post office until direct service to Ogemaw was discontinued in 1968. A Cotton Belt railroad depot stood across the road from 1912 to 1935, and the store provided a gathering place for residents interested in the comings and goings of local communication. Holt served as postmaster until 1940, and was also on the Ogemaw school board until that district was consolidated with nearby Stephens in 1945.

In 1948 Holt's daughter and her husband, Chester Poindexter, took over operation of the general store. Following Holt's death in 1952, the name was changed to Poindexter Grocery. Chester Poindexter died in 1983 and his son Kenneth assumed proprietorship of the firm.

Kenneth Poindexter has maintained the Ogemaw store and operates it much in the manner of his father and grandfather. He has also effected the return of the timber industry to Ogemaw with the formation of the American Pulpwood Company, his business which opened in 1879 at a site across the road from the store building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Thomas C. Meredith home at Ogemaw.
2. Application for post office at Evans, Arkansas, dated October 30, 1889.
3. L. Kirkland letterhead dated January 16, 1896, showing M. A. Johnson as general manager.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Stephens, Arkansas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

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

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet

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 Kenneth W. Poindexter

organization

date September 9, 1986

street & number Route 2, Box 217

telephone (501) 786-5594

city or town Stephens

state Arkansas 71764

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 *[Signature]*

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 7-16-87

For NPS use only

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

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

Verbal Boundary

The property is located in the northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of the southwest $\frac{1}{2}$ of section 1, township 15 south, range 19 west.

The property is located in the unincorporated community of Ogemaw, on County road No. 101, 4 miles northeast of Stephens. Commencing at a point 445' north of the south section line of section 1 on County road No. 101, proceed 20' east to the southwest corner of the property. Then proceed 28' north to the northwest corner of the property. Then proceed 45' east to the northeast corner of the property. Then proceed 28' south to the southeast corner of the property, then proceed 45' west to the southwest corner of the property thereby completing the rectangle and enclosing the triangle.

BORDEN



KODIAK

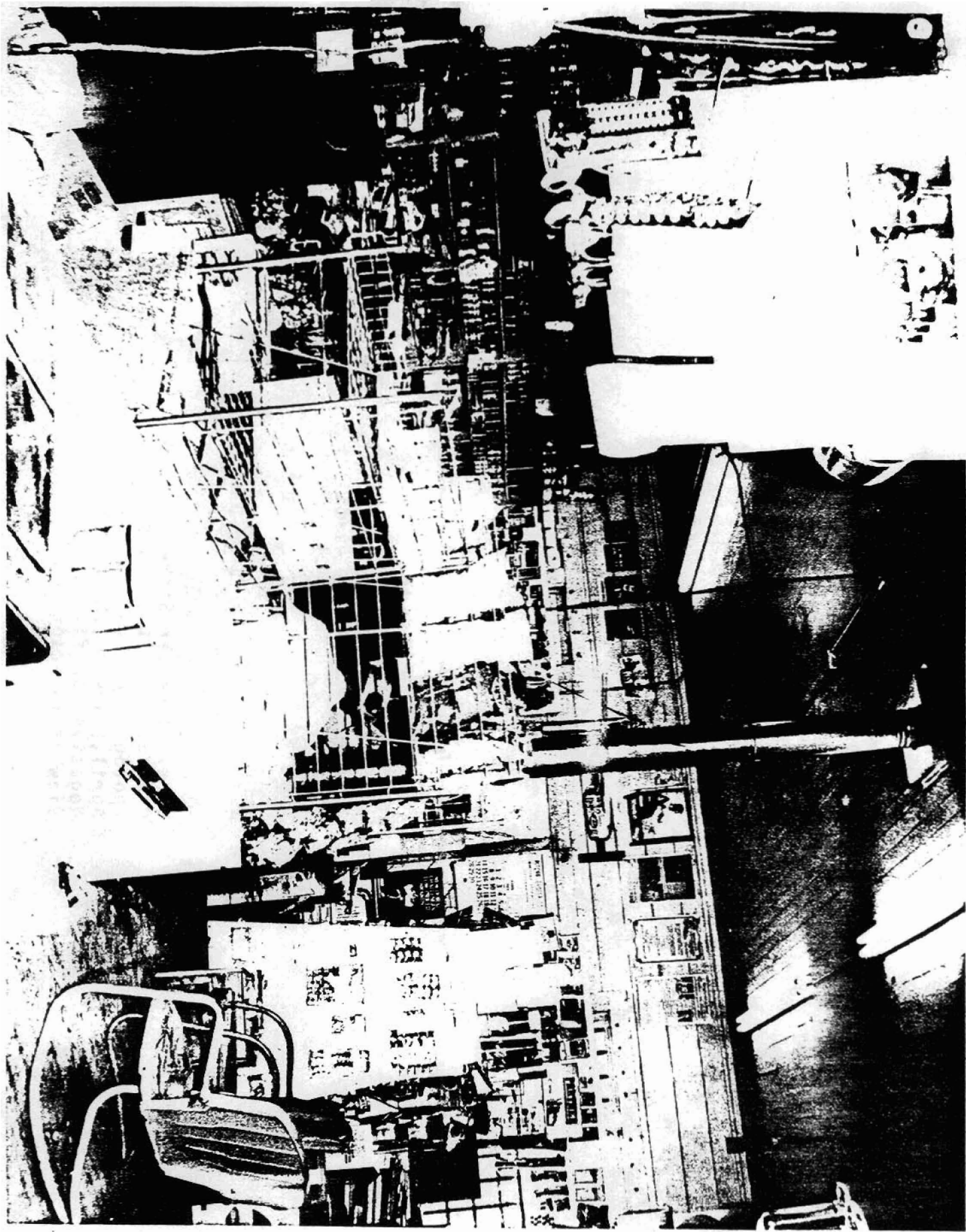
A NEW ADVENTURE
IN SMOKELESS TOBACCO

AMERICAN
EXPRESS
Money
Orders
SOLD HERE

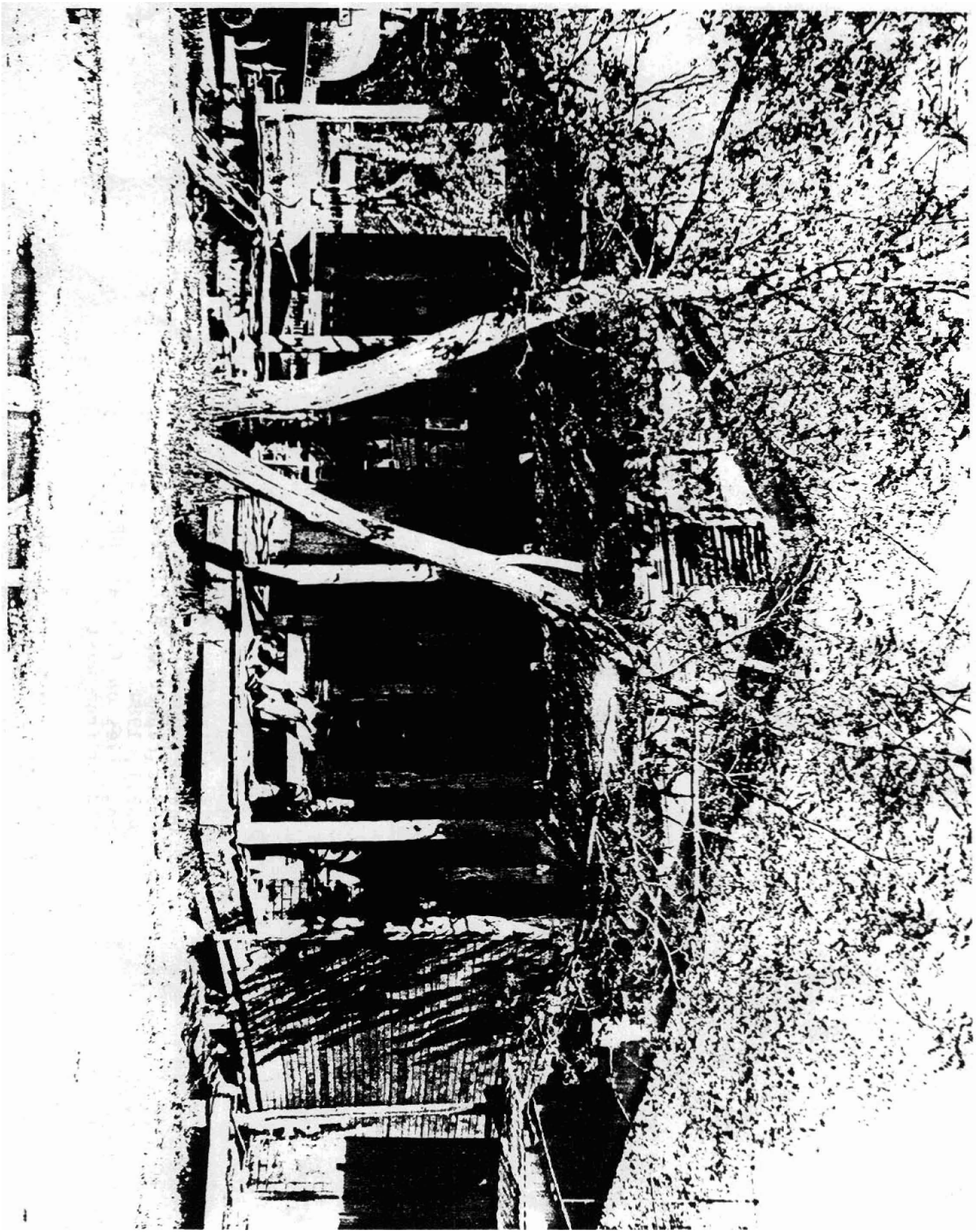
Winston
America's
Best

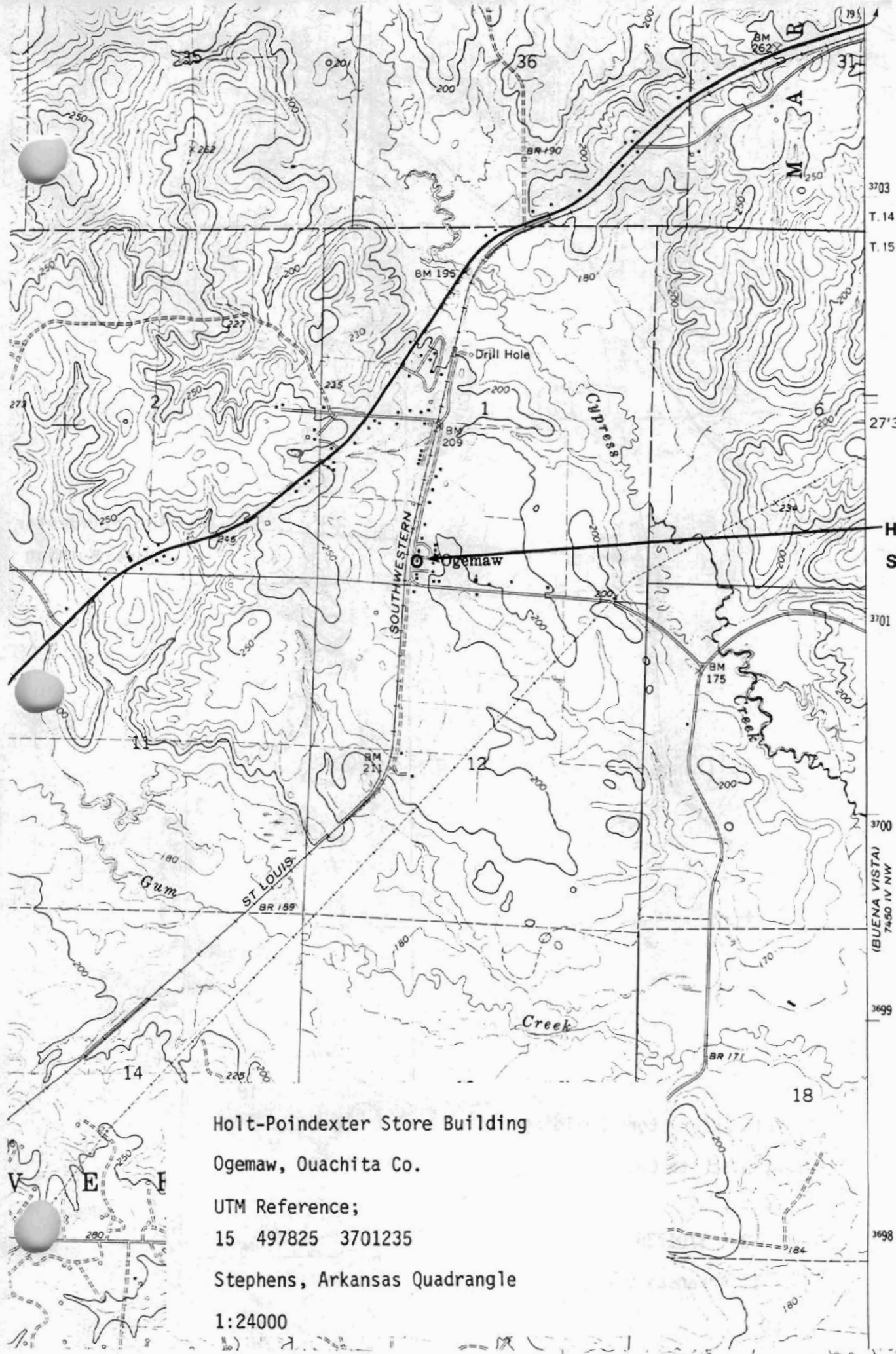

Purley
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
-60
The Light
refreshment

Bl









3703
T. 14 S.
T. 15 S.
27' 30"
3701
3700
3699
3698

Holt-Poindexter
Store Building

Holt-Poindexter Store Building
Ogemaw, Ouachita Co.
UTM Reference;
15 497825 3701235
Stephens, Arkansas Quadrangle
1:24000

