

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR Listed: 5-20-03

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 Newton Sutterfield Farmstead

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1797 Horton Hill Road

☐ not for publication

city or town Alco

☐ vicinity

state Arkansas code AR county Stone code 137 zip code 72680

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.)

Cecilia Marras
Signature of certifying official/Title

4/3/03
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

Sutterfield, Newton, Farmstead

Name of Property

Stone 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	
3	0	buildings
0	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
4	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

"Historic Resources of Stone County"

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: storage

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: animal facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Plain/Traditional

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Sandstone

walls Weatherboard

WOOD

roof Tin

other

Narrative Description

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

Sutterfield, Newton, Farmstead

Name of Property

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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)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

Circa 1850-1953

Significant Dates

Circa 1850

Circa 1900

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

Architect/Builder

Newton Sutterfield

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: _____

Sutterfield, Newton, Farmstead

Name of Property

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	15	554914	3974186
	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.)

SE 1/4 NW 1/4 of Section 29, Township 15 north, Range 13 west

Boundary Justification

The boundary contains all extant resources historically associated with the farm.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Zac Cothren

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

date 2/17/03

street & number 1500 Tower Building 323 Center St.

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

street & number

telephone

city or town

state

zip code

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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SUMMARY

Located down an unpaved county road in western Stone County near the rural community of Alco is the Newton Sutterfield farmstead. The remaining resources associated with the farm include the house, two barns, and spring box. Unfortunately, a blacksmith shop, smokehouse, and stone fence have been lost in recent years. The house was constructed circa 1850 with other buildings being added to the property at later dates. Although we do not have an exact date of the house's construction, there are accounts that place the home at the location before the Civil War. The home is an excellent example of the vernacular architecture that is common in the Ozark Mountains of North Arkansas. The building was at one time a double-pen, hand-hewn log building. Whether it was originally built as a double-pen or as a single-pen is unknown. Most likely the north pen was constructed first with the southern pen being added shortly thereafter, however, there is no concrete evidence to support this theory. Circa 1900 two rooms were added to the back of the building and the logs were covered with board and batten siding. Sometime before 1950 the house was sheathed in weatherboard on the front elevation and with clapboard on the other three sides giving the building its current appearance. The property probably holds great archeological potential; however it is not being nominated for that reason at this time.

ELABORATION

The Newton Sutterfield farmstead, located near the small community of Alco in Stone County, Arkansas, is a wonderful example of a yeomen farm in the Arkansas Ozarks. Unfortunately, there is very little written record of the home's history. We do know through oral history that the house was constructed sometime before the Civil War, with subsequent outbuildings to follow throughout the years. The house is a double-pen log structure with two additional frame rooms added off of the back around 1900. The logs were sheathed with board and batten siding probably around the same time the extra rooms were added. Although hand-hewn logs can be seen inside the building, all notching has been covered with either trim or exterior siding. It is unknown what method of notching was used in the building's construction. A full front porch was also added to the building at an early date. The building's last siding application came some time before 1950 when the front of the house was covered with weatherboard and the remaining three sides sheathed in clapboards. The house sits atop a continuous stone foundation and is sheltered by a corrugated metal gable roof. A large stone chimney still stands along the building's north wall and remains in excellent condition. The surrounding country side and extreme rural location add significantly to the integrity of the farmstead.

The front of the Newton Sutterfield house faces east toward a dirt county road. The house has a symmetrical façade sheathed in weatherboard and sheltered under a full porch with four posts supporting a shed roof. The house is fenestrated by a two-over-two double-hung window followed by the first of two front entryways. Moving north, the house is fenestrated by two more double-hung windows. The main entrance and another double-hung window make up the final elements of the front elevation.

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The north elevation is made up in part by the original log structure and partially by the rear addition. A large stone chimney is located on the original section of the building and is the most prominent feature of the entire elevation. There is only one window on the elevation, which is located near the back of the building. The window opening remains, but the actual window is gone. The back portion of the north elevation was added circa 1900 and is of frame construction.

The back of the building faces west and is comprised solely of the 1900 addition. A single back door followed by two double-hung windows comprises the rear elevation. The first window has a two-over-two pane configuration. Although the frame remains in tact on the second window, all of its sashes have been removed.

The south side of the house is fenestrated by two windows. The first window is located on the circa 1900 addition and is a double-hung two-over-two window. The second window is located on the log constructed portion of the building. It is a six-over-six double-hung window, but the top portion of the window has been removed leaving the space open to the elements.

The interior of the building contains a couple of noteworthy features. A large open fireplace constructed of stone dates from the time of the building's construction. It is topped with a wood mantel that is probably not original, yet is historic. An important aspect of the home is found where the addition was added to the building in circa 1900. What would have been the west exterior wall of the original structure has been left uncovered giving the best available view of the building's hand-hewn logs.

Other than the house, there are three remaining structures that contribute to the property. The oldest is a small barn situated a short distance north of the building that was constructed sometime around 1900. The frame building has a central entryway with a hay loft located in the gable end of the steeply-pitched roof. The barn is made up of a main area with an enclosed shed on each side and the back. The central portion of the barn is sheathed in clapboards and the sheds enclosed with vertical board. At an unknown date the barn stopped being used for livestock and became a food storage area. At that time a small stove was added to keep enough heat in the barn to prevent jars and potatoes from freezing.

The second barn is a frame building topped with a gambrel roof located across the county road to the northeast of the house. Built shortly before 1950, it is the newest building associated with the farm and is much larger than the older one. It is sheathed in a combination of board and batten and clapboards. The barn has a large central crib with an enclosed storage area on the north side and an open equipment storage area on the south.

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The other contributing resource is a spring box located just west of the house. It is constructed of concrete and was used as a reservoir to collect water running out of the year-round natural spring that runs through the property. It was built at an unknown date, but we can safely assume it is older than 50 years. It is also significant because the spring most likely was a key factor in Newton Sutterfield's decision to build on the site.

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SUMMARY

The Newton Sutterfield Farmstead is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C**, with **local significance**, as the best example of a 19th Century vernacular residence and small, subsistence farmstead in the community of Alco (historically known as Locust Grove) in western Stone County, Arkansas. It is also being nominated under **Criterion A** for its association with the early settlement of Stone County. The farmstead is being nominated as an amendment to the multiple property nomination "**History and Architectural Resources of Stone County**".

ELABORATION

The present day community of Alco, historically known as Locust Grove, lies in extreme western Stone County. Although Locust Grove was one of the first established communities of Stone County, it was for the most part uninhabited when J. Newton Sutterfield first settled in the area in the 1850s. Much of the county was designated a Cherokee Reservation from 1817 to 1828. Settlement outside the Indian reservation did not begin until the early 1830s.

Early passage to the region was largely on the White River, but the mountainous topography impeded travel through the interior. Initial settlement was primarily along the bottom lands of the waterways and atop plateaus. Migration and development of the area was quite slow. However, in 1873 Independence, Izard, Searcy and Van Buren Counties all contributed toward the formation of Stone County.

The area where Newton Sutterfield settled was neither along a waterway, nor atop a fertile plateau. The distance of present day Alco from a navigable waterway and the fact that Sutterfield had settled there before the Civil War are strong indications that he was one of the earliest settlers of the immediate area. We are not certain of the exact year that Sutterfield came to the area. According to local history, one returning Civil War soldier remembers the Sutterfield home as being the first building he recognized when walking home from the Civil War. Therefore, the home was definitely there before the Civil War and probably had been there for several years before.

The isolated location required that a family be self sufficient for their own survival. The Sutterfields had an orchard and garden that provided the family with fruit and vegetables. They also had pecan and walnut trees that added variety to their diet as well as provide some small additional income. The family was quite industrious when compared to most in the region. They raised livestock and chickens for their own use and for economic gain through sale and more often the case trade. Mr. Sutterfield also had a blacksmith shop which was vital on the farm and also provided the family with a small income. The farm was at one time a quite thriving place.

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At one time there was a blacksmith shop, smokehouse, privy, springhouse and several stone fences associated with the property. Sadly these resources have been lost to time. After the Sutterfield family left the land it was purchased by the Marriott family. A small barn built by Edward Marriott sometime shortly after 1900 still stands and is in good condition. A larger barn was also added to the farm around 1950.

The house was last lived in during the 1970s. It is starting to show its age, but current owner Sherry Branscum has plans to restore the home and remaining resources. The land around the farm is still used for cattle farming.

There is very little written record of the farm or of J. Newton Sutterfield. Unfortunately, this is often the case when dealing with properties located in more isolated parts of the state. All one can do with properties such as this is try to ascertain as much factual information as possible from local oral history and the few available written accounts and known trends of the locality.

Today, the Newton Sutterfield Farmstead near Alco is a living reminder of life in the Ozark Mountain region in the latter nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The non-forgiving land on which the farm is located gives a good indication of the determination and durability of the early families that made a home out of this uninhabited land. The collection of buildings that remain on the property span a period of almost one-hundred years and show the evolution of the typical yeomen farmstead from the original log residence into a fully functioning farm.

Statement of Significance

The Newton Sutterfield Farmstead is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion C**, with **local significance**, as the best example of a 19th Century vernacular residence and small, subsistence farmstead in the community of Alco (historically known as Locust Grove) in western Stone County, Arkansas. It is also being nominated under **Criterion A** for its association with the early settlement of Stone County. The farmstead is being nominated as an amendment to the multiple property nomination "**History and Architectural Resources of Stone County**".

Sutterfield, Newton, Farmstead
Name of Property

Stone County, Arkansas
County and State

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Bibliography

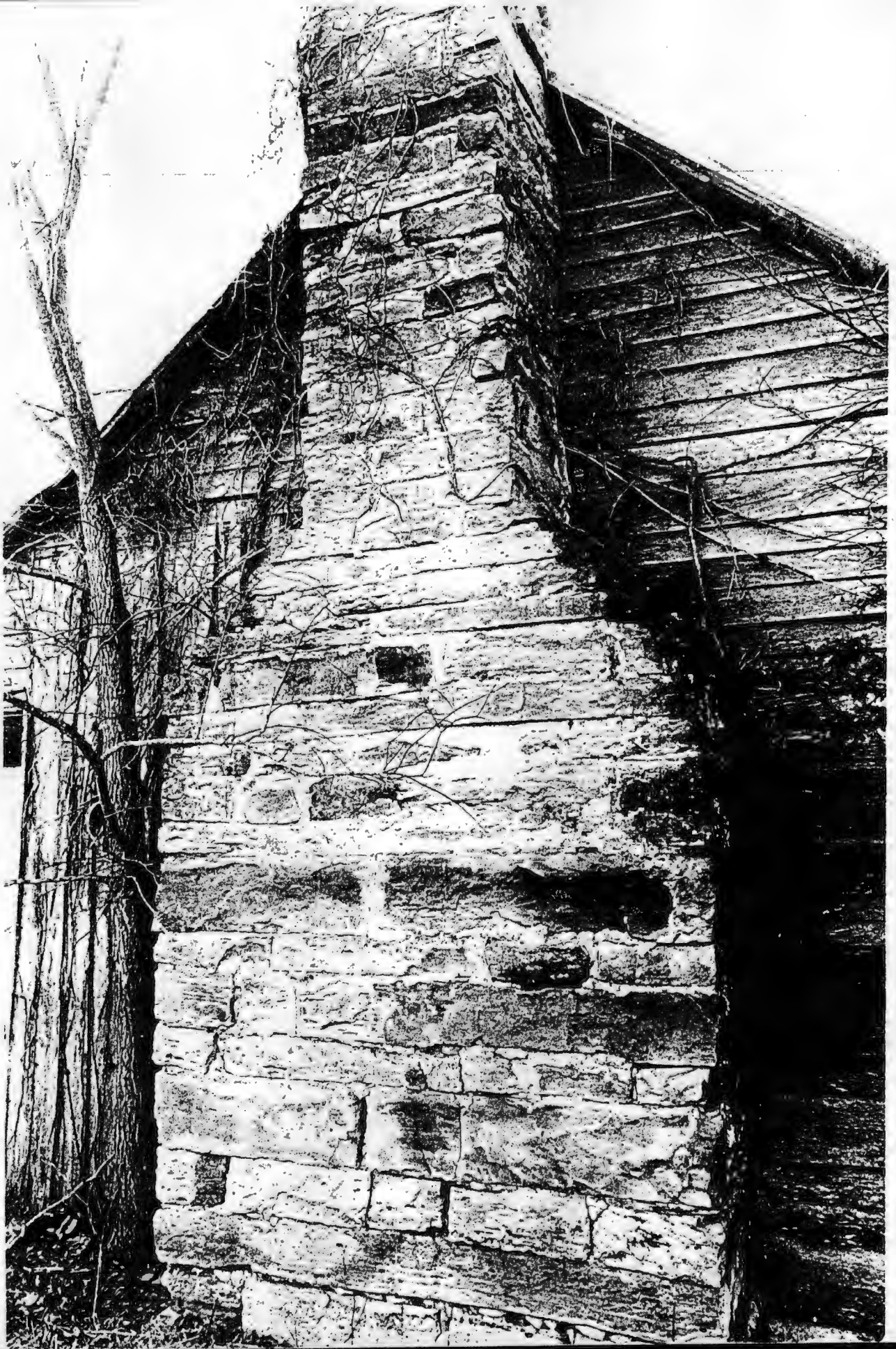
A Reminiscent History of the Ozark Region, Goodspeed Publishing Company Chicago, 1889.

Southern, Hugh. Interview with Wendy Perkins. January 2003.

Sutterfield, Leslie. Interview with Sherry Branscum.

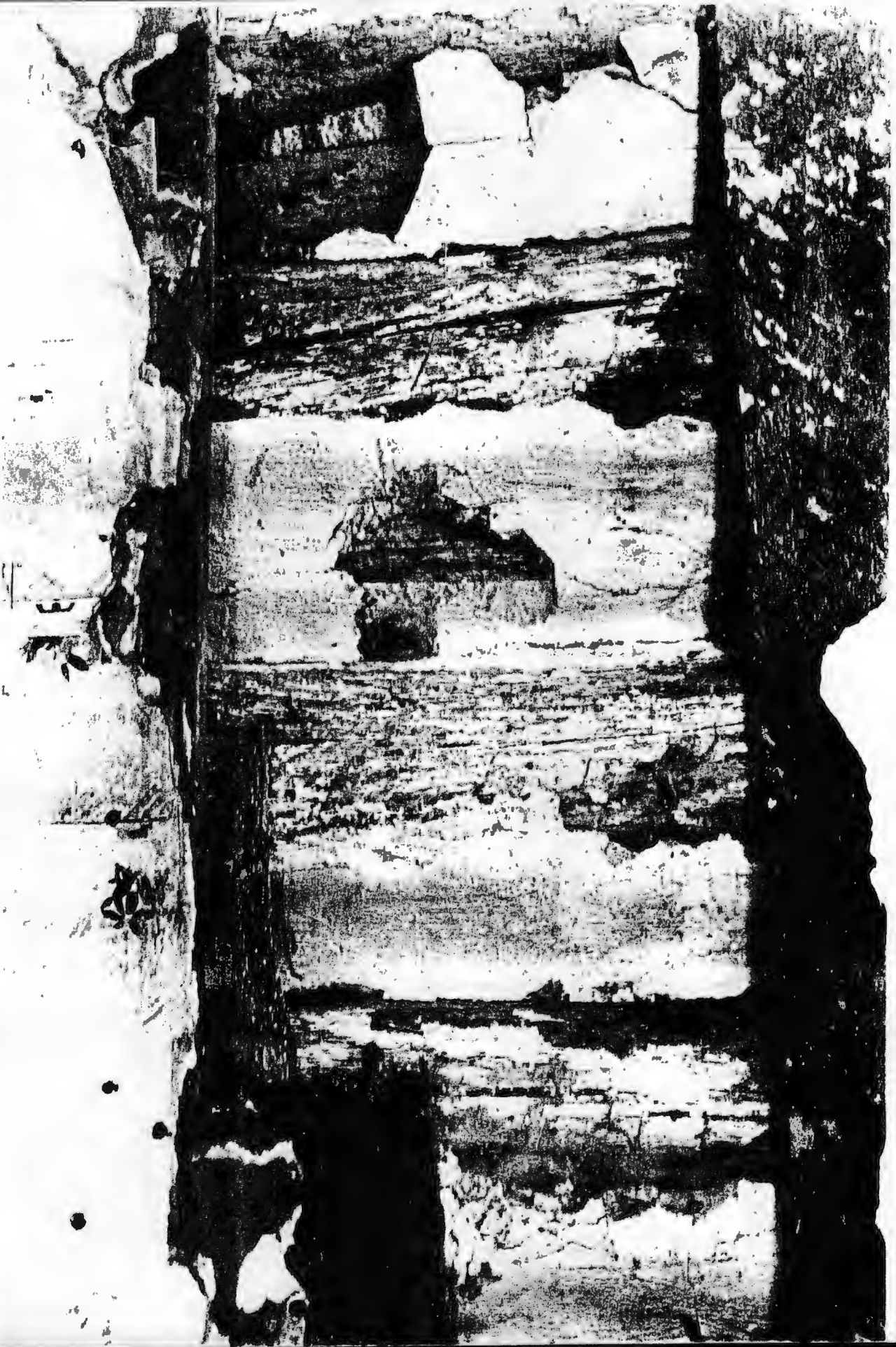
Teague, Thursa Marriott. Interview with Sherry Branscum.



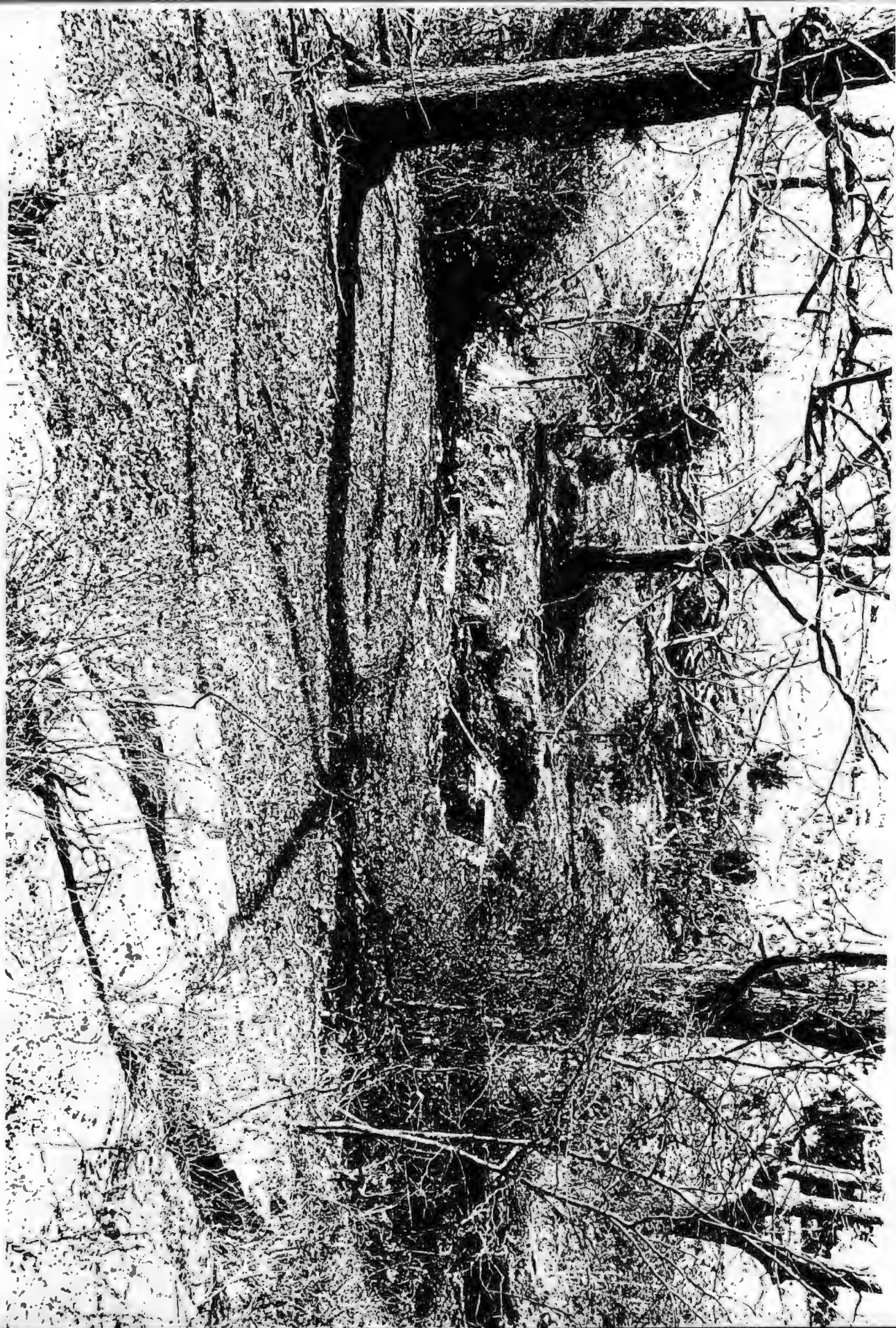


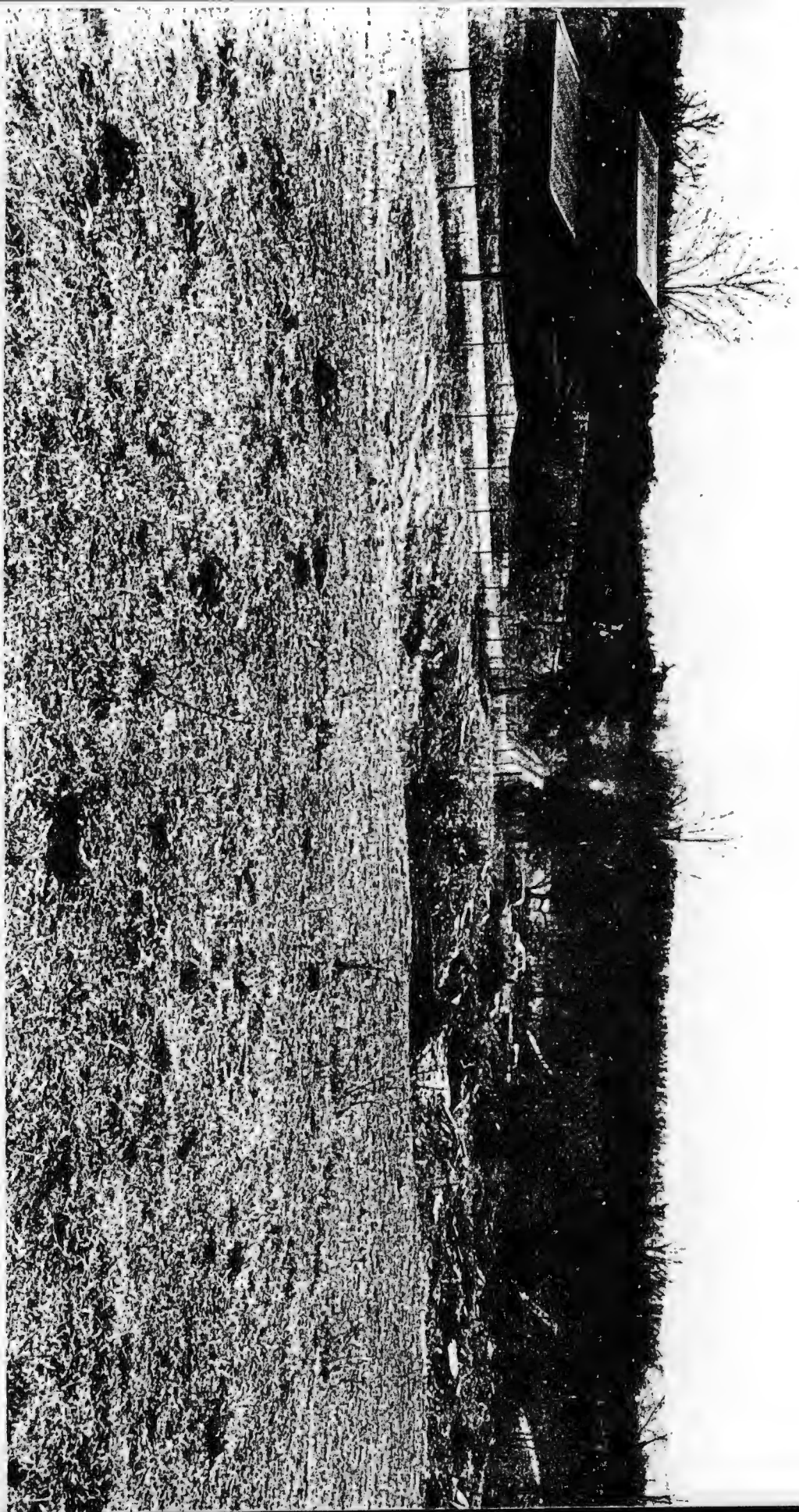


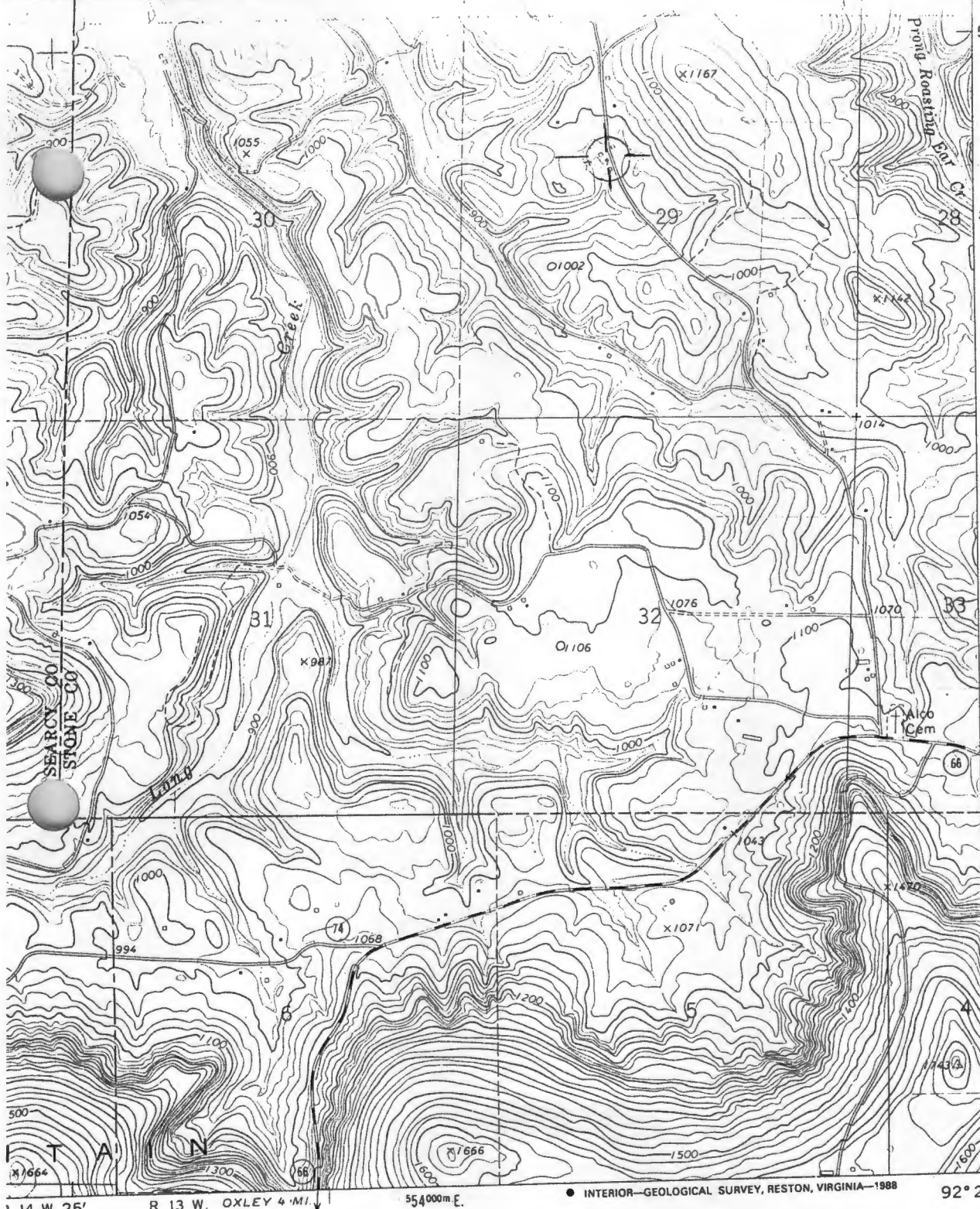












Newton Sutherland
Farmstead
Alco Vic., Stone Co., AR
UTM: 15/554914
3974186

1 MILE

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface.....	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface.....
Secondary highway, hard surface.....	Unimproved road.....

○ Interstate Route ◻ U. S. Route ○ State Route

ARKANSAS

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

LANDIS, ARK.
35092-H4-TF-024

1972

DMA 7555 IV NW—SERIES V884