



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

The attached property, the Richmond-Tufts House, in Ouachita County, Arkansas, reference number 77000264, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the Keeper of the National Register on 12/02/1977, as evidenced by the FEDERAL REGISTER/WEEKLY LIST notice of Tuesday, February 7, 1978, Part II, Vol. 43, No. 26, page 5171. The attached nomination form is a copy of the original documentation provided to the Keeper at the time of listing.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places

9/12/2008  
Date

52-85-4040-61

NR 12-2-77

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  
Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON  
Pryor House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route #1, Box 851

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Arkansas

CODE

05.

COUNTY

Ouachita

CODE

103

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Edgar Pryor

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1, Box 851

CITY, TOWN

Camden

STATE

Arkansas

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Ouachita County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

Camden

STATE

Arkansas

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

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 1961

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pryor House was built in 1853 as a double pile with central hall. The structure is rectangular in plan with a five-bayed facade, and gabled roof. Facings on the double entrance doors have pronounced plinth and corner blocks. The transom has eighteen lights and each side light had twelve lights. On the west elevation is a concrete floored three-bayed shed porch. The porch has boxed columns and straight railing. The north elevation contains four irregularly spaced windows. On the south is a shed porch with two turned post, and three regularly spaced windows. The east side of the structure has two shed additions.

Windows are nine over nine lights with inoperable shutters. Siding is weather board with board and batten gables.

The house is somewhat altered. In 1883, the owner, Alfred A. Tufts remodeled the entrance porch bracketed post and spindle work. The original roof became a combination of hipped and gabled with dormer. In 1977, Mrs. Pryor had the 1883 roof and porch replaced with one more in keeping with the house's original style. The two rear additions contain a modern bathroom and closets. The wall between the original house and additions was removed and the ceiling lowered. The mantel in the living room is a replacement, and a fireplace was added to the kitchen. Door facing and molding leading between rooms in the main body of the house are original.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

REHISTORIC	<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 type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1853

BUILDER/ARCHITECT N. W. Richmond

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Richmond-Tufts House is an ante-bellum house through which can be traced a cross-section of the nineteenth-century inhabitants of Camden, Arkansas. One of the early occupants of the home, A. A. Tufts, was a northerner who came to Camden after the Civil War and achieved local prominence both as a landowner and as a "carpet-bagger" who managed to win the respect of the community through time. Architecturally, the building has experienced remodelings. It currently looks to be a typical, rural classically detailed dwelling - the type of which are common in southwest Arkansas.

The Richmond-Tufts House was built in 1853 as a frame, double pile with central hall by Mr. N. W. Richmond in Camden, Arkansas. The dwelling was erected in the 700 block of West Washington Street, an important stage line route in this early established port city on the Ouachita River. Little is known of Richmond's life, but in 1858 Mr. Julius Stanley, principal of the Camden male school, boarded with the Richmonds. Stanley was also a preacher and is said to have delivered the first sermon in the Camden Methodist Church.

J. S. Rainey bought the house and accompanying property in 1859 for \$5,000.00. However, Rainey died during the Civil War and the building was used as a rent house by Rainey heirs. One family of renters was Mr. and Mrs. C. Thrower. Thrower was an attorney and publisher of the Ouachita Herald.

In 1869 the residence was purchased by Professor Barcus, a music instructor at Camden High School. But shortly thereafter, the house once again became a rental property. Colonel Thomas Thornton, principal of the Camden High School rented the house in 1872. Thornton's father, who shared the home with him, was a well-known Camden personality who was publicly remembered in a Camden newspaper as being "rather eccentric but very interesting in conversation, especially when started on his favorite theme of Henry Clay."

The most prominent owner of the house during the nineteenth century was probably Alfred A. Tufts, a native of Milwaukee who came to Camden after the Civil War. Tufts was born on September 3, 1847. During the Civil War, he served in Company K of the 126th regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He moved to Camden in 1867 to take charge of the public money of the U. S. Land Office. Six years later he married Miss Nellie Scott, the youngest daughter of Camden judge, Christopher C. Scott. His rise to local prominence stemmed from his acquisition of a large amount of land in and around Camden.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

He purchased the Richmond-Tufts House in 1883 and named the property "Myrtle Lodge" after the large crepe myrtles found on the grounds. Under his direction, the simple ante-bellum home received a complete face-lift. The extent of the changes imposed upon the structure are partially described in an 1887 newspaper article and an early photo of the home also illustrates a number of the alterations made by Tufts. A bracketed porch with spindle work was added to the front (south elevation of the structure). The early roof was replaced by a high-hipped roof featuring gable projections. Three rooms and a gallery porch were added to the rear of the structure, giving the building an ell-shaped appearance.

Despite the fact that he had been a Union man, Tufts eventually won the respect of the ardently southern Camden citizenry. A quote from the Ouachita Herald of June 2, 1887 perhaps indicates the nature of Tufts' early life in the South.

"Twenty years ago today, Captain A. A. Tufts pitched his tent here and became a citizen of Camden...in spite of some obstacles in the way of sectional prejudices, he had come to stay.

During these twenty years he has passed through some warm scenes - some heated campaigns - and has been arrayed in politics against the democracy of this county, but his conduct and bearing have been such to denote the inborn gentleman and he has commanded the respect and admiration of all classes and creeds."

Mrs. Tufts also was well remembered and she has even been called the "most memorable inhabitant of the house. She distinguished herself through her study of the history of Ouachita County, especially that relating to the Civil War. Her southern sympathies must have helped the standing of the Tufts family in the eyes of local citizens by providing a proper counterpoint to her husband's war record and government affiliation.

In 1909, the title to the property was willed to St. John's Episcopal Church, which in turn sold the residence in 1931.

Mrs. Edgar Pryor purchased the home, which was badly deteriorated, in 1961. In order to return the house to a livable condition, she had the home remodeled under the auspices of Harold Tutt, a Camden builder familiar with Greek Revival architecture. The Richmond-Tufts house was moved to its present location on Highway 24 outside of Camden, a new roof added and an ante-bellum style porch was placed on the front of the building. Shed roof additions were placed on the rear of the house. On the interior, the kitchen was remodeled and a new mantel was placed in the parlour. The three room addition, added by A. A. Tufts in 1883,

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 2

was completely removed from the house nearly returning the building to its original configuration. One of the original two chimneys remains.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Coan, Joseph, "Home Moved, Restored to Early, Classic Lines" Camden News, August 23, 1975.
2. "Historic Homes of Camden No. 8," Undated newspaper clipping in possession of Mrs. Edgar Pryor, Camden.
3. Ouachita Herald, Camden Arkansas, June 2, 1887.
4. Pryor, Suzie, Ouachita Citizen, Article on Richmond-Tufts House, in possession of Mrs. Pryor, Camden

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	5	5	0	8	4	8	0	3	7	1	8	3	8	0
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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

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

  
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

D 

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

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Frezil Miller, Architectural Historian and Mike Shinn, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

DATE

September 14, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Suite 500, Continental Bldg., Main at 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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

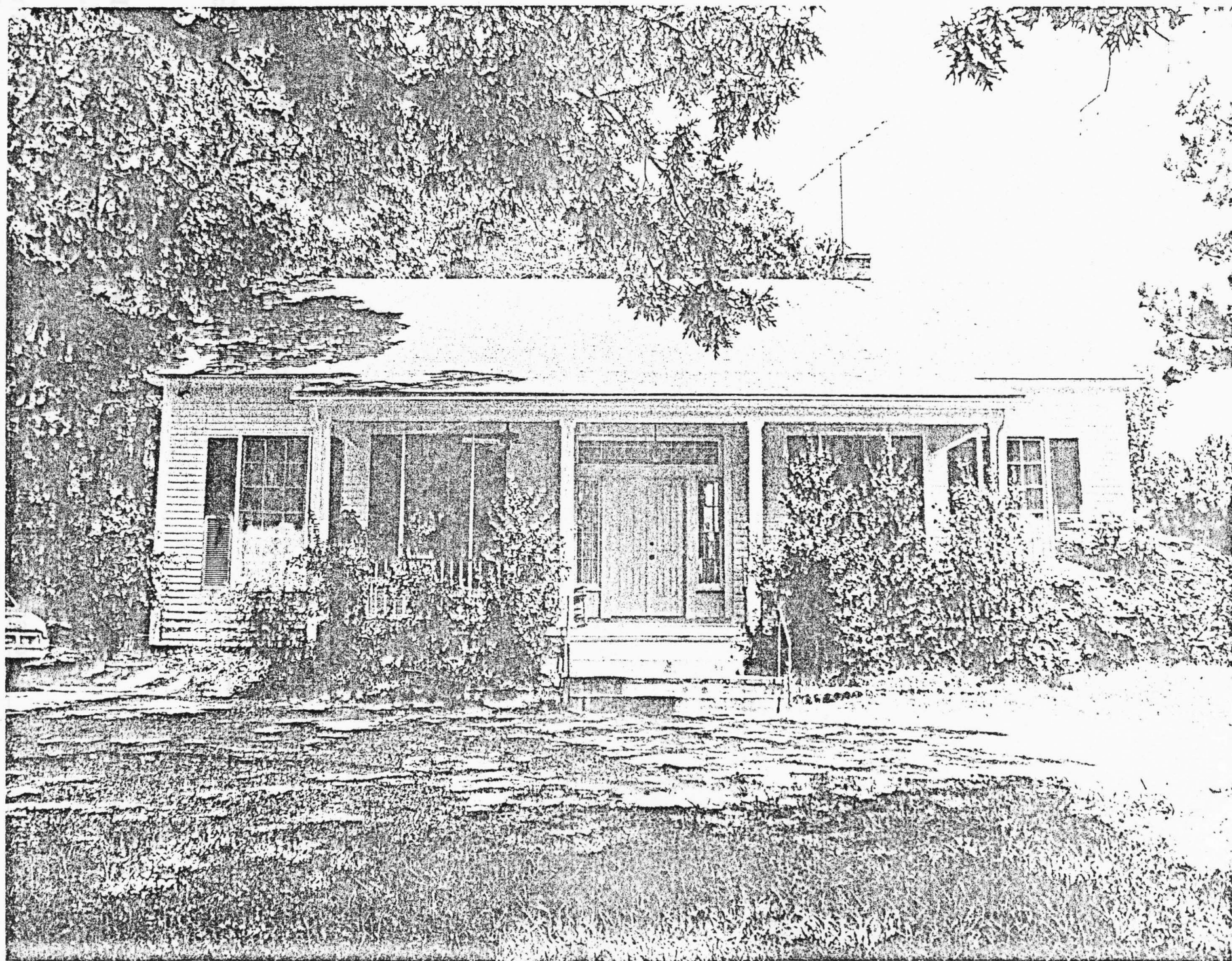
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

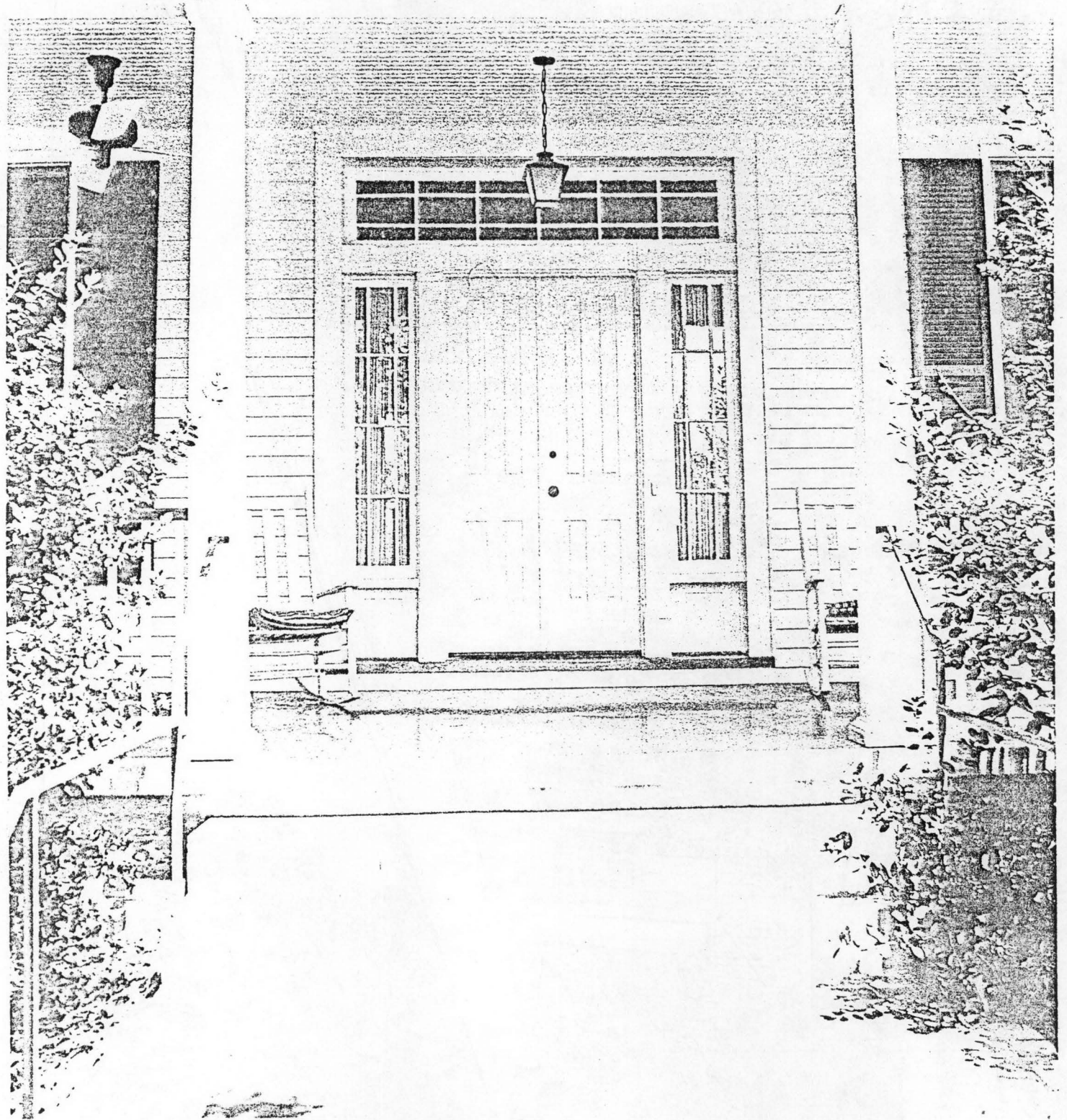
Pryor, Suzie, Interview, July 1977; Camden, Arkansas



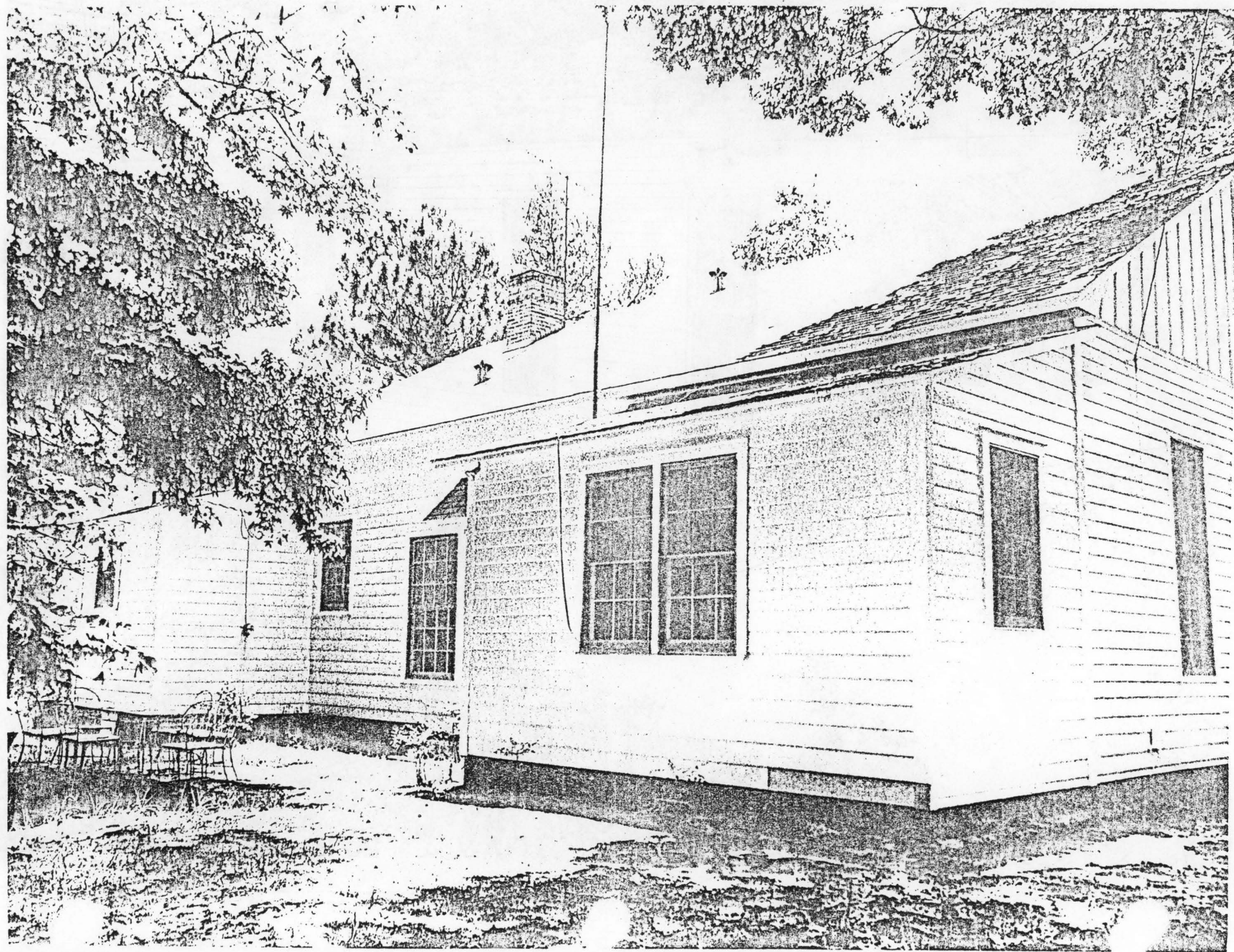














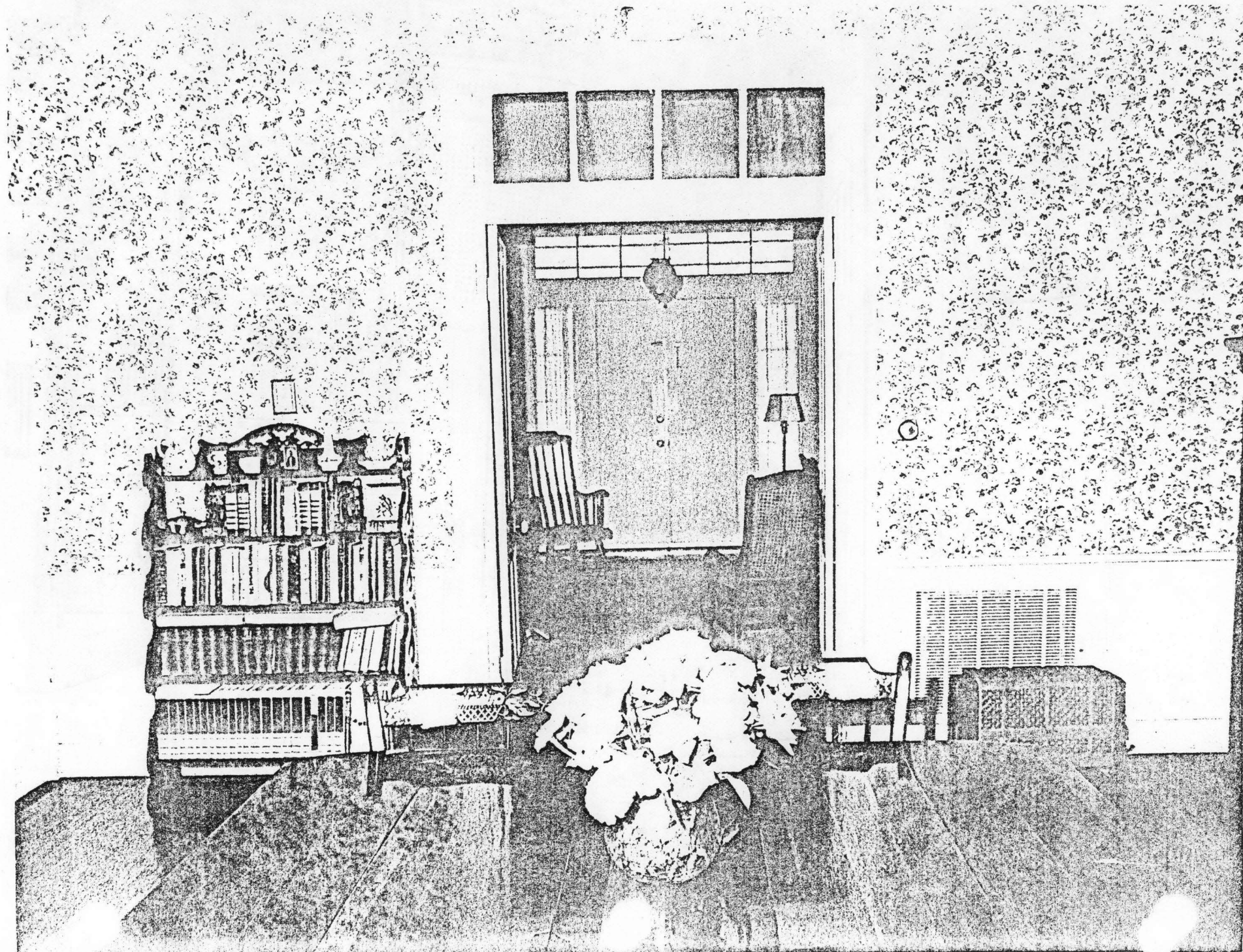




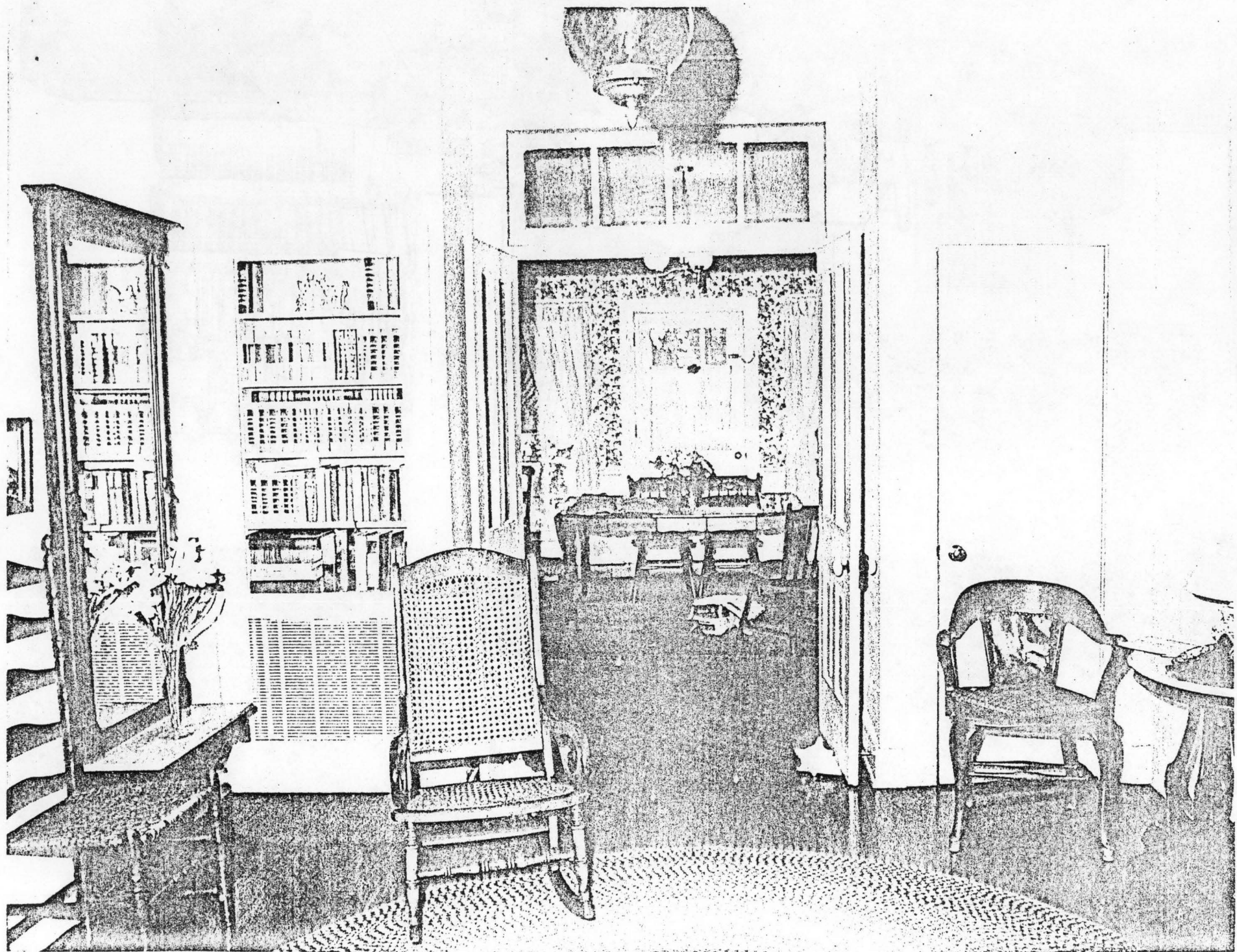


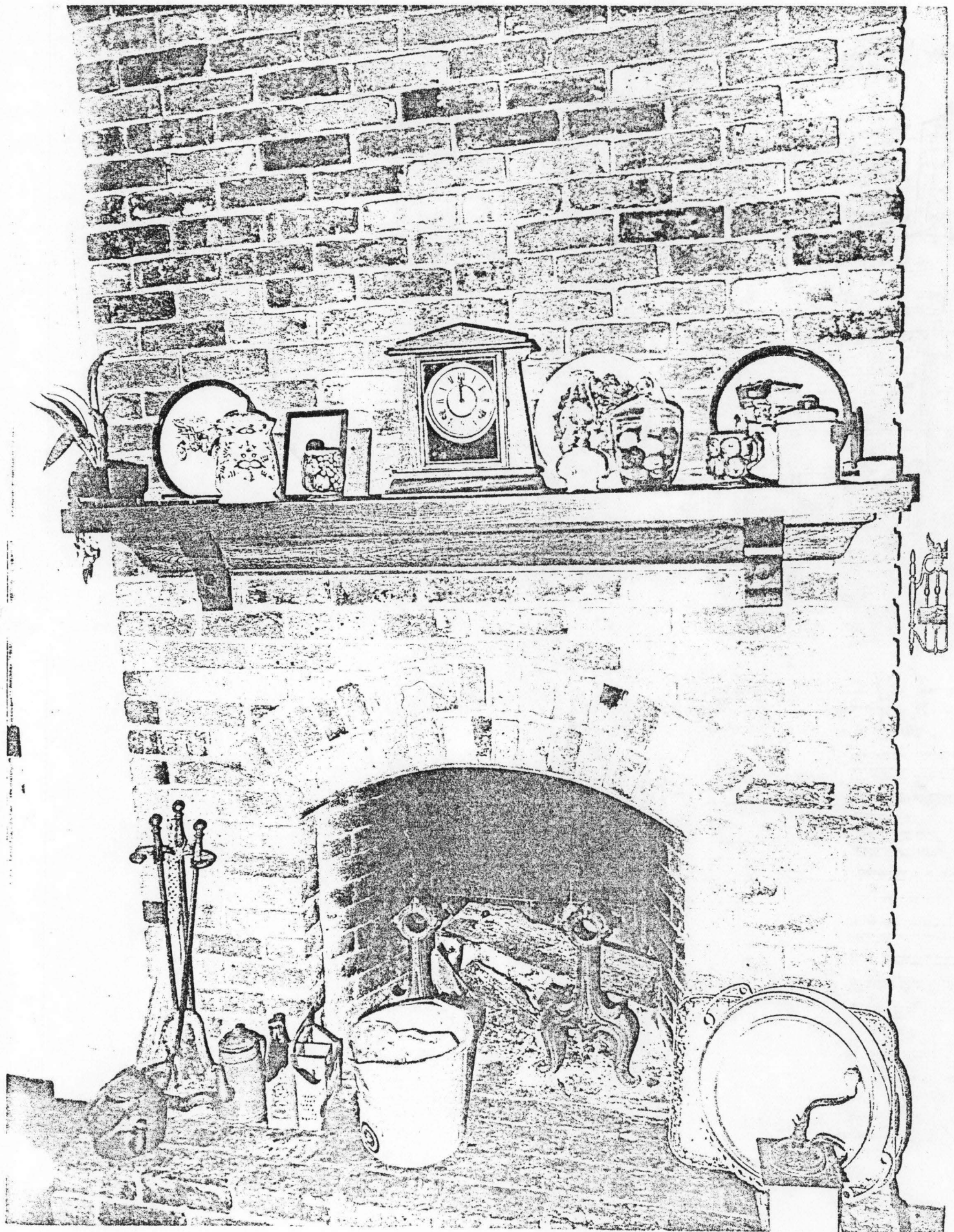




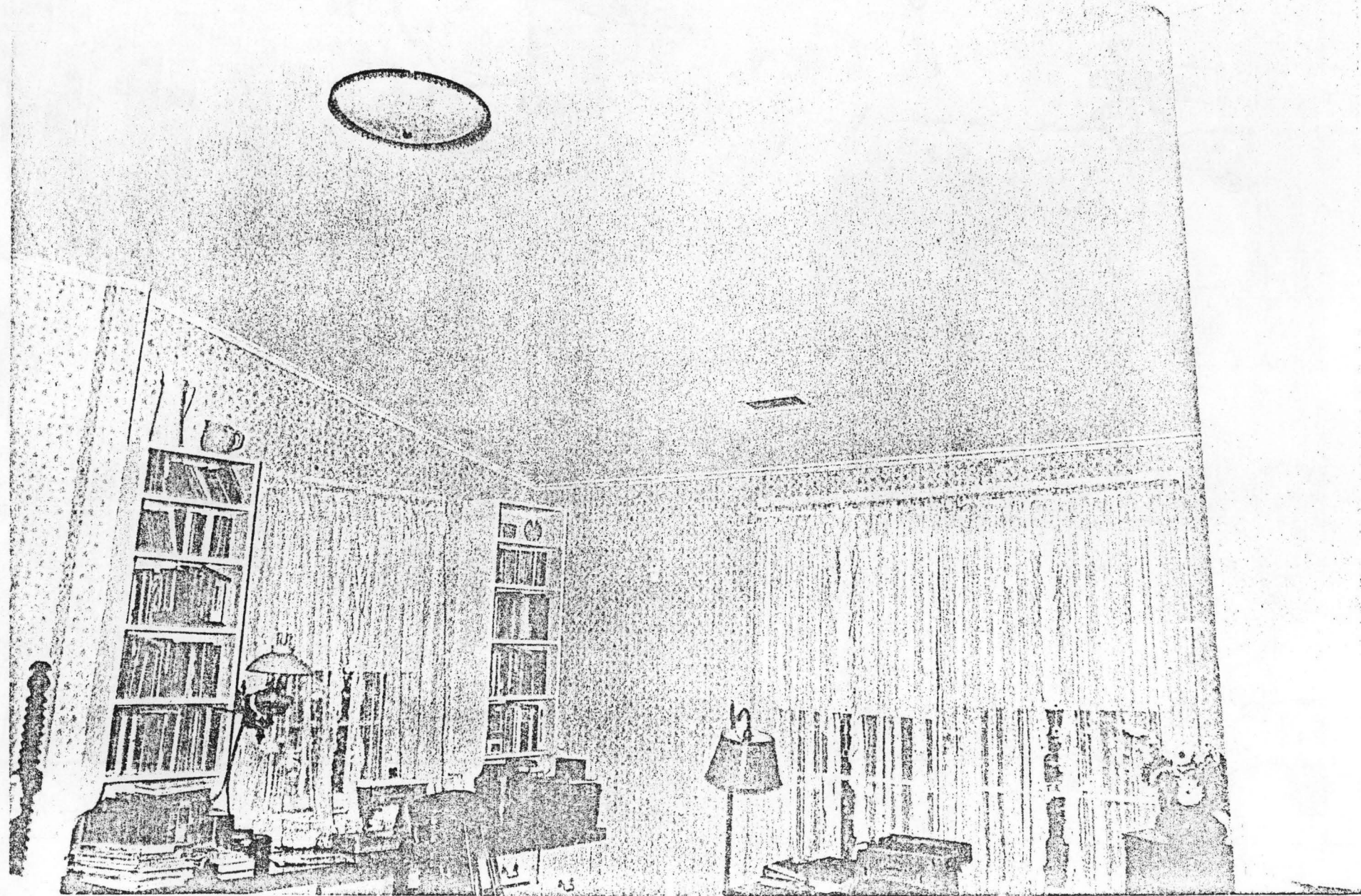












## Missing Core Documentation

**Property Name**

Richmond-Tuffs House

**County, State**

Ouachita, Arkansas

**Reference Number**

77000264

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

☒ Nomination Form (original missing, photocopy from SHPO)

☐ Photographs

☐ USGS Map



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Richmond - Zupta House  
Comden, AR  
Ouachita Co.

77000264

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Due: \_\_\_\_\_  
Action: ☐ ACCEPT 12-2-77  
☐ RETURN  
☐ REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good ☐ ruins  
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0506940

## DATA SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED NOV 14 1977

DATE ENTERED DEC 2 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Fryor House

## 2 LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route #1, Box 851

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4

STATE

Arkansas

VICINITY OF

CODE

05

COUNTY

Guachita

CODE

103

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

YES RESTRICTED

YES UNRESTRICTED

NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Edgar Pryor

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 1, Box 851

CITY, TOWN

Camden

STATE

Arkansas

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Guachita County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Court Square

CITY, TOWN

Camden

STATE

Arkansas

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE



# DATA SHEET

14177  
DEC 2 1977

TER FORMS  
NS

A PUBLICATION  
SSIONAL DISTRICT  
4  
ita CODE  
103

**PRESENT USE**  
AGRICULTURE — MUSEUM  
COMMERCIAL — PARK  
EDUCATIONAL — PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
ENTERTAINMENT — RELIGIOUS  
GOVERNMENT — SCIENTIFIC  
INDUSTRIAL — TRANSPORTATION  
MILITARY — OTHER

STATE  
Arkansas

STATE  
Arkansas

COUNTY — LOCAL

STATE

## DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE 1961
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Pryor House was built in 1853 as a double pile with central hall. The structure is rectangular in plan with a five-bayed facade, and gabled roof. Facings on the double entrance doors have pronounced plinth and corner blocks. The transom has eighteen lights and each side light had twelve lights. On the west elevation is a concrete floored three-bayed shed porch. The porch has boxed columns and straight railing. The north elevation contains four irregularly spaced windows. On the south is a shed porch with two turned post, and three regularly spaced windows. The east side of the structure has two shed additions.

Windows are nine over nine lights with inoperable shutters. Siding is weather board with board and batten gables.

The house is somewhat altered. In 1883, the owner, Alfred A. Tufts remodeled the entrance porch bracketed post and spindle work. The original roof became a combination of hipped and gabled with dormer. In 1977, Mrs. Pryor had the 1883 roof and porch replaced with one more in keeping with the house's original style. The two rear additions contain a modern bathroom and closets. The wall between the original house and additions was removed and the ceiling lowered. The mantel in the living room is a replacement, and a fireplace was added to the kitchen. Door facing and molding leading between rooms in the main body of the house are original.

## SIGNIFICANCE

<b>PERIOD</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS

**SPECIFIC DATES** 1853

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Richmond-Tufts is a cross-section of the of the early occupants Camden after the Civil War as a "carpet-bagger". Architecturally, the to be a typical, rural common in southwest Arkansas.

The Richmond-Tufts hall by Mr. N. W. Rich 700 block of West Wash established port city but in 1858 Mr. Julius the Richmonds. Stanley first sermon in the Camden.

J. S. Rainey bought However, Rainey died house by Rainey heirs was an attorney and publisher.

In 1869 the residence at Camden High School. rental property. Colburn rented the house in 1880 a well-known Camden person as being "rather eccentric" started on his favorite.

The most prominent probably Alfred A. Tufts War. Tufts was born on Company K of the 126th Camden in 1867 to take years later he married Christopher C. Scott. of a large amount of land.

# CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
X MOVED DATE 1961

## AL APPEARANCE

with central hall. The  
e, and gabled roof.  
th and corner blocks.  
twelve lights. On the west  
The porch has boxed columns  
irregularly spaced windows.  
three regularly spaced  
itions.

hutters. Siding is

Alfred A. Tufts remodeled  
original roof became a  
Mrs. Pryor had the 1883  
e house's original style.  
sets. The wall between  
ling lowered. The mantel  
added to the kitchen.  
n body of the house are

## B SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD

PREHISTORIC  
1400-1499  
1500-1599  
1600-1699  
1700-1799  
X 1800-1899  
1900

ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
AGRICULTURE  
ARCHITECTURE  
ART  
COMMERCE  
COMMUNICATIONS

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

COMMUNITY PLANNING  
CONSERVATION  
ECONOMICS  
EDUCATION  
ENGINEERING  
EXPLORATION-SETTLEMENT  
INDUSTRY  
INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
LAW  
LITERATURE  
MILITARY  
MUSIC  
PHILOSOPHY  
X POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION  
SCIENCE  
SCULPTURE  
SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
THEATER  
TRANSPORTATION  
OTHER (SPECIFY)

SPECIFIC DATES 1853

BUILDER/ARCHITECT N. W. Richmond

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J. S. Rainey bought the house and accompanying property in 1859 for \$5,000.00. However, Rainey died during the Civil War and the building was used as a rent house by Rainey heirs. One family of renters was Mr. and Mrs. C. Thrower. Thrower was an attorney and publisher of the Ouachita Herald.

In 1869 the residence was purchased by Professor Barcus, a music instructor at Camden High School. But shortly thereafter, the house once again became a rental property. Colonel Thomas Thornton, principal of the Camden High School rented the house in 1872. Thornton's father, who shared the home with him, was a well-known Camden personality who was publicly remembered in a Camden newspaper as being "rather eccentric but very interesting in conversation, especially when started on his favorite theme of Henry Clay."

The most prominent owner of the house during the nineteenth century was probably Alfred A. Tufts, a native of Milwaukee who came to Camden after the Civil War. Tufts was born on September 3, 1847. During the Civil War, he served in Company K of the 126th regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He moved to Camden in 1867 to take charge of the public money of the U. S. Land Office. Six years later he married Miss Nellie Scott, the youngest daughter of Camden judge, Christopher C. Scott. His rise to local prominence stemmed from his acquisition of a large amount of land in and around Camden.



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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

He purchased the Richmond-Tufts House in 1883 and named the property "Myrtle Lodge" after the large crepe myrtles found on the grounds. Under his direction, the simple ante-bellum home received a complete face-lift. The extent of the changes imposed upon the structure are partially described in an 1887 newspaper article and an early photo of the home also illustrates a number of the alterations made by Tufts. A bracketed porch with spindle work was added to the front (south elevation of the structure). The early roof was replaced by a high-hipped roof featuring gable projections. Three rooms and a gallery porch were added to the rear of the structure, giving the building an ell-shaped appearance.

Despite the fact that he had been a Union man, Tufts eventually won the respect of the ardently southern Camden citizenry. A quote from the Ouachita Herald of June 2, 1887 perhaps indicates the nature of Tufts' early life in the South.

"Twenty years ago today, Captain A. A. Tufts pitched his tent here and became a citizen of Camden...in spite of some obstacles in the way of sectional prejudices, he had come to stay.

During these twenty years he has passed through some warm scenes - some heated campaigns - and has been arrayed in politics against the democracy of this county, but his conduct and bearing have been such to denote the inborn gentleman and he has commanded the respect and admiration of all classes and creeds."

Mrs. Tufts also was well remembered and she has even been called the "most memorable inhabitant of the house. She distinguished herself through her study of the history of Ouachita County, especially that relating to the Civil War. Her southern sympathies must have helped the standing of the Tufts family in the eyes of local citizens by providing a proper counterpoint to her husband's war record and government affiliation.

In 1909, the title to the property was willed to St. John's Episcopal Church, which in turn sold the residence in 1931.

Mrs. Edgar Pryor purchased the home, which was badly deteriorated, in 1961. In order to return the house to a livable condition, she had the home remodeled under the auspices of Harold Tutt, a Camden builder familiar with Greek Revival architecture. The Richmond-Tufts house was moved to its present location on Highway 24 outside of Camden, a new roof added and an ante-bellum style porch was placed on the front of the building. Shed roof additions were placed on the rear of the house. On the interior, the kitchen was remodeled and a new mantel was placed in the parlour. The three room addition, added by A. A. Tufts in 1885,

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

was completely removed from the house nearly returning the building to its original configuration. One of the original two chimneys has been reconstructed.

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(Rev 10-74)

UNITED STATES

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY

CONTINUATION SHEET

Pryor, Suzie,



### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Cran, Joseph, "Home Moved, Restored to Early, Classic Lines" Camden News, August 23, 1975.
2. "Historic Homes of Camden No. 8," Undated newspaper clipping in possession of Mrs. Edgar Pryor, Camden.
3. Ouachita Herald, Camden Arkansas, June 2, 1887.
4. Pryor, Suzie, Ouachita Citizen, Article on Richmond-Tufts House, in possession of Mrs. Pryor, Camden.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1  
UTM REFERENCES

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


  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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B     
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

### HERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Frezil Miller, Architectural Historian and Mike Shinn, Historian

ORGANIZATION	DATE
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program	September 14, 1977

STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Suite 500, Continental Bldg., Main at Markham	501-371-2763

CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Little Rock	Arkansas 72201

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ LOCAL Y

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

**TITLE**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

DATE:







DEC 2 1977

Pryor House

Camden

Ouachita Co. west

Fac

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(Rev. 10-74)

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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DATE ENTERED DEC 2 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Camden

VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

West elevation viewed from the west

PHOTO NO.

1







DEC 2 1977

Pryor House

Camden

Ouachita

Front

1977

MS

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AND/OR COMMON

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2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Camden

VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

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4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

Front porch, south elevation viewed from the northwest

2

WEST — HB.

INT: 2983-75





DEC 2 1977

Pryor House

Camden

Ouachita

Entranceway, (west elevation)

1977

MS

(3)

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ouachita

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Entranceway, west elevation

PHOTO NO.

3







Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita  
North  
1977  
MS

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ouachita

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

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4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

North elevation viewed from the northwest

PHOTO NO.

4







Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita Co  
EAST  
1977  
MS  
DEC 2 1977

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(Rev. 10-74)

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ouachita

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO

July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
East elevation viewed from the northeast

PHOTO NO.

5







Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita Co.  
South elevation  
1977  
MS

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AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
South elevation viewed from the southeast

PHOTO NO.  
6





Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita Co.

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AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Front parlour looking north

PHOTO NO.

7







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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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**2 LOCATION**

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Camden

VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View from dining room looking to the entrance-hall

PHOTO NO.  
8

INT: 2983-75

Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita  
looking  
1977  
MS







Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita  
looking  
1977  
ms

DEC 2 1977

Form No. 10-301a  
(Rev. 10-74)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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DATE ENTERED DEC 2 1977

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON  
Pryor House

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN  
Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

From entrance-hall looking into the dining room

9

INT: 2983-75







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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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1 NAME

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Ouachita

STATE  
Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

New kitchen fireplace

PHOTO NO.

10

INT: 2983-75

DEC 2 1977

Pryor House  
Camden  
Ouachita Co.  
New fireplace in Kitchen  
MS.  
1977







DEC 2 1977

Pryor House  
CAMDEN  
OUACHITA CO.

SLANT in roof indicates rear addition to Pryor House

1477

MS

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(Rev. 10-74)

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1 NAME

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AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Camden

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ouachita

STATE

Arkansas

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Mike Shinn

DATE OF PHOTO July, 1977

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Rear bedroom, northeast corner of house, with seam in ceiling  
showing extent of new shed roof rear addition

PHOTO NO.

11

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Richmond-Tufts House

AND/OR COMMON

Pryor House

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Camden

X VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Ouachita

STATE

Arkansas

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE U. S. Geological Survey, Camden SW, Arkansas Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1971

**4 REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

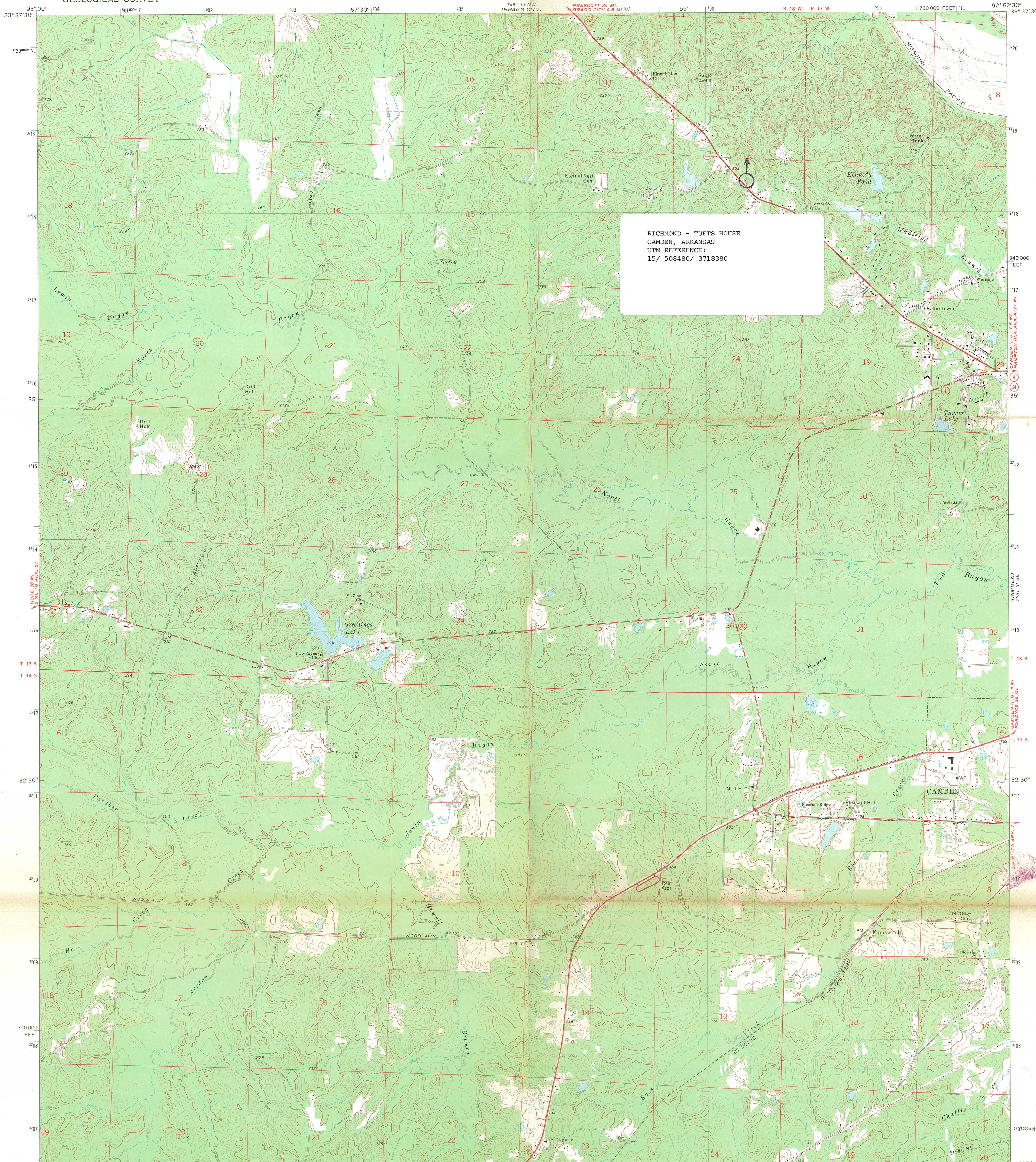
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



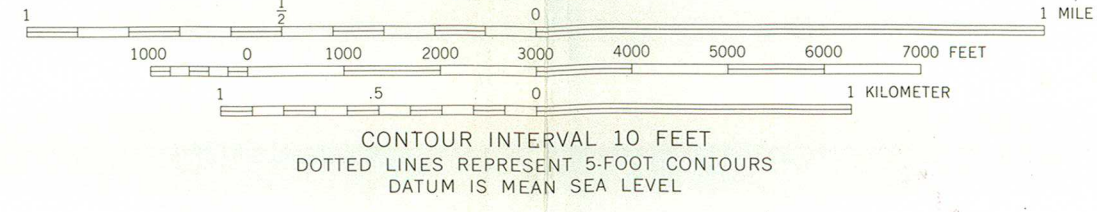
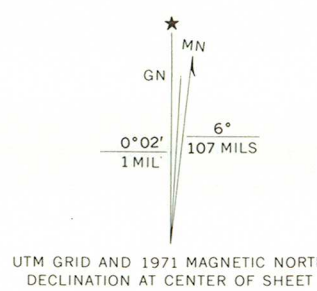
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CAMDEN SW QUADRANGLE  
ARKANSAS—OUACHITA CO.  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW 1/4 CAMDEN 15' QUADRANGLE

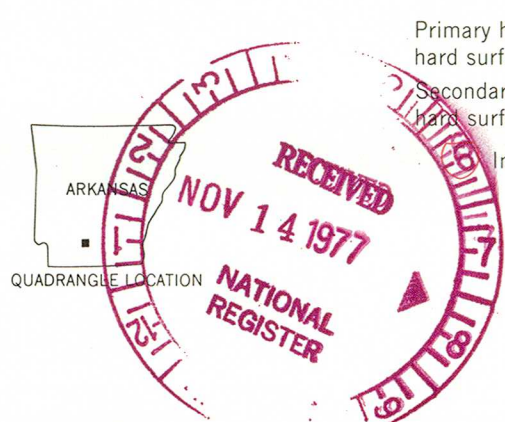
751 III NW  
(HARMON GROVE)



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial  
photographs taken 1970. Field checked 1971  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Arkansas coordinate system, south zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 15, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242  
AND BY THE ARKANSAS GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



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

CAMDEN SW, ARK.  
SW 1/4 CAMDEN 15' QUADRANGLE  
N3330-W9252.5/7.5  
1971  
AMS 7451 III SW-SERIES V884

DEC 2 1977