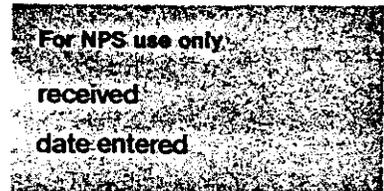


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Dryden-Louthan House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 402 East Ross Street not for publication

city, town Palmyra vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county Marion code 127

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

4. Owner of Property

name James L. and Cindy A. Davis

street & number 402 East Ross

city, town Palmyra vicinity of state Missouri 63461

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Marion County Courthouse

city, town Palmyra state Missouri 63461

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

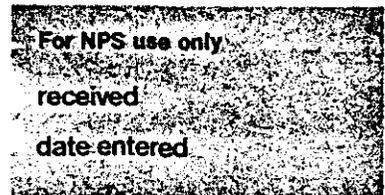
date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176

city, town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Dryden-Louthan House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 402 East Ross Street not for publication

city, town Palmyra vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county Marion code 127

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

4. Owner of Property

name James L. and Cindy A. Davis

street & number 402 East Ross

city, town Palmyra vicinity of state Missouri 63461

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Marion County Courthouse

city, town Palmyra state Missouri 63461

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Missouri State Historical Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1984 federal state county local

depository for survey records Missouri Department of Natural Resources, P. O. Box 176

city, town Jefferson City state Missouri 65102

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	X original site
good	ruins	altered	moved date
X fair	unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dryden-Louthan House is an imposing example of the Italianate style. Although it has suffered through conversion into apartments, enough remains of its original fabric to permit the authentic restoration which has recently been begun by the owner. The house is a two-story structure of burnt-sienna-colored brick. It has a grandly-scaled main block to the west and a lower service wing to the east; both have low hipped roofs and cornices ornamented by paired, elaborately scrolled brackets. The brackets of the front block incorporate a horizontal molding which underlines a white-painted frieze zone on the brick walls. This frieze is punctuated by three-pane attic windows above each lower bay. The roof was formerly crowned by a cupola, which is to be reconstructed. Although the present entrance driveway to the house is from the southeast, the house is situated to face Home Street to the west, which was a fashionable residential address at the time of its construction. The center bay of the west facade breaks forward about a foot and is capped by a low but deeply recessed pediment. The entry is a broad semicircular arch rising more than ten feet above the floor. The curve of the arch is framed by radiating stretchers and headers and filled by a single pane of glass. The door below this is flanked by sidelights. The window above has two round arches. Most of the other windows are also paired; all are double-hung. Second-floor windows are four-over-four, while floor-length first-floor windows are four-over-six; the vertical muntins are unusually thick. Lintels and sills are unornamented. The west front formerly had a one-story porch across all three bays; plans are now being made to reconstruct it and a smaller porch on the south side of the house.

The stone foundation has finely cut ashlar blocks in front and an ashlar water table running the whole way around the front portion of the house. Side elevations repeat details of the west front. Both are partially obscured by wooden staircases and second-floor vestibules created to serve second-floor apartments. These are to be removed as part of the restoration. One first-floor window on the north side has also been converted into a door.

The rear wing of the house originally had a two-story gallery across its south face. It has been enclosed with vertical siding and small 6-over-6 windows. A carport is attached to its southeast corner. All this would be replaced in the restoration. The east end of the rear wing has been stuccoed.

Inside the house, most of the woodwork is grained. Two rooms have been partially restored. They are the library at the northwest corner, and the north center room adjacent to it. The surviving library cases have been converted to cupboards for its current use as a kitchen. A stairway in the southwest corner of this room leads to two refurbished rooms in the basement. The front entry retains its plaster ceiling medallion, wide pine flooring, and curved staircase wall, but the staircase itself has been removed.

The lawns running about 280 feet from the house west to Home Street still form an impressive sweep. Most notable is a giant ginko tree at the northwest corner of the house that must be as old as the house itself. A second smaller ginko is no doubt a descendant of the original.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates built 1858 **Builder Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dryden-Louthan House at 402 East Ross Street in Palmyra, Missouri, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion C in that it embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Italianate style of architecture in its early phase in northeast Missouri. Of a scale and quality of detailing commensurate with the leading position in the community of the men who built and occupied it, the house is now being returned to its original condition after several decades of abuse.

The Italianate style is said to have been imported to this country by John Notman, the Philadelphia architect who built an Italian villa in Burlington, New Jersey, in 1837 and a Renaissance Palazzo for the Athenaeum of Philadelphia in 1845.¹ In the big cities the style blended with and gradually emerged out of the dominant Greek Revival style. Such was the case in St. Louis.² In outstate Missouri the most prevalent manifestation of the style was the almost square house with symmetrical elevations, wide eaves supported by brackets, and a hipped roof frequently topped by a large cupola. This is sometimes called a "Tuscan villa" and has been seen as typically middle-class in contrast to the asymmetrical, towered Italian villa built by the rich.³ In Marion County, however, it became the most popular style among business and community leaders who, though perhaps not rich in absolute terms, were certainly better off than most of their neighbors. The early popularity of this style has been variously dated from 1840 (by John J.-G. Blumenson) to 1860 (by Carole Rifkind).⁴ In Hannibal, the larger city of Marion County, it was not seen until just before the Civil War, but Palmyra, the county seat, experienced a building boom beginning about 1850 which lined both the east and west sides of town with large Greek Revival and Italianate houses. The Dryden-Louthan House was built toward the end of the boom and demonstrates the decisive displacement of the older style.

John D. S. Dryden was a native of Virginia, born in 1814. He came to Marion County with his family in 1829, making him one of the earliest settlers.⁵ He became a successful attorney and trained in his office several of the county's most prominent lawyers of the post-war era. Unsuccessful in races for circuit judge and state legislator in 1856, he headed the local faction for Stephen Douglas in 1860. Following the outbreak of the Civil War he was appointed commissioner for Palmyra and vicinity by General Fremont, authorized to administer the oath of allegiance and to try criminal charges. A supporter of Hamilton Gamble, Missouri's Union governor, he was elected Judge of the state Supreme Court in the fall of 1863. As a political conservative he was in a difficult position during this period, threatened with murder by Confederate sympathizers on one hand, distrusted by the radical Republicans on the other. His term of office ended ignominiously in 1865 when he was placed under arrest by the St. Louis police. In August of that year he sold his Palmyra house and settled permanently in St. Louis, where he conducted a legal practice in partnership with his son John W. Dryden.⁶ He died in 1886.⁷

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Holcombe, R. I. History of Marion County, Missouri. St. Louis: E. F. Perkins, 1884.
- Portrait and Biographical Record of Marion, Ralls and Pike Counties, Missouri. Chicago: C. O. Owens & Co., 1895.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.65 acre

Quadrangle name "Palmyra, Mo."

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification Begin at a point on the north line of Ross Street at a point 285 ft. west of the center of Section 25, Township 58, Range 6; thence north 264 ft. to a point; thence west 143 ft.; thence south 132 ft; thence east 15 ft.; thence south 132 feet; thence east 7.12 ft on the north line of Ross Street; thence north 100 ft.

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

state Missouri code 29 county Marion code 127

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title J. Esley Hamilton

organization

date October 1984

street & number 1169 Ursula Avenue

telephone (314) 727-0428

city or town University City

state Missouri 63130

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

John Karel
John Karel, Director & Deputy State Historic Preservation

title Officer, Division of Parks & Historic Preservation

date 11-29-84

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 Dryden-Louthan House

Item number 8

Page 1

The 1865 Purchaser was Henry Louthan (1808-1871), a prosperous Palmyra merchant who is best known as the brother of Walker Louthan (1799-1875), a '49er, real estate investor in both Hannibal and Palmyra, and in 1869 the fourth richest person in the county.⁸ Henry was the first person to preach at the new (1868) building of the South River Church outside Palmyra, an institution to which he left \$3,000 in his will.⁹ His will gave the house to his wife Mary for her lifetime and then to a grandniece and grand-nephew, Jesse W. and George L. Gause. Mary Louthan survived until 1893. James Stewart, who was then living in the house and may have been Mrs. Louthan's brother or nephew, then sold Jesse Gause's half interest to John W. Mallory.¹⁰

Born in Lewis County, Missouri, in 1841, Mallory had fought with Confederate forces in Missouri during the Civil War.¹¹ Afterward he moved to Kansas, where he worked for the Santa Fe Railroad and served as mayor of Nickerson, Kansas. In 1886 he retired to Palmyra, where both he and his wife, the former Melissa Elenora (Ellen) Carson had family connections. They first settled on a 223-acre farm, managing both it and the 270-acre farm of Mallory's mother, but in 1893 they settled in town. Ellen Mallory died in 1895, and two years later John married Susan E. Gupton.¹² During that same year, 1897, he served as mayor of Palmyra. In 1899 George L. Gause, who was then living in El Paso, Texas, and receiving rent from the Mallorys for his half interest in the house, sold it to Susan Mallory. The next year, following John Mallory's death, his five children, all living in Kansas, sold their remaining interest to her as well.¹³

Susan Mallory lived in the house eight more years before selling it to William H. and Lena B. Riegel. The Riegels were the last family to maintain the property at its full size. From 1941 to 1966 it passed through eight owners, who sold off most of the original eleven acres and divided the house itself into apartments.¹⁴ The present owner intends to restore the house to its original appearance, taking advantage of the current tax incentives.

Notes

1. Marcus Whiffen, American Architecture Since 1780 (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, pp. 71-75.
2. Lawrence Lowic, The Architectural Heritage of St. Louis (St. Louis: Washington University Gallery of Art, 1982), pp. 69-105.
3. Mary Mix Foley, The American House (New York: Harper Colophon Books, 1980), p. 157.
4. John J.-G. Blumenson, Identifying American Architecture (Nashville, Tenn.: American Assoc. for State and Local History, 1977), pp. 36-37; Carole Rifkind, A Field Guide to American Architecture (New York: New American Library, 1980), pp. 63, 70.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Dryden-Louthan House

Item number 8

Page 2

5. Sources on the life of John Dryden include U. S. Census of 1850 and R. I. Holcombe, History of Marion County (St. Louis: E. F. Perkins, 1884), pp. 248, 319, 327, 331, 342, 350, 403, 432, 439, 535, 555, 574, 592, 856.
6. Marion County Recorder of Deeds, Book P⁴, p. 35; St. Louis city directories. Dryden lived in St. Louis in the Piety Hill neighborhood, at 2744 Lucas and 3121 Washington. He was a member of nearby Central Presbyterian Church.
7. Missouri Historical Society Necrology scrapbook 11c, p. 16; St. Louis City Probate Court, file 16083. John W. Dryden, the son, lived until 1933.
8. Dates from Greenwood Cemetery, Palmyra; Holcombe, pp. 296, 566, 665.
9. Will recorded in Book 179, page 103, refers to "Old School Faith and Order of the South River Church, Palmyra."
10. Hannibal-Palmyra directory, 1892; Recorder of Deeds Book 129, p. 527.
11. Portrait and Biographical Record of Marion, Ralls and Pike Counties, Missouri (Chicago: C. O. Owens & Co., 1895), pp. 320-321.
12. Greenwood Cemetery; Recorder of Deeds, Index to Marriages.
13. Recorder of Deeds, Book 152, p. 427; 162, p. 133.
14. Recorder of Deeds, Book 197, p. 238; 368, 2; 376, 558; 439, 240; 440, 303; 443, 197; 462, 498; 492, 79; 526, 559.

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

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

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Dryden-Louthan House

Item number 10

Page 1

thence east 100 ft.; thence south 100 ft.; thence east 20.88 ft. on the north line of Ross Street to the place of beginning, encompassing 28,232 square feet or 0.65 acre.

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

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

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received

date entered

Continuation sheet Dryden-Louthan House

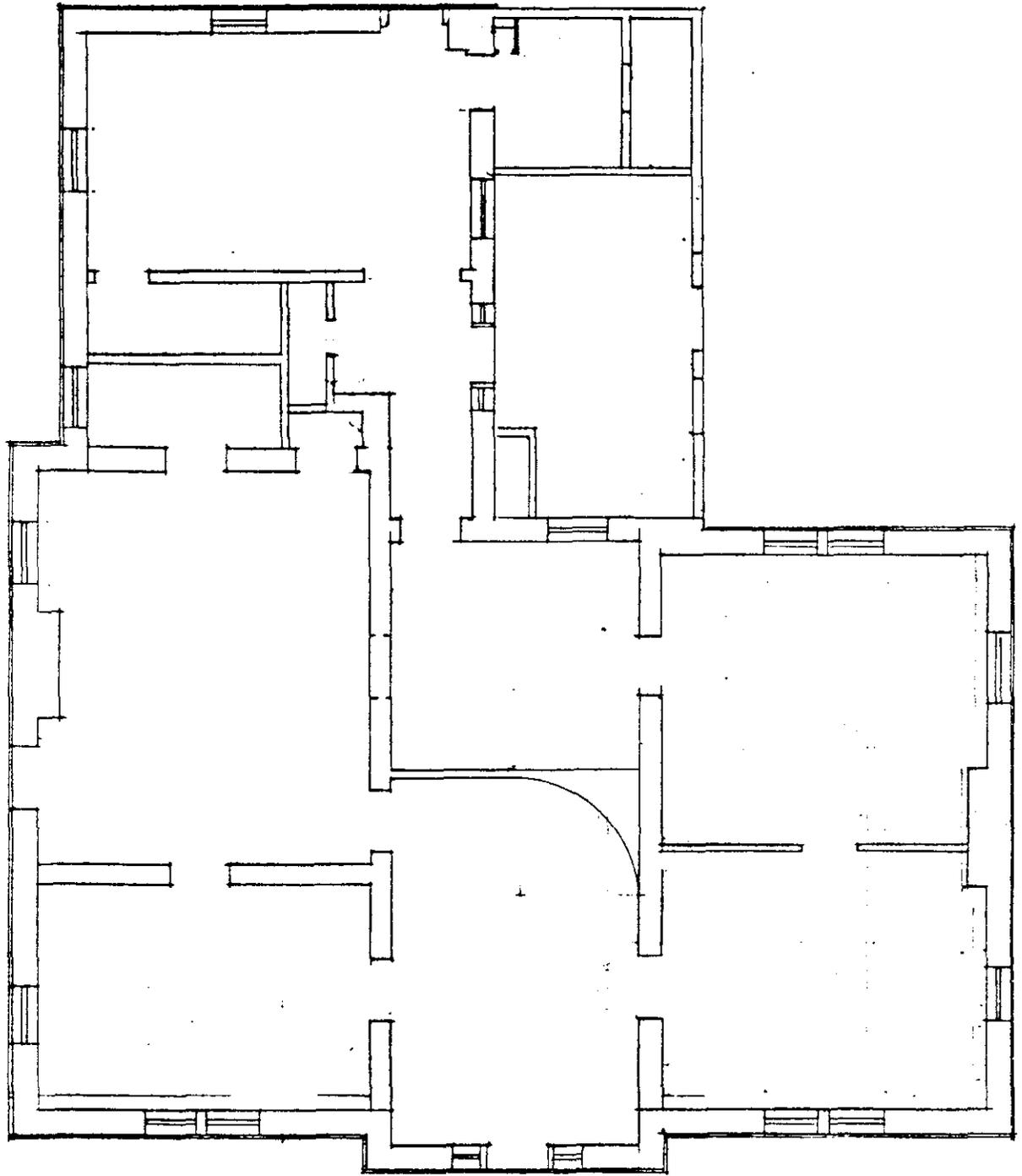
Item number 11

Page 1

2. James M. Denny, Chief of Survey and
Registration Section and State
Contact Person

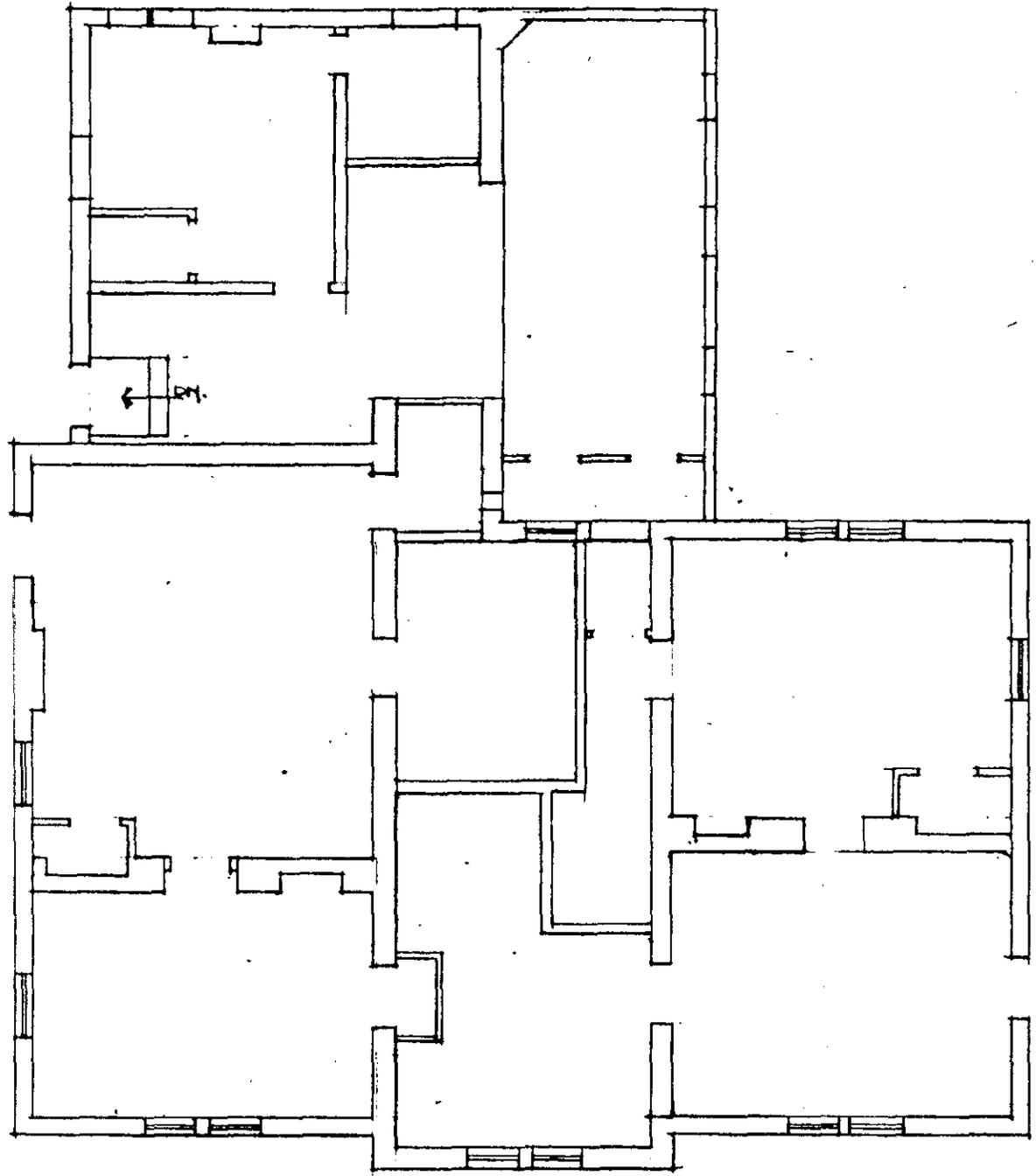
Historic Preservation Program
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
1915 Southridge Drive
Jefferson City

November 15, 1984
(314) 751-4096
Missouri 65201

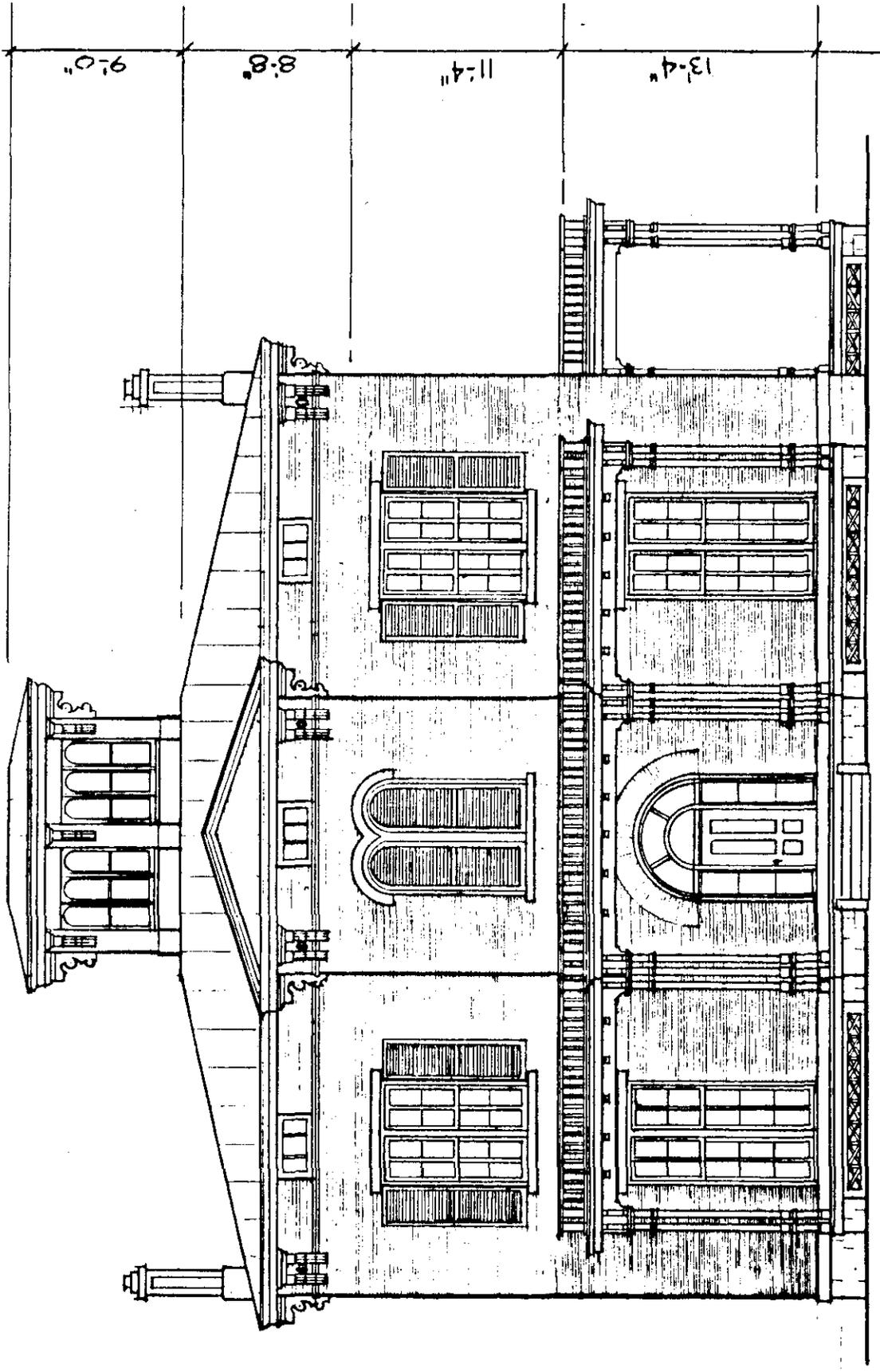


DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
402 East Ross
Palmyra, Missouri

Existing First Floor



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
402 East Ross
Palmyra, Missouri
Existing 2nd Floor



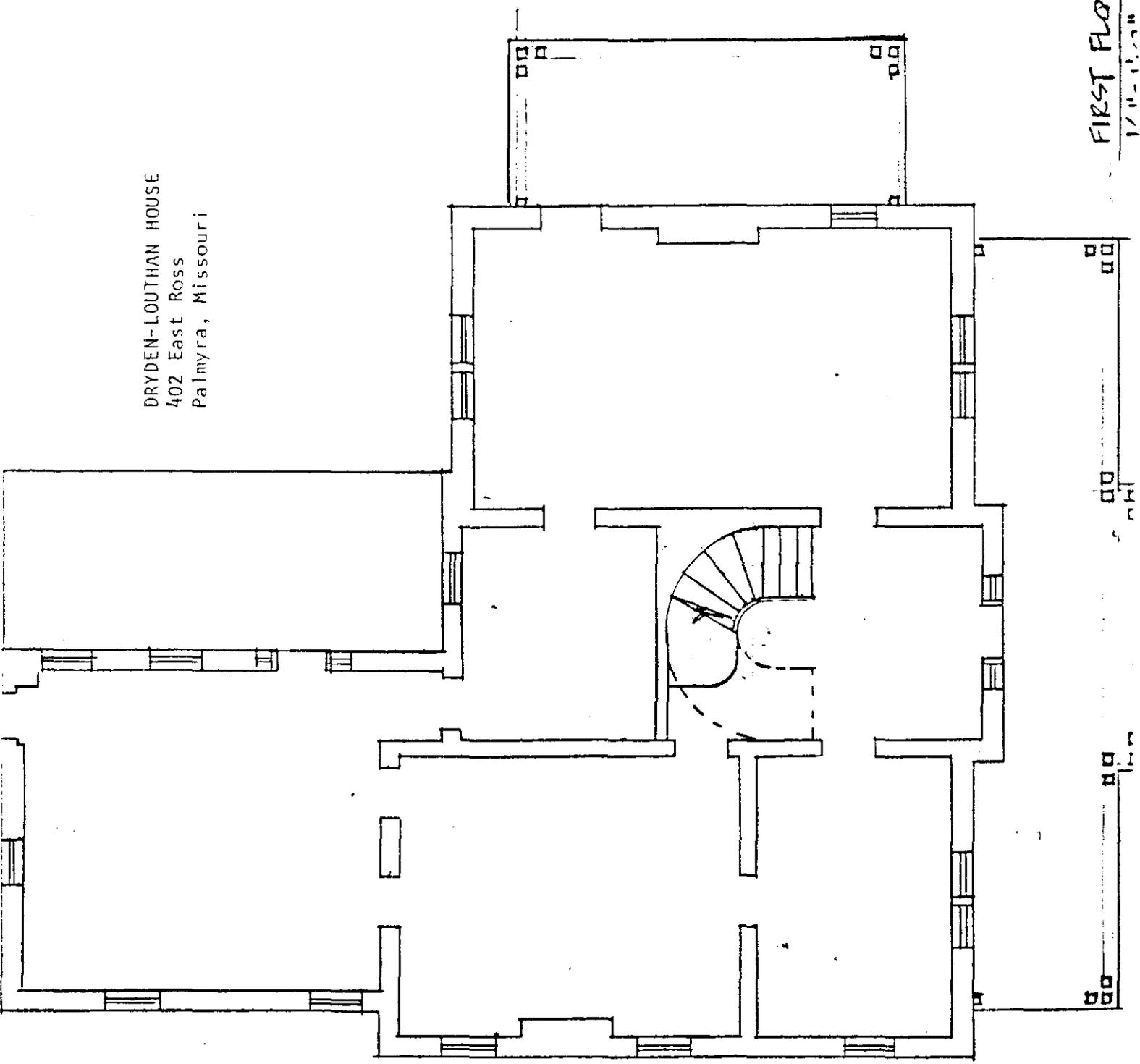
DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
 402 East Ross
 Palmyra, Missouri

Restored West Front

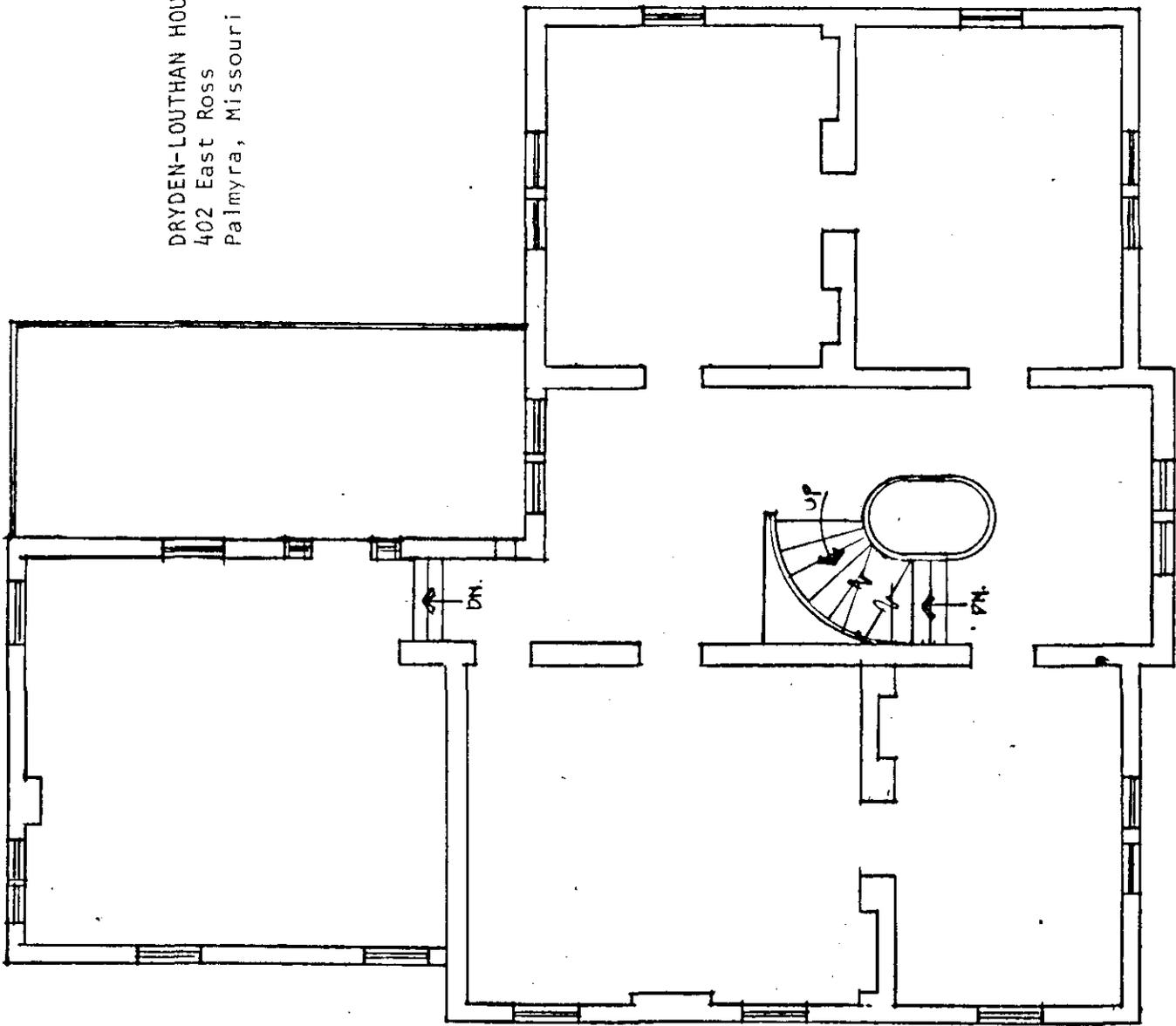
1/8" = 1'-0"

DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
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Palmyra, Missouri

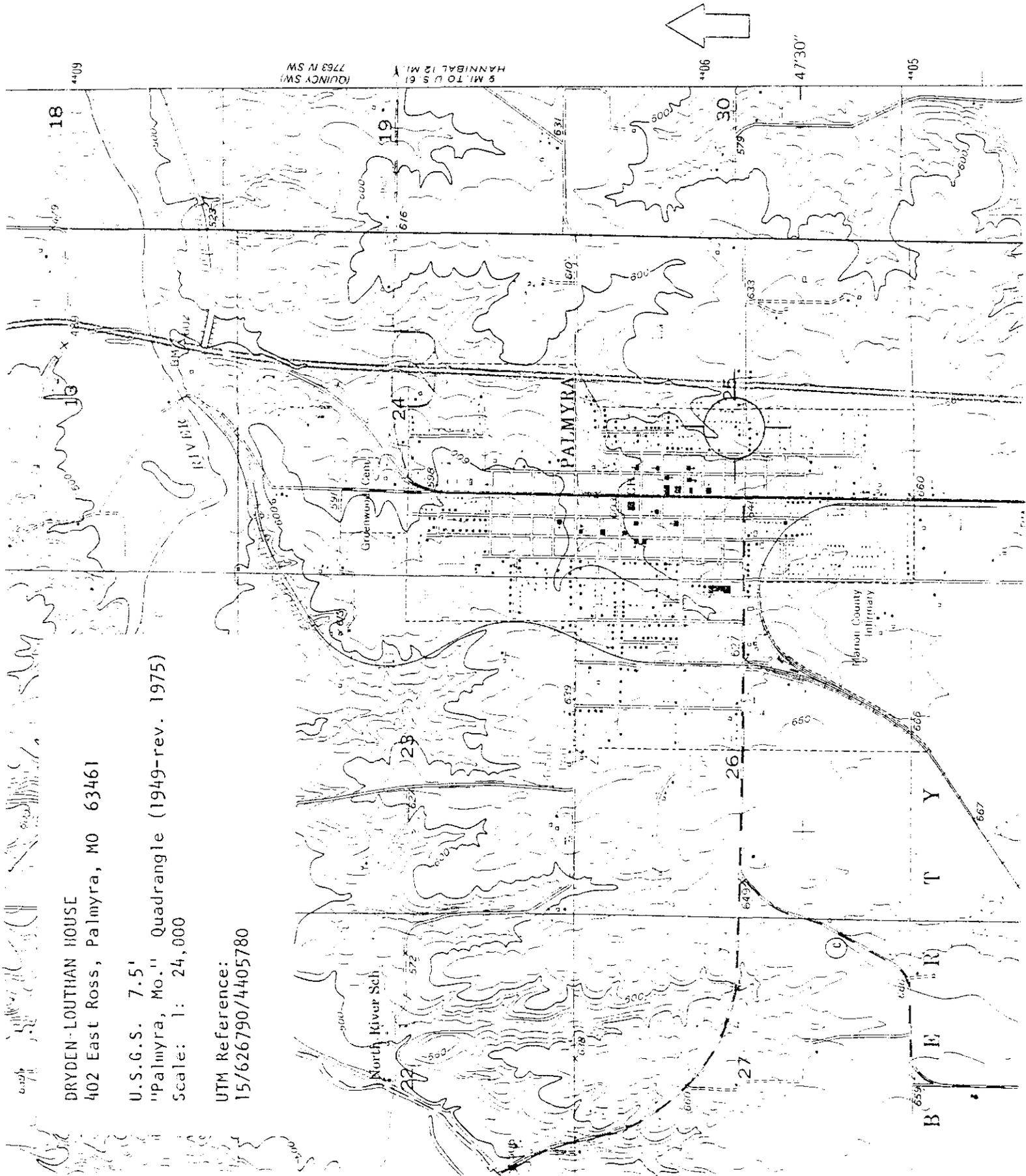
FIRST FLOOR
1/10-11-20



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
402 East Ross
Palmyra, Missouri



SECOND FLOOR
1/2" = 1'-0"



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
 402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

U.S.G.S. 7.5'
 "Palmyra, Mo." Quadrangle (1949-rev. 1975)
 Scale: 1: 24,000

UTM Reference:
 15/626790/4405780

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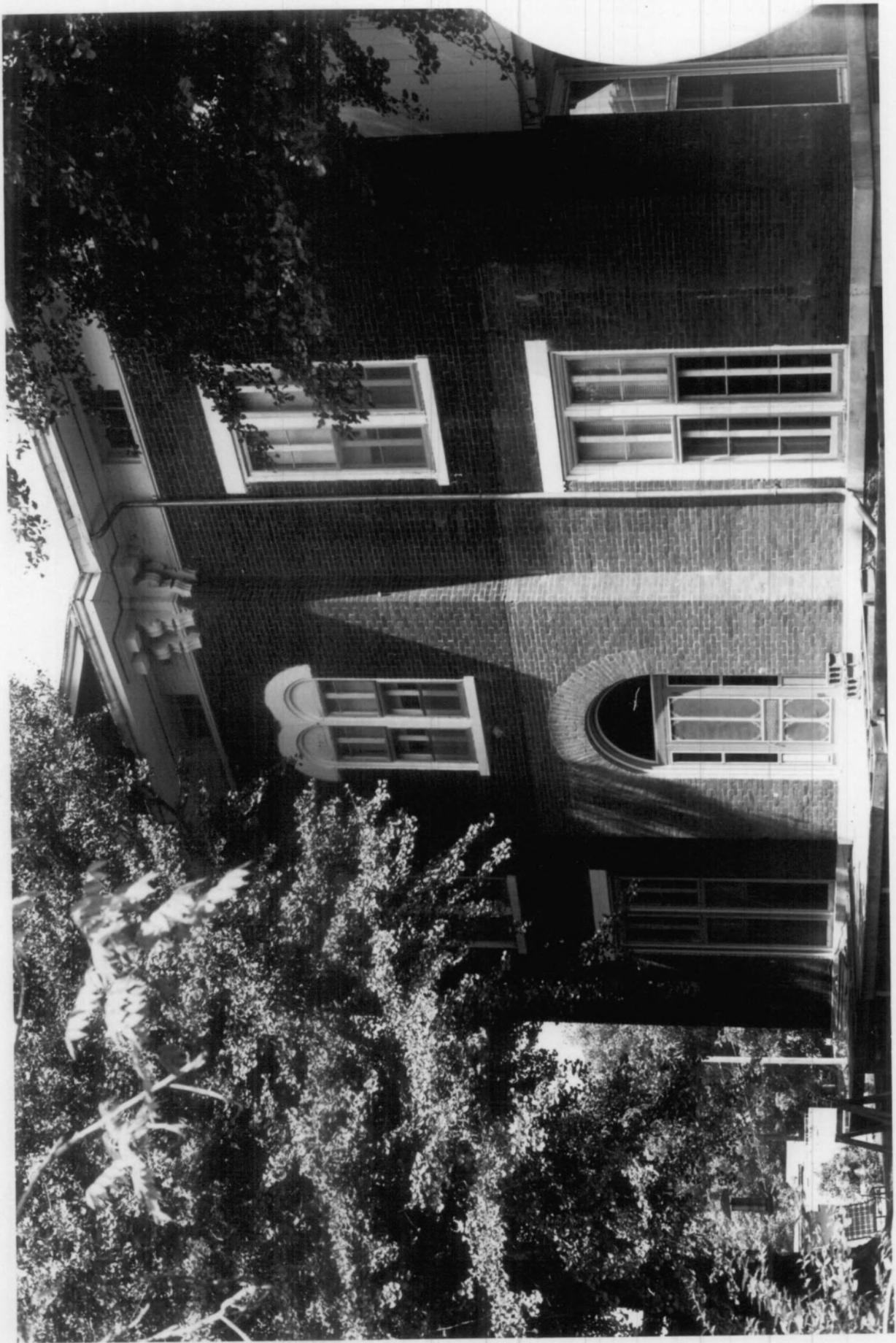
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DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

1 of 7

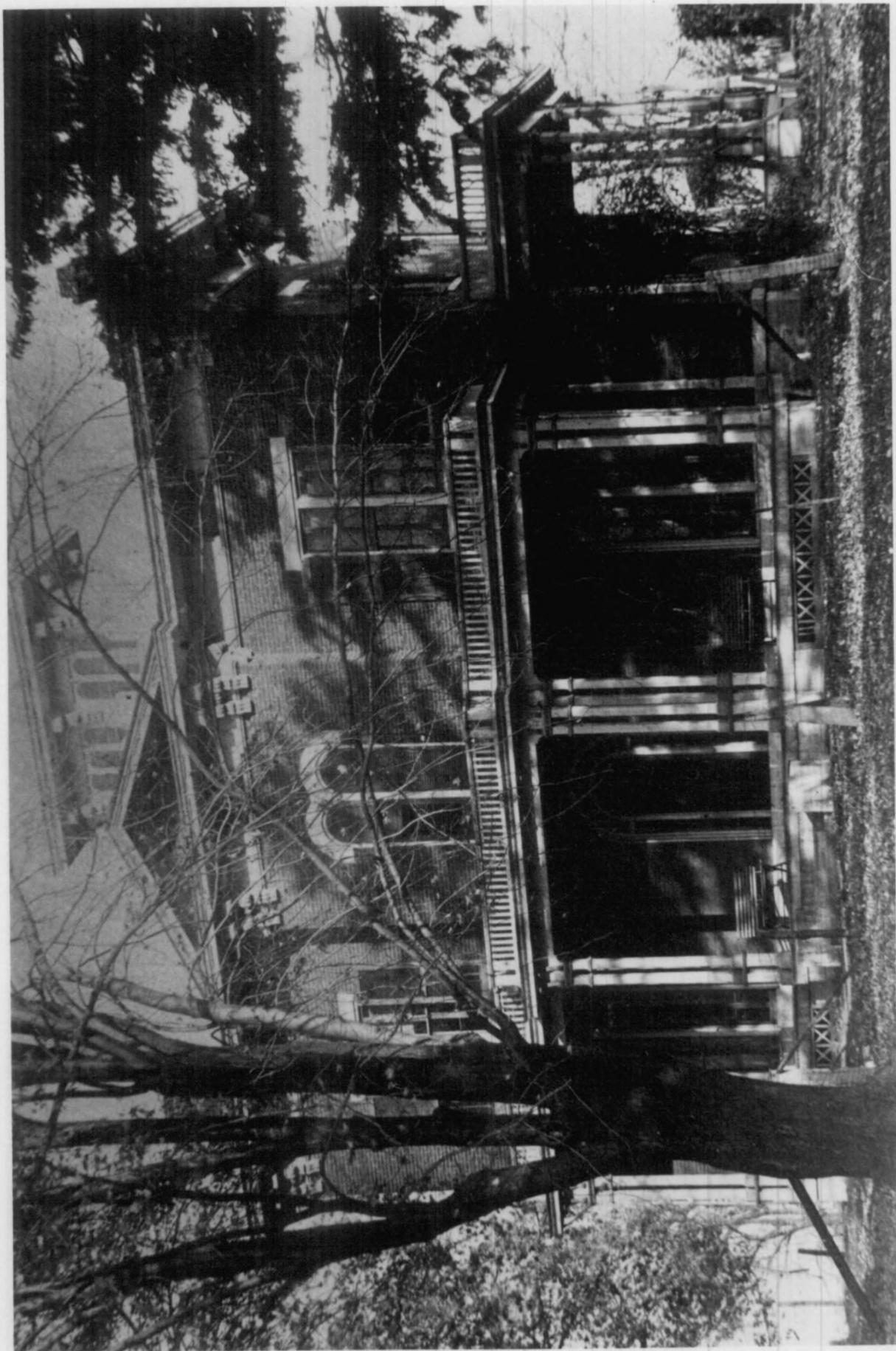
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Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
University City, MO 63130

west front from southwest



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 2 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

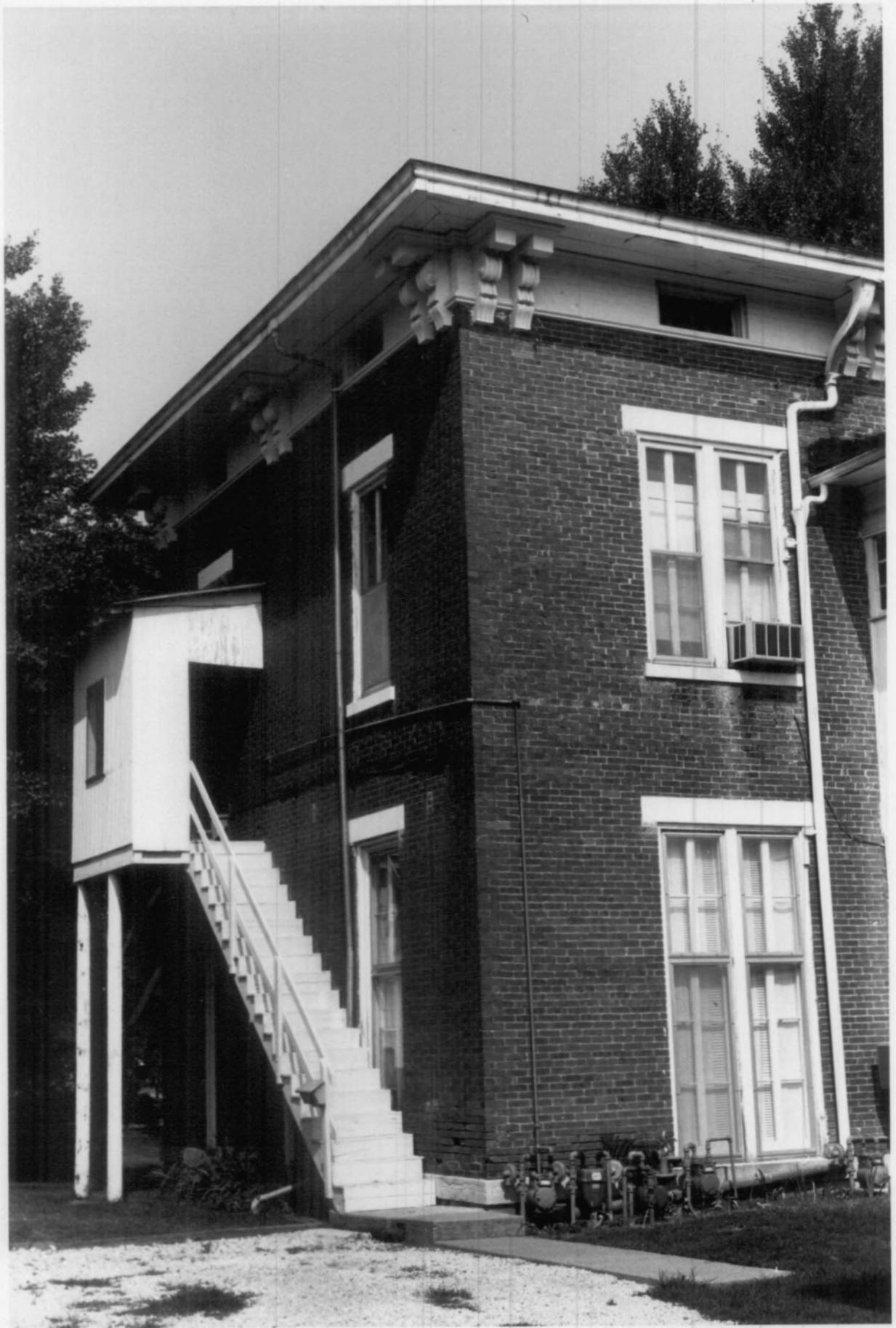
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Neg. Loc.: on site
west front from west



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 3 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, July 1984
Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
University City, MO 63130

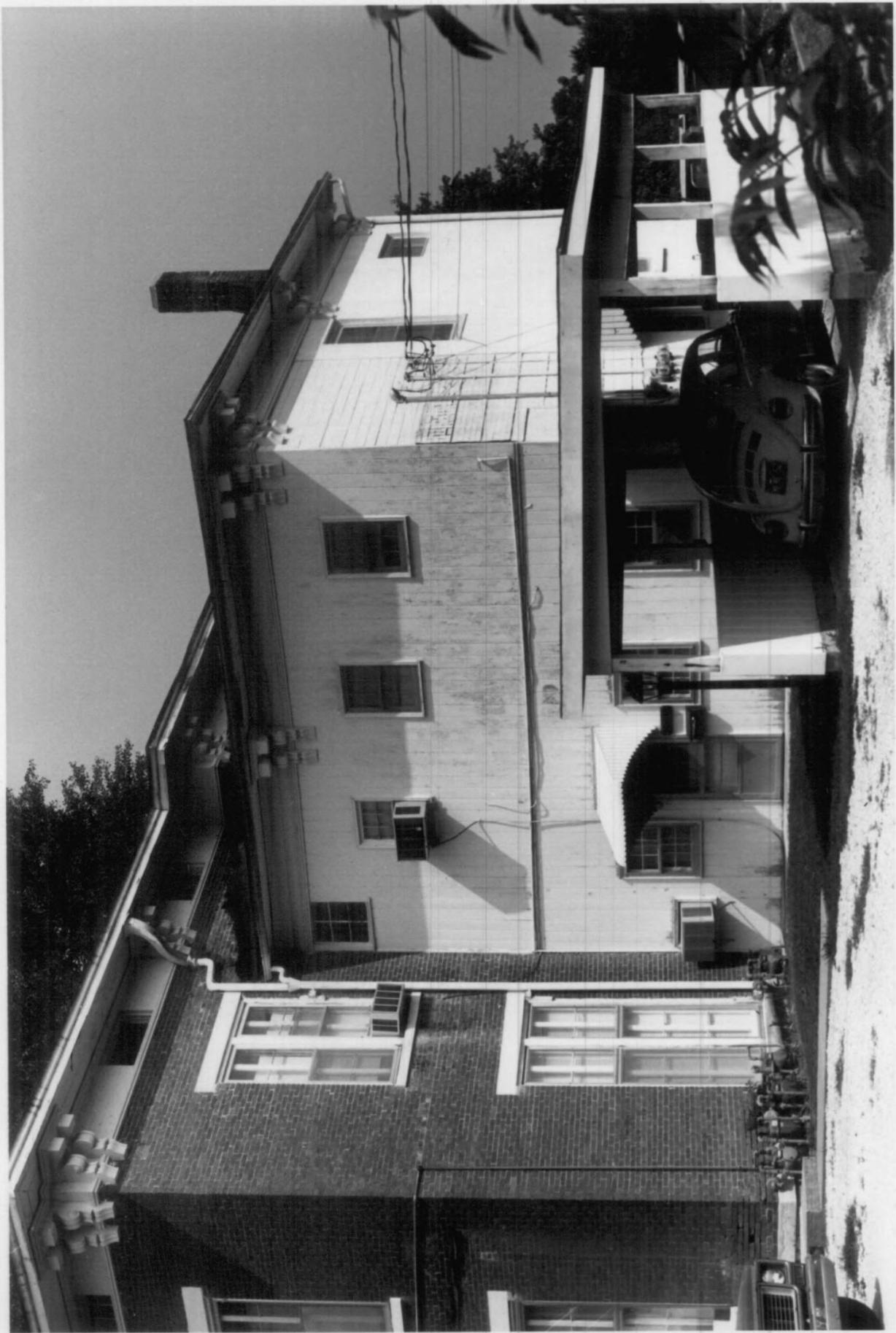
south side of main block from southeast



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 4 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, July 1984
Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
University City, MO 63130

rear wing from southeast



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 5 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, July 1984
Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
 University City, MO 63130

north side from northeast



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 6 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, July 1984
Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
University City, MO 63130

interior of northwest room from center hall



DRYDEN-LOUTHAN HOUSE 7 of 7
402 East Ross, Palmyra, MO 63461

Photog.: Esley Hamilton, July 1984
Neg. Loc.: 1169 Ursula Avenue
University City, MO 63130

detail, southeast corner of north central
room

