

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Levi Morrill Post Office and Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

Uncle Ike's Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mo. State Highway 76, 2.5 miles east of its intersection
with Mo. Highway 13.

CITY, TOWN

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

X VICINITY OF Reeds Spring #7 - Hon. Gene Taylor

STATE

Missouri 65737

CODE
29

COUNTY
Stone

CODE
209

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

R. Layne Morrill

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 907

CITY, TOWN

Kimberling City VICINITY OF

STATE

Missouri 65686

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Stone County, Courthouse, Office of Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Galena

STATE

Missouri 65656

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

1. Missouri: A Guide to the Show-Me State (WPA Project)

DATE

1941

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Published: New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, Inc.

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Levi Morrill Post Office and Homestead consists of a group of five buildings contained within a 150' x 150' tract which date from the occupancy of Levi Morrill (1893-1926). These buildings are: the Notch, Mo. ("Uncle Ike's") Post Office, the Levi Morrill homestead, a well house, smokehouse and privy.

NOTCH, MO. ("UNCLE IKE'S") POST OFFICE

The Notch, Mo., Post Office, facing west, is a one story, gable roofed frame constructed building of rectangular plan. It consists of a single room with an interior area of approximately 168 square feet.

EXTERIOR

Over-all dimensions

The Post Office measures approximately 12-feet 3-inches by 14-feet 3-inches.

Construction materials and colors

The foundation is made of roughly-dressed field stone upon which north-south running 2- by 4-inch oak floor joists rest. Supporting these joists in the center is an east-west running oak log, resting on the foundation at either end. Unpainted clapboards sheath a wood frame, and sawn unpainted oak shingles cover the roof. An uncovered platform porch, approximately 4- by 12-feet 3-inches provides access from ground level to the doorway on the west facade. The Post Office is covered by east-west running gable roof of 45-degree pitch. The chimney serving the building straddles the ridge of the roof at the east extreme of the interior wall.

Openings

Windows. Two four-light, double-hung sash windows, 24- by 62-inches in size, are symmetrically located either side of the door in the west side of the building.

Doorways. A single door provides interior access from the front of the building. It is located in the center of the facade and contains no windows. A "window door", 28- by 46-inches in size, is located in the north half of the east side of the building, three feet above the foundation level. It is made of 1-inch by 5 1/2-inch planks with two exterior strap hinges.

INTERIOR

The interior of the building is a single room of approximately 168 square feet. The floor is of east-west running random-width oak boards.

Walls are unfinished, exposing 1- by 12-inch pine vertical planking.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1926	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1893

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Levi Morrill Post Office and Homestead are significant for having survived into the present time as virtually unaltered examples of Ozark commerce and culture in an area where other such examples have entirely vanished. The Post Office is additionally significant as the model for "Uncle Ike's Post Office" depicted in Harold Bell Wright's popular novel, "The Shepherd of the Hills."

Levi Morrill, his son, and neighbors, built the Post Office building, the adjacent clapboard Homestead, and outbuildings, of native materials following their arrival in the Ozarks in 1893. The structures remain virtually unmodified today on approximately one acre of ground that also contains a few of the diminishing specimens of first-growth native pine, oak and maple. (Most Ozark first-growth timber fell to the lumberman's ax as a source of railroad ties, oak for barrel staves, and lumber for building in the settlement that followed in the early 1900's).¹

Morrill was born in Portland, Maine, on August 21, 1837.² He studied law and graduated from Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine, in 1852 at the age of 15³; a contemporary of Longfellow and Hawthorne and acquaintance of Horace Greeley.

Opportunity in the "West" led Morrill to Kansas in the mid 1800's. His schooling in law, and training with Greeley in newspaper work at the New York Tribune, New York City, New York, resulted in employment at the Hiawatha, Kansas Advocate.⁴ He served with Company I, 7th Kansas Calvary.⁵ He returned to a law practice in Kansas for a time, then established a newspaper at Lamar, Missouri, seeking the hills and clear air of Missouri for his health.⁶

In 1885, with \$1.25 in his pocket, he entered Missouri's Ozarks to homestead.⁷ The original grant was for 160 acres and was signed by President William McKinley.⁷

Brother to Edmund N. Morrill, who was a Kansas representative several years and governor of the state from 1895-1897,⁸ Levi Morrill entered civil service November 11, 1895, when he was appointed Postmaster by William C. Wilson, then Postmaster General of the United States.⁹

Before his death in August, 1926, at age 89,¹⁰ Levi Morrill was recognized and honored as the nation's oldest living Postmaster.¹¹

During his years as an Ozarks Postmaster, Morrill befriended fellow easterner, Harold Bell Wright, when Wright first visited the Ozarks in 1896.¹²

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE

1. Boyd, Don. "When Ozarks Was a Paradise for Lumberjacks." Springfield Sunday News & Leader, March 12, 1978.
2. Dillingham, John Henry. "The Shepherd of the Hills Country." Unpublished manuscript, circa late 1940's.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.5 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME "Garber, Mo."

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 5 | 4 | 6, 9 | 8, 8, 5 | 4, 0 | 5, 8 | 7, 3, 0 |

B | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | |

E | | | | | | | | | |

F | | | | | | | | | |

G | | | | | | | | | |

H | | | | | | | | | |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

A 150 foot square tract of land whose sides are oriented north-south by east-west and which is centered approximately on the center point of the North wing of the Levi Morrill residence, as defined by UTM Reference 15/469885/4058730.

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

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

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

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

1. Vern Modeland

October 6, 1978

ORGANIZATION

DEER MOUNTAIN COMPANY

417/338-2643

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 117

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Kimberling City

STATE

Missouri 65686

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

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

Vern Modeland

TITLE Director, Department of Natural Resources, and
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 2-1-79

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

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2. Missouri State Historical Survey
1979
Department of Natural Resources
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

state

ITEM NUMBER 11 PAGE 1

2. James M. Denny, Section Chief, Nominations-Survey
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Office of Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City

January 15, 1979
314/751-4096

Missouri 65102

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The ceiling is unfinished, rising from approximately 8 feet at the north and south walls to approximately 14 feet at the center of the roof.

The brick chimney, serving as a flue for a heating stove, extends from the ridge line to approximately eight feet above the floor where it comes to rest on a wooden platform braced by 2- by 4-inch timbers.

CONTENTS

The building, presently closed to visitors, has served in the past as a museum. Furnishings remain from its early use as a community Post Office and General Store in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In the northwest corner remain the handbuilt pigeon holes and desk which served as the office of the Postmaster.

The building has no plumbing.

ALTERATIONS

When electricity became locally available, in August, 1946, the Post Office was wired to accommodate a single interior overhead light fixture. A second light was added outside, under the peak of the roof above the entrance door.

CONDITION

The building is in fair condition.

LEVI MORRILL HOMESTEAD

EXTERIOR

The Levi Morrill is an ell-plan two-story vernacular frame residence, sheathed with clapboards, and capped by a roof of intersecting gables. A two-story porch attaches to the east wing of the ell on the primary (west) facade.

Over-all dimensions

The house measures 31- by 32-feet 6-inches in size. The attached porch measures 7-feet 5-inches by 10-feet 6-inches.

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Construction materials and colors

The foundation is made of roughly-dressed field stone. Pillars of field stone support joists at their junctions beneath the house. There is no basement or normal access to the under side of the house with the exception of storage under the attached porch. Access to the crawl space is through a small wooden door, 29- by 48-inches in size, in the east side of the porch foundation.

Painted, hand-planed clapboards sheath a wood frame. Exterior colors are cream with red trim. An east-west running gable roof of 45-degree pitch covers the north wing. It is intersected from the south by a north-south running gable roof of 40-degree pitch which covers the south wing and gallery porch. Asbestos composition shingles cover original wooden shakes. The composition shingles are red and grey.

Openings

Windows. There are 22 double-hung sash windows, all 24- by 62-inches in size. The window openings are mainly filled with two-over-two double hung sash, although there is at least one four-over-four window and in one instance as necessitated by expediency, two-over-four window and one four-over-three window. These windows are generally distributed symmetrically around the building, first and second story windows aligned although on the north facade an extra second floor window disrupts the balance achieved by the other four windows. On the south facade, the rear lean-to features paired windows on the first story below a single second story window.

Doorways. Three doorways provide entrance. One is located in the north wall of the porch in the west facade. A second is in the west - facing wall of the same porch. The third opens into the house from the attached porch on the east facade. A fourth provides access from the southwest bedroom to the second floor porch in the west facade.

All exterior doors are wood of similar construction, with porcelain knobs and key locks. A single exception is the first floor door in the west facade. It contains a single 23- by 34-inch pane of glass in its upper half. The east facade door is in combination with a wooden screen door.

Chimneys. There are two brick chimneys on the house. One served as a flue for heating stoves in the northeast bedrooms. It appears on the crown of the east-west running gable roof. The second chimney served as a flue for cooking and heating stoves in the southeast side of the house. It appears on the east side of the north-south running gable.

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INTERIOR

On both floors of the interior, sawn boards form the interior walls and wallpaper is applied directly to these boards. In the hallway, at least three generations of wallpaper are laid on top of a layer of turn of the century Chicago newspaper. In the remaining rooms all the respective layers of wallpaper still remain, except in the downstairs parlor and upstairs southwest bedroom where, in the late 1940's or early 1950's, unpainted plasterboard was installed.

The first floor is divided into four rooms. A parlor in the northwest corner, bedroom in the northeast, dining and sitting room in the southwest and kitchen and pantry in the southeast. There is one closet, adjoining the bedroom. It is beneath the stairway to the second floor. Access to the stairway is through a small hallway between the dining room and the bedroom. The parlor has unpainted plasterboard sheeting on the walls and ceiling. East-west running plank flooring is covered by a patterned carpet. The dining and sitting rooms, have plasterboard ceiling and walls. The ceiling is unpainted. Walls are covered with wallpaper featuring a loose pattern of flowers in urns. Floor planking is covered with linoleum in a checkered pattern. Throw rugs are beneath furniture.

The bedroom has an east-west running planked floor, wallpaper in a tight flower pattern over plasterboard walls, and a ceiling papered in a plain grey. The walk-in closet opening is covered by a curtain.

The pantry-kitchen has linoleum over an east-west running plank floor. Wallpaper in a vertical striped pattern covers all walls. The ceiling has been covered by a plain paper. North-south running tongue-and-groove wooden ceiling construction is exposed in the north half of the room. Four shelves are attached to the north wall.

Second floor

The second floor is divided into three bedrooms, a dressing room and open porch. The dressing room and porch adjoin the master bedroom in the south half of the upper floor. A hallway connects the bedrooms and stairwell.

The northwest bedroom is wallpapered in a fern leaf pattern. Paper on the ceiling is plain. Wooden floor planking is covered with wall-to-wall carpeting.

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The northeast bedroom has wallpaper on walls and ceiling. The floor is covered with linoleum and throw rugs. A chimney runs from floor to ceiling near the southwest corner of the room. The master bedroom has a 10-foot ceiling. Walls and ceiling are covered with unfinished plasterboard. A chimney adjoins the east room wall. Floor covering is linoleum.

A door from the master bedroom opens onto the upstairs porch in the southwest corner of the house. The porch has no railing. It has an east-west running plank floor, painted grey. The ceiling is of north-south running boards. It slopes downward toward the west from approximately its center. Walls are clapboard, painted to match the remainder of the exterior.

A door in the east wall of the master bedroom provides access to a dressing room and closet. The dressing room and closet are unfinished, exposing horizontal siding on north and west walls and vertical siding on the south. Detail of roof construction, and original shake shingles, are visible in the ceiling. A small opening in the north wall, at the ceiling, is accessible by two permanent steps. It provides access to an attic over north bedrooms. North-south running plank flooring is covered by linoleum.

The hallway has wallpaper of patterned design on all sides and plain paper on its ceiling. East-west running floorboards are covered by linoleum and area rugs.

The building has no plumbing.

CONTENTS

The house, presently closed to visitors, has served in the past as a museum. Furnishings remain from its use as the Morrill family home and residence of Postmaster Levi, "Uncle Ike", Morrill until the time of his death in 1926. Major portions of downstairs rooms are now screened off by woven wire fence over wood framing to protect contents. Downstairs, the northwest room contains a piano, organ and Victrola, elsewhere are other items of furniture, clothing, dishes and other appropriate artifacts.

ALTERATIONS

A doorway connecting the second floor's northeast bedroom with the central hall has been closed over. Lights in the form of ceiling fixtures in each room, except the dining room, were added after 1946 (see description of Post Office alterations).

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CONDITION

The Homestead is structurally sound and is in fair condition.

SITE

Uncle Ike's Post Office and Homestead are located on a tract 150 by 150 feet in size, that also includes several large examples of original forestation.

This site is part of a larger 160 acre tract which is the same parcel initially acquired by Levi Morrill in 1885. The 150 foot square parcel contains the structures of primary significance. Outside this area, immediately north of the Post Office, is a small building where a concession stand is operated to sell souvenirs and snacks. East of this building, also outside of the nominated area, is a mobile home.

In addition to the Post Office and Homestead, the site under consideration contains the following structures:

1. A well house. Approximately 7- by 7-feet in size with unpainted vertical board siding and north-south running gabled roof covered with shake shingles. Well is 80-90 feet deep. Contents include a working windlass pump.
2. A smokehouse. Approximately 8-feet 7-inches by 12-feet, with unpainted vertical board siding, corrugated steel covers a north-south running gabled roof.
3. A privy.

PRESENT STATUS

The continued existence of Uncle Ike's Post Office and Homestead is assured. Owned and maintained by R. Layne Morrill, the buildings are presently closed to the public. An 8 foot high fence blocks access. A caretaker lives in an adjoining mobile home.

FOOTNOTES

1. O.R. Morrill, The Story of Uncle Ike and the Shepherd of the Hills Country. (School of the Ozarks Press, Point Lookout, Missouri), 1948.

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They found much in common during this and subsequent visits through 1903.¹³ Both had been printers. Both were writers, with Morrill's experience in newspaper editing and publishing.

They developed a rapport that led to Wright's authorship of "The Printer of Udell's", a popular work at the time.

Morrill and his Post Office also were destined for notoriety in another Wright novel, "The Shepherd of the Hills". Morrill served as the basis for the book's character, "Uncle Ike",¹⁴ in this novel about the life and times of turn-of-the-century Ozarks. Uncle Ike and his post office do not play a central role in Wright's melodramatic novel, but his habit of often exclaiming, "Ba thundas," and his famous postal desk and chair form a memorable impression. The following excerpt appears at the beginning of Chapter XXII in "The Shepherd of the Hills."

The postoffice at the Forks occupied a commanding position in the north-east corner of Uncle Ike's cabin, covering an area not less than four feet square.

The fittings were in excellent taste, and the equipment fully adequate to the needs of the service: an old table, on legs somewhat rickety; upon the table, a rude box, set on end and divided roughly into eight pigeon holes, duly numbered; in the table, a drawer, filled a little with stamps and stationery, filled mostly with scraps of leaf tobacco, and an odd company of veteran cob pipes, now on the retired list, or home on furlough; before the table, a little old chair, wrought in some fearful and wonderful fashion from hickory sticks from which the bark had not been removed.

With every change of the weather, this chair, through some unknown but powerful influence, changed its shape, thus becoming in its own way a sort of government weather bureau. And if in all this "land of the free and home of the brave" there be a single throne, it must be this same curiously changeable chair. In spite of, or perhaps because of its strange powers, that weird piece of furniture managed to make itself so felt that it was religiously avoided by every native who called at the Forks. Not the wildest "Hill-Billy" of them all dared to occupy for a moment this seat of Uncle Sam's representative. Here Uncle Ike reigned supreme over his four feet square of government property. And you may be very sure that the mighty mysterious thing known as the "gov'ment" lost none of its might, and nothing of its mystery, at the hands of its worthy official.¹⁵

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Following Levi Morrill's death, the U.S. Post Office Service appointed his wife, Jennie, to succeed him. She served until a few years prior to her death, ten years after her husband's, in June, 1936.

The Post Office property, together with a neighboring timber tract, were bequeathed by Mrs. Morrill to three grandsons: Alfred and Edmund Morrill, sons of Oscar (Levi's son), and Carl Johnston, Grand Junction, Colorado, who was a son of Homer Johnston and Susi Morrill (Levi's daughter).¹⁶

Around 1932, the official Notch, Missouri, Post Office was moved to the nearby home of Mrs. Thomas Fullerton.¹⁷ By that time, the Shepherd of the Hills Country and the haunts of its characters had become a major tourist attraction, and Levi Morrill's Post Office building was turned into a museum to the times and life of its occupants and the characters of Wright's novels. This same tourism, which was to virtually destroy, overrun, or create what one writer called "fake lore" rather than "folk lore",¹⁸ had in the case of the Morrill Post Office and homestead the opposite effect of freezing in time the exact setting described by Wright in 1907. Because these buildings have remained continuously in the Morrill family, their integrity has been scrupulously maintained in an unaltered state. The writer just alluded to, despite his disillusion at the burgeoning commercialism that was completely engulfing the Shepherd of the Hills Country found Uncle Ike's Post Office "...the one authentic relic of the area, and the most genuinely interesting."¹⁹

Beginning in the late thirties, when as many as 6,000 visitors annually were recorded, the Post Office and Homestead served as a museum displaying area artifacts and exemplifying the lifestyle of the turn-of-the-century Ozarks until the death of Alfred Morrill. In 1972, the property was closed to the public to protect it from damage due to excessive visitation.

Continuing development of tourism, accelerated when the Corps of Engineers constructed Table Rock Dam and others that impound the White River in this region, have brought considerable pressure on the area's ecology and remnants of early settlement.

Uncle Ike's Post Office and Homestead stand today, largely through the interest of and protection by the builder's great-grandson, as the only trace of early times and culture in the widening area.

The survey of Missouri's historic sites is based on the selection of sites as they relate to theme studies outlined in "Missouri's State Historic Preservation Plan." Therefore, the Levi Morrill Post Office and Homestead is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as an example of the themes of "Fine Arts and Humanities", and "Exploration and Settlement".

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FOOTNOTES

1. Don Boyd, "When Ozarks was a Paradise for Lumberjacks", Springfield Sunday News & Leader, March 12, 1978. p. A31.
2. O.R. Morrill, The Story of Uncle Ike and the Shepherd of the Hills Country, (Point Lookout, Mo.: School of the Ozarks Press, 1948), p. 9.
3. "The Postmaster at the Forks", Stone County News-Oracle (Galena, Missouri), July 15, 1925. p. 1.
4. Ibid.
5. Document No. 1555074, United States Bureau of Pensions. (Family papers in possession of R. Layne Morrill, Kimberling City, Missouri).
6. Stone County News-Oracle, July 15, 1925. p. 1.
7. Document in family papers in possession of R. Layne Morrill.
8. Newspaper account, October, 1925. Newspaper and author unknown.
9. Document of appointment signed by F.H. Jones, Postmaster General of the United States, September, 1895.
10. Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Dodge, letter to Mrs. Jennie Morrill, Hiawatha, Kansas, August 23, 1926.
11. "Uncle Ike Morrill Starts North Ready to Christen Plane", Kansas City Post, May 11, 1926.
12. John Henry Dillingham, "The Shepherd of the Hills Country", (unpublished manuscript circa late 1940's), p. 2. Copy in family papers in possession of R. Layne Morrill.
13. Ibid. p. 3.
14. O.R. Morrill, pp. 9-18; Pearl Spurlock, Over the Old Ozark Trails in the Shepherd of the Hills Country with Pearl Spurlock, (Branson, Mo.: White River Leader, 1936), pp. 54-59.

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LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND HOMESTEAD

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

8

PAGE

4

15. Harold Bell Wright, The Shepherd of the Hills (New York: Grosset and Dunlop, 1907), pp. 183-184.
16. "Post Office at the Forks Will be Sold", Stone County News-Oracle (Galena, Missouri), ca. 1937-1938, p. 1.
17. "Famed Post Office Moved From the Forks", Newspaper account, exact date and source unknown, ca. 1932. Copy in possession of R. Layne Morrill.
18. Dickson Terry, "The Shepherd of the Hills: Still Tending to its Flock of Thousands of Tourists," Midwest Motorist, August, 1969, pp. 4-5.
19. Ibid.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND HOMESTEAD

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

9

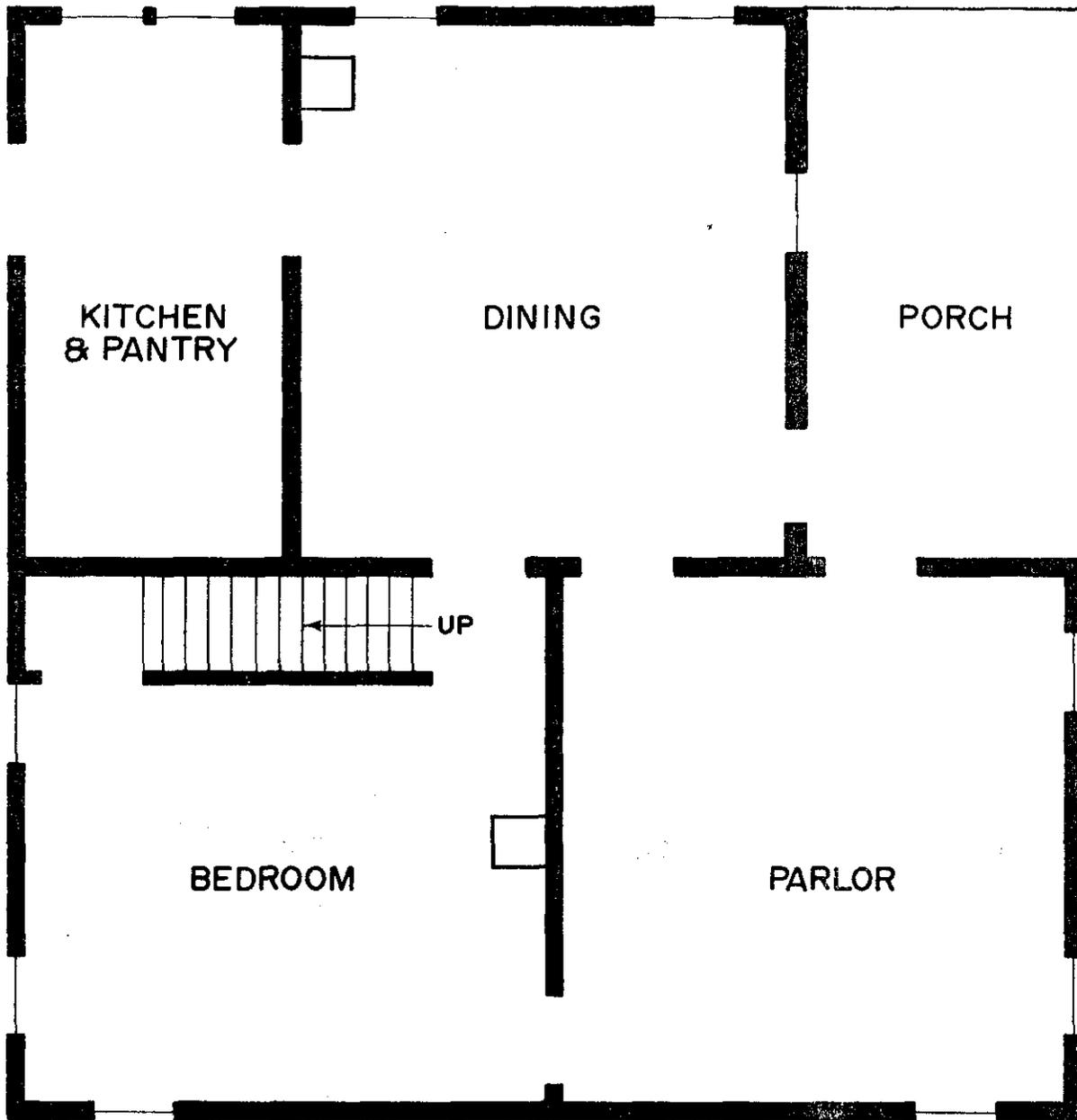
PAGE

1

3. Document No. 1555974, United States Bureau of Pensions.
4. Dodge, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle. Letter to Mrs. Morrill, Jennie. Hiawatha, Kansas, August 23, 1926.
5. "Famed Post Office Moved From the Forks." Newspaper account, exact date and source unknown, ca. 1932.
6. Morrill, O.R. The Story of Uncle Ike and the Shepherd of the Hills Country. Point Lookout, Mo.: School of the Ozarks Press, 1948.
7. Spurlock, Pearl. Over the Old Ozark Trails in the Shepherd of the Hills Country with Pearl Spurlock. Branson, Mo.: White River Leader, 1936.
8. "Post Office at the Forks Will be Sold." Stone County News-Oracle (Galena, Missouri), ca. 1937-1938.
9. Stone County News-Oracle, July 15, 1925.
10. Terry, Dickson. "The Shepherd of the Hills Still Tending to its Flocks of Thousands of Tourists." Midwest Motorist, August, 1969.
11. "The Postmaster at the Forks." Stone County News-Oracle (Galena, Missouri), July 15, 1925.
12. "Uncle Ike Morrill Starts North Ready to Christen Plane." Kansas City Post, May 11, 1926.
13. Wright, Harold Bell. The Shepherd of the Hills. New York: Grosset and Dunlap, 1907.

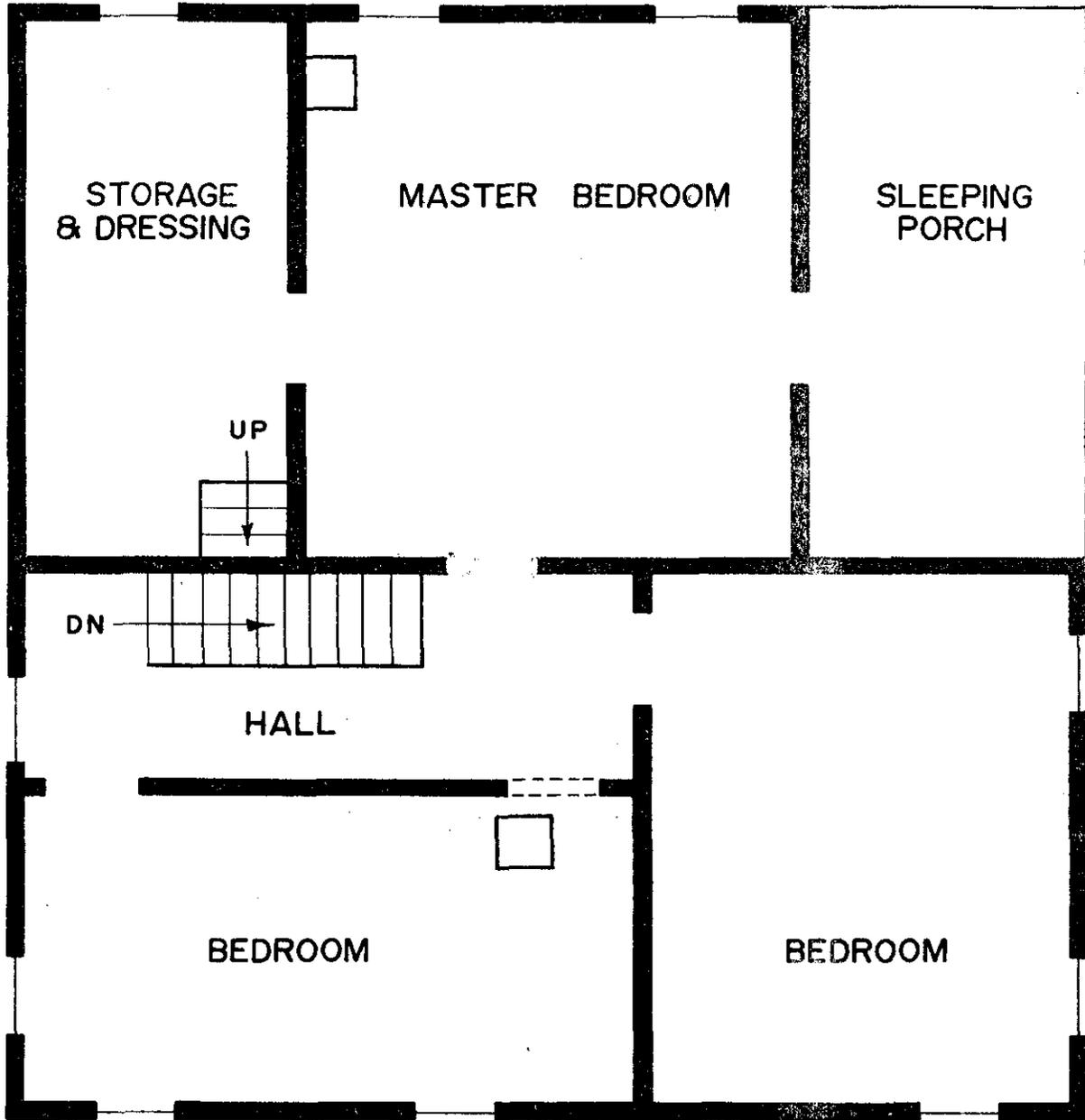
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
LEVI MORRILL HOMESTEAD
REEDS SPRING, MISSOURI

SCALE: 1" = 5'



SECOND FLOOR PLAN
LEVI MORRILL HOMESTEAD
REEDS SPRING, MISSOURI

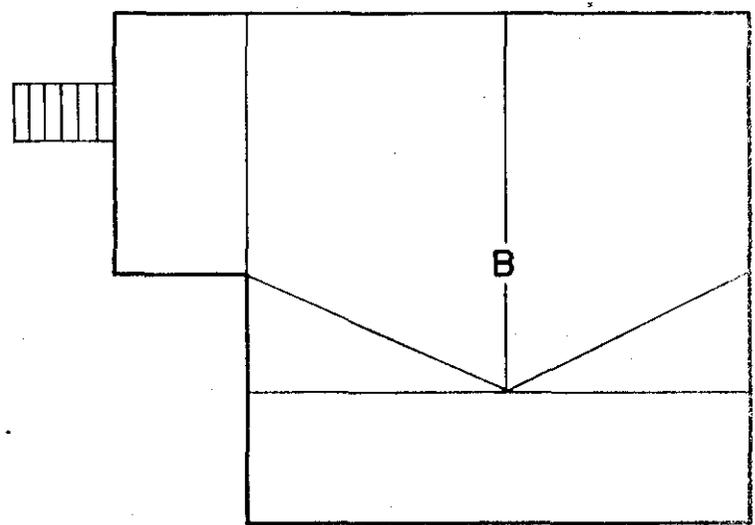
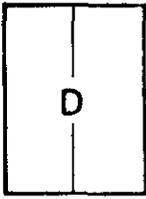
SCALE: 1" = 5'



SITE PLAN MAP
LEVI MORRILL HOMESTEAD
REEDS SPRING, MISSOURI

E

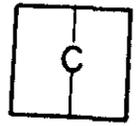
NOT TO SCALE



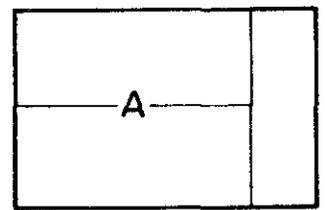
B

150'

BOUNDARY LINE



- A = POST OFFICE
- B = HOMESTEAD
- C = WELLHOUSE
- D = SMOKEHOUSE
- E = PRIVY



A

150'

LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE
AND HOMESTEAD

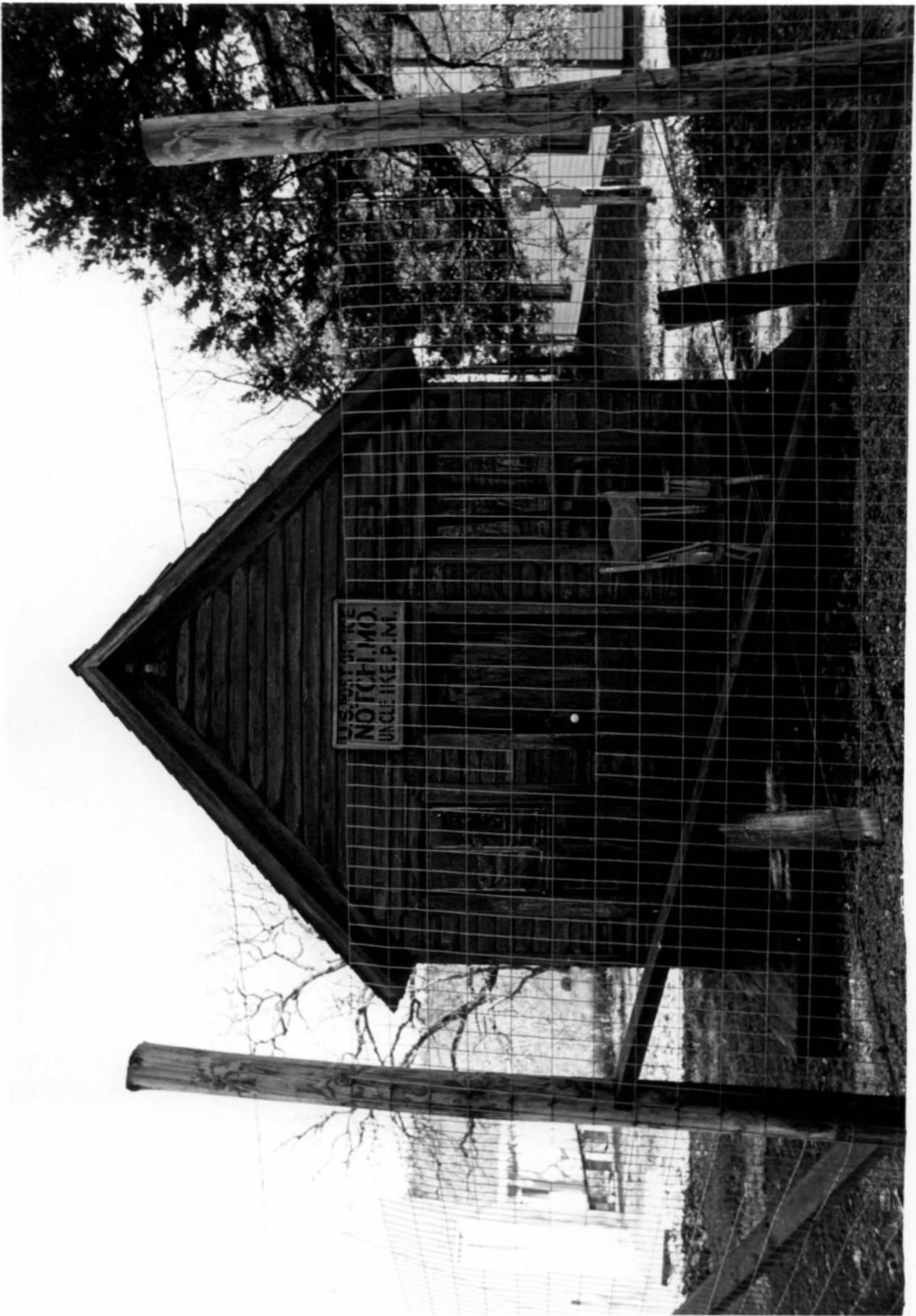
#1

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri
Photographer: Vern Modeland

October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65
65686

Levi Morrill Post Office, Primary West
Facade: View Looking East, trailer to
right is not within nominated area.



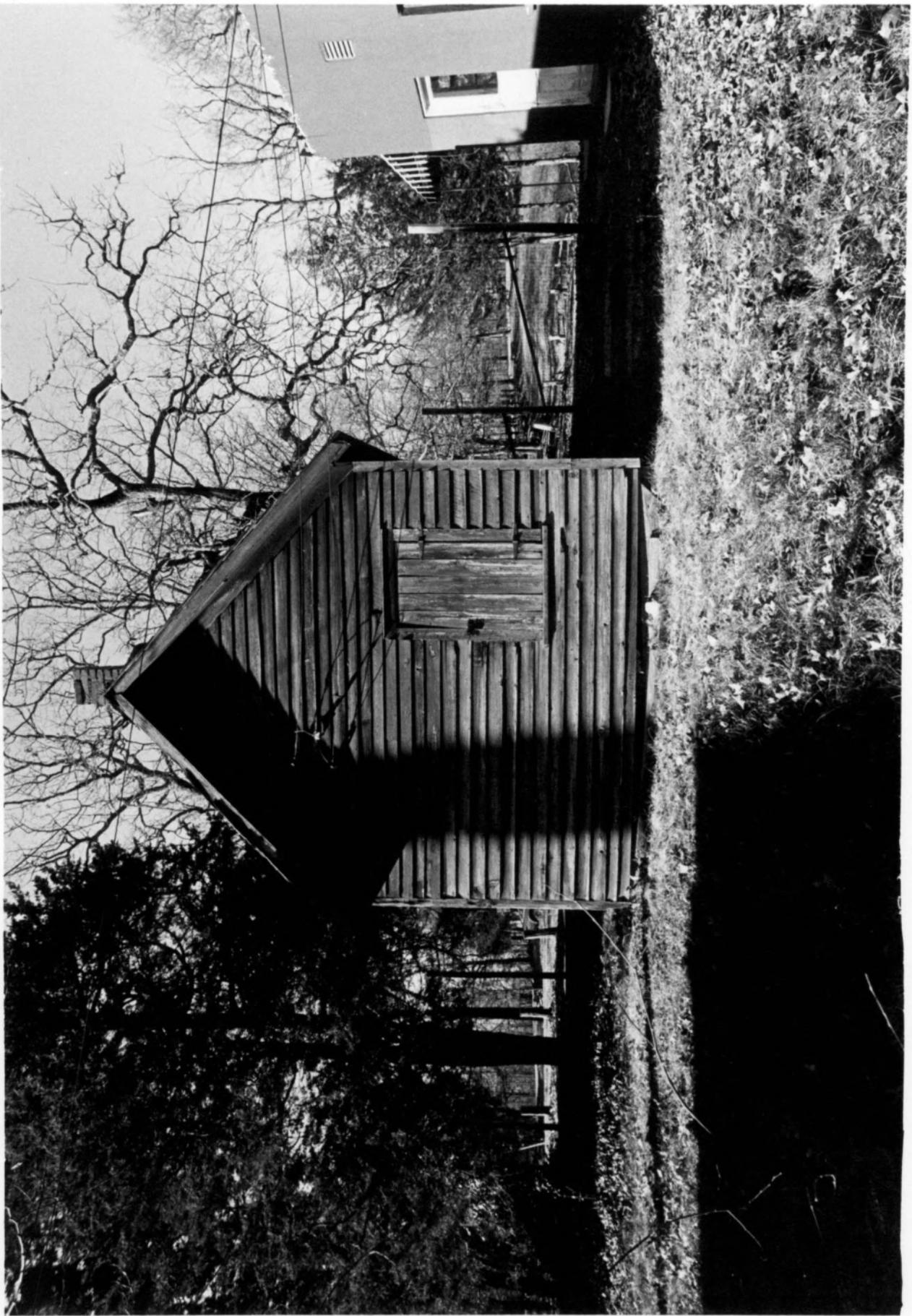
LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND
HOMESTEAD

#2

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri
Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Post Office, East Facade: View
Looking West; Concession building to right
is not within nominated area.



LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND
HOMESTEAD

#3

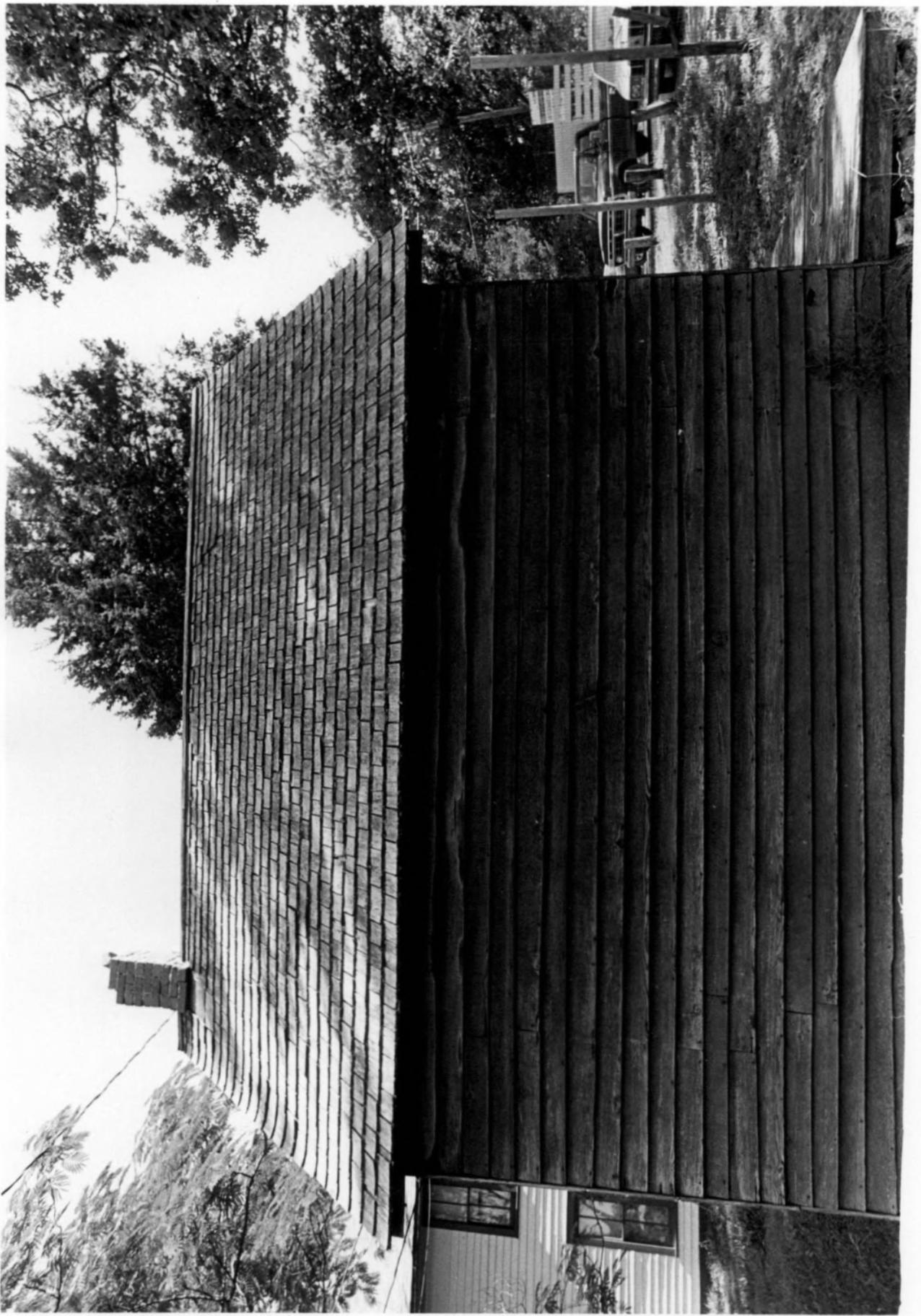
Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri

Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Post Office, North Facade: View
Looking South; tall wire fence to right denotes
western boundary of nominated area. Levi
Morrill Residence appears to left of photo in

background.



LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND
HOMESTEAD

#4

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri

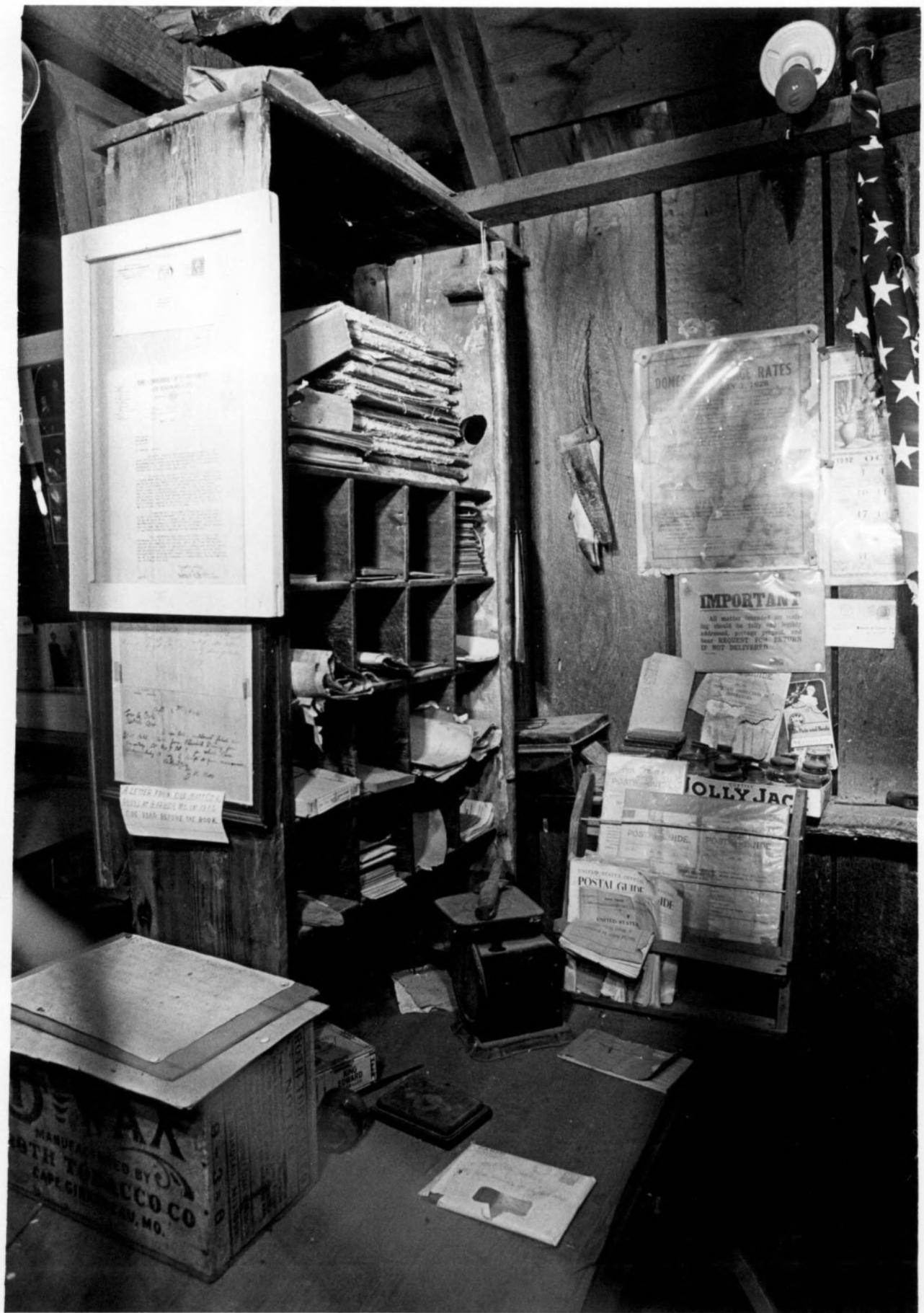
Photographer: Vern Modeland

October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company

P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Post Office interior view showing
detail of Postal desk - the same desk descri-
bed in Harold Bell Wright's, The Shepherd of
the Hills.



THE BOARD OF POST OFFICES
OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

LETTER FROM COLLEGE
ALL AT 25 CENTS PER COPY
BE 1940 BEFORE THE BOOK.

DOMESTIC RATES
1938

IMPORTANT
All matter...
DO NOT DELIVER.

JOLLY JACK
POSTAL GUIDE
UNITED STATES

DEAN
MANUFACTURED BY
NORTH TOBACCO CO.
CAPE GIRARD, MO.

LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND
HOMESTEAD

#5

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri
Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence Primary West Facade:
View Looking East; well house appears to left
of photograph.



#6

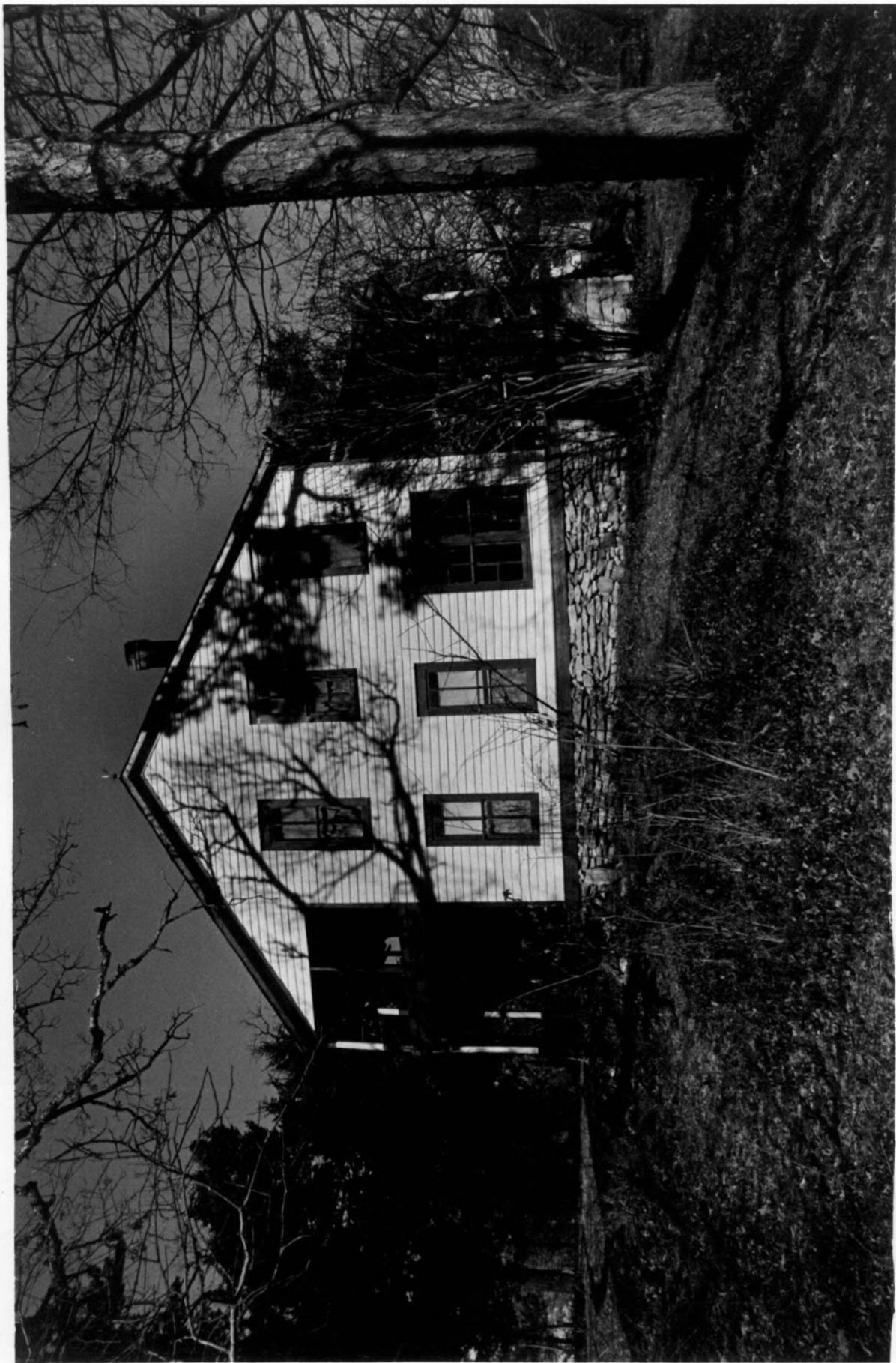
LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND
HOMESTEAD

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri

Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence, South Facade: View
Looking North.



LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND #7
HOMESTEAD

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri
Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence, North Facade: View
Looking South; well house appears in left
foreground.

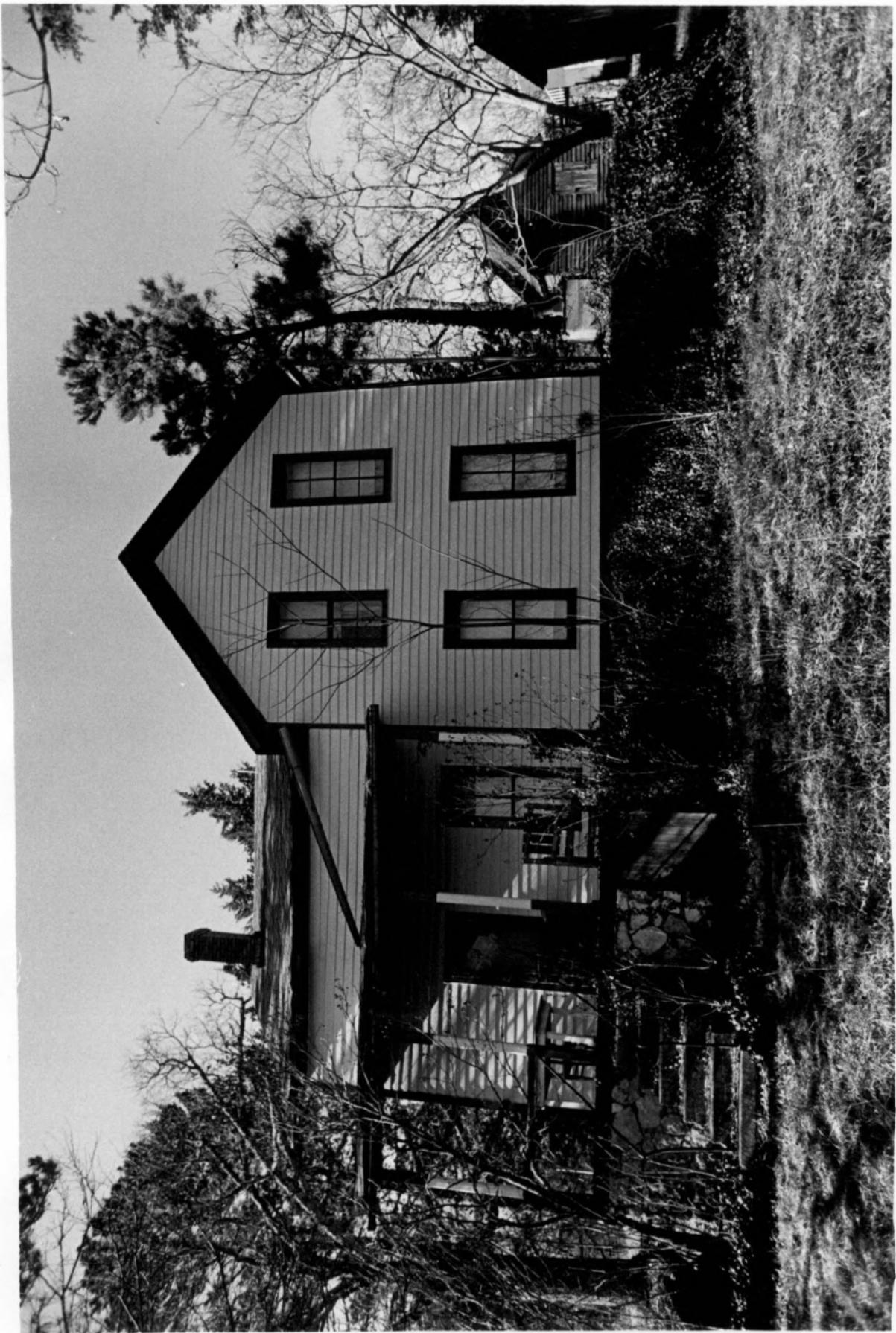


LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND #8
HOMESTEAD

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri
Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company
P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence, East Facade: View
Looking West; to right is the Post Office and
to extreme right, the well house.



LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND #9

HOMESTEAD

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri

Photographer: Vern Modeland
October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company

P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence, interior view of
first floor main entrance to dining room.
View looking Southwest.



LEVI MORRILL POST OFFICE AND #10

HOMESTEAD

Reeds Spring vicinity, Missouri

Photographer: Vern Modeland

October, 1978

Neg. Loc.: Deer Mountain Company

P.O. Box 117, Kimberling City, Mo. 65686

Levi Morrill Residence interior view of
Northwest second floor bedroom: View looking
East.

