NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Exp. 10-31-84

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 WOODSON/SAWYER HOUSE

and/or common Araby West

2. Location

street & number 1604 West Lexington ___ not for publication

city, town Independence ___ vicinity of

state Missouri code 29 county Jackson code 095

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X N/A	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Sawyer

street & number 1604 West Lexington

city, town Independence ___ vicinity of state Missouri 64050

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds
Jackson County Court House Annex

street & number Osage at Kansas

city, town Independence state Missouri 64050

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title A. City of Independence, Missouri has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes x no

date 1976 Historic and Architectural Survey ___ federal ___ state ___ county x local

depository for survey records Planning Department, City of Independence, Mi-souri
111 East Maple

city, town Independence state Missouri 64050

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
x excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	x original site
___ good	___ ruins	x altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

EXTERIOR

The Woodson/Sawyer House is an irregular, rectangular, two-story Italianate brick residence, four bays in width and six bays in depth. The main facade and elevation orients to the south on West Lexington Street. The building is located eight blocks southwest of the Independence, Missouri public square.[1]

The central portion of the structure is thought to be the oldest of the construction periods; the date is traditionally given as 1866. This portion, which includes present day kitchen facilities may be of even earlier construction than the traditional date, although hard documentation is inconclusive at this time. The roof line of this section is gabled with a moderate pitch. The roof lacks a ridge pole and relies on a rafter-butt system. The ridge line orients north/south. Brick bond is American but irregular in nature with key coursing occurring at indiscriminate levels (five, six, eight, etc.). Paired dormers are located on the roof faces on the east and west. Three dormers have been rebuilt based on designs taken from the original northwest dormer. Gallery porches are located on the east and west facades of this section and are screened on the east, the west being enclosed in latticework. The chimney centers on the roofline; the bricks are laid up in an ornamental "cut" configuration.[2]

To the south, the library and dining rooms are from an undetermined construction period. It is doubtful that they were built at the same time as the center portion; brick types, bonding patterns, keystone elements and other details are dissimilar and vary between the two sections. It is possible that portions may have been constructed in 1871; however, family tradition records a fire soon after this period of construction. Various sources state that the home burned soon after its "construction" in 1871; charred timbers in the attic and charred and broken brick in the crawl spaces beneath this section support the story. How much of the home was damaged at the time of the fire is unclear, however.[3]

Additional construction took place immediately afterwards ca. 1872-73, bringing the central and the front sections of the home to their present general appearance by 1873. The dining room section of the home is equipped with a square one-story bay window of frame construction with dentil detailing. The library section to the east has three windows. Both dining room and library sections have fireplaces on the south walls with chimneys of brick laid up in regular bond with "butter" joints. Brick bond in this section of the home is also of the same type and style and lacks key coursing.[4]

The parlor and main entry sections are located directly south of the dining room and library sections of the residence. The fireplace on the north wall backs to the dining room fireplace; both share a common flue. Brick bond is identical to that of the library and dining room sections. Two windows and the main entry, located to the east of center, comprise the main facade and elevation. On the west, a one-story bay window is located just south of the previously described bay window in the dining room. The window is hexagonal

and of masonry construction. On the east elevation of this section, an additional window is located. The main entry is flanked by two three-quarter length sidelights and also has an undivided fan shaped transom.[5]

Doorways and windows of the first story are arched throughout and are constructed of radiating brick voussoirs with cast keystones. The keystones of the parlor, dining room and library sections have recessed centers and are chamfered with four facets. Keystones in the center and rear (north) sections of the home have smooth faces and lack this added detailing, indicating various building periods. All second story windows are segmentally arched with complementary keystone treatments as described.

Scarring on the face of the structure is from a porch element removed ca. 1945. The original porch as constructed in 1872-1873 was replaced after the turn of the century with a configuration consisting of a one-story porch supported by four cast iron modified Corinthian columns. The cornice was decorated with a dentil motif, with larger dentils located over each column. Two urns decorated either side of the main entry steps. Allegedly, these elements were taken from a remodeling of the Jackson County Courthouse and installed as part of the Woodson porch by the Woodson's daughter. If this is the case, then the porch installation should be dated at ca. 1910. What may be one of the original post designs is observable in a historic photograph of the main facade (Photo #15). The design of this half-column is identical to others located on the rear porch (Photo #16). The ca. 1910 porch was removed ca. 1945.

The roof of the two south sections of the home is low and hipped. Originally equipped with paired brackets under the eaves, it was extensively damaged by fire in 1954 at which time Mayor Robert Weatherford designed the present configuration and included the railing presently installed on the center table of the roofline.[6]

The addition on the north was accomplished in 1968 by the present owners. All original detailing, window treatment, rooflines and other important details were replicated during the construction. Brick bonding is modern and American in nature.[7]

INTERIOR

First Floor:

The center section of the structure (ca. 1865) includes a stairway ascending from east to west, comprised of sixteen inch risers, turned balusters, bannisters and newel post. Nosing is also intact. The ornamental nature of the stairway and the configuration of the hallway support the contention that the center section of the building was built previous to other sections as a residence in and of itself; this stair would have served as the main stairway. Exterior doorways on the east and west are arched and equipped with heavy rounded woodwork. Doors are original, designed in a four panel system with paired panels on the right and left separated by oeil de boeuf designs in

turned wood mouldings. The doors have lock systems of the box/push lever variety. The doorways are flanked on the north by double hung arched windows with wooden sills. Windows are of the four over four light variety. The doors exit to the previously described gallery porches on the east and west. Flooring is of pine.[8]

The kitchen occupies the space to the north of the hallway. Kitchen facilities were remodeled ca. 1968. Care has been taken to retain compatible ceiling heights, as well as other pertinent scale and details. A window is located on the east wall in the kitchen; two are located on the west. All are arched and of the double-hung, one light variety. Two doorways to the 1968 addition are located on the north wall. The doorway to the basement and cellar is located at the west end of the main stairway and descends beneath the same to the east[9]

Doorways on the south wall, located on either end of the stairway, enter the library and dining room of the home. Fireplaces are located on the south wall of each room and have been rebuilt. The library mantel is original to the 1872-73 construction period. The library fireplace is off center to the right (west); the dining room fireplace is centered. Both fireboxes are shallow, indicating construction for coal heating. The library ceiling is 11'10" as is the ceiling of the dining room; the dining room has a pressed tin ceiling and cornice. A small entry or alcove faces the main hall and serves as a passage between the two areas. Closet space and toilet facilities separate the two rooms. An additional closet in the library backs to the main stair and opens on the south wall of that room to the west of the fireplace. Woodwork is painted. Wall treatments are plaster over brick. Windows in the library are located on the east and north and are double hung with one over one lights; a square bay window on the west lights the dining room. The center window consists of a three pane transom with a large center pane and two sidelights.[10]

From the previously mentioned alcove a wide entry opens through an arched doorway to the main entry hall and parlor. The main doorway is offset to the east. Woodwork is heavy, ribbed and arched. On the west wall is a bay window with three windows of the double hung one over one light variety. Two windows of the same style and design are located on the south wall. Another similar window is located on the east wall at the foot of the main stairway. A fireplace is located on the north wall and has been rebuilt. A doorway on the east end of the north wall was filled in at an undetermined date.

A partition separating the entry hall from the main parlor was removed ca. 1940. Its original design consisted of Tuscan columns seated on the north and south ends of two separate rectangular pedestals in a post and lintel configuration, the architrave being formed by the seated posts in a distyle in antis design. A steel I-beam was inserted to compensate for this deletion. The main stairway is located on the east wall and ascends to the north, having a slight curve in configuration at the foot with a more pronounced, graceful curve to the left as the stair turns at the top. Balusters, bannister, nosing and newel post are intact. Woodwork is painted with wide irregular pine

flooring.[11]

The 1968 addition to the north of the ca. 1865 central portion of the structure is of note and deserves special mention with regard to the care and sensitivity of its incorporation into the rest of the complex. All major design elements, including window configurations, doorway widths, and ceiling heights have been faithfully reproduced to match the original. The addition includes a pantry, bedroom and utility room.[12]

Second Floor:

The second floor includes a central hallway running north and south as the main stairway ascends at the south end. A sitting room (now used for storage) is located directly behind the main stairwell. A bedroom is located on the southwest corner; another bedroom is also located to the immediate north on the west. Across the hall is a third on the east. A bath is located on the west of the hall between the same and the west bedroom. All are located in the ca. 1875 portion of the structure.

Steps drop three feet in elevation into the center portion of the home (ca. 1865) into a hallway area oriented east/west that accommodates the stairway as it ascends from the back hall. A door at the west end on the north wall enters a bath; a door on the same wall on the east end enters the master bedroom. Dormer lights and wells are located on the east and west of the master bedroom. A doorway on the north wall of this room enters the 1968 addition and consists of a large room and a bath.

All windows are of the double hung, one over one light type on the second floor.

Foundation materials are of native undressed limestone laid up in random ashlear and brick. The basement is located under the center portion of the home. A set of cut and dressed limestone steps descend from the primary basement elevation to the east at the bottom of the basement stairs dropping about two to three feet as an entry to a vaulted cellar of brick finished in plaster and concrete.[13]

SUMMARY

The Woodson/Sawyer Home is an Italianate home of irregular configuration with building periods of ca. 1865, ca. 1875 (1871-73),ca. 1910, ca. 1945, 1954, and 1968. The central portion is thought to be the oldest; the replicated dormer system is reminiscent of other similar systems in the area such as the Overfelt-Johnston Home in Independence. (See National Register of Historic Places: Overfelt-Johnston Home, Independence, Missouri). A building thought to be the house in its ca. 1865 configuration is located on the Independence-Westport Road on a 1868 Bird's Eye View Map of Independence. The dormer configuration is apparent. The original 1872-1873 Italianate porch is

mentioned as being replaced at an undetermined date, possibly ca. 1910, at which time urns were added flanking the entry steps. These elements were removed ca. 1945. Extraordinary care has been observed regarding original design integrity in all recent phases of repair, remodeling and addition.[14]

The home occupies a spacious lot on West Lexington Street. Grading of the lot ca. 1950 has changed the elevation of the yard. Main line tracks of Missouri Pacific pass immediately behind the property running east/west. Originally a brick drive turned toward the property on a curve from southwest to north, across the present front yard of the home directly to the east. This was removed at an undetermined date, most probably when the property was subdivided in 1914.[15]

FOOTNOTES

[1]City of Independence, Missouri. "1976 Architectural and Historical Survey": 1604 West Lexington, (Hereafter referred to as "1976 AHS"); William Patrick O'Brien-Field Surveys- March 22, April 27, 1984 for AMERIFAX Research, (Hereafter referred to as AMERIFAX 3/22-4/27 '84); Photographs: Woodson/Sawyer Home - 1604 West Lexington, ca. 1940 (B-W), (Hereafter referred to as B/W-c.1940.)

[2]Ibid.

[3]AMERIFAX 3/22-4/27 '84; B/W-c.1940; John A. Huffman, Architect - Field Inspection, 1st floor: 19 June 1969, (Hereafter referred to as JAH,A 1st F: 6/19/69.)

[4]Ibid; "Woodson Home Back in Family After Five Generations," Independence Examiner, 26 January 1968, p. 10.

[5]"1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington; AMERIFAX 3/22-4/27 '84; B/W-c.1940.

[6]Ibid.

[7]Ibid.

[8]AMERIFAX 3/22-4/27 '84; B/W-c.1940; John A. Huffman, Architect - Field Inspection, 1st floor: 19 June 1969, (Hereafter referred to as JAH,A 1st F: 6/19/69.)

[9]Ibid

[10]Ibid.

[11]Ibid.

[12]Ibid.

[13]Ibid.; "1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington.

[14]Ibid.; JAH,A. 2nd F: 6/19/69; JAH,A Bsmnt; 6/19/69; AMERIFAX 4/24 '84.

[15]AMERIFAX 4/24 '84; Conversation with Samuel L. Sawyer 3/22/84; Unidentified zerox image in possession of Samuel Locke Sawyer, 1604 West Lexington, Independence, Missouri: Original Drive ca. 1914.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates Ca. 1865 - 1881 **Builder/Architect** Samuel H. Woodson, Jr.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Woodson/Sawyer Home, known also as Araby West, is significant according to the criteria of eligibility under definitions B and C, i.e.: the residence and its property are associated with Samuel H. Woodson, Jr., a prominent Independence lawyer, judge, and political figure, who was forced to rebuild his life and career after the destructive events of the Civil War. Through its association with the life of this one man, the Woodson/Sawyer home illustrates the disruption and subsequent recovery that resulted from this great conflict. In architectural terms, the nominated property is illustrative of late nineteenth century Italianate building styles as interpreted by builders in the trans-Mississippi West. The residence's structural evolution is a phenomenon common to the area and illustrates the tendency of pioneer builders to enlarge and augment previous constructions rather than to raze and rebuild totally new edifices. The home is an excellent example of care and sensitivity regarding modern interpretations and additions to the historic fabric of the building. The property is significant in the areas of architecture, law and politics/government.

ARCHITECTURE

The house is an excellent example of post-Civil War Italianate architecture as interpreted in west central Missouri. Its design, method of construction and detailing are typical of this particular genre. The structure compares in feeling and style to other similar constructions of the period in the greater Kansas City/Independence area, most notably the Miles Residence, 1312 Summit, Quality Hill Historic District (ca. 1872; demolished) in Kansas City[1] and the frame residence at 728 South Main (ca. 1875) in Independence. The siting of the Woodson Sawyer Home and the spaciousness of the building/lot ratios remain unique features of the property in regard to both historic and contemporary considerations; the home's construction as a country home remains evident even amidst today's more suburban contexts.[2]

Unlike many contemporary structures the building has escaped other architectural interpretations, inappropriate additions, or significant deletions. Only the front porch, originally located on the main facade of the major exterior elements, is not intact. A second porch, which replaced the original porch after the turn of the century, was removed ca. 1945. Subsequent repairs, reconstructions, and additions have been handled with great care and sensitivity.

Although conclusive documentation is not available, circumstantial evidence points to several major construction periods in the house's evolution: ca. 1865, ca. 1875, ca. 1910, ca. 1945, and 1968. Work was also accomplished on the roof of the front section of the home in 1954 after a fire removed the original. The present configuration was based on the original by Independence Mayor Robert Weatherford. Brackets located in pairs under the eaves were not replaced; a railing was added to the table of the hipped roof.

It should be noted that brickbond patterns, chimney patterns, keystones and other elements vary in the three main sections of the home, indicating various stages of development. Changes in elevation of the second floor and the placement and design of

the rear stair also support this contention. Historic photographs of the structure ca. 1940 illustrate the care with which rehabilitation has been accomplished by subsequent owners.

LAW-POLITICS-GOVERNMENT

Samuel H. Woodson, Jr., reestablished himself in the fields of law and politics after the Civil War destroyed his career and forced him to leave his home in Independence. As an active Southern sympathizer, he was forced by the pressure of local events to leave Jackson County and, in fact, the state of Missouri. After the war, however, he was able to return to Independence and build a new home as well as a renewed career as a lawyer and a judge. The Woodson/Sawyer House is representative of the important post-war period in Woodson's life.

Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr. was born near Nicholasville, Jessamine County, Kentucky, October 24, 1815. His father Samuel Hughes Woodson, Sr., was born in Ablemarle County, Virginia near Charlottesville on September 15, 1777. Admitted to the bar in 1802, the senior Woodson was appointed first clerk of the Jessamine County Court in Kentucky and served in this capacity from 1803 to 1819. He served in the United States Congress as a member of the House of Representatives from March 4, 1821 to March 3, 1823, succeeding Henry Clay from that district. Samuel Hughes Woodson, Sr., died on July 28, 1827 at his home "Chaumiere", and was interred in the Crocket Burying ground.[3]

After education in the public schools, Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr., graduated from Centre College at Danville, Kentucky on September 23, 1835. He graduated from the law department of Transylvania University at Lexington in June of 1837 and was admitted to the bar the following year. He married Margaret Ashby of Mount Sterling, Kentucky, September 11, 1838.

Woodson, according to one account, came to the frontier in 1838 and returned to Kentucky for his wife; the 1881 History of Jackson County lists his arrival as 1839. Whatever the exact date, by 1840 he and his wife had located in Independence. Tradition gives their first place of residence as in the vicinity of the present day RLDS Campus; they built a large frame home on the spot sometime before the Civil War. Woodson was listed in the 1840 Jackson County Census as a "learned person".[4]

By 1845 Woodson had been admitted to the Jackson County Bar and was practicing law in Independence with Hugh N. Smith. Independence was in the height of its days as a commercial, transportation and communication center. Woodson became involved in the workings of the Jackson County political and social systems. Alfred Waugh, a traveling artist of the period, painted the portraits of young lawyer Woodson, his wife and four children for $450.00 in that same year: "It gave general satisfaction" Waugh recorded.

Waugh described Woodson thusly:

> Perhaps the ablest lawyer in this town is Samuel H. Woodson, a native of Kentucky and descended from a good Virginia family ...Mr. Woodson's grandfather was an english gentleman of much learning, who after having passed through college with the celebrated Dr. Samuel Parr, the great Greek scholar, emigrated to Virginia while it was yet a colony. One day, while engaged in our studio in the court House Mr. Doctor Wilkinson did me the honor to call, with the view of patronizing us, and engaged my services for his own, his lady's and children's likenesses, and began his patronage by sitting to me at once. When it was finished he called and took the likeness with him to shew his lady, but forgot to pay me for it...I shewed the note to my friend Mr. Woodson, who advised me to keep the money, and dispose of the likeness in any manner I deemed proper. So I pocketed the cash and nailed "the counterfeit presentiment" to the wall of a public room in the Court House, in the doing of which a nail went through the ear. There was no mistaking the resemblance, in a few hours every one in the town was aware of the exhibition. Jonathan Palmer who loves a bit of mischief, in a very serious manner, informed the doctor of the disposition I had made of his likeness, and of the indignity he suffered by having his ear nailed, as it were, to the pillory. At this he seemed surprised, threatened to tare it down, and play the very devil with me, for my conduct. But before proceeding to put his threat into execution he visited Mr. Woodson for the purpose of obtaining legal advice in the matter. Mr. Woodson told him that the picture was mine, that being the master of it, I could do as I pleased but the resemblance, which no body could possibly mistake, was his, and he might go and take it down when ever he saw proper. Or he might obtain redress in single combat. This last hint he declined taking, as he said, he was now suffering from the effects of a wound which he received in the affaire of honor, and did not wish to be engaged in any more such scrapes. The sketch remained where I placed it for a long time, nearly a month, after I left Independence and was finally taken down by Tisdale and Samuel Lucas. The doctor saw it once or twice but did not touch it.

Woodson was a delegate to the Missouri Constitutional Convention in 1845.[5]

In January of 1848 he became the first King of the Independence Chapter Number 12, Royal Arch Masons. The same year he platted his first subdivision to the City of Independence a development that involved the site of the municipal spring, closely related milling interests and the Santa Fe trail as it left the public square. Also in 1848 Woodson entered into partnership with William Chrisman and Abraham Comingo, natives of Kentucky recently removed to the frontier. Founding the firm of Woodson, Chrisman and Comingo the law partnership flourished, gaining state reputation.[6]

In 1849 Woodson became an incorporator of the Independence and Missouri River Railroad Company, responsible for the construction of a six-mile mule drawn railway from Upper Independence Landing to the corporation's warehouse on the square. The rail system is traditionally given as the first such operation west of the Mississippi River.

In 1850 Samuel H. Woodson, Jr. received the first United States mail contract to Salt Lake City; a similar contract was let to Independence firm Waldo, Hall and Company for mail service to Santa Fe the same year. This constituted the first regular government mail service to the west.[7]

The 1850 Census listed Samuel H. Woodson, Jr. as an attorney with a wife and four children, five slaves, and an eight-year-old boarder named John T. Smith from Virginia. Smith was the son of slave speculator Jabez Smith. Woodson's partner, William Chrisman, was administrator of the Estate and had with his law firm, post a $1,000,000 bond to manage the estate. Real estate holdings belonging to Woodson were listed in the census as $20,000.

Woodson ran for public office in 1850 as a candidate for the United States House of Representatives on the Whig ticket. He was not successful. In 1852 he ran for the Missouri General Assembly and was elected; he was reelected in 1854. In 1855 he chaired the pro-slavery convention of Missouri at Lexington and served on the Committee on Resolutions. It may have been while at Lexington he met Samuel L. Sawyer. Sawyer, originally from New Hampshire, was also active in the pro-slavery forum. Also, in 1855 Woodson became President of the Jackson County Agricultural and Mechanical Association and served as its first President.

While in the State legislature he took an interest in the Pacific Railroad project as it related to his district.

In 1856, Woodson was elected to the United States House of Representatives from Missouri's Fifth District to the 35th Congress on the American Party Ticket. He was reelected to the same office in 1858 on the same ticket. The 1860 Census lists Woodson as having substantial property including nineteen slaves.

Woodson left Congress at the outbreak of the Civil War; he was not a candidate for reelection in the 1860 political race. According to some sources he removed to Texas. By 1863 he was in Illinois. His wife, Mrs. Margaret Ashby Woodson, was listed among those "banished" from the District of the Border in August of 1863 as a result of General Thomas Ewing's infamous Order Number Eleven. A son, Meade Woodson, saw service with the Confederacy during the war at the Battle of Chickamuga. Woodson himself is not known to have participated in the Confederate military.[8]

Upon leaving the Independence area at the outbreak of the war, Woodson signed over to his former law partner, William Chrisman of Independence, a mortgage covering outstanding notes and business loans amounting to several thousand dollars. According to the agreement, if all notes were made good within twelve months the mortgage would be cancelled. If not, Chrisman might sell the property at public or private sale to cover

the debts. For reasons unknown Woodson was unable to pay the amount a year from the filing date -- January 7, 1862. Chrisman in the meantime had gone into the law practice with Samuel L. Sawyer of Lexington, Missouri[9]

Chrisman had stated publicly at a meeting of sixty-eight town leaders at the Jackson County Court House in Independence on April 19, 1862, that "if we have been moved by generous sympathies of our nature to turn the channel of our thoughts and actions in the wrong direction it is not too late to retrace our steps." Such rhetoric must have seemed treacherous to Woodson, who as early as 1856 had stated, "If the American Party succeeds the Union is safe and our domestic institutions will remain untouched; but if it fails, the horrors of intestine war, and all the appalling consequences of disunion must ensue."[10]

Woodson and his wife returned to Independence from Mrs. Woodson's family home in Mount Sterling, Kentucky, immediately after the war. What they evidently found was their home on Pleasant Street in other hands. Chrisman had sold certain parcels of the mortgaged land, including the present home tract on West Lexington Street.[11]

Margaret Woodson had not relinquished her dower to the property at the time of the mortgage: therefore $2,500 was paid to her by Chrisman. Margaret Woodson then proceeded to reassemble her husband's original holdings, attending public auctions and bidding on the properties. Why she acted in her husband's stead is not know. It is possible that because of his status as an ex-Confederate he was unable to legally acquire it himself. Finally in 1870 their son, Meade Woodson, secured the remaining $12,500, the note due Chrisman which included part of the present day tract on West Lexington.

Upon his return to Independence Woodson entered the practice of law once again, with James K. Sheley. According to family tradition he built a residence at the present day address of 1604 West Lexington in 1871, although it is almost certain that sections of the home predated this time. In all likelihood, the Woodsons, upon returning to town and finding their former home in other hands, probably acquired enough of their former holdings to build a home at that address ca. 1865. It is also possible that someone else had constructed the home on the property in their absence. In 1873 a fire allegedly destroyed undetermined sections of the 1871 construction, at which time the front section of the structure as it exists today was built. The 1873 rebuilding was supposedly sited on foundations of the 1871 structure.[12]

In March of 1875 Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr. was appointed Judge of the 24th Judicial Circuit of Missouri by Governor Hardin to finish out the term of retiring Judge Samuel L. Sawyer. Woodson was reelected to a second term in the position in 1880. Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr. died June 23, 1881 "while in the faithful discharge of his duties", according to his obituary. Woodson was interred in the City Burying Ground at Independence, known today as Woodlawn Cemetery.[13]

ADDITIONAL HISTORICAL DATA

Sallie, daughter of Samuel and Margaret Woodson, married Aaron Flint Sawyer, son of Samuel L. Sawyer, the business and law partner of William Chrisman, in 1877.

The Woodson family continued to be influential in Independence circles. Another son, Samuel Hughes Woodson III, married Mayor William McCoy's daughter, Jennie, in 1886. He became Mayor of Independence himself, serving from 1898 to 1902.

Mrs. Margaret Ashby Woodson continued to live at the home at 1604 West Lexington until her death on April 6, 1912. Two years later the tract was subdivided as the Woodson Homestead Addition to the City of Independence. A daughter, Nellie Woodson Reese, lived at the home; the house was also occupied by a Miss Effie Hedges during the 1920's.[14]

In 1940, Mr. Sidney Moore of Independence, purchased the property which was at the time in an advanced stage of deterioration. After beginning restoration, he sold the property to Judge Marcus Kirtley of Independence who continued the work begun by Moore, even after a fire in 1954 damaged the roof of the front section. It was replaced with the present configuration designed by Mayor Robert Weatherford of Independence.

In 1968, the property was purchased by Samuel Locke Sawyer, grandson of Aaron Flint and Sally Woodson Sawyer. Their son, Locke Sawyer, had continued in the Independence banking firm of Chrisman and Sawyer; Samuel Locke Sawyer is the great grandson of the original owner, Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr.[15]

FINAL COMMENT

It is felt that in light of the unique history of this structure and the extraordinary care with which the various additions and repairs have been handled over the years that this property should be given consideration for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places as maintained by the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

The life and career of Samuel Hughes Woodson, Jr. reflects the development and expansion of the American West within the economic and political history of the City of Independence, Missouri. Therefore, due to its history, design, integrity and status as an excellent example of early preservation and cultural resource conservation in the state of Missouri we respectfully request that the Woodson/Sawyer Home at 1604 West Lexington, Independence, Missouri be recommended to the National Register of Historic Places as published and maintained by the Office of the Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

FOOTNOTES

[1] A Place In Time (Kansas City: Landmarks Commission, Kansas City, Missouri, 1979) p. 189; "1976 AHS" 728 South Main Street, passim.

[2]"1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington; William Patrick O'Brien - Field Surveys 3/22/84-4/24/84 for AMERIFAX Research; John A. Huffman, Architect - Field Inspections - 1st, 2nd floors/Basement 6/19/69.

[3]Kansas City Journal, 25 June 1881; Biographical Directory of the American Congress, p. 167, 169, 171, 173, 1956; History of Jackson County, p. 166; Pearl Wilcox, Independence and 20th Century Pioneers (Independence: By author, 1979) p. 27.

[4]Travels in Search of the Elephant, p. 42, 45-48, Passim.

[5]Kansas City Journal, 25 June 1881.

[6]"An Address Prepared for Renick Jones, Clerk of the Kansas City Court of Appeals, and Past High Priest of Independence Chapter No. 12 in Commemoration of the 100 Years as a Royal Arch Chapter, and Delivered at the Missouri Lodge of Research, at a meeting held at the President Hotel, in April 1948", unpublished manuscript, p. 5; Woodson's Subdivision, 1848; Kansas City Journal, 25 June 1881.

[7]The Beginning of the West, p. 956-57; First Mail West, p. 1.

[8]Seventh United States Census: 1850; Biographical Directory of the American Congress, pp. 1956, Passim; Address to the People of the United States, 1855, p. 15; History of Jackson County, p. 229; Kansas City Journal, 25 June 1881; Eighth United States Census: 1860; "An Interesting Memo", N.P.; "Ashby Letter, 1863".

[9]Chrisman Mortgage, 1860; United States Biographical Dictionary (1878) (no date or publisher: Photostatic copy), p. 180-181.

[10]Jackson County Pioneers, p. 332; S. H. Woodson to George R. Smith - Letter, dated February 23, 1856 as quoted in "A Study in Missouri Politics, 1840-1870" Missouri Historical Review. No date or author. Photostatic copy, p. 173.

[11]Abstract: Woodson's Homestead Addition, Passim.

[12]Ibid; p. 22, 25, 37, Passim. A Ruger, 1868 Bird's Eye View of Independence; "Home Back in Family After Five Generations" Independence Examiner, 26 January 1968, p. 10; "1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington.

[13]Kansas City Journal, 25 June 1881.

[14]Jackson County Pioneers, p. 464; Independence and 20th Century Pioneers. p. 27; History of Jackson County, p. 879, "Mrs. M. J. Woodson Dead" Independence Examiner 6 April 1912, N.P.; "1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington.

[15]"1976 AHS" 1604 West Lexington.

9. Major Bibliographical References

(See continuation sheets.)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Less than one acre

Quadrangle name INDEPENDENCE, MO. Quadrangle scale 7.5'

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	375930	4327230	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 2, Woodson's Homestead, being the original boundaries of the property.

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. W. Patrick O'Brien

organization AMERIFAX date May 7, 1985

street & number 627 N. Delaware telephone

city or town Independence state Missouri 64050

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 Frederick A. Brunner

title Frederick A. Brunner, Ph. D., P. E., Department of Natural Resources, Director and State Historic Preservation Officer date Jan. 26, 1986

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abstract: Woodson Homestead - Lot 1 and South 150 Feet of West 25 Feet, Lot 2. (Twp. 49 R. 32 Sec. 3) Jackson County Historical Society Archives.

Address to the People of the United States, Together with the Proceedings and Resolutions of the Pro-Slavery Convention of Missouri. Saint Louis: Republican Office, 1855.

"An Interesting Memento - List of Those Banished by Order No. 11" Undated newspaper clipping. Photostatic copy. Burdette Cogswell Collection - Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

"A Study in Missouri Politics, 1840-1870" Missouri Historical Review. Undated: Photostatic copy. Mrs. Doris Sawyer, Independence, Missouri.

"At the Beginning of the War" Undated newspaper clipping. Photostatic copy. Mrs. Doris Sawyer, Independence, Missouri.

Barry, Louise. The Beginning of the West: Annals of the Kansas Gateway to the American West 1540-1854. Topeka: Kansas Historical Society, 1972.

Bieber, Ralph P. "Letters of James and Robert Aull" Missouri Historical Society Collections. Undated photostatic copy. Noted "Vol. V June 1928 #3". Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1971 Washington, D.C. United States Government Printing Office, 1971.

Birdsall and Williams, ed. The History of Jackson County, Missouri. Kansas City: Union Historical Company, 1881.

City of Independence, Missouri. 1976 Architectural and Historical Survey: 1604 West Lexington. Planning Department.

City of Independence, Missouri. Subdivision Map 1:100. Planning Department.

City of Independence, Missouri. Topographical Map, 1:100. Planning Department.

City of Independence, Missouri. Woodson Homestead Addition, 1914. Microfilm. Engineering Department.

City of Independence, Missouri. Plan of Woodson and Maxwell's Addition to the City of Independence 1851. Microfilm. Engineering Department.

City of Independence, Missouri. Plot of Woodson's Subdivision of Lots 93, 130,

131, 142 in the Town of Independence 1848. Microfilm. Engineering Department.

Conard, Howard L., ed. Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri: A compendium of History and Biography for Ready Reference Volumn VI. New York: The Southern Historical Company, 1901.

Fellows, Robert. "The Brigham Young Express and Carrying Company". Stamps: Weekly Magazine of Philately, April, 1972.

Gentry, Sue. "Woodson Home Back in Family After 5 Generations" Independence Examiner, 26 January 1968.

Hall, Mary. Letter to Husband, May 6th, 1863. Jacob Hall Family Papers. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Hickman, W. Z. History of Jackson County, Missouri. Topeka: Historical Publishing Company, 1920.

"Honors to the Dead" Undated newspaper clipping. Photostatic copy. Mrs. Doris Sawyer, Independence, Missouri.

Huffman, John A. Field Inspection. 19 June 1969. 1604 West Lexington, Independence, Missouri.

"Jackson County Bonds" Undated Newspaper clipping. Photostatic copy. Mrs. Doris Sawyer, Independence, Missouri.

Jones, Harvey. Independence and Missouri River Railroad Map. Nat Jackson Collection. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Jones, Renick. An Address Prepared by Renick Jones, Clerk of the Kansas City Court of Appeals, and Past High Priest of Independence Chapter No. 12, in Commemoration of the 100 Years as a Royal Arch Chapter, and Delivered at the Missouri Lodge of Research at a Meeting Held at the President Hotel in April, 1948. Photostatic copy. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

"Judge Samuel Locke Sawyer - Independence" The United States Biographical Dictionary. Undated - photostatic copy. Mrs. Doris Sawyer, Independence, Missouri.

Missouri. Laws of Missouri (1848-1849).

Missouri. Laws of Missouri (1853-1854).

Mortgage: Saml. H. Woodson to Wm. Chrisman Nov. 27, 1860. Filed Jan. 7, 1862. Book 36 Page 732. Jackson County Recorders Office Independence, Missouri.

"Mrs. M. J. Woodson Dead" Independence Examiner, 6 April 1912.

Ruger, A. Bird's Eye View of the City of Independence, Jackson County, Missouri 1868.

Shoemaker, Floyd C. Missouri and Missourians. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1943.

Taylor, Morris F. First Mail West: Stagecoach Lines on the Santa Fe Trail. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press: 1971.

Twyman, W. H. Receipts: W. H. Twyman Estate, 1857. W. H. Twyman Family Papers. Jackson County Historical Society, Independence, Missouri.

War in Kansas: Meeting of the People of Lexington, Wednesday, August 20. Broadside. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Waugh, Alfred S. Travels in Search of the Elephant: The Wanderings of Alfred S. Waugh, Artist, in Louisiana and Missouri and Santa Fe in 1845-1846. John Francis McDermott, ed. Saint Louis: Missouri Historical Society, 1951.

Wilcox, Pearl. Jackson County Pioneers. Independence: By author, 1972.

Wilcox, Pearl. Independence and 20th Century Pioneers. Independence: By author, 1979.

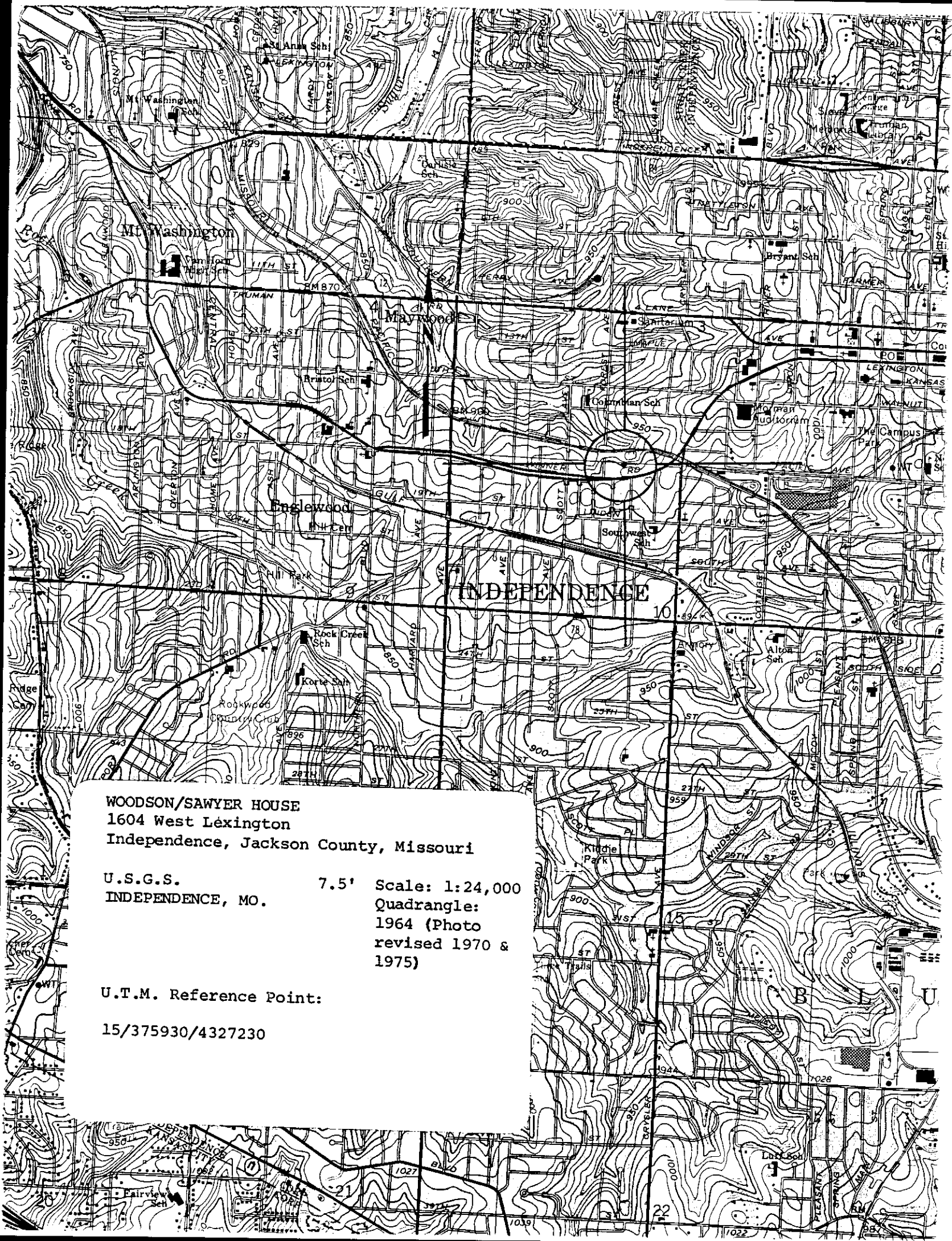
Woodson Home, 1604 West Lexington. Undated B/W photographs (5) ca. 1940.

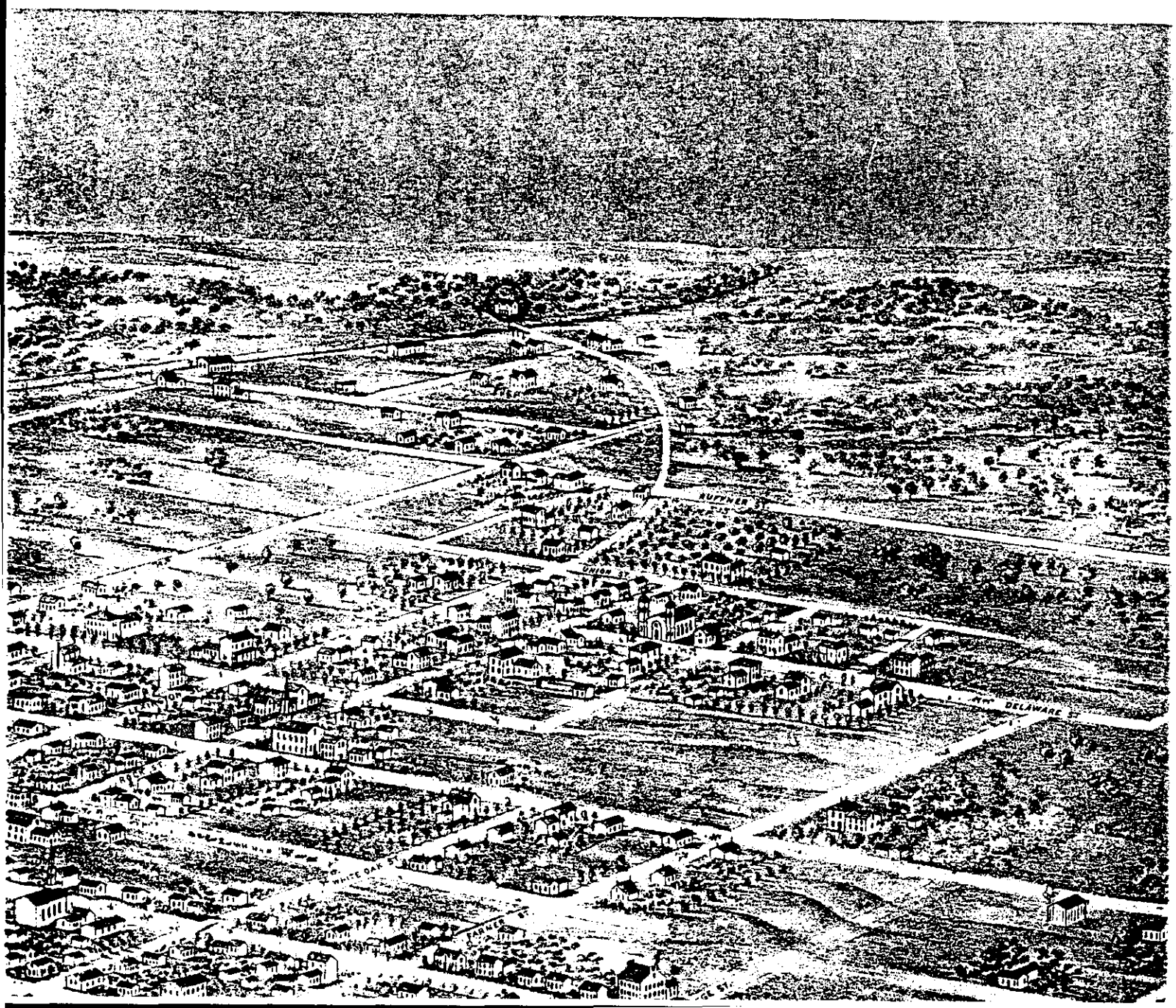
Woodson, Judge Samuel H. Obituary Notice: Kansas City Journal, June 25, 1881. Typed copy: Unknown compiler. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Woodson, S. H. Letter: To Mrs. Ashby, Mount Sterling, Kentucky, 8th November 1863. Jackson County Historical Society Archives, Independence, Missouri.

Woodson, S. H. Road Petition, 1868, Jackson County Court, Jackson County, Missouri.

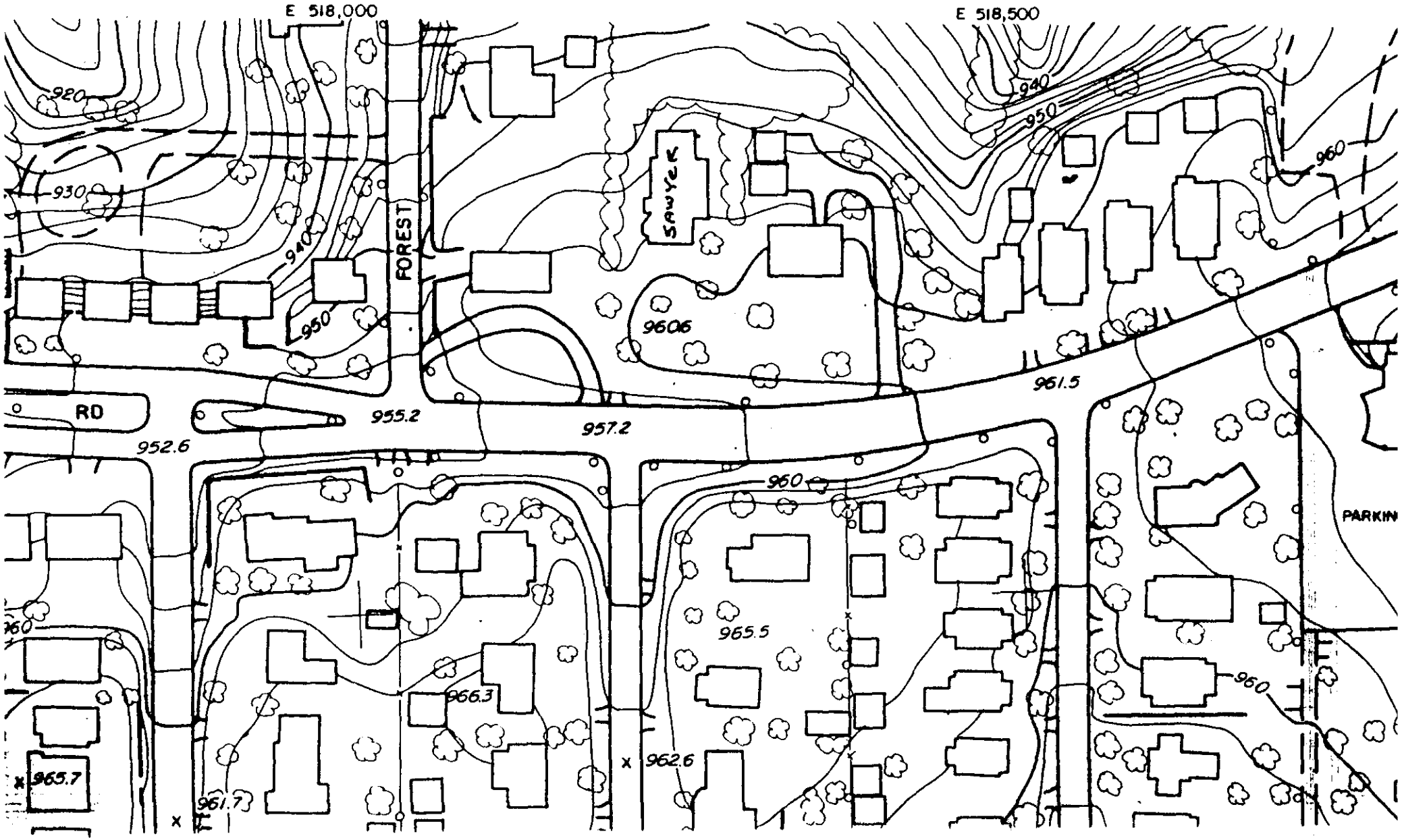
2. James M. Denny
Chief, Survey & Registration
and State Contact Person
Department of Natural Resources
Historic Preservation Program
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
Phone: (314) 751-4096
Date: 10/18/85


Mt Washington
Maywood
Englewood
INDEPENDENCE
Van Horn Tiger Sch
Bristol Sch
Columbian Sch
Bryant Sch
Sanitarium
Mormon Auditorium
The Campus Park
Southwest Sch
Hill Cem
Hill Park
Rock Creek Sch
Korte Sch
Rockwood Country Club
Alton Sch
Kiddie Park
Trails
Lott Sch
Fairview Sch
Mt Washington Sch
St Anns Sch
Carlisle Sch
Truman Library
TRUMAN
LEXINGTON
KANSAS
WALNUT
MISSOURI
HARDY
SCOTT
OVERTON
ARLINGTON
HARVARD
CRYSLER
PLEASANT
SPRING
WINDSOR
MERCURY
BLVD
RM 870
RM 900
RM 880
BM 880
BM 880
B


RUFFNER
UNION ST
DELAWARE
WHITE OAK ST
FARNER

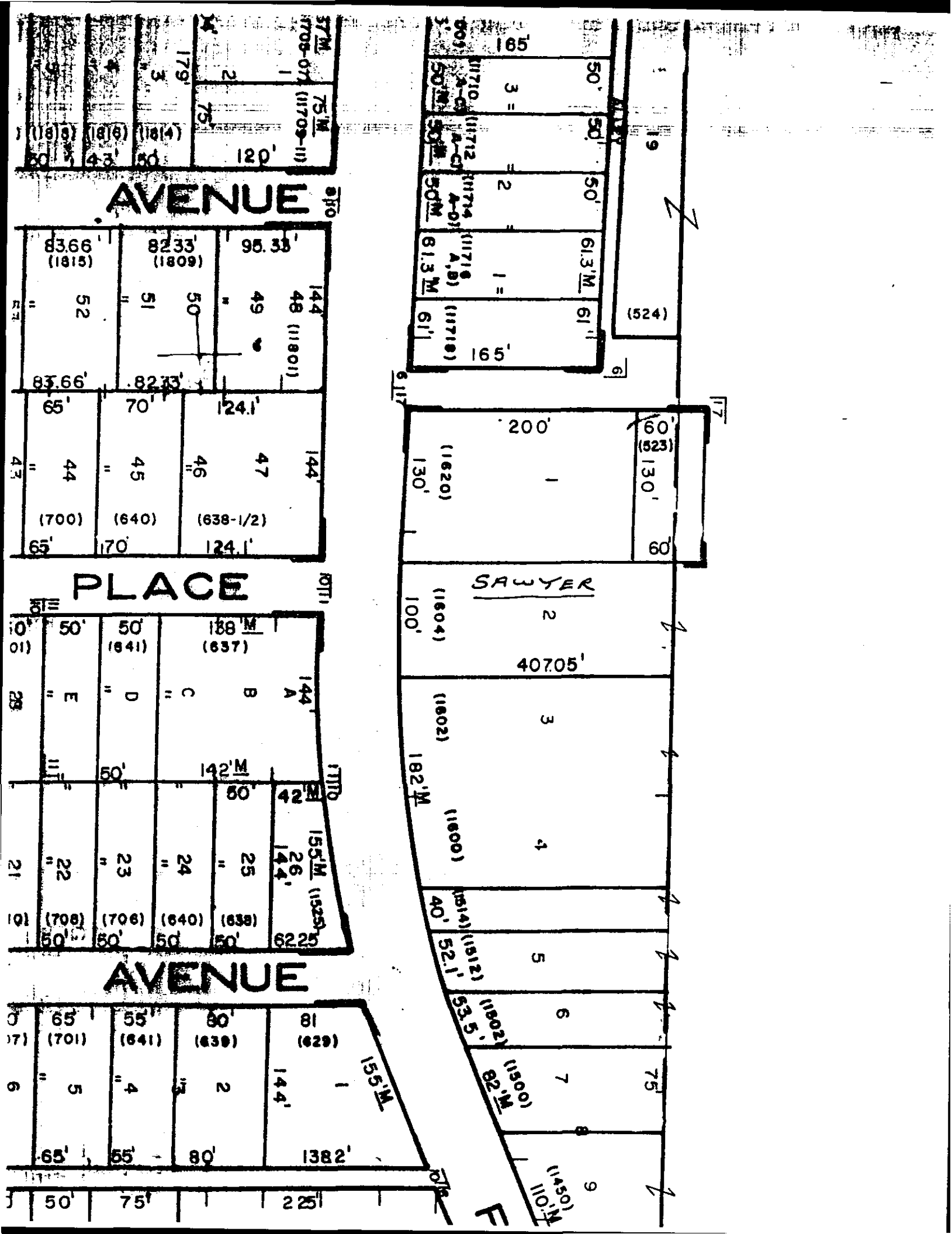
Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photogrpaher/Artist:
A. Ruger
Date: 1868
Map; Independence, Mo.


E 518,000
E 518,500
920
930
940
950
960
FOREST
SAWYER
960.6
961.5
RD
955.2
957.2
952.6
960
PARKIN
965.5
966.3
962.6
965.7
961.7

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1975
Map: Independence, Mo.
Scale: 1:100

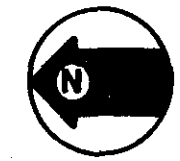

AVENUE
PLACE
AVENUE
SAWYER
ALLEY
165
50'
50'
50'
61.3'M
61'
165'
(524)
200'
60'
(523)
130'
(1620)
130'
60'
(1604)
100'
407.05'
(1602)
182'M
(1600)
40'
(1512)
52.1'
53.5'
(1502)
(1500)
82'M
75'
(1450)
110'M
83.66'
(1815)
82.33'
(1809)
95.33'
144'
48
(1801)
83.66'
82.33'
65'
70'
124.1'
44
45
46
47
144'
(700)
(640)
(638-1/2)
65'
70'
124.1'
50'
50'
(641)
138'M
(637)
144'
A
B
C
D
E
142'M
50'
42'M
155'M
(1525)
26
144'
22
23
24
25
(706)
(706)
(640)
(638)
50'
50'
50'
50'
62.25
65'
(701)
55'
(641)
80'
(639)
81
(629)
155'M
5
4
2
1
144'
65'
55'
80'
138.2'
50'
75'
225'

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

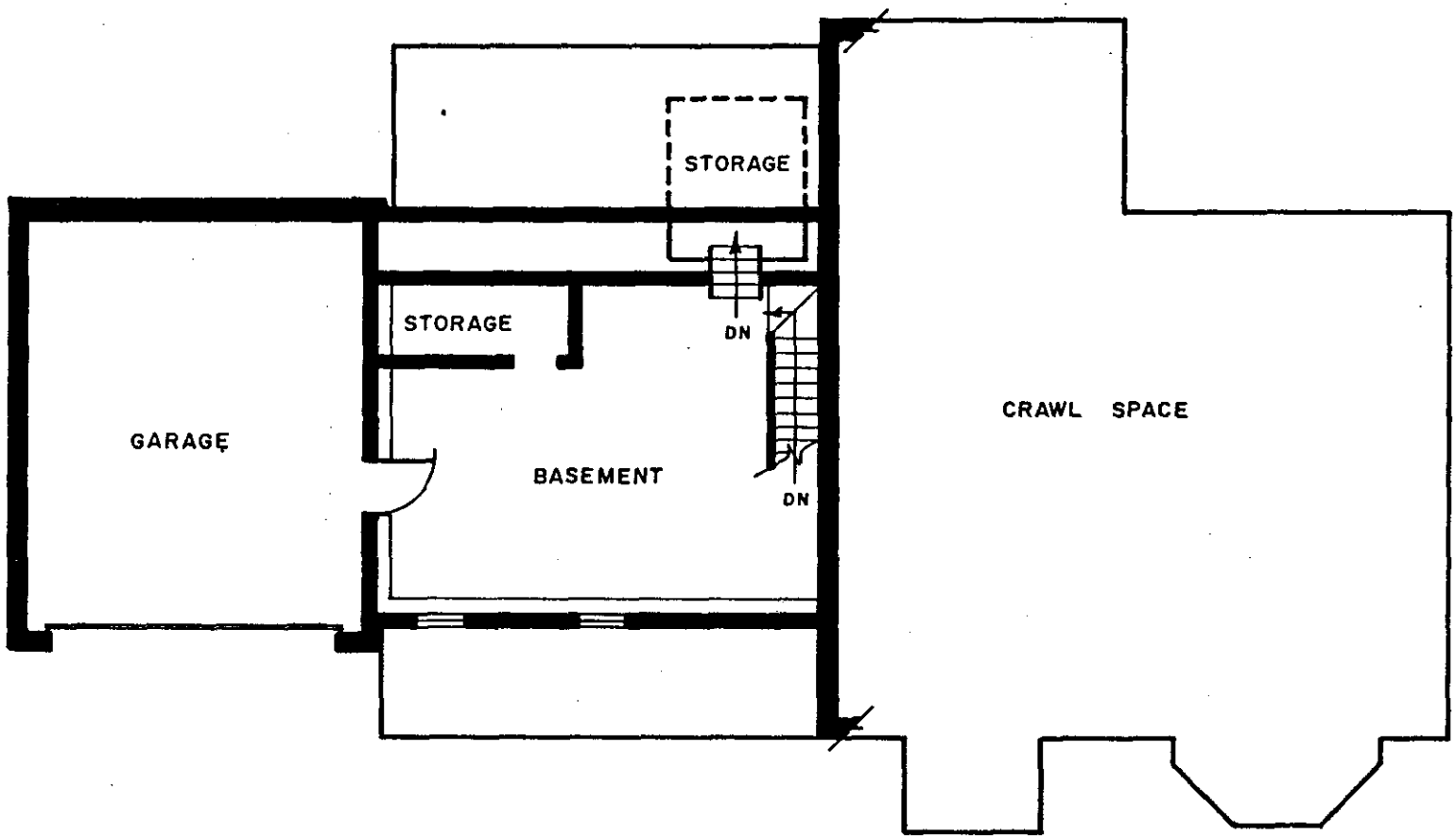
Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1975
Map: Independence, Mo.
Scale: 1:100

BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN

ARABY WEST (THE WOODSON / SAWYER HOUSE)
1604 WEST LEXINGTON AVE.
INDEPENDENCE, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI



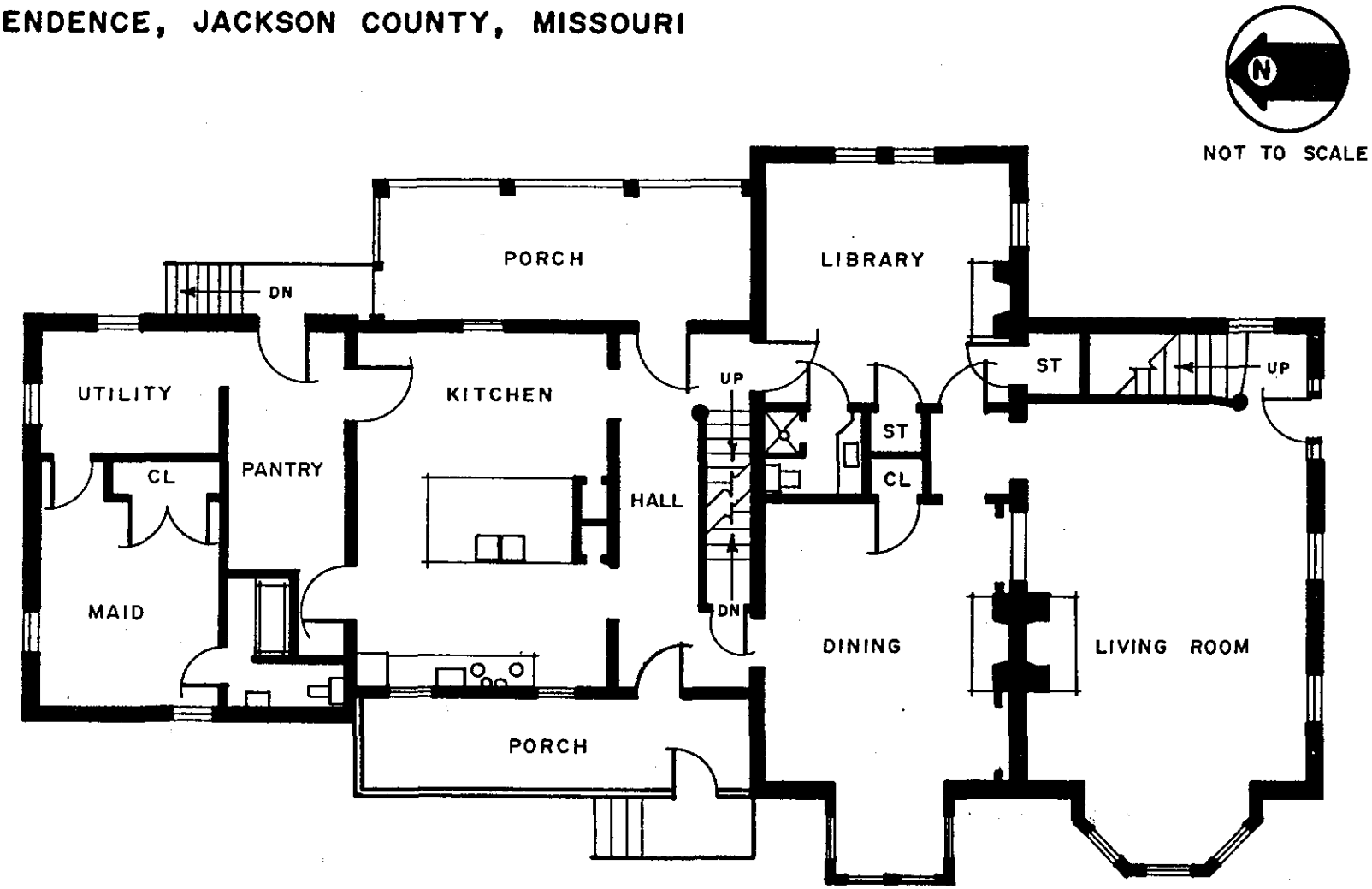
NOT TO SCALE



RESIDENCE OF MR. & MRS. SAMUEL LOCKE SAWYER

FIRST FLOOR PLAN

ARABY WEST (THE WOODSON / SAWYER HOUSE)
1604 WEST LEXINGTON AVE.
INDEPENDENCE, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

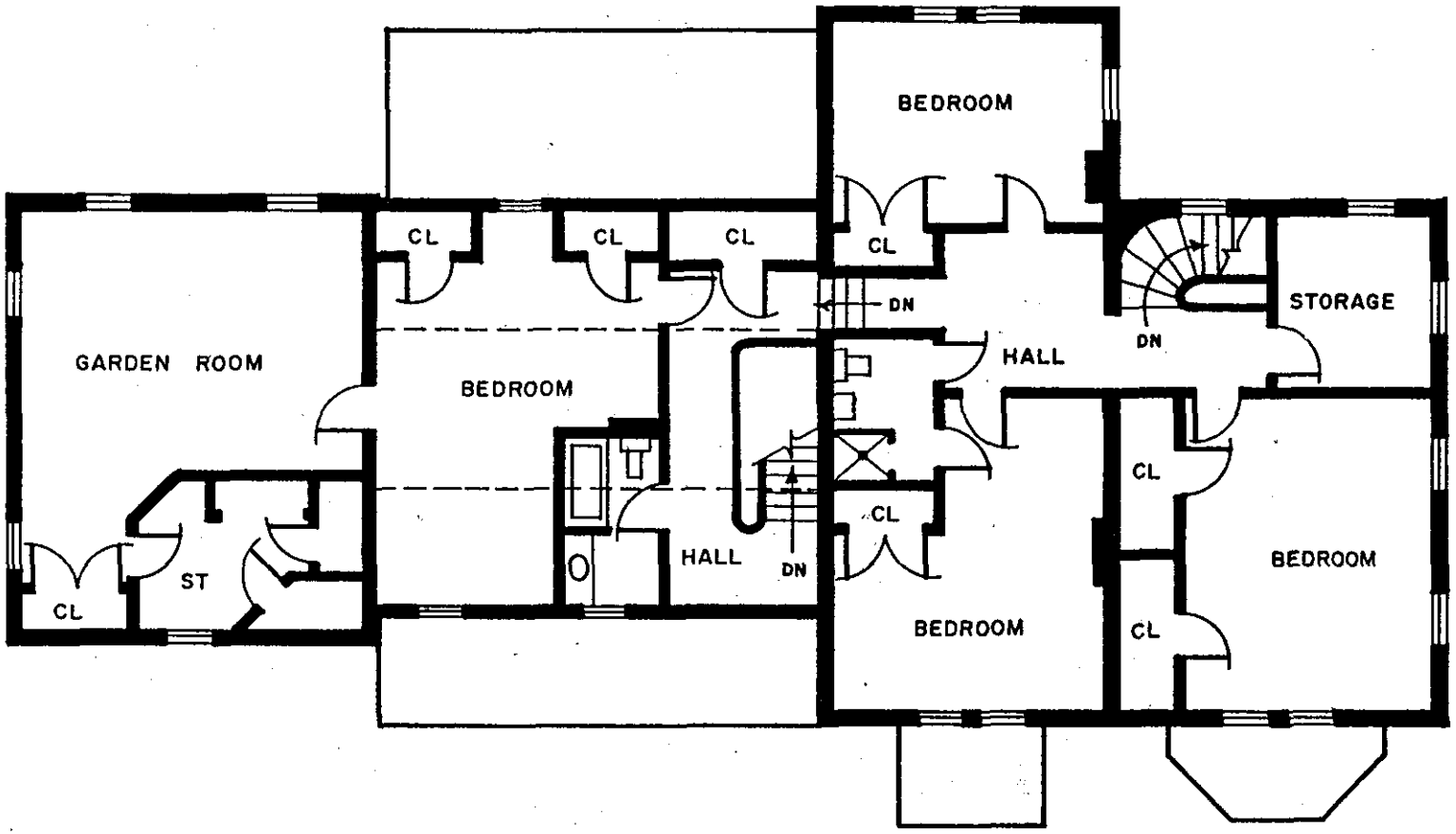


RESIDENCE OF MR. & MRS. SAMUEL LOCKE SAWYER

SECOND FLOOR PLAN

ARABY WEST (THE WOODSON / SAWYER HOUSE).
1604 WEST LEXINGTON AVE.
INDEPENDENCE, JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

NOT TO SCALE



RESIDENCE OF MR. & MRS. SAMUEL LOCKE SAWYER

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri

Exterior View: Main
Facade--South to North

#1 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri

Exterior View: Main and
West Facades--Southwest to
Northeast

#2 of 20

1604

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri
Exterior View: West Facade
Northwest to Southeast

#3 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photogrpaher: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri
Exterior View: North
Facade--North to South

#4 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri
Exterior View: Detail--
East Facade Porch Interior

#5 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr, and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Main
Doorway--North to South

#6 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Detail--
Newell Post, Main Stair

#7 to 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photogrpaher: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Detail--
Main Stair

#8 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Detail--
Stair Nosing

#9 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Parlor
Mantel, North Wall

#10 of 20

TIMBERLAKE

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Parlor
Bay Window, West Wall

#11 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior: Dining Room--
Fireplace and Mantel,
South Wall

#12 of 20

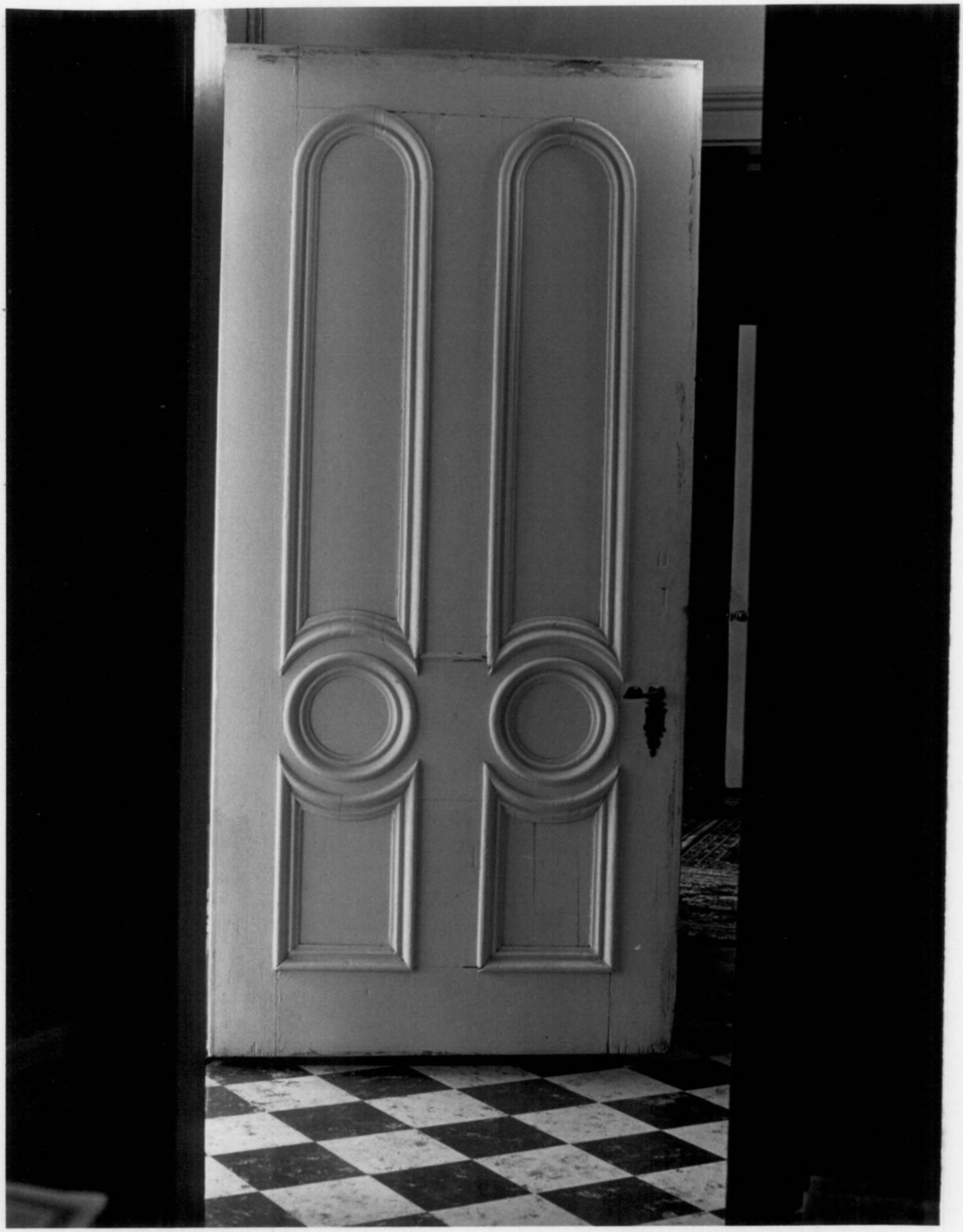
Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: Gerhig Fry
Date: April 1985
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Door--East
Wall, Center Section

#13 of 20



Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Exterior View: South
(Main) Facade--South
to North

#14 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Same Sawyer
1604 West Lexington

Independence, Missouri

Exterior View: South
(Main Facade)--South to
North--Detail

#15 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Exterior View: North
(Rear) Facade--Northeast
to Southwest

#16 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and
Mrs. Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Main Hall
East Wall--West to East

#17 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photogrpaher: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

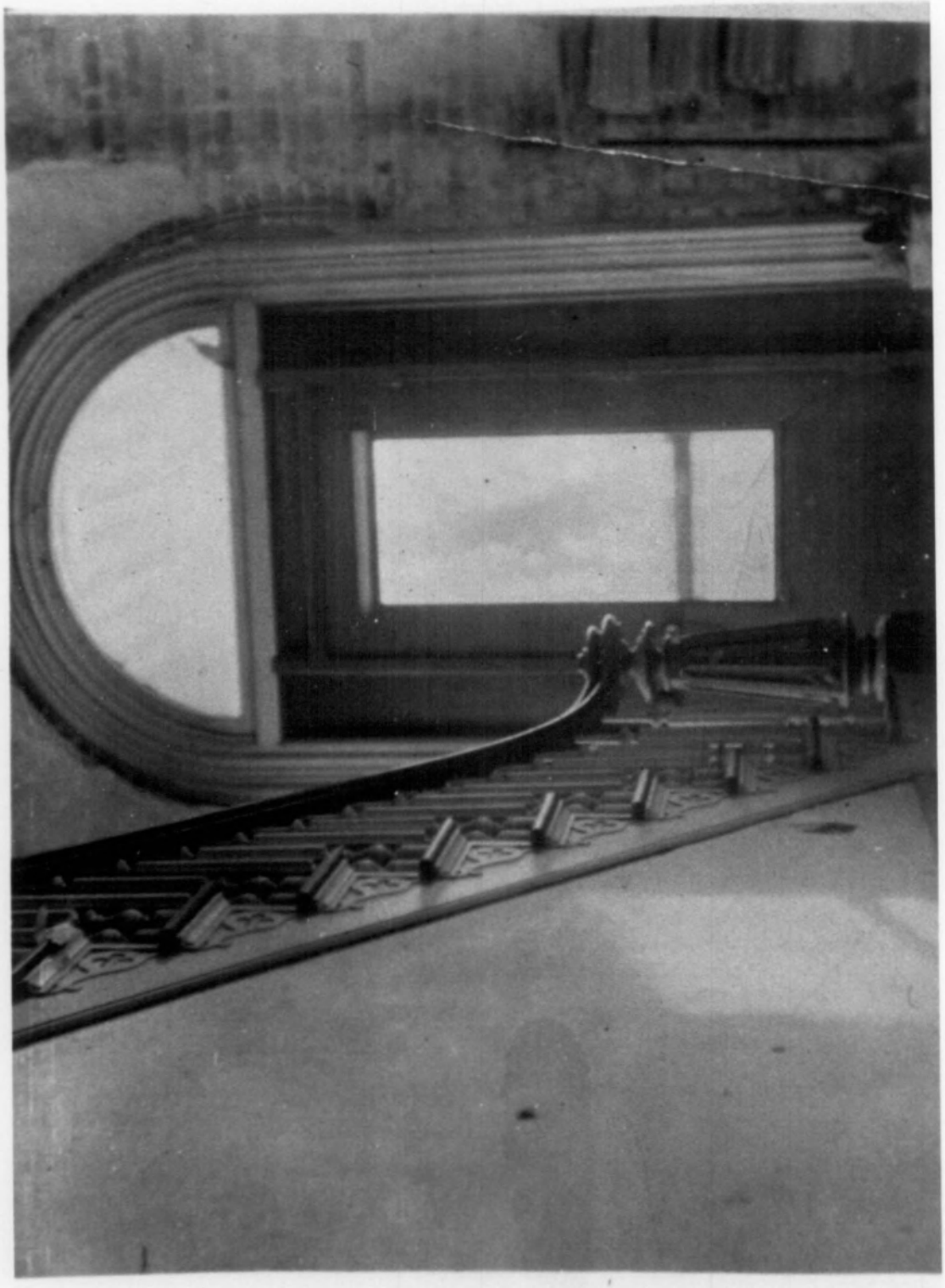
Interior View: Dining
Room--South Wall, North-
east to Southwest

#18 of 20

Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri
Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer
1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Main Door-
Way--North to South

#19 of 20



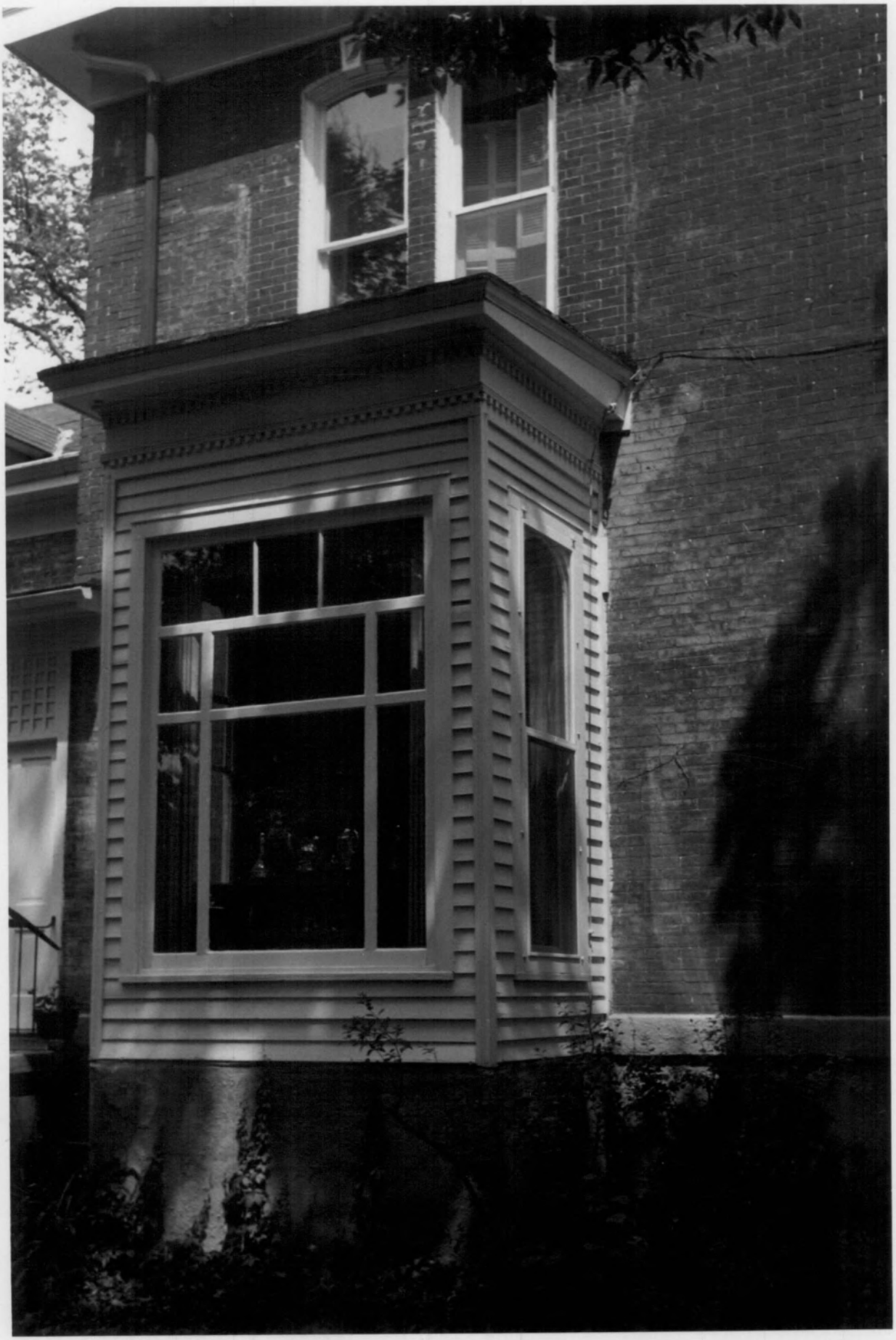
Woodson/Sawyer House
Independence
Jackson County, Missouri

Photographer: N/A
Date: ca. 1940
Neg. Loc.: Mr. and Mrs.
Sam Sawyer

1604 West Lexington
Independence, Missouri

Interior View: Main Stair
East Wall

#20 of 20

EXTRA

PHOTOS