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MAR 28 1996

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

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Historic Name: Hawkins, Dr. M. C., House

Other Name/Site Number: AS 0088

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2. Location

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Street & Number: 4684 Highway 8

Not for Publication: N/A

City/Town: Parkdale

Vicinity: N/A

State: AR

County: Ashley

Code: AR 003

Zip Code: 71661

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>3</u>	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
<u>1</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

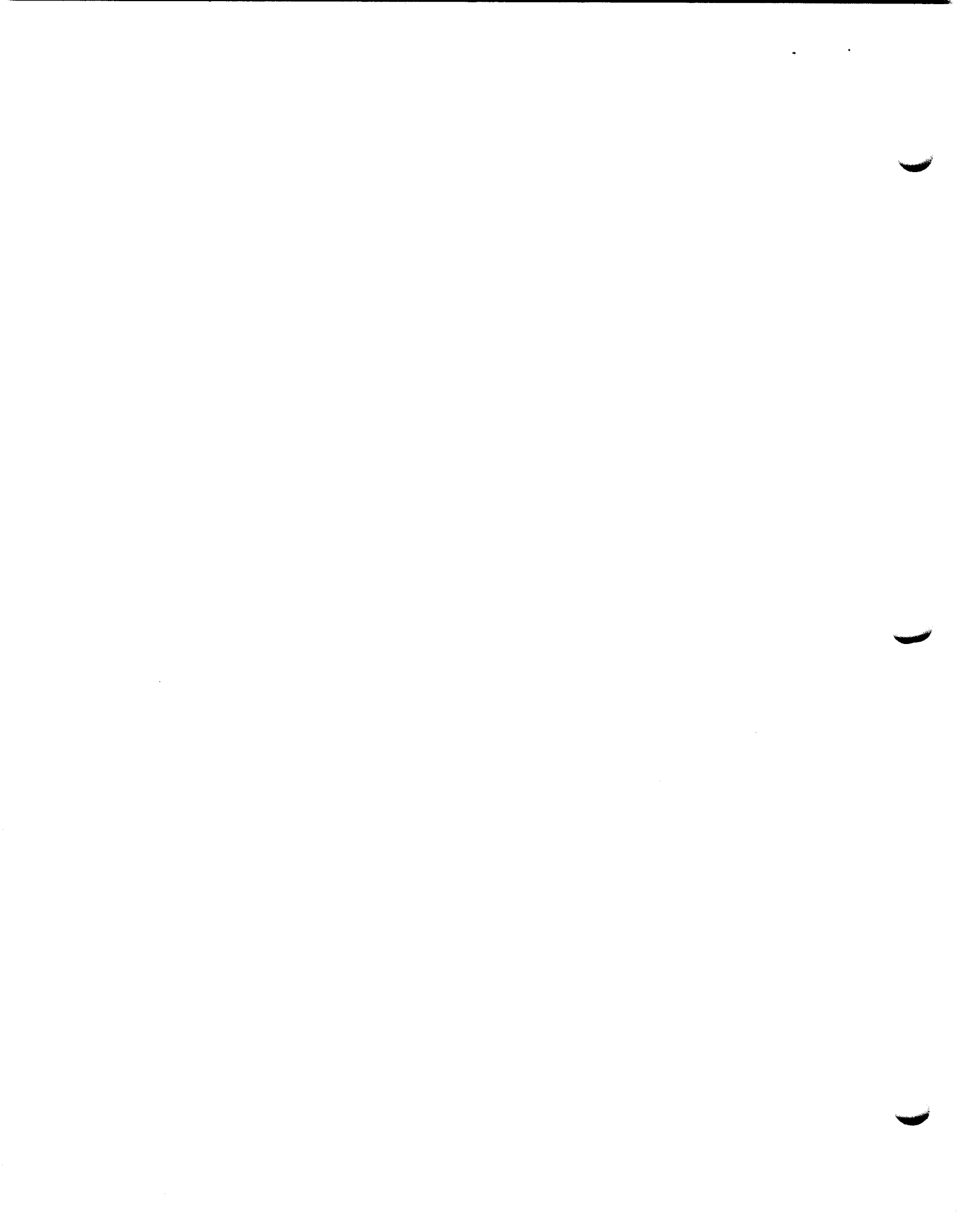
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

1947-1948

1949-1950

1951



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6. Function or Use
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Historic: Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

Current : Domestic Sub: Single Dwelling

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7. Description
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Architectural Classification:

Prairie School

Materials: foundation Brick over Concrete roof Asphalt
walls Brick other Concrete

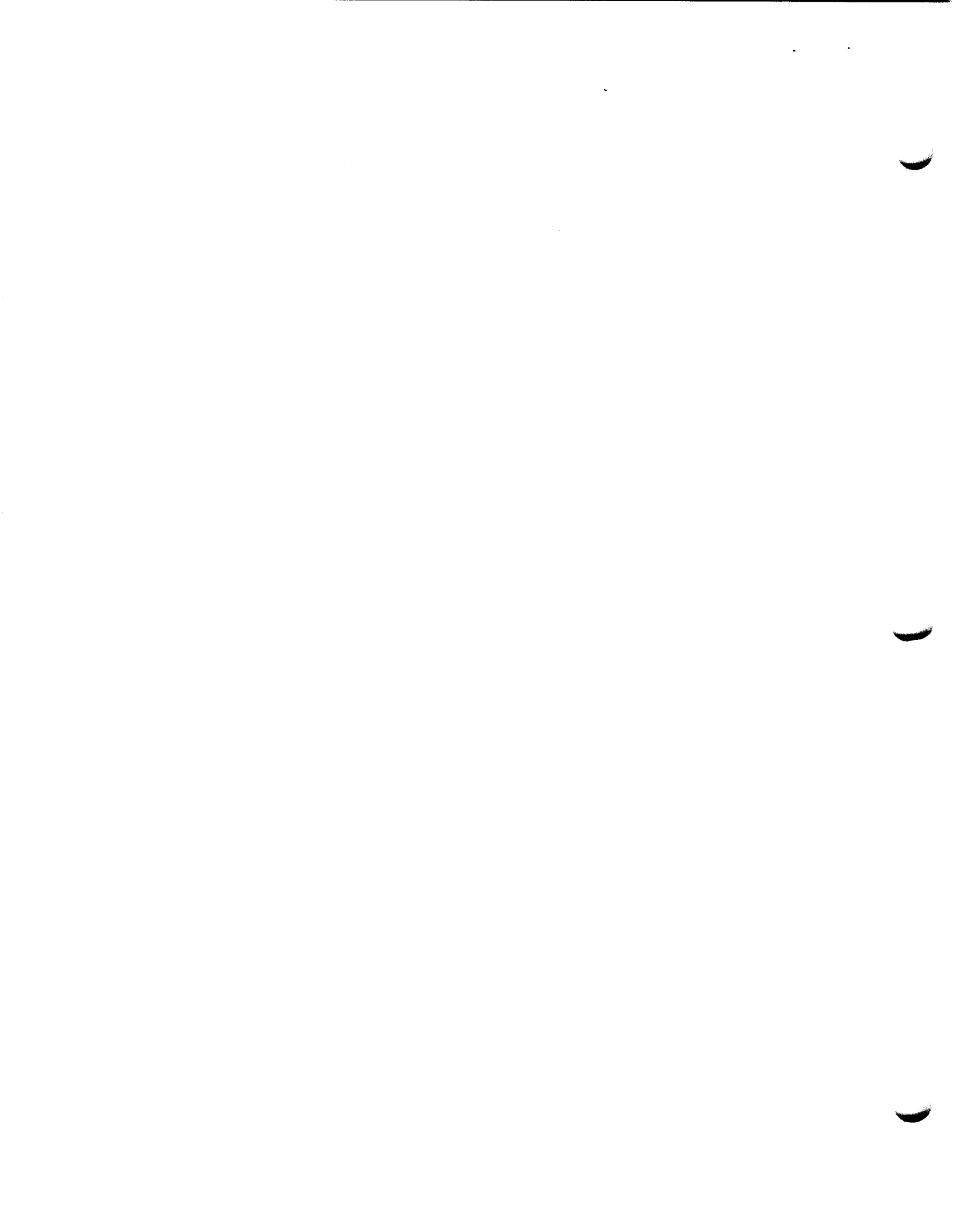
Describe present and historic physical appearance:

Summary

Constructed in 1912, the Dr. M. C. Hawkins House is a Frank Gibb-designed, two-story brick veneer residence that is covered by a hipped roof with overhanging eaves. The house contains two porches, a second-story sleeping porch, and two gabled dormers. Four fireplace mantels and a set of leaded-glass pocket doors are the principal elements of the virtually unaltered interior. A historic smokehouse, hen house, and cistern are also included in the nomination.

Elaboration

Located south of Arkansas Highway 8 and west of the railroad in Parkdale, the Dr. M. C. Hawkins House was constructed in 1912 as a two-story brick veneer residence resting upon a continuous poured concrete foundation with a matching brick veneer. The house, which features a T-shaped plan with a large rectangular main block, was designed by the noted Little Rock architect, Frank Gibb, and built by a local builder, W. R. Terry. The main block of the house is covered by a hipped roof with enclosed, overhanging eaves, while the rear kitchen section is capped by a gable roof. Composition shingles have replaced the original wood shingles. Both the front and rear elevations of the roof feature central gabled dormers. The dormers are faced with brick, contain boxed eaves with cornice returns, and are fenestrated by three four-pane casement windows with a substantial concrete lintel. There are no extant chimneys; however, historic photographs reveal two tall, robust brick chimneys placed to either side of the center ridge.



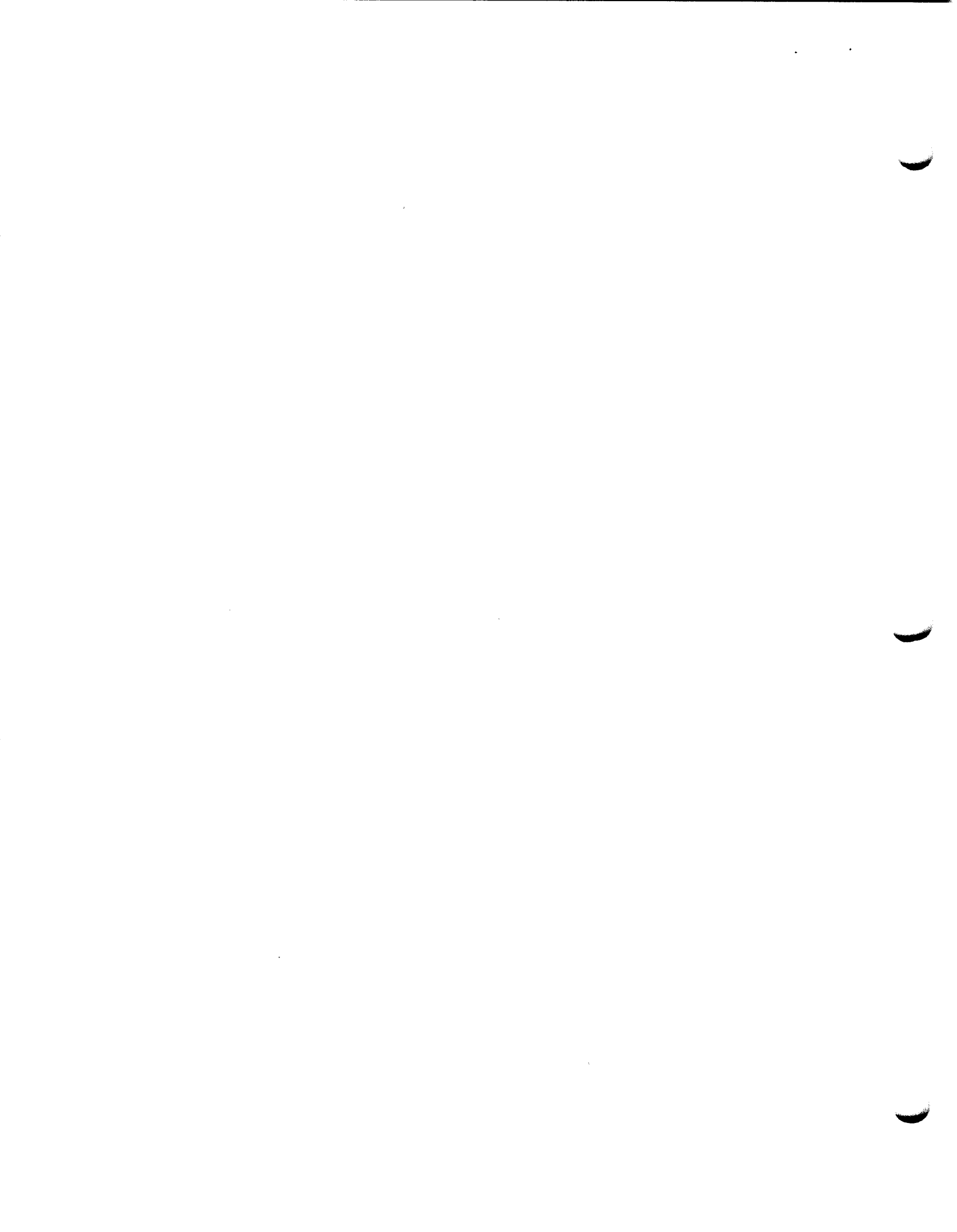
The front, or northern, elevation consists of a central entrance porch supported by two brick columns and two brick pilasters. The flat roof over the porch also serves as a second-story deck and is outlined with short brick posts and a stick balustrade. Originally this balustrade consisted of an X-shaped, jigsaw design. The Classical Revival-inspired front entrance is composed of a nine-pane, one-panel, single-leaf door that is flanked by matching sidelights and capped by a ten-pane transom. Both the bedroom to the east of the central hall and the library to west are fenestrated on the front elevation by a large eight-over-one, double-hung window with a massive concrete lintel. The second story features an identical arrangement except the concrete lintels are absent. All second-story windows abut the bottom of the roof/eave frieze that encircles the house. The second-story deck is accessed by a double-leaf entrance in line with the larger entrance below. This entrance contains two nine-pane, one-panel wood doors and a four-pane transom with no sidelights.

A matching porch with a second story deck is found on the eastern elevation. A single-leaf entrance and a six-over-one, double-hung window are placed underneath the porch on the first story, while the second story contains a six-over-one window to the north and an enclosed sleeping porch that wraps around to the southern elevation. The sleeping porch has a single-leaf door and three six-over-six windows on the eastern elevation, while four six-over-six windows face south on the rear elevation. The enclosure occurred during World War II to provide extra living space for family members. Also, at some point the side porch was screened and a shed-roof carport added to the eastern side of the porch.

The rear, or southern, elevation of the main block of the house is fenestrated on the first story by two six-over-one windows to the east of the T extension and a single six-over-one window to the west of the kitchen. A single six-over-one light is placed to either side of the gabled T on the second story. The kitchen presents an end gable to the south that is outlined with a boxed eave and cornice returns. A narrow exterior brick chimney divides the bay and is flanked by a six-over-one window to the west and a single-leaf door to the east. A flat-roof open porch originally extended to the east for half of the kitchen's length. The other half is lighted by a six-over-one window. In 1988, the porch was enclosed with weatherboard by the current owners for a breakfast and laundry room. Additionally, a shed roof was erected over the porch to correct a perpetual leaking condition. An original four-over-four wood window that was underneath the porch was moved to the new eastern wall of the porch. The western side of the kitchen contains two six-over-one windows.

The western elevation is relatively simple in composition with four six-over-one, double-hung windows on each story.

The interior is nicely appointed and features four fireplaces. The first and second-story bedroom mantels on the eastern side of the central hall contain the more ornate, colonnaded mantelpieces. In contrast, the fireplaces in the first-story library and "doctor's bedroom" contain patterned brick surrounds and mantels. The original plastered walls are intact and are outlined by dark-stained wood picture rails, and door and window moldings with projecting crowns. The majority of the interior doors are five-panel wood types, and there are two sets of pocket doors of this type. Perhaps the most striking and unusual interior feature, however, is the leaded glass pocket doors that lead from the foyer into the central hall.



Alterations to the interior are minimal and occurred in 1988 when the current owners remodelled the kitchen and bathrooms, rewired the house, and installed a central heat and air conditioning system.

Two historic outbuildings remain and both date to the first Hawkins residence on the site. A brick smokehouse is located to the south of the kitchen. It originally held a large water tank on its roof, and water was piped into the house from this tank. At some point in time, the tank was removed from the building, but the shallow-pitched, conical metal top remained to serve as a roof for the smokehouse. This badly deteriorated roof was removed in 1990 by the current owners and replaced with a composition-shingled hipped roof. A box-constructed, gable-roof hen house is located to the rear of the property. It does not appear to have ever been substantially altered and is considered contributing to the nomination.

The last site feature on the property is a historic cistern with a concrete surround located to the southeast of the house. The building specifications mention that the new house is to be built "so that this cistern will be at such position as directed by the owner."

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local.

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1912

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Gibb, Frank., Architect
Terry, W. R., Builder



State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

Summary

The Dr. M. C. Hawkins House is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance both as an excellent example of a Prairie-style residence in Arkansas and for its association with the noted Little Rock architect, Frank Gibb.

Elaboration

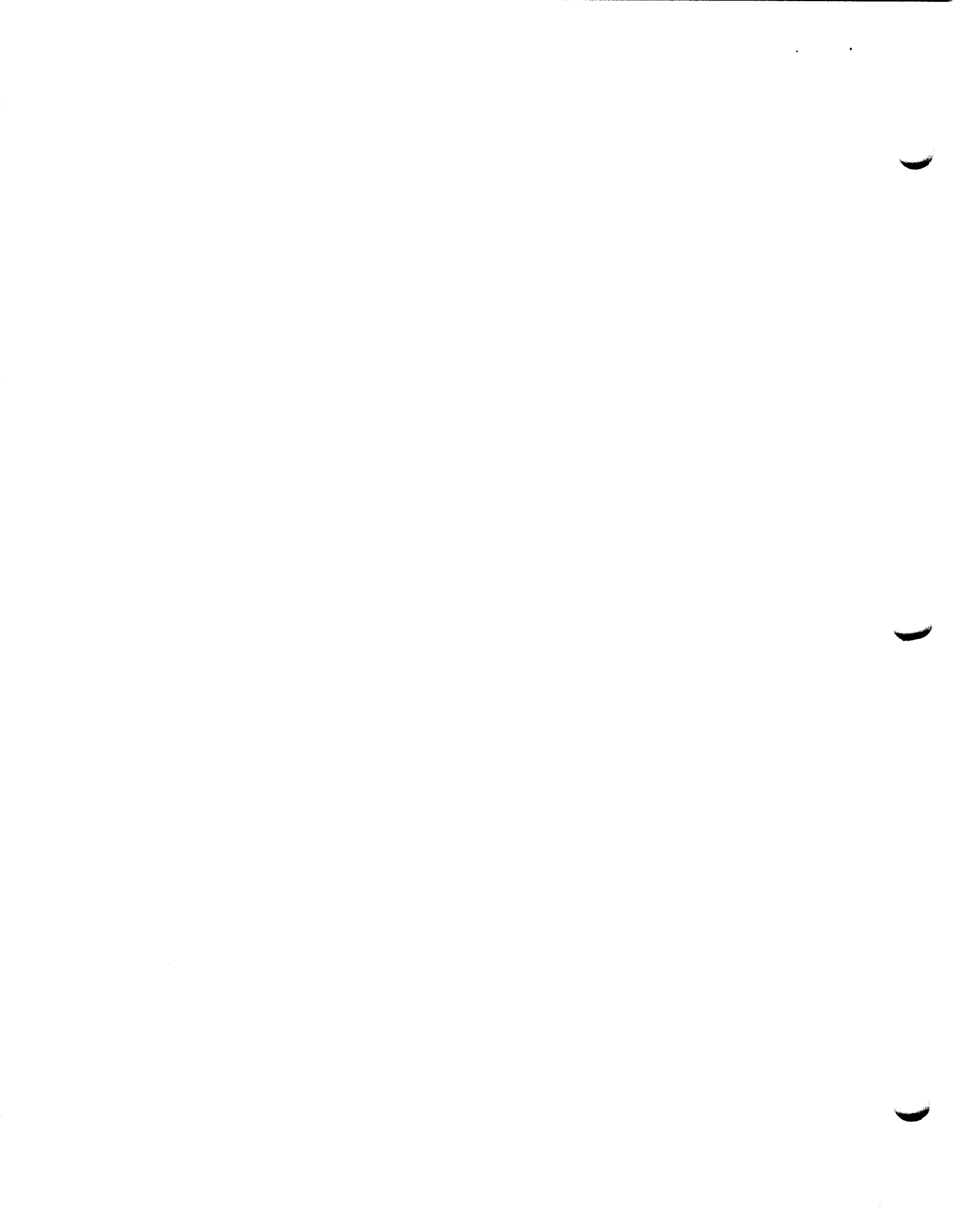
Planning for the construction of the Dr. M. C. Hawkins House in Parkdale began on July, 1911, when Frank Gibb, a prominent Little Rock architect, was contacted and asked to "prepare plans and specifications" for Dr. M. C. Hawkins. A letter dated September 9, 1911, from Gibb to Dr. Hawkins states that "sketches have begun, but more information is needed." Another letter dated October 17, 1911, from Gibb to Hawkins states that "two complete sets of plans and specifications for the new residence are in the express mail." The blueprints of the house are dated October 15, 1911. The new residence was completed in 1912, and the family moved into the house in September of that year.

In 1912, Parkdale had been in existence for over sixty years. The community originated on the east bank of Bayou Bartholomew in southeast Ashley County. In 1857, John Hughes operated a store near a landing that was called Poplar Bluff in reference to the many poplar trees that grew along the banks of the bayou. A post office of the same name was established in 1860 with Hughes as the postmaster. This area grew steadily in the decade before the Civil War. De Bastrop township, in which Poplar Bluff was the principal village, had a population of 386 white people (with about an equal number of slaves) in 1860 compared to the 1850 census figures of 84 whites and 80 slaves.

Like many towns in Arkansas, growth was stagnant during the Civil War years and for much of Reconstruction. In the late 1880's, however, Poplar Bluff prospered on the strength of cotton prices. By 1889, the town boasted a population of 200 along with several general stores, a grocery store, a druggist, two jewelers, a cotton gin, a grist mill, two churches, and a school.

With the arrival of the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Railroad in 1892-1893, the majority of the town's businesses and residences moved to the eastern end of Main Street (now Arkansas Highway 8) to the railroad. To prevent confusion with the railroad's other Poplar Bluff (in Missouri), the town was renamed Parkdale.

It was during this period of growth and change that Dr. M. C. Hawkins moved to Parkdale. After arriving in 1895 to practice medicine, Hawkins met and married Charlotte Burks two years later. Four children, Martin, Mark, Charlotte, and Theresa, were born of this marriage. Their first home was a wood house which was built on the same site as the present residence. This house was moved on log rollers by a team of mules to the rear of the property when construction on the new house began. Interestingly, the Hawkins family continued to live in the house while it was being moved.



Dr. Hawkins was one of four doctors practicing in Parkdale at this time, and his office was located along the railroad on Main Street. In addition to his medical practice, Hawkins also acquired a sizable amount of land and engaged in farming. He continued to practice medicine until his death in 1953, and even rebuilt his office building at age seventy-seven after a devastating fire burned most of the town in 1948. The house remained in the family after Mrs. Hawkins' death. It is currently owned by Mark Hawkins, Jr. and his wife, Hazel, who have resided in the house since 1988.

The Dr. M. C. Hawkins House is being nominated under Criterion C with local significance both as an excellent example of a Prairie-style residence and for its association with the architect, Frank Gibb. After deciding to construct a new residence, Dr. Hawkins and his wife sought the services of the noted Little Rock architect. In a July 31, 1911 letter to Dr. Hawkins, Gibb suggested that a ". . . a two story, eight or nine room brick veneer residence could be built upon rectangular lines, which is the modern method of planning, and doubtless would cost somewhat in excess of the bungalow . . ." The completed residence reflected a restrained interpretation of the Prairie style, but also featured more traditional Classical Revival-style details which are seen in the boxed cornice returns of the gabled dormers and in much of the interior. The Dr. M. C. Hawkins House is certainly the best example of this style in Parkdale and is one of a relatively few architect-designed Prairie-style residences in Arkansas.

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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Etheridge, Y. W. *History of Ashley County, Arkansas*. Van Buren, Arkansas: The Press Argus, 1959.

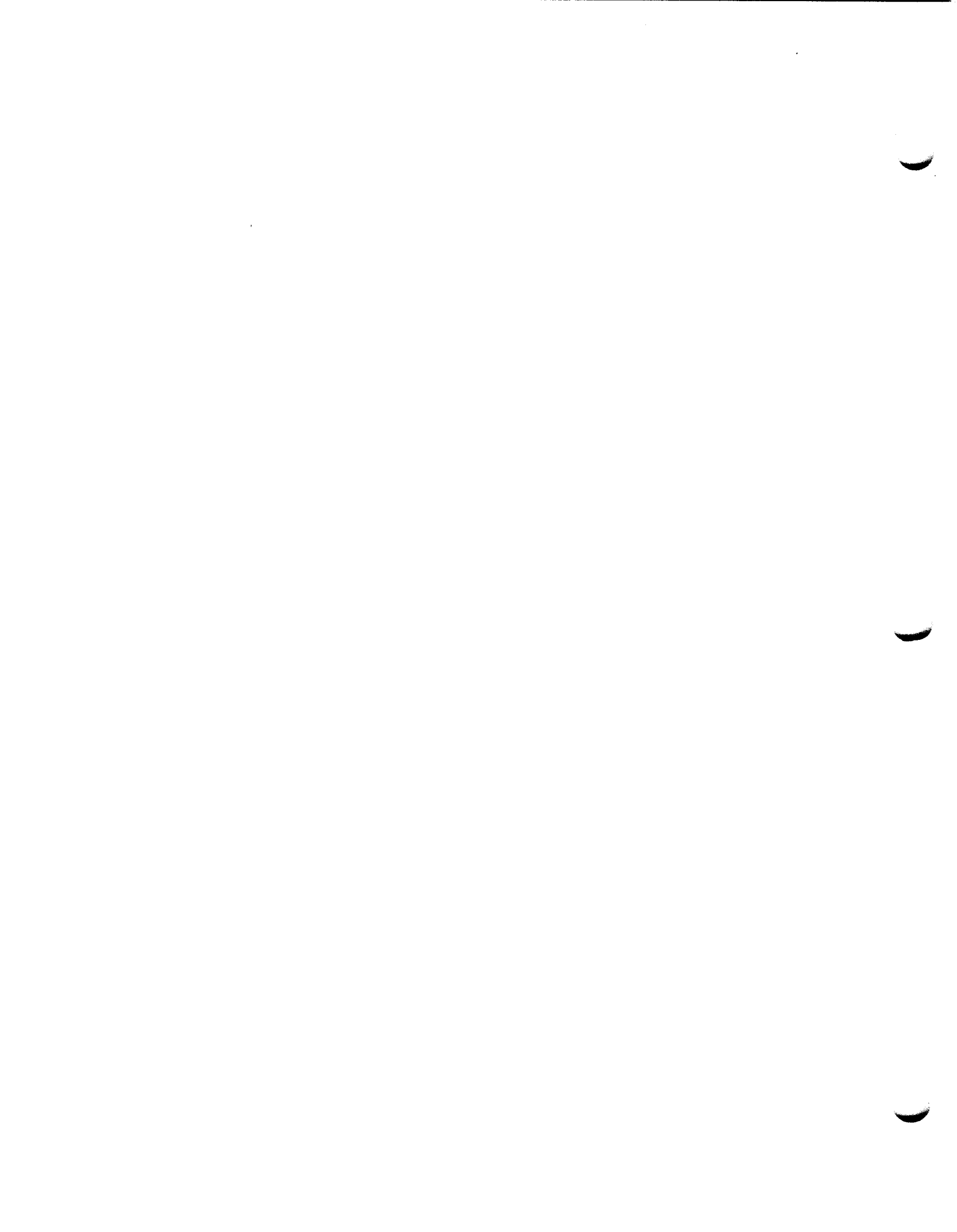
Information submitted by Hazel Hawkins including correspondence between Dr. M. C. Hawkins and Frank Gibb, July 1995.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____



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10. Geographical Data
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Acreage of Property: 2

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
 A 15 635450 3665400 B
 C D

Verbal Boundary Description:

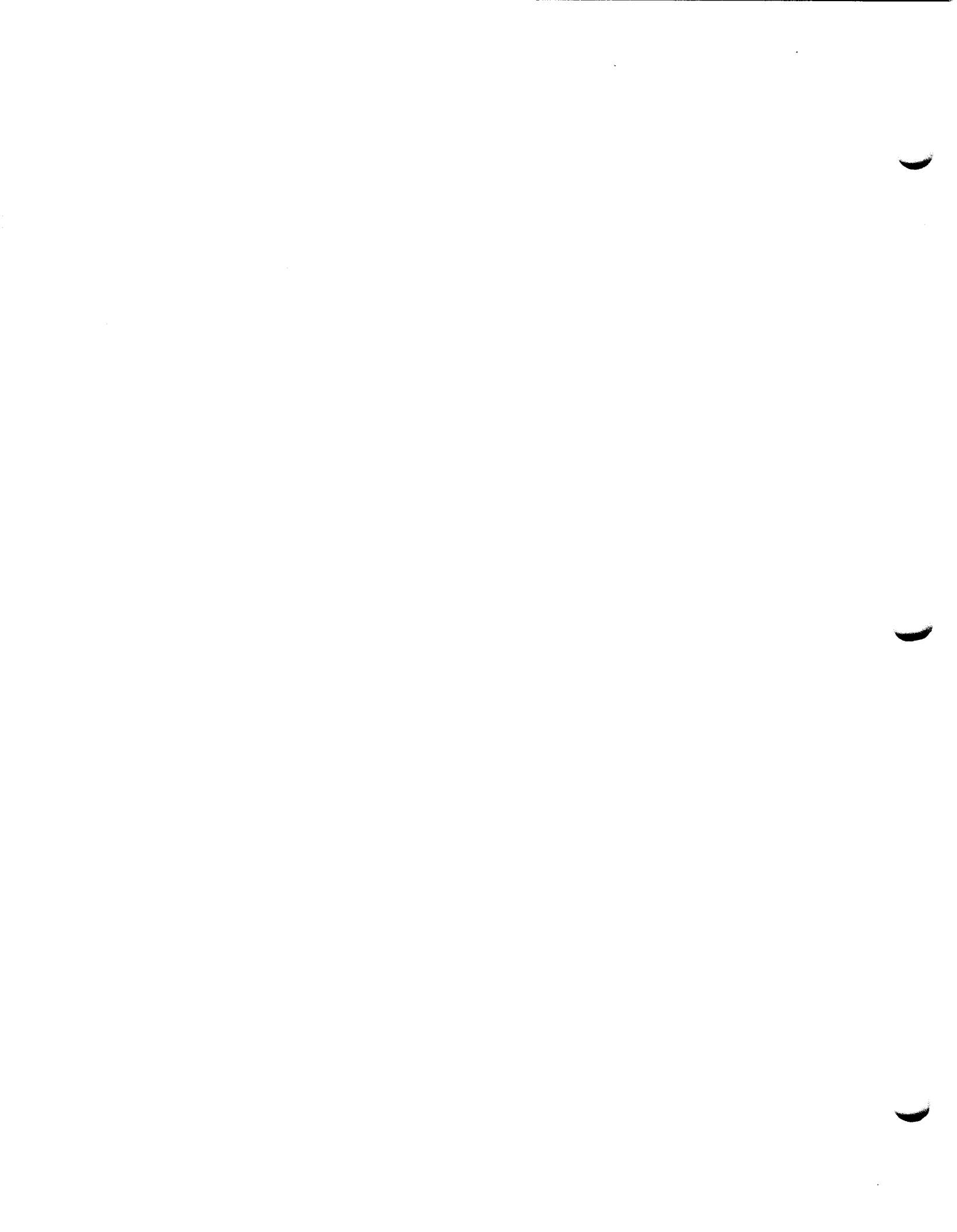
Lots 15 & 16, Block 2, Richardson's Survey of Parkdale.

Boundary Justification:

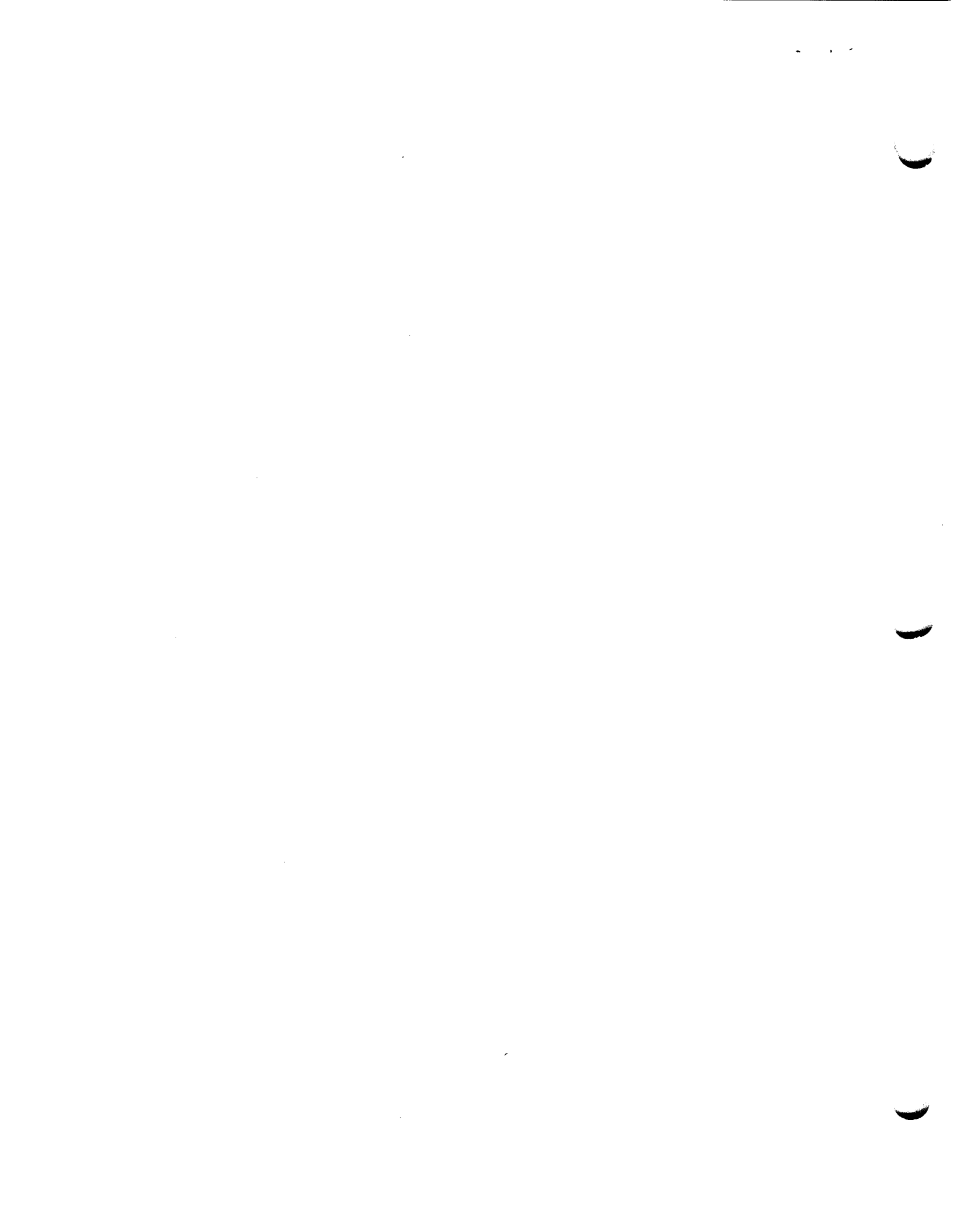
This boundary includes the house, smokehouse, hen house, cistern and all of the property historically associated with this resource that retains its integrity.

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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Patrick Zollner, Architectural Historian
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: February 1, 1996
Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR ZIP: 72201







Hawkins, Dr. M.C., House
Parkdale, Ashley Co. Ark.
UTM: 15/

