

BUILDING-STRUCTURE INVENTORY FORM

DIVISION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
NEW YORK STATE PARKS AND RECREATION  
ALBANY, NEW YORK (518) 474-0479

UNIQUE SITE NO.  
QUAD  
SERIES  
NEG. NO.

YOUR NAME: John R. Steinmeyer  
YOUR ADDRESS: 106 W. Sibley Hall, Ithaca, NY  
ORGANIZATION (if any): Cornell University

DATE: 15 May 1992  
TELEPHONE: (607)255-0751

\*\*\*\*\*

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME(S):
- 2. COUNTY: Steuben TOWN/CITY: Corning VILLAGE:
- 3. STREET LOCATION: 44 East First Street
- 4. OWNERSHIP: a. public[ ] b. private [X]
- 5. PRESENT OWNER: Grace S. Raym ADDRESS: Bethany Center  
Watkins Road  
Horseheads, NY 14830
- 6. USE: Original: residence Present: residence
- 7. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: Yes[X] No[ ]

Interior accessible: no, private residence

DESCRIPTION

- 8. BUILDING MATERIAL a. clapboard[X] b. stone[ ] c. brick[ ] d. board & batten[ ]  
e. cobblestone[ ] f. shingles[ ] g. stucco[ ] other:
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM: a. wood frame with interlocking joints[ ]  
b. wood frame with light members[X]  
c. masonry load bearing walls[ ]  
d. metal (explain)  
e. other
- 10. CONDITION: a. excellent[ ] b. good[ ] c. fair[X] d. deteriorated[ ]
- 11. INTEGRITY: a. original site[X] b. moved[ ] if so, when?  
c. list major alterations and dates (if known):  
See Continuation Sheet
- 12. PHOTO:
- 13. MAP:

14. THREATS TO BUILDING: a. none known[X] b. zoning[ ] c. roads[ ]  
d. developers[ ] e. deterioration[ ]  
f. other:
15. RELATED OUT BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY:  
a. barn[ ] b. carriage house[ ] c. garage[ ]  
d. privy[ ] e. shed[ ] f. greenhouse[ ]  
g. shop[ ] h. gardens[ ]  
i. landscape features: See Continuation Sheet  
j. other:
16. SURROUNDINGS OF THE BUILDING (CHECK MORE THAN ONE IF NECESSARY)  
a. open land[ ] b. woodland[ ]  
c. scattered buildings[ ]  
d. densely built-up[X] e. commercial[ ]  
f. industrial[ ] g. residential[X]  
h. other:

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

See Continuation Sheet

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

See Continuation Sheet

SIGNIFICANCE

19. DATE OF INITIAL CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1865

ARCHITECT:

BUILDER:

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

See Continuation Sheet

21. SOURCES:

See Continuation Sheet

22. THEME:

11. INTEGRITY

Bay addition to west facade ca. 1888-93; bay enlargement to west facade and porch addition to north facade ca. 1893-88; bay addition to east facade and removal of porch from north facade ca. 1888-1903. Some records of structural alterations/additions are available at the City of Corning Building Department.

17. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS:

Situated on the south side of East First Street, this residence is one of a row of nineteenth and early twentieth century homes of various styles. These houses have varying setbacks from the street and are fairly consistent in their east to west spacing.

18. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING AND SITE:

Designed predominantly in the Gothic Revival style of architecture with some influence of the Stick style of architecture, this large structure displays an innovative mix of elements. As noted in A Field Guide to American Houses (McAlester), the residence's Gothic Revival features include: a parallel-hipped roof interrupted by cross gables with cross-braced vergeboard; second-floor lancet windows; gabled roof dormers with side walls; and an overall design which emphasizes verticality. In terms of Stick features, the building exhibits diagonal, flat stickwork and decorative horizontal banding.

The first one and one half stories of the building's northern end and the full two stories of the southern end are covered with clapboards. The first story is highlighted by bays on the north, east, and west facades. A one-story porch, composed of a pointed arch and two pairs of ornately-carved vertical supports, demarcates the northern recessed entrance. The top one and one half stories of the building's northern end are covered with board and batten cladding which is interrupted by paired lancet windows underneath the cross gables on the north and east facades.

The residence also features four, large brick chimneys with recessed lancet motifs, a rough-cut, regular-coursed local stone foundation, and a 3'-0"-high wrought iron fence which encloses the building's front and side yards.

CONTINUATION SHEET, Page 2  
44 East First Street  
Corning, New York

20. HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE:

From 1893-1902, 44 East First Street was owned by James A. Drake, President of the First National Bank of Corning in the 1890s. In 1894, Drake became part owner of the M.D. Walker and Company, which constructed the Corning Court House in 1903. In 1905, the Drake interest in M.D. Walker and Company was purchased by other partners, and the Company was incorporated as the Corning Building Company, which had a significant impact on the city's physical development.

The house was never occupied by James A. Drake, but rather by his brother, Charles E. Drake, who was part owner of Millspaugh & Drake, a local wholesale and retail hardware company which specialized in agricultural implements.

By 1903, 44 East First street was converted into multi-family housing. Building residents of the early and middle twentieth century included employees of local industry such as the New York Central Railroad. The maintenance of affordable multi-family housing such as this has consistently allowed for a broad range in types of people to reside in the area, and consequently contributes to the stability of the Southside neighborhood.

21. SOURCES:

Corning City Directories; Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Corning, 1888, 1893, 1898, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930; Corning Fire Department Maps, 1852, 1893.



44 E. 1ST



44 E. 1ST



CITY OF CORNING  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RONALD J. MAJESKY, PE  
SUPERINTENDENT

10 Nasser Civic Center Plaza  
CORNING, NY 14830

TEL: (607) 962-0721  
FAX: (607) 937-3358

August 31, 1995

CERTIFIED NUMBER: Z 179 705 027

Market Street Restoration Agency  
5 East Market Street  
Corning, NY 14830

ATTN: Elise Johnson-Schmidt

RE: 44 East First Street

Dear Elise:

Please be advised that the structure at the above address is in violation of Sec. 1153.1, Subchapter C, of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code due to the fire damage it received on August 30, 1995.

As per our final inspection of the structure on August 30, it was decided that the building must be demolished and removed from the site.

Therefore, once the Corning Fire Department officially releases the building back to the owner's control, the responsibility for safety, security, and demolition reverts back to your agency. Please finalize your contract with a demolition contractor, secure a demolition permit from my office, and begin the removal of this building as soon as possible. The removal of this building shall be completed no later than September 8, 1995.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Majesky  
Superintendent of Public Works

SS

















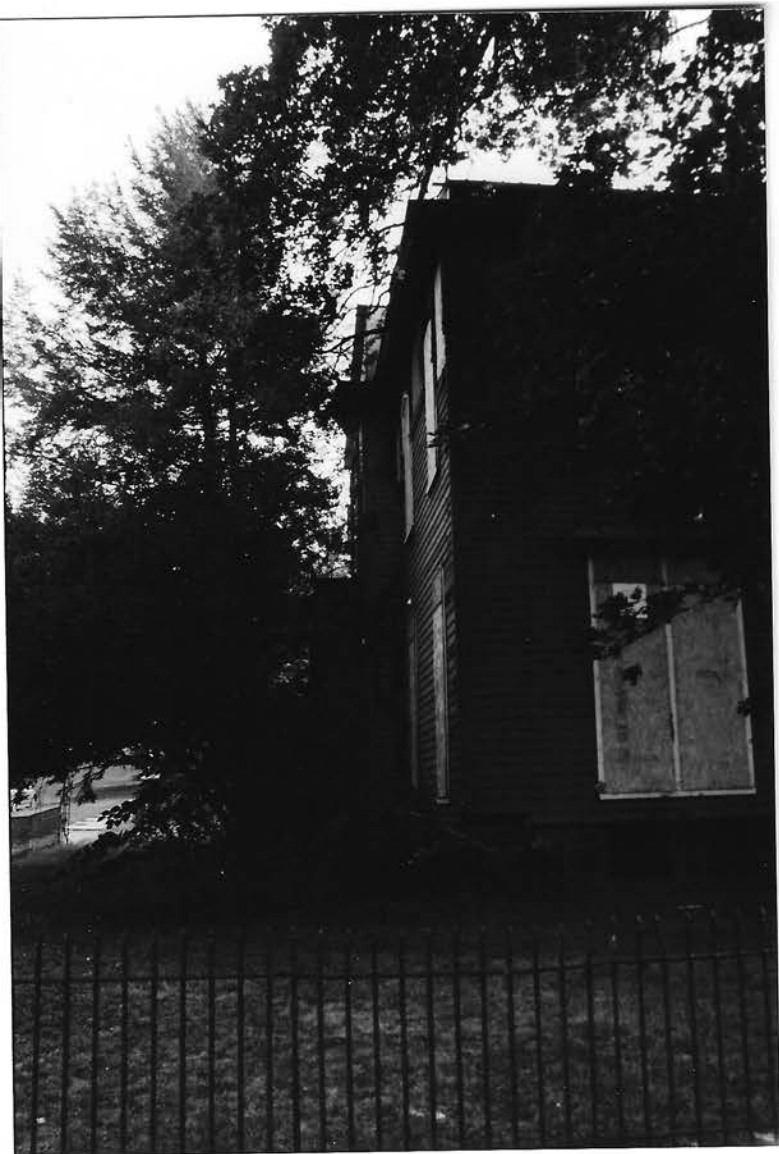














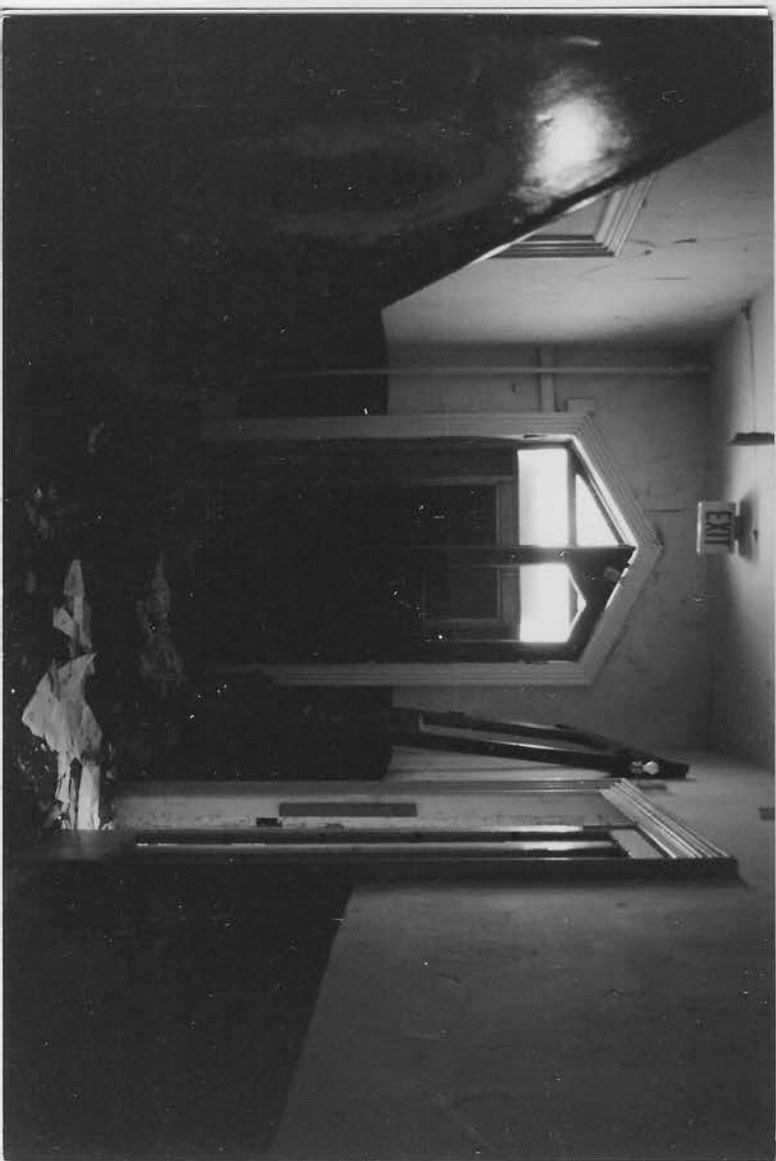


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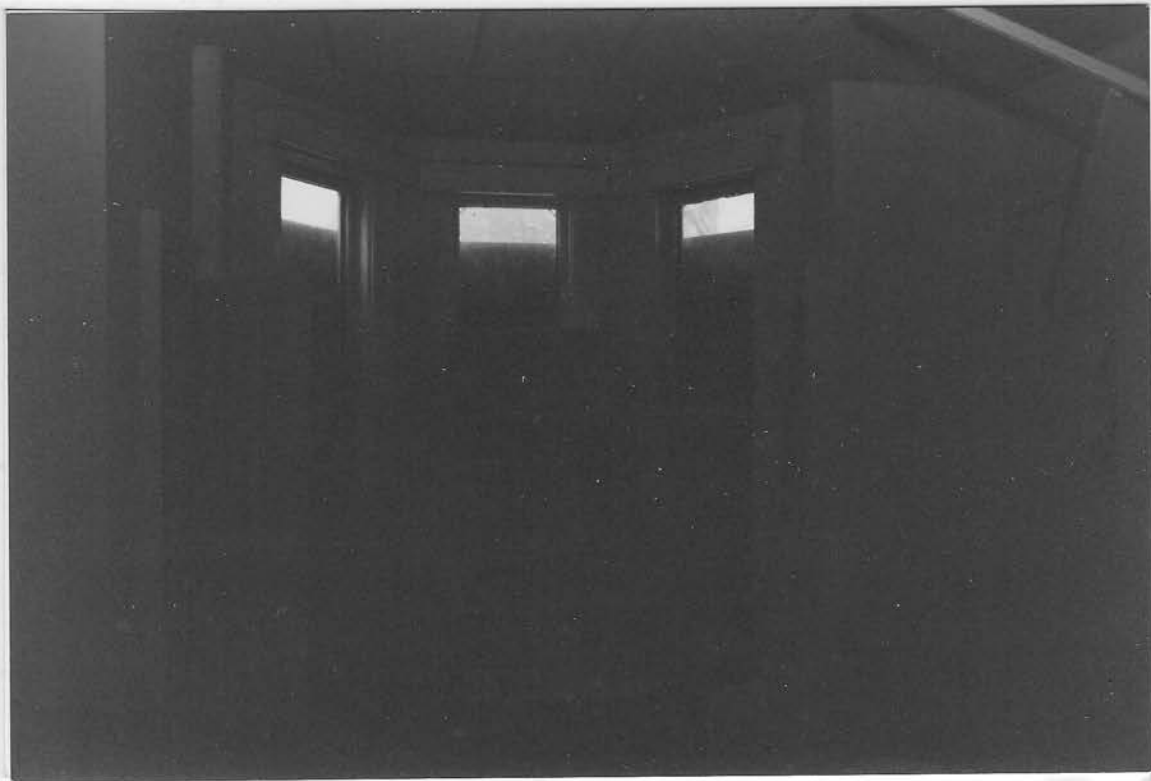










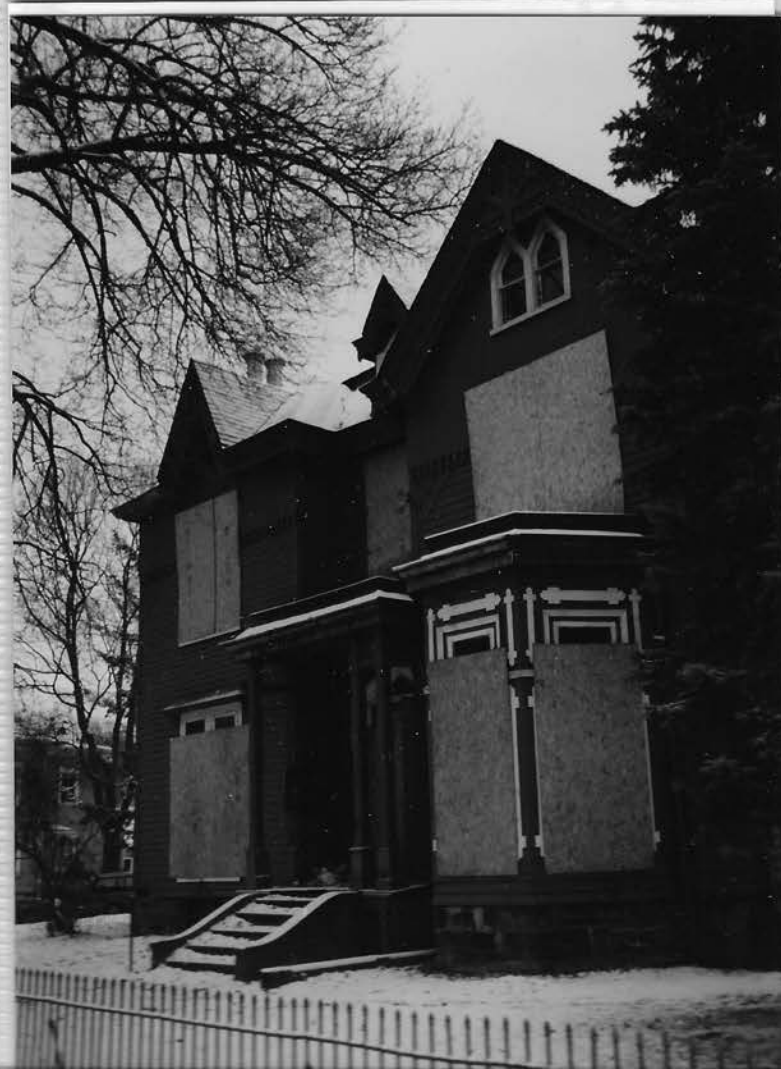


Three small windows in a dark room.



Living room with a window.







ARCHIVAL STORAGE









No. 18028 23-01 JNNNH-B49U 597

























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AGFA  
Corning, NY 14830  
50 West First St.  
General Swain Photography

0114 017 FOTD 53

AGFA  
Corning, NY 14830  
50 West First St.  
General Swain Photography











C-LINE #62027  
CLEAR TOPPER



8

















ARCHIVAL PRESERVERS

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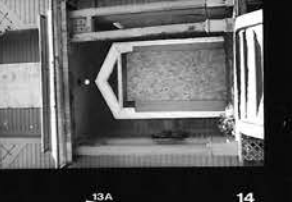
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DATE

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24



**Market Street Restoration Agency**

**Photography to accompany measured drawing project  
February 1995**

**Roll A: Interiors of 44 East First Street**

0. East wall and fireplace, Apt. 4 (rear wing west)
1. Detail of fireplace, Apt. 4 (rear wing west)
2. Kitchen, Apt. 4, and west door (rear wing west)
3. West wall, Apt. 4 (rear wing west)
4. West wall, Apt. 5 (center west)
5. Detail of fireplace, Apt. 3 (center east)
6. East wall, Apt. 3 (center east)
7. Detail of southeast door, Apt. 3 (center east)
8. View to kitchen, Apt. 3 (center east)
9. Front door casing from inside
10. Detail of door(s) to Apt. 2 (front east)
11. Wallpaper peeling above door(s) to Apt. 2
12. Detail of fireplace, Apt. 2 (front east)
13. North wall, Apt. 2 (front east)
14. Fireplace and overmantle, Apt. 1 (front west)
15. Same as 14 except darker
16. Detail of bay window, Apt. 1 (front west)
17. West windows, Apt. 1 (front west)
18. Drop ceiling falling; view to original ceiling, Apt. 1.
19. Original door frame on east wall closed with sheetrock, Apt. 1
20. Detail of fireplace, Back apt. (rear wing east)
21. East wall and door, Back apt. (rear wing east)

**Market Street Restoration Agency**

**Photography to accompany measured drawing project  
February 1995**

**Roll A: Interiors of 44 East First Street (continued)**

22. Detail of east door and timbered ceiling, Back apt.  
(rear wing east)
23. Detail of ceiling, Back apt. (rear wing east)
24. Blank
- 24A. Stairs to basement (dark picture)

**Roll B: Exteriors of 44 East First Street and  
159 Cedar Street**

0. 44 East First Street House, North facade from the northeast
1. 44 East First Street House, North facade from the northeast
2. Same as 1, except darker
3. 44 East First Street House, North facade
4. Same as 3, except darker
5. (Too light)
6. 44 East First Street House, East Facade (light)
7. 44 East First Street House, East Facade
8. 44 East First Street House, East and south facades from  
the southeast
9. Same as 8, except darker
10. 44 East First Street House, Detail of roof along east facade  
at junction of rear wing and main house
11. 44 East First Street House, Detail of roof along east facade
12. 44 East First Street House, Detail of roof along east facade
13. 44 East First Street House, Detail of north facade from the  
northeast

**Market Street Restoration Agency**

**Photography to accompany measured drawing project  
February 1995**

**Roll B: Exteriors of 44 East First Street and  
159 Cedar Street (continued)**

14. 44 East First Street House, Detail of front entrance and porch
15. 44 East First Street House, Detail of bay window, north facade, near northwest corner
16. 44 East First Street House, Detail of foundation at junction of north bay window and north facade
17. 44 East First Street House, Detail of second floor windows on west facade near northwest corner
18. 44 East First Street House, Detail of second floor window on west facade near northwest corner
19. 44 East First Street House, Detail of foundation at junction of west facade and projecting bay, near northwest corner
20. (Too light)
21. 44 East First Street House, Detail of roof intersections on west facade at junction of main house and rear wing
22. 44 East First Street House, Detail of foundation at junction of projecting bay and the west facade of the rear wing, near the center of the facade
23. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of north gable end
24. 159 Cedar Street, North facade of rear (west) wing
25. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of entrance to rear (west) wing

**Roll C: Interiors of 44 East First Street and  
159 Cedar Street (continued)**

0. 44 East First Street, East facade from the southwest
1. 159 Cedar Street, East and north facades
2. 159 Cedar Street, East facade
3. 44 East First Street, South and east facades

**Market Street Restoration Agency**

**Photography to accompany measured drawing project  
February 1995**

**Roll C: Exteriors of 44 East First Street and  
159 Cedar Street (continued)**

4. 159 Cedar Street, South and east facades
5. 159 Cedar Street, West facade (shaky)
6. 44 East First Street, South and west facades
7. Same as 6 except lighter
8. 159 Cedar Street, North facade
9. Same as 8 except lighter
10. 44 East First Street, North facade
11. Same as 10
12. 44 East First Street, View of property and house from the northeast corner
13. 159 Cedar Street, East facade
14. 159 Cedar Street, East facade
15. 159 Cedar Street, South facade
16. Same as 15 except darker
17. 159 Cedar Street, View of second floor of West facade of the house from a neighboring yard (west)
18. Same as 17 except lighter
19. 159 Cedar Street, North facade
20. Same as 19, except darker
21. 144 East First Street, South facade
22. 144 East First Street, Detail of south facade
23. 144 East First Street, Detail of rear wing near southwest corner

**Market Street Restoration Agency**

**Photography to accompany measured drawing project  
February 1995**

**Roll C: Exteriors of 44 East First Street and  
159 Cedar Street (continued)**

24. 144 East First Street, Detail of the west facade and one-story projecting bay
25. 144 East First Street, View of property and house from a distance; from the northwest

**Roll D: Interiors of 159 Cedar Street and  
44 East First Street (continued)**

1. 159 Cedar Street, East wall of first floor north apartment
2. 159 Cedar Street, West wall of first floor north apartment
3. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of built-in closet framing found in both first floor units
4. 159 Cedar Street, Interior wall and north window, second floor north apartment
5. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of ceiling, second floor north apartment
6. 159 Cedar Street, East wall of first floor south apartment
7. 159 Cedar Street, Example of pass-through pantry closet found in all apartments
8. 159 Cedar Street, West wall of first floor south apartment
9. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of bathroom in first floor south apartment
10. Blank
11. 159 Cedar Street, View of interior wall and south window, first floor south apartment
12. 159 Cedar Street, Hallway and staircase at the center of the house
13. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of kneel post at base of stairs

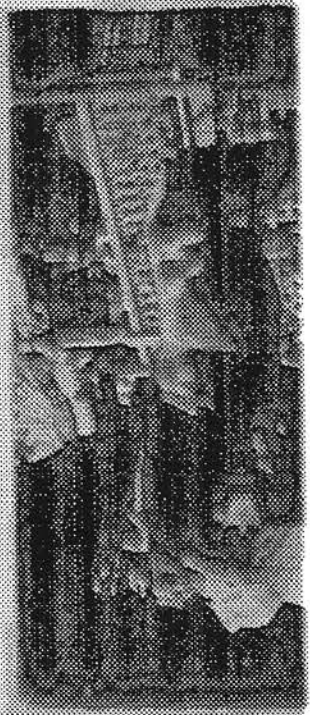
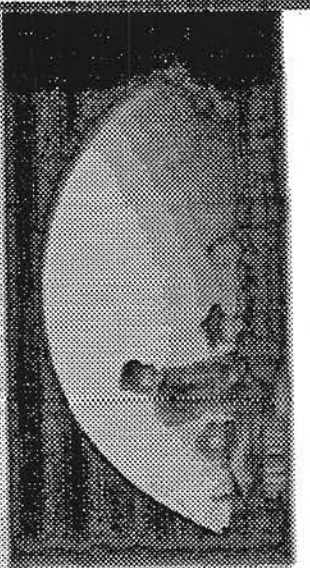
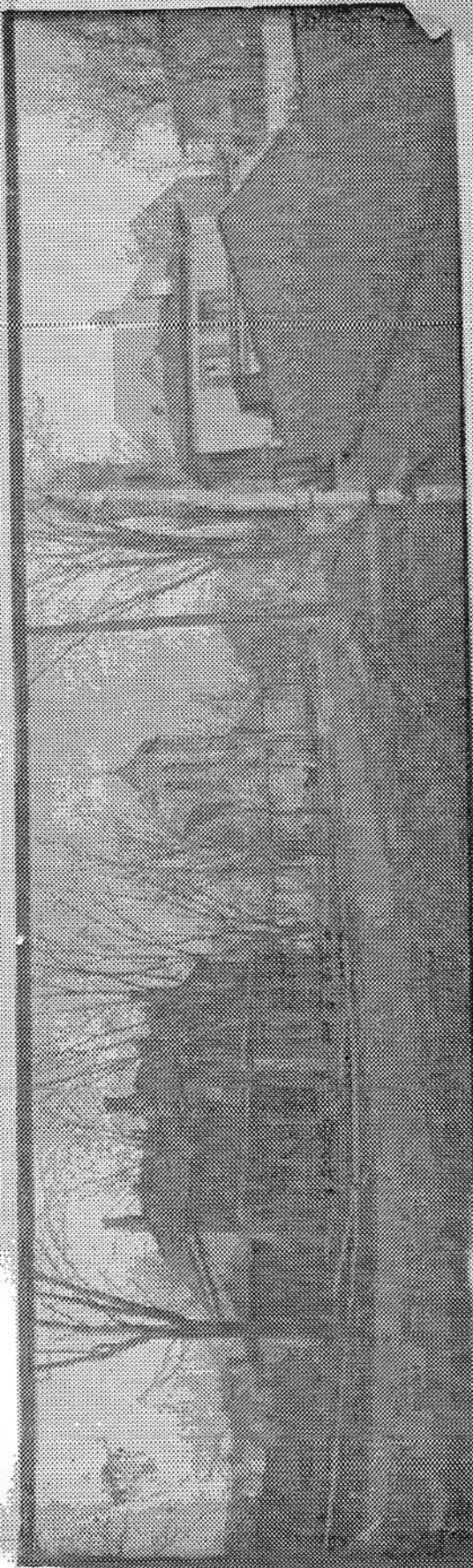
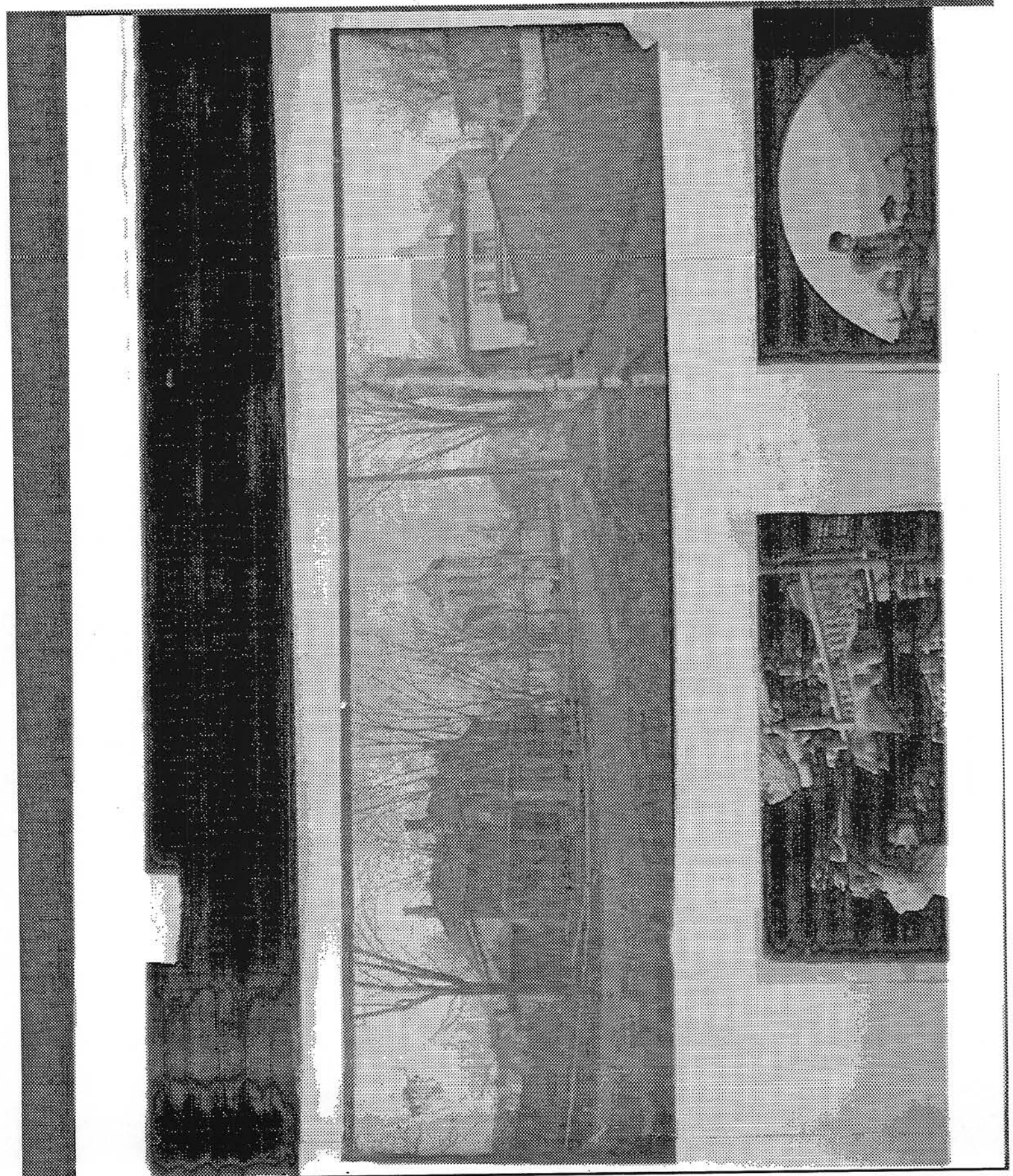
**Market Street Restoration Agency**

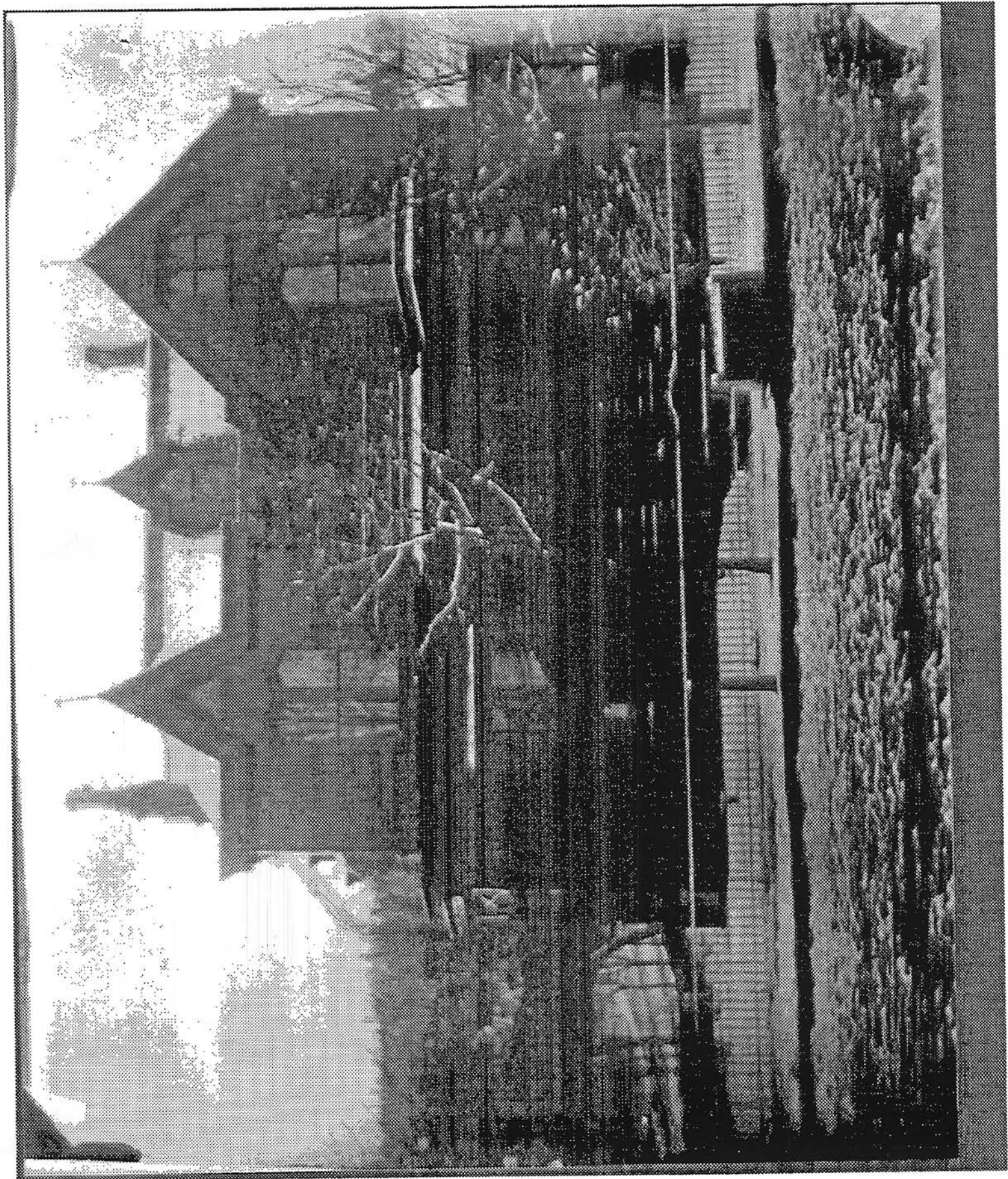
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February 1995**

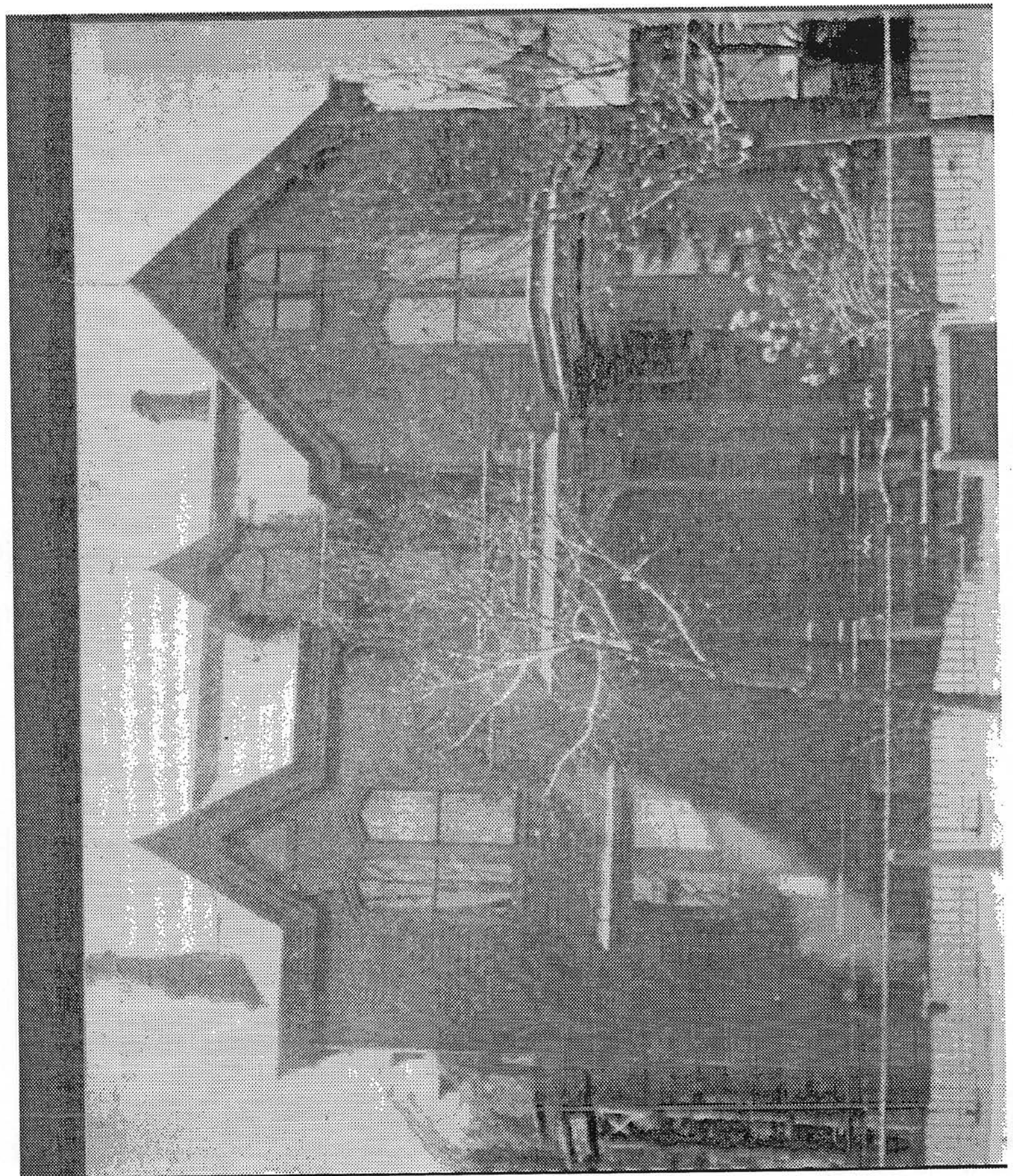
**Roll D: Interiors of 159 Cedar Street and 44 East First  
Street (continued)**

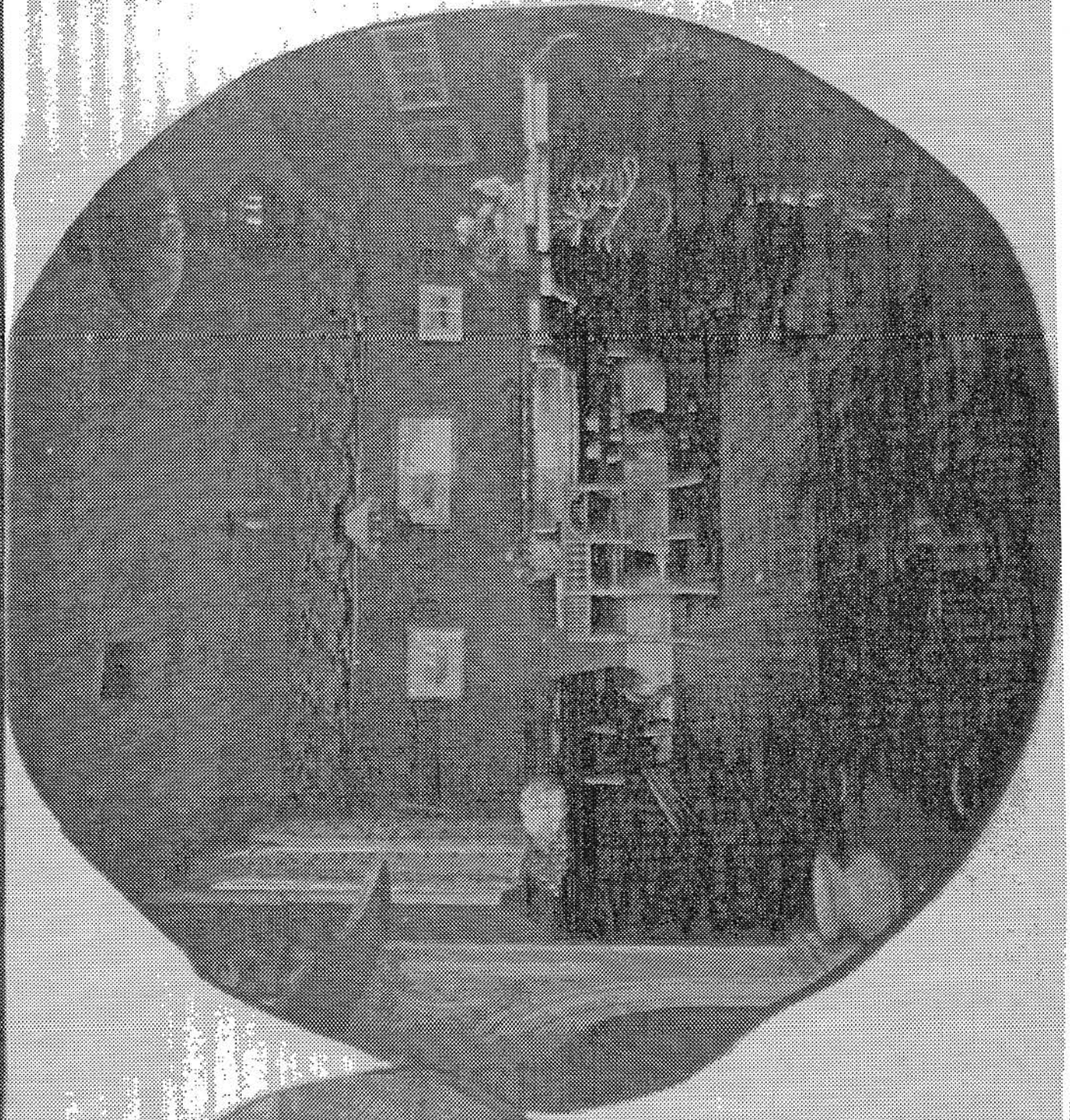
14. 159 Cedar Street, View of north window near northeast corner of second floor north apartment
15. 159 Cedar Street, View of interior wall and north wall, second floor north apartment
16. 159 Cedar Street. Detail of kitchen, second floor north apartment
17. 159 Cedar Street, Double windows in the second floor north apartment
18. 159 Cedar Street, Detail of bathroom, second floor north apartment
19. 159 Cedar Street, Staircase from second floor north apartment down to the north side porch
20. 159 Cedar Street, View into the second floor south apartment looking west
21. 159 Cedar Street, View of interior wall and south wall, second floor south apartment
22. 44 East First Street, Cased opening in second floor rear west apartment; also shows door to bathroom on far wall
23. 44 East First Street, Paired windows on west wall of second floor rear apartment
24. 44 East First Street, Fireplace and entrance to kitchen in second floor west front apartment
25. 44 East First Street, Windows on north and east walls of second floor east front apartment





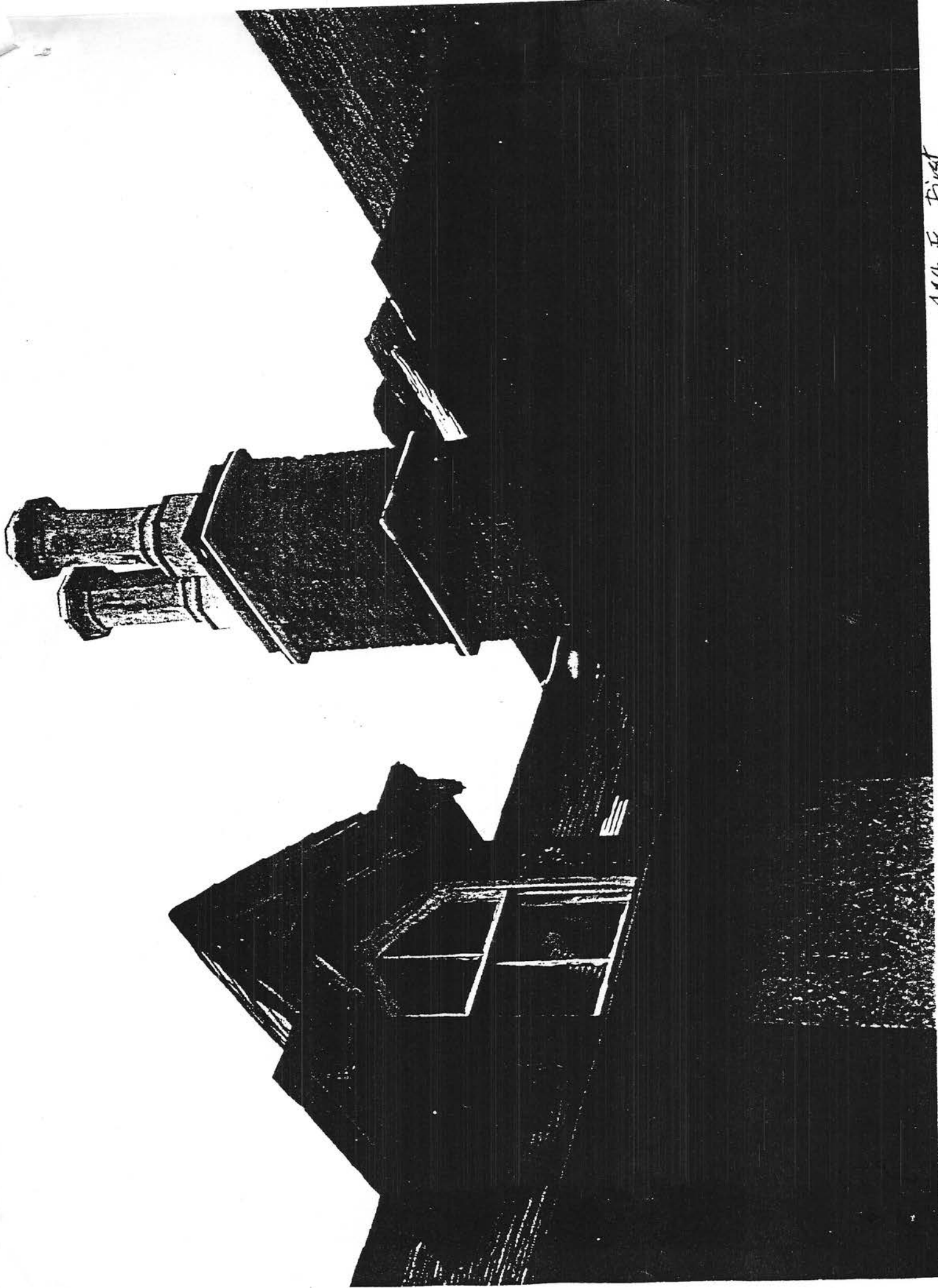












44 E. First



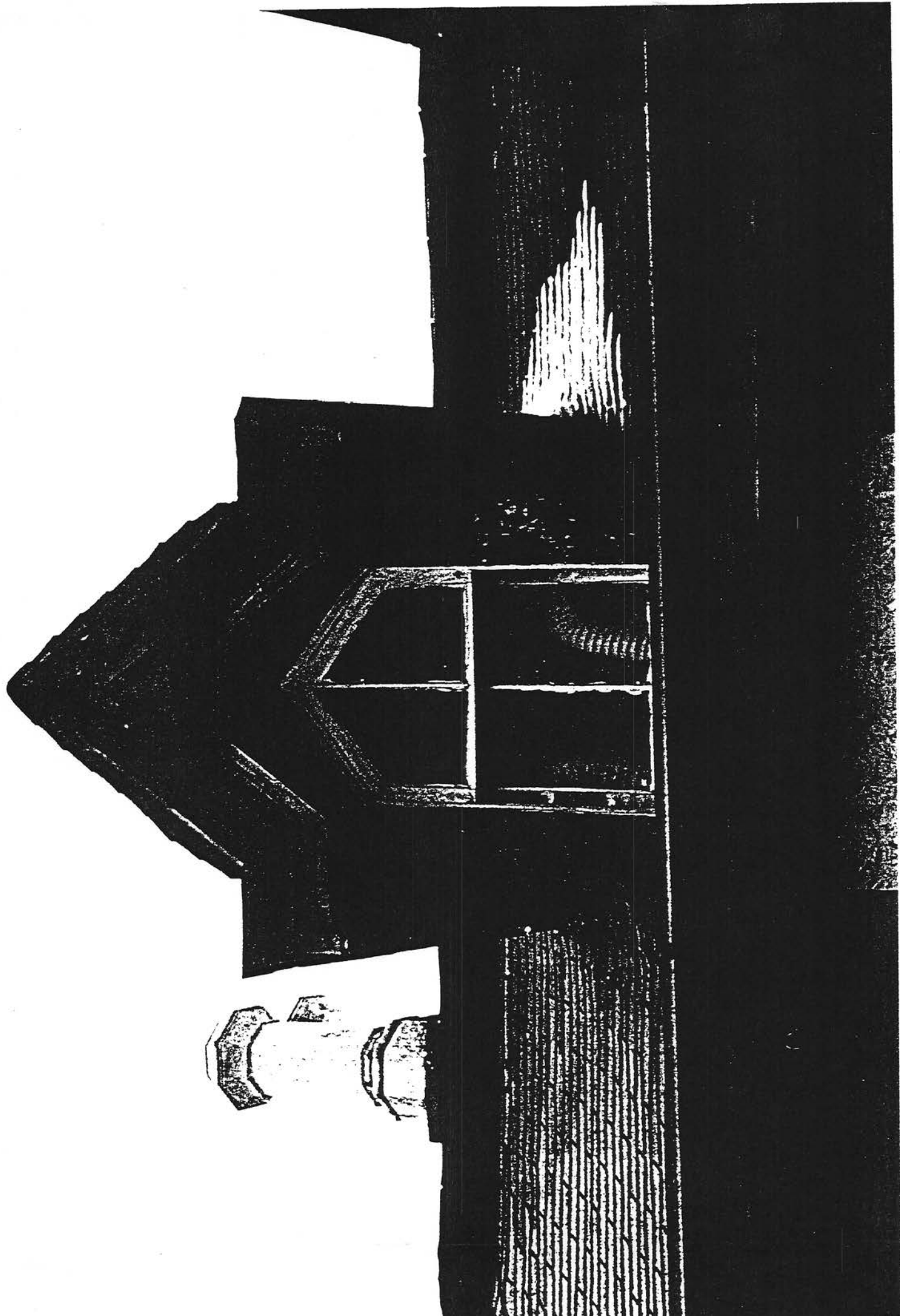
444 E. First



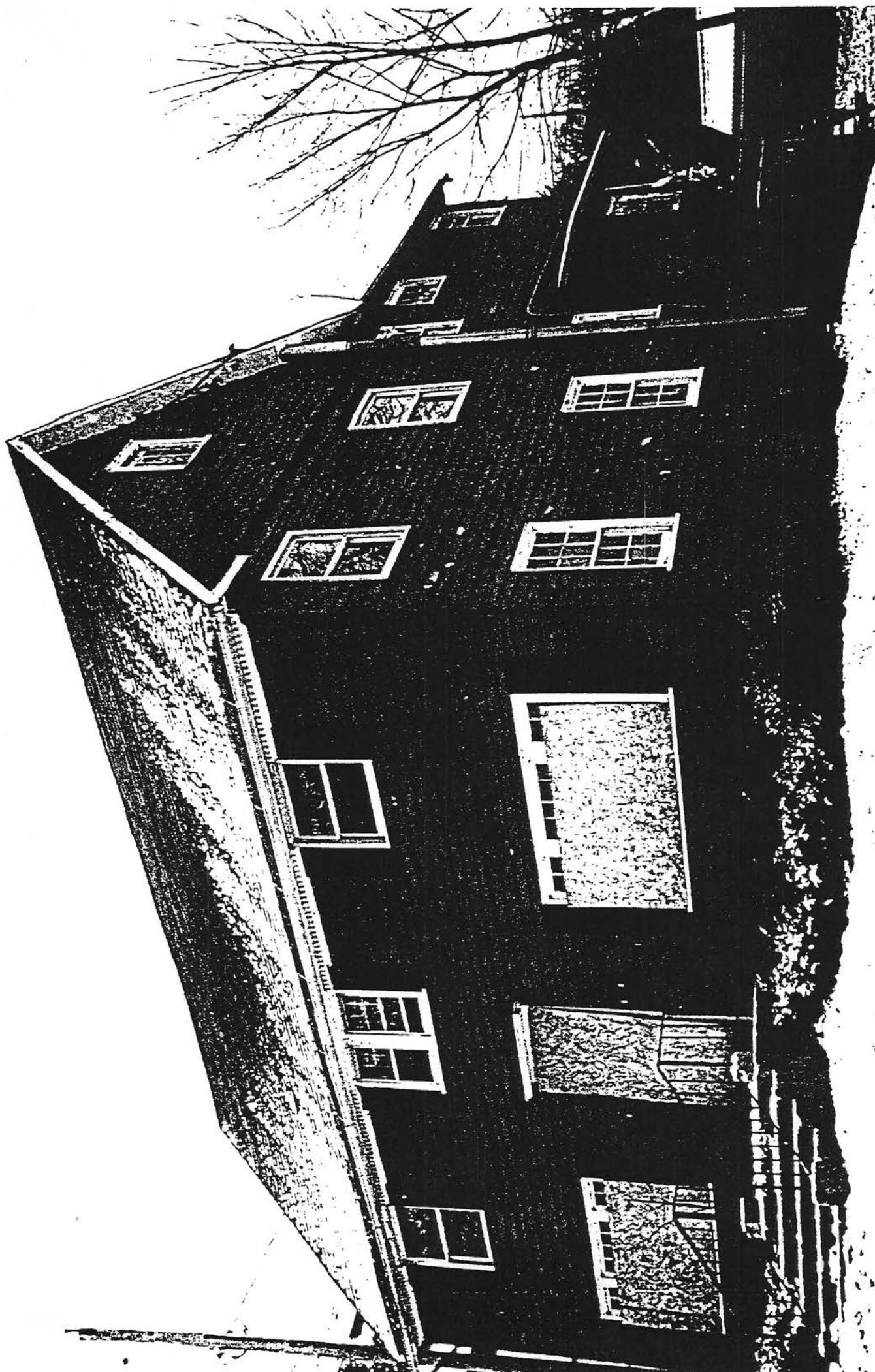


159 Cedar  
Carriagar. house

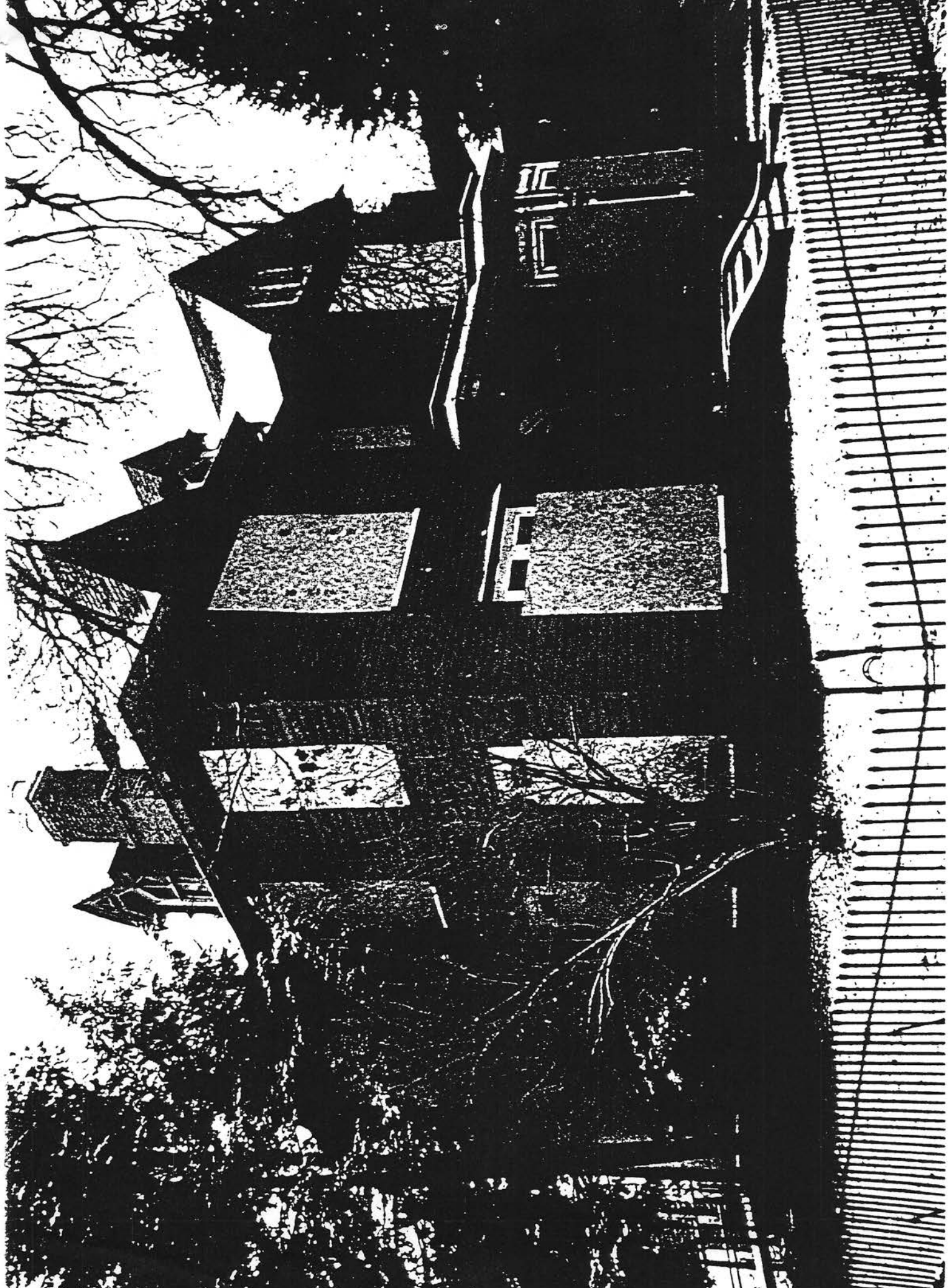
171 Cedar.



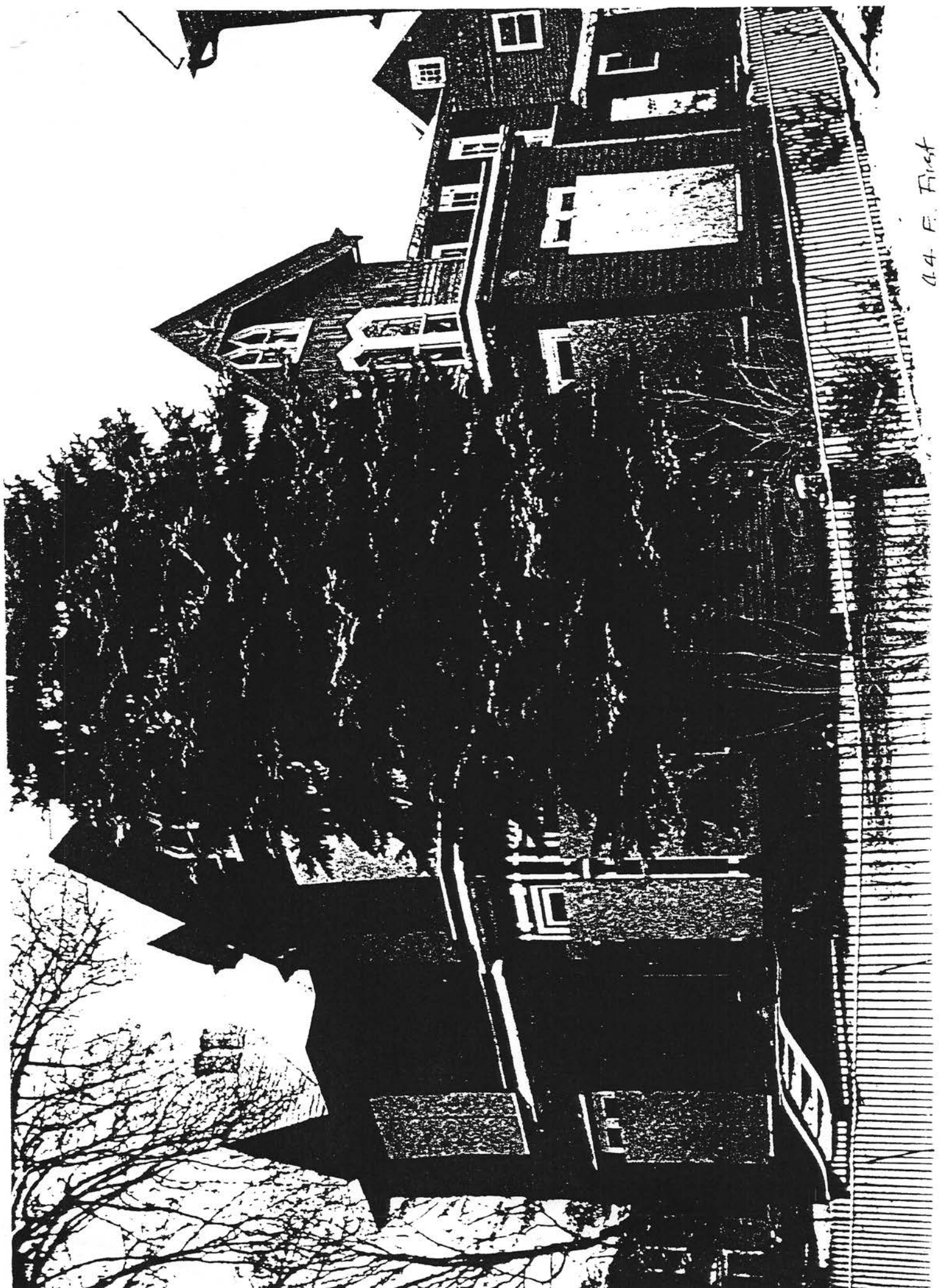
44 F. First



159 Cedar

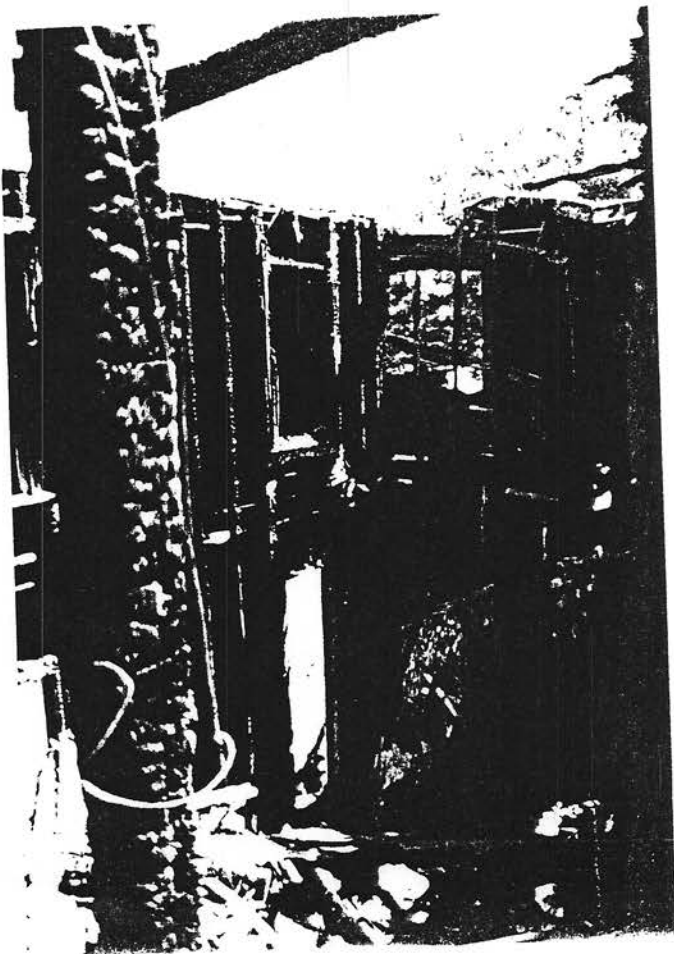
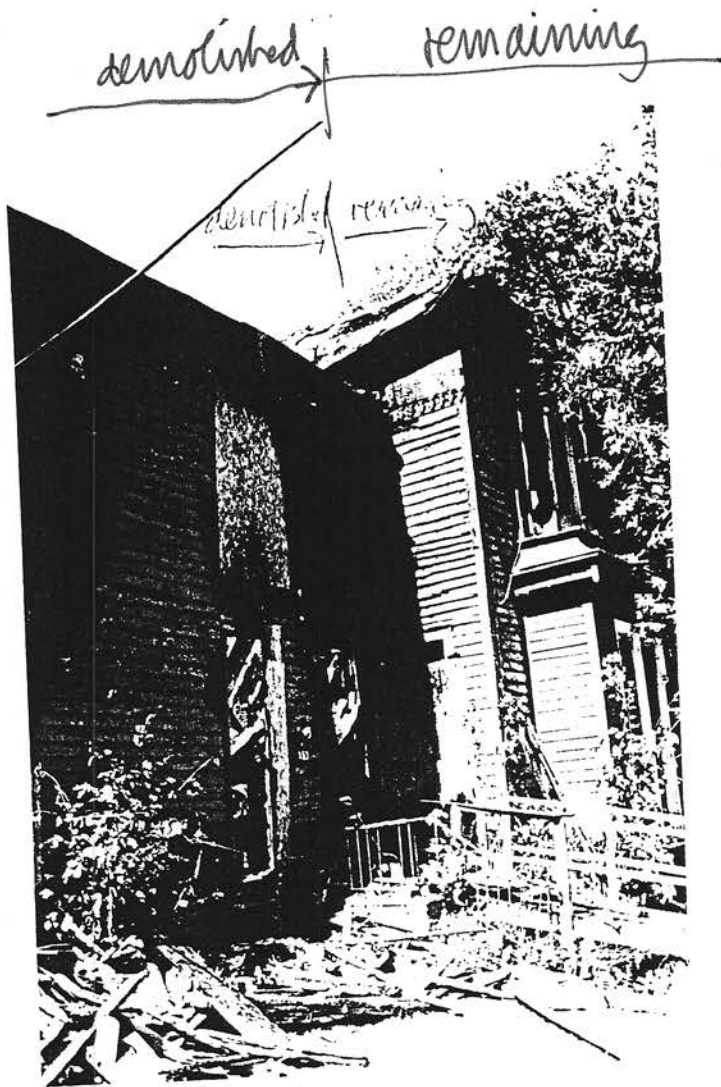


(44 E 1st) Corner Cedar + First

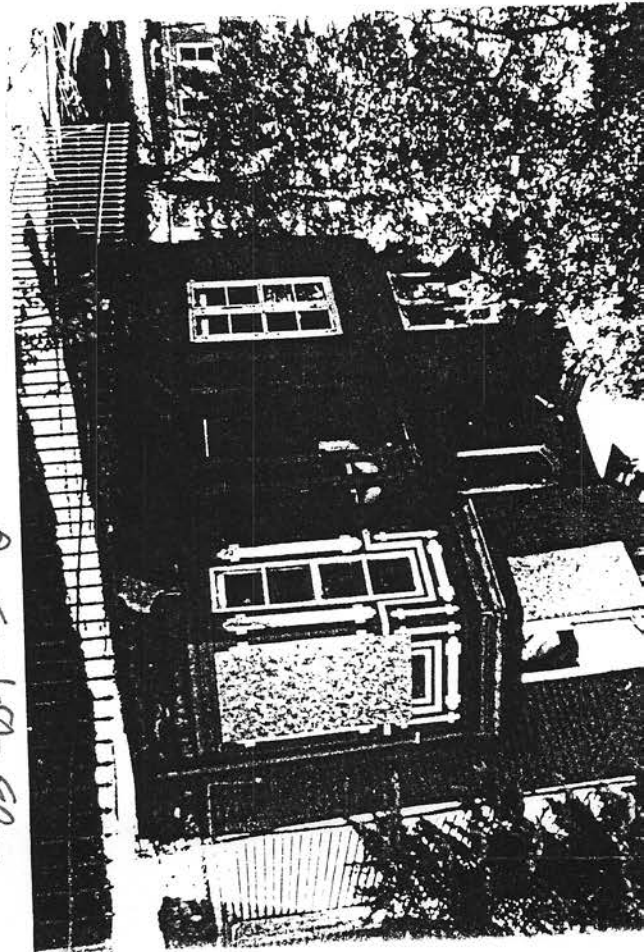


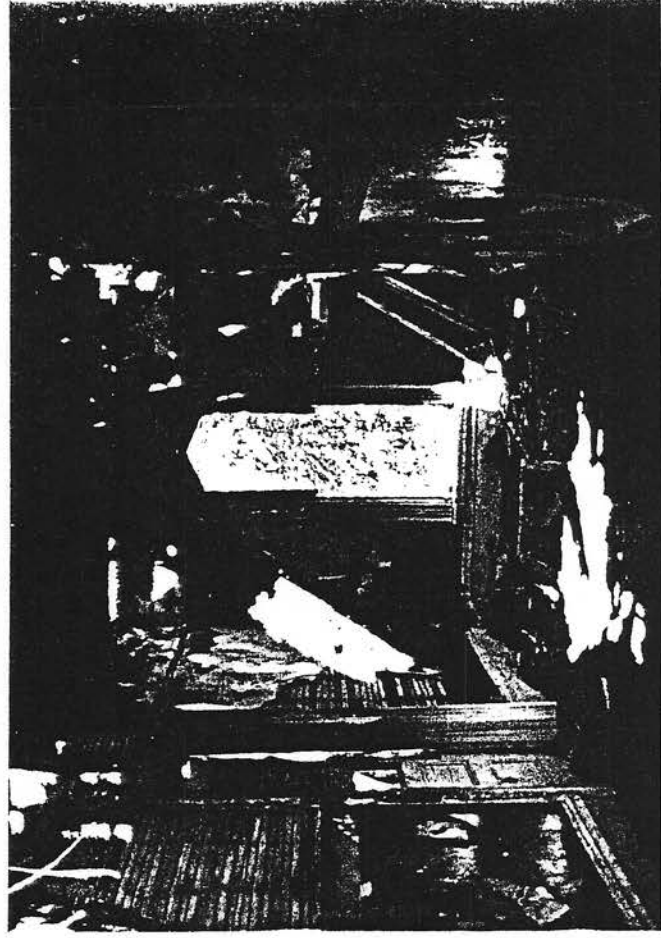
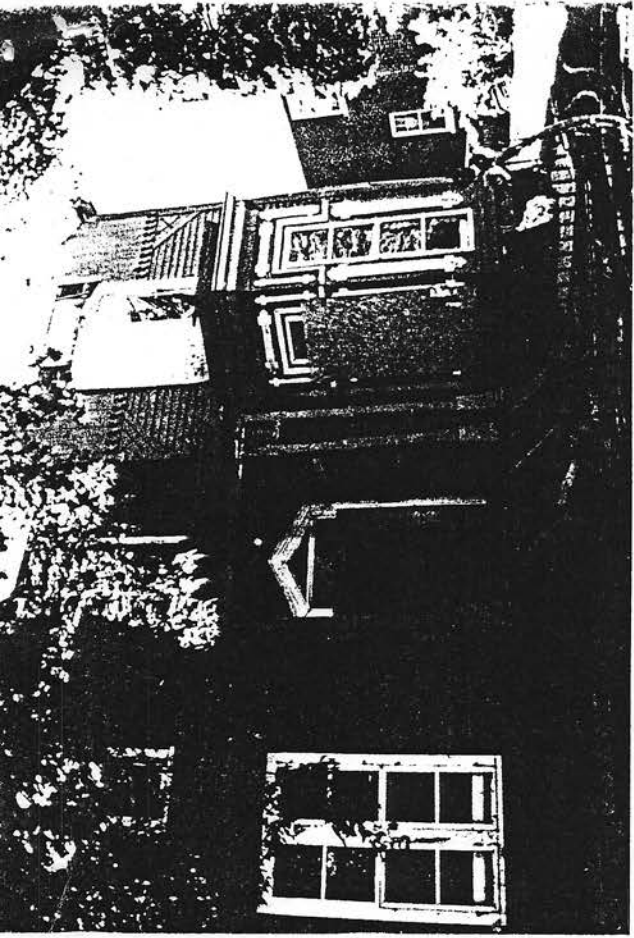
14. E. First

Post  
Fire



1st  
First St. Elev.





2nd floor of remaining bldg.

