FHR-8-300 (11-78)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received JUN 11 1980
date entered OCT 16 1980

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

1. Name

historic Tall Pines

and/or common

2. Location

S of Hattiesburg

street & number Memorial Drive ___ not for publication

city, town Hattiesburg vic. ___ vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state Mississippi code 28 county Forrest code 35

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Governor and Mrs. Paul B. Johnson, Jr.

street & number

city, town Hattiesburg ___ vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Forrest County Courthouse

street & number Main Street

city, town Hattiesburg state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Sites has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes ___ no

date ___ federal _X_ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Mississippi Department of Archives and History

city, town Jackson state Mississippi

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Located on Memorial Drive, Tall Pines occupies a flat tree-shaded site. Facing southeast, the building is situated on casually landscaped grounds containing several mature trees and shrubs.

The two-story stuccoed-brick house is basically vernacular in style and reflects the period's interest in simple proportions and a clear expression of materials and function. The five-by-five-bay building has a low pyramidal roof with two large dormers. There is a simple, arched one-story porch on the front southeast elevation in addition to a porte cochere and a two-story porch on the northeast and southwest elevations, respectively. The windows are nine-over-one double-hung sash. There are two exterior chimneys.

On the interior each floor has a cruciform hall arrangement with four rooms. The house retains all of its original window surrounds, baseboards and doors as well as the exposed beams of the living room.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1925-26 **Builder/Architect** Robert Lee

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

"Tall Pines," located south of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, has been the home of two of Mississippi's governors, Paul Burney Johnson, Sr. and Paul Burney Johnson, Jr. Because of its association with these men, it is a significant landmark in the political history of Mississippi.

Paul B. Johnson, Sr. (1880-1943), governor of Mississippi from 1940 to 1943, was born in Hillsboro, Mississippi, the son of James Benton and Jane Catherine McCelenahan Johnson. He attended Millsaps College; in 1903 he was admitted to the Mississippi Bar. In 1915 he was married to Miss Corinne Venable. Johnson's public life had begun in 1907, with a two-year term as Hattiesburg's City Court judge. He was elected to the Circuit bench in 1910 and served until 1919, after which he represented his district of the state for two terms in the United States House of Representatives.

Between 1925 and 1926, Johnson had constructed south of Hattiesburg a country house which he called "Tall Pines." Designed by Hattiesburg architect Robert Lee, the two-story house was constructed above a full basement. Built for comfort in the summer, the house is shaded by wide overhanging eaves and insulated by thick exterior walls. Within, high ceilings, spacious interior halls, a large stairwell, and a second floor sleeping porch all aided in ventilation. For the winter months, fireplaces were built in every room.

On January 16, 1940, Paul B. Johnson, Sr. was inaugurated forty-sixth governor of Mississippi. Highlights of his administration included an increased legislative appropriation for the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare and a law supplying free textbooks to school children.

On December 26, 1943, three weeks before the completion of his term, Governor Johnson died. His funeral was held at "Tall Pines."

Paul B. Johnson, Jr., governor of Mississippi from 1964 to 1968, was born January 23, 1916, in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He attended the University of Mississippi, graduating in 1940; that same year he was admitted to the Mississippi Bar. In 1941 he was married to Miss Dorothy E. Power in the Governor's Mansion at Jackson. Johnson's public life began in 1948 with his appointment as Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi. He was elected lieutenant governor of Mississippi in 1960.

On January 21, 1964, Johnson was inaugurated fifty-fourth governor of Mississippi. Although the years of his administration are remembered for civil rights demonstrations and racial violence, Johnson is credited for bringing about a period of great industrial expansion, the end of statewide prohibition, the creation of an Air and Water Pollution Control Board, and a uniform commercial code which was adopted by a number of other states.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Jackson, Mississippi, Department of Archives and History. Statewide Survey File. Forrest County.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Subject File. Governor Paul B. Johnson, Sr., Governor Paul B. Johnson, Jr.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 8.26 acres

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Hattiesburg, Miss.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A	16	281820	3462295	B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property forms a four-sided figure with right angle corners and equal sides of 600 feet each with the center being the center point of the roof ridge of the house. The sides of the figure are parallel to the walls of the house.

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 William Norman Chronister, Historian

organization Mississippi Department of Archives and History date May, 1980

street & number P. O. Box 571 telephone (601) 354-7326

city or town Jackson state Mississippi 39205

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elbert R. Hilliard

title State Historic Preservation Officer date May 29, 1980

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for acting W. Ray Luce date 10/16/80

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Carol Dubie date 10/6/80

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

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"Tall Pines" is significant as the site most closely associated with Paul B. Johnson, Sr. (1880-1943), a prominent figure in the political history of Mississippi. His career as city judge, circuit judge, United States Congressman, and Governor was a major element in state politics in the period 1910 to 1943.

Johnson was born on March 23, 1880, in Hillsboro, Scott County, Mississippi, the son of James Benton and Jane Catherine McCelenahan Johnson. He received his early education at Harperville College and later attended Millsaps College at Jackson. In 1903 he was admitted to the Mississippi Bar. Soon after beginning the practice of law at Hattiesburg, he was appointed city judge in 1907 and again in 1908. In 1910, he was appointed judge of the twelfth judicial district by Governor E. F. Noel. During the term of his appointment, the state constitution was amended to require that judges be elected by popular vote. Johnson successfully ran for election and was able to retain his judicial seat.

In 1918, Johnson announced his candidacy for Congress in Mississippi's sixth district. Among his opponents was the governor of the state, Theodore G. Bilbo. Johnson defeated Bilbo in the second primary and was subsequently re-elected in 1920. Declining the nomination for a third term, he returned to Hattiesburg to pursue his law practice, to begin farming and to build "Tall Pines."

In 1931, Johnson re-entered politics as a candidate for governor. In that campaign he ran third in the first primary, behind two men who would successively preceed him to the governor's office, Hugh L. White and Martin S. Conner. In 1935, he challenged White for the office, led in the first primary, but was defeated in the second. In 1939, he made his third bid for governor and successfully defeated former governor Conner in the second primary.

On January 16, 1940, Paul B. Johnson, Sr. was inaugurated forty-sixth governor of Mississippi. Despite the exigencies of the Second World War upon the business of state government, Johnson's administration is highly regarded for having increased the legislative appropriation for the Mississippi Department of Public Welfare and for a law supplying free textbooks to school children. He died near the end of his term and was succeeded by Lieutenant Governor Dennis Murphree.

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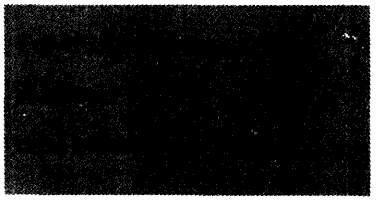


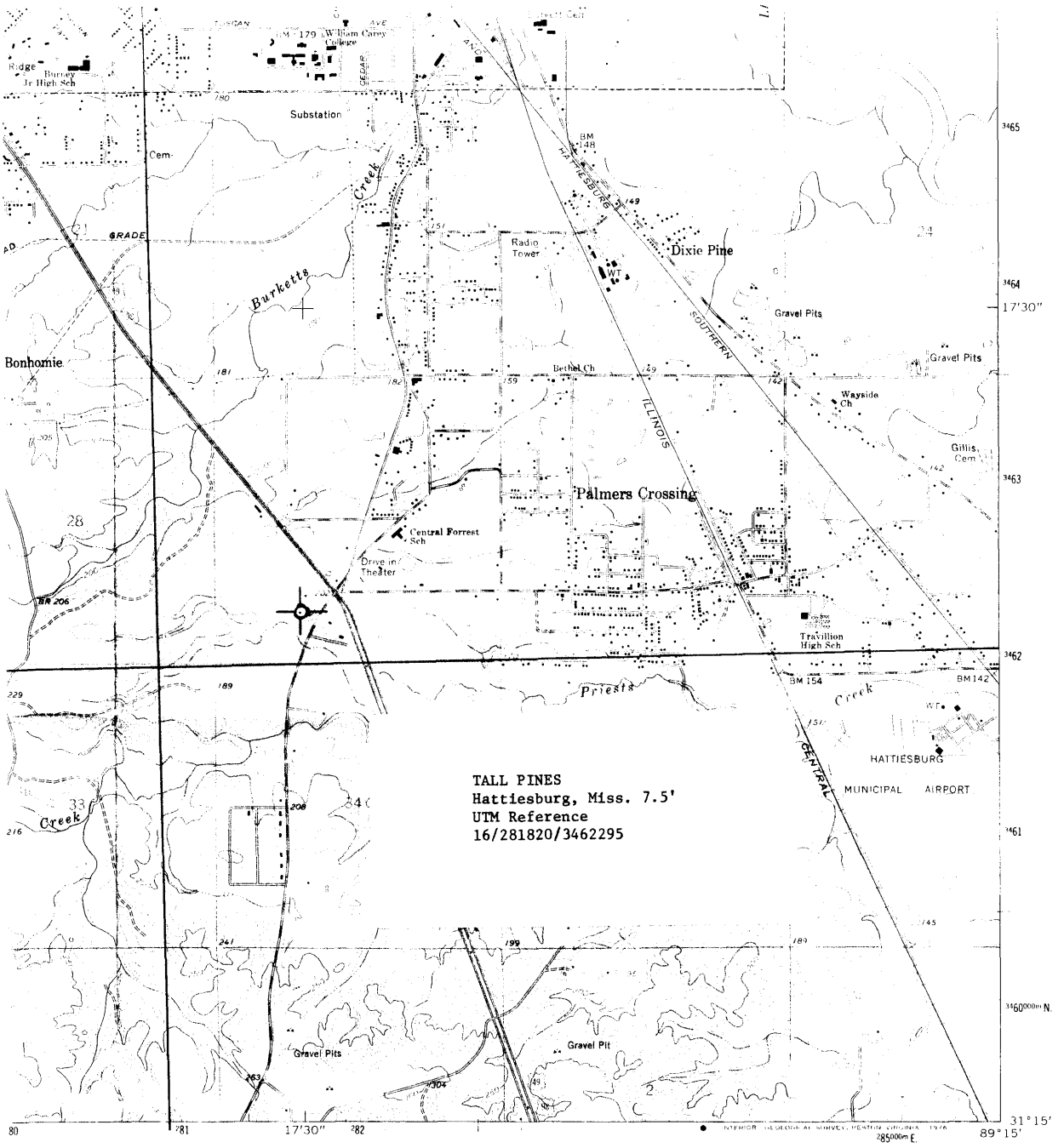
8 - SIGNIFICANCE

From its construction until 1968, "Tall Pines" was occupied by the families of both governors Johnson. Although currently unoccupied, many of the original furnishings remain, as well as the papers and memorabilia of both governors' administrations. The Johnson family, children and grandchildren for the first governor, have expressed great concern with the deteriorating condition of the house and are seeking ways to assure its restoration and preservation.

9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sobel, Robert and Raimo, eds. Biographical Directory of the Governors of the United States 1789-1978. 4 vols. Westport, Conn.: Meckler Books, 1978, 3:828, 831-32.

Personal Interview. Norman Chronister, historian, with Governor and Mrs. Paul B. Johnson, Jr. and Mrs. Patricia Johnson Ross, Hattiesburg, April 8, 1980.



1 MILE

7000 FEET

1 KILOMETRE

0 FEET
DATUM OF 1929

P ACCURACY STANDARDS
RESTON, VIRGINIA 2092
MBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty — Light-duty

Medium-duty — Unimproved dirt

Interstate Route — U. S. Route — State Route

MISS.

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

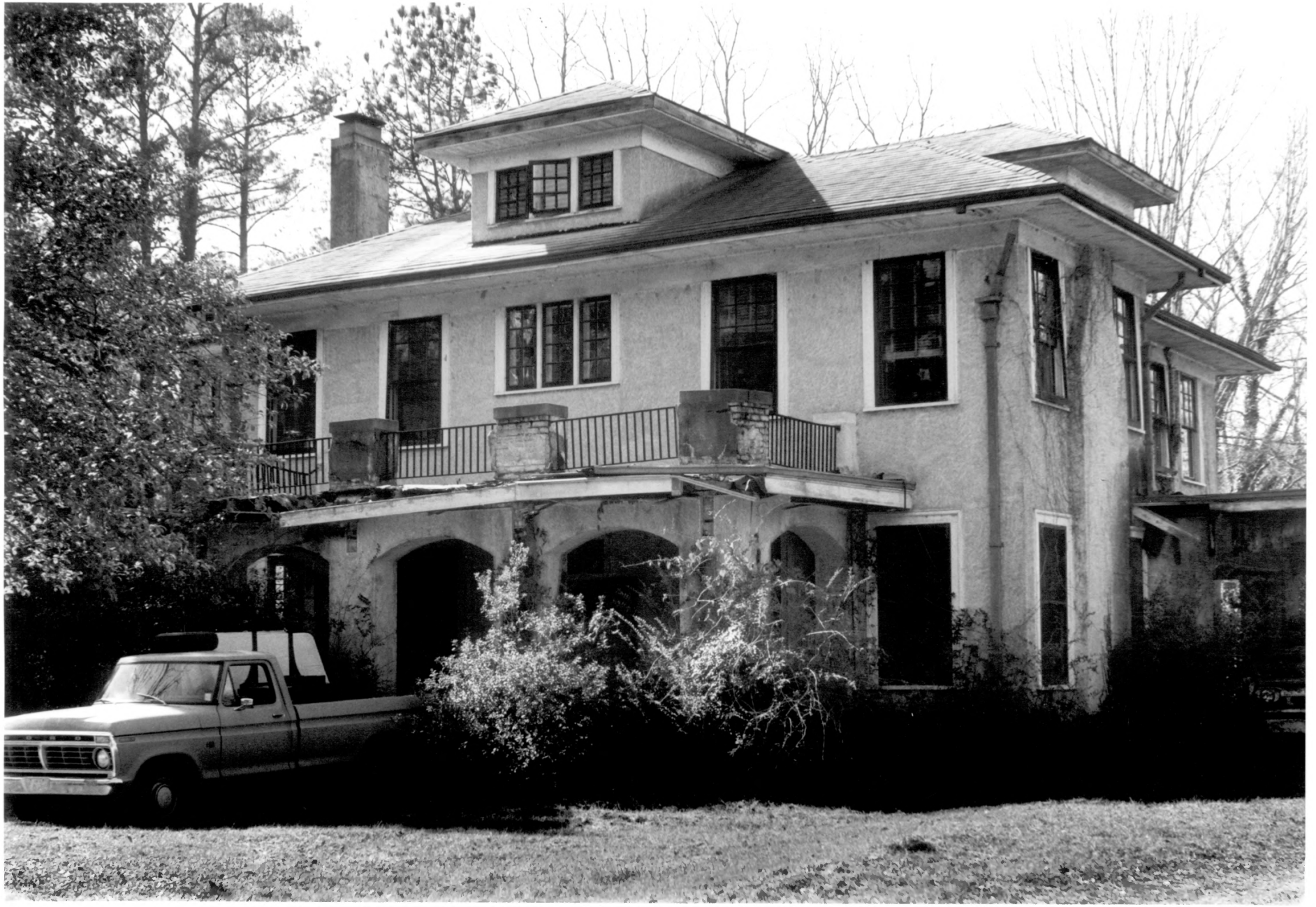
RECEIVED
JUN 11 1980
NATIONAL REGISTER

HATTIESBURG, MISS.

N3115—W8915/7.5

1964

AMS 3146 IV SE—SERIES V843



JUN 1 1 1980

Tall Pines
Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi
Norman Chronister, Mississippi Department of Archives and History
April, 1980
View from the south; the front (south) elevation
Photo No. 1/5

OCT 1 6 1980

Tall Pines
Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi
Norman Chronister, Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
April, 1980
View from the southwest; the west elevation
Photo No. 2/5

OCT 16 1980

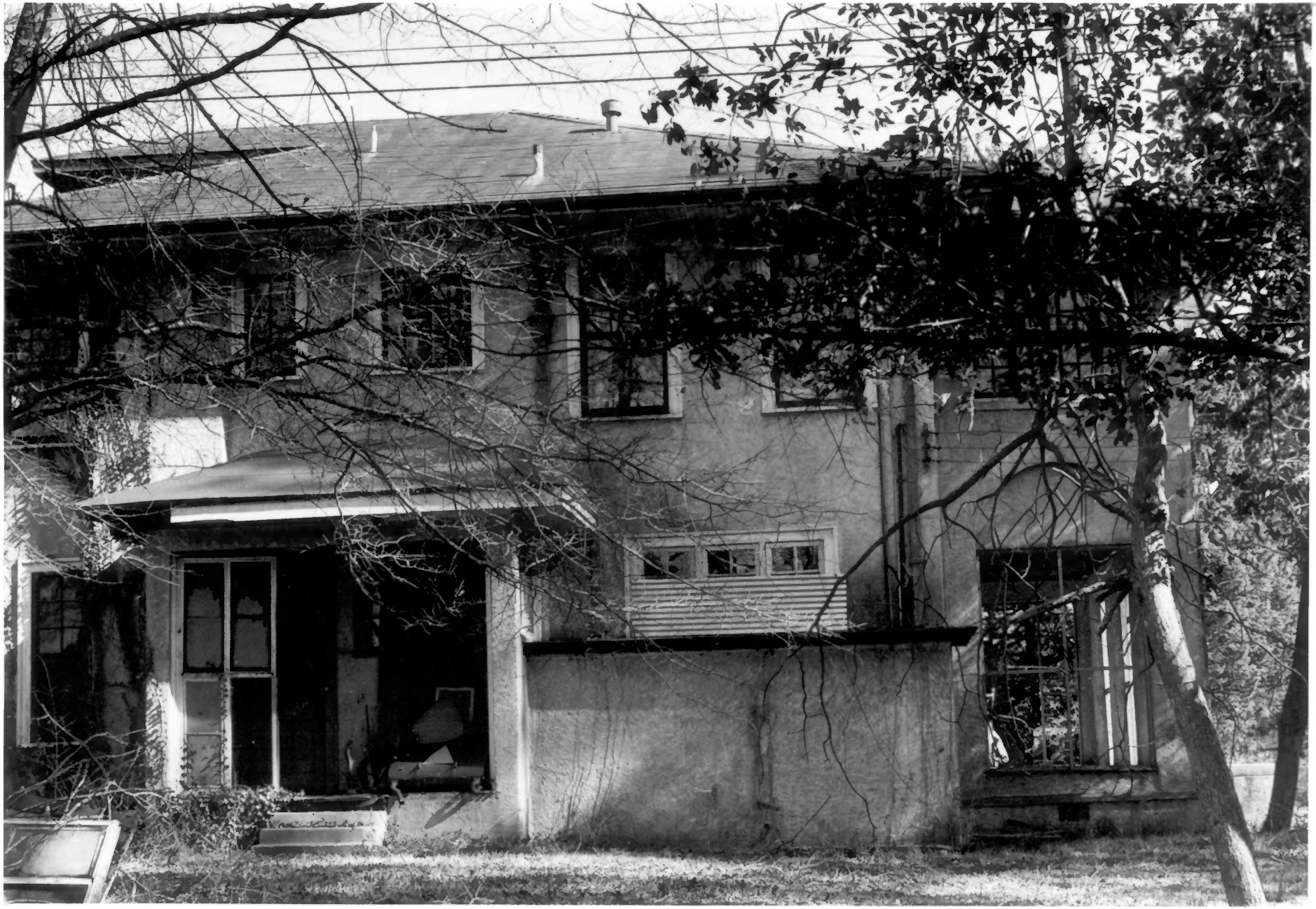
JUN 11 1980

Tall Pines

JUN 11 1980

Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi
Norman Chronister, Mississippi Department
of Archives and History
April, 1980
View from the northeast; the east elevation
Photo No. 3/5

OCT 16 1980



JUN 11 1980

Tall Pines
Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi
Norman Chronister, Mississippi Department of Archives and History
April, 1980
View from the north; the north (rear) elevation
Photo No. 4/5

OCT 16 1980

Tall Pines
Hattiesburg, Forrest County, Mississippi
Photographer - Unknown
Ca. 1955
Photo No. 5/5

OCT 16 1980

JUN 11 1980