

NOMINATION REPORT

**“Evergreens”
The Charles Shultz House
30 North Mountain Avenue**

**BLOCK 1401
LOT 2**



**Prepared By:
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The Township of Montclair Planning Department
205 Claremont Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042**

April 2013

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This report has been prepared in accordance with **Montclair Code Section 347-135B(1)**.

347-135B(1): Nomination Proposals. The party proposing for designation under this section shall prepare and submit to the Commission a nomination report for each proposed property, site or district. For individual landmark designations, the report shall include one or more photographs, the tax lot and block number of the property as designated on the Official Tax Map of the township and a physical description and statement of significance and proposed utilization of the site.

I. Executive Summary

The Township of Montclair Historic Preservation Commission was created by ordinance in June of 1994. The Historic Preservation Commission is charged with accomplishing the protection, enhancement and perpetuation of especially noteworthy examples or elements of the township's environment in order to:

- (1) Safeguard the heritage of Montclair by preserving resources which reflect elements of its cultural, social, and architectural history
- (2) Encourage the continued use of historic and/or noteworthy buildings or structures
- (3) Foster civic pride in the history and architecture of the Township
- (4) Promote the economic welfare of the township through the preservation of historic sites and landscapes
- (5) Enhance the visual and aesthetic character, diversity continuity and interest in the township and its neighborhoods
- (6) Discourage the unnecessary demolition or other destruction of historic resources
- (7) Encourage beautification and private investment in the township
- (8) Promote the economic welfare of the township through the preservation of its historic sites and landscapes

As per **Montclair Code Section 347-135A**, criteria for designation, "the Commission shall consider as worthy of designation those buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts that have integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) Are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- (2) Are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- (3) Embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; that represent the work of a master; that possess high artistic values; or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- (4) Have yielded or may be likely to yield information important to prehistory or history.
- (5) Are otherwise of particular historic significance to the Township of Montclair by reflecting or exemplifying the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state, region or community."

II. History of the Site, Physical Description, Statement of Significance



Looking west across the main lawn, circa 1915

Charles S. Shultz (1839-1924), a President of the Hoboken Bank for Savings, and Lucy M. Budd (1844-1905), built the house on 30 North Mountain Avenue in 1896. It is a three-story Victorian residence with twenty-one rooms. The house remained in the family for three generations until it was donated to the Montclair Historical Society by Molly Shultz, also a member, in 1997. The house is notable for its architectural design, its picturesque landscape, its eclectic furnishings, and most importantly, for its virtually untouched state of preservation. Today, the Charles Shultz House, also known as the Evergreens, is part of The Montclair Historical Society's collection of historic houses. It has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979.

History



Charles Solomon Shultz (1839-1924), a President of the Hoboken Bank for Savings, and his wife Lucy Murrell Budd (1844-1905), bought a two and a half acre parcel on the southwest corner of Claremont and North Mountain Avenues on March 1, 1894. Purchased from lawyer Starr J. Murphy for \$11,000, Shultz commissioned his good friend and New York architect Michel Moracin Le Brun (1856-1913) to build a mansion on this property.

This three-story Victorian residence was completed in 1896, and was inhabited by Charles, Lucy, and their three children. Also known as the "Evergreens," the house got its nickname from the numerous evergreen trees existing

around the property's picturesque landscape. Its forty-foot height gives the house a commanding presence on the hill, and provides for a magnificent, unobstructed view of New York City. The Shultz house is a rare example of residential work by LeBrun. Stylistically, the home is a synthesis of Queen Anne, Tudor Revival, Arts and Crafts, and Colonial Revival. Surrounding the front half of the house is an enormous porch offering a panoramic view of the Manhattan skyline.



The Evergreens was designed by one of New York City's premier architectural firms, Napoleon Le Brun & Sons. The firm was known principally for its designs of Catholic churches, firehouses for the New York Fire Department, and commercial buildings. The twenty-one room house is one of the few examples of residential work on this scale by architect Michel Le Brun. It was Michel who built the still-standing Metropolitan Life Insurance Tower in New York City, which was the tallest building in America from 1909 until 1913. One of the reasons Le Brun received the commission for designing the Evergreens was because of his successful work with Shultz in designing the Hoboken Bank for Savings in 1890. While working on the design and construction of Evergreens, Le Brun's heart was won over. He and his wife Maria Olivia moved to a house just one block away from the Evergreens at 8 South Mountain Avenue in 1896.

Charles Shultz's wife Lucy passed away in 1905. Their children Emily, Walter and Clifford were given equal shares of the property at the time of their father's death in 1924. On December 31, 1926, Walter and his wife Anna conveyed their one-third interest in the property to Clifford and Emily. In 1931, Clifford then transferred his one-half share in the property to his wife, Florence O'Neill Shultz. In 1952, Emily Budd Shultz transferred her

one-half share in the property to Marian (Molly) Shultz. Molly therefore acquired the full share of the property at the time of her mother Florence's death in 1962.

The Charles Shultz House remained in the family until it was bequeathed to The Montclair Historical Society in 1997 by Molly Shultz, who was also an active member. Having been home to three successive generations of the Shultz family, the house is a near perfect time capsule, representing an accurate record of late nineteenth century Montclairion society. Unlike other examples of late nineteenth century residences in Montclair, Evergreens retains nearly all of its original architectural detail, furnishings, and mechanical systems. Few alterations or additions have been made. In 1979, Evergreens was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Exterior

The placement of the house at the western end of the Shultz property was critical, for this was the highest point of elevation. Oriented towards the east, with a front lawn sloping down to North Mountain Avenue, Le Brun positioned the house to capitalize on the views of a rapidly growing Montclair as well as New York City. Thus, the verticality and the grandiose scale of the structure is accentuated by the surrounding topography, lending to the structure an even more imposing presence on the street.

Le Brun, in collaboration with the well-traveled Shultz, drew on a variety of sources for his design of Evergreens. Shultz was eager to see half-timbered walls and red tile roofs, which he admired while in Europe during 1894, be incorporated into the house design. Working within the parameters set by Shultz, Le Brun came up with a scheme that was quite fashionable for the period.

The house is defined by its tall windows, which are larger on the lower floors and smaller on the top floors, further accentuating the verticality of the structure and adding to the variety of the house. Le Brun cleverly used the windows as a means of giving the exterior added appeal.

The main building is three stories with a roof deck at the top, and the kitchen extension is two stories. The facade, with its formal center entrance, is balanced but not perfectly symmetrical. The long horizontal line of the veranda, interrupted only by the arched hood detail over the central entrance, adds to the perceived symmetry of the house. It also offers a panoramic view of the grounds.

The mansion has a foundation of brownstone, rough granite blocks, and brick. The masonry of the exterior walls on the first floor are also a combination of brick and rough granite stone. The upper floors, back staircase, and kitchen are wood frame with a stucco and chestnut half-timber finish. Orange-red terra cotta tiles accentuate the roof. The cedar shingles of the kitchen extension are treated with a linseed oil finish, giving the wood a rich dark tincture. Unlike earlier “shingle style” houses in late nineteenth century America, the Shultz House does not have a horizontal emphasis. Instead, verticality and height define the structure. This verticality, in keeping with the designs of Richard Norman Shaw and advocated in this form of picturesque architecture, effectively echoes both the mountainous terrain of Montclair as well as the shape of the Evergreens on the site.

The plan is ordered by asymmetry, giving the structure character in its complexity. The solid proportions of the house are weighty, and the high gables, molded chimneys, gingerbread-decorated dormers, finials, and cresting along the roof deck give the building a great variety of outline, contributing to the overall intricacy of the house. Shingles cover much of the outer wall area. The veranda, the bay windows, and the rooftop deck effectively connect Evergreens to its picturesque setting.



Interior

The residence consists of two parts: the main building, containing all the principal living spaces and bedrooms, and an attached kitchen extension to the rear of the main block. Together these give the house a striking polychromy, in contrast to the painted wooden Victorian homes more common in Montclair during this period.

The interior first floor plan features a main entrance hall in the center with all other primary rooms grouped around it. The other rooms that spin off this hall each displays a unique shape and character. Partly due to Shultz's fear of fire, the interior walls on the first floor are masonry, which in turn is a combination of brick and rough granite stone. The upper floors, back staircase, and kitchen are wood frame with a stucco and half-timber finish. All visible timber is chestnut.

The first floor and stairwell in the main building feature elaborate windows. The library, for example, features two tall windows in the southeast corner of the room, which operate by the lower sash sliding up into the wall and a pair of leaded casement windows, set into an exterior brick arched window surround. The main stairway is graced by bands of decorative leaded windows at each of the two stair landings. More conventional, less ornate windows are used in the kitchen and servants wing. Despite the many windows that provided adequate ventilation, the house remained relatively dark. The dark wall coverings, the Oriental and Persian rugs, combined with the heavy, dark-colored drapery and wooden venetian blinds, maintained a predominant darkness throughout the house, which was the style of the day.

Due to Shultz's fascination with science, Evergreens incorporates what was at the time state-of-the-art technology. It was built with gas/electric lighting fixtures, an electric burglar alarm, an enunciator system, an elevator, an advanced gravity hot air heating system, the latest plumbing, and an icebox that could be supplied with ice from the outside without entering the house. While he was eager to incorporate the latest technology, Shultz was also methodical and prudent, characteristics which also helped to shape the design of his house. Contingencies and safety measures were built into the house. Rather than be entirely dependent on electricity, combination gas/electric fixtures were installed in case the electrical system, still in its fledgling state, should fail.



Significance

The Charles Shultz House is representative of the new wealth flowing into Montclair during its railroad era transformation in the late nineteenth century from a predominantly farming

community to a prosperous suburb. It is an illustrious example of Victorian taste and lifestyle. Le Brun achieved architectural interest and coloration at Evergreens by utilizing an eclectic mix of building materials.

It was the arrival of the railroad in Montclair in the 1850s that made Montclair much more accessible, initiating interest in the town as a summer home community. As the railroads gradually improved, it became a desired location for main residences. Rail service afforded Montclairions working in urban locales such as Newark, Hoboken, or Jersey City the opportunity to live in a rural setting where land was more readily available, and far less expensive. The railroad also enabled them to reach a city within the generally accepted commuting time of one half-hour.

The Charles Shultz House is grand in scale, with its irregular L-shaped plan measuring roughly seventy feet wide and eighty feet deep. The house incorporates a medley of architectural styles, including Tudor, Craftsman, and Japanese influences, as well as Queen Anne details popularized by the architect Richard Norman Shaw (1831 – 1912) in England during the 1860s and 1870s. Michel Le Brun was also known to have had a copy of Shaw's *Architectural Sketches from the Continent*, a High Victorian sourcebook first published in England in 1858. Le Brun drew on some of Shaw's ideas in his design for Evergreens, incorporating a number of details considered to be characteristically "Shavian," (i.e., from Richard Shaw), including the bold gables, the tall molded chimneys, the steeply sloping hipped roof, the multi-window bays, the stair towers, and the small-paned leaded glass windows.

While most houses of this period and of this scale have undergone changes and updates, the Shultz House has remained virtually untouched, which is an unusual phenomenon in an upwardly mobile community such as Montclair.

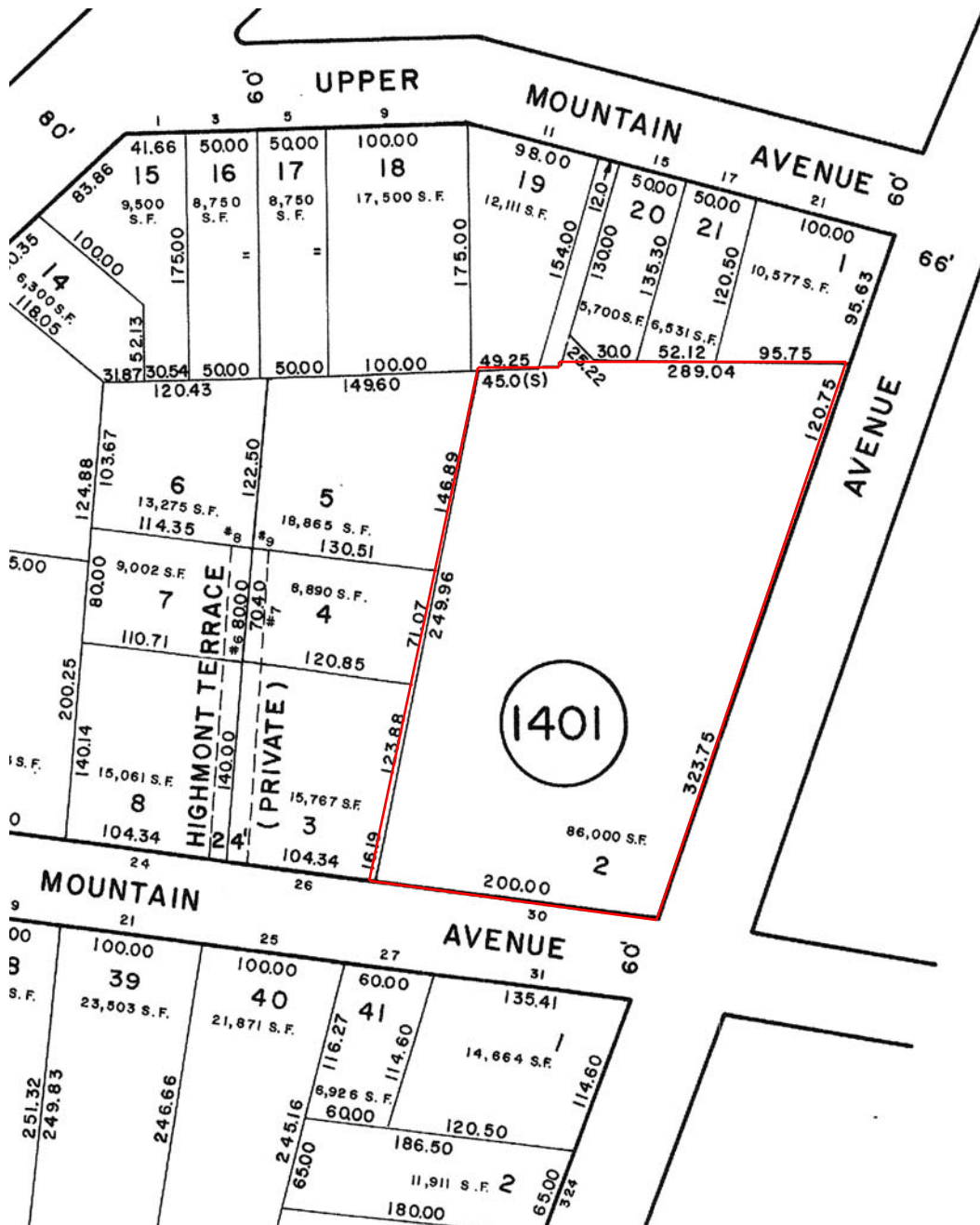
Carriage House

Michel Le Brun was also responsible for the design of the carriage house at the western edge of the property, just above the southwestern corner of the house. The carriage house is a two-story structure, rectangular in plan, with wide stable doors. It was designed with horse stalls, harness and tack room, and space for two carriages on the ground level. A hay room and a caretaker's apartment are located on the second level. A picturesque cupola, providing ventilation to the second floor hay room below, crowns the carriage house roof.

The caretaker of the property, commonly referred to by members of the Shultz family as "the man about the place," lived in the apartment on the second floor of the carriage house. This small dwelling, sharing the second floor hay loft, contained two bedrooms, one full bath, hall, and a kitchen/living room area. This apartment has since been renovated.

Appendix A: Tax Map

30 North Mountain Ave
BLOCK 1401 LOT 2



[New Search](#)

Block: 1401 Prop Loc: 30 NO. MOUNTAIN AVENUE Owner: MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY Square Ft: 7965
 Lot: 2 District: 0713 MONTCLAIR Street: 108-110 ORANGE ROAD Year Built: 1896
 Qual: Class: 15D City State: MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042 Style:

Prior Block: Acct Num: Add Lots: EPL Code: 20 3 375
 Prior Lot: Mtg Acct: Land Desc: 86000SF Statute: 54:4-3.52
 Prior Qual: Bank Code: 0 Bldg Desc: 2.75SB2GF Initial: 110197 Further: 110110
 Updated: 01/26/12 Tax Codes: Class4Cd: 0 Desc: MUSEUM
 Zone: R1 Map Page: Acreage: 1.9743 Taxes: 0.00 / 0.00

Additional Information

Sale Information

Sale Date: 03/17/97 Book: 5468 Page: 366 Price: 0 NU#: 10
 Sr1a Date Book Page Price NU# Ratio Grantee
[More Info](#) 03/17/97 5468 366 0 10 0 MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TAX-LIST-HISTORY

Year	Owner Information	Land/Imp/Tot	Exemption	Assessed
2012	MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY 108-110 ORANGE ROAD MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042	353800 1300500 1654300	0	1654300
2011	MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY 108-110 ORANGE ROAD MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042	715400 1604000 2319400	0	2319400
2010	MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY 108-110 ORANGE ROAD MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042	715400 1604000 2319400	0	2319400
2009	MONTCLAIR HISTORICAL SOCIETY 108-110 ORANGE ROAD MONTCLAIR, N.J. 07042	715400 1604000 2319400	0	2319400

Appendix B: Base Survey

(609) 292-2023

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BUREAU OF PARKS AND FORESTRY
 OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION, 109 WEST STATE STREET, TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Evergreens
 HISTORIC NAME: Charles S. Shultz House
 LOCATION: 30 North Mountain Avenue
 MUNICIPALITY: Montclair
 USGS QUAD: Orange
 OWNER/ADDRESS: Marian Shultz
 See above
 COMMON NAME: Shultz House
 BLOCK/LOT 1401/2; 36-B/5
 COUNTY: Essex
 UTM REFERENCES:
 Zone/Northing/Easting

DESCRIPTION
 Construction Date: 1892-96
 Architect: Michel Moracin Le Brun
 Style: Eclectic, w/ Elizabethan & Queen Anne details
 Number of Stories: 3 + B
 Foundation: Brownstone
 Exterior Wall Fabric: Stucco, timber, shingle, granite, brick.
 Fenestration: D.H. sash
 Roof/Chimneys: Hip roof w/ intersecting gables; terra-cotta roof tiles; decorative brick chimneys on north/south axis.
 Source of Data: National Register nomination Form
 Builder:
 Form/Plan Type: Irregular L

Additional Architectural Description:

The building utilizes a variety of materials; the ground floor is an interplay of brick & rough granite blocks. The upper levels are of stucco & timber w/ a shingled wing in the rear of the house.

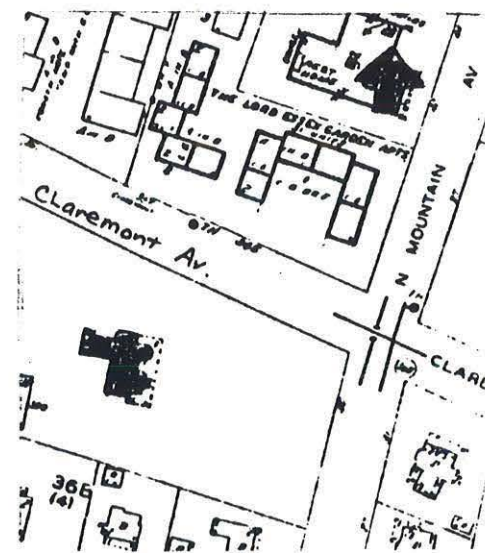
The high gables, central dormer w/ polygonal roof, side dormers & tiled roof offer a strongly varied texture.

The surface of the building is a blend of light & shadow, due to the varying planes, deep recesses, diverse & textured materials, and the sharp silhouette of the high pitched dormers.

PHOTO Negative File #R35, 7



Map (Indicate North)



SITING, BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, AND RELATED STRUCTURES:

Lot size: 200' x 553' irregular

The house is situated on the crest of a hill, above the grade of North Mountain Avenue. The grounds are terraced & nicely landscaped. There is a carriage house (see separate form) and a well (with decorative wrought iron grillework) to the rear of the house.

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Urban Suburban Scattered Buildings
 Open Space Woodland Residential Agricultural
 Industrial Downtown Commercial Highway Commercial Other

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Shultz house has remained in the family for three generations and still contains all of the original interior furnishings, including rugs, wall coverings, and the original finish on the interior oak woodwork. The design of the house has also remained unaltered. It holds therefore an important record of the 19th century. Additionally, it commands a grand, unobstructed vista of the Manhattan skyline. Architecturally, it is an interesting and curious blend of styles, with a beautiful, flowing interior space, typical of the Shingle style of the 80's and 90's.

House designated to the National Register of Historic Places, July 22, 1979. It was featured in the Montclair State College photographic exhibit, "Villas, Cottages & Country Residences" of 1976.

ORIGINAL USE: Residential	PRESENT USE: Residential
PHYSICAL CONDITION: Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/>
REGISTER ELIGIBILITY: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possible <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Part of District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
THREATS TO SITE: Roads <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Zoning <input type="checkbox"/> Deterioration <input type="checkbox"/>
No Threat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>	
COMMENTS:	

REFERENCES:

National Register of Historic Places Inventory - nomination form.

Miller, D. L., Map of the Town of Montclair, Philadelphia: D. L. Miller & Co., 1901.

RECORDED BY: Rita Caviglia
ORGANIZATION: Columbia University

DATE: 4/24/80

Property Name: **Charles Schultz House**

Street Address: 30 N Mountain Ave

Nearest Cross Street: Claremont Ave

Apt/Unit #:

Local Place Name:

Municipality: Montclair

Ward (District): 3 (1)

Zip Code: 07042

Block / Lots: 1401 / 02

County: Essex

Map Reference: 36-B/5

USGS Quad: Orange

Lot Size: approximately 2 acres

Owner Name: Montclair Historical Society

Ownership Type: Private

Owner Address:

Ownership Updated:

Property Description

Dating from 1896, Evergreens was the home of Charles S. Shultz (1839-1924), a prominent Montclair citizen and President of the Hoboken Bank for Savings. Virtually unaltered for 100 years, the house remained in the family for three generations until bequeathed to the Montclair Historical Society in early 1997. In recognition of the outstanding exterior and interior features and remarkable state of preservation of the house, it has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979.

The architect of Evergreens was Michel LeBrun (1856-1913) of the distinguished firm of Napoleon LeBrun & Sons, renowned for the still-standing Metropolitan Life Insurance Tower in New York City - the tallest building in America in 1909. A rare example of residential work by LeBrun, the Shultz house is a synthesis of styles popular in the last quarter of the 19th century. Contributing to the varied texture of the facade are the high gables, dormers, terra cotta tiled roof, and decorative spires and chimneys, as well as the eclectic mix of building materials - brick and rough granite blocks on the ground floor, shingle on much of the wall area, and stucco and timber on the upper floors.

The broad porch offers a panoramic view of the Manhattan skyline, and the picturesque two-acre grounds are landscaped to take full advantage of the commanding hillside location. To the side of the house is a well with decorative wrought iron grillwork and a handsome carriage house with a single broad gable stands to the rear.

Current Photograph



Elevation: East

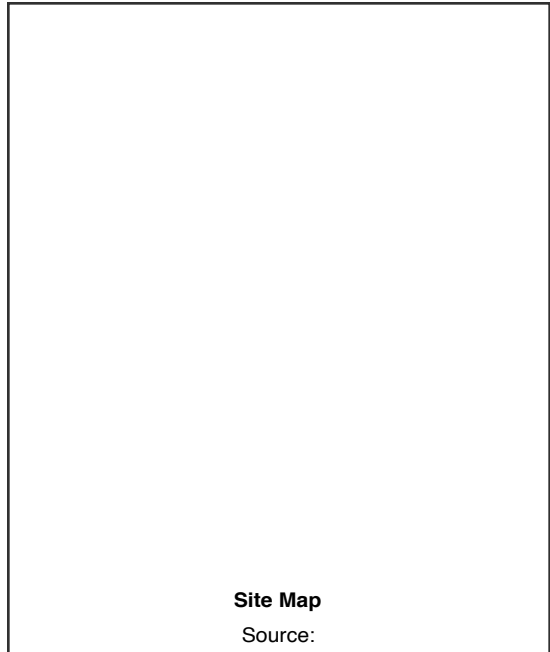
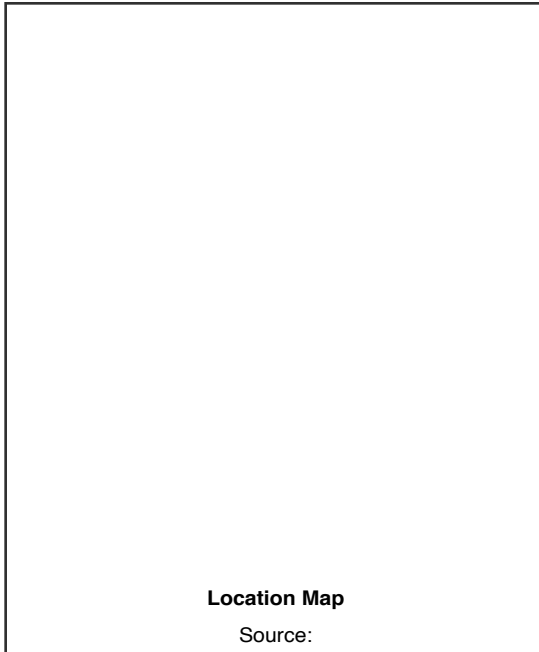
Image File #: 0713682 - 16.jpg

Ref: 8/2005

Registration and Status Dates	<u>NHL</u>	<u>NR</u> 7/22/78 # 79001482	<u>SR</u> 9/15/78 # 1175	<u>SHPO</u>	<u>DOE</u>	<u>LOCAL / OTHER</u>
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Registry Note:
Historic Theme: *Representative Style Architecture*
MPS Name:

Maps
(2.75" x 3")



Bibliography & Sources

Montclair Historical Society Survey. "Our Collection." 1 Aug. 2005. <http://www.montclairhistorical.org/collection/evergreens/evergreens1.html>
 New Jersey Historic Trust. "Preservation Bond Program, Funded Projects List." 1 Aug. 2005. <<<http://www.njht.org/profiles/evergreens.html>>>
 Miller, D. L. *Map of the Town of Montclair*. Philadelphia: D. L. Miller & Co. 1901.
 "National Register of Historic Places Inventory Nomination Form."
 Caviglia, Rita. "Individual Structure Survey: Site #0713682." Columbia University. 25 Apr. 1980: carriage house only

Additional Information

Continuation sheet attached? Update sheet attached? More research needed?

INTENSIVE LEVEL USE ONLY

Within A Historic District?	Status:
Associated Archaeological Site/Deposit? No	
Attachments Included: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge <input type="checkbox"/> Industry	

Appendix C:
National Register Nomination Report



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION
TRENTON

DIVISION OF MARINE SERVICES

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO:
P. O. BOX 1889
TRENTON, N. J. 08625

SEP 15 1978

Dr. William Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation
Service
Department of the Interior
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

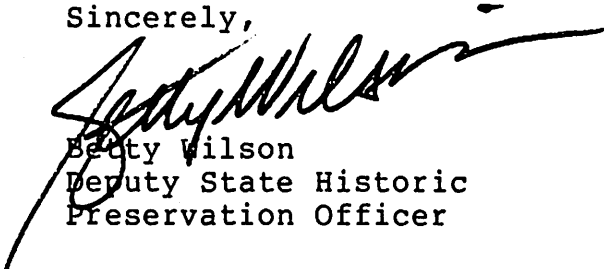
Dear Dr. Murtagh:

I am pleased to nominate the Charles Shultz House, Montclair, Essex County to the National Register.

This nomination has received approval of the State Review Committee for Historic Sites.

Should you want any further information concerning this application, please feel free to contact the staff of the Office of Historic Preservation, 109 West State Street, Department of Environmental Protection, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, telephone (609) 292-2023.

Sincerely,


Betty Wilson
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

BW/vp

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

SB
78

NOMINATION FORM (Synopsis)

NAME OF PROPERTY TO BE DESIGNATED: Charles Shultz House

STREET & NUMBER: 30 North Mountain Avenue

MUNICIPALITY: Montclair COUNTY: Essex

SIGNIFICANCE:

A good example of Queen Anne architecture, the house was the home of one of Montclair's most prominent citizens. The structure, designed by architect Michel Moracin LeBrun, is in pristine condition.

RECEIVED

SEP 19 1978

OFFICE OF
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DIV. DES. & FOR.

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL _____ STATE _____ LOCAL XX

THE FOLLOWING IS THE OWNER'S DISPOSITION:

Owner verbally communicated enthusiasm for application to Office of Historic Preservation

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROPONENT'S DISPOSITION:

Montclair Historical Society prepared application.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE OPPONENT'S DISPOSITION:

None known.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

CHARLES S. SHULTZ HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

SOMETIMES CALLED "EVERGREENS"

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

30 NORTH MOUNTAIN AVENUE

CITY, TOWN

MONTCLAIR

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

11th

STATE

NEW JERSEY

CODE

34

COUNTY

ESSEX

CODE

013

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

MARIAN SHULTZ

STREET & NUMBER

30 NORTH MOUNTAIN AVENUE

CITY, TOWN

MONTCLAIR

VICINITY OF

STATE
NEW JERSEY**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

ESSEX COUNTY COURT HOUSE

STREET & NUMBER

HALL OF RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

NEWARK

STATE

NEW JERSEY

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Jersey Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Office of Historic Preservation, 109 W. State Street

CITY, TOWN

Trenton

STATE

New Jersey

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Evergreens" is set at the crest of a hill near the top of the first Watchung Mountain, the first Mountain range west of New York City. This location gives the home a sweeping view of the New York skyline. The grounds are beautifully landscaped with a variety of specimen trees, shrubs and ground covers.

The house is predominantly Queen Anne in style with a variety of exterior materials being used in combination. The ground level is a mixture of granite and brick. Here and there are richly carved designs and turned wooden spires as well as decoratively cut shingles. The high gables and dormers employ half timbering and stucco. The roof is covered in terra cotta tiles. Bay windows are used on the lower floors. Windows have small paned leaded glass sash above larger clear sash. The chimneys are treated importantly. The overall effect is an interesting interplay of colors and textures characteristic of this style.

Most notable in the interior is the sense of space that flows outward from the large central entrance hall into a variety of rooms on the ground floor. They themselves are never tightly enclosed. The extraordinary carved oak panelling and carving is another important feature. Since the treasures accumulated by three generations of the family are visible throughout the interior, the eye of the observer is well fed through its twenty-odd rooms.

Of added interest is the well designed stable - carriage house now converted into an independent dwelling. A well, still functioning, is handsomely enriched by decorative wrought iron grillwork.

THE FOLLOWING ORIGINAL ARTICLES ADD TO THE OVERALL IMPORTANCE:

1. Complete Period furnishings and rugs.
2. Art collection that includes an original George Inness painting and an alabaster Taj Mahal; and 19th century oriental objects of art.
3. Original wall coverings.
4. Original finish on all interior oak woodwork.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED

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

Charles Shultz House
Montclair
Essex County New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Description (continued)

5. 1,000 plus volume library including: a) Microscope, b) Games and Minerals, c) History, d) Encyclopedias (American, New International, and Britanica ll).
6. Delft tile around dining room fireplace.
7. Dual gas and electric lamps and most with vaseline glass shades.
8. Hand operated elevator.
9. Burglar alarm system.
10. Interior communication system.
11. Rooftop observatory with telescope.
12. Mothproof room.
13. Complete woodworking shop - many hand and electric tools.
14. Scientific apparatus including Bi and Monocular Spencer lens microscopes with many lens, objectives and eye pieces.

The main floor of the Carriage house is relatively unaltered and includes original box and loose stalls, harness and tack room and ample space for a winter and summer carriage and a sleigh (not present).

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Michel Moracin Le Brun

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mr. Charles S. Shultz was a prominent Montclair citizen whose activities included: President of the Hoboken Savings Bank, founder of the Charles S. Shultz Building Materials Company, organizer of the Montclair Trust Company, President of the New Jersey Savings Bank Assoc., The New York Building Materials Exchange, and the New York Microscopic Society.

In 1892 Shultz engaged the architect, Michel Moracin Le Brun (1856-1913), a junior member of the architectural offices of Napoleon Le Brun & Sons, a leading New York architectural firm, to build "Evergreens". The firm designed many projects in New York City, including the Home Life Insurance Company, Church of the Epiphany, Church of St. Mary the Virgin, and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Building in Madison Square. The later is considered the firm's outstanding achievement. Michel and his brother, Pierre, both assisted their father in preparing the plans for this building. The firm also produced a number of municipal building designs including the old New York City Education Building at Park Avenue and 59th Street. The Shultz House is one of their few residential commissions. Michel Le Brun was a resident of Montclair from 1896 until his death in 1913. His home was located on South Mountain Avenue just down the road from "Evergreens".

The construction was completed in 1896 and from that date to this the Shultz family has made it their home. The architectural drawings, correspondence and contracts with most of the contractors still exist. Photograph taken in 1897 attest to the fact that the interior and exterior of this unique time capsule are relatively unchanged. "Evergreens" represents a fascinating look into an important era.

As Montclair developed into a thriving suburban community, its buildings reflected the growth and interests of the residents filling in the orchards, farms and wilderness with villas, cottages, and mansions. In 1678 Newark settlers obtained the land from the foot to the top of the mountain

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

Charles Schultz House
Montclair
Essex County
New Jersey 034

CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

Significance (continued)

from the Leni Lenape Indians for 3 coats, 2 guns, 13 barrels of rum. By 1705 a road ran from Newark to the Mountain coming down what is now Belleville Avenue, Glen Ridge Avenue, and Church Street (Old Road) turning north on Valley Road and then turning West on Claremont Avenue passing "Evergreens". Montclair population increased with construction of the Newark Pompton Turnpike (Now Bloomfield Avenue) in 1811, the opening of the Morris Canal in 1832 and the beginning of the railroad service from Newark in 1856. Montclair's population in 1868 was 2,000. The Greenwood Lakes and Jersey City line was completed in 1873 and 1900 the population had increased to 13,962. Montclair had become a place for summer vacationers and a bedroom community for New York City.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Original Architectural Drawings
2. Original Crafts Contracts
3. Original Photographs
4. Correspondence between M. Shultz and Montclair Historical Society

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.75

QUADRANGLE NAME Orange

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES
 A 18 5655010 4510000

B
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

E

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies city block 1401, lot 2 and is approximately 200 X 553 feet in size.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Ronald C. Perez, President;
Dennis A. Mylan, President June 2, 1978

ORGANIZATION Montclair Historical Society DATE
Northern N.J. Chapter, Victorian Society in America

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 322, TELEPHONE
(201) 744-1796

CITY OR TOWN Montclair STATE
New Jersey 07042

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

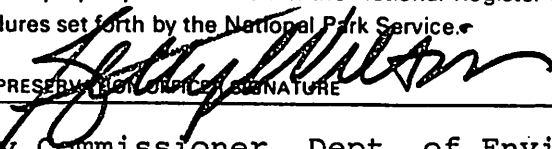
THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL 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 National Park Service.

Deputy

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE



9-15-78

TITLE Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Environmental Protection DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE
ATTEST: KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION	

RECEIVED
 AUG 16 1999
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

STAR-LEDGER 6 AUG. 1999 - p. 7

Montclair mansion a treasure of history

But it's costly time capsule

By Rebecca Goldsmith
 STAR-LEDGER STAFF

The house on North Mountain Avenue in Montclair blends well with the other impressive architectural specimens on the hill — perhaps a tad shabbier, with its rutted pebble driveway and unremarkable gardens.

But step inside, and enter an 1896 time warp.



SHULTZ

The Evergreens, a 21-room mansion and carriage house, appears much as it did 100 years ago, when it was built and furnished by Charles Shultz.

A German immigrant, Shultz was a self-made man who dabbled in the sciences and socialized in the same circles as Thomas Edison. He moved his family out

of Hoboken when Montclair was still a mix of farms and summer homes for the city gentry.

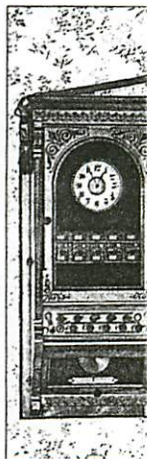
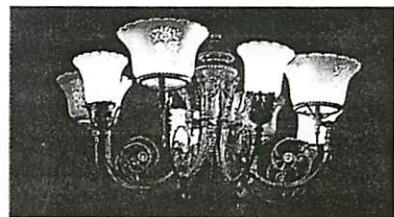
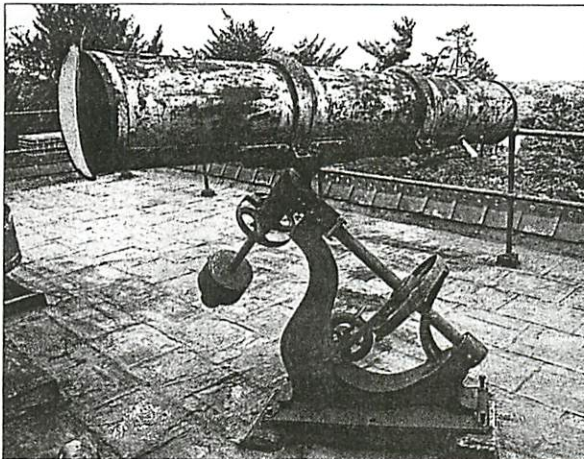
Molly Shultz, his granddaughter, donated the house to the Montclair Historical Society, which took over after her death in 1997. She preserved the house as a monument to her grandfather and father, who passed it to her without alterations in furnishings or structure — and with barely any repairs over the years.

Next month, the society will start its second season of Evergreens tours, which provide one of the best glimpses into turn-of-the-century life in New Jersey's developing suburbs.

The tours are presented as a restoration "work in progress." Shingles are worn thin in places, and paint is peeling off the ceiling.

Volunteers with the society are struggling to catalog the thousands of items in this hulking Victorian treasure-trove.

Some are historic gems, like the alabaster copy of the Taj Mahal that Charles Shultz told guests he brought home from India on his lap. Others are relatively worthless, like the closet filled with empty gift boxes and glass bottles.



PHOTOS BY SAMIR ID-DEEN

Charles Shultz built the 21-room mansion in 1896. A telescope offered views of Manhattan while combination gas and electric lamps kept the house bathed in light. The furniture, including a settee, has not been changed. An early burglar alarm looks much like a clock.

"They never threw out anything," said Pam Fosdick, director of the historical society.

The society got a \$304,000 state grant, which it matched with money left from the Shultz estate. The money paid for emergency repairs to the main house, which has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979, and a restoration of the exterior of the shingle-style carriage house.

But the society predicts it needs as much

as another \$1 million to finish the job. That burden can weigh on a volunteer society that now owns six buildings, six auxiliary structures and four acres of land.

Like historical societies everywhere, Montclair Historical Society knows that gifts like the Shultz House can be costly despite the great riches they add to a collection.

Susan Godfrey, the society's president, says that some people ask why the society is

PLEASE SEE MONTCLAIR, PAGE 34

Touring Evergreens at the Shultz House

How: Call the Montclair Historical Society at (973) 744-1796.

Cost: \$15 for society members and \$20 for nonmembers.

When: Guests must make reservations and pay in advance.

Where: Corner of North Mountain and Claremont Avenues in Montclair.

Montclair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

Mansion is treasure of history

spending so much money on the house.

Godfrey and other preservationists say the answer is simple: history.

"People have said that this house fixed up as a museum would be better than the Ballantine House," the three-floor, 15-room house that is a museum within the Newark Museum, said John Way, a Montclair architect working on the restoration.

Evergreens is a time capsule of life in the early part of the century.

Charles Shultz, who made his money selling building supplies, built his house to last. He contracted with his friend, Montclair architect Michel LeBrun, to design the house. A commercial architect, LeBrun was better known for New York City firehouses and the still-standing Metropolitan Life Tower in Manhattan.

"He got the best-quality materials, and they've held up for 100 years almost like the day they were built," Way said.

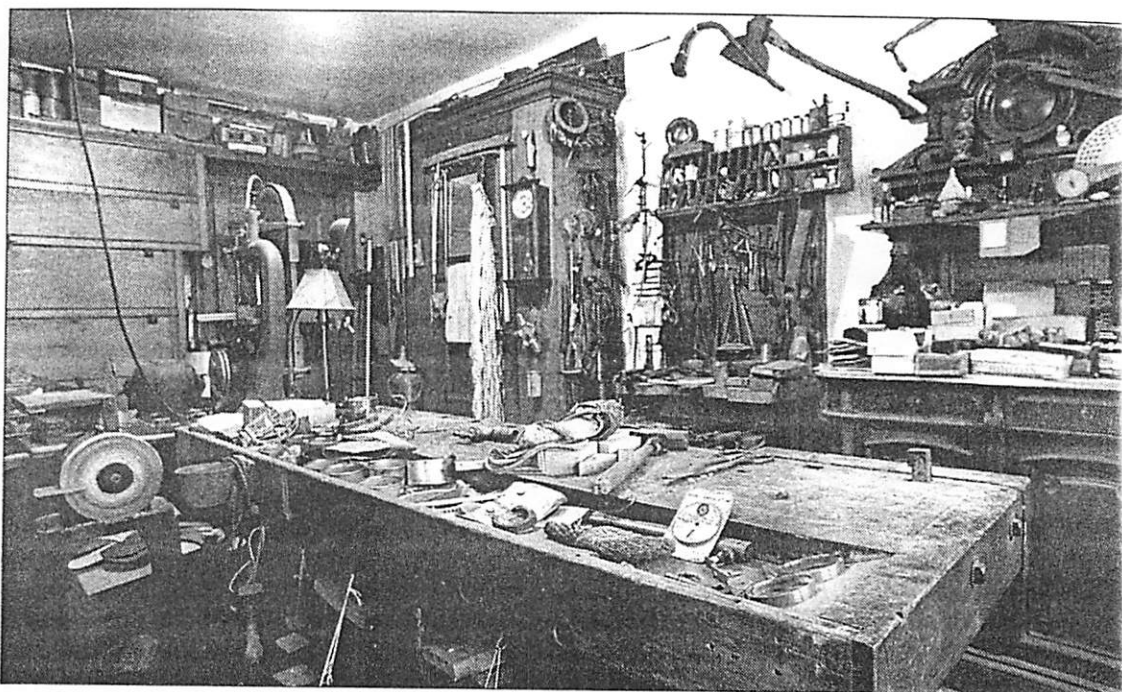
Shultz furnished his nest with all the most modern conveniences available at the time. Many still work.

There is a fire hose rack and water spout near the kitchen to protect against one of the most devastating threats of the day. There is an early burglar alarm, which depended on springs to detect open windows and doors. And there is an intercom system, which used tubes to allow communication between rooms in the cavernous home.

A tin-lined storage room kept the moths away from precious clothes, and light fixtures combining electricity and gas prepared the family for blackouts, blown fuses and other contingencies of the early days of electricity.

Indoor plumbing was still new, so a cautious Shultz put the toilet in a separate room from the bathtub and hid the toilet's water tank in a room upstairs.

A hand-operated elevator offered movement from the basement to the third floor with relative ease. Molly Shultz used it alone until she became ill in her late 80s.



PHOTOS BY SAMIR ID-DEEN

The Evergreens contains a workshop, above, with the original tools and includes a carriage house, right. Susan Godfrey, below left, president of the Montclair Historical Society, is leading efforts to preserve the property, which was left to the society by Molly Shultz, who died in 1997.

"He got the best-quality materials, and they've held up for 100 years almost like the day they were built."

— JOHN WAY, Montclair architect working on the restoration

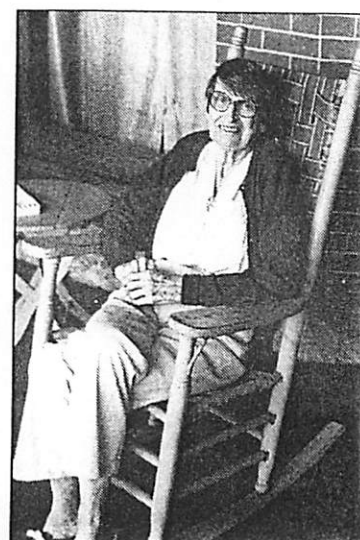


A catwalk and telescope on the roof offered sweeping views of the sky — and the growing Manhattan skyline.

Known for her Christmas parties at the house and her volunteerism at the historic society, Molly Shultz was known as a well-educated, down-to-earth spinster who held degrees from Smith and Radcliffe colleges and who ran the family brick business for 30 years.

She was 91 when she died in the same house where she was born.

"She wanted the house to become a museum," Godfrey said. "The Montclair Historical Society is trying to do that."





The Montclair Historical Society

108-110 Orange Road • Montclair, New Jersey • 07042-2133 • (201) 744-1796

March 18, 1997

Dear Fellow Members

I am writing to let you know about an important and very wonderful gift the Montclair Historical Society has just received.

As we reported in the March issue of *The Cranetown Crier*, our friend and long-time Society member, Marian "Molly" Shultz, died on December 17, at the age of 91. Most of us knew Molly because she served as a volunteer each Sunday in the Society's Terhune Library for as long as we can remember. Molly consistently supported the Society in other ways as well.

For many years Molly hosted a Twelfth-Night Party in her home, *Evergreens*, for the Society's trustees. Those who attended the parties did so in wonder. As we walked through the door, we stepped back into a 19th century Victorian holiday. It was a magical experience. Christmas bells rang — triggered by the remote control device her father had perfected (originally to set off land mines in World War II). We were fascinated by her collection of toys as well as by her family's collection of books, rocks and arrowheads. We marveled at the Delftware tiles surrounding the fireplace, each depicting a different scene, and at the dining room chandelier, which is lighted by either gas or electricity — just as it was installed in 1896! Occasionally we got to see her grandfather's third floor workshop or the astronomical telescope on the roof. And, we all marveled at Molly. Despite her age, she was full of life and full of love for her community. She will truly be missed!

The glad news is that Molly Shultz has left *Evergreens*, most of its contents and a substantial bequest, to the Montclair Historical Society. We are grateful, excited and anxious about Molly's gift. *Evergreens* presents us with a great opportunity and a tremendous challenge.

Built by Molly's grandfather, Charles S. Shultz, in 1896, the entire house has remained virtually unaltered since then. *Evergreens*, which is located on the southwest corner of North Mountain and Claremont Avenues in Montclair, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 in recognition of its outstanding exterior and interior features and its remarkable state of preservation.

The design for *Evergreens* was the work of Michel LeBrun, a leading Manhattan architect and a Montclair resident. The LeBrun's were close family friends of the Shultzes and Mr. LeBrun was Molly's godfather. LeBrun's firm designed many important New York buildings, including the Metropolitan Life Insurance Tower, once New York's tallest building. *Evergreens* is a rare example of a residential building designed by LeBrun.

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Adriana O'Toole
John Simonelli
John Way
Karen R. Whitehaus

Molly Shultz planned her generous gift for over a decade in the hope that *Evergreens* would be maintained as a museum. The question that comes to everyone's mind of course is: What will we do with *Evergreens* and what does this acquisition mean for the Society? A look at one part of the Society's Mission Statement gives us some direction. It tells us that the Montclair Historical Society should, in addition to preserving, restoring and furnishing the Israel Crane House, be concerned with the preservation of other historic landmarks in Montclair.

Evergreens and its contents unquestionably represent a unique glimpse into 19th century life in Montclair. It is full of stories we can tell. One is about German immigrants who made it in America at the turn of the century. Another involves Victorian architecture and the decorative arts. Objects in the house constantly draw one to the importance of science and discovery in the lives of an upper middle class family of that era.

On Monday, March 17th, we took over responsibility for *Evergreens* from the estate. Society members Christina Mayer and Majda Kallab Whitaker are co-chairing a committee which has begun to explore the immediate needs of the property and its possible uses. The committee contains some very talented people (four Society presidents and nine current trustees, state and national historic preservation and community leaders, two architects, two museum professionals, the National President and several members of the Victorian Society). As part of its work, the committee has begun consulting experts from throughout the region. One of them, Ulysses G. Dietz, Curator of Decorative Arts at the Newark Museum and a nationally known expert on the Victorian era, recently noted that, "*Evergreens* is a remarkable survival. Its distinguished architecture and interiors are representative of turn-of-the-century Montclair as it developed into a model for healthful, suburban living. Preserved as a museum and educational center, the house could be an asset to the entire region." We would, of course, welcome more members to the committee. The task is monumental. We will need to inventory the contents of the house and attend to much deferred exterior maintenance while planning for its future evolves.

Originally the Society focused exclusively on the turn of the 18th to the 19th century. While the Crane House has remained our flagship building, in recent years the Society's focus has broadened to include the entire history of Montclair and its environs. The Victorian era is particularly important to Montclair, and it is right to give it attention. More importantly, as we turn from the 20th to the 21st century, it is right that we define ourselves in terms of the role we play in preserving our heritage — all of it — for future generations. Finally, let's dream. The Shultz House may create the catalyst necessary to make First Mountain a destination for history, art, and preservation audiences! Think about Historic Hudson Valley and Brandywine. Why not First Mountain? We have the Montclair Art Museum, Van Vleck Gardens, Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, the Edison National Historic Site and the Israel Crane House. The Newark Museum and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center are nearby. The Shultz House may link them all together. It was built exactly a century after the Crane House. It reflects the same era as the Art Museum. It ties Edison's inventiveness to that of other business people of his era. Why not?

Will *Evergreens* change the Society? Yes. It will bring us more members, give us new challenges, help us fulfill our purpose. Let's not be afraid to enter the next century as the representatives of innovative men like Israel Crane and determined women like Molly Shultz.

Sincerely



Karen R. Whitehaus, President



Evergreens

A STATE AND NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

30 North Mountain Avenue
Montclair, New Jersey

Charles S. Shultz, grandfather of the present owner, Marian Shultz, and a prominent Montclair citizen, hired the architectural firm of Napoleon LeBrun & Sons of New York to design and build "Evergreens." It was completed in 1896.

The main house and carriage house are predominantly Queen Anne style and fine examples of Victorian Architecture. The house is a visual pleasure of high gables, dormers, richly carved designs, terra cotta tiles and handsome spires and chimneys. Decoratively cut shingles, half timbering and stucco were used to complete the gracious exterior. A well, still functioning, is handsomely decorated in wrought iron grillwork.

"Evergreens" is set on the crest of the hill near the top of First Watchung Mountain. The location affords the viewer a sweeping panorama of Montclair and the New York skyline. The grounds are landscaped with a variety of specimen trees and shrubs silhouetted against a rolling front lawn, typical of the times.

The notable entrance hall, sometimes called a "living hall," gives a sense of space and free access to the library, parlors and elegant dining room. The carved oak mantles, moldings, paneling and pillars are extraordinary.

Completing this most pleasing picture are the accumulated treasures of three generations, all visible throughout this marvelous "Living Museum" of the past.

The Montclair Times

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1997

Second Class Postage
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Quite A Past, Quite A Present Intact 1896 Mansion Left To Historical Society

BY DOUGLAS ELDRIDGE

The Montclair Historical Society is the proud new owner of one of the community's grandest and best-preserved Victorian mansions.

"Evergreens," an imposing 21-room house on a 2-acre site at Claremont and North Mountain avenues, has been bequeathed to the organization by Marian "Molly" Shultz.

Miss Shultz, who died last December, lived her entire 90 years in the house, which was built by her grandfather in 1896. She lovingly maintained all of its original features and furnishings, which were also left to the Historical Society in her will.

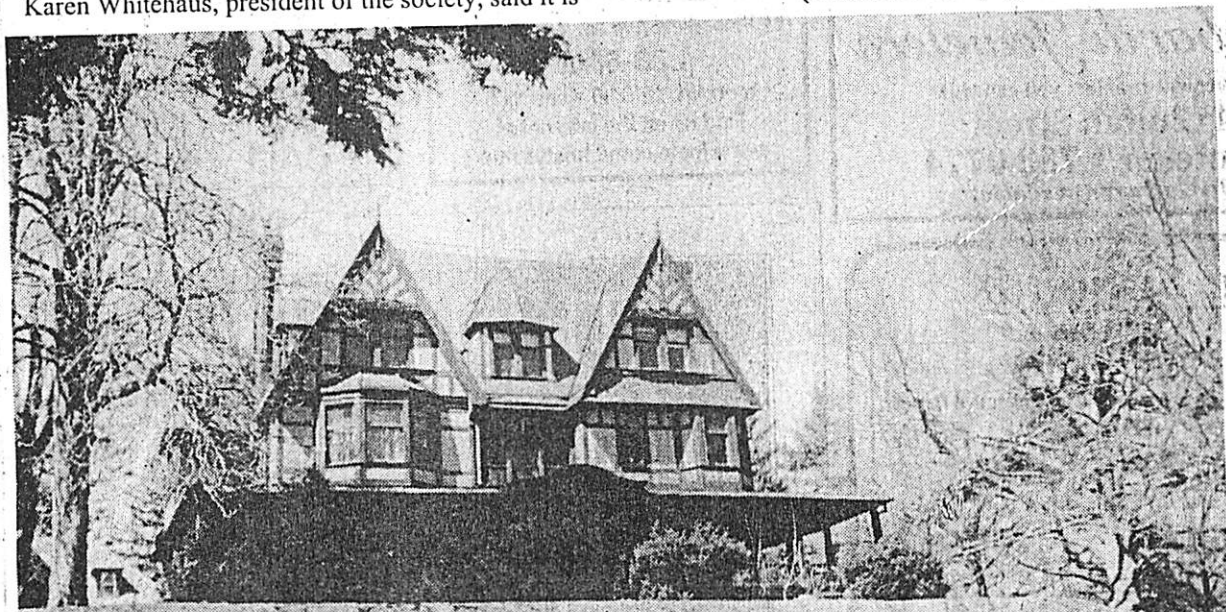
Karen Whitehaus, president of the society, said it is

making an inventory of the contents and some repair needs, and studying possible future uses.

The house could be turned into an education center and museum, and might become another tourist attraction in Montclair, Whitehaus said. Evergreens could become a larger, later counterpart to the Crane House, which was built in 1796—exactly a century earlier—and now serves as a museum next to the society's headquarters on Orange Road.

Whitehaus said Miss Shultz, who was a longtime volunteer with the Historical Society, also left it an undisclosed endowment for maintenance of the property.

(continued on page A15)



Times photo by Douglas Eldridge

WELCOME HOME—This 21-room house, known as "Evergreens," was bequeathed to the Montclair Historical Society by Marian "Molly" Shultz, who spent her entire life there. The 1896 mansion, filled with original furnishings, is on a 2-acre site at Claremont and North Mountain avenues.

Quite A Past—Quite A Present

(continued from page 1)

There is no immediate need for repairs to the tile roof and gutter system, Whitehaus reported.

Meanwhile, the house will continue to be occupied by some tenants who moved in while Miss Shultz was there.

The acquisition of the house is "great news for the town," said Whitehaus. The property is now assured of preservation, she observed, and it can give tangible evidence of how lives were led here long ago.

The house today "is the way Grandpa built it," said Whitehaus, referring to Charles S. Shultz, a manufacturer and inventor. Still in the house are artifacts collected during his world travels, such as a replica of India's Taj Mahal.

Little altered through the years, the house was entered on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

Many Styles, Materials

The structure, which incorporates varied materials from granite to stucco, was designed by architect Michel Moracin LeBrun in a combination of styles, including Elizabethan and Queen Anne. The building sits above a terraced lawn lined with evergreen and other trees, and commands spectacular views of the New York skyline.

This was one of the few homes designed by LeBrun, a family friend of the Shulzes. He also designed the Metropolitan Life tower in Manhattan.

The Shultz property, which fronts for 200 feet on North Mountain Avenue and almost 450 feet on Claremont Avenue, is currently assessed by the township at \$890,000. It is expected the Historical Society, a non-profit organization, will seek a tax exemption.

Stephen O'Neill Hanson, a cousin of Molly Shultz, recalled that she "maintained the house as a memorial to her parents and her grandfather, but she was very modern at the same time." She was involved in community affairs and in the family business long before that was common for women.



**MARIAN 'MOLLY' SHULTZ
At Holiday Party In 1980s**

She spent 30 years as an officer and president of Shultz & Co., a masonry and construction supply firm in Passaic, before her retirement in 1982.

Miss Shultz had a bachelor's degree from Smith College and a master's in English literature from Radcliffe College. She was among the founders of the Whitney Museum of Art in New York.

Understanding Ancestors

Hanson said his cousin planned the bequest for a decade "in hopes that it would lead to a greater public understanding of men like her

grandfather." Charles Shultz was an entrepreneur, inventor and banker whose parents had come to the United States from Germany and Bohemia.

Whitehaus said she and the trustees of the 500-member society are thrilled by the bequest, and "deeply moved by Molly Shultz's generosity." Miss Shultz worked as a volunteer at the society's library until shortly before her death.

The organization is considering various ways to commemorate Miss Shultz, the president said.

Whitehaus said her organization would prefer to turn the house into some sort of museum, "but before we make a commitment to do that, we want to be reasonably certain that our planning is thorough and our funding is secure."

The society has begun consulting some preservation experts, such as Ulysses Dietz, curator of decorative arts at the Newark Museum. He helped oversee the restoration of the museum's 1886 Ballantine Mansion as a showcase of late Victorian design.

Model For Old Montclair

"Evergreens is a remarkable survivor," asserted Dietz. "Its distinguished architecture and interiors are representative of turn-of-the-century Montclair as it developed into a model for healthful, suburban living."

If properly preserved and used, he added, "the house could be an asset

to the entire region."

Back in 1980 the house was evaluated in a cultural resource survey of the town by Eleanor Price, a leading preservationist. She noted that original rugs, wall coverings and oak woodwork were intact, and the house itself is mostly original. "It holds therefore an important record of the 19th century," Price wrote.

She also commented that "it is an interesting and curious blend of styles, with a beautiful, flowing interior space, typical of the Shingle style of the '80s and '90s."

Whitehaus recalled that Miss Shultz invited the Historical Society's trustees to annual parties at the house.

"As we walked through the door, we stepped back into a 19th century Victorian holiday," Whitehaus recalled. "It was a magical experience," marked by the ringing of bells set off by a landmine detonation device her father had developed.

Gas-Electric Chandelier

Guests had a chance to examine collections of toys, books, rocks and arrowheads, as well as Delftware tiles surrounding a fireplace, a rooftop telescope, and a dining-room chandelier that still could be lit with either gas or electricity.

In a letter to society members, Whitehaus said, "Evergreens presents us with a great opportunity and a tremendous challenge."

Two society trustees, Christina Mayer and Majda Kallab Whitaker, are co-chairing a committee to explore needs and uses of the property. The committee includes a number of community leaders, architects and preservationists.

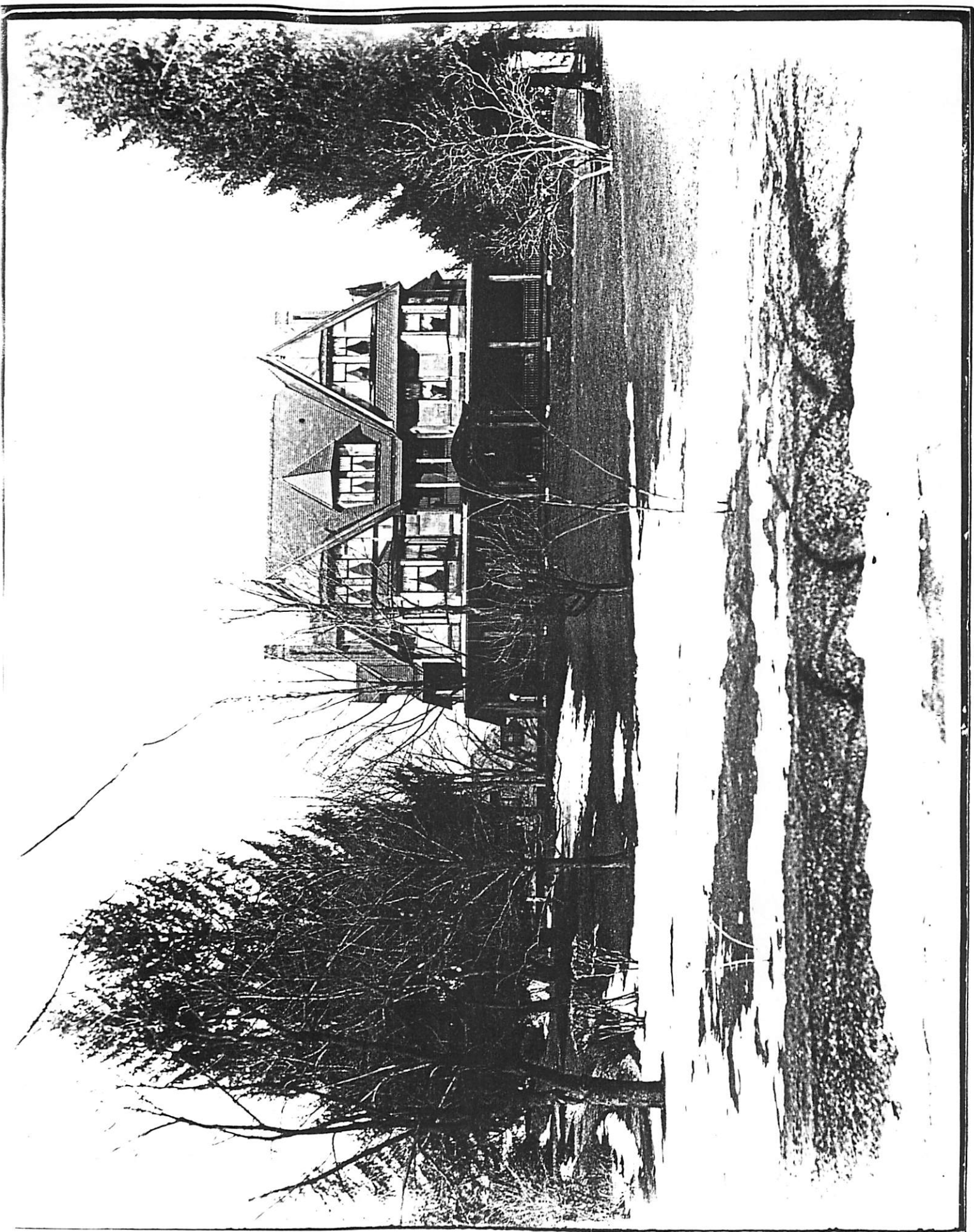
Recalling that the society originally focused on earlier history, Whitehaus pointed out that it now is concerned with the entire span of Montclair's existence. "The Victorian era is particularly important to Montclair, and it is right to give it attention," she told the members.

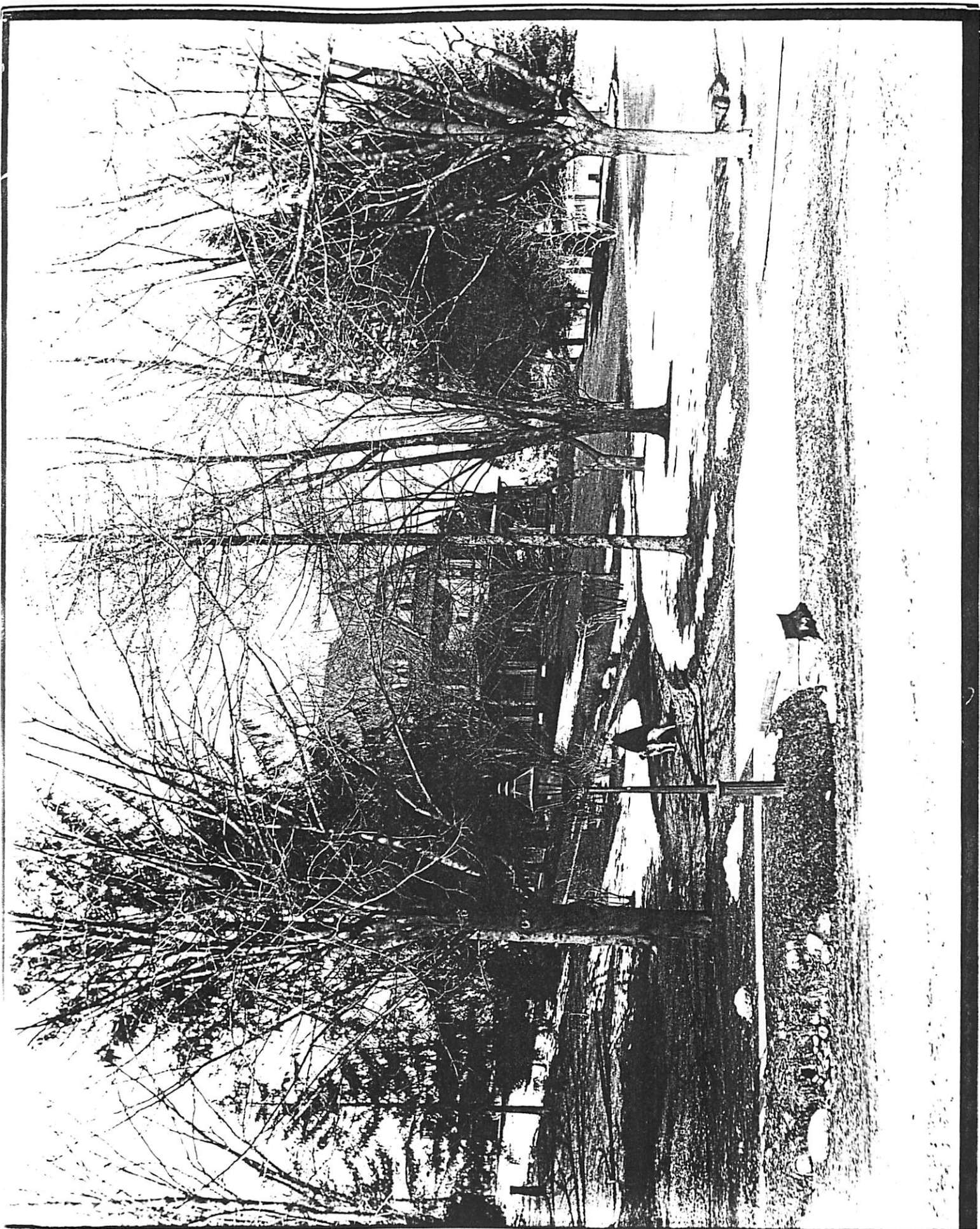
The house, she suggested, could become "the catalyst necessary to make First Mountain a destination for history, art and preservation audiences."

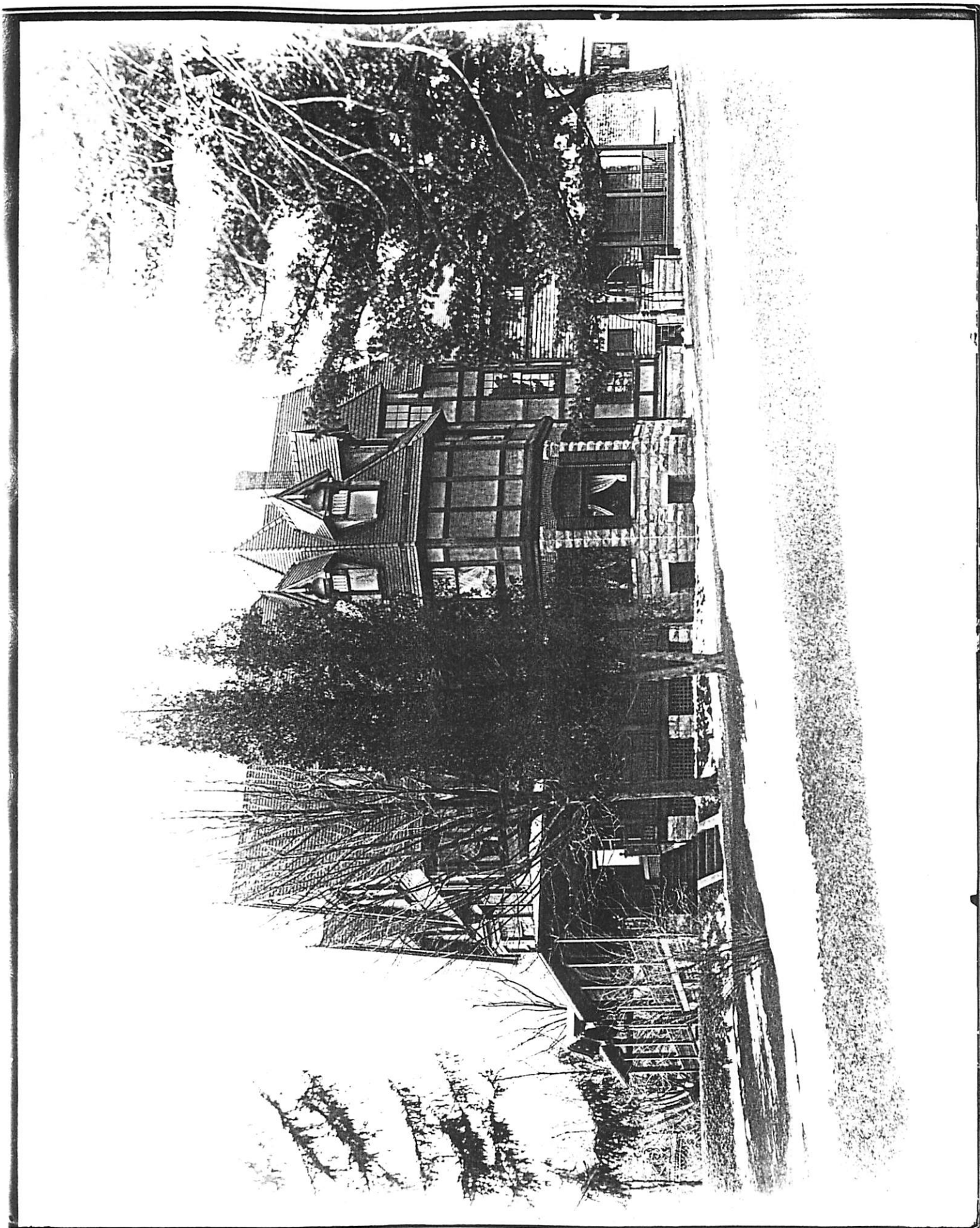
The society president challenged her colleagues "to enter the next century as the representatives of innovative men like Israel Crane and determined women like Molly Shultz."

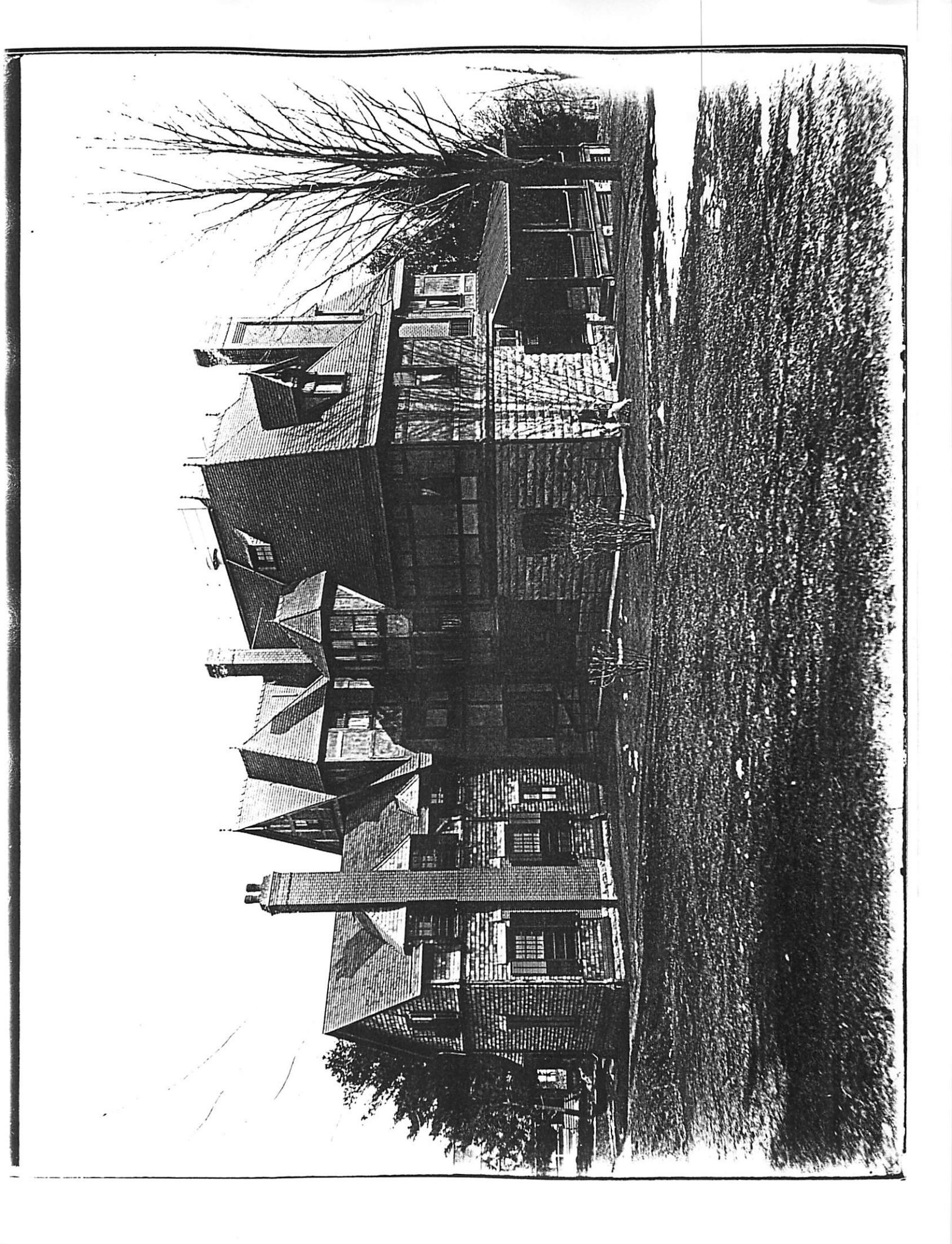
The society was founded in 1965 to take care of the Crane House, which was moved that year from Glenridge Avenue to its present site. The society's offices and library are next-door, in the Clark House, which dates from 1894. A museum store is operated in an 1812 building behind the Crane House.

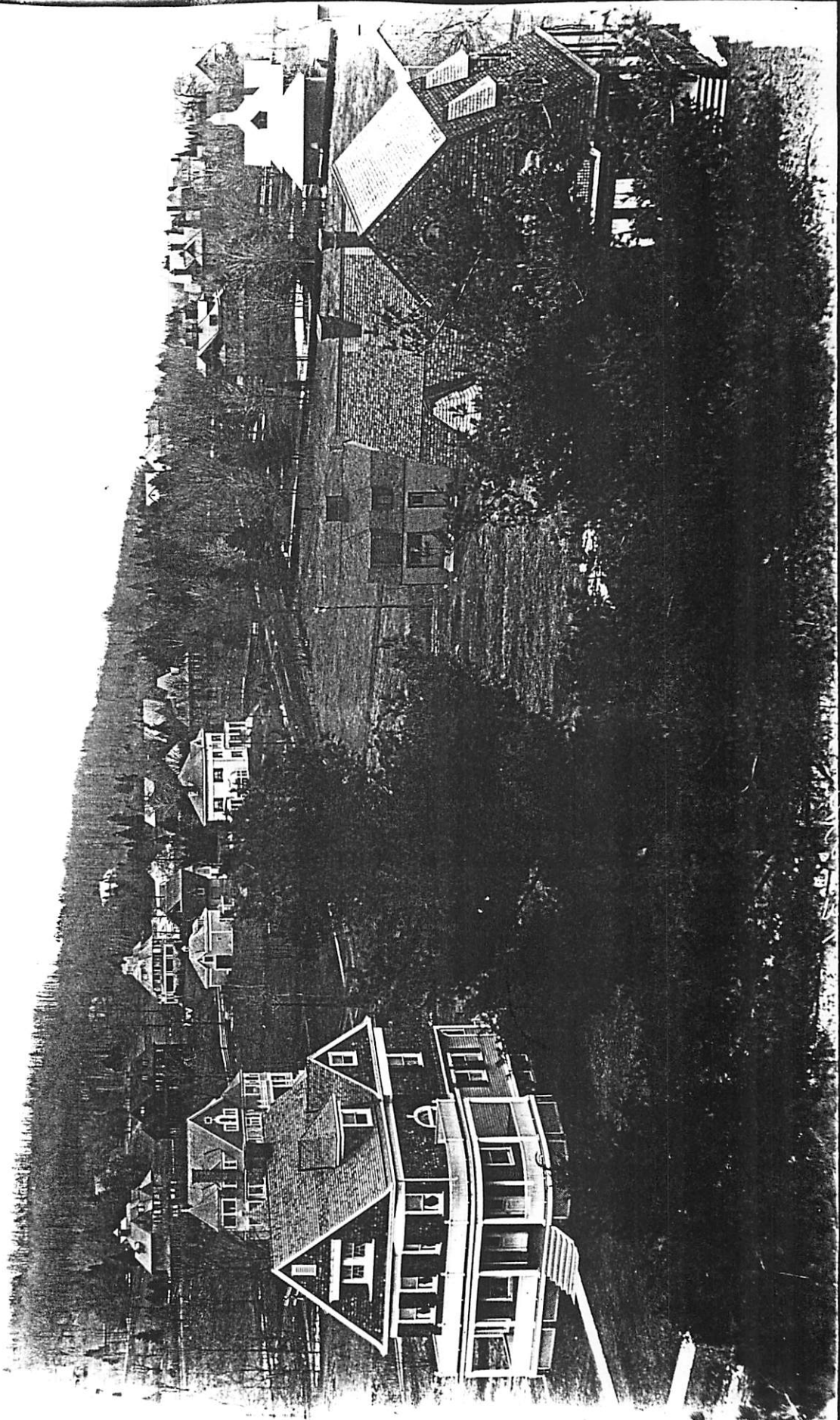
With the acquisition of Evergreens, Whitehaus observed, "the society's properties span the last two centuries in the life of Montclair, from 1796 to today."

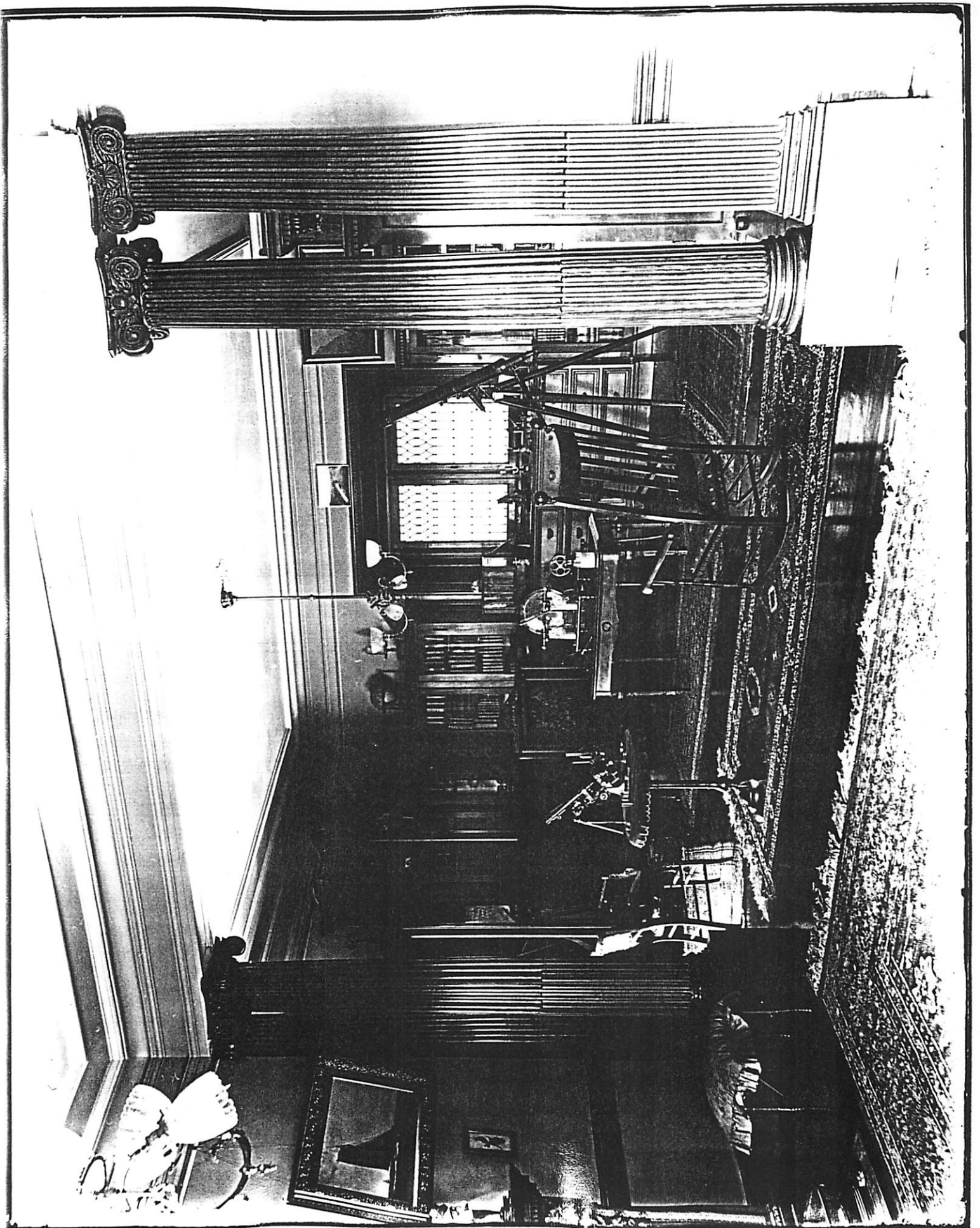


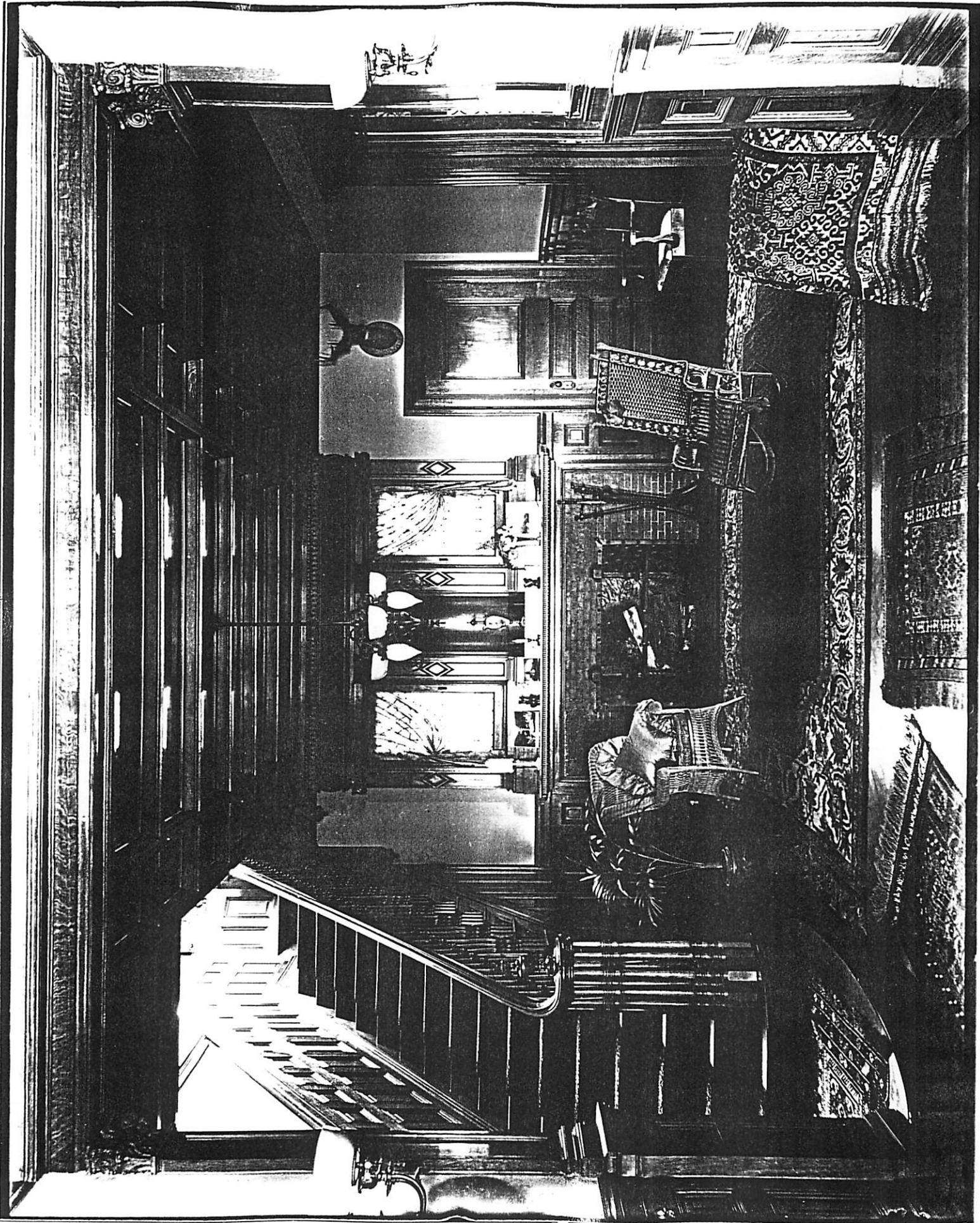


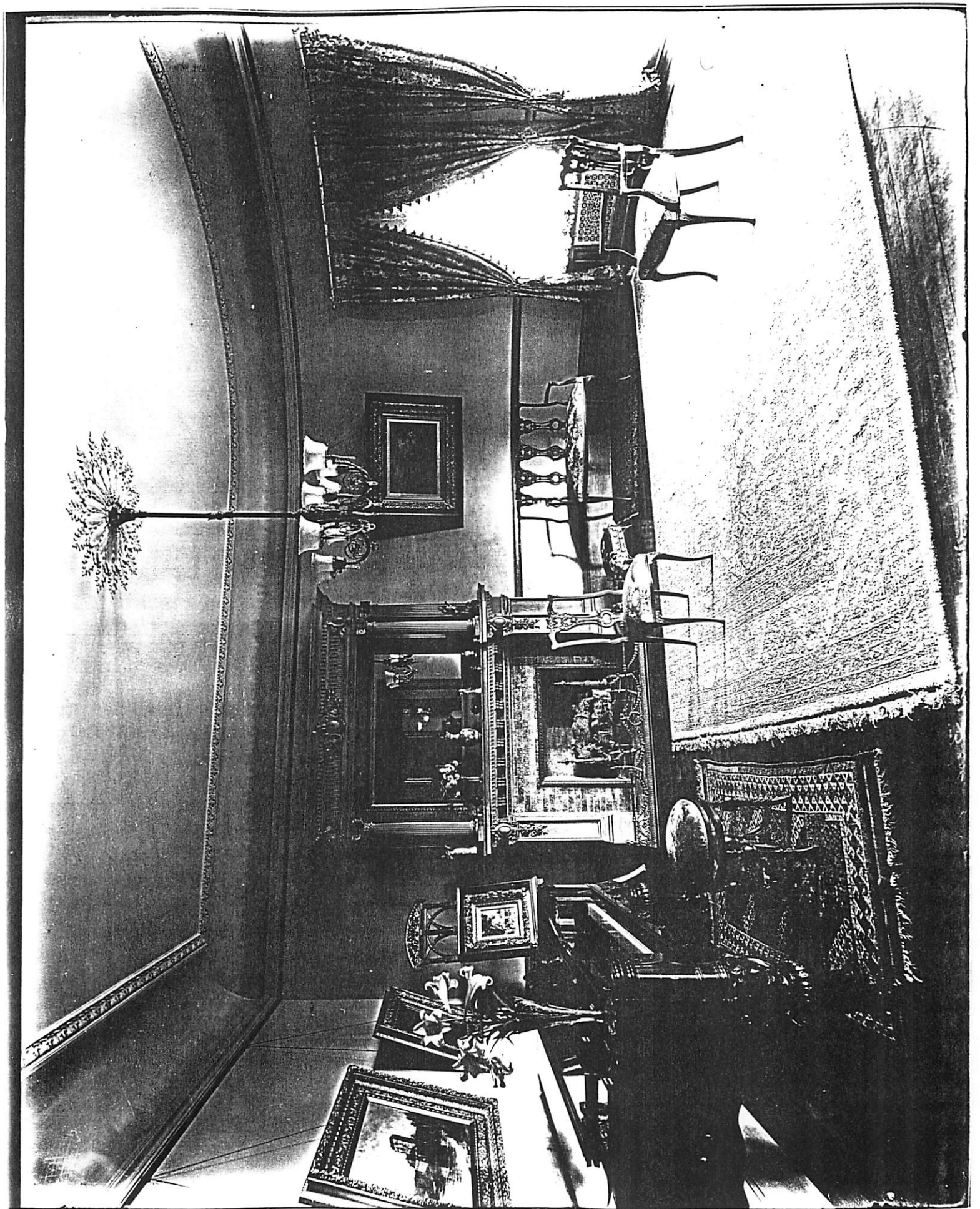


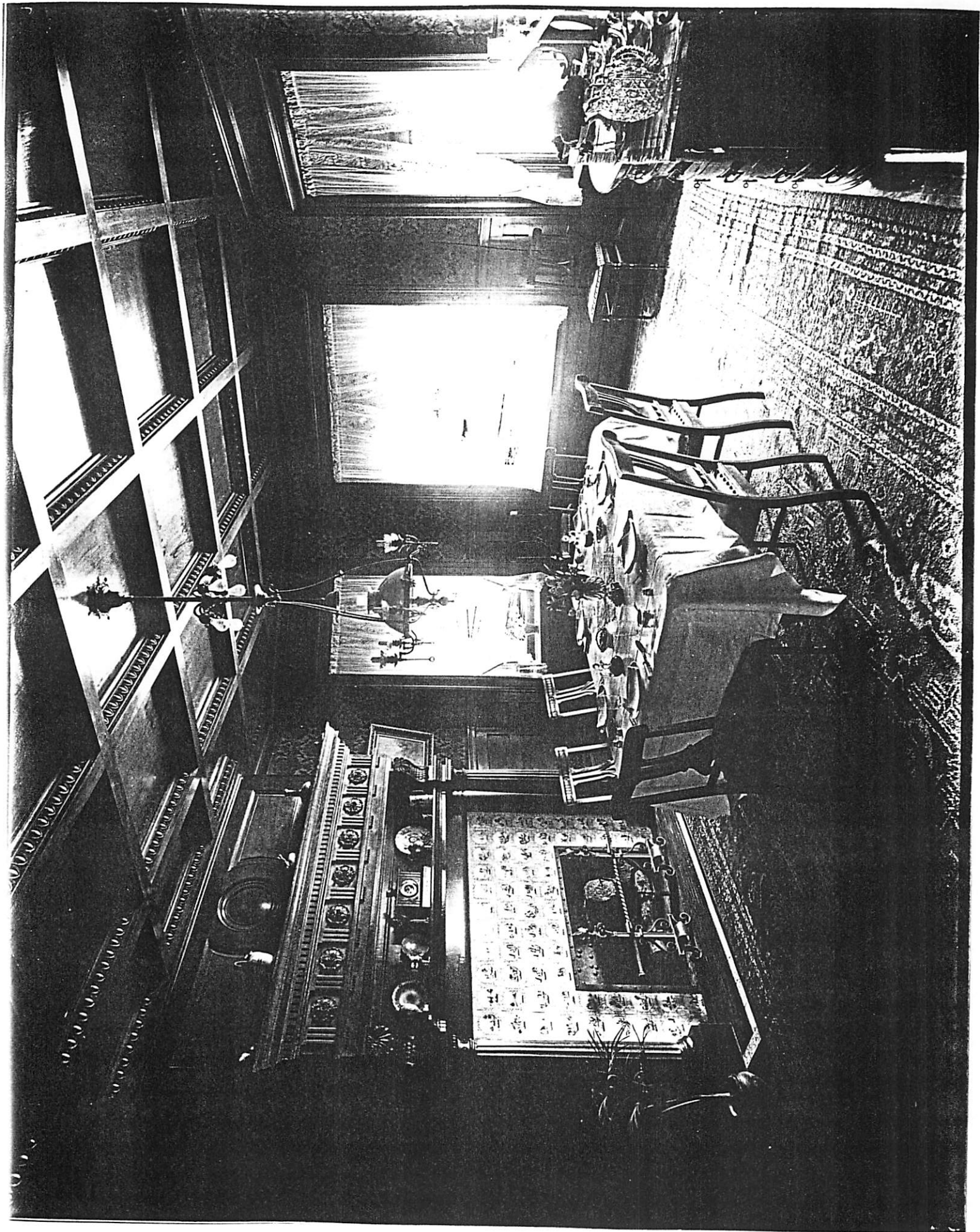


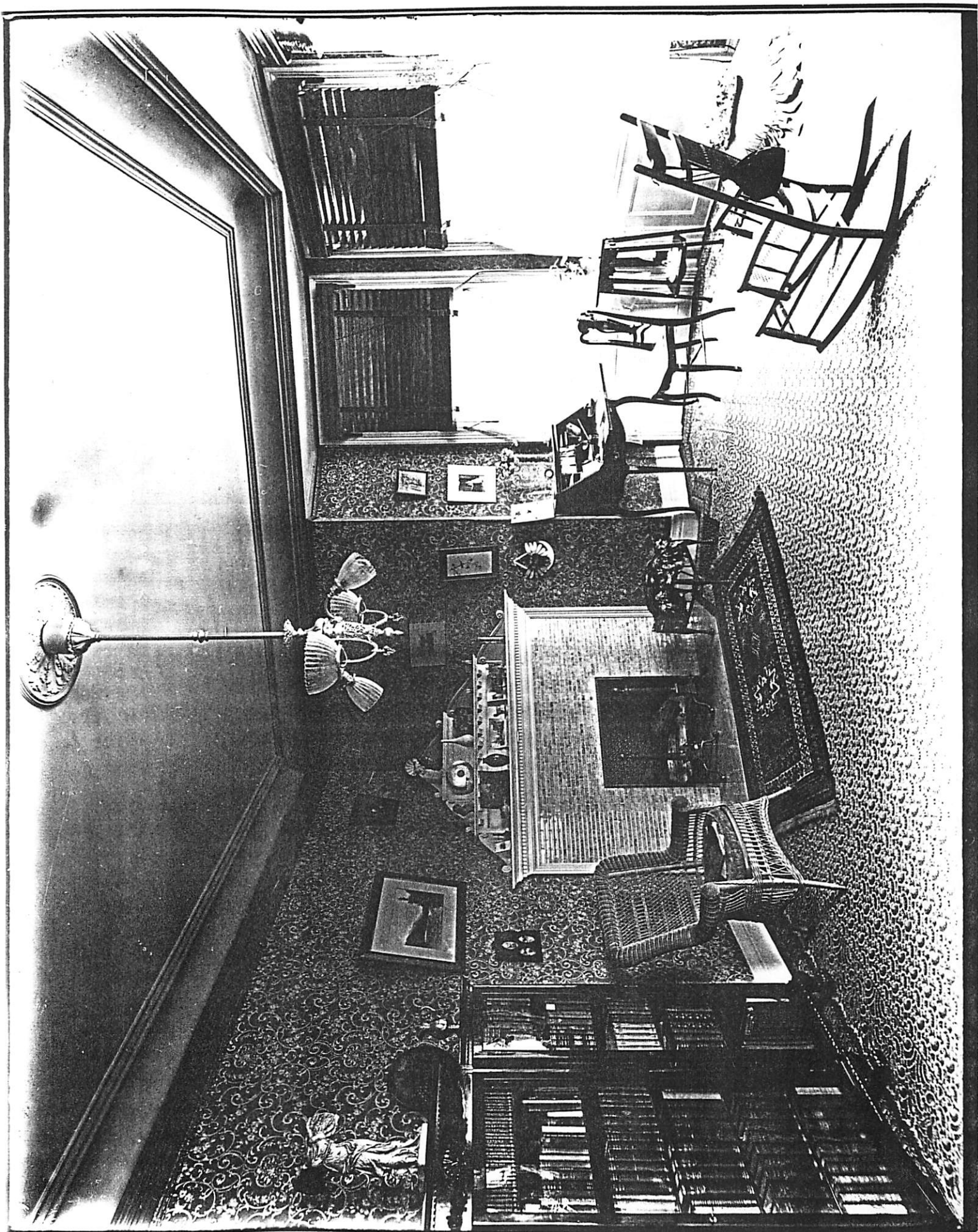


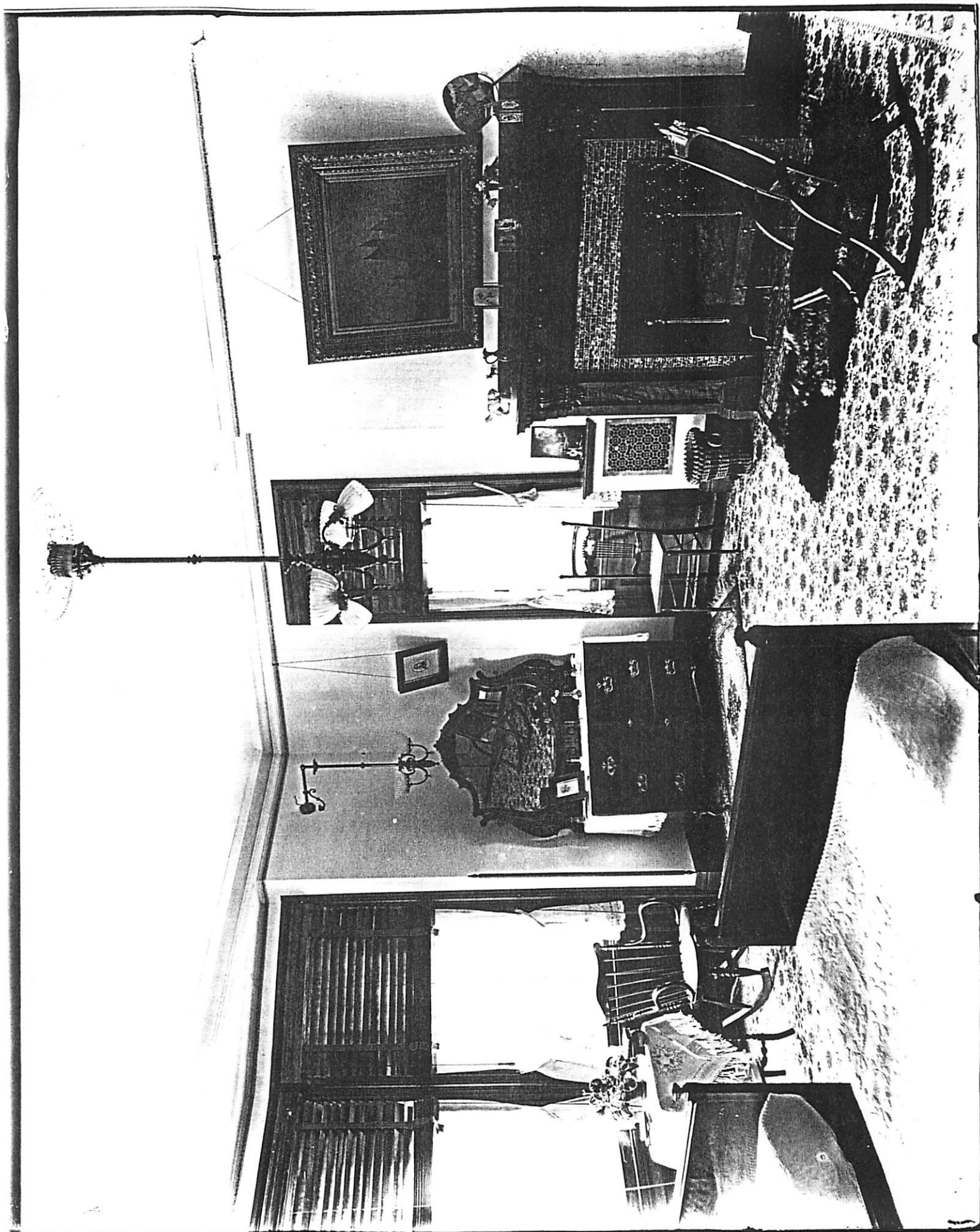














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