

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NP, DE, GL  
**FINAL**  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED  
JUNE 2011  
FROM SHPO

**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

El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Depot

AND/OR COMMON

PART OF: Downtown Tucson, Arizona MPS

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

400 West Congress

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Tucson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Arizona

VICINITY OF

CODE

04

COUNTY

Pima

CODE

019

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: None

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

El Centro Enterprises, Ltd. II, a limited partnership

STREET & NUMBER

400 West Congress

CITY, TOWN

Tucson,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Arizona 85701

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder's Office - Pima County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

115 North Church Avenue (See also Exhibit A attached)

CITY, TOWN

Tucson

STATE

Arizona

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Preservation Analysis - El Paso and Southwestern Railway Depot

DATE

May 1975

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

University of Arizona - School of Architecture

CITY, TOWN

Tucson

STATE

Arizona 85721

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

## ORIGINAL APPEARANCE

The El Paso and Southwestern Depot at Tucson, Arizona was built in 1912 at a cost of \$45,000.

The depot (106' x 57') is of classical design with porticos (45' x 57') on either end. All rooms in the depot open into a central rotunda covered by a stained glass dome with a protective skylight. The two main entries are flanked by four large columns of Indiana limestone. Similar smaller columns continue around the portico. Openings behind the entry columns are arcuated with terra-cotta trim. Openings to either side of the rectilinear main entry are also trimmed with terra-cotta trim and are presently being enclosed. The exterior is brick with a classical facade of terra-cotta tile. The flat portico roofs and deck roof areas surrounding the skylight are composition roll-roofing on wood deck. The pitched roof center section is covered with red Mexican channel tile. The porticos which flank the main center section of the depot are open on three sides and were used as baggage processing areas. Floors are of poured concrete and the roof structural members and soffit were stuccoed to resemble concrete.

Interior walls are generally brick and have been plastered in the public areas of the building. Trim and accent materials are wood, terra-cotta, limestone, and plaster. These materials become more extensively and ornately employed as the building spaces become more public. Floors throughout the building are of poured concrete.

The white plaster used to form the dome and cover the structural brick of the walls is contrasted with dark doors and window trim. The height and visual impact of the stained glass dome creates a striking interior space which is one of the stronger attributes of the building.

## PRESENT PHYSICAL CONDITION

The depot has deteriorated but the building is basically sound. Roof leaks have damaged some of the interiors.

To the east, adjacent to the depot is a park which was developed to separate the depot from the freight office. The freight office, which later was used as a hospital, is being demolished (August 1979). The park and surrounding grounds were originally well landscaped and maintained, and contained a variety of unusual plant life. There is a fountain in the center of the park which was a converging focus and hub for six concrete footpaths integrating the depot and freight buildings and providing a pleasant entry sequence from or to the city. The future of the park is uncertain, but a small portion of it may be utilized with the depot, which is going to be converted to a restaurant and several offices.

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

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That certain parcel of land situate in the City of Tucson, County of Pima, State of Arizona, being that portion of Lot 2, Block 221, CITY OF TUCSON, according to Book 3 of Maps, page 70, Records of Pima County, Arizona; that portion of the Northeast quarter of Section 14, Township 14 South, Range 13 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, and that portion of abandoned Mission Street as abandoned by Mayor and Council and as set forth in instrument recorded in Book 52 of Deeds, page 193, records of said County, described as follows:

COMMENCING at the survey monument at the centerline intersection of Congress Street and Granada Avenue as established by Pueblo Center recorded in Book 20 of Maps, page 83, records of Pima County, Arizona; thence South  $81^{\circ}42'18''$  West (South  $81^{\circ}41'41''$  West record) along the centerline of Congress Street, a distance of 765.92 feet; thence South  $08^{\circ}17'42''$  East, 40.00 feet to the South right of way line of Congress Street; thence along said South right of way line of Congress Street, North  $81^{\circ}42'18''$  East, 258.32 feet; thence South  $08^{\circ}21'02''$  East, 70.2 feet; thence South  $18^{\circ}35'42''$  East, 102.5 feet; thence South  $71^{\circ}24'18''$  West, 46.27 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING of the parcel of land to be described; thence South  $18^{\circ}35'42''$  East, 217.67 feet; thence South  $71^{\circ}24'18''$  West, 173.12 feet to a point distant North  $74^{\circ}55'29''$  East 31.00 feet, measured radially, from the located centerline of main track (now removed) formerly of the El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Company (now Southern Pacific Transportation Company); thence Northwesterly concentric with and distant 31.00 feet Northeasterly, measured radially, from said located centerline along a curve concave to the Southwest having a radius of 1940.91 feet and central angle of  $6^{\circ}25'45''$  (tangent to said curve at last mentioned point bears North  $15^{\circ}04'31''$  West) an arc distance of 217.79 feet to a point distant Southeasterly 219.14 feet, measured along the Northwesterly continuation of last described curve, from said South right of way line of Congress Street; thence North  $71^{\circ}24'18''$  East, 171.96 feet to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING, containing an area of 0.852 of an acre, more or less.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE

1

Harv Bamsechen, Bill Dunaway, Ben Smith, "Preservation Analysis - El Paso and Southwestern Railway Depot", Tucson, 1975 (xeroxed) University of Arizona, School of Architecture, Tucson, Arizona.

Statements by Walter Douglas, Jr., Son of Phelps-Dodge director, Walter Douglas, in a personal interview, Tucson, Arizona, May 5, 1975.

# 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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 1912-1913

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Phelps-Dodge Company

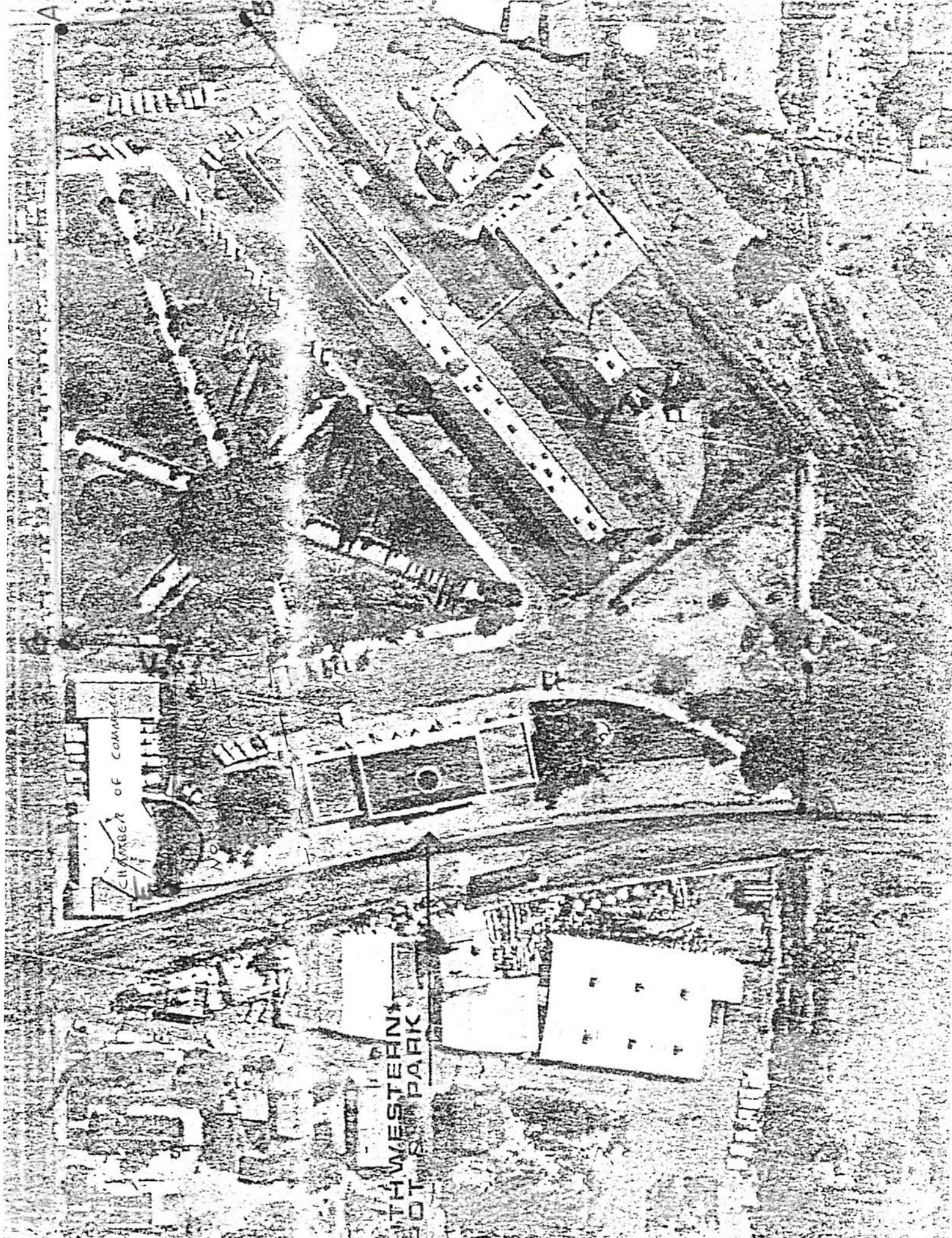
## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The El Paso and Southwestern Railroad was built by the Phelps Dodge Company to serve its copper interest in Bisbee and Douglas in southeastern Arizona. The first section of track was laid in 1893 between Bisbee and the Santa Fe railroad at Fairbank. The railroad grew as Phelps Dodge become embroiled in controversy with the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific Railroads over freight rates and accessibility of rail service. Eventually the railroad extended 1200 miles from Dawson, in northern New Mexico, to El Paso and finally on November 20, 1912 to Tucson. The company took options on right-of-ways through Phoenix on to Los Angeles and planned to compete with the Southern Pacific. However, twelve years later the railroad was sold to the Southern Pacific. The depot in Tucson was closed shortly after the sale in 1924 and trains routed through the existing Southern Pacific terminal about a mile and a half east of the El Paso and Southwestern Depot.

The depot is significant architecturally because of its opulent classical palladian design which was unusual for railroad station design in the Southwest. The symmetry of the design and use of imported as well as native materials give the building a style and grace not found in many of the new surrounding buildings. The design of the depot was influenced and implemented by the wife of Walter Douglas, builder of the railroad.

The depot can be viewed as a symbol of the great wealth generated by the copper industry and the effect this wealth had on the city of Tucson and the State of Arizona. It is a symbol of the courage of the Phelps Dodge Company and the pioneer spirit of the people of Arizona that when an existing transportation system did not and would not provide the necessary service that they struck out on their own and built a new and independent railroad, a railroad built without loans or bonds, a railroad built with cash. Because of this venture, life in southeastern Arizona was made easier for many and was an important factor in the developing economy of a new state.





CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WESTERN  
POT S. PARK

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Depot and Park  
AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY

STATE

Tucson

Pima

Arizona

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

SOURCE

U.S. Geological Survey

SCALE

7.5 Minute Series 1:24000

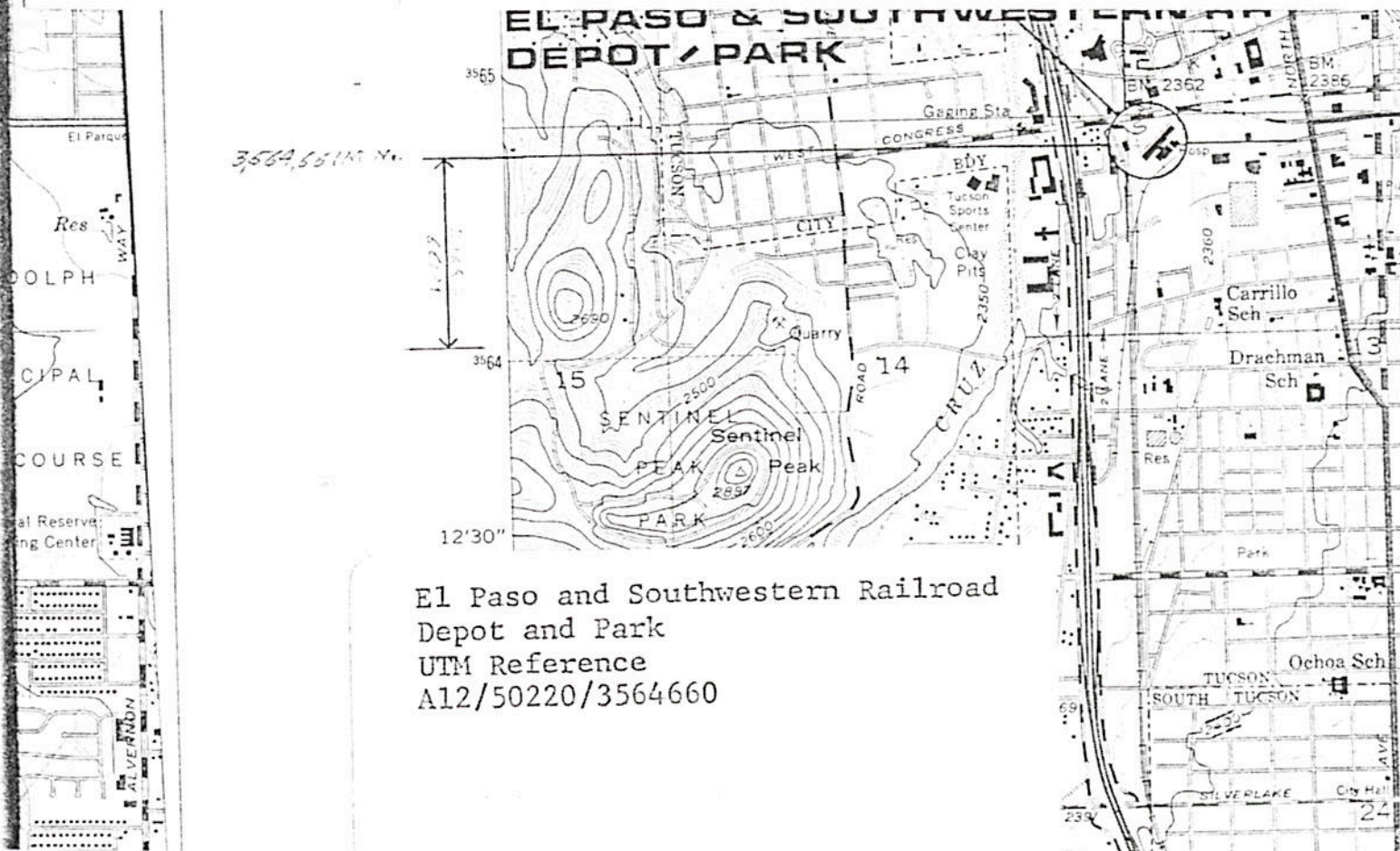
DATE

1957 (Photorevised 1971)

**4 REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES







CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WESTERN HOTEL

STREET

PHOTO CREDIT  
Phillip J. Black  
NEGATIVE FILED AT Tucson Heritage Foundation/John C. Fremont House CIVIC L...

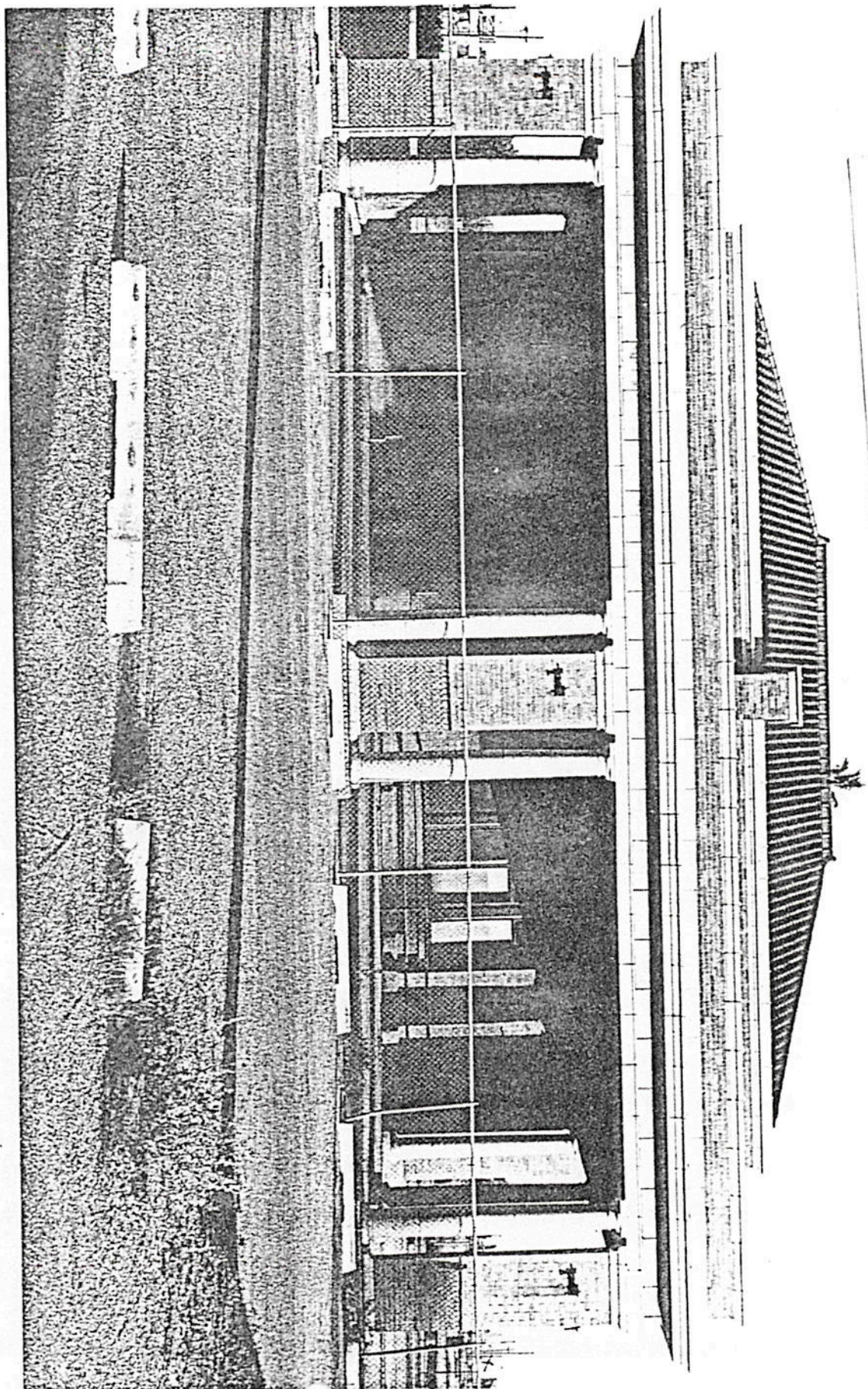
Tucson, Arizona

**IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC IF DISTINCT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
View of Northlevation of depot from parking lot of  
Chamber of Commerce

PHOTO NO

3



**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

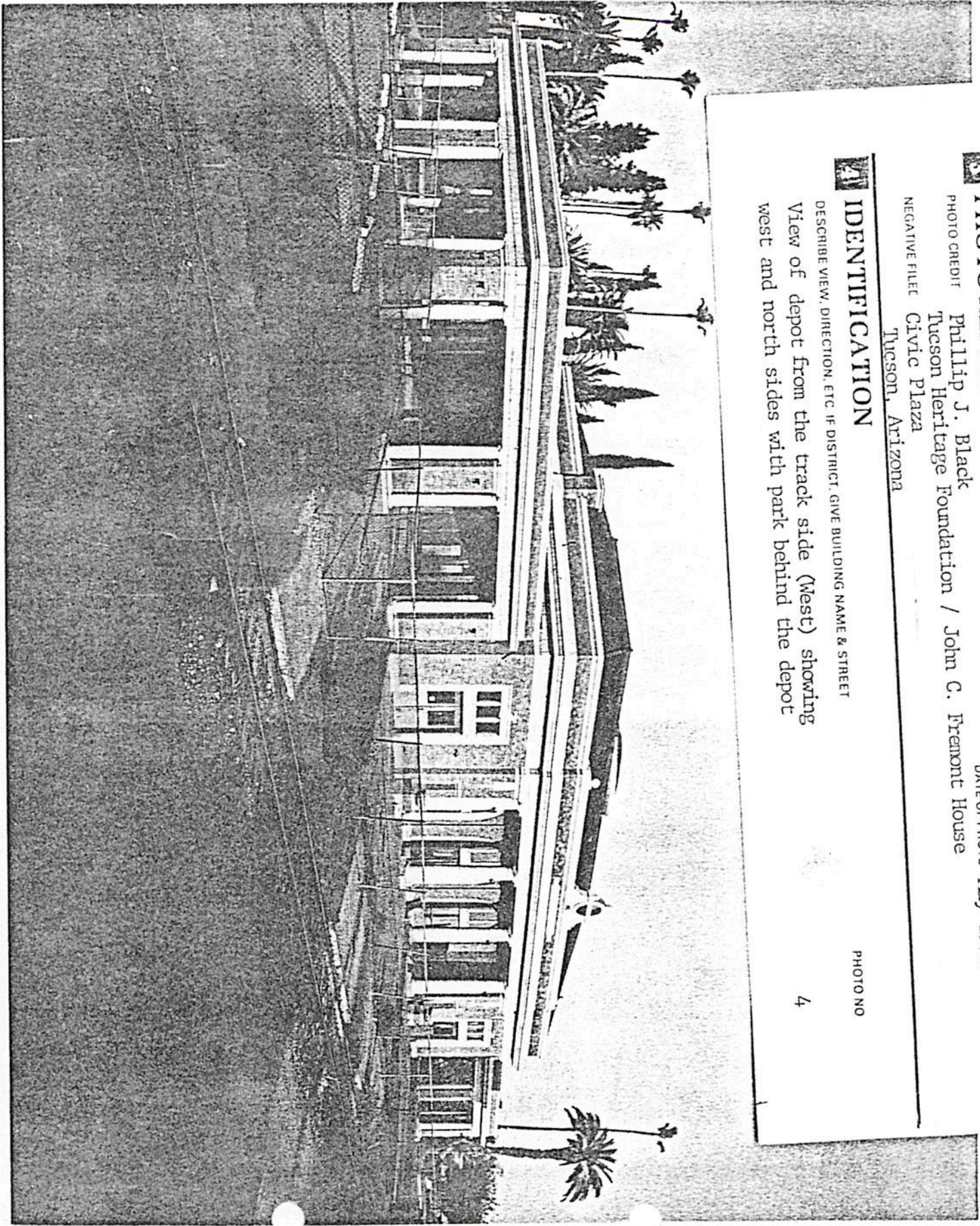
PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black  
Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House  
NEGATIVE FILE Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

PHOTO NO

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
View of depot from the track side (West) showing  
west and north sides with park behind the depot

4



Tucson,

Pima

Arizona

**PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House  
Civic Plaza

Tucson, Arizona

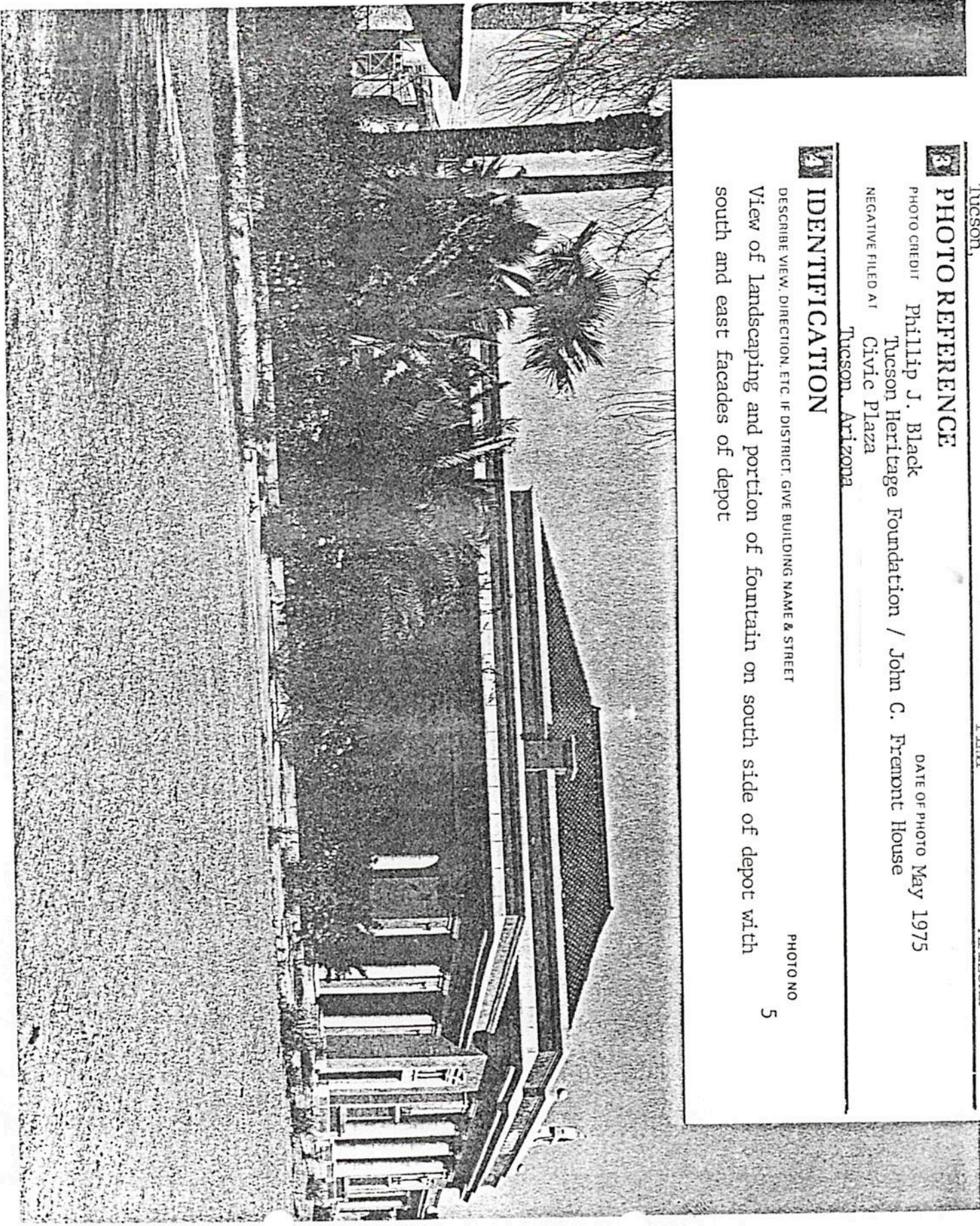
**IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO

View of landscaping and portion of fountain on south side of depot with  
south and east facades of depot

5



Tucson

**PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House  
Civic Plaza Tucson, Arizona

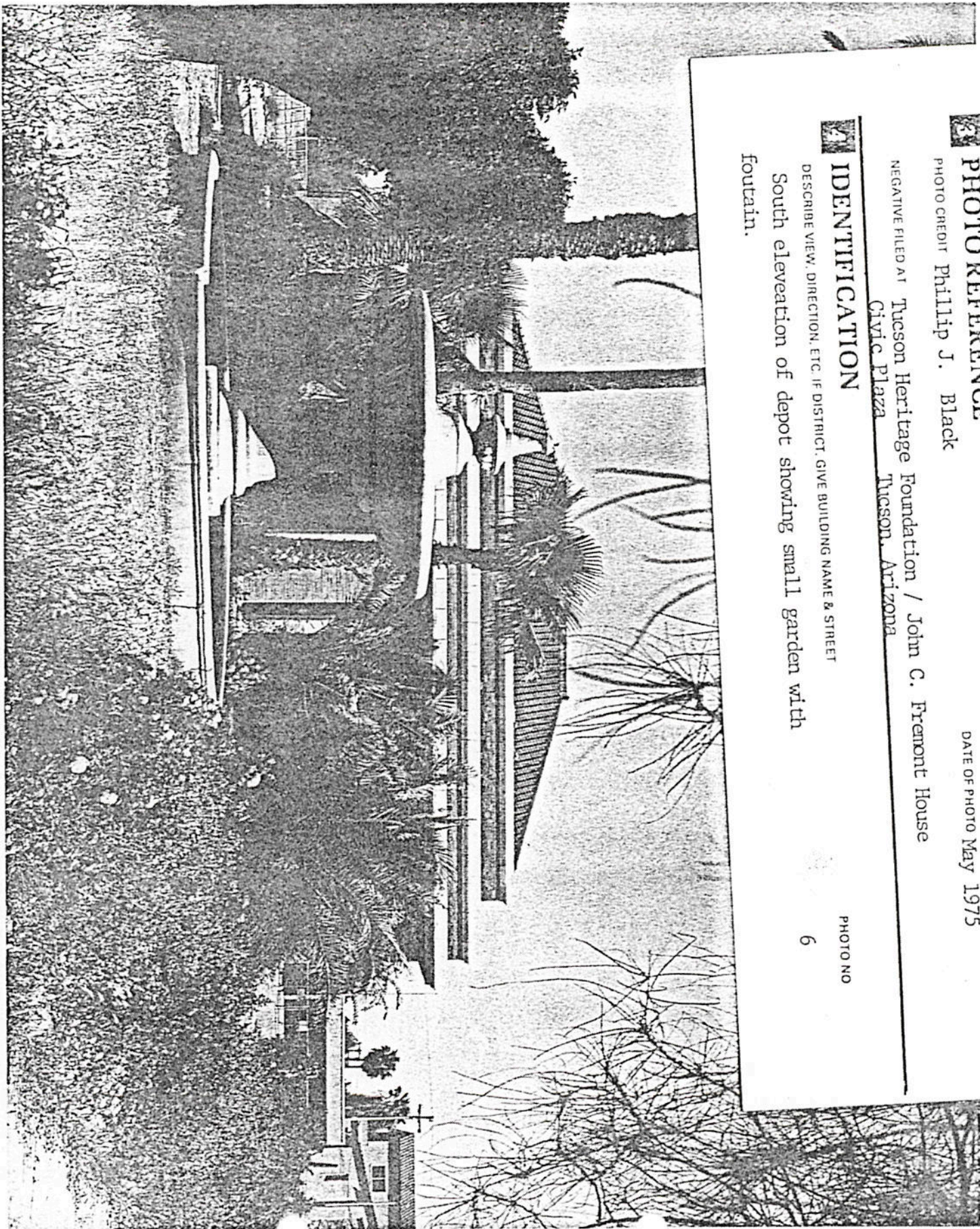
**IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

South elevation of depot showing small garden with fountain.

PHOTO NO

6



**PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black  
Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House  
NEGATIVE FILED AT Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

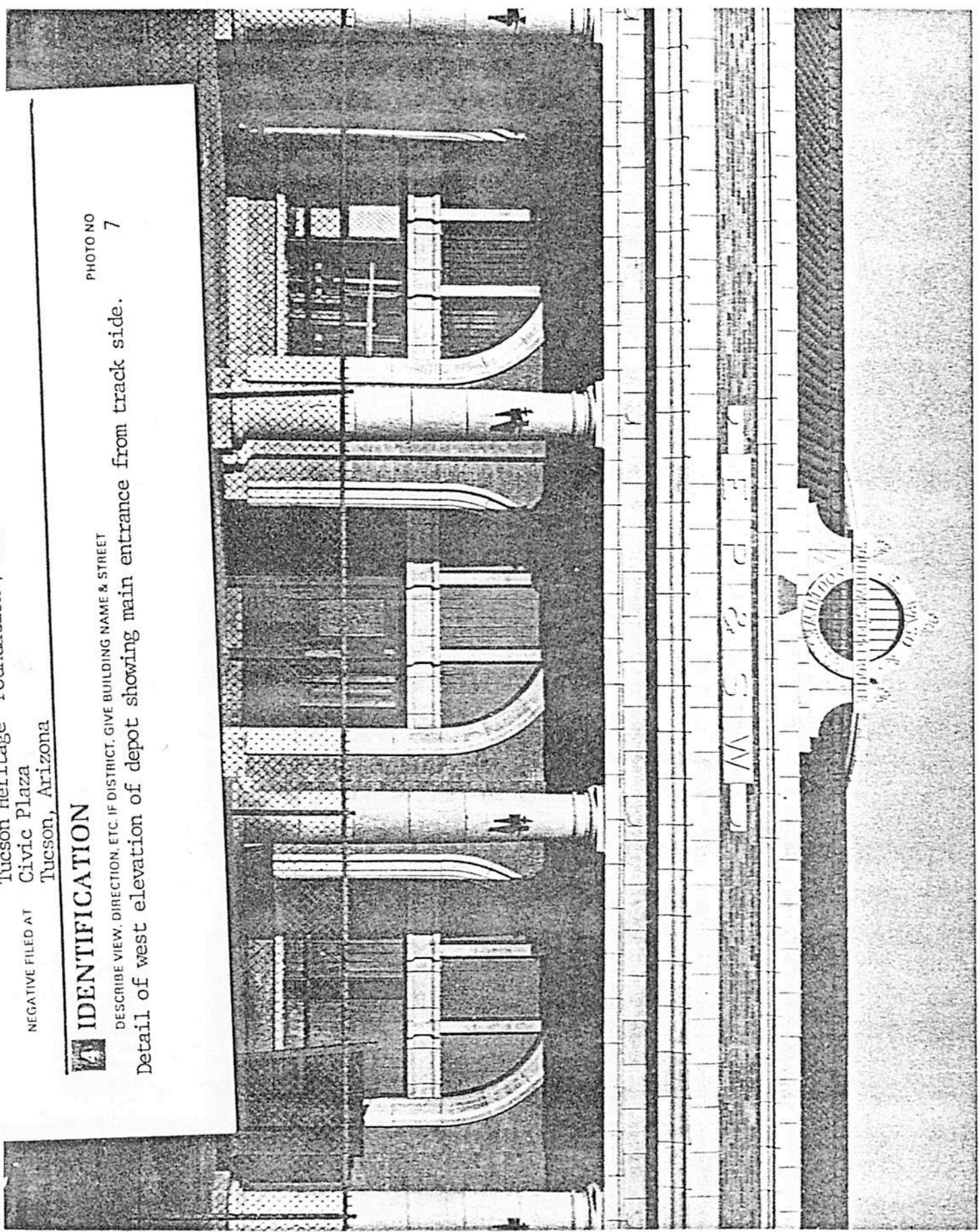
**IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Detail of west elevation of depot showing main entrance from track side.

PHOTO NO

7



El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Depot and Park

AND/OR COMMON

**2** LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Tucson

\_\_\_VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Pima

STATE  
Arizona

**3** PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House

NEGATIVE FILED AT Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona

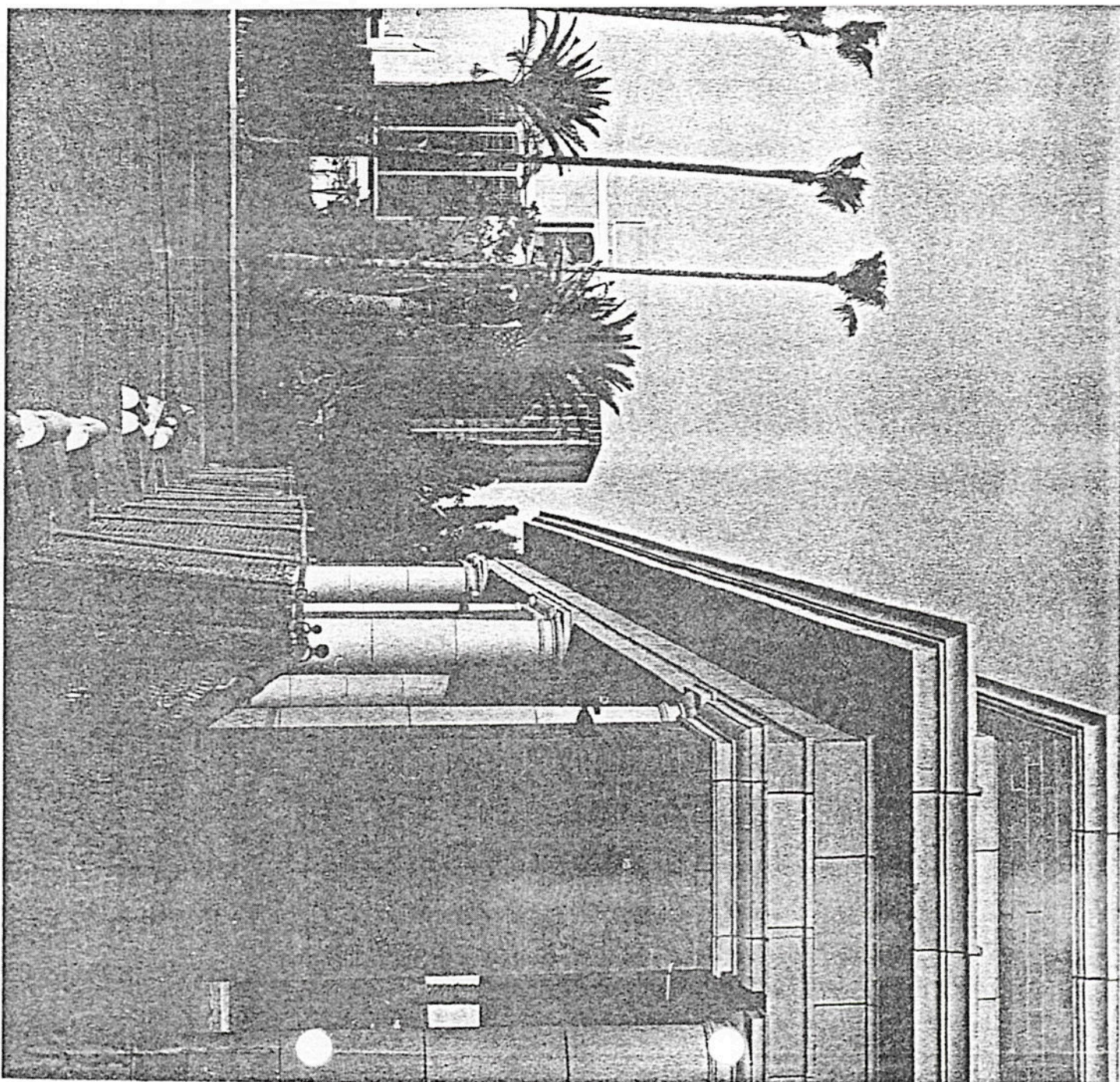
**4** IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO

View of El Paso and Southwestern Railroad Park with cityscape behind looking from the northwest corner of the depot with the fountain shown in lower middle of photograph.

8





## LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Tucson

VICINITY OF

COUNTY  
Pima

STATE  
Arizona



## PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House  
Civi Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona



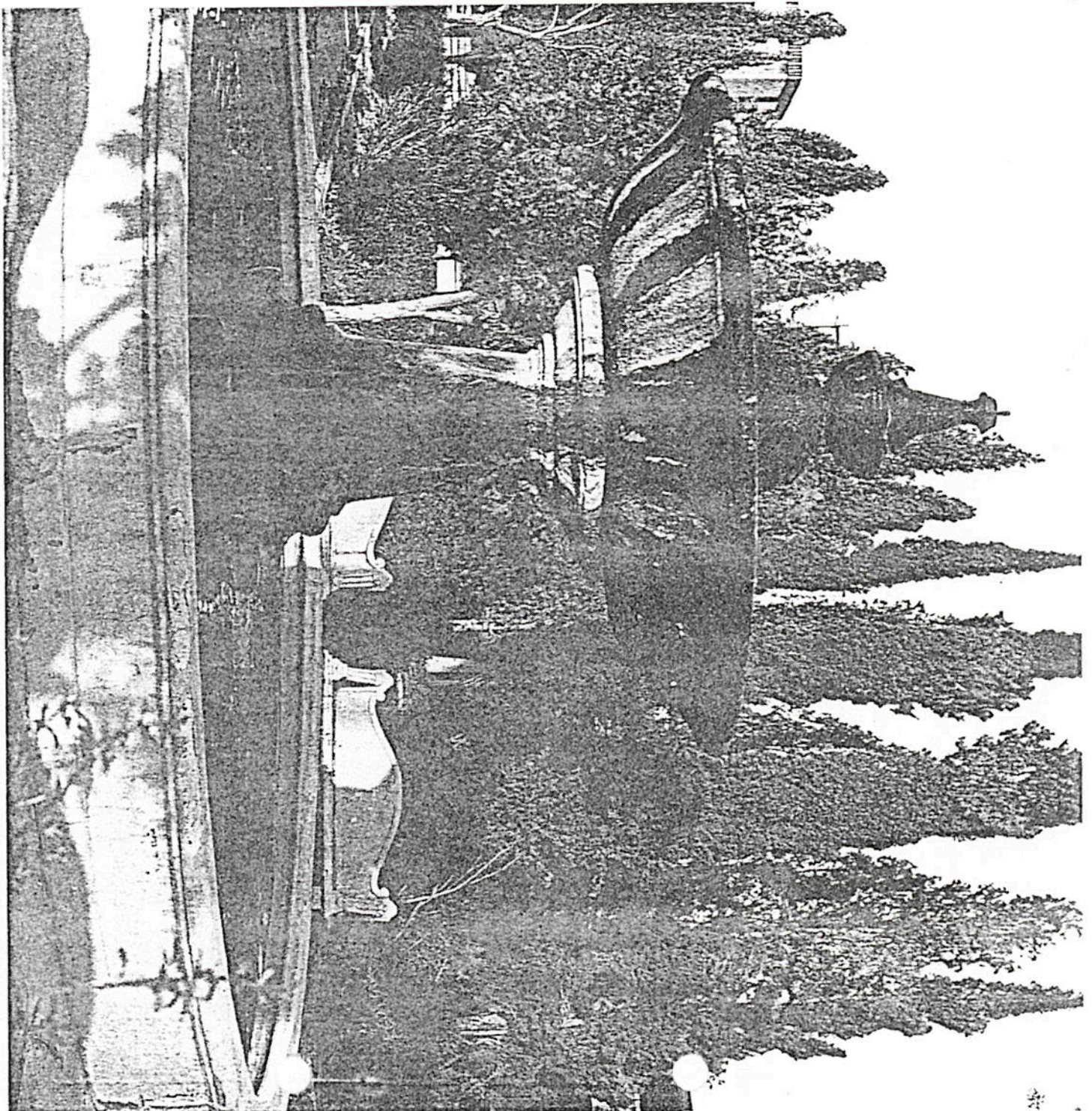
## IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

View of park and fountain looking east.

PHOTO NO

9





## 2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN  
Tucson

\_\_\_\_VICINITY OF

STATE  
Arizona

COUNTY  
Pima

## 3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black

DATE OF PHOTO May 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Tucson Heritage Foundation/John C. Fremont House  
Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

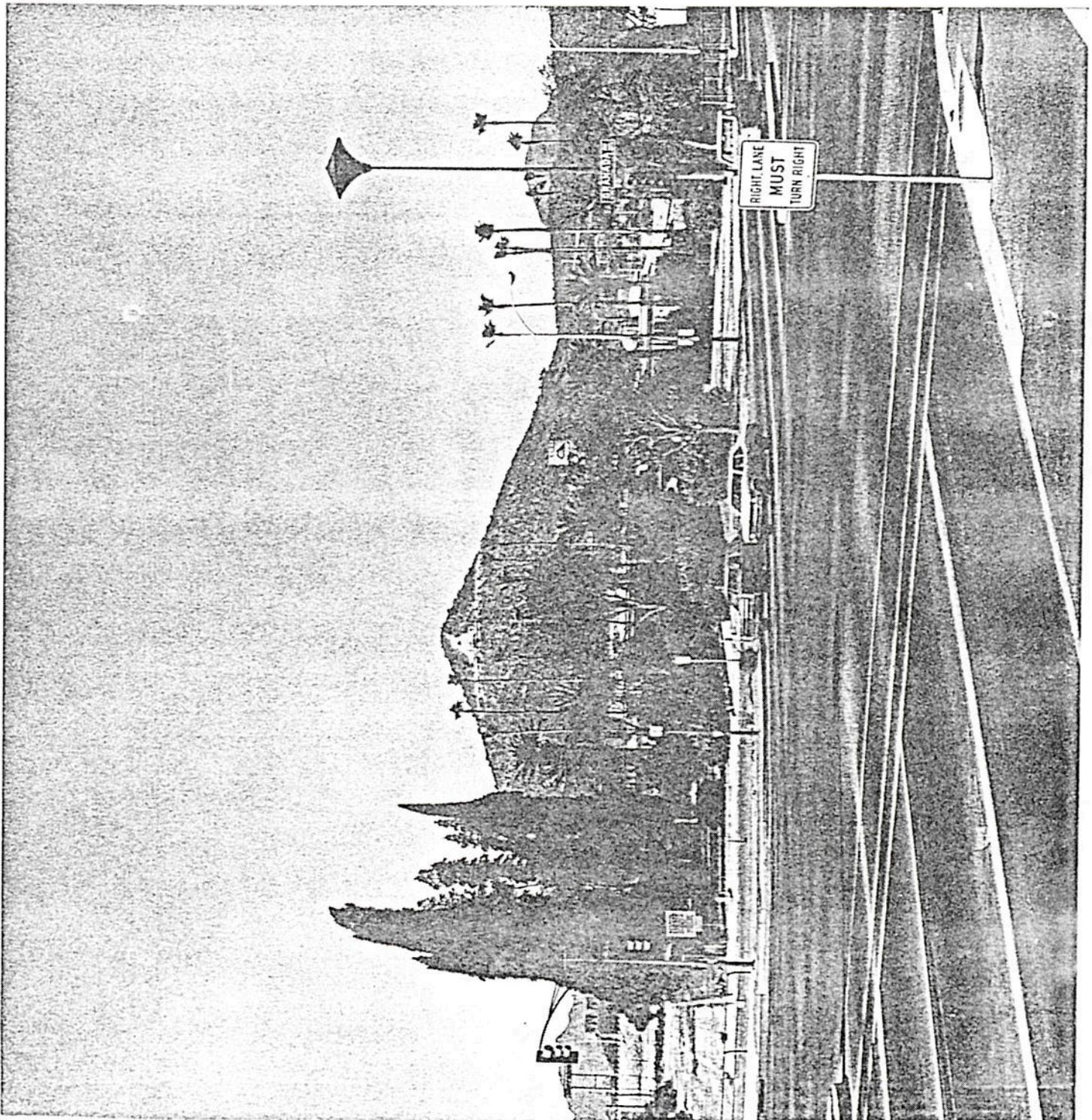
## 1 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO. 10

View of park with depot behind foliage. Looking southwest at corner of Granada Avenue and Congress Street.

GPO 592-4



TUCSON

DATE OF PHOTO

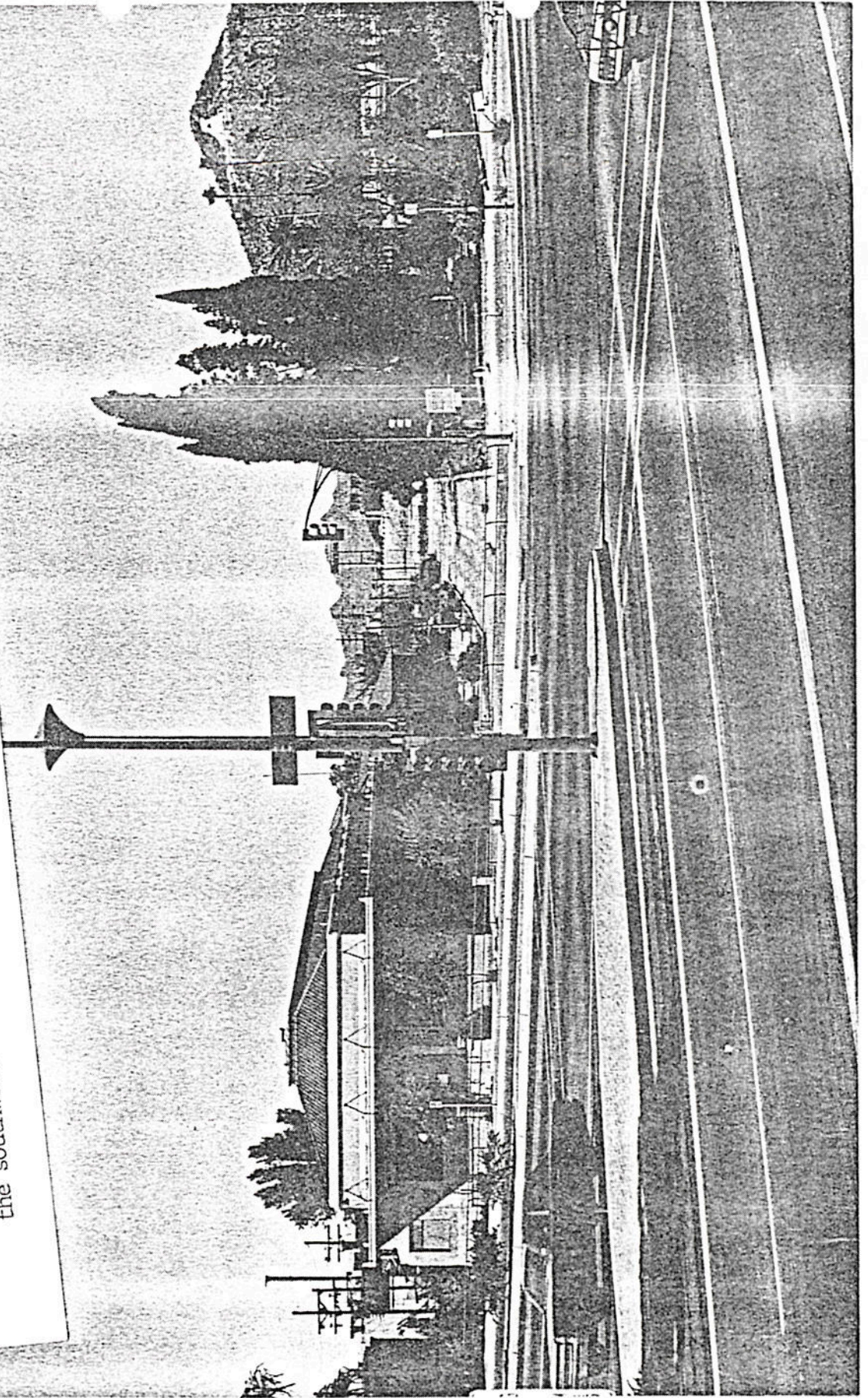
PHOTO REFERENCE / John C. Fremont House

3 PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black  
Tucson Heritage Foundation /  
Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona

PHOTO NO  
11

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
View of Freight and Office Building on left with park  
on right and depot behind foliage. View is looking toward  
the southwest at intersection of Granada Ave and Congress Street.



Tucson

### PHOTO REFERENCE

May 1975

DATE OF PHOTO

PHOTO CREDIT Phillip J. Black  
Tucson Heritage Foundation / John C. Fremont House

NEGATIVE FILED AT Civic Plaza  
Tucson, Arizona

### IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT. GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET  
View of east and north facades of the Freight and Office building.

PHOTO NO  
12

