

OSA COPY

TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA

VILLAGE STUDY

December 1997 - March 1999

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Study Objectives

“Through a partnership with the Community to create an informed consensus of strategies to address development and redevelopment impacts upon the Village.”

“To define a long term vision of the opportunities present for ensuring the continued appeal, form, function and cohesion of the Village”.

Summary Findings and Recommendations

Community informed consensus has resulted in the creation of a priority list of issues. Staff analysis and review recommends the following summary strategies to address each priority issue as follows:

1. **Drainage (flooding concerns)**

Update the 1994 Village Drainage Study to provide an assessment of relative costs and benefits of the alternatives identified, as well as any other previously viable solutions based upon a review of projects implemented in nearby coastal communities.

2. **Redevelopment (scale and form of construction)**

An assessment of existing zoning regulations relative to measurement of setbacks to edge of overhang, lack of encouragement for traditional front porches, permitted parking locations, landscaping requirements, and standards applicable to nonconforming lots is recommended as a work program for the Planning and Zoning Board.

3. **Alley Status**

Formalization of incipient Town policy for the appropriate use and function of each alley on a block by block basis is recommended to reflect differences in land use patterns and potential beneficial use of each alley within the Village.

Study Work Plan and Approach

The study approach has relied upon a significant commitment of resources for working together with the Village community in reviewing existing conditions and exploring identification of priority issues and concerns. Five data collection components were identified and analyzed as follows:

1. Land Use Data
2. Physical Characteristics
3. Demographics
4. Community Issues
5. Intangibles

At the conclusion of each data collection and analysis step, results were presented at a series of community open houses (held at the Arts Center) with status briefings provided at subsequent Planning and Zoning Board and Town Commission meetings.

This approach has provided for an open exchange of information between staff and the Village community and has provided a means for policy officials to keep abreast of study progress.

A total of 6 community based meetings, 6 Planning and Zoning Board briefings and 6 Town Commission workshop updates were conducted over the course of the project.

Community Description

The Village is an historical enclave of primarily residential uses with limited commercial services (restaurants) at the northern limits of the Town of Longboat Key. Form and function of street design, lot dimensions and development pattern reflect a traditional neighborhood grid design prevalent during the early 19th century and which has recently regained special emphasis in the land use planning and development professions. This particular type of design and layout has been recommended as desirable for providing features supportive of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, facilitating interpersonal interaction along street fronts, improving pedestrian scale and supporting neighborhood cohesion.

Summary Demographics

Demographic data for the Village from the latest census as updated by University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research data was extrapolated and compared to data for the Manatee County portion of the Town. Significant differences were identified in that the Village has a higher proportion of children and full year residents.

Demographics

A. Average Persons per Household

Manatee County 2.15 persons

The Village 2.21 persons

B. Children as a % of total Population

Manatee County

15.2%

The Village

8.6%

C. Proportion of Full Year Residents

Manatee County

54.5%

The Village

67.6%

Summary Land Use Data Analysis

and

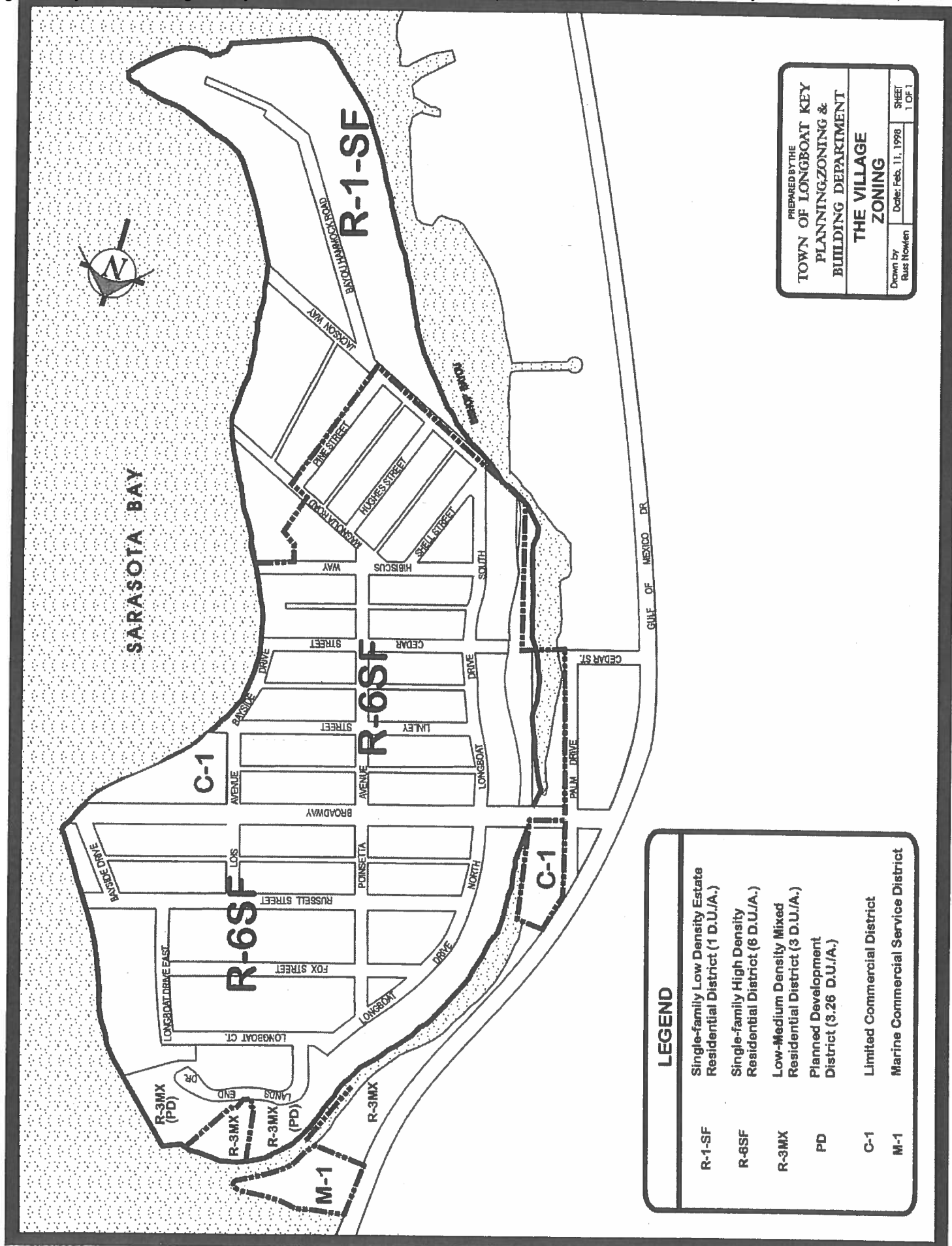
Physical Characteristics

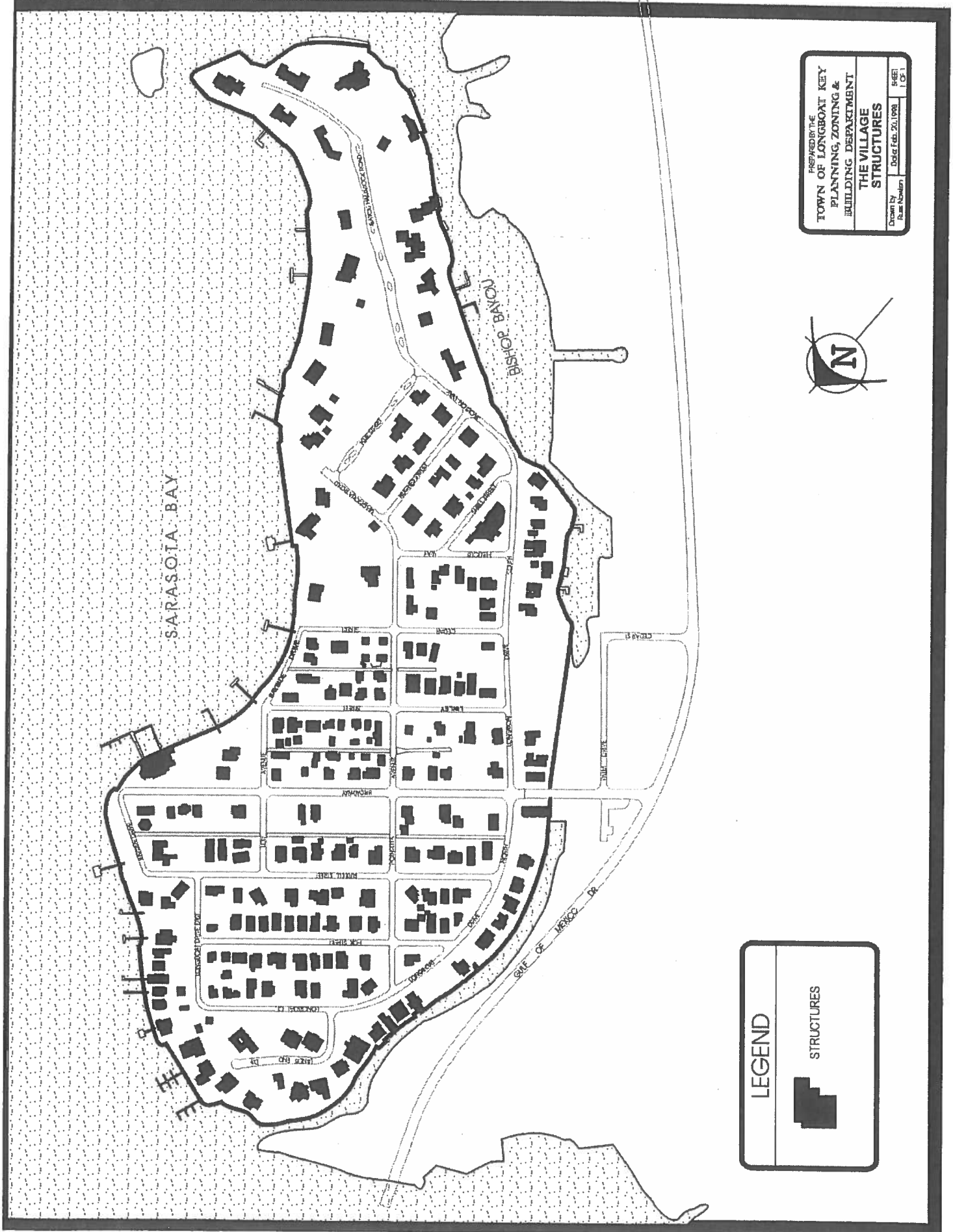
Field studies, review of Town records and Manatee County geographic information system data produced a graphic depiction of each of the following land use and physical characteristics of the Village:

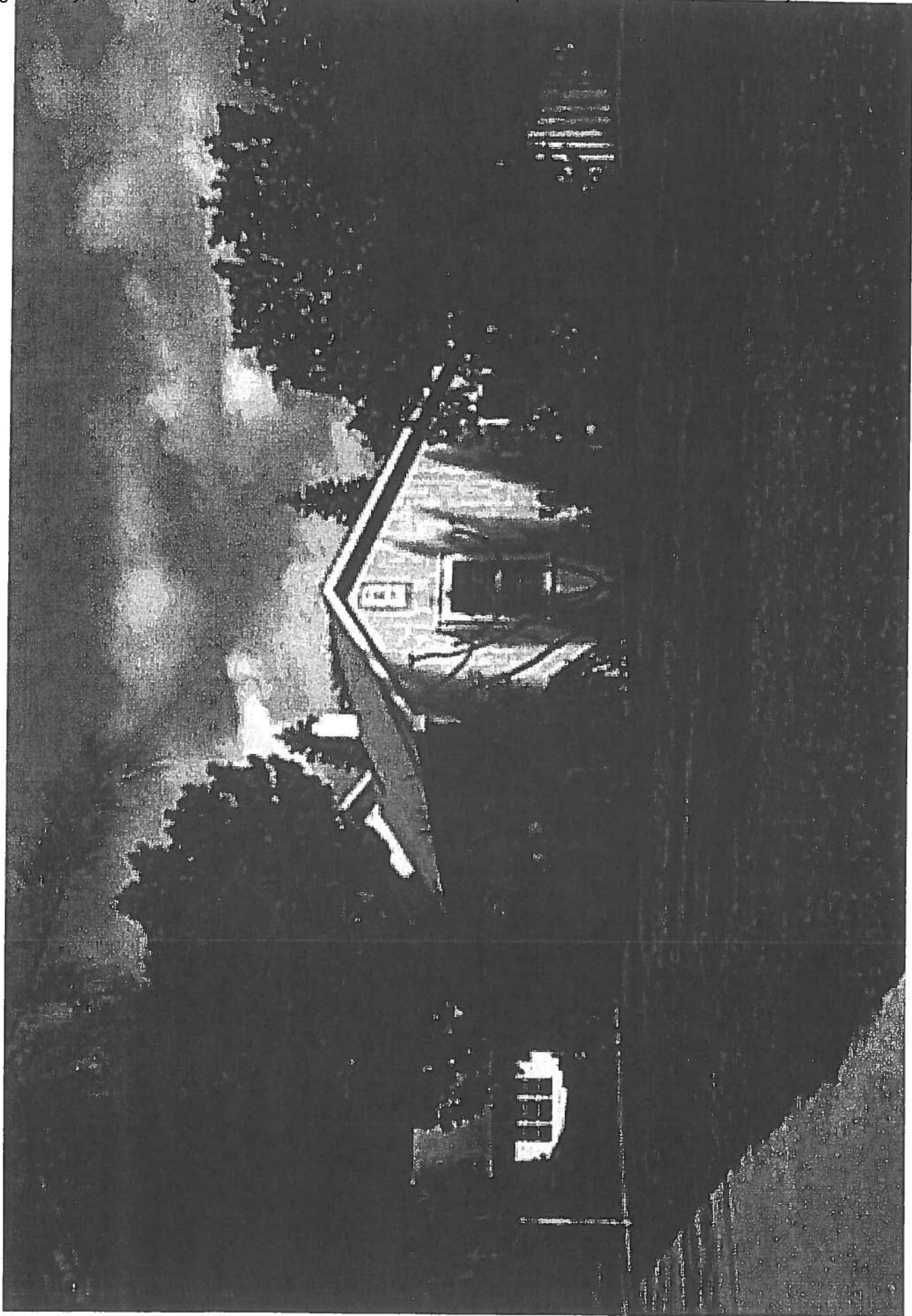
1. ownership patterns
2. zoning / existing use
3. access / circulation
4. structure
5. pre- FIRM / FIRM
6. conforming / non-conforming
7. infrastructure
8. vegetation / landscaping
9. architectural
10. right-of-way use conditions
11. lighting
12. impervious surfaces
13. historic sites
14. parking conditions

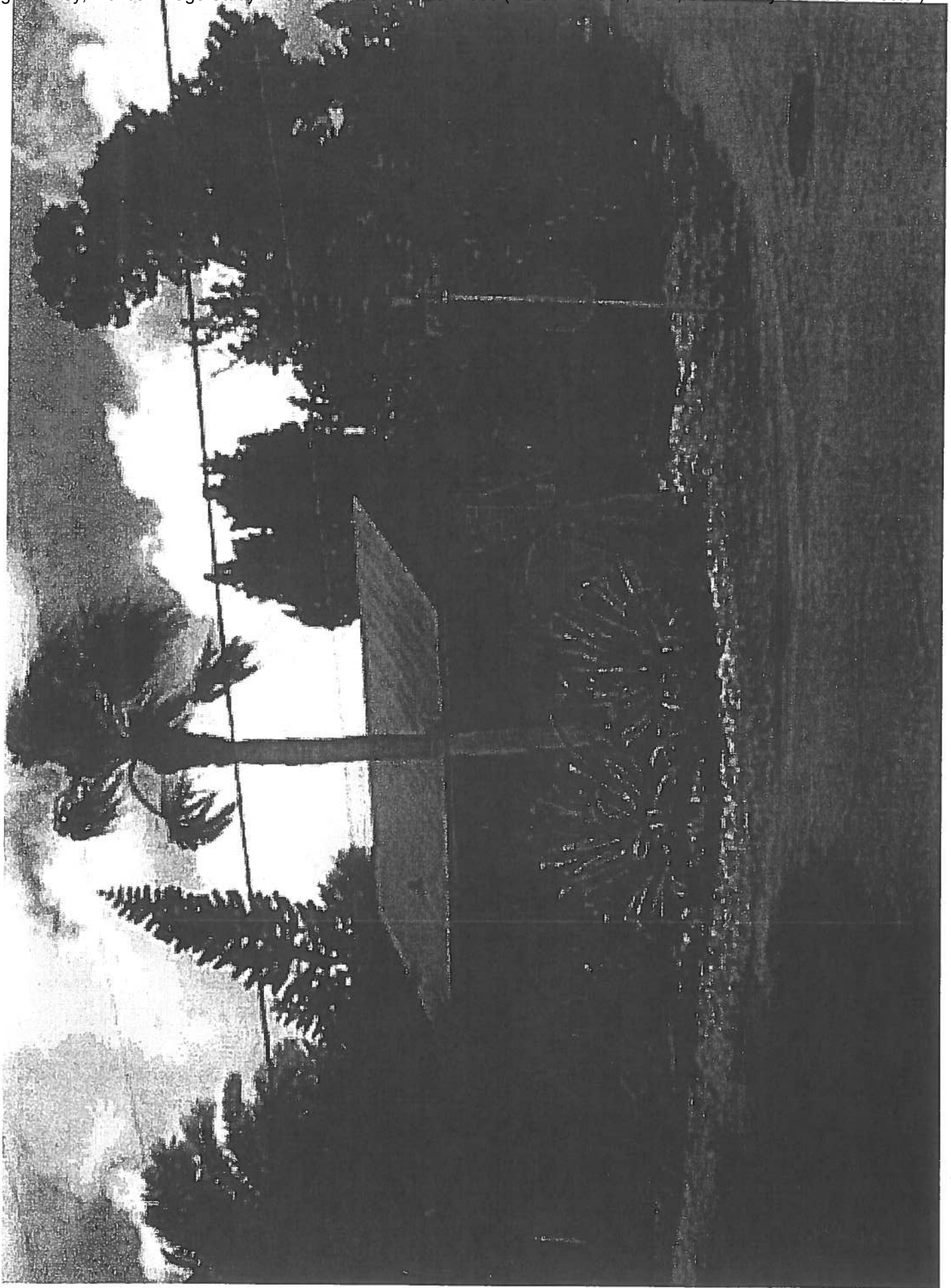
♦ Land Use Data

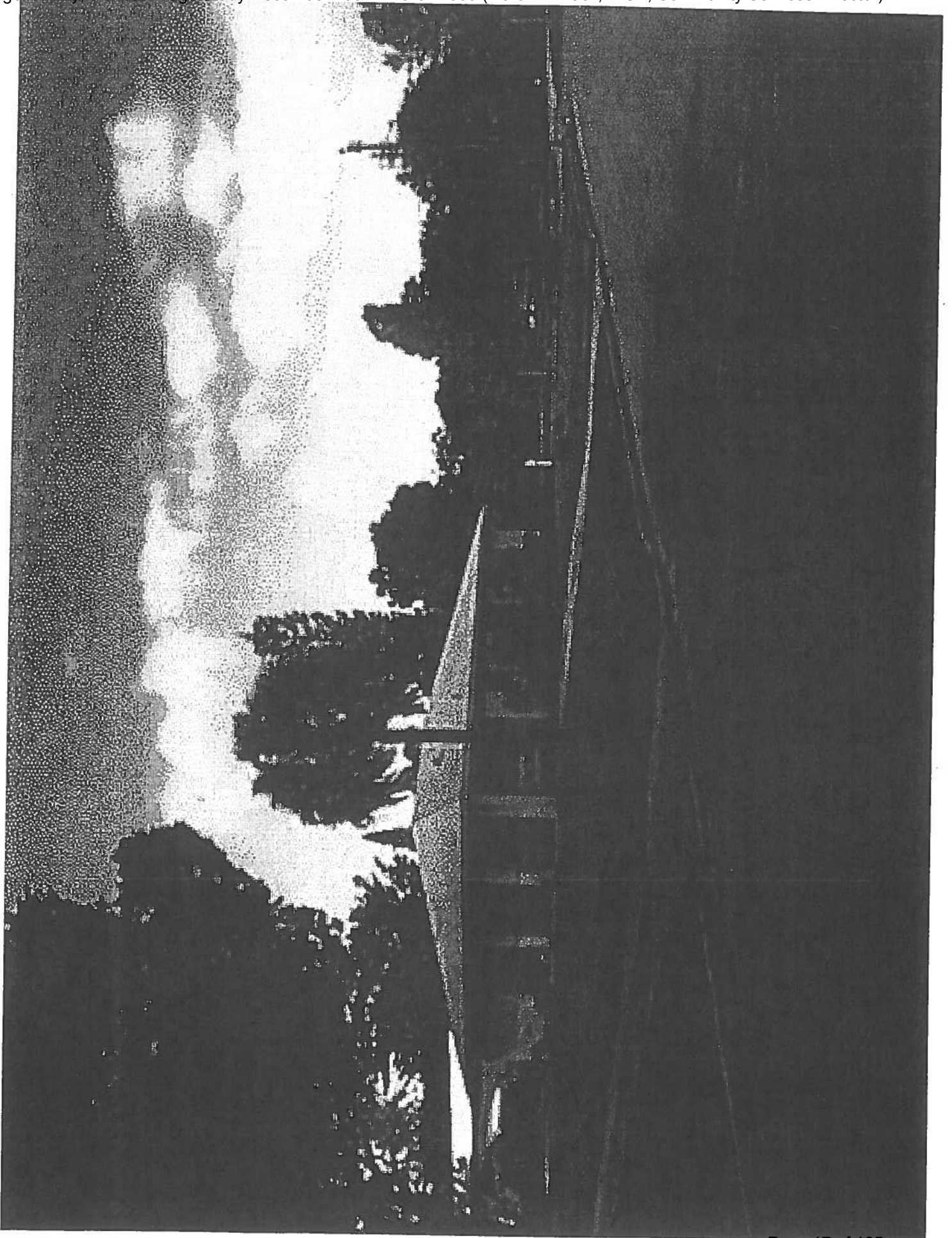
- ownership
- zoning/use
- access
- structures
- FIRM/Pre - FIRM
- conforming/non-conforming

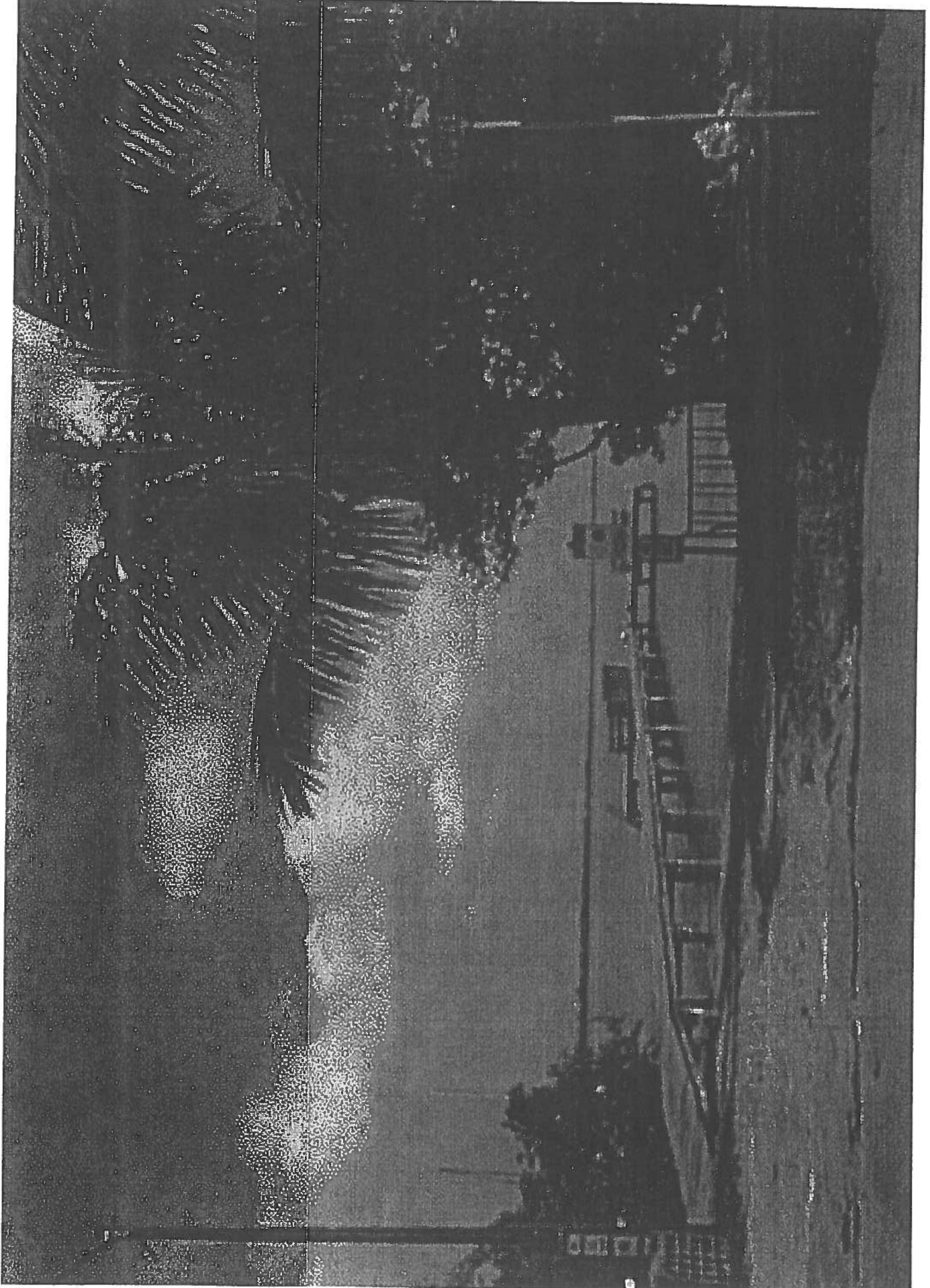


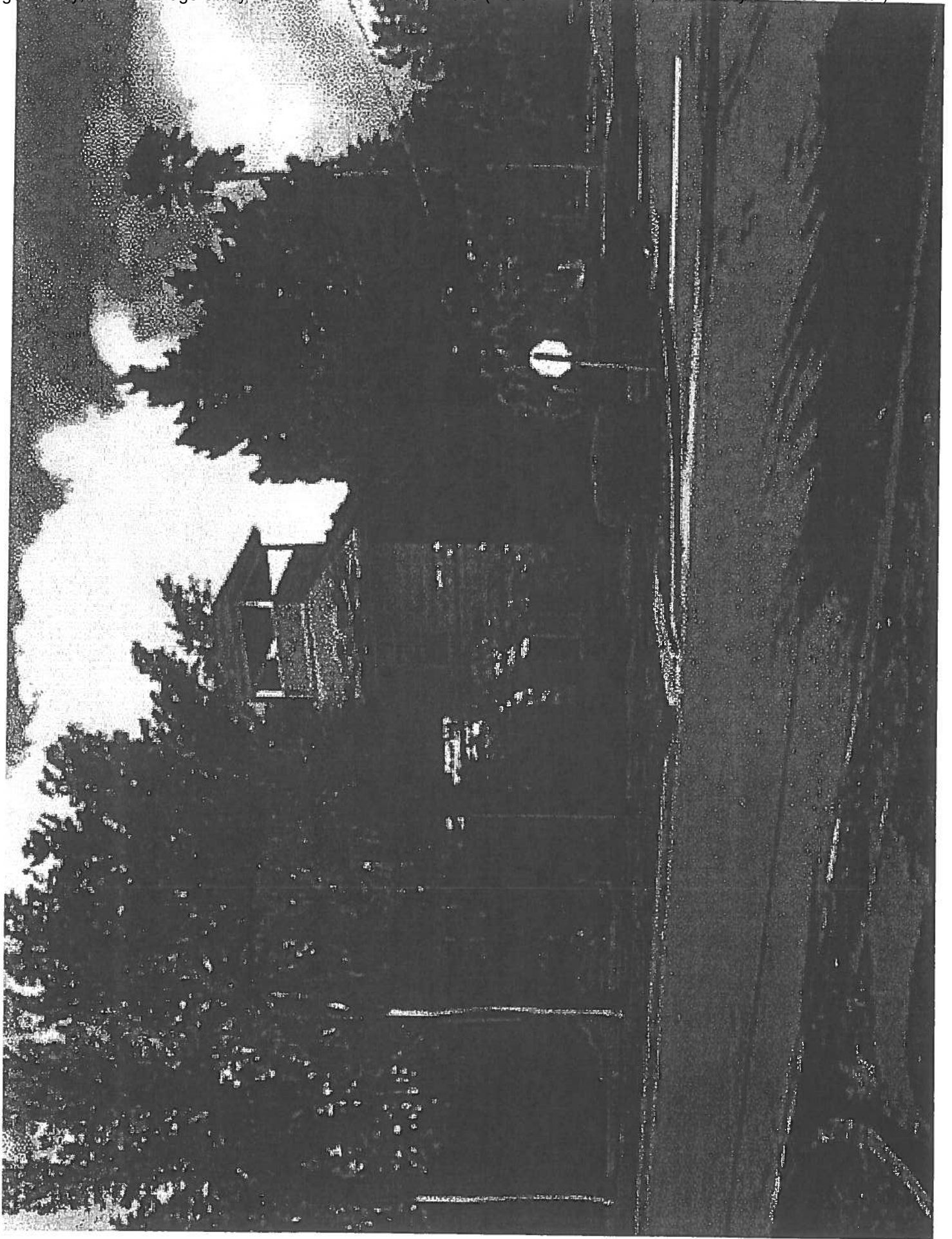


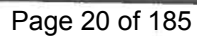


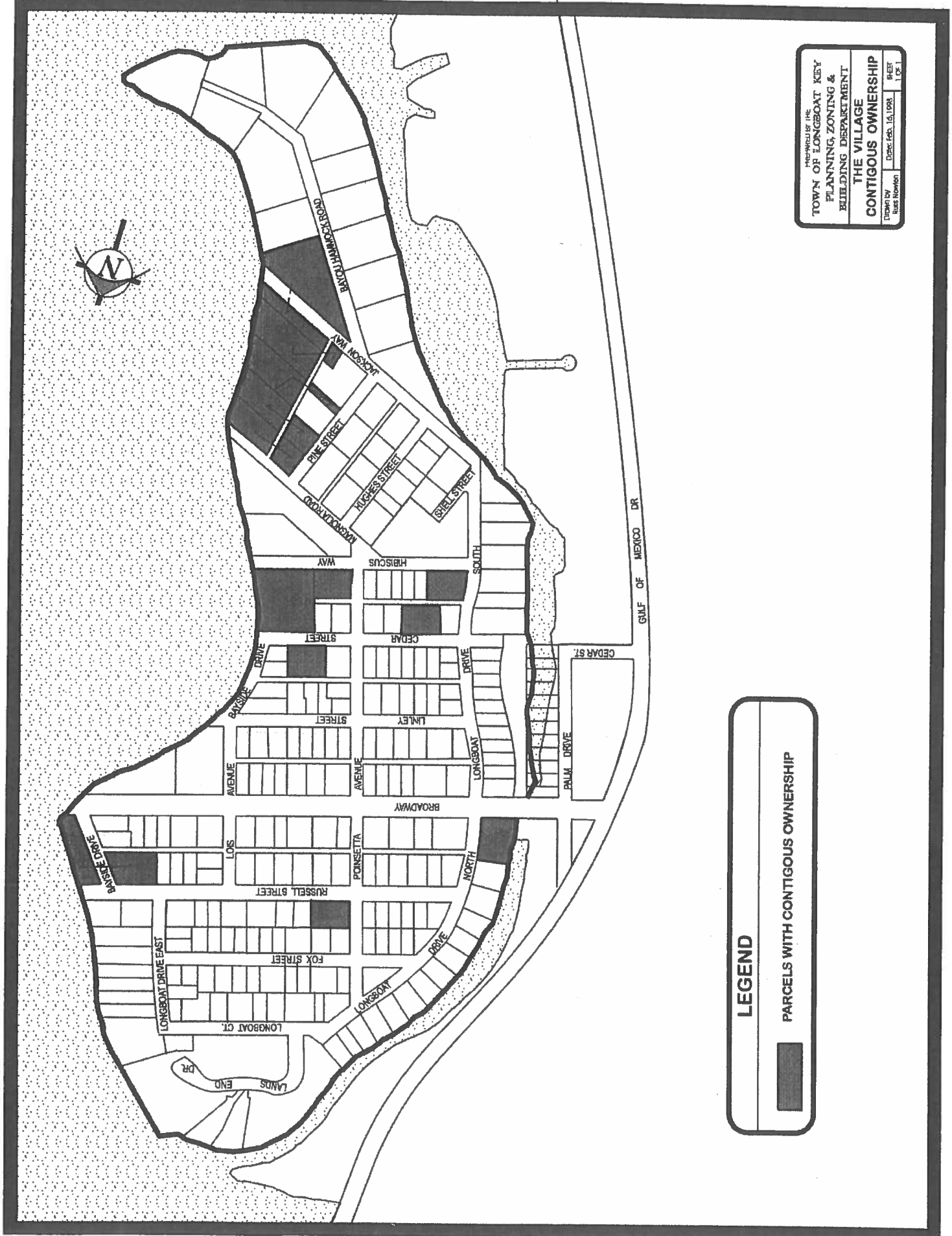


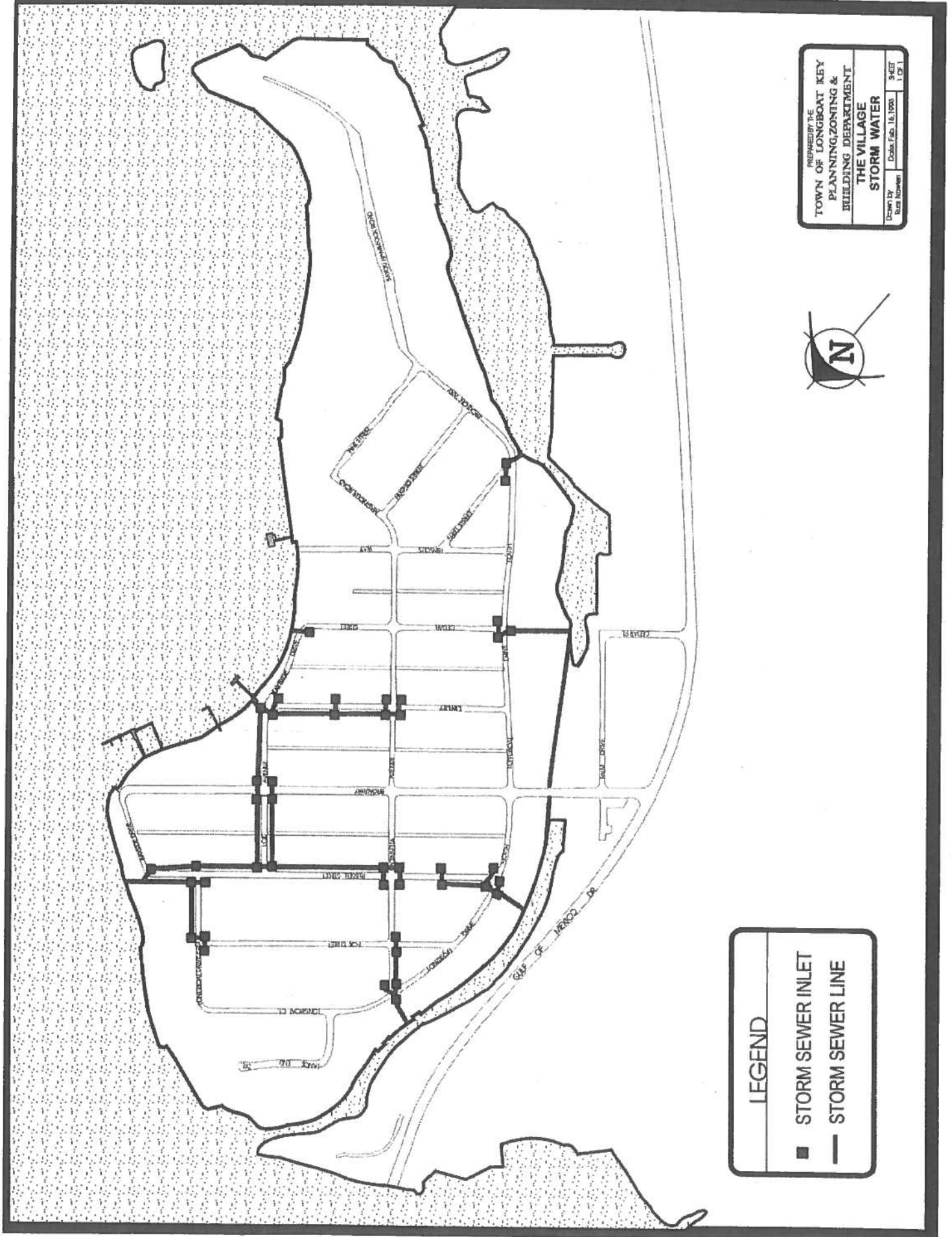


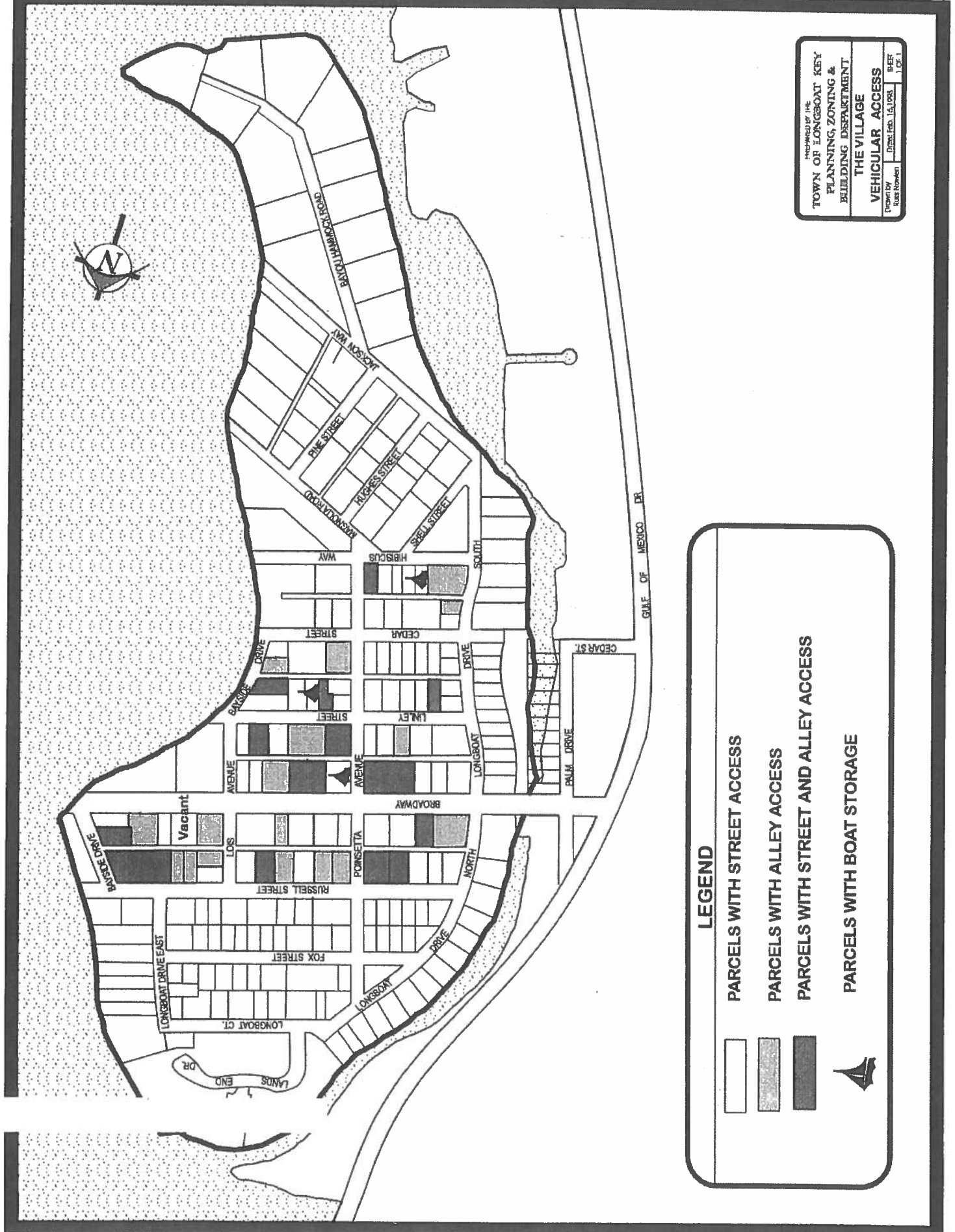




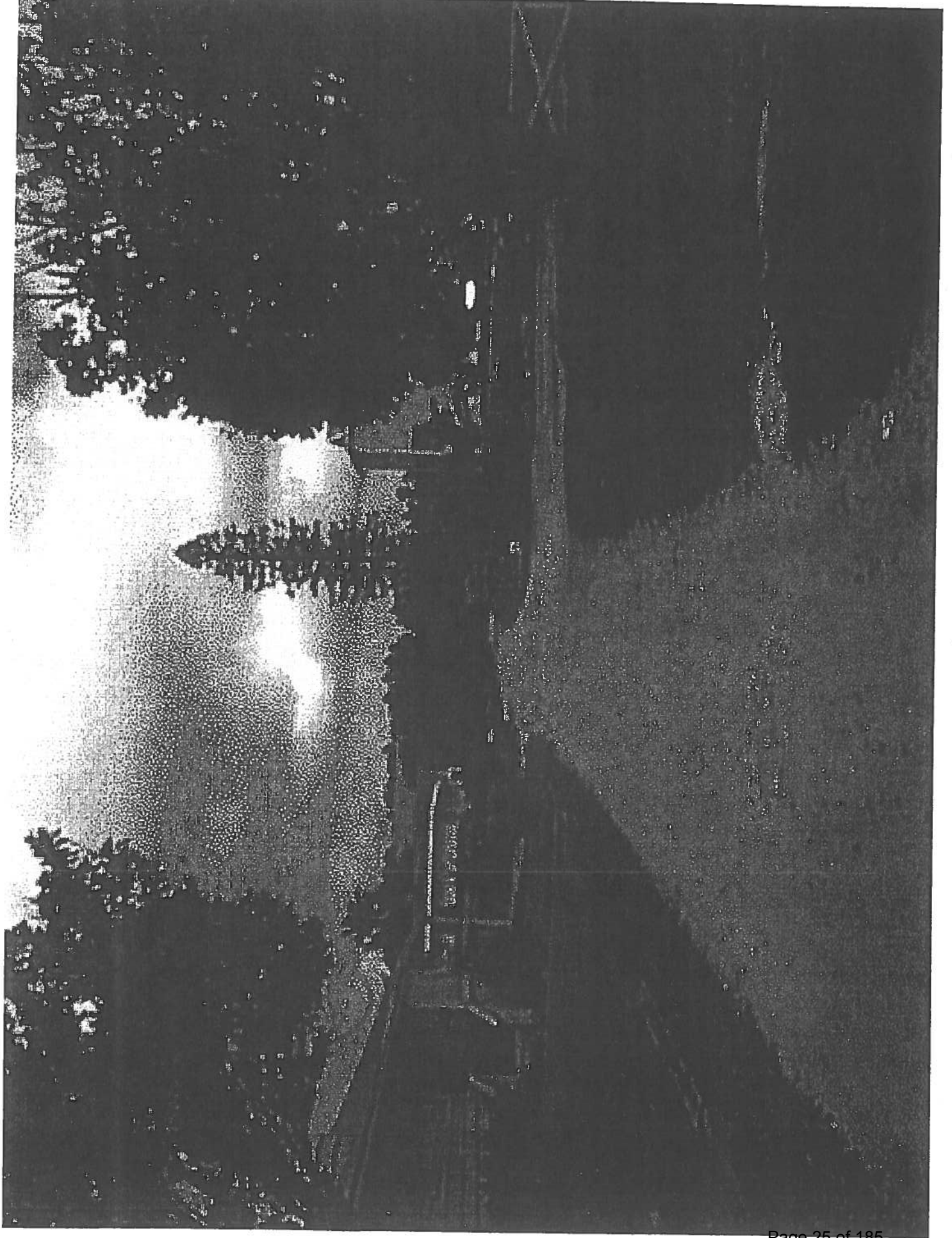


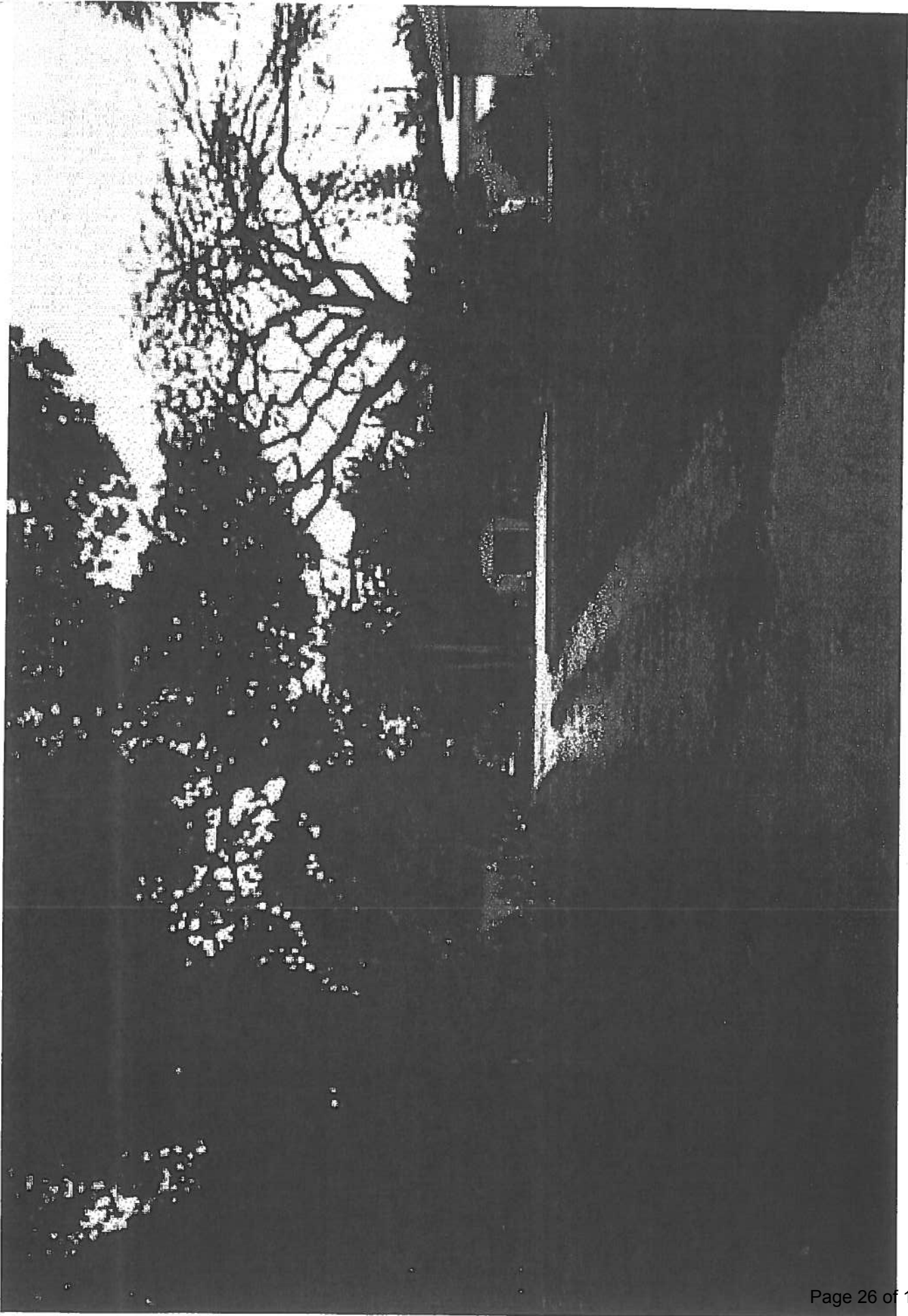


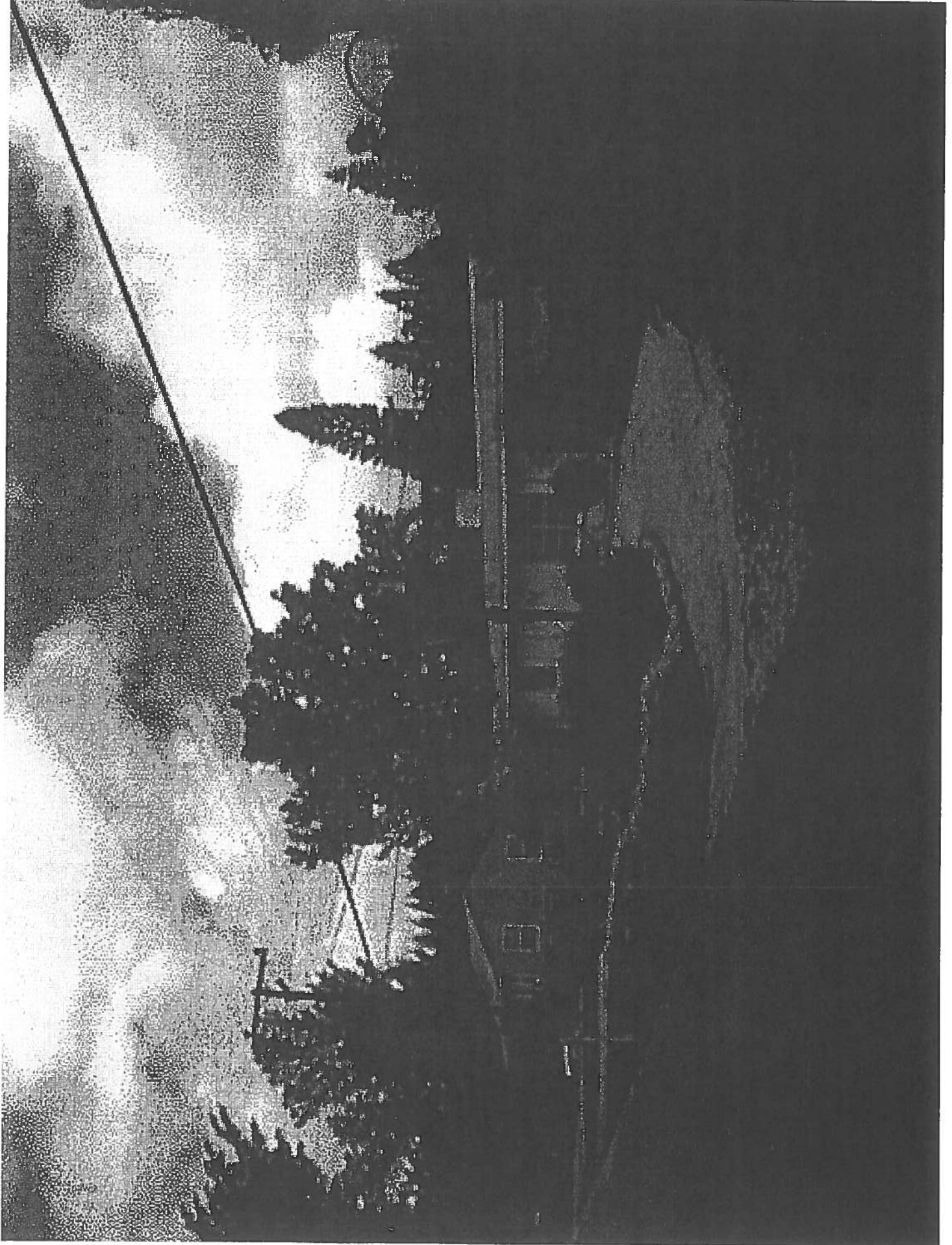


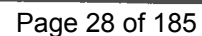


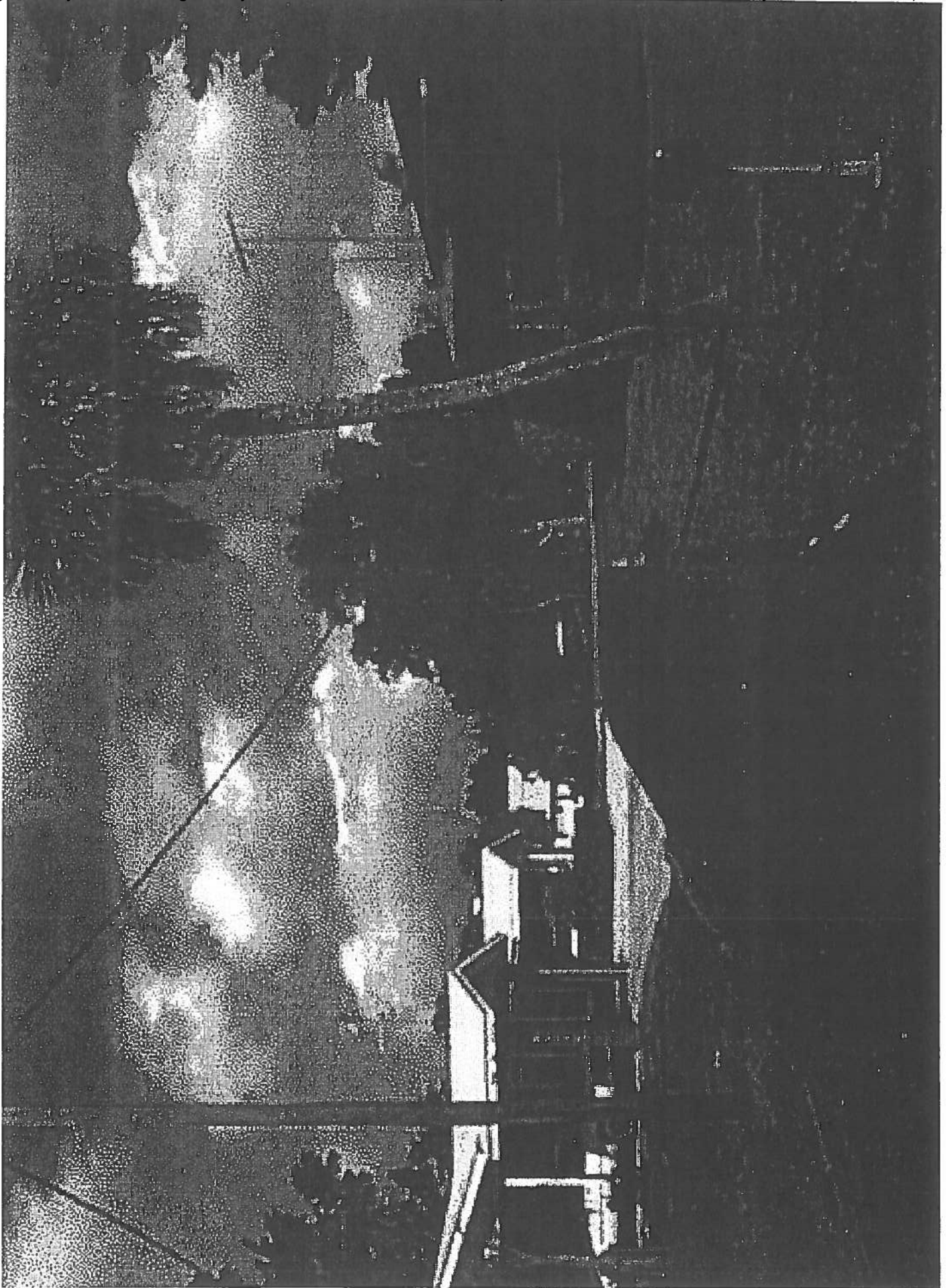


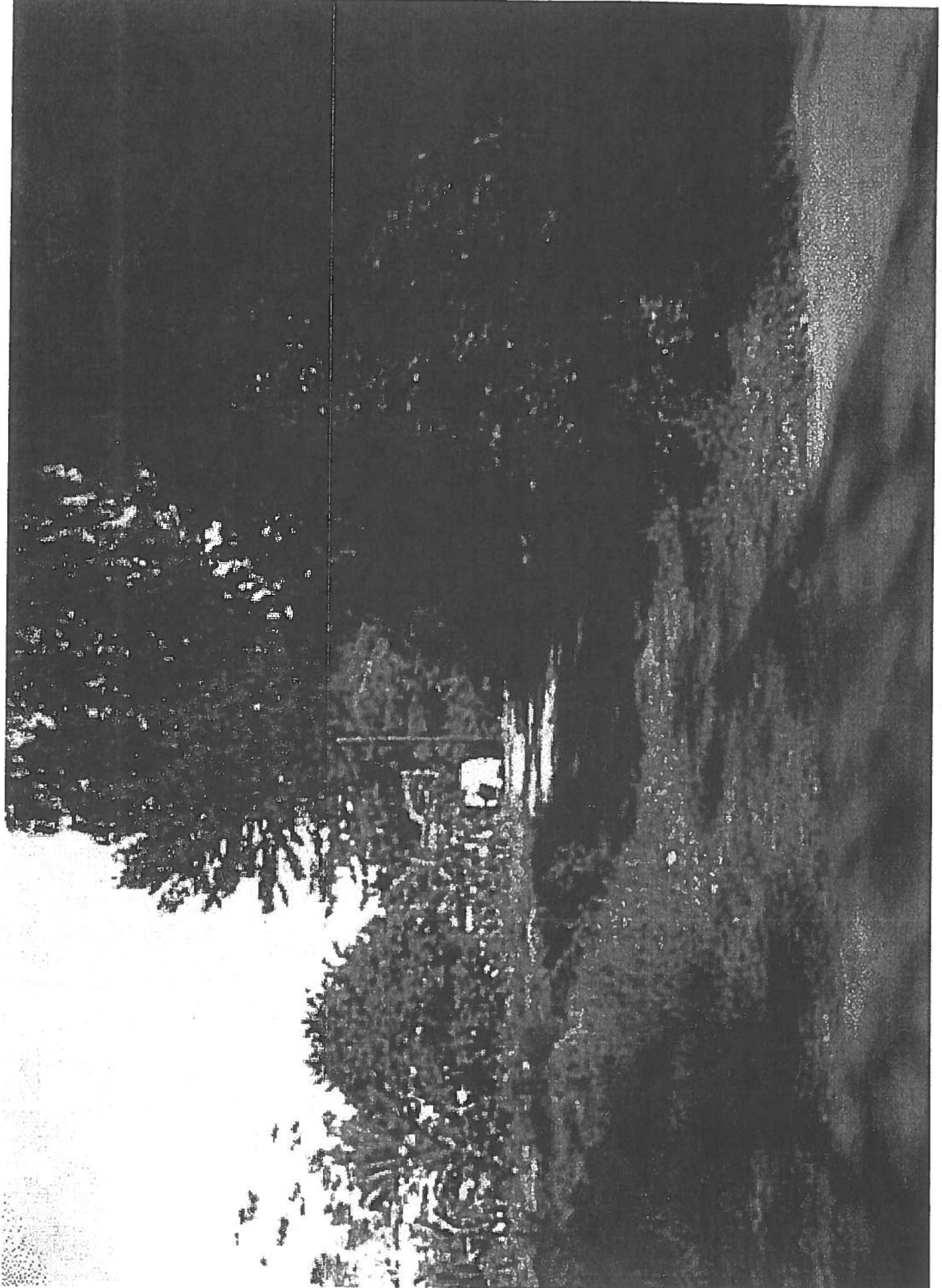


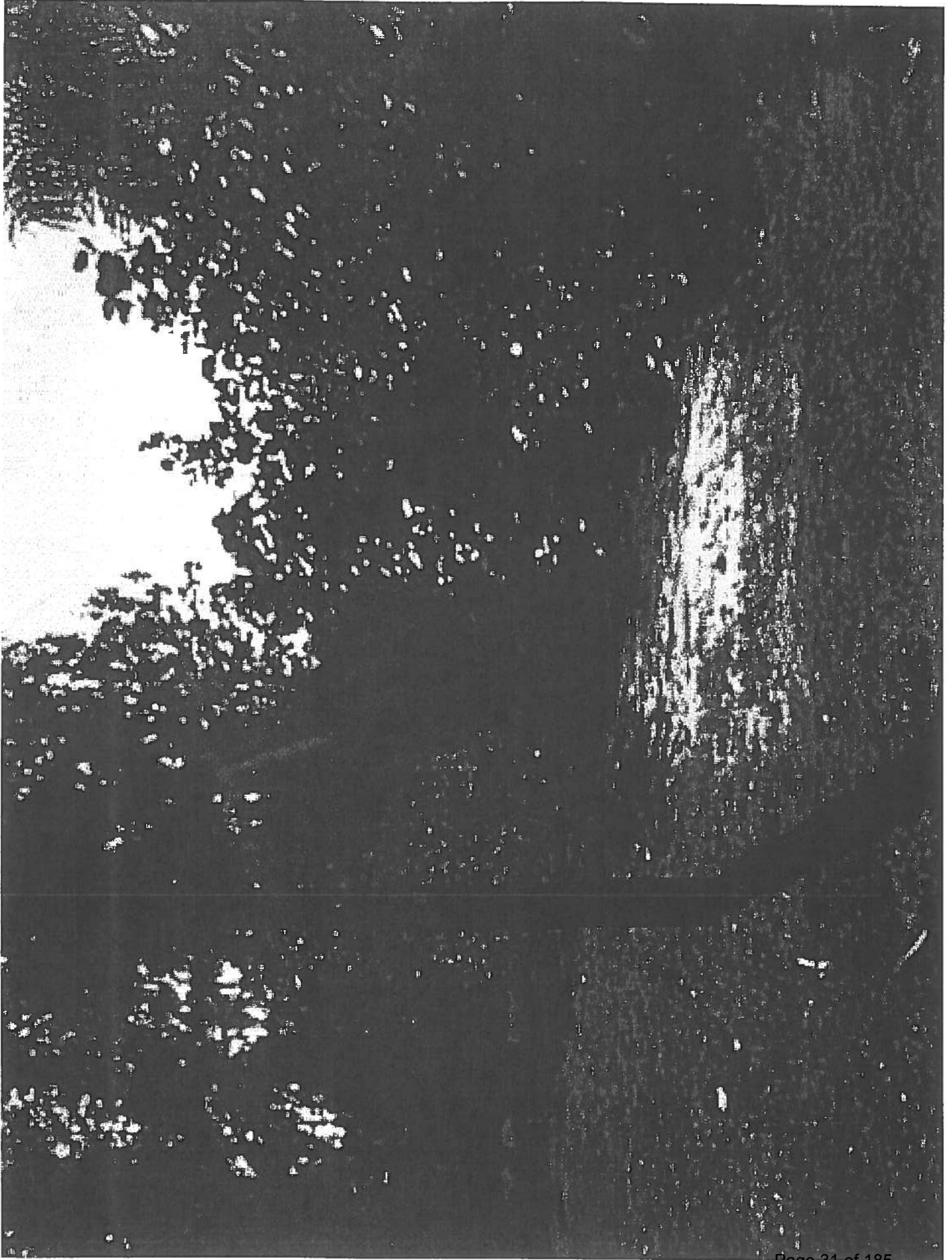


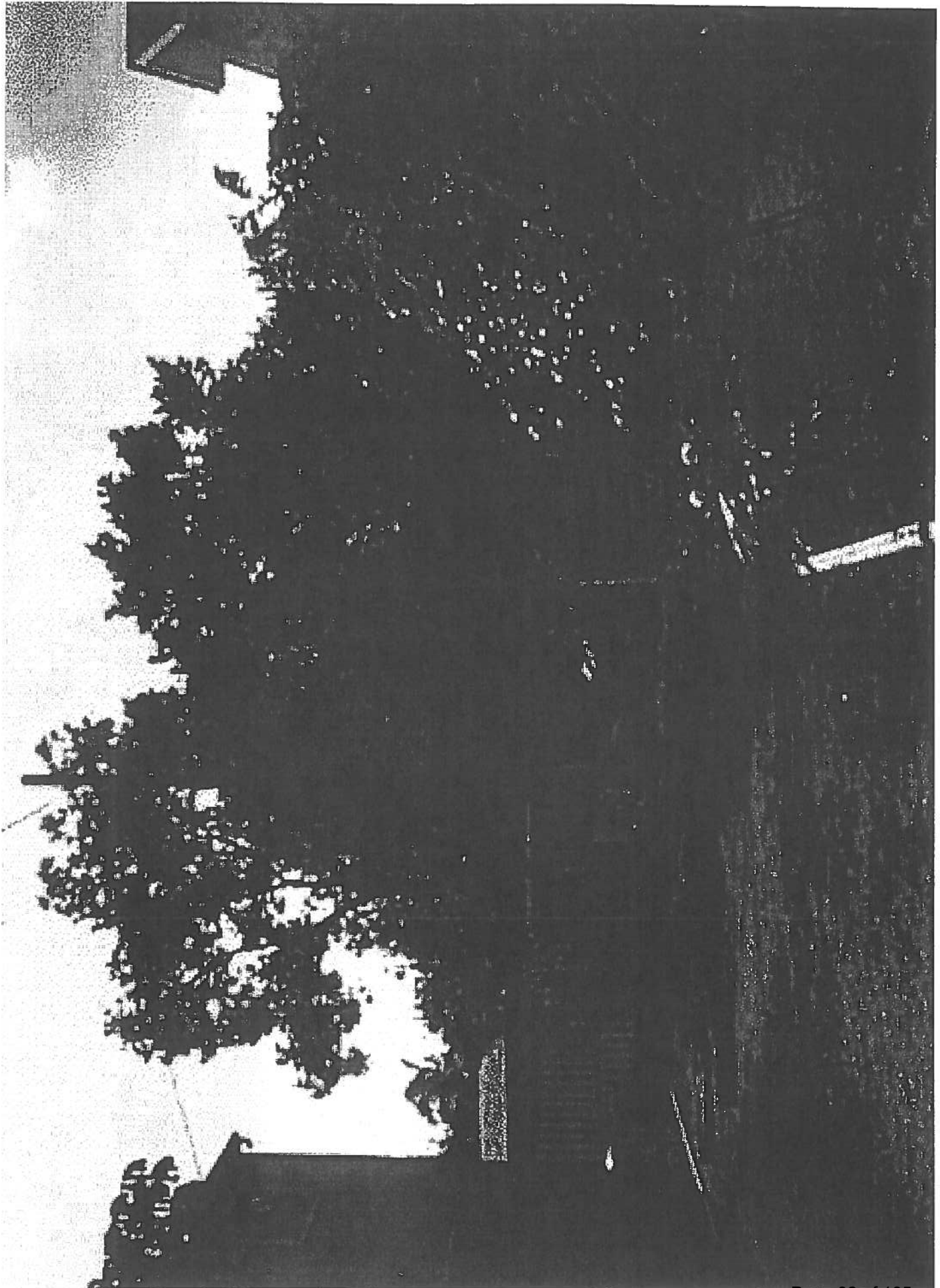




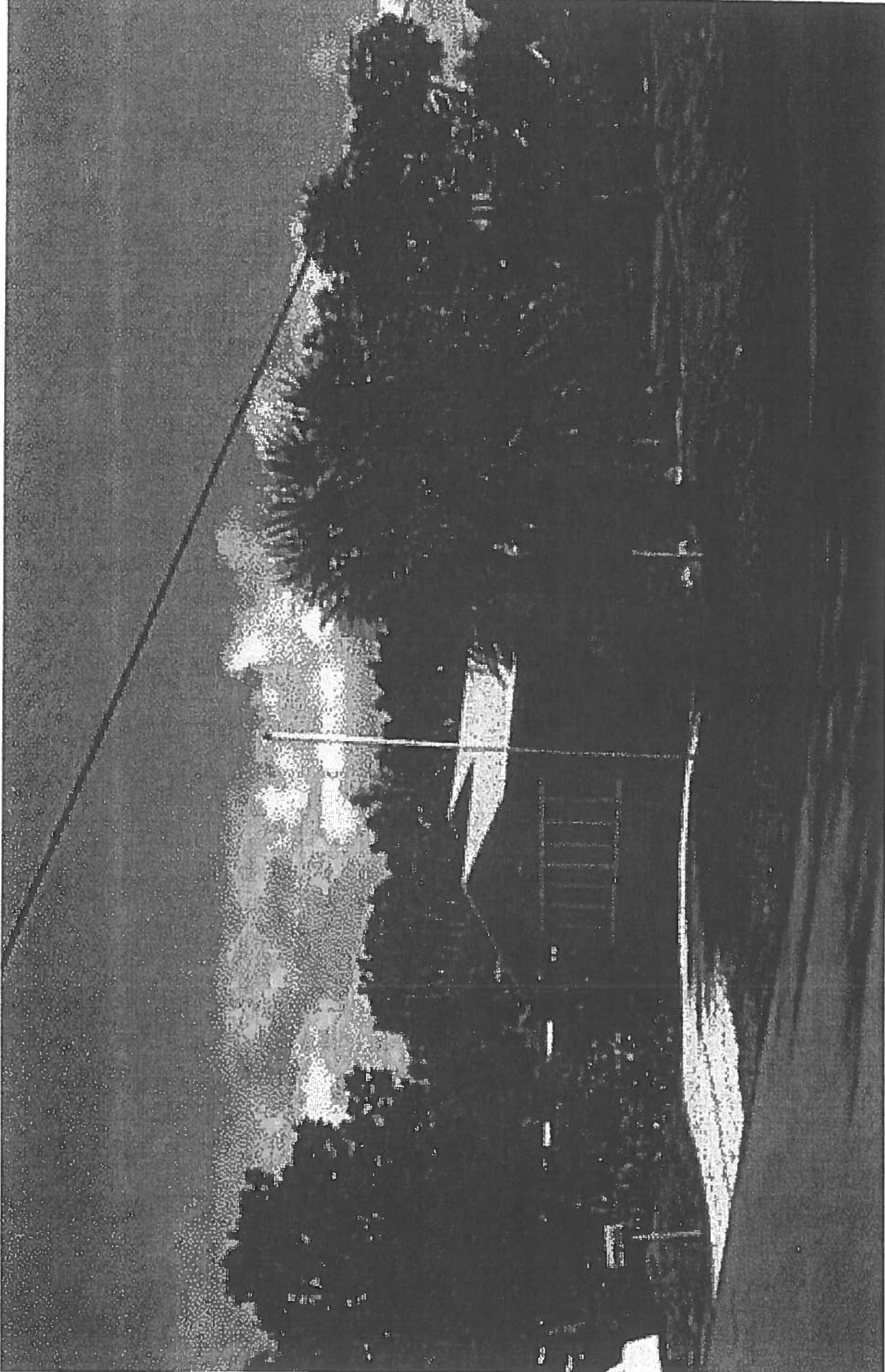










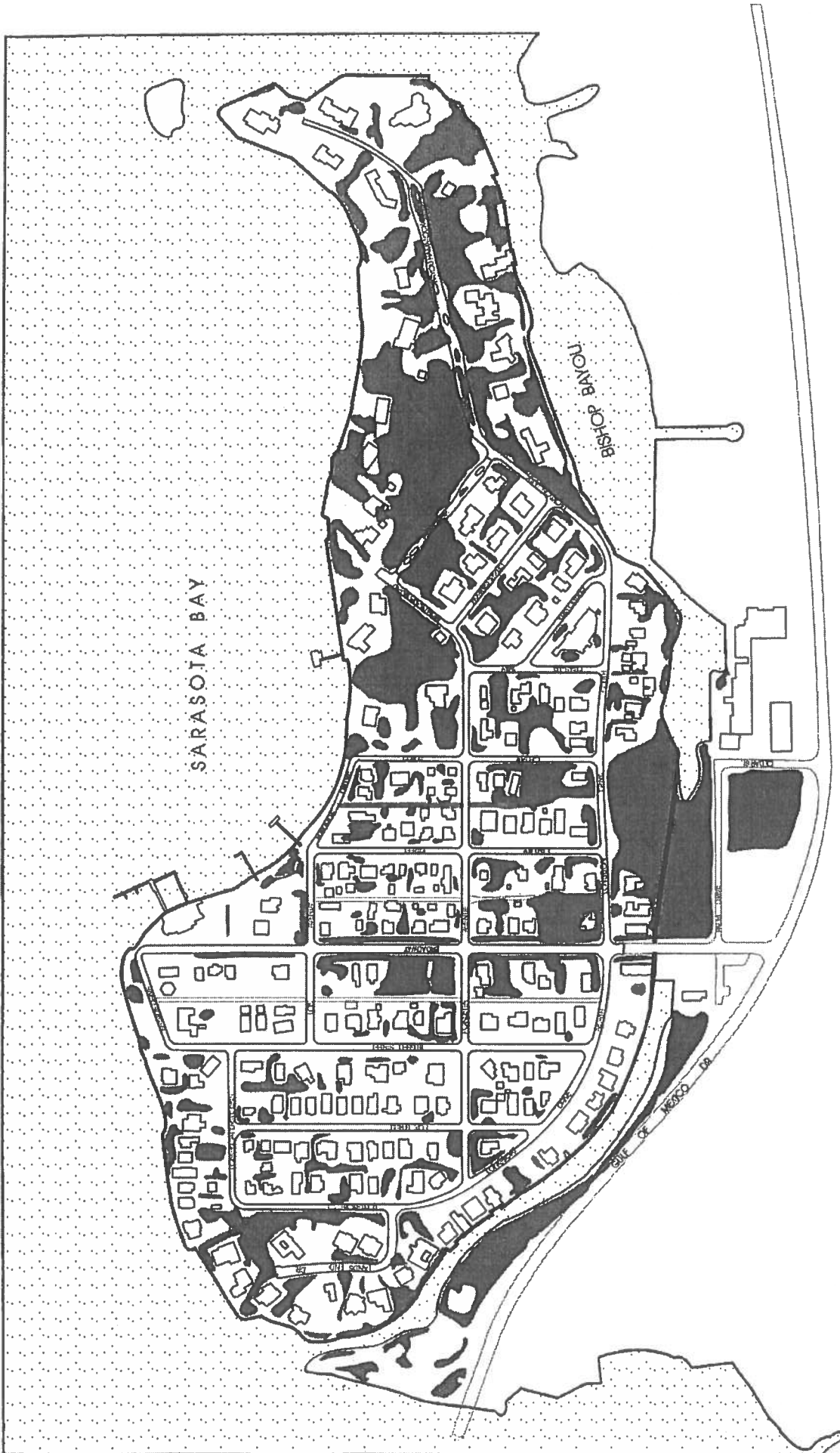






◆ Physical Characteristics

- Landscaping/Vegetative Patterns
- Architectural
- Right-of-Way use Conditions
- Lighting

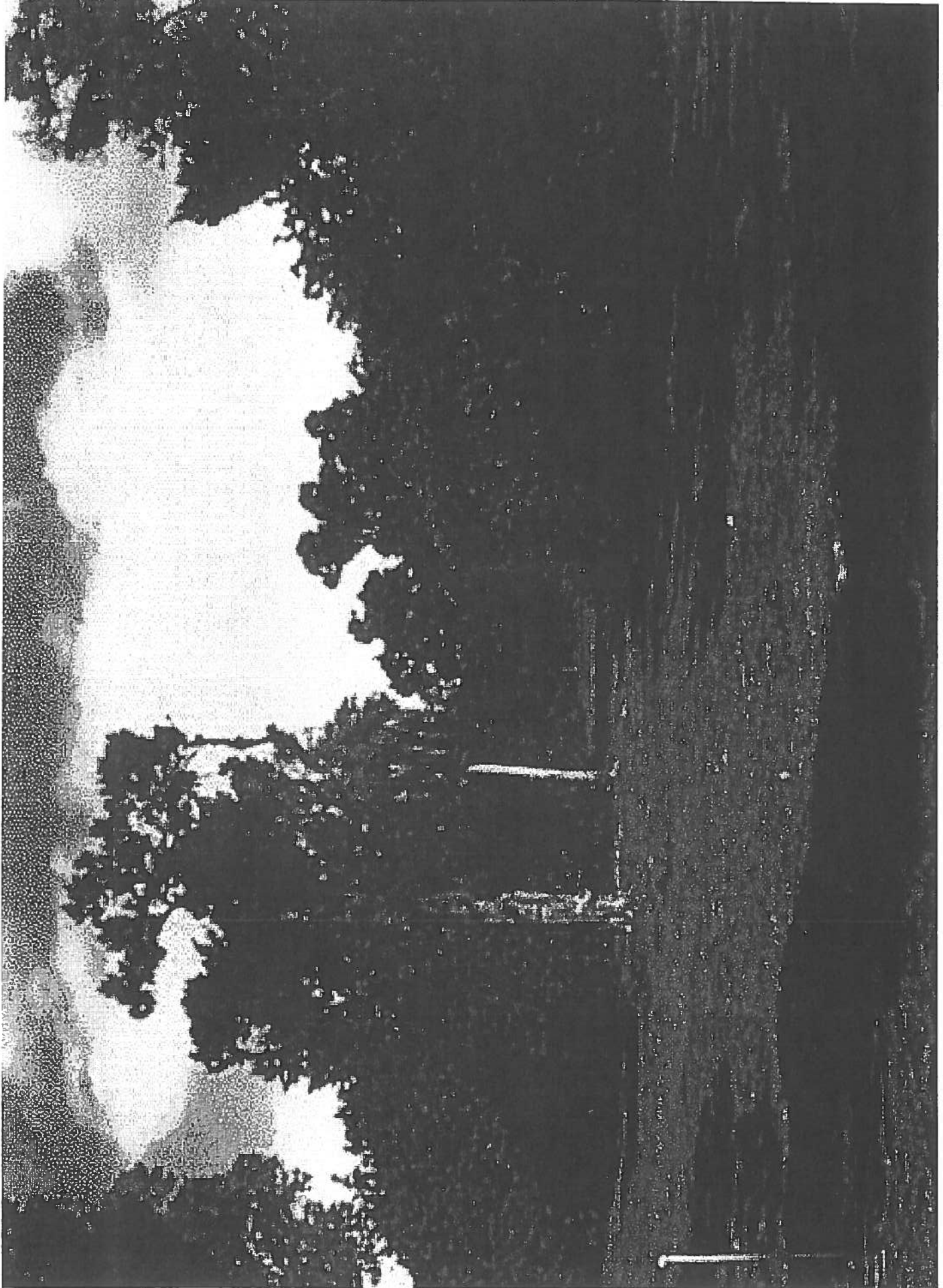


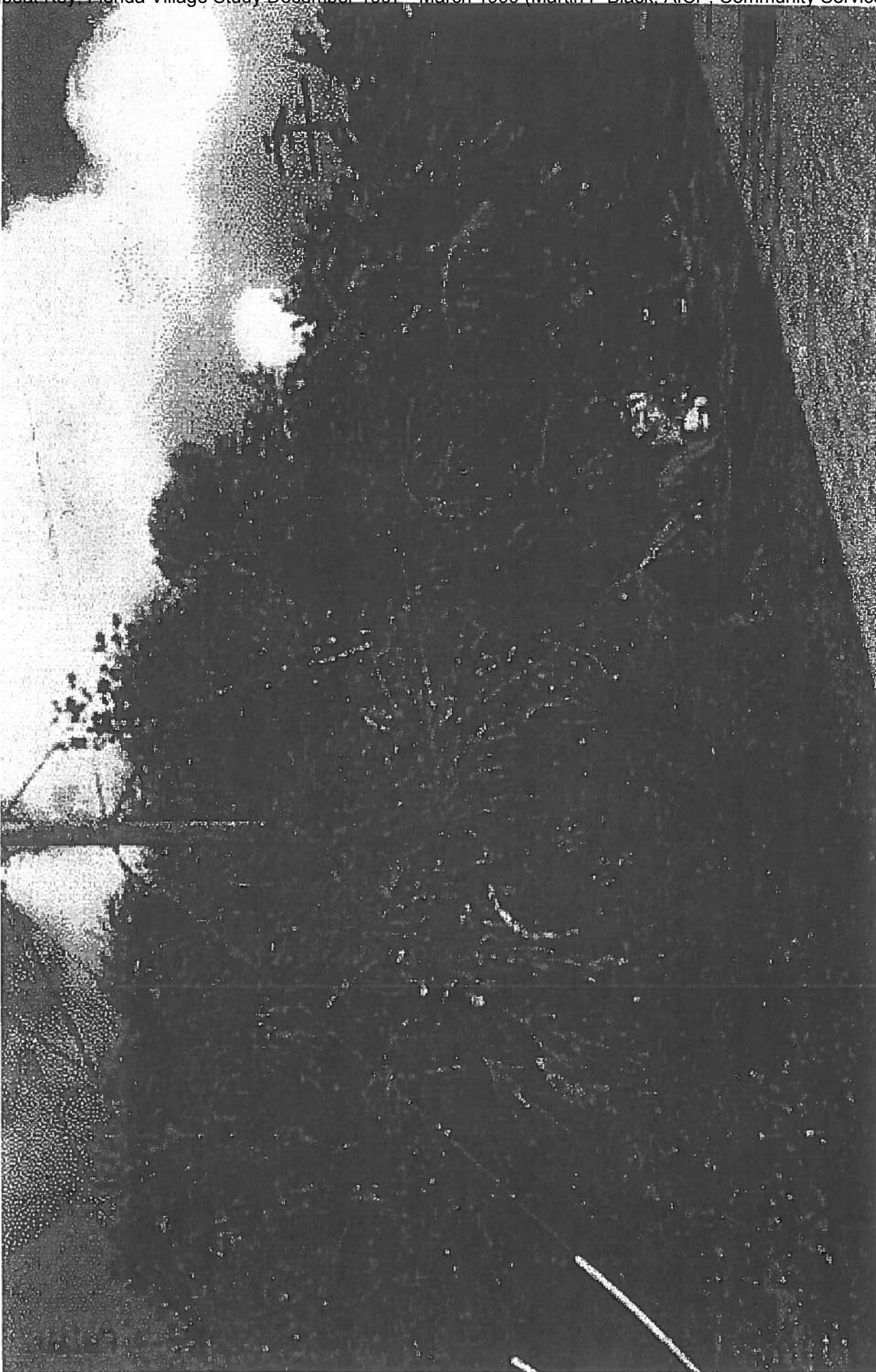
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| PREPARED BY THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY PLANNING/ZONING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT | | THE VILLAGE VEGETATION | |
| Drawn by Russ Nowlen | Date: Feb. 20, 1998 | SHEET 1 OF 1 | |

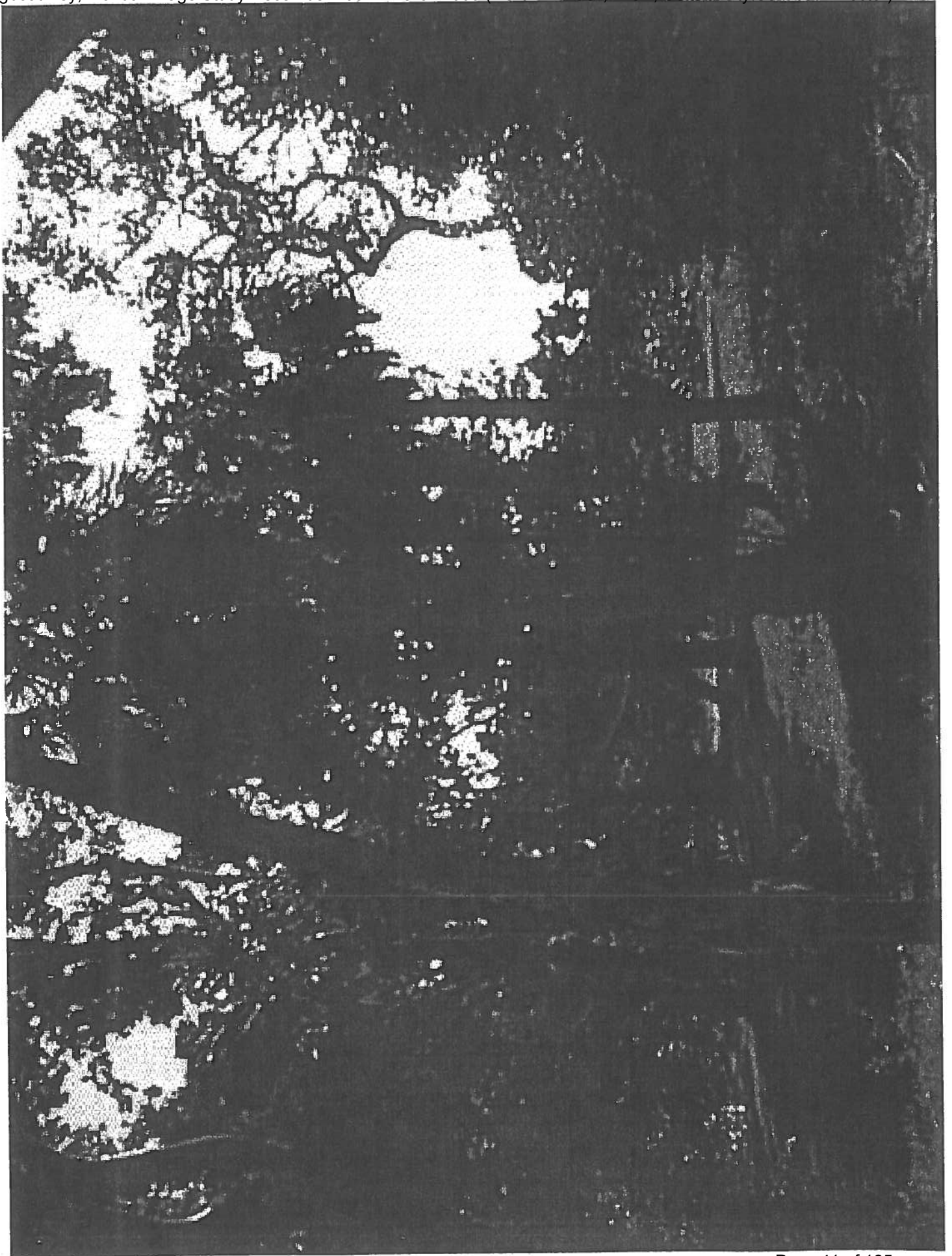


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|--------|------------|
| LEGEND | |
| | VEGETATION |

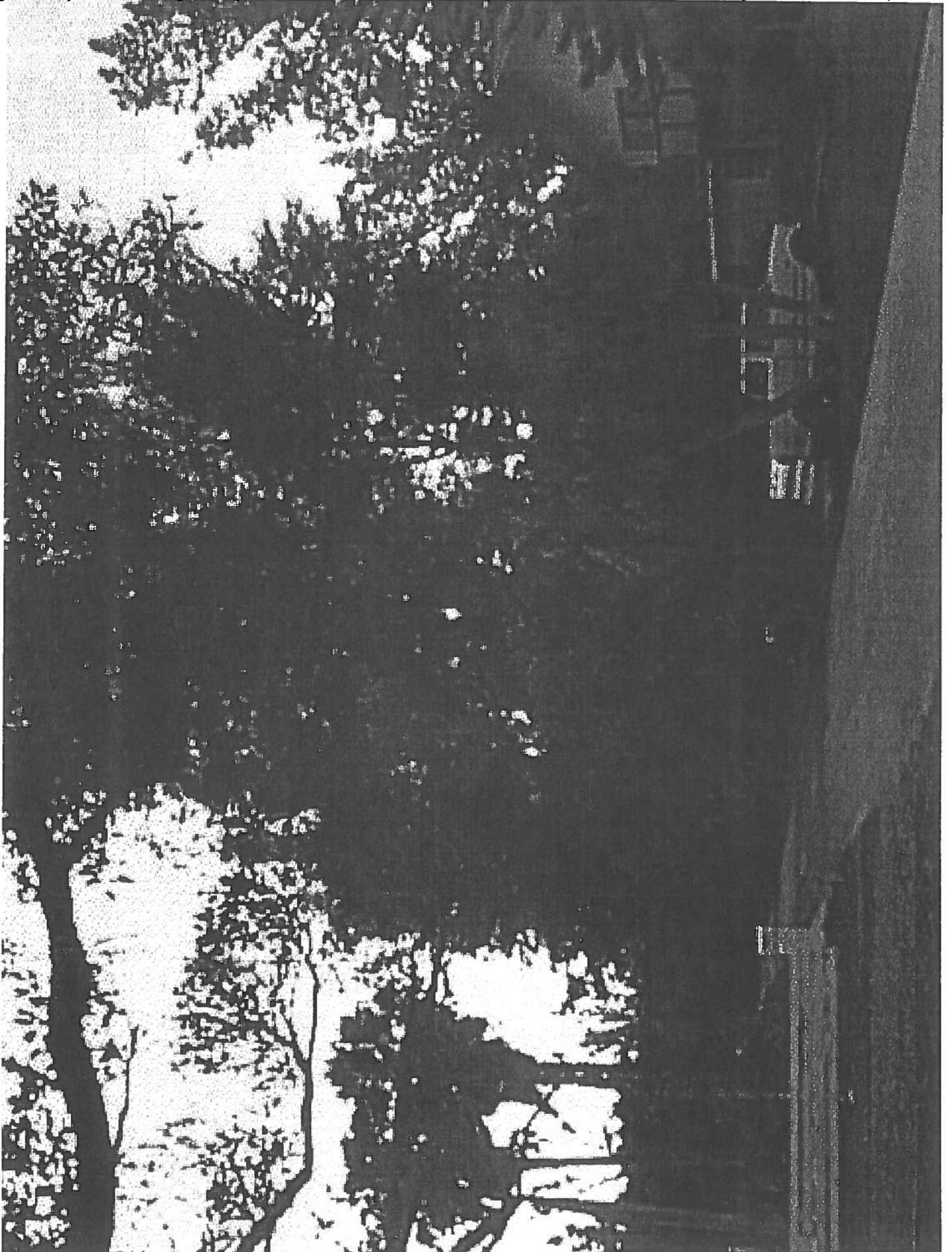


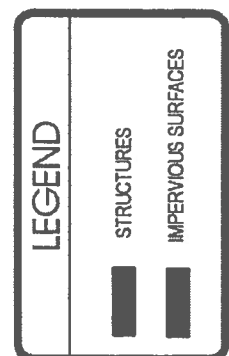
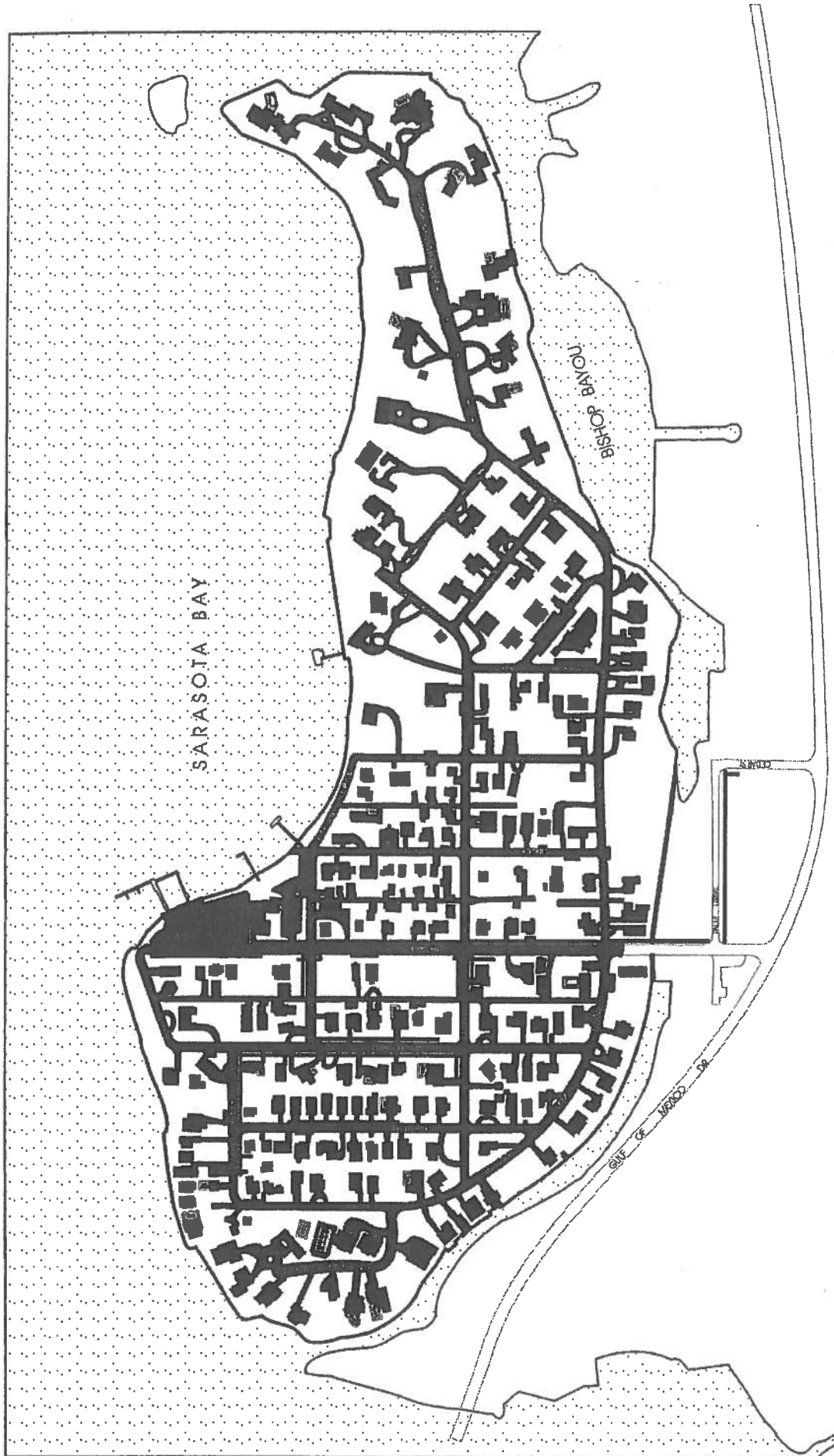




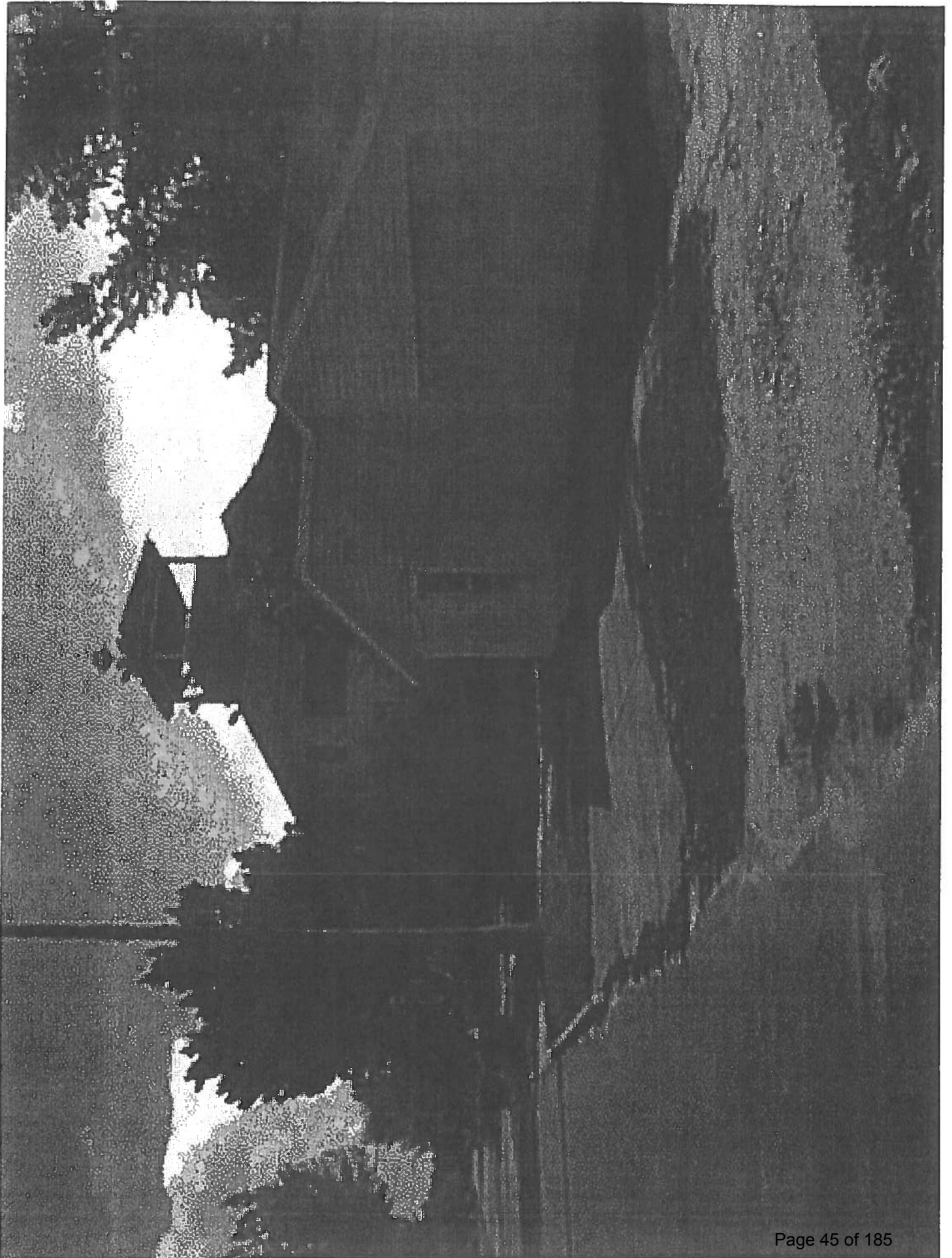


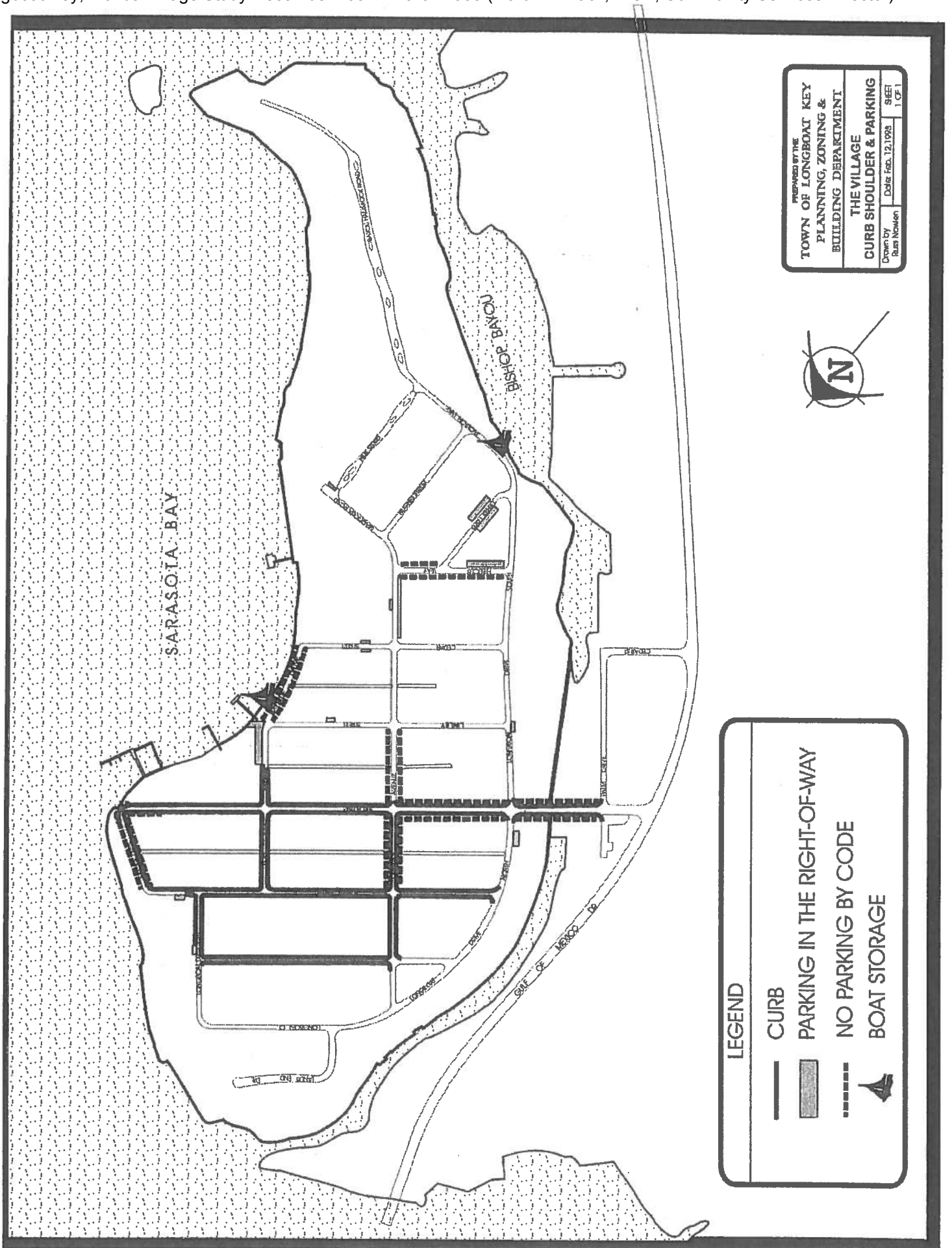


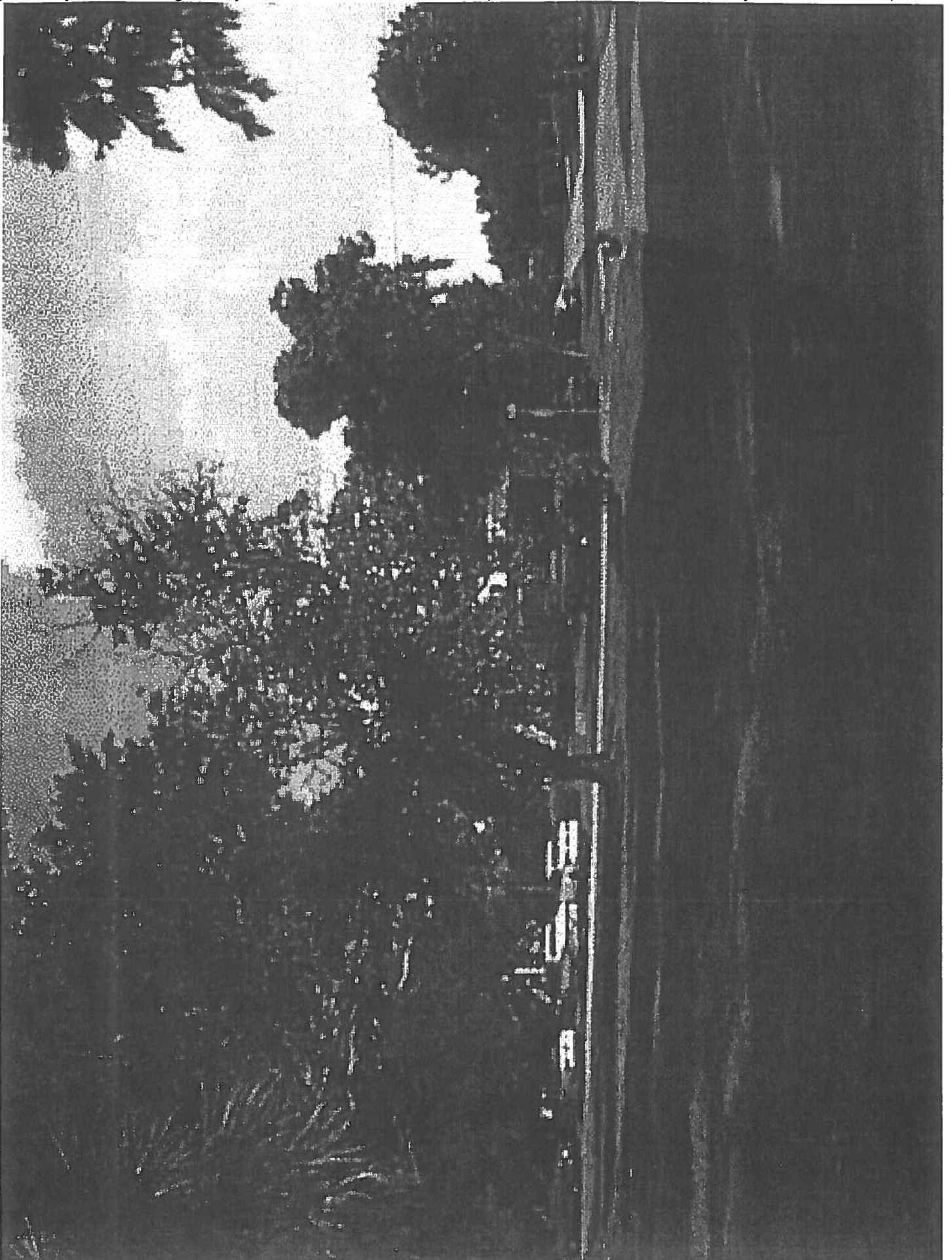


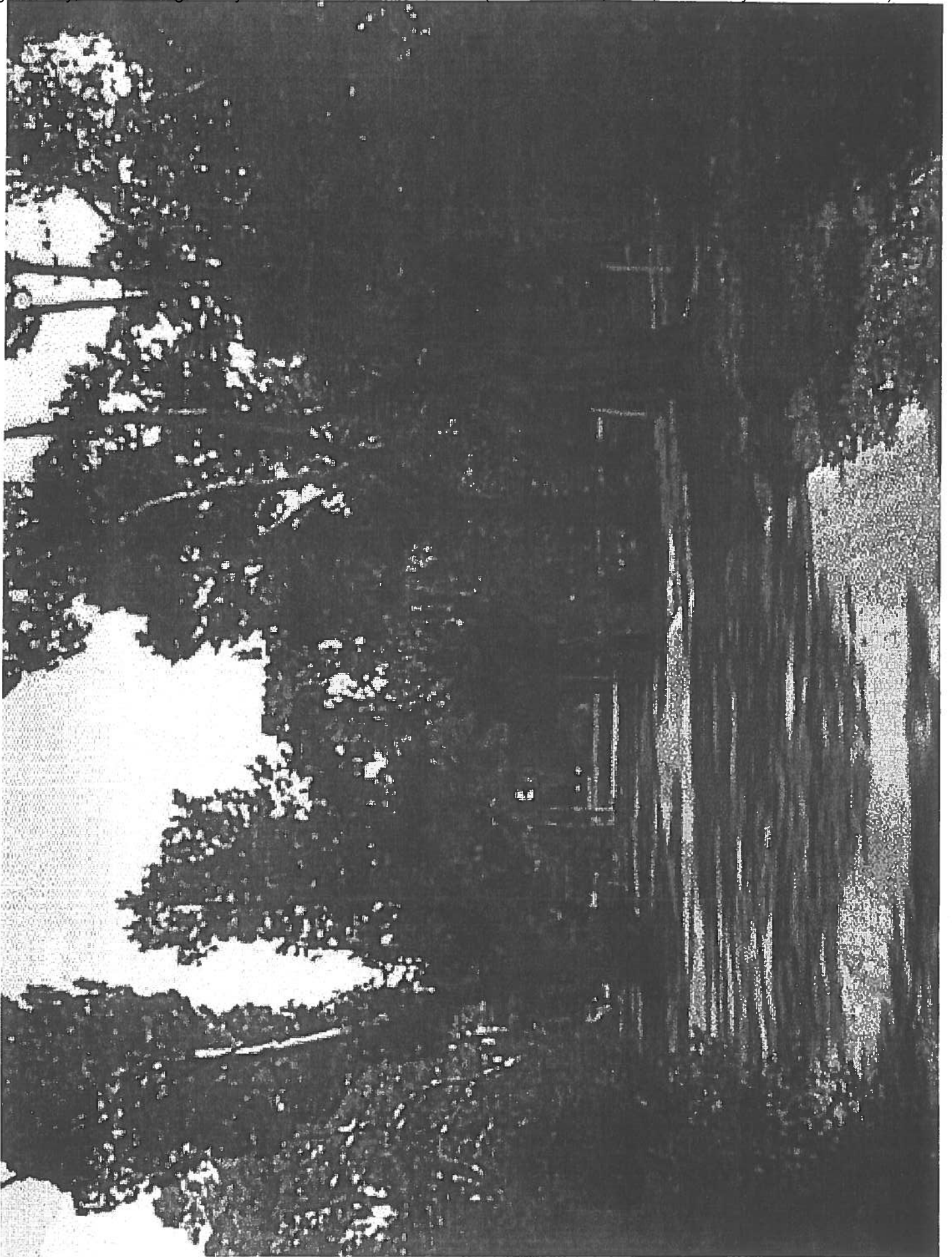


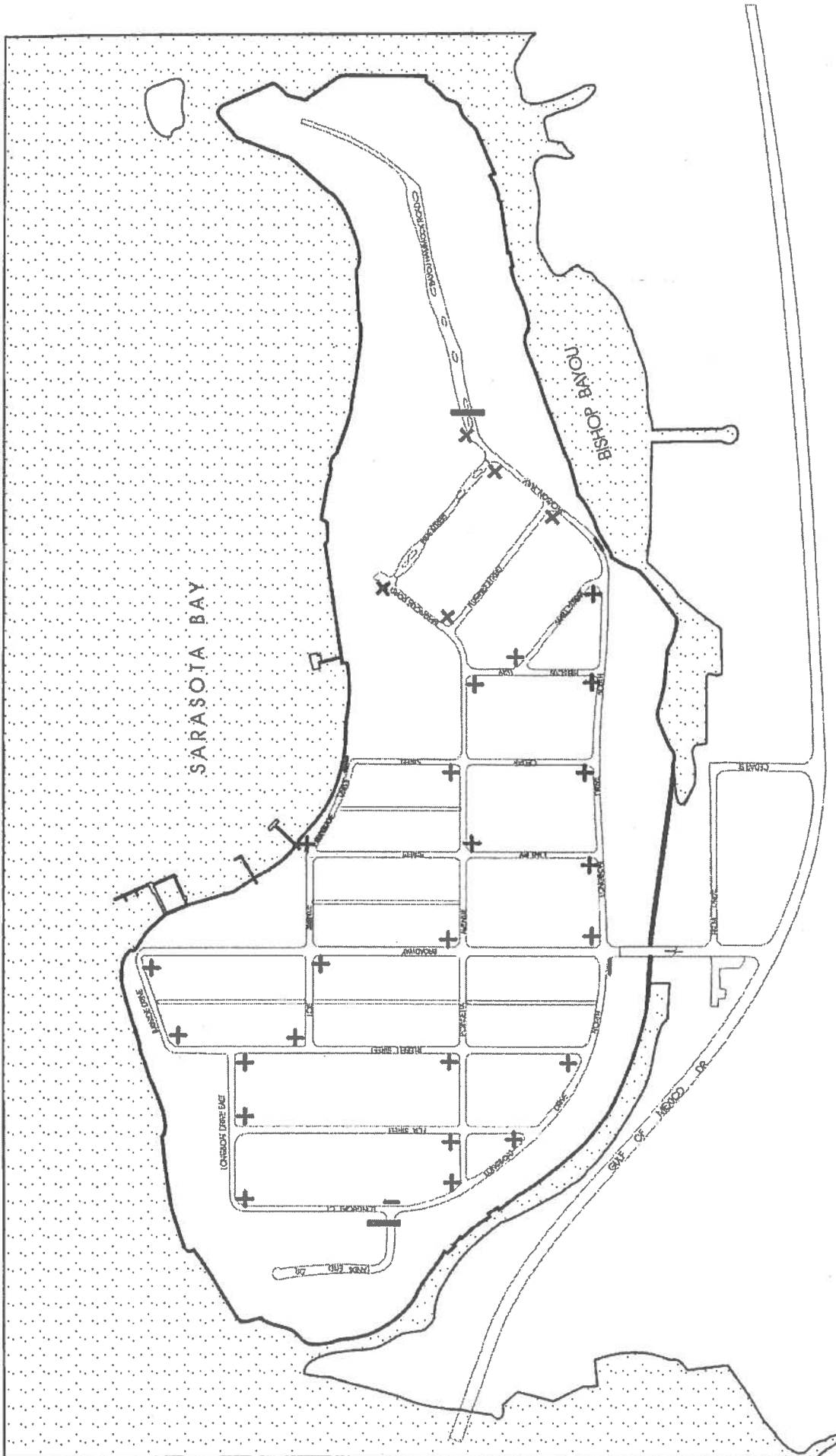
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| PREPARED BY THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY | | SHEET 1 OF 1 |
| PLANNING, ZONING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT | | |
| THE VILLAGE IMPERVIOUS GROUND COVERAGE | | Date: Feb. 20, 1998 |
| Drawn by Russ Nowlen | | |







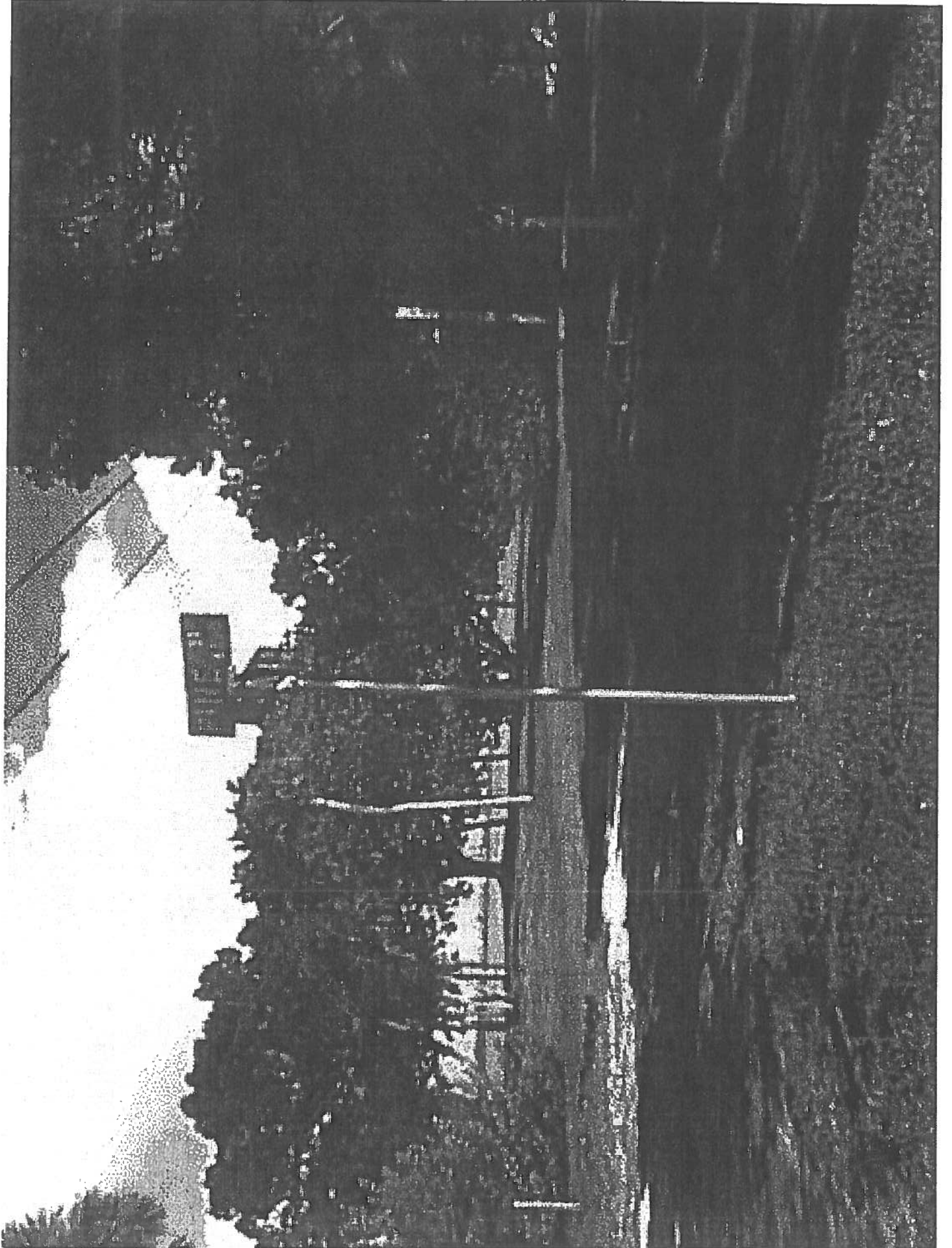


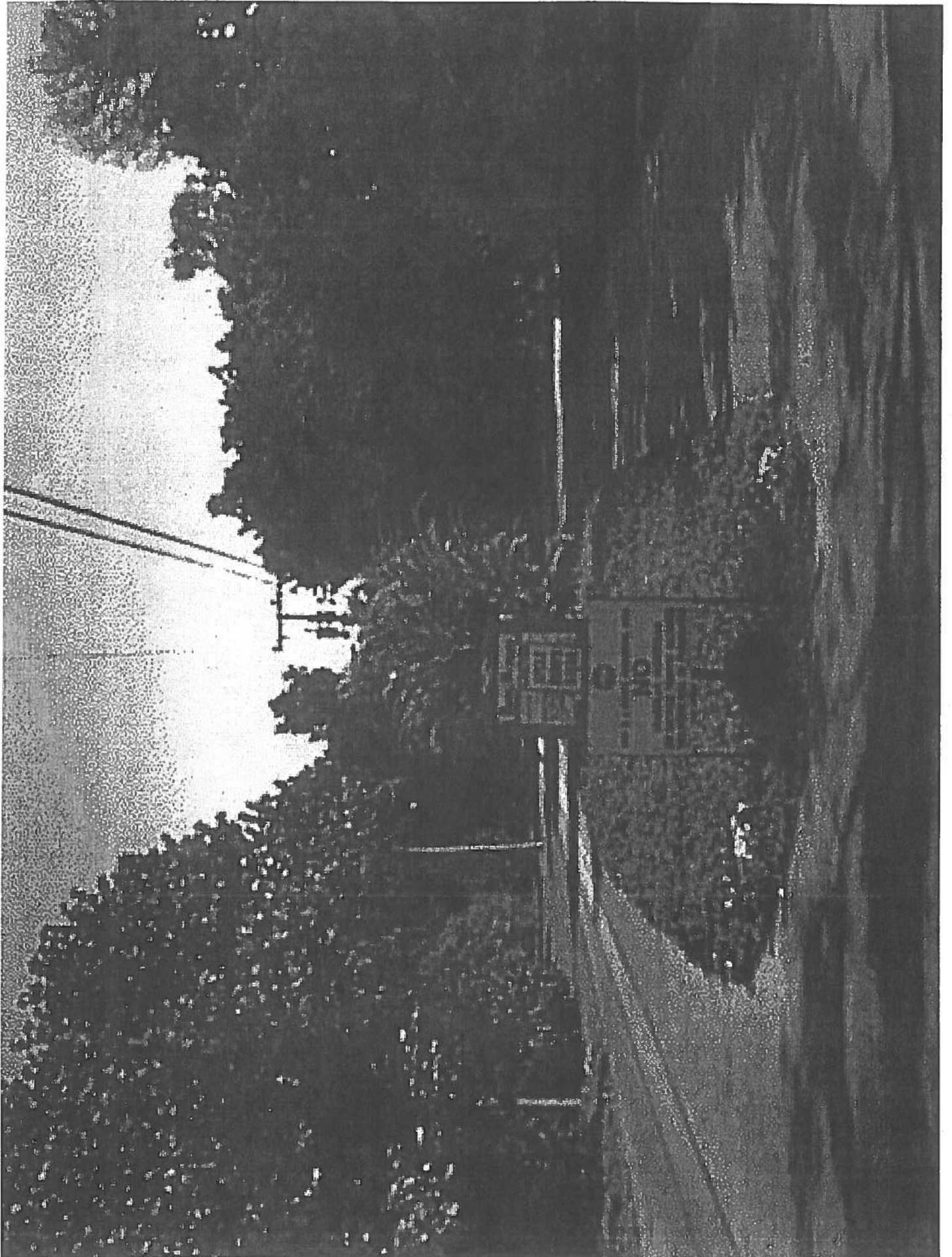


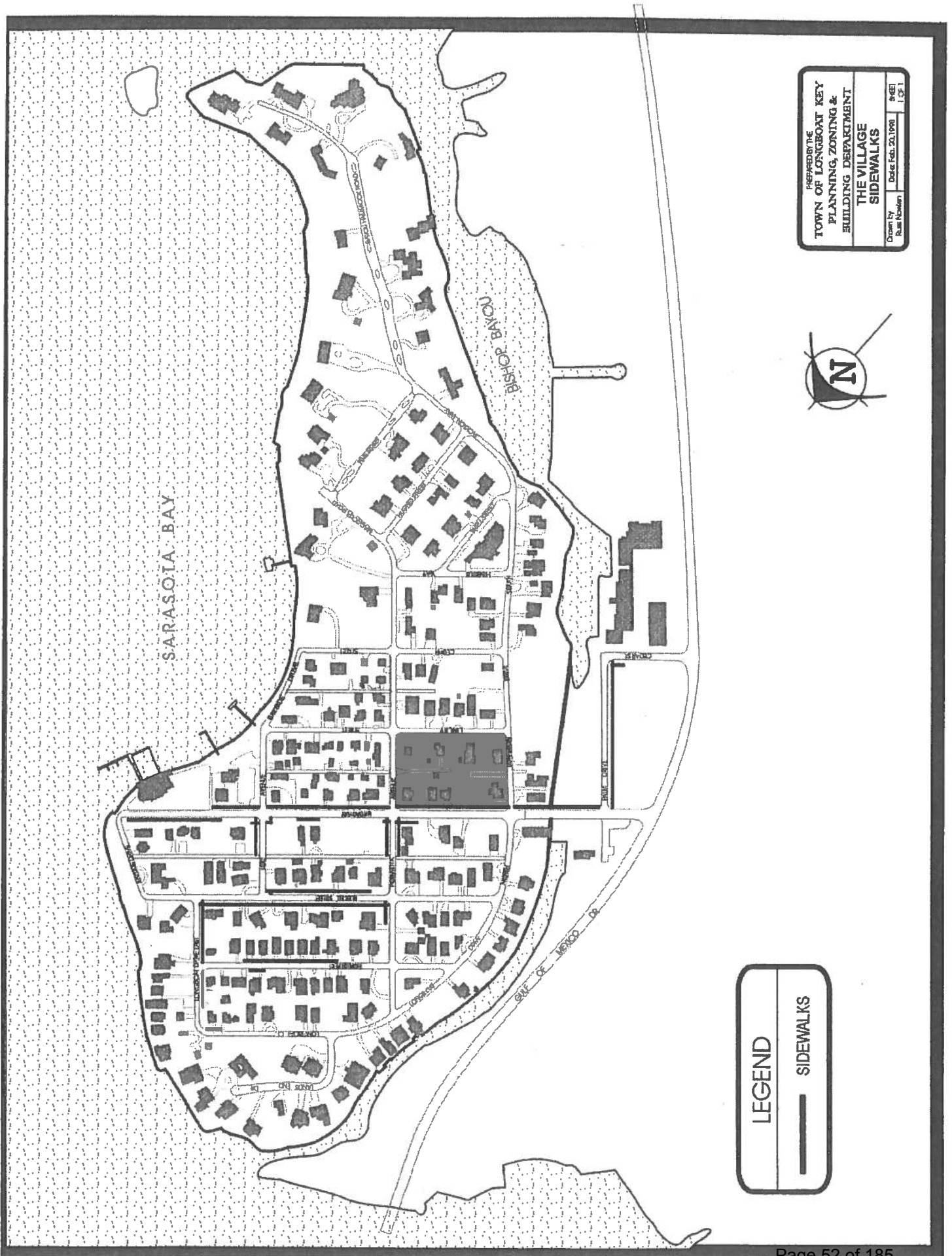
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|--|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY PLANNING ZONING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT | | DATE: Feb. 12, 1998 | SHEET 1 OF 1 |
| THE VILLAGE STREET SIGNS | | DESIGNED BY RUBINSON | |

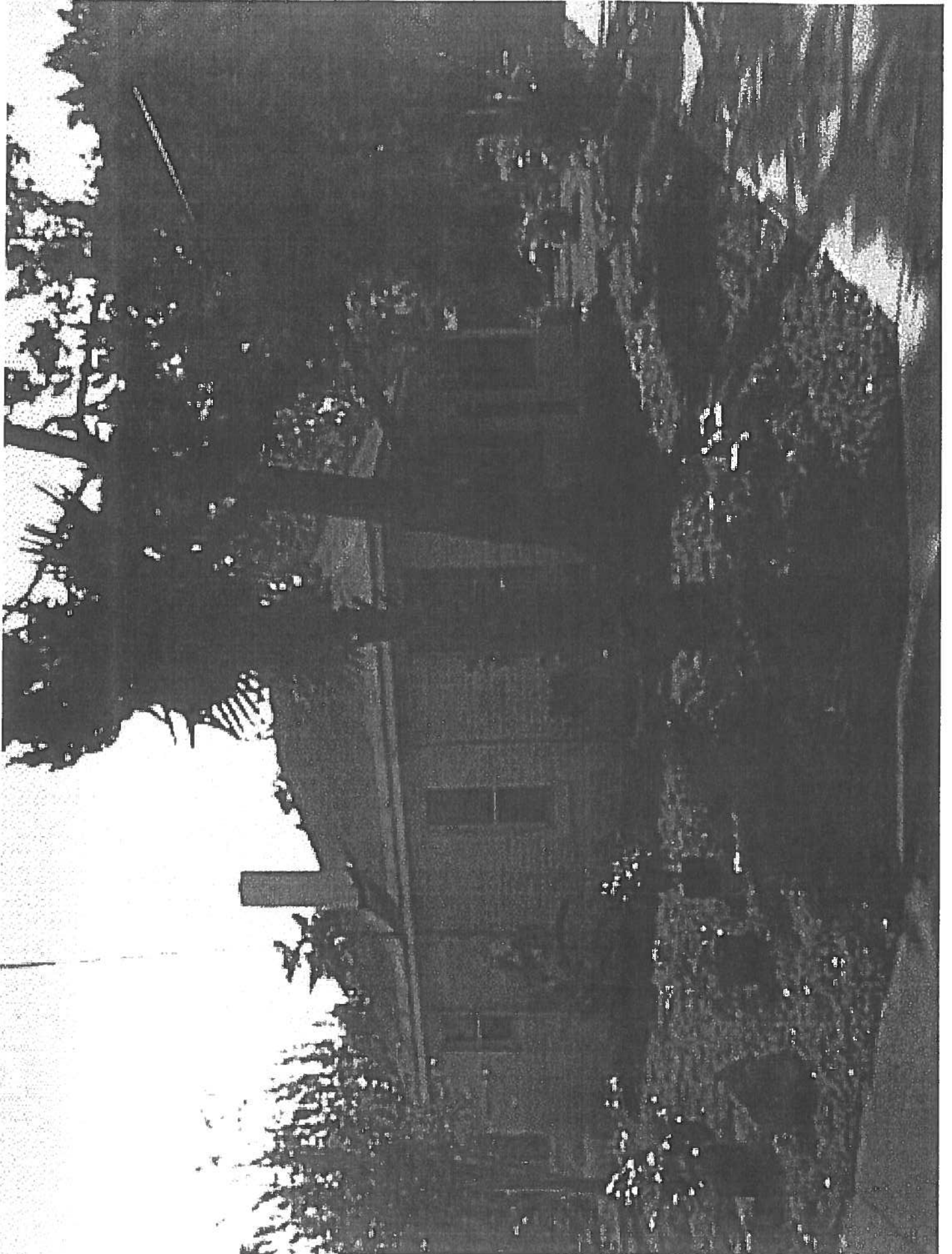


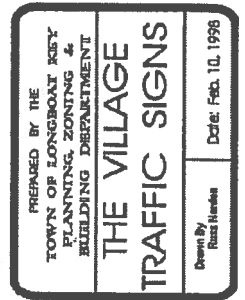
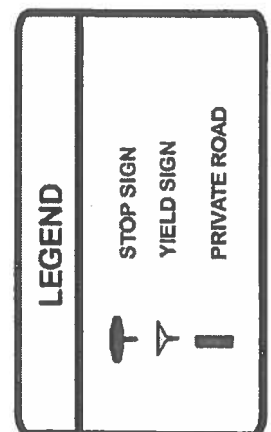
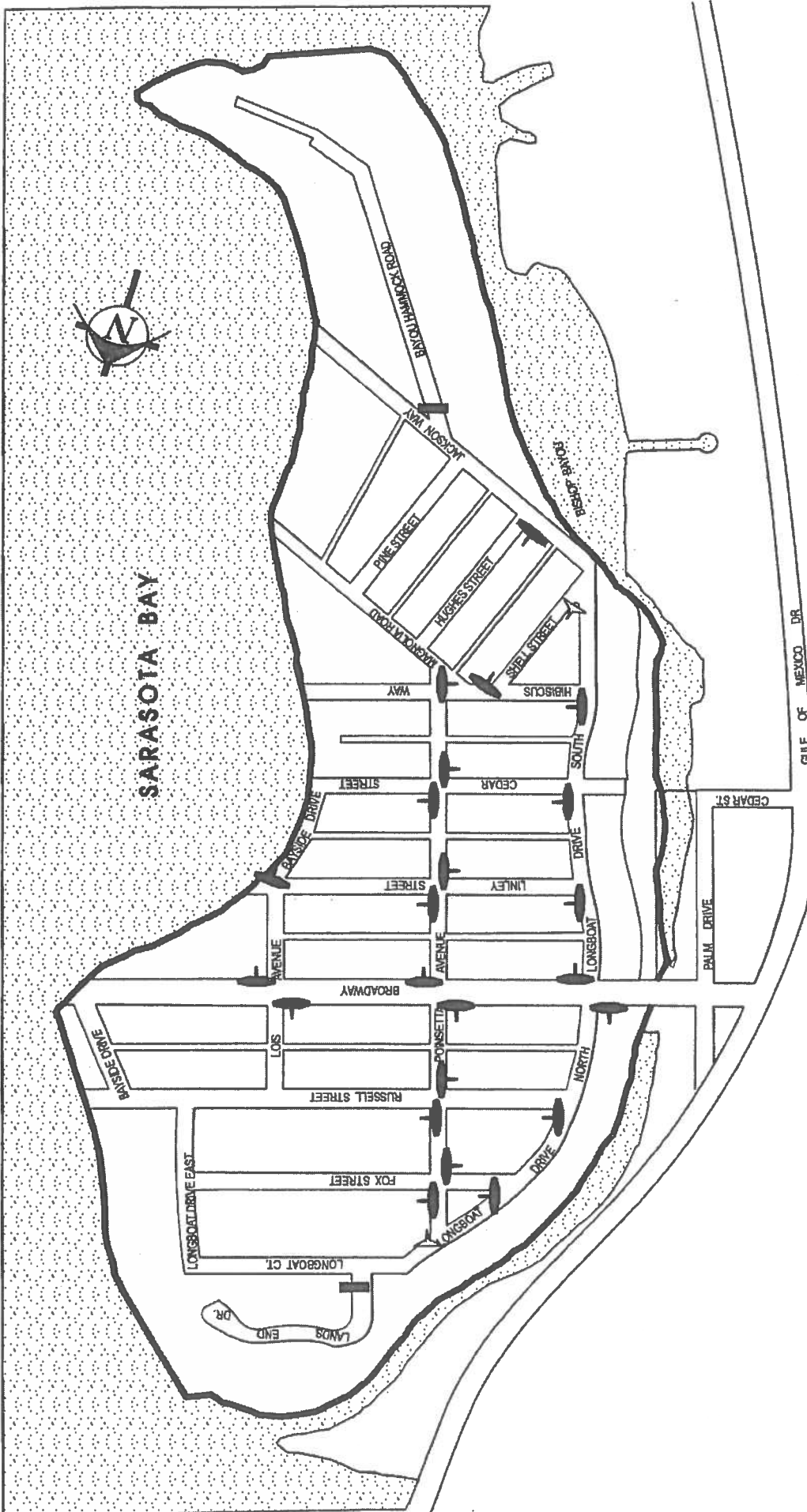
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| -/+ | STREET NAME SIGNS |
| — | PRIVATE ROAD SIGN |

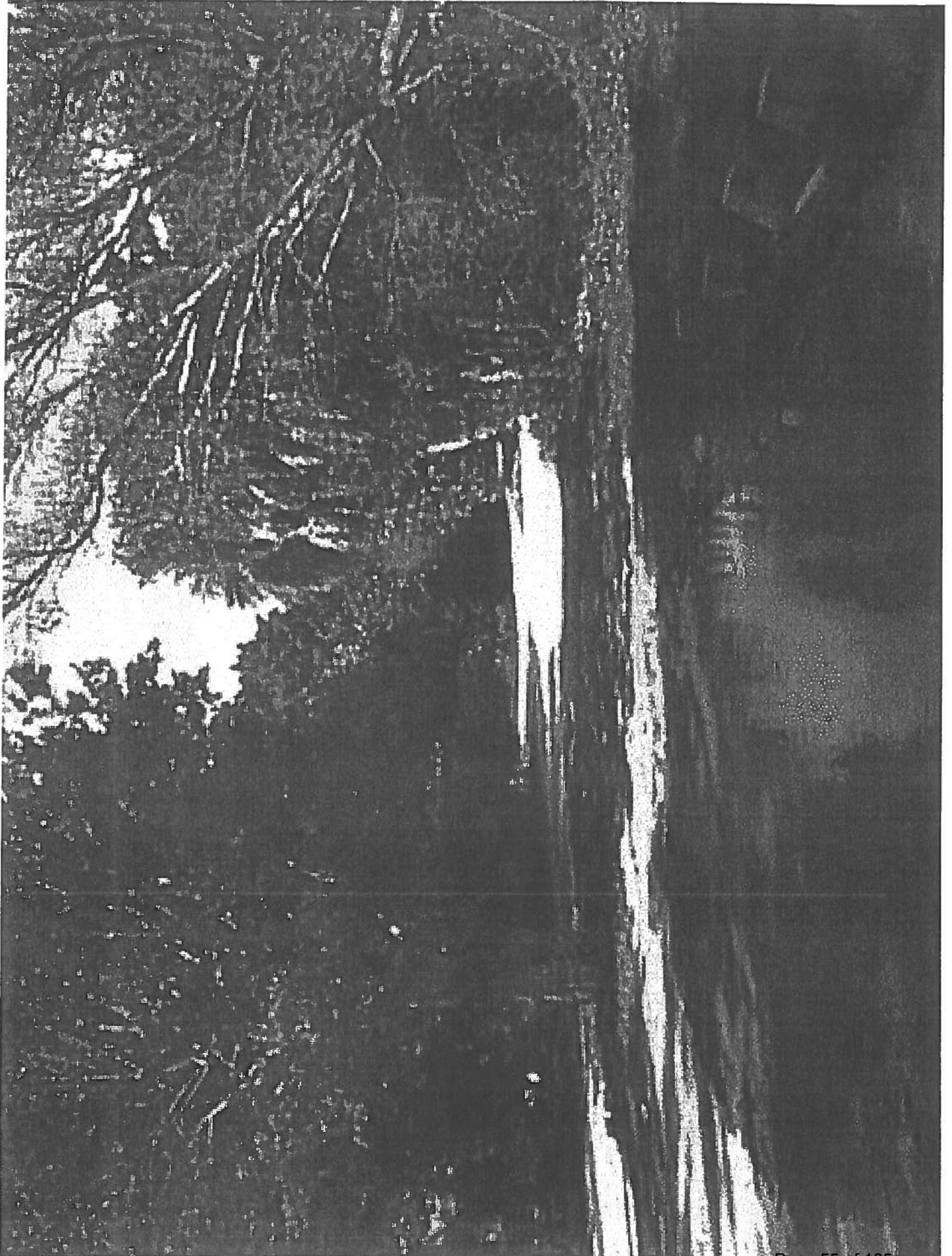


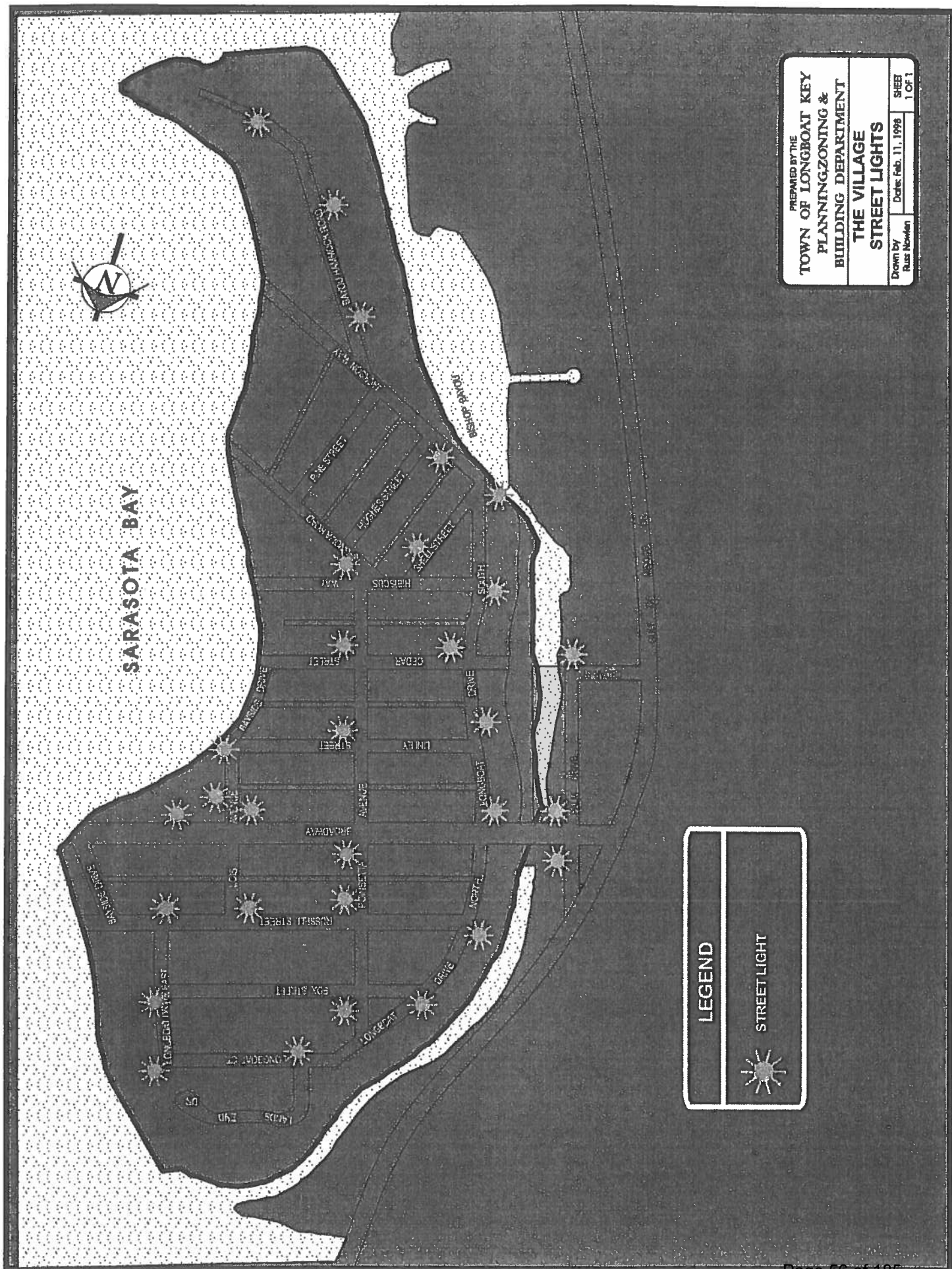


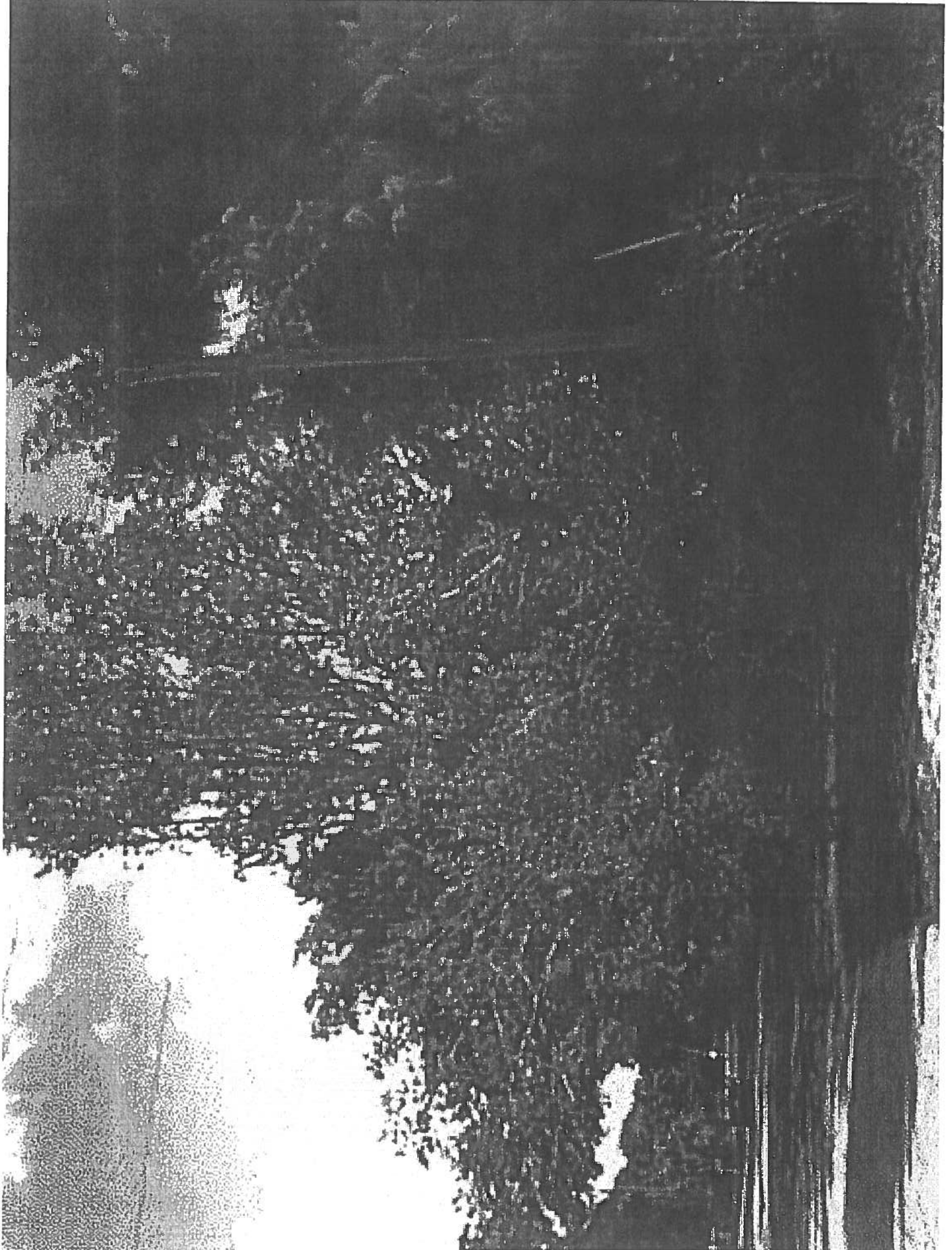


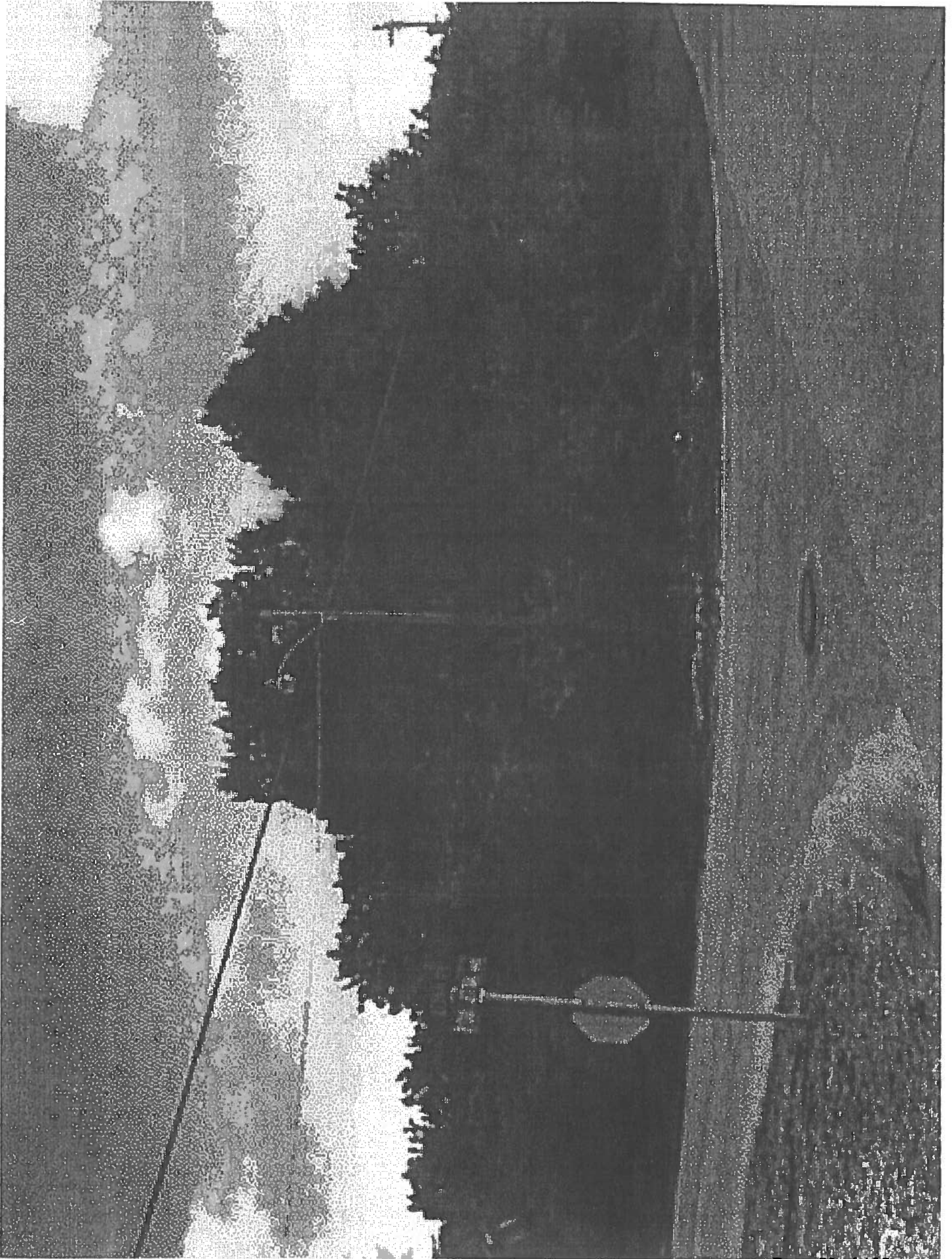


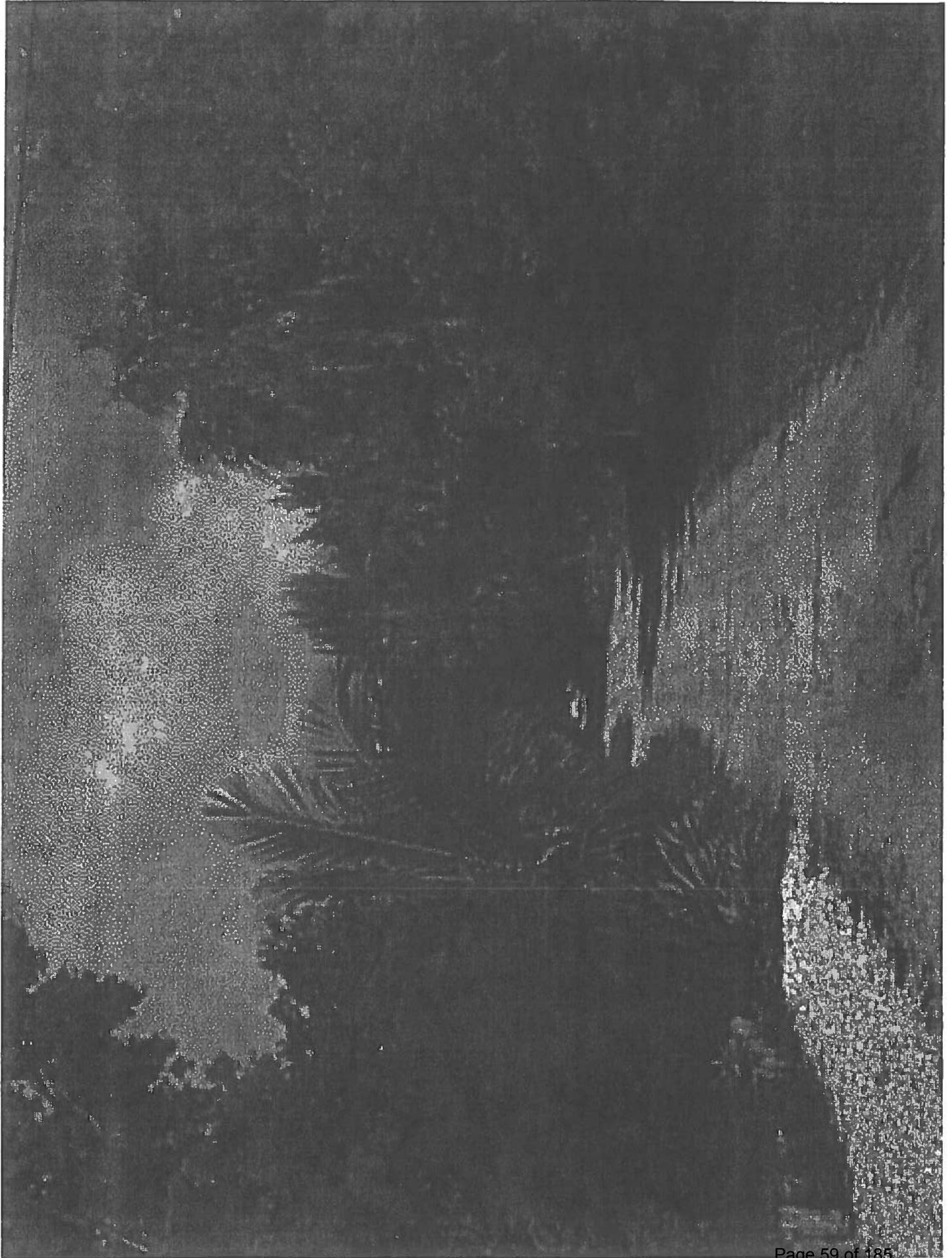






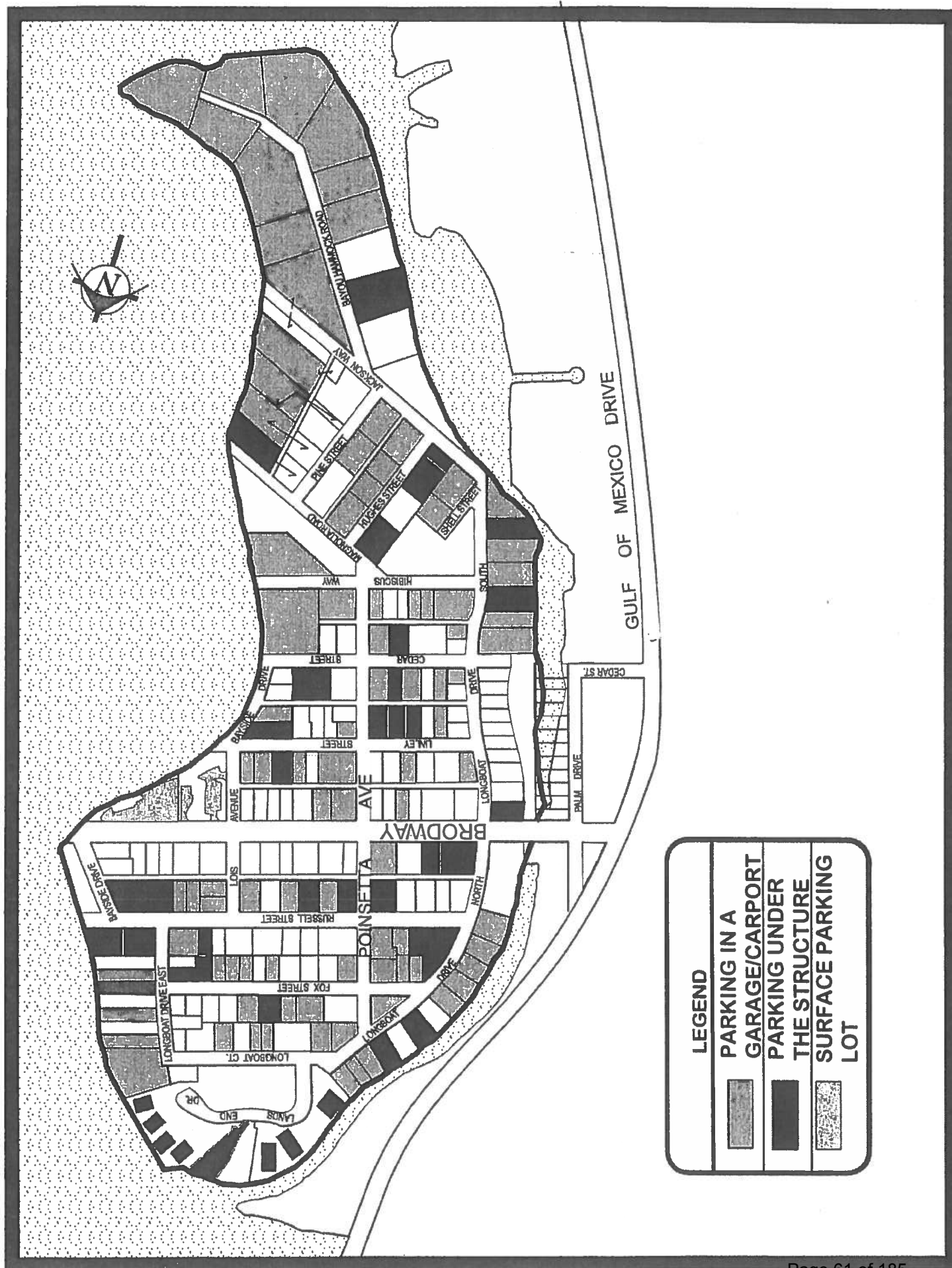


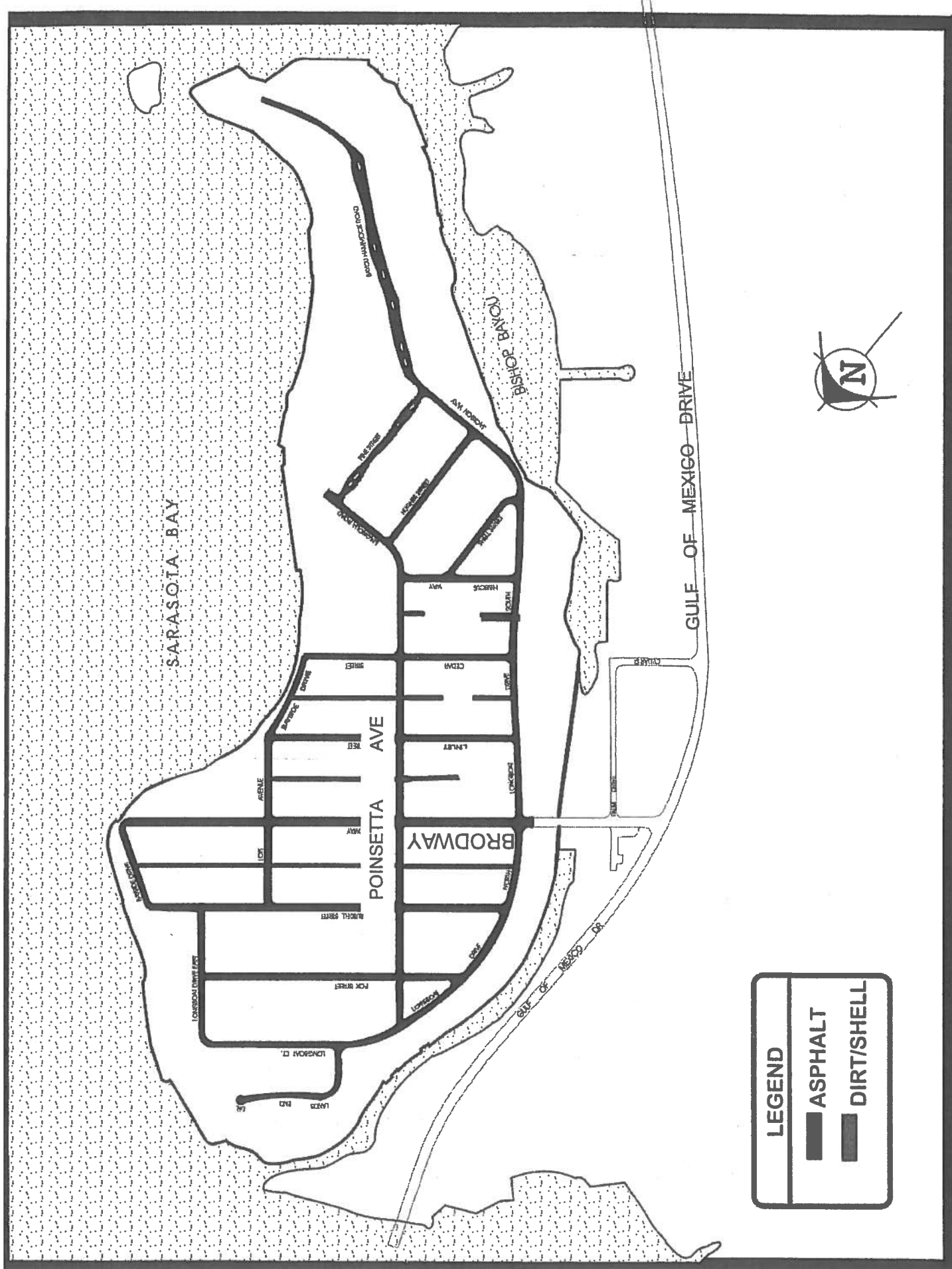




HISTORIC SITES

SOURCE: LONGBOAT KEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY





Community Survey

In order to supplement the responses and information provided through the community open houses, a resident / owner survey was developed and distributed to all community members during January 1998. "Block Captains" from areas throughout the Village were enlisted to encourage their neighbors to complete the survey and participate in the Village Study process.

Primary community issues and concerns identified through the survey and confirmed at the community open house meetings were:

1. Drainage
2. Scale and Height of Construction
3. Architectural Guidelines
4. Protection of Vegetation
5. Bay Access
6. Town / Village Communication
7. Broadway / Gulf of Mexico Drive Safety

Community Issues and Intangibles

Source: Village Questionnaire
Method: Most Common Responses

Village Questionnaire

270 questionnaires sent out

88 questionnaires returned

32.6% response rate

Question #1

The Village has been described by some residents as 'pedestrian-friendly', 'a family area', 'historic', 'quiet', 'safe', etc. Please describe what factors and terms you would use to describe as positive features of living in the Village.

Most Common Responses to

Question #1

- 43 Quiet, Unhurried, Peaceful
- 41 Friendly, Sense of Community



**“Where neighbors really
know their neighbors.”**



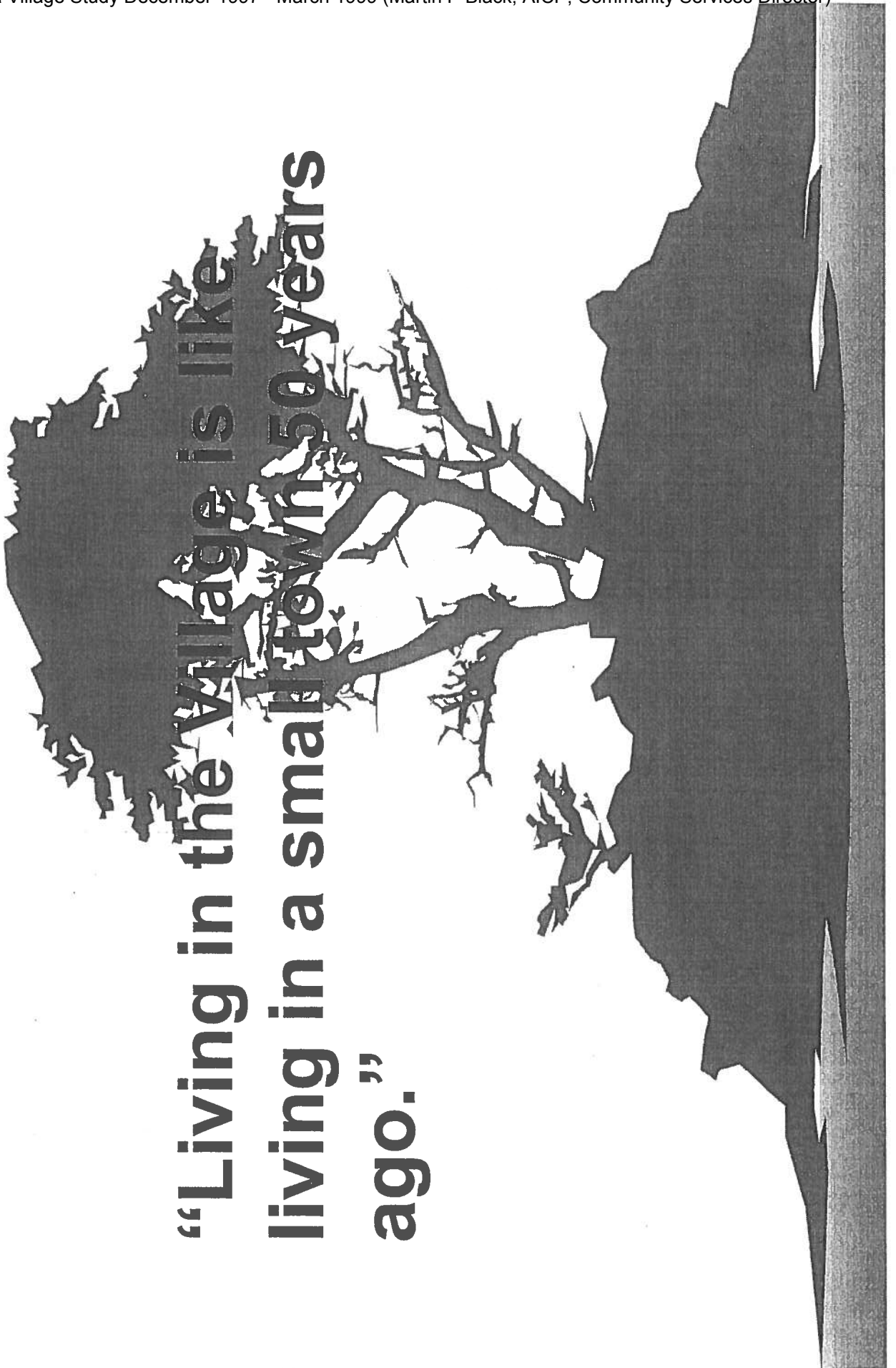
**“I’ve never lived in a
community like this before.
Two people stop and talk and
then a few more and it’s an
instant street party.”**

Most Common Responses to

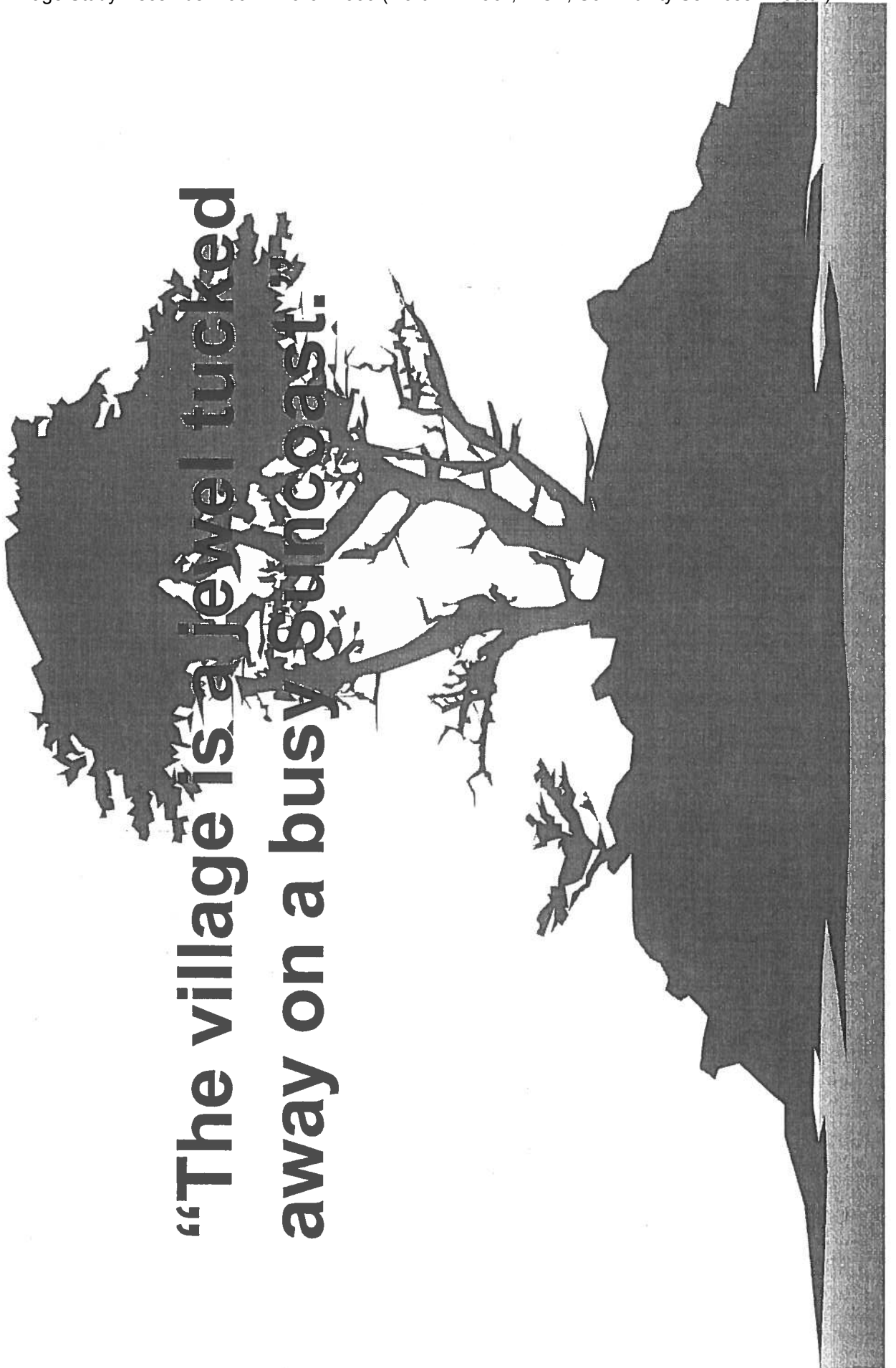
Question #1

- 43 Quiet, Unhurried, Peaceful
- 41 Friendly, Sense of Community
- 37 Rustic, Quaint, "Old Florida" Eclectic

**“Living in the Village is like
living in a small town 50 years
ago.”**

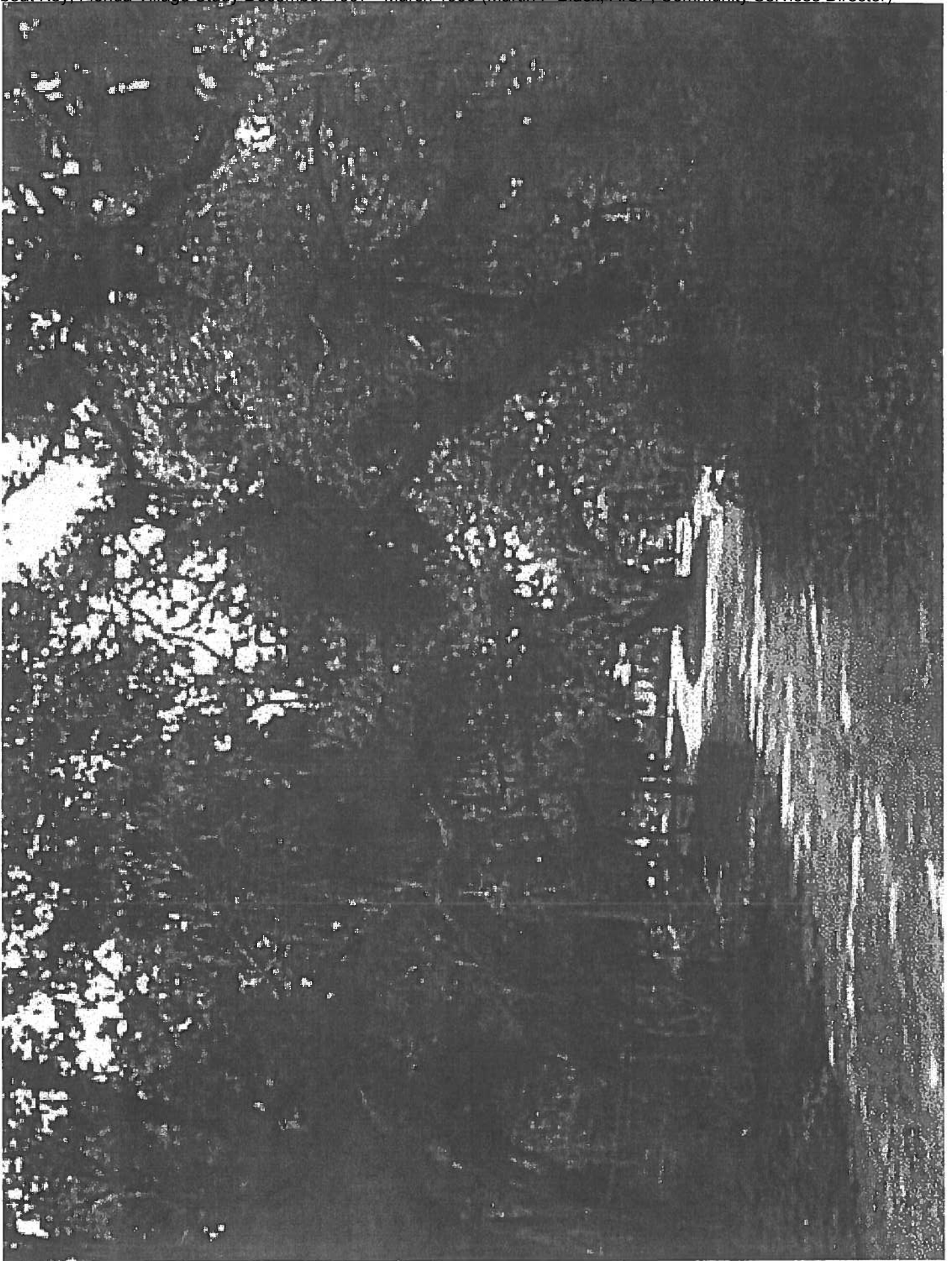


**“The village is a jewel tucked
away on a busy Suncoast.”**





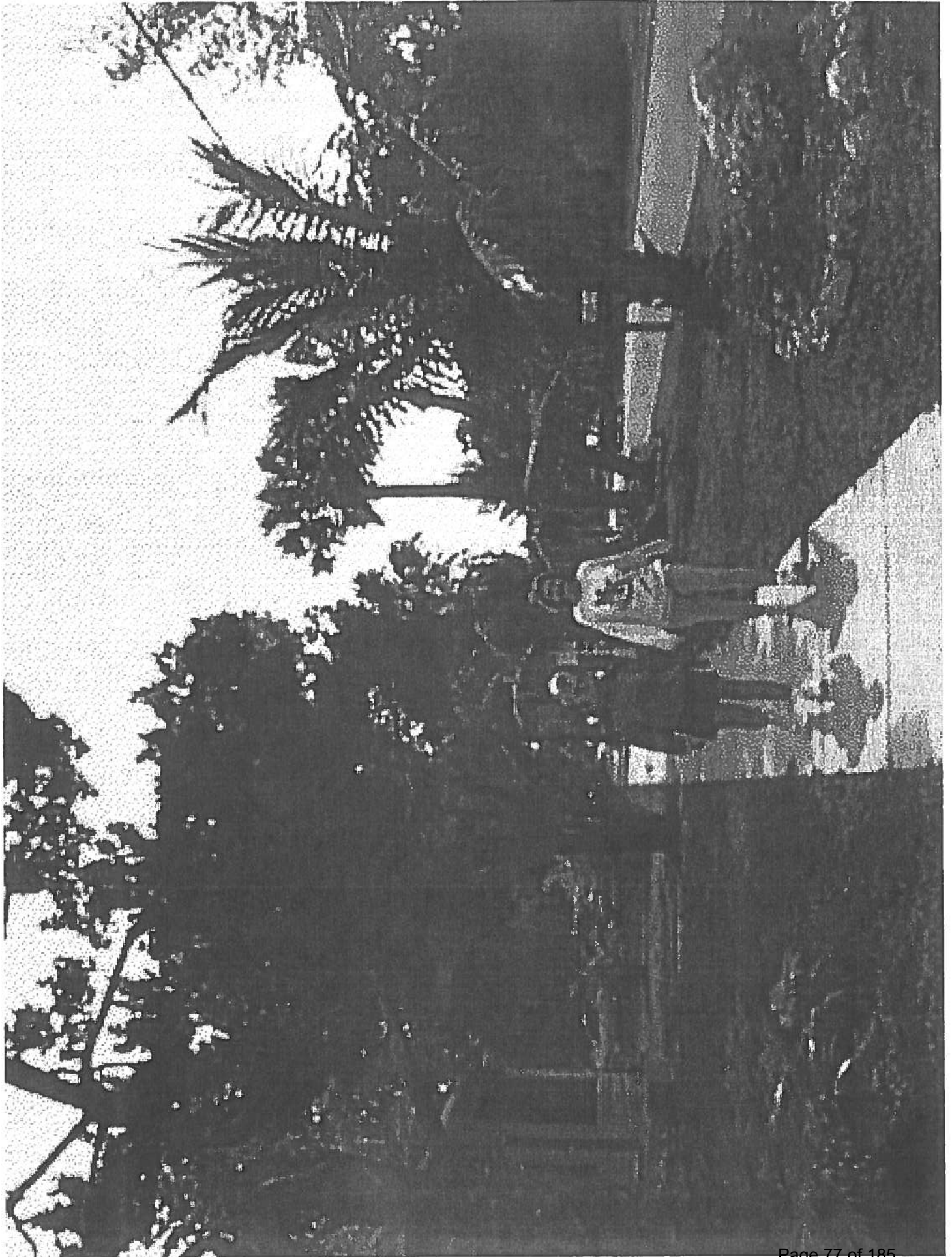


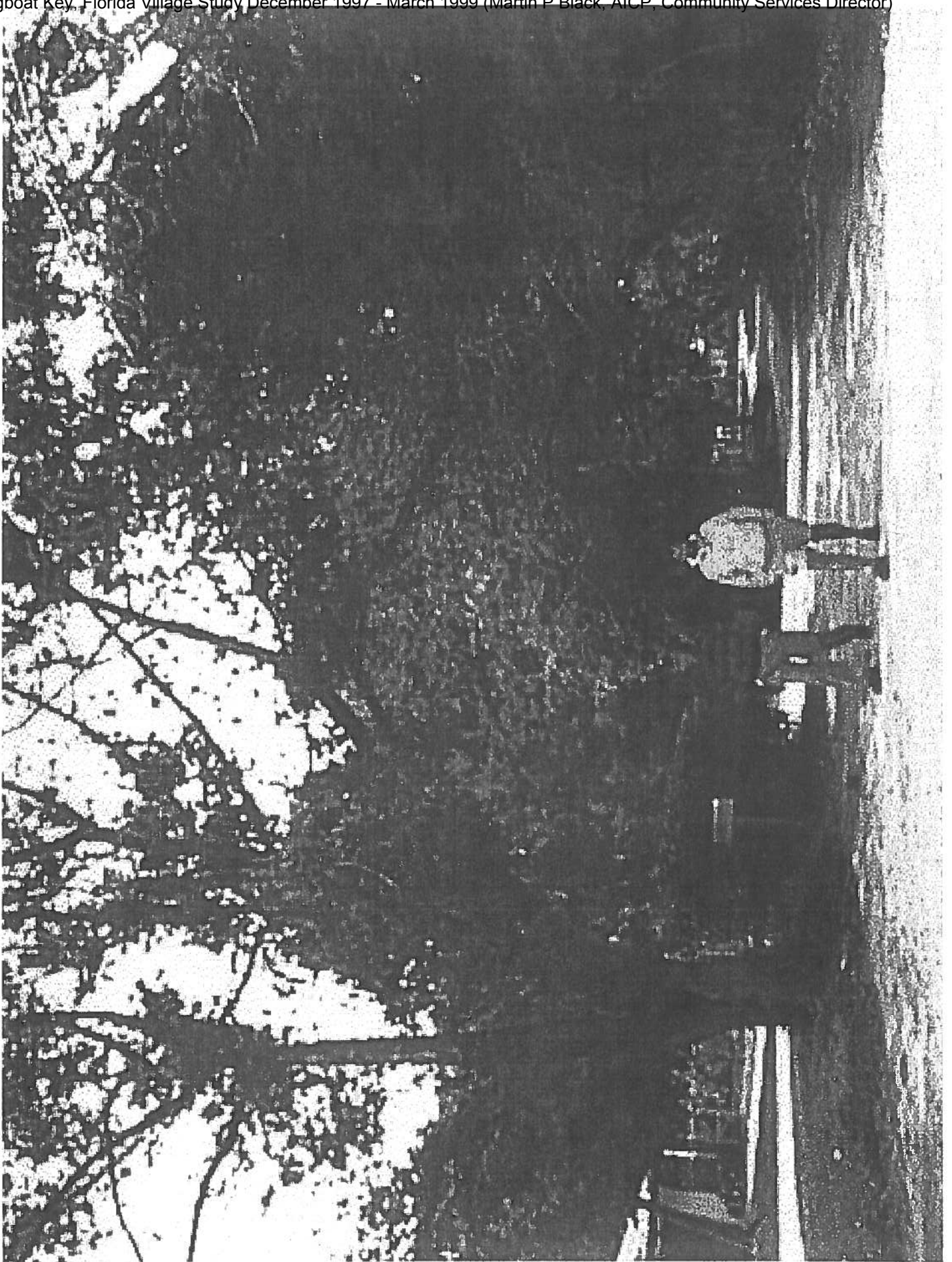


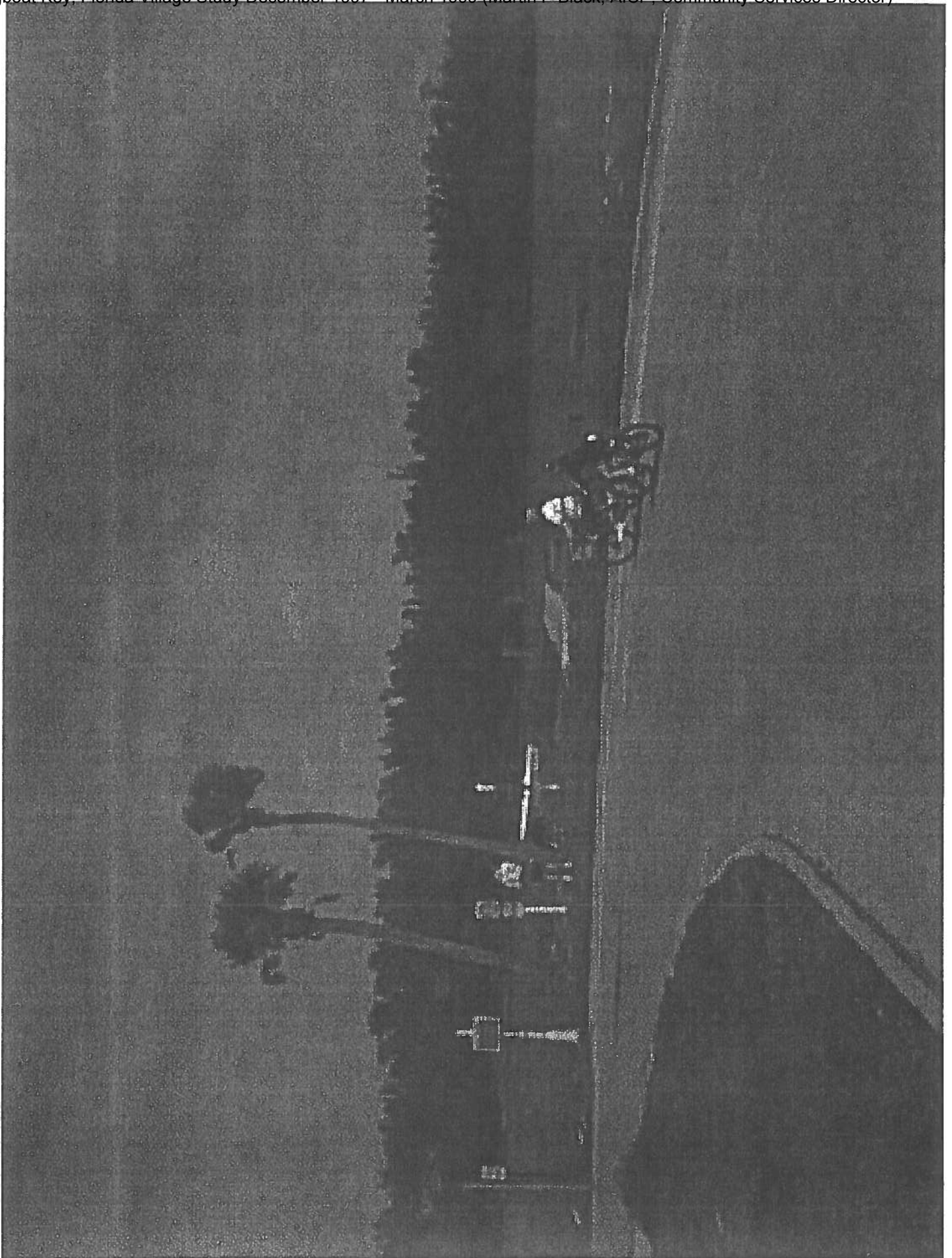
Most Common Responses to

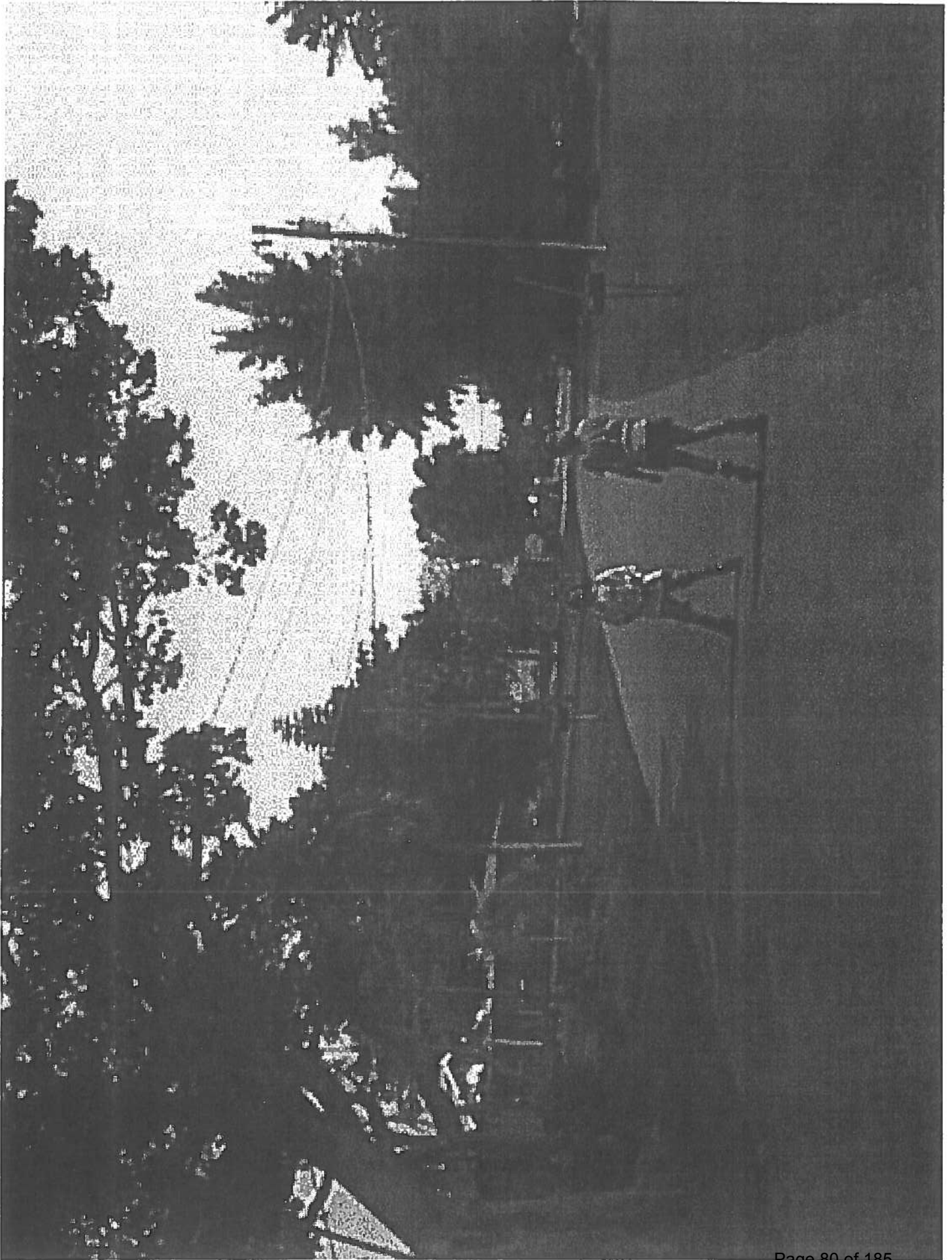
Question #1

- 
- 43 Quiet, Unhurried, Peaceful
 - 41 Friendly, Sense of Community
 - 37 Rustic, Quaint, "Old Florida," Eclectic
 - 33 Safe
 - 29 Walkable, Bikeable



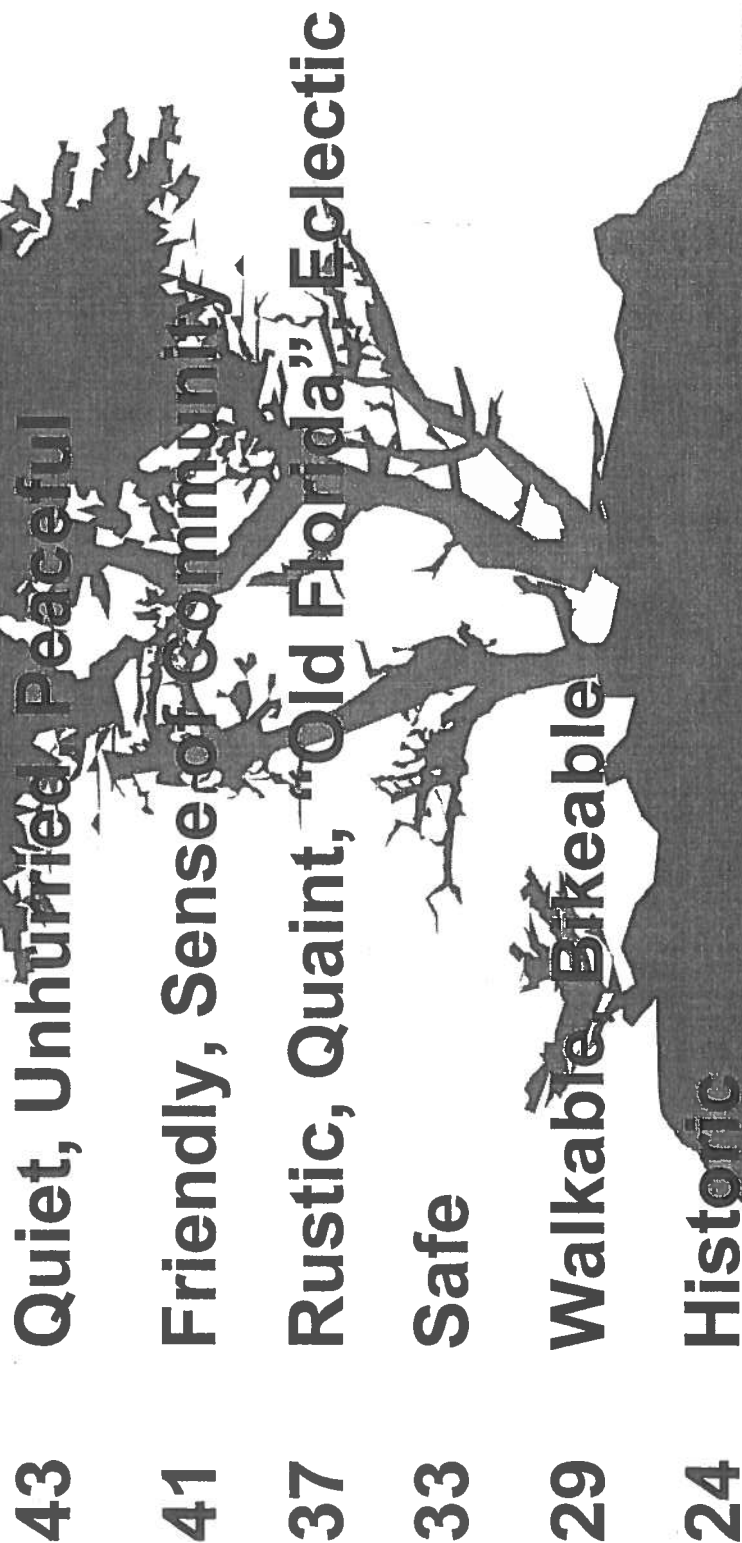


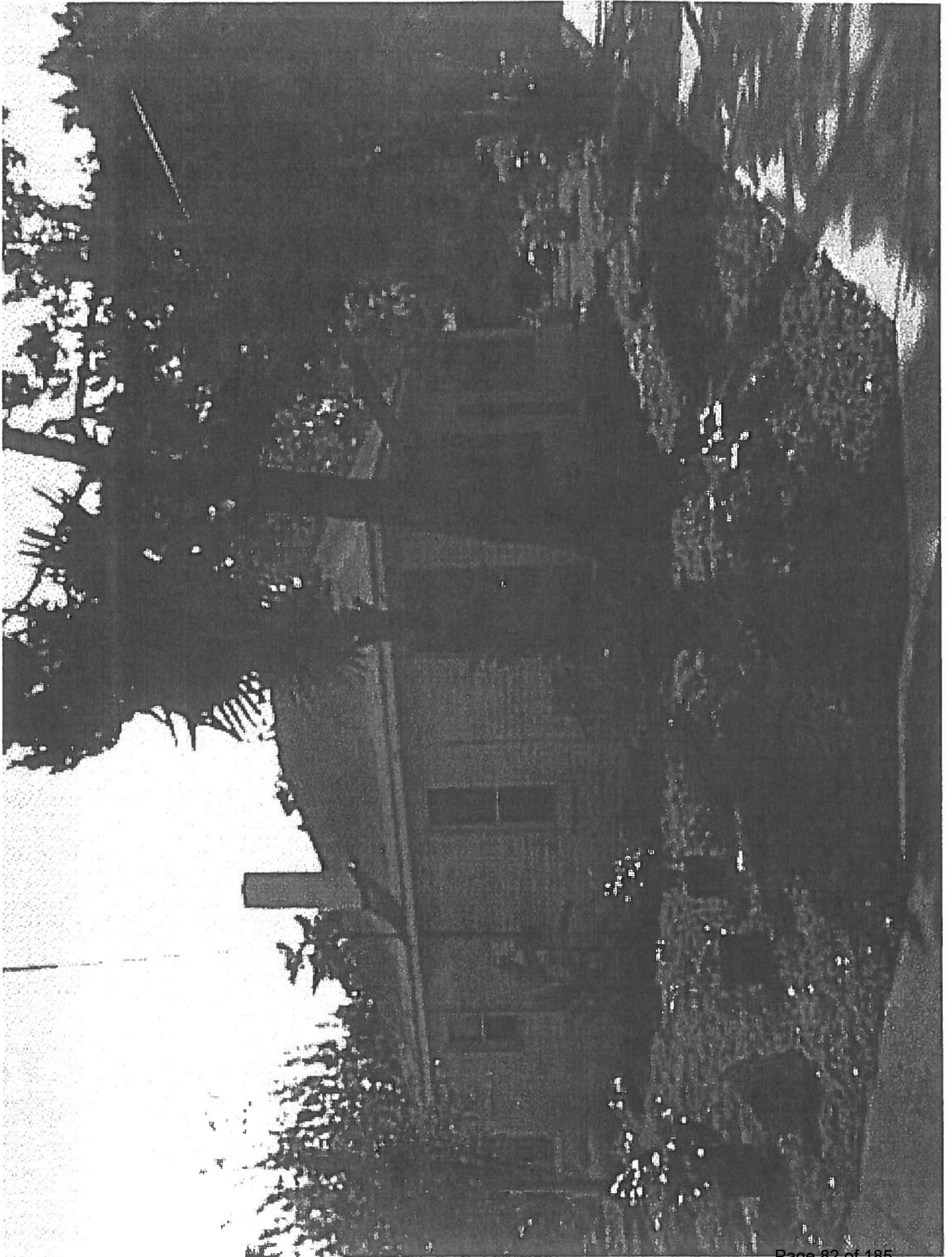


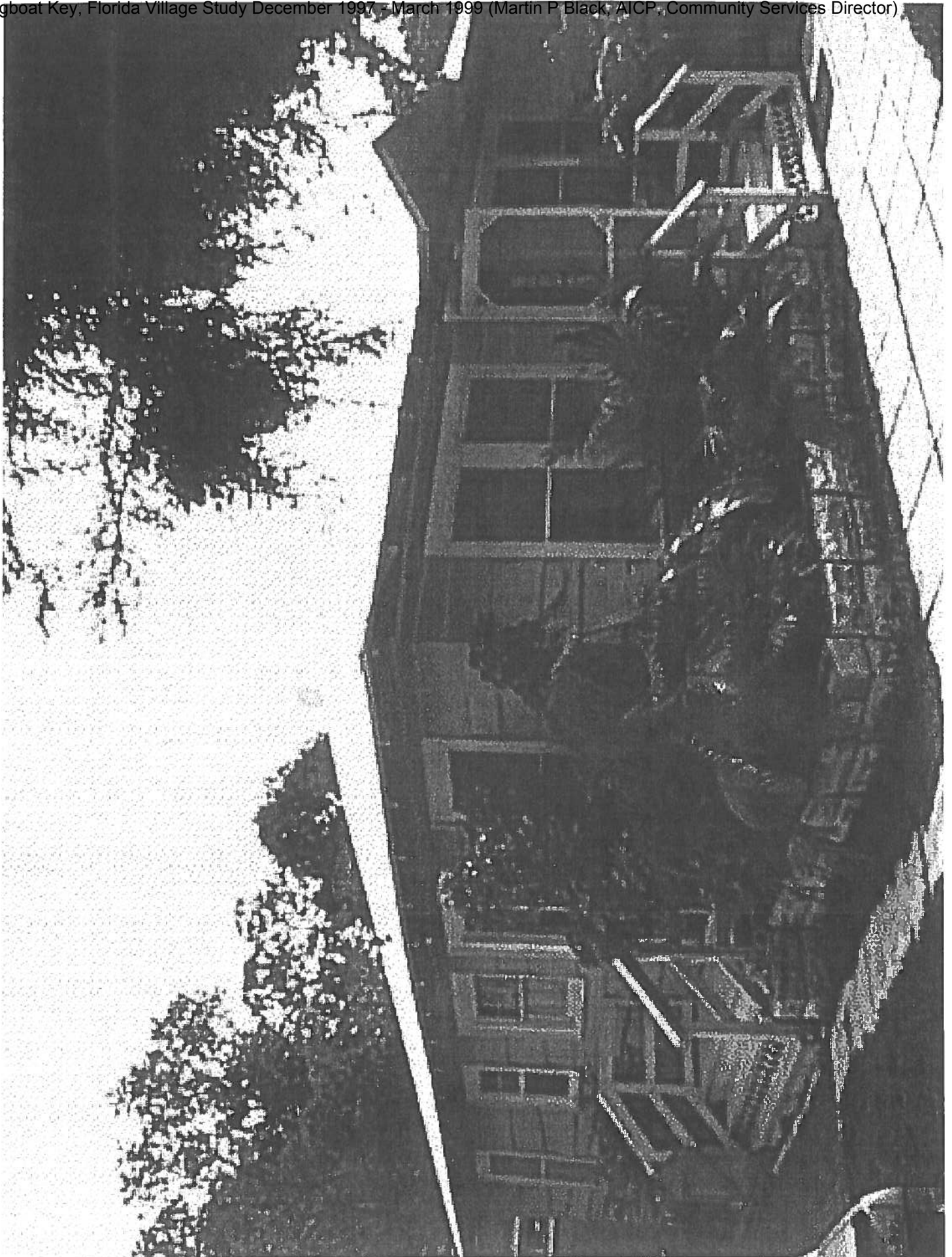


Most Common Responses to

Question #1

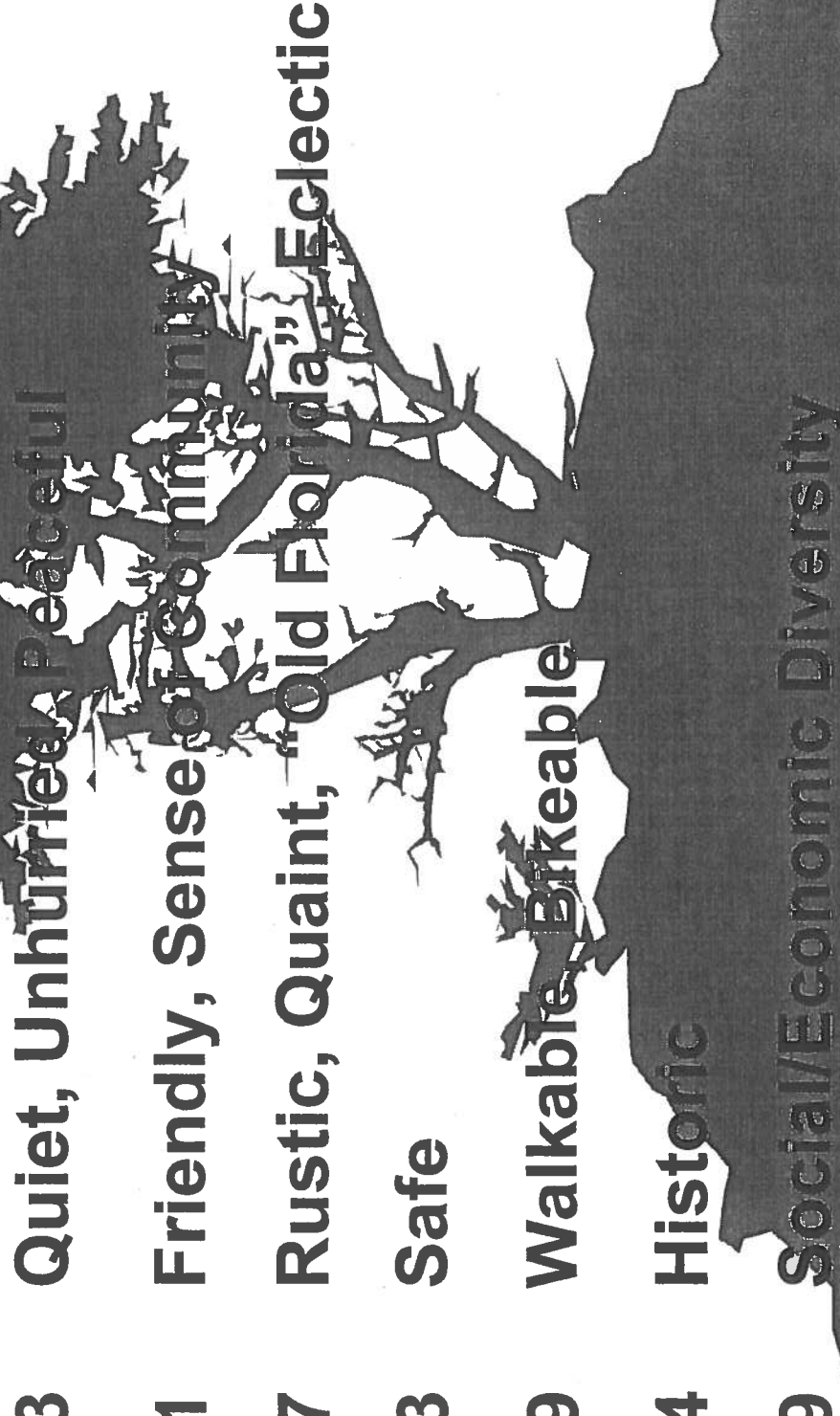

- 
- 43 Quiet, Unhurried, Peaceful
 - 41 Friendly, Sense of Community
 - 37 Rustic, Quaint, "Old Florida," Eclectic
 - 33 Safe
 - 29 Walkable, Bikeable
 - 24 Historic





Most Common Responses to

Question #1

- 
- 
- | | |
|----|--|
| 43 | Quiet, Unhurried, Peaceful |
| 41 | Friendly, Sense of Community |
| 37 | Rustic, Quaint, "Old Florida" Eclectic |
| 33 | Safe |
| 29 | Walkable, Bikeable |
| 24 | Historic |
| 19 | Social/Economic Diversity |

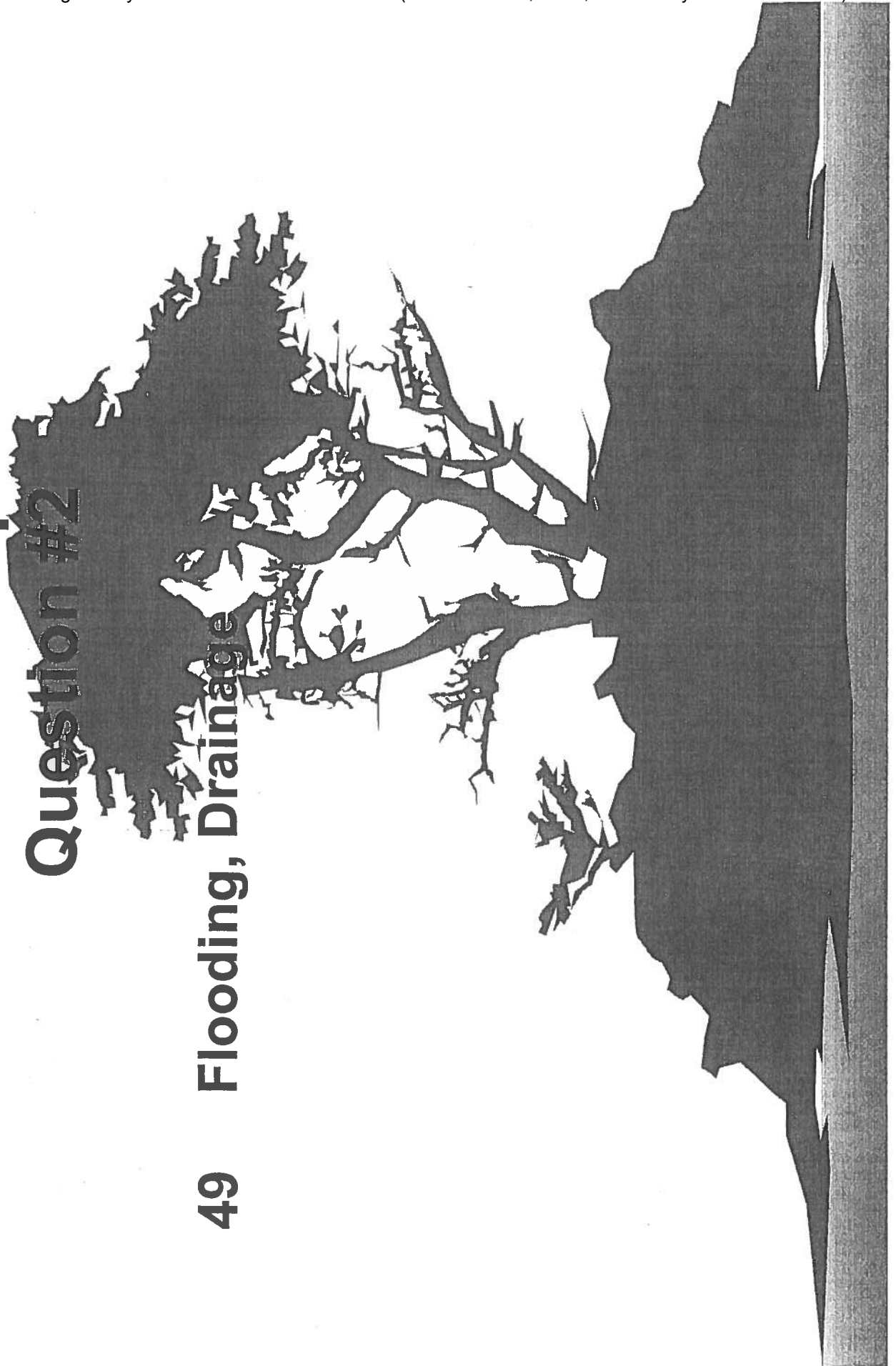
Question #2

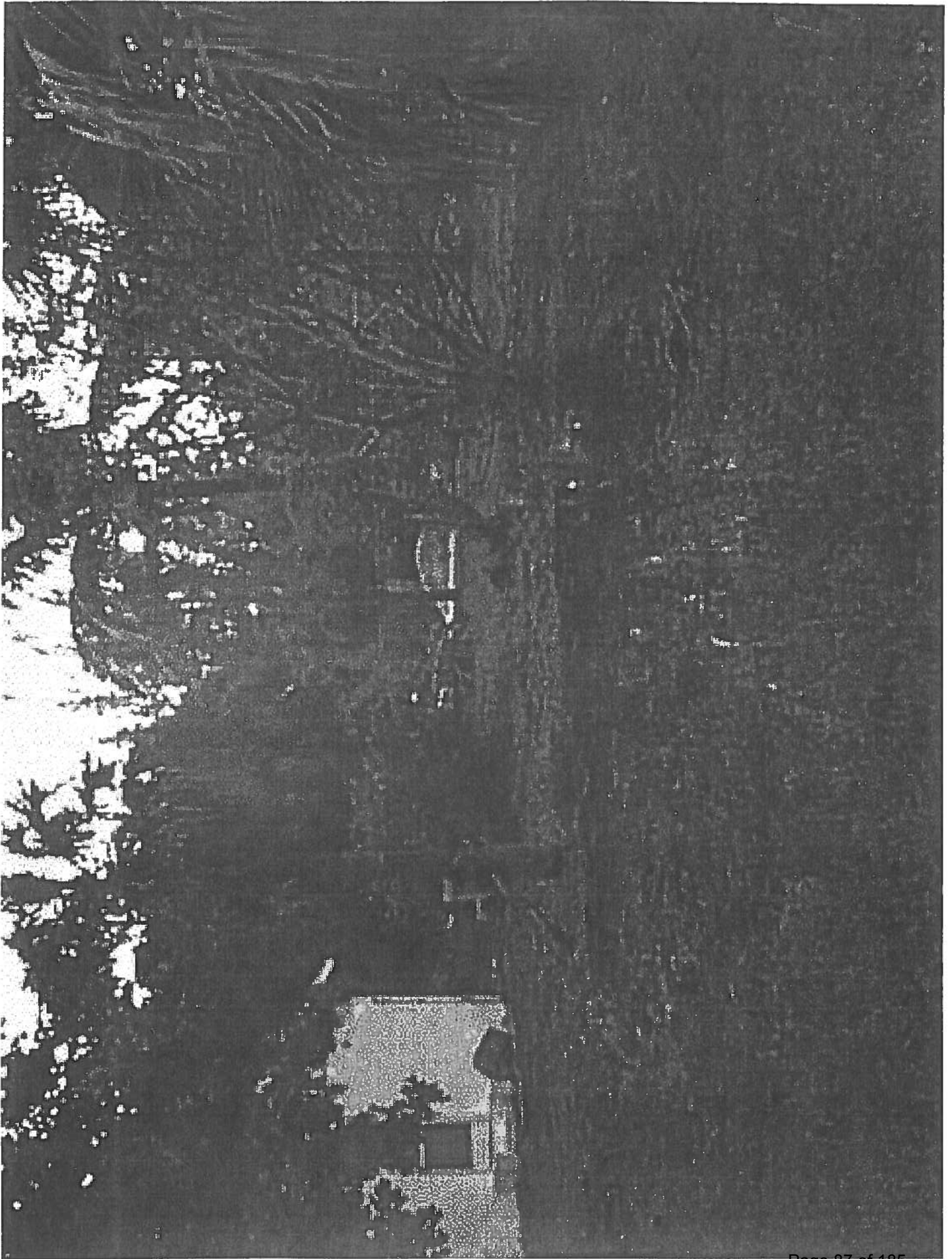
On the other hand, some residents have described the Village as "a flood zone", "neglected", "dark", etc. Please describe what factors and terms you would use to identify as those features of living in the Village needing improvement.

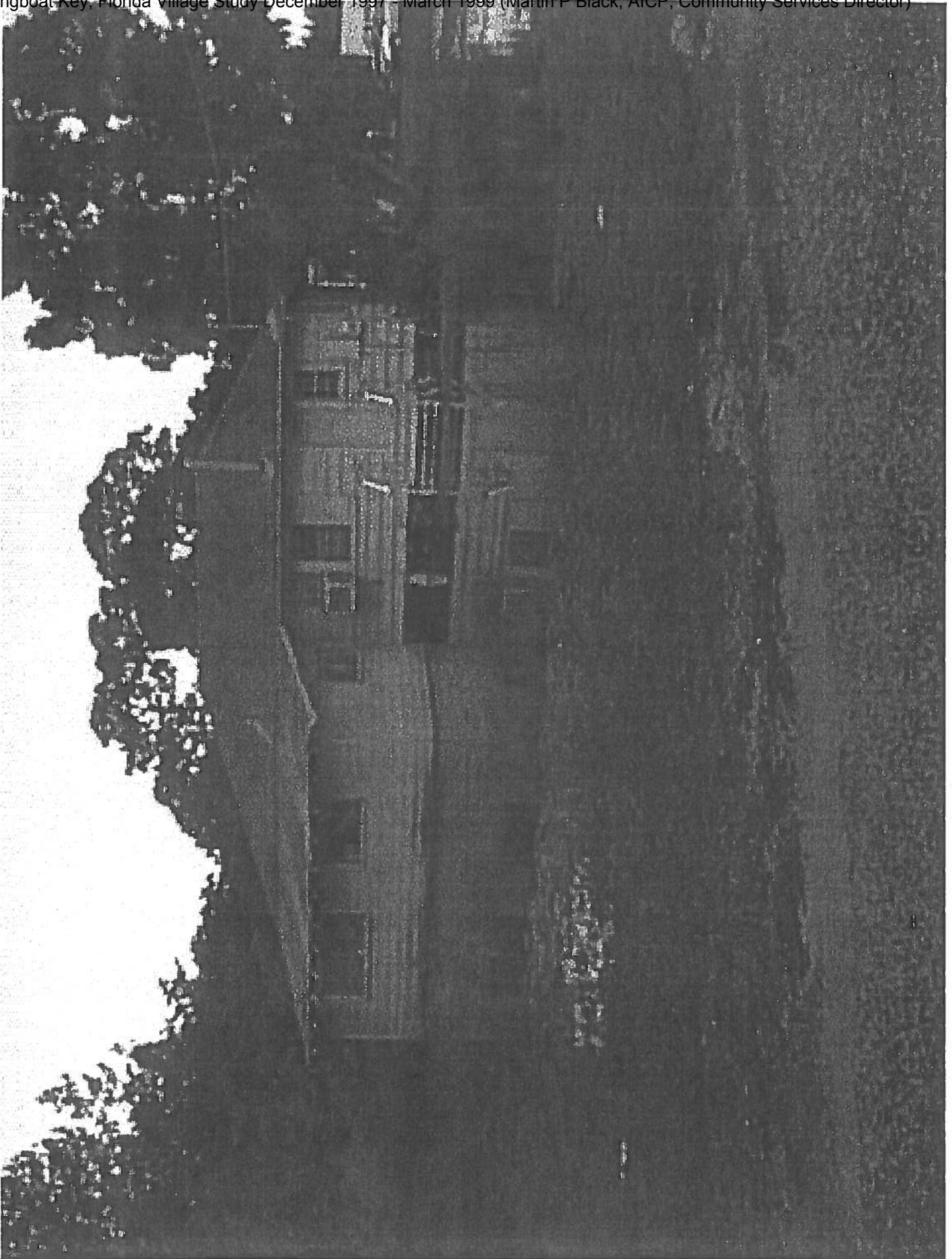
Most Common Responses to

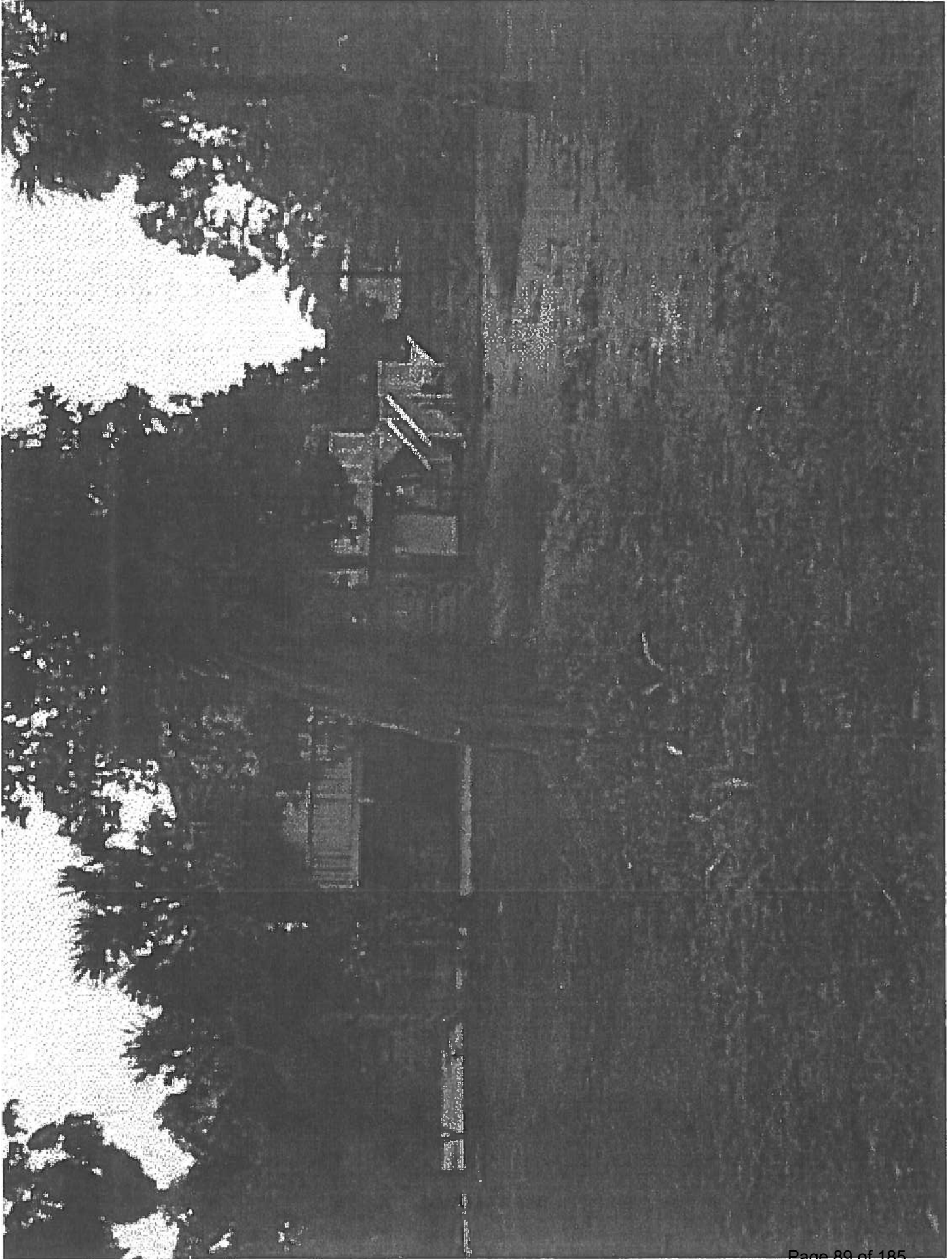
Question #2

49 Flooding, Drainage

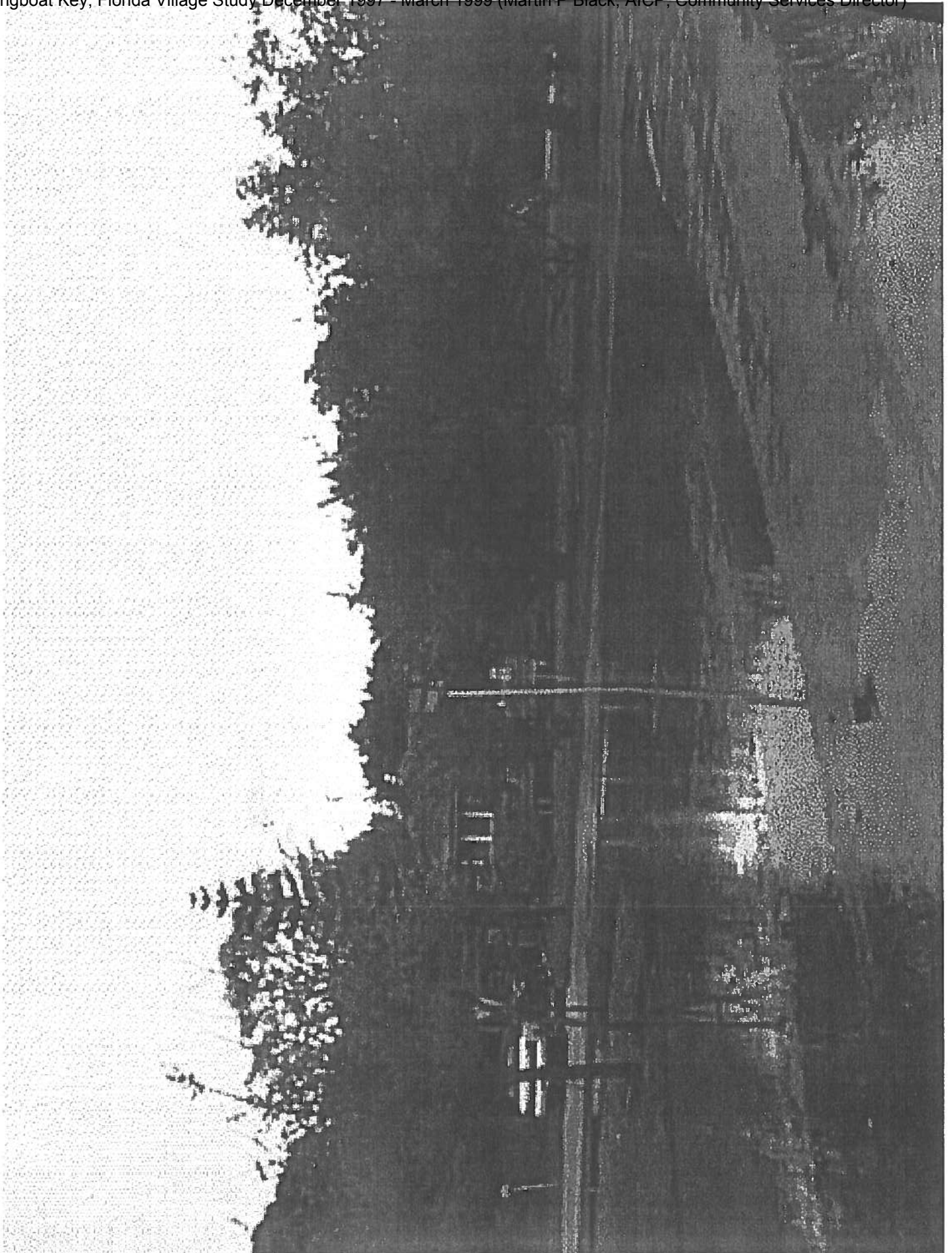


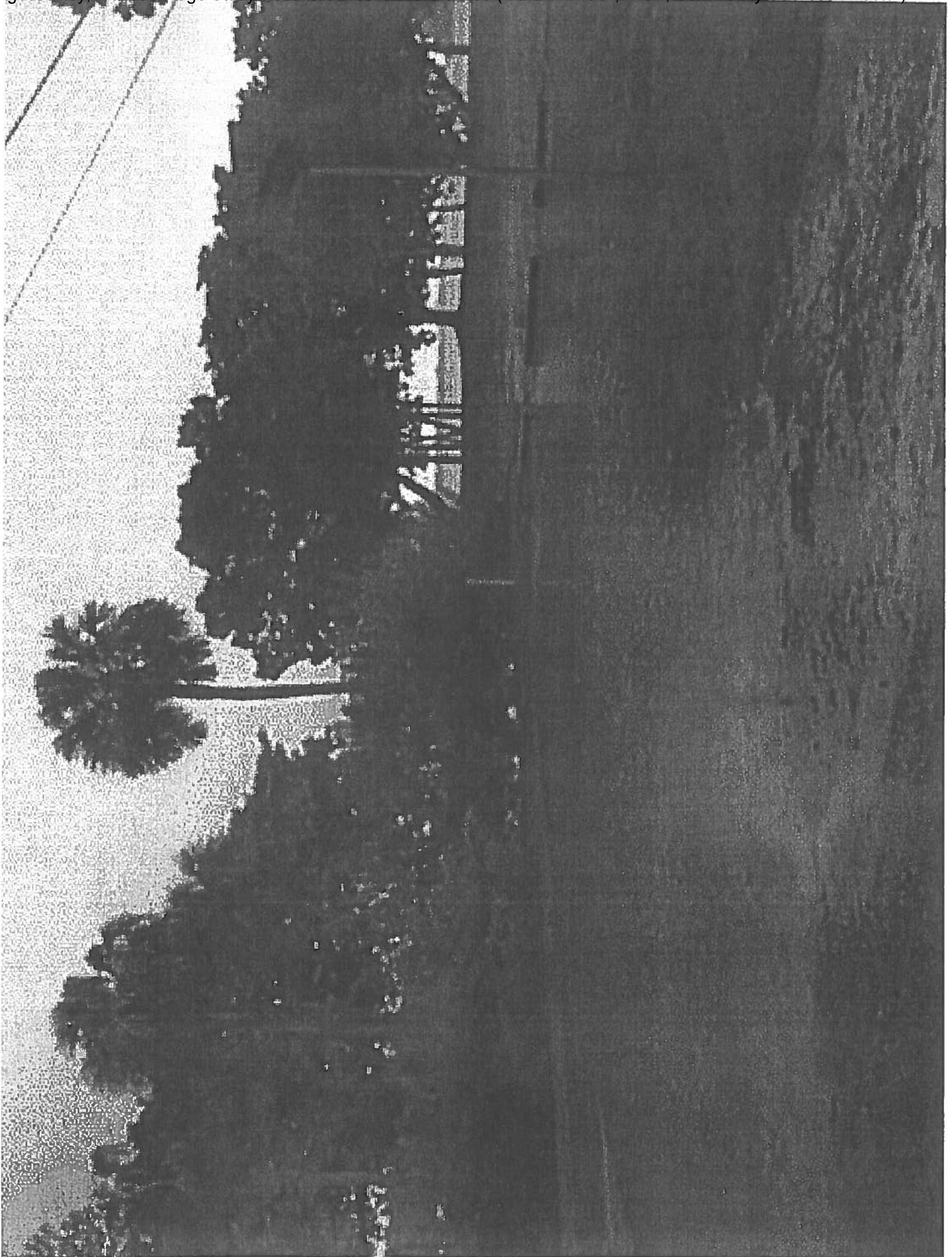


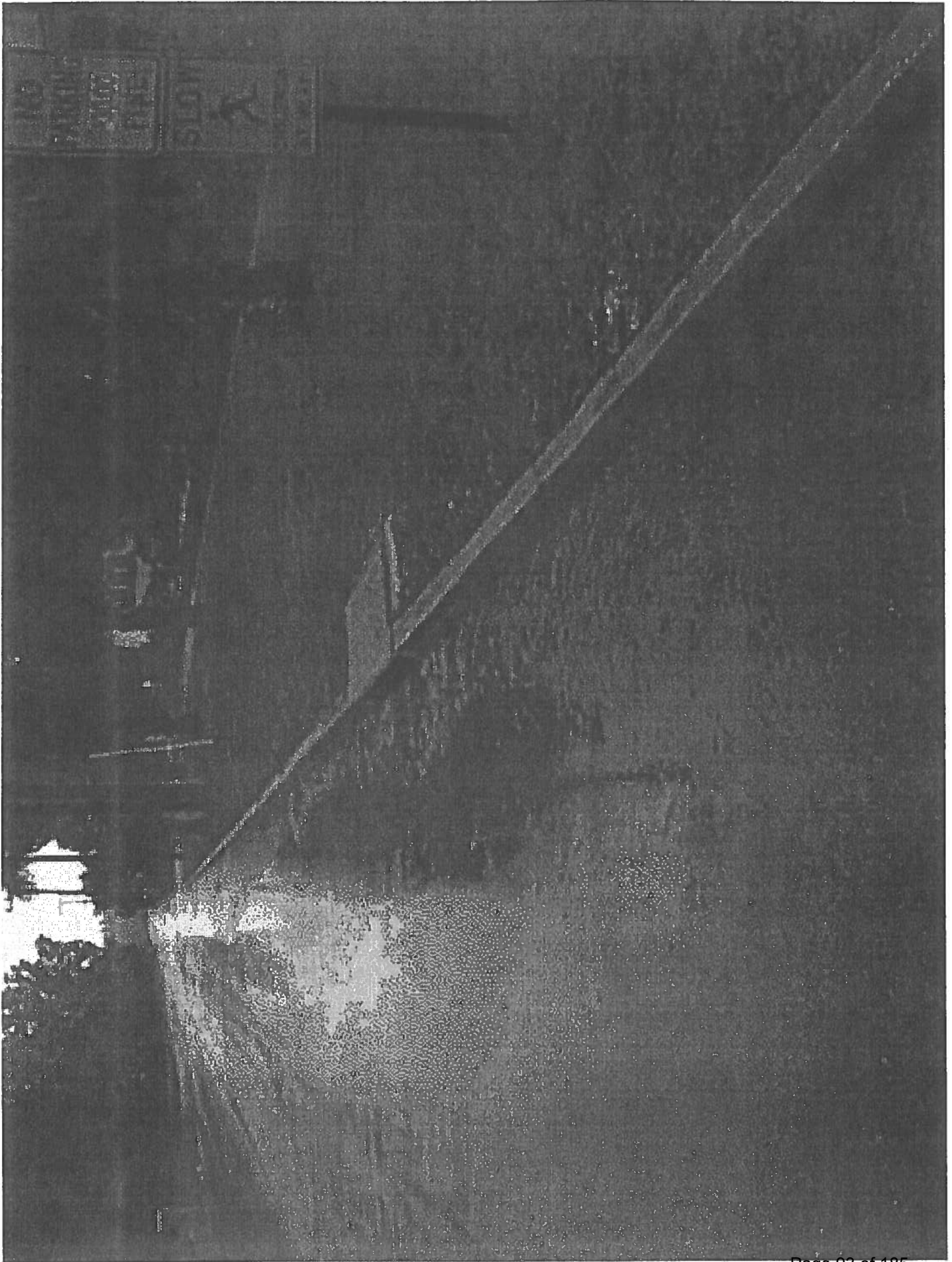












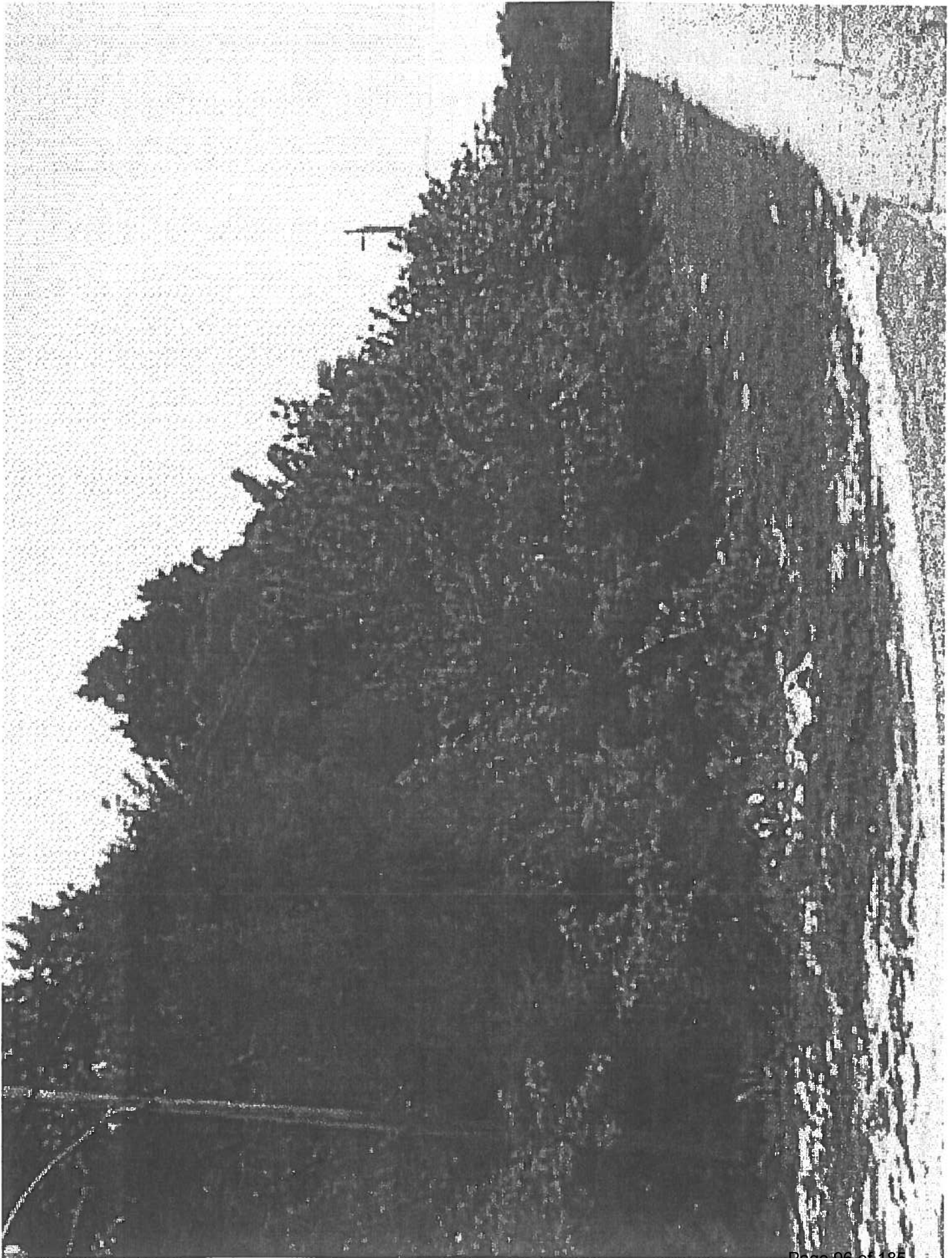
Most Common Responses to

Question #12

- 49 Flooding, Drainage
- 20 Upkeep of Buildings and Yards



**“We would like to see all
yards maintained in an orderly
way...vegetation trimmed, not
allowed to become overgrown
and scraggly.”**

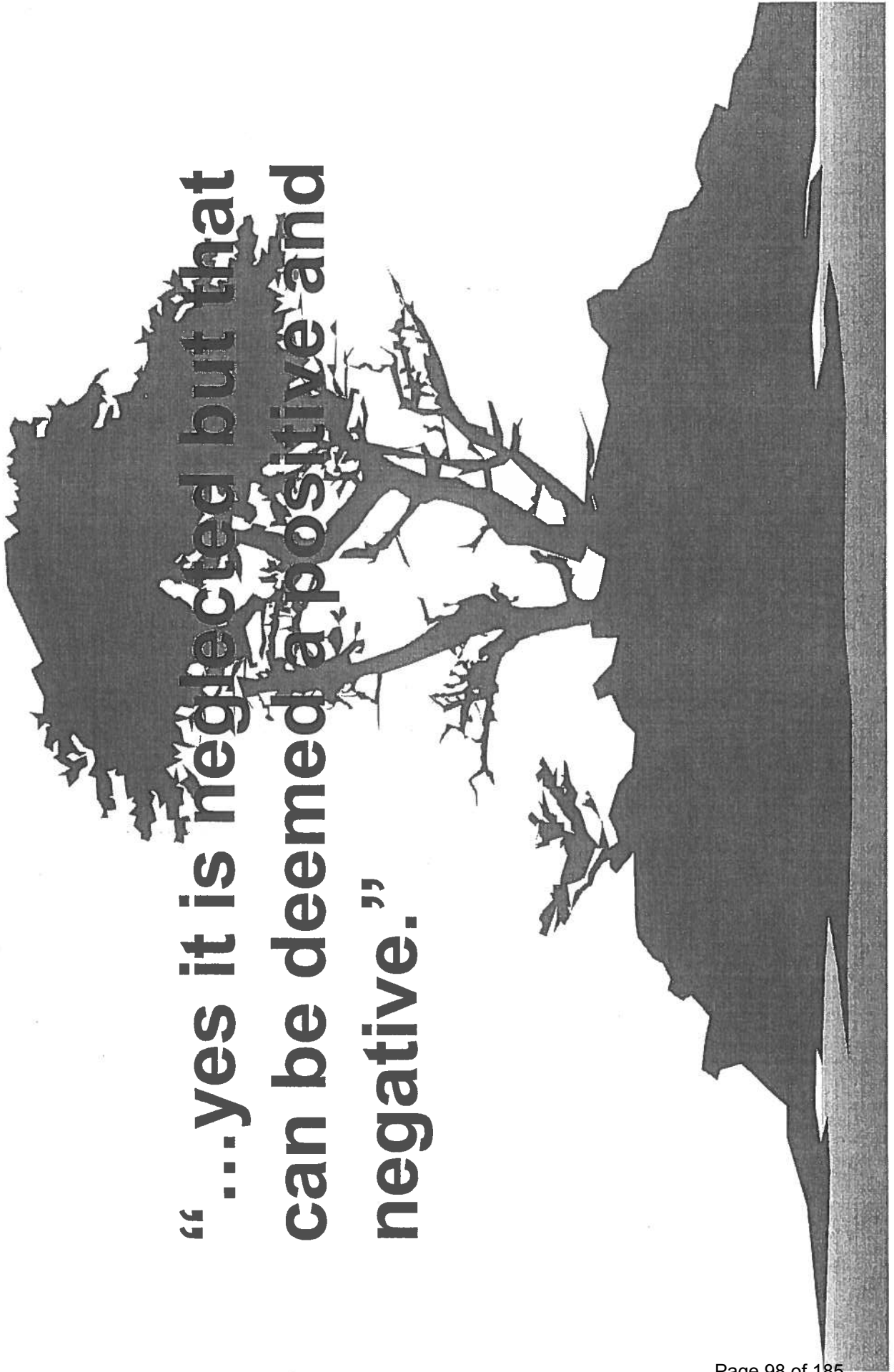


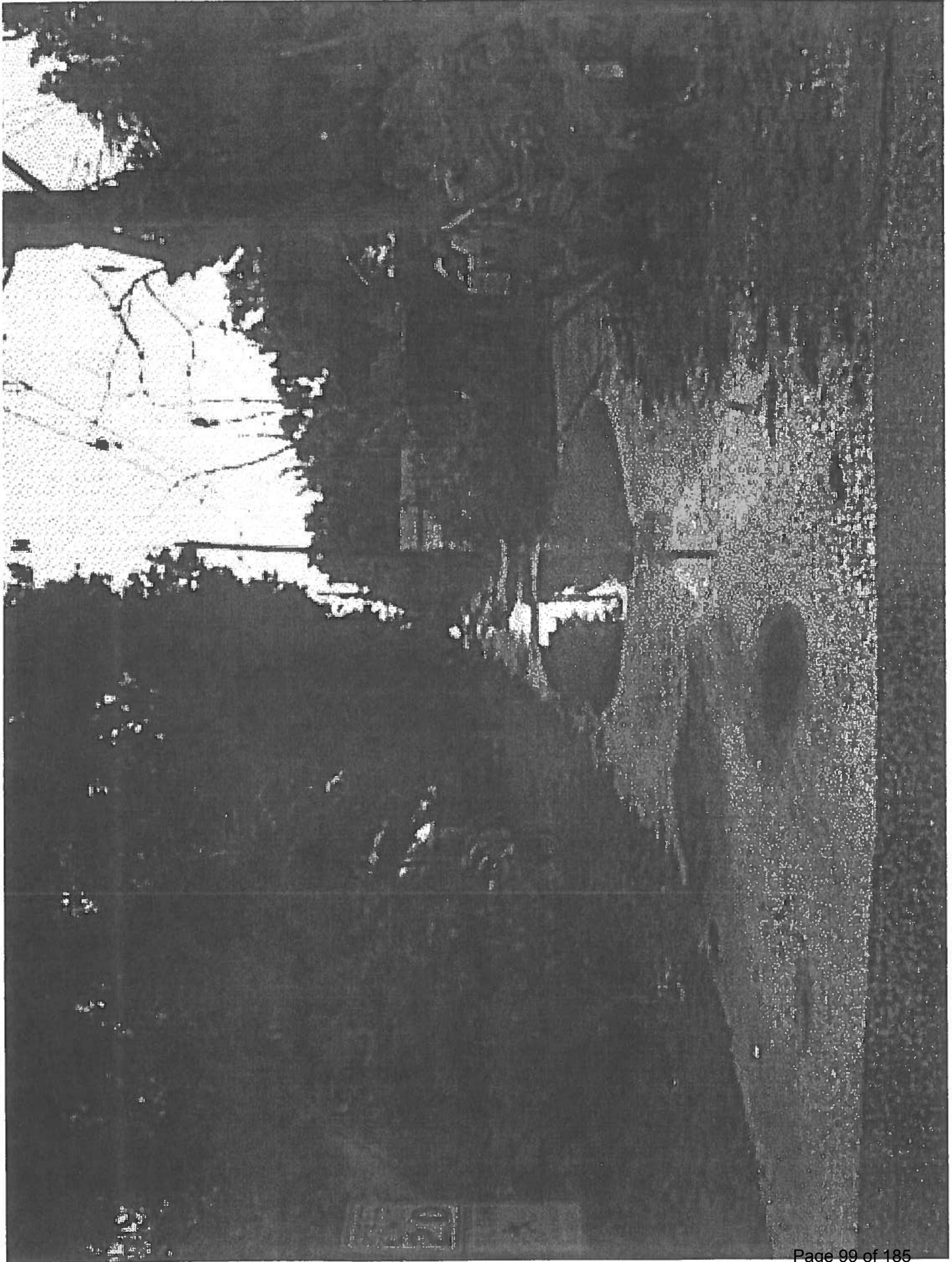
Most Common Responses to

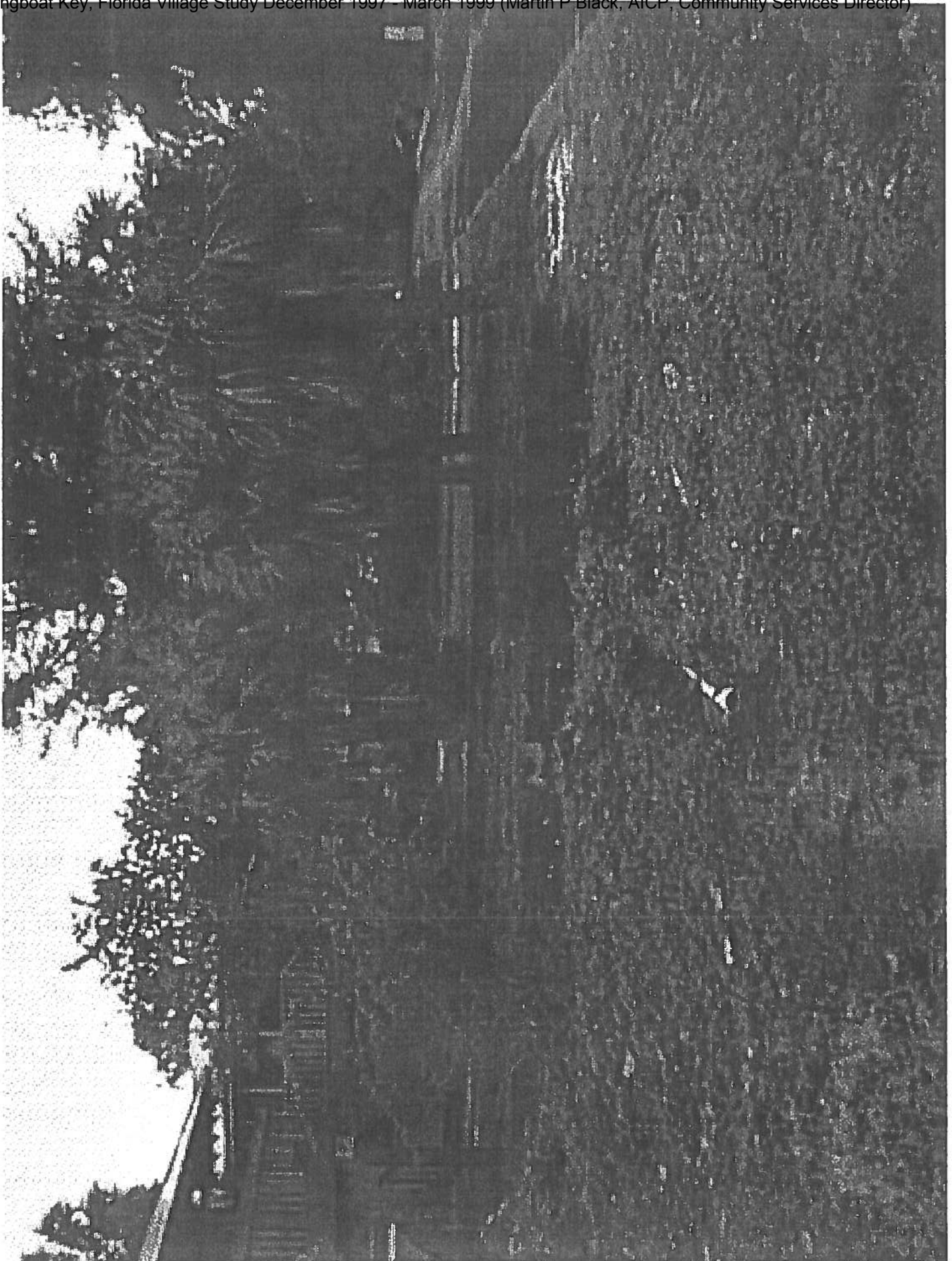
Question #2

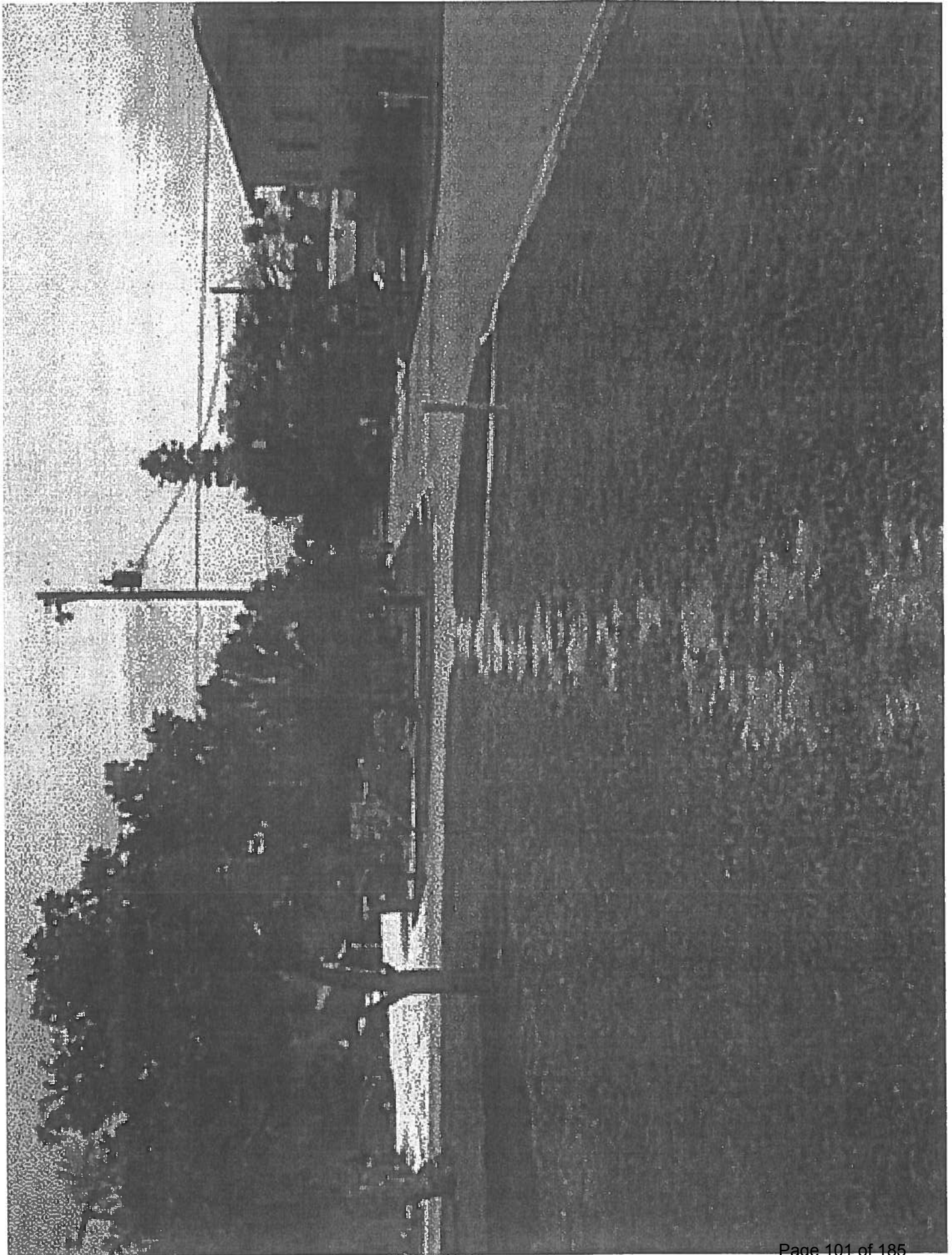
- 
- 49 Flooding, Drainage
 - 20 Upkeep of Buildings and Yards
 - 14 Upkeep of Town Right-of-Ways and Front Yard Parking

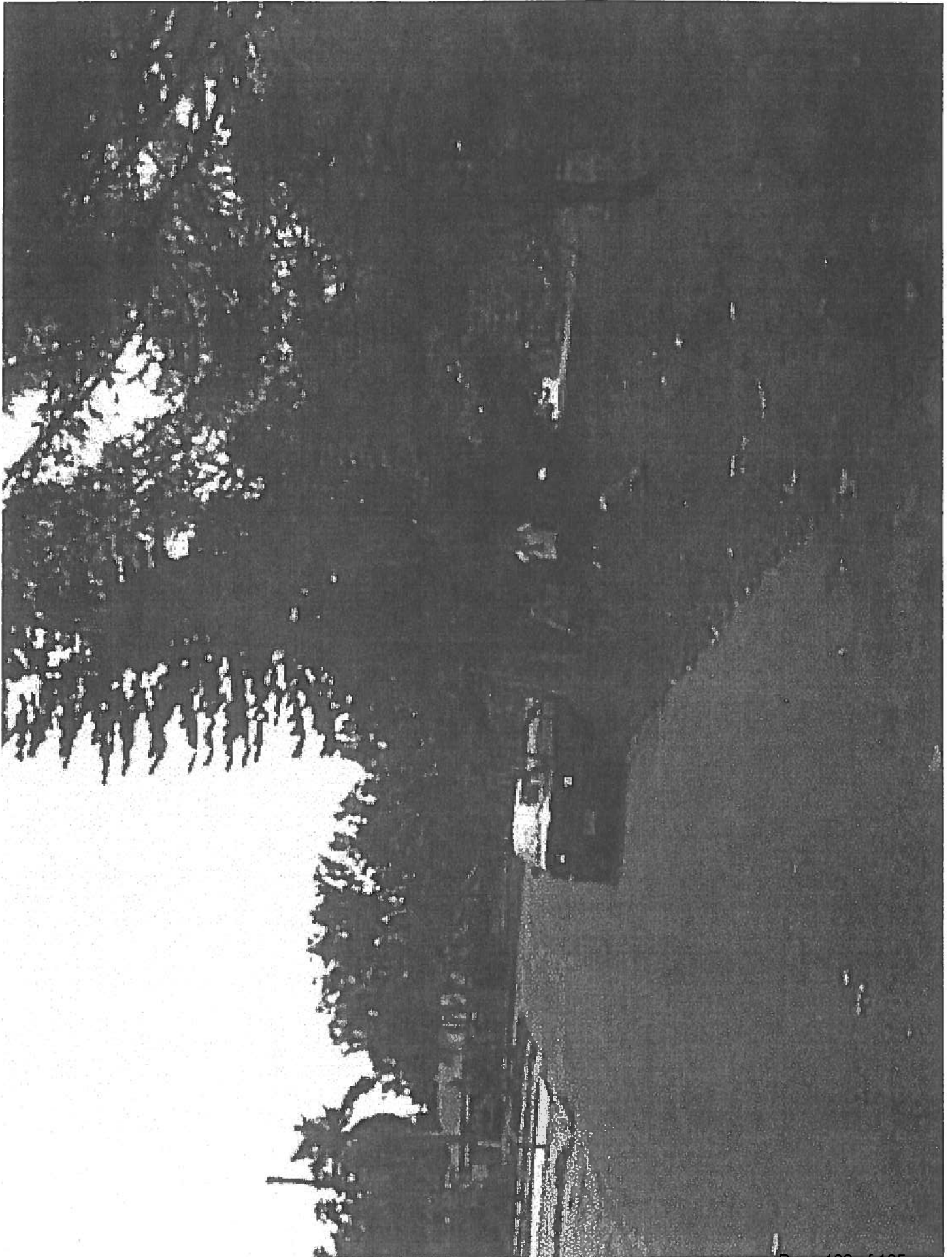
**“...yes it is neglected but that
can be deemed a positive and
negative.”**







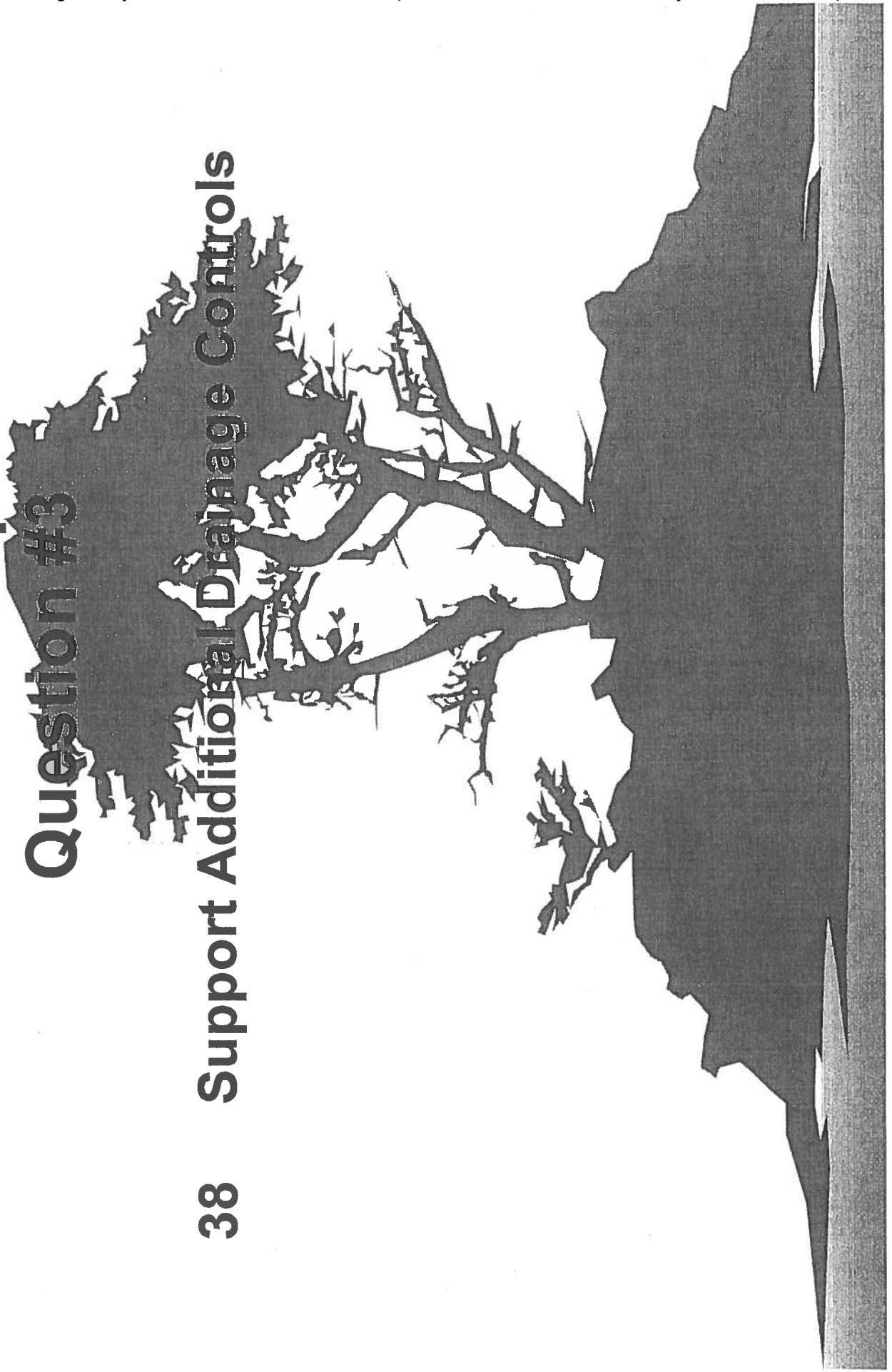




Question #3

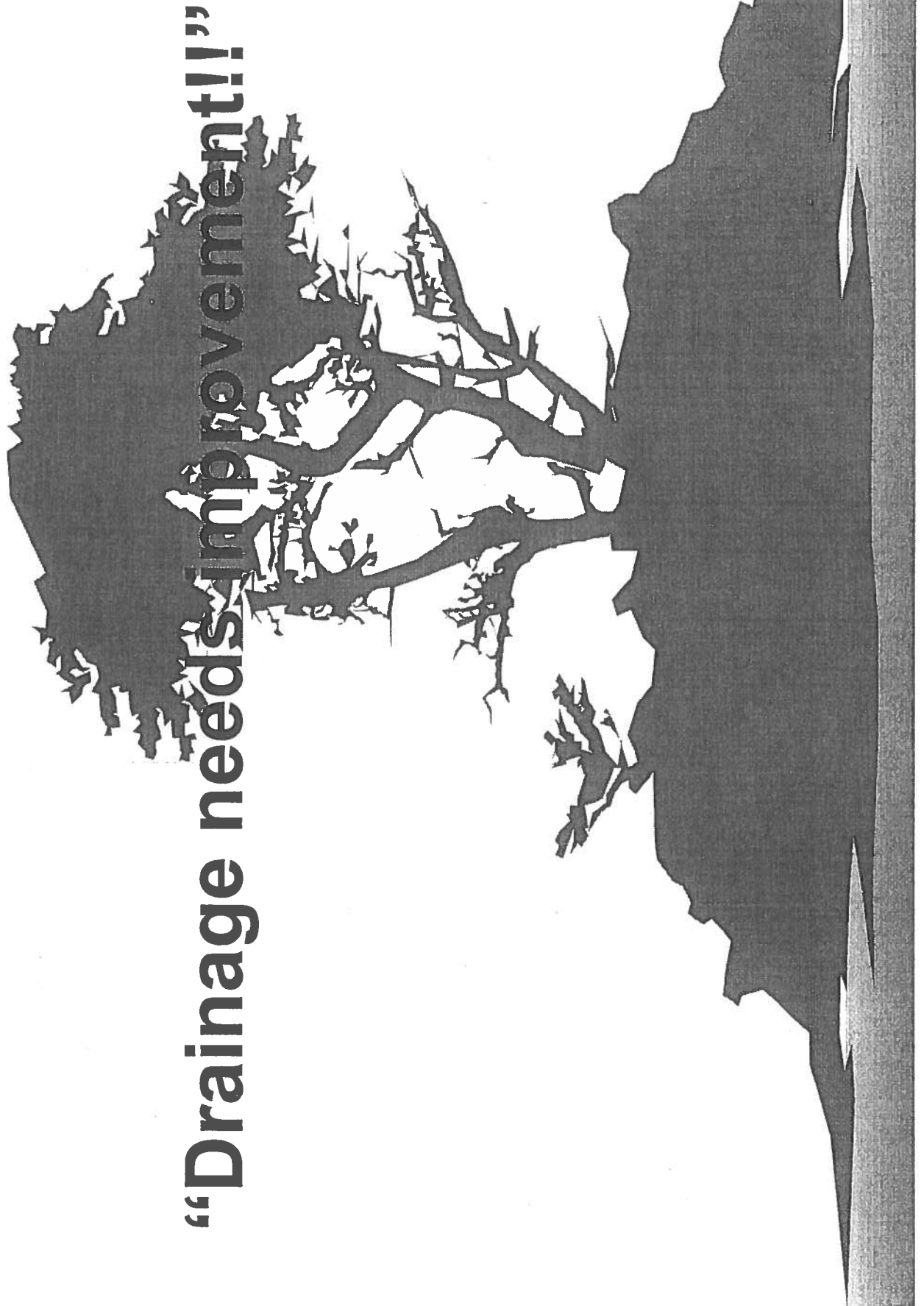
Currently the Town Code and state regulations exempt single family home construction from storm water/drainage requirements. Do you support this existing exemption or, if not, would you support some type of new local control of drainages?

Most Common Responses to Question #3 38 Support Additional Drainage Controls





**“Yes - when building our
home two years ago we were
required to include storm
water retention and we’re glad
we did.”**

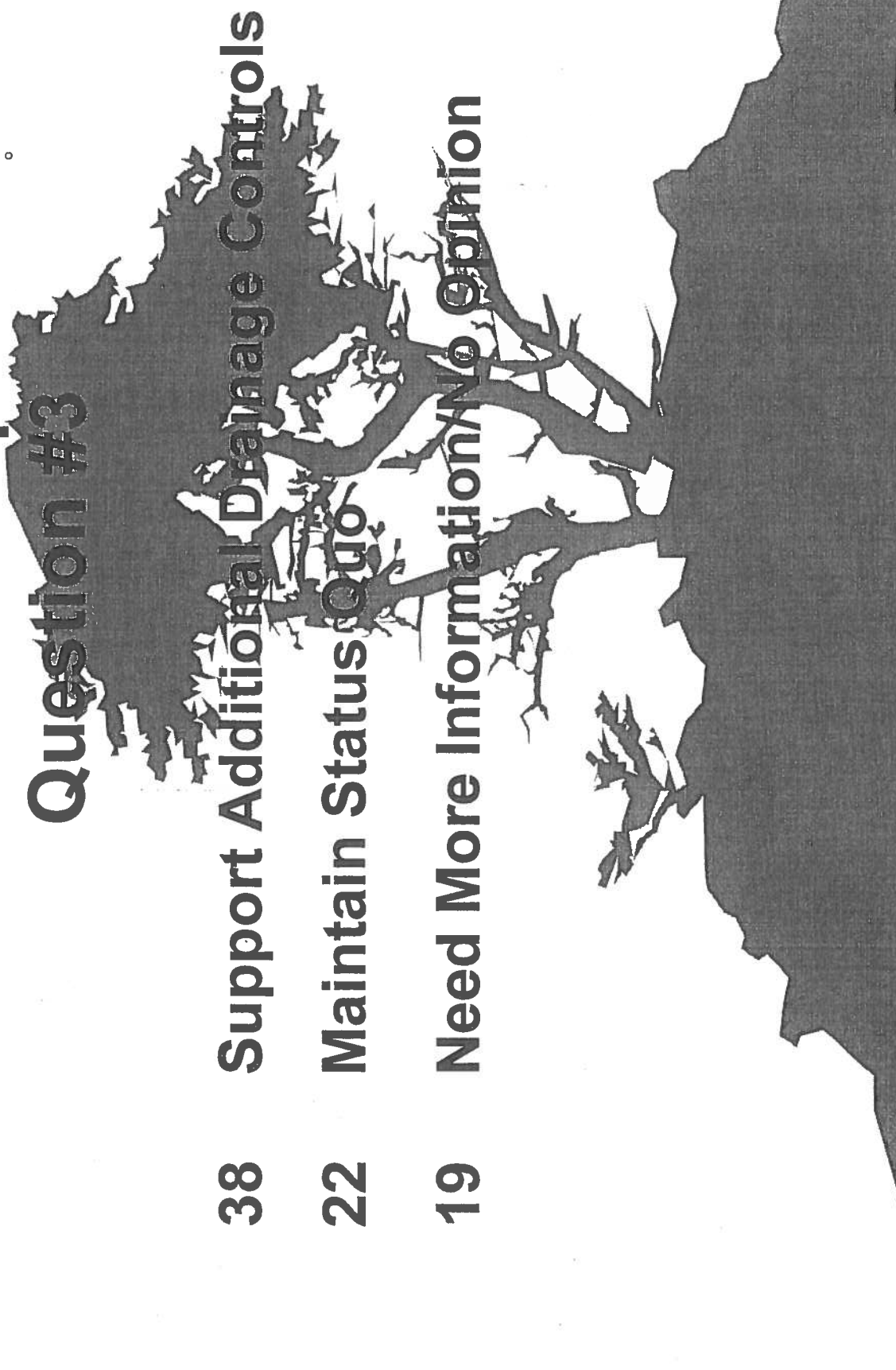


“I do not feel that the Town should allow one property owner to fill a parcel so that it floods surrounding parcels. This is a problem for many older homes where new homes are built on filled land.”

**“Would love to see the Town
take control of drainage
problems - no matter the
cost.”**

Most Common Responses to

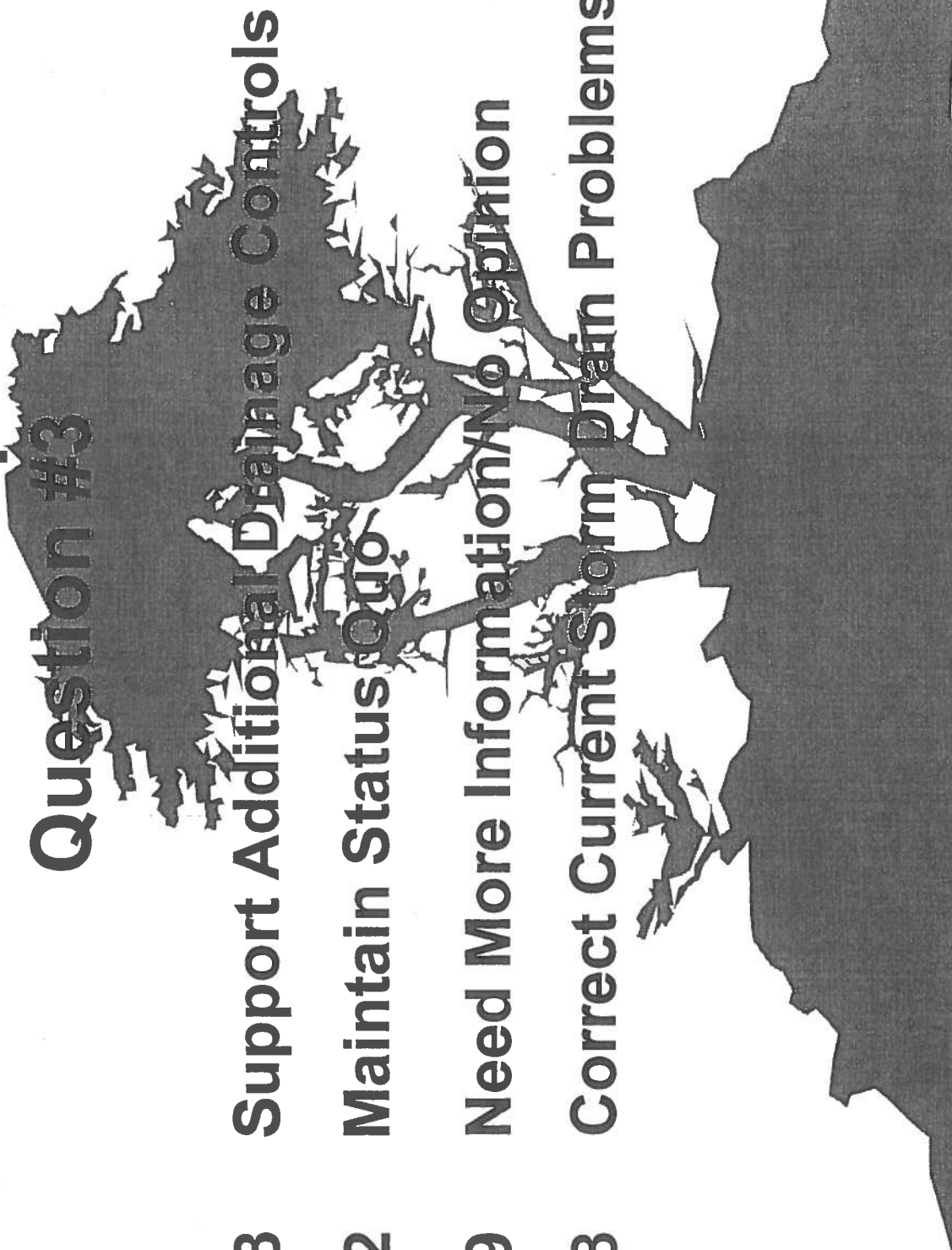
Question #3

- 
- 38 Support Additional Drainage Controls
 - 22 Maintain Status Quo
 - 19 Need More Information/No Opinion

“We do not know enough about storm drainage systems to have an opinion. If, however, new construction creates problems, then surely the new owners should pay for the burden of whatever relief in necessary. If this means new regulations, then please pass them.”

Most Common Responses to

Question #3

- 
- 38 Support Additional Drainage Controls**
 - 22 Maintain Status Quo**
 - 19 Need More Information/No Opinion**
 - 8 Correct Current Storm Drain Problems**

“I can see no possible way to handle storm water drainage on our small lots - drain to the streets and improve the street drainage system.”

Most Common Responses to

Question #3

- 
- 38 Support Additional Drainage Controls
 - 22 Maintain Status Quo
 - 19 Need More Information/No Opinion
 - 8 Correct Current Storm Drain Problems
 - 7 Do Not Expect Positive Results

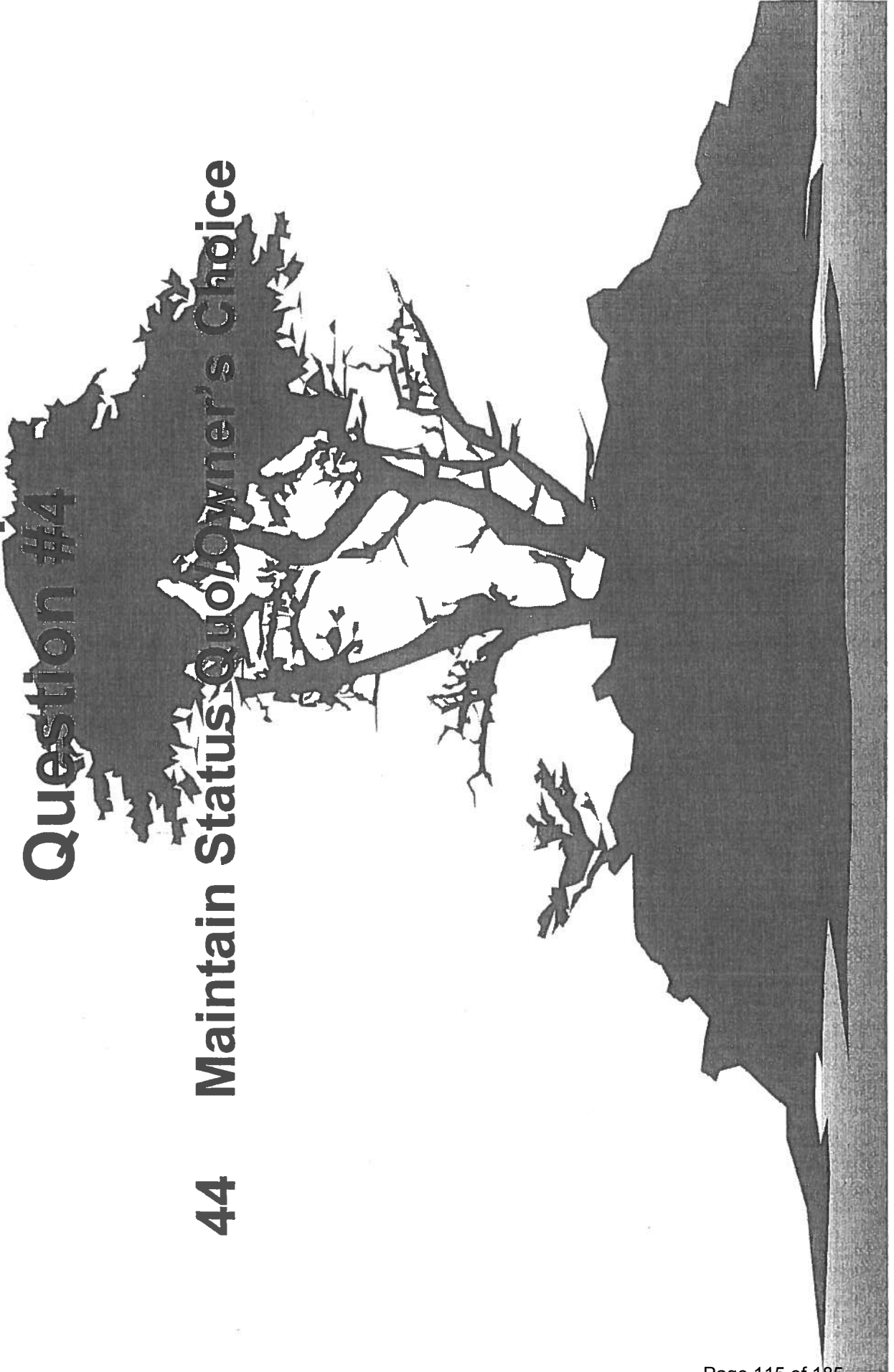
Question #4

There are a variety of ways in which parking for residents and guests of the Village is met. Examples include large paved/shell areas in front yards, garage parking with access from the street or alley, on-street parking, etc. As you think about your preferences for the future look and feel of the Village, where do you prefer parking to be located?

Most Common Responses to

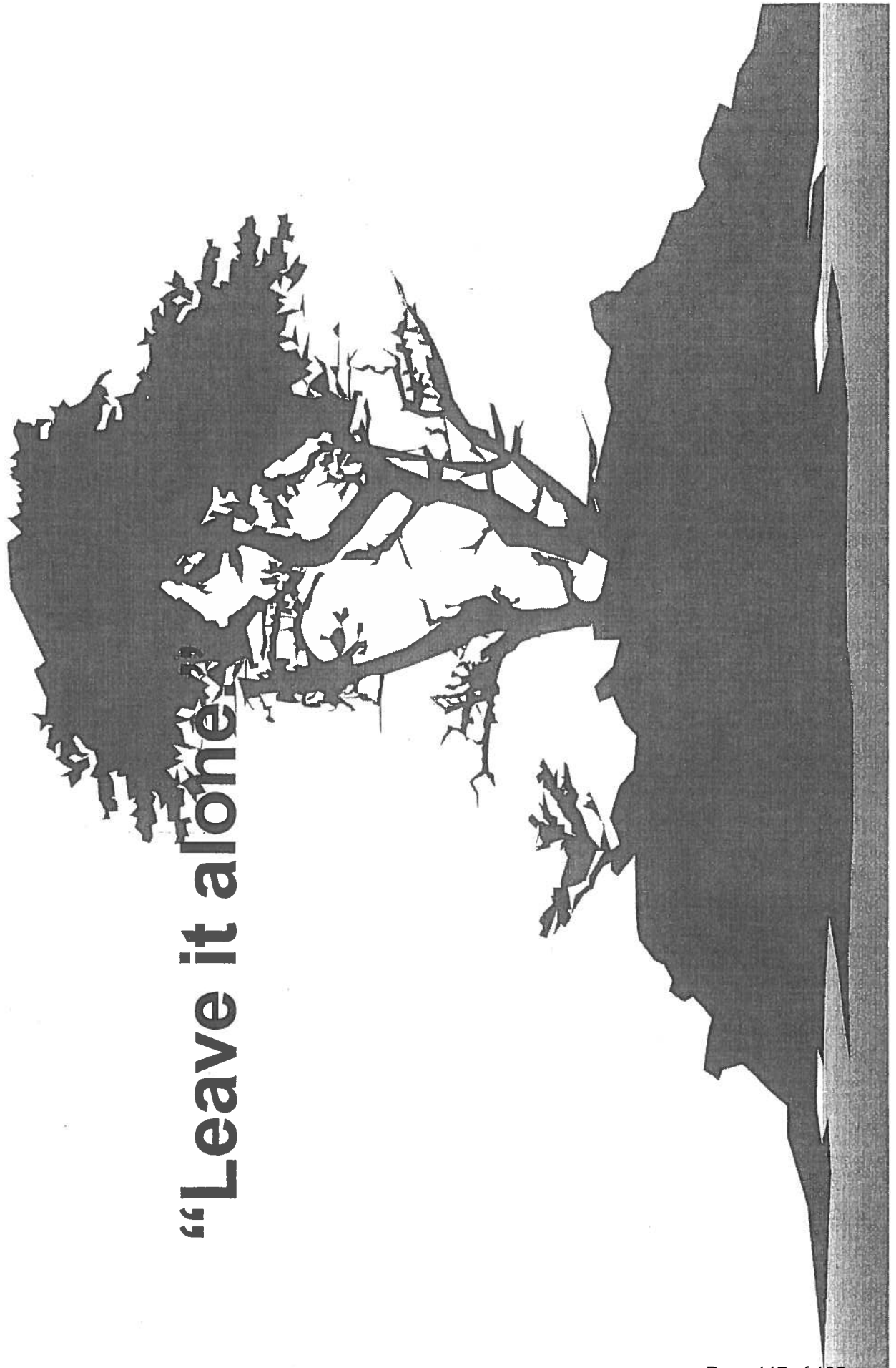
Question #4

44 Maintain Status Quo/Owner's Choice



**“We have been in the Village
for 21 years and never felt that
parking was a problem”**





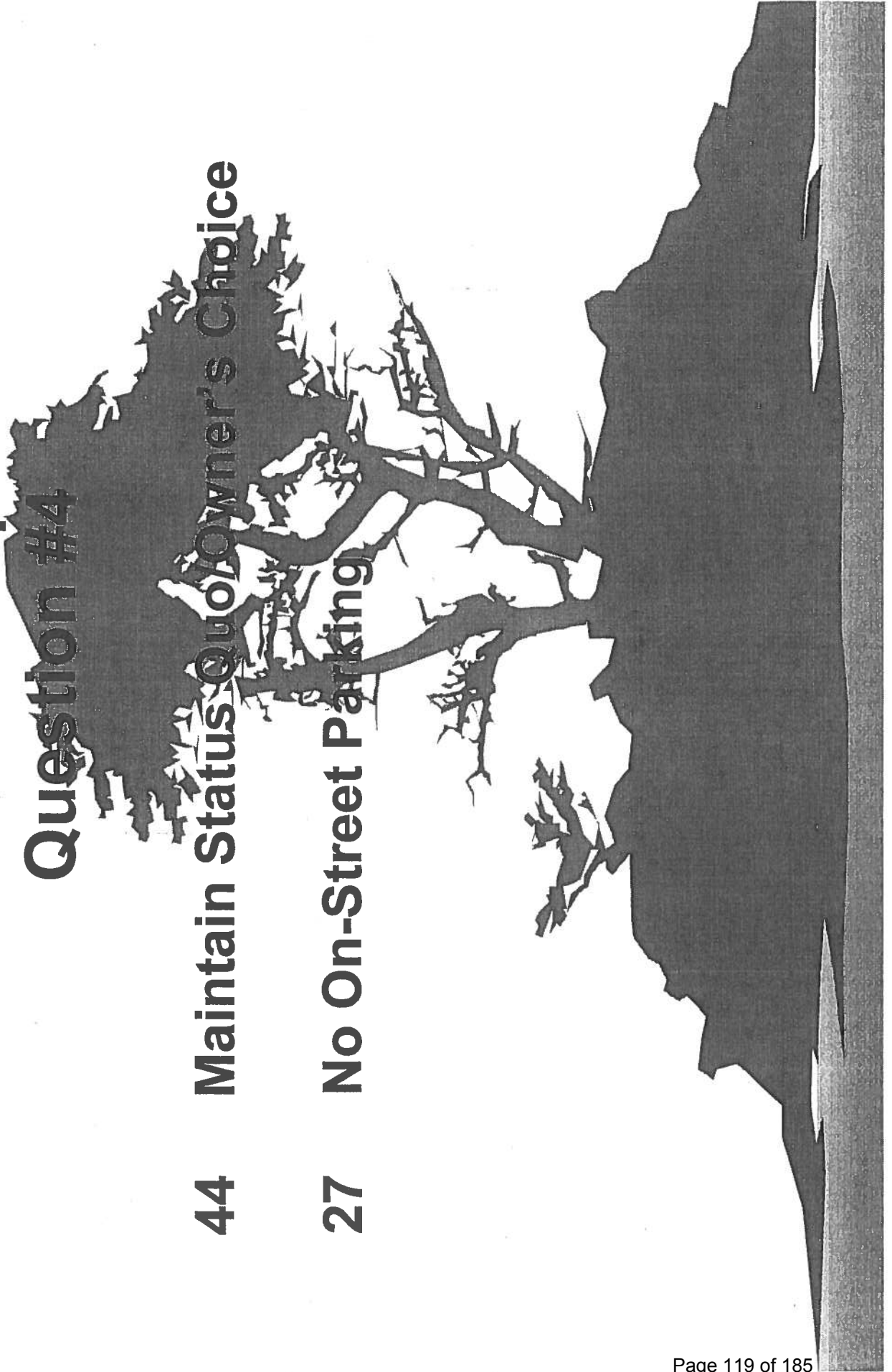
“No Village restrictions on parking. It should be left to the person building the structure and the architect.”

Most Common Responses to

Question #4

44 Maintain Status Quo/Owner's Choice

27 No On-Street Parking



“It is impossible to draft general parking standards for the entire village - because of lot sizes and locations a variety of parking solutions are viable. In general it is more desirable to have parking off street and not visible from the street, however, this is not possible in many instances.”

Most Common Responses to

Question #4

44 Maintain Status Quo/Owner's Choice

27 No On-Street Parking

12 Parking Via Alley Preferred

“The layout of the streets within the village with rear alleys behind relatively narrow lots is a well conceived concept enjoying somewhat of a revival across the country. Use of the existing alleys to provide access to parking either open or garaged at the rear of the property should be promoted.”

Question #5

Recent construction of new homes has raised questions from some residents as to the desired design and appearance of construction in the Village. Opportunities exist for the Town to set special development standards relating to the replacement of trees and landscaping; setting a range of approved architectural styles, and proving alternative standards to existing Town regulations.

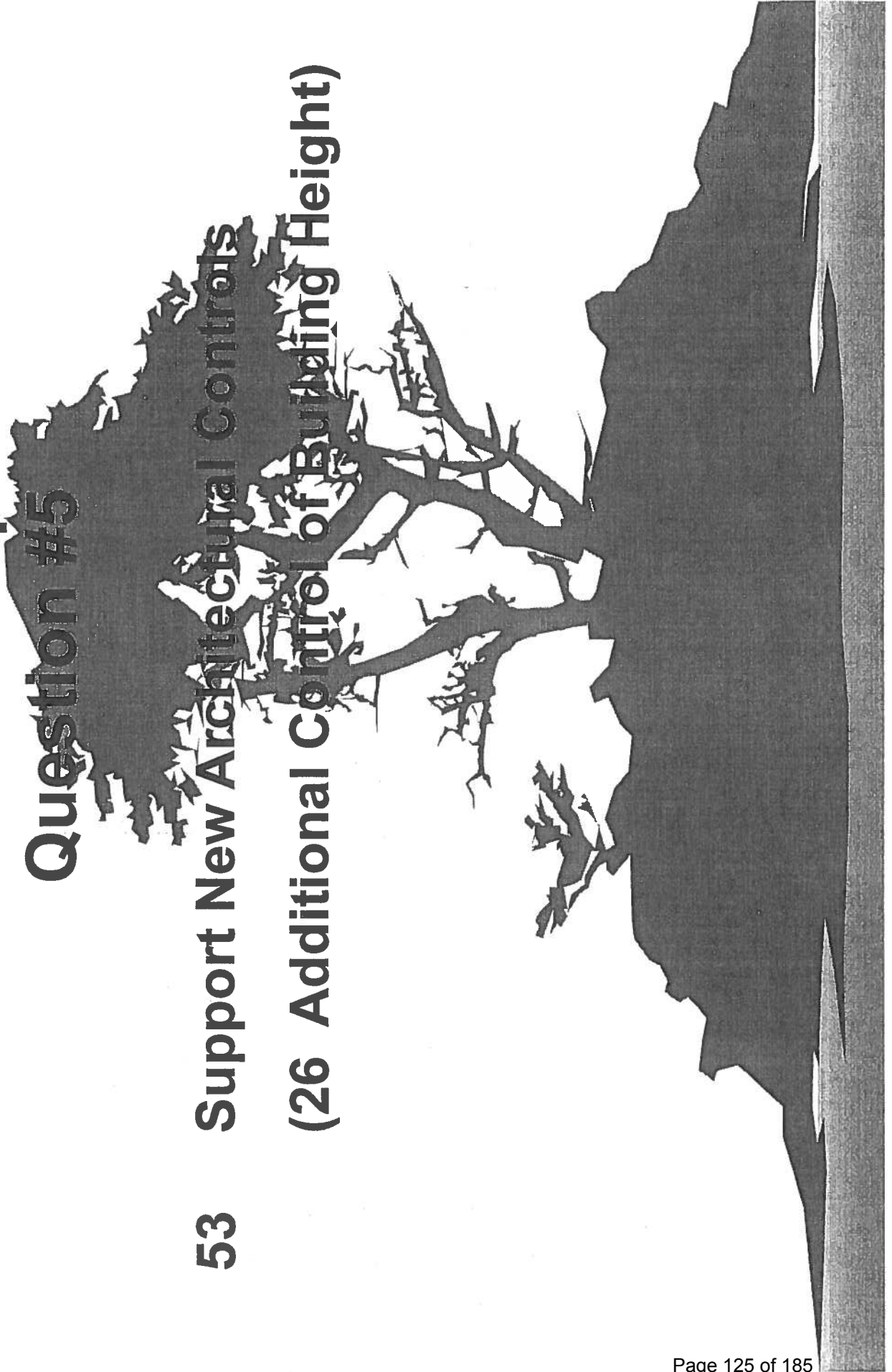
Question #5 (cont.)

Please provide your thoughts on the design which you prefer for development of the Villages including those items which you would like to ensure are addressed in terms of appearance of homes and lots.

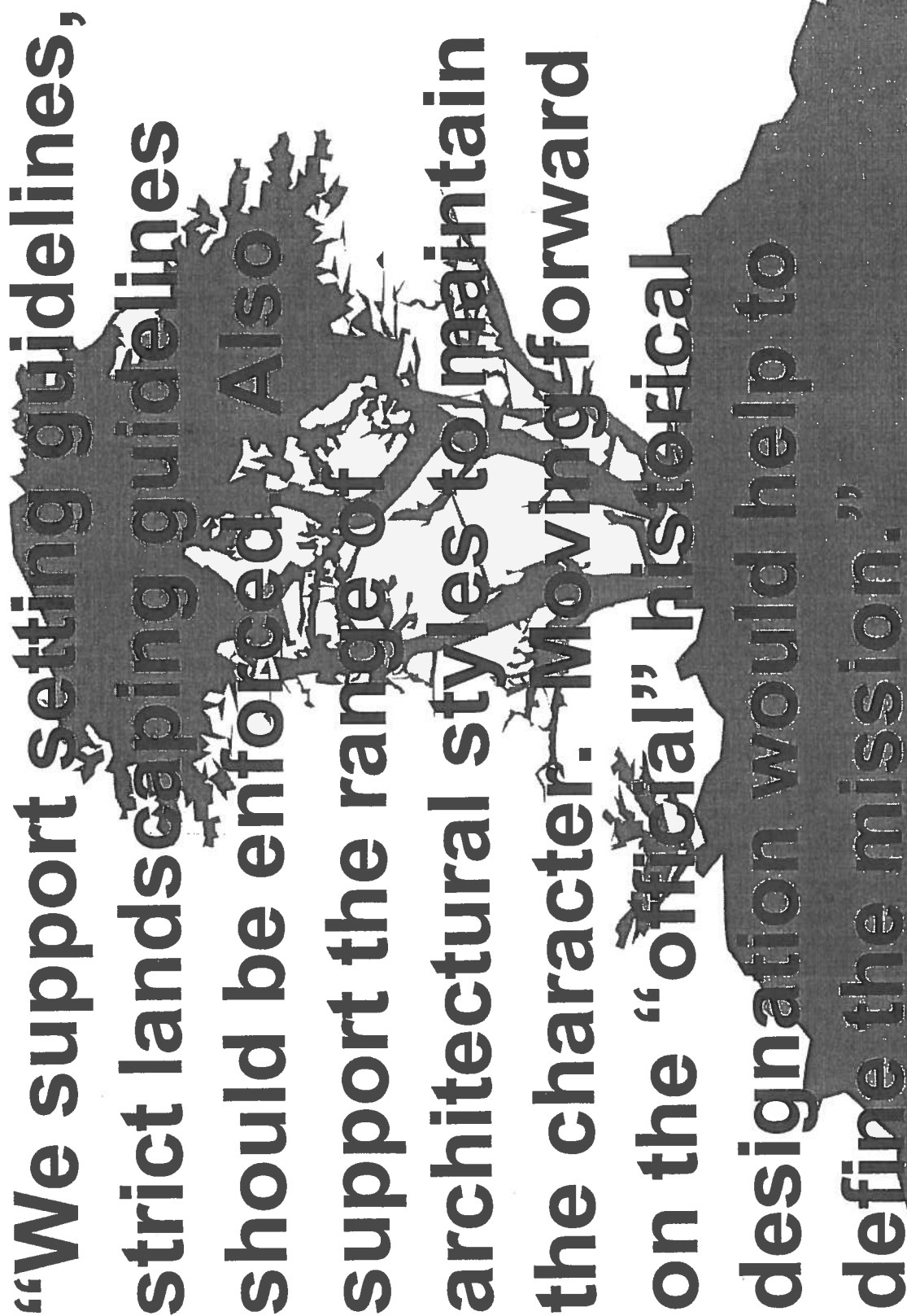
Most Common Responses to

Question #5

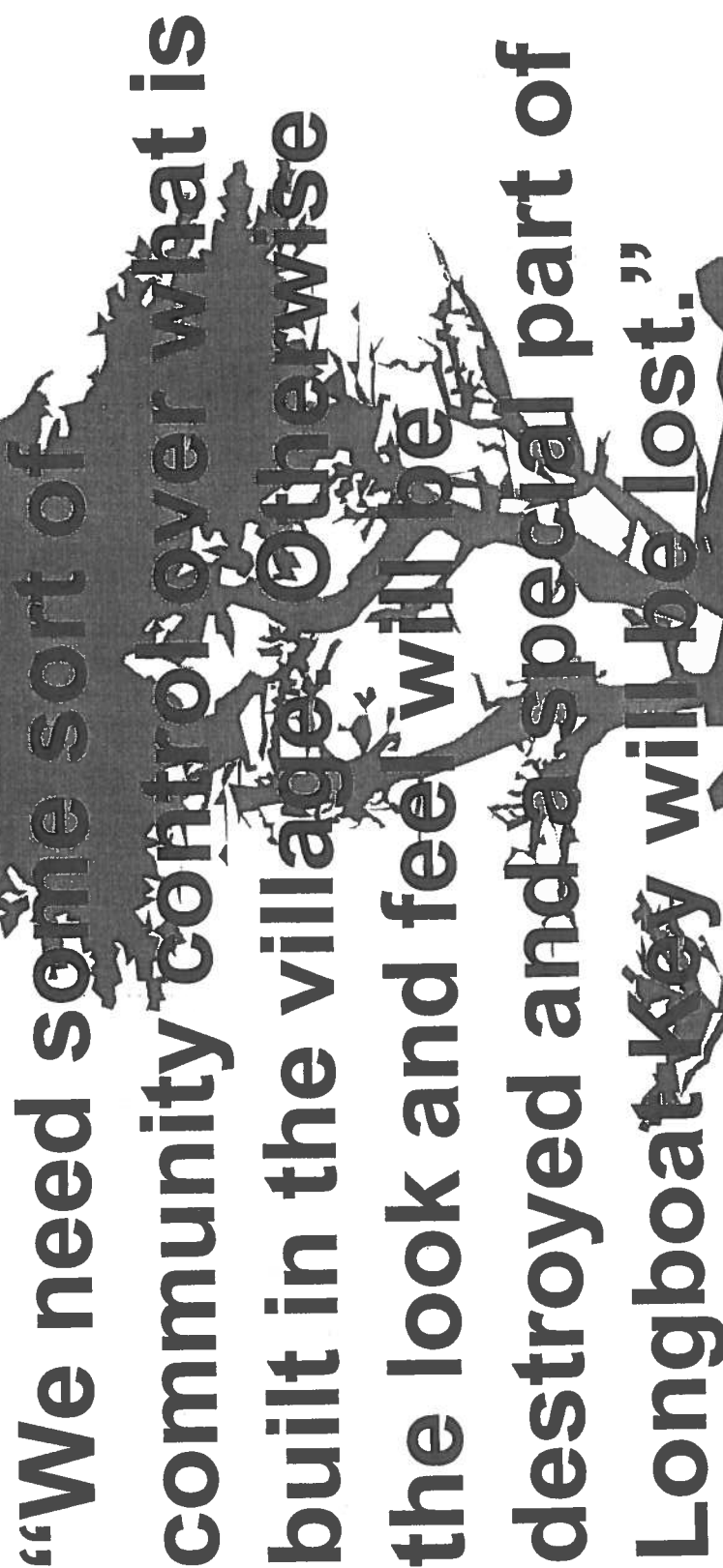
**53 Support New Architectural Controls
(26 Additional Control of Building Height)**



“I would like to see the Village retain its old Florida look and favor unostentatious homes, well kept yards, but a casual laid back appearance with the charm and perhaps even “funky” look to reflect its interesting and varied inhabitants.”



“We support setting guidelines, strict landscaping guidelines should be enforced. Also support the range of architectural styles to maintain the character. Moving forward on the “official” historical designation would help to define the mission.”

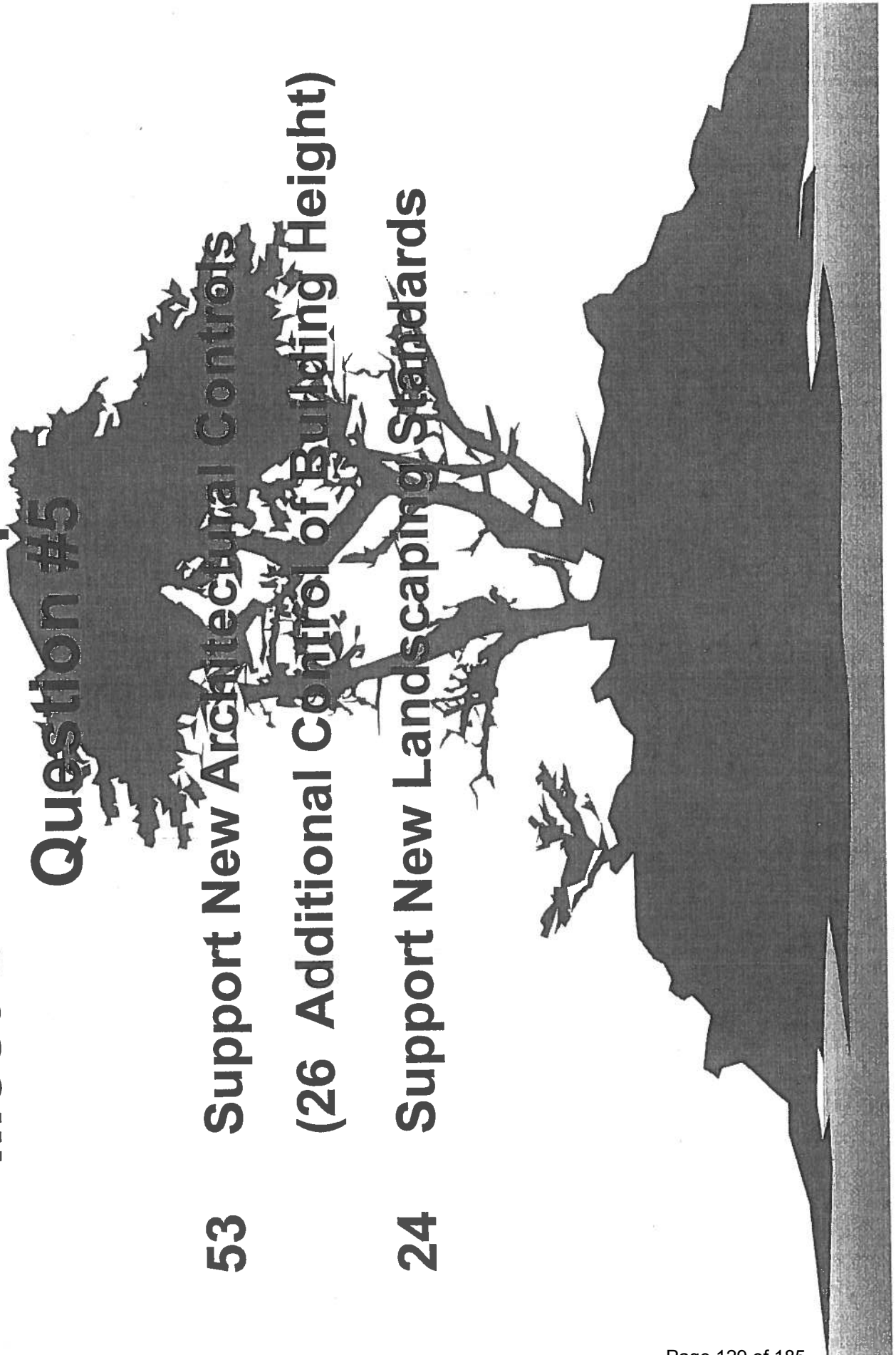


**“We need some sort of
community control over what is
built in the village. Otherwise
the look and feel will be
destroyed and a special part of
Longboat Key will be lost.”**

Most Common Responses to

Question #5

- 53 Support New Architectural Controls
(26 Additional Control of Building Height)**
- 24 Support New Landscaping Standards**



**“Landscaping/replacement
standards are an excellent
idea.”**



Most Common Responses to

Question #5

- 53 Support New Architectural Controls
(26 Additional Control of Building Height)**
- 24 Support New Landscaping Standards**
- 15 No New Architectural Controls**

“...setting architectural standards is a backidea! Such standards by their nature are judged by subjective analysis and review - hard, fast standards for aesthetic appearances leads to banality and boredom.”

Most Common Responses to

Question #15

- 53 Support New Architectural Controls
(26 Additional Control of Building Height)
- 24 Support New Landscaping Standards
- 15 No New Architectural Controls
- 10 No Opinion/No Answer

Question #6

Some lots in the Village are relatively narrow or shallow and provide constraints for the placement and design of homes and garages. As you think about your preferences, please decide whether you prefer homes to be closer to the street with front porches and grassed yards, or

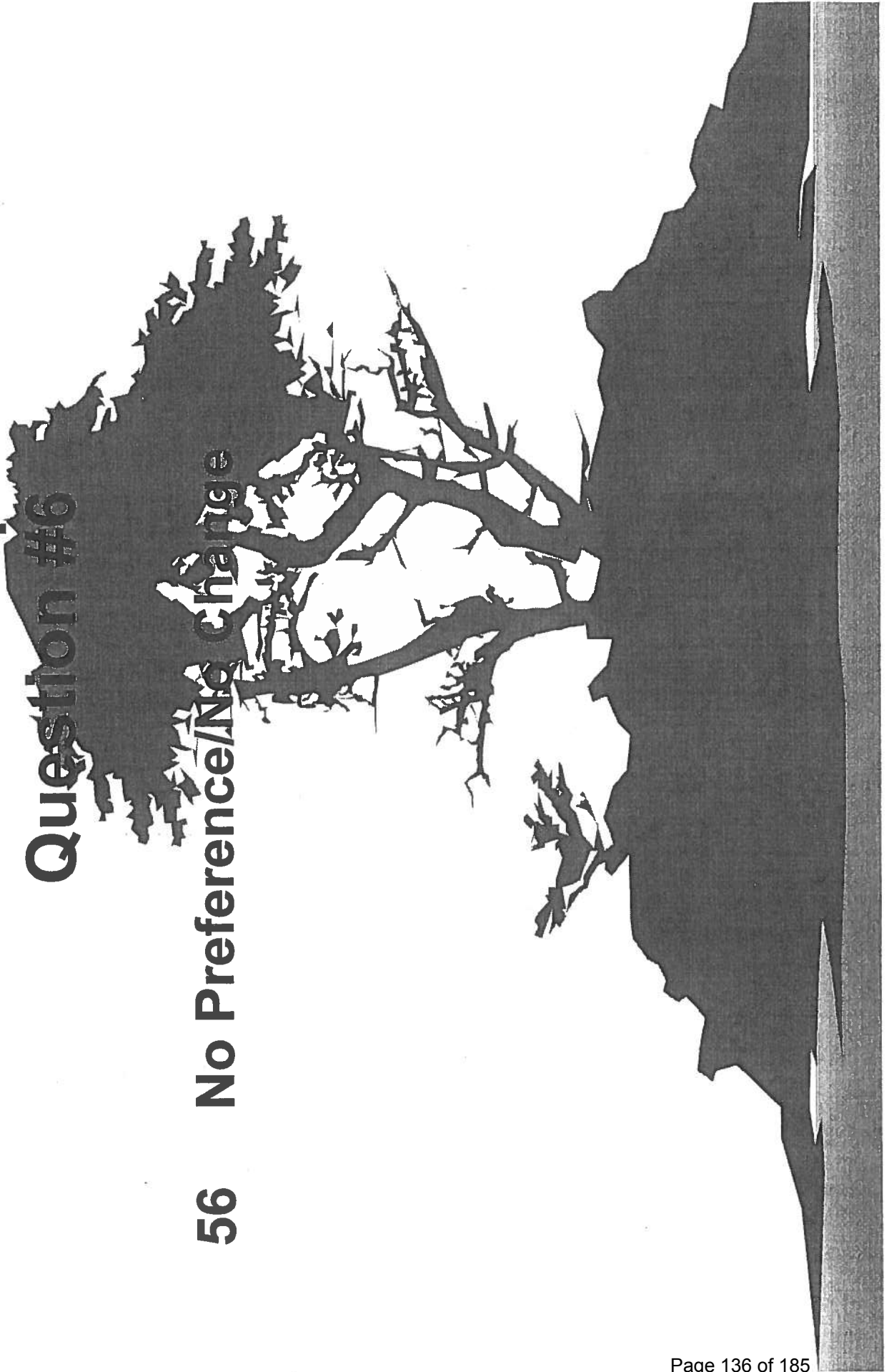
Question #6 (cont.)

a more traditional suburban design with fenced back yards and parking oriented to front yards; low your own alternative somewhere in the continuum.

Most Common Responses to

Question #6

56 No Preference/No Change

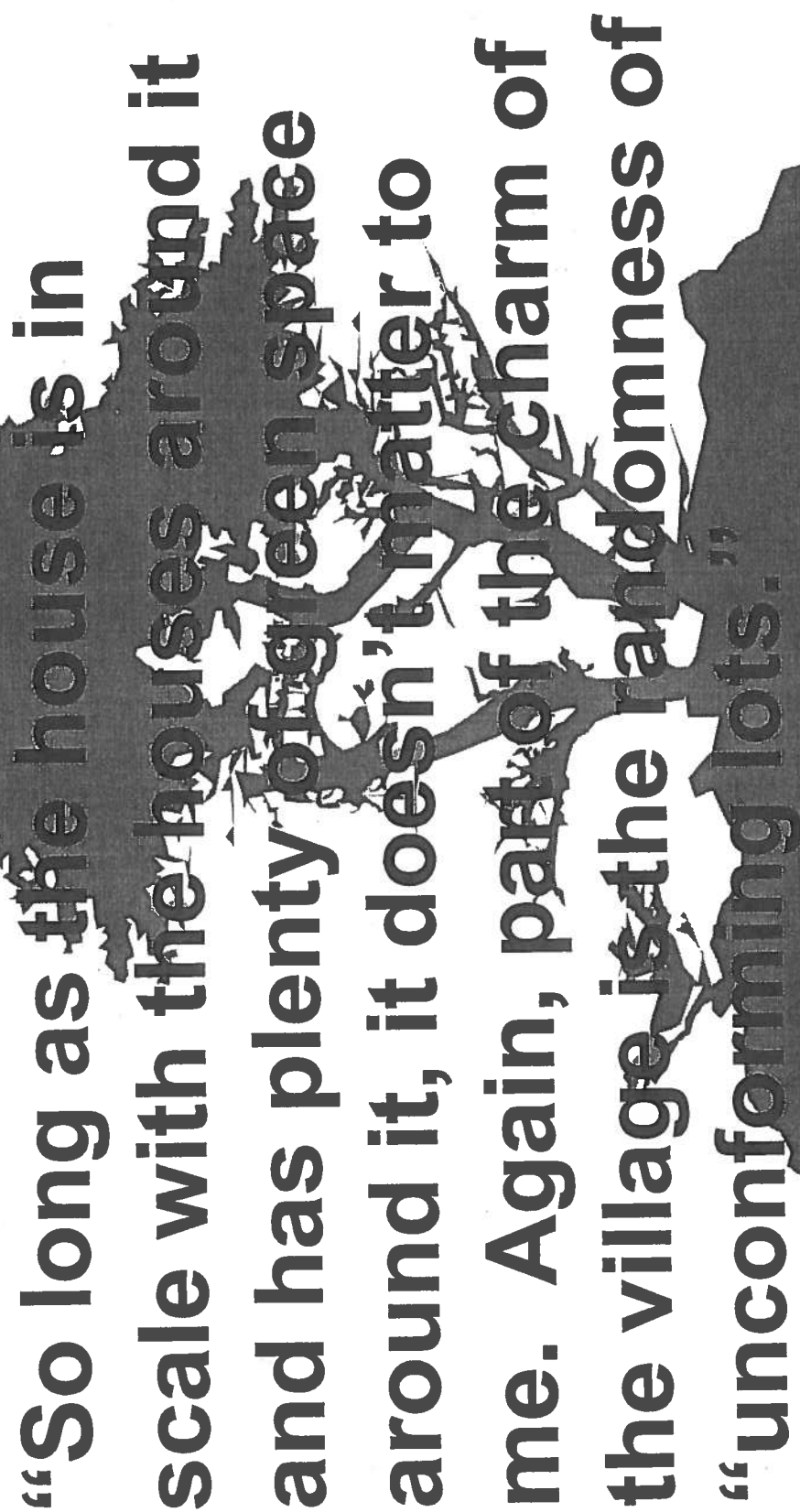


“As long as the home and parking are planned well I think we should continue to allow individuality to prevail! No cookie cutter look please!”

Most Common Responses to

Question #6

- 
- 56 No Preference/No Change
- 51 Preference Expressed
- 12 Maintain/Increase Front Yard Setbacks
- 12 Homes Closer to Street with Front Porches and Grassed Lawns



**“So long as the house is in
scale with the houses around it
and has plenty of green space
around it, it doesn’t matter to
me. Again, part of the charm of
the village is the randomness of
“unconforming lots.”**

“I prefer homes with front porches and grassed yards. Parking should be behind the houses. Cars are not really an attractive feature to life. Front porches promote sitting, visiting, viewing your neighbors and conversation with them - a real factor in Old Florida lifestyle. An afternoon in the shade with a cool drink and good conversation. That would sum it up.”

Question #7

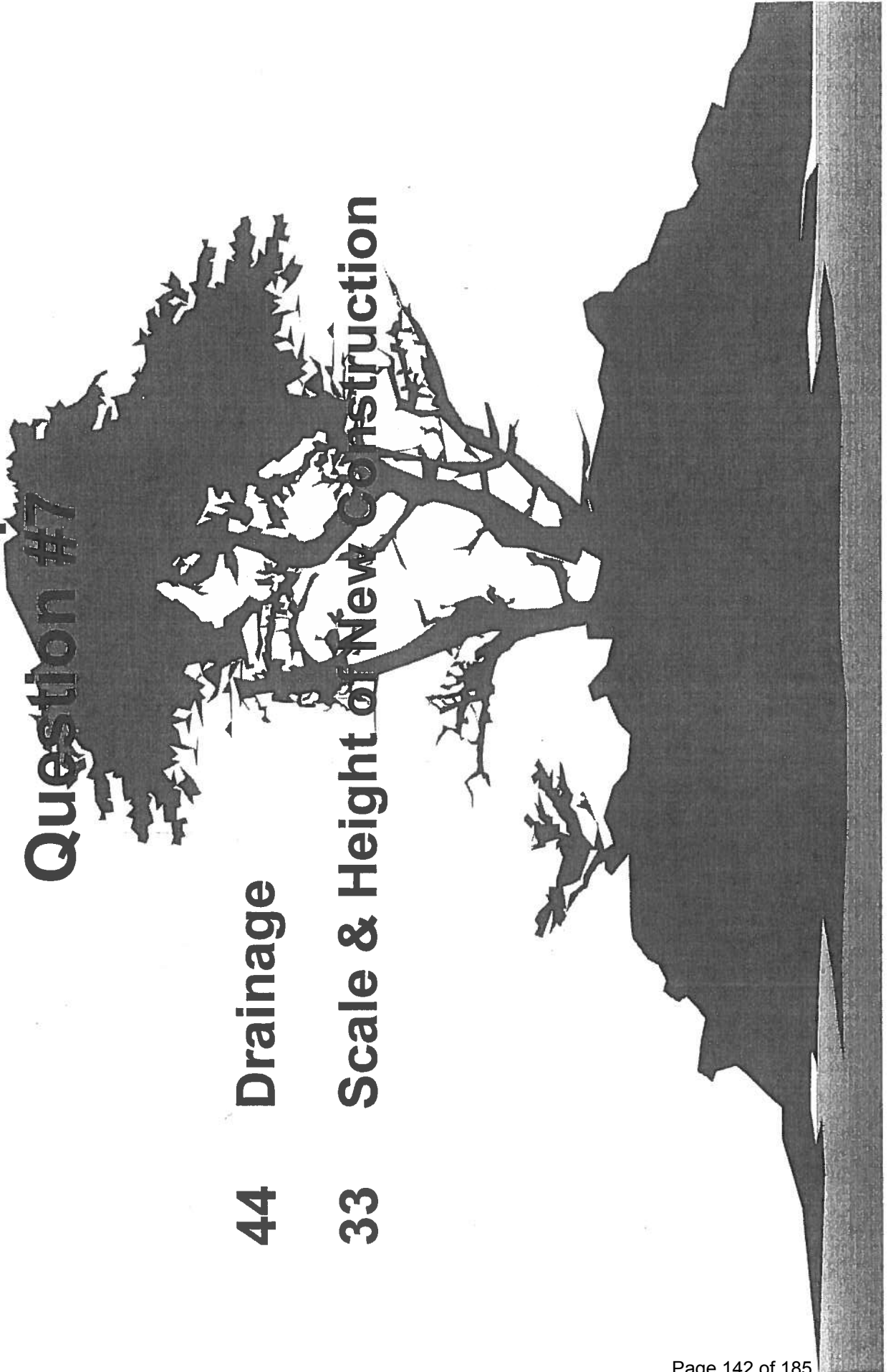
As residents of the Village please identify the five (5) most critical issues which you believe need to be addressed in order to ensure the long term stability and success of the Village community.

Most Common Responses to

Question #7

44 Drainage

33 Scale & Height of New Construction

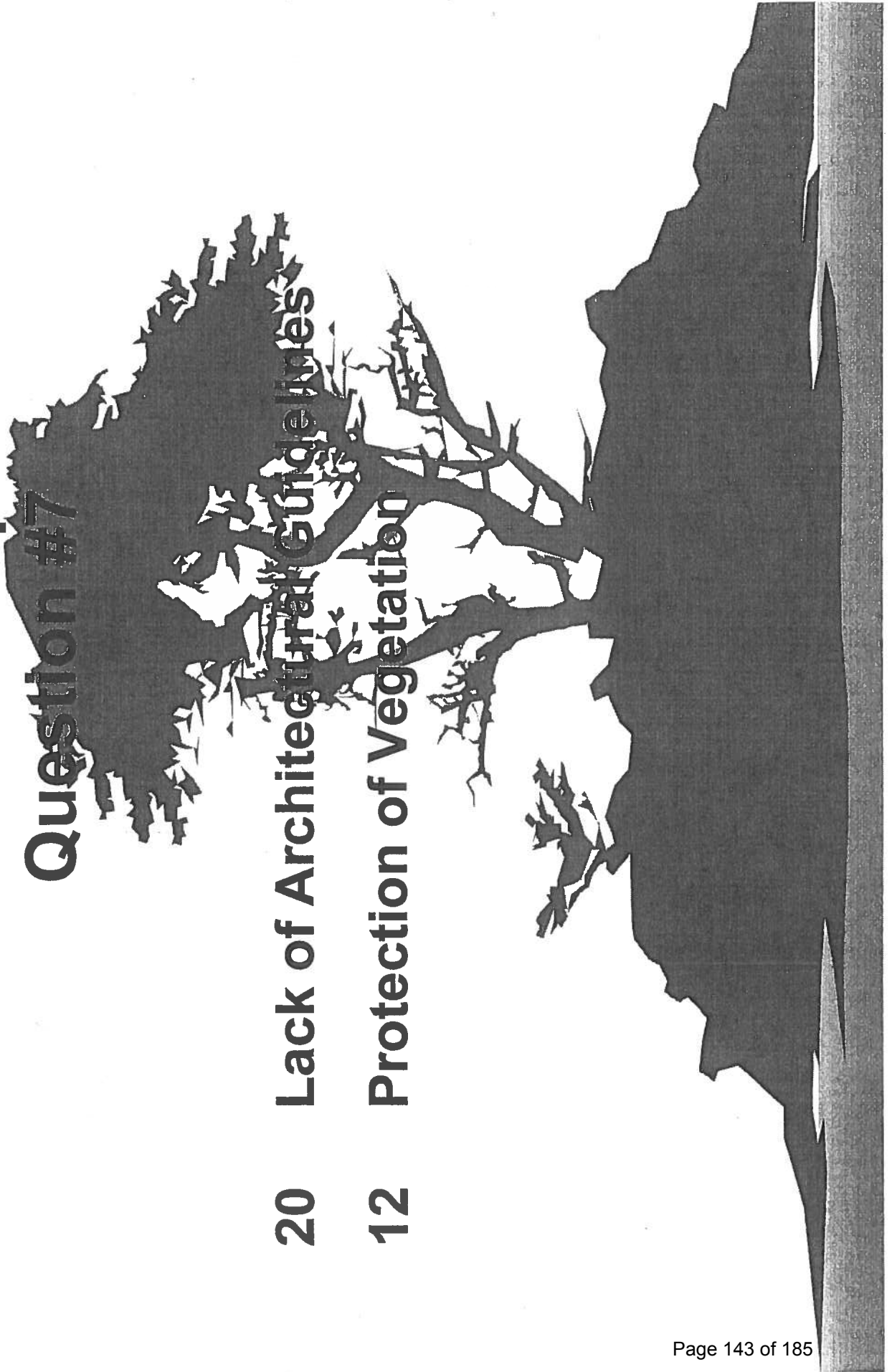


Most Common Responses to

Question #7

20 Lack of Architectural Guidelines

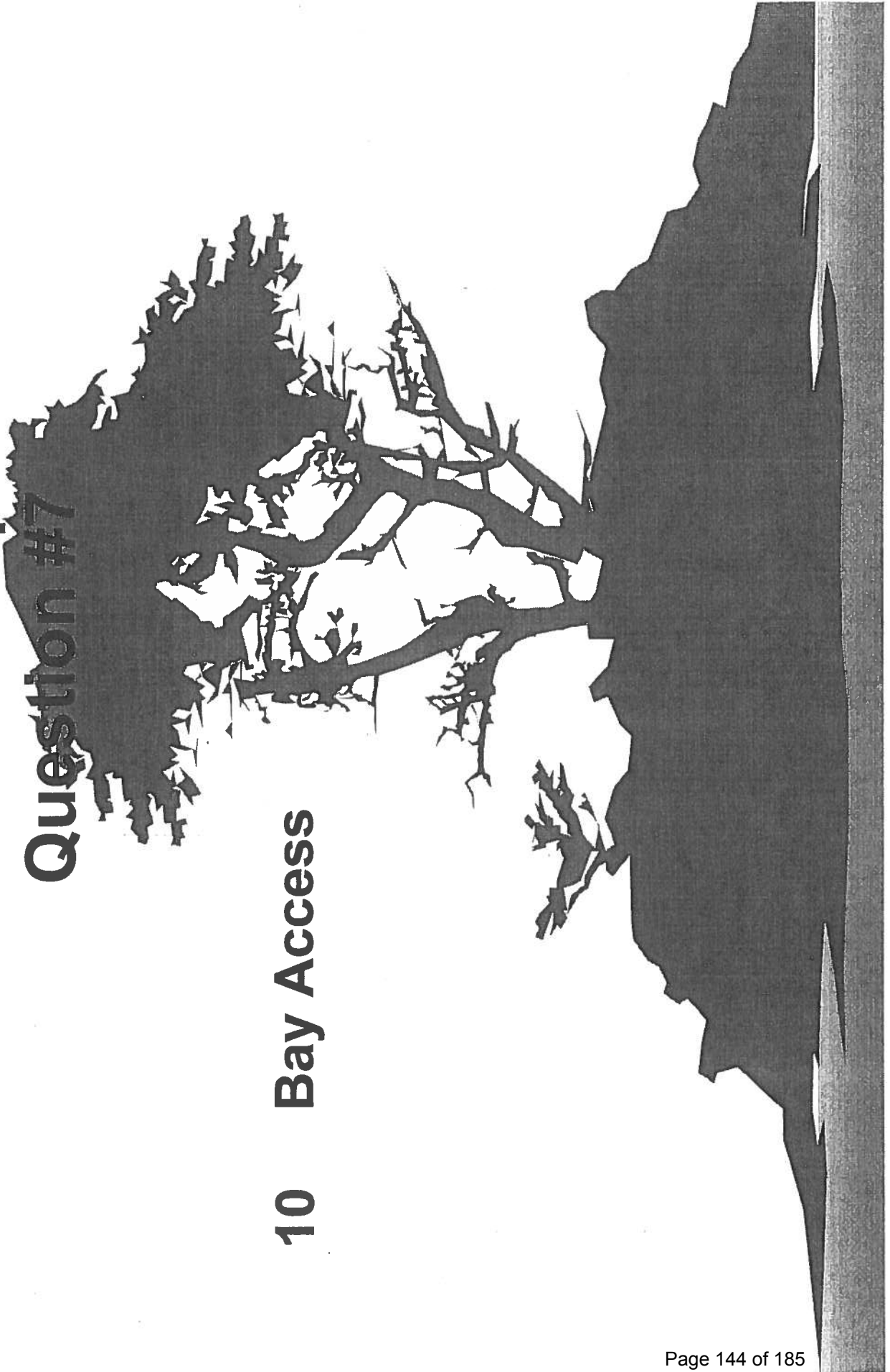
12 Protection of Vegetation

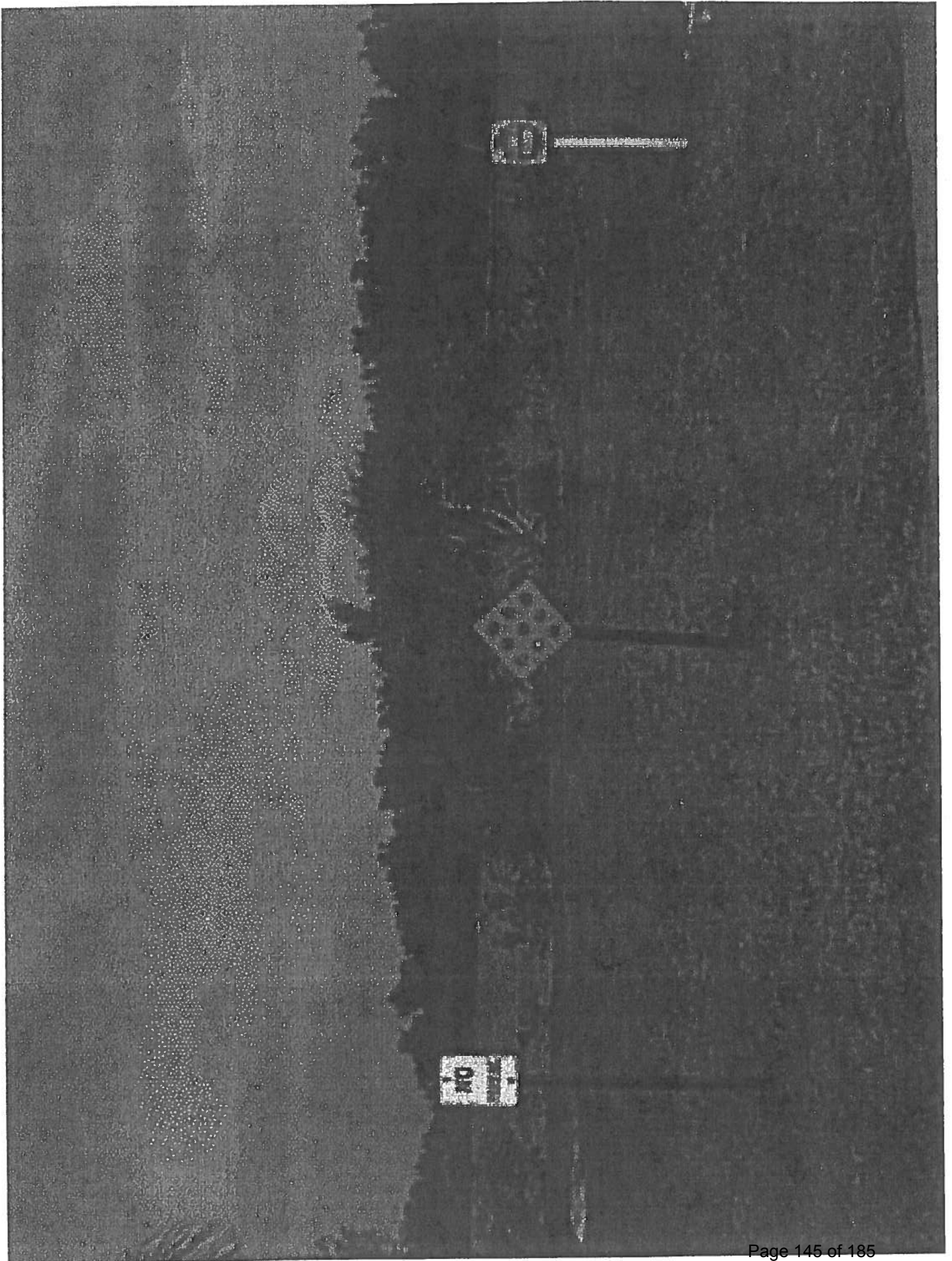


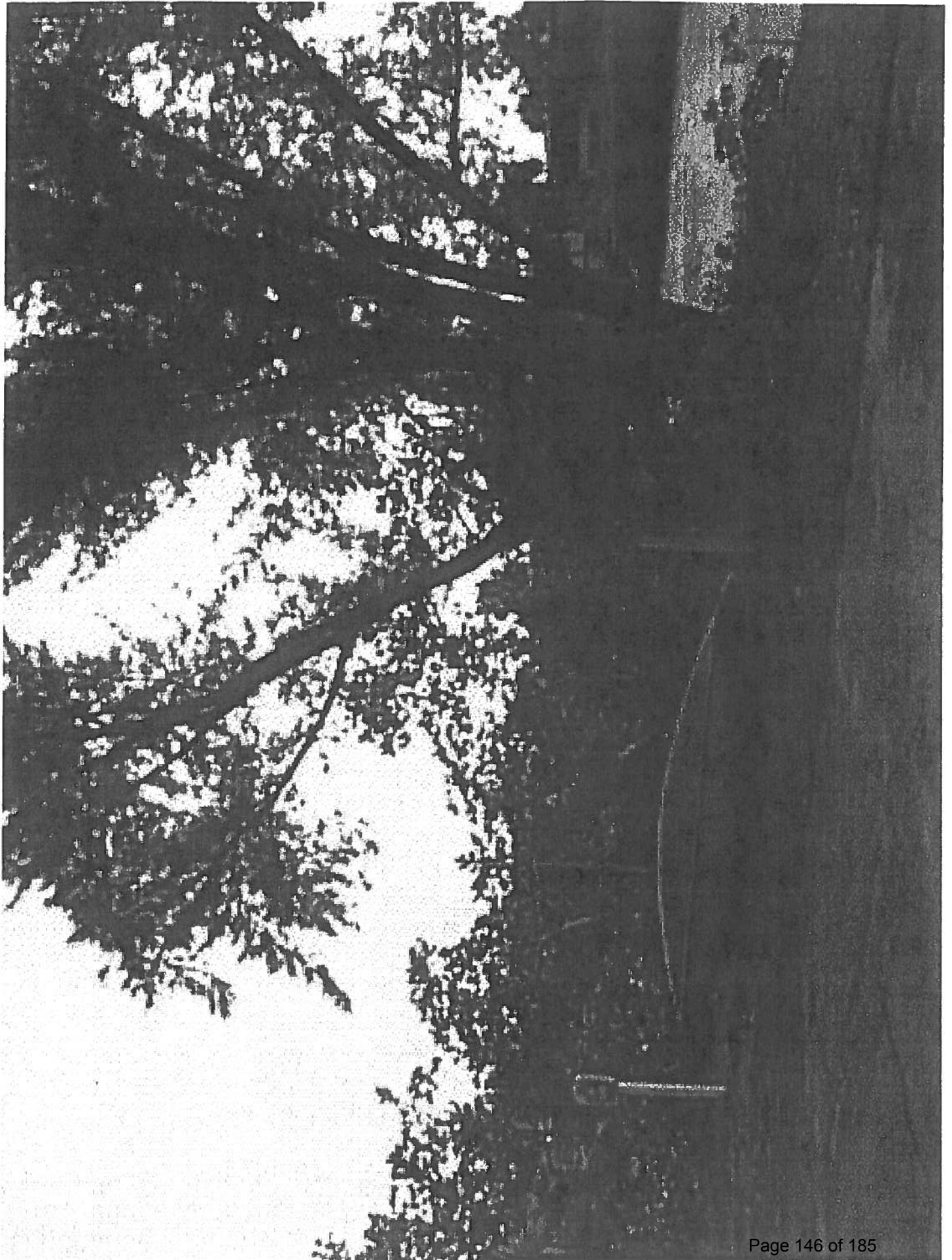
Most Common Responses to

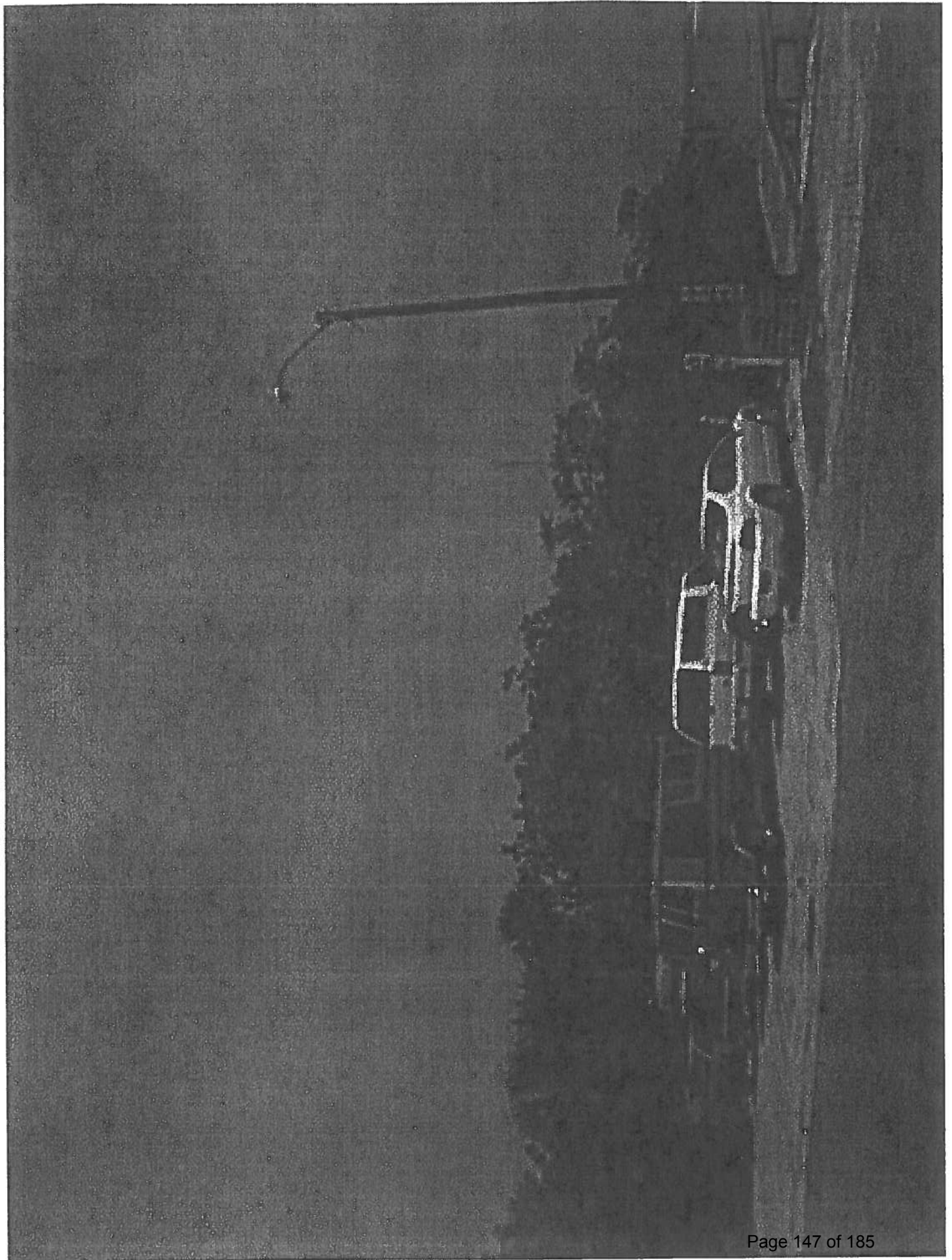
Question #7

10 Bay Access









Most Common Responses to

Question #7

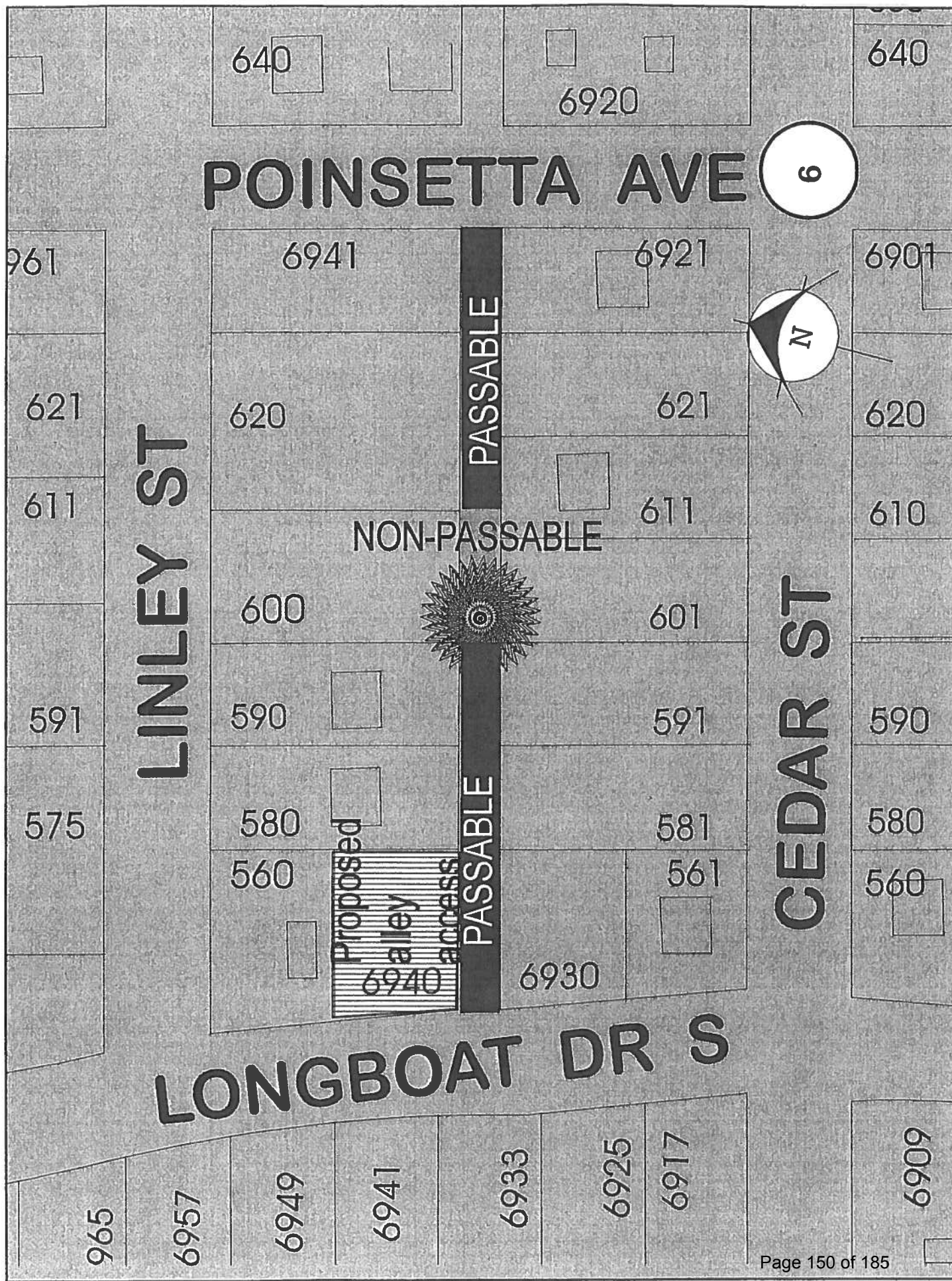
10 Bay Access

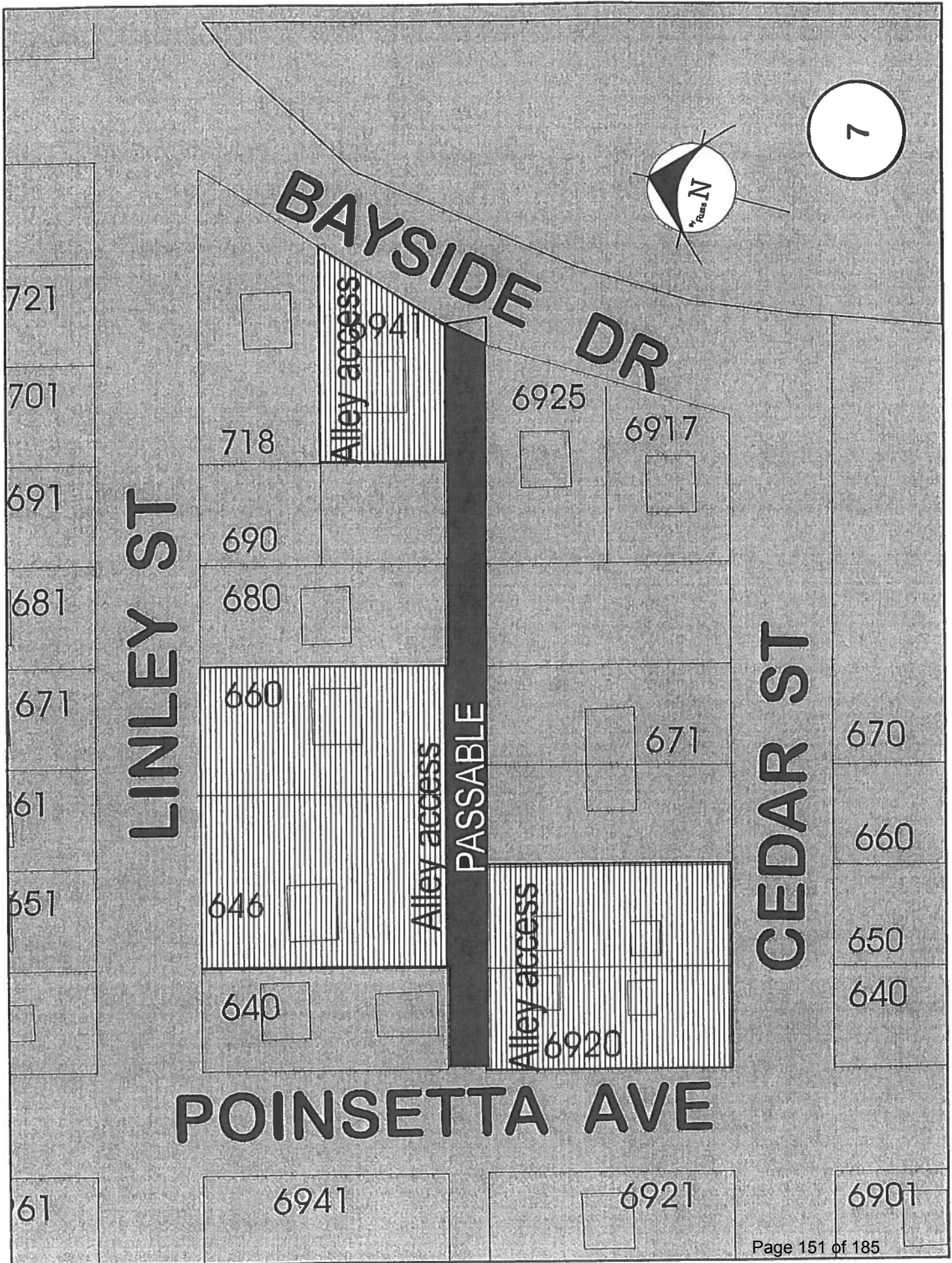
10 Town/Village Resident Communication

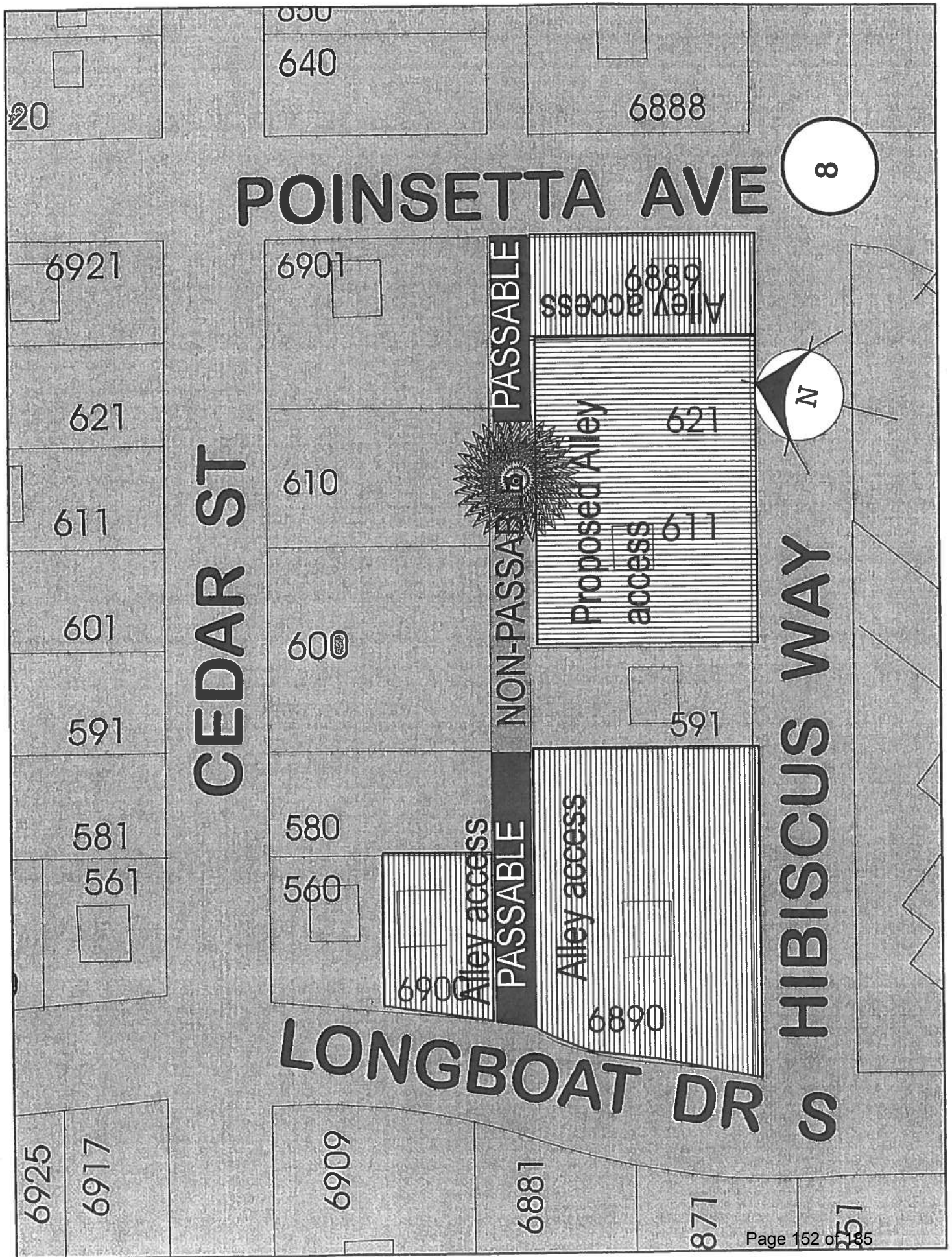
10 Traffic Light at Broadway & GMD

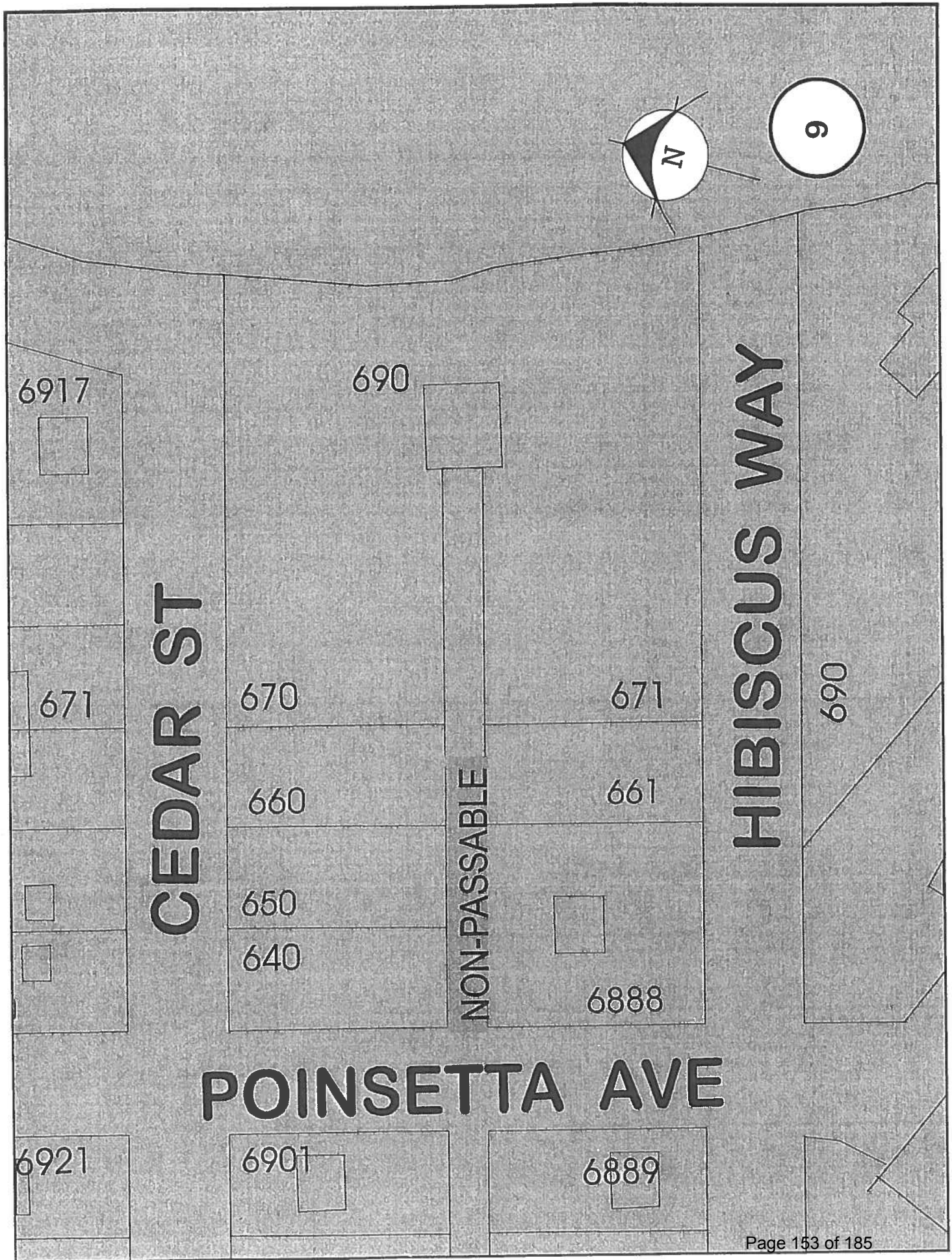
Priority Concerns

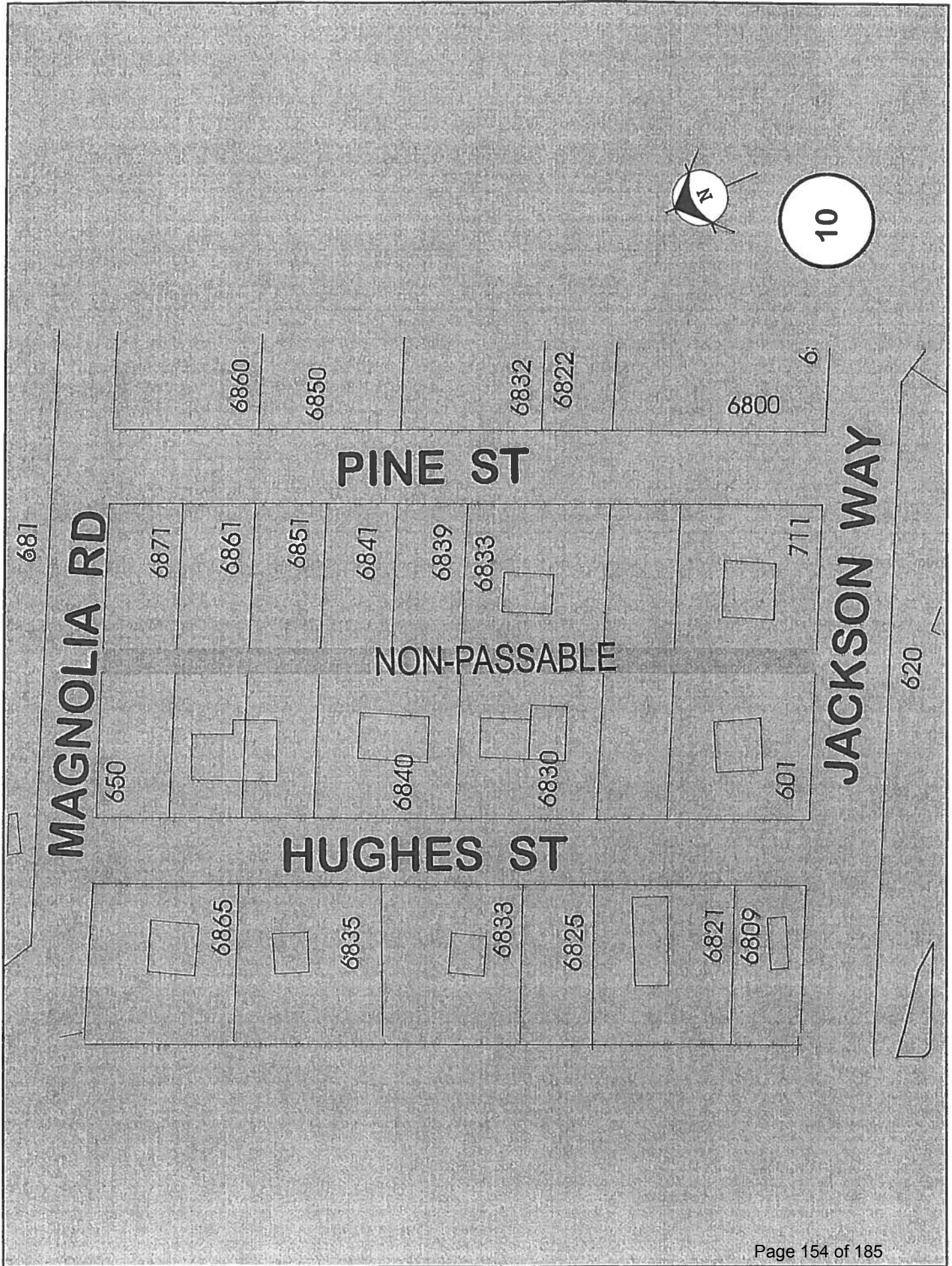
As a result of the physical conditions review, community questionnaire and community open house forums, staff prepared a series of general alternatives to act as a potential roadmap for defining an informed consensus on priority issues and concerns. The following materials summarize the results of this analysis and potential avenues to explore alternatives for pursuing a redevelopment initiative consistent with the community objectives and priorities.

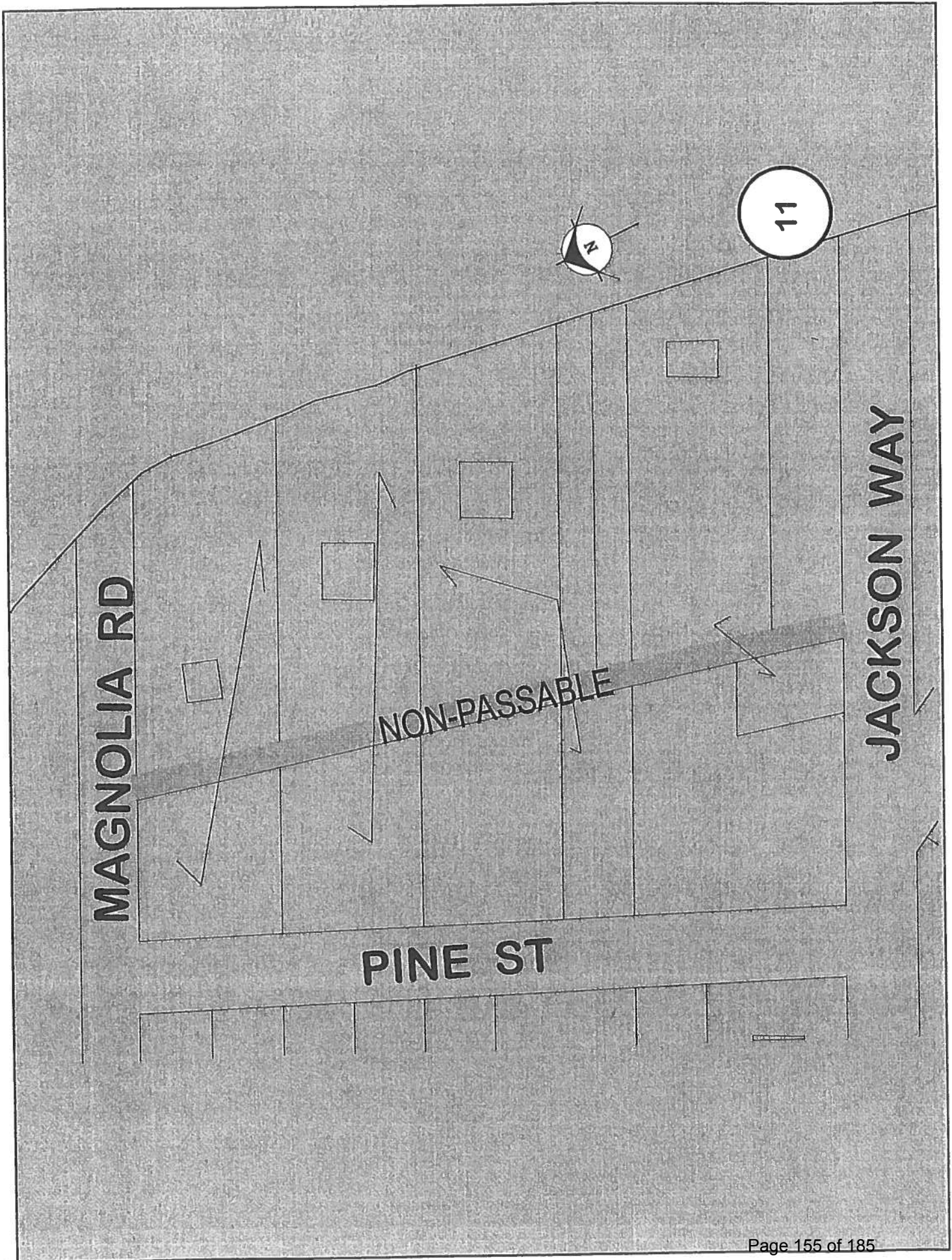


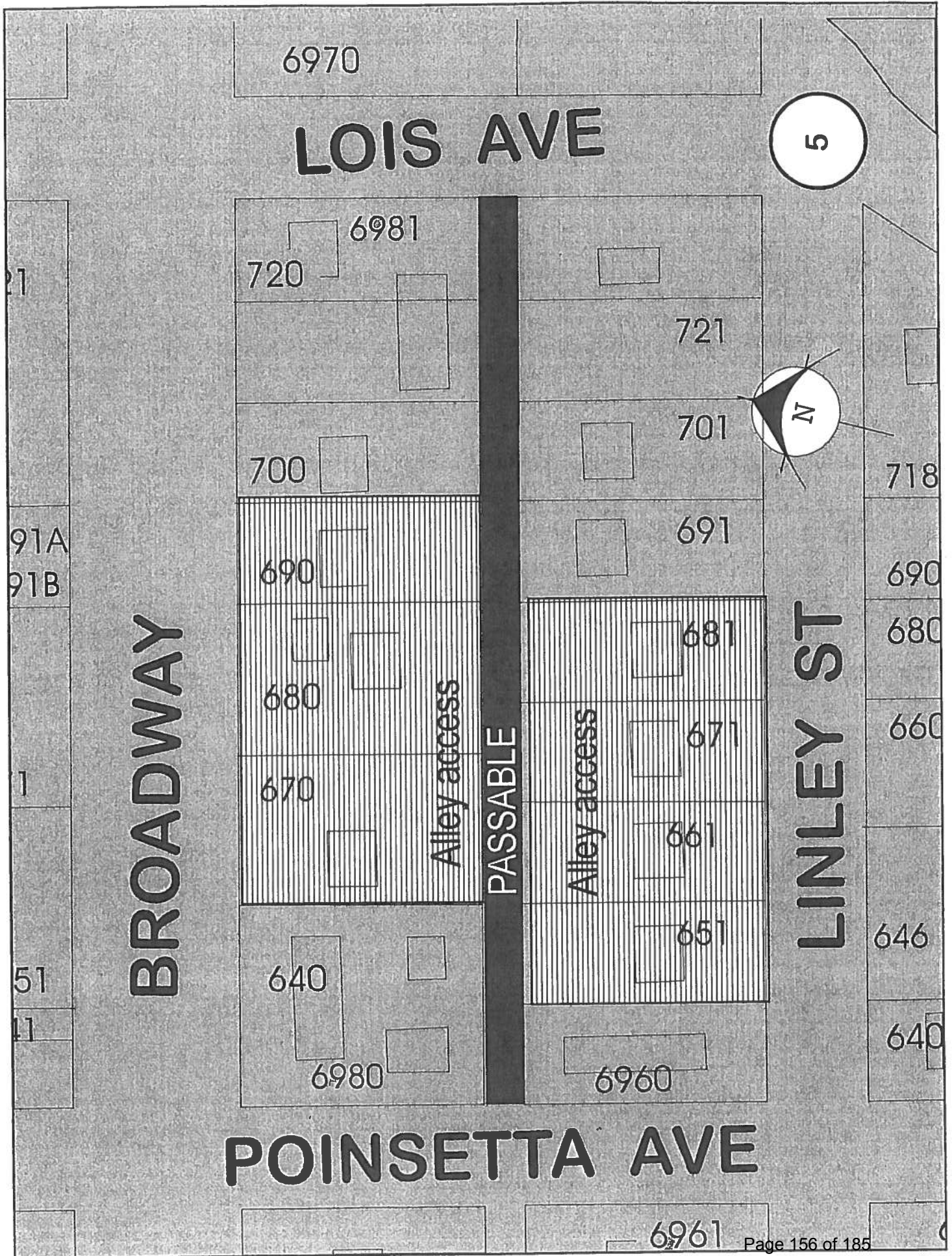












Main Village Issues

44 Drainage

33 Scale & Height of New Construction

20 Lack of Architectural Guidelines

Main Village Issues

(Cont.)

- 
- 12 Protection of Vegetation
 - 10 Bay Access
 - 10 Town/Village Resident Communication
 - 10 Traffic Light at Broadway & GMD

ISSUE #1

VILLAGE DRAINAGE STUDY

Prepared by: Greeley & Hansen Engin

May 1994

- Evaluated 3 Village Drainage Projects
- Provided Cost Estimation for Each

1994 DRAINAGE STUDY SUMMARY

Option 1:

- Construct Swales Within Roadside ROW
- Relocate and Raise Drainage Inlets

-
- Provides limited storage for storm runoff
 - Prevents Average high tide backflows
 - Estimated 1994 Cost: \$280,500

1994 DRAINAGE STUDY SUMMARY

Option 2:

- Construct Tidal Backflow Prevention Vaults Using Collapsible Tubing Inside Drain Pipes

-
- Potentially prevents tidal backflow
 - Minimal disruption to neighborhood
 - Estimated 1994 Cost: \$36,520

1994 DRAINAGE STUDY SUMMARY

Option 3:

- Construct Retention Ponds with Storm Water Pump Stations

-
- Requires one acre of open space
 - SWFWMD Permit required
 - Estimated 1994 Cost: \$2,454,600

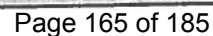
STAFF RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING DRAINAGE

- Seek Town Commission authorization to update 1994 Village Drainage Study
- Study should provide cost-benefit analysis of all recommended drainage projects

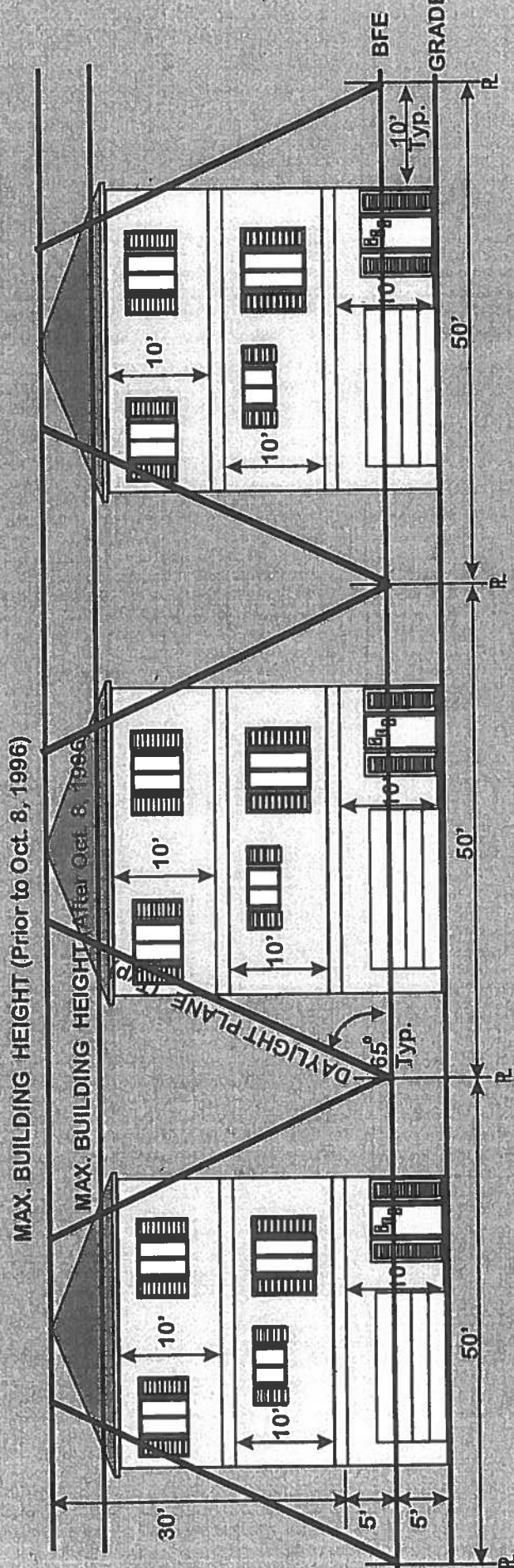
ISSUE #2

SCALE & HEIGHT OF NEW CONSTRUCTION

- Day Light Plane Regulation
- Definition of “Building Height”
- Consideration of Additional Maximum Building Height Restrictions



TYPICAL TWO STORY ELEVATED STRUCTURES DESIGNED AT PREVIOUS MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT STANDARD AND PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF DAYLIGHT PLANE REGULATIONS

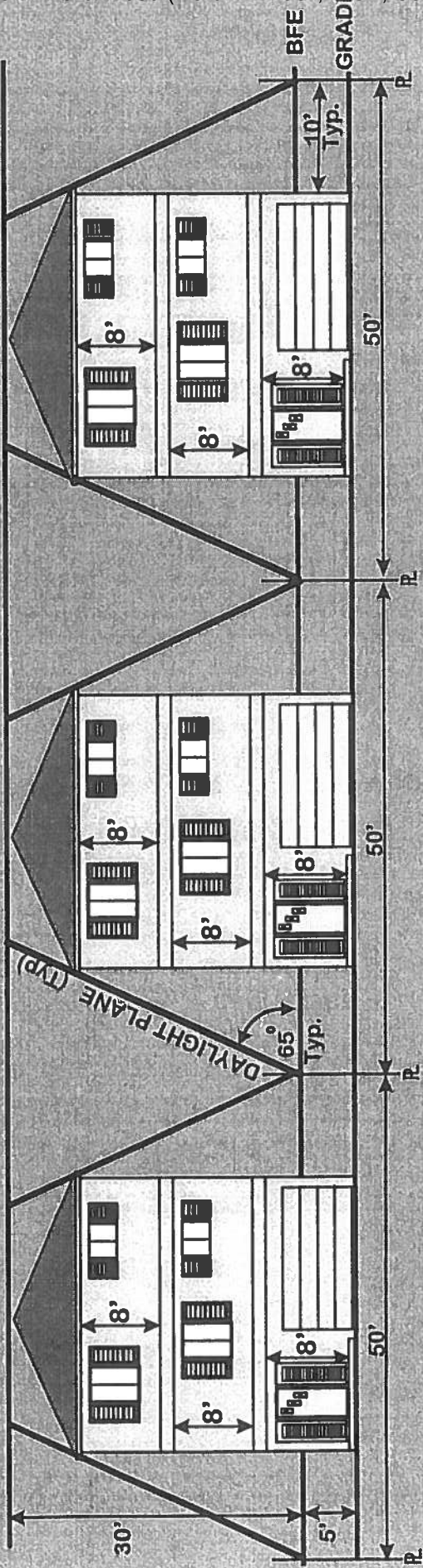


| LEGEND | |
|--------|--|
| R | SIDE PROPERTY LINE |
| BFE | BASE FLOOD ELEVATION (Typically 10' above Mean Sea Level in the Village) |

TYPICAL TWO STORY ELEVATED STRUCTURES DESIGNED AT CURRENT MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT AND DAYLIGHT PLANE STANDARDS

MAX. BUILDING HEIGHT (Prior to Oct. 8, 1996)

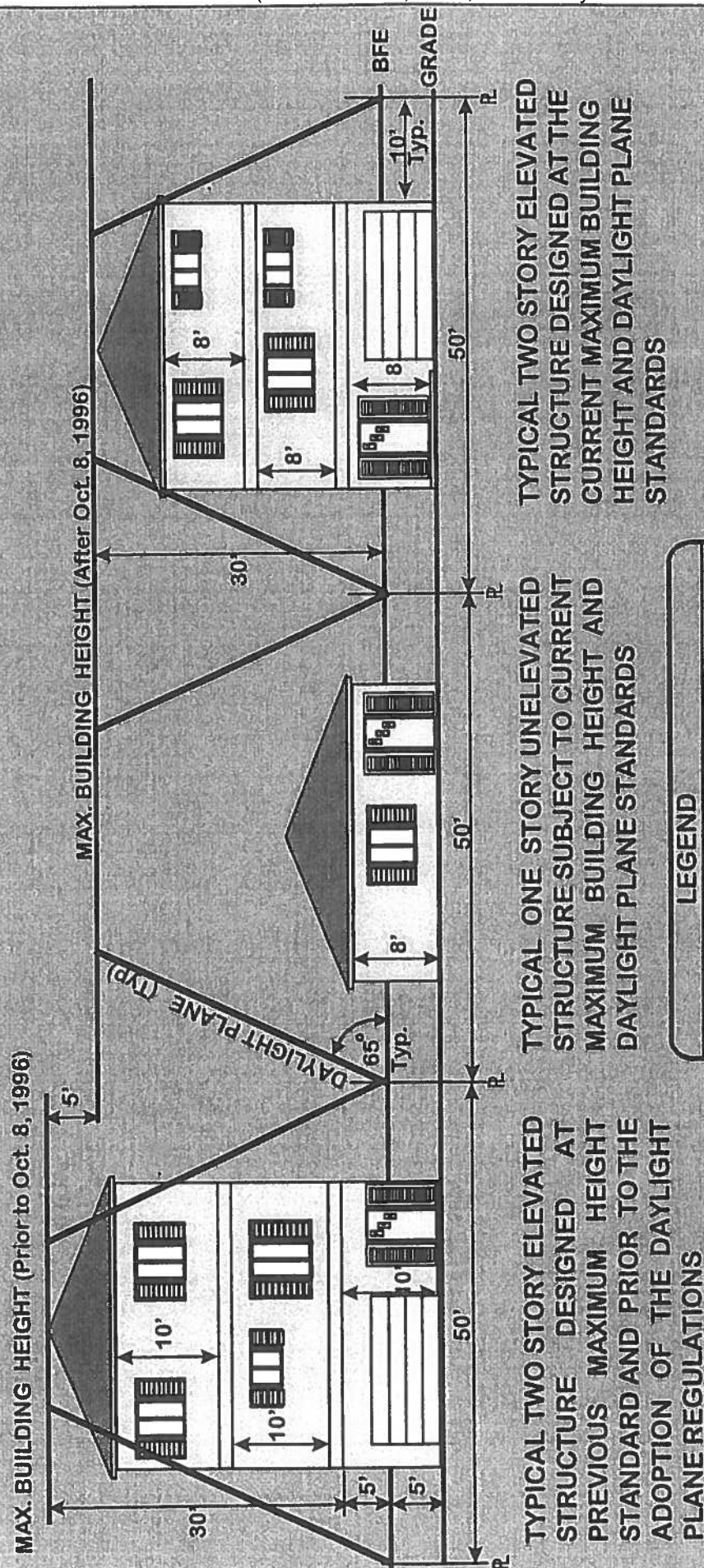
MAX. BUILDING HEIGHT (After Oct. 8, 1996)



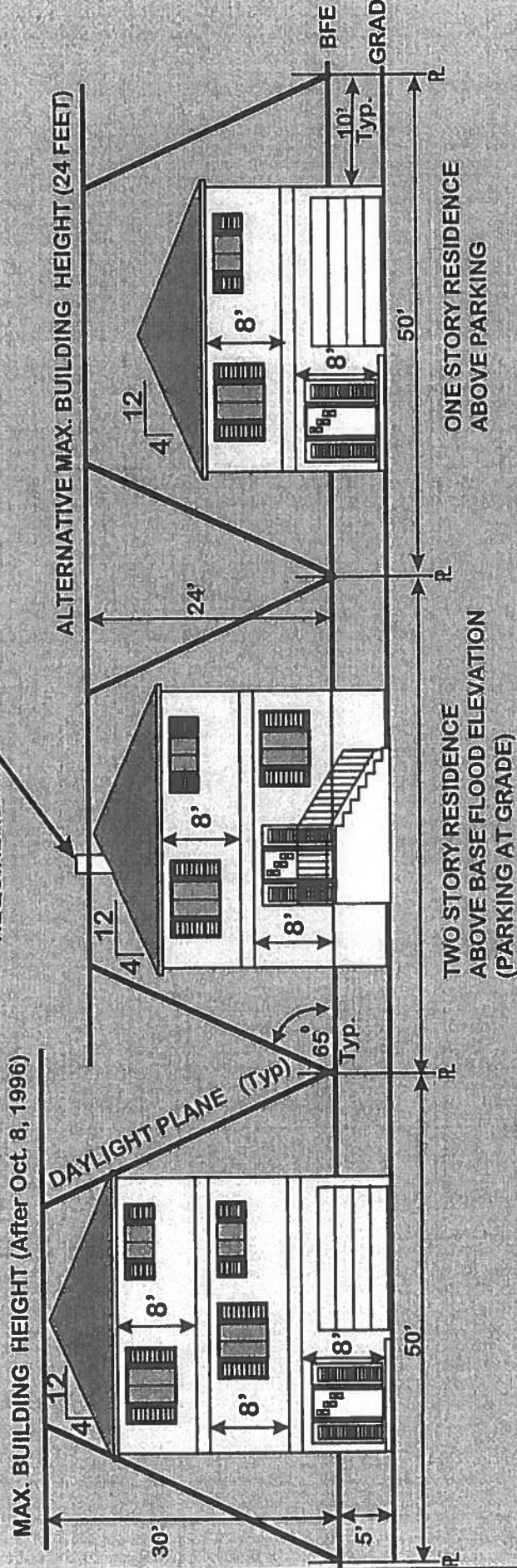
LEGEND

- R SIDE PROPERTY LINE
- BFE BASE FLOOD ELEVATION
(Typically 10' above Mean Sea Level
in the Village)

ELEVATIONS OF STRUCTURES UNDER THREE SCENARIOS



CHIMNEYS NOT GREATER
THAN 4' X 6' ARE EXEMPT
FROM THE MAX. HEIGHT
REQUIREMENT.



ISSUE #3

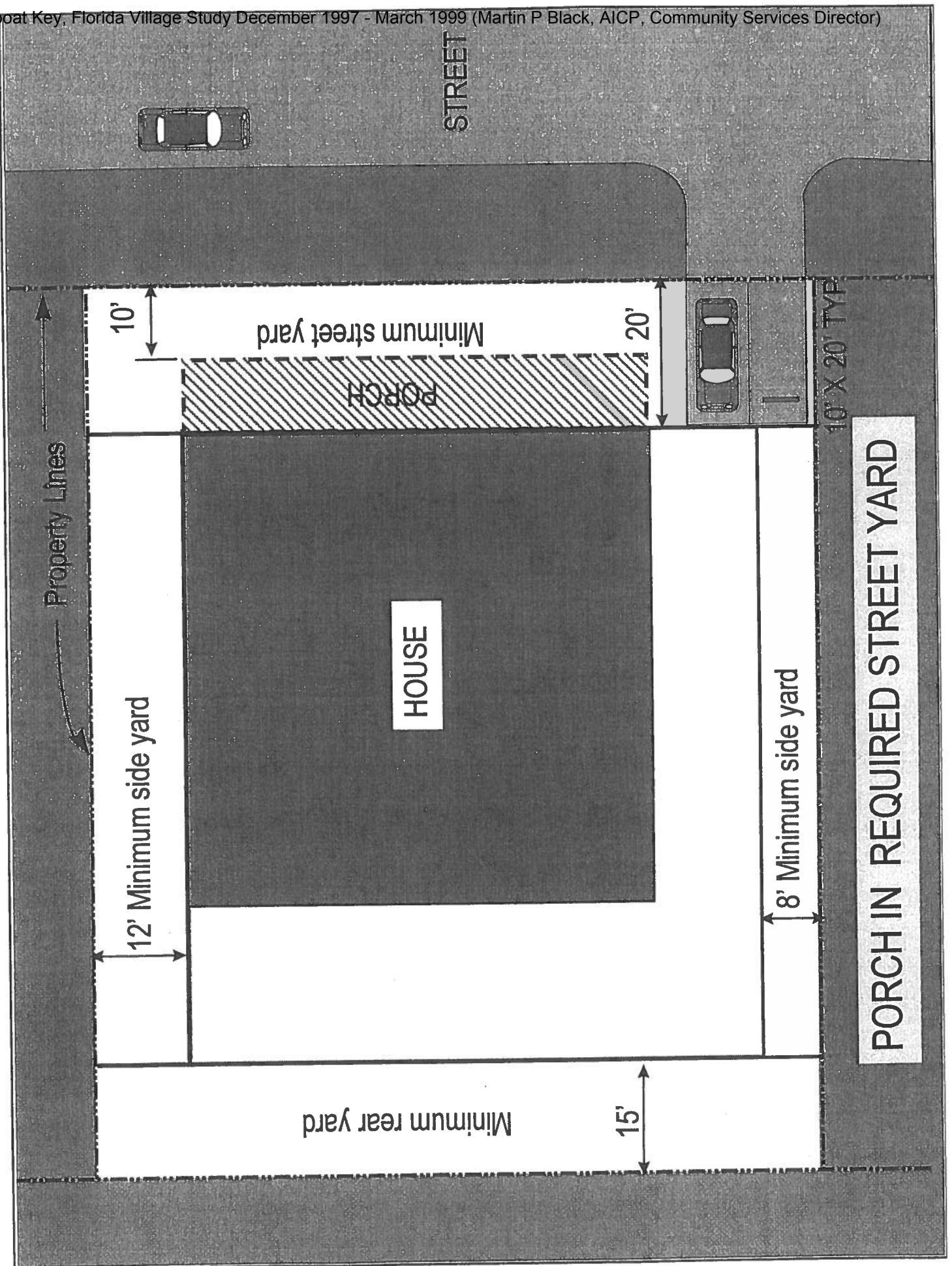
LACK OF ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES

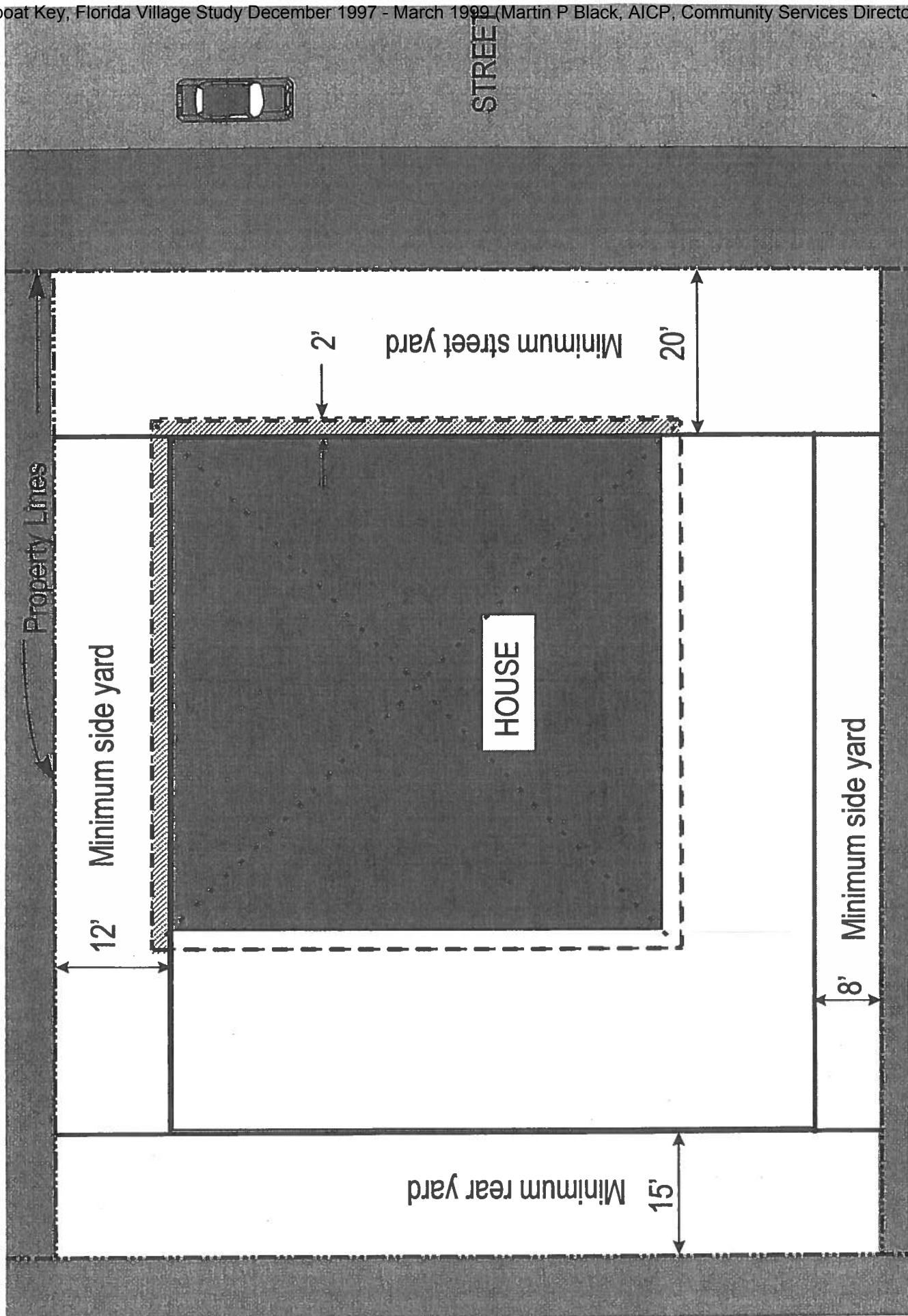
- Village Resident Participation in Code Enforcement Process, assist staff with added eyes on the street
- Maintenance of Town Right-of-Ways, Village Street Resurfacing Program
- Consideration of Additional Building Height Controls

LACK OF ARCHITECTURAL GUIDELINES



- Consideration of Allowing Porches in Required Front Yard
- Consideration of New Roof Overhang Regulations
 - Exempt Overhangs from Setbacks
 - Required Roof Overhangs and Exempt Overhangs from Setbacks





ISSUE #4

PROTECTION OF VEGETATION



- Expand Scope Tree Code to Include Existing Single Family Properties in the Village
- Australian Pine Removal Program
 - Scope: ~~With Town~~ Right-of-Ways
 - Replacement with non-nuisance tree
 - Village resident support for additional funding (State and Town)

ISSUE #5

BAY ACCESS

- Retain all Existing Bay Access Areas
- Improve Maintenance of Bay Access Areas
- Provide Delineation of Property Lines
- What to do with the Town Dock at end of Broadway?

ISSUE #6

TOWN / VILLAGE RESIDENT COMMUNICATION



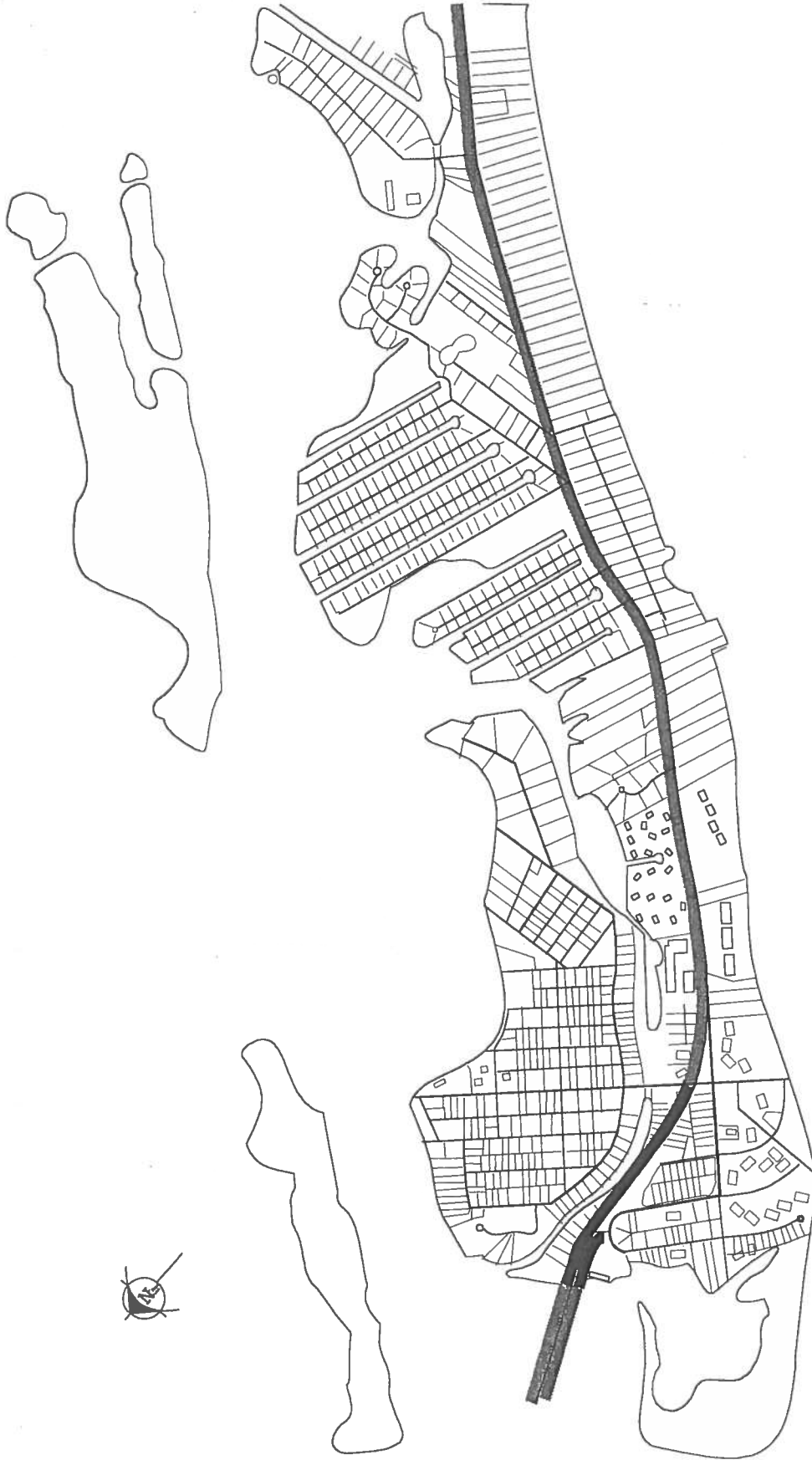
- The Town of Longboat Key will Continue to Respond to the Concerns of Village Residents

- Referral to appropriate official
- Response by Code Enforcement Staff
- Issue placed on Town Commission agenda

ISSUE #7

TRAFFIC LIGHT AT BROADWAY AND GMD INTERSECTION

- FDOT did not Approve Traffic Light
- The Town and FDOT are Pursuing a Pedestrian Crossing Designation for the intersection
- The Town will seek grant funding for new sidewalk between Broadway and Longboat Pass Bridge



| | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|-----------------|
| PERPARED BY THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY PLANNING, ZONING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT | | | SHEET 1 OF 6 |
| PROPOSED NEW SIDEWALK MPO ENHANCEMENT PROJECT | | Date: Sept 1 1998 | |
| Drawn by Russ Nowlen | | | |

| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| legend | |
| | = Existing sidewalk |
| | = Proposed sidewalk |

THE ALLEYS



- Existing non-passable alleys or portions of alleys to remain non-passable.
- Vacation of non-passable alleys requires Village resident support and abutting owners to petition the Town Commission.
- Existing passable alleys to remain passable through the implementation of routine maintenance by the Town.

STATUS OF THE VILLAGE ALLEYS

LEGEND

- Passable alley
- Non-passable alley
- Vacated alley
- Properties with vehicular access to alley
- Properties proposed to have vehicular access to alley

