

NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN

Technical information on comprehensive planning, survey of cultural resources,
and registration in the National Register of Historic Places



U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Cultural Resources
National Register, History and Education

Examples of National Register Registration Documentation

WHAT IS NATIONAL REGISTER REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION?

Since 1966, the National Register of Historic Places, with its Criteria for Evaluation, has set the standard for evaluating and documenting the significance of cultural resources in the United States.¹ The framework for nominating buildings, structures, sites, objects, and districts to the National Register has facilitated the listing of tens of thousands of properties.² By requiring consistent technical and substantive information in registration forms, the National Register staff maintains a cohesive, homogeneous collection of information on markedly diverse properties. Documentation for a prehistoric archeological site in rural Alabama, for instance, must answer the same basic questions as documentation for an International style building in Seattle, Washington. The National Register Information System (NRIS) is the cultural resource database for the National Register. The NRIS stores historical material and geographical information from National Register registration forms.

¹The National Register Criteria for Evaluation are the national standards for determining historic significance. Many State and local governments use the criteria as a guide when developing requirements for their own historic registers.

²The nominations for these properties document over one million separate cultural resources. A historic district, for example, is categorized as a single property, but it may include many buildings, structures, sites, and objects, each requiring some level of documentation.

National Register registration documentation may be the only and most substantive record of a historic place. The National Register registration forms for individual and multiple properties provide frameworks for recording cultural resources.³ Every individual nomination to the National Register includes the registration form (which contains information about a property's physical history and attributes, its historic significance, its integrity, and its boundaries, as well as research bibliographies), black and white photographs of individual resources, and maps.⁴ A Multiple Property Submission (MPS) includes a Multiple Property Documentation Form (which contains a historic context statement, property type discussion, and registration requirements) and individual property registration forms.

USING NATIONAL REGISTER REGISTRATION DOCUMENTATION

Once a property is listed in the National Register, the information contained in the nomination becomes public record. Information from nominations is commonly used in land-use planning, restorations and rehabilitations, research projects, educational and interpretive programs, heritage tourism, and community revitalization.

National Register documentation may affect the fate of the resource. Federal, State, and local agencies and citizens' groups base planning and development decisions on the significant features and boundaries delineated in registration documentation and Determinations of Eligibility (DOE) documentation.⁵ Documentation of a property alerts decision-makers to the existence, location, and prehistoric or historic significance of cultural resources.

When owners of listed properties apply for federal rehabilitation tax credits, preservation officials look to the registration documentation for guidance. The tax credit program assists owners to sympathetically rehabilitate income-producing properties listed in the National Register. The architectural or other physical characteristics discussed in the documentation help guide decisions about the rehabilitation of original building

³Of the over 65,000 properties listed in the National Register, approximately 3.3 percent are documented as National Historic Landmarks (NHL). Other National Register sites are recorded in the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER). State historic preservation offices and local planning agencies may also have additional documentation on properties listed in the National Register.

⁴For guidance on completing nominations, see National Register Bulletin 16A: *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, and National Register Bulletin 16B: *How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form*.

⁵DOEs result when a property is determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register, but is not officially listed.

materials. If a property is in a National Register historic district, the registration documentation's notation of the property as contributing or not contributing to the significance of the district helps federal officials determine whether or not that property may participate in the tax credit program.⁶

Students, professional consultants, members of the public, and local, State, and federal officials can access the National Register Information System (NRIS) database via the Internet or visit the National Register collection in person.⁷ Users of the NRIS can sort and retrieve information about listed or eligible properties by accessing a variety of data elements including: keywords; State, county, or other geographic areas; property types, such as post offices or prehistoric archeological sites; areas of significance; National Register criteria; the year a property was listed; and category, i.e. whether the property is a building, structure, object, site, or district. The National Register collection is the nationwide source of information about specific individual properties, districts, or multiple property submissions.

The breadth of documentation in National Register registration forms is available to educators across the country interested in supplementing standard history and social studies curricula. For example, the **Teaching with Historic Places** program, a joint venture between the National Park Service and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, produces lesson plans based on information in National Register listings—including National Historic Landmarks, National Parks, and properties of State and local significance—for elementary and secondary school teachers. The curricula-developing framework of the lesson plans encourages educators and students to explore local historic places and to think critically about historical information and documents.

Documentation regarding specific property types can be a valuable resource for communities interested in heritage tourism. For example, if government officials in Texas want to locate and research Spanish colonial mission sites to design a tour of those sites to attract visitors, they could retrieve a list of all National Register sites associated with Spanish colonial settlement and architecture in the State, and National Register staff could send copies of the full nomination documentation for each property identified by the NRIS. The officials could then incorporate this information into interpretive displays, guidebooks, and travel itineraries.

National Register registration documentation is also helpful in community revitalization. Federal tax credits for contributing properties in National Register listings help owners stabilize building materials and improve the physical appearance of their properties, thus extending the useful life of income-producing properties in older neighbor-

⁶For more information, contact the National Park Service, Heritage Preservation Services Division, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127. See also the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Evaluating Significance within Registered Historic Districts* and the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*.

⁷Telnet directly to the NRIS on 165.83.212.245 and type NATREG" to begin. For further information about the NRIS, set your World Wide Web browser to "http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/nris.html" or call the National Register Information Management Unit at (202) 343-3941. The National Register collection is open from 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday at 800 North Capitol Street, NW, Room LL99, Washington, D.C. For more information, contact the National Register Reference Center at (202) 343-3449.

hoods and commercial downtowns. In addition, local planners and designers can rely on the information in registration forms to help them transform declining districts. Architectural descriptions are useful when preparing design guides and other technical information for district property owners, and may influence sympathetic landscaping and architectural in-fill. Written narratives about the significance and history of an area may also supply interpretive material for historical markers.

THE EXAMPLES

To help nomination preparers better understand the types and depth of information needed to list a property in the National Register, the National Register provides examples of actual documentation for guidance. The examples are grouped into categories commonly requested by the public, consultants, and local, State, and federal preservation officials. The sample documentation, taken directly from registration forms of listed properties, is unedited.

To request a copy of a registration documentation example, fill out the enclosed order form and return it to the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register will provide copies of the registration form, continuation sheets, and maps (copies of photographs are not included) free of charge. Because of demands on staff time, **please limit your requests to no more than FIVE titles per order.**

The samples in this bulletin have been identified as good illustrations of each of the listed categories. However, you may request copies of registration documentation for any National Register listed or determined-eligible property.⁸

The information in this bulletin and the examples of documentation listed in the enclosed form(s) replace National Register Bulletin 35: *National Register Casebook: Examples of Documentation* (last updated in 1989).

⁸The National Register also maintains files for properties determined eligible by the NPS but not listed.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

NOV 0 1993

1. Name of Property

historic name: Bethany Lutheran Church

other name/site number:

2. Location

street & number: One quarter of a mile south of Gus Blaze Road

not for publication: a
vicinity: x

city/town: Oilmont

state: Montana code: MT county: TOOLE code: 101 zip code: 59466

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Marcella Shiff Montana SHPC 10-25-93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Montana State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register
 see continuation sheet
determined eligible for the
National Register

see continuation sheet
determined not eligible for the
National Register

see continuation sheet
removed from the National Register
 see continuation sheet

other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Paul H. Laignier 12/14/93

①

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private	Number of Resources within Property	
Category of Property: Building	Contributing	Noncontributing
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0	<u>1</u>	___ building(s)
Name of related multiple property listing: n/a	<u>1</u>	___ sites
	___	___ structures
	___	___ objects
	<u>2</u>	___ Total

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:	Current Functions:
RELIGION/religious facility	VACANT/not in use
FUNERARY/cemetery	

7. Description

Architectural Classification:	Materials:
OTHER: Gable front church with vestibule	foundation: concrete
	walls: weatherboard
	roof: wood shingle

Narrative Description

The Bethany Lutheran Church is a single-story wood frame building. In style, the church is a vernacular gable-roofed form with a vestibule front. This simple rectangular building is dominated by a large square tower on the east end. A single interior chimney of red brick is centered on the gable toward the west end of the building. The design is strictly symmetrical and simple to the point of sparseness. The building sits on a concrete foundation; the exterior is clad with clapboard and finished with cornerboards, and wooden shingles cover the roof.

On the east elevation, the facade is dominated by a large, square tower/vestibule which projects from the front. The central main entrance is marked by double, panelled wooden doors having a narrow, rectangular light across the top portion. Originally, a tri-pane transom spanned each doorway; presently, the south door transom has a single fixed pane replacement unit. Above the doors, a single double-hung window is centered on the upper level; it is currently boarded over. The tower terminates in a square steeple, skirted and capped by a pyramidal roof, crowned by a tall, knobbed finial. Each side of the steeple has a louvered vent.

On the north and south elevations, a series of three windows are symmetrically placed along the main body of the building. These windows are double hung, 1-over-1 wooden sash units; a single wooden shutter swings to cover each window. There are no openings on the west elevation.

On the interior, the church is separated into two spaces, a small vestibule which opens into a single large room for services. The church proper is separated from the vestibule by a pair of glazed wooden doors. Walls of the interior are plastered and painted. The original wooden altar remains in place.

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The Bethany Lutheran Church is located on a gentle rise on a broad, open plain and is visible on the landscape for miles. Enclosed by a historic wire fence, metal-framed, wire gates open into the churchyard; a dirt path leads from one gate to the church steps. The Bethany Lutheran cemetery lies west of the church, to the rear and is encompassed by the historic fence.

The Bethany Lutheran cemetery contains approximately 25 graves, and is laid out on a rectilinear grid. The earliest graves date to 1918; the cemetery was used through World War II. Headstones of various kinds--carved stone and wood--mark the graves. Many graves are also protected with poured concrete covers to keep animals out.

Integrity

Today, the Bethany Lutheran Church and cemetery remain virtually undisturbed since the historic period; the original design and historic fabric are in a high state of preservation. Although most interior furnishings have been removed, the church building remains otherwise as it was when the doors closed about 50 years ago. Set in a vast landscape of windblown wheatlands, the setting, feeling and location of the property strongly convey the period of historic significance, and aptly demonstrate the relationship of this center of community and culture to the surrounding agricultural hinterlands.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A, C

Areas of Significance: ARCHITECTURE
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
ETHNIC HERITAGE

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): A, B

Period(s) of Significance: 1916 - 1943

Significant Person(s): n/a

Significant Dates: 1925

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Architect/Builder: unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

Bethany Lutheran Church is a local landmark on the prairies of northcentral Montana. This modest church, established by the original homesteaders to the area, reflects distinctly the boom and bust patterns of Montana's dryland farming era, as well as the cultural longevity of traditions and beliefs brought by immigrant settlers to this country. It is also a well preserved example of the simple architecture of necessity, employed by those who moved the building here and converted it to a church. The church qualifies for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A & C. A religious property, significant both for its associations with local history and for its architecture, the church meets Criteria Consideration A. The church also meets Criteria Consideration B for moved buildings. The move to its present location in 1925 marks a significant date and milestone in the history of this rural Norwegian community.

Historical Significance

As early as 1869, efforts were made to recruit foreign born settlers to Montana. In Europe and at the port of entry in New York, Montana was promoted in hopes of drawing settlers. Germans and Scandinavians were strongly represented during the first waves of immigration to Montana. During the early years, nearly half of that population worked the mines, and by the 1880s, many Germans and Scandinavians were employed building the railroads.

Immigrants with specialized skills were often drawn by developing industries in the 19th century American West. Construction of large mineral smelters in Montana during the 1880s attracted skilled smelterworkers from Europe. In Great Falls an avenue of Scandinavian entry emerged as expert smeltermen, including a number from Haugesund, Norway, signed on at the Black Eagle smelter. Many of these smeltermen later took up land, and moved on to prosper as farmers and stockmen.¹

Drawn by the completion of the Great Northern Railway and railroad promotion of dryland farming in the west, homesteaders came to settle this northern country in Montana during the first decade of the 20th century. In 1910 and 1911, settlement of this area was particularly heavy, leaving a lasting imprint on the economic, social and governmental history of the area. Dry farming theories promoted by railroad boosters encouraged farming in the semi-arid Western Plains. In Montana, wheat production alone jumped 557.4% in the decade between 1909 and 1919, when total acreage planted in wheat was reported at 1,698,531.²

Booming homestead population on the Hi-Line resulted in a period of county splitting, resulting in the creation of several new counties during the 1910s, including Toole, in 1914. According to U.S. census figures for 1920 and 1925, the

See continuation sheets

¹Beitramo, "Language Profile of Montana" pp. 22-23.

²U.S. Bureau of the Census, Reports for States, 1910, 1920.

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first available for this new county, 18.6% of Toole County's population was listed as foreign-born, white. Prominent among these settlers (second only to Canadians) were Norwegians who brought with them the customs and traditions of their homeland. Other Scandinavian groups were strongly represented as well.³ Like other ethnic groups drawn westward during the homestead era, Norwegians settled along the railway lines across the Plains states. In Montana, during the early 20th century, Norwegian immigrants came to comprise the largest foreign born farming population in the state.⁴

Settlers in this area of Toole County first worked into Dunkirk, a nearby stop on the Great Northern Railway. At the time, the town boasted 3 livery barns, 2 banks and several businesses. This shipping point was soon eclipsed by Shelby, however, which grew rapidly at the juncture of the Great Northern line and a shortline between Lethbridge, Alberta and Great Falls. Farm producers began working into Shelby, and the town quickly became an important hub of transportation and agriculture.⁵

As Norwegians settled and formed agricultural communities on the Montana Plains, they kept their traditions alive. Churches became a center of culture, binding new communities in remote locations. For Scandinavian settlers, growth of Lutheranism in the west was a critical factor in recruitment of more settlers. The national faith of the Norwegians, Swedes, Danes, and Finns, and prominent among the Germans, Lutheranism became an anchor stone in immigrant communities.

Scandinavian Lutherans were organized under the Rocky Mountain District of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Expansion of the Lutheran Church in Montana patterned the history in mid- and western-America: rooted in Lutheran European countries, the church followed agricultural frontiers, carried along by the expansion of the western railroads. There was no centralized effort to missionize in the west; rather, churches were formed as congregations organized in remote locales, arranged for pastors to visit periodically and lead services, and finally established churches.⁶

Montana's first Lutheran congregation was established at Melville by a Norwegian Lutheran pastor in 1885; the first services held were in Norwegian.⁷ By 1900, over 30 Lutheran congregations were active in Montana; between 1910 and 1916, at the height of Montana's homesteading boom, 111 more congregations were organized, especially along the route of the newly built Great Northern Railway.⁸

The history of Bethany Lutheran Church reflects these patterns of settlement and religious tradition. Norwegian settlers in the area gathered regularly for church services as early as 1911, with Reverend Hvale, pastor from nearby Conrad, who routinely rode the circuit to this area to hold church services. On December 30, 1912, local worshipers met at the home of Hans Peterson for services, and the Bethania Norsk Evg. Luthersk Menighed was organized. Reverend H. E. Haugland was the first pastor.

³Ibid, 1920, 1925.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Johansen, Russell, Personal communication, May 3, 1993.

⁶Burlingame & Toole, A History of Montana, p. 335.

⁷Beltramo, p. 23.

⁸Burlingame & Toole, pp. 336-337.

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During the years that followed, the congregation met in homes and the local Grandview schoolhouse. Interest grew in a permanent church, and in 1916, three acres of land were donated to the United Lutheran Church of America by Hulda Sjulli of Litchville, ND.⁹ A cemetery was plotted and plans laid for building a church, but economic depression resulting from crop failures and World War I appears to have delayed construction. However, the cemetery was used; among the oldest burials in the cemetery is the grave of the Sevotski's, a couple who succumbed to the widespread flu epidemic of 1918.

On December 1, 1923, the church's Ladies Aid chapter approved plans to fund a permanent church building. Later that month, Ladies Aid purchased a building to be moved in to serve that purpose.¹⁰ The building was moved on-site during January or February of 1924. Construction plans and fundraising for finishing the church occupied the Ladies Aid through the remainder of the year. A number of men in the congregation pitched in to help finish the church and by mid 1925, construction was completed. The church and cemetery were dedicated on September 12, 1926. Community support for the church remained strong--Ladies Aid purchased such items as furnishings, fencing, "hymnarys," communion set, silverware and carpeting for the church, while local families provided labor, the organ and the collection plates.¹¹

Later history of Bethany Lutheran Church reflects the boom and bust nature of the homestead era in Montana. Farming populations in the homestead regions peaked between census years, about 1916-1917, so exact figures are not available, but a massive exodus from dryland farms occurred widely throughout Montana. This is generally attributed to a collapse of grain markets as World War I drew to a close, and to years of prolonged drought beginning in 1917.

Faced with farm failure, large numbers of homesteaders in northcentral Montana simply "pulled up stakes and left the country"¹² altogether. Others moved into nearby towns, such as Shelby and Cut Bank. Others from faltering farmsteads may well have sought employment in the oilfields, for oil was discovered in the vicinity in 1922. That first strike was made in the Kevin-Sunburst field, destined to be one of the largest in state history. However, some families clung tenaciously to the land, and over the years although population density in the agricultural regions declined, farms were consolidated into larger tracts able to support viable, more stable farming operations.

Bethany Lutheran Church was actively used for approximately 25 years, and was the only Lutheran church in the area during that time period. Through the 1920s and 1930s, as local population declined, population in nearby Shelby grew. By the 1950s, membership dwindled and services were discontinued. The decision was made in 1960 to merge the congregation with that of St. Luke's parish in Shelby.¹³ The church has been vacant ever since, although local individuals and groups have kept the building and cemetery in good repair.

⁹Deed Record #12352, Barnes County, North Dakota.

¹⁰Local lore has it that the building was originally constructed by a man who sold it to the Bethany Lutheran congregation after his fiancée died, to move onto this site.

¹¹Thompson, Leonard, Personal reminiscence of early Bethany Lutheran Church history; Minutes of meetings, Ladies Aide Ledger, December 1, 1923 to February 5, 1931.

¹²Selma Sundby Midboe, Personal Communication, May 5, 1993.

¹³Echoes From the Prairie, p. 105.

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Architectural Significance

Standing stalwart and unadorned, the Bethany Lutheran Church assumes a monumental quality in this windswept landscape of wheatfields and rolling prairies. The architecture of Bethany Lutheran Church is significant as a representative of a broad body of vernacular architecture which emerged on Montana's agricultural and homesteading frontiers. These vernacular buildings were not representative of high style nor the work of master builders; rather, they exemplify the architecture of necessity and were often the result of communal building efforts.

A simple building, Bethany Lutheran Church symbolizes the austerity and simplicity which the cultural and economic constructs of the era dictated. The steeple front, gable church form became a hallmark of fledgling communities throughout Montana. Limited by funds and scarce materials, rural Montana settlers none-the-less erected church buildings which conveyed an ecclesiastical intent, imparting that sense by encouraging the steeple and a vertical emphasis to dominate. A signal of growing community stability, churches in these young settlements symbolized a level of culture and a commitment to future.

Criteria Considerations and Period of Significance

The Bethany Lutheran Church meets the requirements for listing on the National Register in accordance with Criteria Considerations A and B. In keeping with Criteria Consideration A, the church is a religious property; however, its significance rests both with the merits of its well-preserved vernacular architecture, and the church's strong historic associations with the settlement and ethnic history of northcentral Montana.

The period of significance for the Bethany Lutheran Church has been defined here as beginning in 1916, the year the property was donated to the church and the cemetery was established. The cemetery existed here for nine years until the church was situated here. The movement of that building onto this site and subsequent construction to create the church occurred in 1925, well within the period of significance for the property. The church itself added to the values and significance of this property after that year, and achieved significance subsequent to its location on this site. In fact, that event marks a most significant date in this historic property's period of significance. For these reasons, the Bethany Lutheran Church meets the requirements for Criteria Consideration B.

Today, Bethany Lutheran Church commemorates many threads of local history. Now a place to stage community gatherings and reunite the descendants of homesteading families who settled this area, the church is one of the most lasting expressions of the time when immigrant settlers made their way to an unknown land, and sought a new and better life on the high Montana plains.

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Bethany Lutheran Church
Name of Property

Toole County, Montana
County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

See Continuation Sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
 previously listed in the National Register
 previously determined eligible by the National Register
 designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 Other State agency
 Federal agency
 Local government
 University
 Other - Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 3 acres

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	12	452500	5393440
B	12	452610	5393440
C	12	452500	5393320
D	12	452610	5393320

Verbal Boundary Description

The Bethany Lutheran Church is located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, T34N, R1E. The legal description is as follows:

At a point on the Section Line 58 rods due South of the NE corner of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 19, and said boundary continuing from the said point 58 rods from said corner, and running due South 24 rods on the said section line; thence due West for a distance of 20 rods; thence due North and parallel to said section line a distance of 24 rods; thence due East for a distance of 20 rods to the point of beginning; containing in all 480 square rods, or 3 acres.

Boundary Justification

These are the original boundaries as deeded to the United Lutheran Church of America by Hulda Sjulli in 1916.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Chere Jiusto
organization: Montana SHPO
street & number: 102 Broadway
city or town: Helena
date: March 1993
telephone: 406-444-7715
state: MT
zip code: 59620

Property Owner

name/title: North Toole County Cemetery District c/o Russell Johansen, Chairman
street & number: PO Box 247
city or town: Sunburst
telephone: 406/937-2211
state: MT
zip code: 59482

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Bethany Lutheran Ladies Aid Society, Minutes of Ladies Aid Meetings, 1923 - 1932, in collections of the Marias Museum of History and Art, Shelby, Montana.

Burlingame, Merrill G. and K. Ross Toole, A History of Montana, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., NY:1957.

Gates, Paul W., "Homesteading in the High Plains", *Agricultural History*, 51(1), 1977, p. 109-133.

Johansen, Russell, Personal Communication with Chere Jiusto, May 3, 1993.

Merriam, H. G., "Ethnic Settlement of Montana" *Pacific Historical Review*, vol XII, no 2, June 1943, pp. 157-168.

Midboe, Selma Sundby, Personal Communication with Chere Jiusto, May 5, 1993.

Monson, Allwin, Personal reminiscence regarding Bethany Lutheran Church history, August 1992.

Stratton, Austin, Personal reminiscence regarding Bethany Lutheran Church history, n.d.

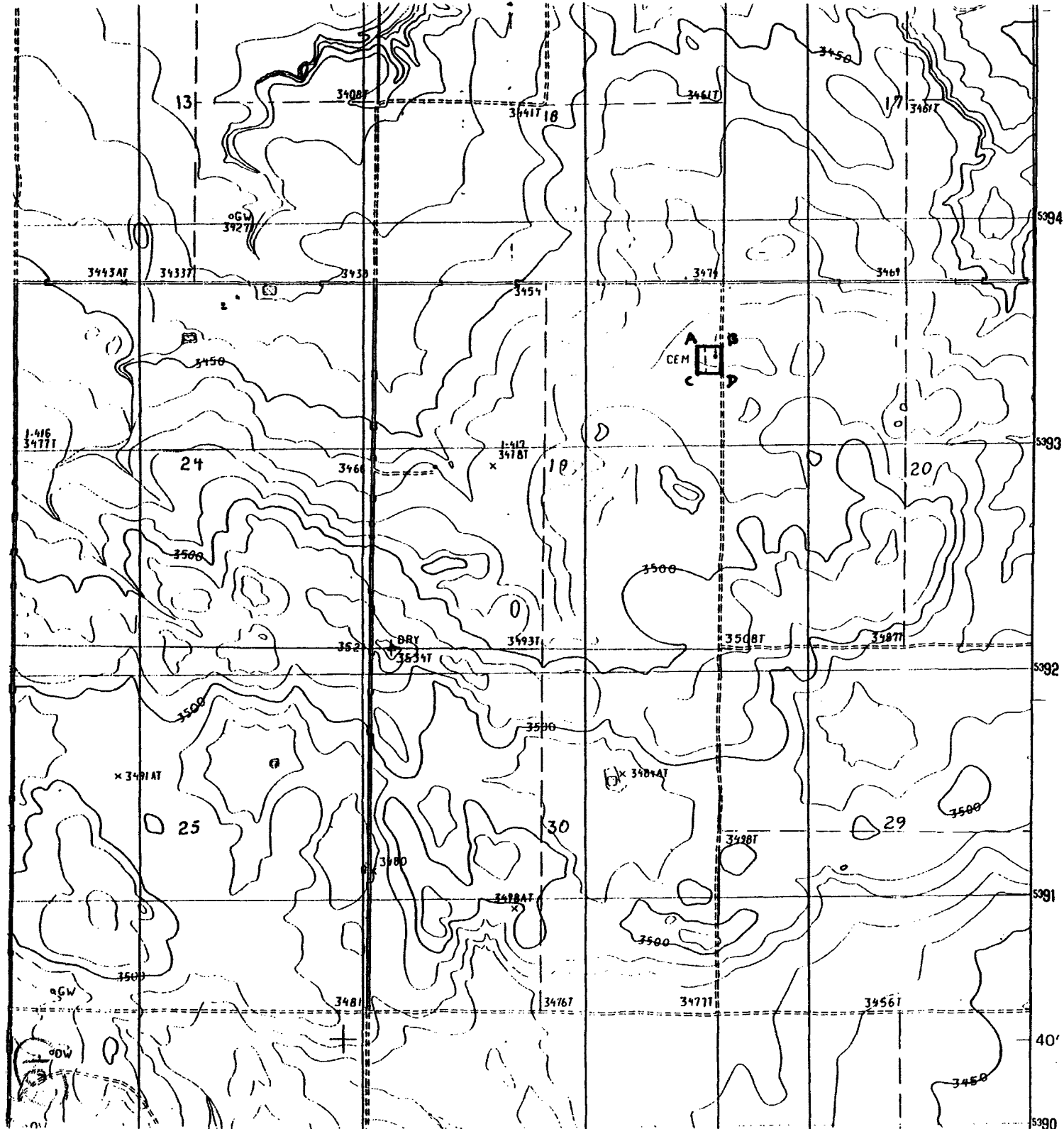
Thompson, Rev. Leonard, Letter to Rev. Olaf Engh, August 2, 1938

Toole County Records, Deed Record #12352, Hulda Sjulli to United Lutheran Church of America, August 4, 1916.

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Reports for States, 1910, 1920, 1925. US Government Printing Office, Washington DC.

... Echoes From the Prairie, pp. 104-105. Compiled by Prairie Homemakers Home Extension Club and Jayhawker Ridge Home Extension Club, Shelby Promoter publisher, Shelby, Montana, 1976.

(9)



Bethany Lutheran Church
 Oilmont vicinity
 Toole County, Montana

UTMs: All in zone 12

- A) 452500E/5393440N
- B) 452610E/5393440N
- C) 452500E/5393320N
- D) 452610E/5393320N

Located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 19,
 T34N, R1E.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 23 1990

National Register of Historic Places
Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Initial Development to the Civil War, 1835-1860

Steamboat Era of Development, 1865-1915

C. Geographical Data

Community limits of Middleburg, Florida.

See continuation sheet

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Signature of certifying official

Date

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper of the National Register

Date

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet



F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type Wood Frame Buildings in Middleburg, Florida 1835-1915

II. Description

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

III. Significance

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

IV. Registration Requirements

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet for additional property types

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

H. Major Bibliographical References

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional documentation:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency

- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

I. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen Olausen/ Barbara E. Mattick, Historic Sites Specialist
 organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date January 1990
 street & number R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333
 city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number E Page 1 Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida**SUMMARY:**

The historic buildings of Middleburg are significant on the local level under Criteria A and C in the areas of Exploration and Settlement, and Architecture. The properties include some of the few surviving buildings dating from the community's two significant periods of development during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Among them, are two antebellum buildings constructed during the 1830s and 1840s, when Middleburg was an important staging area for military operations during the Second Seminole War. Other buildings are associated with the post-bellum steamboat era, which saw Middleburg become an important port on the St. Johns River. The resources are also architecturally significant as representatives of relatively rare types and styles in the context of Florida history.

HISTORIC CONTEXTS:**I. Initial Development to the Civil War, c1835-1860****Initial Contact and Settlement**

Middleburg is located in Clay County, which was formed from Duval County in 1858. The most prominent natural feature in the vicinity of Middleburg is Black Creek, a tributary of the St. Johns River. Because of their utility as avenues of transportation, Black Creek and the St. Johns River have influenced the development of the Middleburg area since the time of earliest human contact.

Archaeological evidence suggests that human contact with the area around the St. Johns and its tributaries occurred as early as 5000 B.C. During this period, inhabitants of the North Central Highlands visited the St. Johns area on yearly hunting and gathering trips. By 2000 B.C., the area was occupied on a year round basis by aboriginals who lived in camps and villages. For their subsistence, these people depended upon the abundant fish, shellfish, and game that the river region afforded. This

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lifestyle remained much the same through the initial stages of European settlement of the area.

Middleburg lies within the oldest continuously settled area of European occupation in the United States. During the First Spanish Period (1565-1763), the Spanish regarded the St. Johns primarily as a defense barrier against Indian and English encroachment toward St. Augustine, the colonial capital. They built a series of forts or outposts along the east bank, from the river's mouth as far south as Picolata, the latter also serving as a ferry crossing for travelers on the Apalache-St. Augustine trail. The Spanish did not, however, systematically exploit the resources along the St. Johns. They were more interested in lands that were heavily populated by Indians, a traditional source of wealth in the Spanish empire.

The British occupied Florida for a mere twenty-one years (1763-1784), but they left a lasting imprint. One of their acts was to divide the area into East and West Florida at the Suwannee River. With the transfer of Florida to England at the end of the Seven Years' War in 1763, the Spanish, with few exceptions, evacuated the colony. To encourage demographic and economic growth, the British quickly invalidated Spanish land claims and instituted a liberal land policy, which by 1776 had amounted to 114 grants totaling 1.4 million acres. Sometime during the British Period, the Colville Plantation was established at the forks of Black Creek in East Florida. It was the first documented settlement in the Middleburg area.

Florida reverted back to Spain at the end of the American Revolution in 1783. The first permanent settlers of Middleburg arrived during the Second Spanish Period (1784-1821). Throughout the period, the number of farms and plantations along the St. Johns River increased. The Spanish conceded a number of grants along Black Creek, including one to John Fontane. The Fontane Grant was located on the south side of Black Creek, opposite the neck of land formed by the two prongs, and encompassed 500 acres. A second Spanish land grant in the Middleburg area was issued to George Branning. In 1814, Branning began clearing land about 3/4 of a mile above the fork of Black Creek. He

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built a log cabin, approximately twenty feet wide, and placed nine acres under cultivation. Branning was driven from his land by Seminole Indians in 1818, during the First Seminole War.

Once the United States acquired Florida under the terms of the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819 (ratified in 1821), new settlers began to arrive in the territory. Some Spanish subjects, including some of the first settlers of Middleburg, remained in East Florida, but the population of St. Augustine and the surrounding area became increasingly English speaking. In accordance with the Adams-Onis Treaty, the United States government agreed to confirm title to recipients of former Spanish land grants who had fulfilled the terms of the grants. Among the grants confirmed along Black Creek was that of John Fontane. George Branning was also given land under the Donation Act. The Donation Act, enacted by the United States Congress on May 26, 1824, instructed the Board of Land Commissioners of East Florida to examine all claims made by heads of families. If the commissioners were convinced that the claimant had been occupying the land before February 22, 1819, they could award a donation grant of 640 acres, the equivalent of a section under the government survey system.

Many of the settlers acquired and settled former Spanish land grants. One of these was Gabriel Priest. Priest was a former Spanish subject who purchased the Fontane Grant on June 27, 1823. Priest moved to Alachua County around 1830. He prospered there, but continued to invest in land in the Middleburg area. At the outbreak of the Second Seminole War in 1835, he returned to Middleburg where he remained until his death in the 1860s.

During the 1820s and early 1830s, the Middleburg area served as a port of entry to the Florida interior. Located approximately ten miles inland from the St. Johns River, Middleburg offered one of the better landings south of Jacksonville. By 1828, there was sufficient settlement in the area to warrant the establishment of a post office at Whitesville, a community that was about two miles south of the present location of Middleburg.

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The concentrated settlement of Middleburg began during the 1820s with the establishment of a ferry crossing by Asa Clark. The settlement which developed around the crossing was known as Clark's Ferry. In September 1828, Clark sold the land and ferry boats to John M. Hanson for \$450. Hanson owned the ferry service until 1833. Despite the change in ownership, the name remained Clark's Ferry until 1833, when it became known as Gary's Ferry after Samuel and Charlotte Gary, its new owners.

Samuel Gary was a long-time Florida resident. In November 1824, he was appointed issuing agent on the St. Johns River by the federal government. As issuing agent he furnished rations and tools to the Seminole Indians for their move to a new reservation in interior Florida. In 1828, he moved to Clark's Ferry, and in June 1830 purchased the John Fontane Grant from Gabriel Priest. In June 1833, his wife purchased the ferry service and equipment from John Hanson. Three months later Gary sold the Fontane Grant to Thomas J. Brown. For the next decade the settlement which evolved into Middleburg was known as Gary's Ferry.

By 1830, a modest settlement had developed around the ferry crossing. In addition to the ferry operators, one of the first settlers was Isaac Varnes, who settled at the ferry around 1830 and operated a blacksmith shop. Varnes owned land on the north prong of Black Creek, close to the ferry and adjacent to the George Branning Donation. Another early settler was Ozias Budington from Connecticut, who married Samuel Gary's daughter, Susan. Varnes, Budington, and other early settlers of the area cultivated cotton, tobacco, and food crops, and harvested local timber products. They met with success until their farms and plantations were destroyed or abandoned during the early days of the Second Seminole War.

Development During the Second Seminole War 1835-1842

Hostility between the United States and the Seminole Indians was well established by 1821. Andrew Jackson's invasion of Florida in 1818 in pursuit of the Seminoles had served as a catalyst for the Spain's cession of Florida to the United States. After 1821, when the 1819 Adams-Onis

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Treaty was finally ratified, the United States Government viewed the Seminoles as a nuisance which obstructed settlement of the territory. It sought to isolate them on a reservation. Formal negotiations regarding the reservation issue occurred during the fall of 1823 in St. Johns County, near the banks of Moultrie Creek, south of St. Augustine.

When they signed the Treaty of Moultrie Creek, the Seminoles agreed to move to the center of the peninsula. The treaty established a four million acre reservation for the Seminoles, but it failed to eliminate tension between them and white settlers. The Indians frequently strayed from the reservation, and many whites believed that runaway slaves found sanctuary among them. The runaway slave issue was complicated by the fact that free blacks and the Indians' own slaves resided on the reservation. Clashes between Indians and settlers were frequent before the outbreak of war in 1835.

The Second Seminole War marks a watershed in the history of Middleburg. During the war years, the fledgling settlement was transformed into a major military encampment known as Ft. Heileman. The establishment of Ft. Heileman served as a catalyst for future development of the area. Much as military installations do today, the fort attracted civilians to fill a number of support positions at the fort.

Ft. Heileman was one of the most important military installations of the Second Seminole War. It was named for Major Julius F. Heileman, one of the first casualties of the war, who died at the battle of Micanopy. It was constructed between January and June 1836 by order of Major General Winfield Scott. Scott selected Gary's Ferry over Picolata, the principal colonial river port, because it had a better landing and road system. Ft. Heileman served as the quartermaster depot for the Army of the South as well as being a major military post, arsenal, hospital, and rest camp. It covered the tongue of land between the forks of Black Creek, and probably extended some distance inland. A smaller installation, Ft. Sanderson, was also located in the vicinity of Gary's Ferry.

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Of the buildings constructed during the occupation of Ft. Heileman, only one, the Clark-Chalker House (NR, 1988) at 3891 Main Street, remains. It was constructed under the supervision of Captain Michael M. Clark, the fort quartermaster. Built for use as housing for Clark and his staff, the house may have also been used as a hospital. The two and one-half story, Frame Vernacular style building, constructed of hand-hewn timbers and pegs, retains many of its original features.

In addition to its military function, Ft. Heileman quickly became a haven for civilian refugees from the war. During the early stages of the war the Seminoles destroyed virtually every settlement in the Florida peninsula. Reportedly, not a house was left standing from St. Augustine to Cape Florida. By the spring of 1836, with the exception of Micanopy, Gary's Ferry, and Newnansville, white settlers had deserted the interior. There were about 650 at Newnansville and between 700 and 800 at Gary's Ferry, where they felt secure because of the military installation.

Conditions at Ft. Heileman were difficult. The refugees lived in leaky, drafty shacks, about 10' by 10' in dimension, with makeshift beds. Disease was a major problem, particularly as warm weather approached. Of the 240 men stationed there in 1836, 130 were sick at one point. Many of the refugees were also infected with a variety of diseases, including measles, whooping cough, cholera, malaria, and other fevers. In July 1836 alone, fifty-two persons died at the fort. During the course of the war, fifty soldiers and hundreds of civilians died there.

From 1836 until 1841, Ft. Heileman played an important role in the war effort. In 1837 Colonel Benjamin Snodgrass, who commanded 950 mounted Alabama volunteers, was directed to guard Ft. Heileman. Perhaps the most distinguished visitor to the fort was Alexander Macomb, commanding general of the United States Army. He arrived April 5, 1839 and remained three weeks, inspecting the installation and attempting to arrange a parley with key Indian leaders. The war was generally a guerilla conflict with few major battles. Ft. Heileman's closest actual encounter with the fighting occurred in February 1840, when a train of twelve

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wagons returning from the interior was attacked by a band of from twelve to fifteen Indians. The role of the fort diminished after 1840, when the main supply depot was transferred from Gary's Ferry to Palatka. Although one source reported Ft. Heileman abandoned on June 18, 1841, another described ten companies of the U.S. Army's Second Dragoons headquartered there in 1842.

The war stimulated the first significant development of much of the Florida peninsula, including Middleburg. Land was cleared, roads were built, waterways were deepened and cleared of obstacles, fortifications were constructed, and the Indians were largely eliminated from Florida. Furthermore, the United States Government created a real estate boom in Florida by promising a land grant to any volunteer over eighteen years of age who enlisted to fight the Seminole Indians. As was true in the first years of American occupation, land development and speculation once again became a significant factor in the economy of peninsular Florida. Many settlers who had been drawn to Gary's Ferry during the war remained and helped to populate the area in its aftermath.

Post-War Development and Decline

Growth in the post-war period depended on the continued use of Middleburg as a transportation center. The nascent steamboat industry found the St. Johns River and its tributaries perfectly suited for the low draft and highly maneuverable vessels. During the 1840s steamboats operated on a regular basis between Jacksonville and Black Creek. Sidewheel steamers soon plied the waters between Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, Middleburg, Palatka, and Sanford (Florida). The first boats involved in the river trade at Middleburg were the Ocmulgee, the St. Mathews, and the William Gaston.

During the 1840s and 1850s, Middleburg served as a port for the agricultural area encompassing what at present are Alachua, Clay, Bradford and Union Counties. Before the completion of the Florida Railroad in the late 1850s, early settlers of the area depended largely on water transportation for marketing their goods. Middleburg was


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the nearest river port for the settlers. River steamers moved up Black Creek to the landing there. Settlers hauled their cotton and other crops by ox or mule to Middleburg, where they would be loaded on boats for the long, slow ride down Black Creek and the St. Johns River. While in Middleburg, they would purchase basic necessities and coffee, tobacco, and the few other luxury items that they did not grow on their farms.

The development of Middleburg as a river port resulted in commercial and population growth. On July 18, 1843, the Whitesville post office was relocated to Gary's Ferry. The two locales had always been distinct, but during the Seminole War, much of the population of Whitesville had moved to Gary's Ferry, resulting in the relocation of the post office. During the 1840s the name Middleburgh replaced Gary's Ferry, apparently because of the settlement's central location between the two prongs of Black Creek. The post office was officially renamed Middleburgh on May 1, 1851. It was changed to its present spelling on September 8, 1893.

Ferries and roads were also important factors in Middleburg's importance as a transportation center. There were two ferries. One was operated by Charles Willey, on the site where the one belonging to Samuel Gary had previously been located. George Branning operated a second ferry and maintained a primitive bridge on the south prong of Black Creek. Important roads ran through the community, including the Jacksonville Road, the main overland route for all of Northeast Florida; the Green Cove Springs Road; and the Starke Road.

Railroads played a key role in the development of Florida in the nineteenth century, and had an indirect impact on Middleburg. Under the direction of David Levy Yulee, Florida's first United States Senator, the Florida Railroad was incorporated on January 8, 1853. Its proposed route was Fernandina to Cedar Key. Actual construction of the railroad did not, however, begin until 1855. Due to their booming economic involvement with the steamboat industry, the majority of the residents of Middleburg opposed the railroad, and the railroad bypassed it. Middleburg's only connection with railroads was the Trail



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Ridge Road which ran from Middleburgh northwest to the Florida Railroad during the late 1850s.

In addition to transportation, timbering, a component of Florida's economy since the colonial period, was also significant to the local economy. Ozias Budington operated a saw mill during the mid-1840s. In 1848 he sold the mill to Joseph W. Scott, who operated it only a few months before selling it to Paran Moody. Lewis S. Bennett was another mill operator during the period.

With only a few exceptions, exact locations and descriptions of structures existing in Middleburg during the 1840s and 1850s have not been documented. Population and commercial statistics, however, offer some idea of the development the community was experiencing during this period. Fifty-three heads of households were listed in the 1850 census. Most of the settlers of Middleburg were from the South, particularly South Carolina and Georgia. During the 1850s, the most prominent settlers were William S. Bardin, George Branning, Benjamin Frisbee, Joshua D. O'Hern, Gabriel Priest, John Scheufler, John G. Smith, William Tarrafuls, Isaac Varnes, and Samuel B. Thompson. Thompson was the main developer, and owned a hotel, general store, and three large warehouses. W.W. Hull, John Scheufler, Richard Dillion, Charles Willey, Edmund Waller, Stanislaus Glinkis, and Darlin C. Prescott also owned general stores by 1850. M.E. Haynes and James Spencer owned drug stores, and there was one physician, L.B. Slaid. John Gothfied Zeiger had a stable and Amaziah Gray had a tavern.

Educational and religious institutions also began developing in Middleburg during the years prior to the Civil War. Catholic and Baptist churches were constructed during the 1840s, although both disappeared by the 1850s. The first school was located on a lot southwest of the present United Methodist Church Building. The extant Methodist Church also dates from this period.

One of the prevailing themes of the political history of Florida during the nineteenth and early twentieth century was county subdivision. As Florida's population grew and new communities developed, residents in outlying areas

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continually lobbied for the division of Florida's larger counties into smaller, more manageable units. The tremendous size of many counties, the difficulty of travel, and the settlement of previously unpopulated or underpopulated areas following the construction of railroads and highways made reorganization of county government essential. The patronage, power, and economic benefits associated with local government were further incentives for reorganization. All of these factors to a greater or lesser extent played a part in the creation of Clay County.

On December 31, 1858, Clay County was formed and named for Henry Clay, a United States Senator from Kentucky who also served as Secretary of State under John Quincy Adams. Middleburg was selected as the temporary county seat. Within a year an election was held to select a permanent county seat. In October of the following year, Whitesville was selected as the permanent county seat by a margin of only two votes. In spite of its loss of the opportunity to be the seat of local government, with all the patronage and prestige associated with such a designation, Middleburg prospered as a trade center.

The Civil War, however, severely interrupted Middleburg's development. As was true in communities throughout the South, many residents of Middleburg joined the Confederate Army. Middleburg and its surrounding area was the setting for at least one of the relatively few skirmishes that occurred in Florida during the war years. In 1864, the town was attacked by the 4th Massachusetts Cavalry. The Union troops came from Green Cove Springs and crossed Black Creek at Middleburg where they burned Samuel Thompson's hotel and three warehouses used for storing cotton, feed, and other supplies. Many homes and businesses were also destroyed or looted. Captain J.J. Dickison, commander of Confederate forces in the area, was notified of the incursion and set off in pursuit. He and his troops engaged the Union raiding party at Halsey's Plantation, between Middleburg and Green Cove Springs, and inflicted heavy casualties without the loss of life of any of his force.

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The three decades after the Civil War constituted a period of renewed growth for Middleburg. Steamers laden with goods and passengers going to and from Middleburg once again plied the St. Johns River and Black Creek. Sawmills were busy producing timber for rapidly expanding Jacksonville and more distant markets. During the two decades following the war, Middleburg was surpassed only by Palatka as a port on the lower St. Johns and its tributaries. Cotton, lumber, and agricultural products were the principal exports of the post-war years. Citrus cultivation became the staple of the river trade from the mid-seventies to the mid-nineties. Land values along the St. Johns increased in the late 1870s as entrepreneurs converted more property into orange groves. Orange Park, Mandarin, Satsuma, Orange Mills, and Orange City were but a few of the communities whose origins date to the citrus boom of the late nineteenth century. By the early 1880s, the shipping business was booming at Middleburg. The steamer *Twilight* made daily runs to Jacksonville carrying freight and passengers. The firm of Long and Budington had two freight boats in continuous operation. Numerous other vessels made the trip to Jacksonville as well. They included steamers, barges, lighters, and pleasure craft.

The ferry business also remained an important part of Middleburg's transportation system during the late nineteenth century. There were five ferries in operation at or near Middleburg during the 1870s and 1880s. By 1873 Albert S. Chalker operated a ferry on the south prong of Black Creek, and in 1877, a public ferry service managed by Mathew Knight began operating. George Branning and his family owned a ferry from the 1850s until 1885, when the county took it over. George R. Frisbee began a ferry service in 1878, and James Register established another the following year.

Based largely on the river trade and the expanding local agricultural and timber economy, the population of

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Middleburg quickly exceeded pre-Civil War levels during the 1880s and 1890s. By 1890 it had risen to over 700. In the mid-1880s, the village included a grist mill operated by Henry Ayers; a nursery, probably providing citrus trees, owned by Ozias Budington; general stores owned by A.S. Chalker and M.F. Geiger; a saw mill operated by J.M. and A.H. Moss; and a drug store owned by R.E. Norman. A number of private residences were constructed during this period. Among the most notable of those still standing is the Bardin House at 3881 Main Street, built for Henry S. Bardin, Martha Ann Chalker's brother. Middleburg continued to prosper through the mid-1890s. In 1895, the town boasted three general stores; the Fairhead, Shawn and Company Saw Mill; the Middleburg Brick Works; the Black River Phosphate Company; and many citrus and vegetable growers. By 1900 the population of greater Middleburg exceeded 1300 inhabitants.

Economic calamity descended upon the village in the 1890s, however. First came the "Great Freeze" of the winter of 1894-1895, which destroyed the citrus industry in North Florida. During the last days of December 1894, a blast of arctic air entered Florida and pushed temperatures lower than had been previously recorded. The temperature at nearby Starke reached fourteen degrees. Much of the orange crop remained on the trees unharvested. Following the freeze, fruit as much as a foot deep lay scattered beneath the trees.

Although much fruit was lost, tree damage was relatively slight during the December freeze. The plight of the railroads and shippers was, however, even graver than that of the growers. Hundreds of cars and boats were left idle for lack of fruit, and thousands of men, those whose jobs had been to buy, sell, and haul, or to operate the boats and railroads, were laid off. Nevertheless, there was a certain amount of optimism among those dependent on the citrus industry because tree damage was not severe.

The worst, however, was yet to come. In February 1895, communities throughout the state experienced record low temperatures. The second freeze destroyed what little fruit was left. During the few weeks of unseasonably warm weather between the freezes, the orange trees had begun to bloom

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again and filled with sap. After the second freeze, they split open, dripped sap, and froze again. When spring finally arrived and all the countryside began turning a bright, fresh green, the outlines of bare orange trees stood bleakly against the sky.

For the grower, shipper, and others directly or indirectly dependent on the citrus industry for their livelihood, the future was bleak. Some of the trees would bear fruit again, but the freeze caused years of hardship and forced many individuals involved in the citrus industry to seek new occupations. The commercial citrus industry in Middleburg was destroyed by the 1894-1895 freeze. Local growers switched to strawberries, figs, grapes, plums, and pecans in an attempt to maintain an income and recoup lost investments.

The second calamity to strike Middleburg during the 1890s was the decline of its steamboat trade. By the late 1880s, the railroad had eclipsed the river steamer as the principal carrier of freight in the St. Johns River region. The train, because of its speed, could move freight more cheaply and more quickly to larger markets, an asset quite appealing to farmers cultivating perishable produce. Moreover, Jacksonville, with its strategic location began to monopolize river trade. Later improvements to the Jacksonville port assured that city's position as the maritime capital of the river. By the late 1890s freight traffic on Black Creek was reduced to a trickle.

The history of Middleburg after 1900 is the reverse of most Florida communities. The community's population and economy continued to decline. In 1910 the population was 150 fewer than ten years before. Several general stores remained in the community, together with a brick yard and saw mill. However, the railroad, the key to economic prosperity at the time, was located seven miles away at Peoria, and was accessible to Middleburgers only by stagecoach or wagon. Middleburg's decision to exclude the railroad forty years before resulted in its virtual isolation by the end of the century.

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During the 1910s, Middleburg's downward spiral continued. Although several impressive residences were built, the overall population declined to only 851 in 1920. Still, the infrastructure of a community remained. This included a school, two churches, five stores, a blacksmith shop, a saw mill, a cotton gin, a newspaper, and a library. Several houses were added to the residential areas during the first half of the 1910s. By 1915, however, new construction had virtually ceased, and Middleburg's second period of development had ended.

Depression and Recovery

While communities in much of the rest of Florida experienced a frenzied period of expansion and development during the 1920s, Middleburg stagnated. The isolation of the community, due to its outmoded transportation system, caused it to be ignored by the many land speculators that came to the state during the land boom. Middleburg entered a protracted period of economic depression from which it did not recover until World War II.

During the national Great Depression, several projects sponsored by the Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps assisted the local economy. A community center building was constructed in Middleburg by the CCC in the late 1930s. Also, Camp Blanding, an army training installation located approximately ten miles southwest, was constructed in the mid-1930s. Camp Blanding ultimately grew to the fourth largest army facility in the state. The proximity of the camp with its large payroll, benefited the Middleburg economy. Soldiers often visited the community seeking entertainment and many relocated their families there during the war.

At the conclusion of the war, however, most of the families who had moved to Middleburg left. The community was once again largely excluded from the enormous development that took place in Florida during the 1950s and 1960s. During the 1970s and 1980s, however, development has intensified, and the population of Middleburg has dramatically increased. There is no indication that the

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development of Middleburg will slow during the remainder of
the twentieth century.

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Middleburg, Florida, 1835-1915

II. Description:

The historic wood frame buildings of Middleburg embody vernacular designs consistent with the era in which they were constructed. They are primarily located along Main, Palmetto, and Wharf Streets, in the oldest area of the community. The buildings serve primarily residential functions. They are erratically placed with varying setbacks on wooded lots of different sizes. The haphazard placement of the buildings is indicative of the organic growth the community experienced throughout its historical periods of development. It is evident that property sizes and building styles have direct correlations to the conditions of the local economy at the time of their development. Architecturally, the most impressive buildings were constructed during the Steamboat Era when economic prosperity in the community reached its zenith.

According to data compiled during the 1988 survey of historic properties in Middleburg, most residences are Frame Vernacular designs built between 1835 and c1915. Other styles represented are Colonial Revival, Italianate, and Queen Anne. The designs of the historic buildings of Middleburg are consistent with popular trends in architecture during the periods in which they were constructed. The following descriptions of styles are included to provide a context for the historic architectural designs in evidence in Middleburg.

Frame Vernacular

Frame Vernacular is defined as the common wood frame construction techniques of lay or self taught builders. Prior to the Civil War, vernacular designs were local in nature, transmitted by word of mouth or by demonstration, and relying heavily upon native building materials. With the coming of the American Industrial Revolution, mass manufacturing became the pervasive influence over vernacular house design. Popular magazines featuring standardized manufactured building components, house plans, and house decorating tips flooded consumer markets and helped to make building trends universal throughout the country. The railroad also aided the process by providing cheap and efficient transportation for manufactured

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building materials. Ultimately, the individual builder had access to a myriad of finished architectural products from which he could pick and choose to create a design of his own.

Frame Vernacular is the most common architectural style found throughout the United States. Frame Vernacular houses pre-dating 1920 are generally two stories in height, with a balloon frame structural system constructed of pine, and a brick pier foundation. They have regular plans, usually rectangular, but often L-shaped plans were used to maximize cross-ventilation. The interior spaces contain two rooms (hall and parlor), two or four rooms divided by a central hall, or two rooms with a stairway on the side. They have gable or hip roofs with pitches steep enough to accommodate attic space. Horizontal drop siding and weatherboard are the most common exterior wall surface materials. Wood shingles were originally used to cover the roofs, but they have nearly always been replaced by metal or composition shingles in a variety of shapes and colors. The main facade of Frame Vernacular residences is often placed on the gable end, making the height of the facade greater than its width. Porches are also a common feature of the style. They include one and two-story porches. Fenestration is regular, but not always symmetrical. Windows are double-hung sash with multi-pane glazing, and doors contain recessed wood panels. Decoration is sparse. It is generally limited to ornamental woodwork, including a variety of patterned shingles and truss-work in the gables, turned balustrades and porch columns, and porch brackets under the eaves.

Italianate

The Italianate style, along with the Gothic Revival, began in England as part of the Picturesque movement, a reaction to the formal classical ideals in art and architecture that had been fashionable for about two hundred years. The movement emphasized rambling, informal Italian farmhouses, with their characteristic square towers, as models for Italian-style villa architecture. Italianate houses built in the United States generally followed the informal rural models of the Picturesque movement. In America these Old World prototypes were variously modified, adapted, and embellished into an indigenous style with only hints of its Latin origin.



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The first Italianate houses in the United States were built in the late 1830s; the style was popularized by the influential pattern books of Andrew Jackson Downing published in the 1840s and 50s. By the 1860s the style had completely overshadowed its earlier companion, the Gothic Revival. Most surviving examples date from the period 1855-80; earlier examples are rare. The decline of the Italianate style, along with that of the closely related Second Empire style, began with the financial panic of 1873 and the subsequent depression.

Identifying features of the Italianate style include two or three stories (rarely one story); low-pitched roof with widely overhanging eaves having decorative brackets beneath tall narrow windows, commonly arched or curved above; and windows frequently with elaborate crowns, usually of inverted U-shape. Many examples featured a square cupola or tower.

Queen Anne

Queen Anne was a popular residential building style in the United States between 1880 and 1910. The name of the style is misleading. It actually draws most heavily upon earlier Jacobean and Elizabethan precedents, rather than the more restrained Renaissance architecture of the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714). English architect Richard Norman Shaw is most often credited for developing the style in his designs for grand manor houses during the mid-nineteenth century. The first American example is generally considered to be the Watts-Sherman House in Newport, Rhode Island, built in 1874. This half-timbered example, together with a number of contemporary patterned masonry structures, were most closely associated with the manor houses of Shaw and other English architects.

Beginning around 1880 the style was adapted to wood frame structures and was spread throughout the country by pattern books and the first architectural magazine, *The American Architect and Building News*. The expansion of the country's railroad network beginning in the 1870s furthered the diffusion of the style by making pre-cut architectural details available to all sections of the nation. Factory made spindlework, decorative vergeboard, variegated wood shingles, windows, and porch columns could be combined into a myriad of picturesque designs. During the first decade of the twentieth century the elements of Queen Anne style were adapted to the first asymmetrical examples of the Colonial Revival Style. By 1910,

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Colonial Revival had largely supplanted Queen Anne as the dominant high-style of choice for residential structures.

Colonial Revival

Colonial Revival was the dominant style for American residential architecture during the first half of the twentieth century. In Florida, however, the popularity of the style during the era was eclipsed by the Bungalow and Spanish Revival styles. The term "Colonial Revival" refers to a rebirth of interest in the early English and Dutch houses of the Atlantic Seaboard. The Georgian and Adam styles were the backbone of the Revival, which also drew upon Post-medieval English and Dutch Colonial architecture for references.

The Colonial Revival style was introduced at the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876. The centennial of the Declaration of Independence sparked renewed interest in the architecture of the colonial period. Many of the buildings designed for the Exposition were based on historically significant colonial designs. Publicity for the Exposition occurred simultaneously with efforts by several national organizations to preserve Old South Church in Boston and Mount Vernon. At about the same time, a series of articles focusing on eighteenth century American architecture appeared in the *American Architect*, *Harpers*, and the *New York Sketch Book of Architecture*. The publicity the Colonial Revival style received helped to make it popular throughout the country.

III. Significance:

The historic wood frame buildings of Middleburg are significant on the local level for their association with the Antebellum (1835-1860) and Steamboat Era (1865-1915) periods of development of the community. They embody building types and vernacular and high-style architectural designs that are relatively rare in the context of Florida history. The Clark-Chalker House, the oldest building in Middleburg, dates from c1835, when the community became an important military base of operations during the Second Seminole War. There is some evidence to suggest that this structure served as headquarters for Generals Winfield Scott and Thomas Jesup. Another building in this property type, the United Methodist Church, was

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constructed in 1847 during the first period of concerted development in the settlement.

Other historic wood frame buildings date from the period of Middleburg's development as a major steamboat port on the St. Johns River system. Located on Black Creek, a tributary of the St. Johns, Middleburg became an entrepot for surrounding agricultural areas. The increased wealth that entered the community is evidenced by the appearance of more elaborate building forms. Buildings constructed during this period exhibit vernacular adaptations of contemporary high-style architectural designs. Among the most prominent of these buildings are the Bardin House, built in the Italianate style, and the Frosard Buddington House, designed using Queen Anne style precedents.

IV. Registration Requirements:

For wood frame buildings to be eligible for nomination under this cover, they must have been constructed during one of the context periods described in Section E. In addition they must meet at least one of the following criteria:

1) **Individual buildings that are exceptional examples of a style or type of architecture:** Buildings nominated under this area of significance must retain their original appearance to a high degree. A building that has been altered by significant additions, the application of materials inconsistent with the historic period in which they were constructed, or the removal of significant architectural details is excluded from eligibility for nomination under this criterion.

2) **Individual buildings with historic associations with persons or events significant on the local level:** Integrity requirements for buildings with important historic associations should be less stringent than for those nominated for their architectural significance alone. Buildings, however, that have been radically altered to the point where they exhibit little of their original design are excluded from nomination under this criterion.

3) **Groups of buildings of a similar design or that have associations with important events within the periods of significance:** Districts nominated under this criterion should

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Section number F Page 6 Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida

possess a concentration of relatively well preserved resources.
Contributing buildings must meet the basic criteria for
integrity outlined in National Register of Historic Places
guidelines.

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Continuation SheetSection number G Page 1 Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida**Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods**

A comprehensive survey of Middleburg was undertaken in 1988. A comprehensive survey is a systematic, detailed examination of historic properties within a defined geographic area. The Middleburg survey was undertaken to determine the exact nature, extent, and character of historic properties. Using the definition of the National Park Service, historic properties are buildings, structures, objects, sites, or districts significant in national, state, or local history or pre-history.

The methodology used when conducting historic property surveys consists of a series of progressive steps. In the case of Middleburg, the initial level consisted of research in existing historical literature to determine the periods, activities, and personalities significant to the development of the community and to identify previously recorded historic buildings, other standing structures, and historic period archaeological sites. During this phase, because there were insufficient funds to adequately survey archaeological sites, it was determined that only buildings constructed before 1940 would be considered for listing on the final inventory of sites surveyed. The intermediate level included field survey to locate or confirm the location of extant properties, evaluation of preliminary research and field survey, recording site data, and compilation of a basic inventory. The third level consisted of an analysis of properties by theme and period of significance, evaluation of the significance and concentration of the historic buildings, and recommendations for National Register nominations and locally recognized landmarks.

The format for recording survey data was the Florida Master Site File form for standing structures. (The Florida Master Site File is the state's inventory of historic resources.) Forms were set up on a D-Base III data processing program. The forms were updated as additional information was generated and then were printed out in hard copy. Analysis of the data, particularly the results of the field survey, was facilitated by the D-Base program. Information about historic properties was recorded on a computer disk filing system, and an inventory of those evaluated as being significant to the history of Middleburg was provided in a final report.

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In accordance with the survey criteria, 45 buildings were recorded during the course of the project. The survey team field inspected each building, photographed it and recorded its location on a base map or United States Geological Survey map. The team noted its condition, integrity, and any threats to it. After the completion of field work, the team recorded the aforementioned information along with the legal description of each property and its address.

The development of a historical context for evaluating properties in Middleburg constituted a major portion of the survey. The consultant's team of historians conducted a preliminary literature search, focusing on the chronological development of the community and emphasizing important events, individuals, and significant themes associated with the development. They conducted research at the Clay County Courthouse, Green Cove Springs; the St. Augustine Historical Society Library, St. Augustine; the State Library of Florida and the Library of the Bureau of Historic Preservation, both in Tallahassee; and the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History, University of Florida, Gainesville. The research information formed the basis for the preliminary and final historical reports and the historical information included on the Florida Master Site File forms.

Based on the visual reconnaissance, information gleaned from cartographic sources, newspapers, and other primary source materials, and discussions with informants, the survey team established a range date of construction for all standing structures, and determined an exact year for some. They included the date of construction on the Master Site File form in the appropriate place, entering either the range date or the exact date.

After the architectural and historical research was completed, a map showing concentrations of historic buildings was prepared to aid in identifying areas where historic districts might be created. Using computer generated data, a detailed analysis of building types, materials, and alterations was made to determine the integrity of the resources. The results of this analysis, along with all information gathered in the other stages of the survey, were incorporated into a



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final report, the individual Master Site File forms, and the
National Register nominations.

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Section number H Page 1 Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida

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National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

JAN 23 1990

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name George A. Chalker House other names/site number Edinfield House

2. Location

street & number 2160 Wharf Street city, town Middleburg state Florida code FL county Clay code 019 zip code 32068

3. Classification

Table with 3 columns: Ownership of Property, Category of Property, and Number of Resources within Property. Includes checkboxes for private/public ownership and building/site/structure/object categories.

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic Buildings of Middleburg, Florida

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of certifying official Florida State Historic Preservation Officer State or Federal agency and bureau Date 1/18/90

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet. Signature of commenting or other official Date State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register.
determined eligible for the National Register.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other. (explain:)

Entered in the National Register Mark J. Baker 9 March 1990

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:

Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood: Drop Siding

Novelty Siding

roof Metal: tin

other n/a

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

4

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Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 George A. Chalker House**SUMMARY:**

The George A. Chalker House is a two-story wood frame residential building located at 2160 Wharf Street, in Middleburg, Florida. Constructed about 1897, the house originally featured a Folk Victorian design. It was remodeled in the early twentieth century to reflect the popular contemporary Colonial Revival Style. Significant architectural details include its low-pitched hip roof with boxed eaves, gable dormers, flat roofed porch with crowning balustrade, and central double door entrance with broken pediment and pilaster surrounds.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

The George A. Chalker House sits on a large, slightly elevated lot on the west side of Wharf Street. The approximately one acre lot is dotted with shrubbery, palms, and long-leaf pine trees. A thick hedge defines the property line which fronts on Wharf Street. At the time of its 1897 construction, the lot around the house was more thickly wooded. There was a large live oak tree in the center of the yard, surrounded by palm and citrus trees. A brick retaining wall crowned by a picket fence encircled the property.

The building was markedly different in its original form (photo 1). The approximately ninety by forty foot home, was designed in the Folk Victorian Style. It had a balloon frame construction of heart pine, and the walls were finished in hand-planed cypress. There was no indoor plumbing. The building featured a side gable with intricate spindle and vergeboard work adorning the gable ends. A rear shed roof extension projected from the main roof. Other significant architectural features included a two story, monumental, hip roofed, porch across the main facade, and a polygonal bay extension on the south elevation. The building was clad with drop, or novelty siding, and the windows were double-hung sash with 2/2 lights. The main entrance and second story balcony doors had three panels and round-arched fixed glass windows. The foundation was brick piers.

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Section number 7 Page 2 George A. Chalker House

Around 1910, the building was remodeled to reflect the Colonial Revival Style, which was popular at that time (photos 2-5). The most significant change was the removal of the gabled roof in favor of a hipped roof with a central gable dormer. The rear extension was built up to a full two stories, and the tiered front porch was removed. The front porch was replaced with a flat roofed, monumental, two story porch with a crowning balcony balustrade, and a broken pediment and pilaster surrounds were added to the main entrance.

The major alteration that occurred outside of the period of historical significance was the 1957 installation of indoor plumbing and a modern electrical system. It was probably also during this renovation that the wooden porch floor was removed and the brick stoop to the front entrance was added.

The interior of the building retains many features that were original to the structure. The living room is dominated by an arched alcove that is formed by the exterior polygonal bay extension (photo 6). Other significant original interior features include the main stairway, with a turned baluster balustrade and hand-hewn newel post (photo 7), and fireplaces with mahogany mantles and surrounds.

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8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1897-c1910

Significant Dates

1897
c1910

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown/Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 George A. Chalker House**SUMMARY**

The George A. Chalker House is one of the few and best preserved extant buildings that date from the Steamboat Era of development in Middleburg (see the Middleburg multiple property group cover, Section E). The building was constructed c1897, when Middleburg was still important as a steamboat port on the St. Johns River system, and remodeled c1910. The building possesses significance under Criterion C as a good example of Colonial Revival architecture. It is consistent with the criteria established in the associated property type, Wood Frame Buildings of Middleburg (see the Middleburg multiple property group cover, Section F).

Historic Significance:

The George A. Chalker House is one of only a few extant structures dating from the Steamboat Era of development in Middleburg, 1865-1915. George Chalker was the first of two sons born to Albert S. and Martha Anne Chalker. The elder Chalkers were among the pioneering settlers of Middleburg. Albert Chalker became one of the most prominent businessmen in the community when he established a profitable ferry service on the Black Creek and, later, built a general store that thrived during the prosperous years at the end of the nineteenth century.

Upon his father's death in 1886, George took over the general store. He later formed the George A. Chalker Company, a real estate and development concern, and established a saw mill on the banks of the Black Creek. Through his company, George was responsible for the development of several properties in Middleburg, including the two-story Stewart House located at 3895 Main Street.

In January 1897, George purchased the lot upon which he constructed his house from the Florida National Bank. He paid one hundred dollars for it. An adjoining lot to the rear of the first one was purchased the following April. Together, these lots constitute the present configuration of the property. The original style of the house was Folk Victorian, featuring decorative spindlework and vergeboard in the gable ends, and a tiered front end porch. About 1910, however, the building was remodeled to the then popular contemporary

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Section number 8 Page 2 George A. Chalker House

Colonial Revival style. The building remained in the Chalker family until it was sold to Elmer R. Edinfield in 1969.

Architectural Significance:

The George A. Chalker House is architecturally significant in Middleburg as the only example of Colonial Revival architecture in the community surviving from the district's historic period of significance. The building's conversion from a simple Folk Victorian structure to its present high-style design reflects a desire by its owner to conform to national stylistic trends. Features that identify the building as a good example of Colonial Revival architecture include its hip roof with boxed eaves, central gable dormer, symmetrical facade, central double doorway with broken pediment and pilaster surrounds, and five bay end porch crowned with a turned baluster balustrade.

9. Major Bibliographical References

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of property Approximately 1 acre

UTM References

A

1	7
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4	1	7	0	7	10
---	---	---	---	---	----

3	3	2	6	4	0	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	----

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

All that property contained in parcel number 21353 in Township 5 South, Range 24 East, Section 12.37 S $\frac{1}{2}$ in the community of Middleburg, Clay County, Florida.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the original property purchased by George A. Chalker as two lots in January and April 1897. The property has retained the configuration historically associated with the building.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen A. Olausen/Barbara E. Mattick, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date January 1990

street & number R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-025



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Photographs 1 George A. Chalker House
Section number _____ Page _____

INVENTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHS

1. George A. Chalker House, 2160 Wharf Street
2. Middleburg, Clay County, Florida
3. Unknown
4. c1900
5. Historic Property Associates
6. Historic photograph of the original appearance of the Chalker House
7. 1 of 7

1. George A. Chalker House, 2160 Wharf Street
2. Middleburg, Clay County, Florida
3. Candy Devore
4. July 1989
5. Historic Property Associates
6. View of E (main) facade, facing W
7. 2 of 7

Items 1-5 are the same as for Photograph No. 2 for the remaining photographs.

6. View of N elevation, facing S
7. 3 of 7

6. View of S elevation, facing N
7. 4 of 7

6. View of rear W elevation with shed roof room addition
7. 5 of 7

6. Interior, living room with arched octagonal alcove
7. 6 of 7

6. Interior, stairway with turned balusters and hand-hewn newel post
7. 7 of 7



HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF
MIDDLEBURG, FLORIDA

MIDDLEBURG MULTIPLE
PROPERTY GROUP

June 1, 1989

LEGEND

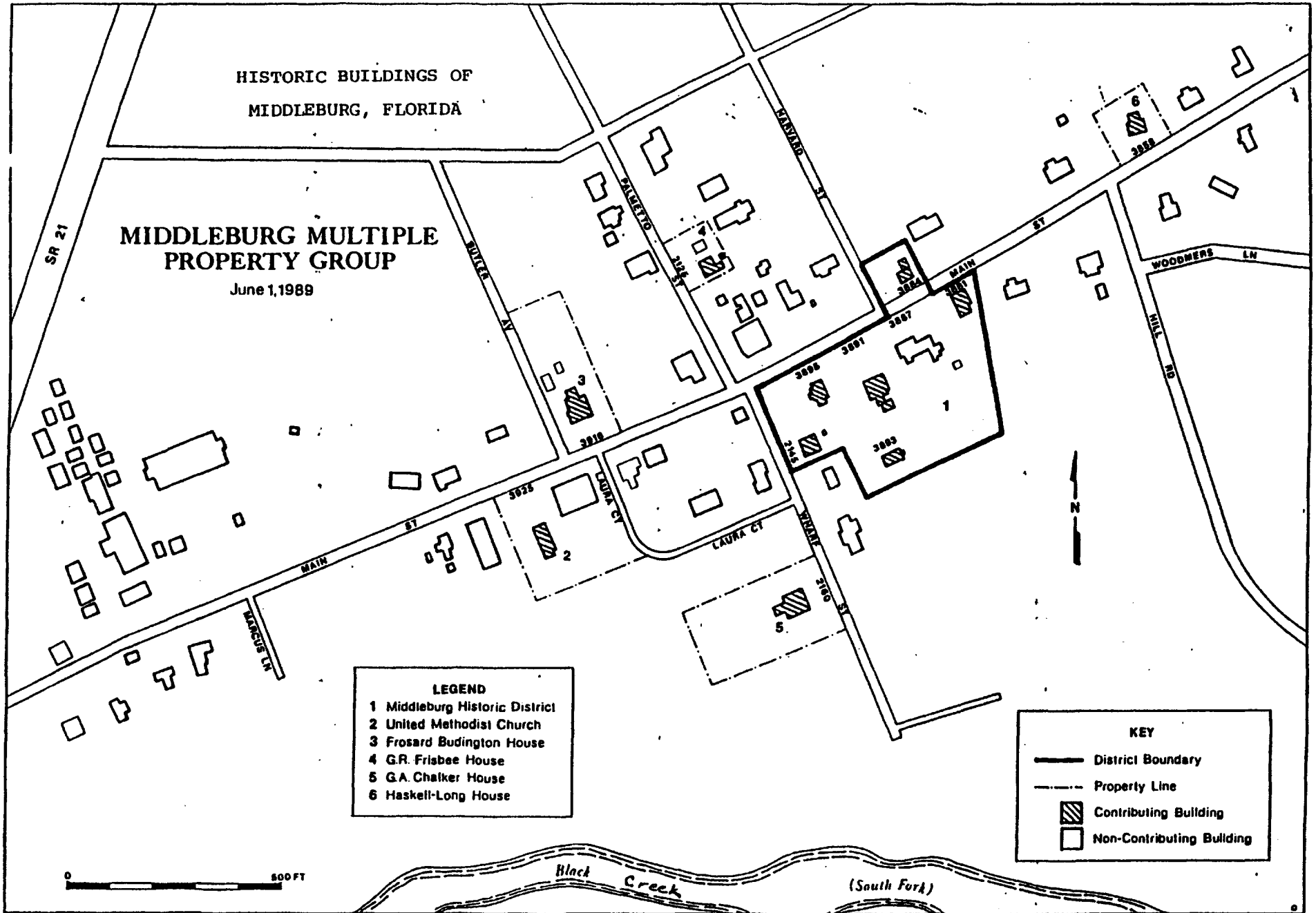
- 1 Middleburg Historic District
- 2 United Methodist Church
- 3 Frosard Budington House
- 4 G.R. Frisbee House
- 5 G.A. Chalker House
- 6 Haskell-Long House

KEY

- District Boundary
- - - Property Line
- ▨ Contributing Building
- Non-Contributing Building

0 500 FT

Black Creek
(South Fork)



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

WARNING

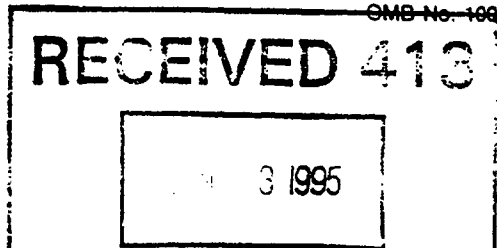
THE LOCATION OF THIS PROPERTY IS RESTRICTED INFORMATION. THIS DOCUMENTATION MAY BE REPRODUCED ONLY WITH THE CHIEF OF REGISTRATION'S PERMISSION.

- * WHEN PHOTOCOPYING OR OTHERWISE REPRODUCING THIS DOCUMENT, BE CERTAIN TO COVER ALL LOCATION INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE ADDRESS BLOCKS, VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION, UTM COORDINATES, MAPS OR ANY SECTIONS IN THE TEXT DESCRIBING LOCATION.

Property Name Peralta, Sarah, Archeological Site
State LOUISIANA
County East Baton Rouge
Reference Number 95000134

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on the back of this form. Complete each item by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Sarah Peralta Archaeological Site

other names/site number 16 EBR 67

2. Location

street & number [redacted] not for publication

city or town Baton Rouge vicinity

state Louisiana code LA county East Baton Rouge code 033 zip code 70810

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 1/11/95
Signature of certifying official/Title W. Edwin Martin, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Dept of Culture, Recreation & Tourism Date
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

[Signature]

3-2-95



Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with columns: Contributing, Noncontributing, buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total. Values: 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0.

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/camp

VACANT/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other

Narrative Description

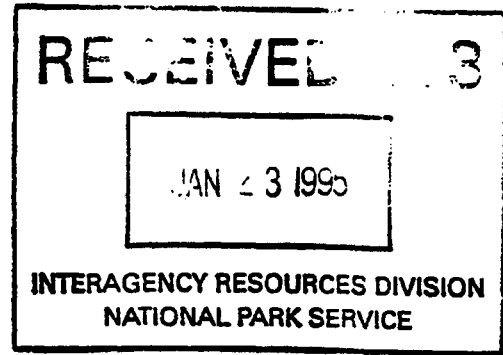
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Section number 7 Page 1



Narrative Description

The Sarah Peralta site consists of an organically stained earth midden located on colluvial deposits at the base of the Pleistocene Prairie terrace, along the western edge of a small swamp- and marsh-filled gully that drains the terrace and directs water flow into the nearby Mississippi River floodplain. It was discovered in the 1980s when a borrow pit was excavated in roughly the center of the site to obtain fill material for the construction of access roads that were to lead to a housing development atop the terrace. These roads never were completed, and today are represented only by slightly elevated trails that cross the site area. Except for these trails, the site area is heavily overgrown in scrub vegetation and trees. Although the borrow pit and trails have damaged part of the site, over three-quarters of the site's midden still is present and is intact.

Based on a series of systematic auger borings and two 1-by-1-m square test units, it is estimated that the site covers an area that measures, at its widest points, approximately 140 m north-south by 120 m east-west. Midden is exposed at or near the ground surface at the base of the Pleistocene terrace, but dips downward towards the east where it is covered by about 20 to 30 cm of either colluvium or alluvium (see Attachments 2 and 3). Beneath the midden is another colluvial deposit that had eroded off the terrace prior to site occupation. The midden itself consists of two distinguishable deposits, one of which covers all of the site area, while the other occurs only in the northern portion of the site. The more extensive midden, also referred to as the basal midden on Attachment 2, consists of a black (10YR 2/1) clay to silty clay deposit that is about 30 cm thick in the north part of the site, as revealed in the test unit at N20W09 (see Attachment 4). It is about 20 to 30 cm thick in the central part of the site, as indicated by the other test unit at S39W08 (see Attachment 5). The more restricted midden deposit, identified as the upper midden on Attachment 2, consists of a brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay that averages about 15 to 20 cm thick in the area of Test Unit N20W09 (see Attachment 4).

Both test units produced several thousand sherds ($n=10,703$) of aboriginal ceramics predominantly related to the Tchulfuncte culture of the Tchula period (ca. 500 B.C. to 1 B.C.). Less than 60 sherds were from post-Tchula period occupations. Included in these were ceramics indicative of the early Marksville (ca. A.D. 1 to A.D. 200) and late Coles Creek (ca. A.D. 1000 to A.D. 1200) periods. Further analysis of the ceramics indicated that the Tchula period material could be subdivided into early (ca. 500 to 300 B.C.) and late (ca. 150 to 1 B.C.) occupations. The earlier material appeared to be related to the more extensive, basal midden, while the later Tchula period items generally were confined to the more restricted upper midden or the colluvial layer capping the two midden deposits. Although the early Tchula period ceramics could not be equated to a specific phase, the late Tchula ceramics were similar to Beau Mire phase material (Weinstein and Rivet 1978), while the early Marksville and late Coles Creek remains probably are representative of the Smithfield (Toth 1988) and St. Gabriel (Brown 1985; Woodiel 1980, 1993) phases. Interestingly, the occupations recognized by the ceramics at the Sarah Peralta site suggest both differences and similarities to the occupations uncovered at the nearby Lee site (NR). That locale is situated opposite the Sarah Peralta site, at the base of the Pleistocene terrace on the east side of the same gully. The Lee site was tested in 1984-85, and found to consist of a thin, organically stained earth midden similar to that at Sarah Peralta (Weinstein 1985). The Lee site contained a middle Tchula period occupation (ca. 300 to 150 B.C.) that temporally fell between the early and late Tchula period occupations at Sarah Peralta. A very strong occupation of the Smithfield phase, plus a minor component of the St. Gabriel phase also were present at the Lee site.

CONTINUED

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Section number 7 Page 2

A moderate amount of vertebrate faunal remains (n=882) was recovered from the two test units, with most (n=826) coming from the basal midden (early Tchula period component) in the unit at N20W09. Mammals dominated the assemblage, led by white-tailed deer, and followed by an unidentified canid (dog or wolf) and rabbits. Fish made up only about 10% of the assemblage, and included bowfin, gar, and freshwater drum. Reptile, bird, and amphibian remains were represented by only a few elements each. Overall, the vertebrate assemblage was quite different from that uncovered at the nearby Lee site (Kelley 1985). There, fish represented the most common class recovered (roughly 90% of the vertebrate assemblage). It is possible that these data reflect a change in subsistence strategies between the early and late Tchula periods. On the other hand, they may simply reflect seasonal differences between the two occupations.

Pollen analysis of soil samples removed from the midden deposits in the two test units indicated that the environment at the time of occupation during the Tchula period was not significantly different than today. Although pollen preservation was not particularly good, it was found that hickory and/or pecan pollen was represented by the largest number of grains (n=13), followed by pine (n=6), grasses (n=5), grape (n=3), and sedges (n=2). Elm, tupelo gum, sweetgum, sunflower or ragweed, and two types of ferns were represented by one grain each. No evidence of cultigens or extensive horticultural clearing could be found, although evidence for minor clearings, probably around shelters and along foot paths, is present. Once again, these data are similar to those uncovered at the Lee site (Wiseman 1985).

Finally, a single radiocarbon date was obtained on soil humates recovered from the upper midden deposit in Test Unit N20W09. The sample yielded a $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ -corrected age of 2050 ± 60 B.P.: 100 B.C. (Beta-73206). When this age is calibrated to a dendrochronological scale, using the CALIB 2.0 computer program of Stuiver and Pearson (1986), then an age range of between 2109 and 1941 B.P., with an intercept at 2041 B.P., is obtained for the one-sigma standard deviation. This converts to a date range of between 160 B.C. and A.D. 9, with the intercept at 92 B.C. This is an excellent late Tchula period date, and represents the first absolute date obtained on a component of the Beau Mire phase.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
XD Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations N/A

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

archaeology/prehistoric

Period of Significance

500 B.C. - A. D. 1200

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Tchefuncte

Marksville

Coles Creek

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Section number 8 Page 1

Narrative Statement of Significance

Tchefuncte sites in Louisiana have been recorded largely within the southern portion of the state (see Smith et al. 1983). Research questions regarding Tchefuncte inland hamlet/village sites may be addressed through further archaeological investigations at the Sarah Peralta site. Therefore, this site, which is of regional significance, will contribute to our overall understanding of the Tchefuncte culture.

That portion of the Sarah Peralta site not disturbed by borrow pit excavation and trail construction (over three-quarters of the site area) contains an intact, well-preserved earth midden that, based on very limited testing, has provided important data primarily related to early (ca. 500 to 300 B.C.) and late (ca. 150 to 1 B.C.) Tchula period occupations of the Tchefuncte culture. Such data included a wealth of Tchefuncte ceramics, many of which can be tied to the Beau Mire phase of the late Tchula period, plus a moderate quantity of vertebrate faunal remains and limited pollen grains. A radiocarbon date of between 160 B.C. and A.D. 9, with a single intercept at 92 B.C. also was obtained on the Beau Mire component at the site. With more extensive investigations, it is likely that future research can provide a significantly greater amount of data upon which to base temporal and functional interpretations. Limited data may also be obtained on the lesser early Marksville and late Coles Creek period occupations present at the site.

More specifically, recovery of a large assemblage of well-dated Tchefuncte ceramics will allow for the fine-scale division of the Tchula period. As noted, the Sarah Peralta site is known to contain early and late Tchula period components, while the nearby Lee site contains a middle Tchula period occupation. Together these two sites contain occupations that spanned much, if not all, of the Tchula period. Careful study of a large assemblage of ceramics, coupled with a series of absolute dates (run either on humates or charcoal if the latter is recovered), should provide finer chronological placement of specific ceramic types and varieties than is currently possible. This, in turn, will allow for more-detailed studies concerning adaptation and resource utilization by Tchefuncte peoples.

As with the Lee site, the Sarah Peralta site also offers an opportunity to gather information regarding inland Tchefuncte occupations. Until recently, most research conducted on Tchefuncte sites in southeast Louisiana has been directed at coastal shell middens (Byrd 1974, 1976; deFrance 1983; Ford and Quimby 1945; Shenkel 1980). Although bone preservation was not particularly good in the test unit at S39W08 and the upper midden in the test unit at N20W09, the basal midden in the latter unit did contain a reasonable amount of vertebrate remains that allowed for some interpretations regarding the range of species being exploited. It is likely that additional excavations will provide a greater sample of vertebrate remains attributable to the early Tchula period, and that these remains can be used to study the differences between inland and coastal Tchefuncte sites. These remains also could be used to examine changes, if any, in exploitation patterns between the preceding Poverty Point period and the early Tchula period.

It also is worth reiterating the fact that both the Sarah Peralta and Lee sites are located below the Pleistocene terrace, in a relatively low, seemingly unattractive, floodprone environment. Other Tchula and early Marksville sites occur in similar settings (Toth 1988; Weinstein and Rivet 1978), while sites representing later periods generally occur atop the terrace escarpments. Why would the Tchula and early Marksville people occupy such environments when higher, terrace-edge locations were situated in the immediate vicinity? Hopefully, additional information derived from research at Sarah Peralta will help determine whether these people were exploiting different environments than succeeding people, and, thus, needed to be stationed beneath the terrace, or if the site locations were not as low and wet 2,000 to 2,500 years ago as they are today.

The Sarah Peralta site can also provide data needed to address several of the research topics listed in *Louisiana's Comprehensive Archaeological Plan* (Smith et al. 1983:170) that are related to the Tchefuncte culture:

CONTINUED



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 8 Page 2

1. *Define the range of dates for inland Tchefuncte sites.*
2. *Identify and clarify the phases of the Tchefuncte culture.*
3. *Examine the distribution of Tchefuncte sites.*
4. *Identify artifact assemblage for Tchefuncte culture. Examine types and sources of raw materials. Reveal any changes in technology.*
5. *Answer questions pertaining to subsistence strategies. How extensively was horticulture practiced?*
6. *Examine trade relationships during Tchefuncte times.*
7. *Answer questions pertaining to the Tchefuncte settlement system. What types of sites exist in Tchefuncte culture? What types of structures were used? Do sites occur in any particular topographic setting? How sedentary were Tchefuncte peoples? What intra- and inter-site variability exists? How do inland sites differ from coastal middens?*
8. *Answer questions pertaining to social organization. What type of social organization existed? What role did religion and ceremonialism play?*
9. *More precisely identify [the] ceramic assemblage of Tchefuncte peoples.*

Overall, the Sarah Peralta site can answer many questions related to both early and late Tchula period occupations, specifically regarding material cultural remains and resource exploitation. When coupled with data on the middle Tchula period occupation at the Lee site, then a clearer understanding of Tchefuncte lifeways can be obtained.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Section number 9 Page 1

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-
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Kelley, David B.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA

Section number 9 Page 2

Weinstein, Richard A.

1985 *Archaeological Investigations at the Lee Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana.* Coastal Environments, Inc. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.

Weinstein, Richard A., and Philip G. Rivet

1978 *Beau Mire: A Late Tchula Period Site of the Tchefuncte Culture, Ascension Parish, Louisiana.* Anthropological Report No. 1. Louisiana Archaeological Survey and Antiquities Commission, Baton Rouge.

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1985 Pollen Analysis of the Lee Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. In *Archaeological Investigations at the Lee Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana*, by Richard A. Weinstein, App. B. Coastal Environments, Inc. Submitted to Division of Archaeology, Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Baton Rouge.

Woodiel, Deborah K.

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Sarah Peralta Archaeological Site
Name of Property

East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property 2.8 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard A. Weinstein

organization Coastal Enrironments, Inc. date September 1994

street & number 1260 Main St. telephone 504-383-7451

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70802

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name R. Robert Rackley

street & number 14332 Highland Road telephone 504-766-9828 (office)
751-4917 (home)

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70810

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Sarah Peralta Site, East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description

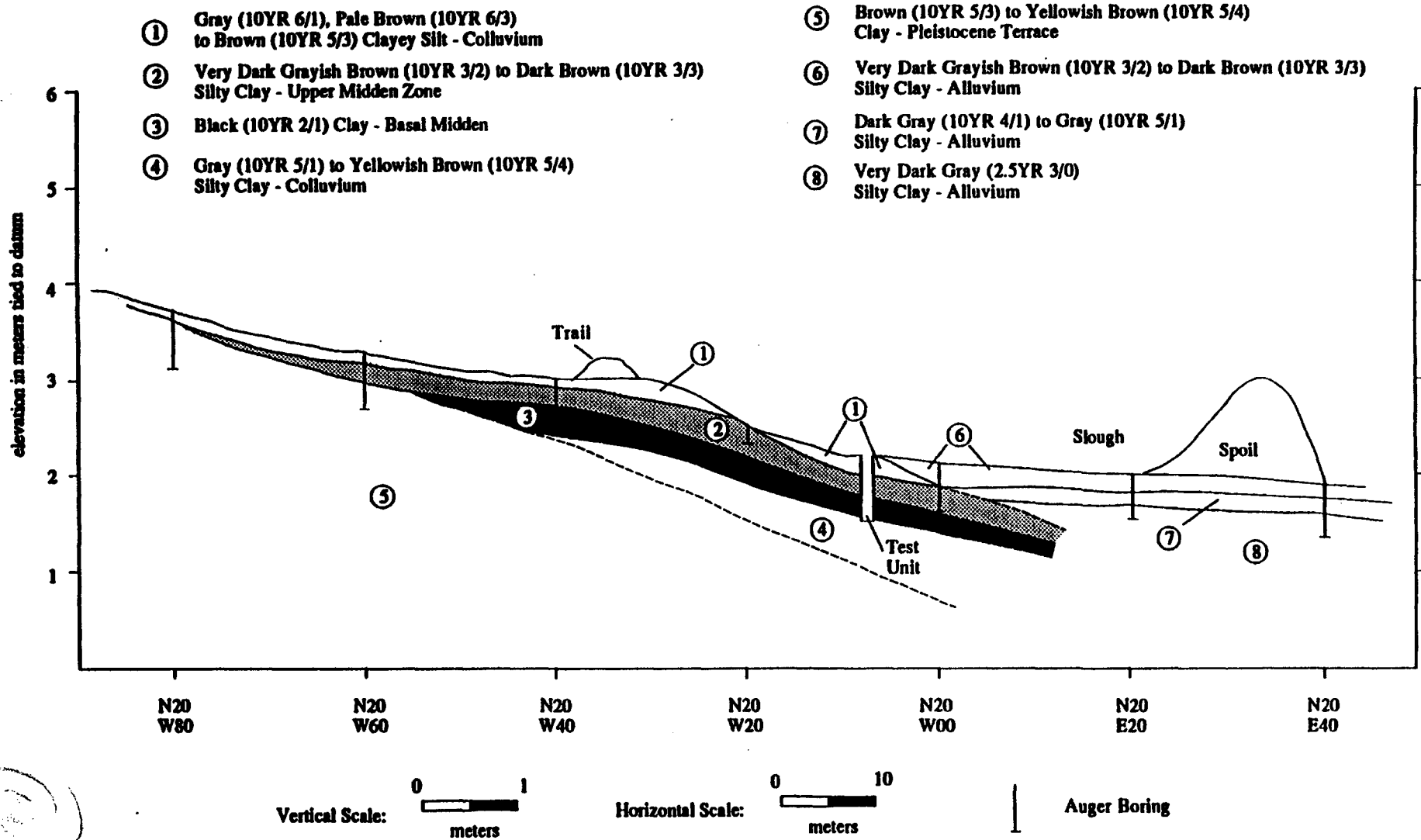
The nominated property is located in [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana. This location is shown on the accompanying USGS quadrangle map, while the extent of the site is illustrated by the approximate extent of midden shown on Attachment 1. The UTM coordinates are at roughly the center of the site, at about the [REDACTED] point on the site grid [REDACTED].

Boundary Justification

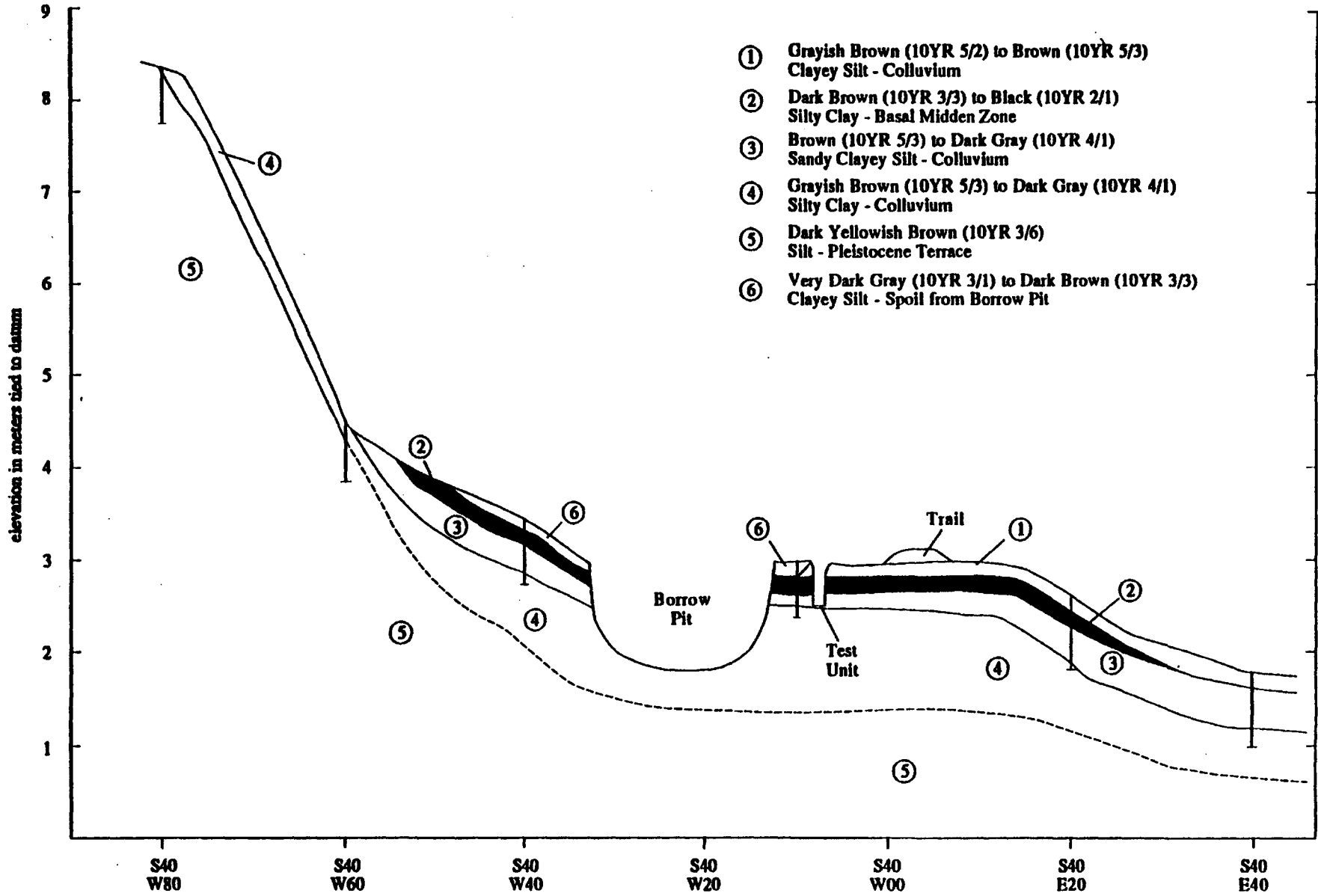
The extent of midden [REDACTED] was determined through a program of systematic auger borings. The presence of cultural remains (primarily aboriginal ceramics) and/or organically stained soil was used to determine midden extent.

Attachment 2

Sarah Peralta Site
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA



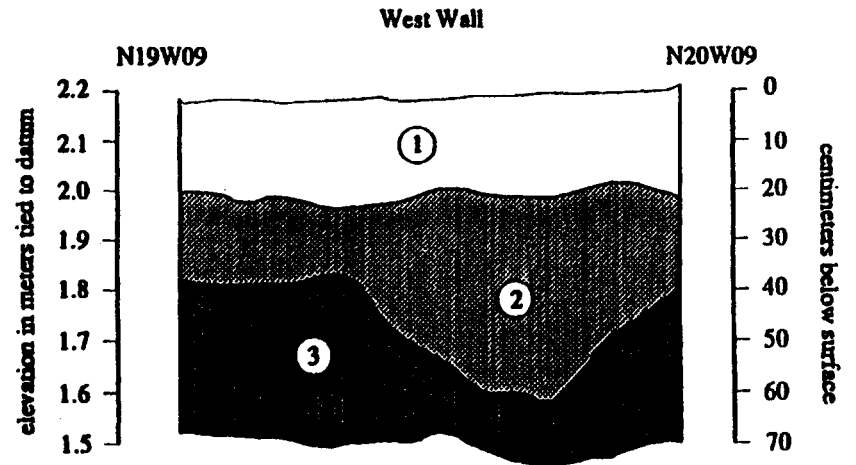
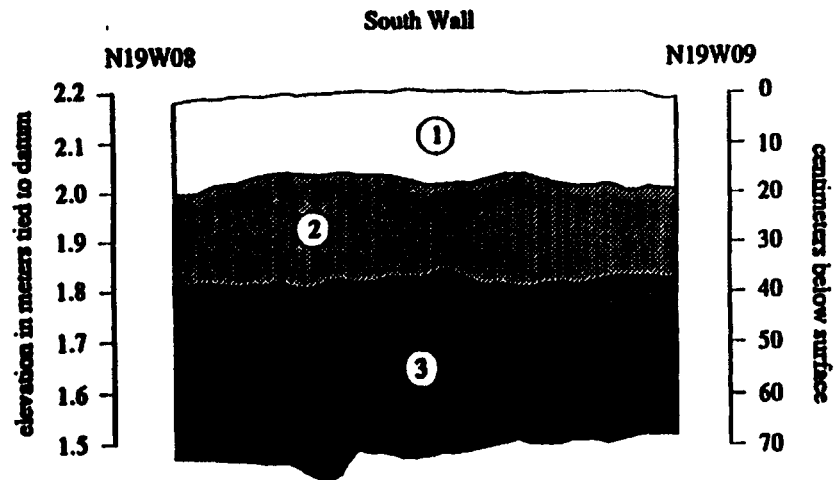
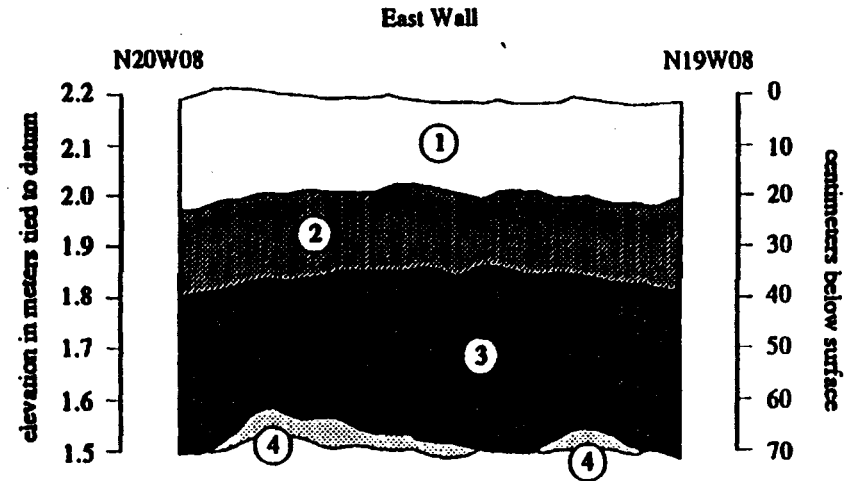
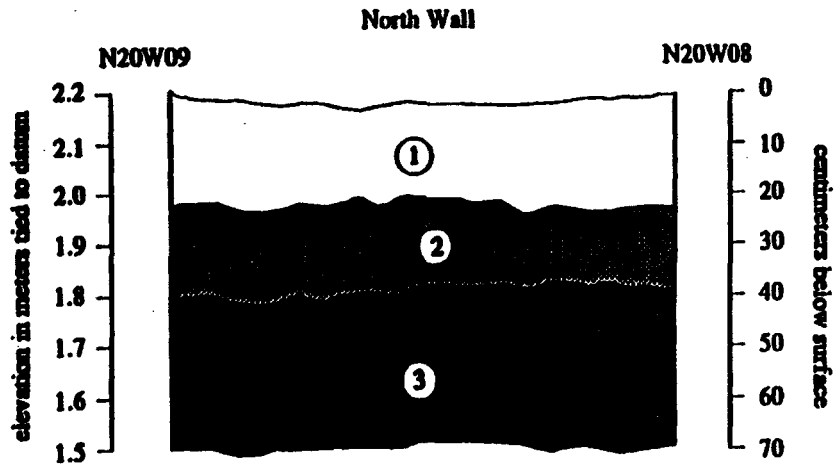
Sarah Peralta Site
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA



Vertical Scale: 0 1
meters

Horizontal Scale: 0 10
meters

Auger Boring



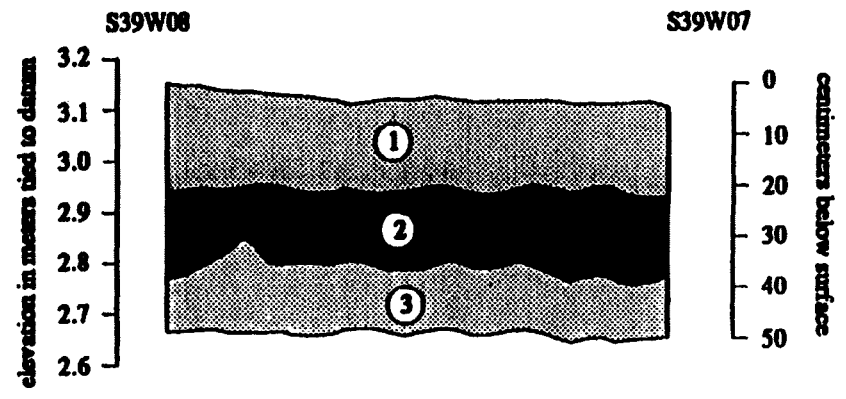
- ① Gray (10YR 6/1)
Clayey Silt - Colluvium
- ② Very Dark Grayish Brown (10YR 3/2)
Silty Clay - Upper Midden

- ③ Black (10YR 2/1)
Clay - Basal Midden
- ④ Gray (10YR 5/1) to
Yellowish Brown (10YR 5/4)
Silty Clay - Colluvium

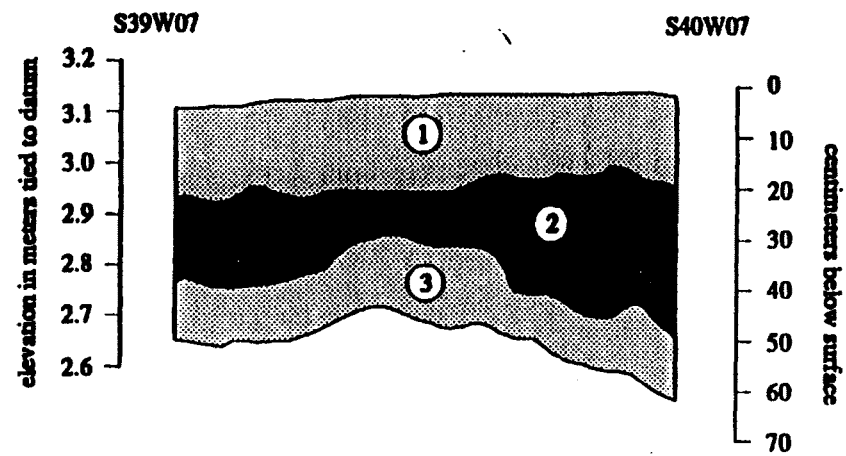


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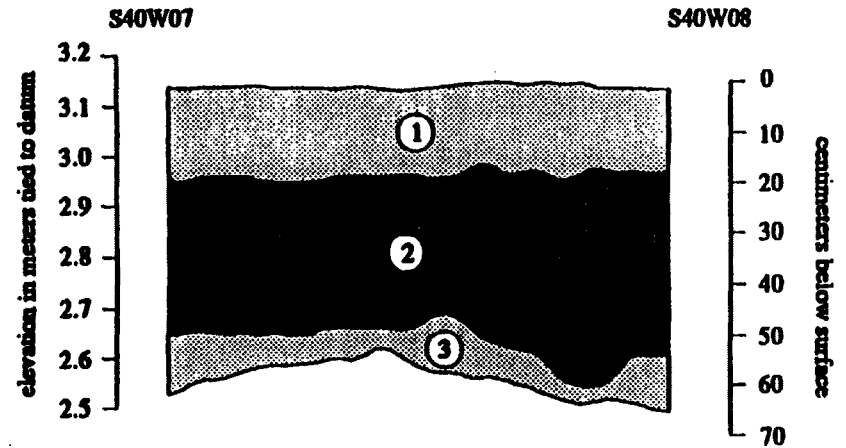
North Wall



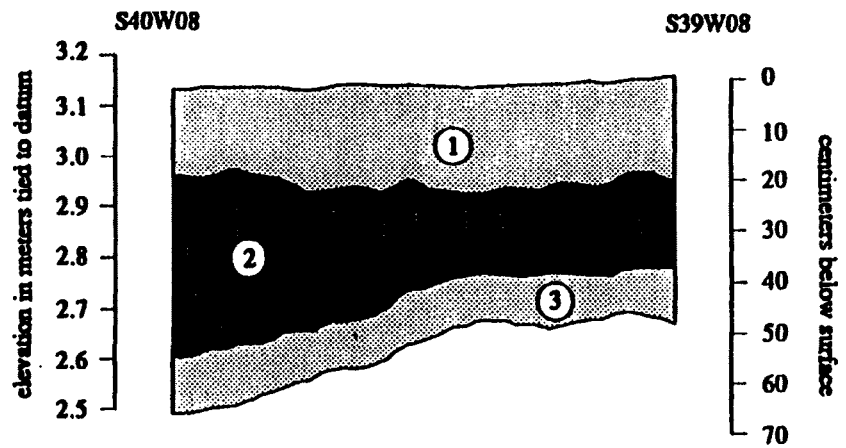
East Wall



South Wall



West Wall



- ① Brown (10YR 5/3)
Clayey Silt - Colluvium
- ② Black (10YR 2/1)
Silty Clay - Basal Midden

- ③ Brown (10YR 5/3) to
Yellowish Brown (10YR 5/6)
Sandy Silt - Colluvium



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

MAR 07 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fort Kent Railroad Station
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number Corner Main & Market Streets N/A not for publication
city, town Fort Kent N/A vicinity
state Maine code ME county Aroostook code 003 zip code 04743

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official *Ernest J. Fitzsimons* Date 3/1/89
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Betty L. Savage 4-21-89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

(73)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation/Rail-Related

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Recreation & Culture/Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: B & ARR Station Type

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Wood/Weatherboard

roof Asbestos

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Fort Kent Railroad Station is a one-story seven-bay frame building which is one room deep. Covered in clapboards, the station's gable-on-hip roof has wide over-hanging eaves supported on each corner by two brackets. The building rests on a concrete foundation.

Facing east, the station's principal elevation has a projecting bay south of center. It features a pair of two-over-two windows and a four pane transom on the primary wall and a one-over-one window on each side. This bay is flanked by a door with a three pane transom and one six-over-six double-hung sash window. The south end of this elevation has two four panel baggage doors, above which is a five pane transom. Plain brackets with bevelled ends support the eaves and there is one interior flue rising above the roof ridge.

The overall composition of the rear elevation is similar to the front elevation. The projecting bay has one nine-over-six window and is flanked by paired four-over-four windows. Two other four-over-four windows on the south end complete this elevation.

The south endwall has two centrally grouped four-over-four windows and is punctuated by a three pane fixed window in the gable peak. The south end wall has only one four-over-four window in addition to its fixed window in the gable peak.

Inside, the south end of the building once served as the freight room. The other three rooms were probably used as an office waiting room and ticket room, and they feature plain horizontal sheathing.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Transportation
Architecture

Period of Significance

1902 - 1939

Significant Dates

1902

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Fort Kent's former railroad station is the most significant and intact building associated with the community's turn-of-the-century economic development in its position at the northern terminus of the Fish River Railroad and later the Fish River Branch of the Bangor and Aroostook Railway. Opened on December 15, 1902, the station served in its original capacity until 1979 when it was retired. Architecturally, the building is similar to other railroad stations built by the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad which employ the gable on hip form with minor variations. It meets National Register criteria A and C.

Penetrating the northern Maine wilderness, the Fish River Branch of the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad provided an important transportation link for Fort Kent's lumber and agricultural industries. In addition, this rail line made fishing and hunting resorts accessible to Maine sportsmen. The construction of the Fort Kent station probably coincided with the rail's construction during 1901 and 1902. When the line opened on December 15, 1902, it was operated by the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, which had a 999 year lease from the Fish River Railroad. Within the year the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad had acquired the line and a 67 year business relationship began between the railroad and Fort Kent.

Incorporated in 1869 with a population of about 1,000 persons, Fort Kent's turn-of-the-century growth is demonstrated by the fact that between 1900 and 1910 the population grew from 2,528 to 3,710. The railroad's arrival in Fort Kent was the major reason for its growth as a potato producing center and shipping point for lumber products, a position which it maintained through the first half of the twentieth century. Following the decline in the number of potato loadings during the 1970s, the Fort Kent Station was retired in 1979. In 1980, it was donated to the Fort Kent Historical Society, whose plans include converting the station into a museum.

See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

The construction of relatively small, modest railway stations accompanied the extension of the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. One Bangor and Aroostook depot form employed the gable on hip roof with wide, overhanging eaves. Like the Fort Kent Station, other stations on the Bangor and Aroostook line (the Milo, Millinocket, Island Falls, and Bridgewater Stations most closely resembled the Fort Kent Station) made use of the gable on hip form with occasional variations. Unfortunately, few of these stations have survived with the level of integrity found on the Fort Kent example.

Within this historical context, the Fort Kent station is not only a significant example of a once typical Bangor and Aroostook Railroad station, but it is also one of the few remaining reminders of Fort Kent's agricultural and industrial roots. It bears further testimony to the town's long association with the Bangor and Aroostook Railroad, which began at the turn of the twentieth century.

7

9. Major Bibliographical References

1. Angier, Jerry. Bangor and Aroostook Railroad. Littleton, MA: Flying Yankee Enterprises, 1986.
2. Lord, Robert F. Downeast Depots. Hartford: W. E. Andrews Co., Inc., 1986.
3. Maine Register, State Year-Book and Legislative Manual (Portland: Grenville and Donham), 1870-1910.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9
5	3
1	0
5	1
0	5
1	0

5	2
3	3
6	3
1	3
0	

Zone Easting Northing

B

Zone Easting Northing

C

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Station

The Fort Kent Railroad/occupies the Town of Fort Kent tax map 20, lot 61A.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property includes the building and immediate lot historically and currently associated with the station.

See continuation sheet

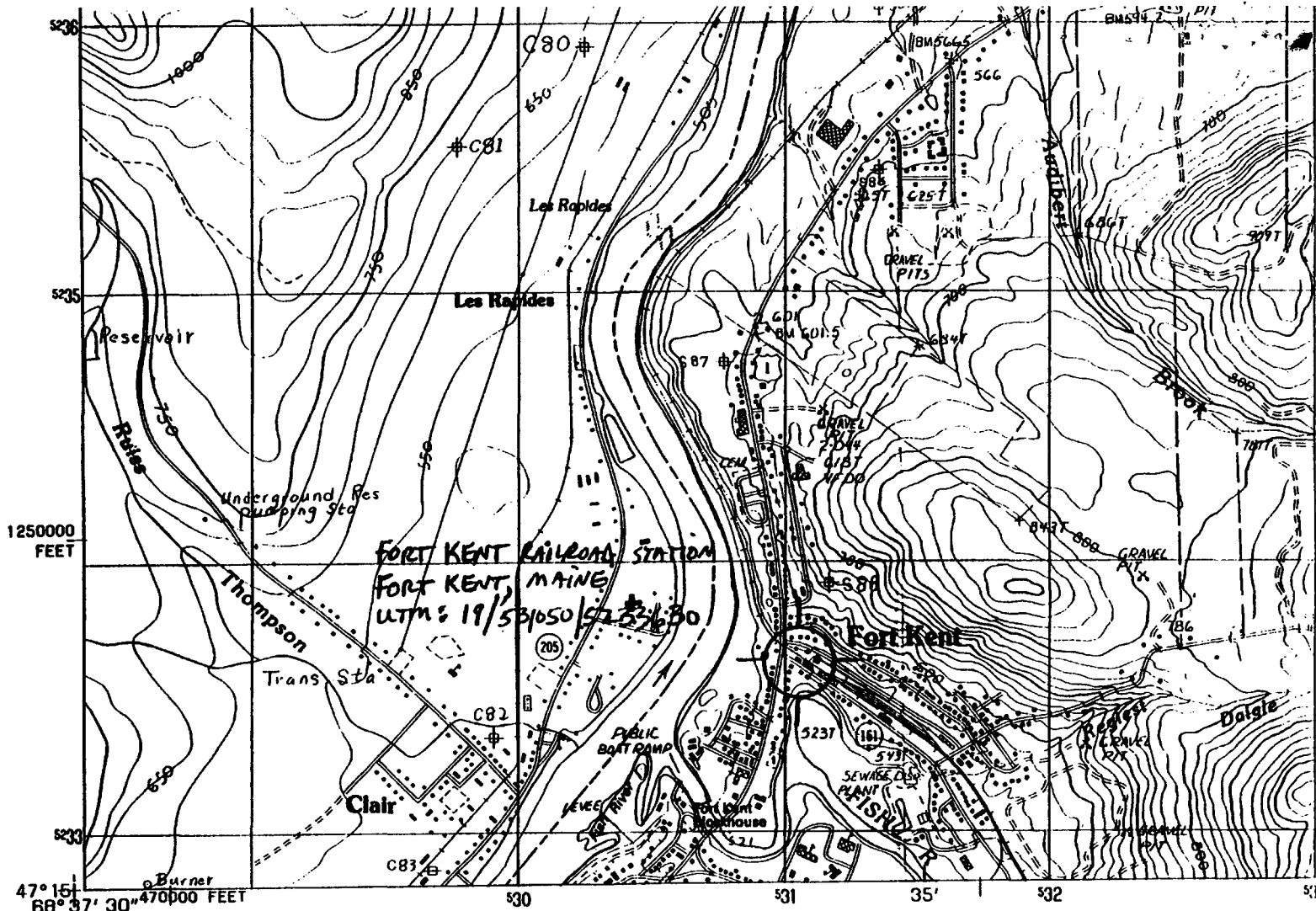
11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tom Jester/Kirk E. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January 1989

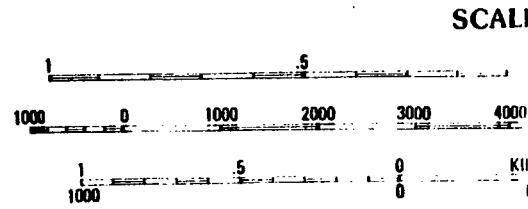
street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone (207) 289-2132

city or town Augusta state Maine zip code 04333



PRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 CONTROL BY USGS, NOS/NOAA, AND IBC
 COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN 1982
 FIELD CHECKED 1984. MAP EDITED 1985
 PROJECTION TRANSVERSE MERCATOR
 GRID: 1000-METER UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR ZONE 19
 10,000-FOOT STATE GRID TICKS MAINE, EAST ZONE
 UTM GRID DECLINATION 0°19' EAST
 1985 MAGNETIC NORTH DECLINATION 21' WEST
 VERTICAL DATUM NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 HORIZONTAL DATUM 1927 NORTH AMERICAN DATUM
 To place on the predicted North American Datum of 1983,
 move the projection lines as shown by dashed corner ticks
 (1 meter south and 40 meters west)
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of any
 Federal and State reservations shown on this map
 No distinction made between houses, barns, and other buildings
 Canadian portion copied from Lac-Baker Quadrangle
 (1:50,000) 1983, Department of Energy, Mines, and Resources

PROVISIONAL MAP
 Produced from original
 manuscript drawings. Informa-
 tion shown as of date of
 photography. 1



CONTOUR 11
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SI
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SI
 To convert feet to
 To convert meters

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NA
 FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGIC
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11-5

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

AUG 18 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIV

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See **NATIONAL PARK SERVICE** Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium

other names/site number Fleischmann Planetarium

2. Location

street & number North Virginia Street, University of Nevada, Reno not for publication

city or town Reno vicinity

state Nevada code NV county Washoe code 031 zip code 89557

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Ronald M. James, SHPO 8/11/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

9/22/94
Date of Action

(Circular stamp)

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/research facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/research facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

MODERN MOVEMENT

Other: Populuxe

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls METAL: steel, CONCRETE, GLASS

roof CONCRETE

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

60

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

SCIENCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1963

Significant Dates

1963

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hellmann, Raymond

Lamberti, H.V.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

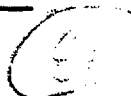
Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

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MAR 18 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium Washoe County, NV

Description

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, constructed in 1963, is located on a low hill at the north end of the University of Nevada in Reno campus, just off North Virginia Street. The building is set into the hillside, taking advantage of the slope which allows for the height of the impressive glass facade at the south end of the structure. The planetarium once dominated its setting, but is now partially obscured from the road by large trees. Nevertheless, its architecture is striking.

The showpiece of the planetarium is its roof--an 11,000-square foot, concrete-shelled hyperbolic paraboloid, that is supported at only two points and weighs 180 tons. A cross section of the roof in one direction is a hyperbola, and at right angles a parabola, creating its distinctive "butterfly" shape. This form draws from the butterfly roof first used by Le Corbusier and popularized in the United States by Marcel Breuer in the 1950s. This type of roof permits the creation of a large, open space inside. The south facade's 40-foot-tall windows allow light to flood this space. At night, when the building is lit from the inside, it glows like a beacon.

The exterior walls are clad in composition panels made of sea-green mortar embedded with small white rocks. Acoustic panels cover the underside of the roof overhangs where the roof curves upward at both ends of the building. The roof above the glass facade is supported by exposed vertical steel I-beams. Large glass panes, divided by horizontal metal rods, rise up to the roof between the I-beams. Double glass and metal doors, just to the north of the two concrete roof supports, lead into the top level of the planetarium interior. Metal doors provide additional access into the north end of the building.

The interior contains three different levels connected by staircases. A 30-foot domed hemisphere housing the planetarium auditorium serves as the focal point. Curved staircases on opposite sides of the hemisphere lead to the dome room entrance and lower exhibit area. The staircase railings have stainless steel wires stretched to form a series of hyperbolic paraboloids reflecting the shape of the building's roof. Long, metal solar panels, black on one side, white on the other, shade the tall, vertical windows. These panels, part of the non-operating experimental heating and cooling system, could be rotated to either absorb or

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7,8 Page 2

Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium Washoe County, NV

Description (continued)

reflect light. In addition to the planetarium, the building includes two offices, two laboratories, an auditorium for meetings and lectures, an art room, a general work room, and museum display space. The building, scarcely altered since its construction, possesses a remarkable degree of historic integrity.

A small, rectangular concrete block observatory, with a low profile, was built in 1991. It stands to the northeast of the planetarium. The building does not detract from the integrity of the planetarium and its setting.

Statement of Significance

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has special significance under Criterion A for its importance in scientific research and education in Nevada, and as the first atmospherium in the world. The building is also of special significance under Criterion C as a remarkable expression of Populuxe architecture, reflecting American society's emphasis on futuristic designs and fascination with "space-age" themes in the 1960s.

Historical Background and Significance (Criterion A)

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, as it was originally named, opened its doors to the public in November 1963 as the first atmospherium planetarium of its kind in the world. While other planetaria featured views of the night sky and the solar system, the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, designed by Reno architect Raymond Hellmann, was unique in its capability to simulate both day and night conditions and a full range of atmospheric phenomena, including cloud formations, thunderstorms, and rainbows. Wendell Mordy, the director of the Desert Research Institute, coined the term "atmospherium" to describe the facility's ability to portray the day sky and atmospheric events. The building also functioned as a traditional planetarium. O. Richard Norton, in his book The Planetarium and Atmospherium, describes the development of the atmospherium:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

**Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV**


Statement of Significance (continued)

Wendell Mordy, an atmospheric physicist and director of the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada campus in Reno had for years used wide angle lenses to produce 16 mm time lapse motion pictures of clouds and saw the possibility of reproducing the daytime sky through the assistance of these newly developed lenses. In 1960 the Max C. Fleischmann Foundation of Nevada presented to the University of Nevada a gift of \$190,000 to be used for the construction of a planetarium to be used as an educational tool for students and citizens of western Nevada. Concurrently, Professor Mordy was appointed director of the Desert Research Institute, a newly organized research body on the University of Nevada campus. The planetarium was to be a division of that Institute. He urged that, in addition to a planetarium, an "atmospherium," be designed and installed at the new facility. The idea was enthusiastically received by the Fleischmann Foundation and they subsequently increased their gift to \$480,000 for the addition of this revolutionary projector. Thus plans were laid for the world's first "atmospherium-planetarium."¹

The building was also the first planetarium in the nation to feature a 360-degree projector capable of providing horizon-to-horizon images and, through time-lapse photography, showing an entire day's weather in a few minutes. A specially developed 180-degree lens, designed by the Jam Handy Organization, a Detroit-based optical firm, and a 360-degree motion picture projector, designed by Spitz Laboratories, allowed the atmospherium planetarium to simulate atmospheric events like aurorae, dust storms, cyclones, and meteor showers.

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has special significance for its role in scientific research and education in Nevada. As described by O. Richard Norton, the atmospherium was the brainchild of Dr. Wendell A. Mordy, Director of the University of Nevada's Desert Research Institute. Dr. Mordy wanted the university to have a place where students could

¹ O. Richard Norton, The Planetarium and Atmospherium: An Indoor Universe, (Heraldsburg, Cal.: Naturegraph Publishers, 1968), 131.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4

**Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV**

Statement of Significance (continued)

learn about weather science, physicists could research weather phenomena, and the public could learn about the atmosphere. The building was named the Charles and Henriette Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, in honor of the parents of Max C. Fleischmann of the Nevada foundation that bears his name. Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer spoke at the facility's dedication and called the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium "a uniquely forceful means of bringing science to the public. The dedication of the world's first atmospherium is a fitting symbol of the progress Nevada has made during its first 100 years, and it is an appropriate symbol of Nevada's hopes for the future."²

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has fulfilled Governor Sawyer's expectation of bringing science to the public. The facility has played an important role in scientific and atmospheric research and education in the city of Reno and the state of Nevada. As the home of the Desert Research Institute, the building has served as the site of research in the areas of cloud physics and weather modification. In 1966 the Desert Research Institute hosted the national meeting of the American Meteorological Society at the planetarium. Thousands of Nevada school children have visited the planetarium on class field trips to attend presentations and science fairs. And the planetarium has served as an important source of education about atmospheric phenomena for the general public, presenting programs on the solar system, Halley's comet, and UFOs. The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium celebrated thirty years of operation in 1993. By that time over 30,000 shows had been presented to over 750,000 people.

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has been the site of innovative public programs. During the planetarium's first year of operation, the staff placed a 180-degree camera on the floor of the Arizona Meteorite Crater and took time-lapse photographs of the passage of one day inside the crater.³ The Desert Research Institute has conducted experiments beyond the fields of astronomy, meteorology, and space science. For example, scientists at the

² Nevada State Journal, 16 Nov 1963.

³ Norton, The Planetarium and Atmospherium, 142.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

**Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV**

Statement of Significance (continued)

planetarium conducted experiments with underwater 180-degree motion picture photography. The planetarium created a program projecting images onto the atmospherium dome to simulate an underwater environment.

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium initially featured an experimental solar heating and cooling system designed by the Desert Research Institute. The system consisted of nineteen louvers, black on one side and white on the other, capable of being rotated to reflect or absorb light. An 18,000-gallon water tank served as a heat exchange unit. The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium was the only structure in the western states to feature such a system. Though the experimental system is no longer in use, it is an example of the Planetarium's special significance as a place for scientific experimentation in Nevada.

The opening of the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium in Reno illustrates the spread of the planetarium throughout the United States. The first American planetarium was the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, which opened in 1930. For a number of years after that, planetaria were located primarily in large cities. The 1960s witnessed tremendous growth in the number of planetaria in the United States. Widespread public interest in space exploration and science, coupled with improved technology led to an increase in the number of planetaria, as they spread to mid-size United States cities. The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium reflects this trend in bringing scientific education to the public.

The planetarium was invented in 1923, primarily to simulate the night sky. Norton writes that conventional planetarium projectors "cannot, however, produce the other half of the sky, the daytime sky, with its myriads of weather phenomena. Until quite recently this sky was all but neglected in the planetarium program. Finally in 1963 a new projector, christened the atmospherium, placed the daytime sky under the planetarium dome."⁴ Thus the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium represented a breakthrough in planetarium technology and capability. Norton writes that "This newest major development since the invention of the

⁴ Ibid., vi.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6

**Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV**

Statement of Significance (continued)

planetarium promises to change the face of planetarium science within the foreseeable future."⁵

The word "atmospherium," coined by Wendell Mordy, was dropped from the building's title in the 1980s, but the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has continued to play an important role in bringing science education and entertainment to the public. Weekly sessions at the facility's observatory provide opportunities for the public to view the heavens. A wide range of programs continue to provide scientific education and entertainment for the public.

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium extended the capability of the traditional planetarium beyond simulation of the solar system and night sky. Increased public interest in space exploration, science, and technology created a demand for more realistic simulation of the universe in planetaria. The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium increased both the educational and entertainment possibilities of the planetarium experience. In the past, special effects projectors were used to simulate phenomena like rainbows, aurorae, and halos. These images were often not very realistic. The "Space Age" of the 1960s created a more sophisticated audience, and the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium helped to satisfy a demand in the Reno area for scientific education and science-oriented entertainment. As Norton writes of the planetarium: "It can stand alone as a marvelous teaching aid, but its full effectiveness as a tool for education, entertainment and inspiration can only be realized when it is generously supplemented with accessory special effects."⁶ The atmospherium concept is one attempt to present more realistic astronomical and atmospheric simulations. As the world's first atmospherium, functioning as both a leading research and educational institution in Nevada, the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium should be listed on the National Register for exceptional significance under Criterion A.

⁵ Ibid., vi.

⁶ Ibid., 128.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 7Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV

Statement of Significance (continued)

Architectural Significance: Populuxe Architecture (Criterion C)

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium has special significance under Criterion C as an outstanding example of Populuxe architecture. Thomas Hine, in his book Populuxe, discusses the style of architecture with the same name.⁷ Populuxe refers to a style of the 1950s and 1960s characterized by space-age designs that depict motion, such as boomerangs, flying saucers, parabolas, and atoms. Populuxe reflects the optimism, affluence, and mobility of American society a decade after the end of World War II. The futuristic style was found in objects ranging from common household items to automobiles. Designers of commercial buildings, like motels and restaurants, adopted the Populuxe style as a means to attract customers driving by in cars. Monumental Populuxe structures, like the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, listed on the National Register in 1987, and the Space Needle in Seattle, took this concept further by presenting architecture as sculpture, conveying ideas, such as westward expansion or scientific exploration, in iconic forms. Although Populuxe, as Hine describes it, refers to a purely middle-class, American aesthetic, the style actually had its roots in the designs of internationally-known architects, such as Le Corbusier and Marcel Breuer.

In Reno several monumental public buildings, including the Getchell Library, the Washoe County Library, the Pioneer Theater, and the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, reflect the Populuxe style. Two of these structures, the Pioneer Theater and the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, are especially remarkable embodiments of this style. Both buildings express the futuristic outlook prevalent in American society in the early 1960s. The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium is an excellent physical representation of the New Frontier envisioned by John F. Kennedy.

In both form and function the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, constructed in 1963, is a reflection of the space-age era in which it was built. Its nickname, the "Space Place," is

⁷Thomas Hine, Populuxe (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987), 6.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 8

**Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV**

Statement of Significance (continued)

testimony to the identification of the building with its purpose. Its distinctive shape, described by some as similar to a flying saucer, is an excellent expression of the Populuxe style. The design of the building mirrors its function. The roof soars upward toward the heavens--the focus of the research and programs that occur in the building.

The planetarium was the result of an unusual collaboration among a scientist, an architect, and a structural engineer. In order to design a building that would function as both a museum, and an atmospherium planetarium, Dr. Mordy, after interviewing several architects, enlisted Raymond Hellmann of Reno, who designed the building in consultation with structural engineer H.V. Lamberti. A 1963 newspaper article published while the building was being constructed stated: "Hellmann has used a nearly unique design to exactly fit the requirements of the building and at the same time used a style of architecture which suggests the age in which we live and the purpose of the building, which is to stimulate and educate young people in space-age scientific subjects."⁸ Indeed, the butterfly roof designed by Hellmann and Lamberti was the first of its kind in Reno. However, the planetarium's form had its precedents in earlier buildings by Le Corbusier, such as his church in Ronchamp, France (1950-55), and by Matthew Nowicki, such as the State Fair and Exhibition Building in Raleigh, North Carolina (1953).

The Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium is an excellent expression of an architectural style that reflects its purpose and the period of its construction. As a writer from the Reno Gazette-Journal noted in 1988:

Funded by the Max C. Fleischmann Foundation, Reno's atmospherium was the first of its kind. The building, on North Virginia Street at the University of Nevada-Reno, reflects that: An attention-getter even today, it was downright dramatic in 1963.⁹

⁸ Nevada State Journal, 13 Jan 1963.

⁹ Reno Gazette-Journal, 26 Nov 1988.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 9

Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV

Statement of Significance (continued)

With the construction of the Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium, Reno gained a building that looked to new architectural trends as a means to educate the public about science. The planetarium is an excellent example of the Populuxe style in Reno, and for this reason, possesses exceptional significance under Criterion C.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9,10 Page 10

Fleischmann Atmospherium Planetarium
Washoe County, NV

Bibliography

Hine, Thomas. Populuxe. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1987.

Hulse, James W. The University of Nevada: A Centennial History. Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1974.

Nevada Highways and Parks. Winter 1965, Spring 1975.

Nevada State Journal. 1963-76.

Norton, O. Richard. The Planetarium and Atmospherium: An Indoor Universe. Heraldsburg, Cal.: Naturegraph Publishers, 1968.

Reno Evening Gazette. 1963-74.

Reno Gazette-Journal. 1985-93.

Rowley, William D. Reno, Hub of the Washoe Country: An Illustrated History. Woodland Hills, Cal.: Windsor Publications, 1984.

Verbal boundary description

The legal parcel number is 003-180-13.

Verbal boundary justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the planetarium.

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BLACK

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Irish, William N., House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 210 South 28th Avenue not for publication
city, town Yakima vicinity
state Washington code WA county Yakima code 077 zip code 98902

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> objects
			<u>1</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Signature] 12/16/91
Signature of certifying official Date
Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

Autawith A. Bice 3/21/92

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action



6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: single dwellingCurrent Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)Late Victorian: Queen Anne
Other: Post Victorian: Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls wood: weatherboard
roof wood: shingle
other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The William Irish House is a two-and-one-half story wood frame structure built in 1903 on Nob Hill overlooking Yakima to the east. The house sits on a lot measuring 100 feet by 150 feet, which was part of the original ten-acre orchard purchased by Irish in 1895. At the rear of the property, the original frame barn has been remodelled into a garage and workshop. The grounds include a variety of trees and shrubs, among them a black walnut that dates to the construction of the house.

The Irish House reflects a transition from the irregular plan and massing of the Queen Anne style with multiple gables and bays to the more restrained cubic form and simplified classical ornament of the post-Victorian period. Built on a rectangular plan measuring 30 feet by 38 feet, the house is constructed of a balloon frame resting on a concrete block foundation and rising to a steeply pitched hipped roof broken by cross gables and dormers. The Irish house is faced in narrow beveled siding reminiscent of the Colonial Revival style, trimmed with pilaster-like corner boards, a plain architrave and frieze, and a dentilated cornice.

The dominant hip roof of the house features overhanging boxed eaves supported by paired brackets, and is broken on the east facade and south and west elevations by cross gables. The cross gables have boxed eaves, raking cornices with dentil courses, and gable returns supported by paired brackets. The gable end on the east facade is lighted by a pair of tall, double-hung windows enframed by an architrave with entablature hood. The windows feature upper lights with triangular arch muntins. The hood features a dentil course and is supported brackets. An arched louvered vent is located above the windows in the gable peak. To the south of the cross gable, the second floor of the facade is lighted by a box bay with French doors leading to the second story balcony. The bay is sheltered by a shed roof with boxed cornice, supported by brackets. The doors feature multiple lights including arched muntins in the upper panes.

The lower story of the facade is spanned by a full-width front porch, with a solid, battered railing and Doric pillars rising to support a full entablature with plain frieze and projecting cornice. The porch roof is surmounted by an open railing with square balusters, enclosing a second floor balcony. Beneath the porch, the single leaf front door is lighted by one-inch beveled glass and is surrounded by a plain architrave. To the south of the door is a large window lighting the entry hall. The window features beveled glass in a large lower fixed sash, and leaded panes with intersecting comes in the upper sash. A similar window, with beveled glass and an upper panel with leaded glass set in intersecting comes, lights the front parlor.

The south side elevation features a variety of projecting elements. A first floor chamfered oriel

 See continuation sheet

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Section number 7 Page 2

window, supported on large knee braces, projects from the front entry hall. The oriel features leaded glass in the upper lights. To the west of the oriel, a cross gable shelters chamfered bay windows on both the first and second stories, lighting the dining room and master bedroom respectively. Both bays feature entablatures and double hung windows with leaded glass in the upper sash. A brick chimney rises against the south wall through the hip roof and culminates above the main roof ridge. A small gablet projects on the south elevation at the peak of the hip roof. A rear hipped roof addition, faced in drop siding, extends the south side to the west.

The rear (west) elevation of the house features a cross gable lighted by double-hung sash in the upper story, and a large one-story gabled addition, constructed in 1979-80, that spans the elevation. The north side features double hung windows on the lower level and small rectangular windows above.

In recent years, two exterior alterations have changed the form of the house: (1) the hip roof (which originally terminated in a flat deck measuring 12 feet by 13 feet) was raised by carrying the lines of the roof slopes to a ridge and adding dormers to the north and south elevations; and (2) a large family room was added across the rear elevation. In addition, the original barn has been remodeled as a garage, with a cupola added on top, and is not considered a contributing element in the nomination.

The interior of the Irish house retains its original floor plan, lath and plaster walls and cove ceilings, wood floors, panelled doors and hardware, and much of the original millwork. The house features a relatively open plan, with a vestibule leading to an entry hall, which in turn opens to the front parlor and the rear dining room. The vestibule and entry hall are lined with paneled wainscoting with a shelf molding; a ceiling beam supported by a square pillar separates the two spaces. The entry hall includes a brick fireplace with a wooden mantelpiece that is integral to wainscoting. The dining room is separated from the entry hall by paneled pocket doors. Plate rails adorn the dining room walls and the room features a built-in fir hutch and china cabinet. The staircase that leads to the second floor features turned balusters. The four bedrooms are arranged around the stair hall, and include a master bedroom lighted by a bay window, with a built-in window seat and a plate rail surrounding the room. The original sunroom off the master bedroom has been converted to a bathroom. Other changes to the interior include enclosing the original open back porch for use as an eating area, remodeling the original laundry room, and adding the family room adjacent to the kitchen.

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8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

 nationally statewide locallyApplicable National Register Criteria A B C DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Agriculture

Period of Significance

1903-1931

Significant Dates

1903

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Irish, William N.

Architect/Builder

Not Known

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Built in 1903 in Yakima's Nob Hill district, the William Irish House is closely associated with a prominent Yakima Valley land developer, orchardist, banker, businessman, and civic leader. Irish arrived in the valley as the region boomed with the advent of large-scale irrigation and orchard production, and for nearly three decades was a leader in the regional fruit industry. The house he built overlooking his orchards and the city is an early example of post-Victorian architecture, reflecting a transition from the picturesque Queen Anne style to the more restrained Colonial Revival. Although today located well within the city limits, the Irish House still retains its character as the turn-of-the-century country home of one of the region's influential citizens.

Historical Background: William Nelson Irish was born January 18, 1857, in Erie County, New York, and moved with his family to Pine Island, Minnesota in 1870, where he was educated. Irish was a successful businessman in St. Paul, working 21 years for the Crescent Creamery Company, for which he served as Secretary-Treasurer. In 1895, he purchased ten acres of land in the city of North Yakima, Washington, and hired laborers to plant half the acreage to fruit and the other half to alfalfa. In 1903, Irish left St. Paul and moved to his North Yakima property, where he built a house commanding a fine view overlooking North Yakima from the western suburb of Nob Hill.

Founded by the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1884-85, North Yakima was originally surrounded by bunch-grass covered hills and its economy was dominated by stock raisers. But by the late 19th century, private irrigation systems were transforming the volcanic soils from grazing land to productive farmland. The transition was given an important boost in 1902, when the federal Reclamation Service unified irrigation systems and laid the groundwork for large scale orchards. The federal presence led to an immediate boom. The decade that Irish arrived in North Yakima, the population tripled and the city established itself as the commercial and civic center of the region.

Almost at once, Irish was an major figure in the rapidly advancing fruit industry. He immediately became an important land developer and orchardist in the region, buying and selling many tracts of orchard land in Grandview, Selah, and Parker Heights. Irish also was instrumental in establishing early growers' business organizations and promoting the industry. In 1903 Irish founded the cooperative Yakima County Horticultural Union (precursor to Sno-Kist) with other prominent growers in the region, and was elected secretary of the corporation and later president for five years. In 1910, Irish helped organize the Northwestern Fruit Exchange in Seattle, and served as its first vice president. In 1916, Irish founded and was first president of the Growers Service Company of

 See continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Section number 8 Page 2

Yakima, a fruit packing and shipping firm which handled "Skookum," "Pom-Pom," and "Yum Yum" brands of fruit with warehouses and offices on Second Avenue North.

Irish's knowledge of horticulture and irrigation was highly regarded, and he was a vigorous promoter of the Yakima Valley fruit industry. The Yakima Commercial Club delegated Irish to represent the region at large fruit exhibits in the east. In 1907, Irish displayed a railroad car of Yakima fruit at the Minnesota State Fair in St. Paul. During the same period, Irish boosted the region through promotional literature. In the "Famous Yakima Valley" prospectus (c.1906), Irish provided a testimonial of the income he received from his ten-acre home orchard.

Irish played an important role in the private irrigation movement as well, and served as vice-president of the Yakima Valley Canal Company (Congdon Ditch), one of the largest irrigation systems in the region. In 1908, Irish and other Nob Hill growers established a private company to bring water to Yakima's western suburb. The company hand-dug ditches and laid wooden pipes to the initial 23 customers. Irish served as president of the Nob Hill Water Company from 1912-1926.

In 1908, Irish was named an officer of the Yakima Trust Company and served over the next several decades as director, secretary, vice-president, and president of the Trust Company and (after a merger) the Yakima National Bank. He was a member of the board of directors of the Yakima National Bank when he died in 1931. Irish was also a member of the board of the Yakima Dairy-men's Association.

The Irish property on Nob Hill was first settled by George Brown, who bought it from the railroad in 1888. The house Irish constructed there in 1903 commanded fine views of both his orchard and the city to the east. Its architectural character reflected an early post-Victorian idiom, combining the projecting gables and bays and varied roof shapes of the Queen Anne style with the cubic massing and simplified classical imagery of the emerging Colonial Revival style.

Eventually, Irish platted his property as the Orchard Heights subdivision, which eventually was entered into the city of Yakima in 1936. After Irish died in March, 1931, the house remained in his family until 1959; in 1977, it was purchased by the present owners who have completed a rehabilitation and now operate the house as a bed and breakfast inn. Although the larger neighborhood is now densely settled, the house still reflects its turn of the century character.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

- "Irish Succumbs to Heart Attack." Yakima Herald, May 13, 1923, p. 1.
- Gary Jackson, Remembering Yakima By Those Who Were There (Golden West Publishing Company, Yakima, c. 1976), pp. 86-87.
- U. D. Lyman, History of the Yakima Valley, (S. J. Clarke, Seattle), p. 382.
- "The Famous Yakima Valley," promotional brochure published by Yakima Fruit Farms Company, c. 1906.
- Tjarnberg, "William N., Irish Was Noted Horticulturalist," Yakima Herald-Republic, Tuesday, October 16, 1990, Extra p. 2.
- "Yakima Trust Company," Yakima Morning Herald, May 13, 1923, p. 16.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property one acre

UTM References

A	<u>10</u>	<u>688030</u>	<u>5163060</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Nob Hill Orchard Heights east half of lot 5: also east half of north half of lot 6, Yakima city, Yakima County.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The nominated parcel includes the house and lawn associated with William N. Irish.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

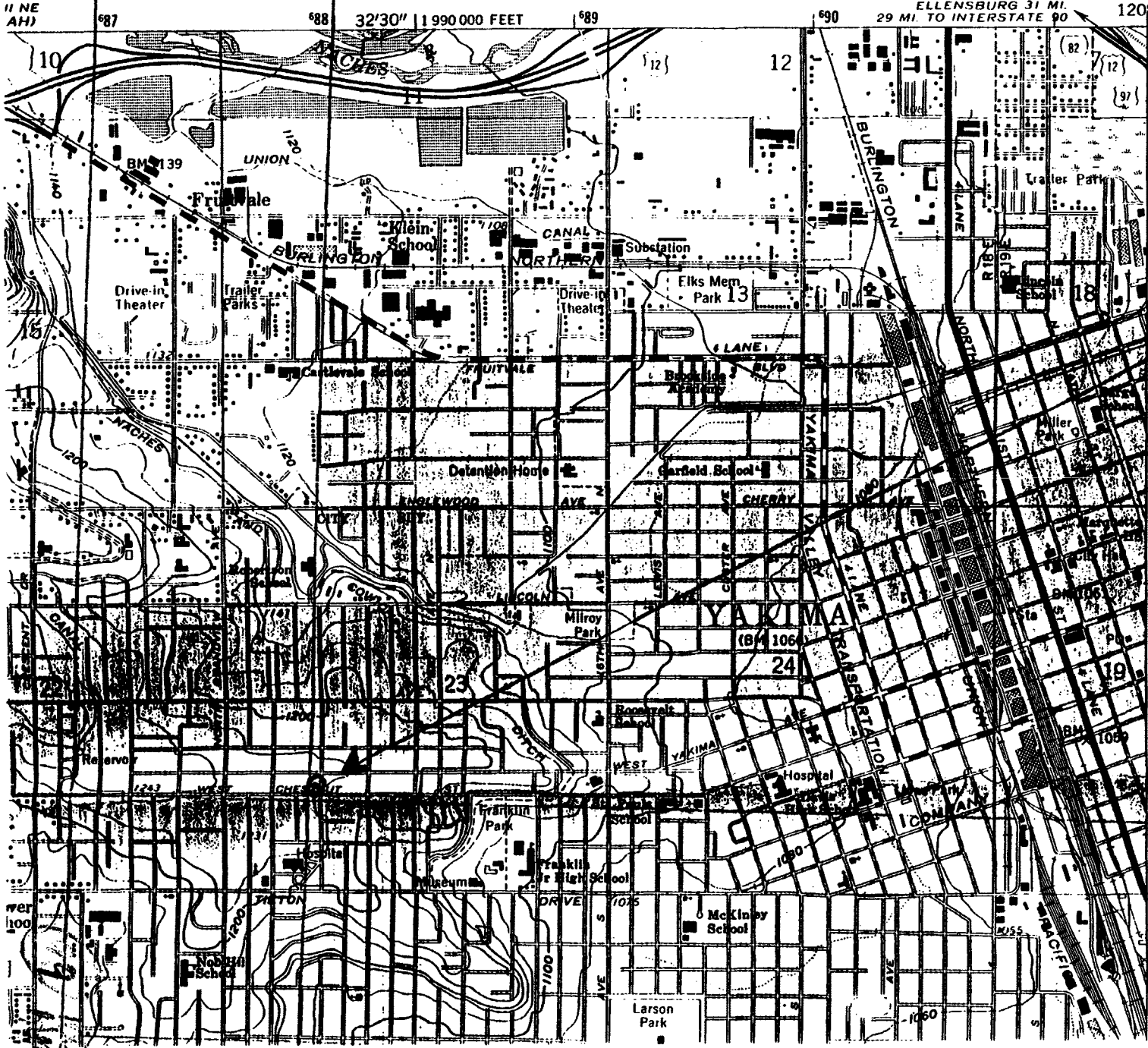
Name/title Gary Vance, edited by L. Garfield
 organization _____
 street & number 210 S. 29th Avenue
 city or town Yakima

date November 1991
 telephone _____
 state Washington zip code 98902



YAKIMA WEST QUADRANGLE
WASHINGTON - YAKIMA CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

1977 III NW
(POMONA)



The William Irish House
Yakima, Yakima Co, WA
UTM References:
10/688030/5163060

460 000
FEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

FEB 2

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Robinson, William A., House

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 11 Forest Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town Auburn N/A vicinity

state Maine code ME county Androscoggin code 001 zip code 04210

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

[Signature] 2/17/93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): _____

[Signature] 4/3/93
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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Robinson, William A., House

Androscooggin, Maine

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Gothic/Victorian Gothic

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone/Granite

walls Other/Board-and-Batten

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ROBINSON HOUSE *AN DRASCOBAIN COME*

Section number 7 Page 2

The William A. Robinson House stands along a short residential street on a hill overlooking Auburn's commercial district. It is a two-story wood frame building with a gable roof and board and batten siding. The house is asymmetrical with projecting gable ends, an L-shaped porch and an engaged tower with a pyramidal roof. The windows are one-over-one and two-over-two double-hung sash mounted in frames which project boldly from the plane of the wall and are sheltered by curved hoods embellished with diamond-shaped shingles.

The ornamental window hoods are only one of several decorative features on the exterior. Several second floor windows project far enough to be classified as oriels and are supported by brackets carved to suggest gargoyles. Each gable roof has vergeboard cut in trefoil patterns. The tower roof is also supported by gargoyle brackets, and as a lozenge fret frieze. The porch posts are square with Gothic style floral capitals and brackets. finally, the brick chimneys are corbelled and angled to suggest clustered shafts.

The interior of the house is largely intact with heavy moldings around the doors and windows, paneled doors, and a staircase with a massive newell post. There are also wood mantelpieces with round-arched openings and wood floors. All of the interior woodwork, however, was fashioned of inexpensive materials to be painted to compliment the wallpapers and painted ceilings known to have originally existed.

The kitchen and woodshed in the service wing has been extensively remodeled, although evidence of interior privies survives. The mantelpiece in one room off this has been lost, as has the second floor handrail for the back staircase. The latter is now accessed via a recently installed half-bath on the ground floor.

Also on the property is a carriage barn. it is a rectangular structure, one story high with a gable roof. It also features board-and-batten siding and Gothic vergeboard.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1874

Significant Dates

1874

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Kenway Brothers, Architects

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

Primary location of additional data:

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ROBINSON HOUSE *ANDROS COBBEN COMB*

Section number 8 Page 2

The William A. Robinson House is one of the most outstanding examples of late nineteenth century Gothic style domestic architecture in western Maine. It is also significant as the only important surviving example in Maine of the work of the Auburn architects Herbert and Balstron Kenway. The property is eligible for nomination under criterion C.

Auburn in the early 1870s had been undergoing major development with the construction of large shoe and textile factories there and across the river in Lewiston. The architecture that was being built was generally rather conservative in its interpretation of the Italianate and Mansard styles. Into these conditions entered the Kenway Brothers in 1873, two English-born architects who introduced new architectural styles to the area. Their first known design was a store for Robinson & Beede, druggists, in late 1873. Shortly after one of these men, William A. Robinson, hired the architects to design a house on Auburn Heights which was unlike anything else being built in either Lewiston or Auburn.

Herbert P. Kenway (1851-1890) and Balstron C. Kenway (?-?) were from Glanmorgan in Wales. They arrived in Portland and evidently immediately settled in Auburn. The two brothers opened an office in the city building, offering services in both architecture and civil engineering. For a brief three year period they secured a number of important commissions in Auburn and elsewhere in the State. By 1875 Herbert had relocated to Boston where he worked in the City architect's office, although he maintained his association with the Auburn firm. The partnership was evidently dissolved in 1876 when it was reported that Balstron left for St. Paul, Minnesota. No other information has been discovered concerning his subsequent commissions. Herbert remained in Boston, establishing an architectural practice with Francis Allen about 1880.

William A. Robinson (1845-1926) came to Maine as a young man and learned the druggist trade. In 1867 he formed a partnership with Dr. J. W. Beede, a business which later became W. A. Robinson and Company. After Robinson built his house in 1874 he no doubt kept in contact with the Kenways when they were hired to remodel the Congregational Church he attended, and to design the city water supply of which he was a strong advocate.

Newspaper comments of the period indicate that the domestic work of the Kenway Brothers was considered quite novel for Auburn, and the Robinson House fits into that category. The board-and-batten siding and extreme vertical proportions was in itself unusual, but the exterior detailing was extraordinary. This included trefoil vergeboard, brackets in the form of gargoyles, and brick chimneys constructed to suggest Gothic style clustered shafts. The floral motif used for the porch capitals derived from the perpendicular style, the most popular period of Gothic architecture in

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

ROBINSON HOUSE

ANDROS COTTAGE CUM E

Section number 8 Page 3

England. The English architects succeeded in translating the style popular for masonry buildings in their native country into the locally common building material of wood.

The interior is in some respects no less unusual. The central hall plan was locally still common for most residences in 1874 but the Robinson House plan is asymmetrical with a side hall parallel to the street and rooms of irregular size. There is a massive newell post for the staircase, but the moldings throughout the house, although with bold profiles, are relatively simple. This is probably because the walls and ceilings were papered and ceilings orientally painted in richly ornate colors. Evidence was uncovered in recent renovation work in the house and is supported by what is known about the architects other work.

Robinson did not reside here for long, subsequently selling the house to John Pickard in 1876 for \$4,750. Pickard worked for one of the important local shoe companies. In recent years the house fell into a derelict condition and has only recently been restored and renovated by the present owners.

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WILLIAM A ROBINSON HOUSE *ANDROSCOGGIN Co, ME*

Section number 9 Page 2

The Real Estate Register (Portland), July, 1874.

Lewiston Journal, 1873-1876.

Androscoggin County Registry of Deeds.

Herbert C. Kenway obituary notice, Newton Journal, July 18, 1890, page 4.

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Robinson, William A., House
Name of Property

Androscoggin, Maine
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less Than 1

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	4 0 1 0 2 0	4 8 8 3 1 7 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date January, 1993

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/287-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333-0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional Items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

WILLIAM A ROBINSON HOUSE *ANDROS COBBIN COTTAGE*

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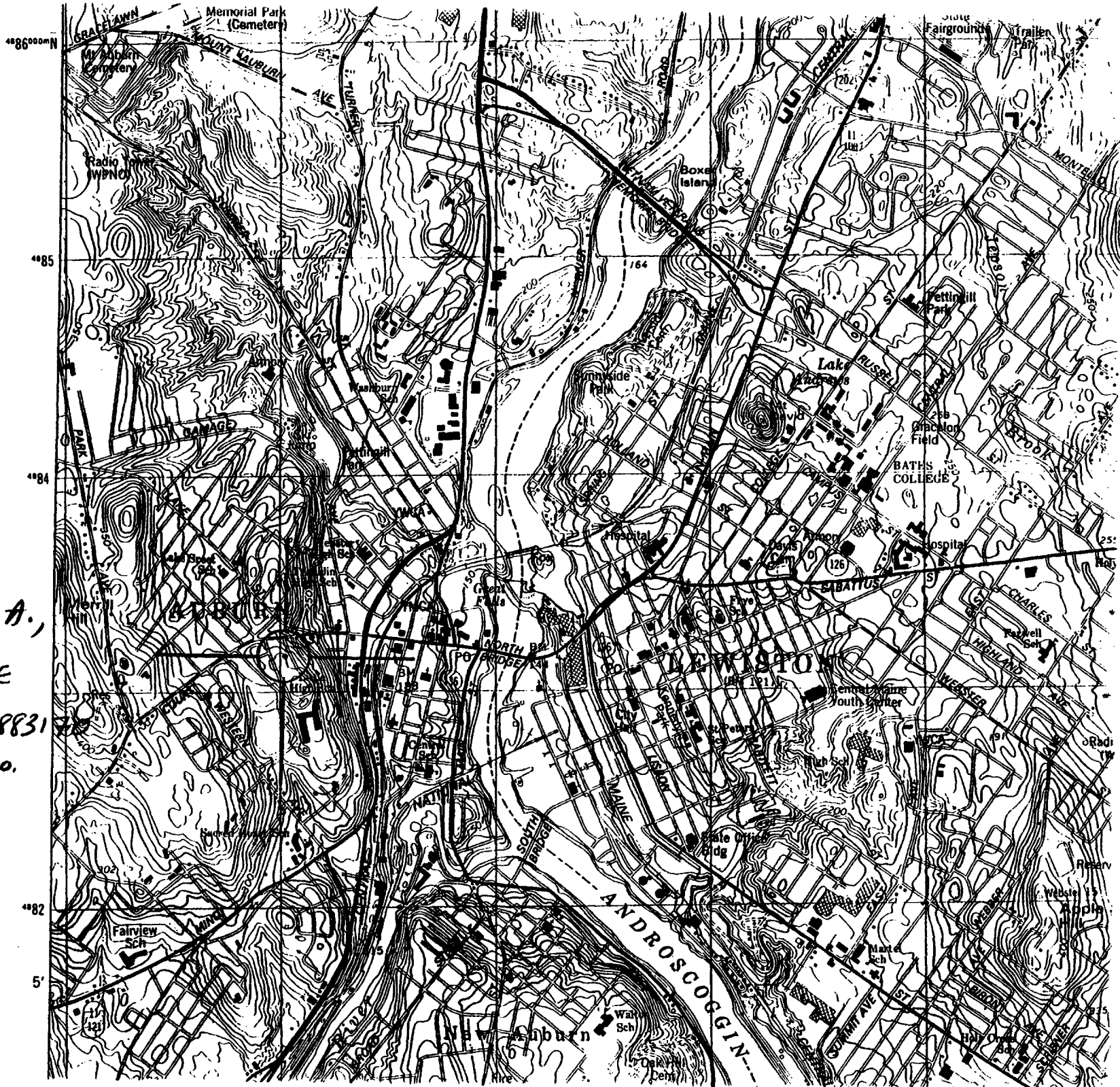
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property occupies the City of Auburn Tax Map 11, Block 2, Lot 25.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary embraces the entire city lot historically associated with the Robinson House.

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ROBINSON, WILLIAM A.,
HOUSE
AUBURN, MAINE
UTM: 19/401020/48831
ANDROSCOGGIN CO.

110 ALL