

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



Resub

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 any 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 Government House

other names/site number U.S. Post Office, U.S. Post Office and Custom House/SJ1027

2. Location

street & number 48 King Street n/a not for publication

city or town St. Augustine n/a vicinity

state Florida code FL countv St. Johns code 109 zip code 32084

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.)

Robert A. Bendus 11/26/13
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State or 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 See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

Jon [Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

1-7-2014
Date of Action

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

Florida's New Deal Resources

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Government

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Work in Progress

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals: Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stucco

walls Stucco

Stone: Coquina

roof Terra Cotta: flat tile

other Metal: Cast Iron ornament

Cast Stucco ornament

Narrative Description

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

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

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Conservation

Period of Significance

1935-1937

Significant Dates

1935-1937

Significant Person

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Greeley, Mellen Clark, Architect

Barnes, James I., Firm of, Contractor

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

University of Florida, Gainesville

#

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 7	4 6 9 7 6 8	3 3 0 6 9 1 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 Antoinette J. Lee, Consulting Historian & Barbara E. Mattick, Deputy SHPO for Survey & Registration

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date August 2013

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone 850-245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

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 State of Florida, Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, c/o Division of State Lands

street & number Carr Building, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard telephone 850-245-2555

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-3000

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 amend 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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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

Government House is located at 48 King Street in St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida. It was constructed 1935-1937 for post office, customs collection, and other Federal government functions. The building is three stories in height and has a gable roof covered by flat terra cotta tile. The east wing contains three old coquina walls; the other walls are constructed of coquina and stucco. Each street façade has a balcony. The east wing includes a walled patio. Main entrances are on the north and south facades and lead into the main post office lobby, now an exhibition lobby.¹ The building contains 21,855 square feet on the first and second floors, with an additional 2,415 square feet in the basement. The building was designed to use as much of the surviving historic fabric as possible and conform to its appearance as illustrated in a 1764 watercolor painting.

SETTING

The seat of government of St. Johns County, St. Augustine is located approximately 45 miles south of Jacksonville. The population of the city is 13,051 (2011). King Street serves as the main east-west corridor into the city, and U.S. Highway 1 is the primary thoroughfare along the western side of the city. The building is located on the block bounded by King Street, Cordova Street, Cathedral Place, and St. George Street and faces the original Spanish Plaza to the east. It forms an integral part of the complex of colonial, territorial, and late 19th century buildings that surround the plaza.

The Spanish Plaza is considered the center of historic St. Augustine, and includes the public market (also referred to as the slave market), the Spanish Constitution Monument, the Confederate War Memorial, a memorial listing servicemen from the city who served in the 20th century wars, four artillery pieces dating from the Mexican War and Civil War periods, the gazebo, and two colonial-era wells that have been excavated by archeologists.

To the west of Government House is the west garden area, which is historically connected to the building as part of the Federal government's property, but is not included in this nomination because it is not related to the significance of Government House in the New Deal era or its architectural significance. The west garden area contains an important granite obelisk monument, the William Wing Loring (1818-1886) Monument, and a brass plaque to the north of the monument that expands on Loring's role as an army officer who fought under three flags--the United States, the Confederacy, and Egypt. After his death in New York City, Loring was buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Jacksonville, Florida. In 1920, the U.S. Treasury Department, which was responsible

¹ The Government House description is based on the material provided in *Government House: The 1935 U.S. Post Office and Customs House, St. Augustine, Florida*, Historic Structure Report, May 31, 2012. Susan Tate, AIA, Preservation Architect, was responsible for the historical narrative in the Historic Structure Report.

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for the administration of the St. Augustine post office building and adjoining Federal government land, provided the site for the Loring monument to the Anna Dummett Chapter of the Daughters of the Confederacy. Loring's remains were removed from the Evergreen Cemetery and re-interred at the monument site. The State Museum, University of Florida, provided the brass plaque.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
EXTERIOR**

The plan of Government House forms an irregular "L" on the eastern boundary of the property. The east, north, and south facades are the major public elevations, with the west elevation being used as a delivery area and service area. The building is constructed of masonry over a steel frame structure. The east façade makes the strongest physical statement of historical reference because it most closely resembles a 1764 watercolor painting of the building (Photo 35).

The exterior finish is entirely new stucco except on the lower surface of the old north wall and the corners. Here the old coquina in an irregular course is exposed. The building's architect, Mellen Clark Greeley, retained three of the old walls: the north wall (1834), the east wall (1713, partly reconstructed in 1786), and most of the south wall (1713).

All of the openings in the walls date to the 1930s; the former openings having been filled with masonry as required. The openings consist of wood casement windows (Photo 12) and doors with stone sills. Solid wood batten doors with iron straps and exposed hammered bolt heads are used in the older section and plate glass doors are used in the new portion of the main lobby.

A Spanish-style wood balcony is located over the main entrance on the north wall and a similar balcony on the east wall and south wall. A four-foot wall of coquina encloses a small court on the north, and a similar wall encloses a large patio on the southeast corner.

East Façade: The east wall makes the strongest physical statement of historical reference, influenced by a 1764 watercolor drawing of the former government house. The east wing contains three old coquina walls. The east façade of the wing is dominated by the ceremonial balcony with heavy wood brackets, posts, and balustrade, features that recall but do not replicate the 18th century representation. The east balcony is reflected in the balconies above the north and the south entrances, although each is differentiated by details specific to each location (Photos 1 & 2).

The 1935 design of the east façade provides for exposed coquina at the vertical quoins of the former corner projections or "towers" and at the former window openings, but considerable infill of stucco on brick was incorporated between the projecting ends, in window openings, and to extend the gable peak. The south wall of

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the east section, punctuated by French doors on both levels, was built 58 feet, 9 inches to the Main Lobby at the point of intersection with the early cross wall.

Although the wing's south wall is composed primarily of five sets of French doors or casements on both levels, some early coquina masonry may have been incorporated (primarily at the east corner) and reconstructed between the ground level openings to the southeast courtyard.

North Façade: The north entrance is the central focal point of the north façade and is defined by a projection of the main roof over the upper balcony. The north façade extends 115 feet, 4 inches up to the recessed and lower height northwest ell, which continues to 145 feet, 2 inches in overall dimension. Up to the stepped back ell, the north façade is flat with a fenestration of varied heights and spacing and a dominant chimney to the northeast (Photos 3 & 4).

The 1935 casement windows remain preserved (Photo 12). The north façade features random exposed coquina, combined with stucco over brick infill over a steel frame. The north wall, dating from the ca. 1833 Mills/Wallen extension, was removed above the second floor line, and new openings were cut according to the 1935 plan so that fragments of the previous wall, alongside reconstructed coquina masonry, are exposed.

West Façade: Formerly the west façade served as the loading dock for the post office. This loading dock was later enclosed during the tenure of the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board (1966-1997) and the open gate on the south wall of the service court was walled between the driveway piers. A parking area is adjacent to the loading dock (Photos 5 & 6).

South Façade: The classical south entrance is headed by a flat parapet that adjoins the projecting south gable that encompasses an upper level balcony. The southwest ell is recessed from the south façade and terminates in the dominant chimney. The south entrance façade extends 58 feet, 11 inches westward to the recessed ell, which extends 29 feet, 10 inches to a total dimension of 88 feet, 9 inches from the east courtyard wall. The southwest ell and northwest ell enclose the service area and loading dock that served the post office (Photos 7, 8, & 9).

The south elevation is protected by the two-story gallery or porch. The gallery, along with large trees conserved during the project, provides shading from the south sun. The courtyard is defined by coquina masonry garden walls that intersect with the east and south elevations of the building.

Coquina is a native shellstone found in the coastal region of Florida and Cuba and is considered an important traditional building material in St. Augustine. It is stone formed from coquina shells in large deposits that become cemented by calcium carbonate over long periods of time (over 100,000 years). Over the different locations in which it is found, the stone varies in texture and hardness. The most prized variety is from the Anastasia formation found near St. Augustine. The American Indians in the St. Augustine area were familiar

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with the stone and it became known and used by the European settlers. In the late 17th century, coquina was used in the construction of the Castillo de San Marcos. It was easy to quarry and absorbed cannon shot damage well. Its use was largely discontinued after the colonial period as it was difficult and expensive to acquire, and is a very limited natural resource. Beyond St. Augustine, only a few Florida cities contain New Deal public buildings executed with coquina, including the Bunnell Civic Center, the Daytona Beach Bandshell, the Tarragona Tower and Arch, Holly Hill Municipal Building, and the New Smyrna Beach City Hall.

INTERIOR

The building analysis identifies a total of 21,855 square feet on the first and second floors: 11,127 square feet on the first floor and 10,728 square feet on the second floor. The basement provides an additional 2,415 square feet.

The main lobby forms the north-south spine of the building and was the hub of public activity for the post office. From the north entrance, the west wall gave access to the inquiry window and an obscure glass door leading to the Superintendent of Mails. The six bays, separated by pilasters and defined by floor and ceiling patterns, included spaces for mail drops, parcel post windows, stamp counters, and general delivery counters. On the west side of the mail lobby are bays for postal boxes, a C.O.D. window, and windows for money order, registry, and postal savings services (Photos 13, 14, & 15).

The main lobby walls are finished in marble wainscot with brass grilles for the heating system. Original openings for postal windows and boxes remain, but the glass grilles and boxes, as well as the four ornamental lobby tables, have been removed. Original lanterns and door hardware are extant.

The interior doorways at the north and south entrances emphasize the significance of the lobby space, with lunettes or tympanums over the doors, with a relief panel at the north, and spokes and glazing at the south. The entrance to the east section was also emphasized with a sculptural relief in the lunette over the doorway.

The east section was designed to incorporate offices for the Postmaster and Assistant Postmaster, which opened from the lobbies along the east and south. The offices were connected by a passage with closet and toilet facilities. The east section east and south lobby floor is terrazzo with metal strips and marble borders, in a modular pattern that conforms with ceiling modules of exposed decorative wood beams at the south and plaster vaults at the east. Marble wainscoting and antiqued heavy wood doors form entrances to the east lobby and to the postmaster's office. The two offices have smooth plaster ceilings with pendant translucent luminaries (Photos 18, 19, & 20).

To the west of the main lobby, behind the postal windows, is the two-story post office work space. Iron grille work with shield details along the lobby ceiling line offer an opportunity for ventilation. The work space is

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large and open to the second level. Immediately to the west of the north entrance was the office of the Superintendent of Mails, with access from the Main Lobby and from the workspace through a caged vestibule. The hardwood flooring, the observation platforms, and viewing slots to provide security for the mail operations extend around the upper level of the work space with steel access ladders that remain in place.

The main lobby provides access to the second floor by a monumental masonry stairway leading to an upper lobby and foyer corridor to the east suite of offices, originally designated for the customs collection functions (Photos 16 & 17). From the foyer, a corridor opens an *en suite* office space leading to a grand "Custom Office" at the end of the east section. The office features a platform with steps to reach the upper balcony looking east over the Plaza, a corner fireplace, windows to the north, and two sets of French doors opening to the south gallery (Photos 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27).

The remainder of the upper floor included four offices at the east and south, two toilets, and a custodial closet, accessed by a corridor from the main stair and short upper flight of stairs (Photos 28, 29, 30, & 31).

The 1930s decorative hardware remains throughout the building's exterior and interior. The features include polished bronze door levers on the courtyard wall of the main lobby, bronze thumb latches, bronze thresholds, radiator grilles, and bronze insect screens. The main stair case that connects the postal functions on the first floor with the customs collection functions on the second floor features a turned wooden newel post, decorative iron balusters, and marble trim (Photos 10 & 11).

The architect of the building, Mellen C. Greeley, described the decorative features in early 1936:

The door at the north entrance and the doors to the "Historical Room" are replicas of the door from the court yard to the Treasury in old Fort Marion, another historic building in the City. These doors are fitted with copies of the original hand wrought iron hardware. The ornamental stone doorway at the main entrance on King Street is an architectural adaptation of the doorway from the Court yard to the Chapel in Fort Marion with certain modifications, but with an attempt to reproduce the art of the period during which both of these original buildings were erected. The roof covering is of burned clay single tiles, in color ranging from black or purple to red, such as were used on similarly steep pitched roofs in northern Spain.²

² Mellen C. Greeley, "A Description of the Proposed New Federal Post Office and Custom House, at St. Augustine, Florida, Being Erected by Procurement Division of the Treasury Department, of the United States of America, January 27, 1936," document attached to letter from Mellen C. Greeley to F. Larkin, January 28, 1936, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD, p. 6.

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Today, the building retains a high level of integrity dating to the 1935 design. The post office lobby, the most important interior room, retains much of the decorative details and feel of a post office lobby. The most important exterior walls—the north, east, and south—are unchanged from their mid-1930s appearance. The immediate surroundings are the same as they were when the 1930s work was completed.

According to the recently completed (2012) historic structure report on Government House, the following character-defining features of the building remain intact: (1) building form and site, (2) hardware and wood trim, (3) postal lobby and monumental stair, (4) customs office and supporting spaces, and (5) east section, ground level.³ All of these features are intact and in good condition.

ALTERATIONS

After the 1966 decommissioning of the post office functions, the original east section spaces and partition walls were demolished in 1969, retaining the encased steel columns and ceilings. The interior of the main floor east section thereafter consisted of a single space.

Currently, renovations are being undertaken to the existing restrooms, catering kitchen, storage, and museum gallery along with upgrades to mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. The majority of this work affects the west half of the first floor, an area that historically was non-public, including some areas that are not original to the 1930s era building. Some elements of the original building will be restored through this project, including exposing and repairing original teller windows with decorative metal grills. In July 2012, the historic preservation architect of the Florida Division of Historic Resources issued an approval of the Historic Structures Report and 100% Construction Documents for the rehabilitation work currently underway.

³ *Government House: The 1935 U.S. Post Office and Customs House, St. Augustine, Florida*, Historic Structure Report, May 31st, 2012, p. 4-12.

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SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

Government House is nominated to the National Register for **local significance** under **Criterion A** in the areas of **Social History** and **Conservation**, and under **Criterion C** in the area of **Architecture**. The building is significant for its association with the Public Works Administration (PWA) and Works Progress Administration (WPA), two of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal agencies. Combating unemployment and assisting communities with improving their public buildings and infrastructure, the New Deal programs represented the growing importance of government at the local, state, and Federal levels during the Great Depression. The building was designed for post office, customs collection, and other Federal government functions and was designed as a historic building "restoration," though it did not conform to restoration work as understood today, or to restoration work as it was being performed concurrently on two other New Deal projects in Florida, the Gregory House at Torreya State Park and Fort Clinch, which became state parks. The "restoration" of Government House in the 1935 design does not conform to today's standards for a "restoration" under the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings. It did, however, conform to the model of "restoration" used by Colonial Williamsburg in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Government House retains integrity as a postal facility.

Government House is nominated under "**Florida's New Deal Resources Multiple Property Submission,**" (MPS) under the **historic associated context** "**New Deal in Florida, 1933-1943,**" and the **F.1 property type,** "**Buildings.**"

In the Multiple Property Submission for Florida's New Deal Resources, in Section E, pages 43-44, the following paragraphs substantiate the historical and architectural significance of Government House:

Completed in 1935 [1937], St. Augustine's post office linked old with new and inspired the Ancient City's later preservation movement. The Federal project rebuilt and enlarged one of the city's prominent colonial buildings—the Governor's House at the west end of the Plaza. Built in 1706, the building had been renovated, enlarged, and rebuilt over time, including in 1833 when the Department of Treasury's architect Robert Mills had designed a post office and Federal building at the site. During the New Deal, Jacksonville architect Mellen Greeley prepared the architectural renderings for the rebuilding of the new structure, adapting a historic form for use as a post office, but significantly enlarging the original building. Still, the overall form, massing, style, and materials associated the new building with St. Augustine's colonial past and prolific use of coquina and stucco. Funding for the project came directly from the Treasury Department, PWA, and WPA.

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Inspired by the rebuilding of the Governor's House and preservation activities at Williamsburg, Virginia, St. Augustine's residents and politicians formed the city's nascent historic preservation movement. They included Mayor Walter B. Fraser of St. Augustine and members of the St. Augustine Historical Society. Developing an association with the Carnegie Institution, the City and Institution formed a National Committee for the Preservation and Restoration of Historic St. Augustine. Verne E. Chatelain, chief historian of NPS and a staff member of the Institution, made a series of recommendations that included restoration of the Oldest House, making it into a respectable museum, razing or moving modern buildings, and redirecting traffic patterns. Chatelain was appointed director of the restoration program, which was financed by the Carnegie Institution and local sources. World War II curtailed the nascent effort that had been spawned, in part, by the New Deal rebuilding of Government House.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

St. Augustine

St. Augustine was established in 1565 as a municipality and church headquarters. It served as a base for Catholic priests to set up a chain of missions that stretched from upper Georgia's coastal regions to present-day Tallahassee, Florida. The town plan for St. Augustine was laid out in 1598 according to the Laws of the Indies, in which Spain specified an urban template consisting of a rectangular plaza with lots for the "government palace" and other official functions.

Government House is located on the same site as the succession of Governor's "palaces" or houses that were used as residences and administrative offices. The third Governor's house was constructed in 1713 of coquina walls. In 1763, what is known today as Florida came under British control. Florida returned to Spanish control in 1783, where it remained until 1821, when it became a United States territory. In 1845, Florida became a state. From 1598 to 1821, Government House served as the administrative center of colonial Florida.

In 1821, the United States conducted an inventory of Federal properties in Florida and referred to this building as Government House. After 1821, the building was used for various U.S. government functions, including a military hospital and quarters for Federal troops during the Civil War and later a courthouse, custom house, and a post office. Renovations of the building during 1833-1834, designed by architect Robert Mills and carried out by Elias Wallen, and another renovation in 1873, designed by architect William M. Kimball, changed the building's massing, floor plan, and height. During the 19th century, the plaza was diminished in size because of the widening of the surrounding streets.

During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the building had evolved into a rectangular building, as indicated in the 1884 and 1910 Sanborn maps. As evidenced in a 1910 view (Photo 32) and 1922 view (Photo 33) of the

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building, the rectangular building was lined with two-story wooden porches along the north and south elevations. Although its appearance differed from that of the colonial and Civil War periods, at this time, it served as the center of the community, as a post office, meeting place, and source of pride in the city's Spanish heritage. The building was variously called the "former Spanish Governor's Palace," "Government House," "Custom House," and "Post Office."

Florida's New Deal Resources

The historic context for the nomination of Government House to the National Register of Historic Places is detailed in the document, "Florida's New Deal Resources" Multiple Property Submission cover form that the National Register program in Washington, DC, accepted in 2005. The document, "Florida's New Deal Resources," provides a detailed history of the development of New Deal programs to address the severe economic distress and widespread joblessness caused by the Great Depression. The "Florida's New Deal Resources" document focuses on the assistance provided by the New Deal programs to Florida that included schools, roads, airports, bridges, hospitals, playgrounds, public parks, and other infrastructure projects. The St. Augustine Civic Center was a product of the New Deal programs and was nominated to and listed in the National Register under the "Florida's New Deal Resources" cover form in 2005.

Post offices constituted a major building type supported through the New Deal programs of the Public Works Administration (PWA) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA) funding sources. In Section E of the cover form, pages 41-42, the narrative states that:

... post offices were among the most celebrated federal projects in the state's towns and cities. Most of Florida's New Deal post offices and indeed almost all federal buildings of the era were built with the benefit of funding through the PWA. In most cases, resources were derived directly from appropriations through the Department of the Treasury supplemented with PWA funds. In a few cases, WPA laborers supplemented the labor supplied by private contractors. With few exceptions, plans for the buildings were drafted by the Department of the Treasury's Office of the Supervising Architect.

The "Florida's New Deal Resources" document summarizes the role of the Supervising Architect's Office in overseeing the design and construction of post offices funded through the New Deal programs. Supervising Architect Louis A. Simon and his staff prepared plans for numerous post offices in Florida, including those in Arcadia, Orlando, Panama City, Palm Beach, Sarasota, Winter Haven, and Pensacola. The cover form states: "The architectural styles for these post offices included Art Deco, Classical Revival, Colonial Revival, and Mediterranean Revival. For some communities, a new post office represented one of the few if not the only PWA or New Deal building within their municipal boundaries or even within the county."

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In the discussion of significance of Florida's New Deal resources, the cover form states:

Possessing historical significance for their association with Florida's role in the New Deal, Florida's New Deal buildings represent the first national effort to link local, state, and national government agencies. The economic and social experiment increased employment and upgraded the built fabric of the nation. Part of an aggressive national public works program, the interrelated collection of facilities developed throughout America during the New Deal improved the lives of the nation's citizens. Consequently, Florida's New Deal buildings represent an important type of historic architecture that reflects the state's New Deal heritage.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN FLORIDA

Previous Historic Preservation Efforts in St. Augustine

Given its age, it is not surprising that St. Augustine was the site of early historic preservation efforts. In 1883, the St. Augustine Historical Society was founded and was dedicated to the preservation of the city's historic buildings, as well as artifacts, documents, and maps. In 1899, the Society acquired its first colonial house, known as the Vedder Museum, and its contents. This building was lost in a 1914 fire. The Society later managed the historic Fort Marion, renamed the Castillo de San Marcos National Monument, for the War Department until 1933, when management of national monuments was transferred to the National Park Service. (In 1924, President Calvin Coolidge designated the property a national monument. In 1942, Congress formally changed the fort's name to the Castillo de San Marcos in honor of its Spanish heritage).

Throughout the first half of the 20th century, the Society acquired other colonial-era properties. In addition to the Society's activities, in 1906, a group of St. Augustine women successfully opposed municipal plans to demolish the pillars of the City Gate, an "early example of concern for preserving the historic city."⁴ The impressive coquina pillars of City Gate marked the eastern terminus of *El Camino Real*, or Royal Highway, that extended west to present-day Tallahassee and beyond. In 1928, architect F.A. Hollingsworth designed alterations for the old 1898 St. Augustine Waterworks Pumping Station for the conversion of the building into a community center. The alterations maintained many of the essential features and would today be considered a rehabilitation. It is a very early example of adaptive use in St. Augustine.

⁴ William R. Adams, *St. Augustine and St. Johns County: A Historical Guide*, Sarasota, FL: Pineapple Press, Inc., p. 19.

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Other Historic Preservation Efforts in Florida

Early 1900s

As with the federal government, some of the earliest historic preservation efforts in Florida were related to battlefields. In 1899, the Florida legislature authorized the erection of a monument at Olustee Battlefield, the site of Florida's largest engagement during the Civil War, and in 1909 the state bought three acres to build a memorial there. Olustee Battlefield became Florida's first historic site in 1912, and went on to become a state park in 1949. In 1921, the legislature appropriated funds to preserve the Dade Battlefield, site of the military engagement that triggered the Second Seminole War in 1835, as a memorial. That same year, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, under the authority of the Florida legislature, erected a monument at the site of the Civil War Battle of Natural Bridge.

1920s

The idea of historic preservation was greatly inspired across the nation by the work to preserve Williamsburg, Virginia, begun in 1926 with funding from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. An example of private efforts at the same time in Florida is the work done by the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC), who purchased the Gamble Mansion property in Manatee County in 1925 (NR 2011). A hurricane in 1921 had severely damaged the building, and the UDC wanted to restore the house to its "wartime condition" and to create the Judah P. Benjamin Memorial, in honor of Benjamin's service to the Confederate States of America as its Secretary of State. As the Confederacy collapsed in 1865, Benjamin escaped and made his way successfully to England by way of Florida. It is believed he spent some time at the Gamble Mansion along the way. The Florida legislature appropriated \$10,000 for restoration work and created a Gamble Mansion Commission to oversee the work, and provided an additional \$24,000 toward the effort. In return, the legislature required that the property be deeded over to the State. The mansion remained under UDC management until 1949, when the organization transferred the property to Florida State Parks. The Gamble Mansion is the only antebellum property in Florida that was preserved and rehabilitated to serve as a Confederate shrine and museum. The work done to the property would not be considered "restoration" by today's standards, but was important as a manifestation of the second wave of post-Civil War memorialization.

The 1920s also saw interest in archaeological sites in Florida. In 1926, Indian Mound Park was created in Pompano Beach as an archaeological park and given to the City of Pompano. In 1958, it was dedicated as a city park and bird sanctuary. It is the oldest example of historic preservation in Broward County. It is perhaps the third oldest surviving historic preservation effort in South Florida, following the 1925 creation of the El Portal Indian Mound Park, and the preservation through relocation of the 1844 masonry Fort Dallas Barracks into

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Lummas Park by the Daughters of the American Revolution, with funding assistance from the Miami Woman's Club⁵.

1930s: Civilian Conservation Corps Restoration Work and Creation of Florida State Parks

General public interest in statewide historic preservation expanded during the Depression as restorations became part of the mission of federal and state programs in the mid-1930s. The Florida Writer's Project and the Historic American Buildings Survey both pioneered the systematic statewide collection of local historical information. Early 1930s-era preservation programs were further augmented by the inclusion of historic sites within the newly created state park system, established in 1935, and with the growing importance of historic sites to Florida's fledgling tourist industry.

In 1935, the Neal Lumber Company saved the Gregory House, an antebellum house that was originally built at Ocheese Landing on the west side of the Apalachicola River, by donating it to the State of Florida. The house could be seen across the Apalachicola River from the high bluffs that were part of the site of Torreya State Park, one of the first units in the newly created Florida State Park Service. The thought was to move the Gregory House over to the park, where it could be used as a clubhouse for park visitors. The house was disassembled, floated downriver, and reassembled and restored by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). As described in the local newspaper,

They acquired the house, in a dilapidated condition, but with much of its timber as good as the day it had been built. . . the job of reassembling the house was tedious and slow. At least 95 percent of the original lumber had been saved, and the missing pieces were replaced with new lumber, matching as nearly as possible the old. Most of the flooring was unsound, so the house was refloored throughout as it had been the original house, using wide and narrow boards alternately, placed down with pegs. . . The front porch has the tall square white columns typical of its period. The original columns were preserved. . . In the hallway there is a long staircase with a delicately carved mahogany banister which was imported from France a century ago. All except one section of the rail is original wood.

The work on the Gregory House and Torreya State Park was completed by 1940 (Figures 4 & 5).⁶

⁵ Michele Williams for the City of Pompano Beach. Pompano Beach Mound National Register nomination proposal, 2013.

⁶ "Torreya Park Nearly Ready," *Chattahoochee Tribune*, October 3, 1941. In Record Group 155, Series 1270, Box 1.

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Also in 1935, the CCC, with direction from the National Park Service, restored Fort Clinch, an antebellum fortification on Amelia Island, which opened as a state park in 1938 (Figures 6 & 7). C.L. Johnson, the Assistant Historian for the National Park Service, discussed the Fort Clinch project in his daily report for May 18, 1936. Referring to Fort Pulaski in Savannah, he had previously commented that one fort restoration was enough on the southeast coast, and that Fort Clinch was the better choice. There were differences of opinion, however, between Johnson and C.H. Schaeffer, the director of the Florida State Park Service, as to what approach to preservation should be applied. According to Johnson, Schaeffer considered Fort Clinch to be "an interesting old ruin and that repair should be held to the minimum necessary to prevent hazards to the visiting public and to prevent further deterioration. In other words, to hold the present condition with safety. Clean-up, grading, grassing to be restricted to small sample area." Schaeffer felt Fort Clinch should be preserved as a ruin. Johnson maintained, however, that too much restoration work had been done under his own direction already, and that to abandon the restoration at that point would leave Fort Clinch as an incomplete project. His description of the work already completed demonstrated that meticulous attention had been paid to truly restoring the fort's buildings and grounds. He suggested a compromise that would restore Fort Clinch to its 1867 appearance based on historic documentation and practice at other forts. Johnson's recommendations were followed and his already-completed restoration work remained in place. Today, Fort Clinch is a Florida State Park and presents the fort and life there as it was in 1867.⁷

1940s-1950s

Florida's explosive growth the 1940s and 1950s provided the catalyst for the development of coordinated statewide preservation action. This rapid change, though beneficial to many sections of the state's population and economy, threatened to destroy much of Florida's remaining historical resources. The statutory creation of the preservation board in St. Augustine in 1959 officially launched not only the major thrust to carry out preservation in St. Augustine as envisioned by the Carnegie Institution in the 1930s, but also ushered in a new era of statewide historic resources protection.

1960s

The 1960s saw increased state governmental involvement in preservation efforts in Florida. In 1961, both the Florida Board of Antiquities and the position of State Archaeologist were created. Even so, prior to the passage of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 98-665), and the subsequent Florida Archives and History Act of 1967, Florida's statewide preservation programs developed in a sporadic and disjointed

⁷ C.L. Johnson, Asst. Historian, Region One, District E, [National Park Service] Atlanta, Georgia, to R.E. Appleman, Regional Officer, Region 1, National Park Service, Richmond, Virginia. Report on Fort Clinch Work Program, May 10, 1937. Record Group 510, Series 1951, Box 1, File Folder 58, Florida State Archives, Tallahassee.

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pattern. Although some early continuity had been provided by the Florida Historical Society, the Florida Anthropological Society, the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects, Florida State Parks, and other professional and amateur groups, no coordinated statewide preservation movement actually existed. The passage of the Florida Archives and History Act (Chapter 267, Florida Statutes) in 1967 reorganized the old Board of Antiquities into the Florida Board of Archives and History. This action consolidated a wide variety of preservation functions from several state agencies into a single governmental entity.

Through state government reorganization in 1969, the Florida Board of Archives and History became the Division of Archives, History, and Records Management under the Florida Department of State. In 1986, Chapter 267 was amended as the Florida Historical Resources Act, and the Division of Archives, History, and Records Management was renamed the Division of Historical Resources (DHR), Florida's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Since that time, DHR has continued to provide leadership in instituting many state level preservation programs that now exist in Florida.⁸ A non-profit statewide organization, the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, was founded in 1978.

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN PROCESS

The United States government agency responsible for the design of the U.S. Post Office in St. Augustine was the Supervising Architect's Office, which was located within the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Both the Treasury Department and the Customs Service were established in 1789. Custom duties constituted a large portion of the revenue for the early Federal government and were vital to the welfare of the new nation. The Treasury Department assumed responsibility for the construction of Federal government buildings because of its responsibility for the collection of customs duties and the need to house these functions. During the first half of the 19th century, the Secretary of the Treasury was directly involved in the design and construction of custom houses in the United States. By the early 1850s, the number of buildings increased to the point where the architectural and construction responsibilities were centralized within the Bureau of Construction headed by a member of the Corps of Engineers and a subordinate Supervising Architect. By the beginning of the Civil War, the Corps left the Bureau of Construction and the Supervising Architect position oversaw the design and construction of not only custom houses, but also Federal courthouses and post offices. Often, all three functions were contained in a single building.

The Supervising Architect's Office remained in the Treasury Department until 1939 and was headed by a succession of 15 men, most of them architects. Over its history, this office designed thousands of Federal government facilities that covered a wide range of Federal functions and locations throughout the nation. The most visible were post offices, custom houses, and courthouses. As the Federal government grew, this office

⁸ Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. *More Than Orange Marmalade: A Statewide Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan for Florida*, 1995, p. 1.

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also oversaw the design and construction of large, multi-purpose Federal office buildings. In 1933, with the development of Federal government programs to address the effects of the Great Depression, the office was placed in the Procurement Division within the Treasury Department and incorporated into the Public Works Branch. Architect W. E. Reynolds was the assistant director of the Procurement Division and assigned to oversee the Public Works Branch. The Supervising Architect at this point was James A. Wetmore, who served as Acting Supervising Architect from 1915 to 1934. A lawyer by training, Wetmore elected not to assume the title on a permanent basis because he was not an architect. Under Wetmore, architect Louis E. Simon oversaw the architectural work of the office. When Wetmore retired in 1934, Simon, at the age of 66, succeeded him. Simon retired in 1941.

In 1939, with the winding down of Depression-era programs and the gearing up of wartime preparations, the Supervising Architect's Office was removed entirely from the Treasury Department and became part of the Public Buildings Administration of the independent Federal Works Agency. With this move, Reynolds became the commissioner of public buildings. In 1949, this function was moved into the new General Services Administration, where responsibility for Federal government buildings remains to this day. Reynolds retired in 1954.⁹

Over the years of its existence within the Treasury Department, the Supervising Architect's Office played an important role in bringing the presence of the Federal government to thousands of communities in the form of post offices, custom houses, Federal courthouses, and Federal office buildings. Because of the office's high visibility, the private architects, represented by the American Institute of Architects, devoted years to lobbying to remove control over design work from the government architects and instead to place this important work in the hands of the private sector. During brief periods during the end of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, most notably during the Tarsney Act period (1897-1912), private architects were involved in designing Federal government buildings on a competitive basis and later on a contractual basis. During the 1930s, the Federal government made an effort to address the economic distress in the architectural profession by hiring private architects, like Mellen Clark Greeley, to design Federal buildings. At other times during the 1930s, it was felt that obtaining designs from private architects took longer than from government architects, which delayed the initiation of construction and the badly needed construction jobs that ensued. After World War II and the formation of the General Services Administration, the Public Buildings Service exercised primarily administrative and contractual responsibilities over the design work carried out by private architects.

In its function within the Federal government, the Supervising Architect's Office was an "architectural firm" that employed architects to design Federal government buildings throughout the nation as well as to supervise their construction. The production of the Office during its history of nearly 90 years—from the early 1850s to

⁹ For a history of the Supervising Architect's Office, see Antoinette J. Lee, *Architects to the Nation: The Rise and Decline of the Supervising Architect's Office*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2000.

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1939—can be analyzed best as incorporating certain types of buildings. Large custom houses are found in major coastal cities like New York City and Boston. Smaller post offices are found throughout the nation in both suburban areas and smaller communities. The output also can be studied as evolving through definable historical periods, such as the antebellum Bureau of Construction period through the period of Alfred B. Mullett, the Gilded Age period, the Academic Classicism period, the 1920s period of affluence, and the Great Depression of the 1930s. An architectural operation of this scale, scope, and reach makes Federal buildings a significant building type, with individual buildings evaluated as representative of their respective periods of development and functions (large urban custom house, small post office, etc.).

Federal government buildings were more than buildings to house governmental functions. They played an important symbolic role in the period during which the Supervising Architect's Office produced designs for Federal buildings. In the pre-mass communication period, Federal government buildings were viewed as a means for the Federal government to communicate "democratic ideals, reflecting a growing sense of national identity." These buildings served as major architectural icons in the urban landscape and were often the largest buildings in the commercial center of towns and cities. They served as "unifying symbols that reflected authority and stability." During the Academic Classicism period, Federal buildings "bespoke the power, influence, and self-assurance of a nation on the brink of world leadership."¹⁰ Today, these messages are less evident in new federal architecture, given modern technologies that communicate the Federal government's functions and activities. The decline in the importance of post office services and customs collection also contributes to lessened architectural opportunities for the Federal government.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Mellen Clark Greeley, Architect

The architect of the St. Augustine Post Office was Jacksonville native Mellen Clark Greeley (1880-1981). He studied architecture under J. H. W. Hawkins from 1901 to 1908. (Hawkins was born in New York City, but moved to Jacksonville after its Great Fire of 1901. He designed many residences, commercial buildings, and churches in the city.) Greeley established his own practice in 1909. He was architect of many schools, apartment houses, residences, club houses, and churches throughout Jacksonville. Greeley became a member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1921.

During the 1930s, formerly busy and prosperous architectural practices collapsed under the weight of the Great Depression. Despite the economic challenges, Greeley applied for and was accepted as a Fellow of the AIA in 1934. Greeley was active in architectural organizations, including a number based in Florida and served as an

¹⁰ The chapter, "Prelude," in Lee, *Architects to the Nation*, addresses the ways in which Federal government buildings communicated political, social, and economic messages to the public.

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appointed member of various local commissions and boards. In 1958, at the end of his career, Greeley was granted the status of Member Emeritus of the AIA. By that time, he was referred to as the "Dean of Florida Architects." He died in 1981 at the age of 101.¹¹

In 1969, Greeley produced an oral history of his life and career called "Musings of Mellen Clark Greeley, Written in His Anec-Dotage, 1880-1963." In the transcribed version of the history, he recalled how he came to be selected to design the St. Augustine Post Office. In 1931, he received an unexpected telephone call asking about his interest in the commission to design the St. Augustine post office. Because of the lack of work in his office, Greeley received this inquiry with considerable excitement and regarded the project as a "godsend." The only possible connection was his effort spent on being considered for the design work on one of two Federal buildings being considered in Jacksonville. The phone call directed him to contact someone in Washington, a step that "began one of the most pleasant architectural projects ever to come my way."¹² The St. Augustine post office project allowed him to keep his office open until the economy improved.

"RESTORATION" DESIGN

The new U.S. Post Office in St. Augustine was constructed between 1935 and 1937 on the site previously occupied by the older post office. Its architect, Mellen Clark Greeley, designed the building in the Spanish colonial style to be compatible with the restoration aspirations of the city of St. Augustine. The historic coquina stone walls that dated from earlier construction and renovation periods were incorporated into the new building.

Because postal functions were located in the building on the historical site of the Governor's House, the creation of a new, modern postal facility with more space raised the question of either constructing a new building on a new site or a reuse of the extant building on the site. Public disagreement over the location of the new postal facility delayed commencement of the construction process.

However, as early as 1926-1927, plans had been prepared. The appearance of the building and the identity of the architect of these plans are unknown. Possibly, the Supervising Architect's Office staff architects designed the 1926-1927 plans. By this time, the Supervising Architect's Office had settled on design precedents set in the early 20th century under the management of James Knox Taylor as Supervising Architect (1897-1912). "Nearly all the federal buildings designed under Taylor can be classified as classical or colonial revival. By the turn of the century, these styles were well entrenched in the architectural vocabulary throughout the country.... These

¹¹ For biographical information on Mellen Clark Greeley, see his membership file with the American Institute of Architects, Washington, DC.

¹² "Exerpts from 'Musings of Mellen Clark Greeley Written in His Anec-Dotage, 1880-1963,'" May 19, 1969, University of Florida Collections, p. 16.

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buildings...were reflective of the predominant national taste in architecture.”¹³ There was no stated policy of designing buildings to conform to a locality’s architectural traditions. In fact, in the 1910s and 1920s, the trend was toward standardized designs for Federal government buildings.

In 1933, architect Greeley was contracted to produce a design for a new building. Greeley’s 1933 design was made for “an entirely new building to harmonize with the architecture of old St. Augustine and to be located on Government owned land on Cordova Street between Cathedral and King Streets directly opposite the famed Ponce de Leon Hotel and near the Alcazar Hotel.”¹⁴ The details of this earlier design are unknown because the drawings have not survived. However, the Supervising Architect’s Office staff had already calculated that the needed square footage measured more than twice the size of the existing building—from 4,500 square feet to 11,000 square feet. In this staff report, it was stated: “When it was contemplated in 1926 and 1927 to remodel the building (plans having been made and bids received), there was so much agitation against the scheme that the project was deferred. The foundation of the adverse agitation by the citizens of St. Augustine was the historical value placed upon the old building.”¹⁵ This agitation likely resulted because the community fondly regarded the current post office as a link to the city’s old Spanish heritage and could not accept the idea that the old post office building might be remodeled into yet another configuration.

Most cities welcomed the arrival of new Federal government buildings because they were justified based on postal receipts and Federal government activities in the locality. A new government building was a reassuring sign of the city’s economic viability and continuing importance to conducting Federal government functions. Few cities complained about the design of the Federal building intended for their locality or expressed dissatisfaction with the location or materials. St. Augustine was different. The city had a long tradition of citizen activism when matters concerned the city’s dense concentration of historic buildings, the ability of these attractions to lure visitors, and the economic activities that visitors generated. The city’s mayor, Walter B. Fraser, and the managing editor of its daily newspaper, *The St. Augustine Record*, Nina Hawkins, championed historic preservation as a key to the city’s future. These circumstances made the St. Augustine post office project one of the most unusual in the history of the Supervising Architect’s Office. By the late 1930s, the success of the Williamsburg restoration as a tourism magnet and the resulting economic benefits provided a vivid example of what could happen in St. Augustine.

¹³ *Architects to the Nation*, pp. 209-210, describes the designs under James Knox Taylor and efforts to standardize the design of smaller federal buildings during and after his administration.

¹⁴ Mellen C. Greeley, “A Description of the Proposed New Federal Post Office and Custom House, January 27, 1936, p. 2.

¹⁵ Superintendent, AE Division to James A. Wetmore, January 4, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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As disagreement over the future of the city's post office dragged on, Congressman J. Mark Wilcox wrote to Acting Supervising Architect James A. Wetmore on December 18, 1933: "St. Augustine has a distinctive type of architecture, being as you know, the oldest city in America and having been founded by the Spanish in the early period of our history. The new building should harmonize with the general architectural scheme of the city. It is probable that the present building might be so remodeled so as to afford ample space and convenience for the public, and at the same time conform to the general architectural plan of the city."¹⁶

By the time that New Deal funds became available for public buildings projects, the city of St. Augustine organized a Post Office Committee to agitate for funds to support a new post office facility. Harry H. Saunders, Chairman of the Post Office Committee, wrote to Silliman Evans, Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, asking about the long-sought building project. In early 1934, he wrote: "St. Augustine seems to be fast becoming the 'Forgotten City' in the matter of a new Federal building."¹⁷ The new location identified in 1933 was judged to be unacceptable because the remains of Confederate General William Wing Loring rested under the monument on the land immediately west of the existing post office upon which it was proposed to erect the new building. "Another reason was the desire that the splendid park at the west end of the Plaza be kept unobstructed; and a third reason was the desire of all to retain the old building under Government supervision so that it would not be allowed to fall into worse repair."¹⁸

Architect Greeley referred to a meeting in April 1933, where Reynolds met with St. Augustine leaders and civic groups and heard their requests and suggestions. After this meeting, "Mr. Reynolds instructed the Architect [Greeley] to make studies of the new scheme, the old building intact, or if that were impossible, to utilize as much of it as found feasible, and to restore the part so used to conform in appearance to the picture bearing date of 1764."¹⁹

Although earlier recommendations coming out of St. Augustine argued against remodeling the existing building on the site, the prospect of an extended delay in obtaining this key Federal government investment changed the community's views on the subject. By 1934, J. W. Hoffmann, Chairman of the Post Office Committee, assembled an impressive list of St. Augustine organizations that approved of the "proposed restoration and enlargement of the present Post Office structure." He also cited the "unanimous approval of the citizens

¹⁶ J. Mark Wilcox to James A. Wetmore, December 18, 1933, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

¹⁷ Harry H. Saunders to Silliman Evans, January 8, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

¹⁸ Mellen C. Greeley, "A Description of the Proposed New Federal Post Office and Custom House," January 27, 1936, p. 2.

¹⁹ Ibid.

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generally throughout the city of St. Augustine.”²⁰ Hoffman further described the prospect of the “exterior to be constructed along the lines of the Spanish Governor’s Mansion, and the interior, of course, to be a modern Post Office.”²¹ In subsequent correspondence to officials of the Treasury Department, Hoffman continued to use the terms “restoration” and “conform with the old Spanish Governor’s Mansion” in the desired approach to the post office project. Even with this agreement, individual protests against the plan caused Assistant Director of Procurement at the Treasury Department W. E. Reynolds to write: “It would be humanly impossible to always select a site satisfactory to everyone.”²²

In May 1934, the Treasury Department directed architect Greeley to study the feasibility of using the old building for a post office. As Greeley described his instructions, “I was instructed to accede if possible to the wishes of the citizens of St. Augustine, that the old building be restored and preserved as a historic monument.” In Greeley’s opinion, the building was more English in appearance than Spanish. Responding to the wishes of the citizens of St. Augustine, the Spanish tradition would be restored to the building. Greeley anticipated “using the shell of the old building only . . . [and] building a new floor structure inside the shell.” Even so, the old building’s size of 4,680 square feet would need to be enlarged to 6,360 square feet.²³ Because the current design was entirely different from the one that Greeley had produced in 1933, his old contract was terminated and a new one executed.

In the summer of 1934, W. E. Reynolds traveled to St. Augustine to meet with Congressman Wilcox and Postmaster J. Herman Mauncy to finalize the plans for the post office project. During that visit, Reynolds stated that he was in favor of “the plan of restoration,” even if it would entail additional expense over the cost of an entirely new building. Congressman Wilcox argued that the Federal government had already spent money on the restoration and preservation of “historic spots” and it was therefore justifiable that needed Federal government funds be spent on the restoration of the St. Augustine building.²⁴ In 1935, the appropriation of \$200,000 for the building was increased to \$217,935.²⁵

²⁰ J. W. Hoffman to J. Mark Wilcox, May 5, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²¹ J. W. Hoffman to W. J. Sears, May 7, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²² W. E. Reynolds to J. H. Hempsted, September 24, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²³ Mellen C. Greeley to W. E. Reynolds, June 4, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²⁴ “Government Officials Impressed,” *The St. Augustine Record*, article attached to letter from J. E. Hempsted to Henry L. Morgantheau, August 3, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²⁵ “Post Office Building Dedicated,” *The St. Augustine Record*, February 22, 1937, p. 1.

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By January 1935, Greeley received survey drawings of the old building. Because of the special requirements of the project, Greeley asked for more time than would be required for an average post office design. He cited the reasons for the delay: “. . . the old building must be given special consideration and its historic features must be given special attention.”²⁶ The Supervising Architect’s Office was concerned about these delays and dispatched several of its own staff architects to Jacksonville to assist Greeley with the completion of the drawings and specifications for much of the summer of 1935. By September 30, proposals were solicited for the building’s construction. On December 9, the firm of James I. Barnes of Springfield, Ohio, was selected as the contractor.

Within a few weeks of the awarding of the construction contract, the historic walls were threatened with collapse. Even before the construction began, the contractor expressed concern about the stability of the building’s coquina walls while steel piles were driven into the ground. The contractor suggested the removal and rebuilding of the walls.

On January 24, 1936, the second floor walls collapsed. The perceived threat to the “sacred walls” caused alarm on the part of St. Augustine citizens. Some of the wooden posts, beams, and lintels had been destroyed by termites, causing the stone work to loosen and leaving large cavities in the walls. A solution was worked out among the parties involved. The decision was made to remove and rebuild the second story walls. The first floor walls remained intact. Architect Greeley wrote: “it was suggested that as long as the old stones were used in the old wall in the exact location where they had always been, there could be no desecration of the old building.” The contractor agreed to hold in place as much as possible of the first story of the north and south walls of the old building. Where the cavities needed repair, the old stones from the second story would be used. Any new masonry would be confined to the second story.²⁷ The east wall was considered to be constructed of better masonry and was kept in its entirety.

Even with the agreement on the treatment of the walls, observers decried what appeared to be the Federal government’s destruction of large sections of the building and cited Williamsburg as the model of what ought to be happening. In response to these protests, Reynolds responded with:

The remodeling of the present building will preserve such portions of the walls of the old structure as are structurally sound, and, when completed, the new structure will be virtually a reproduction of the old building as it appeared before it was remodeled in 1834. It is believed that when the public understands fully that this reconstruction is much similar to the Rockefeller

²⁶ Mellen C. Greeley to Office of the Supervising Architect, July 30, 1935, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

²⁷ Mellen C. Greeley to W. E. Reynolds, January 28, 1936, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

reconstruction at Williamsburg to which you refer, the present objections to the proposed rebuilding will disappear.²⁸

The treatment of the exterior stucco and coquina stone exemplified an effort to protect the remaining walls and rebuild the rest so that both parts could be seen as a "whole." Architect Greeley asked that the face of the brick work be set slightly back from the face of the stone so that the stucco could "feather-edge" or taper off against the stone, with an irregular line (not a straight-line). "The effect desired is that of an old building which has been patched and rebuilt and on which the stucco has fallen off in some places."²⁹ Supervising Architect Louis E. Simon approved Greeley's plan for the stucco on the building (Photo 34).

In a summary of the building's design, Architect Greeley wrote:

The exterior of the building has been designed to correspond as far as possible with the original picture bearing date of 1764, which was adopted as the key-note of the restoration. The high pitched roof with gables has been copied from the picture, also the balcony on the east façade. The roof over the new wings and the balconies on the north and south fronts are designed to conform to the original as shown in the [1764] picture. The original high wall which inclosed (sic) the garden of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries has been replaced with a low wall which forms the two boundaries of the garden . . .³⁰

The building was dedicated on February 22, 1937. Mayor Walter B. Fraser arranged for the dedication to be scheduled on George Washington's Birthday, a national holiday, so that the school children would be free to attend the ceremony. Mayor Fraser also asked business owners to let their employees take off time from work to attend the ceremony. The city of St. Augustine and the Federal agencies represented in the building cooperated on a dignified dedication ceremony. J. Austin Latimer, who represented Postmaster General James A. Farley, gave a presentation that praised the building as the oldest public building in the United States.³¹ Mayor Fraser thanked the Federal government for deviating from the usual plan for public buildings in allowing for the

²⁸ W. E. Reynolds to Mr. and Mrs. John T. Findley, February 17, 1936, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD. Reynolds made reference to Williamsburg because the restoration of the colonial city in Virginia, involving reconstructions of formerly extant buildings and restorations of standing structures, set the standard for the 1920s and 1930s for other cities.

²⁹ Mellen C. Greeley to W. E. Reynolds, November 7, 1936, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

³⁰ Mellen C. Greeley, "A Description of the Proposed New Federal Post Office and Custom House," January 27, 1936, p. 5.

³¹ "Post Office Building Dedicated," *The St. Augustine Record*, February 22, 1937, p. 1.

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ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

Spanish style building in keeping with its surroundings. Benedictions were given. Afterwards, a band concert entertained the crowd. Dignitaries from the State and locality were seated on the east balcony, including Verne E. Chatelain, who represented the Carnegie Institution of Washington.³² Between 1936 and 1940, the Carnegie Institution worked with the City of St. Augustine and other organizations in the historic, archeological, and photographic documentation of the city that would guide restoration projects.

The special attention paid to the St. Augustine post office building by U.S. Treasury officials was unlike other Federal government building projects, especially in the 1930s, when many post offices and other Federal government buildings were under design and construction throughout the nation to assist with the New Deal recovery efforts. The St. Augustine post office project involved providing a new facility for post office and other Federal government functions in a unique historical setting with deep historical roots. The community was already involved in private sector historic preservation activities. Investment in a historic building on the part of the Federal government or an outside organization or individual could only boost this direction and the city's fortunes.

Other factors in the handling of the St. Augustine building included the fact that W. E. Reynolds, assistant director of the Procurement Division of the U.S. Treasury Department, was from Jacksonville, Florida. His brother, John F. Reynolds, was a member of the Jacksonville firm of builders and contractors, Hillyer and Reynolds.³³ Before he assumed his position with the Procurement Division, W. E. Reynolds worked for the firm of Hillyer and Reynolds. As an architect, W. E. Reynolds was likely familiar with St. Augustine and its historic buildings and may have known the city's leaders. In addition, the example of the Williamsburg restoration demonstrated the desirability of restoring older buildings. The Federal government was in the process of implementing the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and its role in managing, restoring, and interpreting historic buildings could only grow larger over time. Although there is no specific documentation about why the St. Augustine building project was handled differently, the above factors likely were instrumental.

During the building's role as a Post Office, it housed not only postal functions, but also offices for the U.S. Customs Service, Department of Agriculture county agents, the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Park Service, and U.S. Justice Department Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents. As such, the site of Government House maintained its role as the seat of government functions for nearly 370 years, from 1598 to 1966.

³² Ibid., p. 3.

³³ "Government Officials Impressed, Treasury Representative Says He Approves," newspaper clipping attached to letter, J. E. Hempsted to Henry Morgenthau, August 3, 1934, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, 1933-1939, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Government House is one of the very few, if not the only, “restorations” of a historic property for Federal government functions that the Supervising Architect’s Office undertook during any time in its evolution from the 1850s to the late 1930s. The usual approach was to produce or commission a new design for a new building that housed post office, Federal courthouse, custom house, and other Federal government functions.

Because of significant investment by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Colonial Williamsburg became the pioneer in restoration research and restoration standards. The National Park Service assumed major responsibilities for the management of historic properties with the issuance of the Presidential Executive Order 6166 of 1933 that consolidated Federal historic sites and national parks under the National Park Service. One of the National Park Service’s first restorations of a historic building occurred in 1934 with the Moore House in Yorktown, Virginia, which Rockefeller purchased and then sold to the National Park Service as part of the development of Colonial Parkway.

During the design and construction of the St. Augustine post office building, both the Supervising Architect’s Office and architect Mellen Greeley spoke of the building’s unique character within the highly regulated Federal architecture program. In requesting treatment of the stucco to resemble patching and rebuilding over the centuries, Greeley stated:

I realize that I am asking for something which has probably never been done before in a building for the Treasury Department, but the whole project is unusual. Also, the use of the old historical building in the schedule is unique and the work can be made outstanding by going a little more away from the usual without detriment to the utility of the building. In St. Augustine there are a number of beautiful examples of stone work such as I am asking for, where the stucco has come off in places and is intact in others. The Old Fort, the City Gates, etc., are examples.³⁴

When a request was made to include mention of the “restoration” in the official cornerstone, architect Greeley stated, “The fact that the building is probably the *only restoration* [emphasis added] of an historical building for use by Government Departments was perhaps not brought to the attention of the Supervising Architect, and, if that had been done perhaps the standard lettering might have been changed on the stone.”³⁵ Supervising Architect Simon responded to Greeley by stating that no further inscriptions should be placed on the cornerstone, but a tablet could be placed in the interior that would include interesting historical data.

³⁴ Mellen C. Greeley to W. E. Reynolds, November 7, 1936, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

³⁵ Mellen C. Greeley to W. E. Reynolds, January 7, 1937, Records for the St. Augustine Post Office, Record Group 121, Records of the Public Buildings Service, National Archives, College Park, MD.

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SIGNIFICANCE

In a 1936 explanation of the building's design, Greeley had earlier underscored the uniqueness of this building in the Federal government's architecture program. "What is unusual . . . is that the Government is now erecting a building in the City of St. Augustine, Florida, to house the Post Office and Custom House of that City, which is probably the most unique of all which the Government has ever built, and which is likely to be the only one of its kind ever to be built."³⁶

RETURN TO GOVERNMENT HOUSE

In 1966, a new post office was built in a different location in St. Augustine. The 1930s post office building was turned over to the General Services Administration, which deeded it to the State of Florida, in accordance with Public Law 616, enacted in 1949, which, authorized, when appropriate, the transfer of Federal property to states, for its use as the headquarters for historic preservation activities in the city. It then reassumed its 1821 name: Government House. Today, Government House is a contributing building within the St. Augustine Historic District and has retained a high degree of integrity reflecting the building's appearance from the 1935-1937 "restoration."

For St. Augustine, the city's role in the development of historic communities is secured through its pioneering work in historic preservation that dates back to the late 19th century. Like the rest of the nation, St. Augustine's leading citizens were greatly impressed with the success of the Williamsburg restoration and aimed to apply the lessons of Williamsburg's restoration to the Spanish colonial town on Florida's east coast. These strong sentiments shaped the "restoration" design for the St. Augustine post office, where a postal facility and offices for Federal government functions were housed in a historic encasement.

St. Augustine was unable to establish a historic open air museum as is found in Williamsburg, but, in the final analysis, that is its saving grace. St. Augustine remains a town for the living—where businesses, government agencies, residents, and visitors continue to use the town's historic buildings for everyday purposes. As Verne E. Chatelain of the Carnegie Institution of Washington stated:

. . . the City of St. Augustine is not merely a grave yard (sic) of past memories, but still exists as a changing and developing community. Therefore it was felt that the [St. Augustine History] program should promote legitimate community interests, for if such were the case then the

³⁶ Mellen C. Greeley, "A Description of the Proposed New Federal Post Office and Custom House, at St. Augustine, Florida," January 27, 1936, p. 1.

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SIGNIFICANCE

citizens could cooperate in practical fashion in the protection of their historical resources, recognizing in them an important factor in their own future prosperity.³⁷

In 2007, the University of Florida assumed responsibility for managing Government House and other state-owned historic properties in St. Augustine. Government House continues its role as the headquarters of the Florida state government's continuing stewardship of St. Augustine's historic properties and the ongoing vitality of this unique place in American history.

CONCLUSION

Government House did not employ true restoration techniques, such as the ones that were being applied at the same time by the CCC in the 1930s at two state parks, Torreya State Park and Fort Clinch. This is not surprising since the work of the Supervising Architect's Office was to build new Federal facilities, not to restore historic ones. Government House, therefore, is significant in the area of Conservation, not as a restoration, but as a demonstration of the importance historic preservation held in St. Augustine, an importance that was enough to persuade the Office of the Supervising Architect to pursue a course it had never before undertaken in building a new Federal facility, one that the agency did not repeat. The result of their work, however, was a new, yet distinctive building that evoked a sense of St. Augustine's history, with its mix of features that recalled both its Spanish and British heritage. The building is also significant for its architecture as an impressive display of craftsmanship and use of fine materials, including coquina and stucco, marble, terrazzo, wood, and bronze, and as the work of a master architect, Mellen Clarke Greeley.

³⁷ Verne E. Chatelain, "The St. Augustine Historical Program: A Statement of Its Organization, Purposes and Accomplishments," Verne E. Chatelain Collection, MC-41, Box 8, Folder 2, St. Augustine Historical Society, n.d., pp. 3-4.

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ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

Government House is located on the eastern half of Parcel #196195-0000, as recorded by the St. Johns County Property Appraiser. The city's legal description is: (5) City of St Aug, Old Post Office (AKA Govt. House) & Park, OR 96/158 (Q/C). The boundary excludes the Park and any property not owned by the State of Florida.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the area of the parcel that is historically associated with the enlargement of the St. Augustine post office building by the Federal government during 1935-1937 as part of the nation's New Deal program.

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GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOGRAPHS (two per 8 ½ x 11 sheet)

- 1 1) Government House, 48 King Street
- 2) St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida
- 3) William A. Triay, Photographer
- 4) May and June, 2013, date of photographs
- 5) 48 King Street, St. Augustine, FL, location of digital files
- 6) East elevation, camera facing west
- 7) 1 of 38

All information is the same for the remaining photographs, unless otherwise noted.

- 2 6) East elevation (left), north elevation (right), camera facing southwest
- 7) 2 of 38
- 3 6) North elevation, camera facing south
- 7) 3 of 38
- 4 6) North elevation (left) west elevation (right), camera facing southeast
- 7) 4 of 38
- 5 6) West elevation, camera facing east
- 7) 5 of 38
- 6 6) West elevation (left), south elevation (right), camera facing northeast
- 7) 6 of 38
- 7 6) South elevation, camera facing north
- 7) 7 of 38
- 8 6) South elevation (left), courtyard (right), camera facing northwest
- 7) 8 of 38
- 9 6) South courtyard façade, camera facing north
- 7) 9 of 38
- 10 6) Exterior door, north entrance, camera facing south
- 7) 10 of 38

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ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 11 6) Exterior door, east façade, camera facing west
 7) 11 of 38
- 12 6) Casement window, north façade, camera facing south
 7) 12 of 38
- 13 6) Main lobby, north entrance, camera facing north
 7) 13 of 38
- 14 6) Main lobby, south entrance, camera facing south
 7) 14 of 38
- 15 6) South lobby, camera facing south
 7) 15 of 38
- 16 6) Monumental stair, camera facing north
 7) 16 of 38
- 17 6) Monumental stair banister, camera facing northeast
 7) 17 of 38
- 18 6) East wing, first floor, main entrance, camera facing east
 7) 18 of 38
- 19 6) East wing, first floor, gallery, camera facing west
 7) 19 of 38
- 20 6) East wing, first floor, gallery, camera facing north
 7) 20 of 38
- 21 6) East wing, second floor, main entrance, camera facing east
 7) 21 of 38
- 22 6) East wing, second floor, entry to Room 201E, camera facing south
 7) 22 of 38
- 23 6) East wing, second floor, entry to Room 201A, camera facing west
 7) 23 of 38

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Section number _____ Photos _____ Page 3 GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 24 6) East wing, second floor, Room 201A, camera facing south
7) 24 of 38
- 25 6) East wing, second floor, Customs House Room, camera facing south
7) 25 of 38
- 26 6) East wing, second floor, Customs House Room, staircase leading to balcony, camera facing southeast
7) 26 of 38
- 27 6) East wing, second floor, Customs House Room, fireplace, camera facing northwest
7) 27 of 38
- 28 6) Second floor, Customs House Room, entry door, camera facing west
7) 28 of 38
- 29 6) Second floor, main hallway, restroom area, camera facing south
7) 29 of 38
- 30 6) Second floor, Room 213, camera facing southwest
7) 30 of 38
- 31 6) Second floor, Room 214, camera facing northeast
7) 31 of 38
- 32 3) Unknown
4) 1910
6) View of the 1910 St. Augustine Post Office Building
7) 32 of 38
- 33 3) Unknown
4) 1922
6) View of the St. Augustine Post Office Building, 1922
7) 33 of 38
- 34 6) View of Stucco treatment on exterior, showing "feather-edge" or tapering off of stucco against the
coquina, camera facing west
7) 34 of 38

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Section number _____ Photos _____ Page 4 GOVERNMENT HOUSE
ST. AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS COUNTY, FLORIDA
LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 35 3) Unknown
4) November 1764
6) *View of the Governor's House at St. Augustine, in E. Florida, Nov. 1764*
7) 35 of 38

36 Figure 1. Site Plan, Government House, location on Main Plaza

37 Figure 2. Floor Plan, first floor

38 Figure 3. Floor Plan, second floor

Figure 4. Gregory House at its original location on the west side of the Aplachicola River, rear elevation, 1936

Figure 5. Gregory House after its relocation to Torreya State Park, during reassemblage by Civilian Conservation Corps, 1937 or 1938.

Figure 6. Fort Clinch during restoration by Civilian Conservation Corps, ca. 1940.

Figure 7. Fort Clinch Parade Ground during restoration by the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1937.



Figure 4. Gregory House, on original site on west side of the Apalachicola River, 1936.

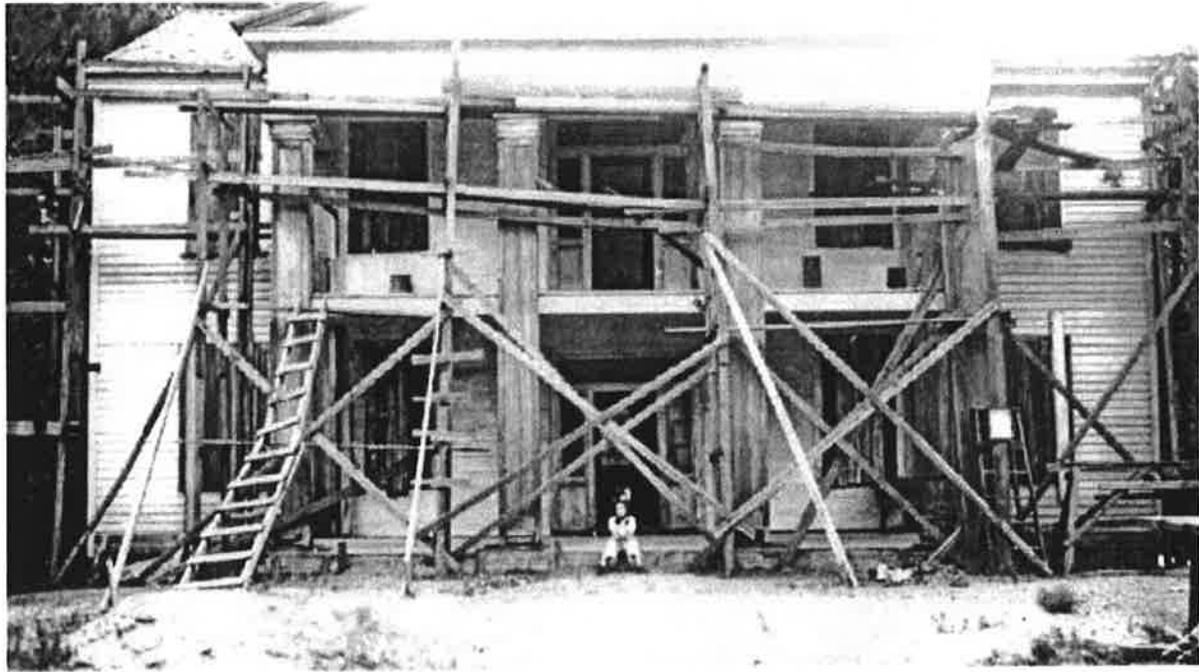


Figure 5. Gregory House after move to Torreya State Park, 1937 or 1938



Figure 6. Fort Clinch during restoration, ca. 1937

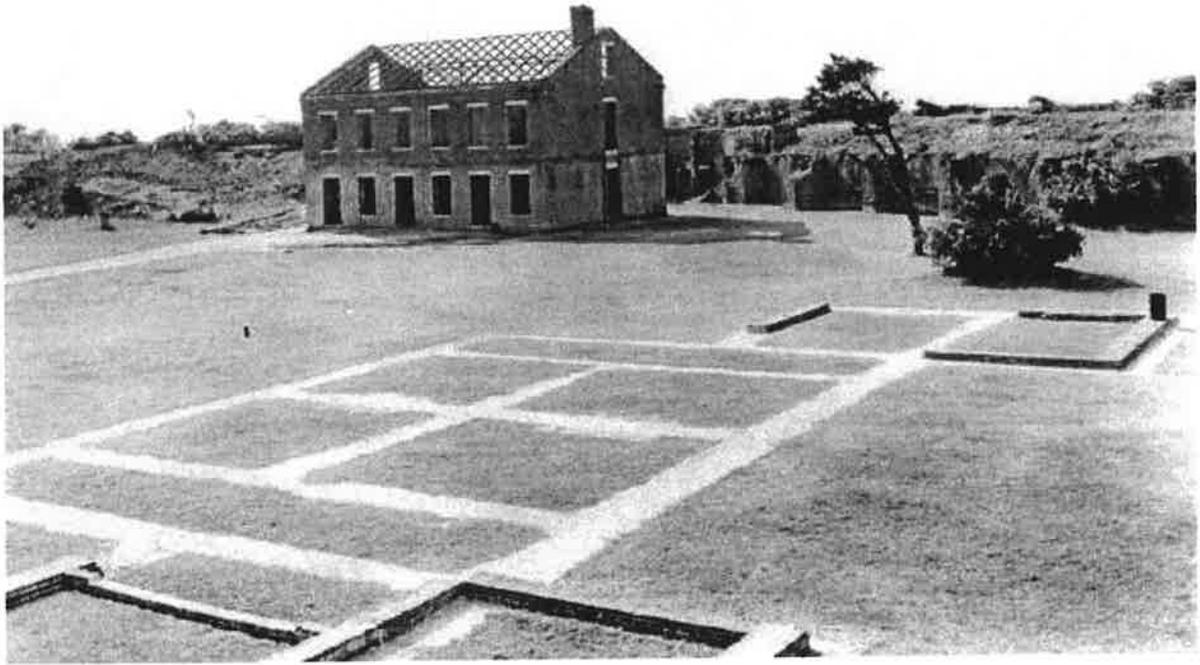
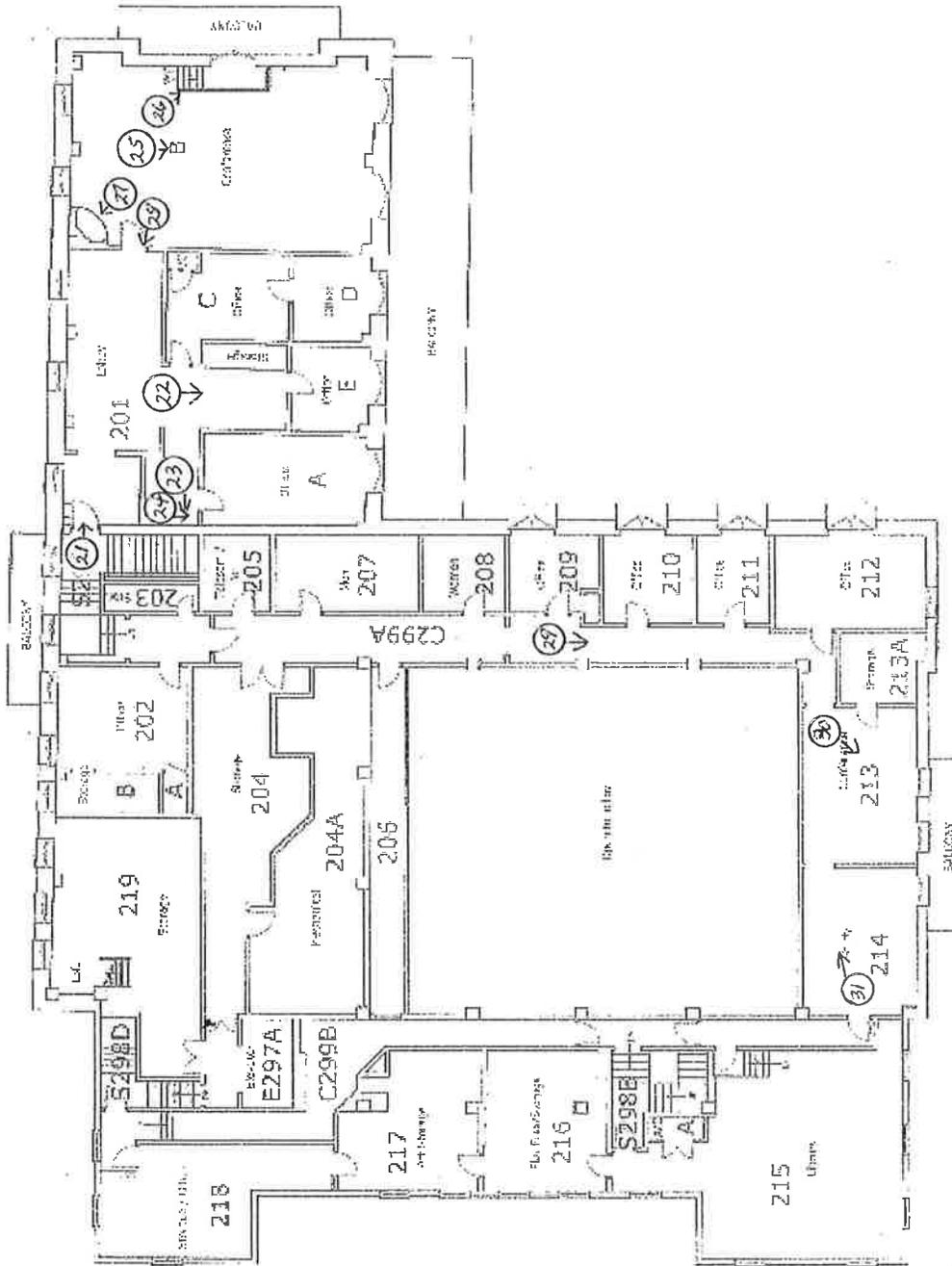
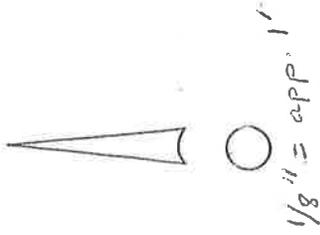


Figure 7. Fort Clinch Parade Ground during restoration, 1937.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, St. Augustine, St. Johns County, FL

Photographic Key to camera location and direction

N



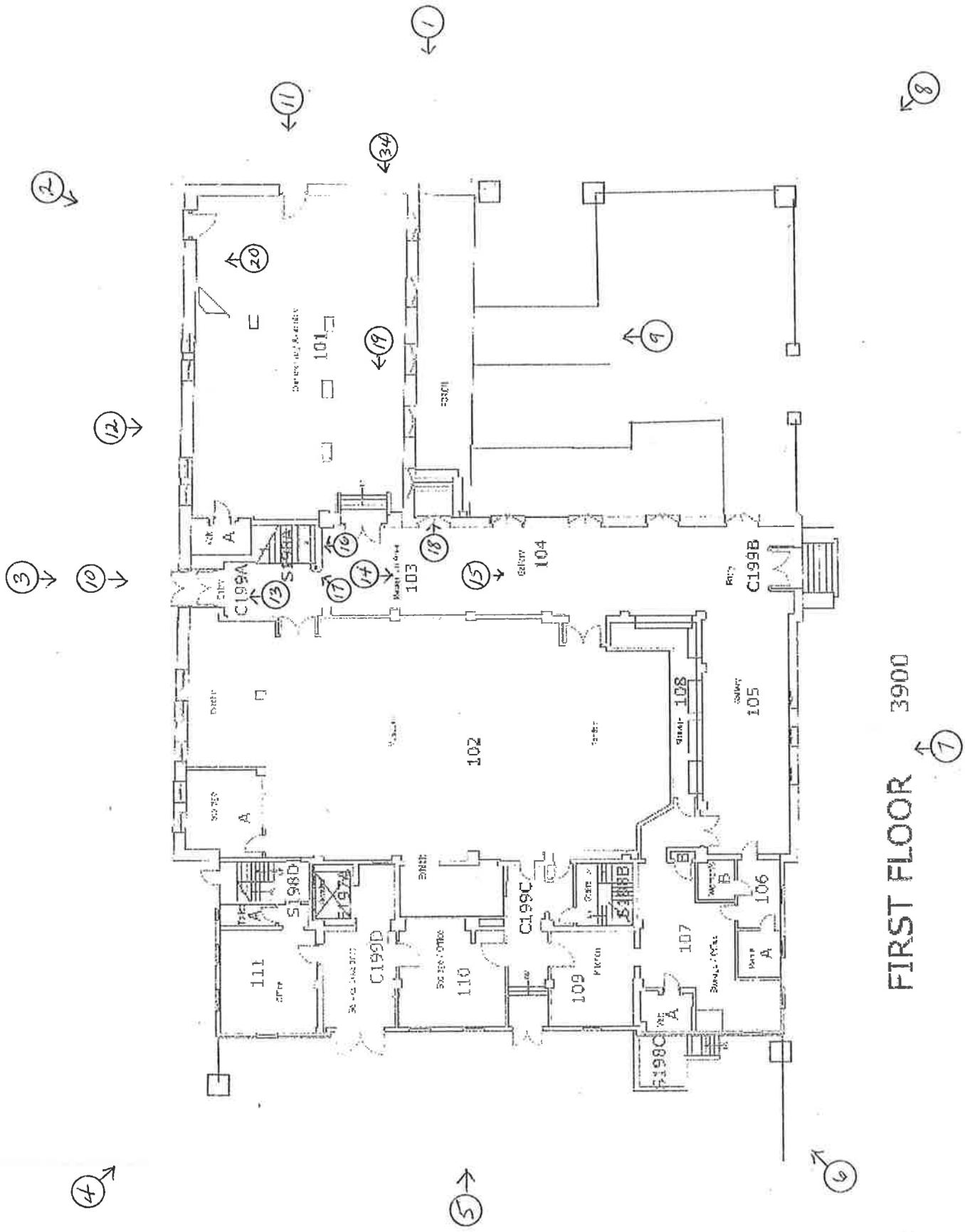
SECOND FLOOR 3900

Photographic Key to camera location and direction

N



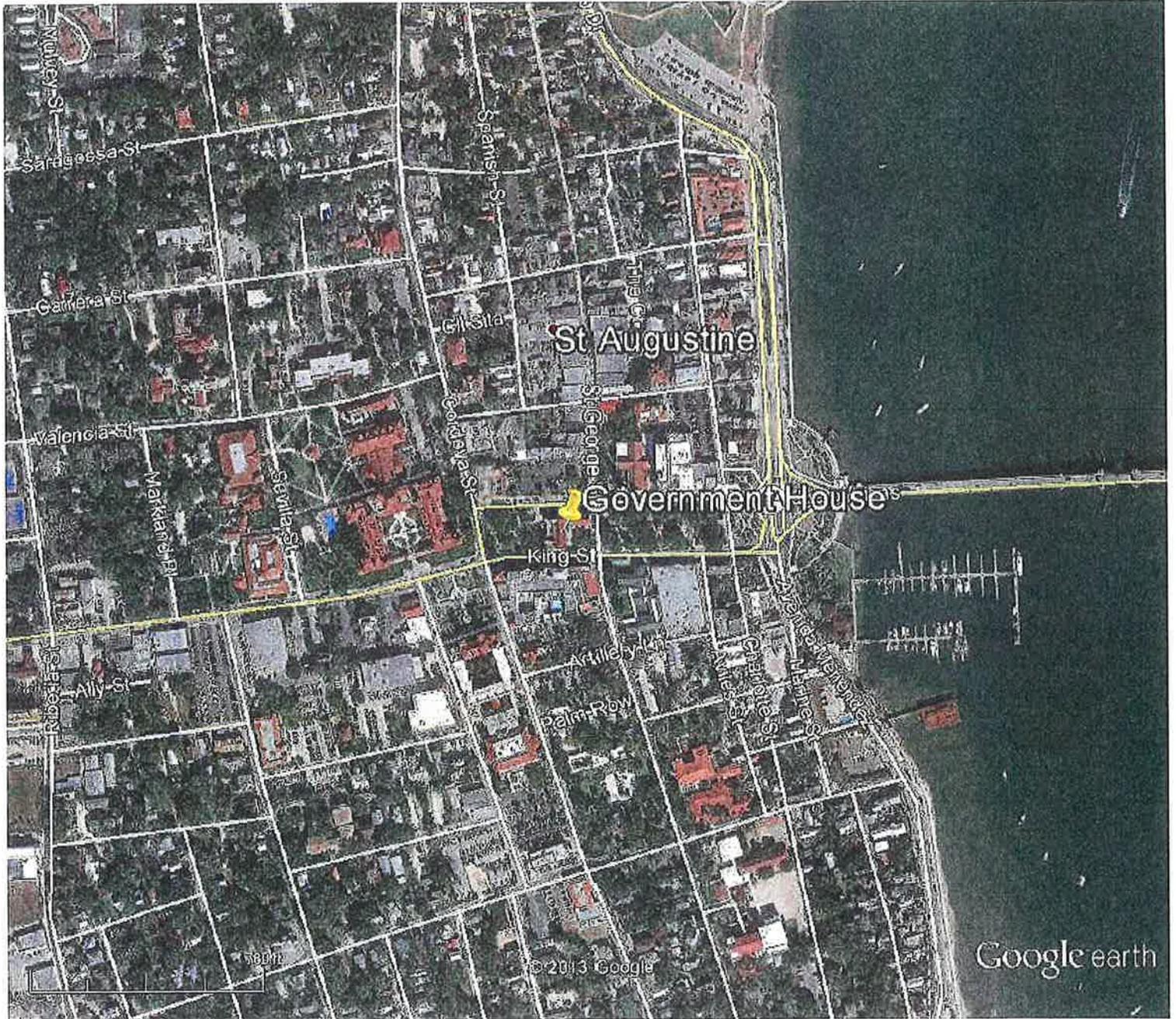
1/8" = app. 1'



FIRST FLOOR 3900

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

St. Augustine, St. Johns County, FL



Google earth



Zone: 17 Easting: 469768 Northing: 3306910

CATHEDRAL PLACE

80'

WALL LEGEND:

OLD COQUINA WALLS RETAINED IN 1937

GREELEY ORIGINAL PLAN (1937)



4055 HWY 43RD STREET, STE 28
DANESVILLE, FL 32808
P: 352.472.6446
F: 352.672.6468

WWW.WALKERARCH.COM
AA34002009

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LICENSE NO. AR0017272

CONSULTANT:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE HISTORIC STRUCTURE
ASSESSMENT
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
48 King Street, St. Augustine, Florida
EXISTING CONDITIONS

WA PROJECT NO.:
11031

DRAWN BY:
KTW

ISSUE DATE:
31 MAY 2012

REVISION SCHEDULE

REVISION NO.	REVISION DATE

SHEET TITLE:
ARCHITECTURAL
FLOOR PLAN -
LEVEL 1 -
GREELEY

SHEET NO.:
A101

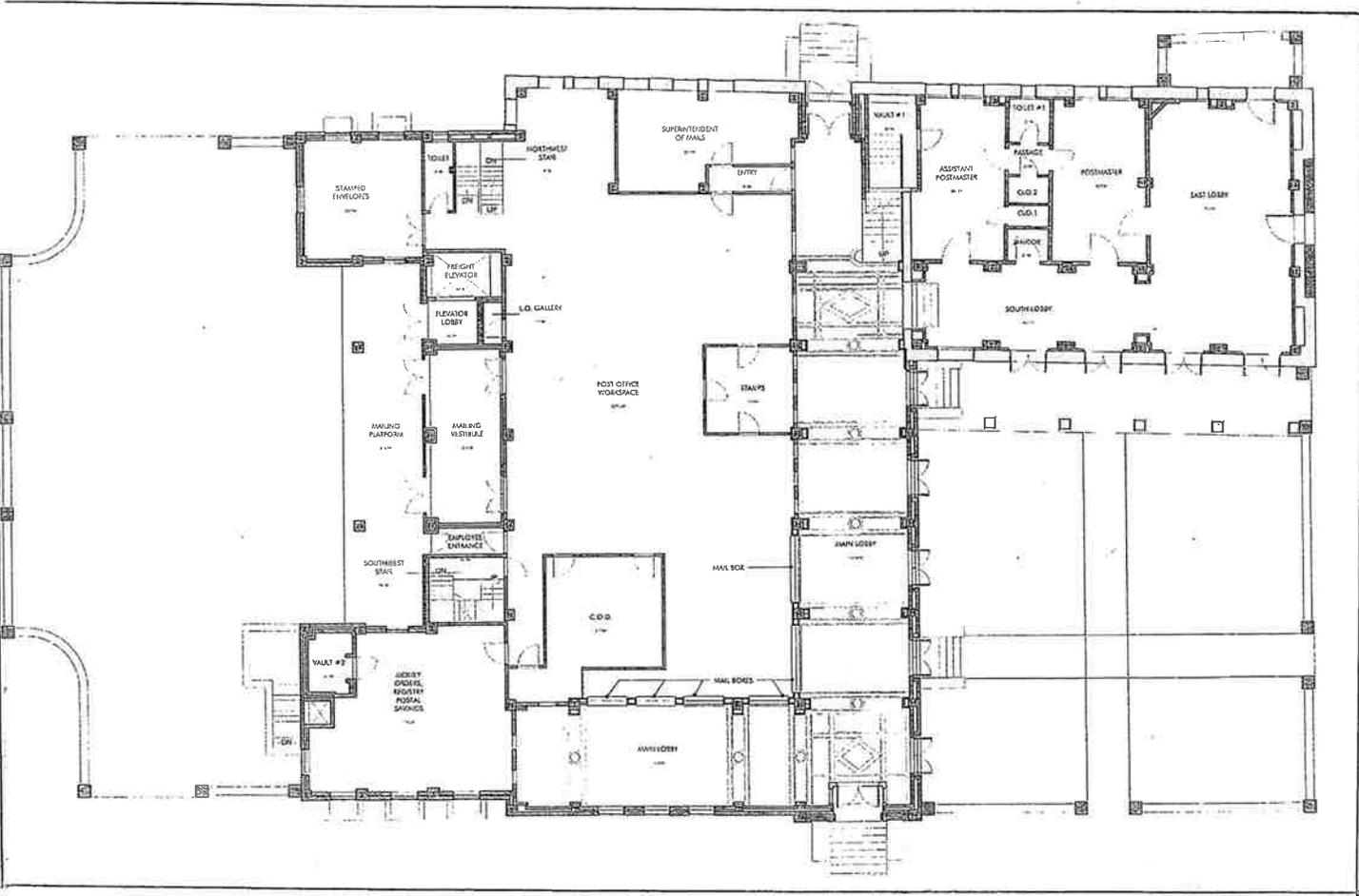
ST. GEORGE STREET

WEST END OF PLAZA

POB

KING STREET

1 LEVEL 01 - GREELEY ORIGINAL PLAN (1937)
1/8" = 1'-0"









PAY TO PARK
3 HOUR

Handicap
PARKING



A large, multi-story building with a red-tiled roof and a stone base. The building features a balcony on the second floor and several windows. The ground floor is constructed of stone, while the upper floors are finished with light-colored stucco. Two prominent chimneys are visible on the roofline. The building is situated on a street corner, with a palm tree in the foreground and a 'ONE WAY' sign on the sidewalk.

A red SUV parked on the street.

A white SUV parked on the street.

A silver sedan parked on the street.

A white pickup truck with 'OPEN ELECTRIC' branding parked in a lot.

ONE WAY
→

Parking Lot 1
TOW-AWAY ZONE
NO PARKING IN THIS ZONE
EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSES OF
LOADING AND UNLOADING PASSENGERS
OR MERCHANDISE

City Street





PAY TO PARK
FRONT

NO PARKING

FDC

W. W. W. W.



P
PAY TO PARK
3 HOUR

FDC

1887



Fair Street

CONSTRUCTION SIGN

STOP

NO LEFT TURN





Balcón de los Reyes
Entrance of St. Augustine
From 1518-1519
Ferdinand Magellan, Juan Carlos I and
Queen Isabella of Spain
attended meetings in the
people of St. Augustine
April 1, 2001









Augustine
Historic St. Augustine
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE

Augustine is one of the best-preserved buildings in Florida, a masterpiece of Spanish Colonial architecture. It was built in 1763 by the Spanish architect Juan Ponce de Leon. The building is a prime example of the Spanish Colonial style, with its thick walls, arched windows, and tiled roof. It is a National Historic Landmark and is open to the public for tours.

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WWW.FLORIDAHISTORYMUSEUM.COM







Sala de Montiano







GOVERNMENT HOUSE MUSEUM REHABILITATION

First Colony
OUR SPANISH ORIGINS

The Government House rehabilitation and First Colony - Our Spanish Origins exhibit project has been financed in part with Historic Preservation Grants assistance provided by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, assisted by the Florida Historical Commission.



Historical Resources
FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

UF
If
Have
Appoi
Pleas
904-82

























THE
GARDEN
OF
THE
PALM
TREE



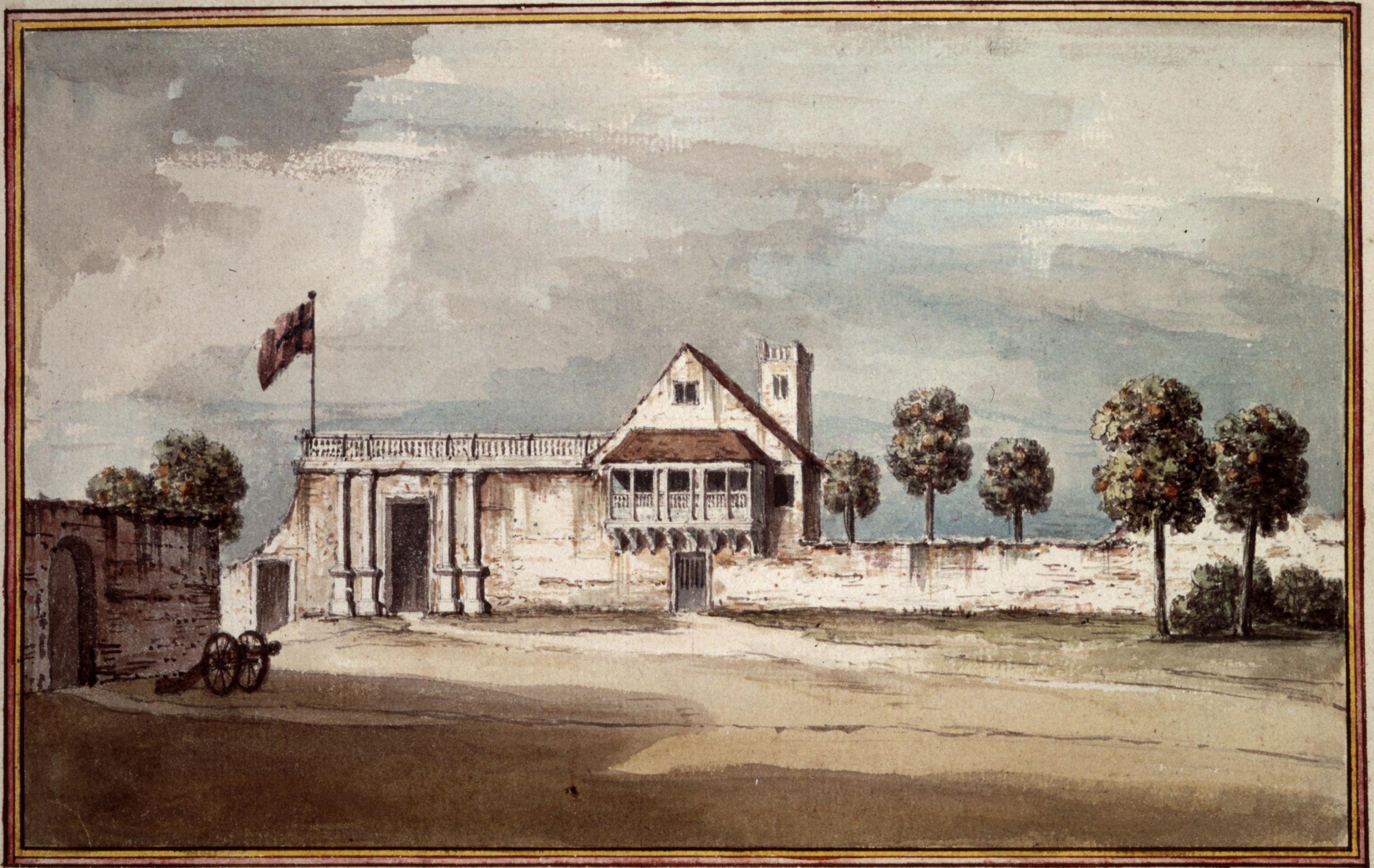
CHARLES F. HOPKINS, Postmaster St. Augustine, Florida

*On whose initiative and through whose energy
this historical tablet became a reality
April 6-1922*





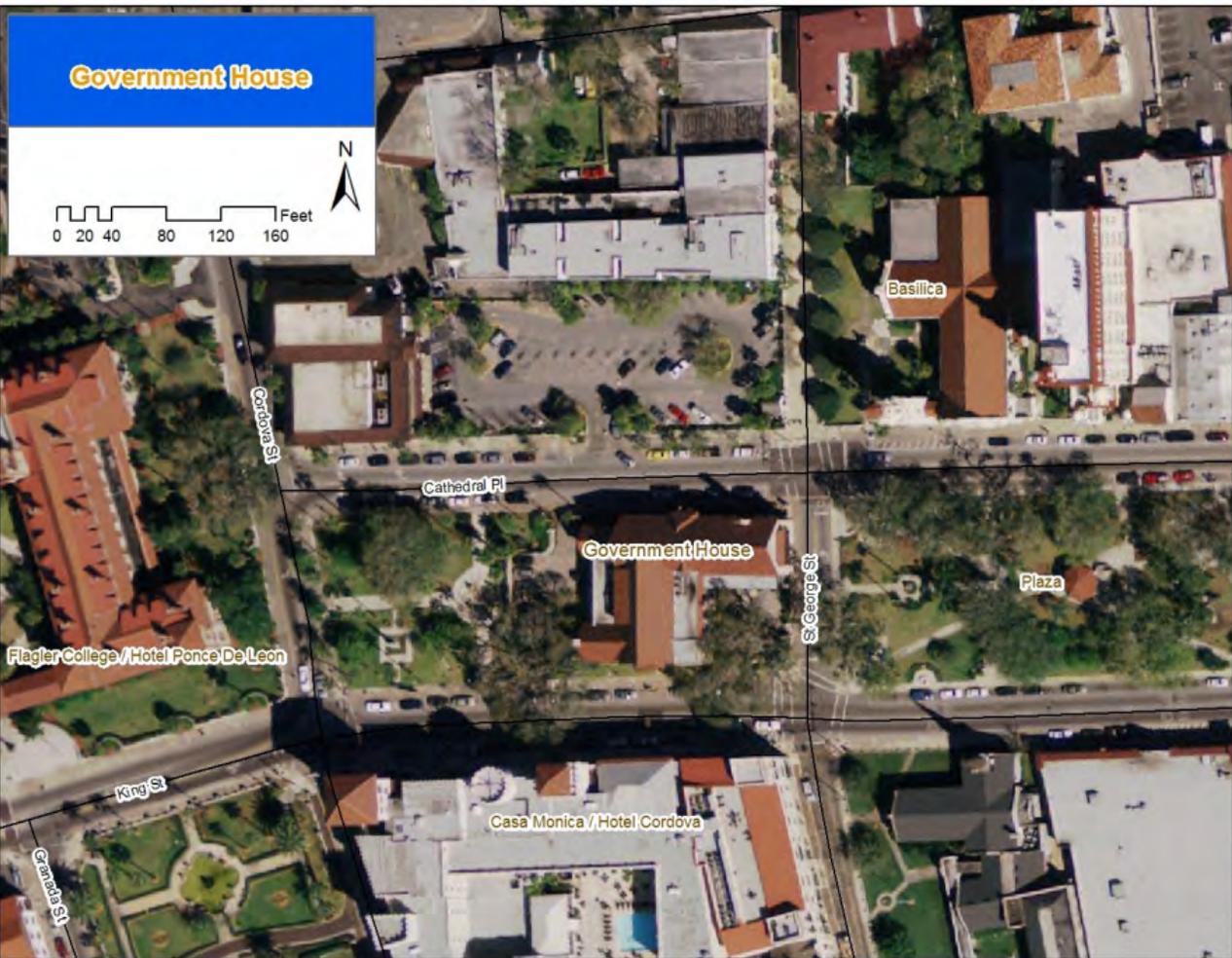
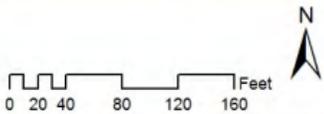
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VIEW of the GOVERNORS house at ST AUGUSTINE in E. FLORIDA. Nov: 1764

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Government House





SECOND FLOOR 3900