

PH0012394

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Nassau
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE JUL 20 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fernandina Beach Historic District

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Multiple

CITY OR TOWN:
Fernandina Beach

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Second District

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

COUNTY:
Nassau

CODE:
089

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:
Florida

CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:

Nassau County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Atlantic Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Fernandina Beach

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State

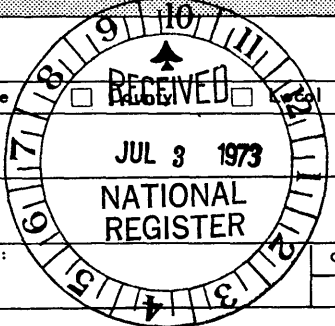
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Nassau

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: 20813

DATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	VARIES ACCORDING TO STRUCTURE (Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

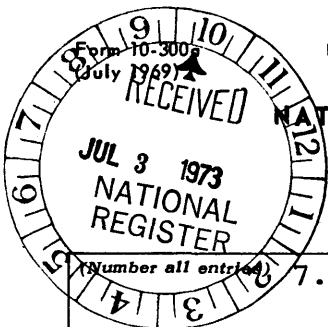
The Fernandina Historic District includes all or part of thirty blocks in the downtown area, representing a good cross-section of mid-to late nineteenth century architecture. The main commercial street, Atlantic Avenue, runs east-west through the district intersecting the residential streets which run north and south. Lining Atlantic Avenue from the Intracoastal Waterway to Ninth Street are Victorian commercial buildings, St. Peter's Church, the Old Depot, the Palace Saloon and the Nassau County Courthouse. The greatest concentration of original commercial structures is in the first five blocks of the avenue. Probably as a result of the economic demands for increased floorspace, display windows and modern signs and lighting, the stores have been altered or replaced in many cases. There are, however, enough of the original structures remaining to give the visitor a feeling for the period in which the structures were erected. The architectural integrity of Fernandina Beach has been remarkably well maintained since the period of its greatest number of constructions (1870's, 80's and 90's). Very few of the domestic structures have been lost as the result of fire or razing and in addition only a small percentage have been altered to any degree. There are a number of modern intrusions interspersed throughout the old buildings in both the commercial and residential areas. For the most part, however, they seem to be situated on lots not previously occupied. The fact of the proximity of the historic structures, both domestic and commercial, heightens the impact of the area. To our knowledge, no buildings have been relocated.

Although, there are some few structures in Fernandina which pre-date the Civil War, the greatest number within this district date from the period of the town's tourist boom which occurred in the late nineteenth century. The buildings of Fernandina present a good coherent cross-section of some of the styles which predominated during the late Victorian era. Fernandina flourished at a time when both steamship and railway lines brought many tourists into the area. There were for that reason, several fine hotels which accomodated the vast numbers of tourists.

Research has revealed the names of two men who designed buildings in Fernandina. Robert V. Schuyler was a local architect who moved to the area from New York and established his office on the corner of Second and Atlantic Streets. Mr. Schuyler designed a number of the finest buildings in Fernandina, but it is obvious from his work that he had a good understanding of and feel for the styles which predominated during the late nineteenth century. George W. Barber was a prominent Knoxville, Tennessee architect. He designed

(con't)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. Description

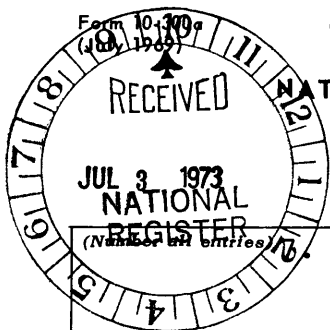
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a number of Florida residences at this time. Drawings and specifications for two of his Florida houses are in the possession of the Division of Archives, History, and Records Management. They are the Bailey House at Fernandina, and the Henderson House at Lake City. There is strong architectural evidence to indicate that Mr. Barber may have been responsible for at least two other Fernandina residences; the Horsey House on Atlantic Avenue and the Burgess House on North Sixth Street.

The residential portion of the nominated area is composed of several styles and types of houses, all dating from roughly the same period. They range in type from very small cottages with scant bric-a-brac trim to the very elaborate Queen Anne homes on Seventh Street with their extensive gables, round arches and stained glass windows. There are two houses constructed in the Italiante style; the Hirth House on North Sixth, a fairly simplified version, and the magnificent Fairbanks House on South Seventh, the finest Italiante structure known to exist in the State. Queen Anne is the predominating style of the upper class residences as seen in the Waas, Horsey, Bailey, Burgess, and the Williams Houses. Known locally as the "Tabby" House, the Lewis House is one of only a few buildings of masonry construction, thereby making it something of an architectural oddity. Among the middle classes and the older houses in the area, there is a type of building which predominates. Of frame construction, these buildings are rectangular in plan and all are fronted by two-story galleries with various balustrade patterns. The oldest house of this type is the Lassene House built in the 1850's. Other examples include; the Merrow House, Florida House and the Bell House, with its Chinese Chippendale balustrade.

In summary, the area nominated meets the Proposed District Criteria in the categories of location, design, setting, materials and association, in that the Fernandina District consists of "a linkage of buildings, sites, and spaces, the majority of which continue to exist within the area where they were first created. There is basic similarity of color, textures, and siting throughout." (The greatest percentage of buildings are of frame construction, painted white and they occupy sites which are equi-distant from the road. In addition most of the city lots are of near equal dimensions). "The majority of the units which comprise the district reflect a homogeneity in the quality of aesthetic effort they represent." All buildings listed represent a specific period in time and as such they produce in the visitor "the impact of time and place."

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Description

Beginning from a point at the Northeast corner of Third Street and Ash, proceed East along Ash to a point 100 feet East of the intersection of Fifth Street. Thence South to the intersection of Date Street; thence East on Date Street to a point 100 feet East of Seventh Street; thence North to a point 100 feet South of the intersection of Cedar; thence East 100 feet to Eighth Street; thence North along the West right-of-way of Eighth to a point at the North right-of-way boundary of Beech. From this point proceed East to a point 100 feet West of South Ninth Street; thence North to a point 100 feet South of Ash Street; thence East to the West right-of-way of Ninth Street; thence North to a point 100 feet North of Atlantic Avenue; thence West to a point 100 feet East of Sixth Street; thence North to the South right-of-way boundary of Broome Street; thence West to the Southwest corner of Broome and Fifth and North to the Southwest corner of Calhoun Street and Fifth; West to the Southeast corner of Fourth and Calhoun; South to a point 100 feet North of Alachua Street; thence West to the West right-of-way of Third Street; thence South to the South right-of-way of Alachua Street and West to the East boundary of Front Street; thence South to a point 100 feet South of Atlantic Avenue; thence East to the East right-of-way boundary of Third Street; thence South to the Northeast corner of Third and Ash.

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INTRODUCTION TO LEGEND

The sites to which primary significance has been attributed are those which meet the criteria for nomination to the National Register on an individual basis. Many have extreme historical significance within the context of Fernandina's development and in all cases, the buildings exhibit some degree of architectural excellence. There are thirty such buildings. For individual descriptions and significance statements see the Legend for primary sites.

The sites of secondary importance are those which have no particular historical value outside of their existence within the district. All are easily recognizable as examples of Victorian architecture though they may not be singularly outstanding examples of a given style. These buildings are all an integral part of the district and are evenly dispersed throughout the area. Most importantly, however, these structures represent the type of house which the vast majority of Fernandina's population occupied at a time when fishing and lumber provided an income for many of the townspeople. There are forty-one of these structures.

The houses within the district to which tertiary significance has been assigned are primarily small frame cottages which have few, if any, outstanding architectural features. They are, however, products of the period from 1880-1920 and they relate importantly to the integrity of the whole. There are fifty-one buildings which fall into this category.

Within the historic district all properties which have been constructed within the last fifty years have been excluded. This is true on both the commercial and the residential areas. Such structures, are in the minority, however, and other unmarked spaces designate empty lots.



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LEGEND-PRIMARY SITES



1. Old Fernandina Depot
Chamber of Commerce
Atlantic Avenue
City of Fernandina, owner

The depot, constructed about 1856, is a simple rectangular brick building with pitched roof and very wide eaves resting on ornate brackets. Regular fenestration on the east and west sides includes a centrally placed bay. The main entrance consists of a single wooden door, not the original, flanked by sidelights and topped by a three-section lunette. Both north and south gables have huge elaborately pierced bargeboards.

Many early photographs of Fernandina show the 1856 depot in use. David L. Yulee organized the railroad in 1853 and shortly afterwards began construction of the tracks from Fernandina to Cedar Key. The establishment of railroad facilities led to the rise of a new commercial center in Fernandina. This was short lived, however, due to financial problems. In addition, railroad connections between Fernandina and the interior were destroyed during the Civil War. A brief period of recovery after the war saw trainloads of lumber from the interior adding to Fernandina's volume of commerce. Today the depot serves the City of Fernandina as the offices of the Chamber of Commerce.

2. The Palace Saloon
Atlantic Avenue
Land & Williams, owners

See separate write-up for full Description, Statement of Significance and Photographs.

3. Villa Las Palmas
(Site of the David Yulee Home)
Alachua Street
H. F. Sahlman, owner

Built between 1910 and 1915, this structure is massive in its proportions, with masonry columns, varying window types and an abundance of surface decoration.

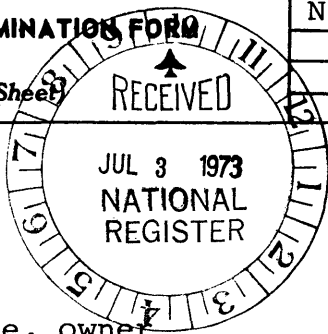
This house was built by N. B. Borden, a prosperous lumberman and for a time the Spanish Consul in Fernandina.

(con't)

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LEGEND-PRIMARY SITES

4. St. Michael's School
411 Broome Street
Diocese of St. Augustine, owner

An elongated brick building situated on four city lots, the school has a variety of roof types and is galleried at the rear.

Originally used as a convent for the sisters of St. Joseph, this building was completed in 1882 and used as a school until 1971 when it was closed for repairs.

5. Villalonga Park
Fourth Street between Broome and Calhoun
St. Michael's Catholic Church, owner

This is an open park situated between St. Michael's Catholic Church and St. Michael's School and bearing several graves and an official state marker.

Known as the Fernandez Reserve, this small burial ground of the Fernandez and Villalonga families is all that remains of the vast property holdings of Don Domingo Fernandez. His heirs sold the land for the present town of Fernandina.

6. The Chadwick House
121 North Sixth Street
Gordon Dressler, owner

Two stories and of frame construction, this house has exquisite scroll work and exterior detail.

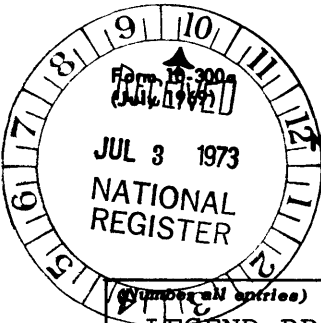
Built in the 1880's by Capt. Steven Chadwick, owner of a company of tugboats. It is still in the hands of the original family.

7. Dr. D. G. Humphrey House
117 North Sixth Street
Mrs. E. C. Burgess, Jr., owner

This house is a large Queen Anne style building with turret, pitched roof and cross gables.

The doctor for whom the present local hospital was named purchased this lot about 1910 and built the house shortly thereafter.

(con't)



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- 8. Hirth House
103 North Sixth Street
Hirth Estate, owner

Of frame construction, this building is a modified Italianate structure with a square tower at the right front and round arched windows.

Built in the 1880's this house was purchased prior to 1900 by the Hirth family, the original owners of the Palace Saloon.

- 9. Allen House
North Sixth Street
Mrs. Eric Allen, owner

This two-story frame structure has a double gallery with intricate balustrade on the west facade.

The house is in excellent condition and is an interesting variation of the two-story Victorian house.

- 10. Prescott House
120 North Sixth Street
Ross Libby, owner

This frame structure has a two-story bay on the North side of the main facade projecting onto a porch with a balcony above. The carving in the balcony and balustrade is perhaps the finest in Fernandina.

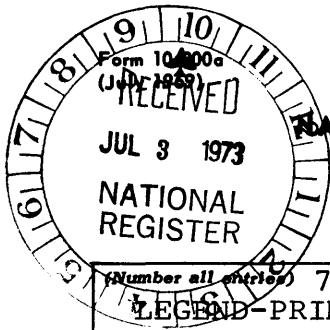
The Prescott House was built shortly after the Civil War by Josiah Prescott, who came to Fernandina after the war and began a sawmill operation.

- 11. Hardee House
112 North Sixth Street
Minnie B. Hardee, owner

Built in the 1850's this house was remodeled in about 1910 to resemble the Queen Anne style. Originally, however, it had a double gallery across the front.

This house contributes significantly to the architectural integrity of this block of North Sixth Street.

(con't)



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12. Baker House
102 North Sixth Street
Adeline B. Baker, owner

This two-story frame building has its principal gable and one dormer on the west front with identical bargeboards located therein. A large front bay balances a small front porch.

This house was built in 1915 by Hinton Baker.

13. First Presbyterian Church
19 North Sixth Street
Presbyterian Church, owner

Of simple frame construction, this church has a small entrance porch and a steeple located at the east front of the building.

The oldest church building in Fernandina, this structure was built in 1859 on land donated by David L. Yulee.

14. The Lassene House
415 Atlantic Avenue
Mrs. W. A. Davis, owner

Built of hand-hewn timber and pegged together, this 1857 house is galleried on the south front.

Built in 1857 by Dr. Lassene, this is one of the oldest inhabited houses on the island.

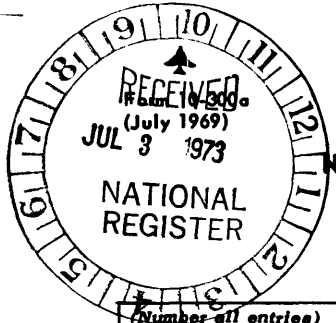
15. Horsey House
603 Atlantic Avenue
Dr. Bailey Dickens, owner

One of the finest of the Queen Anne structures in Fernandina this house has a Palladian window in the front dormer and a turret in the southwest corner of the house.

This house was built by Dr. J. L. Horsey, who served as port physician in Fernandina as early as 1890.

16. St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Corner of Eighth and Atlantic Avenue
Diocese of Fernandina Beach, owner

(con't)



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This Gothic Revival building has all the characteristics of the pointed arch, battlements, pinnacles and window tracery. The church is a basilica plan with the steeple at the entrance end.

This building was designed by the local architect, R. S. Schuyler, and constructed in 1893, the third church to stand on this spot.

- 17. The Florida House
20 and 23 South Third Street
Sam Saylor, owner

See separate write-up for full Description, Statement of Significance and Photographs.

- 18. Nassau County Courthouse
Corner of Atlantic Avenue and Fifth Street
Nassau County, owner

See separate write-up for full Description, Statement of Significance and Photographs.

- 19. The C. W. Lewis House
27 South Seventh Street
Earl Wilson, owner

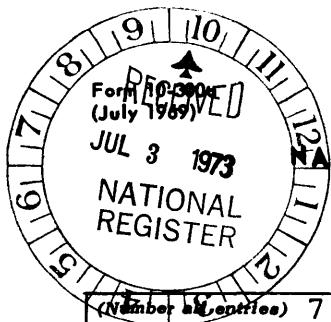
This 1885 structure is an unusual version of the rambling Victorian house. It is the only house in Fernandina dating from this period to be constructed of tabby. The irregularity of outline, use of the rounded arch and elaborate balustrades add to the uniqueness of the structure.

Designed by R. S. Schuyler, this house was originally built by C. W. Lewis, U. S. Land Commissioner and later postmaster.

- 20. The Bailey House
Northwest corner of Seventh and Ash Streets
Mr. Glenn Mattheus, owner

Built by Mr. E. W. Bailey in 1895, this is a very fine Queen Anne structure with turret, and porches on the south and east sides. The house has exceptionally fine stained glass windows.

(con't)



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LEGEND-PRIMARY SITES

This house is the work of George Barber and Associates of Knoxville, Tennessee. Barber was the designer of several fine residences in Florida just prior to the turn of the century.

21. The Williams House
103 South Ninth Street
Gertrude Blatchford, owner

An extensive two-story gallery is the outstanding feature of this house. All posts and diagonal braces are elaborately turned.

The exact date of construction of this house is undetermined, however, it was sold in 1859 to Marcellus Williams who was brought to Fernandina by the railroad.

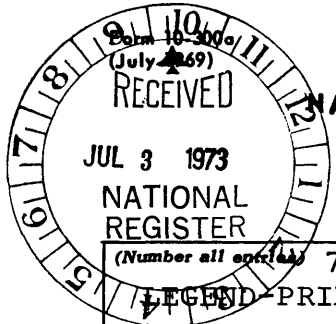
- 22, 23, 24, 25.
Site of the Egmont Hotel
22. 119 South Seventh Street
Mrs. Marian Klotz, owner
23. 123 South Seventh Street
Marion Johnson, owner
24. 127 South Seventh Street
George S. Britt, owner
25. 131 South Seventh Street
Alan L. Pope, owner

These four frame buildings which stand side by side were all constructed from the lumber from the Egmont Hotel which was razed shortly after the turn of the century. They are all of similar construction, with pitched roofs, front gables and two-story galleries on the east facade.

Built by the railroad in 1877, the Egmont was one of Florida's first tourist hotels after the Civil War. The hotel is very well documented in both photographs and the railroad and travel literature of the period, as it was an extremely popular tourist hotel.

26. The Lasserre House
130 South Seventh Street
C. W. Lasserre, owner

This house is an exquisite example of the Victorian cottage with very fine exterior detail in the balustrade, bargeboards, brackets, etc. There are extremely fine stained glass windows in the main entrance. (con't)



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~~LEGEND~~ PRIMARY SITES

The house is still surrounded by a low concrete wall, all that remains of a park and train station where tourist embarked for the beach. This house was built by Captain Bill Bell between 1903 and 1905.

- 27. The Bell House
801 Beech Street
Mr. Jack Coker, owner

Two stories and of frame construction, this house has a central projecting bay on the main facade and an off-center entrance. Porches on the south and west sides of the house are defined by intricately turned posts and balustrade influenced by the Chinese Chippendale.

Built by Capt. Bill Bell in 1889, this house is in the process of restoration to be used for commercial enterprise.

- 28. The Fairbanks House
227 South Seventh Street
Reba Haille, owner

See separate write-up for full Description, Statement of Significance and Photographs.

- 29. Cravey House
310 South Seventh Street
W. L. Cravey, owner

Dating from approximately 1880, this building has a large gable and a two-story portico defined by rounded arches at the first floor level and three ogee arches at the second.

This building is architecturally unique for Fernandina in that it utilized motifs of Eastern origin not seen in any other structure.

- 30. The Waas House
317 South Seventh Street
G. H. Waas, Jr., owner

A low rambling Queen Anne structure, this house has a veranda on three sides with a large imposing balcony over the main entrance and a turret in the northeast corner of the building.

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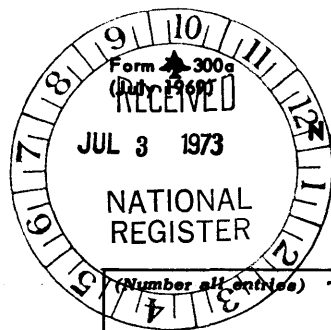
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LEGEND-PRIMARY SITES

The original structure faced on Date Street, and was built about 1856. Dr. W. T. Waas purchased the house in 1901 and remodeled it extensively. It was at this time that the entrance was changed to face on Seventh Street, and the size of the house was nearly doubled.





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LEGEND-SECONDARY SITES

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. The Marina Restaurant
101 Atlantic Avenue
Michael Toundus, owner</p> <p>2. Offices Land & Williams
103 Atlantic Avenue
D. C. Land & Aubrey Williams,
owners</p> <p>3. G. H. Hudt (factory bldg.)
Corner Alachua & Second
Catheryne Knight Smith,
owner</p> <p>4. 12 North Second
American Politicana Corp.,
owner</p> <p>5. 10 North Second
James E. Ellis, owner</p> <p>6. The Childrens Shop and the
Buccanner Bakery
201 & 203 Atlantic Avenue
Ira Hall & George Davis,
owners</p> <p>7. Gene's & Steger Drugs
205 & 207 Atlantic Avenue
Bailey Dickens, owner</p> <p>8. Super Dollar Stores
209 Atlantic Avenue
Super Dollar Stores, owner</p> <p>9. Lockwood Drugs
301 Atlantic Avenue
Elizabeth Allen Troxler,
owner</p> <p>10. Lewellan's
311 Atlantic Avenue
Barbara A. Clewett, owner</p> | <p>11. Martin's & Robinson's
Jewelry
317 Atlantic Avenue
Sloan & Rutishauser,
owners</p> <p>12. United States Post Office
U. S. Government, owner</p> <p>13. 415 Alachua Street
Katherine H. Askins,
owner</p> <p>14. Memorial United Methodist
Church
601 Atlantic Avenue
Methodist Church, owner</p> <p>15. Firestone Beach Supply
118 Atlantic Avenue
Unaka Co., Inc., owner</p> <p>16. First Federal Savings &
Loan and Fernandina
Hardware
202 & 204 Atlantic Ave.
Fanny Elno Norman, owner</p> <p>17. Griffen Jewelry & Ship's
Lantern
Henry Lanon, owner</p> <p>18. Lynn's Dress Shop
212 Atlantic Avenue
James L. Malone, owner</p> <p>19. Cathy's Flowers
214 Atlantic Avenue
W. J. Reynolds &
Catherine, owners</p> <p>20. Hardee Brothers Co.
218 Atlantic Avenue
Arthur Steil & A. K.
Metz, owners</p> |
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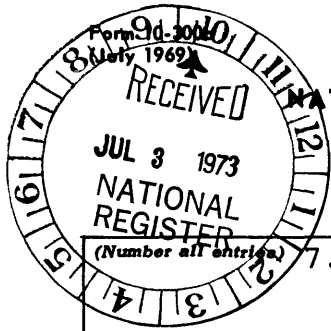
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- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>21. State Farm Insurance
302 Atlantic Avenue
L. G. Hirth, owner</p> <p>22. Man's World
306 Atlantic Avenue
Arthur Steil, owner</p> <p>23. Sport's World
308 Atlantic Avenue
Alvin C. Thompson, Jr.,
owner</p> <p>24. 20 South Fourth Street
C. Litrico, owner</p> <p>25. 23 South Fifth Street
Stephen E. Douglas, owner</p> <p>26. 19 South Sixth Street
Raymond B. Ketchum, owner</p> <p>27. 16 South Sixth Street
Belle Sapp, owner</p> <p>28. 20 South Sixth Street
Dorothy J. Balogh, owner</p> <p>29. 601 Ash Street
Clara Dees, owner</p> <p>30. 605 Ash Street
John S. Sapp, owner</p> <p>31. 23 South Seventh Street
Dewayne Crisp, owner</p> <p>32. 17 South Seventh Street
Lucy Nolan, owner</p> <p>33. 11 South Seventh Street
Olive M. Galphin, owner</p> <p>34. 14 South Seventh Street
John & L. C. Silva, owners</p> | <p>35. 816 Atlantic Avenue
C. B. Ingram, owner</p> <p>36. 810 Atlantic Avenue
W. H. Russell, owner</p> <p>37. 614 Ash Street
Letha K. Marcum, owner</p> <p>38. 712 Beech Street
George S. Lowe Estate,
owner</p> <p>39. 214 South Seventh Street
Aloysia S. VanGoidinoven,
owner</p> <p>40. 225 South Seventh Street
Reba J. Haille, owner</p> <p>41. 303 South Eighth Street
Mamie W. Mills, owner</p> |
|---|---|





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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7. Description

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LEGEND-TERTIARY SITES

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. 301 Ash Street
Lamar Park, owner | 14. 110 South Sixth Street
James C. Taylor, owner |
| 2. Block 14, Lots 24, 25, 26
Dorothy H. Humphreys,
Thos. G. & Elizabeth Hall,
Herbert Wm. Fishler, owners | 15. 123 South Sixth Street
Clifton S. Dittle, owner |
| 3. 22 North Fourth Street
Mary Content Partin, owner | 16. 125 South Sixth Street
W. L. Cravey, owner |
| 4. 28 North Fourth
Mrs. J. R. Hardee, Sr., owner | 17. 122 South Sixth Street
Grace S. Johnson, owner |
| 5. 100 block North Fifth Street
Katherine K. Askins, owner | 18. 111 South Seventh Street
Curtis W. Smith, owner |
| 6. 414 Broome Street
Don B.B. & Mary A. Brown,
owners | 19. 102 South Seventh Street
Joseph A. & Velma M.
Bruce, owners |
| 7. N. W. Corner Broome & Fifth
Mary Bennett, owner | 20. 106 South Seventh Street
Clement Reeves, Jr.,
owner |
| 8. 502 Broome Street
R. M. White, owner | 21. 110 South Seventh Street
Stella Sloan, owner |
| 9. 504 Alachua Street
Mary A. & Robert M. White,
owners | 22. 112 South Seventh Street
Anna Hall, owner |
| 10. Presbyterian Church
S.E. corner Alachua & North
Sixth Streets
Presbyterian Church, owner | 23. 114 South Seventh Street
J. M. Toomey, owner |
| 11. 804 Atlantic Avenue
Mable P. Mizell, owner | 24. 113 South Eighth Street
Mrs. Estelle Braddock,
owner |
| 12. 14 South Sixth
Bessie Lee, owner | 25. 121 South Eighth Street
Arthur C. Marcum, owner |
| 13. 515 Ash Street
Sm. T. Basford, owner | 26. 125 South Eighth Street
Eugene M. Worley, owner |
| | 27. 131 South Eighth Street
Herman A. Peterson, owner |

(con't)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

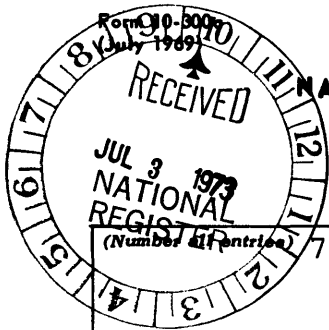
STATE Florida	
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(Number all entries) 7. Description
LEGEND-TERTIARY SITES

-16-

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>28. 714 Beech Street
George S. Love, owner</p> <p>29. 208 South Seventh Street
Olley King, Jr., owner</p> <p>30. 614 Beech Street
Edith C. Flood, owner</p> <p>31. 211 South Seventh Street
Ira G. Lee, owner</p> <p>32. 206 South Sixth Street
William C. Owens, owner</p> <p>33. 216 South Sixth Street
Mary E. Knight Johnson, owner</p> <p>34. 223 South Eighth Street
George Lowe, Est., owner</p> <p>35. 225 South Eighth Street
Helen Martin & Corinne
Verdier, owners</p> <p>36. 214 South Seventh Street
Aloysia S. VanGoidinoven,
owner</p> <p>37. 226 South Seventh Street
Kenneth J. Melvin, Jr., owner</p> <p>38. 227 South Eighth Street
Robert J. Jaynes, owner</p> <p>39. 229 South Eighth Street
E. R. Willis, owner</p> <p>40. 314 South Seventh Street
E. R. Moore, owner</p> <p>41. 316 South Sixth Street
Ralph N. Wood, owner</p> <p>42. 322 South Sixth Street
Aloysia DeBartles, owner</p> | <p>43. 326 South Sixth Street
Morris H. Skipper, owner</p> <p>44. 510 Beech Street
Eloise Rose Sturges,
owner</p> <p>45. 301 South Sixth Street
Lena H. Holmes, owner</p> <p>46. 305 South Sixth Street
Calvin & Emma Carver,
owners</p> <p>47. 309 South Sixth Street
James & Isable Crapps,
owners</p> <p>48. 315 South Sixth Street
Mary E. Brantley, owner</p> <p>49. 319 South Sixth Street
Dominick Scandaliato,
owner</p> <p>50. 321 South Sixth Street
Pauline Joyner, owner</p> <p>51. 329 South Sixth Street
Annie Y. Brown, owner</p> |
|---|--|





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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7. Description

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The Fairbanks House
227 South Seventh Street
Reba Haille, owner

Description

Although of frame construction, the Fairbanks House stands as an outstanding example of the Italianate style in domestic architecture. The building has a tower, square in plan, placed slightly off center. The building consists of "well-defined rectilinear blocks, asymmetrically grouped; although the elevations of the individual blocks are symmetrical." All roofs are of low pitch, hipped and gabled in combination. Eaves are of considerable projection and supported on brackets. The main facade is a complex variety of rounded and flat topped windows in groups of two, three and four. Bays occur on the south and west sides of the house. As was frequently employed in the later, more elaborate versions of this style, pediments and hoodmolds are used over the windows, in addition to the exterior louvered shutters. On the south front a balustraded balcony forms a hoodmold for the windows below. Beautiful arched loggias on the south and west sides of the house in combination with the Palladian treatment of the main entrance give the house a strong feeling of the Italianate.

Significance

George Rainsford Fairbanks was the builder of this house which was completed in 1885. Moving to Fernandina, Fairbanks assumed editorship of The Florida Mirror, a position which he held from 1879 to 1885. It was during this period that he built "Fairbanks Folly" based on plans drawn by R. V. Schuyler, a local architect and designer of many of Fernandina's finest residences.

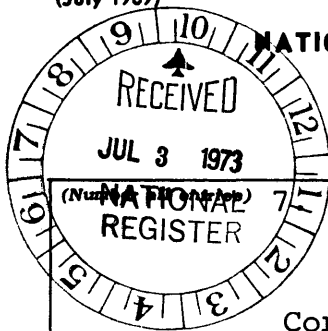
Fairbanks was an historian and scholar very much interested in Florida history. He was the author of three books, one of which, History of Florida, was for a long time used for the teaching of Florida history in the public school system. Fairbanks was instrumental in the founding of the University of the South at Suwannee, Tennessee. From 1875 to 1906 he served continuously as a trustee of that institution.

The Fairbanks House, which stands as a tribute to its builder, is a singularly fine example of the Italianate style of architecture in a domestic dwelling. Dating from the appropriate period, it possesses all the characteristics of the most refined examples of this style in the country.

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)



Description

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Nassau County Courthouse
Corner of Atlantic Avenue and Fifth Street
Nassau County, owner

Description

The Nassau County Courthouse in Fernandina is the finest surviving Victorian courthouse in the state of Florida. Of brick construction, the building represents characteristics of the Italian Villa style. A square tower, centrally located, dominates the main facade of the building. The tower is brick to a point just above the roofline and from there up it is painted a metallic silver. This portion of the tower is adorned with rounded arches, miniature pilasters supporting a cornice and pediment on all four sides. There is a small octagonal dome beneath the cupola. The roof on the main building is a low hip. There is a cross-gable at the rear of the building running east and west and creating a pediment over each of the subsidiary doorways. Four pilasters run from these pediments to the ground. Eaves are of considerable projection and are supported by scroll brackets. All windows are sash and grouped in pairs. On the ground floor they are topped with labels and on the second floor they are round arched with lunettes beneath. A corbel table runs between and connects each arch.

A two-story wing was added to the west side of the courthouse several years ago to house the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Otherwise there have been no exterior alterations to the building since the time of its construction. The tower has recently been stabilized and the building is in a good state of repair.

Significance

The cornerstone of the Nassau County Courthouse was laid December 16, 1891. On August 19, 1890 a special meeting of the County Commissioners had been called for the purpose of proposing a resolution concerning the erection of a new courthouse. The resolution was adopted and notice published between August and October of 1890. Bonds were issued in the amount of \$25,000 and on August 4, 1891, the Board appointed Mr. McClure the architect. Mr. McClure's plans were adopted with slight modifications and he was compensated with \$300. W. H. Mann, a local contractor, submitted a bid of \$20,614 for the construction of the building which was accepted.

(con't)

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Number all entries) 7. Description
Nassau County Courthouse

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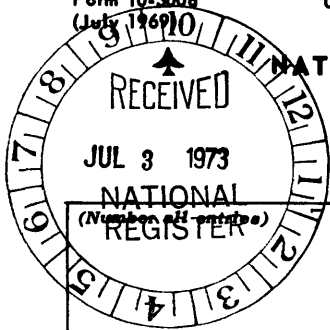
The Nassau County Courthouse has served the county continuously since its completion in 1891. With the exception of an addition to the west side there have been no exterior alterations. The building occupies a prominent position on the main street in downtown Fernandina. It was built during the period of Fernandina's greatest prosperity and serves as a constant reminder of that time. Architecturally, the courthouse is one of only a few in the state dating from the Victorian era and is unquestionably the finest in quality of detail and workmanship.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Description

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The Palace Saloon
Atlantic Avenue
Land & Williams, owners

Description

This two-story rectangular structure is of red brick construction with the lower portion of the south facade being of a grayish-white brick. The main entrance to the building is situated at an angle to the intersection and consists of double glass doors with transom above and leaded glass saloon doors in front. The first floor of the south facade has three round arched windows set into a blind arcade. On the east side of the building the first floor is broken by four two-light sash windows with voussoirs above and a rear entrance with similar treatment. The entire second floor of the building has elongated sash windows with hinged solid panel shutters on the lower half bearing the initials "PS". The windows on the south side have carved stone labels above, whereas those on the east have voussoirs with keystones. Beneath the cornice on the main facade is a stone inset bearing the date 1878 and above that, the cornice and pediment. The pediment, which is of stone, is an adaption of the traditional broken pediment. The roof of the building is a low hip and there is one brick fireplace at the rear of the roof on the east side.

The interior of the building has a handcarved mahogany bar with a mirror supported by carytids. The ceiling is pressed tin and the walls are decorated with murals painted by Roy Kennard in 1907.

Significance

Built in 1878 for use as a men's haberdashery, the Palace was converted to a saloon in 1903. Although it served briefly as an ice-cream parlor during Prohibition, it has otherwise served continuously as a saloon. In general form, the building possesses characteristics of the Renaissance Revival, particularly in the moderately bold cornice of the south side, the minimum of unbroken wall surface and round arched windows. Architecturally, it has survived with only a minimum of interior changes and it is one of the finest of Fernandina's commercial structures.

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(Number all entries) 7. Description

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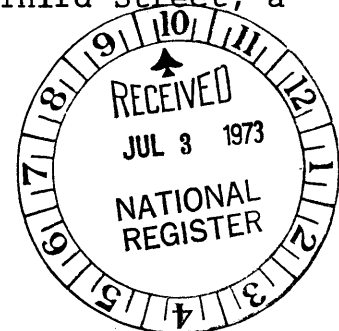
The Florida House
20 & 23 South Third Street
Sam Saylor, owner

Description

Although two separate buildings, the northernmost predating the southern, these structures served jointly as tourist accommodations under the name Florida House. Of frame construction, both buildings are two stories in height with front galleries. Balustrade patterns are identical as are supporting posts. Originally the larger of the two structures had brackets identical to those still remaining on the smaller building making them even more similar in appearance. Both buildings have main entrances centrally placed with sidelights and entablatures above. Fenestration is regular, all windows being double hung sash. Original louvered shutters are now gone. The smaller building has a gabled roof with the principal gable located on the west front creating a pediment. The larger building also has a gabled roof, but the gable ends are on the north and south and the roof slopes down on the east side to cover the gallery. Enlarging of the northernmost building was done prior to the turn of the century and the addition is very obvious since the gallery was discontinued and the wall surface brought out flush with the roof line.

Significance

Mr. and Mrs. A. Leddy moved from New York to Fernandina in 1869 and purchased the property on which the Florida House now sits. Construction on the hotel began shortly thereafter and it soon gained the reputation of being one of the finest tourist houses in Fernandina. In 1889, Wanton Webb stated that this house had been in business for over fifteen years. He described the hotel as being "Exceeding neat, clean and orderly." In another tourist pamphlet of the period, the Florida House is described as being "A well-kept hotel at moderate rates, kept by Mrs. Leddy, and conveniently located on Third Street, a short distance from the passenger station."



4. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate) **VARIES ACCORDING TO STRUCTURE**

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Amelia Island and the communities at its northern end have played a significant role throughout the history of Florida. The old town of Fernandina experienced a varied and turbulent existence during the colonial period, while the newer town of Fernandina Beach has developed since the American acquisition. Remnants of the nineteenth century docks that stretched along the waterfront between the old and new towns provide a physical link between these early and later historic areas.

Archaeological evidence reported by William Bartram in 1774, and investigated more fully since then (Mitchell, 1848; Brinton, 1856; Moore, 1895-96; Griffin and Bullen, 1952; Smith, 1962) confirm a long history of aboriginal occupation and activity on Amelia Island. The recorded history of the area began when Jean Ribault visited the island briefly in May, 1562, after his exploration of the mouth of the St. Johns River.

Shortly after the establishment of St. Augustine in 1565, Spain occupied Amelia Island and established a military outpost and a mission at its northern end. From that time until 1821, Amelia Island was a pawn in the power struggle for control of the Atlantic coastal region of the southeast, occupied at various times by Spain, France, England, and the United States, as well as by revolutionary "authorities." The Spanish mission was destroyed during Col. Moore's campaign against St. Augustine in 1702, and Spanish control was again interrupted in 1735 by a brief period of English occupation during the War of Jenkins Ear.

The island became part of the colony of East Florida ceded by Spain to England in 1763. Several large plantations were established during the English occupation, the most notable being an indigo plantation belonging to John James Percival, Earl of Egmont. The town of Egmont was laid out in 1770, and the settlement that grew on the site apparently consisted of storerooms, workshops, and residences connected with the shipping of the produce of the plantations.

(con't)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

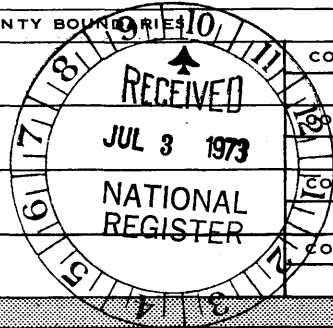
See attached sheets

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	N30° 40' 30"	W81° 27' 51"				
NE	N30° 40' 27"	W81° 27' 27"				
SE	N30° 39' 55"	W81° 27' 32"				
SW	N30° 39' 57"	W81° 27' 56"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 150

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt.** DATE: **July, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Robert William*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: June 26, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/20/73

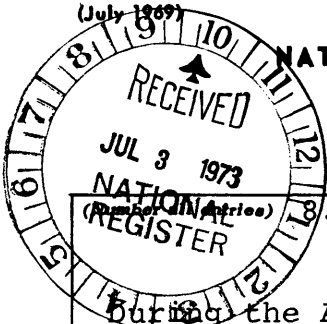
ATTEST:
Samuel R. [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/19/73

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8. Significance

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During the American Revolution the loyalist forces in Florida built Fort Tonyn at the northern end of Amelia Island. They were forced to abandon and destroy the work in 1778, when a force of Georgians occupied the island during the second American campaign in Florida. After the retrocession of Florida to Spain, the settlement of Egmont became a major embarkation point for English settlers and soldiers evacuating East Florida.

Between 1783 and 1812, Spanish colonial policy encouraged American settlement in East Florida, and enticed others from various parts of Europe. Among the prominent planters and businessmen who had homes or commercial buildings in the Old Town were Francis Phillip Fatio, native of Switzerland, the first of several generations of the family to become influential in Florida affairs, and Zepheniah Kingsley, who later established the famous Kingsley plantation on Fort George Island. In addition the the maritime trade generated by local plantations, Fernandina also profited from illicit trade between the southern United States and the West Indies, and other commercial activities of questionable legality. With the Embargo of 1807, illicit trade took on boom proportions and the Old Town became the major outlet for American goods smuggled across the border from Georgia to Florida. Later in 1809, the United States prohibited the importation of Negro slaves, and Fernandina continued to thrive on illegal trade.

This turbulent commercial activity led to chaotic growth of the Old Town. In 1811, a formal plan was drawn up by Surveyor George I. F. Clarke, at the direction of Governor Enrique White, in order to enhance the "usefulness, comfort and beauty" of the town. Although few structures remain from this period, the historical integrity of the area has not been adversely affected by subsequent construction. Sites dating from this period are therefore easily identifiable. The site of Fort San Carlos, established during this period, was partially excavated by Smith in 1962, and is still under investigation.

In 1812, the old town of Fernandina became the "capitol" of George Mathew's abortive "patriot" rebellion designed to detach East Florida from Spanish rule in preparation for annexation by the United States, as had previously occurred in West Florida. U.S. troops occupied Fernandina in support of the Florida rebels and their Georgia and Tennessee volunteer allies. Mathew's plan failed when the Madison administration

(con't)



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8. Significance

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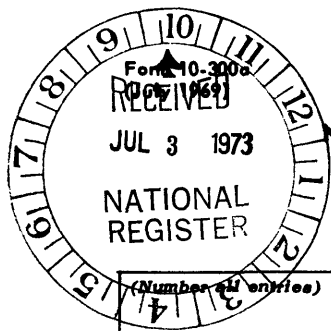
denied its approval. Without logistical support and protection from U.S. army and naval forces, the Florida rebels were forced to abandon their campaign when the U.S. troops were withdrawn from Fernandina in May, 1813. In the following year, British forces landed briefly at Fernandina in preparation for the invasion of south Georgia, a campaign that culminated in an attack on St. Mary's, Georgia, just before the news of the peace treaty arrived in January, 1815.

Spain was unable to maintain effective control of Fernandina. In 1817, the adventurer, Gregor McGregor, "captured" the town for the Republic of Venezuela with an "army" raised at Charleston and Savannah, but soon gave way to the pirate Luis Aury operating under the Mexican flag. Fernandina continued as a center of smuggling and slave trade, laced with piracy and privateering against Spanish commerce. Finally the U.S. Navy landed 200 American troops in December, 1817, to take the town under protective custody, which continued until the American acquisition of Florida in 1821 under the terms of the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819.

Despite its ample and convenient harbor, Fernandina failed to attain a dominant position in maritime trade during Florida's territorial period. St. Mary's and Brunswick continued to handle the commerce of south Georgia, while Jacksonville developed steadily on the basis of East Florida trade. Cotton and lumber production on Amelia Island and the adjacent mainland kept the port active, but Fernandina lacked the direct communication with the Florida interior essential to commercial expansion. The development of railroad transportation in the 1830's seemed to offer a solution to this problem. Agitation for a cross peninsula railroad led to chartering of the Florida Railroad in 1853, with authority to build from Fernandina to Tampa Bay with a branch line to Cedar Key.

The establishment of railroad facilities led to the rise of a new commercial center in the new town located about one mile south of the old town, and separated from it by a low marshy area. The marsh was crossed by a boardwalk which was maintained in use until the 1930's when industrial expansion filled the area. The gradual extension of the railroad southwestward toward Cedar Key, which became its initial destination, opened new business for Fernandina with prospects for solid prosperity. But shortly after the railroad completed its line to Cedar Key, the Civil War broke out. Fernandina was occupied by Federal forces in March, 1862. Its railroad

(con't)



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(Number of entries) 8. Significance

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connection with the interior was destroyed. Abandoned by most of its white inhabitants, the town became a haven for refugee blacks and a Federal military and naval base.

With the restoration of its rail connections after the Civil War, Fernandina began to prosper once again. Logs and lumber rolled into the port by the trainloads from interior Florida adding to the output of local timber operations. Citrus, cotton, and other agricultural products added to the volume of commerce. In addition, steamship lines from the North made Fernandina their Florida terminus, because the St. Johns River bar made service to Jacksonville both hazardous and unreliable. The resulting tourist boom supported two major hotels, the Egmont on the corner of Cedar and Seventh Streets, and the Strathmore on the beach, as well as a number of lesser institutions.

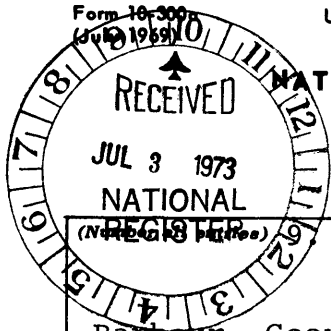
In the 1880's the Corps of Engineers succeeded in opening a channel through the St. John's River bar, making Jacksonville accessible to ocean going steamers. This development, coupled with its more favorable geographic location in relation to the interior, enabled Jacksonville to gain ascendancy over Fernandina as a seaport. Both the tourist industry and maritime commerce of Fernandina suffered setbacks as a result of a yellow fever epidemic in 1888. The Florida phosphate boom brought a new surge of prosperity in the early 1890's. It was during this period that wharves and railroad tracks to serve them were extended along the waterfront between the old and new towns, remains of which can still be seen. But the boom was blunted by the development of port facilities at Tampa and Punta Gorda on the Gulf Coast, closer to the phosphate mining centers. Lumber continued to flow through the port of Fernandina, however, and the development of commercial fisheries made up in part, at least, for the decline in other sectors of commercial activity. Oyster caneries were in operation before the turn of the century, and the Florida shrimp fishery got its start from Fernandina about ten years after.

A decline in the lumber trade, combined with blight in the oyster beds and a shift in shrimping activity to more southerly waters after World War I, left Fernandina in a precarious economic situation. The town did not share extensively in the Florida land boom of the 1920's. Industrial development has given the community a viable economic base, still supplemented by its tourist and fishing industries.

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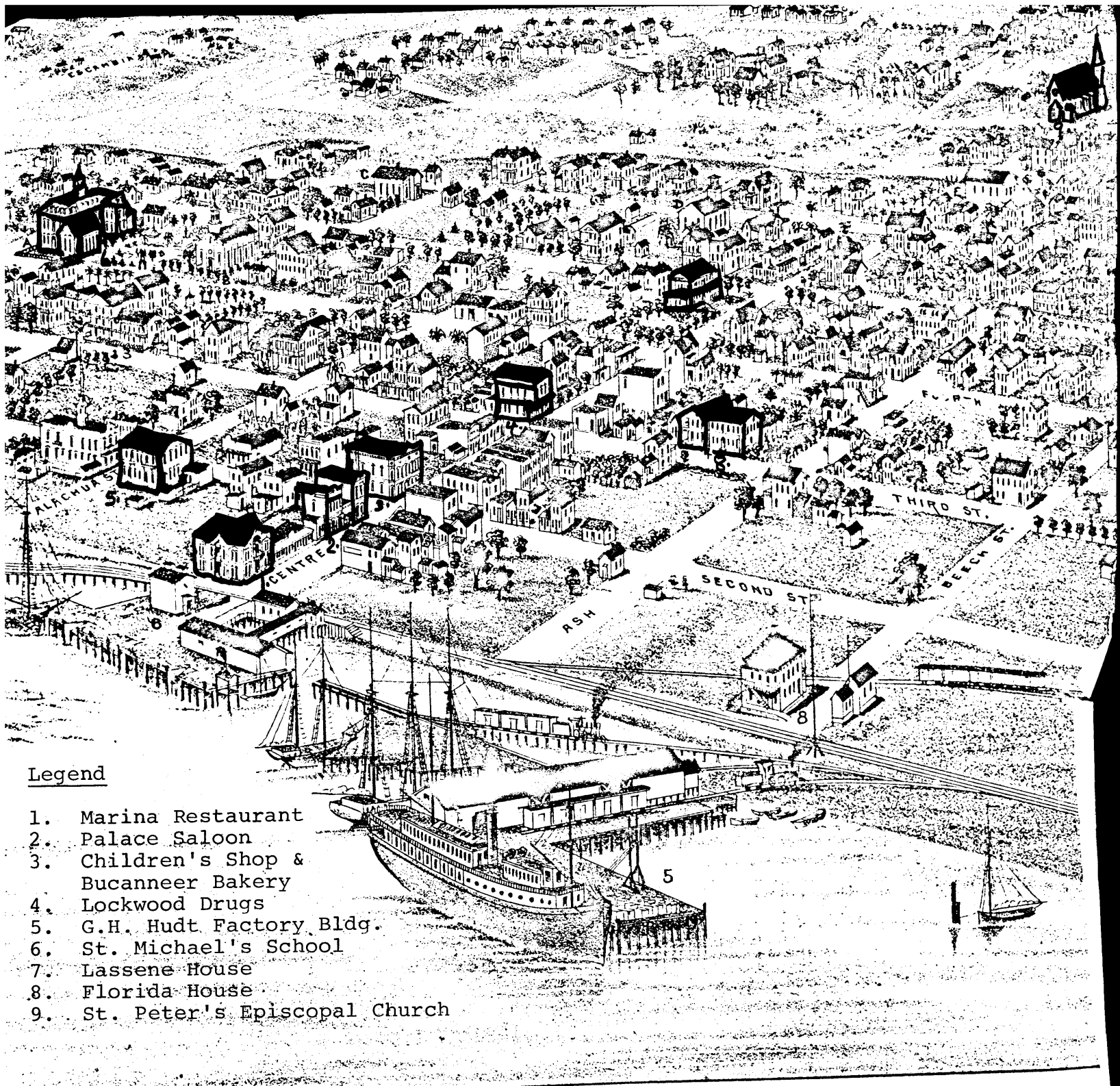
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Legend

1. Marina Restaurant
2. Palace Saloon
3. Children's Shop & Buccaneer Bakery
4. Lockwood Drugs
5. G.H. Hudt. Factory Bldg.
6. St. Michael's School
7. Lassene House
8. Florida House
9. St. Peter's Episcopal Church

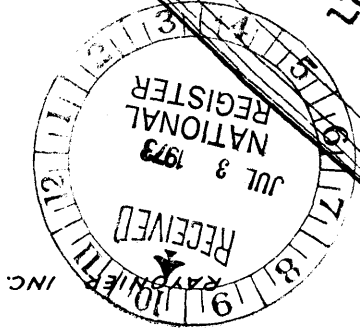
BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF
ANDINA, FLA.

AMELIA ISLAND
 COUNTY SEAT OF NASSAU CO.
 1884.
 POPULATION 3500.

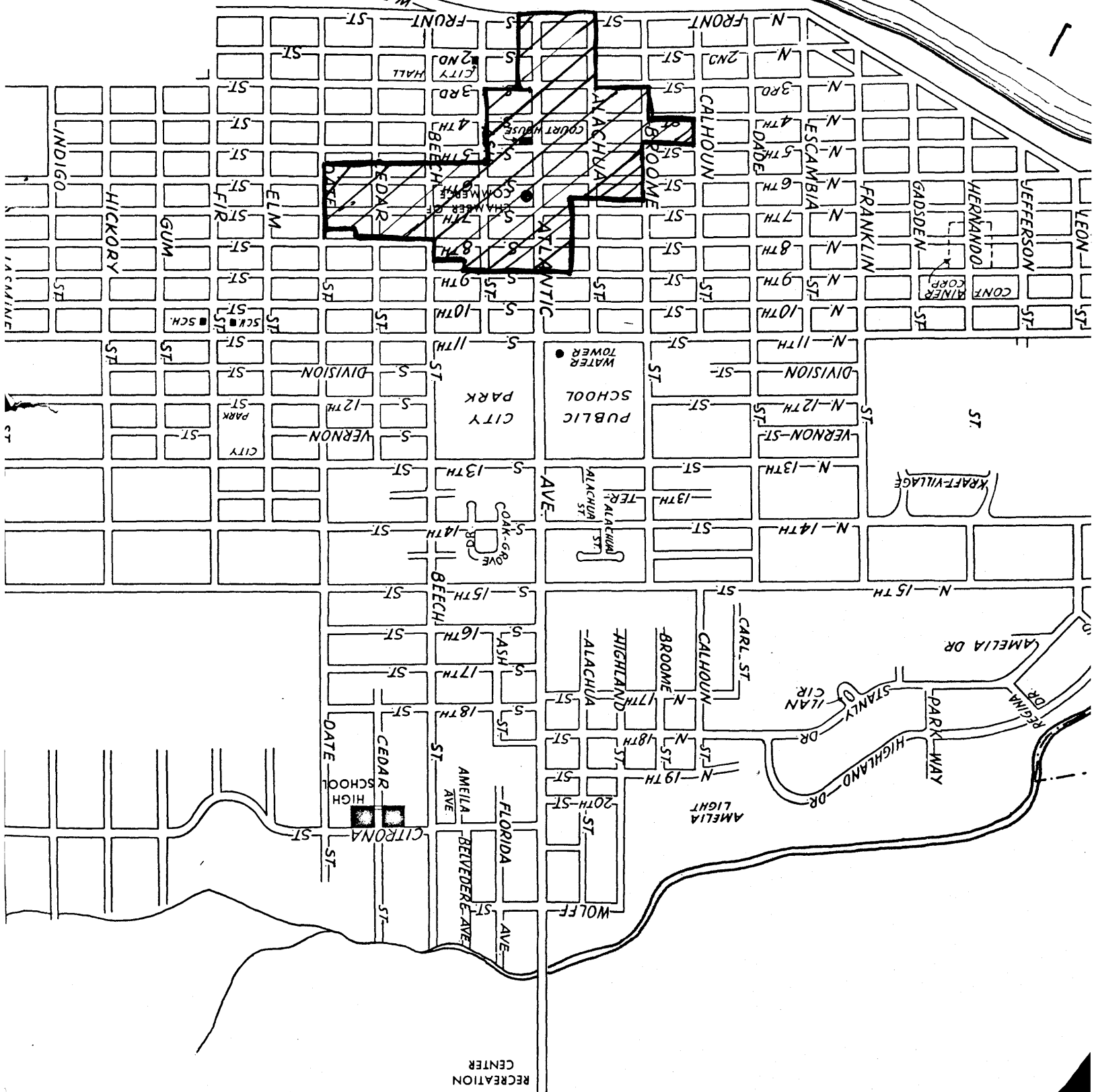
BECK & PAULI, Litho

- F Episcopal Church.
- G St. Peter's Church, Protestant Episcopal.
- H Colored Baptist Church.
- K Colored Baptist Church No. 2.
- 5 Mallory's S. S. Line Dock.
- 6 Centre Street Wharf.
- 7 Broom Street Wharf.
- 8 F. T. & P. R. R. Offices.





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