

1505

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SEP 30 1992

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Woman's Club of Jacksonville

other names/site number 8Dul392

2. Location

street & number 861 Riverside Avenue n/a not for publication

city or town Jacksonville n/a vicinity

state Florida code FL county Duval code 031 zip code 32204

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.)

Suzanne P. Walker / Deputy SHPO 9/25/92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
State of Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Cornel Shell

11-3-92

Woman's Club of Jacksonville
Name of Property

Duval Co., FL
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

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

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

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

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

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:

Tudor Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Brick

Stucco

roof Terra cotta

other Wood: Weatherboard

Metal

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1927-1945

Significant Dates

1927

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Greeley, Mellen C./Hadlow, W.T.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Bureau of Historic Preservation

Woman's Club of Jacksonville
Name of Property

Duval Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	7
---	---

4	3	4	9	1	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

3	3	5	3	6	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

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 Joel McEachin/ Barbara E. Mattick, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date September 1992

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

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 Woman's Club of Jacksonville

street & number 861 Riverside Avenue telephone (904) 355-6202

city or town Jacksonville state Florida zip code 32204

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

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

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

SUMMARY

The Woman's Club of Jacksonville at 861 Riverside Avenue is a 1927, two-story, L-shaped Tudor Revival Style building, located on the west bank of the St. Johns River in Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida. The exterior is covered with brick, stucco with half timbering, and rustic wood siding. Fenestration includes single sash and grouped casement windows, and French or panelled doors. The complex gabled roof is multiplaned and covered with flat terra cotta tiles, and is pierced by three rectangular, corbelled chimneys and seven gable roofed dormers (see Roof Plan).

The dominant interior space on the first floor is an auditorium which features a stage with dressing rooms on each side. Other major spaces on the first floor are a lobby, kitchen and storage areas, and a small ballroom which occupies the east ell just off the entrance lobby (See plan of the first floor). Located on the second floor is a large committee room called "Gable Hall", a ladies' lounge, and library. A balconet on the second floor overlooks the auditorium. The interior has wood floors and plaster walls with darkly stained wood trim.

SETTING:

The Woman's Club of Jacksonville is located in the Riverside area, southwest of Downtown Jacksonville. One of Jacksonville's earliest subdivisions, Riverside was platted in the early 1870's. However, the major growth in Riverside did not occur until after the Great Fire of 1901 destroyed most of Downtown. Between 1901 and 1929, many prominent families constructed mansions and large homes along Riverside Avenue, which was the major corridor connecting the Riverside area and Downtown.

In 1927 the Woman's Club of Jacksonville purchased the present property. The river front property, at the corner of Riverside Avenue and Post Street, had an existing residential structure which was demolished for the construction of the club house. Constructed in the center of the parcel with an orientation to the south along Post Street, the clubhouse was designed to be compatible in size and style with the adjacent residential structures. Immediately next door to the clubhouse was the house of Arthur and Ninah Cummer which was also designed in the Tudor Revival Style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

After World War II, many of the large houses along Riverside Avenue were demolished and replaced by offices and institutional buildings. The site of the Cummer residence is now occupied by the Cummer Gallery of Art, while to the south of the clubhouse, across Post Street, is the headquarters of the Garden Club of Jacksonville. Both of these buildings were constructed after World War II.

Presently, a lawn stretches from the bulkhead along the river to a series of terraces which lead up to the east side of the clubhouse where an open loggia once existed. The steps leading up from the lawn to the clubhouse are guarded by two cast concrete lions on pedestals (Photo 3). On the south side of the property, the clubhouse has a porte-cochere which is accessed from Post Street by a circular driveway. Originally another lawn existed on the west side of the clubhouse facing Riverside Avenue, but it has been paved for parking. A brick wall separates the clubhouse from the adjacent Cummer Gallery of Art.

PRESENT PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

Exterior

The Woman's Club is L-shaped with a rectangular main block and a small wing off the southeast corner. The south elevation (main facade) of the clubhouse faces Post Street. A two-story gable pavilion is located just to the west of a one-story, gabled porte-cochere which shelters the main entrance. The two components slightly overlap and form the focal point of the main facade (Photo 1). Covered with rustic, uneven, wood siding, the gable end of the porte-cochere has an arch with keystone. Hanging from the arch is a decorative metal lantern. The porte-cochere is supported by a pair of rectangular brick columns and the arch is supported by a pair of square wooden columns. Steps with iron and bronze rails lead from the parking lot to the porte-cochere. The recessed main entry, defined by half-timbering with a stucco infill and timbered pilasters, has a pair of paneled wooden doors.

To the west of the gable pavilion are four groupings of casement windows with brick lintels and sills at both stories (Photo 1). To the east side of the porte-cochere, at the first story, are three groupings of casement windows with brick sills and timbered lintels. The second story windows have gabled roof dormers with 4/4 contemporary sash windows. A small tile-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 3 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

covered, hipped dormer is located just east of the porte-cochere roof (Photo 2).

On the east elevation, which faces the St. Johns River, the L-shape formed by the north and east wings of the building is most apparent (Photo 3). The north and south ends are defined by two-story gable ends. The southern gable end has an exposed chimney with sloped set-offs. At the first story, triple casement windows in a shallow square bay flank the chimney. The two second story windows are 4/4 contemporary sash windows. The north gable end has only one, central window grouping which is identical to those in the south gable end. At the second story, there is a single casement window offset to the south side of the gable end (See Floor Plans).

An enclosed one-story, shed roofed loggia connects the two gable ends on the first story of the east elevation (Photo 3). This loggia, which originally featured paired square columns with cross members, has been enclosed with wood panels and casement windows. A single wood door provides access from the terrace to the loggia. Above the loggia roof are five window groupings, each with three casement windows. The north side of the east ell has three double French doors at the first story, and three half-timbered, gabled dormers at the second story.

The north (rear) elevation, which faces the Cummer Gallery of Art, has little detailing. Three pairs of casement windows are located on each end of the main block. A pair of contemporary wooden doors is located on the east end of the north facade. To the west of the doors is a small basement window. Running on an east to west axis, there is a long, narrow, tiled pent roof in the sloping gable.

The west elevation, which faces Riverside Avenue, has two-story gable pavilions on each end, connected by a one-story, shed roofed element of the main block (Photo 4). Like the other elevations, it has combinations of casement windows, gables with half-timbering and stucco or rough wood siding, and French doors or contemporary doors.

Interior - First Floor:

The Tudor Revival Style is evident on the interior, with the use of lightly colored plaster walls and ceilings contrasted with darkly stained wood trim and doors. The largest and most

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

significant interior space of the clubhouse is the auditorium (Photo 5). The auditorium was designed to be accessed from three sides by French doors. Other significant detailing of the auditorium includes the oak flooring; the stage; a balconet at the rear of the auditorium, accessible from the second floor; six original radiators; crown molding; and five large plaster arches on the east and west sides of the auditorium.

The public entry for the clubhouse is through the lobby which provides access to the auditorium, a small ballroom or lounge, a loggia, a club office, and stairs to the second floor (Photo 6). Stepped down from the lobby, the small ballroom or lounge is entered through arched pocket doors (Photo 7). The room has a marble fireplace surrounded by darkly stained wood paneling and flanked by two window seats (Photo 8). French doors on the north wall provide access to the terrace. The small ballroom, the lobby, and stairs to the second floor are carpeted. The enclosed loggia has terra-cotta floor tiles and exposed rafters (Photo 9). The storage and service area on the west side of the auditorium was originally designed as a committee meeting room and has a flagstone floor, as well as a series of French doors that open to the west side of the building. The serving pantry and kitchen have several of their original wood and glass cabinets (Photo 10). A small open porch off from the serving pantry has been enclosed for storage.

Interior - Second Floor:

On the second floor above the small ballroom is "Gable Hall" which has three dormer windows on each side (Photo 11). Under each window are a window seat and storage cabinets. At the east end of the room is a fireplace flanked by sash windows and original radiators. On the other side of the second floor landing from "Gable Hall" are the ladies' lounge and restrooms (Photo 12). The restrooms have many of their original features, including pedestal sink, beveled mirrors, radiators, and floor tile (Photo 13). Next to the ladies' lounge is a hallway that leads to the library (Photo 14) and additional storage rooms.

ALTERATIONS

The Woman's Club of Jacksonville Clubhouse has most of its original interior and exterior fabric and has had very few alterations. The most significant alteration was the 1950s enclosure of the loggia and a small porch, on the east and west

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 5 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

sides of the building respectively. A wooden privacy fence and gate originally surrounded the porch. Most of doors and windows in the clubhouse are original; only a few have been replaced.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

SUMMARY

The Woman's Club of Jacksonville is significant under **Criterion A** in the area of **Social History**, for since 1927 the clubhouse has served as a social center for the community, as well as housed the many functions, activities, and programs of the Woman's Club. Between 1927 and 1945, the Woman's Club of Jacksonville was a leader in addressing a multitude of social, health, educational and environmental issues, and provided numerous opportunities for self-improvement for its members in the areas of art, literature, drama, foreign languages and cultures. The involvement of the Woman's Club and the use of the clubhouse in assisting the war effort throughout World War II are particularly significant.

The building is also significant under **Criterion C** as a fine example of the Tudor Revival Style, designed by Mellen C. Greeley, a leading Jacksonville architect of the 1920's, and built by W.T. Hadlow, an important local contractor of the time.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

With greater urban prosperity during the latter half of the nineteenth century, women across the country began to organize into clubs initially for personal intellectual stimulation. However, their interests and energies broadened to include concern for the education, health, and welfare of their communities. Originally organized only on a local level, by the late 1880's these clubs had united to form the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The first such club organized in Florida was in Green Cove Springs in 1887. Other clubs were formed in communities across the state, and in 1895, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs was established. The state organization was admitted to the General Federation in 1898.

In January of 1897, forty Jacksonville women met at the Windsor Hotel to organize a Woman's Club. The club grew rapidly and by 1903 had constructed its first clubhouse in Downtown Jacksonville at 16 East Duval Street. Shortly thereafter, the club affiliated with the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs and the national General Federation of Women's Clubs. The Jacksonville club soon took a leadership role in addressing a variety of community issues and problems, such as adequate funding for public education, free kindergartens, prevention and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

treatment of tuberculosis, child labor, poor working conditions for women, and improved detention facilities.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

To accommodate their growing membership and diverse programs and activities, in July 1926 the Woman's Club of Jacksonville purchased a river front lot in the Riverside Subdivision for \$125,000. The Club issued \$90,000 in bonds to pay off the mortgage for the property, and financed \$50,000 for the construction of the clubhouse. In May 1927, the Club contracted with W.T. Hadlow to build the clubhouse from plans drawn by Jacksonville architect, Mellen C. Greeley (1880 - 1981).

With the new clubhouse, the membership of the club doubled in two years, from four hundred to eight hundred members. The club was honored in 1928 by a visit from President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, reflecting its status in the community.

To address their many interests and activities, the club was organized into departments that included divisions and committees. For example, from 1927-1928 there were five departments, including the Department of Fine Arts, the Department of Social Activities, the Department of Philanthropy, the Department of Finance, and the Department of Legislation, Education and Conservation. Between 1927 and 1945, the organization of the departments and divisions changed to reflect new issues, concerns and interests. In 1927, a Junior Woman's Club was organized by the club which also started a Little Women's group in 1928 for girls ages 12-18.

Many of the activities and programs of the members at the clubhouse were a continuation of earlier interests, particularly in the area of education. Between 1927 and 1945, the club continued to sponsor scholarships to the Florida State College for Women, provide books and magazines to rural schools, as well as sponsored resolutions in support of better funding for public schools and the establishment of a National Department of Education. Interest in child welfare also included support for the establishment of the Parental Home for Girls which opened in 1928. In the early 1940's, the club established a Juvenile Protection Association that organized "Teen Town", a youth organization that originally met at the clubhouse before moving to the armory annex. The club monitored educational and moral value of movies and films.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

Between 1927 and 1945, the Woman's Club of Jacksonville also sponsored numerous programs, talks, exhibits, and classes at the clubhouse for the education and betterment of its members. They included such activities as art, dance, and language classes, Bible study, book reviews, poetry contests, various recitals, concerts and performances, art displays, travel logs, and a supper club for women who could not attend the day meeting.

The club served other local organizations as well, such as the Jacksonville Public Forum, which was composed of representatives from different organizations. Organized to discuss community problems and needs, the Forum continues today as the Civic Roundtable. The clubhouse was also available for use by other organizations which included the Jacksonville Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Friday Musicale (for a short period), Pen Women and the Needle Work Guild.

The National Depression of the 1930's and World War II presented particularly great challenges to the members of the Woman's Club. Public health and welfare was an area to which the club directed much attention and energy. For years during the 1930's, the club petitioned the County Government to fund a county health department. The club continued their involvement in the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis, particularly supporting the tuberculosis hospital for Jacksonville's black community. The club also addressed the need for permanent housing for the mentally ill, since many at that time were being housed in the jail.

As the Depression deepened, public welfare became an even greater concern for the club. During 1933 and 1934, the women prepared relief boxes containing food, clothing, and toys for fifty families and 185 individuals. In 1934 and 1935, the club provided meeting space for the New Deal's Federal Relief Committee. An inter-racial Division was also established to address issues and needs regarding Jacksonville's black community. A representative from the club served on the Council of Southern Women on the Prevention of Lynching. Through the Inter-racial Division, the club hosted talks by such noted black Floridians as Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, President of Bethune-Cookman College; Augusta Savage, famous sculptress; and Eartha M. White, a Jacksonville humanitarian.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

1

Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

Section number _____ Page _____

- 1 1) Woman's Club of Jacksonville, 861 Riverside Avenue
 2) Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida
 3) Rocco Morabito
 4) November 1991
 5) Rocco Morabito, Landmark Art, Inc., Jacksonville
 6) Looking NW at S (main) elevation
 7) 1 of 14

Numbers 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

- 2 6) Looking N at main entrance, S elevation
 7) 2 of 14
- 3 6) Looking SW at E elevation
 7) 3 of 14
- 4 6) Looking NE at W elevation
 7) 4 of 14
- 5 6) Looking N from second floor balconet at auditorium
 7) 5 of 14
- 6 6) Looking NE at staircase to second floor and doorway
 to loggia
 7) 6 of 14
- 7 6) Looking E to doorway to small ballroom and staircase
 to second floor
 7) 7 of 14
- 8 6) Looking E into small ballroom
 7) 8 of 14
- 9 6) Looking N into loggia
 7) 9 of 14
- 10 6) Looking E in kitchen
 7) 10 of 14
- 11 6) Looking E in "Gable Hall" on second floor
 7) 11 of 14
- 12 6) Looking W into ladies' lounge on second floor
 7) 12 of 14

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 4 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

By the late 1930's, the club's attention turned more to the international situation with numerous programs focusing on U.S. foreign policy and the cause and prevention of war. Many of these speakers were noted scholars and former ambassadors. The club was active in the campaign to establish the Naval Air Station at Jacksonville and supported relief efforts for China, Greece, and Russia.

After the United States entered the war in 1941, the club became very involved in supporting the war effort. A Special Red Cross Emergency Relief Committee was established which set up a workroom in "Gable Hall" for making surgical dressings. At first the workroom was opened only one day a week, but as the war continued, volunteers worked five days a week making surgical bandages and garments. By January 1, 1943, over 314,228 bandages were made at the clubhouse. From 1942-1943, the clubhouse was used 123 times for war related entertainment and defense work. From 1943-1944, the club hosted fifteen dances at the clubhouse for military personnel. The club was also active in the sale of war bonds, and sold enough to fund one bomber which was named after the club. The club followed the request of the General Federation to keep the clubhouse opened during the summer in order to continue to support the war effort. The club also took an active role in the salvage program for the collection of scrap materials, and outfitted a day room at Camp Blanding with lamps, chairs, books and magazines. During this period, the club passed resolutions to protest labor strikes by defense workers and supported price controls on commodities. The club sponsored a study of the problem of adequate child care for mothers working in the defense industries.

CONCLUSION

The clubhouse of the Woman's Club of Jacksonville played a significant role in the social history of the city of Jacksonville from its construction in 1927 through the end of World War II in 1945. The building served as the base of operations for the women who contributed greatly to the public welfare of the community, and worked to support the well being of the state and nation at large. They effected their aims through direct means and through education, by hosting numerous individuals of national or state prominence. In addition to President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, these individuals included: Helen Keller; U.S. Senator Duncan U. Fletcher; George R. Paschal Jr., Consul to China; State Supreme Court Justice Fred H. Davis;

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 5 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

State Senator Claude Pepper; Gilchrist Stockton, former ambassador to Austria; Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune; Augusta Savage; and Richard Simpson, Speaker for the 1943 Florida Legislature.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Tudor Revival Style

The Tudor Revival Style was popular from 1890-1940, peaking during the 1920s and early 1930s. Tudor Revival is based on late Medieval English architecture, and had six principal subtypes during its fifty year span. The Woman's Club of Jacksonville is an example of the subtype featuring brick walls and a main gable clad with false half-timbering and stucco infill.

Although Tudor Revival buildings were constructed of any of four materials (wood, stucco, stone, or brick), or a combination thereof, they all shared common characteristics. These features included overlapping, steeply pitched gables and cross-gables; a steeply pitched roof; multiple front gables; decorative half-timbering; massive and/or tall chimneys; and tall, narrow, sash or casement windows, often in groups.

Mellen C. Greeley, Architect (1880-1981)

Son of Jacksonville Mayor J.C. Greeley, Mellen C. Greeley studied architecture as an apprentice draftsman for J.H.W. Hawkins, a Jacksonville architect, from 1901 to 1908. He was also in partnership with architect Roy A. Benjamin for five years immediately following World War I. During his long career, Greeley designed numerous significant buildings in Jacksonville including Old Stanton High School, the Fenimore and Hartmore Apartments (in association with Benjamin), Dr. Charles E. Terry Residence, George Couper Gibbs Residence, the John L. Roe Residence, and served as associate architect for the Church of the Good Shepherd and the Ribault Club on Fort George Island. In 1927, Greeley also used the Tudor Revival Style in designing a residence at 1816 Avondale Circle and at 1876 River Road in San Marco. Both of these houses share many of the same design features as the clubhouse, particularly the use of brick, half-timbering, casement windows and massive chimneys. During the 1920's, the Tudor Revival Style was popular for residential construction in the Jacksonville neighborhoods of Riverside, Avondale, Ortega and San Marco.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 6 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

W.T. Hadlow, Builder

One of Jacksonville's most prolific construction companies, the W.T. Hadlow Company had been in business in Jacksonville for decades before building the clubhouse. The company built the Herkimer Block, the Bisbee Building in association with the Southern Ferro Concrete Company, the State Board of Health Building, Old Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Los Cedros (Colonel Raymond C. Turck Residence), and the Florida Yacht Club. In addition to the clubhouse, W.T. Hadlow also joined with Greeley in 1927 in the construction of the residence at 1816 Avondale Circle.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Woman's Club of Jacksonville is architecturally significant as a fine example of the Tudor Revival Style and as the work of noted Jacksonville architect, Mellen C. Greeley, and builder W.T. Hadlow. The building incorporates the typical features of the style, including, steep gable roofs, a brick/stucco with half timber/rustic wood exterior, casement windows, and massive chimneys. The building has been little altered, and retains most of its original features. The incorporation of the auditorium is unusual for this style of building, and demonstrates Greeley's design skills. He succeeded in creating a massive, yet unobtrusive, public facility which maintained the residential character of its surroundings.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 & 10 Page 1 Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

Ashby, Archie and Adams, Fred L. The Four Hundred:
Jacksonville's Social Register, 1929-1930.
Jacksonville: n.p., 1929.

Crooks, James B. Jacksonville After the Fire, 1901-1919: A
New South City. Jacksonville: University of North
Florida Press, 1991.

Hallam, George. Riverside Remembered. Jacksonville:
Riverside Avondale Preservation, Inc., 1976.

Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Yearbooks, 1927-1945.

Wood, Wayne W. Jacksonville's Architectural Heritage,
Landmarks for the Future. Jacksonville: University of
North Florida Press, 1989.

Newspapers

Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville), 23 November 1927 and 1
January 1950.

Unpublished

City of Jacksonville. Building Permit #3694, May 23, 1927.

City of Jacksonville. Building Plans, on microfilm with the
Building and Zoning Inspection Division.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary includes
all of Lot 5 and the S half of Lot 4, Block 4 of the
Riverside Subdivision, Jacksonville Florida.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary includes the portion of the city lot
historically associated with the property.

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

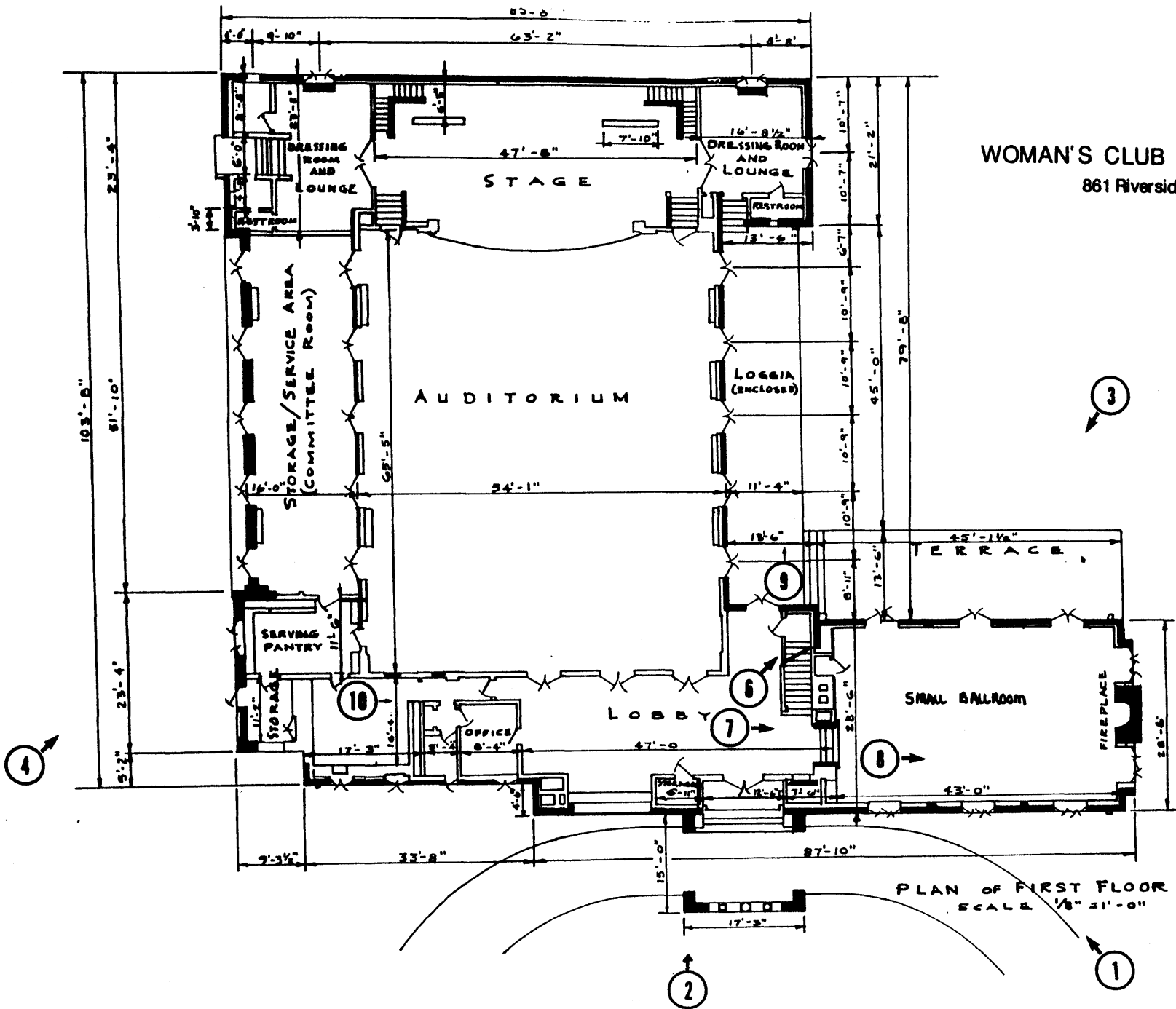
**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

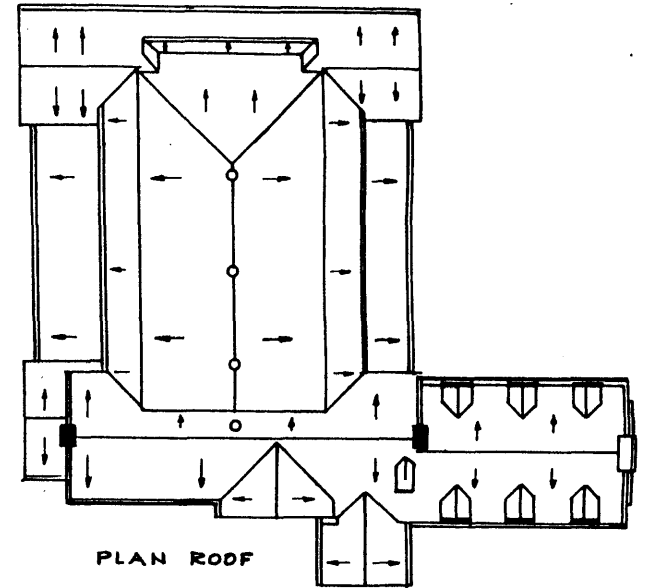
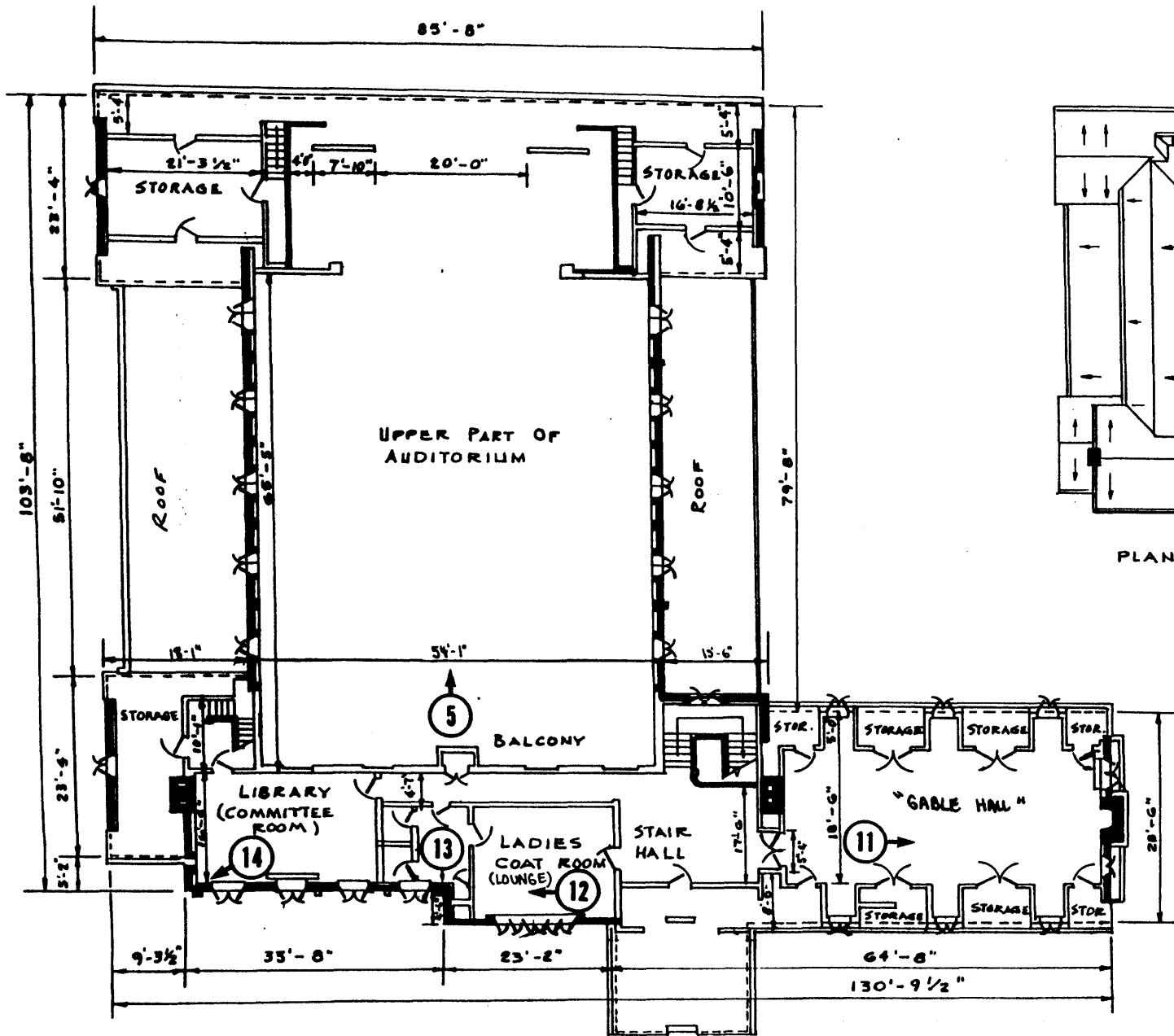
Photographs _____ 2 _____ Woman's Club of Jacksonville, Duval Co., FL
Section number _____ Page _____

- 13 6) Looking W into restrooms of ladies' lounge on second
floor
- 7) 13 of 14

- 14 6) Looking SW into library
- 7) 14 of 14

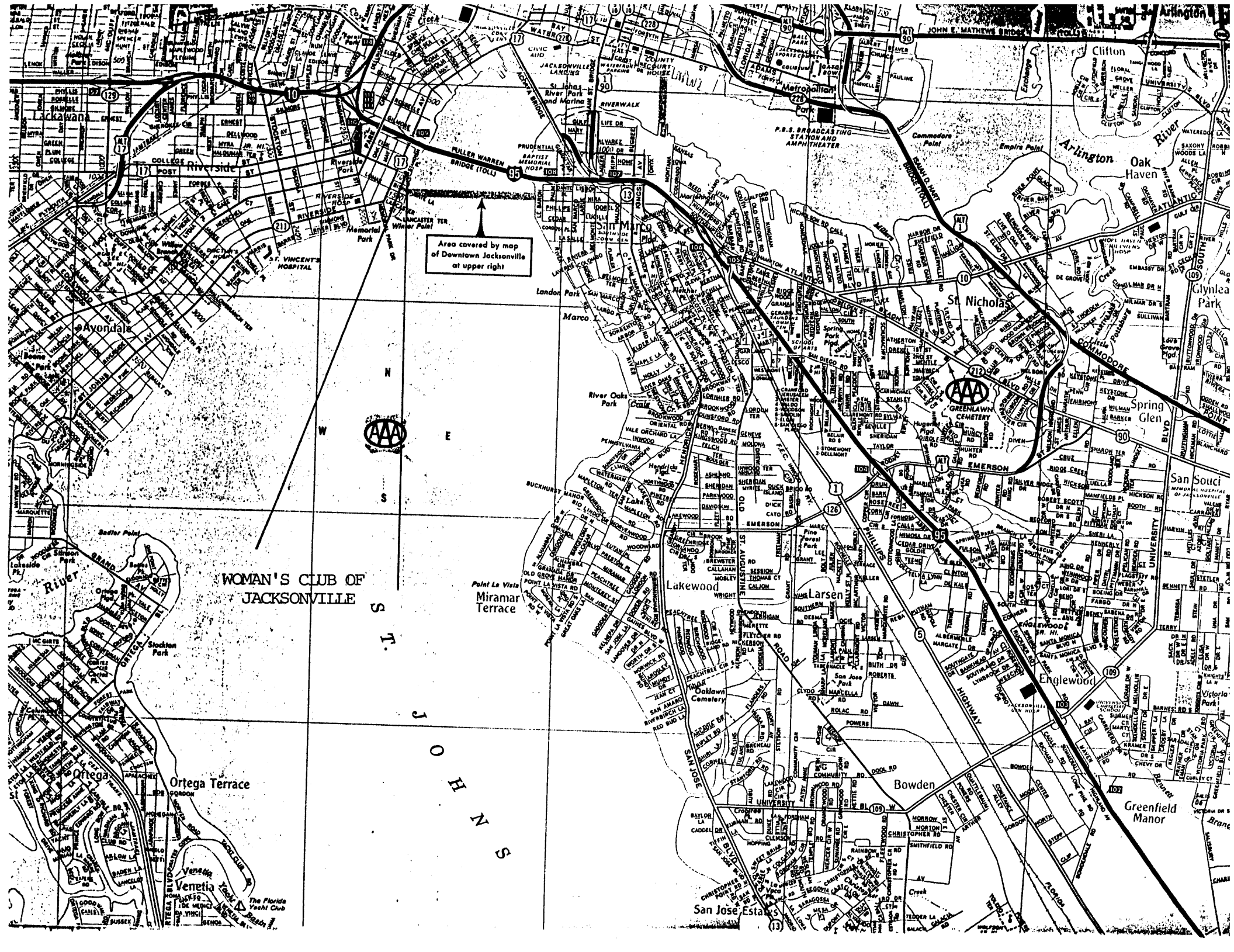
WOMAN'S CLUB of JACKSONVILLE
861 Riverside Avenue





WOMAN'S CLUB of JACKSONVILLE
861 Riverside Avenue

PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



Area covered by map of Downtown Jacksonville at upper right



WOMAN'S CLUB OF JACKSONVILLE

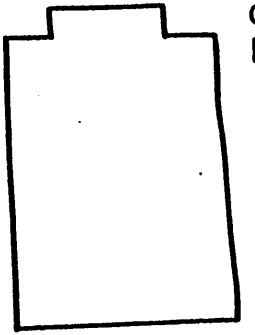
J
O
H
N
S

RIVERSIDE

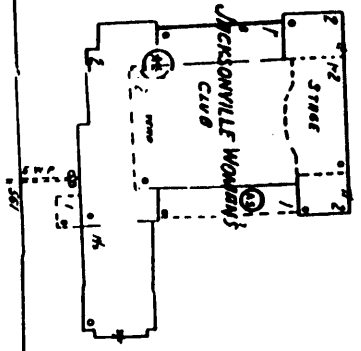
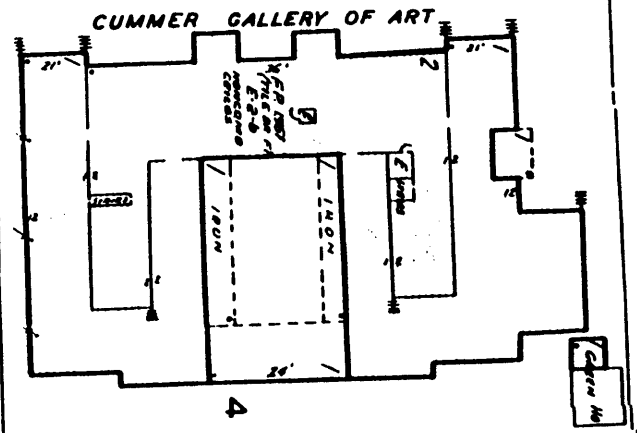
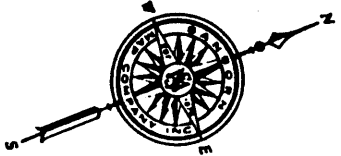
AV.

92

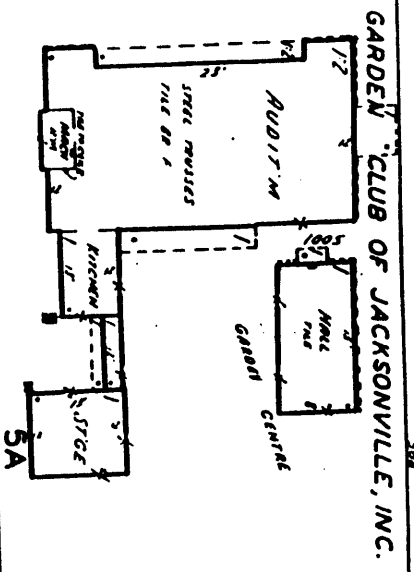
94



1969 SANBORN MAP



STREET POST



S t . J o h n s R i v e r

