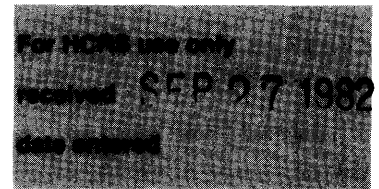


**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

**1. Name**

historic Mary Louise Kennedy, Genella House

and/or common commonly known by street address

**2. Location**

street & number 5022 - 5028  
~~5022-24-26-28~~ Prytania St. N/A not for publication

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of congressional district 2nd--Lindy Boggs

state LA code 22 county Orleans Parish code 071

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence (apts.)
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property**

name Mr. and Mrs. D. Stephen Rosenbloom

street & number 1435 Polymnia Street

city, town New Orleans N/A vicinity of state LA 70130

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Department of Conveyance, City Hall

street & number 1300 Perdido

city, town New Orleans state LA 70112

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title La. Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records La. State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Baton Rouge state LA

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## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>          N/A          </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

---

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Genella House (#s 5022-24-26-28 Prytania Street, New Orleans) is a two-story, frame, double house with side hall plans on both floors. It was built in 1891, and was occupied by the owner and a tenant, each taking one side of the double house. The house is three rooms deep in the main part, with a two room rear wing. On both sides the third room of the main part terminates in a semi-octagonal bay. The plan of each half provides for a double front parlor, a dining room, a kitchen, and bedrooms on the second floor. The Genella House is built mainly in the Italianate style with shiplap siding, wooden quoins, Doric posts on the front galleries, cornices over the front fenestration, decorated aedicule mantels, and Rococo style ceiling medallions. There is also a central bay on the front second floor which provides for privacy on each side of the upper front gallery. The house is surmounted by a hip roof with a double, pedimented, Italianate dormer. On both sides of the house there is a large set of double sliding doors which divide the front and rear parlors. These are encompassed within an earmolded door frame which is undoubtedly a throwback to the Greek Revival.

The most interesting aspect of the house is the manner in which the large ornamental brackets are used. These occur in their normal place providing a transition between the semi-octagonal side bays and the gables above. But they were also reversed and used on both stories of the front gallery to create a pointed arch arcade.

Since the house was built, the following changes have taken place:

1. The mantels have been removed on the east side.
2. A rear gallery on the east side has been enclosed.
3. A pair of side dormers have been added.
4. The bases of the ground story columns have been replaced due to rot.
5. The stairs in each hall have been walled off to provide for separate apartments upstairs.

### SUMMARY PARAGRAPH:

The Genella House (1891) is a two-story, frame, contractor built, Italianate double house located on Prytania Street in the "uptown" residential area of New Orleans. Despite several changes, the house retains the features which contribute to its architectural significance (see Item 8).

Assessment of Integrity: See statement in above summary paragraph.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

**Specific dates** 1891 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Mary Louise Kennedy Genella

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)** Criterion C

The Genella House is locally significant in the area of architecture as an unusually interesting piece of builder architecture. It is a two-story, side hall plan, double house, not unlike many others which were speculatively built in New Orleans in the late-nineteenth century, though it is larger than most. What makes it special is the way in which manufactured brackets were used to create an arcaded facade on what would otherwise have been an ordinary galleried house. The brackets give the facade an almost Italian Gothic appearance, which has more richness than is normally expected of a pair of builder designed row houses. It is therefore a landmark in uptown New Orleans, an area which is largely characterized by repetitive and less distinguished builder architecture.

Property History:

The Genella House was dated by the applicant using conveyance and real estate assessment records. According to an act passed before a notary public on March 13, 1889, the land upon which the building stands was sold to Mary Louise Kennedy, wife of Charles Genella, for the sum of \$1,705. According to assessment records, Mrs. Genella was assessed \$1,500 in 1889, the year she acquired the property. The assessed value of the property rose in 1890 to \$1,700. The record book for 1890-91 notes the value as \$1,700, with a notation in pencil "not finished cost about \$4,500 for house." Such a reference is typical for this period and indicates new construction on the site. This supposition is confirmed in the records for 1892 when Mrs. Genella is noted as having a residence on the property, with the assessed value rising to \$6,000. In addition, the Soards City Directory of 1892 lists Charles J. Genella at this location. As the directories and the assessor's books were prepared early in the year, one must assume that the present structure was constructed in 1891 and occupied by early 1892.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Conveyance Records  
Real Estate Assessment Records  
Soards City Directories, New Orleans, 1892-1895.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property @ 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name New Orleans East, LA

Quadrangle scale 1=24000

### UMT References

A 15 779070 3813760  
Zone Easting Northing

B           
Zone Easting Northing

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

### Verbal boundary description and justification

See sketch map.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carlos de Salazar

organization Farnsworth Samuel Ltd. date September 1981

street & number 1521 Washington Ave. telephone 504-891-6400

city or town New Orleans state LA 70130

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Robert B. DeBlieux  
Robert B. DeBlieux

title State Historic Preservation Officer date September 17, 1982

**For HCRS use only**

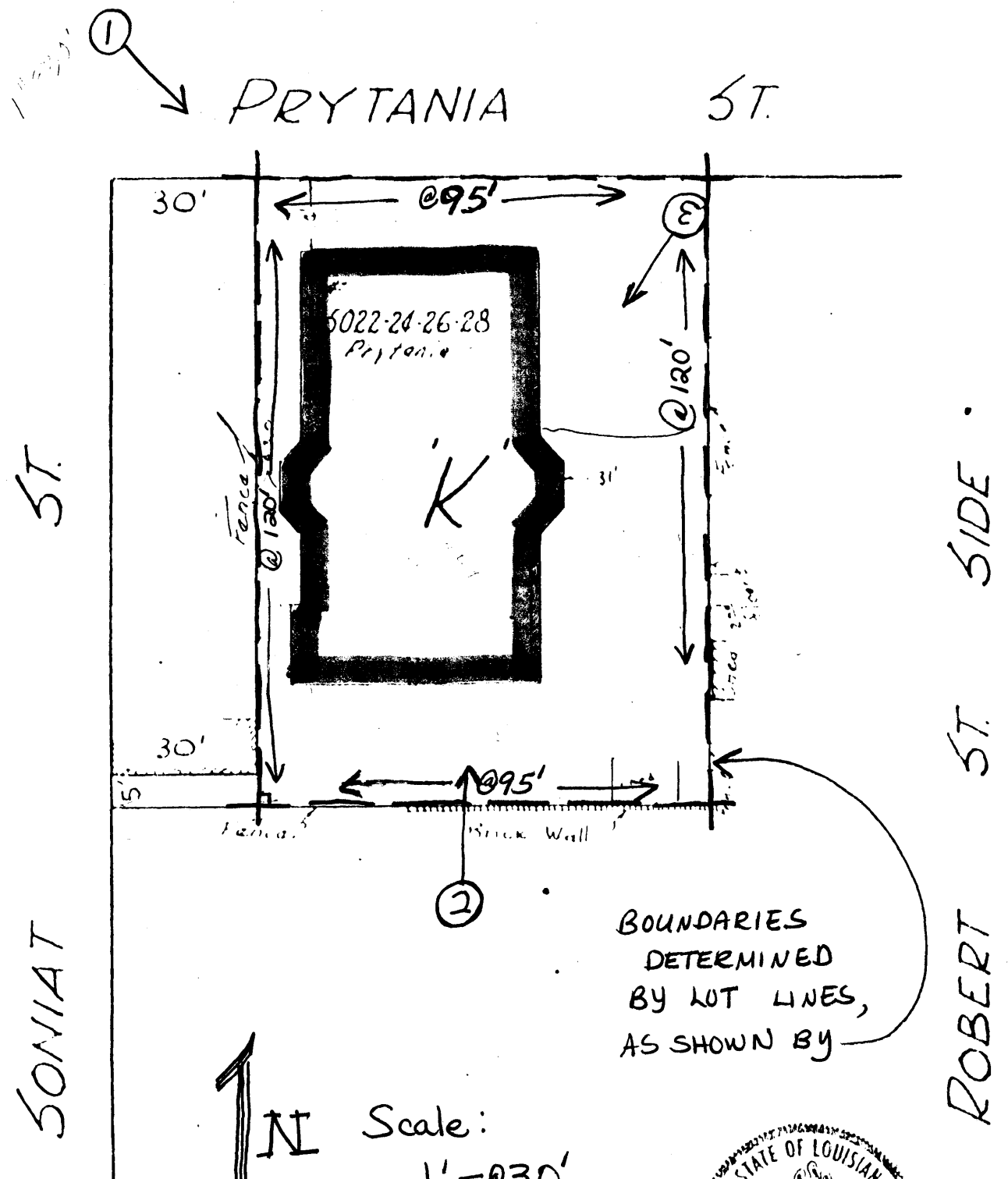
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] date 1/18/82  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: [Signature] date 1/18/82  
Chief of Registration

Genella House, New Orleans, LA

SO. No. 348, AVART (No. 29)  
SIXTH DISTRICT



BOUNDARIES  
DETERMINED  
BY LOT LINES,  
AS SHOWN BY

Scale:  
1" = 30'

