

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

FEB 12 2001

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Gilliam, Sam House

other names/site number Gilliam-Adams House/BD1999

2. Location

street & number 11 S.W. 15th Street n/a  not for publication

city or town Ft. Lauderdale n/a  vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Broward code 011 zip code 33315

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.)

Janet Snyder Hartman 2/1/2001  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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

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

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

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

Edson H. Beall 3/29/01  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

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

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

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

n/a

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

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**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce/Trade: Professional

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals:

Prairie Style

Mediterranean Revival Style

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stucco

walls Stucco

roof Terra cotta tile

other Wood

**Narrative Description**

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

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Criteria Considerations**

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

Property is:

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

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

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

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1925  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1925  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

n/a  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

n/a  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown/Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of Repository  
\_\_\_\_\_  
# \_\_\_\_\_

Gilliam, Sam House  
Name of Property

Broward Co., FL  
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 7	5 8 5 2 5 0	2 8 8 7 2 3 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jaimee Adams, and Barbara E. Mattick/Deputy SHPO for Survey & Registration

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date January 2001

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (850) 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 Bayou Meto, Inc., Jay M. Adams, President

street & number 919 S.E. 6th Court telephone (954) 522-5282

city or town Ft. Lauderdale state FL zip code 33301

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

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

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 **GILLIAM, SAM HOUSE**  
**Fort Lauderdale, Broward Co., FL**

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**Summary**

The Sam Gilliam House is an irregularly shaped, two story building displaying a combination of the Prairie and Mission/Mediterranean Revival styles. Its roof is flat with parapets concealed by pent roofs covered with green barrel tiles. The house was constructed ca. 1925 by local lumber company executive Sam Gilliam. It was built on two lots at the corner of S.E. 3rd Avenue and S.E. 9th Street (lots 22, 23, 24, block 2, Plat of Fort Lauderdale), but moved to 11 S.W. 15th Street (lot 12, block 25, Croissant Park) to avoid demolition in 1998.

**Setting**

The Gilliam House was originally located 300 S.E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street at the corner of S.E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street and S.E. Third Avenue (Figures 1, 2 and 3). In 1998, the house was moved to make way for the construction of a four-story office building on that site (Photo 25). It was relocated to the northeast corner of S.W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street and S.W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, where it is just west of the Croissant Park Administration Building, which faces S. Andrews Avenue (Figure 4 and Photo 1). The house is landscaped with newly planted oak trees, shrubbery, and turf block. Across Andrews Avenue from the Croissant Park Administration Building is Broward General Hospital. Originally a residential area, it is now in an area of commercial redevelopment. The areas east and west of the Gilliam House, however, are residential.

**Exterior**

The house is masonry, stucco-clad hollow clay tile (Photo 2). For the most part, the builder avoided ornamentation, relying on window design and roof treatment to provide visual interest. The house has a flat roof with a parapet and visor (pent) roofs attached to the parapet wall, creating wide, overhanging eaves. The parapet is concealed; it does not project above the pent roof. The first floor sun room and porte cochere share a pent roof. The roofs are covered in barrel tiles that have been painted green; the green color is original. Decorative loaf shaped tile finials at the roof ridge junctions are prominent design details.

The first floor of the main block of the Gilliam House is a simple massed plan with irregularities on the north (Photo 3) and east (Photo 4). A large, incised, porte cochere is at the southeast corner (Photo 2), and a projecting chimney is centered on the west elevation (Photo 5). The second floor has a simple massed plan with minor irregularities, one of which, at the southeast corner, projects onto the porte cochere roof (Photo 4). The porte cochere has heavy battered piers that support flattened arches. There is a double arch on the east elevation of the porte cochere, with a single arch, on the north and south (Photos 2-4).

The windows are Prairie style wood casements with six small square lights over three long rectangular lights in each leaf. Three or more casements are ganged together as ribbon windows. On the south-facing first floor sun porch, there are two sets of ribbon windows, one with four windows ganged together and one with four

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windows and a centered door, which are set in flattened arches. This is the same type of arch that is seen on the porte cochere and the main entry on the east facade.

The house retains its architectural integrity to a very high degree. It was boarded up for many years, which had the advantage of preserving many of the windows. About a third of the windows are original; the rest have been replicated to match the originals.

**Interior**

The interior of the Gilliam House features a lavish use of red oak in such decorative details as wide baseboards, prominent window surrounds, staircase, and fireplace mantles. The living room fireplace is built of smooth-faced red brick and has a boxed oak mantle (Photo 7), while the bedroom fireplace, also of brick, has a single oak board mantle (Photo 20). The fireplace hearths are terra cotta tile. The doors throughout the house are of mahogany and feature an inlaid geometric pattern. The exterior doors have lights with beveled glass. The floors of the house (except in the bathrooms) are of tiger oak.

The main entrance to the Gilliam House is a glazed door with 6/3 beveled lights located at the north end of the porte cochere (Photo 4). It enters directly into the living room (Photo 6), a large area that extends the width of the main block of the house. At the west end of the room is a fireplace built of smooth faced red brick. It features a heavy boxed mantle of red oak with panels and has fluted columns that flank the fire box (Photo 7). The fireplace is flanked by single, 6/2 casement windows. At the east end of the room, three broad steps lead to a landing that provides access to the kitchen and also leads to the stairs to the second floor.

South of the living room is a sunroom which extends across the front of the main block of the house (Photos 8-10). Two bays of casement windows are set in flat arches similar to the arches of the porte cochere. The casement leaves have a 9/3 light configuration. A door located in the middle of the east bay of windows was originally a main entrance to the house. A wide opening flanked by two slightly battered, squared, fluted columns on the north wall of the living room leads to the dining room (Photos 11 & 12). Double doors on the north wall of the dining room lead to a small room that was perhaps used as a breakfast room. A small telephone shelf is located on the east wall of this room, south of a door that leads to a pantry. A door in the southwest corner of the pantry leads back into the dining room, and immediately south of the pantry is a storage area under the stairs that lead to the second floor. To the east of the pantry is the kitchen which retains its original porcelain double sink. A small half bathroom is located in the northwest corner of the kitchen, next to an exterior door. Three steps in the southeast corner of the kitchen lead to the stair landing that accesses a straight stairway of red oak to the second floor (Photo 14).

The second floor includes a master suite (Photos 15 & 16) composed of a bedroom, sitting room, and bathroom (Photos 17 & 18). There are two additional bedrooms (Photo 19), one of which has a brick fireplace with a

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wooden mantel (Photo 20). The landing at the top of the stairway also provides access to a large sitting on the rear (north) side of the house (Photo 21), a second bathroom, and a large storage closet. All bedroom closets have beveled mirrors in the doors and are cedar lined.

The second floor bathroom (Photo 22) has all original fixtures, hexagonal white ceramic floor tile with black tile daisy details. The walls are covered 3/4 of the way up with rectangular white glass tile topped with cove tiles. A decorative geometric border is inset just below the cove. There are original inset soap dishes above the tub and the sink and an inset toilet paper holder. Some of the wall tiles are missing and have been replaced with mosaic tile. A mirrored wooden medicine cabinet (Photo 23) is set into the wall above the sink. The master bathroom has similar original fixtures; the hexagonal ceramic tile floor pattern differs only slightly from that in the hall bathroom (Photo 19).

**Alterations**

The present owners added central air conditioning in 1999, but installed it so that there were no exposed ducts or dropped ceilings. The vents were designed to be as inconspicuous as possible. A wood fence conceals the outside air conditioning equipment.

The Adamses, the current owners, were required to add a handicap access ramp; due to current building codes, they were not permitted to add concrete steps to replicate the original ones that led to the exterior doors. After discussing ideas with several architects (including preservation architect Walter Marder with the Bureau of Historic Preservation), they designed a wooden deck, which was built in the porte cochere, and a connecting handicap ramp. Native plants were planted to conceal the ramp and the deck. The railings of the deck were designed to resemble, but not mimic, the design of the windows. City codes also required a new foundation that was higher than the original. Fortunately, the Adamses were permitted to build the new foundation so that the house would not be significantly higher than it had been originally. The new elevation from the ground is only seven inches higher than the original height. The only other exterior alterations were the loss of small balustrade walls at the entrances and a low wall between the side arches of the porte cochere. Otherwise, the house retains its original finishes and fixtures and features to a very high degree.

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**Summary**

The Sam Gilliam House, built in 1925, is significant at the local level under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of the houses built in Fort Lauderdale during the Florida Boom of the 1920s. The house incorporates design features typical of the Prairie and Mission/Mediterranean Revival styles. Of particular note is the use of wood. It features inlaid finishes on the doors, red oak mantles, wide baseboards, French doors, and distinctive multi-light casement windows. The pent roofs are covered with unusual green barrel tile. The house meets **Criterion Consideration B** because it was moved to prevent its demolition. It was moved to an appropriate setting where it retains its architectural integrity to a very high degree.

**Historic Context**

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

The development of Fort Lauderdale as a community began in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century as a series of small farms and trading posts along the New River. In 1895 Henry Flagler extended his Florida East Coast Railway from West Palm Beach to Miami, further opening the lower east coast of the state for settlement. The development in and around Fort Lauderdale was insured after Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward in 1904 instituted a program to drain the Everglades to claim valuable land in the southern part of Florida. Fort Lauderdale was among the areas that became a focal point for the drainage program. By 1910, the Fort Lauderdale settlement had 143 residents. The Town of Fort Lauderdale was incorporated in 1911 and soon began a period of rapid growth.

America's entry into the First World War ended Ft. Lauderdale's first period of development. For two years during the war, construction in the community came to a standstill. At the close of the conflict in 1918, Fort Lauderdale had approximately 2,000 residents. It was the seat of Broward County, which was formed in 1915 out of parts of Dade and Palm Beach counties. The economy was tied to vegetable and citrus farming. In town, there were three dry goods stores, ten grocery stores, one hardware and furniture store, one five and dime store, an undertaking parlor, two second-hand stores, four garages, an ice and electric plant, two novelty works and planing mills, a city water works, a fire department, a school, two newspapers, four doctors, five lawyers, three dentists, three barber shops, two blacksmith shops, two pool rooms, two banks, and eight churches.

Although Fort Lauderdale had developed fairly rapidly during the 1910s, nothing compared to the explosion of growth that occurred as a result of the great Florida Land Boom of the 1920s. The end of the war brought a new surge of activity as an era of prosperity and improved of transportation sent many Americans south in search of warmer climate, relaxation, and recreation. Real estate and tourism played expanding roles in Fort Lauderdale's economy. Local residents made fortunes in real estate speculation virtually overnight. Prosperous Northerners arrived in droves as investors, visitors and winter residents.



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Fort Lauderdale's population soared to an estimated 16,000 people in 1925. The boom years saw the number of newly constructed houses reach impressive levels. During the first half of 1925, about 350 residential building permits were let, totaling \$853,330. In an effort to alleviate an acute housing shortage, most of the new construction was geared toward moderately priced houses, between \$4000 and \$8000. The typical boom time house in Fort Lauderdale featured a Mediterranean Revival design with from five to seven rooms and garage accommodations.

Land sales during the boom revolved around subdivisions and additions within the original town limits that were still undeveloped. Other areas were reclaimed from the wetlands through extensive drainage and landfill projects. Subdivisions that experience unusually brisk building activity during the boom included Rio Vista, Las-Olas-By-The-Sea, Idlewyld, Victoria Park, Croissant Park, Beverly Heights, Riverside, and Colee Hammock. With the exception of the Las-Olas-By-The-Sea, all of those subdivisions were platted during the first half of the 1920s.

The boom collapsed in 1926, and culminated with the disastrous hurricane in September of that year. Devastated, the city's population declined to 9,000. The Great Depression threatened continued hard times, but as the 1930s progressed, Fort Lauderdale began to recover, and the former boomtown gained a national reputation as a seaside resort. More growth came after World War II, and today, with a population of about 150,000 in a larger metropolitan area of about 1.3 million, Fort Lauderdale remains a popular resort community.

Gilliam House

In 1887, Arthur T. Williams of Fernandina, Florida, and a syndicate from Jacksonville purchased sections 16 and 21 in what is now southwest Fort Lauderdale from Florida Land and Mortgage Company. The Jacksonville men placed a notice in the Florida Times Union advertising 50' x 100' lots in what they called the Palm City development. There was little response, and in 1900 the land reverted to the state for taxes.

In 1890 the William and Mary Brickell, of Miami, purchased nearly 900 acres along the New River, which ran through the heart of the community, from Florida Land and Mortgage Company. The Brickells recorded their plat two days before Henry Flagler's Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) engineers started their survey work for the railroad through the area. The Brickells forced Flagler to move his railroad west of their property. Flagler and the FEC eventually reached a settlement with the Brickells; the railroad engineers would plat Fort Lauderdale in return for one half of the lots that would become the property of the railway. Originally, the Gilliam House was located just south of the southern boundary of the original one square mile town platted by the Brickells in 1895.

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Interest in the area remained low until 1920 when a New York syndicate headed by Ross Clark and J.L. Turner purchased a four hundred-acre tract in the area. Clark and Turner's business, Placidena Corporation, was chartered in the State of New York. The New Yorkers sold their property to a local development company owned by William H. Carmichael. The Carmichael Development Company replatted a section of land along the Tarpon River between Andrews and 3rd avenues as Placidena Unit 1. Shortly before the Placidena Corporation received its Florida charter, Carmichael deeded the land back to Clark and Turner.

By 1922 the Placidena Corporation was making improvements in the area including a "white way," that is, electric streetlights along Andrews Avenue, and a bridge across the Tarpon River on Andrews. In November 1922, the Fort Lauderdale Sentinel reported that Sam Gilliam, a lumber company executive; Dr. S.J. Clark, a local dentist; and George Mathews, publisher of the Sentinel, had purchased lots in the new subdivision. In 1923 construction started on a field office at Andrews Avenue and an unnamed east-west street.

Samuel Gilliam had come to Fort Lauderdale in 1913 as the manager of a local branch of a Palm Beach based lumber company. One year later he started his own business, the Everglades Lumber Company. Gilliam was one of the few registered Republicans in the county, a fact that was cause for comment and amusement in largely Democrat Broward County. He attended a number of Republican national conventions as a delegate from Florida. When President-elect Warren G. Harding visited Fort Lauderdale, Gilliam, as one of his hosts, arranged a golf game at the new Southside Golf Course with local pro Norman Sommers. The game became famous in local lore; Norm Sommers let the President-elect win, which pleased Harding. Gilliam also worked for Herbert Hoover in his presidential campaign and he may have entertained President Hoover when he was in Fort Lauderdale to assess damage from the 1926 hurricane. Gilliam used the clout he gained in Washington, D.C., to get a \$175,000 appropriation for a new post office in Fort Lauderdale.

In 1924 Placidena Corporation partner, J.L. Turner, died in New York City. The remaining partner and the Turner heirs decided to sell the corporation's holdings. Chicago investors Thomas E. Hopkins, Gilbert F. Woods and Joshua P. Young, purchased the development. The new owners re-platted the land, included new acreage, and renamed the Placidena development "Croissant Park," after their salesman/developer Frank Croissant. At the height of the 1920s building boom (1924), Gilliam commissioned the construction of the Gilliam House. The architect is not known.

Between 1924 and 1926 the developers laid the groundwork for a fine residential development; however, the collapse of the building boom, a railroad embargo of building materials, and the devastating 1926 hurricane, brought serious development of the Croissant Park area to a halt. By the 1960s, two nearby complexes were beginning to influence the area's development. The Broward County Courthouse and County offices immediately to the north, and later, the Broward County General Hospital on South Andrews Avenue encouraged investors to purchase residences in the area and convert them into professional offices. By the 1970s, Croissant Park was touted as the next expansion area for commercial redevelopment.

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In April of 1998, Jay and Jaimee Adams purchased the former Placidena field office, known as the Croissant Park Administration Building. A large lot immediately west of the Croissant Park building was included in the sale. At about the same time, the owners of the Gilliam House offered the house to anyone who would move it, clearly stating that if the house were not moved it would be demolished. The Gilliam House is fifty-seven feet wide, and only a few streets could accommodate the move of such a large structure. This severely limited the number of parties interested in moving it. A feasible route for moving the house, however, existed between the original site on Andrews Avenue and the Croissant Park lot owned by the Adamses.

In July 1998 the house was moved. Because the streets involved are heavily trafficked, the house could only be moved throughout the night and early morning hours, and finally was accomplished in twenty-two hours over a period of three days. The seven-block move went well, the house suffering only a few small cracks and the loss of some roof tiles. The lost tiles were replaced with original tiles found under the house at the original site. The City of Fort Lauderdale's Building and Zoning Department insisted that the house be positioned at the new location so that the front elevation faced east rather than north (as it was on its original site), citing a variety of zoning codes.

**Architectural Context**

The Prairie School Style was developed in Chicago under the leadership of Frank Lloyd Wright. It is horizontal, characterized by a low hip roof with low hip dormers and wide eaves. Porches have low hipped roofs and are single story. Roofs are supported by either tapered wood columns on brick pedestals or large masonry pillars. Exterior finishes include clapboard, shingles, stucco, light colored brick, or concrete. Windows are hung in groups or bands, providing natural light in the interior. Window units are often wood casements or one over one, double hung sash. The plan of the Prairie house is informal. Activities are to "flow" from one living space to the next; porches and patios extend the interior spaces outside. The style was generally popular 1900-1920.

The Mission Style was developed in California in the 1890s to emulate the Franciscan missions of the Spanish Colonial Period. This style incorporates stuccoed walls, tiled roofs, round arches, Spanish details, and open, spreading plans. Buildings are simple in form with little sculptural ornamentation. Curvilinear parapets, its most distinctive feature, are pronounced. The Mediterranean Revival Style generally refers to a style derived from a combination of architectural elements borrowed from countries and cultures surrounding the Mediterranean Sea, primarily Spain and Italy. This practice became popular in the late 1910s as part of the increased national interest in historical styles and architecture. Interest in such styles was especially fostered by the Panama-California Exposition in San Diego in 1915. The style, so suitable for Florida's Mediterranean-like climate and Spanish history, became extremely popular in Florida and is closely associated with the Florida Land Boom of the 1920s.

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General design characteristics include features taken from the Mission, Spanish Colonial Revival, and the Italian Renaissance styles: Moorish columns; low pitched, clay tiled, gabled, hipped, or flat parapeted roofs; stucco exteriors with terra cotta decorative features; and multi-level plans. Loggias and arcades are common features with plans in a U or L-shape, enclosing a courtyard. The walls may be decorated with cartouches, tile, and terra cotta insets. Highly decorated door and window surrounds are common.

**Architectural Significance**

The Gilliam House is architecturally significant as an excellent example of the finer houses that were built in Fort Lauderdale during the 1920s Land Boom. A few houses of similar style were built in the area ca. 1920s, most notably the D.C. Alexander House on Las Olas Beach and the Marshall House on S.E. 3rd Avenue and South New River Drive. All except the Gilliam House have been demolished.

The house displays a combination of the Prairie and Mission/Mediterranean Revival styles. The Prairie style is best represented by the horizontal lines created by the ribbons of casement windows (Photo 2), and the barrel tile pent roofs which give the illusion of hipped roofs, a feature typical of the Prairie style. The pent roofs actually conceal a parapet around a flat roof, however, which is closely associated with the Mission/Mediterranean style. The casements in the sunroom on the main elevation are distinctive, having rounded corners at the top and a 9/3 light configuration (Photos 8 & 9). The stucco exterior is typical of both the Prairie and Mission/Mediterranean Revival styles, though the slightly battered porte cochere and sunroom wall are more often associated with the Prairie style. On the first floor, the interior features large spaces that freely flow into each other, another characteristic of both the Prairie and Mission styles.

The most outstanding feature of the Gilliam House is the striking use of woodwork. Tiger oak floors are found throughout the house except in the bathrooms and kitchen, and red oak mantels adorn the fireplaces and stairways. Interior doors are of mahogany with Prairie style inlaid patterns (Photo 24), or are glazed and have sidelights with light configurations similar to those in the casement windows. Almost all other original fixtures and finishes remain in the kitchen, bathrooms, and cedar lined closets with bevelled glass mirrors.

The owners have done an outstanding job of preserving as much original fabric as possible, and where original features have been lost, they have recreated them using in-kind materials. Lighting fixtures were especially designed to reflect early electrical lighting designs and the Mission style. The Gilliam House is a well designed building that displays an integrated scheme of patterns and materials. It retains its architectural integrity to a very high degree.

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

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**Fort Lauderdale, Broward Co., FL**

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**Bibliography**

Abstract of Title, Block 25, Lots 11 and 12 in Croissant Park (Croissant Park Administration Building), Plat Book 4, Page 28, Broward County, Florida. December 11, 1922 Deed.

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**Boundary Description**

Croissant Park Block 25, Lot 12, Broward Cty, Plat Book, page 4.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundary corresponds to the lot that is currently associated with the Gilliam House.

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

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**GILLIAM, SAM HOUSE  
Fort Lauderdale, Broward Co., FL**

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**Photographs**

- 1
  1. Sam Gilliam House, 11 S.W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street
  2. Ft. Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida
  3. Jay Adams, owner
  4. August 2000
  5. Original negative held by Jay Adams
  6. SW elevation showing the Croissant Park Administration Building to the E, camera facing NE
  7. 1 of 25

Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs unless noted otherwise.

- 2
  6. S elevation; camera facing N
  7. 2 of 25
- 3
  6. N elevation; camera facing S
  7. 3 of 25
- 4
  6. E elevation; camera facing W
  7. 4 of 25
- 5
  6. W elevation, camera facing E
  7. 5 of 25
- 6
  4. January 2001
- 7
  5. Original negatives for this and the following photos held by Bureau of Historic Preservation
  6. Standing in dining room looking into living room, camera facing SE
  7. 6 of 25
- 7
  4. January 2001
  6. Fireplace at W end of living room, camera facing SW
  7. 7 of 25
- 8
  4. January 2001
  6. Sunroom, camera facing W
  7. 8 of 25

**United States Department of the Interior  
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**Fort Lauderdale, Broward Co., FL**

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- 9     4. January 2001  
      6. Restored sunroom windows, camera facing S  
      7. 9 of 25
  
- 10    4. January 2001  
      6. Doorway from sunroom into living, camera facing N  
      7. 10 of 25
  
- 11    4. January 2001  
      6. Standing in living room, looking into dining room and the small room beyond, camera facing N  
      7. 11 of 25
  
- 12    4. January 2001  
      6. Dining room, looking back toward pantry and kitchen, camera facing E  
      7. 12 of 25
  
- 13    4. January 2001  
      6. Kitchen sink, camera facing E  
      7. 13 of 25
  
- 14    4. January 2001  
      6. Red oak staircase to second floor, camera facing W  
      7. 14 of 25
  
- 15    4. January 2001  
      6. French doors in master bedroom suite, camera facing E  
      7. 15 of 25
  
- 16    4. January 2001  
      6. Master bedroom closet door with beveled glass mirror, camera facing NE  
      7. 16 of 25
  
- 17    4. January 2001  
      6. Master bathroom, camera facing N  
      7. 17 of 25



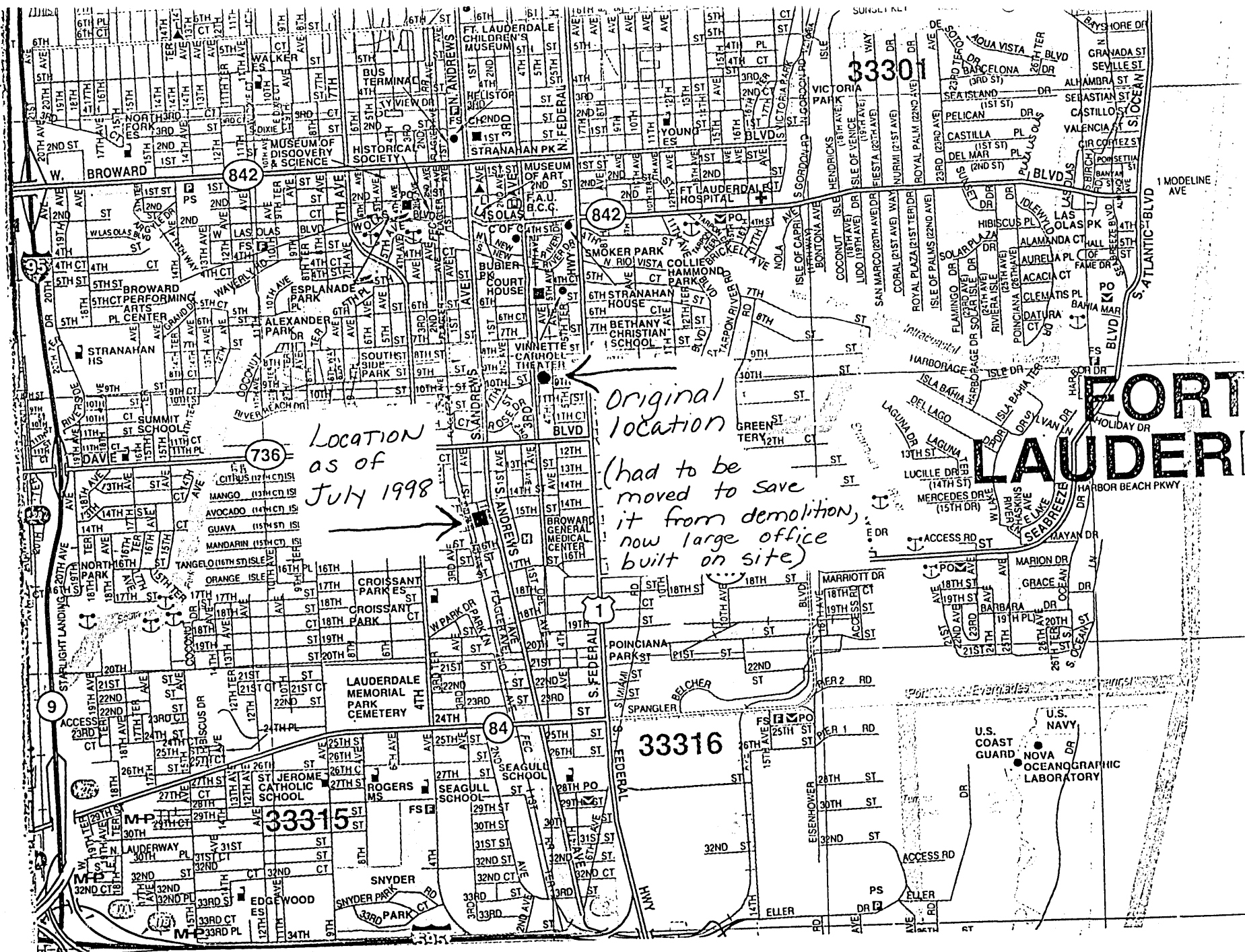
**United States Department of the Interior  
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Photos \_\_\_\_\_ Page 3 **GILLIAM, SAM HOUSE**  
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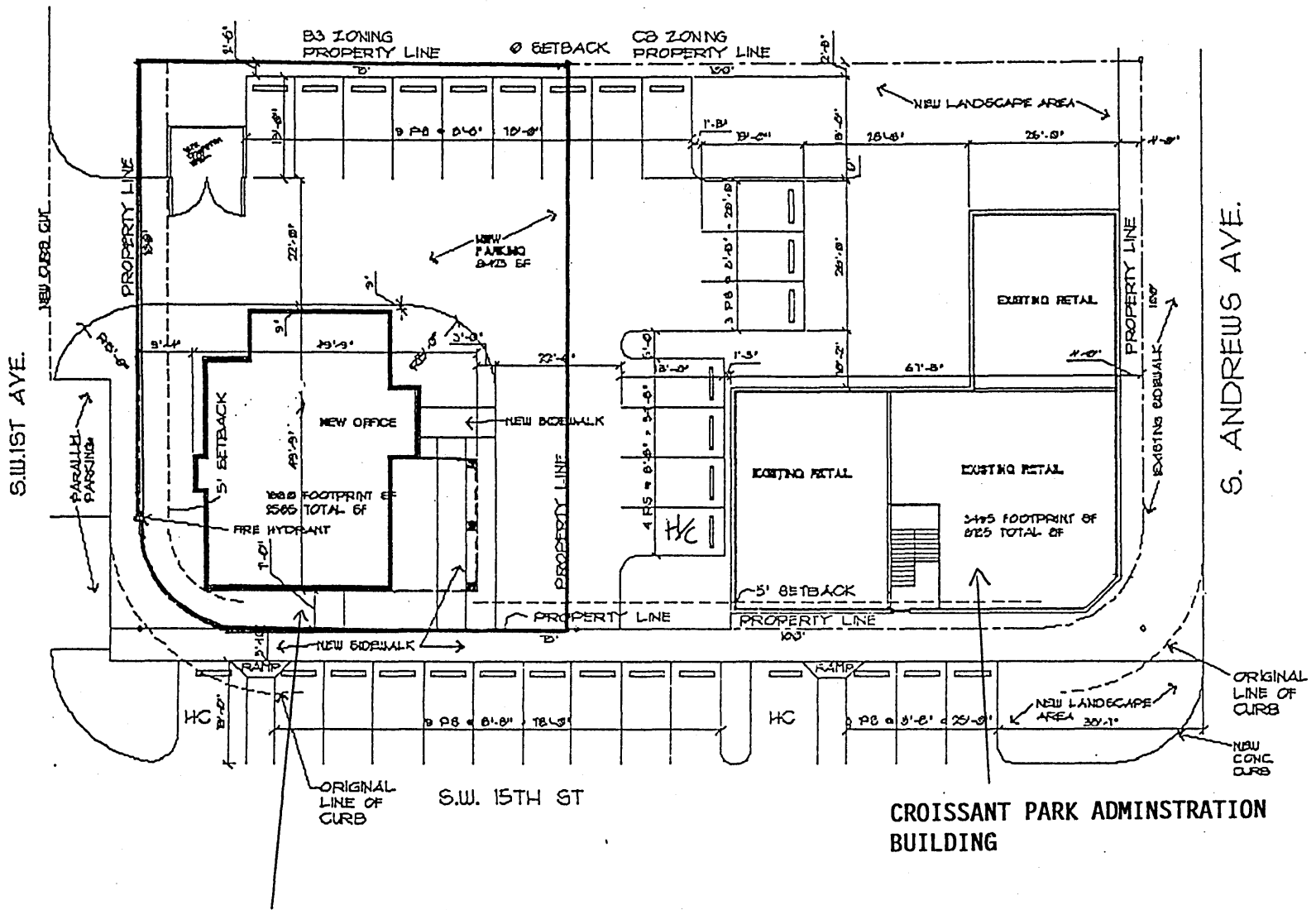
- 18 4. January 2001  
6. Cabinet in master bathroom, camera facing W  
7. 18 of 25
- 19 4. January 2001  
6. At upstairs landing, looking into SW bedroom, camera facing SW  
7. 19 of 25
- 20 4. January 2001  
6. Upstairs fireplace in SW bedroom, camera facing W  
7. 20 of 25
- 21 4. January 2001  
6. Upstairs sitting room, camera facing W  
7. 21 of 25
- 22 4. January 2001  
6. Upstairs hall bathroom, camera facing E  
7. 22 of 25
- 23 4. January 2001  
6. Upstairs hall bathroom mirror/cabinet, camera facing S  
7. 23 of 25
- 24 4. January 2001  
6. Close-up of typical wood inlaid interior door  
7. 24 of 25
- 25 4. January 2001  
6. New office building constructed at original site of the Gilliam House on S.E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
7. 25 of 25



Present Site - 11 S.W. 15th St.  
 Original Site - 300 S.W. 9th St.

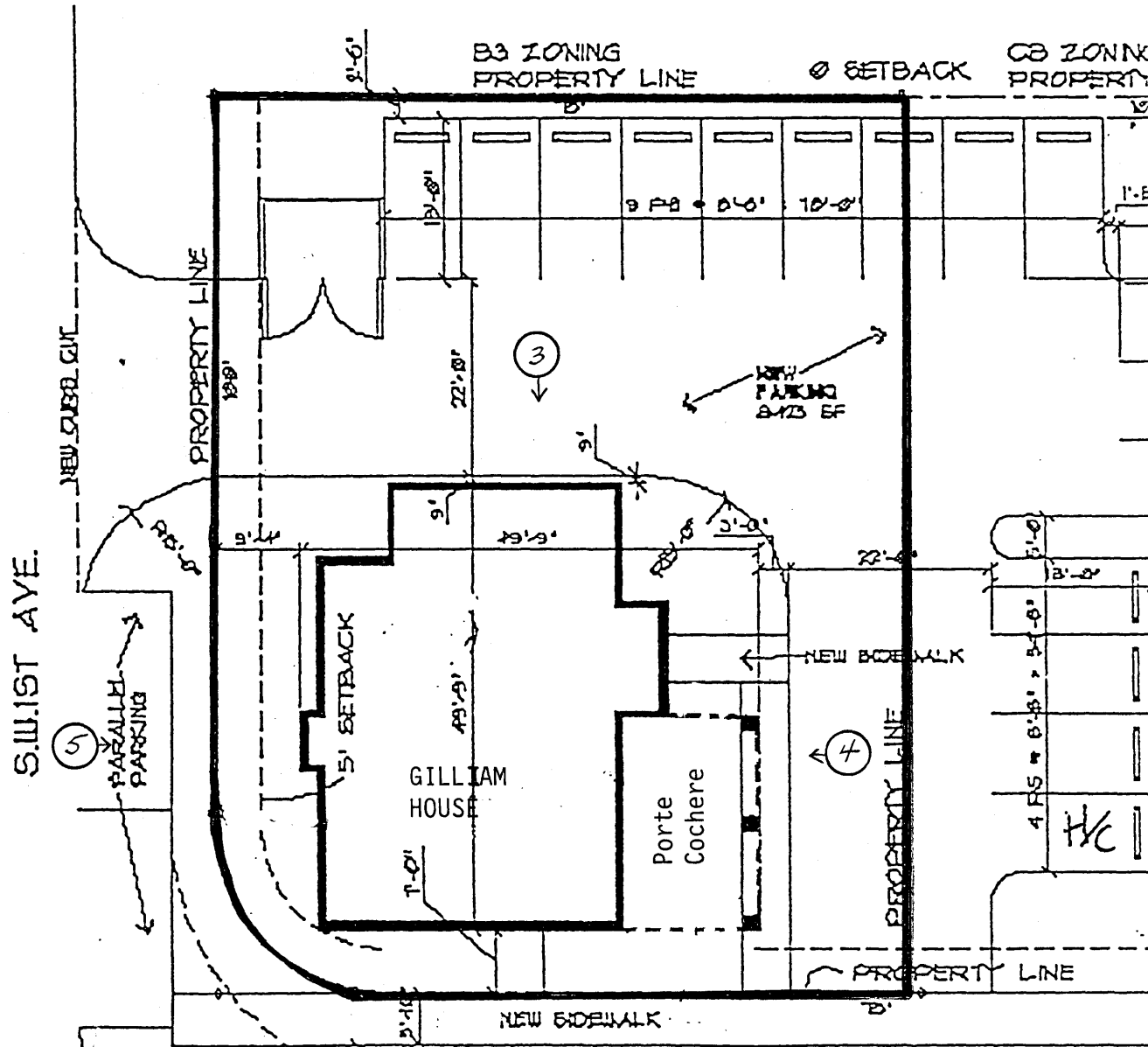


SAM GILLIAM HOUSE  
 BROWARD CO., FL



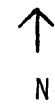
**SAM GILLIAM HOUSE**  
 11 S.W. 15th Street  
 Ft. Lauderdale, Broward Co., FL

**SITE PLAN SHOWING RELATIONSHIP TO  
 THE NEIGHBORING CROISSANT PARK  
 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**



SAM GILLIAM HOUSE  
 11 S.W. 15th St.  
 Ft. Lauderdale  
 Broward Co., FL

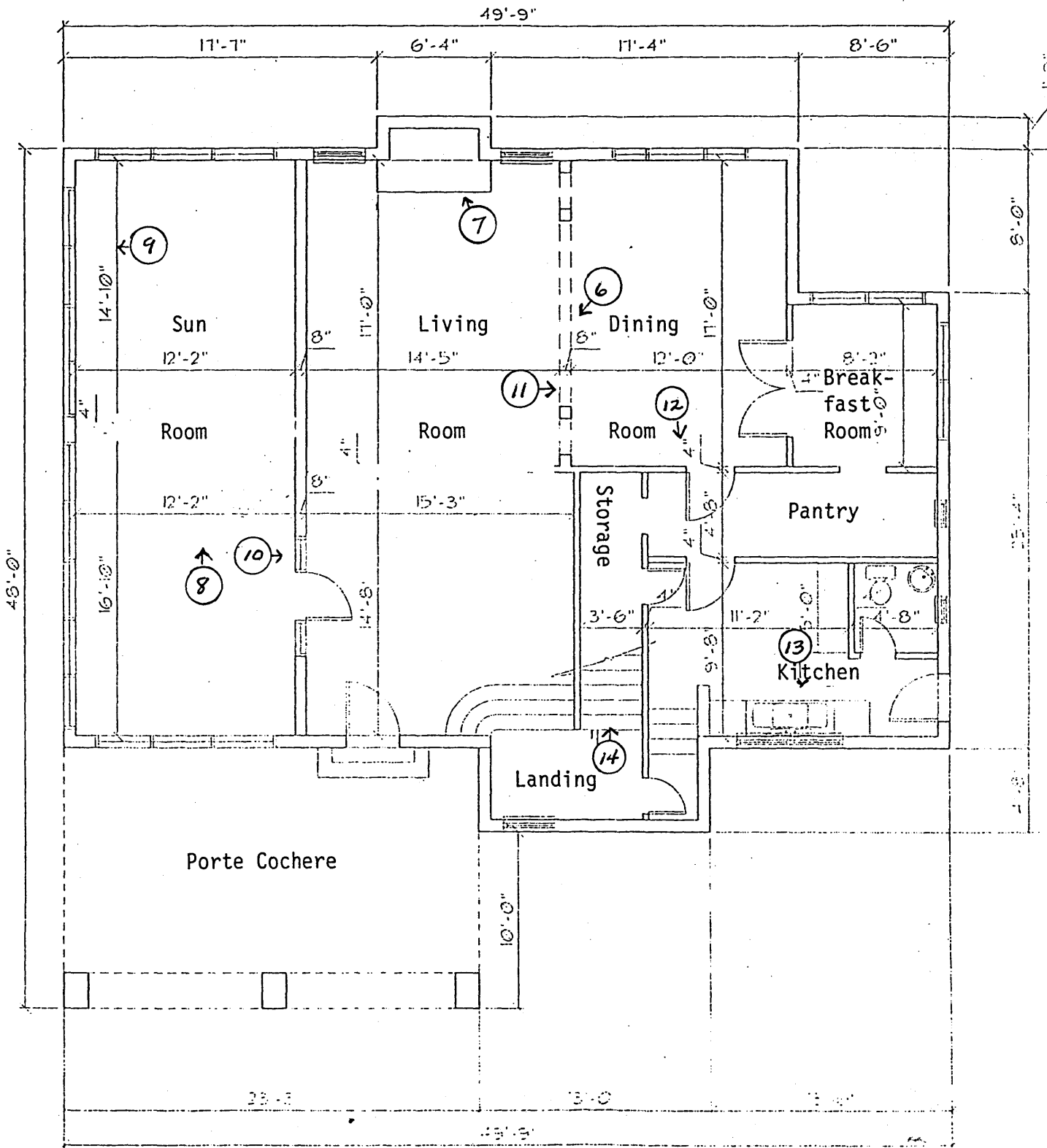
○ → Photos



① →

S.W. 15th St.

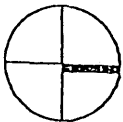
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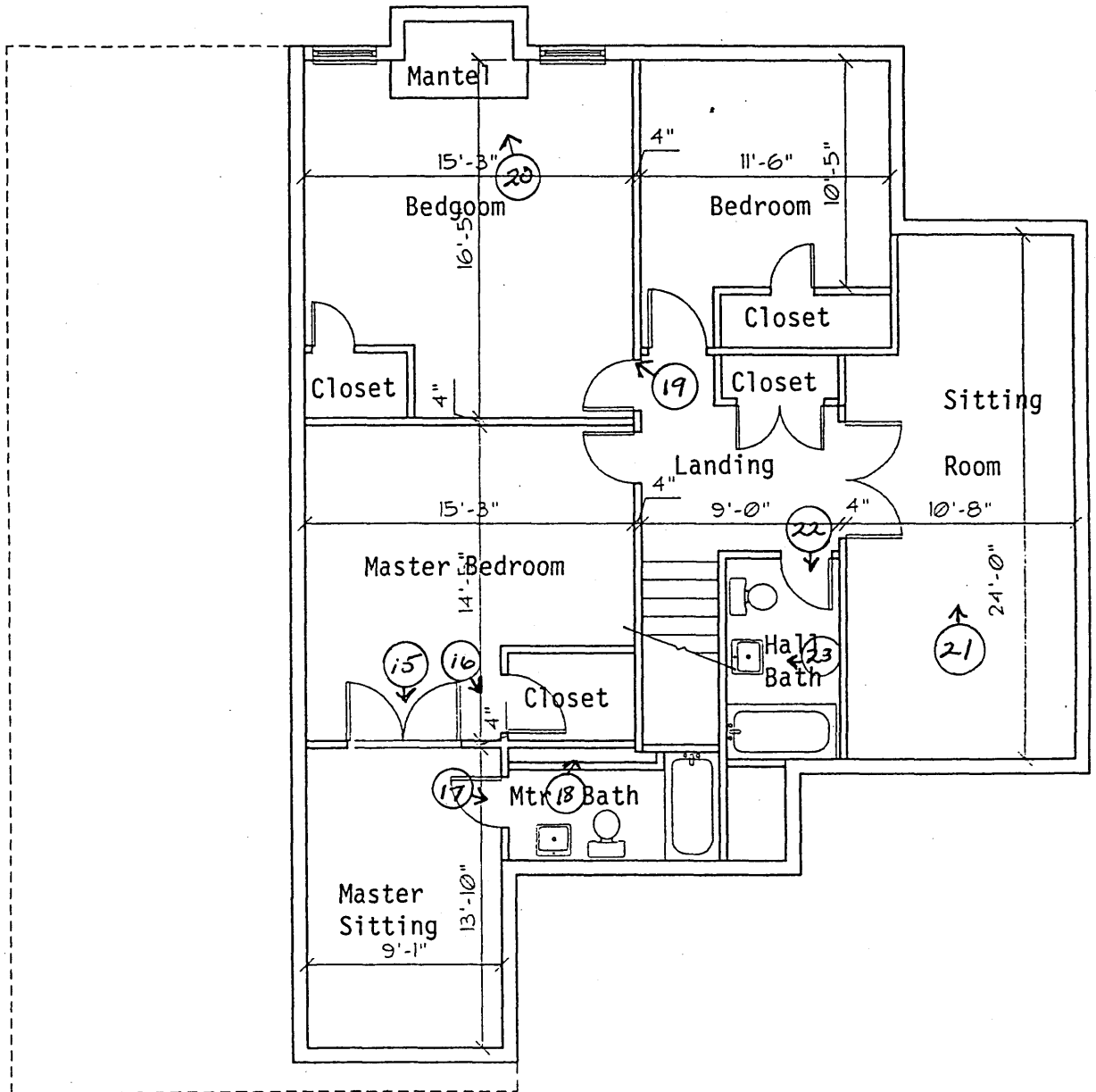


SAM GILLIAM HOUSE, FT. LAUDERDALE, BROWARD CO., FL

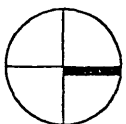
# EXISTING FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



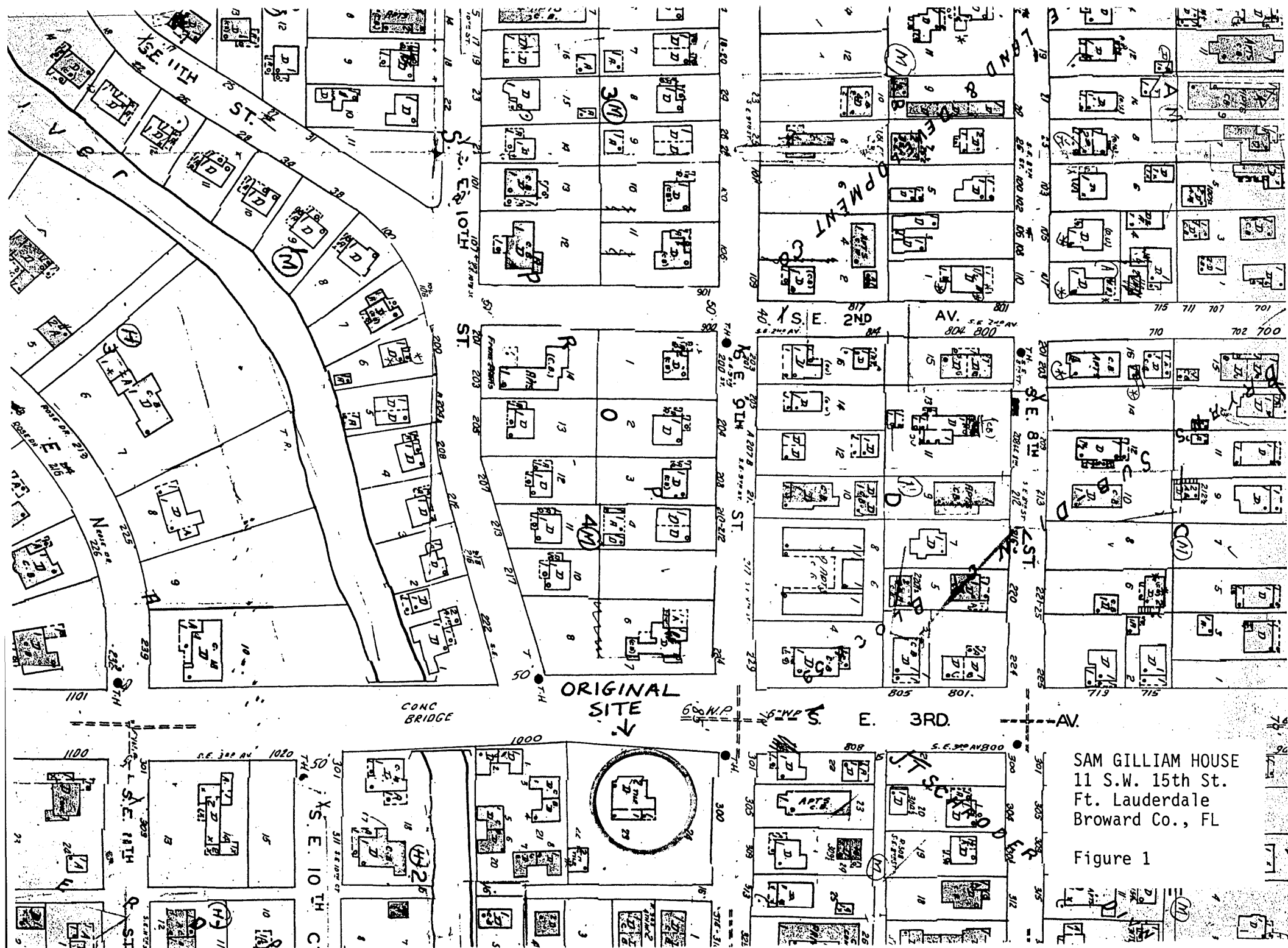


SAM GILLIAM HOUSE, FT. LAUDERDALE, BROWARD CO., FL



# SECOND FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SAM GILLIAM HOUSE  
 11 S.W. 15th St.  
 Ft. Lauderdale  
 Broward Co., FL

Figure 1



1930's

SAM GILLIAM HOUSE  
Ft. Lauderdale  
Broward Co., FL

Figure 2.

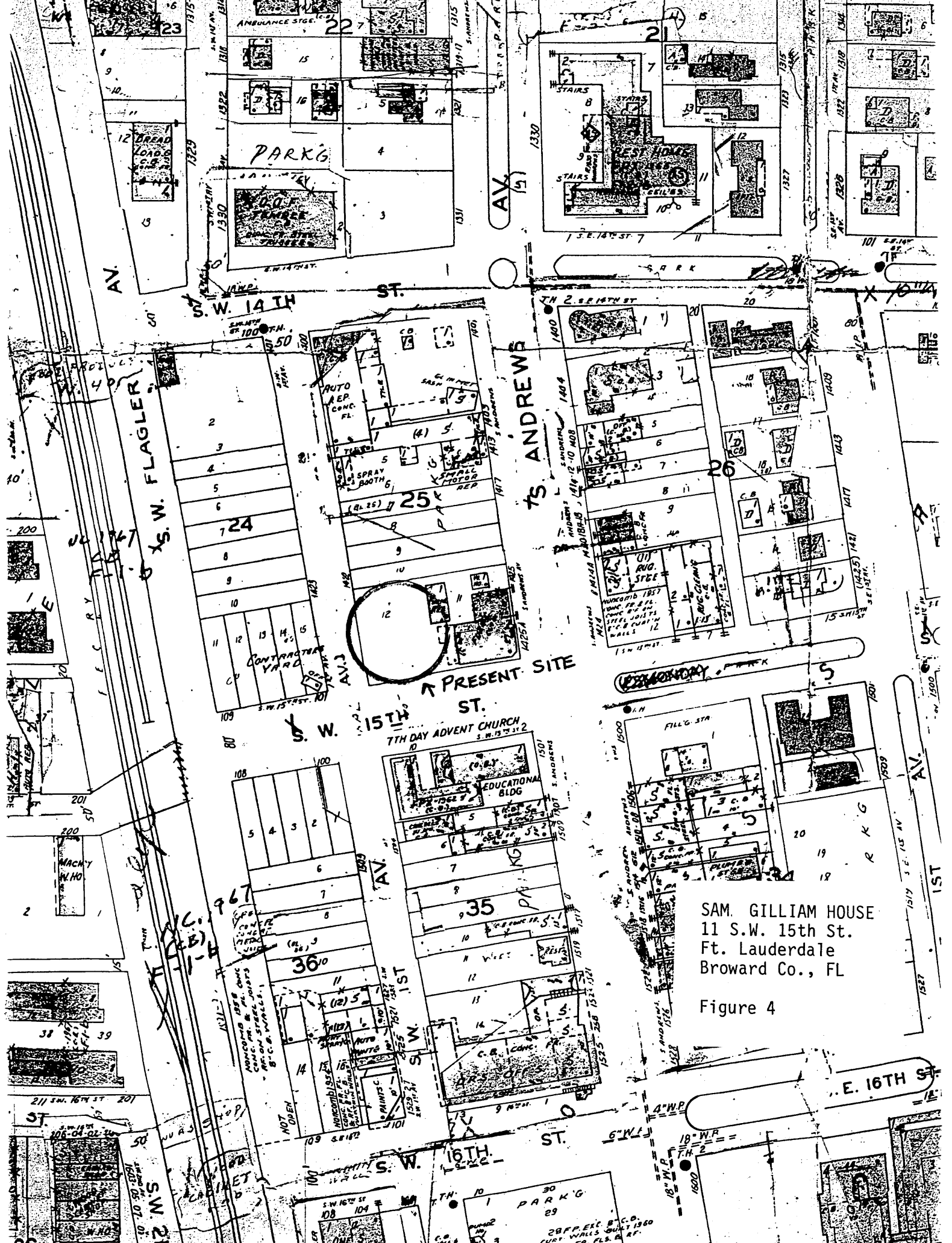




1989

Figure 3

SAM GILLIAM HOUSE, Broward Co., FL



SAM. GILLIAM HOUSE  
 11 S.W. 15th St.  
 Ft. Lauderdale  
 Broward Co., FL

Figure 4