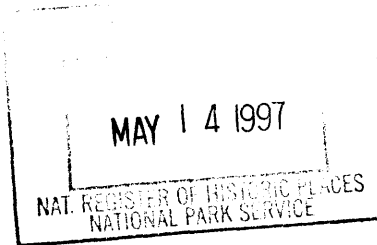


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM



557

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 JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE

other names/site number BEGGS/DAVIS HOUSE

2. Location

street & number 211 N. Washington Street N/A  not for publication

city or town Madison N/A  vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Madison code 079 zip code 32340

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.)

[Signature] 5/1/97  
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) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

Wilson H. Beall 6-13-95  
Date of Action

Jordan/Beggs House  
Name of Property

Madison 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)

- 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

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

19TH & 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick/Concrete

walls Wood

roof Asphalt Shingle

other Wood: Porch

**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**

1895  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

1895  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**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  
# \_\_\_\_\_

Jordan/Beggs House  
Name of Property

Madison Co., FL  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre

**UTM References**  
(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	2	6	8	1	0	0	3	3	7	3	2	4	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 Maria H. Green/Carl Shiver, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date April 1997

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 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 Thomas J. Beggs III

street & number 301 N. Orange St. telephone (904) 973-2258

city or town Madison state Florida zip code 32340

**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.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

**SUMMARY**

The Jordan/Beggs House, constructed in 1895, is located at 211 North Washington Street in Madison, Florida. It is an irregular plan, 2-1/2 story, wood frame Colonial Revival residence with Queen Anne influences. It has drop siding, an asymmetrical facade, and a one-story, full-width veranda that wraps around the east and south sides of the house. The residence has a complex roof with gable dormers and is supported by brick and concrete piers. The fenestration is 2/2 light double hung sash windows. To the left of the main entrance is a three sided bay with six shuttered double hung windows. The 4,055 square feet house is in excellent condition and largely retains its original exterior and interior features.

**SETTING**

The City of Madison, Florida is a small community with a population of approximately 6,000. Madison is located between Lake City and Tallahassee just north of Interstate 10. One block to the south is Highway 90, the main east/west thoroughfare for the city. The surrounding lots are occupied by large, high-style residences. The house sits on city block #64 with its yard occupying approximately three-quarters of the block. The wooded lot includes various shrubbery plantings. On the southwest corner of block 64 is the historic "Dream House" built in 1849, and owned by Nathan P. Williard who established the second cotton mill in Florida.<sup>1</sup> On the adjacent block, south, is the c.1860, Wardlaw-Smith-Goza Conference Center (National Register 1972) which is a Classical Revival mansion.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

**Exterior**

The exterior of the two story house has horizontal drop siding over a wood frame structure supported by brick and concrete piers with brick lattice infill. Most of the windows are original and are filled with 2/2, double hung sashes with shutters. There is a complex hip roof with cross gabled sections that is covered with asphalt shingles. The roof is pierced by two brick chimneys to the north and south of the house. Directly behind each chimney is a shed dormer

---

<sup>1</sup> E.B. Browning. "Dream House." Historical Marker in Madison County.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

with louvers for ventilation. The east side roof exterior (front facade) has a center gable dormer with double shuttered windows. Fish scale patterned wood shingles fill the pediment of the dormer and the eaves are open with simple bracketing. A one story hip roof covers the kitchen to the west, with an extended sloped overhang covering an open garage.

**East Elevation:**

The first floor consists of a wrap around porch beneath a principle roof of asphalt shingles. A patterned pedimented eyebrow with closed eaves is situated in the center of the porch roof. Under the boxed-in eaves is a paneled architrave. The porch facade is open, exposing six squared Tuscan columns on masonry piers. Between the piers is lattice brickwork. The porch wraps to the south side where it is screened in. This section of the porch has four columns. The entire porch has a wood ceiling and floor. The main entrance consists of three paneled double doors, each with an arched light and a single screen door. A transom is above the door. To the left of the main entrance is a shuttered bay with six double hung windows with wood molding. Beneath the bay windows is a decorative horizontal wood panel. To the north of the main entrance is a single window unit and an adjacent glass paned door unit with a transom above. Both units have shutters encasing them as if it were created as one double unit. Five concrete steps with an iron rail in the center access the porch in front of the main entrance. The second floor facade has a centered window with paired windows on either side trimmed with wood molding. The upper elevations of the north and south cross gabled sections have double jalousie windows, and are visible from the east.

**North Elevation:**

A shallow two-story extension is on the north elevation with a hip roof extension. The first story has a triple, double-hung window unit with a decorative wood panel over each window, and a small 1/1 single hung sash to the west. The second story has a metal double jalousie window with a small single hung sash directly under the eaves. A westerly portion of the main wall has a 2/2, single hung sash on both stories. Set back from the corner of the house is a single story wall containing a small metal window and has a shed roof. This adjoins the shed overhang for an open garage.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

**West (Rear) Elevation:**

The west elevation has a first floor extension for the kitchen which has a hip roof. A door is in the north wall of this extension which exits onto a porch enclosed with a black wooden lattice. Connected to this porch to the north is the open garage. A shed roof extends from the kitchen and joins the garage. Seven concrete steps with metal pole railing lead to the lattice enclosure. To the west elevation of the kitchen extension are two shuttered single window units. On the south side of the kitchen is a single, 6/6, double hung window and a small extension with a shed roof. The second story of the west elevation contains three windows evenly spaced across the width.

**South Elevation:**

The south side of the house consists of the wrap around porch on the first floor and a shallow, two-story extension with a cross hip roof. The first story of the extension is an enclosed porch with a window on the west side. A sleeping porch with metal awning windows on all three sides occupies the second story.

**Interior**

The interior of the Jordan/Beggs House has an central stair hall dividing the building's main block with the main door on the east, and the kitchen on the west. Living areas are on either side of this hall. The floors are original pine. The walls are plaster over lath, and many areas have vertical wooden wainscoting. Ceilings are plaster, some of them textured. Most of the windows have double hung sashes. The interior's traditional detailing features fluted wood trim molding with decorative corner blocks on most of the windows and doors. The corner blocks on the first floor have a rosette design, except for Eastlake corner blocks in the pantry, and all the blocks on the second floor have an Eastlake design. The doors feature porcelain, glass, or brass door knobs. The fireplace mantels downstairs have different designs, and the fireplace mantels upstairs have an identical design with the exception of tile work around the fireplace.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 4

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

**First Floor**

**Entrance Hall:**

Through the main double doors with transom is the stair hall. The room terminates at a door into the kitchen, and has ceilings that are eleven feet high. The walls have wainscot paneling of narrow tongue and groove boards painted white. White dentil molding lines the ceiling around the stairwell. The stairway is a straight run of stairs to the first landing, a quarter turn to the right to a second landing, then a quarter turn to the second floor. The balustrade is made up of turned balusters painted white with a dark oak stained handrail. The massive turned newel post is also painted white with a dark oak stained newel cap in the form of a massive ball. The paneled wainscoting goes up the stairway to the second floor. A small glass globe mounted on the ceiling is in the front part of the hallway, and a single pendant light fixture hangs in the rear.

**Parlor:**

To the southeast of the hall is the parlor with a six unit bay window that looks out on the front porch on the east side. The windows have fluted wood casing trimmed around the windows and between each window. There are rosette corner blocks on the upper corner of each window unit. On the base trim of each window is a centered corner block of the East Lake design. On the south wall a double glass paned door, with a fan light window, opens onto the wrap around porch. To the right of the double door is a brick fireplace with a white paneled wood mantel and decorative medallions. The hearth is a marble slab. The deeply textured ceiling is plaster. The cornice is a double crown and cove molding which is hand troweled plaster. Picture molding is at the base of the cornice. The centered ceiling medallion with sun design has a four light pendant fixture. An arched opening, with fluted wood pilasters and decorative corner blocks, goes into the dining room.

**Dining Room:**

The dining room to the west side of the parlor has a white narrow tongue and groove paneled wainscoting with chair rail. A ten paned glass paned door with transom opens onto the wrap around porch. A double hung window is to the right of the door. On the west wall are two doors. One is a swinging paneled door opening into the pantry and the other is a white paneled



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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 5

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

door opening into the kitchen. A third paneled door is on the north wall and opens into the hallway. A fireplace is in the southeast corner, next to the archway, has a white mantel with heat proof beige and brown tile trim. The opening is covered by a metal closure. The hearth is brown and beige tile with wood molding. There are three sconce style brass fixtures with frosted globes on the walls. The plaster ceiling has the same type of hand troweled cornice. The sun design ceiling medallion has a pendant light fixture.

**Drawing Room:**

To the northeast of the hallway is the drawing room. A squared bay with triple window unit is on the north wall, with a single window unit on the east wall of the bay. On the west wall there is a single unit, half glass, nine paned door with a transom at the top. In the east wall is a single window unit that is almost the height of the door. The door and window are treated as one unit as defined by the white fluted pilasters surrounding them with decorative corner blocks. The fireplace with white mantel is angled on the west wall. There are light beige marbled heat proof tiles with two decorative corner tiles surrounding the covered opening. A white rope metal trim surrounds the opening. A service bell is attached to the side of the mantel. The hearth has light beige and reddish brown tile surrounded by wood molding. The ceiling has a squared medallion with a swirled design centrally located. A surface mounted small glass globe light fixture is attached. A four paned glass and paneled door with plain wood molding opens into the bedroom.

**Northwest Bedroom:**

The bedroom has a single window unit on the north wall. The ceiling has a small surface mounted light fixture. The decorative white mantel fireplace, with beaded trim and leaf design, is angled on the northeast wall. The heat proof tiles are brown with marbled diamond shaped tiles. The opening is covered with block and painted white. The hearth has small tiles with various green colors (some missing). The hearth is trimmed with molding. There are two separate bathrooms. One is a basic bath and the other a powder room. The basic bath, with modern fixtures, is on the west side of the bedroom and is a converted dressing room. The modernized bath has a hexagon sink, paneled vanity and large mirror above with an 8 bulb horizontal lighting unit. The tub has walls with white tile. There is a linen closet with a plain solid door. There is a triple roll out metal window, and white tile floor. A bathroom on the north side has a sink and toilet. A tub was moved to the upstairs bathroom directly above. The room has a small double roll out metal window, and white vinyl flooring. The south wall of the bedroom has a paneled door that opens into the hallway.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 6

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

**Kitchen:**

On the west end of the hallway is a paneled door that opens into an "L" shape kitchen. The kitchen has been modernized with a stove, refrigerator and cabinets. There are an island with cabinets, a double sink, and dishwasher. Two window units are on the west wall, one on the south wall and one on the north wall that looks onto an enclosed wood latticed porch. A paneled door on the north wall also opens onto the porch. There are two florescent fixtures centered over the island. The plywood floor has been hand painted in a geometric pattern. The adjoining pantry on the south side of the kitchen has shelving on two sides, with a single window unit on the south wall. The entry from the pantry to the kitchen is a pocket door and there is a swinging door from the pantry into the dining room. A glass and paneled door opens onto the latticed porch. The porch has a wood ceiling and a lattice wall on two sides with a lattice door that opens onto the garage.

**Second Floor**

**Hallway:**

The second floor is accessed by the central hall staircase. At the top of the stairs the banister curves onto a small hallway that accesses four bedrooms and bathroom. A door near the head of the stairs opens up to reveal a staircase that goes up into the attic. A double window unit is on the west wall. All the bedroom doors have fluted wood casings with decorative corner blocks with Eastlake design and functional transoms above each door. The lighting is a small globe surface mounted fixture.

**Southwest Bedroom/Study**

The bedroom/study has two walls of closet/storage space with louvered bi-fold doors. Above is additional storage that is the width of each closet. There is a single window unit between the closets on the west wall. The southeast wall has an angled fireplace that has a decorative white wood mantel with curved brackets. The opening is surrounded by brown and white tile and the opening is closed off with a white metal closure. The hearth is framed by decorative tiles of the same color and trimmed with wood molding. There is a built in bookcase

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 7

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

on the south wall with a door that opens up onto a sleeping porch adjacent to it. The bookcase and door have fluted wood casings with decorative corner blocks that surround it and treats it as one unit. There are two paneled doors that access the hallway and southeast bedroom. The lighting is a small globe fixture.

**Sleeping Porch:**

This small room has awning windows on three sides and narrow tongue and groove white paneling. A hanging bulb is the primary light.

**Southeast Bedroom:**

The bedroom has a double window unit on the east wall and a fireplace with decorative wood mantel and dark and light green tile on the southwest wall. The hearth has small rectangular dark green tiles. A small closet is angled on the northwest wall. The lighting is a bulb in the center of the ceiling without a globe. There are two doors on the north wall that opens up into the hallway and bathroom.

**Main Bathroom:**

This room is considered the county's first built-in bathroom. The bath has been modernized with a toilet, tiled tub and shower with a glass sliding door. The sink is the original porcelain and marble with a trademark stamp on the underside of the basin that reads "Maryland Pottery of Baltimore". The cabinets have been modernized with new tile and the walls are tiled halfway. A single window unit is on the east wall and there is a door that opens into the hallway on the west wall.

**Northeast Bedroom:**

This bedroom has a small closet adjacent to the bedroom door. A double window unit is on the east wall and a two light door opens onto the bath on the north end of the room. The fireplace in the northwest corner has a decorative wood mantel completely painted white. The hearth is trimmed with blue and beige tile and wood molding. The lighting is two wall sconce fixtures on the west wall and a surface mounted globe fixture. The bath was originally a porch, and has horizontal wood lapping and awning windows on two sides. The flooring is tile. The

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 8

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

---

bath has been modernized and the tub was brought from the downstairs northwest bathroom. There is a shed style ceiling of narrow tongue and groove.

**Northwest Bedroom:**

This bedroom has a single window unit on the west and north wall. The fireplace, angled into the northeast corner, has a dark brown and gold tile surround and hearth. A small closet is angled on the southeast wall. The lighting is two wall fixtures on the north wall and a single bulb fixture mounted on the ceiling. The bath has an old pedestal sink, built-in shower stall with glass door, and open shelving. There is a small double hung window on the north wall and the floor has small blue and white patterned tile.

**ALTERATIONS**

The Jordan/Beggs House was altered during its historical period, between 1932 and 1940. The verandah on the east facade was extended along the south side. The upstairs sleeping porch was added over the porch and the cross hip roof was extended to cover it. On the north elevation, a second story was added to the one-story bay, and first and second story rooms were added to the west corner rooms. All three new rooms were made into bathrooms, and the cross hip extension was enlarged to cover them. Part of the back porch was enclosed to make the lattice porch and an open garage was added.

Renovations were made to the house in 1995-1996. All the bathrooms and the kitchen have been modernized. The historic sink has been retained in the main, second floor bathroom. The tub from the first floor northwest bath was moved to the second floor northwest bath. The dressing room off the first floor northwest bedroom has been made into a bathroom. Dentil molding has been placed around the stairwell in the main hallway. A picture rail molding has been placed in the parlor.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

---

**SUMMARY**

The Jordan/Beggs House is significant on the local level under Criterion C in the area of Architecture. The 1895 house retains a high level of architectural integrity, and is a fine example of the Colonial Revival style with Queen Anne style influences. The house embodies the late 19th century tendency to adapt freely from historic styles and elements.

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

Madison County was established on December 26, 1827 and the town of Madison was incorporated in 1838.<sup>2</sup> That same year, the County Commission designated the town of Madison as the new county seat, the former seat being the town of San Pedro. In the early 1890s Madison became a "city" with a Commission form of government. By 1895, the population of the town was 950. There were 13 brick stores and construction of a public water system was under way. By the end of the century there were five churches, three hotels, a volunteer fire department, a bank, and a post office. Businesses had to have sidewalks and farm animals were banned from roaming the streets. Gas street lights were installed, and telephone service was begun.

Madison was the commercial center for the surrounding agricultural region which raised Sea Island cotton as the primary crop. One of the largest cotton manufacturing houses in the world was located in Madison. Railroads and steamboats on the Suwannee River were the primary means of transportation and freight. Figs, pears and grapes of various kinds were raised in great abundance, creating a thriving local wine industry. In 1900, an electric power plant was built in the city.<sup>3</sup> The Georgia-Florida railroad line was constructed between Valdosta and Madison in 1902, and a Coca Cola plant was built in the same year. Shade tobacco also became a new and lucrative industry. In 1906, the Florida Normal Institute was founded in Madison for the training of teachers. The year 1910 saw the building of the first hospital in the city, and in 1912, the first movie theater was installed in the old opera house. The 1920s brought many improvements to Madison that included paved streets, and the founding of the Chamber of Commerce.

---

<sup>2</sup> Whittie Dickinson. Lest We Forget, Glossary, History of Town and County, 1820-1962.

<sup>3</sup> Dickinson, p. 15.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

---

The Depression hit Madison hard, and in 1931 the City Council voted to cut city salaries.<sup>4</sup> In 1932 delinquent tax and paving assessment payments caused the city to fail to meet its budget for the first time since receiving its charter in 1841. Street lighting was largely discontinued and there were bank failures in the county. In 1932 the churches, the Red Cross, and the county medical society organized a free medical clinic one day a week. The state unemployment relief organization began to operate in 1932. By 1940, economic conditions had improved enough in Madison to warrant holding another County Fair. Except for shortages and the rationing of goods, Madison remained largely undisturbed throughout World War II.

William Spencer Jordan (1853-1932) was born in Quincy, Florida, and moved to Madison some time in the early 1870s. He married Blanche Bunting (1859-1946) from Madison, on November 27, 1877.<sup>5</sup> They bought all of city block #64 on May 20, 1880, but construction of their house on the site did not take place until 1895. Jordan was a prominent businessman in the community. He became an insurance agent in 1880 and later was involved in real estate.<sup>6</sup> He was on the board of directors of the Tampa Gulf Coast and Northwestern Railroad Company in 1890<sup>7</sup> and was also a director for the Bank of Madison in 1904.<sup>8</sup>

In 1897, Jordan was appointed to various committees by the City Council and was involved in the civic improvements in the community.<sup>9</sup> In 1901, he was elected president of the businessmen and merchants County Carnival Association.<sup>10</sup> He was instrumental in organizing a three day Street Fair that successfully promoted the city within the region. In 1903, Jordan along with other businessmen from Madison, purchased a considerable amount of prime property in Jacksonville foreseeing the growth that would take place.<sup>11</sup> That same year, the Jordans sold their house to Thomas J. Beggs and his wife Helen.<sup>12</sup> The Jordans moved to Jacksonville, and Jordan was elected Mayor of that city for two consecutive terms in 1909 and 1911.<sup>13</sup> Around 1918,

---

<sup>4</sup> Elizabeth Sims. A History of Madison County, Florida. Madison, Florida: Madison County Historical Society, 1986, p. 173.

<sup>5</sup> Madison County, Public Records, Marriage Records.

<sup>6</sup> Madison Recorder (Madison, Florida). July 24, 1896; New Enterprise (Madison, Florida). September 1901.

<sup>7</sup> Madison Recorder. May 30, 1890

<sup>8</sup> New Enterprise. February 4, 1904.

<sup>9</sup> Madison Recorder. April 23, 1897.

<sup>10</sup> New Enterprise. October 31, 1901.

<sup>11</sup> New Enterprise. February 12, 1903.

<sup>12</sup> Madison County, Public Records. Tax Records, 1903.

<sup>13</sup> Thomas F. Davis. History of Jacksonville, Florida and Vicinity, 1513-1924. Jacksonville, Florida: Jacksonville Historical Society, 1925, p. 305.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

---

Jordan and his family moved to Washington, D.C., where he was involved in the insurance business. He died in Washington on November 7, 1932.<sup>14</sup>

Thomas John Beggs, Sr. and his wife, the former Helen Parramore, moved into the house with their four children in 1903. Beggs was in business at T.J. Beggs & Company, a mercantile and funeral establishment, the oldest continuous family operated business in Madison County. Dorothy, the youngest of the Beggs' children, married William Turner Davis, an attorney. He later served twenty years in the Florida State Senate, and was also elected by his fellow senators as president the senate. Davis' father, Charles E. Davis, also served as senate president, the only instance of both father and son to hold this same honor in Florida.

The Beggs home was a popular setting for many social events. The home was a regular meeting place for the Madison Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, of which Mrs. Beggs, her mother, Mrs. W.L. Parramore, and her sister, Mrs. Cora Ashley, all served as officers. The home was for over fifty years a setting for an annual extended family Christmas dinner.

Thomas J. Beggs, Sr., died in 1933, and Mrs. Beggs died in 1958. Senator and Mrs. Turner Davis received the home as part of her inheritance. The Davises remodeled the home which again became a popular social setting for many occasions. The house was frequently visited by many prominent state and national leaders, such as Governor Dan McCarty, Governor Charlie Johns, Governor Leroy Collins, and U.S. Senator Spessard Holland. The State's Community College System of Florida was sponsored by Senator Davis, and Madison was the designated location of North Florida Junior College. Senator and Mrs. Davis remained in the home the rest of their lives. Mrs. Davis died in 1983 and Davis in 1988. The home was left to the heirs of Mrs. Davis which were her nieces and nephews. Her nephew, Thomas J. Beggs III, the personal representative of the Davis estate, and his wife, Mary Jane Beggs, purchased the home from Mrs. Davis' heirs in 1993.

---

<sup>14</sup> Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, Florida). November 8, 1932; Washington Post (Washington, D.C.). November 8, 1932; Thomas J. Beggs III. "Thomas J. Beggs and William Turner Davis." unpublished, November, 1995.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

---

**ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT**

The late 19th century was an age of architectural eclecticism, with designers reviving a number of historical styles and then intermingling their design elements. Two popular styles during this period were the Colonial Revival and Queen Anne. Colonial Revival style residences were popular from 1880 until 1955. The 1876 Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, and the colonial inspired creations of the architectural firm of McKim, Mead, White and Bigalow are credited in part with popularizing the style. Inspired by the colonial English and Dutch building styles and ornamentation, the revivalist architects freely adapted the various elements of the original buildings to create a new eclectic style. The tendency for loose interpretations of colonial precedents shifted in the 20th century to more historically correct designs.

The style is characterized by simple rectangular forms, including central, accentuated front doors with windows balanced on either side, and hip or side-gabled roofs. Front doors were often accented with an gabled portico supported with columns, or fan light transoms and sidelights. Windows are usually double-hung sashes with multi-pane glazing. A common sub-type, often called the Classic Box, was a symmetrical two story building with hip roof and a full-width, one story porch, supported by classical columns. Other sub-types were more asymmetrical, often including non-centered window or porch extensions.

Queen Anne style residences were popular throughout the country from 1880 until 1910. Favored for larger residences, they are characterized by irregular footprints, complex, steeply pitched roofs with prominent front gables, disrupted exterior walls and textured surfaces. Spindle work, scroll saw wood work, patterned shingles, and verandahs were common.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Beggs House embodies the 19th century tendency to adapt architectural forms freely, and while it is primarily a Colonial Revival house, it also incorporates Queen Anne elements. The two and one half story residence has a hip roof, centrally located main door, and a full-width first story porch. The central gabled dormer on the roof as well as a gabled accent on the porch roof emphasizes the centrality of the main door. The porch roof is supported by squared Tuscan columns. Asymmetrical elements are prevalent in many Colonial Revival residences built prior to 1910. The three sided bay, containing six windows, extends onto the porch south of the door. A secondary entrance is north of the door.



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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

---

The house blends the Classic Box form and the asymmetrical approach, conveying a balanced, massive character. The Queen Anne elements of the design are the patterned shingles in the gable of the central dormer, the half-timbered gable on the porch roof, the arched lights in the front door, and the large 2/2 double-hung sash windows. While the main facade has a unified Colonial Revival character, the footprint of the house expresses Queen Anne tendencies. Shallow extensions on the south and north elevations required cross-hip roofing. With a kitchen extension on the west, all elevations have disrupted exterior walls.

The interior retains a high degree of original fixtures and decorative elements that reflect both Colonial and Queen Anne styles. The main entrance is a pair of three-panel doors with arched lights and a transom. The house contains spindle balusters and massive turned newels in the staircase, wainscoting, fluted trim around doors and windows, and decorative mantles. The dining room contains an arched transom containing a fan-light over French doors, and a plaster relief sun-burst pattern on the ceiling around the light fixture mount. The house retains the marble sink of what is believed to be the county's first indoor bathroom.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1

JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

---

Beggs, Thomas J. III. Oral Interview conducted by Maria H. Green, October 1995, Madison, Florida.

Beggs, Thomas J. III. "Thomas J. Beggs and William Turner Davis." unpublished, November, 1995.

Browning, E.B. "Dream House." Historical Marker in Madison County.

Davis, Thomas F. History of Jacksonville, Florida and Vicinity, 1513-1924. Jacksonville, Florida: Jacksonville Historical Society, 1925.

Dickinson, Whittie. Lest We Forget, Glossary, History of Town and County, 1820-1962.

Eichelberger, Joseph T. "Madison County Florida Cemeteries, Burials." 1990.

Enterprise Recorder (Madison, Florida). "Funeral Services Held Here for Mr. W.S. Jordan," November 11, 1932.

Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville, Florida). "Campaign Ad," May 4, 1909.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Campaign Headquarters/W.S. Jordan," May 21, 1909.

\_\_\_\_\_. "W.S. Jordan, Once Mayor Here, Dies," November 8, 1932.

Greene, Fayal. Anatomy of a House. New York: Doubleday, 1991.

Madison County, Public Records. Deed Records. 1877, 1880, 1903.

\_\_\_\_\_. Marriage Records.

\_\_\_\_\_. Probate Records, A 648. Letters of Administration and Guardianship.

\_\_\_\_\_. Property Appraiser. Property Description of Block 64, Town of Madison.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 2 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

---

\_\_\_\_\_. Tax Records, 1894-1899.

Madison Recorder (Madison, Florida). Advertisement, August 9, 1884.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Notice of Incorporation," May 30, 1890.

\_\_\_\_\_. Advertisement, July 24, 1896.

\_\_\_\_\_. "To the Public," January 22, 1897.

\_\_\_\_\_. Advertisement, February 26, 1897.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Council Proceedings," April 23, 1897.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984.

New Enterprise (Madison, Florida). Advertisement, September 1901.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Madison's County Carnival To Be Held," October 31, 1901.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Madison, Florida. New York: Sanborn Map Company, 1876, 1903, 1909, 1917, 1924, 1931.

Sims, Elizabeth. A History of Madison County, Florida. Madison, Florida: Madison County Historical Society, 1986.

Washington Post (Washington, D.C.). "W.S. Jordan Dies; Funeral Tomorrow," November 8, 1932.

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

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

Section number 10 Page 1

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL**

---

### **BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION & JUSTIFICATION**

#### **Boundary Description**

Lots 25 & 26 of Block 64, Town of Madison, as per Official Records Book 327 Page 52

#### **Boundary Justification**

The property described above contains all historic resources associated with the Jordan/Beggs House.

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 1 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

---

1. Jordan/Beggs House
2. 211 N. Washington St., Madison (Madison County), FL
3. Maria Greene
4. November 1995
5. Maria Greene
6. Main facade looking west
7. Photo 1 of 23

The information for items 1-5 is the same for photographs 2-23.

6. Main (east) facade and south elevation, looking northwest
7. Photo 2 of 23
  
6. Detail, main facade looking west
7. Photo 3 of 23
  
6. Detail, main entrance doors, looking west
7. Photo 4 of 23
  
6. Detail, wall bay, main facade veranda, looking south
7. Photo 5 of 23
  
6. Detail, lattice brickwork, main facade, looking east
7. Photo 6 of 23
  
6. West (rear) elevation, looking east
7. Photo 7 of 23
  
6. North elevation, looking south
7. Photo 8 of 23
  
6. South elevation, looking north
7. Photo 9 of 23
  
6. Detail, south elevation, looking northeast
7. Photo 10 of 23

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

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 2 **JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

---

- 6. Detail, north elevation, looking southwest
- 7. Photo 11 of 23
  
- 6. Detail, 2nd story windows, north elevation, looking southwest
- 7. Photo 12 of 23
  
- 6. Main (east) facade, door to drawing room, looking southwest
- 7. Photo 13 of 23
  
- 6. Garage at rear of house, looking west
- 7. Photo 14 of 23
  
- 6. Driveway, looking northeast
- 7. Photo 15 of 23
  
- 6. Entrance hall, looking east
- 7. Photo 16 of 23
  
- 6. Entrance hall, looking west
- 7. Photo 17 of 23
  
- 6. Archway between parlor and dining room, looking west
- 7. Photo 18 of 23
  
- 6. Parlor, looking south
- 7. Photo 19 of 23
  
- 6. Drawing room, looking east
- 7. Photo 20 of 23
  
- 6. Northwest bathroom, first floor, looking northwest
- 7. Photo 21 of 23
  
- 6. Kitchen, first floor, looking southwest
- 7. Photo 22 of 23

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

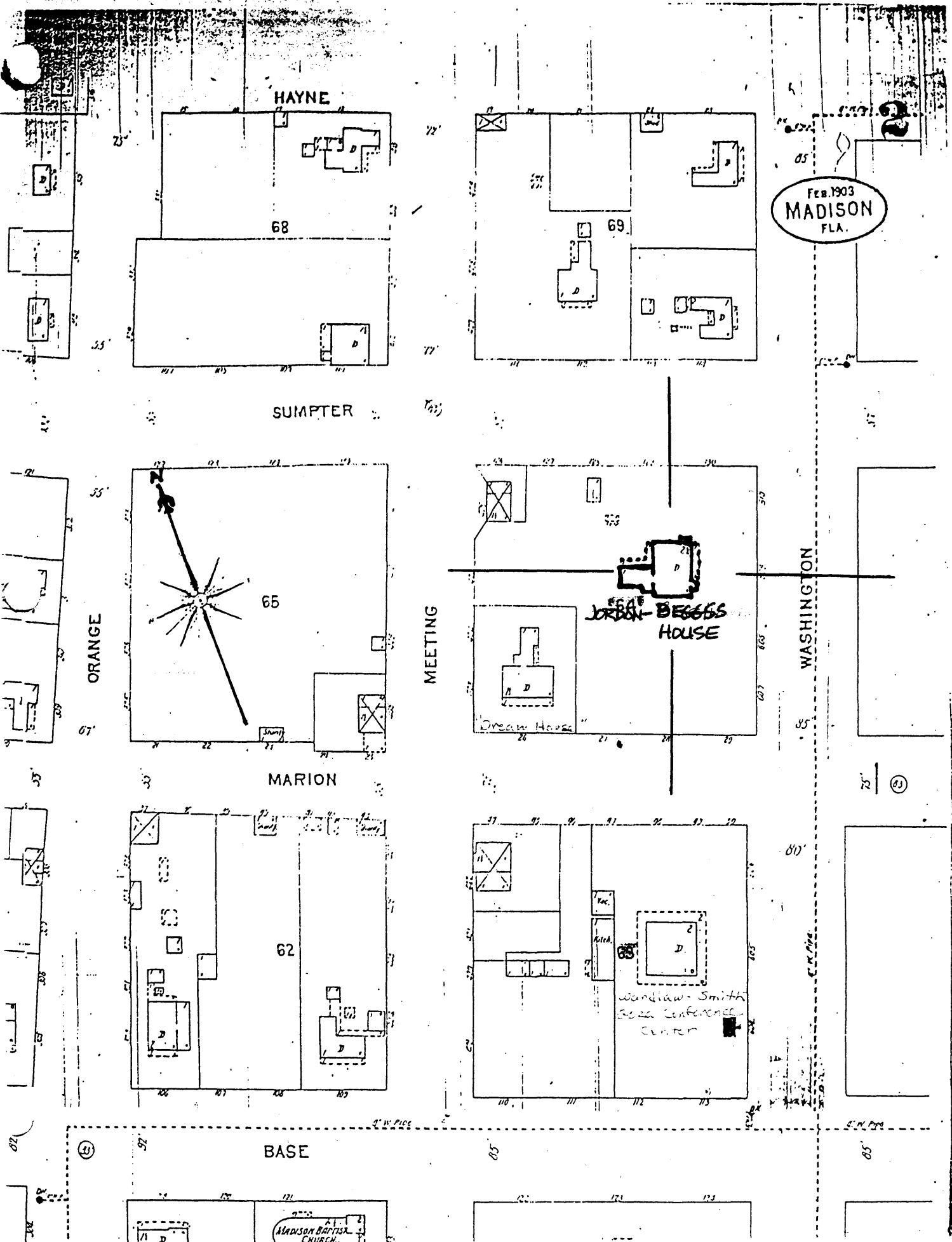
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page 3

**JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE  
MADISON COUNTY, FL  
PHOTOGRAPHS**

---

6. Second floor stair landing, looking west
7. Photo 23 of 23



HAYNE

68

SUMPTER

65

MARION

62

BASE

69

MEETING

FEB. 1903  
MADISON  
FLA.

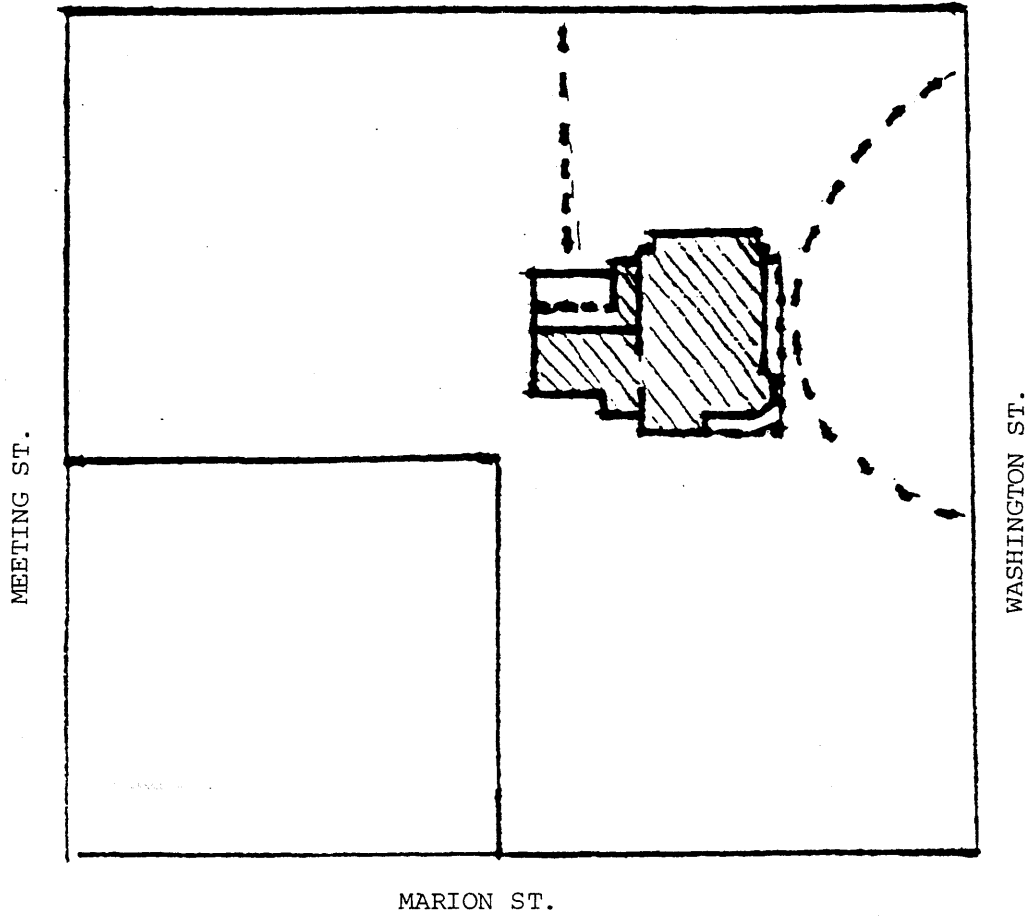
JORDAN-BEGGS  
HOUSE

Wardlaw-Smith  
Bible Conference  
Center

MADISON BAPTIST  
CHURCH



SUMPTER ST.



MEETING ST.

WASHINGTON ST.

MARION ST.

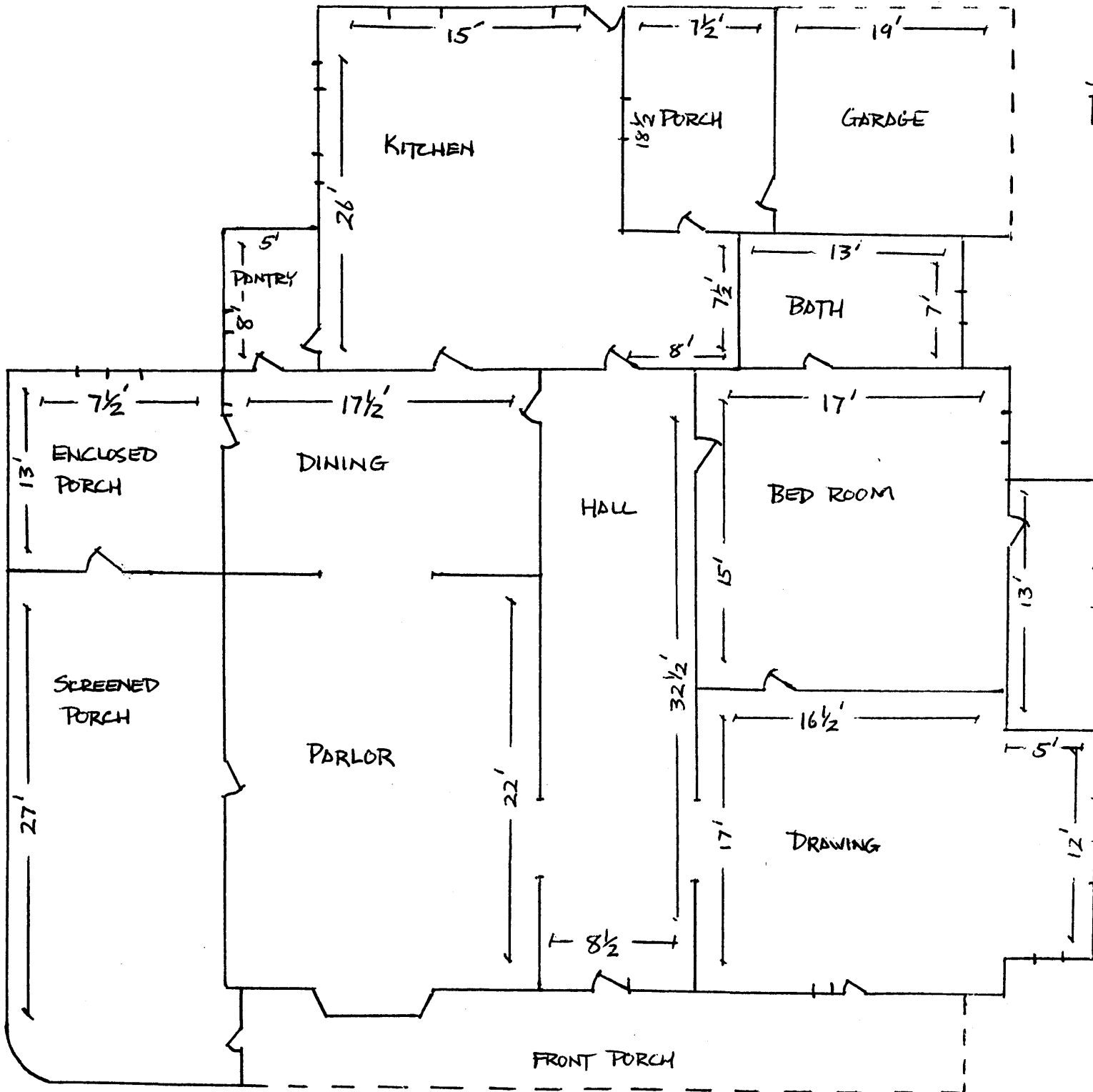


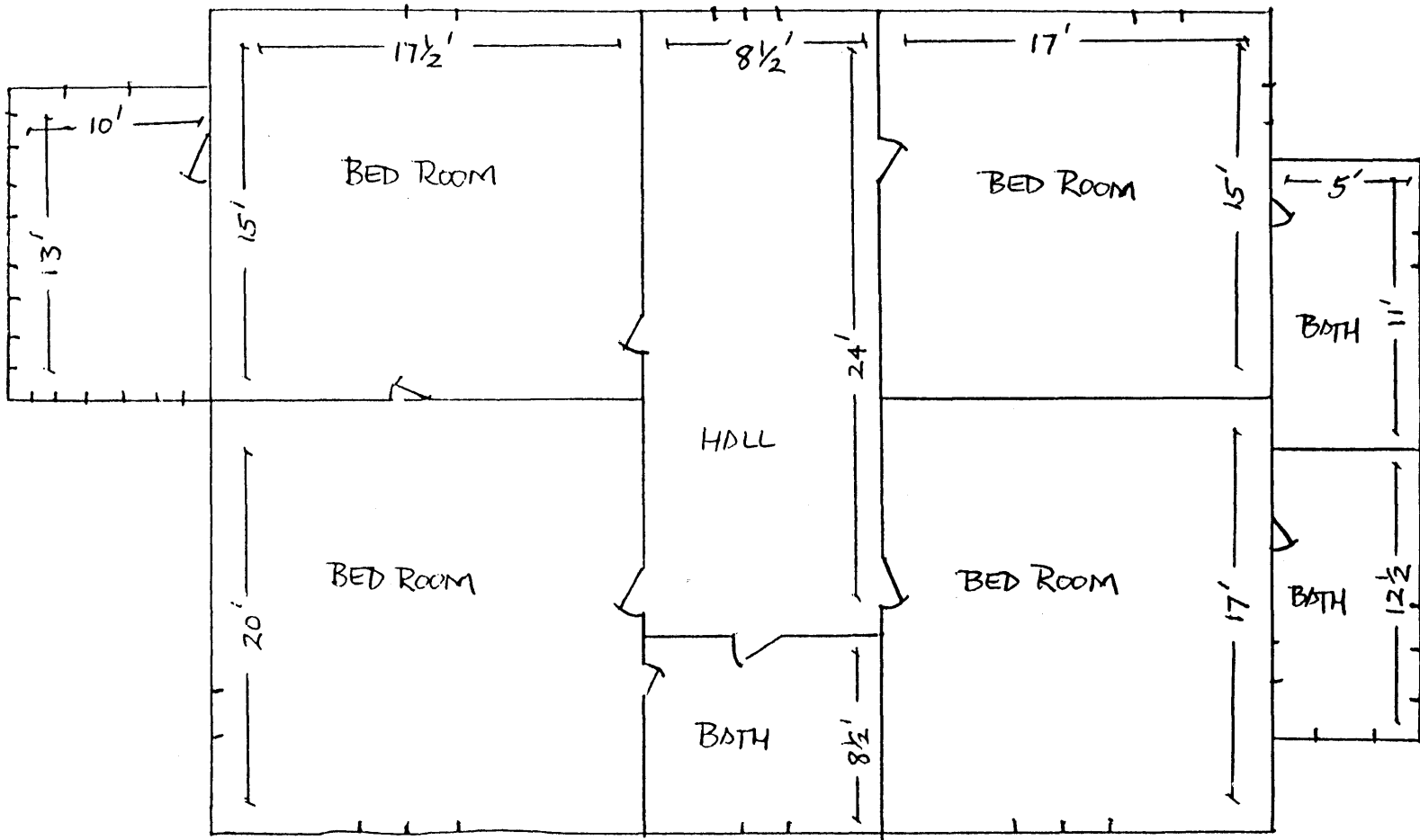
JORDAN/BEGGS HOUSE, Madison, Madison County, Florida

Site Boundary Map, 3/4 Block #64

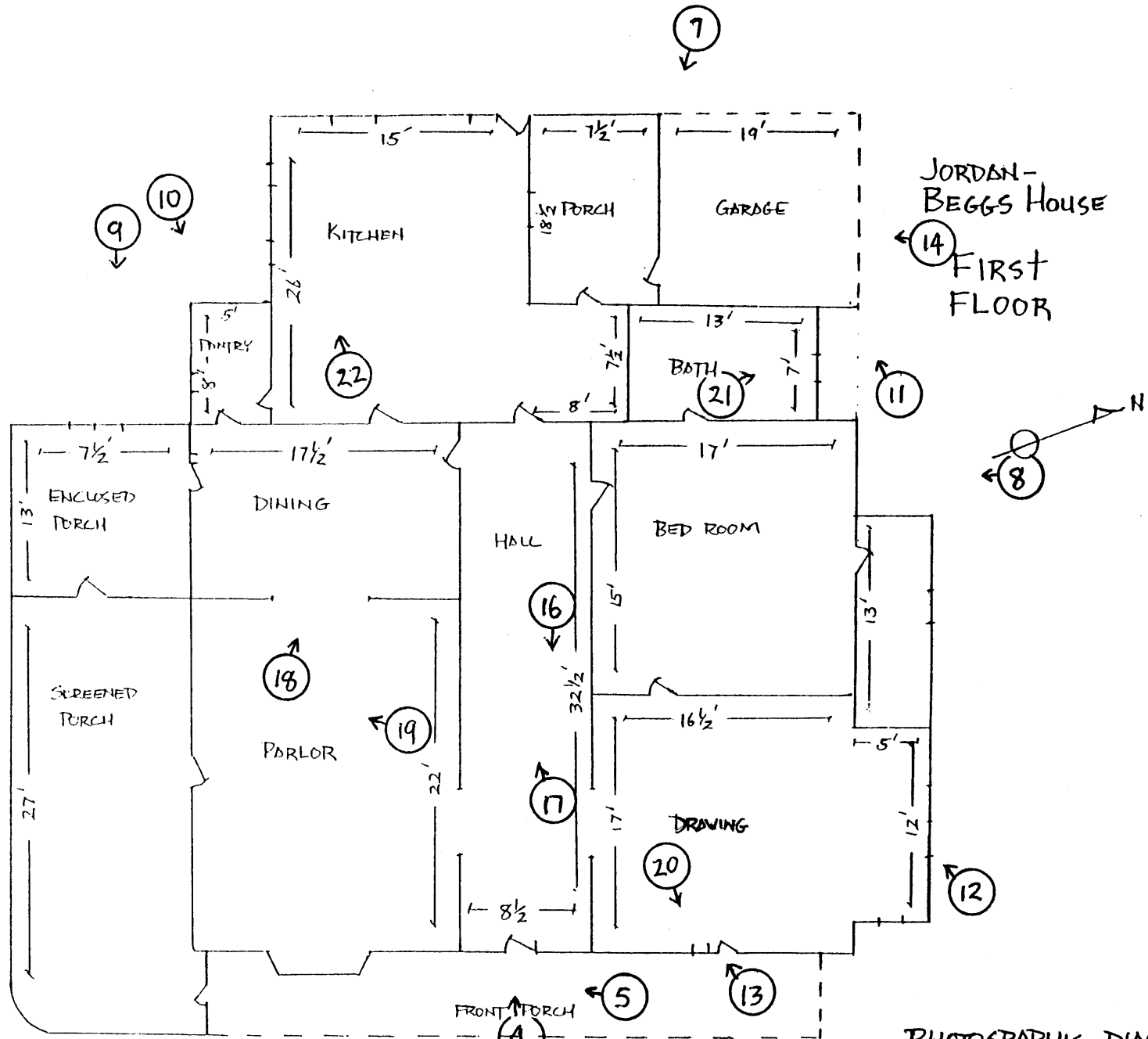
# JORDAN-BEGGS HOUSE

## FIRST FLOOR

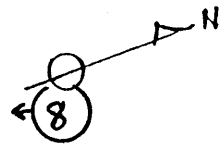




JORDAN-BEGGS HOUSE  
SECOND FLOOR



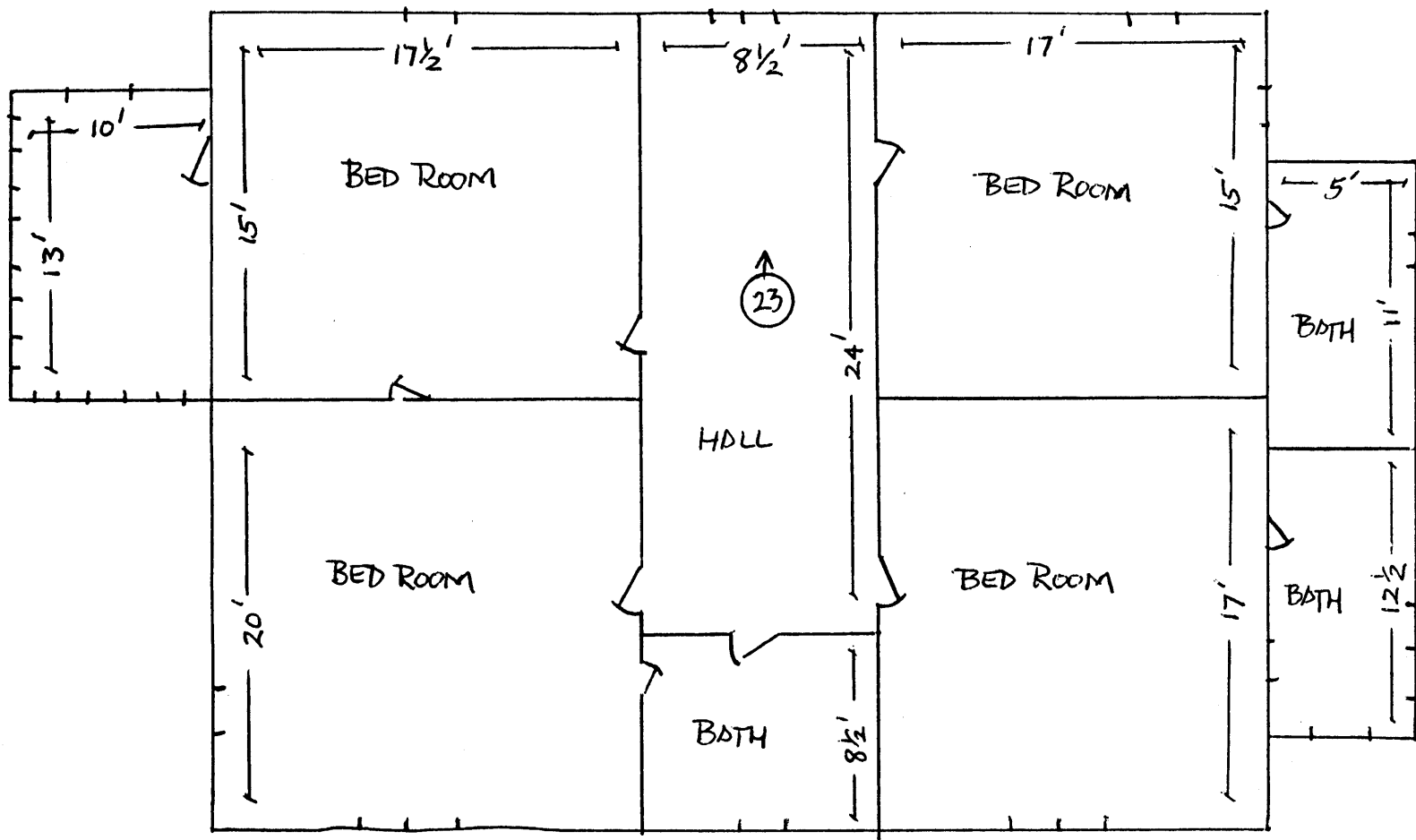
JORDAN-BEGGS HOUSE  
 ← 14 FIRST FLOOR



PHOTOGRAPHIC DIAGRAM  
 ←○ = PHOTO DIRECTION

2 ↗

1 ↑  
 3 ↗  
 6 ↗  
 15 ↓



JORDAN-BEGGS HOUSE  
SECOND FLOOR

PHOTOGRAPHIC DIAGRAM  
←○ = PHOTO DIRECTION