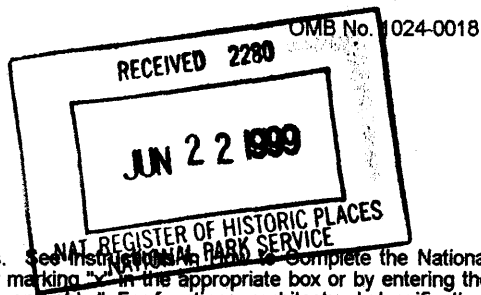


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions on the back of 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 Van Valkenburg, Grant House

other names/site number Anderson House/PB605

2. Location

street & number 213 Rosemary Avenue n/a not for publication

city or town West Palm Beach n/a vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Palm Beach code 099 zip code 33401

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] 6/17/99
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] 8/2/99
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Van Valkenburg, Grant House
Name of Property

Palm Beach 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.)

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant/Not in Use
Domestic: Multiple Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th and Early 20th Century American Movements
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete
walls Wood: Weatherboard
Shingle
roof Other: Composition Shingle
other Brick

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

1918

Significant Dates

1918

Significant Person

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Crabtree, Mark T.

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

Van Valkenburg Grant House
Name of Property

Palm Beach Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	5	9	3	7	7	0	2	9	5	4	6	6	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 Janet G. Murphy/Consultant & Barbara E. Mattick/Historic Preservationist Supervisor

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date June 1999

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 Lawrence Corning

street & number 518 Banyan Boulevard telephone (561) 833-1600

city or town West Palm Beach state FL zip code 33401

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

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
DESCRIPTION**

SUMMARY

The Van Valkenburg House, located at 213 Rosemary Avenue in West Palm Beach, Florida, is a fine example of a Craftsman bungalow with Victorian detailing. The one and a half story, wood frame dwelling sits on a raised concrete foundation and has a gabled roof with multi-planes and two gabled dormers, all with wide, overhanging eaves. The house is clad in three wood variations and has many decorative exterior features, including Victorian scroll-sawn woodwork. The interior of the Van Valkenburg House features many elements characteristic of Craftsman-style bungalows, including built-in furniture, leaded glass cabinet doors, wide baseboards, picture rails, coved ceilings, round arch openings, and carved woodwork. The house remains largely intact since its construction in 1918 and retains a high degree of architectural integrity. The house is architecturally significant as one of the last remaining Craftsman bungalows with Victorian detailing within the City of West Palm Beach.

SETTING

In 1996, the Van Valkenburg House was moved from 316 Hibiscus Street to 213 Rosemary Avenue, both locations in downtown West Palm Beach slightly south of the central business core (photo 12). The dwelling's current location is in the northeast section of the Hill District, one of the City's earliest neighborhoods and former home to many of West Palm Beach's prominent residents and business owners. This neighborhood today consists of approximately 40-50 buildings, primarily two-story single-family residences and rooming houses built between 1900 and 1930 in the Frame Vernacular in style. The Van Valkenburg House was moved to this neighborhood in order to save it from demolition. The dwelling sits on a single-lot parcel and has a sidewalk in front (east), an alley to the north, a lot and apartment building (formerly a hotel) to the west, and a ca. 1917 dwelling (moved to site) to the south. The property is enclosed by a scroll-sawn, picket fence.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior

The Van Valkenburg House is an excellent example of a Craftsman bungalow with Victorian detailing. The two-story, wood-frame dwelling sits on a raised, concrete foundation and has a gabled roof with multi-planes and two gabled dormers, all with wide, overhanging eaves (photos 1-2). The roof is covered with composite shingles and has corbeled brick chimney offset to the north (photos 2, 4). The house is clad in three wood variations, including horizontal weatherboards on the first story, vertical boards on the second story, and wood shingles on the dormers (photos 1, 3, 4, 10). The stories are separated by a molded wood horizontal

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Section number 7 Page 2

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
DESCRIPTION**

band. The Van Valkenburg House is particularly noteworthy due to its decorative exterior features. Some of these features include broad overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends, carved wood brackets and braces, Victorian scroll-sawn railings, frieze and gable ornament, and numerous variations of wood Craftsman-style windows, often banded together (photos 1-11).

The facade (east) is graced with a large, one-story, asymmetrical porch that runs the full length of the facade and extends out to the north. The porch has a decorative scroll-sawn railing and frieze, a plank-wood floor, a finial on the northwest corner, and ornate brackets on the top of the square porch posts (photos 1,2). Exposed rafter ends are visible under the roof eaves which kicks out from the main roof. On the first story of the front facade there are double, wood-frame doors which are fully glazed with leaded glass in a Craftsman-style configuration. These doors are flanked by a pair of three-over-one, double-hung sash windows to the south and ribbon of three to the north. The second story of the front facade features a large dormer with exposed rafter ends and decorative brackets under the overhanging roof eaves (photos 2, 3). The dormer also features a small fixed window with five small lights inset directly below the peak of the gable and two sets of three casement windows in a Craftsman-style configuration.

The first story of the north elevation has a pair of double-hung sash windows with a lozenge-design leaded glass sash over a single-light sash, all set within a projecting frame above carved wood detailing and brackets. To the west is a ribbon of three three-over-one, double-hung sash windows followed by a single double-hung sash diamond-light-over-one-light window above a wood panel in a herringbone pattern (photos 4, 5). Further to the west is a pair of six-over-one, double-hung sash windows. The second story features a balcony with a decorative scroll-sawn railing supported by six carved brackets. Above the balcony is a ribbon of five six-over-one, double-hung sash windows in a Craftsman-style configuration topped by gable ornament with scroll-sawn millwork similar to that found on the porch frieze. East of the balcony is a pair of small, fixed diamond-light windows. This elevation also includes a finial at the apex of the gable.

The south elevation features a west section that projects out from the main block of the house and is covered by an overhanging roof on a lower plane (photo 7). The first floor has a pair and three single three-over-one, double-hung sash windows, and a ribbon of three single-light windows. The paired windows have brackets above and wood panels in a basket weave pattern below (photo 8). Under the gable is a ribbon of three six-over-one, double-hung sash windows in a Craftsman-style configuration (photo 9). There is also a pair of small, diamond-pane windows on the second story (photo 7). The overhanging eaves has rafter tails, carved wood brackets and scroll-sawn gable ornament similar to that on the north elevation and porch frieze. A finial projects from the apex of the gable of the roof covering the dwelling's main block (photo 9).

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
DESCRIPTION**

The first floor of the rear (west) elevation features a one-bay porch with a shed roof, overhanging eaves with rafter ends, a scroll-sawn frieze, and a single wood door with a glazed upper panel and a transom above (photos 10, 11). South of the porch is a small, five-over-one double-hung sash window followed by a projecting bay with a large picture window. The second story features a large dormer covered with wood shingles and overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends and decorative brackets. The dormer has a ribbon of five casement windows in a Craftsman-style configuration with a small, fixed-light window directly below the peak of the gable.

Interior

The interior of the Van Valkenburg House features many elements characteristic of Craftsman-style bungalows, including built-in furniture, leaded glass cabinet doors, wide baseboards, picture rails, coved ceilings, round arch openings, and carved woodwork. The first floor contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, butler's pantry, two bathrooms and three bedrooms connected by a center hall running east-west and a short hall leading north off the center hall through an arched opening. The living room has a brick fireplace against the west wall with a Craftsman-style wood mantelpiece decorated with heavy wood brackets and a Grecian urn (photo 14). The north wall features a built-in bench flanked by built-in shelving with carved designs and leaded-glass doors (photos 13, 15, 16). The dining room is at the rear of the dwelling and is entered through French doors with Craftsman-style glazing (photo 18). The dining room features a built-in sideboard in the Craftsman style and a rectangular bay window on the west wall above the sideboard (photo 19). The dining room also has a distinguished paneled ceiling and crown molding (photo 20). A paneled swing door on the north leads to the butler's pantry and kitchen, both small, though functional areas, with many built-in cabinets (photo 21). The kitchen also features a speaking tube that leads to several areas in the house and was used in the capacity similar to a present-day intercom (photo 22). The short hall leading north off of the center hall is entered through an arched opening. This hall features full-height closets along the west wall and leads to a bathroom on the north end and a bedroom to the east. The additional two first-floor bedrooms are located on the south side of the dwelling and are connected by a bathroom.

The stair leading to the second floor is located in the center hall and features a rail with an ornate newel post at its foot, square balusters with decorative cut-out sections, a carved mahogany banister, and an elaborate double newel post at the second-floor landing (photos 17, 23, 25). The railing continues around the second floor stair opening and ends at a newel post attached to the south wall. At the east end of the second floor hall under the dormer is a nook with built-in benches and carved woodwork, an especially interesting Craftsman feature (photo 26). The second floor also contains four bedrooms, two large walk-in closets with steeply pitched roofs under the sloping gables, one bathroom, a laundry room and an unfinished attic (photos 27-30).

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Section number 7 Page 4

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
DESCRIPTION**

Alterations

The dwelling maintains almost all of its original features. Originally on brick piers, the house was placed on a new concrete foundation when it was relocated. Other alterations include the installation of central air conditioning, updated electricity, new kitchen appliances, and three new windows in the dining room. The roof and gutter system were replaced due to extensive damage and missing features, and all rotted woodwork was replaced to match the original.

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1

VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

SUMMARY

The Van Valkenburg House, built in 1918, is significant at the local level under **Criterion C** as an excellent example of a Craftsman bungalow with elaborate Victorian detailing and as one of the last remaining such houses within the City of West Palm Beach. Although moved several blocks in 1996 to prevent demolition, it retains its architectural integrity to a very high degree. Its present setting is comparable to the original one.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

West Palm Beach

At the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, southeastern Florida was a wilderness recently made safe from Indian attacks. The first permanent settlement of residents of European stock arrived in present-day Palm Beach County during the 1870s. Most settled on the east shore of Lake Worth, now the Town of Palm Beach. These early settlers established farms on both sides of Lake Worth, at first cultivating primarily pineapples. Vegetables for northern shipment quickly became more popular and replaced pineapples as the major products of the area.¹

In 1892, hotel and railroad developer Henry Morrison Flagler visited the Lake Worth area while investigating a route to Miami for the expansion of his Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railroad. Impressed with the area, Flagler decided to develop a resort community on Palm Beach island. In order to separate the resort community from commercial activity, he purchased property from Captain O.S. Porter and Louis Hillhouse on the west side of the lake to serve as the business district for Palm Beach. Flagler selected West Palm Beach as the local terminus for his Florida East Coast Railroad, and in 1893, just before the arrival of the first train, he filed the original plat for the Town of West Palm Beach.² The streets and avenues were laid out using botanical names arranged alphabetically.³ The first lots were sold in 1894 and the town was formally incorporated on November 5th of that same year. The first buildings constructed were generally one-and two story frame buildings including stores, residences, hotels and a post office. Two

1. Donald W. Curl, Palm Beach County: An Illustrated History (Northridge, California: Windsor Publication, 1986), 13-17.

2. Curl, 37.

3. Emile Keyes, "Plan Used in Naming of Streets," Palm Beach Post-Times, 22 September 1935.

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**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
SIGNIFICANCE**

fires in the downtown commercial area in 1896 caused the Town Council to enact a new building code which required all buildings downtown to be constructed of either brick or stone, or veneered with brick or stone. Consequently, downtown West Palm Beach soon had many masonry and masonry-veneered commercial buildings.⁴

By 1900, West Palm Beach had electricity, a sewer system, a pumping station, paved streets and telephone service.⁵ In 1903, the town was issued a city charter and in 1909 it was named the county seat of the newly created Palm Beach County. In 1917, the Palm Beach Canal was completed, providing access to inland farming and making West Palm Beach the shipping point for the county's agricultural products. The city continued to witness exceptional commercial and residential growth, and at the same time became a tourist destination. The downtown thrived with commercial development, including the city's first "skyscrapers."⁶

The Florida Land Boom began to collapse in late 1925. Dishonest Florida real estate ventures were widely publicized in northern newspapers beginning in the spring of 1925, causing many investors to cancel real estate transactions and speculative deals.⁷ In August of that year the Florida East Coast Railroad announced an embargo on freight shipments to south Florida, making many building materials unavailable. Statewide bank deposits also began to decline in 1925, large withdrawals followed in early 1926, and many Florida Banks collapsed. Hurricanes hit southeast Florida in 1926 and 1928, causing devastating property damage and high death tolls. Real estate prices fell abruptly, and when the stock market crashed in 1929, the Florida real estate market was left almost valueless.⁸

At the beginning of the Depression, West Palm Beach entered a period of moderate growth which lasted from 1930 to 1960. The population increased from 33,693 in 1930 to 43,162 in 1960. In 1955, the City

4. West Palm Beach Survey: First Year Final Report, Elizabeth L. Miller, Historic Preservation Planner, City of West Palm Beach, Florida, 1989, p. 8.

5. Curl, 46.

6. West Palm Beach Survey: First Year Final Report, p. 10; Some of the first "skyscrapers" included the seven story Guaranty Building, the eight story Citizens Building, the seven story Dixie Court Hotel, the ten story Comeau Building and the fourteen story George W. Harvey Building.

7. West Palm Beach Survey: First Year Final Report, p. 10.

8. Curl, 93-94.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
SIGNIFICANCE**

purchased 4200 acres of undeveloped swamp land west of Australian Avenue. In 1957, the City sold the 4200 acres to the Perini Land and Development Company. The Perini Company's developments during the late 1950s and 1960s was known as the Westward Expansion and proved to be a catalyst for suburban growth, marking the beginning of the shift in the City's population and economic base away from the downtown.

Construction of the Van Valkenburg House

In 1917, Mrs. Mary J. Anderson purchased a lot on the south side of Hibiscus Street from George W. Potter, one of West Palm Beach's earliest settlers.⁹ Sometime in 1918, Mary Anderson hired Mark T. Crabtree to build her a house on the property.¹⁰ Mark Crabtree was listed in the City Directory as a concrete worker, general contractor, and builder. A few years later, in 1922, Crabtree and E.J. Riordan established the Keystone Construction Company. With Crabtree as Secretary-Treasurer and Riordan as President, the Keystone Construction Company built roads and numerous commercial and residential buildings throughout West Palm Beach. At the height of the land boom in the mid-1920s, the company expanded to include Keystone Realty Development Company.¹¹

Mary Anderson sold the house in 1923 to the Atlantic Fish Company. Located at Althea Street and Flagler Drive, the Atlantic Fish Company was owned by the affluent Palm Beach resident, Charles Kennedy. The Atlantic Fish Company consisted of a large pier at the end of Althea Street extending out into Lake Worth directly across the lake from Henry Flagler's Royal Poinciana Hotel. Located on the pier were several white frame structures used to house the fish and other produce the company distributed. "Atlantic Fish Company" was painted in large black letters on the roof of one of the buildings and was visible from miles away. Houseboats and yachts were docked at Kennedy's pier throughout the winter months. Kennedy also owned five rental houses and small apartment building available for winter visitors, Kennedy's Market and Kennedy's Aquarium, which was advertised as a "menagerie of living wonders of the sea." In addition, the 1924 City Directory identified Kennedy as being involved in the operation of the El Verano Hotel. The El

9. Palm Beach County Deed Records, Palm Beach County Courthouse.

10. Telephone Interview with Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg, September 6, 1996.

11. West Palm Beach City Directory, Asheville: Florida-Piedmont Directory Company, 1918-1926.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
SIGNIFICANCE**

Verano was one of the large hotels of the Land Boom era and was located on Flagler Drive between Banyan and Althea in close proximity to Kennedy's pier and rental properties.¹²

Grant and Ella Van Valkenburg along with their children Orren and Elizabeth moved to West Palm Beach from Dansville, New York, in the 1910s. Ella was Charles Kennedy's cousin and Grant went to work for Kennedy when they arrived. Grant was Charles' "right-hand-man," acting as the foreman and salesman for the Atlantic Fish Company. The Van Valkenburg's first home in West Palm Beach was in one of Kennedy's apartments. In September of 1924, Grant purchased the Van Valkenburg House, then located at 316 Hibiscus Street, from the Atlantic Fish Company.¹³ Ella's mother, Mary Kennedy, also lived in the house with the family. Like many families in West Palm Beach, the Van Valkenburg's rented rooms to boarders during the winter months. Many times the same boarders would return each year to enjoy the winter weather.¹⁴

Grant Van Valkenburg continued to work for Charles Kennedy until the 1926 hurricane. The Atlantic Fish Company pier and many of the houseboats and yachts docked there were destroyed by the devastating hurricane.¹⁵ Soon after the hurricane, Grant began working for another local wholesale fish operation, Hudgins Fish Company, and Elizabeth became their bookkeeper. In the early 1930s, Grant was employed by another local company, which specialized in fish and oyster sales, Shevnell and Diamond.¹⁶

Orren Van Valkenburg returned from the University of Florida with an engineering degree, but became a chiropractor. His office was located across from Currie Park on Broward Avenue for forty-seven years. Elizabeth Van Valkenburg married William O. Newlon, a local builder and contractor with Newlon & Stephens. Between 1920 and 1928, Newlon & Stephens built many significant buildings, including Gruner's

12. Telephone Interview with Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg, September 6, 1996; Photos from the Historical Society of Palm Beach County; West Palm Beach City Directory, Asheville: Florida-Piedmont Directory Company, 1918-1926.

13. Telephone Interview with Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg, September 6, 1996; Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg remembered coming home from the University of Florida to the family's new house on Hibiscus Street.

14. Telephone Interview with Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg, September 6, 1996.

15. Photos from the Historical Society of Palm Beach County

16. West Palm Beach City Directory, Asheville: Florida-Piedmont Directory Company, 1918-1926.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
SIGNIFICANCE

when Newlon was killed while crossing the railroad tracks in West Palm Beach. After the death of her husband, Elizabeth lived with her father Grant in their house at 316 Hibiscus Street until his death in 1967 at the age of ninety-seven. Elizabeth continued to live in the house for an additional eleven years, selling it to the Oceanographic Institute in 1978.¹⁷ Currently, the first floor is vacant and the second floor is used for apartments.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The bungalow or Craftsman-style house was the dominant style of smaller houses built throughout the country from about 1905-1930. The bungalow design originated as a shelter for British travelers in India during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. By the time it reached the United States in the late-nineteenth century, the bungalow had gained design features from both Japanese architecture and the British Arts and Crafts movement. Techniques of Japanese construction exhibited at late nineteenth century American expositions, particularly the extensive display of structural members and the interplay of angles and planes, became integral parts of Bungalow design. The American version of the Craftsman-type bungalow originated in southern California primarily through the work of the Greene Brothers and most landmark examples are concentrated there. The style's popularity spread quickly throughout the country when plans were published in pattern books and popular magazines such as the *Ladies' Home Journal*, *House Beautiful*, *Bungalow Magazine* and *The Craftsman*, and even ready-to-build houses bought through mail order and delivered to the nearest railroad station or port.

Central to the bungalow's popularity was the idea that simplicity and artistry could harmonize in one affordable house. The most common identifying feature of the Craftsman-style bungalow is the low-pitched gable roof with wide, unenclosed eaves overhangs often on multiple roof planes. Bungalows reflected a wide range of architectural movements from Queen Anne to Moderne, and Florida bungalows appeared in several forms varying from plain to highly detailed. Before the popularity of the Spanish and Mediterranean Revival style dwellings of the 1920s, and bungalows were the most popular residential style buildings in West Palm Beach and exerted a strong influence on vernacular houses.

17. Telephone Interview with Dr. Orren Van Valkenburg, September 6, 1996; West Palm Beach City Directory, Asheville: Florida-Piedmont Directory Company, 1918-1926.

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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
SIGNIFICANCE**

Architectural Significance

The Van Valkenburg House is one of the last remaining Craftsman bungalows with Victorian detailing in West Palm Beach. When the house was constructed in 1918, it was surrounded by one and two-story frame dwellings, likely a combination of Bungalows and Frame Vernacular houses. Though not all of the dwellings would have featured the high-quality Craftsman elements or Victorian detailing of the Van Valkenburg House, most were single-family, one- or one-and-a-half-story dwellings crafted simply but well with dormers, overhanging eaves, porches, and some decorative detailing. Nearly all of the single family homes and rooming houses in this area have been demolished, and the lot where the Van Valkenburg House originally stood is currently surrounded by high-rise residential buildings (Trump Plaza), various commercial structures and parking lots.

The Van Valkenburg House was built in 1918 by Mark T. Crabtree, a noteworthy local builder and contractor who later established Keystone Construction Company. The house is a Craftsman bungalow with Victorian detailing resembling that of the Queen Anne style. Following the Craftsman tradition, the dwelling's roof has a dramatic overhang with exposed rafters and a wide front porch providing shade from the Florida sun. The large front and rear dormers, also a popular feature of Craftsman bungalows, provided additional circulation to the second floor. The house's most eye-catching exterior feature is the decorative millwork. This millwork found along the porch rail, the porch frieze, the balcony on the north elevation and in the side gables acknowledges turn-of-the century Victorian architecture.

The interior of the Van Valkenburg House expresses high-quality Craftsman design with numerous built-in pieces of furniture and cabinets reminiscent of the Arts and Crafts movement. These pieces are in excellent condition, and, along with the moldings and carved woodwork, have retained their integrity to a high degree. The City of West Palm Beach has recognized the historical and architectural significance of the Van Valkenburg House and has placed it on the West Palm Beach Register of Historic Places.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

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VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Section number 9 Page 2

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
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Section number 10 Page 1

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

Lot 10, Block 30, Original Town of West Palm Beach, according to the plat thereof on file in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Palm Beach County, Florida, recorded in Plat 1, Page 2, Less the South 20 feet thereof.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

The nominated property includes the entire parcel associated with the Van Valkenburg House in its relocated site.

United States Department of the Interior
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Section number _____ Page 1

**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
PHOTOGRAPHS**

Photograph Log

1. Van Valkenburg House, 213 Rosemary Avenue
2. West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida
3. Janet G. Murphy, Photographer
4. September 1998
5. 518 Banyan Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida
6. East Facade, Looking West
7. Photo 1 of 30

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

6. East Facade, Looking West
7. Photo 2 of 30

6. East Facade, Dormer, Looking West
7. Photo 3 of 30

6. North Elevation, Looking Southwest
7. Photo 4 of 30

6. North Elevation, Looking South
7. Photo 5 of 30

6. North Elevation, Window Detail, Looking South
7. Photo 6 of 30

6. South Elevation, Looking Northeast
7. Photo 7 of 30

6. South Elevation, Window and Porch Details, Looking North
7. Photo 8 of 30

6. South Elevation, Window and Gable Details, Looking North
7. Photo 9 of 30

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**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
PHOTOGRAPHS**

- 6. West (Rear) and North Elevations, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 10 of 30

- 6. West (Rear) Elevation, Looking East
- 7. Photo 11 of 30

- 6. Streetscape, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 12 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Living Room, Looking North
- 7. Photo 13 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Living Room Fireplace, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 14 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Living Room Built-in Shelves, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 15 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Living Room Built-in Cabinet, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 16 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Hall and Stair, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 17 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Dining Room French Doors, Looking East
- 7. Photo 18 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Dining Room Built-in Sideboard, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 19 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Dining Room Ceiling
- 7. Photo 20 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Kitchen Built-in Cabinets, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 21 of 30

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**VAN VALKENBURG, GRANT HOUSE
WEST PALM BEACH, PALM BEACH CO., FL
PHOTOGRAPHS**

- 6. Interior, First Floor Kitchen Speaking Tubes, Looking South
- 7. Photo 22 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Hall Newel Post, Bannister and Rail, Looking South
- 7. Photo 23 of 30

- 6. Interior, First Floor Ceiling above Stair
- 7. Photo 24 of 30

- 6. Interior, Second Floor Hall and Double Newel Post, Looking West
- 7. Photo 25 of 30

- 6. Interior, Second Floor Nook, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 26 of 30

- 6. Interior, Second Floor Closet in Southeast Under-Gable Room, Looking West
- 7. Photo 27 of 30

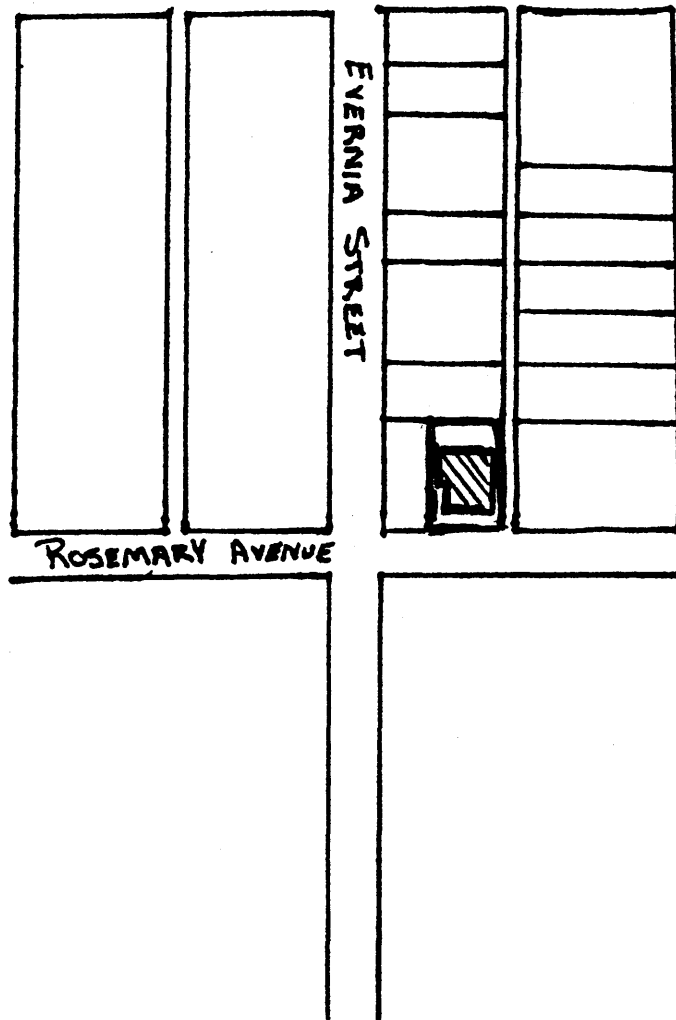
- 6. Interior, Second Floor Hall, Looking North
- 7. Photo 28 of 30

- 6. Interior, Second Floor Bathroom, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 29 of 30

- 6. Interior, Second Floor Northeast Room Under Dormer, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 30 of 30

Grant Van Valkenburg House

SITE PLAN



Property Line

Contributing Building

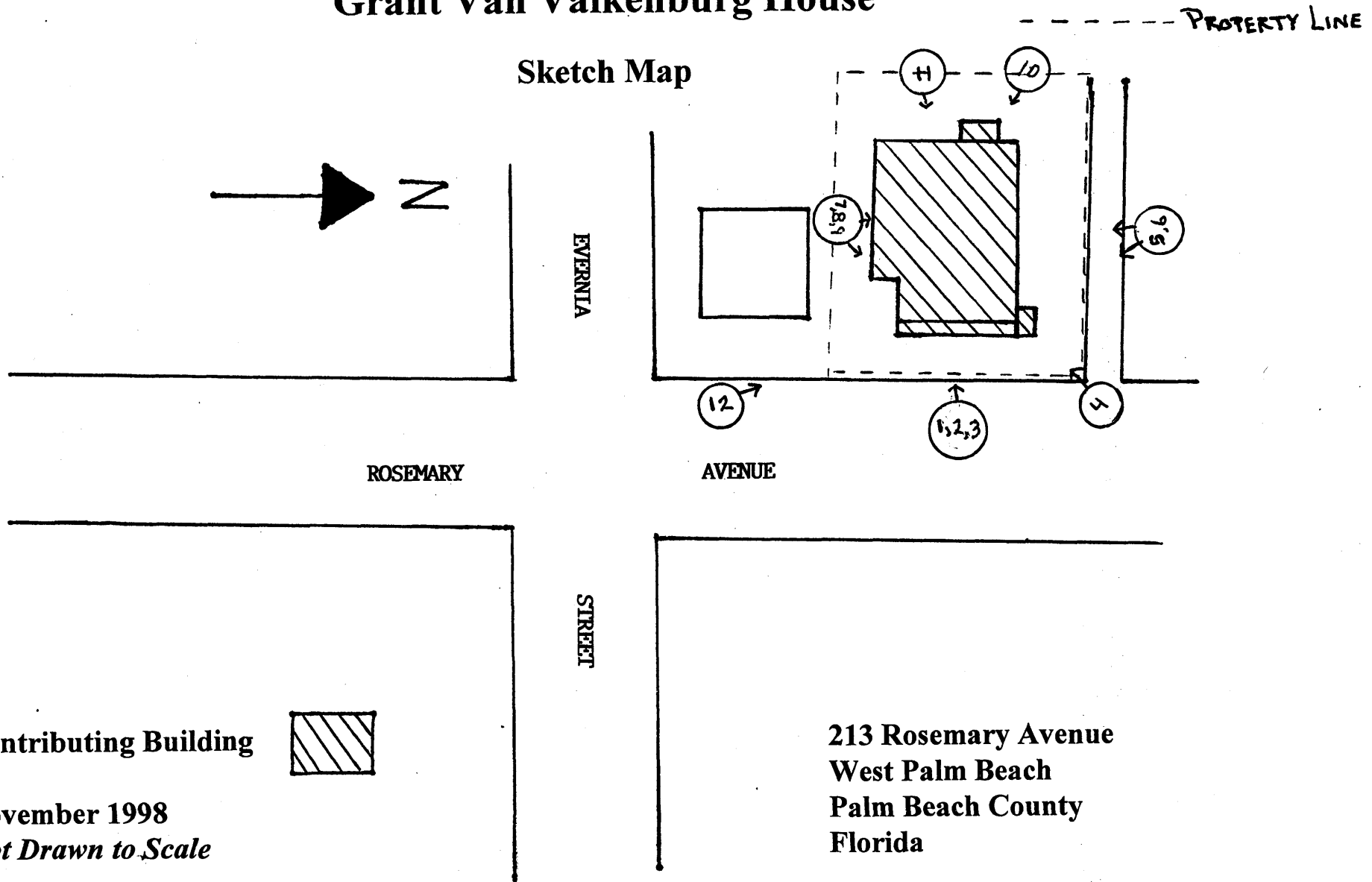
213 ROSEMARY AVENUE
West Palm Beach
Palm Beach County
Florida

November 1998

Not Drawn to Scale

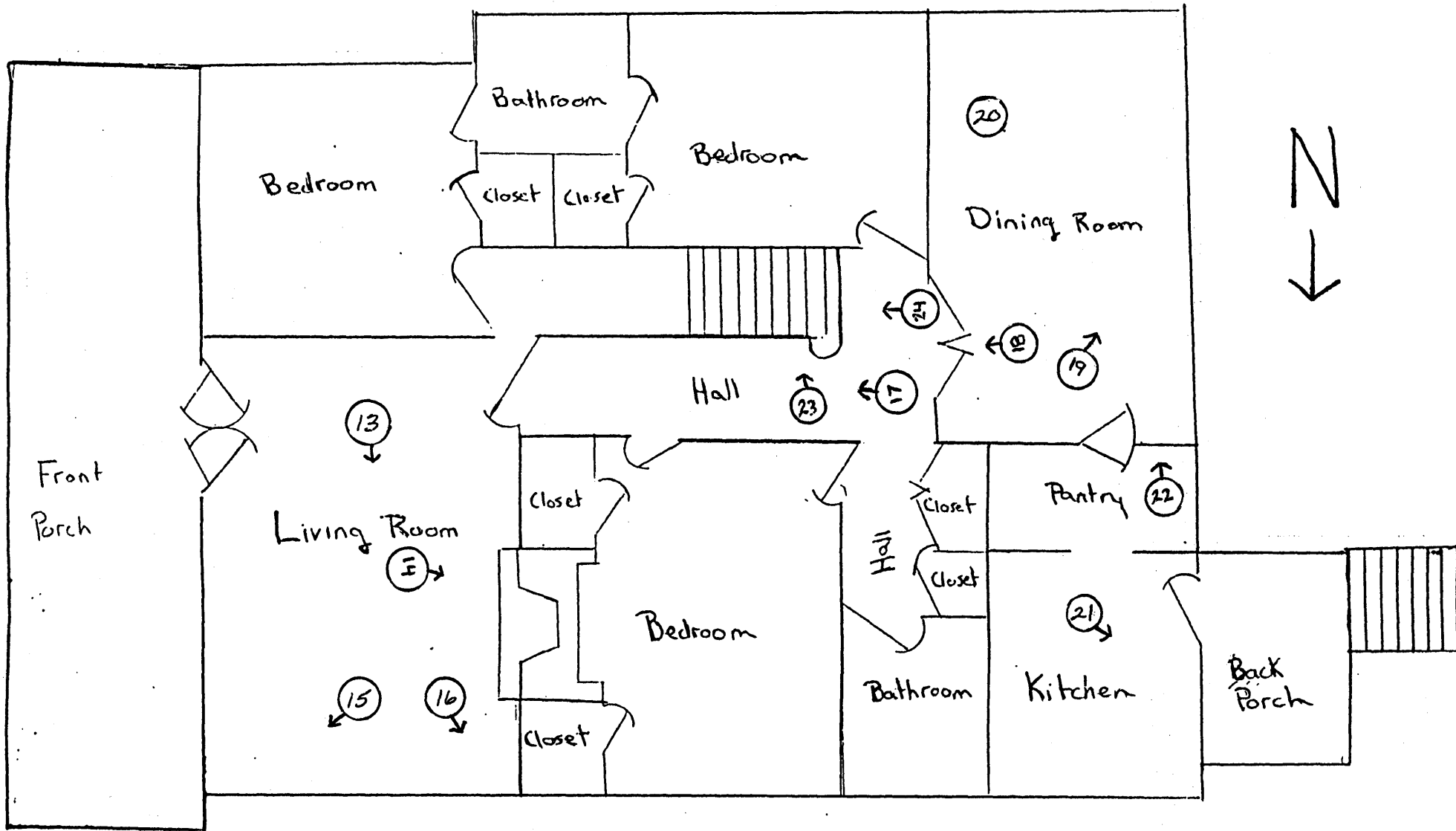
Grant Van Valkenburg House

Sketch Map



Grant Van Valkenburg House

First Floor - Floor Plan



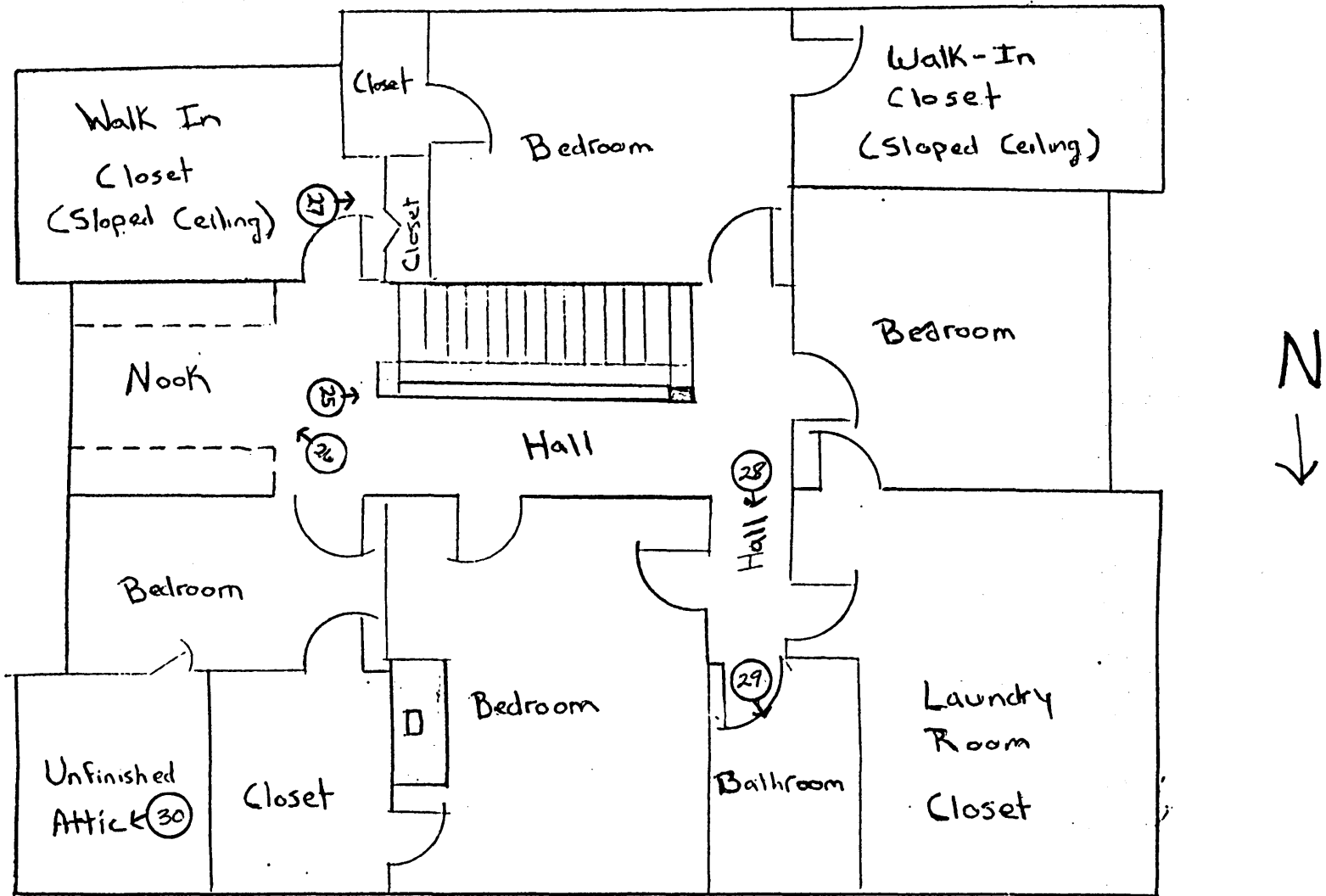
September 1998,

Not Drawn to Scale

213 Rosemary Avenue, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida

Grant Van Valkenburg House

Second Floor - Floor Plan

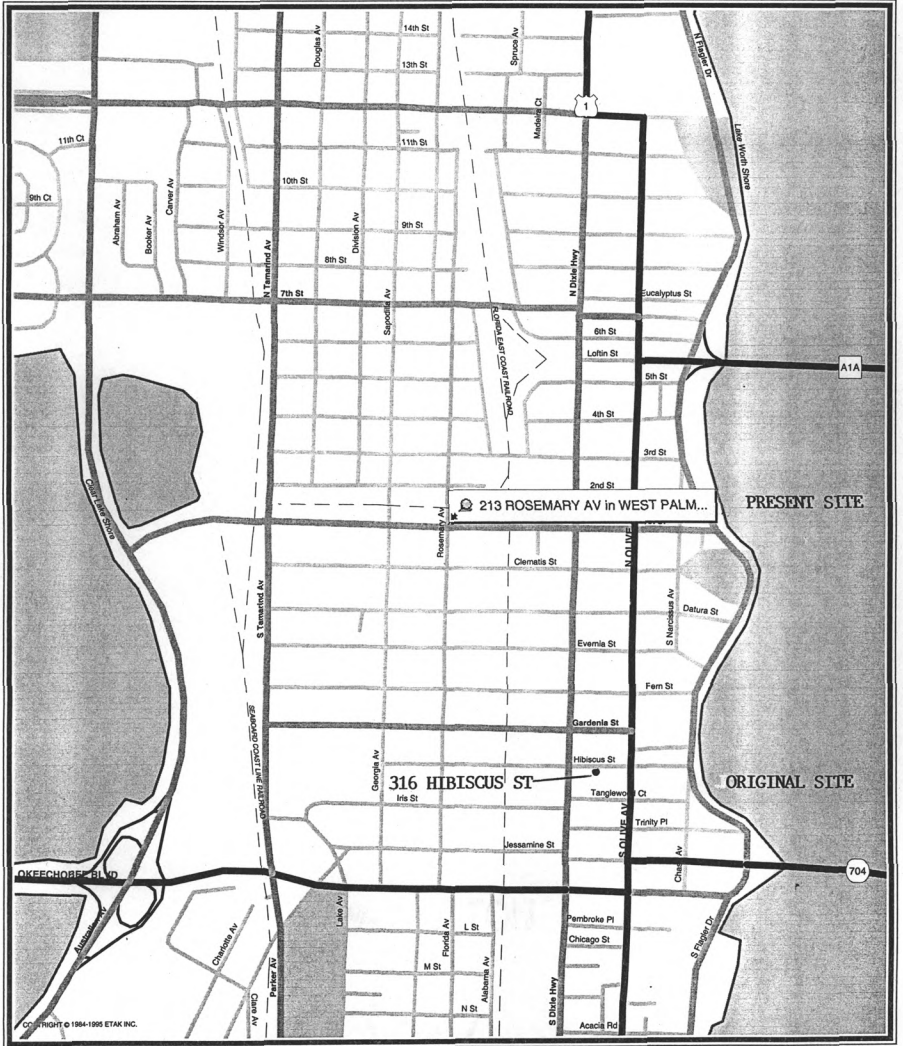


September 1998

Not Drawn to Scale

213 Rosemary Avenue, West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida

Current Map





GRANT VAN VALKENBURG HOUSE
at Original Location

316 Hibiscus Street
West Palm Beach, Florida