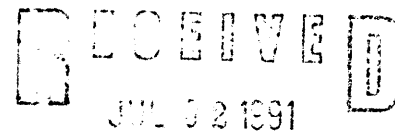


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Woman's Club of Eustis
other names/site number 8La490

2. Location

street & number 227 North Center Street n/a not for publication
city, town Eustis n/a vicinity
state Florida code FL county Lake code 069 zip code 32726

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	_____ buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. See continuation sheet.
Suzanne P. Walker 6/27/91
Signature of certifying official Date
Florida State Historic Preservation Officer (deputy)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register. Entered in the National Register 8/5/91
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register.
 removed from the National Register.
 other, (explain): _____
[Signature] Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social: Clubhouse

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:
Classical Revival (Neo-Classical)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

roof Asphalt

other Brick

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUE SHEETS

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Social History
Architecture

Period of Significance

1931-1941

Significant Dates

1931

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Significant Person

n/a

Architect/Builder

MacDonough, Alan J./Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acres of property Less than 1 acre

UTM References

A 17 433560 3191840
 Zone Easting Northing

C

B
 Zone Easting Northing

D

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, of Block 27, of Ubeguilda Heights, a subdivision in the City of Eustis, Florida, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 4, page 63, Public Records of Lake County, Florida.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the entire city lots that have historically been associated with the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Fran Hille/ Barbara E. Mattick, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date June 26, 1991

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

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1 Woman's Club of Eustis, Lake Co., FL**SUMMARY**

The Woman's Club of Eustis, located at 227 N. Center Street in Eustis, Lake County, Florida, is a 1931, one-story, basically rectangular, Neoclassical Style, concrete block building with a smooth stucco exterior. The building has a full basement. The roof of the main block of the building is hipped; a shed roofed bay extends to the south elevation. Both portions are covered with asphalt shingles. Fenestration includes 6/1 or 6/6 double hung sash, 2/2 casement, and 2/2 hopper windows.

SETTING

The Woman's Club is located on the northeast corner of a block bounded by Center Street, Clifford Avenue, Hawley Street, and McDonald Avenue. It is near the center of the city, on the edge of a residential neighborhood which is adjacent to the central business district of Eustis. The neighborhood, dating from the 1920s and 30s, is one of the older ones in Eustis, and has mature trees and vegetation. The grounds on the north, south, and west sides of the Woman's Club have large, mature oaks and shrubs (Photos 1 & 2); a grass parking lot is located behind the building, to the east.

EXTERIOR

The Woman's Club of Eustis consists of one large, hip roofed, rectangular main block, and a broad, shed roofed bay on the south side of the main block. There is a water table on the south, west, and north elevations. Visually, the building is distinguished by a parapetted, Neoclassical Style main facade at the west elevation (Photos 1, 2, & 3). Plain pilasters buttress the north and south elevations, and the east elevation is unadorned (Photos 4, 5, & 6)

The main facade (west elevation) has three bays and is dominated by the main entrance pavilion which forms the central bay (Photo 1). The pavilion is approached by four brick steps flanked by stuccoed cheeks with molded flower pots, and leads to an incised porch and the main entrance doors. There are two pairs of doors, each having full glass panels. Four 2/2 hopper windows are located above the doors at the mezzanine level. The pavilion features twin Ionic columns, flanked by corner pilasters on axis with the stairway cheeks. The central bay is flanked by identical side bays with corner pilasters. Casement windows with

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bracketed pediments and sills are located in the center of each bay. A parapet surmounts the main facade. The central portion of the parapet above the main entrance has panels, turned balusters and pilasters which follow the rhythm established by the features below. The parapet over the side bays has plain panels (Photo 3). The south, shed roofed bay of the west elevation has a double, french door and a small, uncovered porch (Photo 4).

The south elevation has five bays. The west bay has one central 2/2 casement window, similar to the ones on the west elevation, but without pediment or brackets. Flanking pilasters, a water table, cornices, and a panelled parapet frame the window, following the stylistic design of the main facade. The remaining bays form the south elevation of the shed roofed portion of the building. The bays are separated by plain pilasters. The first two bays of this portion have double, 6/6 double hung sash windows with plain sills. The third bay to the east has two, single, 6/1 double hung sash windows of different sizes. The easternmost bay has a double, 6/1 double hung sash window. A plain, stucco chimney pierces the roof south of the ridgeline (Photo 4).

The east elevation (rear) is undecorated. A single, 6/1 double hung sash window and a single utility door are located in the south, shed roofed bay. The main block, looking from east to west, has two single, 6/1 windows, a single utility door, and another single, 6/1 double hung sash window. Rafter ends are visible across the eaves line (Photo 5).

The north elevation is similar to the south elevation. The bay at the west end is identical to the corresponding one on the south elevation. The three bays in the middle are separated by pilasters and double, 6/6 double hung sash windows with sills. The easternmost bay has a single, 6/1 double hung sash window (Photo 6).

INTERIOR

The interior has four major spaces: a foyer flanked by ladies' and men's rooms, a main meeting room, a tea room, and a kitchen. The interior is simple with little ornamentation. The walls are plastered and have wooden baseboards with crown molding. Hardwood floors are covered with carpeting.

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The meeting room is entered from the foyer through two, plain double doors. The main feature of the room is a stage at the east end. The stage projects into the room with a curve, and is accessed by side steps at each end (Photo 7). A mezzanine with a simple, stick balustrade is located at the west end of the room. It is accessed by a stairway at the south end of the mezzanine (Photo 8).

The tea room to the south of the meeting room is accessed by two, double french doors with fifteen lights. The doors flank a painted brick fireplace which is located in the center of the north wall of the tea room (Photo 9). Single doors at the east end of the room lead to the kitchen (Photo 10), and a double french door opens to the porch on the west elevation.

ALTERATIONS

The building has been little altered, and original finishes, features, and windows remain intact. Minor changes include: the construction of new kitchen cabinets in 1966 (Photos 11 & 12), the addition of luan panelling in the tea room, and the installation of carpeting over the original hardwood floors.

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

The Woman's Club of Eustis is locally significant under Criterion A in the area of Social History for its continued service to the community as a social and cultural center since its construction in 1931. It is significant under Criterion C as a fine example of Neoclassical Style architecture in Eustis, and as the work of Alan J. MacDonough, a prominent Lake County architect in the first half of the twentieth century.

HISTORIC CONTEXTEustis, Lake County, Florida

Early settlers came to what is now known as Eustis in 1875. Seven families met in Jacksonville and engaged a federal land agent to guide them to the then sparsely settled inland area of Florida. They steamboated up the St. Johns River to Sanford, then called Melonville, and teamed to this inland section. The trip took three days and two nights. The area, later known as the Central Lake Region of Florida, has 1400 lakes which cover 125,000 acres, and rolling hills.

In January 1876, A.S. Pendry homesteaded the area. In 1877, he built the first hotel in what was called Pendryville. The first post office was located in the hotel with Pendry serving as the first postmaster. By 1880, a narrow gauge railroad called the St. Johns River and Lake Eustis Railroad was started. This was one of the first railroads built south of Jacksonville; it was extended to Eustis in 1883. In 1881, the town was incorporated and the name was officially changed to Eustis. To herald this event, the town's first newspaper, the Semi-Tropical appeared. It was edited and printed by B.H. Vogt.

Northerners continued to move to Florida in the 1880s and 1890s, and Eustis, with its fine winter weather, beautiful lake and highlands, became a favorite place for winter residents and tourists. Clubs were formed for the various states represented by the winter visitors. Members of these groups staged many social activities, including dramatic productions; card, motor, and boating parties; and annual picnics. The Eustis Gun Club sponsored a nationally known trapshooting tournament annually, known as the Mid-winter Vandalia. The city had six parks and an eighteen-hole golf course. By the 1920s, Eustis became a boating center, and the first municipal pier and boat houses were built

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on Lake Eustis in 1926. In 1929, there were seven churches and over forty social organizations. By the 1930s, therefore, the small village of Eustis was known as a cultural and recreational center for the region.

Today, Eustis is the largest of the east Lake County cities, with an active financial, shopping and medical center. Bordering on Lake Eustis, the city is a sailing hub as well. The city's population has reached more than 17,000.

Woman's Clubs

Woman's clubs were formed in the United States in response to women's desires for intellectual stimulation and out of an awareness of and willingness to meet community needs. Until 1889, such groups were strictly local organizations. The Sorosis Club celebrated its twenty-first anniversary in 1889 by convening a meeting of women's groups from across the country. The result was the creation of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Florida's first such club for women was organized in Green Cove Springs in 1887. The goal of its members, mostly winter residents, was village improvement through the introduction of order and cleanliness, and the provision of a "social centre for intelligent intercourse of women with one another." The group was incorporated in April 1889 as "The Ladies' Improvement Association of Green Cove Springs, Florida." After solving the village's immediate health problems, the club took up other objectives, such as literary pursuits, the creation of parks, and the digging of wells.

Meanwhile, other clubs had been established in Florida, and on February 21, 1895, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs was created in Green Cove Springs. There were six charter members: the clubs in Palmetto, Green Cove Springs, Orange City, Crescent City, Fairfield, and Tarpon Springs. Clubs pursued various activities depending upon their community's needs, but many chose the establishment of libraries as a major project. In 1898, five woman's clubs in Florida had established libraries. Over the years the clubs have contributed greatly to the welfare of their communities in other ways as well, providing cultural activities, support of the war effort during the World Wars, and ministering to the needs of the poor and disadvantaged and children. The Florida Federation was admitted to the General Federation of Women's Clubs January 25, 1898, and was incorporated April 12,

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1915. The Florida Federation remains an active organization with a membership of over 30,000 women, and publishes the quarterly magazine, Florida Clubwoman.

Founding and Early Years of the Woman's Club of Eustis

On May 21, 1902, sixteen women met at the home of Mrs. Irene Vogt, wife of the newspaper owner, and joined together to form the Woman's Club of Eustis. The club began as a study and discussion group, but it was not long before they turned their attention to worthwhile activities to improve the community. Like many of the Village Improvement Societies which were coming into vogue at that time, the Woman's Club of Eustis organized the first clean up day for the community in 1903.

In 1912, because of petitions from the Woman's Club, the City Council placed water troughs on Bay Street, to supply water for both humans and animals in the downtown area. Benches were also provided for tired shoppers. After studying proper sanitation practices, the women promoted a campaign against flies and mosquitoes. By 1917, minds turned to the war effort, and the Woman's Club of Eustis became affiliated with the Red Cross, making and supplying bandages.

By 1920, the membership had grown to 96, and meetings were moved to the Presbyterian Church. In 1921, a pageant was presented with a cast of 200 and netted \$800. The Chatauqua was brought to Eustis by the Woman's Club shortly thereafter, and continued for eight years. Proceeds of their efforts were used for such projects as beautification of the bulkhead on Lake Eustis and school playgrounds. Three hundred dollars was contributed to the library.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

By the mid-1920s, the women saw the need to acquire a permanent home. In 1925, a lot was purchased on the north shore of Lake Eustis. The lot was later traded for the present site. In 1930, a contract for a new building was made with the local architect, Alan D. McDonough; the building was dedicated on November 10, 1931.

Since its inception, the Woman's Club of Eustis has played a most important part in the history and development of Eustis. Nearly every movement which had for its object the betterment of

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the life of the people either had its beginning in the club or among the women who were its members. With the completion of their new clubhouse in 1931, the women were able to provide an even greater variety of benefits, including the provision of clothing for orphans, health care, and cultural facilities.

In 1931, the club's Sewing Division began to meet every week to make clothes for the Children's Home in Tallahassee, the state capital. This practice lasted well into the 1940s and produced 200-500 sets of clothes a year. That same year, a free children's health clinic was held twice a month at the clubhouse. Two members who were registered nurses gave general examinations, and two local doctors accepted referrals for further care as needed, such as free tonsillectomies. In 1934, tuberculosis tests for adults were provided at the clubhouse, and the Sewing Division made surgical dressings for the local hospital. In 1932, the women began to sponsor a Girl Scout troop, allowing the girls to meet in the clubhouse. That same year annual flower shows were started by the club. Their success generated the establishment of community garden clubs. The flower shows were so popular that they became county wide events and are now under the auspices of the County Home Demonstration Office. Through the club's Civic Beautification Program in the early 1930s, hundreds of shade trees were planted throughout the community.

Because the clubhouse was the only facility in Eustis with a stage, it was the site of every major cultural event in the community, and brought in visiting artists. Ted Shawn and His Male Dancers appeared every year well into the 1940s. The club had an active little theater group, and members attended an annual theater workshop at Rollins College. As a result, the Rollins College theater group performed at the Women's Club annually. In 1932, the Royal Russian Chorus performed there; and in 1937, artist Robert Camp, who had had exhibits at the Rockefeller Center in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago displayed some of his works for five days.

During World War II, the Sewing Division made 1,473 dozen surgical dressings. Members participated in a "Buy a Bomber" drive, selling more than \$11,000 worth of bonds. The members also acted as hostesses to the Eustis Service Men's Club. The Woman's Club of Eustis is still an active supporter of community service and philanthropic projects.

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ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Neoclassical Style (1894-c1940)

The Neoclassical Style was popularized by the World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893. Buildings erected by each state at the exposition were to have a classical theme. Wide publicity for the event and attendance by people from all over the country assured a popularity of the style which lasted for nearly fifty years.

Neoclassicism recalled the simple architectural features and techniques of the Greeks and Romans. Its most distinguishing characteristics include: use of the Ionic or Corinthian order for colossal pilasters and engaged columns, flat or low pitched roofs behind parapets, horizontality, symmetry, and balance. Doorways often have elaborate, decorative surrounds based on Greek Revival, Adam, or Georgian precedents. Cornices often have dentils or modillions, and sometimes have a wide frieze band. Windows are usually double hung sash with various light configurations.

Alan J. MacDonough

Alan J. MacDonough was born in Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, on November 1, 1883. He received his professional education at Drexel Institute in Philadelphia, where he took an engineering course. After college he joined the Morgan Engineering Company at Alliance, Ohio, and later joined the Masslin Bridge Company and the American Bridge Company.

In 1910, MacDonough went to Kissimmee, Florida, where he worked as an engineer and architect for two years before moving to Lakeland. In 1920, he settled in Eustis, where he established a successful architectural practice. He designed most of the important buildings in Lake County in the 1920s, including the Lake County Court House in Tavares (1923), the Eustis City Hall (1927), the Eustis Grade School, Masonic Temple at Leesburg (1922), the Woman's Club of Eustis (1930), the Leesburg City Hall, Eustis Theatre building, Clermont High School, and many fine residences. In addition to his architectural work, MacDonough was also the principal owner and secretary of the Harris-MacDonough Company in Eustis, a lumber and building supply

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company. Little information about MacDonough's later life and career is presently available.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Woman's Club of Eustis, like several other buildings designed by Alan MacDonough, incorporates many of the standard features which are typical of the Neoclassical architectural style. The most notable features of the clubhouse are the colossal Ionic columns, pilasters, pedimented windows, and parapet. This building is a fine example of the application of such features to a structure of relatively modest size. These features make it one of the most distinctive buildings in Eustis.

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Photographs 1 Woman's Club of Eustis, Eustis, Lake Co., FL

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- 1 1) Woman's Club of Eustis
- 2) 227 N. Center Street, Eustis, Lake County, Florida
- 3) Fred Hormes, Past President, Mid-Florida Lakes Camera Club
- 4) September 1989
- 5) Fran Hille, 187 Lakeview Drive, Leesburg, Florida
- 6) Main facade, W elevation; camera facing E
- 7) 1 of 12

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

- 2 6) Surrounding grounds, E and S sides of the building, camera facing NE
- 7) 2 of 12
- 3 6) Main entrance, W elevation, camera facing E
- 7) 3 of 12
- 4 6) S elevation, camera facing NE
- 7) 4 of 12
- 5 6) E elevation, camera facing NW
- 7) 5 of 12
- 6 6) N elevation, camera facing SE
- 7) 6 of 12
- 7 6) Auditorium, showing stage; camera facing E
- 7) 7 of 12
- 8 6) Auditorium, showing balcony; camera facing W
- 7) 8 of 12
- 9 6) Tea Room, showing French doors and fire place on N wall; camera facing NW
- 7) 9 of 12
- 10 6) Tea Room, showing entry to Kitchen; camera facing W
- 7) 10 of 12

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Photographs 2 Woman's Club of Eustis, Eustis, Lake Co., FL

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11 6) Kitchen; camera facing NE
7) 11 of 12

12 6) Kitchen, camera facing E
7) 12 of 12

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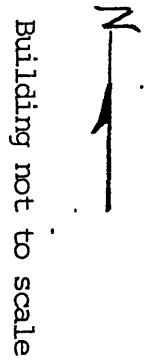
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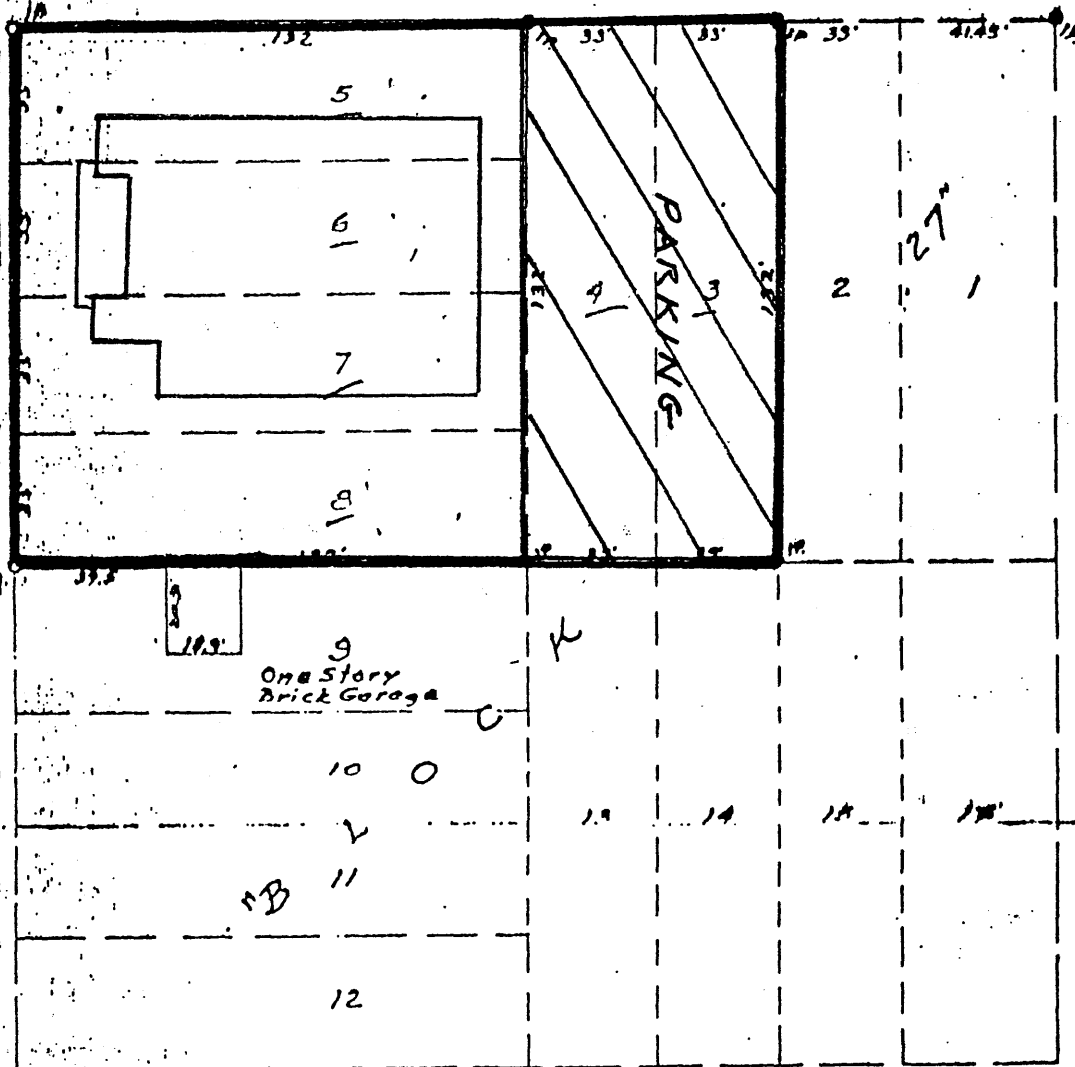
WOMAN'S CLUB OF EUSTIS, FLA.
227 N. Center St.



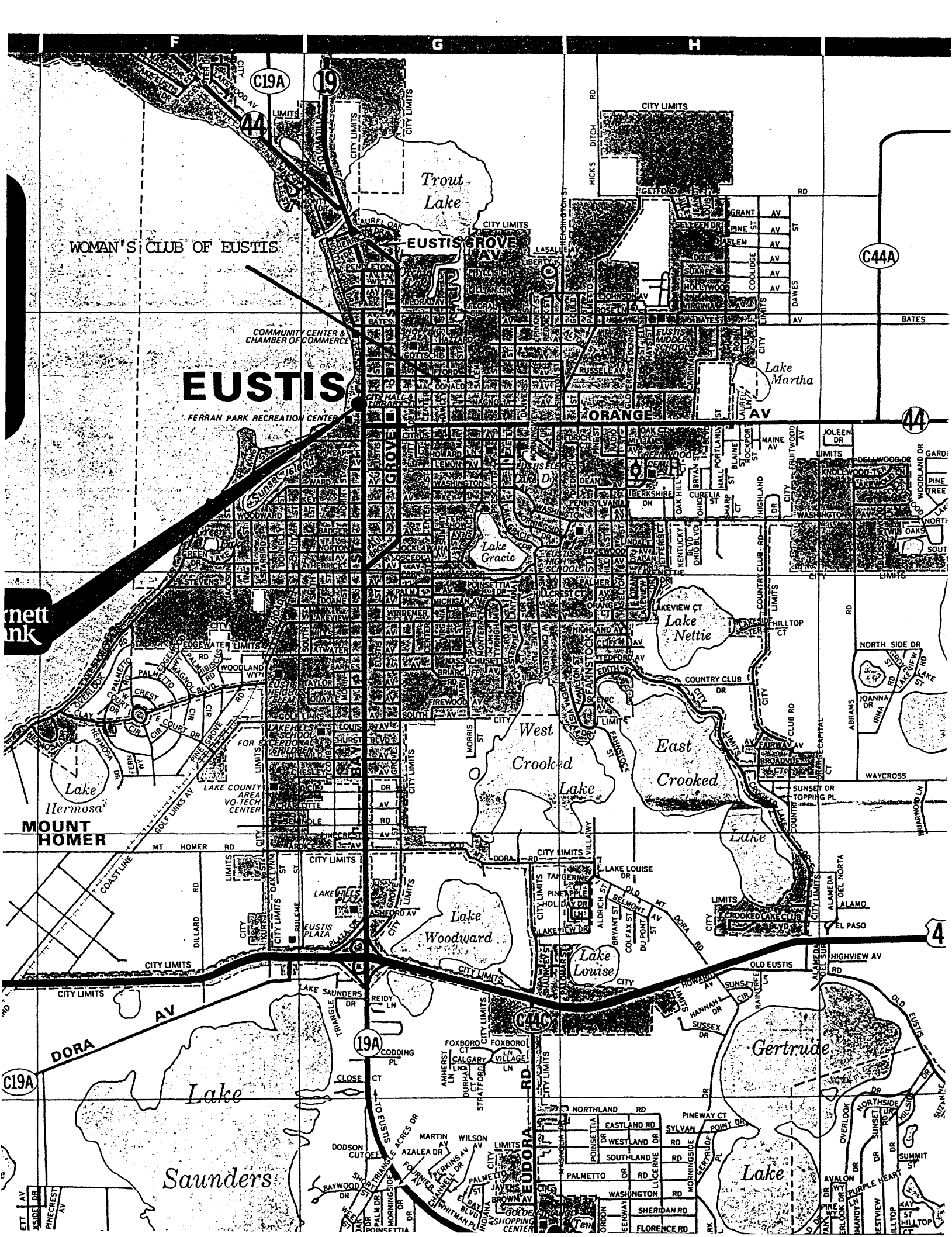
CLIFFORD AVE.

CENTER ST

J S
Y E T M A N



MCDONALD AVE.



EUSTIS

FERRAN PARK RECREATION CENTER

Trout Lake

EUSTIS GROVE

ORANGE

Lake Martha

Lake Gracie

Lake Nettie

West Crooked Lake

East Crooked Lake

Lake Woodward

Lake Louise

Lake Saunders

Gertrude

Lake

metlink

MOUNT HOMER

SAUNDERS