

NOMINATION PROPOSAL - FLORIDA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

JUL - 6 1987

DIVISION OF ARCHIVES, HISTORY AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Taber Duplex

AND/OR COMMON Brown House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1214-1216 Sesame Street

CITY, TOWN Opa-locka VICINITY OF

STATE Florida COUNTY Dade

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME William and Julia Brown

STREET & NUMBER 1214-1216 Sesame Street

CITY, TOWN Opa-locka VICINITY OF STATE Florida ZIP CODE 33054

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dade County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER 73 West Flagler Street

CITY, TOWN Miami STATE Florida ZIP CODE 33131

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Dade County Historic Survey

DATE 1981 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Division of Historical Resources

CITY, TOWN Tallahassee STATE Florida

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED. DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

TABER DUPLEX (OLTR #10)

ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The duplex at 1214/1216 Sesame Street is identical in plan and proportion to 1210/1212 Sesame and creates a compound of two buildings surrounding a common patio. The front of the residence was divided into three symmetrical bays consisting of a central projecting entrance, flanked on either side by the square openings of the the front porches. The entrance features a pointed arch surrounded by segmental stucco articulation terminating into horizontal banding. A hipped roof, covered in antique Cuban tiles, covered the entrance and was capped by a copper finial. Flanking the entrance were rectangular openings, enclosed by polychromed spindles, equal in proportion to the entrance arch. A recessed stucco panel enclosed the lower quarter of the openings, creating a reveal extending to the floor line. Two front entrances, deeply recessed within the open vestibule had twelve (12) light French doors, each placed at 45-degree angles to the plane of the facade. A crenelated parapet, matching that of the adjacent duplex, had pointed dentils surrounding the roof line and flanking the entrance. The south wall ended in a straight line that curved to meet a square plinth for a vase, forming an enclosure with the adjacent duplex. The south wall was decorated with a distressed brickwork pattern and roughly-textured stucco. The north wall featured a slanted buttressed end wall, also decorated with rough stucco. The front two-thirds of the facade's roof line employed pointed dentil crenelations on the parapet over the arches. Two chimneys, symmetrically placed on the side elevations, framed the duplex with ornamental caps. The north cap featured square crenelations with a square opening below on all four sides. The south cap featured sharply pointed crenelations above square openings on all four sides surrounded by a conical cement finial. The identical side elevations were the same as those of the adjacent duplex and featured a small open porch roofed by antique Cuban tiles, which enclosed a pair of wooden casement windows adjacent to a wooden batten door. The porch was flanked by wood casement windows placed symmetrically along the wall. Ornamentation included elliptical cement scuppers and wall vents placed over the windows. Contrasting with the pointed crenelations of the front parapet, the rear roof line of the facade employed large square crenelations extending from the porch to the rear corner.

PRESENT PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Modern alterations to the facade include replacement of the antique Cuban tile, enclosure of the porch openings with awning windows, the replacement of the crenelated parapet with a smooth parapet, and removal of the side porches.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1926 BUILDER/ARCHITECT ~~New England Construction Co./~~ B.E. Muller

SIGNIFICANCE

Designed by Bernhardt E. Muller as speculative housing for the New England Construction Company, 1214/1216 Sesame is a one-story, two family residence that was one of four duplexes constructed along Sesame Street. Three months after the building was designed, the property was purchased by Lew M. Taber in February, 1927. Taber was in partnership with his neighbor, Arthur Higgins, during 1927. Taber sold the duplex in October 1930.

This duplex is typical of Muller's interpretation of Moorish Revival architecture as applied to small, multi-family residences. All four of the duplexes built in Opa-locka by the New England Construction Company use the same floor plan but have different facade treatments. The duplex at 1214-1216 Sesame Street was built and occupied by Lew M. Taber and his family. Mr and Mrs. Higgins and their three children occupied the adjacent duplex. The Higgins family still resides in Opa-locka; the Tabers, however, left town soon after selling the buildings.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See Bibliographical Continuation Sheet

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Site Size (Approx. Acreage of Property):

.27 acre

UTM Coordinates:

17 | 575340 | 2865300
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

Township	Range	Section
52 S	41 W	21

LOCATION SKETCH OR MAP

N

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Block 13, Lots 4 and 5

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Zimny, AICP

ORGANIZATION

Michael Maxwell Associates

DATE

February, 1987

STREET & NUMBER

Post Office Box 140906

TELEPHONE

(305) 446-2206

CITY OR TOWN

Coral Gables

STATE

Florida

ZIP CODE

33146