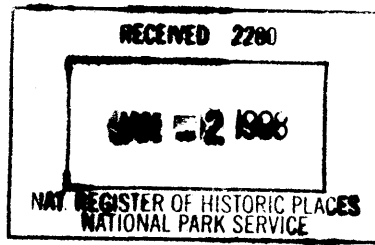


26

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 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 WALKER, HORACE HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 33 Old Mission Avenue N/A not for publication

city or town St. Augustine N/A vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county St. Johns code 109 zip code 32084

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] 12/16/97
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] _____
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson A. Beall 1/30/98

Horace Walker House
Name of Property

St. Johns 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
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	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)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: masonry vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE
walls CONCRETE

roof ASPHALT
other GLASS
MARBLE

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

c.1888

Significant Dates

c.1888

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

Horace Walker House
Name of Property

St. Johns Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	4	6	9	0	6	0	3	3	0	7	9	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 Paul Weaver/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date December, 1997

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 Hugh Jamison

street & number 33 Old Mission Avenue telephone (904) 824-4085

city or town St. Augustine state FL zip code 32095

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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 1HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA**SUMMARY**

The Horace Walker House is at 33 Old Mission Avenue, in St. Augustine, St. Johns County, Florida. The c.1888, two-story, concrete block vernacular residence. The building has a continuous concrete foundation and a rectangular foot print. The concrete building has a one story arcade across the main (north) facade. Windows contain 1/1, wooden sashes. A contributing concrete block wall is at the front (north) boundary of the property.

SETTING

The Walker House is one property east from State Road 5, the main north/south thoroughfare along the western side of the City of St. Augustine, and is a little over one-half mile northwest of the Castillo De San Marcos. The house fronts onto Old Mission Avenue which runs east/west. The land is flat and sandy with grass, scattered palm trees and shrubs around the house. A wall along the northern edge of the property has a concrete, "artificial stone," as it was called at the time, wall with an opening for a sidewalk leading to the house (Photo #1). Old Mission Avenue and adjacent blocks are residential, and State Road 5 is commercial.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**Exterior**

The "artificial stone" cast concrete blocks are in numerous shapes and sizes including ornamental cornice, roof trim, and wall baluster shapes (Photos #2-5) (see site visit sketches).

The main, north facade fronts onto Old Mission Avenue (formerly St. Louis Avenue) and is dominated by a one-story arcade which supports a flat roof shelter for the main porch which spans the facade (Photo #6). Square blocks form the columns which support three arches. Quoins are at the corners of the facade, and ornamental cast elements line a parapet roof

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

above a dentil cornice. The flat roof is surfaced with asphalt. The main door, with a one-light transom, is slightly off center to the east, with one window to the east and two on the west. Two cast urn planters flank the center arch. The second floor features four windows on axis with the door and windows at the first story.

The east elevation contains two windows on the first story and one within the northern third of the second story (Photo #7). The ornamental cornice and parapet are present only on this northern third of the elevation. Quoins are present at the corners, and the front porch is visible to the north. A wooden porch with shed roof is visible to the south.

The south elevation is the rear of the building, and has an open, one-story wooden porch with a utility room at the west end. The porch's shed roof is supported by three square posts and is covered with asphalt shingles, and three square posts support a one-story shed porch roof that is covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior has non-historic composition horizontal siding. Two single doors open onto the porch, and three windows are evenly spaced across the second story. A small central window is fixed with a Queen Anne style sash with colored glass squares on its periphery. The small, single window to the east is fixed.

The west elevation mirrors the east elevation except that fewer of the cornice and pediment elements remain.

Interior

The house interior has wooden heart pine floors, and walls and ceilings are plaster. The front door enters a central stair hall with a door at the opposite end. A molded hand rail is supported by turned balusters, and curves before it connects to a ornate newel post at the foot of the stairs (Photos #10-11). Additional newels are located at a stair landing and at the upstairs hall. Broad, molded door trims include rounded corner pieces. A doorway leads to a kitchen and dining area on the east side of the hall, and a bathroom is in the southeast corner of the first floor. A parlor occupies the one room to the west of the hall. The parlor contains a false fireplace with carved, wooden surround with a mantel and mirror, and bracket supported

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetHORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDASection number 7 Page 3

shelf. Two black, twisted, marble columns flank the hearth and are engaged with the mantel (Photo #12). The half-turn stair leads to a upstairs central hall (Photo #13) which opens to a bedroom on the east side, and a bedroom (Photo #14) and bathroom on the west side.

ALTERATIONS

Footprints of the building found on early Sanborn maps indicate the rear elevation of the house had a wooden extension which was shortened within the historic period. The current rear of the house is composed of 1970s composition siding which replaces the previous wooden material. The bathrooms and kitchen have modernized fixtures. The historic material remains to a high degree both externally and internally, and the historic character has not been diminished by the recent material on the rear.

CONTRIBUTING STRUCTURE

The cast concrete wall borders the north edge of the property along Old Mission Avenue (Photo #15). The wall consists of two spans which flank a central walk to the main entrance. Each span consists of two courses of blocks surmounted by a decorative cast balustrade. A damaged area of the wall reveals iron rods in the centers of the castings. Each span is flanked by square piers. The central piers are topped with large decorative balls; the balls are missing from the outer piers.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA**SUMMARY**

The Horace Walker House is nominated to the National Register under Criterion C for its local significance in the area of Architecture. The c.1888 residence was built from custom mold-formed concrete blocks known at the time as "artificial stone." Concrete blocks were in a developmental stage in the United States in the late 19th century, and the Walker House blocks exhibit typical characteristics of smooth/rough opposite surfaces, and iron rod reinforcement. The vernacular house was built along eclectic lines with Classical elements and geometric ornamentation on the parapet, reflecting contemporary Moorish Revival buildings within St. Augustine. Alterations to the south side of the house do not affect its historic character, and are consistent with historic construction. The level of workmanship, design, and architectural integrity is high. The house is rare both for its style and for its material.

HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The Walker House is the oldest building remaining from the development of the Garnett's Subdivision, a 1880-1890s development on the northern end of the city. Lot divisions along the south side of St. Louis Avenue were the southern boundary of the subdivision, and an orange grove was maintained on the block immediately to the north into the 20th century.

Horace Walker and his wife moved to St. Augustine from Pennsylvania, probably in the 1880s. He was in the well drilling business. After the city established a water works he became involved in development and operated an alligator farm, one of the first tourist attractions on San Marco Avenue.

The date of construction is not definite. A "birds eye map" from 1885 shows a house adjacent to the Garrett Subdivision where the house should be, but the profile is not distinct. In 1893, Horace Walker's wife wrote her will, leaving the house to him. A history of the city's neighborhoods, and the local property appraiser place the date of construction at about 1888. Based on

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 2HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

this information, a stone dated July 4, 1888 was set into the porch and "1888" was painted on the facade by the current owner in 1992 (Photo #16). The date and an attribution to builder Franklin Smith, builder of the Villa Zorayda, however, are not documented.

Cast Stone

The development of "cast stone" was a result of the mid-nineteenth-century development of portland cement and the desire to create manageable sized building components from the cast material. Concrete block production however, was hindered until the beginning of the twentieth century by the failure of concrete mixes to release from molds, and the unstable mixtures that were attempted to overcome this problem. The irregular surfaces resulting from these attempts were usable if viewed as artificial stone. Various attempts at cast stone production were made after the Civil War, beginning roughly in 1868 with a patent to George Frear of Chicago and Frear Stone, and the Pacific Stone and Concrete Company that was active in San Francisco at that time. Published reports of the collapse of cast stone buildings hindered its use. The quality and consistency of the mixtures varied greatly and early cast stone buildings have generally aged poorly, with cracking and crumbling posing major problems. Standards and reliable compressive strength were not instituted until 1929 when the Cast Stone Institute and the American Concrete Institute adopted specifications.

The 19th century casting of concrete in molds was often site specific, and was accomplished by a dry-tamping or wet-cast process. The dry-tamp method could involve a central core cast. Outer layers containing the more expensive additives of pigments, portland cement, and aggregates were then added. Dry-tamped blocks could be removed from the molds, but needed to cure in warm, humid conditions for several days and were usually misted. Wet-casting into molds meant the mold could be used only once a day, and it too needed additional days to cure in a warm, damp environment. Block surfaces were often textured or tooled in various ways. Cast stone elements were set with mortar as if

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 3HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

they were true stone. Cast elements were sometimes attached to the building with metal fasteners. Metal hooks or hangers were sometimes cast into the element to facilitate handling. The industry suffered during the Great Depression, and by the 1950s it was gone; what remained had been absorbed into the more mechanized cast concrete industry.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Horace Walker House is an excellent and rare example of a late 19th century early "cast stone" construction. The home was built at a time of growth for the community during which various picturesque buildings were constructed, including the eclectic Walker House. The high level of artistic woodwork on the interior's stair railing and newels, fireplace, and door frame trims contributes to the high integrity of the eclectic styling.

Built in c.1888, the Horace Walker House is a rare example of early concrete block, "cast stone," construction. The blocks are in excellent condition. The cast elements are in at least twenty-four configurations (site visit sketches attached), and appear to contain the sand/shell which composes the community's soil. The exposed surfaces of the blocks are smooth, usually with a beveled edge. Several unattached ornamental elements from the wall and pediment are behind the house, permitting a close inspection. The casting method appears to have permitted the shell aggregate to settle to one side of the element, with the finer material remaining on the opposite side. The shell-concentrated side has deteriorated, whereas the opposite side is in better condition. A broken piece of wall baluster indicates that small iron rods were set within the element. Neither a profile of the blocks nor a chemical analysis of their composition is known.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

Section number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akin, Edward N., Flagler: Rockefeller Partner and Florida Baron. Kent, Ohio: Kent State Univ. Press, 1988.
- Condit, Carl, American Building Art: The Nineteenth Century. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 1960.
- Harvey, Karen, America's First City: St. Augustine's Historic Neighborhoods. Lake Buena Vista, Florida: Tailored Tours Publications, Inc., 1992.
- Jester, Thomas C., Editor, Twentieth-Century Building Materials. Washington, D.C.: Dept. of the Interior, 1995.
- St. Augustine Tatler, January 30, 1892; January 21, 1893; January 12, 1895.
- St. Johns County, Deed Records, 1821-1960.
- St. Augustine Historical Society, Vertical files.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 16, Block 12 of Garnett's Subdivision of the City of St. Augustine, official map of the city map, dated January 1st, 1905.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the historic resources associated with the Horace Walker House.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

Section number Photographs Page 1

PHOTOGRAPH LIST

1. Horace Walker House
 33 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine
2. St. Johns County, Florida
3. Paul Weaver
4. April, 1996
5. Horace Walker House
6. Horace Walker House property, camera facing south
7. Photo #1 of 16

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs.

6. Elements from the parapet and cornice
7. Photo #2 of 16

6. Broken baluster from wall
7. Photo #3 of 16

6. Block within arch, camera facing south
7. Photo #4 of 16

6. Porch to house connection showing cornice blocks and quoins,
 camera facing west
7. Photo #5 of 16

6. Main facade and east elevation, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #6 of 16

6. East elevation, camera facing west
7. Photo #7 of 16

6. South elevation, camera facing north
7. Photo #8 of 16

6. West elevation and southern corner, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #9 of 16
6. Stairwell, camera facing south

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

HORACE WALKER HOUSE, ST.
AUGUSTINE, ST. JOHNS CO.,
FLORIDA

Section number _____ Photographs _____ Page 2

- 7. Photo #10 of 16

- 6. Newel post, camera facing east
- 7. Photo #11 of 16

- 6. Fireplace, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #12 of 16

- 6. Second floor landing, camera facing south
- 7. Photo #13 of 16

- 6. Second floor bedroom, camera facing north
- 7. Photo #14 of 16

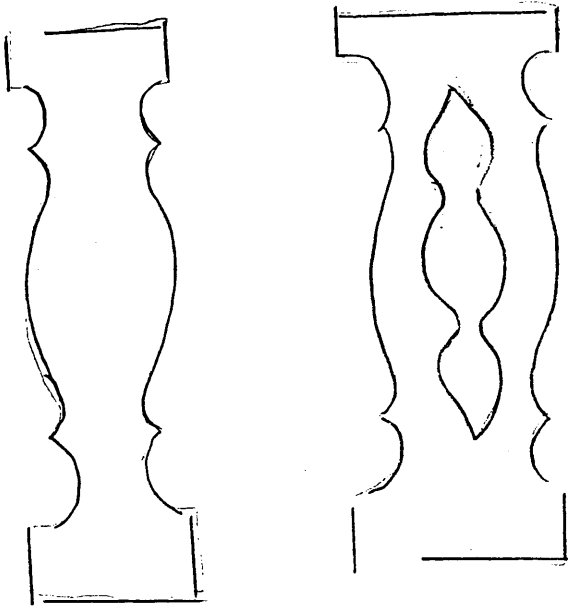
- 6. Wall, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #15 of 16

- 6. Owner's 1992 alteration to front porch, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #16 of 16

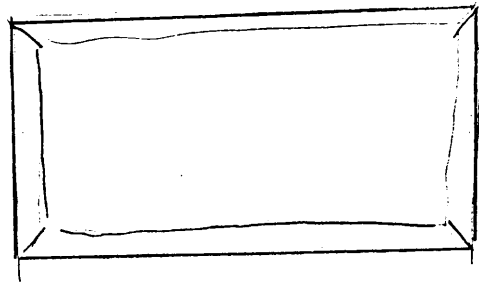
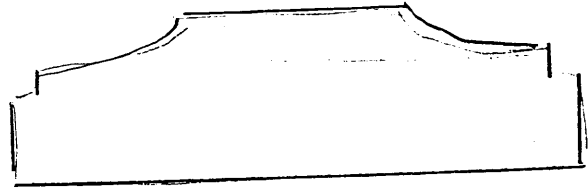
SITE VISIT SKETCHES - 11.13.96

WALKER HOUSE - BOB JONES

balusters

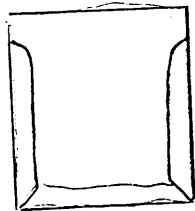
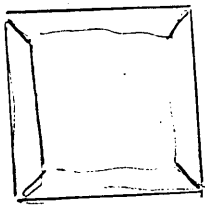


cap

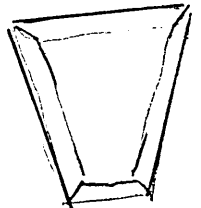
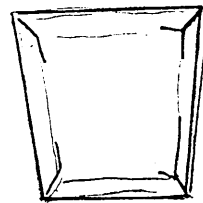
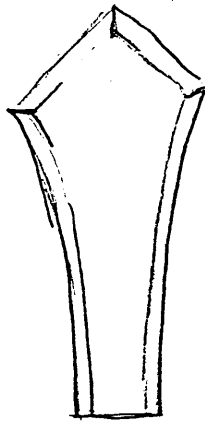


columns

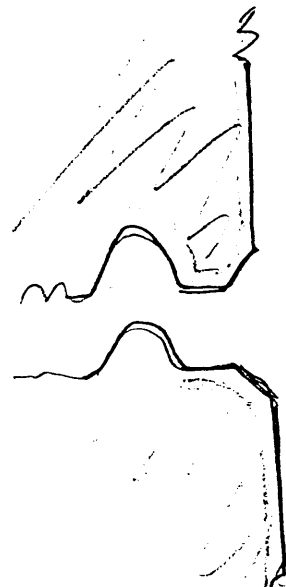
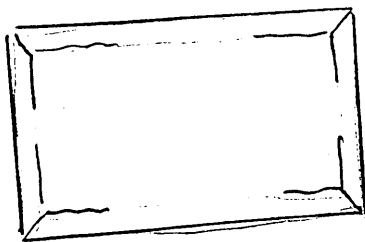
squares



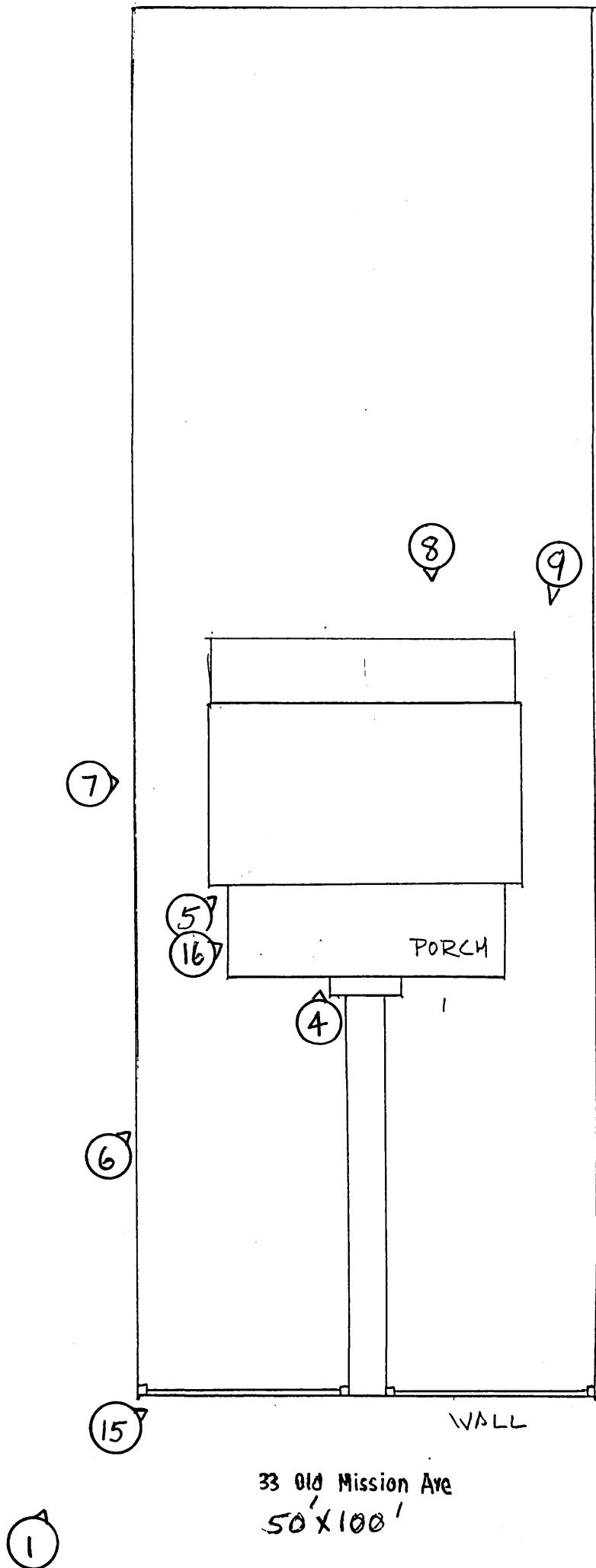
arch



standard



groove & ridge noticed within separating blocks



WALKER HOUSE,
 ST. AUGUSTINE,
 ST. JOHN'S CO., FLORIDA
 SITE PLAN, BOUNDARY MAP,
 & PHOTO DIAGRAM

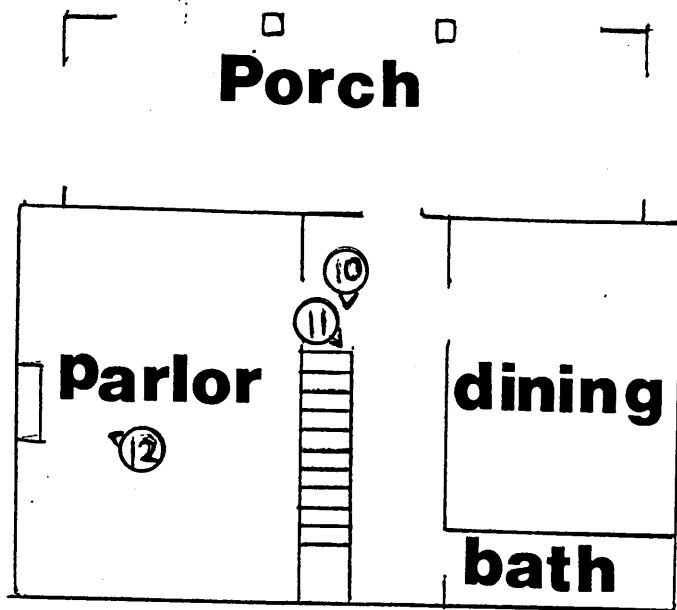
33 Old Mission Ave
 50' x 100'

WALKER HOUSE,
ST. AUGUSTINE,
ST. JOHNS CO., FLORIDA

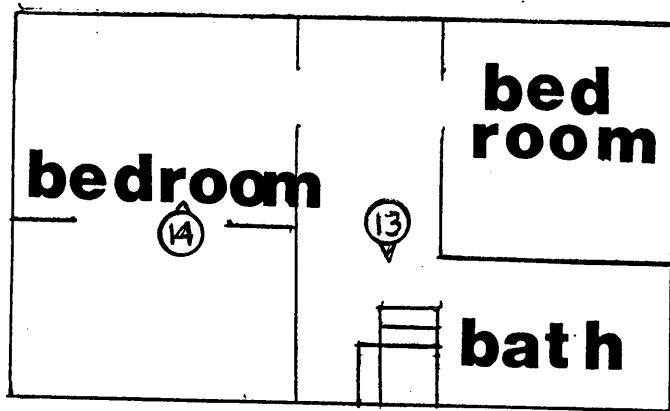
N



FLOOR PLAN & PHOTO DIAGRAM



1st floor



2nd floor