

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

SG-603



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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic Name: Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Other Names/Site Number: N/A
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

2. Location


Street & Number: 430 St. James St.
City or town: Alexandria State: LA County: Rapides Parish
Not for Publication: Vicinity:

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, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:
 national state local

Applicable National Register Criteria: A B C D


Signature of certifying official/Title: Phil Boggan, State Historic Preservation Officer Date: 12-6-16
Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official: Date
Title: State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register

other, explain: _____

John Walker
Signature of the Keeper

1-31-2017

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public – Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public – State
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public – Federal

Category of Property (Check only **one** box.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Site
<input type="checkbox"/>	Structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Non-contributing	
2	1	Buildings
		Sites
1		Structures
		Objects
3	1	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: Domestic: Single Dwelling

Current Functions: Education: Library

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7. Description

Architectural Classification: Late 19th and Early 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick Piers

walls: Brick Veneer

roof: Asbestos Shingles

other: N/A

Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The Huie-Dellmon House was originally built, like many single family dwellings of the time, in the local articulation of the Queen Anne Cottage. A raised wood frame with wood clapboard siding cottage, the house was situated on a relatively small (50' X 100') corner lot. Set back from St. James St. enough to allow for a very small front yard and so close to the 5th Street sidewalk as to allow barely enough room for plantings and a short fence. Sanborn maps document the progressive alterations and expansions of the house from the time of its construction in 1897 to a major remodel to the Colonial Revival style in 1933 (See Figures #6-14). Comparing historic photos that document the 1933 alterations to the current appearance of the house, it is apparent that several changes were made post-1933 (See Figures #1-4 and Photos #1-17), including the addition of a front porch roof extension to cover the steps (with filigreed ornamental iron columns and embellishments), replacement of the 1933 wood double hung sash windows with aluminum double hung sash window units and the alteration of wood details around the windows. Although it has not been possible to document the date of these changes, the advent of aluminum windows and the popularity of filigreed ornamental iron work would suggest a strong possibility that this work was done sometime in the 1950's. Since that remodel, the house has not been significantly altered and retains historic integrity to the time of its Colonial Revival remodel and to the time when Joseph and Myrtle Huie Dellmon lived in the house. Thus, it is eligible for listing on the National Register.

Narrative Description (See Photos #1 – 17)

Built in 1897, the house at 430 St. James St. was originally a one-story Victorian gable front and wing residence (See Figures #1 & 2). The 1900 Sanborn map (See Figure #7) reveals a typical Queen Ann foot print - a rectangular front gabled primary element with its narrow end facing St. James Street with a depth roughly four times its width. A gabled extension, the depth of which was roughly half the structure's depth extended from the right side. This wing was set back from the front plane of the primary element allowing for a front porch which extended across the full width of the side gable extension. The 1900 Sanborn map also shows a rear porch extending from the right side of the rear of the building to the back wall of the side gable extension.

Sanborn maps indicate that the house retained its original configuration through 1909, but was altered between 1909 and 1914 (See Figures #9 & 10). The 1914 map shows the addition of a rectangular side gable wing at the rear of the structure. This addition extends the depth of the original primary front gable element and extends across the rear of the structure to the right

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terminating to be even with the original side gable extension at the front. The addition altered the form of the original structure from a rough L shape to a U shape.

The house was further altered between 1921 and 1928 when, as evidenced by the 1928 Sanborn map, a small extension was added along the rear of the front section of the building. A small portion of this addition at the left was enclosed with the remainder serving as a porch (See Figures #11 & 12).

1925 photos (1925) (See Figures #1 & 2) shows two interior ridge chimneys roughly evenly spaced on the primary element and an exterior gable wall chimney at the outer limit of the side gable extension. In 1925, the roof was covered with diamond shaped asbestos tiles. The exterior walls were covered with wood clapboard. Windows were four-over-four double hung wood sash units. Although some of the windows in the 1925 photo were set closer than others, all the windows in the photo were presented as single units. The walls of the corner of the front of the primary element were clipped to form a polygonal front bay which was accented with decorative corner brackets at the roof / wall junction. The original front entrance was a single wood and glass door with squared half-glass sidelites and transom set to the left side of the front wall of the side gable extension. The porch roof was a continuation of the roof of the side gable extension and its forward edge was supported by tapered round wood columns with wood railings featuring turned wood balusters.

A major alteration was made to the house in 1933 (See Figures #3, 4 & 13), changing the style of the house from Victorian to Colonial Revival. Among the most notable alterations, the central courtyard created by the cross gable addition was incorporated into the footprint of the house by tying together the right side walls of the original side gable extension and the cross gable addition and covering this addition with a "flat" roof tied into the roofs of the original front gable element, the side gable extension, and the cross gable addition. The house was veneered with red brick. Window casings were boxed and trimmed and close-set windows were re-presented as triples. The frieze at the wall / roof junction was widened. The original clipped corners of the front bay were squared off and the two windows at the front of the bay were reconfigured as a single unit featuring a four-over-four double hung wood sash window flanked by two half-width windows surrounded with a low iron railing. A cast half-round medallion with keystone was centered at the base of the pediment of the front gable end and a round louvered vent was added to the left gable of the cross gable addition at the rear. The entrance was pushed out to the front edge of the porch and replaced with a paneled wood door with half-glass sidelites and an elliptical fan light transom. A second door (which likely may have been an original door found elsewhere on the house), featuring a wood paneled and double arched glass door surmounted by a half-round cast medallion with keystone, was added to the new foyer for access to the front porch. The forward face of the roof of the side gable extension was reconfigured to terminate at the front wall of the extension and the porch was covered with a low pitch roof. Original wood porch posts were replaced with ornamental cast iron posts connected with ornamental iron railings. The outer edge of the porch roof was surmounted with an ornamental iron railing to match that of the porch. At a later date (probably the 1950's), a front porch roof extension was added to cover the brick steps (See Photo #1). This extension was supported by filigreed ornamental iron columns. Fans of ornamental iron in the same pattern were added to the tops of the 1933 iron porch posts.

Interior (See Photos #18 – 45)

The floor plan of the house is organized around a simple arrangement of living areas and sleeping areas with bedrooms and a central bathroom aligned along the left wall and living room, dining room and kitchen along the right side. Today, all of these spaces are used as offices and meeting spaces.

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At the rear third of the house, left and right are divided by a hallway but at the front portion of the house the large living room is only separated from the bedrooms and bathroom by their doors.

Outbuildings

To the right of the existing garage is a small (12' X 15') one story windowless cinder block and brick shed (See Photos #7 & 8). Noteworthy is the fact that the brick does not match the brick of the house or the garage. This structure does not appear on the latest Sanborn Map (1953) and is non-contributing for this purpose. This structure is currently used for storage.

Garage (See Photos #7, 8, 11-14). The garage first appears on the 1928 Sanborn Map as a two story garage with a square footprint. On the 1928-1951 Sanborn map, it is possible to see that the exterior stairs have been added. Mr. Dellmon was an avid collector of automobiles and even owned a dealership for a time. This structure is contributing and photos and drawings are included with the nomination. The downstairs of this structure is currently used as a shop and for storage. The upstairs is climate controlled and secured and serves as the Parish Library's archives.

Pavilion (See Photos #12 & 13). Behind the house to the rear of and between the garage and 5th St. is a 10' square brick and wood pavilion. A relatively flat wood roof with ornamental rafters is supported by brick columns. The brick matches that of the house and garage. Two sides of the pavilion feature ornamental wood panels. The pavilion is supported on a concrete slab that features several different styles of ceramic flooring. Two wood benches front the ornamental wood panels inside the pavilion. The current director of the Parish Library remembers being told by a relative who was a paper delivery boy in the 1950's about attending an annual paper boys' picnic hosted by Mrs. Dellmon for which this pavilion was the center of activities. The pavilion is a contributing structure for these reasons.

Integrity

Having been expanded, altered, and finally subjected to a style changing remodel as detailed above, the original integrity of the c. 1897 house is limited. However, the historic integrity that is more important is that of the c. 1933 remodel, as the association with Mrs. Dellmon is the reason for the house's significance, it is more important that the house retains integrity to this time period. It retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Furthermore, it retains a large majority of integrity of materials with only minor changes to the exterior materials, as well as integrity of design and workmanship. Additionally, the interior integrity is very intact. For these reasons, the Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House is eligible for listing on the National Register.

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.
X	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.

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D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history
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Criteria Considerations:

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance: Communications

Period of Significance: 1937-1966

Significant Dates: N/A

Significant Person: Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion D is marked above): N/A

Architect/Builder (last name, first name): Unknown

Period of Significance (justification): The period of significance is 1937-1966, covering the years during which Myrtle Huie Dellmon served as president of McCormick & Co., Inc.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary): N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Huie-Dellmon House is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion B as the home of Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon during the period of significance 1937-1966 when she was president of McCormick & Co. Inc., publisher of the Alexandria Daily Town Talk. Like most small town newspapers, the Alexandria *Daily Town Talk* was always an instrument of service to its community. The transformation brought about by the publishing of a newspaper delivering vital news and important information to one's door every morning was a great leap forward in the civic and cultural development of the nation. During Myrtle Dellmon's tenure as President of McCormick & Co. (1937-1966), the Alexandria *Daily Town Talk* served an increasingly important role during periods when communication within the community and across the country was vital to the nation's growth and survival. When very few leaders of business were women, as the person in charge of so critical an enterprise for such a long tenure, during a time of ever changing challenges, Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon was indeed a very significant person in Alexandria.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Brief History of Alexandria, Louisiana

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In 1722, on the north bank of the Red River, opposite present day Alexandria, Post des Rapides was founded by the French Governor to protect settlers portaging the rapids there from Indian harassment. After France ceded Louisiana to Spain in 1762, that small settlement grew and by 1799, and the end of Spanish rule, there were 760 persons living in the area. In 1803, the area became United States territory as a result of the Louisiana Purchase. In 1805, Alexander Fulton, a local trader, surveyed and plotted the town and named it after his infant daughter, Alexandria. Later that year, Alexandria became the seat of the newly established Rapides Parish. The small town grew as settlers came to farm the rich alluvial soils for the opportunity to get rich growing cotton. Statehood was attained in 1812 and Alexandria was formally incorporated in 1819.¹

War came to central Louisiana with secession from the Union in January 1861 and the Governor's call for volunteers. Eleven companies of young men from Rapides Parish soon joined the Armies of Northern Virginia and Tennessee, leaving their homes defenseless. In the spring of 1863, General Nathaniel P. Banks and 40,000 Union troops advanced on Alexandria with orders to "destroy public works and machinery at Alexandria". They burned and pillaged along the way before finally withdrawing to join the siege of Vicksburg. The following March, Banks returned – this time with a much larger force, including more than twenty gunboats and transport vessels under the command of Admiral Porter. Banks bivouacked his force in Alexandria before advancing on toward Shreveport, but at Mansfield on April 8 and the next day at Pleasant Hill, Banks' troops were routed by Confederates under the command of General Taylor. Retreating Union troops burned all the homesteads along the path of their retreat and, in an act of revenge, set fire to the entire town of Alexandria² as they continued southward. Well into the next century, the region continued its struggle to recover from the devastation.

It was during this bleak post-war period in 1883 when Edgar McCormick and Henarie Huie embarked on their venture that would lead to the publishing of the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk*. With fits and starts and even periodic lapses, by 1892, the paper was established³ as the voice of Alexandria, Rapides Parish, and central Louisiana – reporting and documenting the newsworthy events of day-to-day life in the region from that time till now.

The advent of the railroad in the 1890's led to the exploitation of the area's major natural resource – virgin longleaf pine. The resulting "boom" continued through the turn of the century and accounted for the four-fold increase in population in the years between 1890 and 1910 and another doubling by 1920 (to 23,600). Sanborn maps document the expansion of the town during this time - the city limits were pushed out from the Louisiana & Texas railroad tracks to Bolton Avenue and beyond, and the central business district, originally limited to single story wood structures along Front Street, took in portions of Second, Third, and Fourth Streets, replacing the residences previously located there with impressive multi-story masonry structures like the Hotel Bentley and the Commercial Bank, a neo-classical temple of a city hall and numerous churches and businesses of every description.⁴

The first half of the 20th century was defined for Alexandria by the two World Wars. In 1917, the U. S. War Department invested \$5,000,000 to construct Camp Beauregard and within three months during the fall of 1917, 22,243 men arrived for training. (At the time, the population of Alexandria was less

¹ N.B. Carl Laurent, *From This Valley: A History of Alexandria, Pineville and Rapides Louisiana*, 2004, p 12

² *Ibid*, p 35

³ *Alexandria Daily Town Talk*, *The Centennial Album*, 1983, p 6

⁴ Sanborn Maps 1885 - 1921

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than 20,000.) This influx expanded businesses and continued the growth initiated by the timber boom. After the armistice in November 1918, it was said “quiet returned” to the area.

When war came again in 1940, Camp Beauregard was reactivated and additional training camps were built in the area, including; Camp Livingston, Camp Claiborne, Alexandria Army Air Base, Pollock Army Air Field, Esler Field, and others. From 1940 until the end of the war in 1945, over 500,000 troops passed through Camp Livingston alone. It is said the population of Alexandria “doubled overnight”. During this time, the central business district was overwhelmed and commercial expansion pushed out to Bolton Ave.⁵

Alexandria experienced the post-war economic expansion from the late 40’s through the mid 60’s like most other cities in the country. Steady population growth, the development of suburban subdivisions, the advent of the automobile, and the baby boom - life was very good for most Alexandrians. Alexandria’s downtown business district with shops and department stores to meet every need or whim literally hummed with activity as it served as the shopping district for an estimated 150,000 customers from throughout central Louisiana.

Then came the 1970s and the era of the shopping mall with its devastating impact on the downtown. Overall, Alexandria continued its slow growth and development. The opening of Interstate 49 and the development of the port together with making the Red River navigable for commercial traffic did their part to help.

For the city, slow steady growth and development continued through the end of the century and into the beginning of the 21st. Only recently has attention turned back to the downtown – greatly reduced and generally abandoned by the urban renewal of the 1970s and the displacement from the Interstate construction. With successful coffee shops, restaurants, and other ventures by young entrepreneurs and the recent reopening of a rehabilitated Hotel Bentley, redevelopment appears to have begun in earnest.

The Dellmon house is in a now depleted neighborhood that immediately borders the downtown. It is one of the very few remaining nineteenth century structures within the city limits. Recently, scattered interest has been evident in this oldest of Alexandria’s neighborhoods and it is hoped and anticipated that this and other nominations to follow will serve to add interest and context to its redevelopment.

Criterion B: Association with the Dellmon Family and the Alexandria *Daily Town Talk*

The story of the Dellmon House is the story of the Alexandria *Daily Town Talk* newspaper – the vision and creation of the uncle/nephew team of Edgar McCormick and Henarie Huie, sons of sisters Sophie and Lucy Sloane - and their descendants.

Lucy and Mary Sophia (called Sophie) Sloane were young ladies of the Alexandria area who came of age as the Civil War loomed on the horizon. In 1860, Lucy met and married Green Huie, a North Carolinian who had established a plantation on Rigolette Bayou north of Pineville. Two children were born of that marriage, Henarie in 1861 and Laura in 1864. In late 1865, Green Huie died and Lucy and her two young children moved to Pineville. There Lucy met a former Confederate soldier named Auguste Jarreau who had returned to the area to work as a steamship agent. In 1868, Jarreau and

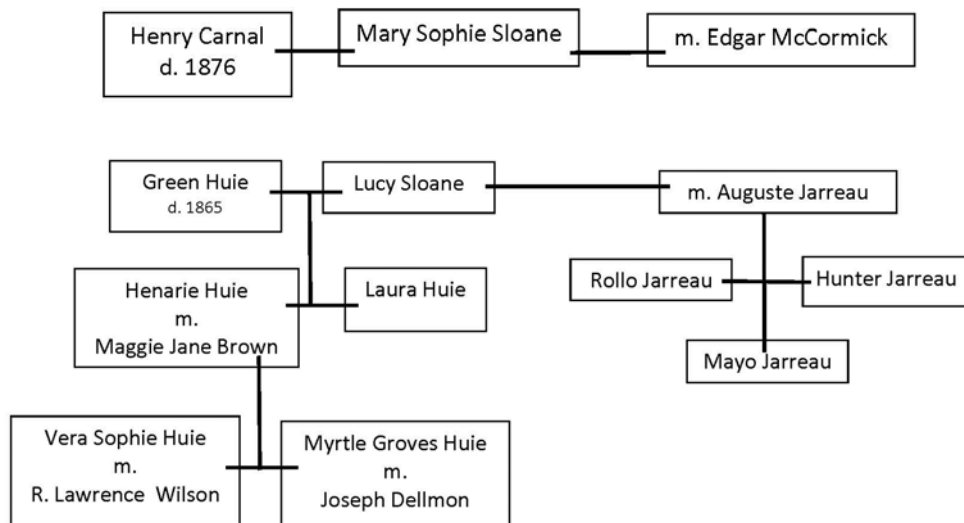
⁵ Sue Eakin, Rapides Parish History, 1976, p 45-55

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Lucy Sloane Huie married. A year to the day later, their first son, Rollo, was born. His brothers, Mayo and Hunter, followed in 1871 and 1875, respectively.⁶

In the meantime, Lucy's sister, Sophie, had married Henry Carnal. The marriage was childless and Carnal died in 1876. In May 1879, at the age of 36, Sophia married Edgar H. McCormick, a printer from Missouri who was 12 years her junior. In the spring of 1880, the McCormicks and nephew, Henarie Huie, by then 19 and ready to make his way in the world, went to St. Louis, where the two men worked in a job printing shop – all the time planning their return to Alexandria to open a job printing shop of their own. The McCormicks returned to Alexandria in early 1882 and Edgar went to work for a local newspaper, the *Rapides Gazette*. Henarie returned a few months later and in August the printing firm of McCormick & Huie opened for business. (See below for a family tree for each sister, Sophie on top, Lucy on bottom)



On Saturday morning, March 17, 1883, the first edition of the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* was published - its founders hoped it would serve as a voice of Rapides Parish and the surrounding area in addition to attracting job printing customers to their business. The young company, struggling to make ends meet, grew and by May 1885, the *Town Talk* was the largest paper ever published in the Alexandria area. However, due to the constant financial struggle, publication of the *Town Talk* was suspended on January 1, 1886. McCormick & Huie continued to operate the job printing business.

By mid-1887, Henarie Huie decided to devote less of his time to the printing enterprise and more to a retail grocery store he had opened at the corner of 5th and Lee Streets. In July 1888, he married Maggie Jane Brown of Winnfield. In November, McCormick & Huie was dissolved and Edgar H. McCormick & Co. was formed. In September 1889, a daughter, Vera Sophie, was born to Henarie and Maggie Huie. Henarie continued to try his hand at matters other than the printing business, but by 1892, had returned to the printing business with his uncle.

⁶ The Centennial Album, p 6

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On March 21, 1892, after an 8-year lapse, publication of the Alexandria *Daily Town Talk* resumed. In 1895, the U.S. Post office lowered the newspaper mailing rate from 25 cents to 1 cent and virtually overnight, the economics of the business improved dramatically.

Over the course of the first 25 years of operation, the newspaper struggled through economic hardships and natural disasters (including the devastating flood of 1892) that occasionally forced suspension of publication. The newspaper alternated between a weekly, tri-weekly, and daily schedule before finally stabilizing.

In 1897, the Huie family moved into their new house at 430 St. James Street. That same year a second daughter, Myrtle Groves, was born.

The 1908 death of Edgar McCormick marked the end of an era in the history of the company he co-founded, but the firm itself did not change much with his passing. McCormick's share of the business went to his widow Sophie who had been involved in the day-to-day business since its inception and remained active after her husband's death. Henarie Huie became general manager of the paper and his half-brother, Rollo C. Jarreau, became editor.⁷

In August 1914, Lucy Sloane Huie Jarreau, Henarie's mother, died. On November 30, 1918, Henarie and Maggie Huie's daughter Myrtle married Joseph Dellmon of Little Rock, Arkansas. Henarie's new son-in-law assisted him with planning improvements and equipment acquisitions for the paper.

In the spring of 1920, Laura Huie, Henarie's sister, died leaving her ownership interest in the business to Henarie. In the fall of that year, Huie's daughter Vera, working as a stenographer for her father since 1911, married R. Lawrence Wilson of Dallas, Texas.

On September 6, 1924, Sophie McCormick died and her ownership in the business went to her nephews – Henarie Huie and the three Jarreau brothers. Shortly thereafter, on November 24, a new corporation was formed – McCormick & Co. Inc. Henarie Huie remained general manager of the company. Rollo Jarreau continued as editor and Hunter Jarreau became a member of the board and secretary-treasurer.

Henarie Huie's death in April 1926 brought to an end the founding era of ownership and management of the *Town Talk*. His widow, Maggie, and his daughters, Vera H. Wilson and Myrtle H. Dellmon, inherited his stock in McCormick & Co Inc. Mrs. Maggie Huie was elected president of the *Town Talk*; Rollo Jarreau became vice president, editor, and publisher; and his brother Hunter continued as general manager. Vera Wilson and Myrtle Dellmon became members of the board.

Maggie Huie died on May 30, 1932, and was succeeded as president of the company by her daughter, Vera Huie Wilson. Myrtle was named vice president. Mrs. Wilson assumed the executive leadership of the newspaper when the Depression was at its most severe point. She led the newspaper through to the Depression's end and into the rebuilding period following it.⁸

Vera continued as president of the company until her tragic death in an auto accident on April 21, 1937, whereupon her sister, Myrtle Huie Dellmon, succeeded her as president of the company. Myrtle had been a member of the board of directors since the death of her father in 1926 when she

⁷ The Centennial Album, p 7

⁸ Ibid, p 12

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was just 29 years old and had served as its vice president since 1932. She would go on to serve in the position of president until her retirement in 1966. Hers was by far the longest term of any president of the company before or since and was the last of a line of women at the helm of the company that ran for forty years.

By 1939, the newspaper was again thriving, though the nation was beginning to prepare itself for the global conflict that clearly lay ahead. Central Louisiana was particularly affected because of its selection as a training area for thousands of Army troops. During the war years that followed and the military build-up, circulation of the paper reached a high of 27,000 (up from 5,500 in 1924). Ramping up to meet the increase in business demand with outdated equipment, limited facilities, a shortage of experienced help, and a shortage of newsprint required clear direction and a steady hand at the helm. Myrtle Dellmon's was the hand at the helm.

The end of WWII in August 1945 marked the end of a period in the *Town Talk's* history. The newspaper had grown by leaps and bounds and adjustments had been necessary. The *Town Talk* had to adapt to a changing population and to that population's changing needs. There was much to be learned, much to be done, and no time to waste. In 1946, following the boom years of the war, the newspaper's circulation had dropped to 19,500 but was climbing. The 20-year period following the war, under the leadership of Myrtle Dellmon, was one of change and growth for the newspaper.⁹

In 1949, under the direction of Myrtle Dellmon, the *Town Talk* undertook a program of remodeling and expansion necessary to accommodate the growing business demands. In 1952, perforated tape providing automatic type setting of AP dispatches was introduced. In response to the evolution of techniques in newspaper photographic reproduction, the *Town Talk* built a photo lab and studio in 1956. In April 1957, the newspaper purchased the Lymberis Building as it prepared for additional expansion. In August 1957, the company purchased the old courthouse square and the Red River levee setback. By 1958, the paper's circulation was up to 24,237. In 1959, the newspaper's expansive growth included the remodeling of the Lymberis Building and revocation of Washington St. from Main to the levee setback in order to set the stage for even more expansion. In September 1963, McCormick & Co. Inc. bought the old Alexandria Seed Store property and shortly thereafter announced a five-year plan for additional facilities expansion, equipment acquisitions, and improvements. The newspaper's new mechanical building and press room wing formally opened on March 17, 1965.¹⁰

To further understand the role and impact Myrtle Dellmon had as President of McCormick & Co. Inc., the author interviewed Tom Hardin, the only grandchild of Mayo Jarreau. Born in April, 1928, Mr. Hardin was able to provide first-hand knowledge of the Huie, Jarreau, and Dellmon families and their involvement with the *Town Talk*.¹¹

Although Mayo was a delivery boy for the paper at age 15 in 1886, he soon elected not to follow his brothers and half-brother into the newspaper publishing business and decided instead to move to Dallas where he entered the insurance business in that booming Texas City in 1895. Mayo became a stockholder in McCormick & Co. when he inherited the shares of Sophie McCormick, the childless widow of founder Edgar McCormick upon her death in 1924. Mayo was a member of the board of directors from that time until May 1932 and held the title of secretary-treasurer until his death

⁹ The Centennial Album, p 12.

¹⁰ Ibid, p 13-14

¹¹ Interview, Tom Hardin, 6/3/2016

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February 8, 1958. Mayo's grandson, Tom entered the banking business in Dallas like his father before him. Upon the death of his mother, Tom inherited his grandfather's shares in McCormick & Co. Inc., and from that time, served as board member and secretary-treasurer.

In 1971, Mr. Hardin was asked to join the management of McCormick & Co. Inc. He served the paper as general manager and ultimately as President, like Myrtle Dellmon, and remained with the paper until the time of its sale in 1994. From an early age, Mr. Hardin was exposed to the inner workings of McCormick & Co.

When his family would travel from Dallas to Alexandria to attend stockholder meetings they would always stay with the Dellmons at 403 St. James St. At the time Myrtle assumed the position of President of the company, Mr. Hardin was nine years old – she remained President for most of his childhood and adult life. He speaks with unassailable authority when he characterizes Myrtle's role as President as direct, engaged, hands-on, and in charge.

Mr. Hardin provided more info on some of the historical background of the company (much of which mirrored information in the book Talk of the Town). He made it clear that during Myrtle's twenty-nine year tenure as President of the company, she was very much in charge of the day-to-day operation of the company. She maintained her office and met daily with the business manager and the editor to review the editorial content of the paper and the ongoing management of the business.

On May 23, 1966, just short of thirty years at the helm, Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon announced her retirement from the position of president of McCormick & Co. and her resignation from the board of directors. She died on March 4, 1970 at age 73. Her husband Joe inherited her stock in the company and upon his death in 1976; the ownership interest was passed in trust to the Huie-Dellmon Foundation, with Richard L. Crowell as trustee.¹²

Over the course of the 113 years in the publishing business, the paper had a number of homes. First renting at Third and Lee St., moving a block away to Third and Washington St. in 1883, and then to a new home on Washington St. in 1887. Growing and prospering, the company was able to purchase the property it had been renting on Washington St. in 1897, and by the turn of the century they acquired property on either side of that location and built a brick building there in 1907. By 1957, the company had purchased all the property on the north side of Washington St. between Front St. and Main St. and the entire old courthouse square opposite. In 1959, Washington St between Main St. and the Red River levee was revoked to allow for the enlargement of the levee and the company moved its offices one block to Main St. Between 1963 and 1980, property along Main St. from St. James to Johnston St. was purchased and razed and two new buildings were erected to accommodate operations. In 1980, the old J.C. Penney's building bounded by Main, Washington, and Third Streets was purchased and renovated and offices were moved into that location in 1981.¹³

All of the property associated with the paper in the early years and any property that had association with Myrtle Dellmon has since been demolished – mostly for the enlargement of the Red River levee. The main property still standing that is associated with Myrtle Dellmon is her personal residence at 430 St. James Street.

¹² The Centennial Album, p 14-15

¹³ Ibid, p 4-16

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

In 1996 the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* was sold to Central Newspapers of Indianapolis. Since then the paper has been sold to the Gannett Company, Inc. Local operations have been greatly reduced, with printing sourced elsewhere and facilities sold off. A small staff of writers and editors currently work out of an office in the old J. C. Penney's building.¹⁴

Conclusion

Since 1883, The *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* has served the people of Alexandria and Central Louisiana as the paper of record for the area - in good times and bad providing news of the region and the world with dedicated efficiency. It is difficult now to imagine how challenging the simple act of communication was in 1883 – without radio or TV or any other active method of communication, news and information was virtually passed from ear to ear. Local governments communicated with constituents by bills posted on a bulletin board located at the center of town in hopes that the word would “spread” - much as had been done a hundred years earlier. The transformation brought about by the publishing of a newspaper delivering vital news and important information to one's door every morning was a great leap forward in the civic and cultural development of the nation. Employing telegraph, news of important local, state and national events could be delivered mere hours after they had occurred and local government could now reach its audience promptly. The bonds between neighbors, their identification with their community and their nation were greatly enhanced. The role played newspapers was an extraordinarily important part of the process of nation building.

During the years that Myrtle Dellmon served as President of McCormick & Co. (1937-1966), the *Alexandria Daily Town Talk* served an increasingly important role during periods when communication within the community and across the country was vital to the nation's growth and survival. When very few leaders of business were women, as the person in charge of so critical an enterprise for such a long tenure, during a time of ever changing challenges, Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon was indeed a very remarkable person.

The newspaper has both recorded and participated in the development of the city of Alexandria and region of Central Louisiana for over one hundred and thirty years. The Dellmon house is eligible for listing on the National Register of historic places for its association as the only home of Mrs. Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon, under whose dedicated leadership the paper survived and grew and changed and thrived to serve the citizens of Alexandria and Central Louisiana during a long and remarkable period of our development.

Developmental History/Additional historic context information

See above.

<h3>9. Major Bibliographical Resources</h3>
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Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Alexandria Daily Town Talk. *The Centennial Album*. Alexandria: McCormick and Company, Inc., 1983.

Davis, Edwin Adams. *Louisiana: A Narrative History*. Claitor's Book Store, Baton Rouge, 1971.

¹⁴ Interview, Tom Hardin, 6/3/2016

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Eakin, Sue Rapides Parish History: Alexandria. Historical Association of Central Louisiana, 1976.

Eskew, Harry G & Elizabeth Alexandria 'Way Down In Dixie New Orleans: Southern Printing Company of New Orleans, 1950.

Kniffen, Fred B., and Sam Bowers Hilliard. Louisiana: Its Land and People. Rev. ed. Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge. Originally published 1965.

Laurent, Carl N. B. Red River Frontier Alexandria: 1690-1840. Red River X-Press, Historical Publications, 2003.

Laurent, Carl N. B. From This Valley: A History of Alexandria, Pineville and Rapides Louisiana: Volume 1. Alexandria: Red River X-Press, 2004.

Partain, Father Chad. In The Heart of Louisiana an Illustrated History of Rapides Parish. San Antonio: Lammert Publishing Company, 2011.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1885-1953.

Whittington, G. P. Rapides Parish Louisiana A History. Baton Rouge: Franklin Press Incorporated, 1935.

Interview

Mr. Tom Hardin, grandson of Mayo Jarreau, son of Lucy Sloane Jarreau and Auguste Jarreau.
Interviewed in his home 6/3/2016.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House personal archives_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Acreage of Property: Less than an acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 31.308536 Longitude: -92.443540

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Block 32, Square 3, lot 94 of the Alexandria Subdivision. See submitted boundary map and plat map (Resource map and Figure 15).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries chosen are the historic boundaries of the property and include only buildings and structures associated with the Dellmon House and family. The Rapides Parish Police Jury owns other parts of the block today, but these are not included within the boundaries as they do not related to the significance of the Dellmon House.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Paul Smith
organization: Paul Smith Historic Preservation Consulting
street & number: 2022 Albert St
city or town: Alexandria state: LA. zip code: 71301
e-mail: paul@preservationtaxcredit.com
telephone: (318) 613-7385
date: November 2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House
City or Vicinity: Alexandria
County: Rapides Parish

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House

Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA

County and State

State: Louisiana

Name of Photographer: Jessica Richardson

Date of Photographs: 3/31/16

- 1 of 45: Front Elevation. Camera facing NW
- 2 of 45: N.E. Corner. Camera facing W
- 3 of 45: Side Yard. Camera facing N
- 4 of 45: N.E. Side Elevation from Front. Camera facing W
- 5 of 45: N.E. Side Elevation & Garage. Camera facing W
- 6 of 45: Adjacent Garage on neighboring property. Camera facing N
- 7 of 45: N.E. Corner Garage. Camera facing SW
- 8 of 45: Shed & Garage. Camera facing W
- 9 of 45: N. E. Side Elevation from Rear. Camera facing S
- 10 of 45: Rear from N. Corner. Camera facing SW
- 11 of 45: Garage. Camera facing SW
- 12 of 45: Pavilion & Garage. Camera facing NE
- 13 of 45: Pavilion. Camera facing E
- 14 of 45: Pavilion, Carport & Rear of House. Camera facing SE
- 15 of 45: S. W. Elevation. Camera facing E
- 16 of 45: S. W. Elevation. Camera facing NE
- 17 of 45: S. W. Elevation from S. W. Corner. Camera facing N
- 18 of 45: Director's Office. Camera facing S
- 19 of 45: Director's Bathroom. Camera facing W
- 20 of 45: Director's Office. Camera facing E
- 21 of 45: Director's Office. Camera facing NW
- 22 of 45: Director. Camera facing W
- 23 of 45: Office. Camera facing E
- 24 of 45: Office. Camera facing SE
- 25 of 45: Office. Camera facing W
- 26 of 45: Administrative Assistant's Office. Camera facing NW
- 27 of 45: Hallway. Camera facing SE
- 28 of 45: Business Manager's Office. Camera facing W
- 29 of 45: Boardroom. Camera facing E
- 30 of 45: Boardroom. Camera facing NW
- 31 of 45: Boardroom. Camera facing W
- 32 of 45: Front Foyer. Camera facing SE
- 33 of 45: Bathroom. Camera facing S
- 34 of 45: Payroll Office. Camera facing S
- 35 of 45: Payroll Office. Camera facing N
- 36 of 45: Payroll Office. Camera facing W
- 37 of 45: Office. Camera facing W
- 38 of 45: Office. Camera facing S
- 39 of 45: Office Alcove. Camera facing S
- 40 of 45: Alcove Porch Door. Camera facing NE
- 41 of 45: Boardroom. Camera facing NW
- 42 of 45: Kitchen. Camera facing N
- 43 of 45: Kitchen. Camera facing S
- 44 of 45: Rear Door. Camera facing NW

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

45 of 45: Office. Camera facing SW

FIGURES

Figure #1: Historic Photo – Front Elevation Circa 1925; Image courtesy of Joe Dellmon Photograph Collection, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University, Natchitoches, LA.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Figure #2: Historic Photo – S.W. Side Elevation Circa 1925; Image courtesy of Joe Dellmon Photograph Collection, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University,



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Figure #3: Historic Photo – Front Elevation Circa 1933; Image courtesy of Joe Dellmon Photograph Collection, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University,



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

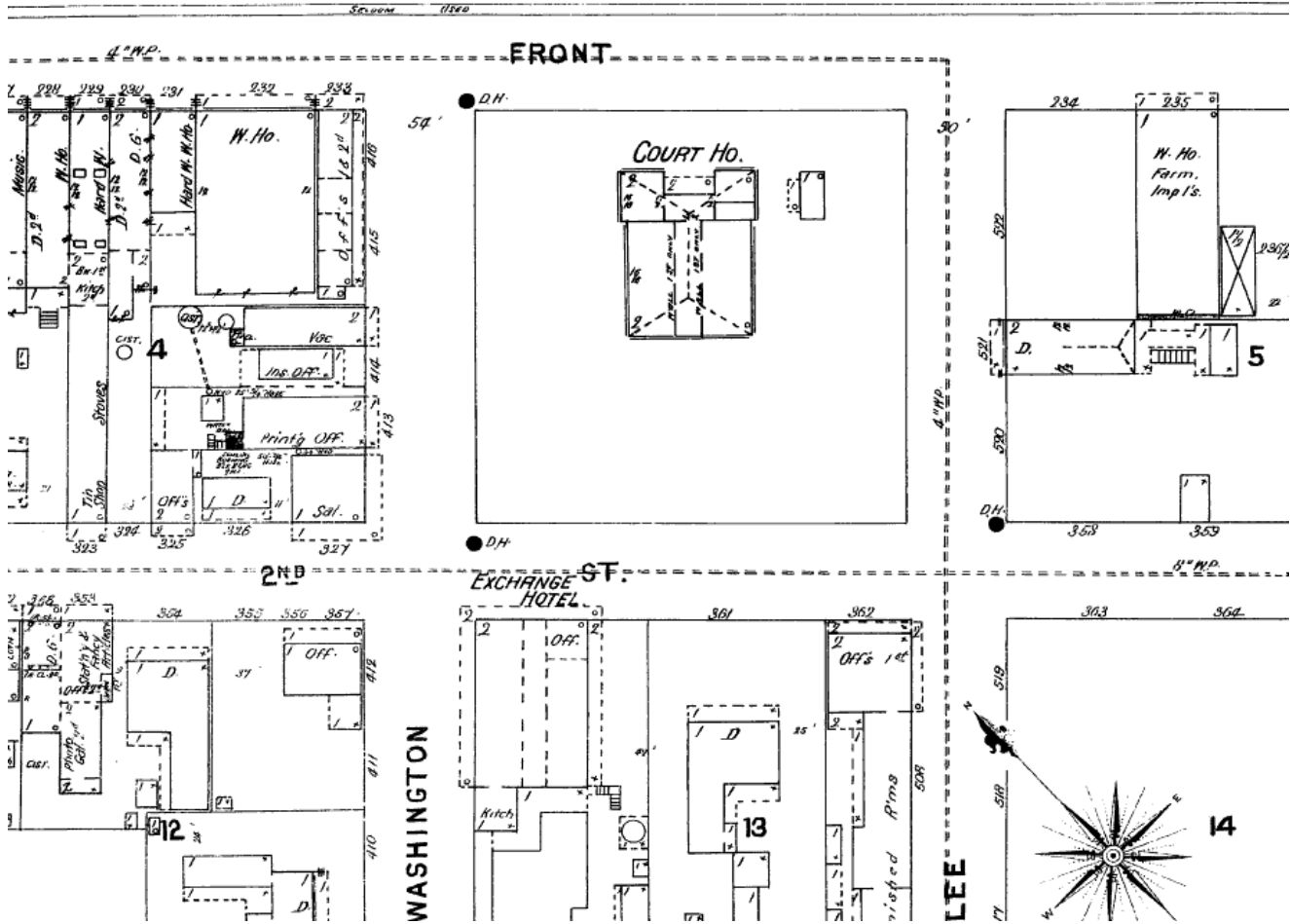
Figure #4: Historic Photo – S.W. Side Elevation Circa 1933; Image courtesy of Joe Dellmon Photograph Collection, Watson Memorial Library, Northwestern State University,



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

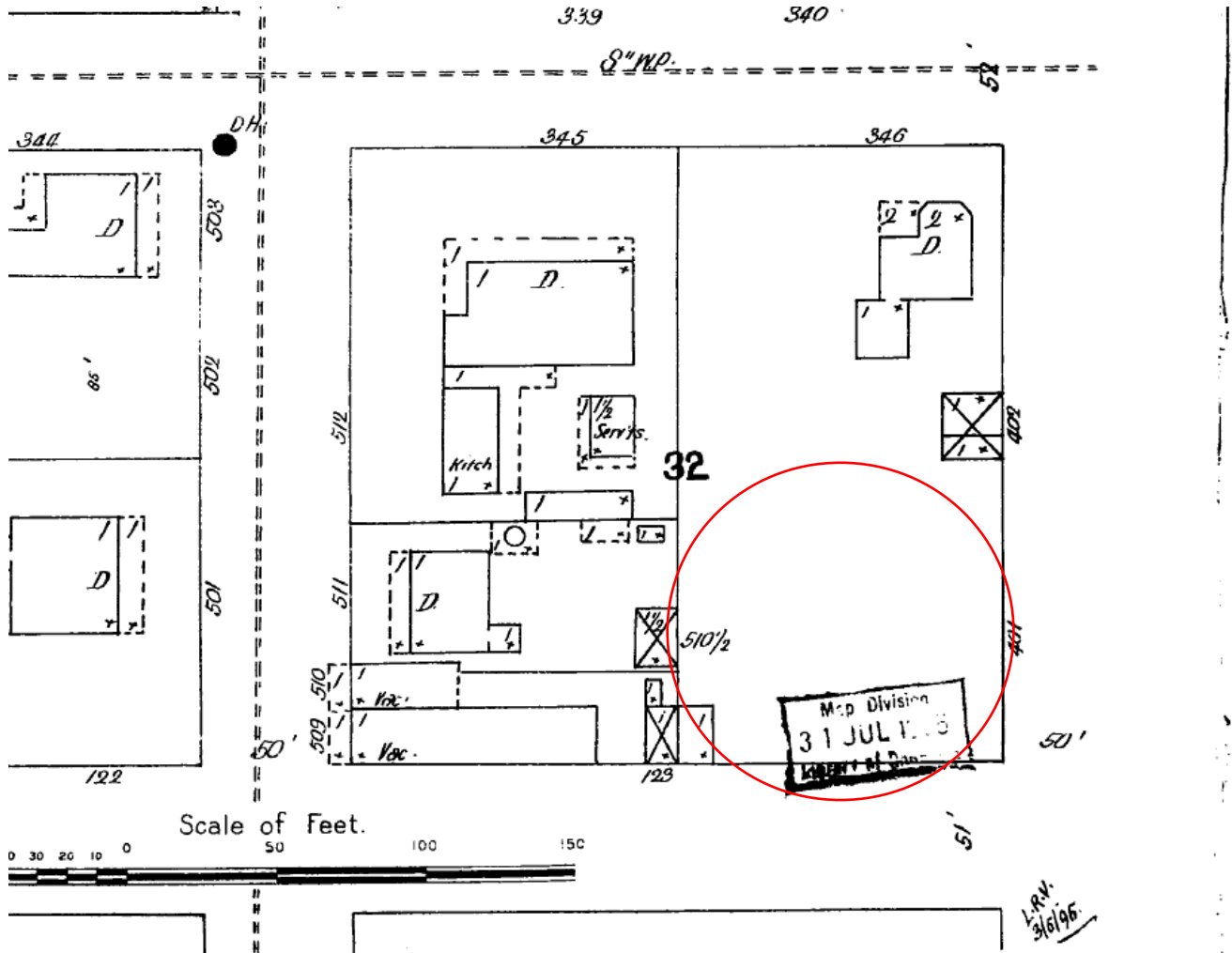
Figure #5 Sanborn Map 1896 – Courthouse Square; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

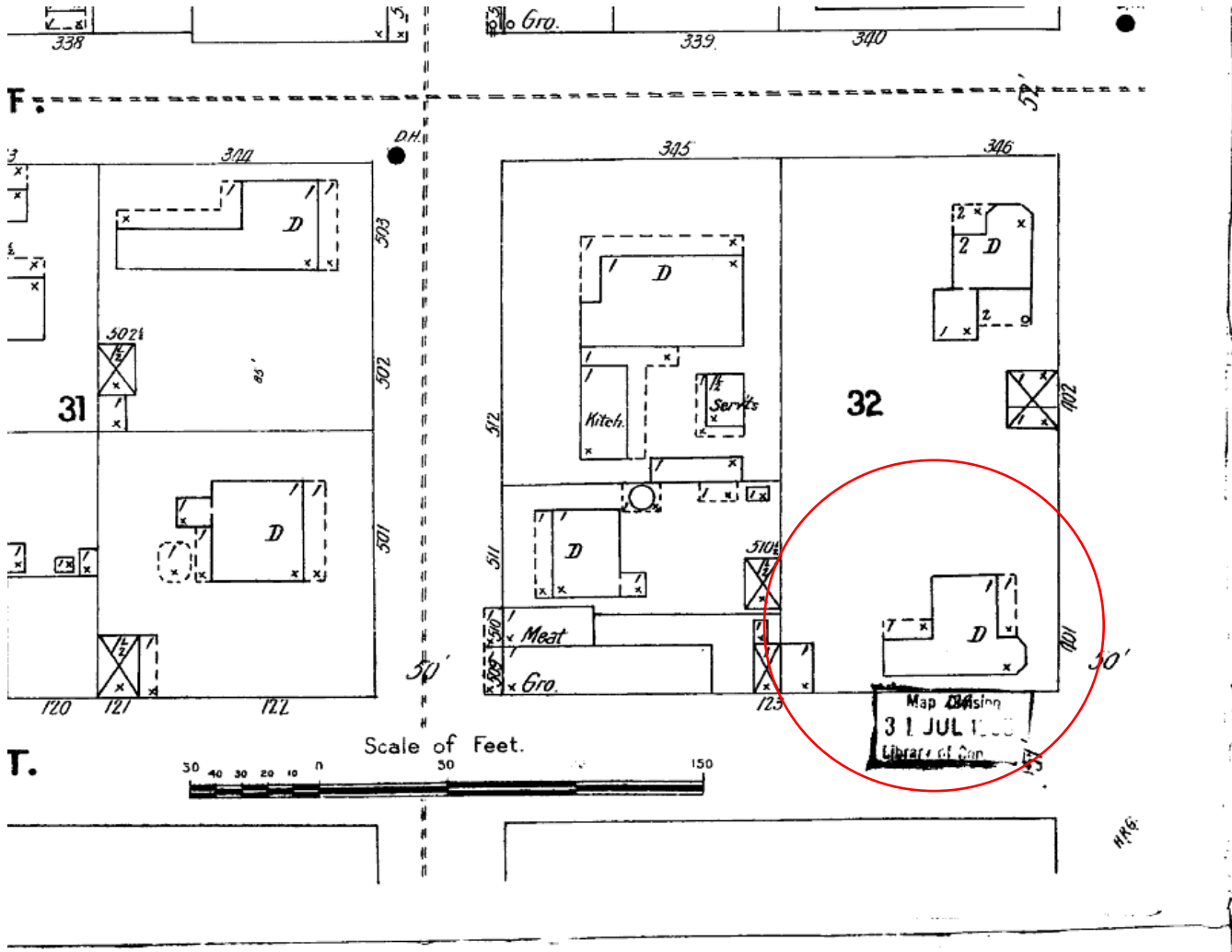
Figure #6 Sanborn Map 1896 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

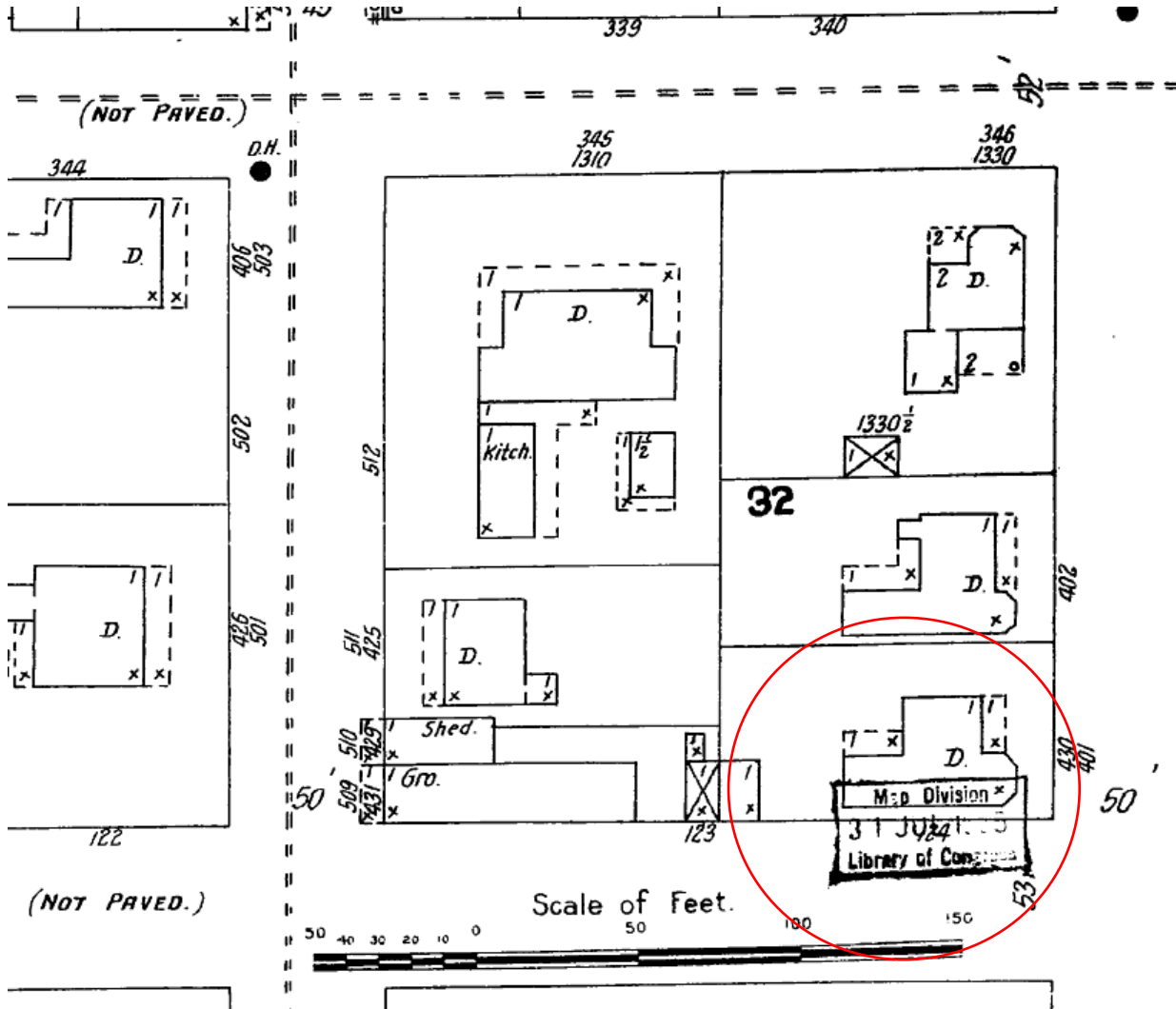
Figure #7 Sanborn Map 1900 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

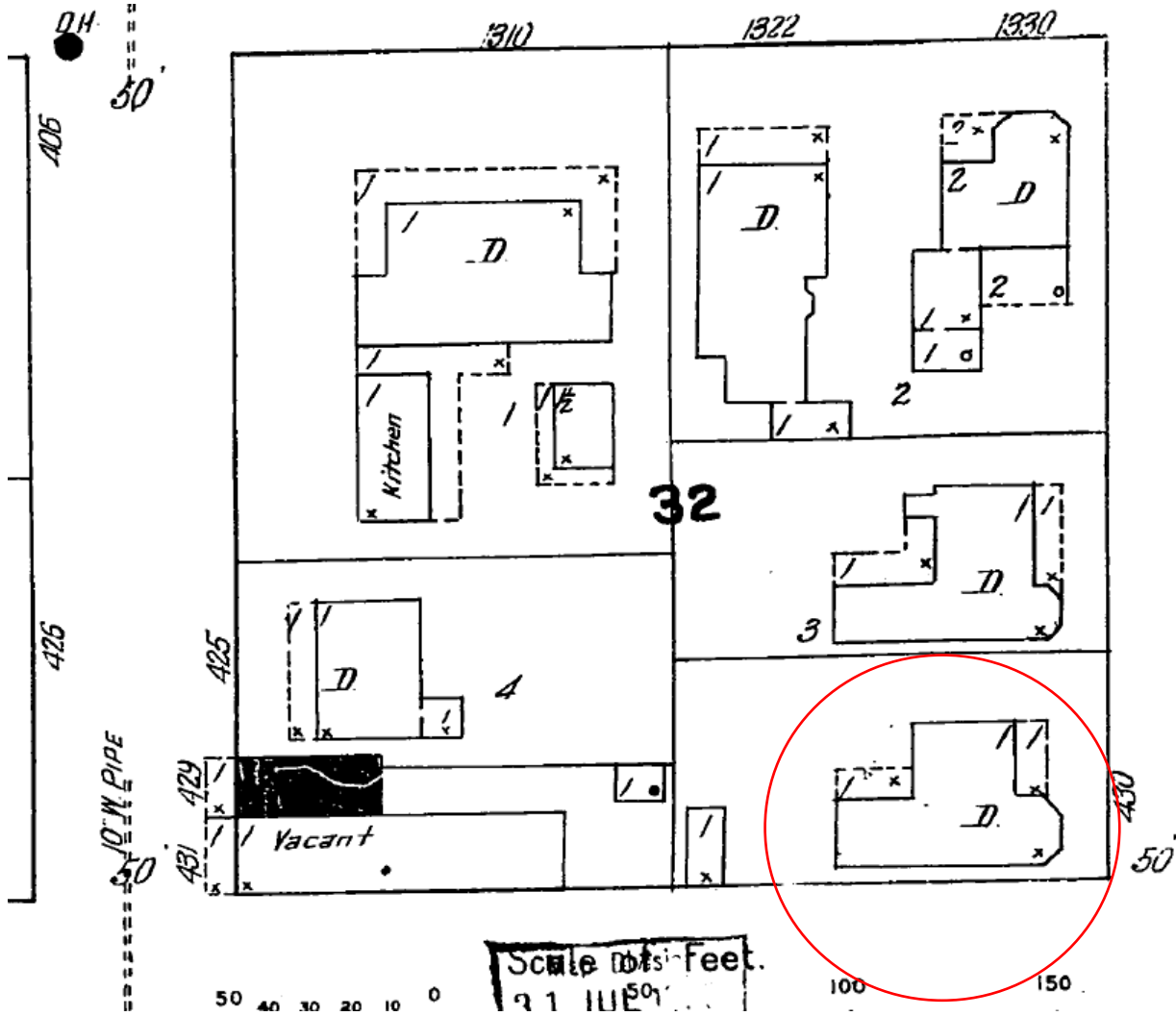
Figure #8 Sanborn Map 1904 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

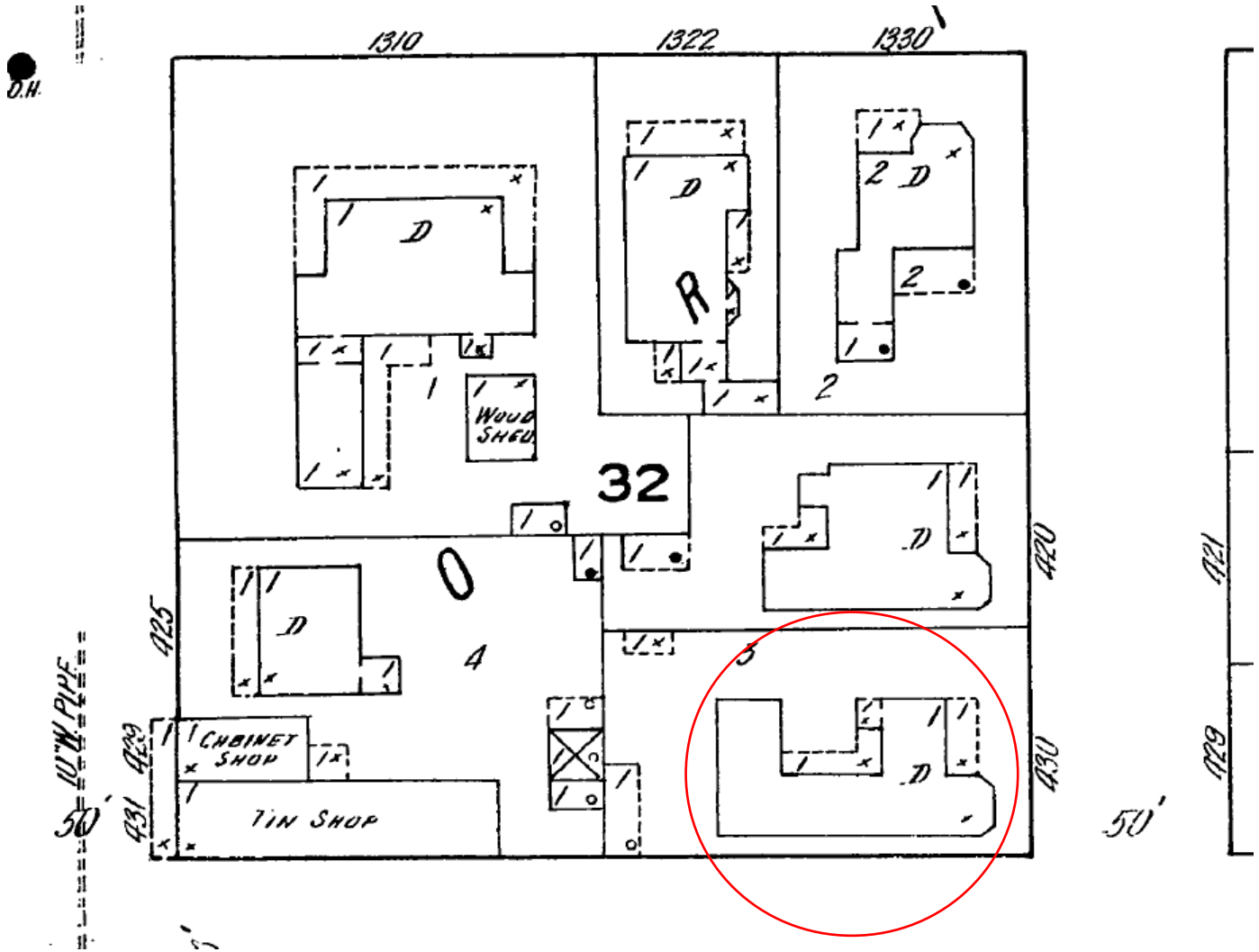
Figure #9 Sanborn Map 1909 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

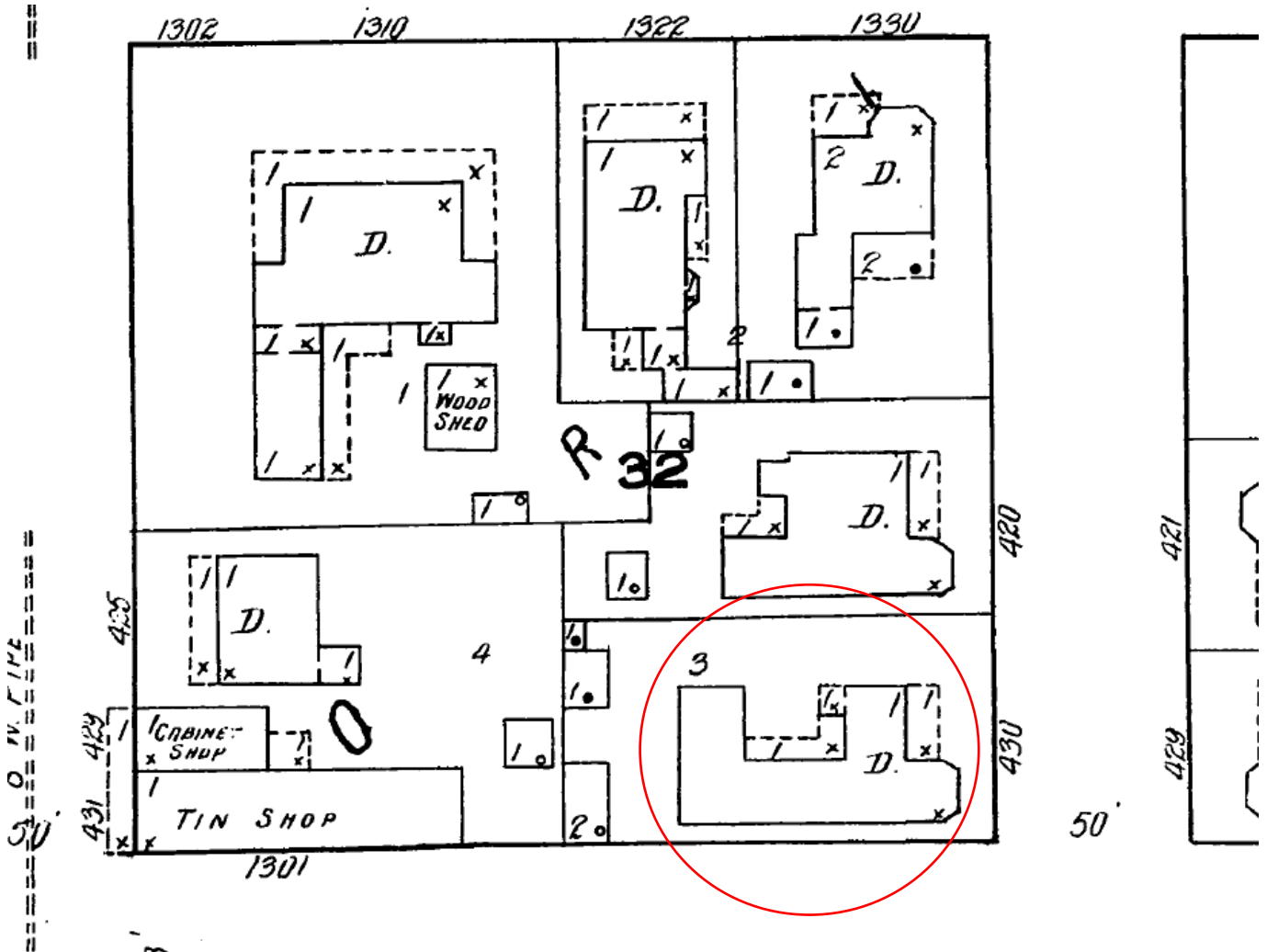
Figure 10 Sanborn Map 1914 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

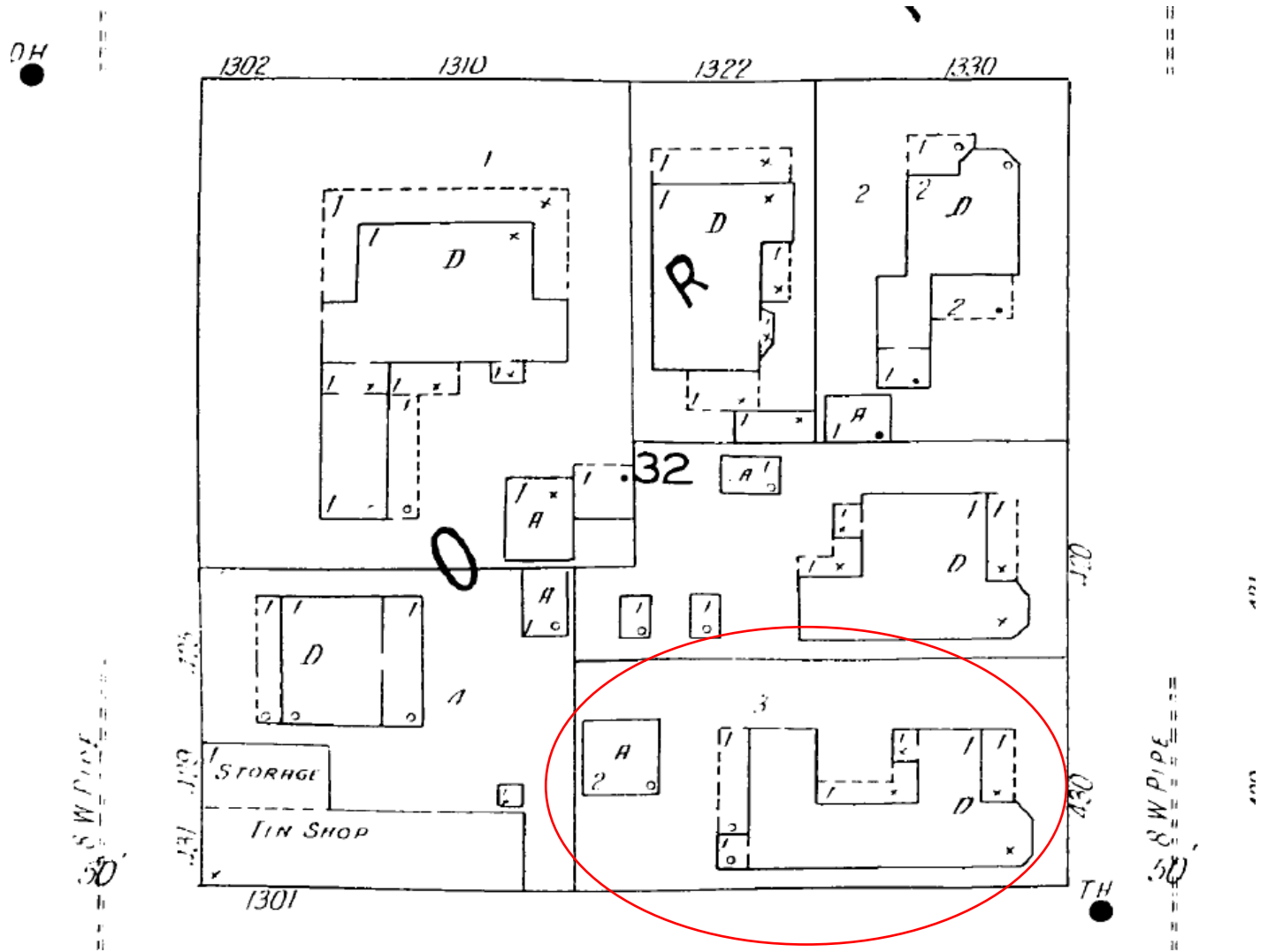
Figure 11 Sanborn Map 1921 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

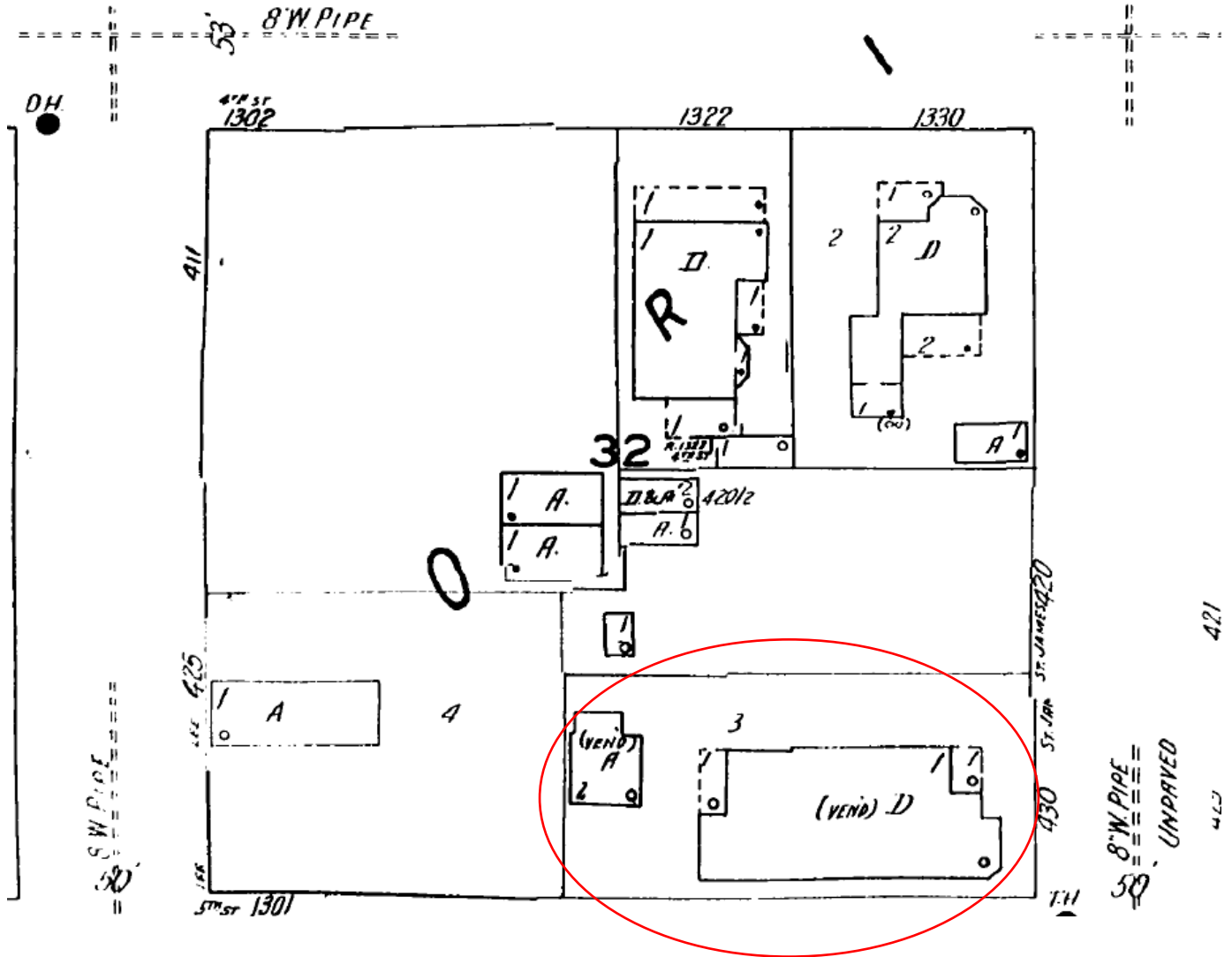
Figure #12 Sanborn Map 1928 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

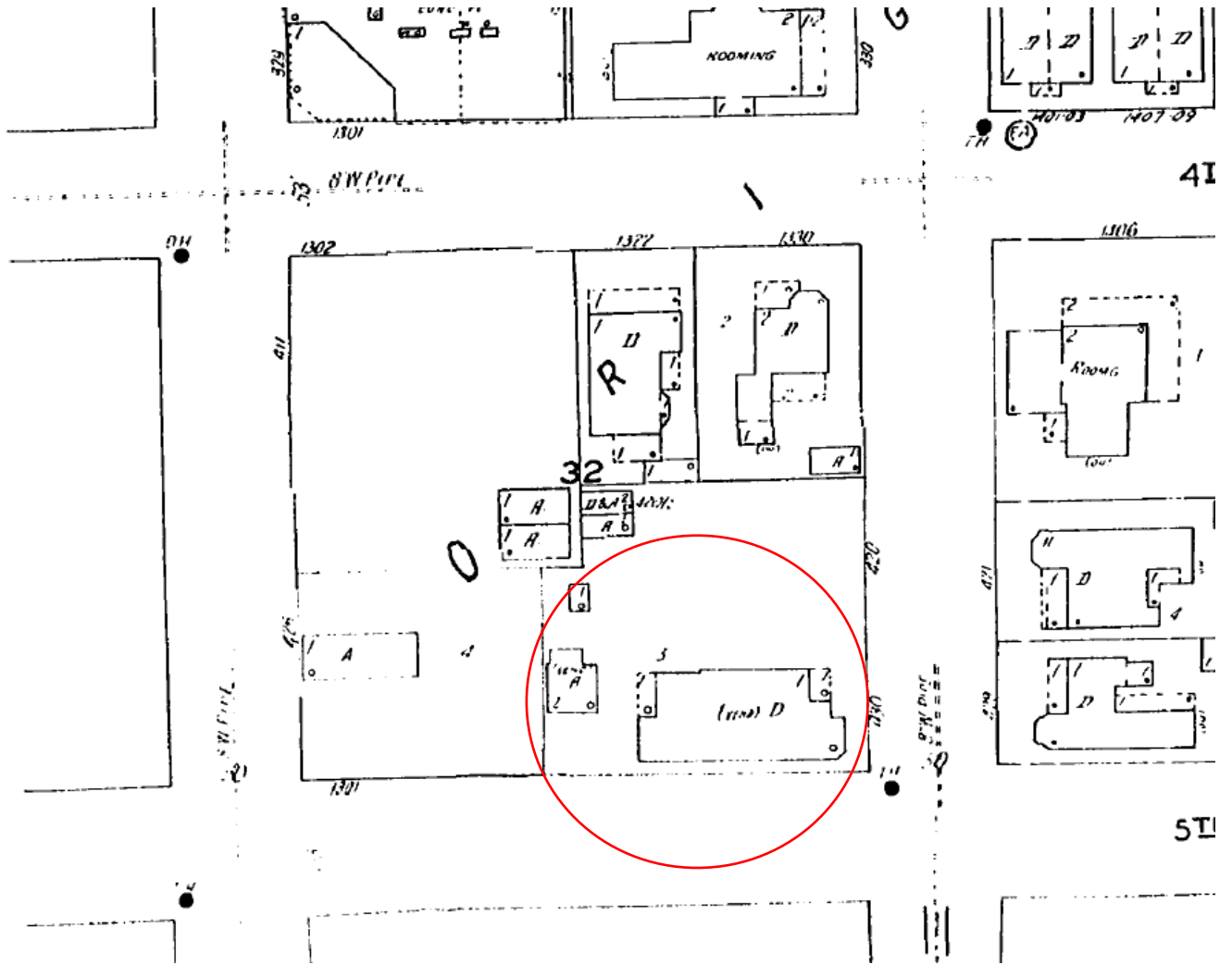
Figure #13 Sanborn Map 1928-1951 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

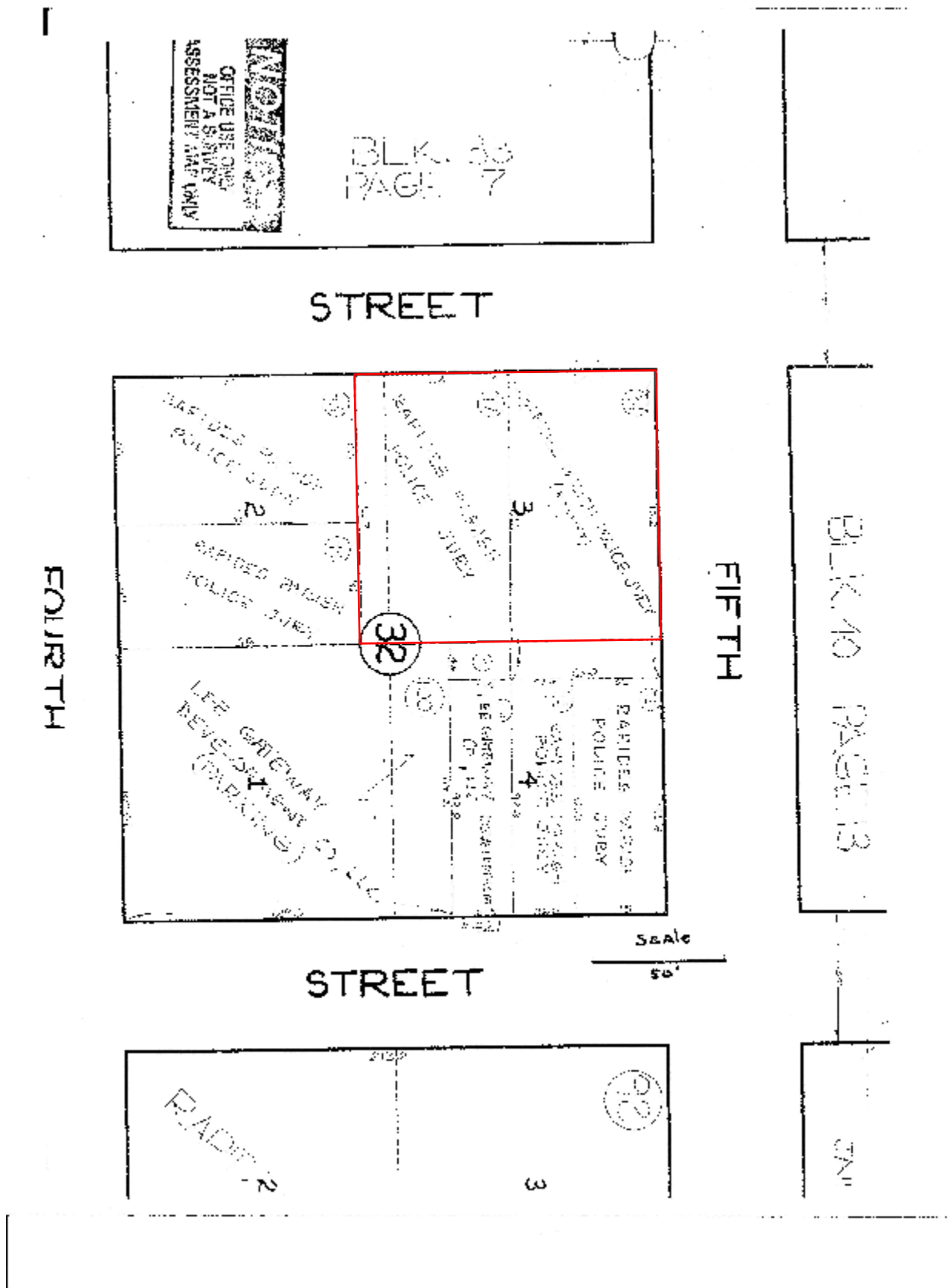
Figure #14 Sanborn Map 1953 – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; image courtesy of the State Library of Louisiana Digital Sanborn Map Collection.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Figure #15 Rapides Parish Assessors Plat – Block 32 Alexandria Subdivision; Image courtesy Rapides Parish Tax Assessor.



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Figure #16 Google Satellite Map – Current and Former Locations of Alexandria Daily Town Talk Offices. The original *Town Talk* offices were located within Courthouse Square. Today, they are located one block to the southwest as noted by the underlined “Town Talk Media Group”; Image courtesy of the author.

Google Maps Location of former and present Alexandria Daily Town Talk Offices



Imagery ©2016 DigitalGlobe, Map data ©2016 Google 50 ft

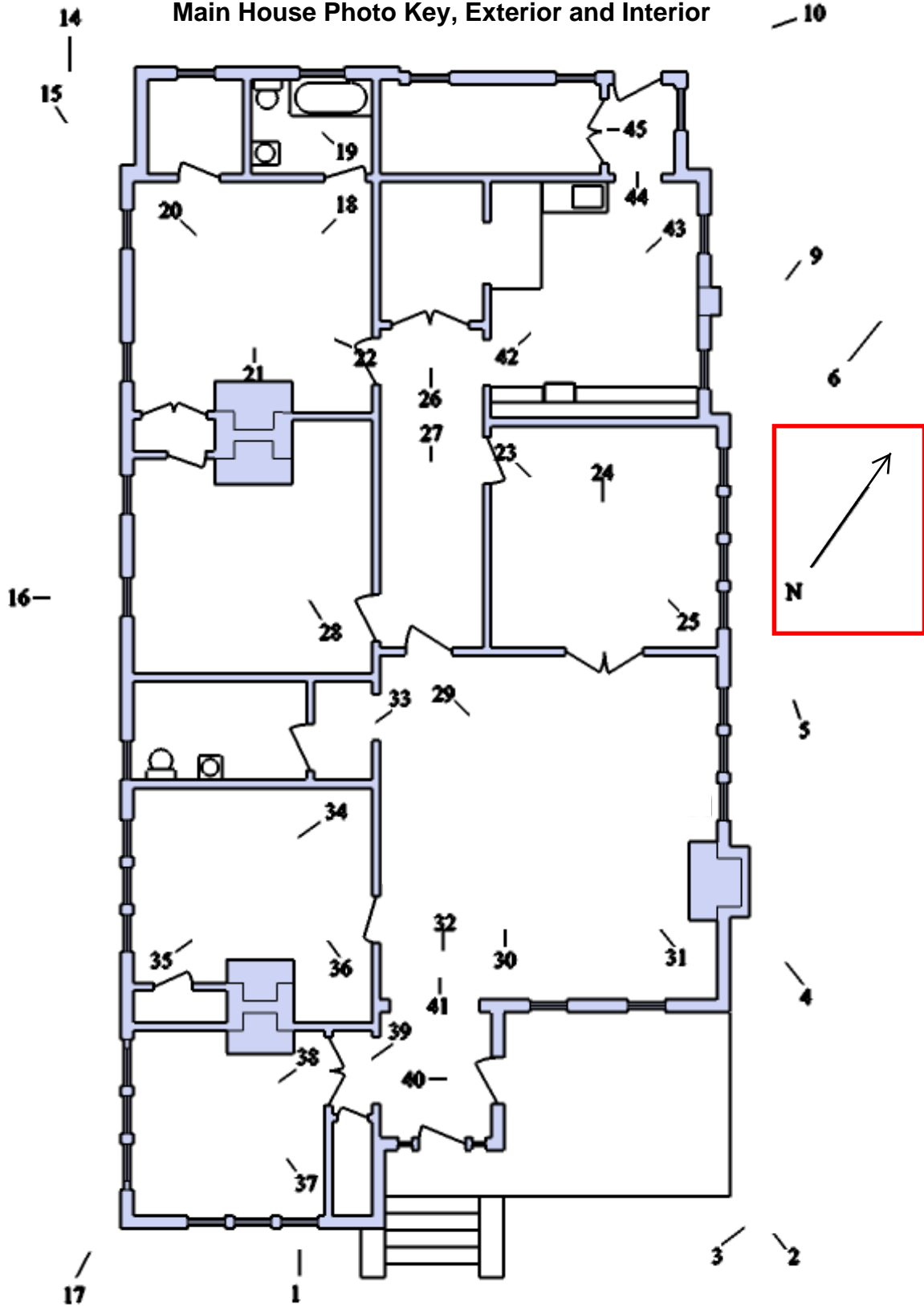
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

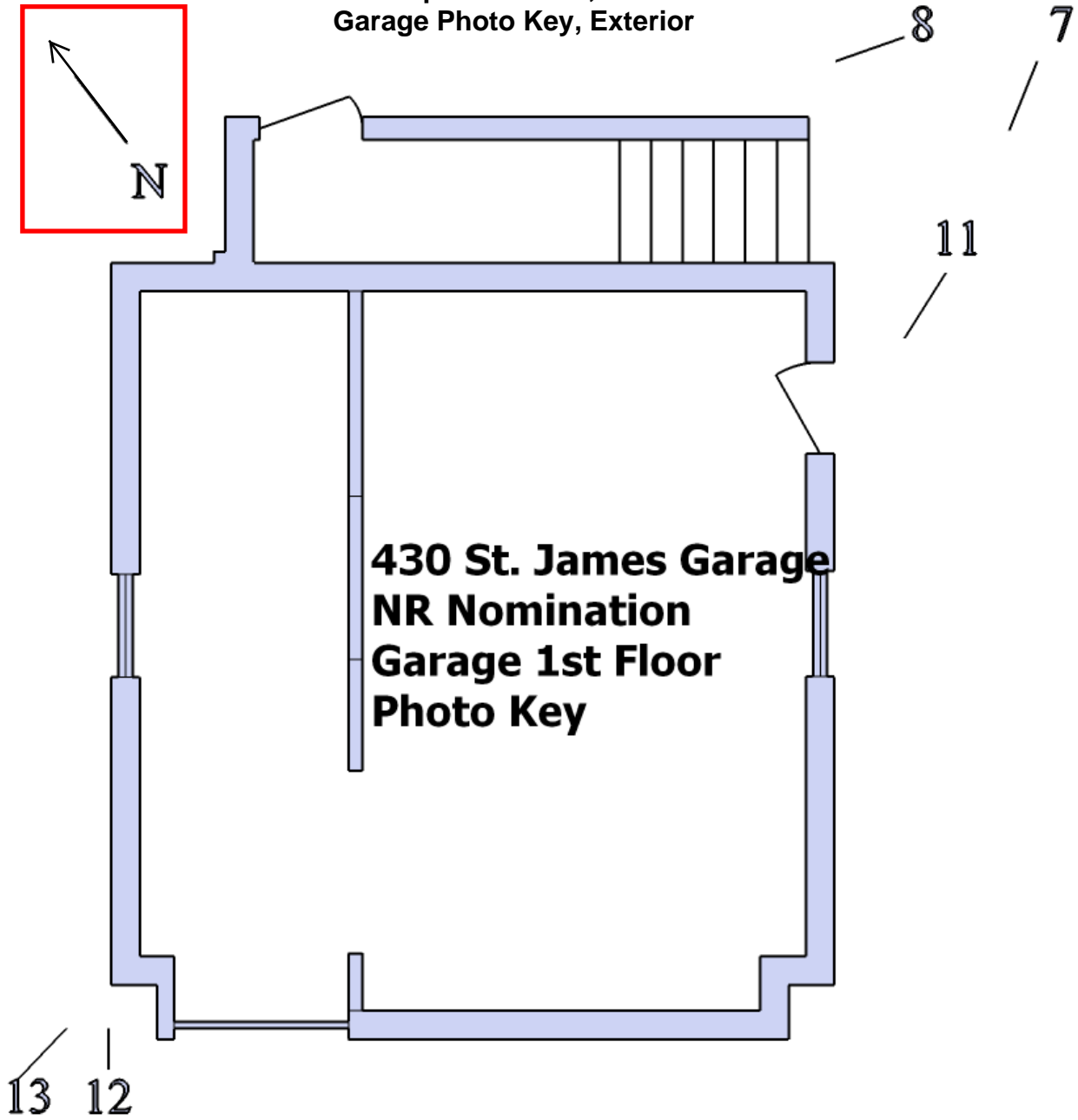
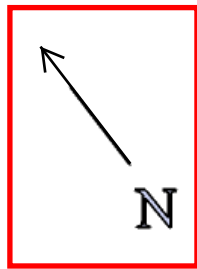
Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House
Rapides Parish, LA
Main House Photo Key, Exterior and Interior



Dellmon, Myrtle Groves Huie, House
Name of Property

Rapides Parish, LA
County and State

Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House
Rapides Parish, LA
Garage Photo Key, Exterior



Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House, Rapides Parish, LA



Latitude: 31.308536 Longitude: -92.443540

Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House, Rapides Parish, LA



Latitude: 31.308536 Longitude: -92.443540

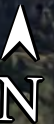
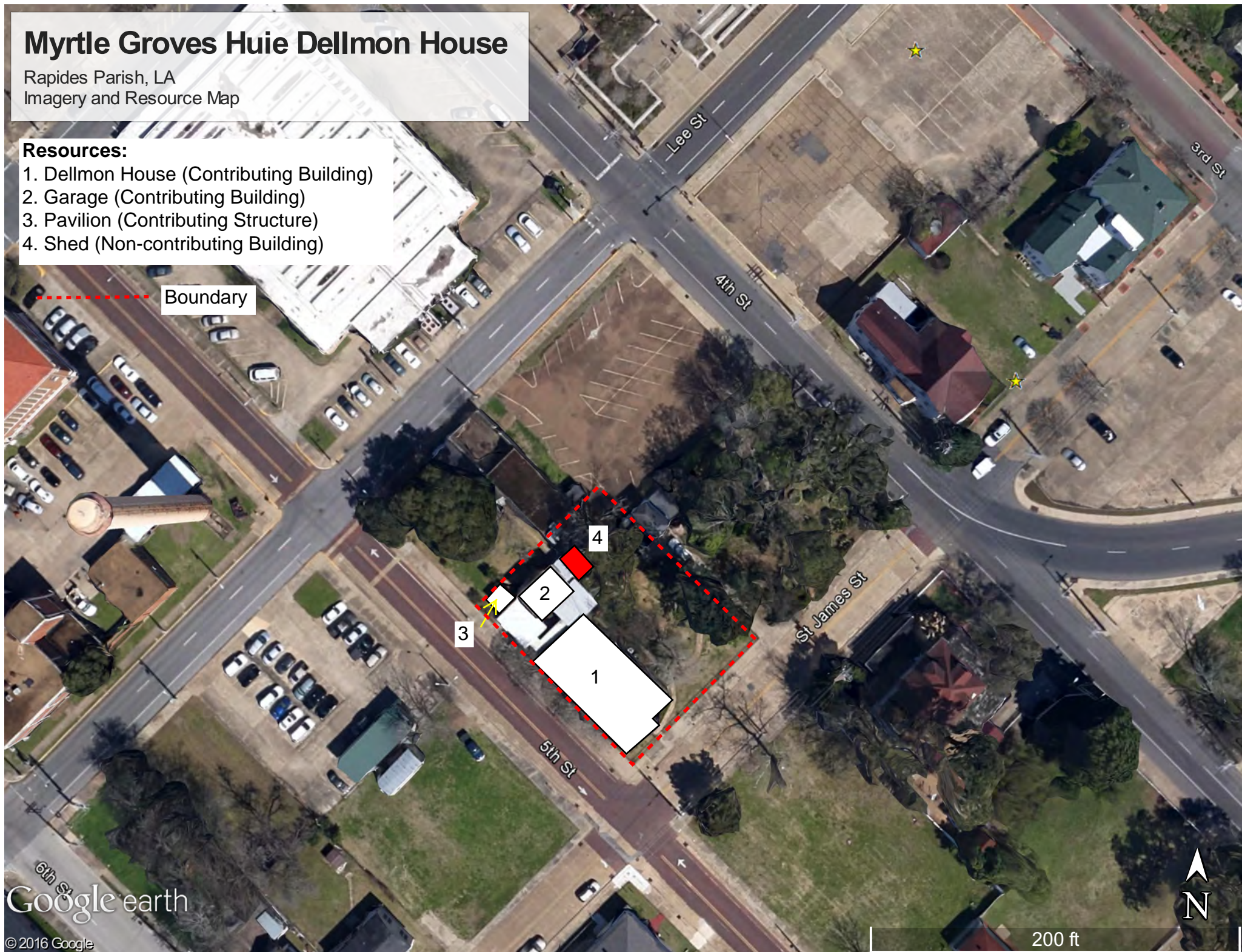
Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House

Rapides Parish, LA
Imagery and Resource Map

Resources:

1. Dellmon House (Contributing Building)
2. Garage (Contributing Building)
3. Pavilion (Contributing Structure)
4. Shed (Non-contributing Building)

Boundary





HUIE-DELMON
HOUSE

Historic District Office
1215 North 1st Street
New Orleans, LA 70116
(504) 525-3800



















NO SMOKING

Administrative
Offices
Monday - Friday

DO NOT
RING















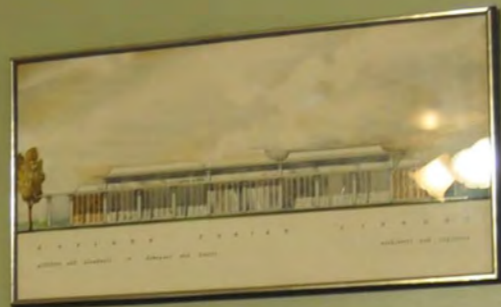
5TH
ST. JAMES

HUTCHINSON
HOUSE

NO
PARKING

















EXIT

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

RPPL

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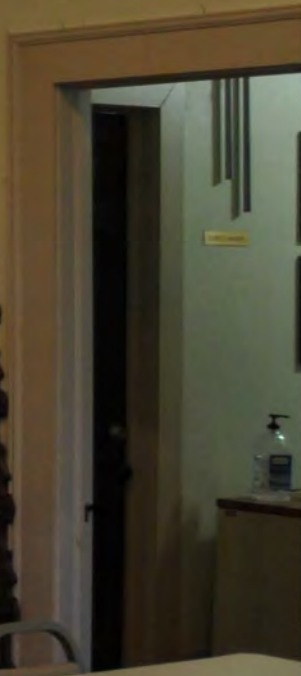
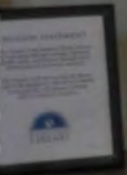






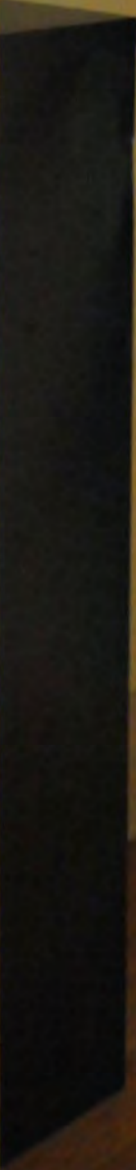






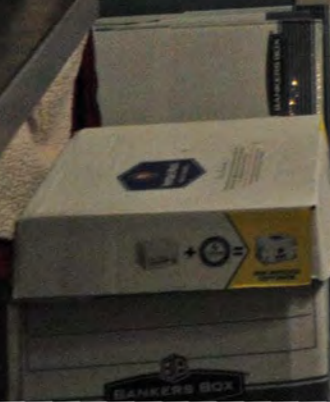


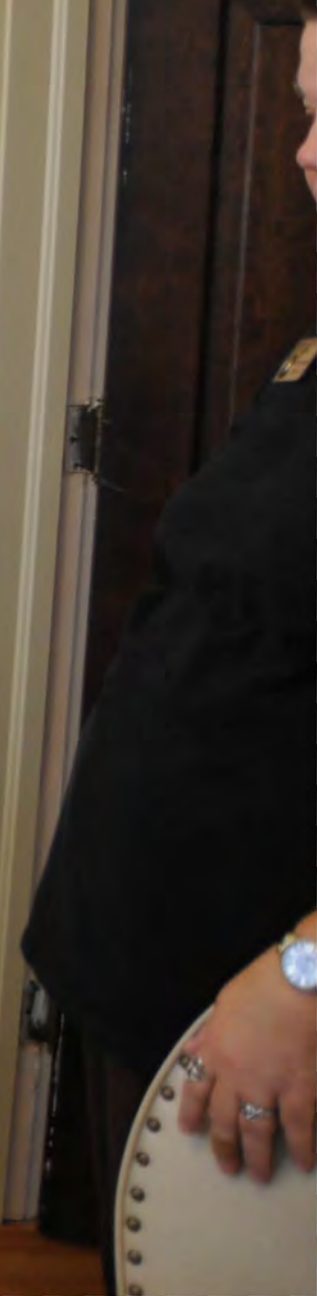
REST ROOM



















PAYROLL SPECIALIST





EXIT

FIRE
EXIT

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

What Your Employer Must Do
Under the FMLA, your employer must provide you with unpaid, job-protected leave for certain family and medical reasons. This includes the right to return to the same or an equivalent job after the leave ends.

What You Must Do
You must give your employer advance notice of your leave, usually 30 days before the start date. You must also provide medical certification from a health care provider to support your leave request.

Other Key Provisions
The FMLA also includes provisions for military family care, intermittent leave, and the right to take leave in blocks.

QUICK PRINT 2016

Calendar for 2016 with various dates and events marked.

Stack of white boxes, likely containing supplies or materials.

Bulletin board with several notices and posters pinned to it.

Round table with a "Welcome" sign and some papers on it.

Large multi-function printer or copier with a control panel.

Window with blinds, looking out onto trees and a green lawn.





The Impass
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31					

LS CLERK

IMAGINE
Run Barefoot
LAUGH OFTEN
Jump in Puddles
HOSEA
TEA PARTY
AIM FOR THE STARS
DREAM BIG
Fly a Kite
Dance in the Rain
GIGGLE

Don't because
it's over.
SMILE
Be who you are & say what you feel
because those who mind don't matter and
those who matter don't mind. —Dr. Seuss

Nook. Kindle.
Audio. Bound.
A good read is a good read
no matter how it is loved.

In Progress



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 12/16/2016 Date of Pending List: Date of 16th Day: Date of 45th Day: 1/31/2017 Date of Weekly List: 2/9/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept Return Reject 1/31/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

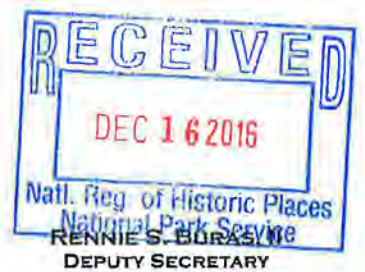
Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Jim Gabbert Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2275 Date _____

DOCUMENTATION: see attached comments : No see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



BILLY NUNGESSER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

PHIL BOGGAN
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

December 10, 2016

TO: Mr. James Gabbert
National Park Service 2280, 8th Floor; National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" Street, NW; Washington, DC 20005

FROM: Jessica Richardson, National Register Coordinator
Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation

RE: Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House, Rapides Parish, LA

Jim,

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Myrtle Groves Huie Dellmon House to the National Register of Historic Places. The second disk contains the photographs of the property in TIFF format. Should you have any questions, please contact me at 225-219-4595 or jrichardson@crt.la.gov.

Thanks,

Jessica 

Enclosures:

- CD with PDF of the National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- CD with electronic images (tiff format)
- Physical Transmission Letter
- Physical Signature Page, with original signature
- Other:

Comments:

- Please ensure that this nomination receives substantive review
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner(s) objection(s) do _____ do not _____ constitute a majority of property owners. (Publicly owned property)
- Other: