

PH0002330

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Florida

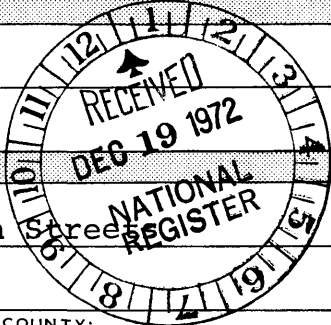
COUNTY:
Nassau

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER: _____ DATE: _____

JUN 4 1973

H73
11 23 1973



1. NAME

COMMON:
The "Tabby" House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
The C. W. Lewis House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Northwest corner of Seventh and Ash Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Fernandina Beach

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Nassau CODE: 089

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. Earl Wilson, Jr.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Northwest corner of Seventh and Ash Streets

CITY OR TOWN: Fernandina Beach STATE: Florida CODE: 12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Nassau County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Fernandina Beach STATE: Florida CODE: 12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: _____
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: _____ STATE: _____ CODE: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Nassau

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 4 1973

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DATE: _____

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

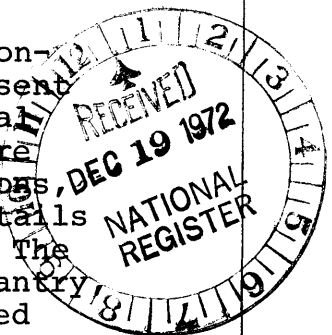
A newspaper article dated October 3, 1885 and entitled "A Handsome Residence" described this house as it appeared newly built. The following paragraphs are quoted from that article:

The walls are built entirely of concrete, and Mr. Lewis has erected it in a very leisurely manner, giving the walls abundant time to harden and settle as they progressed, and has paid the utmost attention to every detail of construction, to secure comfort and healthfulness as well as stability. The exterior cemented with the best of Portland cement¹ will be impervious to moisture, while all dampness from capillary attraction is cut off by an impervious course of cement composition beneath the first floor joist.

The house is very irregular in outline, presenting two fronts facing the streets on which it is located. On Seventh Street, it presents a semi-octagon, bayed front, and a recessed vestibule porch, with tiled floor - the principal entrance - the buttressed steps leading to which, when completed, will be of one solid block of artificial stone; and on Ash Street it shows a handsome bay window and a neat private entrance; and in the angle formed by the two sections of the building is an abundance of piazza to both stories. A very handsome roof crowns the edifice, with its irregular and broken skyline and relieved with dormer windows and ornamental chimney-tops; upon the summit a spacious deck commands an extended and pleasing view.

The interior is well-arranged and convenient; the rooms are spacious, and present a pleasing variety of form. The principal rooms and stairhall of the first story are arranged en suite, with wide communications and all open upon the piazza; and the details of domestic economy are not overlooked. The service stairs, butler's pantry, store-pantry, closets and kitchen offices, have received their share of attention, and are conveniently arranged with bathroom, presses, etc. A large and airy attic above insures cool and well ventilated rooms below.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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STATE Florida	
COUNTY Nassau	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
4	1973

Description (page 2)(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

This 1885 description of the Lewis House is completely accurate today. The house remains unchanged and is an elaborate and unusual version of the rambling Victorian house. It is the only house in Fernandina Beach, dating from this period, which was constructed in this manner. The irregularity of outline, use of the rounded arch and elaborate balustrades add to the uniqueness of the structure.

¹The house has always been considered locally to be constructed of tabby, because of the high percentage of shell in the mortar. Actually the building has a binding of cement, with the aggregate being shell.



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1885**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The C. W. Lewis House was considered a very elegant residence at the time of its construction, as evidenced by the length and in-depth detail of the news article concerning it. To again quote from that article, "The building has been erected from design, and under the superintendence of Mr. R. V. Schuyler, architect, and is another pleasing example of his taste and skill in the practice of his profession. The building is an ornament of the city, and reflects great credit upon both Mr. Lewis and his architect."

R. V. Schuyler was a local architect who frequently advertised his business in the Florida Mirror, and whose office was just two blocks from the Lewis House. Mr. Schuyler was for many years the leading architect in Fernandina Beach and certainly he was outstanding in his work. He was the architect of a number of the finest buildings in Fernandina, including the George Fairbanks House and St. Peter's Church.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A Handsome Residence," The Florida Mirror. (Fernandina Beach), October 3, 1885.

"Reflections," The Florida Mirror. (Fernandina Beach), May 3, 1882.

Nassau County Records, Nassau County Courthouse, Fernandina Beach, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. (Subgroups: Deed Book R, p. 637).

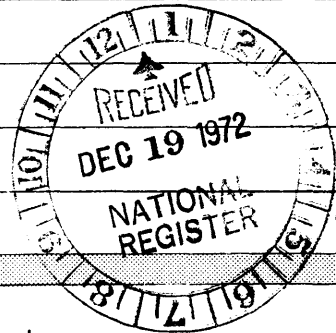
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N30° 40' 09"	W81° 27' 36"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one-half acre**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt.** DATE: **8-4-72**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State - The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Robert William*
Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 12/15/72

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert W. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST:
Robert W. Utley
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 5/31/73