

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NOV 01 1989

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Dantzler, G. B., House
other names/site number Dantzler-Fabacher House

2. Location

street & number 1238 East Beach Boulevard N/A not for publication
city, town Gulfport N/A vicinity
state Mississippi code MS county Harrison code 47 zip code 39501

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	_____	_____ structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	_____	_____ objects
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> Total

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

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Kenneth H. P. Pool October 23, 1989
Signature of certifying official Date
MS Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

fu 12/1/89
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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)Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concretewalls Stuccoroof Varigated Clay Tileother Built Up Asphalt and Gravel

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Dantzler-Fabacher House is situated on 1.3 acres of land on East Beach Boulevard in Gulfport overlooking the Mississippi Sound. The House is surrounded by flowering shrubs and numerous trees indigenous to the area, including a number of large live oaks. The two-story, irregularly-shaped Dantzler-Fabacher House is surmounted by a varigated clay Spanish tile hip roof, the eaves of which are supported by heavy brackets. Five masonry chimneys finished with stucco and capped with tile pierce the eaves and roof. The offset front porch is topped by a tile hip roof with deck. All flashings, valleys, eaves-troughs, and conductors are copper. The house rests on a concrete pier-and-wall foundation with numerous vents to allow for proper ventilation. The exterior walls of the house are framed with long leaf yellow pine and covered with burned and scored interlocking tile which has been finished with stucco. All exterior wood trim is Louisiana cypress, including cornice and brackets.

Facing south toward the Mississippi Sound, the asymmetrical main facade is dominated by a large, offset front porch with hip roof and deck, supported by three Greek Doric columns of pressed steel construction. Under the eaves of the porch are heavy brackets, and the ceiling is constructed of beaded tongue-and-groove long leaf pine. The floor of the porch is of tile, and a wrought iron railing with oak leaf motif runs the length of the porch. The main arched entrance to the house contains a three-centered semi-elliptical fanlight with fixed single pane sidelights surrounding French doors, each one of which contains a fixed single pane. Opening on to the porch as well, the living room entrance is formed by French doors, each containing eight lights with a five-light transom overhead, and two four-over-four "jib" windows, each with a two-light transom overhead and separated from the doorway on either side by two fluted pilasters. Also found on the first level in the front bedroom is a series of four, four-by-four casement windows, the center two of which are separated from the other by fluted pilasters. This series is found directly above in the front bedroom on the second level as well and opens on to a small rectangular tile and wrought iron balcony. Also on the second level of the main facade in the sitting room is another series of four, four-by-four casement windows separated by mullions.

The first level of the east elevation contains six, four-by-four casement windows of varying sizes; two, three-by-three casement windows; and, one, two-by-two casement window. The same window scheme as to size,

[x] See continuation sheet

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

placement, and type is repeated on the second level. In addition, five, four-over-four double hung windows and a panelled door with pilasters on either side can be found on the first level of the east elevation. These openings were added, probably in the late 1930's or early 1940's, when the two-story open porch adjacent to the kitchen (first level) and storage area (second level) were enclosed.

The first level of the rear (north) elevation contains three, four-by-four casement windows; one, two-by-two casement window; and two, one-over-one double-hung windows. This series is repeated on the second level, with the exception of the placement of the two, one-over-one windows. In addition, French doors with eight lights each and a five-light transom spanning both doors open from the rear of the dining room on to a small semi-circular tile and wrought iron balcony.

The first level of the west elevation contains three, one-over-one double-hung windows; two, three-by-three casement windows; two, eight-by-eight casement windows separated by a fixed leaded glass window in the dining room; and, a fixed leaded glass window in the living room. On either side of the leaded glass window in the living room are French doors with eight lights each and a four-light transom overhead. The doors open on to an inset porch with steps leading to the porte cochere. On the second level of the west elevation, there are two, one-over-one double-hung windows; and a series of three, eight-by-eight casement windows. In addition, French doors with four lights each and a four-light transom overhead open from the upstairs hallway on to the roof garden. From the upstairs sitting room, French doors with eight lights each and a four-light transom also open on to the roof garden. A fixed leaded glass window in the upstairs hallway and a series of three, four-by-four casement windows in the sitting room complete the openings on the second level of the west elevation.

The two-level roof garden, which is located above the dining room, living room, and porte cochere consists of an area of over one thousand square feet surrounded by a parapet and offers an excellent view of the Mississippi Sound. Though the area is now covered with a flat, built up asphalt and gravel roof, the roof garden was originally floored with tile and had numerous planters and concrete benches.

The two-story Dantzler-Fabacher House is a variation of a central hall plan, two rooms deep on either side, with a rear wing and side porch. Today, the lower floor consists of the entrance hall with stairway; dining room to the rear and west of the entrance hall; living room adjacent to the entrance hall on the west; one bedroom and bath adjacent to the entrance hall on the east; another bedroom and half-bath to the rear (north) of the bath; and, the breakfast room, kitchen and enclosed two-story side porch with service stairway in the rear wing. The second floor consists of a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 2

sitting room (formerly a sun porch) adjacent to the main stairwell on the west; two bedrooms and a bath to the east directly above those same rooms on the first level; and, a game room (formerly billiard room and store area), half-bath, and enclosed side porch with service stairway in the rear wing. With the exception of the enclosed side porch in the rear wing, both levels of the Dantzler-Fabacher House retain their original configuration.

The main stairway is an open well, with two flights and one landing, containing open string stairs with simple brackets. The stair rail consists of a balustrade of tapered square balusters and square panelled newell posts. The treads and risers are oak, while the rest of the stairway is made of Louisiana cypress. Floors in the formal rooms on both levels are constructed of American quartered white oak of consistent width and free of imperfections. In the remaining rooms, pine flooring was used, and throughout the house Louisiana cypress was used for all interior trim and millwork. The interior door and window trim throughout the formal rooms on the lower level is fluted trim with corner blocks, topped by shallow, projecting, molded (egg-and-dart) cornices, while the doorways and window surrounds throughout the remainder of the house are of simple painted trim. Twelve-inch baseboards of simple trim are found throughout the house, while large picture molding adorns the upper portion of the twelve-foot plaster-on-lath walls in the living and dining rooms. Cable molding is found in the entrance hall. In the breakfast room, the walls are adorned with panelled wainscot. Perhaps the most impressive interior feature consists of massive accordian doors leading from the living room to the dining room and from the entrance hall to both the living room and dining room. The doors between the living room and dining room and entrance hall and dining room contain beveled mirrors on one side and wood cross panels on the other side, while the two remaining accordian doors (between the entrance hall and living room) contain beveled glass. Panelled pocket doors are found in all bedrooms, the breakfast room, and the two large bathrooms. Fireplaces in the formal rooms on the lower level are framed by collonettes, ornamental frieze, and a mantel shelf on alabaster, while fireplaces throughout the rest of the house are framed by pilasters, plain frieze, and a simple mantel shelf constructed of cypress.

In addition to the main house, two non-contributing structures are located on the property being nominated: a two-story garage/apartment of frame construction with tile roof built in keeping with the architectural character of the main house and dating to the 1940's, but which possesses no particular significance; and, a small, non-descript frame building used for storage and also possessing no significance.

8. Statement of Significance

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

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1924

Significant Dates
1924

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder
Vinson B. Smith, Jr.

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

The Dantzler-Fabacher House derives its primary significance from the fact that it not only is a relatively rare example of Mission style architecture in Mississippi, but one which retains a high degree of architectural finish and integrity as well. It has some importance, as well, for its association with the locally-prominent Dantzler family, but its architectural significance is the basis for its nomination to the National Register.

Designed by Pass Christian architect, Vinson B. Smith, Jr., the Dantzler-Fabacher House was built in 1924 for G. Bruno Dantzler, one of four sons and seven children of Lorenzo Nolley Dantzler and Sarah Elizabeth Griffin. Their marriage in 1858 marked the beginning of what would become the largest export lumber company in Mississippi. After the Civil War, L. N. Dantzler became a full partner in the lumber business started by his father-in-law, William Griffin. In 1873, he exchanged his interests in that company for a much smaller mill in Moss Point and subsequently purchased other lumber mills, a shingle mill, a brick kiln, a towing business and a sash and blind factory. By 1885, with financial backing from lumber merchants in New Orleans, the L. N. Dantzler Lumber Company built the largest and most modern lumber mill in Mississippi's Pine Belt (Nollie W. Hickman, Mississippi Harvest: Lumbering in the Long Leaf Pine Belt [University, Mississippi: University of Mississippi, 1962], pp. 168-171).

The success of the Dantzler Lumber Company lies with the fact that Dantzler and his sons, all of whom were actively involved in the company's operation, saw the great demand for export lumber and the benefits of its mass production when others did not. Consequently, the

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dantzler, Martha. Interviewed by Robert J. Bailey, Historic Preservation Consultant at Pass Christian, MS., July 31, 1989.

Hickman, Nollie W. Mississippi Harvest: Lumbering In The Long Leaf Pine Belt, University, Mississippi: University of Mississippi, 1962.

Lang, John H. The History of Harrison County, Gulfport, MS: The Dixie Press, 1936.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Statewide Survey of Historic Sites. Harrison County. Gulfport.

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson. Works Progress Administration, Statewide Historical Research Project (typescript), Harrison County, 1936.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 1.3 Acres (+)

UTM References

A

1	6
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3	0	0	7	6	5
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3	3	6	1	6	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 3 and 4, less east 35 feet of Lot 4 in Block 1 and Lots 3 and 4 less that part conveyed to Salloum by deed recorded in Book 281, Page 102, in Block 4, East Gulfport Subdivision, Harrison County, Mississippi. (See Attachment 1).

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes 1.3 acres historically associated with this property. The entire parcel being nominated is presently owned by the current occupants of the Dantzler-Fabacher House.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert J. Bailey
organization Historic Preservation Consultant date August 3, 1989
street & number 914 Wanda Place telephone (601) 868-7157
city or town Gulfport state Mississippi zip code 39501

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

Dantzlers purchased large tracts of land along the Pascagoula River in the early 1890's and then moved inland and all along the Gulf Coast in their land acquisition after 1896, when the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad was completed between Gulfport and Hattiesburg. Because of the railroad, Gulfport became the largest lumber export city in the United States by the turn of the century, and the Dantzler Lumber Company became its largest supplier, shipping literally millions of board feet of lumber per year. (In 1907, for example, the company shipped 145,368,376 board feet). Anticipating the decline of large scale lumber manufacturing in Mississippi at the outbreak of World War I, the Dantzler Lumber Company acquired large timber holdings in Florida and Nicaragua and began to export lumber from those locations to Europe, Mexico, the Carribean, and South America. Still, the company thrived in Mississippi, though on a much smaller scale, until 1938 (Hickman, pp. 169-175; John H. Lang, The History of Harrison County [Gulfport, Mississippi: The Dixie Press, 1936], p. 34).

G. B. Dantzler, who built and resided in the Dantzler-Fabacher House until his death in 1953, studied denistry at Vanderbilt University and practiced in Mobile, Alabama for three years after graduation. As with the other sons of L. N. Dantzler, however, he entered the family lumber business while still in his twenties and served as manager of one of the family's mills. Subsequently, he became treasurer and chief financial officer of the Dantzler Lumber Company. Dantzler, who never married, was active in civic and philanthropic activities on the Gulf Coast and served for years as a trustee of Gulf Park College for Women. He also donated land for a large park in Desoto National Forest (Martha Dantzler, interviewed by Robert J. Bailey, Historic Preservation Consultant, Gulfport, Mississippi, at Pass Christian, Mississippi, July 31, 1989).

In 1954 the Dantzler-Fabacher House and most of the original furnishings were purchased from the estate of G. B. Dantzler by Lawrence Batholomew Fabacher and his wife, Mary Agnes Stampley. Born on August 24, 1890, Fabacher was the son of German parents, L. B. Fabacher and Antonia Wagner Fabacher. The elder Fabacher founded the Jackson Brewing Company in New Orleans' French Quarter in 1890, the year of his son's birth. The younger Fabacher, who graduated from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama in 1910, began his career with the brewery in 1908 and became president of the company upon the death of his father in 1923. He served as Chairman of the Board of the Jackson Brewing Company until 1970, when control of the company passed to Meister Brau, Inc. of Chicago. The Jackson Brewery, itself an architecturally and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

historically important New Orleans landmark, was restored in the early 1980's and today houses a multi-level shopping mall (New Orleans Times-Picayune, October 27, 1984; Charlotte Fabacher Ward, interviewed by Robert J. Bailey, Historic Preservation Consultant, Gulfport, Mississippi, at Gulfport, Mississippi, July 30, 1989).

In addition to his successes as a businessman, L. B. Fabacher was known throughout New Orleans for his philanthropic activities. A devout Roman Catholic, he donated money and other gifts to countless charities and public institutions in New Orleans and throughout Louisiana. It was a tradition begun by his father, who in 1909 was awarded the Order of St. Gregory The Great by the Pope at ceremonies at the St. Louis Cathedral. So well respected was the younger Fabacher than when he died in 1984, a number of government and business leaders from throughout America wrote to lament his death (Ward; "Fabacher Family Scrapbook").

The Dantzler-Fabacher House is the finest example of residential Mission style architecture on the Gulf Coast and one of the better surviving examples of the style in the state as a whole. Its clay tile hip roof with overhanging eaves and heavy brackets, tile porch flooring, stucco exterior, and arched entrance opening are classic elements of the style. Its architectural significance is heightened by the fact that the house has undergone virtually no alterations since its construction. The exterior is essentially unchanged despite the ravishes of Hurricane Camille in 1969. The interior has been altered only slightly to adapt it to modern use, which remains residential. The survival of almost all original hardware and light and plumbing fixtures adds even more to its overall integrity. The house is today owned and occupied by Charlotte Fabacher Ward, the granddaughter of Lawrence B. Fabacher.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Ward, Charlotte Fabacher. Interviewed by Robert J. Bailey, Historic Preservation Consultant at Gulfport, MS, July 30, 1989.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

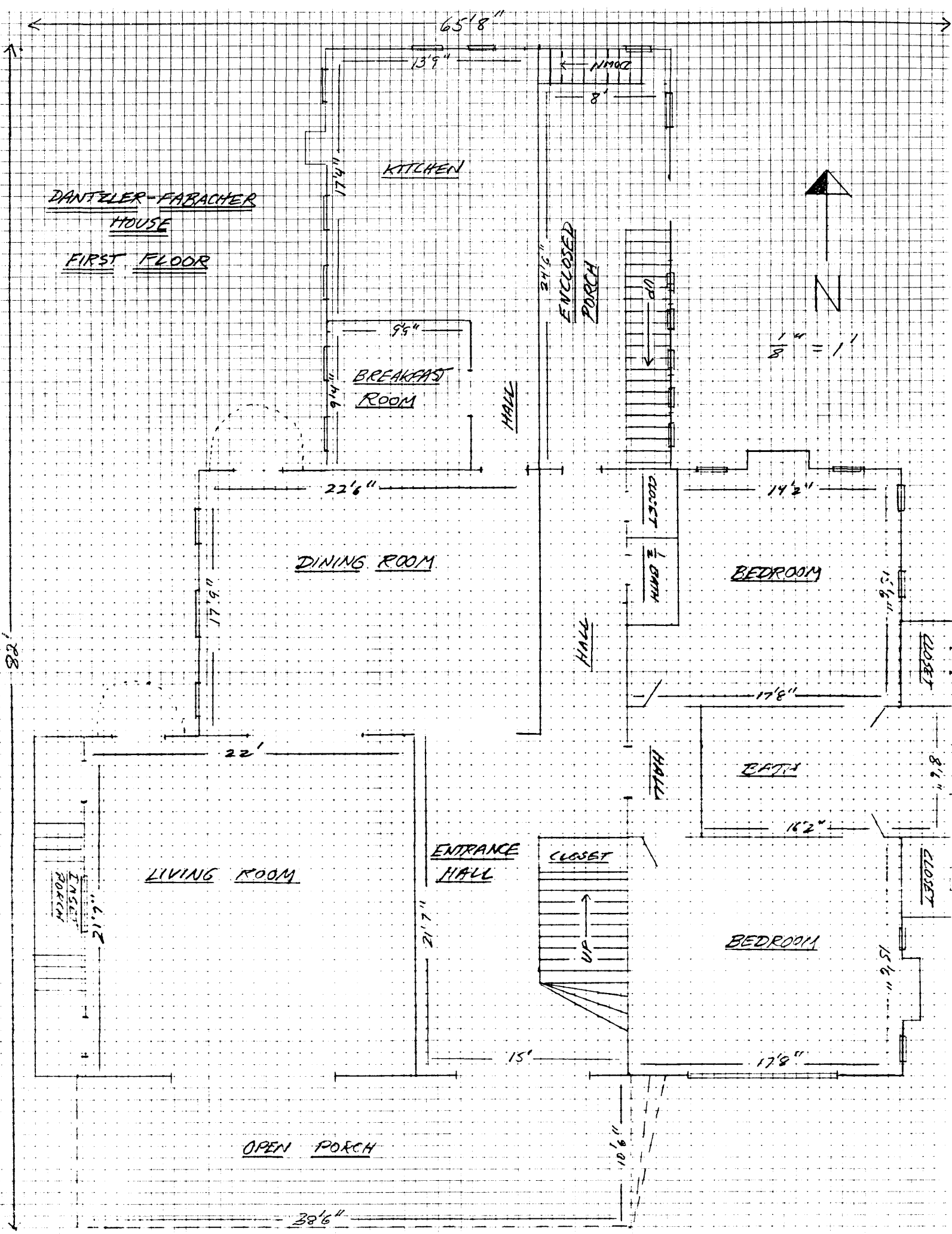
Dantzler, G. B., House; Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi
Photographs

Section number _____ Page 1

The following information is the same for all photographs:

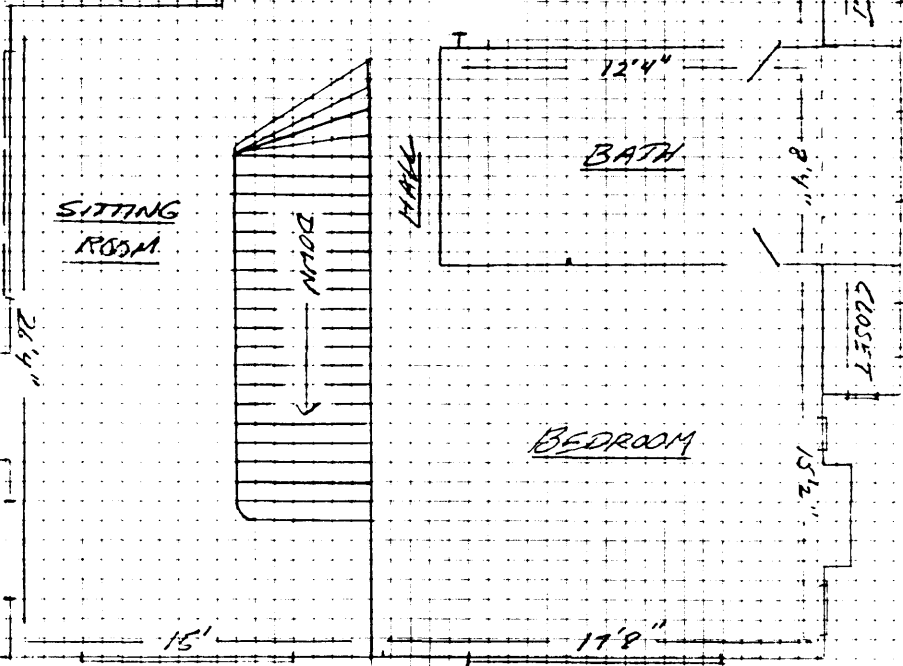
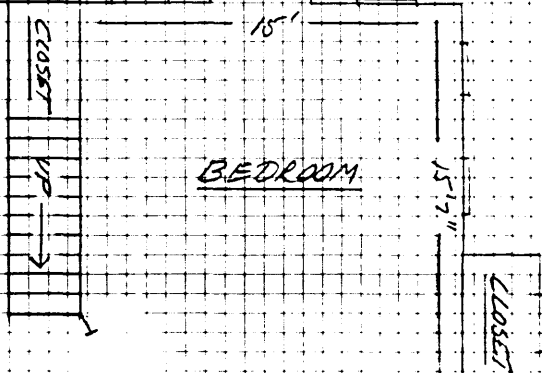
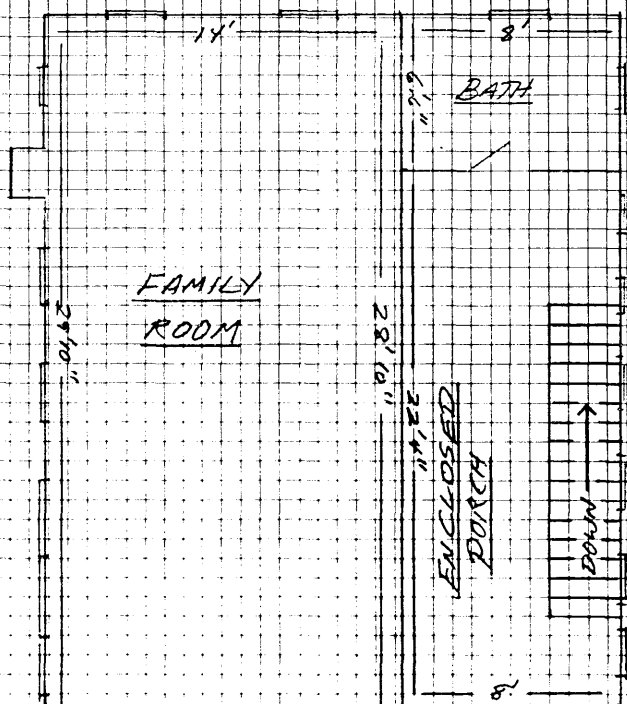
- (1) Dantzler, G. B., House
- (2) Gulfport, Harrison County, Mississippi
- (3) Robert J. Bailey and Kevin Crane
- (4) July, 1989
- (5) Mississippi Department of Archives and
History

- Photo 1 -- (6) View of front (south) facade, view to North
Photo 2 -- (6) View of East elevation, view to West
Photo 3 -- (6) View of rear (North) elevation, view to South
Photo 4 -- (6) View of rear (North) elevation, view to South
Photo 5 -- (6) View of West elevation, view to East
Photo 6 -- (6) View of East elevation, view to West
Photo 7 -- (6) View of West elevation, view to East



DANTZLER-FABACHER
HOUSE

SECOND FLOOR



ROOF GARDEN

POINTE CARMELE



