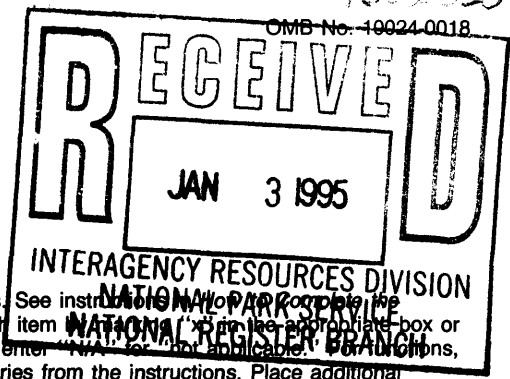


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions for the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for not applicable. For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.



1. Name of Property

historic name Dickinson Memorial Library and Park

other names/site number 8V04329

2. Location

street & number 148 South Volusia Avenue n/a not for publication

city or town Orange City n/a vicinity

state Florida code FL county Volusia code 127 zip code 32763

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Suzanne P. Walker / Deputy SHPO 12/29/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Florida State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Historical Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
 entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:)

for
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
Edson H. Beall Entered in the 2/8/95
National Register

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	1	structures
0	0	objects
2	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: Library

Social: Meeting Hall

Landscape: Park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: Library

Social: Meeting Hall

Landscape: Park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Masonry Vernacular

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Stucco

roof Asphalt

other Glass

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Community Planning & Development

Entertainment/Recreation

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1916-1944

Significant Dates

1916

1919

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Miller, Francis, architect

Bates, J.H., builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 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

Name of repository:

Dickinson Memorial Library & Park
Name of Property

Volusia Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Approximately 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

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Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

2

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4

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See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sidney Johnston/Consultant & Barbara E. Mattick/Hist. Preservationist Supervisor

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date December 1994

street & number R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state FL zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Orange City Library Association, c/o Dwayne T. Mumford, 230 Volusia Avenue and the Village Improvement Association, City Hall

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town Orange City state FL zip code 32763

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. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Dickinson Memorial Library and
Park, Orange City, Volusia Co., FL

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Dickinson Memorial Library and Park are located at 148 South Volusia Avenue in downtown Orange City, Volusia County, Florida. The property includes a 1919 Masonry Vernacular library with Mission style influences as a contributing building, an adjoining 1916 park as a contributing site, and a 1948 fountain in the park as a noncontributing structure. The park and library were developed to serve expressed cultural and social functions at the heart of the community. Both currently serve their original purpose and retain their original architectural and design integrity to a high degree. The period of significance associated with the property is 1916 to 1944.

SETTING

Orange City is located about thirty miles north of Orlando and twenty-five miles southwest of Daytona Beach. U.S. Highway 17/92, known locally as Volusia Avenue, serves as the primary north/south corridor through the community, and Graves Avenue, which features a grass median, is an important east/west thoroughfare. The park, located downtown at the intersection of Volusia and Graves avenues, serves as the cultural hub of the community. The terrain is relatively flat, with mature oak, palm, and pine trees.

Much of U.S. Highway 17/92 in Orange City is lined with relatively recent buildings, and new commercial buildings lie to the north and west of the park. One block south of the park, however, stand five residences and a large hotel constructed during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Scattered to the southeast is an assortment of historic-period and modern houses and buildings. A small group of commercial stores lie to the east, and a town hall constructed in 1928 lies to the northeast. Railroad tracks originally extended through the community along the median of Graves Avenue, but were removed in the 1930s. Orange City's depot was located two blocks east of the park.

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
Park, Orange City, Volusia Co., FL

Section number 7 Page 2

Dickinson Park

Dickinson Park, developed beginning about 1916 and located immediately north of the library (Photo 1), contributes to the historic setting. The park measures approximately one acre and contains a centrally-located water fountain with coquina veneer and sidewalks that crisscross the green space. The present fountain, built about 1948, replaced the original water fountain that had been installed in 1917 (Photo 2). Benches are located throughout the area. Fences and brick columns that were built between 1916 and 1920 and extended around the park were removed in the 1930s. Other landscape features include oak, palm, and cedar trees, ligustrum and crepe myrtles (Photo 3). The park conveys its historic character, original configuration, landscaping, and appearance to a high degree.

The park has always been closely associated with the library. During the dedication ceremonies at the opening of the library the fact that it was located next to and facing the park was mentioned several times.

Dickinson Memorial Library

Exterior

Essentially a Masonry Vernacular building with Mission influences, the Dickinson Memorial Library (Photo 4) displays an irregular footprint, cross-hipped roof covered with asphalt, two brick chimneys with tapered caps and tile decorations, carved rafter ends, and textured stucco on the exterior walls. The building, constructed with hollow tile and resting on an articulated foundation, is in excellent condition. Although the original barrel tiles were removed from the roof in the 1940s, and the east elevation was modified in the early 1980s, the building retains its original architectural integrity to a high degree.

The front (north) facade is asymmetrical and contains the original entrance, which is identified by a curvilinear parapet that pierces the roof and features terra cotta cresting and a globe finial (Photo 4). A curved panel of terra cotta inscribed with "Dickinson Memorial Library" adorns the face of the parapet above an arched entrance (Photo 5). The arched opening finished with terra cotta leads to the formal entrances to three major interior spaces: the club room, auditorium, and library

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
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(photograph 9). The auditorium entrance is comprised of wood doors with original brass hardware and beveled lights, a large segmental, lighted transom, and 14-light sidelights with small wood kick panels.

Fenestration is asymmetrical and irregular, including 15-light and 10-light casement windows with brick sills. An addition to the building, located at the northeast elevation, includes pairs of 10-light casement windows. Sensitive to the original features of the building, the architect designed the openings to measure 72" by 34", the same scale as the original openings along the remainder of the north facade. Narrow casements were installed to meet building code regulations. Original 10-light casement windows of the same size are employed along the west elevation of the building.

The east elevation (Photo 6) is comprised of an addition to the building, completed in the 1980s to expand the library portion of the building (Photo 7). The approximately 300-foot addition displays a cross-hip extension, symmetrical facade, an entrance loggia, 10-light casement windows, and textured stucco exterior wall fabric. The roof line, carved rafter ends, windows, and exterior wall fabric of the addition are similar to the original features of the building. They provide additional interior space that is distinct from the original building, yet sensitive to the intent of the original architect. The window openings along the east elevation are the same scale as the fenestration on the north and west elevations, but employ smaller window treatments that satisfy current building code criteria and make the addition distinguishable from the original building.

The south elevation is irregular (Photo 7). A Craftsman-style door with four lights and relatively small casement and double-hung sash windows at the southwest corner open into the back stage area of the auditorium. A metal security door and fixed ribbon windows at the southeast corner open into the staff and accessioning section of the library, which is part of the addition. The west elevation (Photo 8) has irregular massing, a pair of chimneys, 10-light casement windows, carved rafter ends, and stucco exterior wall fabric.

Interior

The building contains five large interior spaces, which are the auditorium, club room, dining room, kitchen, and library.

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
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The auditorium, club room, dining room, and kitchen maintain their original design and features to a high degree. Ceilings extend between ten and twelve feet in height. Paneled wood or French doors with original brass hardware separate rooms. Door and window surrounds with diminutive cornices and crown, as well as the picture, chair, and floor molding are in good repair.

A foyer at the formal entrance on the north facade provides access to the auditorium, club room, and library. The club room lies to the west of the foyer, the library to the east, and the auditorium directly ahead to the south. The auditorium divides the civic area of the building from the library area. The largest interior space, the auditorium has coved ceilings, plaster walls, wainscoting, and heart pine floors (Photo 9). The stage retains its original features, including a proscenium segmental arch opening, a pair of paneled wood access doors, wainscoted kick panel, and heart pine flooring.

The club room, dining room, and kitchen lie to the west of the auditorium. The club room (Photo 10) contains a fireplace with a brick chimney breast and wood mantel with dentils. The walls are finished with plaster and picture, chair, and floor molding. A pair of French doors provides access to the dining room, which has another set of French doors leading into the auditorium (Photo 11). Other dining room features include casement windows opening into the auditorium; picture, chair, and floor moldings; and several original sconces. Three doors located along the south wall of the dining room open into the kitchen (Photo 12). The kitchen was modernized in the 1960s, but retains its original configuration.(Photo 13).

The library area lies to the east of the auditorium (Photo 14). The original library entrance door in the foyer remains in place, though, because of security considerations, it is not in use. The original library was divided into reading rooms and stacks. The expansion nearly doubled the size of the library area. Although several original door surrounds remain in place, most other original features were removed during remodeling. The present staff area is located in the southeast corner of the library, with stacks and patron areas located throughout the rest of the space.

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**Dickinson Memorial Library and
Park, Orange City, Volusia Co., FL**

Section number 8 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Dickinson Memorial Library and Park (8V05266) are significant at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of **Community Planning and Development, Entertainment/Recreation, and Social History** as the historic cultural and social center of Orange City. The park, built in 1916, endures as the community's central public green space. The library building, built next to the park in 1919, historically also served as a meeting hall and continues to serve both functions. The park and library share close historical associations, for both were gifts to the local Village Improvement Association and Orange City Library Association, respectively, by Albert Dickinson, a Chicago merchant and winter resident of Orange City.

The library and park have further significance under **Criterion C**. The park is significant as the community's central historic landscape feature. The library, although a modest Masonry Vernacular design, displays Mission style influences. It was designed by Francis Miller, a prominent DeLand architect. The design of the library and park is consistent with national and statewide trends in architecture, and both retain their architectural integrity to a high degree. The period of significance is 1916 to 1944.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Orange City, 1876-1944

Orange City, settled in the 1870s, was incorporated in 1882. In 1883, railroad tracks were extended through the settlement, connecting Blue Spring--a small river boat landing several miles west on the St. Johns River--with New Smyrna. The transportation link sparked a significant period of development. A town plan, that had been surveyed in 1877, was filed in 1885, and several additional subdivisions were platted in the 1880s and 1890s. A small commercial center emerged along Graves Avenue, and numerous dwellings dotted the landscape. In 1886, the community had a population of nearly 600 and included nine stores, three hotels, a library association and Woman's Christian Temperance Union organization, Masonic hall, several saw mills and churches, and a public school. Citrus played a vital role in the local economy, with 300 acres of orange trees planted in the area.

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Devastating freezes in the mid-1890s curtailed development; by 1900, the population had fallen to 414 and rose to only 538 a decade later. The proximity of larger communities--especially DeLand and Daytona Beach, both of which experienced significant development during the period--further hampered renewed growth and economic recovery. Nevertheless, several small subdivisions were platted and a number of houses were constructed between 1900 and 1910. The early 1900s saw the establishment of business organizations, including a citrus growers association in 1909 and a realty company in 1915.

During the land boom of the 1920s, the community experienced some of the explosive growth patterns that occurred in many larger Florida cities. The population increased from 542 in 1920 to 659 in 1925, and the commercial district expanded along the intersection of Graves and Volusia avenues. Several new public buildings were constructed, including a church and city hall. Some subdivisions were platted and numerous houses were built. The Orange City Development Company, a chamber of commerce, telephone exchange, and bank were organized between 1925 and 1927.

In the late 1920s, following the collapse of the land boom, the economy slowed and remained sluggish throughout the 1930s and early 1940s. During the 1930s, the population fell from 713 to 489. The Florida East Coast Railway, in a struggle to survive, initially reduced service to Orange City, then abandoned and dismantled its tracks there in 1934. Relief efforts associated with President Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal" provided funds to states and municipalities for a host of projects, including the development of conservation, education, and recreational facilities. A number of small New Deal projects were initiated in Orange City during the period, helping to boost the economy.

**Orange City Library Association and Village Improvement
Association**

The Orange City Library Association, organized in 1879 and incorporated in 1885, was chartered to "furnish to its patrons a good class of reading matter." The Association began with thirteen members and grew significantly, reaching nearly ninety members in the 1920s. In 1897, after operating from a number of wood frame buildings, the Association received a permanent home for its collection from Melissa Dickinson, Albert Dickinson's sister, who financed the remodeling of a hotel into a library and

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meeting hall. The building contained a library, auditorium and stage, kitchen, dining room, and room designated for use by the local Village Improvement Association (VIA). Unfortunately, a fire in 1909 destroyed the building, including the records and books of the library and VIA. Another wood frame building was acquired and the two organizations operated from it until 1919.

Established in 1894 and incorporated in 1915, the Village Improvement Association (VIA) was organized with thirteen members and boasted seventy-seven by 1920. Village Improvement Associations emerged in many Florida communities during the late nineteenth century. Initially, VIAs were formed in response to local matters, but they soon began to focus on larger statewide issues that concerned most towns.

In 1895, a representative from Orange City's VIA met in Green Cove Springs with members of associations from Crescent City, Green Cove Springs, Jacksonville, and Tarpon Springs to incorporate the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs (FFWC). One of the state's most powerful women-led organizations, the FFWC in 1910 boasted 1,600 members and totaled some 6,000 by 1914, with thirty-six clubs throughout the state. The goals of the FFWC included advocacy of compulsory school attendance, preservation of the Everglades, enactment of fence and cattle dipping legislation, and women's political and economic rights. A charter member of the FFWC, the Orange City VIA made a significant contribution to the state federation in the early twentieth century. The Orange City VIA continues to operate today.

Dickinson Family

The Dickinson family played an important role in the cultural development of Orange City during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Native to Massachusetts, the family moved to Chicago in the 1850s, where Albert F. Dickinson established a large produce and grain company. In the 1870s, three of his children, Albert, Charlie, and Melissa, assumed control of the business. Products of the Dickinson Seed Company, reportedly the nation's largest seed distributor between the 1860s and 1920s, included Pine Tree Brand grass seed and Timewell Sack Filling and Sewing Machines.

In 1883, Melissa, who never married, and her brother, Albert, visited Orange City. Captivated by Florida's moderate

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
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climate and the small settlement, they became seasonal residents. In 1911, Albert married Emma Benham, a noted Chicago physician and eye surgeon promoted medical advancements and technology at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. Emma also found Orange City a delightful retreat from hectic city life and became involved with several local charitable organizations, contributing time and money to improving the quality of life in the community. Successful in their financial endeavors, the Dickinsons made several generous donations of land and buildings to organizations in Orange City, including the VIA and Library Association.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Emma Dickinson, who served as president of the VIA between 1914 and 1916, believed the development of a central park would make the community more appealing to settlers and provide residents with a pleasant public green space. In 1916, Albert and Emma Dickinson deeded to the VIA a small parcel at the center of town for use as a public park, charging the VIA with its development and supervision.

About 1905, the Dickinsons had acquired the parcel, a small part of which was developed with buildings, including residences, packing house, and a livery that were leased to renters and merchants. In 1916, after the land was transferred to the VIA, the buildings were relocated to nearby sites. VIA members donated time clearing the site, and a "Fountain Fund" was established to finance a central fountain. After the site was leveled, a well was drilled and a small fountain was completed in 1917 by H.C. Haven of DeLand. Austin Pierpont, a trustee of the Library Association and a local horticulturist, supervised the landscaping, which consisted of laying sod and planting a variety of trees, shrubs, vines, and flowering plants. A croquet course was laid out. Cement sidewalks were developed over the next several years, including a small circle around the fountain. Brick columns with lamps were installed at several corners and cement posts with connecting wire fences extended around the park.

During the 1920s and 1930s, the park served as a popular site for political rallies, 4th of July and Memorial Day celebrations, prayer meetings, community picnics, and Christmas services. In 1934, the fence protecting the park was removed and relocated to the town cemetery. In place of the fence, palm trees were planted around the park and along diagonal sidewalks.

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In addition to the park, in 1918, Albert and Emma Dickinson initiated plans to develop a new permanent, fireproof library immediately south of the park, in memory of Melissa Dickinson, who had died in 1910. They contacted Francis Miller, an architect from nearby DeLand, and commissioned him to prepare the plans. They instructed Miller to design the building as fireproof and include in the design a library, auditorium with a stage, dining room, kitchen, and a meeting room for the local VIA. Miller delivered the plans in May 1918. The Dickinsons hired J.H. Bates & Sons, a DeLand contracting firm, to supervise construction.

The primary purpose of the building was to serve as a library. The Library Association, which received the deed to the property from Dickinson soon after the building's completion, met there periodically and maintained a collection of approximately 2,000 books in 1925, with nearly 3,000 books circulated each year. A private organization that closely regulated its membership, the Library Association offered lifetime memberships for \$25.00, with annual fees ranging between \$1.00 and \$2.00 through the 1940s. The Association was also sensitive to the needs of less fortunate people. Discarded and duplicate books and magazines were generally sent to needy organizations, including the Veteran's Hospital in Lake City and a girl's school in Havana, Cuba.

The building became a popular site for lectures, recitals, and public meetings. The local chamber of commerce, garden club, and civic league used the auditorium, dining room, and VIA room for meetings periodically in the 1920s and 1930s. City government also held meetings there until 1929 when a new city hall was completed.

The Dickinsons had designated that a room in the northwest corner of the building be available for use by the VIA in perpetuity. When the VIA had its first meeting in the building, in the early 1920s, however, 225 people attended, requiring them to meet in the auditorium. The program consisted of piano and solo performances and a report of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, including a historical narrative of the founding of the Federation. Over the following decades, the VIA met monthly in the building and often sponsored choir presentations, lectures, and other cultural events.

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
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The Library Association also sponsored meetings in the auditorium, and rented space to a variety of organizations over the following decades. The local Women's Christian Temperance Union occasionally used the auditorium for lectures and meetings. A Chautauqua meeting in February 1921 convened in the building and was also held part of the time in the adjoining park. In 1923, Professor Chelius, former director of the Boston Conservatory of Music, performed in a benefit concert for the Association. Albert Dickinson's will provided the Library Association with a \$10,000 endowment following his death in 1925.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Francis Miller and J.H. Bates & Sons

Francis Miller opened his architectural practice in DeLand, Florida, about 1910, and designed a number of public buildings and private residences in Volusia County over the following decade. A prolific craftsman, Miller reported in February 1916 that he had received commissions to design five residential dwellings in DeLand. His largest projects include DeLand High School, a large Prairie style building completed in 1917; and DeLand Memorial Hospital, which was built in 1920 (NR 1989). Miller also prepared the plans for the Barberville Central High School (NR 1992), which was also completed in 1920. He typically applied Colonial Revival details on his residential projects, several of which are located in the West DeLand Historic District (NR 1992). Miller also designed commercial and school buildings in the "Yemassee" area of DeLand, a large black settlement southwest of DeLand's downtown.

About 1912, J. H. Bates moved to DeLand where he established a construction company and built numerous residences in west Volusia County over the following decade. His largest residential project included the construction of about ten dwellings in 1915 in the Pine Crest subdivision, a small plat in northeast DeLand. The Dickinson Library, which was completed at a cost of \$20,000 and dedicated in December 1919, was among his largest public projects.

Masonry Vernacular and Spanish Mission Style

The Dickinson Memorial Library essentially displays Masonry Vernacular styling with Mission influences. Masonry Vernacular is defined as the common masonry construction techniques of lay

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
Park, Orange City, Volusia Co., FL

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or self-taught builders. Prior to the Civil War, vernacular designs were local in nature, transmitted by word of mouth or by demonstration and relying heavily upon native building materials. With the coming of the American Industrial Revolution, mass manufacturers became the pervasive influence over vernacular design. Popular magazines featuring standardized manufactured building components, plans, and decorating tips flooded consumer markets and helped to make building trends universal across the country. The railroad also aided the process by providing cheap and efficient transportation for manufactured building materials. Ultimately, the individual builder had access to a myriad of finished architectural products from which to select in creating a design of his own.

In Florida, most examples of Masonry Vernacular buildings predating 1920 were brick. Masonry Vernacular designs of the 1920s and 1930s were influenced by popular Spanish designs of the period. Many masonry buildings, especially those finished with stucco exterior wall fabric, were built with hollow tiles, a series of ceramic squares poured solid with concrete to make a structure more fireproof and with more tensile strength than conventional brick buildings.

The Spanish Mission style, which is found primarily in those states with a Spanish colonial heritage, originated in California during the 1890s, when the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railways adopted it as the style for station houses and resort hotels throughout the Far West. Early high style domestic examples were faithful copies of their colonial ancestors, but during the first two decades of the twentieth century, other influences, most notably those of the Prairie and Bungalow styles, were added to produce new prototypes.

In Florida, the Spanish Mission style became popular during the decade before the collapse of the Florida land boom. It was adapted for a variety of building types ranging from churches and grandiose tourist hotels to residences. Some commercial buildings were renovated in the 1920s to reflect the style. Identifying features of the style include flat or hipped roofs, always with a curvilinear parapet or dormer either on the main or porch roof; ceramic tile roof surfacing; stucco facades; entrance porches, commonly with arched openings; casement and double-hung sash windows; and ceramic tile decorations.

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Dickinson Memorial Library and
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Landscape Architecture and the City Beautiful Movement

Dickinson Memorial Park, a rectangular green space near the center of Orange City, is important as an extension of an early twentieth century movement to beautify this nation's cities. The so-called City Beautiful movement, which gained strong support nationwide during the Progressive Era, sought to mitigate the evils of overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, and general ugliness of American cities through the new science of city planning.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Library

The Dickinson Memorial Library is representative of library buildings developed in small Florida towns during the early twentieth century. Before World War II, libraries in larger communities tended toward monumental character and embodied popular architectural styles of the period. Those early library buildings, such as the Jacksonville Free Public Library, a 1903 Classical Revival design, were often overly decorative as well as unexpandable, with little attention paid to interior function. Between the 1930s and 1950s, architects began designing libraries with fewer load bearing walls, and eventually relied heavily upon modular and flexible designs that provided open, attractive spaces for users.

In Florida, during the late nineteenth century, small communities often developed libraries within commercial or even residential buildings that served multiple functions. Gradually those facilities were replaced by buildings designed to serve primarily as a library, but which also often functioned as a community meeting hall or even theater. Hopkins Hall (1897) in nearby Lake Helen, the Maitland Public Library (1907), and Cornelia Young Library (1916, NR 1992) in Daytona Beach represent good examples of libraries built during this period. A review of the Florida Site File and State Historic Preservation Office records indicates that only approximately thirty historic-period libraries exist in Florida.

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Dickinson Park

During the early twentieth century, the residents of Orange City shared with numerous other communities throughout Florida and the nation a desire to improve upon their original town plan. Dickinson Park was introduced to relieve the monotony of Orange City's grid street pattern, increase safety in the downtown, and provide a pleasing vista on Volusia and Graves avenues that would attract tourists and prospective settlers. Although the present form of the park was not provided for on the original town plan of 1885, the area was developed as a public green space beginning in 1916 by the Dickinson family and local Village Improvement Association. Initially, the park was little more than a sandy lot with a few trees and plants. In 1917, a central water fountain was installed and sidewalks were extended around the area. A wire fence with concrete posts was set and remained in place until the 1930s. The park became a popular site for political rallies, 4th of July and Memorial Day celebrations, prayer meetings, community picnics, and Christmas services.

Dickinson Park played an important role in Orange City's downtown, providing a green space for tourists, businessmen, and customers. Historically, railroad tracks extended through the community immediately north of the park and a depot was located several blocks to the east. The park continues to provide a pleasant green space in the downtown, uniting the public and commercial areas with surrounding residential neighborhoods. An important historic site in the community, it retains its integrity of appearance and design to a high degree and contributes ambience and character to the area.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary includes Lot 6 exc St Rd & Lots 7-10, Block 1, Orange City [library lot]; and Lot 1 exc St Rd & Lots 2-5, Block 1, Orange City [park lot], and that part of E. Albertus Way that lies between the two lots. It is bounded on the north by E. Graves Avenue, on the east by Holly Avenue, on the south by E. Cherokee Avenue, and on the west by Volusia Avenue (U.S. Highway 17/92). See site plan.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the city lots that have historically been associated with the Dickinson Memorial Library and Dickinson Park and the road between the lots.

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Photos 1

**Dickinson Memorial Library and
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-
- 1 1) Dickinson Memorial Library and Park, 148 South
 Volusia Avenue
 2) Orange City, Volusia County, Florida
 3) Sidney Johnston
 4) 1993
 5) Sidney Johnston, DeLand, Florida
 6) View showing park and N (front) elevation of
 library, camera facing SW
 7) 1 of 14

**Information for items 1-5 are the same for the remaining
photographs.**

- 2 6) Fountain (NC) in center of park, camera facing NE
 7) 2 of 14
- 3 6) Park, camera facing NE
 7) 3 of 14
- 4 6) Library, main (N) elevation, camera facing S
 7) 4 of 14
- 5 6) Library front entrance, camera facing S
 7) 5 of 14
- 6 6) E elevation, camera facing W
 7) 6 of 14
- 7 6) S & E elevations, camera facing NW
 7) 7 of 14
- 8 6) W elevation, camera facing E
 7) 8 of 14
- 9 6) Auditorium, camera facing S
 7) 9 of 14
- 10 6) Club Room, camera facing W
 7) 10 of 14
- 11 6) Dining Room, camera facing NE
 7) 11 of 14
- 12 6) Dining Room, camera facing SE
 7) 12 of 14

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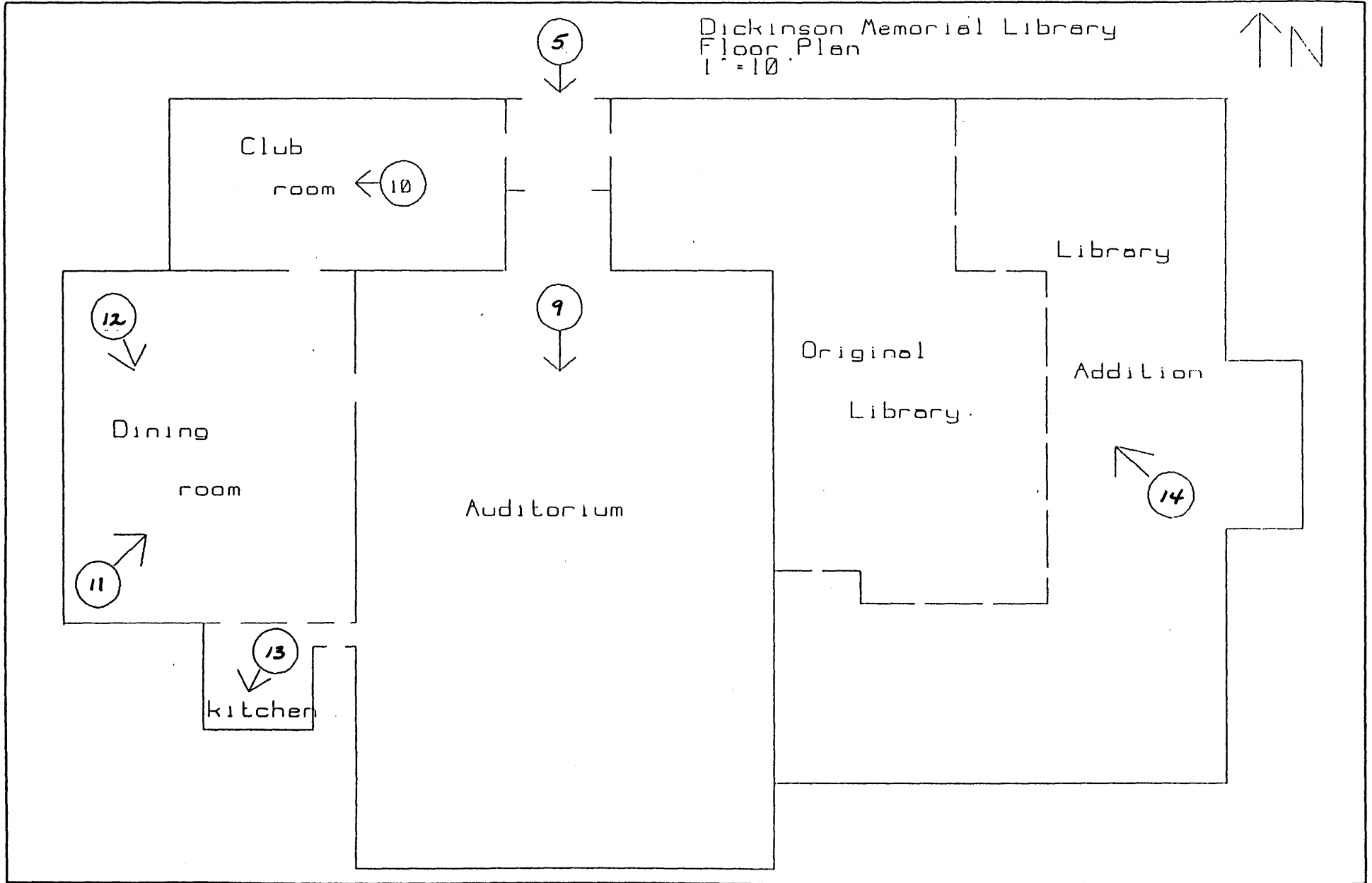
Photos 2

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13 6) Kitchen, camera facing SW
7) 13 of 14

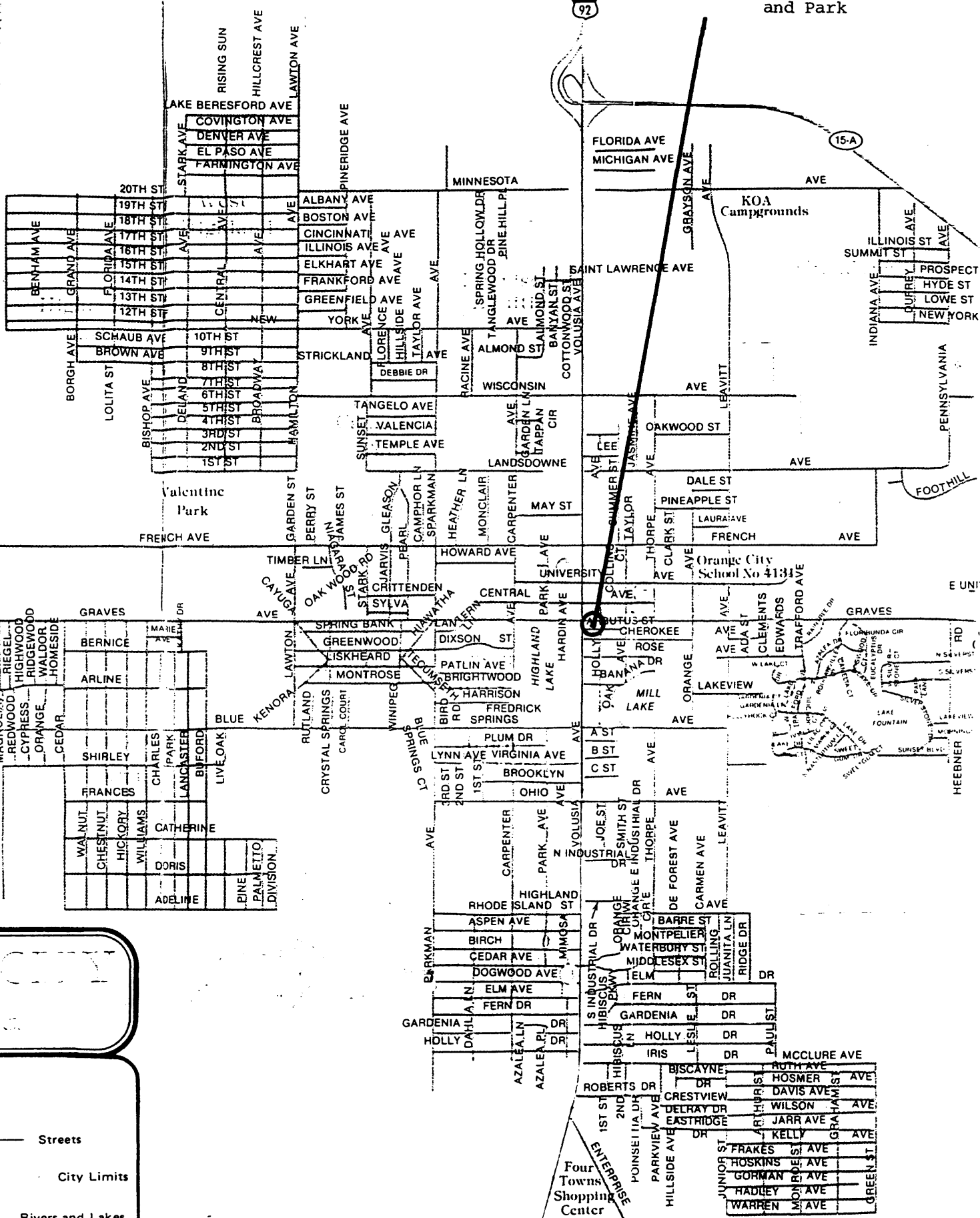
14 6) Library stack area, camera facing NW
7) 14 of 14

Dickinson Memorial Library
Floor Plan
1" = 10'



ORANGE CITY, VOLUSIA COUNTY, FL

Dickinson Memorial Library and Park



ORANGE CITY

Legend:

- Streets
- City Limits
- Rivers and Lakes
- Points of Interest

MCCLURE AVE
RUTH AVE
HOSMER AVE
DAVIS AVE
WILSON AVE
JARR AVE
KELLY AVE
GRAHAM AVE
FRANKS AVE
HOSKINS AVE
GORMAN AVE
HADLEY AVE
WARREN AVE
GREEN ST

