

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90000100 Date Listed: 2/23/90

Thurman, Howard, House Volusia FL
Property Name County State

N/A
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Amy Federman 2/23/90
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

The period of significance should read 1900-1917.

Discussed and concurred in by the Florida SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:
National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

JAN 11 1990

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 Howard Thurman House
other names/site number 8 VO 2602

2. Location

street & number 614 Whitehall Street N/A not for publication
city, town Daytona Beach N/A vicinity
state Florida code FL county Volusia code FL 127 zip code 32014

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>0</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>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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.

[Signature] State Historic Preservation Officer
Florida Dept. of State-Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

Date 1/3/90

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:) _____

[Signature] 2/27/90

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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)

EDUCATION
ETHNIC HERITAGE-afro-american

Period of Significance

1900-1717

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Howard Thurman

Architect/Builder

unknown

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

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

_____ Bureau of Historic Preservation _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately one acre

UTM References

A

1	7	4	9	7	8	6	0	3	2	2	9	7	8	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Lots 20 and 21 Block 2 Wallace Subdivision Block 28 Daytona per or 2582 PG

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary follows the legal and historic boundaries of the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Vicki L. Welcher - Historic Sites Specialist
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date December 20, 1989
street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333
city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

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Howard Thurman House

SUMMARY

The Howard Thurman House, 614 Whitehall Street, Daytona Beach, Florida, is a two story wood frame vernacular structure with a cross gable plan. Constructed c.1888, the house has a shed roofed front porch, front bay window and original sheathing at the interior. A breezeway at the rear leads to a reconstructed detached kitchen. The house sits center right on the property and is complemented by large live oak tree and other native vegetation.

ORIGINAL SETTING

The Thurman House at 614 Whitehall Street, Daytona Beach, was located in the Waycross community, one of three areas for the black population of the town of Daytona (later incorporated as Daytona Beach.) The house was one of the first houses located on the unpaved, tree-lined street. Later, during Thurman's youth, other houses of similar construction were built along the street, retaining the quiet residential setting. The streetscape contained dense foliage and numerous live oak trees, palmettoes, various citrus, bay and camphor trees.

PRESENT SETTING

The Thurman House is situated in a black residential neighborhood in one of the oldest sections of Daytona Beach, Florida. The house is located at the center of the street surrounded by other houses of similar design dating from 1900 to 1930. The structure sits in the middle of the lot, surrounded by live oak trees, the largest playing a significant role during Dr. Thurman's youth and adolescence. The back lot, originally part of the Thurman property, has recently been purchased and cleared. The lot contains native vegetation that may remain from the historic period.

PRESENT APPEARANCE

The Dr. Thurman House is a two story wood frame vernacular building with a cross gable plan. The wood foundation is supported by brick piers. Exterior finish is drop siding with corner boards. Fish scale shingles ornament the main facade gable. Fenestration is original 2/2 wood frame sash with many of the original glass panes; storm screens are intact. All

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fenestration contains rectangular lintels. The shed roofed porch contains a plain stick balustrade between simple, square columns. Roofing is wood shake. The house has a single ridge line chimney.

The main, (east) elevation of the two bay south wing contains the main entrance in the right (north) bay. The refinished central door contains one light with decorative scrollwork above and below. There are four articulated panels in the lower half. The side, gable front wing is canted with an oversized central single hung, four pane window with Queen Anne transom at the first story level. Gable corners contain reproduced bargeboards. The gable end has fish scale wood shingles. Siding is wood drop siding. (See Photos 1 & 2)

The fenestration of the main block is single and paired 2/2 double hung wood sash at both the upper and lower levels. The rear elevation contains paired entrances at the center and left (south) of the three bays. Rear fenestration is 2/2 double hung wood sash. A reproduction of the one story detached kitchen is centered at the elevation and connected to the main block by a breezeway. (See Photos 3, 4 & 5)

The interior of the structures is plain with a central hall plan. A narrow central stairway is located at the rear of the hall and leads to a second story open landing. Interior flooring is pine at both levels. A first floor room is finished with 1-1/4 inch pine beaded sheathing. (See Photo 6) The main canted front room is finished in dry wall as are the second floor rooms. (See Photos 7 & 8)

The house is surrounded by a white picket fence that was recently restored. To the south (left) of the house is the unpaved turn-around and two large live oaks. The largest of the two, located near the detached kitchen, is the live oak often referred to by Dr. Thurman in his autobiography. (See Photos 9 & 10) To the rear is a vacant lot containing various citrus trees, live oaks, and assorted native brush.

ALTERATIONS

Early alterations to the Thurman House were confined to the rear of the building and included removal of the detached kitchen, and the enclosure of the connecting breezeway and addition of a projecting second story bathroom. Although the

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Howard Thurman House

sequence and specific dates are unknown, these alterations are though to have occurred in the late 1910s or early 1920s.

Restoration of the building was carried out by the current owner in 1987. Work on the main block of the structure consisted of replacement of the termite and water damaged woodwork and the installation of dry wall in lieu of the deteriorated original plaster. The severely deteriorated bathroom addition was removed and the original second story centered window was replaced. The covered breezeway and rear porch were reconstructed based on physical evidence of their original configuration in the absence of architectural or historical photographic documentation. Reconstruction of the detached kitchen was based on the oral evidence of long time residents of the neighborhood, and adapted to provide rest room and service facilities.

The restored structure retains its essential integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, and reflects the appearance and character of its period of historic association with the life of Howard Thurman.

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Howard Thurman House

SUMMARY

The Howard Thurman House is significant under Criterion B at the national level in the areas of African-American Ethnic Heritage and Education for his association with religious and civil rights education; additionally, Dr. Thurman was the first black man to hold the post of Dean at a predominantly white university (Boston University) and the first Dean of Rankin Chapel at Howard University. It is also significant in these areas at the state level as Thurman's home when he became the first black student to pass the eighth grade examination in Florida, paving the way for educational equality in the Florida school system.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The City of Daytona Beach, located on the Halifax River on the east coast of Florida, was founded in 1870 by Mathias Day and incorporated under the name, Daytona. The town grew slowly, as transportation facilities were limited. In 1876, a road was opened west of Daytona at the town of Deland. Five years later, the first ferry landing in the immediate area was established eleven miles north of Daytona on the Tomoka River. In 1887, the Tomoka River was bridged by the St. Johns and Halifax River Railroad, and Daytona received its first railroad service.

The following year, in 1888, Henry Flagler purchased the Ormond Hotel to the north of the Daytona settlement and brought his extensive east coast railroad to the area. Unlike the small local railroads, Flagler's rail line was able to connect with northern cities, opening Daytona to the lucrative winter tourist market. During the first decade of the twentieth century, the population of Daytona soared from approximately 200 to 2,000. In 1905, prominent industrialists such as John Jacob Astor, William K. Vanderbilt, Henry Flagler and Rollin White were impressed by the beaches long the coast and resided in the Daytona area during the winter months. Other wealthy northern families such as the Gambles, the Rockefellers, Burgoynes, De Palma and Seagrave built winter estates requiring year around care.

The black population of Daytona provided the majority of the services to these family estates. The black community comprised over 33 percent of the population of the area and resided in a

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Howard Thurman House

particular area on the west side of town. Although blacks worked in Daytona, Sea Breeze and Daytona Beach (both located on the beach side of the river), they were not allowed to live in, nor be in, those white areas after dark. The black community was separated into three neighborhoods: Midway, the progressive area that housed Mary McCleod Bethune's School; Newton, where the one public school for black children was located; and Waycross, the "middle-class" residential neighborhood where Howard Thurman was raised.

CRITERION A
Black Education in Florida

Education of children of all races was erratic in Florida following the Civil War. The Freedmen's Bureau and other Reconstruction agencies were devoted to the creation of schools for black children, previously excluded from the educational process. Schools (for whites) were privately funded prior to the War, either as a private institution, or associated with a local church. Public education at the elementary level, viewed as a pauper handout, was for indigent farmers too poor to contribute to the education of their children. In this environment, it was no easy matter to establish private schools for blacks and even more difficult to establish black public elementary and secondary schools.

This situation did not change for blacks during the latter part of the 1800s. While educational spending increased for whites, counties spent little money on facilities for blacks. By 1915, blacks constituted 41 per cent of the population of Florida, yet received substantially less per child in educational funds. For every \$11.50 spent to educate a white child, \$2.64 was spent to educate a black child per year.

These deficiencies in the public expenditure for the education of black children resulted in an active campaign for private schools for blacks during and after Reconstruction. Private schools were twice as likely to be sponsored by a church or religious affiliation than independent sources. Of these schools for blacks, 95% of the students were in elementary education, and the few in "secondary" schools rarely received actual instruction at the high school level.

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Howard Thurman House

While Federal and State monies were expended for black higher education in Florida, it was mostly diverted to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical School in Tallahassee. By 1917, the call for segregation of the races had resulted in laws that resulted in suppression through the lack of education. In many instances, blacks were not instructed past the seventh grade, and thus could not pass the eighth grade entrance examination for high school. In addition, laws passed as late as 1917 made it illegal for white teachers to instruct black students.

With the support of his family, his black teachers, and white friends, Howard Thurman was able to overcome these difficult circumstances to become one of the most notable of Daytona's black native sons.

CRITERION B

Howard Thurman was an educator, preacher, theologian, cultural Ambassador for the United States, renowned author, counselor, minister and co-founder of the interracial Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples. He touched the lives of virtually every major black leader in the last four decades and was honored throughout the world for his perceptive insights into the nature of God and Man. Dr. Thurman advocated a Christianity that would "live for the weak as well as the strong-for all peoples whatever their color, whatever their caste." "We believe, he said, "that in the presence of God and His dream of order there is neither male nor female, white nor black, Gentile nor Jew, Protestant nor Catholic, Hindu, Buddhist, nor Moslem, but a human spirit stripped to the literal substance of itself." Named one of the best preachers of the year by Life magazine in 1953, Thurman spoke at more than 500 institutions worldwide, was active in religious and educational organizations throughout the United States, and published 22 books, including Jesus and the Disinherited, The Inward Journey, and an autobiography, With Head and Heart.

Thurman, raised by his illiterate grandmother, a former slave, was the first black in Florida to finish the eighth grade, from his school in Daytona Beach, then one of very few black "public" schools in Florida. (Thurman's school was not public in today's sense. Rather, it was funded, for the most part, by the white winter residents of Daytona that donated monies for schools for both white and black children.) He worked his way through Jacksonville's Florida Baptist Academy and Atlanta's Morehouse

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Howard Thurman House

College, where he majored in economics. After graduating as valedictorian from Morehouse in 1923, Thurman entered the Colgate-Rochester School of Divinity (at that time admitting only two black students annually), and was ordained a Baptist minister in 1925.

After graduating from Rochester in 1926, Thurman accepted an appointment as Pastor of the Mount Zion Baptist Church in Oberlin, Ohio, where he remained for two years prior to resigning in order to study at Haverford College with the Quaker philosopher, Rufus Jones. In the fall of 1929, he accepted a joint appointment as Director of Religious Life at Morehouse and Spelman Colleges. While working in Atlanta, he met Sue Bailey during her final year of college preparatory work at Spelman, and married her in 1932. Howard University recruited him to become its first Dean of Rankin Chapel, and to join the faculty as Assistant Professor of Christian Theology. From those two positions Howard Thurman radiated a "conscience" for the nation's capitol that earned him national recognition.

In 1935, Dr. and Mrs. Thurman took a leave from Howard in order to lead a national YMCA and YWCA Afro-American delegation to India, Burma, and Ceylon. The highlights of this trip were personal encounters with Rabinduranath Tagore and Mahatma Gandhi, both of whom strongly influenced his thinking. Upon his return to Howard University, Dr. Thurman encouraged university president, Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, to make the pilgrimage to India to meet Mahatma K. Gandhi and hear his views on non-violence. When Dr. Johnson returned to America, he preached on a Sunday afternoon in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Fellowship House, about the life and teachings of Gandhi. Martin Luther King, Jr. was in the congregation. In Dr. Johnson's "electrifying" Gandhian sermon on love and non-violence, Martin King said he discovered the method for social reform he "had been seeking for so many months." He left the meeting, and bought six books on Gandhi's life and works. Reverend Thurman's conversations with Gandhi in India deepened his faith in the power of non-violence resistance. His book Jesus and the Disinherited, offered ancient but ever modern tools for warring with principalities and powers that oppress the poor, the dispossessed and all peoples of the earth who hunger in flesh and spirit for the Kingdom of Heaven. It was Jesus and the Disinherited that Martin King carried and was often seen reading before dawn during much of the civil rights movement.

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Howard Thurman House

In 1944, Dr. Thurman accepted a call to San Francisco to become co-founder and co-pastor with Dr. Alfred Fisk, a professor of philosophy at San Francisco State College and a Presbyterian Clergyman, of the Church of the Fellowship of All Peoples. Fellowship Church remains a congregation dedicated to breaking through the walls that separate mankind on any basis of race, color, creed, or national origin. It is interracial, interdenominational, interfaith, and international in its membership.

After nine years in San Francisco, Dr. Thurman accepted a 1953 invitation from President Harold C. Case to become Dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University, where he was the first black to hold such an assignment at a predominantly white university in this country. As Dean for 12 years he ministered to 30,000 communicants of all faiths and nationalities.

In 1964, after serving as Boston University Minister at Large for one year and traveling and speaking around the world, Thurman retired to San Francisco. There he founded the Howard Thurman Educational Trust, which provides scholarships for college students, supports intercultural community and school activities, and disseminates his recorded and published works. Throughout the rest of his life he was heavily involved in the work of the Trust.

Dr. Thurman, author of 22 books, received honorary degrees from more than a score of American colleges and universities, including Morehouse College. His life and thoughts are offered in curriculum courses in five of these institutions. There are Howard Thurman Listening Rooms located throughout the United States and in 17 foreign countries. He left to the Howard Thurman Educational Trust a collection of 800 tapes and cassettes of his meditations, addresses and sermons.

Thurman died of a respiratory illness on April 10, 1981. Because of his high standing as an alumnus and his achievements as minister and philosopher, a dormitory was named in his honor at Morehouse College in 1974. Plans are now under way to establish a Howard Thurman listening room in the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Memorial Chapel. Other memorials include the Howard Thurman Chapel at Howard University, and the Howard Thurman Center at Boston University.

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Howard Thurman House

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

"When the storms blew, the branches of the large oak tree in our backyard would snap and fall. But the topmost branches of the oak tree would sway, giving way just enough to save themselves from snapping loose. I needed the strength of that tree, and, like it, I wanted to hold my ground. Eventually, I discovered that the oak tree and I had a unique relationship. I could sit, my back against its trunk, and feel the same peace that would come to me in my bed at night. It...was part of my reality,...my earliest companions, giving me space."

The words above, taken from Howard Thurman's autobiography, With Head and Heart, were written about his childhood home in Daytona. Continuing, Thurman recounts his childhood and what it was like to be black in the south at that time. Born in Daytona in 1900 and raised in his grandmother's house, Thurman credits people and events of the Daytona years with shaping his future. Among those things he praised were the wisdom of his mother and grandmother, the faith of these women in conjunction with their church and the role education played in the path he chose to follow in life.

When Thurman completed the seventh grade in Daytona, there were no more educational opportunities awaiting him. Black children were not given instruction in the eighth grade so as to assure the exclusion of blacks from high school. Thurman, however, was such an exceptional student, that his principal, Professor Howard volunteered to teach him the eighth grade on his own time. Upon passing the eighth grade examination and subsequent entrance examination for high school, Thurman became the first black in Florida to do so.

Following this accomplishment, Thurman proceeded to arrange room and board to attend high school in Jacksonville, ninety miles to the north. Because of the cost involved, Thurman resorted to drastic measures: he solicited Mr. James N. Gamble, of Proctor and Gamble, who paid for his four years in high school, and parts of his early college education.

It is hard to imagine that Howard Thurman could have accomplished his life goals without the educational and financial opportunities provided to him by being located in Daytona Beach. The school he attended was one of the very few in the State of

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Howard Thurman House

Florida provided for black children. This school, as well as his kindergarten, had been sponsored by wealthy northern families that took an interest in the children of the domestic help. Because the majority of domestic help was black, funds were provided for black as well as white children, a fact actually in opposition to existing segregation laws in Florida. The actions of both Professor Howard, and the principal of the high school who allowed him to take the entrance examination, (both were white) in Daytona Beach can be acknowledged as extremely progressive for the period. In addition, the monetary help of Mr. Gamble, his benefactor, would not have been possible had the Gamble family not established extensive winter estates in the Daytona Beach area.

So began the career of one of the most prominent black educators of modern times. The perseverance, patience, and faith that was instilled in Thurman during his early years in Daytona served him well in his life's work. Because Thurman chose to educate in the fields of religion and philosophy, it is often difficult to separate the religion from the education. But the contributions Thurman made to the education of both the white and black community served to promote and enhance the civil rights movement and cultural revolution of the 1960s. Already well established in the academic world, and published many times over, the Thurman philosophy was the breeding ground for such great civil rights leaders as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who carried Thurman's Jesus and the Disinherited during the civil rights marches in Alabama.

In his autobiography, Thurman, at length, explains the influence his childhood had on his life work. The solitude he found in the live oak tree and his grandmother's house enabled him to pursue his goals when the odds were against him. As a final tribute to Daytona Beach, Thurman dedicated his autobiography: "To the stranger in the railroad station in Daytona Beach who restored my broken dream sixty-five years ago" who paid the freight fare on Thurman's luggage so he could travel to Jacksonville to pursue his high school diploma.

Because Dr. Thurman spent the majority of his life living in housing provided by universities, there are no structures that directly relate to Dr. Thurman. Of the two campus houses in which Dr. Thurman spent more than ten years, one has been destroyed and the other has been radically modified. Therefore, the Howard Thurman House in Daytona Beach is the only structure

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Howard Thurman House

directly related to the life of Howard Thurman. In addition, the house has added significance as a physical memento that Thurman himself recognized as a symbol of his very significant formative years. Thurman lived in the house from his birth in 1900 to his departure for high school in Jacksonville in 1917, and returned to visit his childhood home on many occasions throughout his life.

Thurman is significant to black education in Florida as the first black student to receive a eighth grade diploma and pass the "white" entrance examination for high school. Public education of the black population of Florida began to progress at an ever increasing rate as a result of the actions of Professor Howard, the anonymous high school principal, and Howard Thurman. Thurman's completion of eighth grade opened the door to the multitude of students deprived of higher education simply because of their race. Done quietly, with no fanfare, Thurman and his teachers initiated educational and civil rights changes within a state that still condoned Jim Crowe laws, and openly defied United States Supreme Court rulings that revoked laws enacted to suppress a race through educational inequalities.

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Howard Thurman House

1. Howard Thurman House
2. Daytona Beach, Florida
3. Vicki L. Welcher
4. February, 1989
5. Bureau of Historic Preservation
6. Front elevation facing north
7. Photo 1 of 10

Items 1-5 are identical for all photographs

6. Front elevation facing west
7. Photo 2 of 10

6. Side and rear elevations facing northeast
7. Photo 3 of 10

6. Rear elevation facing east
7. Photo 4 of 10

6. Side elevation facing south
7. Photo 5 of 10

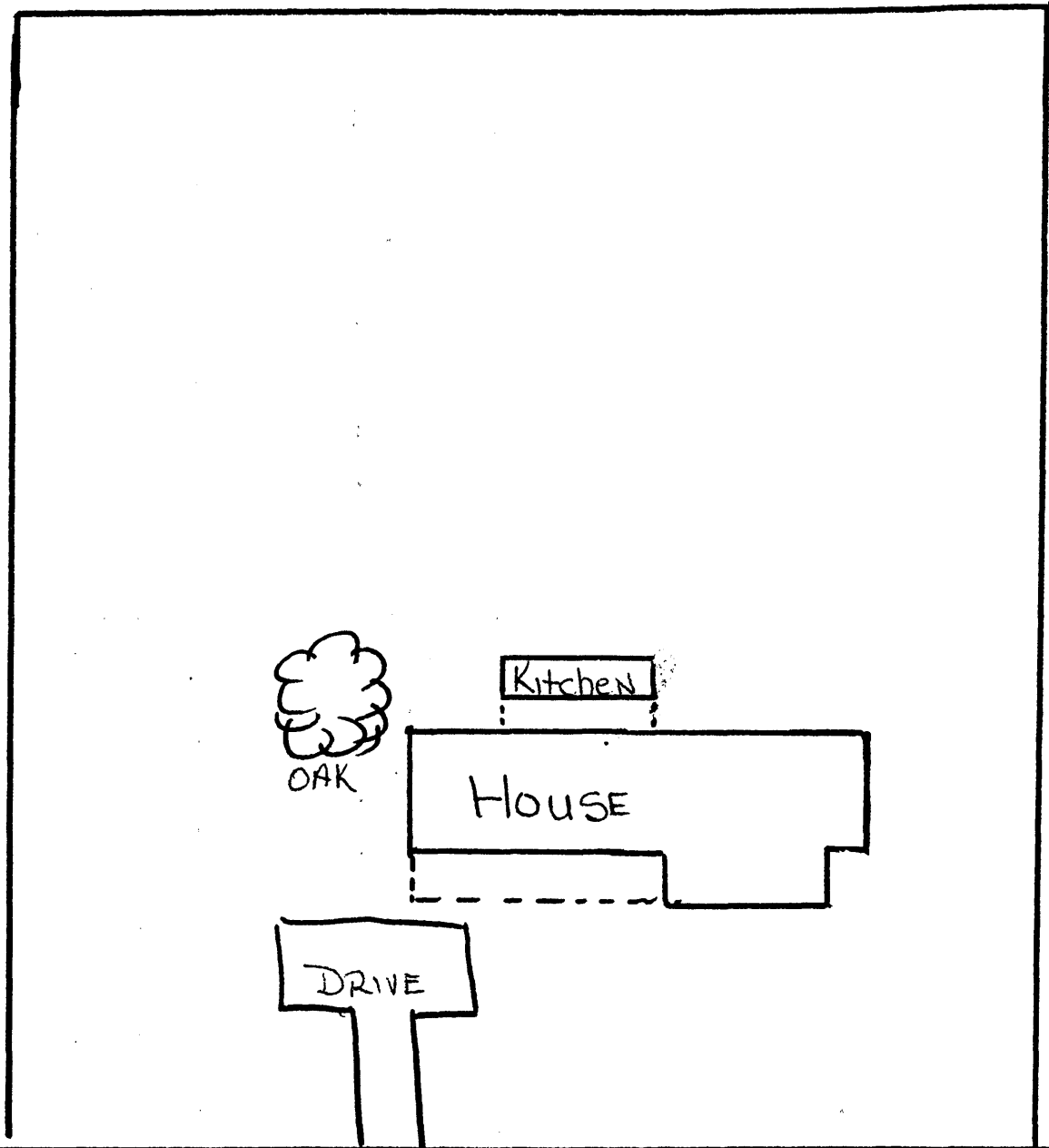
6. Interior detail facing southeast
7. Photo 6 of 10

6. Front window first floor facing east
7. Photo 7 of 10

6. Howard Thurman's bedroom, facing north
7. Photo 8 of 10

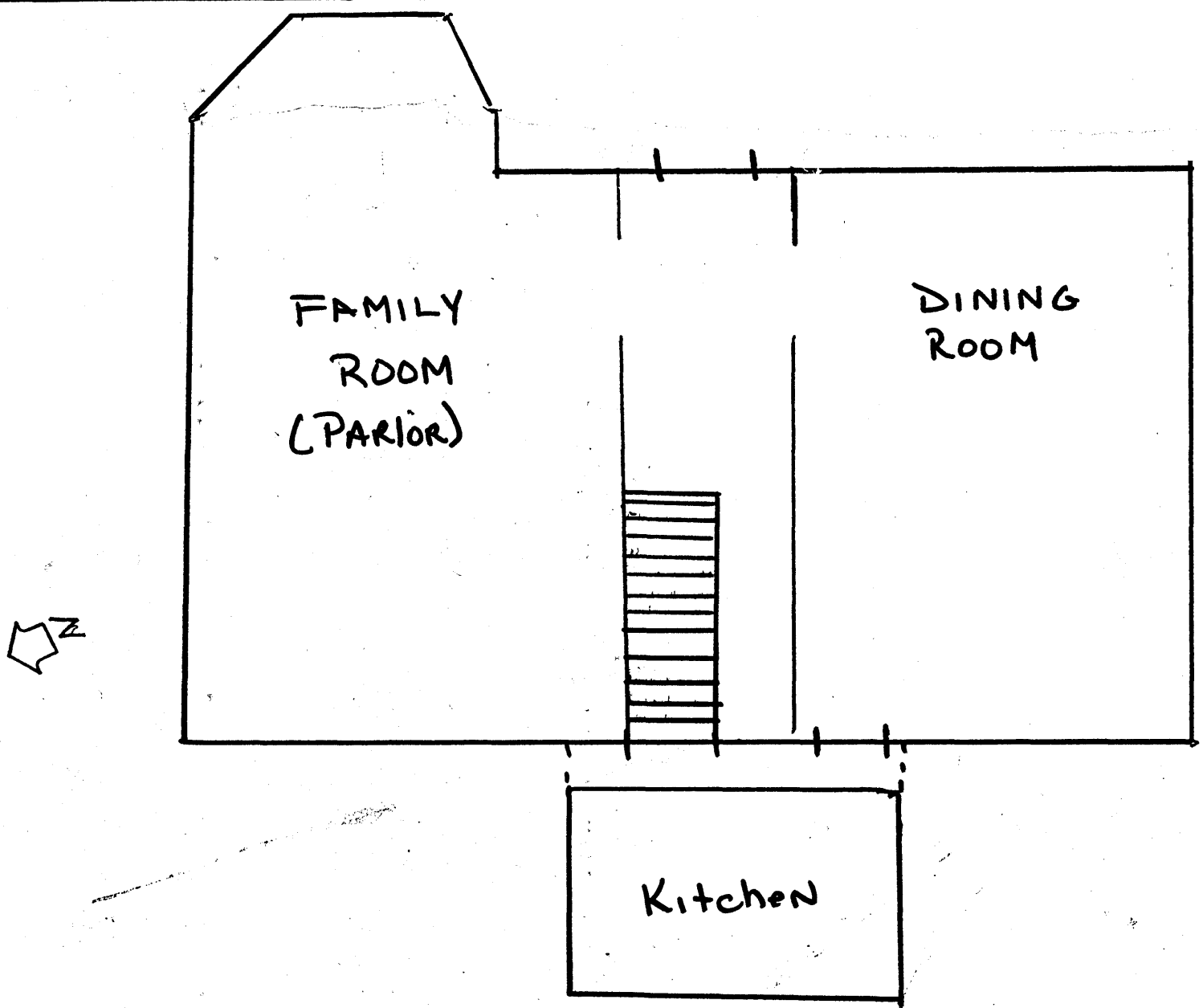
6. Rear lot and oak tree facing east
7. Photo 9 of 10

6. Oak tree facing south
7. Photo 10 of 10



614 WHITEHALL STREET DAYTONA BEACH, FL
HOWARD THURMAN HOUSE
NOT TO SCALE

FRONT OF PROPERTY

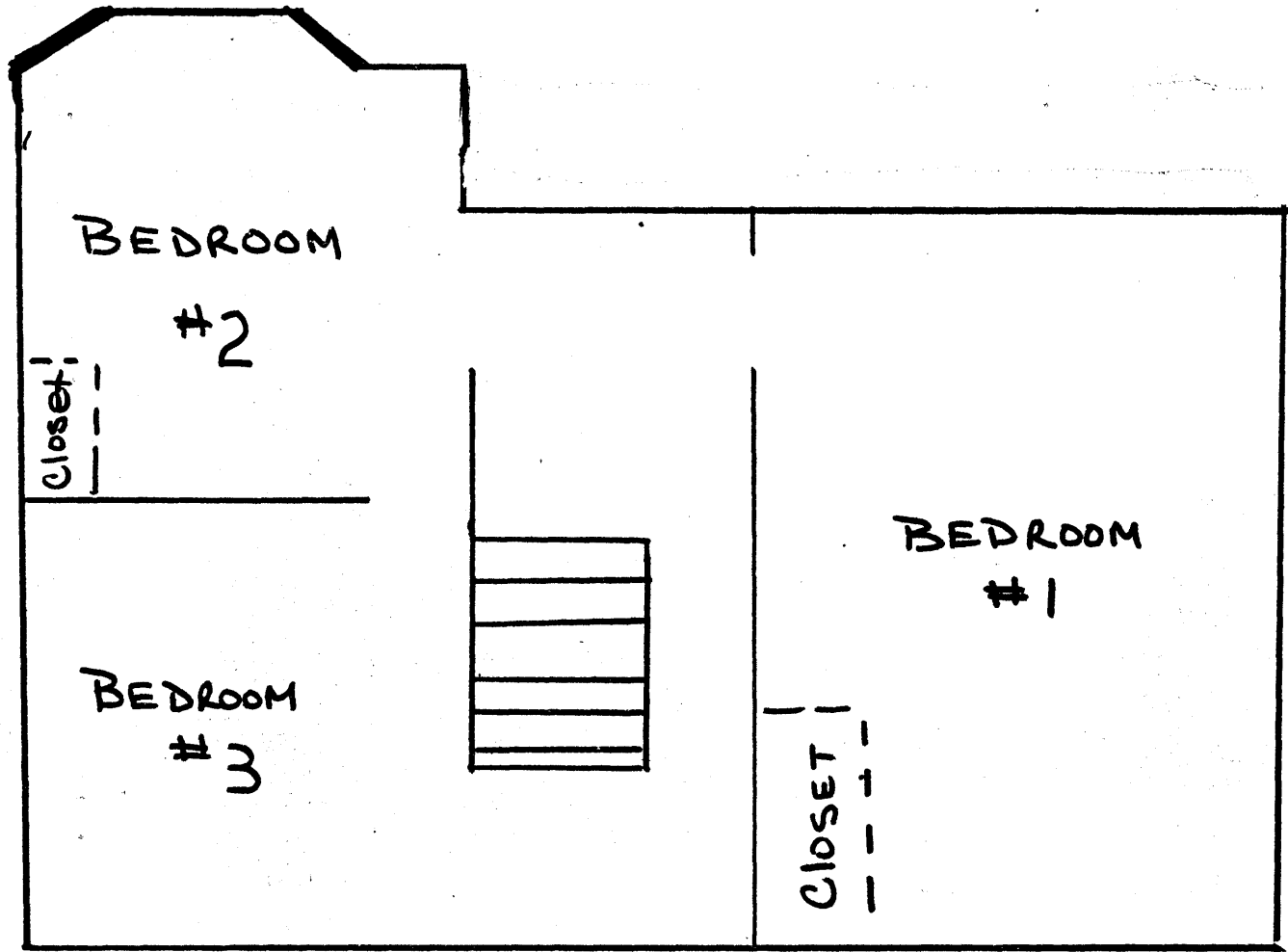


614 Whitehall Street

1st FLOOR PLAN

NOT TO SCALE

FRONT #1 DRAWING



614 Whitehall Street

2ND FLOOR PLAN

NOT TO SCALE