National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page ____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number:99000472Date Listed: 4/26/99Scharnberg HouseFLORIDAHendryProperty NameCountyState

<u>N/A</u>

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.

Signature of the Keeper

Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination is amended to delete 1927 as a significant date. Although that is the year in which the house was constructed, architectural significance is not being claimed. The association of the house with the locally significant engineer, J. B. Scharnberg, did not begin until 1931.

This amendment has been confirmed with the Florida SHPO.

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

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

RECEIVED 2280		OMB No. 1024-0018
MAR 2 3 1999		412
NAT REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLA NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	ICES	

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. 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

National Register

removed from the National

Register.

□ See continuation sheet.

nistoric name SCHARNBERG HOUSE
other names/site number
2. Location
street & number 325 East Del Monte Avenue N/A not for publication
citv or town <u>Clewiston</u> <u>N/A</u> vicinity
state
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this I 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.)
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau
4. National Park Service Certification
hereby certify that the property is: A entered in the National Register B see continuation sheet A determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
determined not eligible for the

Name of Property		County and State			
5. Classification			·····	······································	
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resou (Do not include any pre	rces within Proper viously listed resources	'ty in the count)	
 private public-local public-State public-Federal 	 buildings district site structure object 	Contributing	Noncontribut	ing	
		1	2	buildings	
		0	0	sites	
		0	0	structures	
		0	0	objects	
		1	2	total	
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of		Number of contrib listed in the Natio	outing resources p onal Register	reviously	
"N	/A"	0			
6. Function or Use			····		
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from instr	uctions)		
DOMESTIC: single dwelling		DOMESTIC: single dw	relling		
			······································		
7. Description			····		
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from	n instructions)		
LATE 19 th & 20 th CENTURY REVIVALS:		foundation STUCCO			
Tudor Revival		walls <u>STUCCO</u>			
		roof ASBESTOS	5		

other GLASS

Hendry Co., FL

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

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Name of Property	County and State
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.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ENGINEERING
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.	Period of Significance
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.)	Significant Dates 1927
Property is:	
A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person Scharnberg, J.B.
B removed from its original location.	
C a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation N/A
D a cemetery.	
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder Clark, Lawrence J.
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years	Heard Glenn
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 o Previous documentation on file (NPS):	r more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:
 preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National 	 State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal agency Local government

Hendry Co., FL

L	previously	listed in the	National F	kegister
Ľ	previously	determined	eligible by	the National

Register	
	a National Historia Landmark

- designated a National Historic Landmark
 recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- <u>#</u>____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

University

Other Name of Repository

<u>Scharnberg House</u> Name of Property	Hendry Co., FL County and State		
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property less than one			
UTM References (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)			
1 7 5 0 6 9 2 0 2 9 5 9 7 2 0 Zone Easting Northing 1	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 5ee 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 Mikki Hartig/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Speciali	st		
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation	date1999		
street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street	telephone (850) 487-2333		
citv or town <u>Tallahassee</u>			
Additional Documentation			
Submit the following items with the completed form:			
Continuation Sheets			
Maps			
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th	e 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 Mr. and Mrs. Earle Edwards III			
street & number <u>325 East Del Monte Avenue</u>	telephone 941-983-5642		
citv or town <u>Clewiston</u>			

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 amend 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.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____ Page __1 SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

SUMMARY

The Scharnberg House is located at 325 East Del Monte Avenue, Clewiston, Hendry County, Florida. The 1926 residence has frame construction with a stucco exterior surface, and is built in the Tudor Revival Style. The building has a continuous slab foundation, an irregular footprint, and a complex hip and gable roof with asbestos and asphalt shingles. The residence was designed by Clark J. Lawrence, a West Palm Beach architect. Other than non-historic additions made to the rear of the home with minor alteration of the historic fabric, the architectural integrity has been retained. Two non-contributing outbuildings are located north of the house.

SETTING

Clewistown is located on the southwest shore of Lake Okeechobee, 61 miles west of Palm Beach, and 62 miles east of Ft. Myers. Clewiston is the largest of two incorporated cities in Hendry County. The Scharnberg House is located in the Marcheta residential section of the city. The house is situated on a rise called the Clewiston Ridge, on the north side of Del Monte Boulevard. The lots are large and most surrounding houses are nonhistoric, except for several homes further west that are from the same period as the Scharnberg House. The grassed lot has scattered mature oak and palm trees, and a few shrubs (Photo #1).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior

The historic core of the house is two-story and roughly forms an "L" with cross hipped roofs. The historic roof is asbestos tile with barrelform ridge shingles. Roofs on the additions are asphalt shingles. The stucco exterior surface has exposed half timbering on the second story at the south and east elevations. Windows are non-historic 4/4 and 6/6 single hung sashes with shutters.

The <u>main, south facade</u> has a one-story, shed roofed, centrally located entrance porch (Photo # 2) . The porch projects from an eastern block of the house, and is aligned with an intersecting western block. Within the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____ Page ____ SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

arched recess of the porch is the main door of vertical, solid wooden panels, and containing a diamond patterned leaded light. There are three single windows on the second story, and two singles, and one double window on the first story. A one-story gable extension is visible to the east, and one-story garages are visible to the rear of the house on the west.

The <u>east elevation</u> has a pair of one-story, gable end roofs over a single wall which includes three non-historic 8/8 windows (Photo #3). The hip roofed, two story portion of the house is visible above these gables.

The <u>north elevation</u> is complex with one and two stories, and projections (Photo #4). At the northeast corner is an open patio with waist high wall, and a sliding glass door into the house. A screened porch is adjacent and even with the patio. Adjacent to, and even with the screened porch is an extension at the northwest corner of the house with two hip roofs. Visible above these one-story elements are the hip roofed second story. A broad stuccoed chimney rises at the center of the eastern block, and two windows are in the wall of the north end of the west block. Joined on the west side with the one story hip roofed extension are two garages of uneven depth (Photo #5).

The <u>west elevation</u> is two stories with a hip roof, and a hipped extension on the northwest corner (Photo #6). Two single windows, and two double windows are at the first story. Two single windows, and one double window are at the second story. At the connection to the two garages is an arched door into the house. The garage closest to the house has been enclosed on the south side with a bank of modern sash windows.

Interior

The interior plan of the house includes a living room, family room, dining room, laundry room, pantry, kitchen, three bedrooms, and three bathrooms. Walls are plaster and floors in most rooms are oak. Upon entering the main door (Photo #7), one enters the living room (Photo #8). Pecky cypress ceiling beams are within the living room ceiling. Wooden bookcases on the east wall flank what was an door to the original screened porch,; the area is now a wall. A floor to ceiling brick fireplace surround has a wooden mantel, and is flanked by two pairs of French doors (Photo #9). These doors originally accessed a rear patio, but now open onto a family room addition (Photos #10 & 11). An interior stairway with a simple wood handrail rises from the west side of the living room to the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number _____ Page ____ SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

second floor (Photo #12). West of the living room is the dining room. Some upstairs bedrooms feature tray ceilings with plain wood trim molding (Photo #13). The upstairs contains one full, and one half bath (Photo #14). The original garage to the west of the kitchen was enclosed with windows across the south wall (Photo #6).

ALTERATIONS

In 1965 a larger garage was added onto the west side of the original garage. In 1970 the original garage door was enclosed (Photo #6). In 1990, the original north, rear patio was enclosed to create a family room with an additional enclosed porch and patio to the north (Photos #4 & 11). The northern gable end with exposed timbers on the eastern elevation was created with this addition (Photo #3). In 1995, the door between the living room and eastern porch was enclosed (Photo #8). A trellis covering to the west elevation door was built in 1996 (Photo #6).

NON-CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

A very small storage building is north of the house and east of the garage (Photo #5). It has vinyl siding exterior, and a asphalt shingle, gable roof. Northeast of the residence is a three-bay, wooden carport that was added in 1965 (Photo #15). The carport has a shed roof surfaced with sheet metal and supported on square wooden posts. The northern bay of the three bay carport is enclosed with plywood. The gable ends on the north and south are surfaced with plywood.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1 SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY **COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Scharnberg House is nominated to the National Register on the local level under Criterion B for its association with Herman J.B. Scharnberg. He was a German born engineer and inventor who held numerous patents for machinery innovations. Working for the United States Sugar Corporation, he continued to modify methods of grinding and processing sugar cane, and at the time of his death had developed the largest, most advanced sugar grinding mill in the world.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Clewiston area was used by Native-Americans as a fishing location beside Lake Okeechobee, and was a part of a lake basin Caloosahatchee culture that dates to 500 B.C. The Caloosahatchee River flows from the lake to the Gulf of Mexico, joining the inland region to the Charlotte Harbor area on the Gulf. During the period of Spanish exploration the lake basin societies were linked with the dominant Calusa culture on the Gulf. Following the construction of the Disston Canal in 1883, the ridge jutting into Lake Okeechobee, and shaped like an anvil, was known as Sand Point. The earliest historic enterprise in the area was commercial fishing in 1914. These settlers were 12 Japanese from California who had been sold land by promoters. They cleared land for farming. Beginning in 1921, the first large move toward development was accomplished by John and Marian O'Brien. With financial backing from exchange National Bank in Tampa, they promoted a new city known as Clewiston, named for the National Bank president, Alonzo Clewis. The O'Brien's had a railroad spur on the Atlantic Coast Line run to Sand Point. The Clewiston Land Company was formed and John Nolen was hired to lay out a town plan. Within a few years the O'Brien's sold their holdings, and the Clewiston, Limited bought the town. Members of the group invested with Bror G. Dahlberg, president of Celotex Company from Chicago, who made wallboard from the residue of sugar cane. The group in 1925 formed the Southern Sugar Company to build a sugar mill near Clewiston. That same year the official plat map of Clewiston was realized with 10,000 lots for sale. The town became independently incorporated in 1931.

Dahlberg began acquiring large tracts of land for sugar cane raising, and viewed the commercial development of Clewiston, the sugar industry, and

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 2

SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

Celotex as an interconnected enterprise. The Southern Sugar Company placed a 1500 ton sugar mill into production in January of 1929, and marked the sugar industry as a major economic enterprise within the state. Southern Sugar acquired a 400 ton mill at nearby Canal Point, owned by Florida Sugar and Food Products.

Sugar cane had been an indigenous crop of the Native-Americans. Spanish settlers cultivated it and imported sugar mills. Nineteenth Century plantation owners and small farmers had grown sugar cane and made syrup using small mills turned by mules. The large production south Florida sugar business curtailed much of the local production, altering a traditional occupation.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The Scharnberg House was built by the Clewiston Development Company in 1927. Designed by Palm Beach architect Clark J. Lawrence, and built by contractor Glenn Heard. The home was built for Percey G. Bishop, the new vice-president of Southern Sugar Company. The house was built on the Sand Point ridge overlooking Lake Okeechobee and was one of the earliest homes built upon the platted city. Bishop departed Clewiston in 1931, following financial problems which led to the reorganization of the company. The reorganized company was called the United States Sugar Corporation. That year J.B. Scharnberg became the new plant manager and occupied the house.

J.B. Scharnberg was born in Hamburg, Germany, where he began his mechanical training at the Stadisches Tecknikum Sternberg and the University of Berlin. He received degrees in both Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. In 1904, at the age of 21, he came to the United States, and spent several years as an engineer with the Merritt, Chapman, & Scott Wrecking Company as Supervising Engineer. Subsequently, he joined the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad in Scranton, Pennsylvania, as Division Supervisor. During this time he established a night school teaching engineering and economics. In 1906, he married Marie Margaret Schmidt of New York City, Staten Island, New York. Together they had one child, a son, Oliver H. Scharnberg, born in 1910.

In 1910, Scharnberg joined the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company and began a close friendship with George Westinghouse. After two years with the firm he was sent to Brazil to take charge of the company's first major contract, the installation of the Rio de Janeiro Light and

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number <u>8</u> Page <u>3</u> SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

Tramway System. While in South America, he became acquainted with a Mr. Grief who had an interest in sugar in Haiti. As a result of his meeting with Grief, his career in sugar began. He resigned from Westinghouse in 1915 to move to Haiti to oversee the construction of a sugar mill for the then Haitian American Sugar Company. He remained in Haiti until 1920 when he left to join the Cuban Dominican Sugar Company in Central Palma, Cuba. This led to another association with the General Sugar Company at Central Vertientes in Cuba. It was after this business association that he came to Clewiston.

It was said that Scharnberg's mechanical skill was that of a genius. He patented many inventions. He also attained prominence by his contributions in the field of sugar cane production. As he became more involved with the industry, his inventive character began to focus on developing new types of equipment, as well as new approaches to increase mill efficiency. During his eighteen years with the United States Sugar Corporation, he became well recognized in the field of sugar processing for numerous varieties of devices and methods. His machinery inventions and innovations were put to use in the Clewiston sugar mill, other sugar mills in America and Cuba. His inventions revolutionized sugar mill operations.

Upon Scharnberg's death in October, 1940, following a period of illness, a special tribute was published in the Clewiston News on behalf of Jay Moran, general manager and one of two chief executives of the United States Sugar Corporation, which at that time was the largest sugar mill in the United States. Mr. Moran noted: "we have lost a fine loyal citizen and a true gentlemen...he established citizenship in this county in 1906...In the following years of his life he brought great credit to himself and to the industries he served through his important and valuable contributions to the technology of those industries..." At the time of his death, he had just completed his latest invention, said to be one of the most important of his inventions, a new homoginizer and a revolutionary mill housing. In response to Scharnberg's death, an entertainment program which was planned for the formal dedication of the just completed United States Sugar Corporation's office building was called off.

In 1941, final installation of a new company mill, the Farrell-Scharnberg Mill, at the Clewiston sugar-house was completed. J.B. Scharnberg was honored in the naming of the mill for having developed many patents to make the new mill the "greatest improvement in mill design in a quarter century" His prominence was noted in the mechanical world by his

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 4

SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

connection with national and international societies including: Member, American Institute of Electrical Engineers; Member, Institution of Mechanical Engineers; London Life Fellow; Rosai Society of Encouragement of Arts, Manufacturers and Commerce, London; Life Member, The Society of American Military Engineers; Life Member, Verein Deutscher In Genieure, Germany; Member International Sugar Technologists; and Member, Association de Technicos Azucarerros de Cuba.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1 SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

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- Klick, Helen, interview with Mikki Hartig, February 1997. Former owner of house.
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1 SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY **COUNTY, FLORIDA**

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 4-7, Block 23, Clewiston, Florida

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the property historically associated with the Scharnberg House.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Photo Page 1 SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

- 1. Scharnberg House, 325 E. Del Monte Ave., Clewiston
- 2. Hendry County, Florida
- 3. Mikki Hartig
- 4. December 1996
- 5. Hartig, 3708 Flores Ave., Sarasota, FL 34239
- 6. Lawn and southwest elevation, facing northeast
- 7. Photo #1 of 15

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs.

South and east elevations, facing northeast
 Photo #2 of 15

East elevation, facing west
 Photo #3 of 15

East and north elevations, facing southwest
 Photo #4 of 15

6. North elevation and small outbuilding, facing south7. Photo #5 of 15

West elevation, facing east
 Photo #6 of 15

Interior main door, facing south
 Photo #7 of 15

Living room, facing east
 Photo #8 of 15

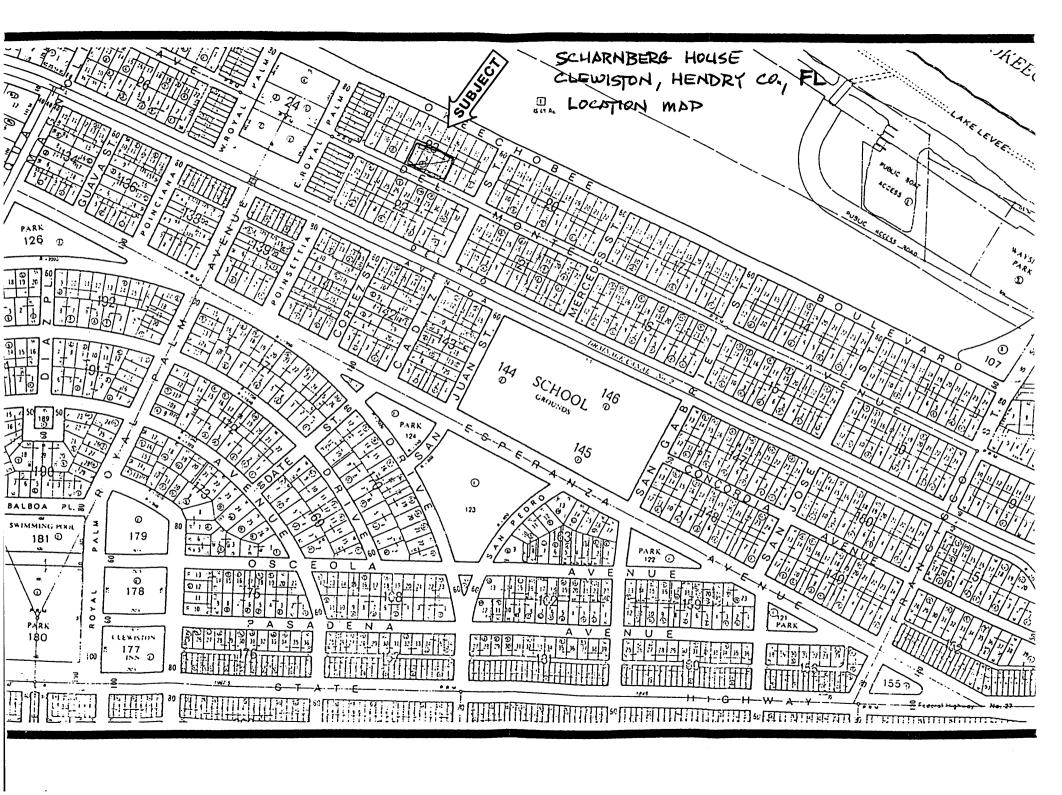
6. Fireplace, facing north7. Photo #9 of 15

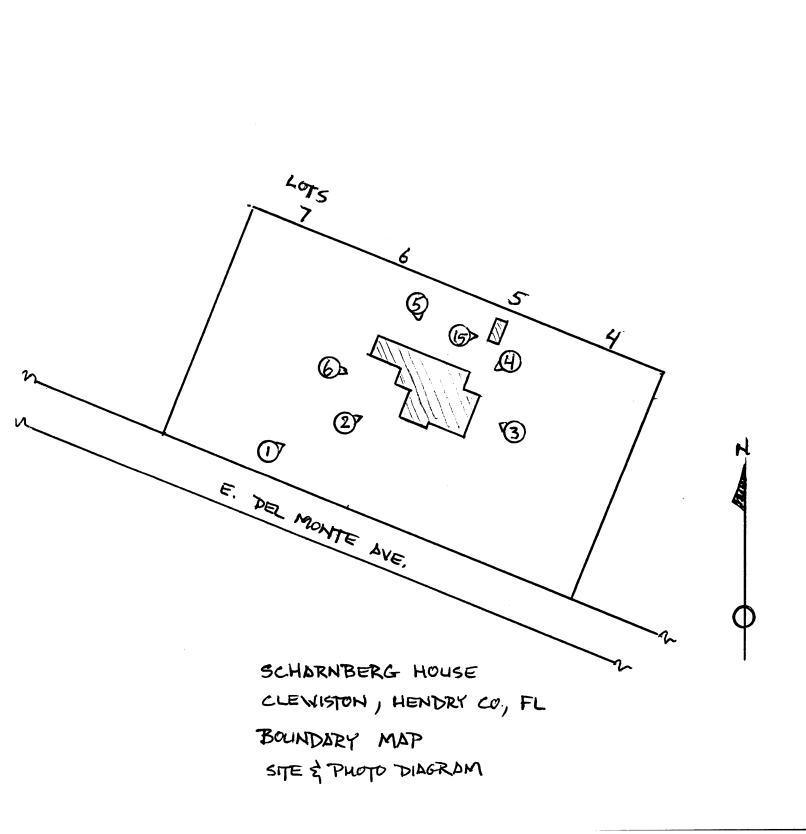
Family room addition, facing east
 Photo #10 of 15

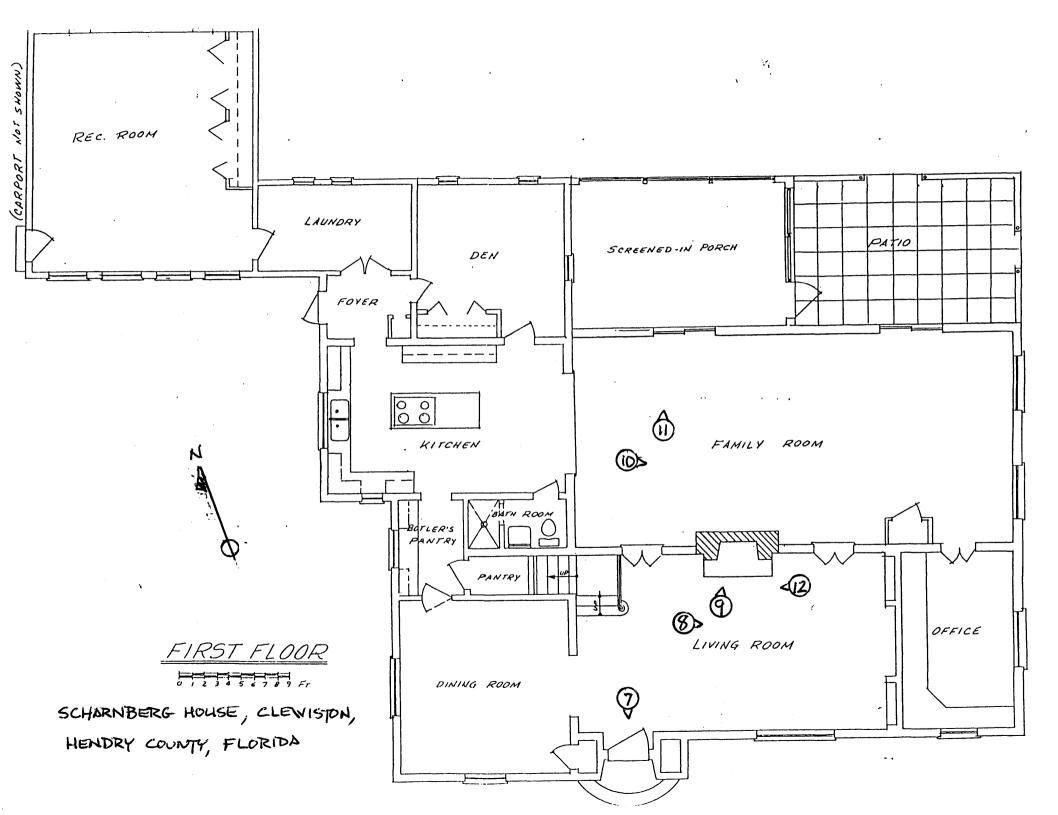
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

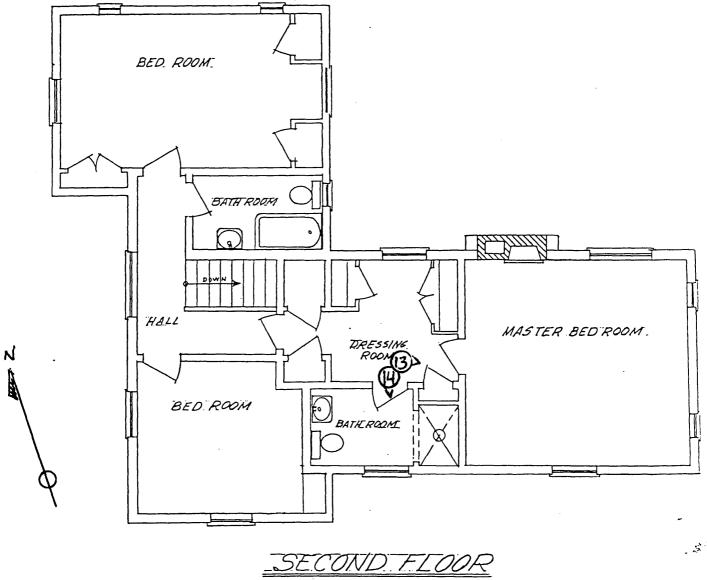
Section number _____ Photo ____ Page ____ SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY **COUNTY, FLORIDA**

- 6. Family room addition, facing north
- 7. Photo #11 of 15
- 6. Living room and stairwell, facing west
- 7. Photo #12 of 15
- 6. Second floor master bedroom, facing east
- 7. Photo #13 of 15
- 6. Second floor one-half bathroom, facing south
- 7. Photo #14 of 15
- 6. Outbuilding, facing northeast
- 7. Photo #15 of 15









SCHARNBERG HOUSE, CLEWISTON, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 FT.