

PH001 2921
8th Congressional District

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Glynn	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71-7-13-0033	DATE 7/14/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Rockefeller Cottage

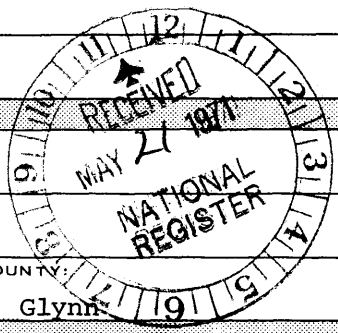
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Rockefeller Museum, Indian Mound

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
331 Riverview Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Jekyll Island

STATE Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Glynn	CODE 127
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	_____	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Jekyll Island State Park Authority

STREET AND NUMBER:
214 Trinity-Washington Building

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta	STATE: Georgia	CODE 13
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Jekyll Island State Park Authority

STREET AND NUMBER:
214 Trinity-Washington Building

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta	STATE: Georgia	CODE 13
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY:
 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: _____	STATE: _____	CODE _____
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia
COUNTY: Glynn
ENTRY NUMBER: 71-7-13-0033
DATE: 7/14/71
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rockefeller Cottage or "Indian Mound" as it is sometimes called because of an Indian burial mound on the property is administered by the Jekyll Island State Park Authority. This is a furnished historic house museum depicting the winter home of William Rockefeller from 1905 to 1942.

The Authority acquired the property in 1947 and it was opened to the public as a museum from 1950 through 1968 at which time it was closed for restoration and repair. (The furnishings were temporarily transferred to another house, the Porter-Claflin Cottage, where museum operations continued.)

When the Authority acquired the property it was badly in need of repair and through the following years deterioration, the result of indifference and inadequate maintenance, continued until December 1968 when restoration work was begun under the direction of Roger K. Beedle, retired consulting engineer of Jekyll Island.

The residence was originally built by Gordon McKay of Pittsfield, Massachusetts in 1892, an inventor and manufacturer of shoe machinery and member of the famous Jekyll Club. McKay died in 1903 and the property was acquired by William Rockefeller, younger brother of John D., in 1905. During Rockefeller's residence several additions were made which enlarged and greatly improved the appearance of the house.

Exterior: Architecturally the house is rural American; large square rooms with high ceilings, a fireplace in every room, bedrooms with private baths, ample closets, typical of homes of the wealthy built in the northeastern section of the country during the "gaslight" era.

The house is a 2 1/2 story building of "ballon" type wood frame construction. Rough native pine lumber was used in framing and is said to have been cut locally. Side walls are sheathed with full 1" thick rough pine boards over which are 4" X 17" cypress shingles laid 5 1/2" to the weather. Lateral wind bracing in the form of a modified Warren truss with the bottom chord at the second floor level and the top chord at the third floor level was built into one of the center hall partitions running through the house from north to south.

A porte-cochere supported by turned sectional wood columns adjoins the front entrance and is connected to a wide verandah extending around the north, west and south sides. Porch railings have turned wood balusters and the porch floor is a full 1 1/4" square edged pine.

The main roof having a pitch of 10" vertically and 12" horizontally is sheathed with full 1" thick pine board over which, presumably, cypress shingles were applied. At some unrecorded date, possible around 1930, asphalt composition shingles had been applied. During the 1969 restoration these were removed and replaced with John-Manville "Belair" shingles which, while fire-proof material, have a most realistic appearance of weathered wood shingles. Roofs of the porte-cochere and adjoining porches are covered with 40# Terne metal, a steel sheet with a coating of lead and tin that is very durable. This material was used in the original construction and had it not been for deterioration of the wood deck and supporting members, the (continued)



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1892, additions 1910

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rockefeller Cottage or "Indian Mound" as it is sometimes called because of an Indian burial mound on the property is administered by the Jekyll Island State Park Authority. This is a furnished historic house museum depicting the retreat of William Rockefeller during a residency from 1905 to 1942.

The Authority acquired the property in 1947 and it was opened to the public as a museum from 1950 through 1968 at which time it was closed for restoration and repair. (The furnishings were temporarily transferred to another house, the Porter-Claflin Cottage, where museum operations continued.)

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The Rockefeller Cottage should be registered as it is presented for public view as an authentic museum depicting the residence of a personality of historic importance during the period when Jekyll was in its heyday. Architecturally it is significant because it reflects resort taste in shingle style cottages to be found throughout the eastern seaboard.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Beedle, Roger K., Diary of Reconstruction and Restoration of Rockefeller Cottage.
 Fish, Tallu, "Once Upon An Island."
 Fish, Tallu, Scrapbook of newspaper clippings pertaining to Jekyll Island events.
 Gibson, Dorothy R., "Jekyll Island's Historical Heritage."
 Records and Ledgers of Jekyll Club.

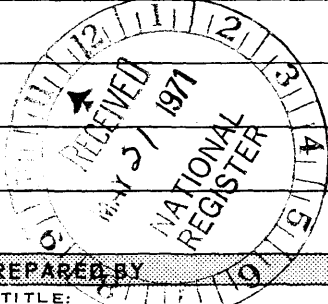
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
NW	Degrees Minutes Seconds 31 ° 03 ' 29 "	Degrees Minutes Seconds 81 ° 25 ' 20 "		Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	Degrees Minutes Seconds ° ' "	
NE	31 ° 03 ' 25 "	81 ° 25 ' 17 "				
SE	31 ° 03 ' 27 "	81 ° 25 ' 17 "				
SW	31 ° 03 ' 27 "	81 ° 25 ' 20 "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **2.65 acres**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



NO UTM
 CX
 SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Roger K. Beedle, Consulting Engineer**

ORGANIZATION: **Jekyll Island State Park Authority** DATE: **April 8, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **422 Captain Wylly Road**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jekyll Island** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name *Mary G. Jewett*
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date May 19, 1971

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

Armit A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
JUL 14 1971

Date _____
 ATTEST:
William M. ...
 Keeper of The National Register
JUN 24 1971
 Date _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia
COUNTY	DeKalb
FOR NPS USE ONLY	RECEIVED 1971
ENTRY NUMBER	71.7.13.00.5
DATE	7/4/71

(Number all entries) 7. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE, page two
original metal would undoubtedly have lasted many more years.

A high percentage of the original window glass showing manufacturing defects remains as does the fine bevel plate glass lights in the doors.

At the rear of the house is a clothes drying yard enclosed by an 8'-0" high brick wall. Beneath the yard is a large brick cistern into which all the rain water from the roof drained. Presumably the water was used for laundry purposes.

Interior: When originally built the room arrangement consisted of four rooms and a center hall on both the first and second floors. There was a full basement, extremely well waterproofed, under the entire house which rested on a brick foundation. Above the second floor was a commodious attic, later utilized for servants bedrooms.

Several additions were made to the house over the years but authentic records have not as yet been found to determine who did what and when.

Some evidence appeared indicating the original house may not have had bathrooms. This conjecture is substantiated by the installation of a door from the northwest bedroom into the adjoining bath which required cutting out a section of one of the struts of the wind bracing truss described earlier. But who installed the bathrooms and when is not known. Further evidence stems from the manner in which piping was installed to accommodate obvious obstructions.

A photograph taken in 1910 shows the kitchen addition with its two maid's bedrooms above. The installation of the rear porches was a still later addition as was the enclosure of one of the rear porches. Physical evidence uncovered during restoration supports these features were true additions and since the photograph is dated 1910 either McKay or Rockefeller may have been the author.

While absence of a kitchen in the original house may seem strange, it was the custom to take all meals at the Jekyll Club and it was only after the acquisition of a staff of servants that a small kitchen became necessary.

The principal addition sometime after 1910, quite definitely attributed to Mr. Rockefeller, is the 21' X 26' living room with its great bay window covering the entire west end of the room overlooking Indian Mound and beyond to Jekyll River and the marshes. This addition also included two bath rooms and a large storage vault on the first floor, an elevator (hand operated) and a beautiful sitting room adjoining the master bedroom and a large master bath room with dual lavatories on the second floor.

It was about this time too that the original porch was removed and the portecochere and verandahs were built. Later, rooms for seven servants and three servant's baths were partitioned off in the attic.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Glynn	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
PRIMARY NUMBER	18-0233	DATE
		7/14/91

(Number all entries)

7. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE. page three

Prior to Mr. Rockefeller's residence when a coal fired water heating system was installed fireplaces, one in every room, provided the heat.

Cast iron radiators, some in semi-circular form in the bay windows, have since been removed upon installation of a modern air conditioning system.

Interior partitions are of wood stud construction finished with plaster on wood lath. Over the plaster a canvas covering is applied and then the walls painted. Most of the downstairs rooms have chair rail and applied mouldings to form panels.

Decorative woodwork in the large living room is especially handsome. The fireplace is flanked by two rectangular fluted columns with Ionic capitals. Similar columns also flank the bay window extending the full width of the room.

The floors are of rift-sawed pine showing a handsome grain and since they had been covered with wall to wall carpeting they are in excellent condition.

The room arrangement is well designed. One enters a wide hall at the end of which is the staircase to the second floor. On the right is the front parlor with its rather formal furniture and fireplace with handsome fittings. Beyond the parlor and between the living room is a reception room through which one passes to reach the beautiful living room with its expansive bay window and distinguished fireplace. To the left of the central hall is a short transverse hall from which one enters the library on the left and dining room to the right which is connected by passage to the kitchen and pantries. All rooms except the kitchen and pantries have fireplaces and there are 3 1/2 baths on the first floor. Ceiling height is 11'-0" and the floor area is 3000 sq. ft.

The stairway to the second floor is illuminated by a stained glass window of Tiffany glass set in the outside wall above the landing.

At the second floor one finds a hall leading to the master bedroom-sitting room suite with its bay window overlooking Jekyll River and the marshes. A hand operated elevator provides service between the bedroom and the reception room downstairs. There are also two large closets, one containing a massive safe off the bedroom. At the sitting room end is a fireplace and a door leading to the large bathroom with its enormous cast iron tub and a dual marblé topped lavatory. The plumbing fixtures are silver plated.

There are also three guest bedrooms, each with its individual fireplace and private bath. Two of these bedrooms, on the north side of the house, have access to a pleasant second floor porch with its view of the river and the Jekyll Club.

At the rear of the second floor are two maid's rooms and bath and a back stair down to the kitchen and up to the attic where there are seven servant's

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Georgia	
COUNTY	Glynn	
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		7/14/71

(Number all entries)

7. PHYSICAL APPEARANCE. Page four

bedrooms and three baths.

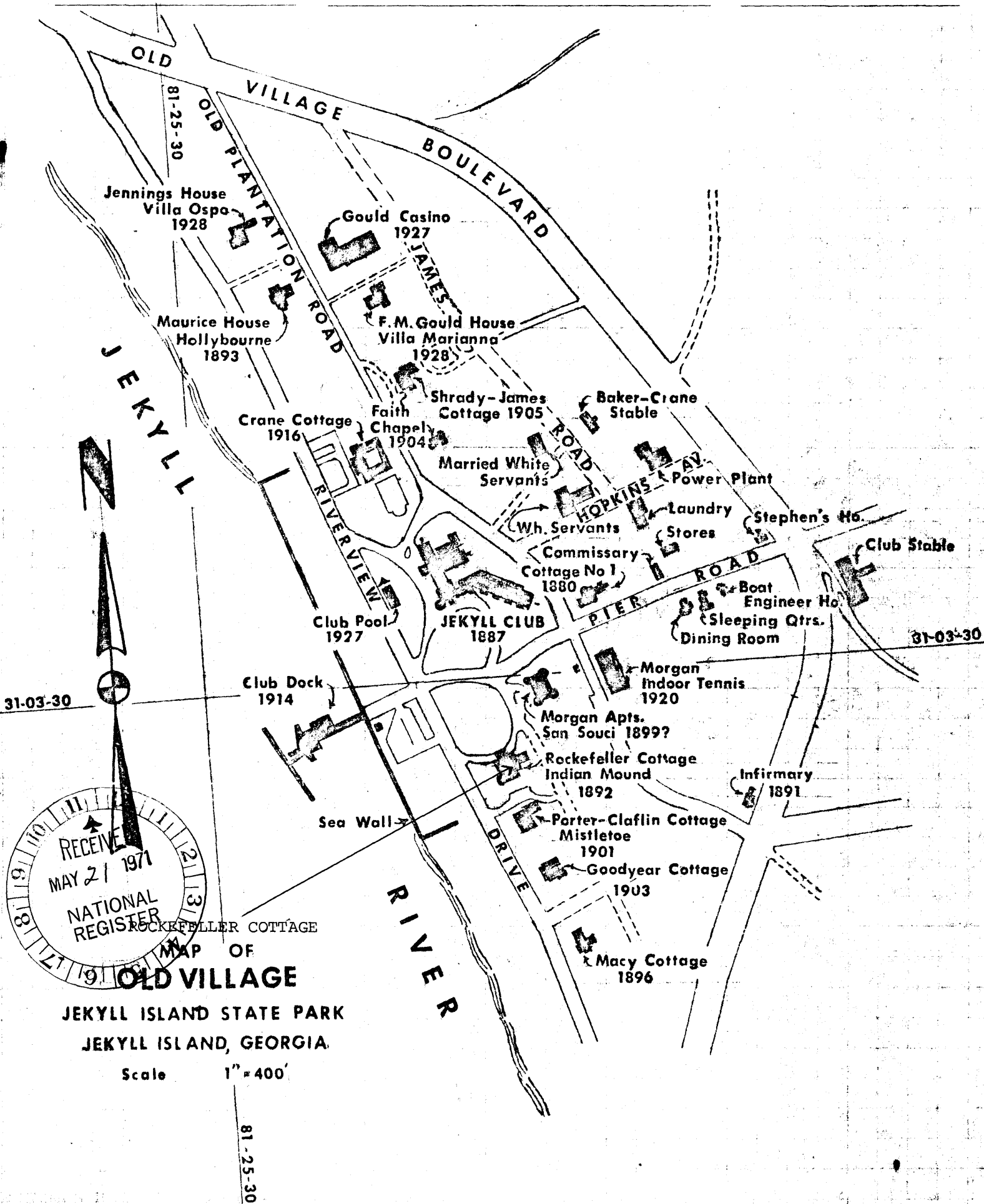
Ceiling height of the second floor is also 11'-0" and the floor area is 3000 sq. ft.

It is indeed fortunate that authentic furniture was available from the various "Old Village" homes to permit complete furnishings for the museum. Practically all the furniture was in a sad state of disrepair necessitating re-upholstering and refinishing.

Carpeting and draperies are new. Carpets especially made of patterns in vogue circa 1900 were fabricated in 27" widths and sewn together in accordance with the custom of the times. Drapery and upholstery fabrics have been carefully selected for appropriate patterns and colors.

Every effort has been made to restore this interesting monument to its original appearance. Structural repairs have been required, of course, and all original electric wiring replaced. In addition, a modern heating and air conditioning system with humidity control has been installed to preserve the house and its contents.





RECEIVED
MAY 21 1971
NATIONAL REGISTER

MAP OF
OLD VILLAGE

JEKYLL ISLAND STATE PARK
JEKYLL ISLAND, GEORGIA.

Scale 1" = 400'

81-25-30