

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: 91000857

Date Listed: 7/12/91

VanderSys, Arthur, House  
Property Name

Mobile  
County

ALABAMA  
State

Spanish Revival Residences in Mobile MPS  
Multiple Name

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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.

*Patrick Anders*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Signature of the Keeper

7/12/91  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

Section No. 3: The count was amended to add one non-contributing resource (the recent detached garage).

Section No. 10: The verbal boundary description was amended to read: "Begin at a point on the west side of Florence place 500' N of the N line of Old Shell Road, thence proceed N 75' to a point, thence W 124.1' to a point, thence S 275' to a point, thence E 241.1' to the point of beginning."

These changes were confirmed with the state by phone (7/12/91).

**DISTRIBUTION:**

National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 21 1990  
1981

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

Ala. Historical Commission  
NATIONAL REGISTER

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 VanderSys, Arthur House  
other names/site number Cloninger, James Curtis, House

2. Location

street & number 119 Florence Place N/A not for publication  
city, town Mobile N/A vicinity  
state Alabama code Al county Mobile code 097 zip code 36607

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: Spanish Revival Residences in Mobile, 1904-1909  
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
[Signature] 5-22-91  
Signature of certifying official Date  
Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)  
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register. [Signature] 7/12/91  
 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 of the Keeper Date of Action

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/single dwellingCurrent Functions (enter categories from instructions)  
Domestic/single dwelling

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Stucco

roof Ceramic tile

other

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**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The VanderSys-Cloninger House sits on a 75 x 124 foot lot opposite the island in the Florence Place Subdivision. The island originally contained a fountain but is now a flower bed. The house occupies one of the larger lots in the development. The landscaping is informal. An original metal lamppost with glass light globe is in front of the house on the sidewalk.

The house itself is a one story, stucco, 2x3 bay Spanish Revival structure. The facade features a parapeted south bay with casement windows with fan transom, coping and clustered pipes. There is an arched wing wall south, projecting octagonal room with hip roof north adjacent. This room is entered from the south side and the entrance is covered by a bracketed shed roof. A rounded tile floor porch with stone balusters is centered on the octagonal bay, with an awning above. There is an exterior stucco chimney on the northeast face of this bay. The side elevations include a recessed central bay, grouped 9/1 windows, clustered pipes and a parapeted roof with coping.

The interior features an irregular plan. All rooms have stucco walls, hardwood floors (laid in an octagonal pattern in the north front room), and baseboards. All interior doors have transoms. There is a fireplace on the northeast wall with a terra-cotta tile hearth. There is an open archway into the dining room. The north rear room has a round top stained glass window which may be original to the house.

Integrity

The VanderSys-Cloninger House retains its integrity of location, plan and design. There are no significant interior or exterior changes.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

1926  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1926  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation  
NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

VanderSys, Arthur

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

CRITERION C: ARCHITECTURE

The VanderSys-Cloninger House is significant under National Register Criterion C as a typical middle class expression of the Spanish Revival style. Erected in one of Mobile's developing suburbs in 1926, the house exhibits classic elements of the Spanish Revival, including stucco construction, ceramic tile roof and interior and exterior arches, as well as a more unusual arched wing wall.

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Florence Place was platted in 1926 by George Fearn and Son. This development consisted of fifty lots along a street between Old Shell Road and Springhill Avenue. Deed restrictions stipulated that no house costing less than \$4000 was to be constructed and that a uniform setback of 25 feet was to be observed. Early efforts to require an all Spanish Revival neighborhood (inspired by Hollywood) foundered on buyer resistance and the economic realities of the Depression.

One of the earliest houses in the development was built in 1926 by Arthur VanderSys for his personal residence. VanderSys was a contractor who would build many houses in Mobile's expanding suburbs, including several on Florence Place.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Alan Gowans. The Comfortable House. Cambridge, Mass. The MIT Press. 1986.

Mobile City Director, 1926.

Mobile City Tax Records

Mobile County Deed Books.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Specify repository:

Mobile Historic Development Comm.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property less than one acre

UTM References

A 

1	6	3	9	5	6	4	0
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3	3	9	5	5	0	0
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Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

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Zone      Easting      Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

Begin at a point on the west side of Florence place 500' N of the N line of Old Shell Road, thence proceed N 75' to a point, thence @ 124.1' to a point, thence 275' to a point, thence E 241.1' to the point of beginning.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary conforms to the present legal dimensions of the lot.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title John Sledge/Architectural Historian; Steven Kay/AHC Reviewer

organization Mobile Historic Development Comm. date October 1, 1990

street & number P.O. Box 1827 telephone (205) 438-7281

city or town Mobile state Al zip code 36633

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

photo-  
Section number graphs Page 1 VanderSys-Cloninger House

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1. VanderSys-Cloninger House  
119 Florence Place
2. Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
3. John Sledge, photographer
4. April 1990
5. MHDC Negative File-MB #180 and 181

Photo #	Description (Roll/Frame #)
1.	Facade, camera facing W (180/2)
2.	General, camera facing NW (181/31)
3.	General, camera facing NW (181/32)
4.	Interior, front room, camera facing NE (181/4)
5.	Dining room, camera facing E (181/7)
6.	Front room, camera facing W (181/5)