

PH0141160

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Florida

COUNTY:
St. Johns

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
OCT 15 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
The O'Reilly House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
House of Don Lorenzo de Leon (Puente Map, 1763; Sq. "C" No. 266)

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
131 Aviles Street

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Augustine

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Fourth

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: St. Johns CODE: 109

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 type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Will open to public 9/73.

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Sisters of St. Joseph, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
241 St. George Street

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Augustine

STATE: Florida CODE: 12

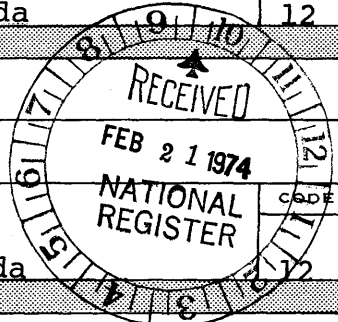
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
St. Johns County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Augustine

STATE: Florida CODE: 12



6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: D.C. CODE: 12

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: St. Johns

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The O'Reilly House is 40'9" x 30'2½" horizontally, and 31'0" vertically from finish grade to ridge line. It has two stories plus a large attic. It was probably enlarged during the British occupancy (1763/83) since chimneys were unknown in the houses of the first Spanish period (1565-1763).

Both the ground and second floors each consist of three rooms and a stair hall. The exterior walls and interior ground floor partitions are well constructed of coquina stone. The center wall, ground floor, east side, is made of "tabby," and is probably part of an earlier, smaller house, before the use of coquina in the 1700's.

There is a single chimney of coquina on the west exterior wall. This chimney admits fireplaces into its east face on both the ground and second story levels.

There are five entrances on the ground floor: two on the north, two on the east and one on the south. The eastern portion of the house consists of a large room on the north-east and the stair hall on the south-east. The western portion consists of a small room on the south-west and one other room on the north-west. There is a fireplace on the west wall of the latter.

On the second floor there is a single large room across the east end of the house. The west end of the house consists of a small room on the south-west and a larger room on the north-west. The stair hall lies between the south-west and the east end rooms. A portion of the east end of the stair hall is partitioned off and contains another stairway which leads up to the attic. The second story fireplace is on the west wall of the north-west room.

The flooring on the ground floor is 4½" x 4½" ceramic tile, red and black alternating in a checkerboard pattern on the edges, and a Spanish tile design in the center. The flooring on the second floor is pine planking laid in a running pattern.

There is a single cantilevered, roofed balcony running the length of the east facade at the second story level.

The roof is a gable with a ridge running east and west. The roofs of both the house and the balcony are covered with asbestos cement shingles. Eaves extend about one foot and are terminated by a square edged wood fascia.

The present O'Reilly House was extensively repaired in the mid 1940's. (It was not "reconstructed" in the sense of being
(con't.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

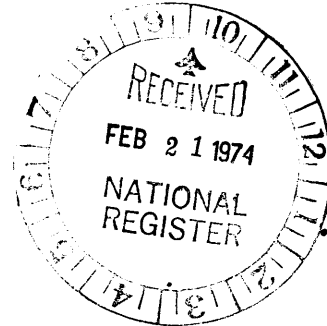
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
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(Number all entries) 7. Description

torn down and put up from old plans). In the 1940's the new tile floors were laid; the (cypress) ceilings were replaced; plumbing and electrical systems were installed; roofing was replaced; the coquina in the fireplace and chimney was rebuilt; the balconies were reconstructed. The exterior woodwork was replaced while the interior wood remains the same. The coquina walls, though repaired, are the original walls; the flooring in the attic, ceiling beams and wood in attic partitions are all the original wood. The interior doors are originals, repaired. Window glass and interior wood of doors and windows are all old materials. Some hardware on doors was brought from England in the 1940's and is of the same period as the house.



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

 Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1763, Puente Map: "Sq. "C" No. 266"

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

 Prehistoric Historic Agriculture Architecture Art Commerce Communications Conservation Education Engineering Industry Invention Landscape Architecture Literature Military Music Political Religion/Phi-

losophy

 Science Sculpture Social/Human-

itarian

 Theater Transportation Urban Planning Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The O'Reilly House is significant historically because its present architecture reveals at least two different historical and cultural periods; it seems to manifest eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century architectural features, indicating that it was altered and enlarged at different periods. The last basic change was the addition of the fireplace, probably during the English occupation. Work on the house since has been to repair and restore, not reconstruct or alter. The presence of a tabby wall, now an interior partition, is significant of very early construction. The use of coquina blocks in the second floor exterior walls, and also to join the roof ridge at the east and west ends, indicates extensive enlargement after the first Spanish period.

The house has significance in the history of the Roman Catholic Church. The property was willed by Don Miquel O'Reilly to the Church authorities "in trust" for a future religious Community in the tradition of St. Francis de Sales. And it was only when Bishop Verot introduced into the Diocese of St. Augustine members of the Sisters of St. Joseph from their place of origin in Le Puy, France, that there was in St. Augustine a religious Community founded on the plan of St. Francis de Sales. The building was first used by Church authorities as the Catholic Rectory--home of the Pastor of the parish church of St. Augustine. Here were held many conferences with Spanish authorities during the construction of the present Cathedral of St. Augustine, now an historical monument. In 1867 the building was the dwelling of the Sisters of St. Joseph when they were opening their free schools for negro children, on this same property. It was used in the following years for school purposes in the development of the St. Augustine Catholic schools. Today, as a museum of the Sisters of St. Joseph, it houses many objects given from the houses of early St. Augustine citizens as well as collections representing the Church and the religious Community.

The house has social and cultural significance for the City of St. Augustine. The St. Augustine Historical Society lists it among the ten oldest houses, and it is mentioned and

(con't.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Archives, St. Joseph Convent, St. Augustine, Florida. Property Records.
 Cathedral Parish, St. Augustine, Florida. Records of Marriage and Baptism.
 O'Reilly, Don Miquel. Last Will and Testament. 1803.

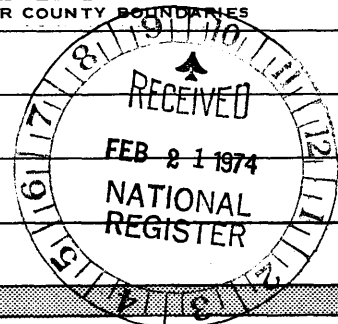
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N29° 53' 24"	W81° 18' 42"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

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



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Sister Rita Baum, S.S. J., Secretary General

ORGANIZATION: Sisters of St. Joseph, Inc. DATE: 3/27/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
241 St. George Street

CITY OR TOWN: St. Augustine STATE: Florida CODE: 12

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: *Robert Williams* ATTEST: *Wm. [Signature]*
 Title: Historic Preservation Officer Keeper of the National Register
 Date: February 6, 1974 Date: 10-11-74

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

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(Number all entries) 8. Significance

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shown in the city's earliest records and maps. The Historical Society has set its factual date at 1763 and its probable date at 1690. The families who resided in the house can be traced from the first Spanish period, the British period, and the second Spanish period. Even for the first known family (Don Lorenzo Josef de Leon, 1763) church records of marriage and Baptisms are still in existence, along with a great deal of personal biographical data.

