National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page ____

NRIS Reference Number: 90001117 Tarpon Springs City Hall, Old Property Name Date Listed:\$\$//0/90\$PinellasFLCountyState

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.

Signature 'nf

Date

Amended Items in Nomination:

Since 1947 is considered a significant specific date, the period of significance should be enlarged to extend through 1947.

Discussed and concurred in by Florida SHPO.

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

JUN 291990

NATIONAL

REGISTER

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Piaces 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 subbategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

Form 10-900a). Type all entries.			•
. Name of Property			
nistoric name Old T	arpon Springs City Hall		
other names/site number 8 PI	1578		
2. Location			
	Pinellas Avenue	n/a	not for publication
bity, town Tarpon Sp		n/a	
	de FL county Pinellas		03 zip code 34286
3. Classification		·····	
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Reso	urces within Property
private	x building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
v public-local		1	0 buildings
public-iccal		<u> </u>	sites
public-Federal			structures
			objects
		1	Totai
lame of related multiple property n/a	listing:		buting resources previously onal Register0
1V G			
x nomination request for National Register of Historic P in my opinion, the property X	der the National Historic Preservation Ad determination of eligibility meets the docu laces and meets the Brocedural and prof meete does not meet the National R	umentation standards for essional require <u>me</u> nts s	registering properties in the et forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
Signature of certifying official	Mary		6/2//90 Date
• • • •	ric Preservation Officer		
State or Federal agency and bure		·····	<u></u>
Grate OF Federal agency and DUIG			······
in my opinion, the property	meets does not meet the National R	egister criteria. 🗌 See d	continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other	official		Date
State or Federal agency and bure	au		
5. National Park Service Cer	tification	~~	
, hereby, certify that this property			
Centered in the National Regist			8/10/00
See continuation sheet.			
Register. See continuation s	heet.		

removed from the National Register.

22	$\left[\right]$	
	The second	

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6. Function or Use						
Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)					
Government: City Hall	Recreation & Culture: Museum					
a second s						
17. 20 A 12						
7. Description						
Architectural Classification enter categories from instructions)	Materials (enter categories from instructions)					
	foundation	Brick				
Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:	walls	Brick				
Classical Revival: Neo-Classical						
Revival	roof	Asphalt				
	other	Wood				
		Cast Stone				

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

 \blacksquare See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance		÷.		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this pro	operty in		S:	
Applicable National Register Criteria 🔜 A 🗌 B 🔜	C 🗌 D			
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)		E F KG		
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Politics/Government Architecture		Period of Significance 1915-1940		Significant Dates 1915 1947
		Cultural Affiliation	n/a	
Significant Person n/a		Architect/Builder Ivey, Ernest D./	McCreary,	J.B. Company

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

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS.

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See continuation sheet

PLEASE SEE CONTINUATI	ON SHEETS.
	130 M (1700) 2011 - 1700
	X See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
has been requested	State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register	Other State agency Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings	Locai government
Survey #	Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Specify repository:
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property Less than one acre	
UTM References A 1 17 3 2 7 4 9 0 3 1 1 4 3 5 0 Zone Easting Northing C	B L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L
	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description	
The boundary encompasses Block 68, Park Lot, o bounded by Park Lane, Court Street, Lemon Stre	
	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
The boundary includes the original building wind historically associated with the building.	th the 1947 addition and the grounds
	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	

name/title John T. Parks/ Barbara E. Mattick, Historic S	
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation	date June 1990
street & number R.A. Gray Blg., 500 S. Bronough Street	telephone (904) 487-2333
city or townTallahassee	state Florida zip code 32399-0250

9. Major Bibliographical References

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SUMMARY

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall includes a Neoclassical style, two-story, rectangular, brick building with a gable and hipped roof, constructed in 1915; and a one-story, rectangular north wing with a hipped roof, constructed in 1947. The roofs of both parts have boxed eaves. All roof surfaces are covered with asphalt shingles. There is a small, centrally located cupola with a dome and four clock faces on the roof of the 1915 portion. Fenestration for the entire building is generally 8/8 double hung sash with stone sills. The 1915 building retains the integrity of its original design, and the 1947 addition follows the style closely, including the use of similar materials and decorative features such as quoins. Because the 1947 addition is such an integral part of the building, it is considered a contributing part of the building with exceptional significance.

Original and Present Setting:

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall is located at 101 South Pinellas Avenue, in the City of Tarpon Springs, Pinellas County, Florida. Tarpon Springs is located in the northwestern portion of the county, straddling the Anclote River, about a mile from the Gulf of Mexico. The building is sited on a quarter acre lot about two miles south of the Pasco/Pinellas County line, in the downtown business district. It is bounded by Park Lane, Court Street, Lemon Street, and Pinellas Street. The grounds are simply landscaped with grass, hedges, and a few trees. The site is presently surrounded by commercial buildings, just as it was in 1915 when the building was constructed (Photo 1).

EXTERIOR

1915 Building

The <u>main facade</u> (west elevation) on South Pinellas Street is distinguished by a two story, Neoclassical, gabled portico supported by four colossal Corinthian columns surmounted by a plain entablature and pedimented gable. The tympanum has a central, round air vent and modillions. The

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columns have no bases, but rise from a brick porch approached by concrete steps at the north and south ends of the portico. The steps and porch have wrought iron balustrades (Photo 2).

The main entrance is centered under the portico. It has double doors, each with two rectangular fixed panes in the top half. A ten light, fixed transom with starburst muntins at each end is above the doors. Above the transom is an entablature with the inscription, "City Hall", and a cornice with modillions. Brick pilasters with stone Corinthian capitals flank the entrance, on axis with the outside columns. A paired 6/6 double hung sash window with a stone sill is centered over the entrance at the second floor. The remaining windows on this elevation are single, 8/8 double hung sash with stone sills. The first floor windows also have flat arches out of brick with stone keystones (Photo 2).

The <u>south (West Lemon Street) elevation</u> has a centrally located door. It is sheltered by a single story, gable roofed porch supported by two square posts. The porch is approached by five concrete steps with wrought iron railings. To the east of the door is a single 6/6 double hung sash window with a flat arch and keystone, and to the west is a tall, narrow, panelled door. On the second story there are two 8/8 double hung sash windows flanking a brick infilled window space (Photo 3).

The <u>east (rear) elevation on Park Lane</u> is similar to the main facade, but has some distinct features. There is no portico. Instead of four colossal Corinthian columns, there are four brick pilasters with Corinthian capitals on axis with the columns on the main facade. The central entrance, with double wooden doors identical to those on the main facade, is accessed by a concrete wheelchair ramp. The doorway is surmounted by a balconet supported by two scroll brackets. Above the balconet is a 15/15 window with a four light fanlight. The remaining fenestration is similar to that on the west elevation, except that there are only four 8/8 windows at the second story, and two of the window spaces on the first floor have brick infill (Photos 3 & 4).

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The first floor of the <u>north elevation</u> of the 1915 building is obscured by the one story 1947 addition. Above the addition, three 8/8 double hung sash windows are visible (Photo 4).

1947 Addition

The one story, brick addition to the north end of the 1915 building is very simple, but is compatible with the original building. Its design incorporates similar fenestration, quoins, a hipped roof with small gable over the main entrance, and boxed eaves. The main entrance on the north side of the wing has four-panel, double, wooden doors. As at the other entrances, there are concrete steps with wrought iron railings extending from both sides of the door surround. The entrance is flanked by single, 8/8 double hung sash windows (Photo 5).

Alterations to the Exterior:

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall has had one major addition and several minor changes during its seventy-five year history. The addition consists of a one-story wing on the north elevation, constructed in 1947. The wing was expertly integrated into and is very compatible with the 1915 building, utilizing the same materials and style as the original city hall. Minor changes resulting from the addition include the reduction in height of the second story center window on the north elevation, and the infilling of the two first floor windows.

In 1962 the double doors of the south facade were replaced with a single door and a gabled roof porch, a handicapped ramp was installed on top of the original entrance steps of the east elevation, the original grand front entrance steps of the west elevation were replaced with brick steps leading in from the side of the portico, wrought iron handrails were added, and the stone bases of the columns were covered with brick. Other changes made during the life of the building included replacement of all doors, except those on the east elevation of the north wing which were removed and infilled, and the removal of the

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finial on the top of the cupola. The 1947 addition has undergone no major alterations.

INTERIOR

As designed by Ivey in 1915, the plan of the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall featured a ten foot wide central hall running from front to back (east to west), with offices on either side. To the north of the hall were the offices of the City Clerk, and to the south was the Fire Station. A half turn stairway in the southeast corner of the hall rose to the second floor. On the second floor, the west third of the central hall was partitioned off to form an office. To the south of the hall was one large room used as the City Council chamber. To the north of the central hall was a small north-south oriented hall, and three offices that housed the mayor, a library, and administrative employees (See Restoration Plans).

Alterations to the Interior:

Constant use of the building since 1915 resulted in extensive alteration to the original interior spaces, particularly in 1962. The alterations were incompatible with historic preservation, but are reversible. These modifications included the reflooring of one room on the first floor, several changes in the partitioning, removal of one of the second floor fireplaces, the addition of new and additional duct work, and the installation of a suspended ceiling and florescent lighting (Photo 6). In spite of the exterior and interior alterations, the building retains the essential integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting that reflect its period of significance.

RESTORATION:

In 1988 the City of Tarpon Springs retained Renker-Eich-Parks, Architects, of St. Petersburg, to conduct an analysis for the adaptive use of the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall, and to oversee restoration of the building. To carry out this work, the City has received several preservation grants from the Florida state legislature to restore the building for use as a community cultural center. Under

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plans approved by the architects of the Bureau of Historic Preservation, work will include restoration of the exterior, including landscaping, the columns and entry steps on the main and rear elevations, all fenestration, the red clay tile roof, and the cupola and clock. The interior will be returned to its original condition and configuration, including the restoration of woodwork, yellow pine floors, fireplaces, ceilings, and walls. Also, the electrical and plumbing systems will be updated, and an elevator will be installed for handicap accessibility. All work will be in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's preservation standards.

<u>Restoration Status:</u>

To date, work on the interior finishes on the first floor of the 1915 building has been completed, including the restoration of the original wood floors, plaster walls, door and window surrounds and cornices (Photos 7 & 8). The stairway, the most distinctive interior feature, has been restored (Photo 9). On the exterior, the restoration of the fenestration, cupola, and clock has been completed (Photos 2-4). The final phase of the restoration, for which another state legislative grant has been awarded, will restore red clay tile to the roof and return the second floor and east and west entrances to their original forms (Photo 10).

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SUMMARY

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall is significant under Criterion A in the area of Politics/Government, as the major public building and decision making center for Tarpon Springs from 1915 to 1987. The building is located on the site of a city park which was platted at the time of the city's incorporation in 1887. The construction of the City Hall reflected the rapid growth of the city as Tarpon Springs became the capital of the American sponge industry after 1905. The City Hall is significant under Criterion C as a noteworthy representative of the Neoclassical Style, a style which is unusual in Tarpon Springs. The building is also important as a work of the architect, Ernest Daniel Ivey (1887-1966), who was well known in the Southeastern United States.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The first permanent non-Indian settler in the Tarpon Springs area was Captain Samuel E. Hope, who arrived in 1864. The first settlers in what are now the city limits of Tarpon Springs were A.W. Ormond and his family, who arrived in 1876. The first real effort to establish Tarpon Springs as a community, however, came in 1881, when Hamilton Disston, a wealthy Philadelphia manufacturer, purchased 4,000,000 acres in South Florida. This huge parcel was subdivided to form the holdings of several land development companies. One of these, the Lake Butler Villa Company, was deeded nine and a half thousand acres. The company was responsible for the development of Tarpon Springs, and it conducted the initial survey and platting of the town in 1882, and a final platting was done in April 1883. Tarpon Springs, with a population of approximately 300, was incorporated in February 1887. Later that year, Tarpon Springs welcomed the arrival of the town's first railroad, the Orange Belt Railway.

Tourism and sponge fishing arose as two new industries in Tarpon Springs beginning in 1890, and initiated a long period of growth for the town. The town's businessmen began a strong promotional campaign to tout the advantages of Tarpon Springs, thereby attracting Northerners who were

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seeking new, unfrequented localities in Florida. Tourism quickly became a keystone of the Tarpon Springs economy.

Sponge beds in the Tarpon Springs area were discovered accidentally in 1873 by Key West turtle fishermen when their nets were fouled on sponge beds near the mouth of the Anclote River. Spongers began to come from Key West, where sponging had been a major industry since the 1820s. The sponge fishing industry in Tarpon Springs was firmly established, however, with the opening of the Anclote and Rock Island Sponge Company. Spongers continued to gradually transfer from Key West. By 1900, Tarpon Springs' population had grown to about 500-600, and in 1905, the population doubled when 500 Greek immigrants arrived, attracted by opportunities in the sponge industry. In a short time, Tarpon Springs became the leading sponge port in the United States. As the industry boomed, it attracted additional kinds of businessmen to the town, such as ship builders, insurance agents, financiers, home builders, restauranteurs, grocers, and various kinds of retailers. In addition, the exotic nature of both the sponging business and the large Greek community attracted growing numbers of tourists.

In 1911, the population growth in the Tampa Bay area led to the creation of Pinellas County from the western part of Hillsborough County. Tarpon Springs was in Pinellas County. Between 1911 and 1920, the population of Tarpon Springs climbed from 1500 to 5000. The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall was a direct result of this growth, as the city government attempted to meet increasing demands for services.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

In early February 1914, the voters of Tarpon Springs approved a \$12,000 bond issue for the construction of a new City Hall. At the City Council meeting on October 28th, the Atlanta firm of J.B. McCreary Company was approved to be the construction contractor. The Atlanta based firm of Ivey and Crook, Architect, was chosen to do the design work; Ernest Daniel Ivey actually prepared the drawings. On December 1st, the City Council decided to acquire the park land held by the Lake Butler Villa Company, located between Court and

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Lemon Streets and facing Citron Street (later renamed Pinellas Avenue), as the site of the new City Hall. No information is available on the ground breaking or construction, but work on the building must have started shortly after February 23rd, for the City Council accepted the building and terminated the contract with McCreary on September 7th.

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall housed both the Fire and Police Departments, the City Library, the City Council, and all city administrative offices. The construction of the building culminated a six year period of growth (1909-1914) in the built environment of Tarpon Springs. Other buildings of community importance built at this time were the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad station (1909), and the Tarpon Springs High School (1912).

By 1946 the city government had outgrown the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall, and the City Commission began discussing proposals to make additions to the building. The favored recommendation was one that would add one story wings to the north and south ends. The north wing would provide room to house the Chamber of Commerce, the Police Station, and rest rooms, while the south wing would house three fire engines. For reasons unknown, only the proposal for the north wing survived the discussion process. On March 4, 1947, construction bids were accepted for the north addition. In May a proposal was submitted to the voters, seeking approval for the sale of a plot of city land which would fund the city hall expansion. Approval for the sale was passed by a vote of 502 to 156, and on June 3rd the construction contract was awarded to Arnold Humphrey for \$12,203. Construction began in July. The contract specified that the addition was to be completed no later than December 1947.

The operations of the city government were maintained in the Tarpon Springs Old City Hall until 1987, when the building was vacated in favor of newer and larger quarters. Several grants have been awarded by the Florida Department of State's Bureau of Historic Preservation, to restore and adaptively renovate the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall for use as a cultural arts center. With the completion of the restoration, the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall, will stand as

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a symbol of the American municipal system and continue as a focal point of the community, a position it has held for the past seventy-five years.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Neoclassical Style (1894-c1940)

The Neoclassical Style was popularized by the World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago in 1893. Buildings erected by each state at the Exposition were to have a classical theme. Wide publicity for the event and attendance by people from all over the country assured a popularity of the style which lasted for nearly fifty years. In Florida, the Neoclassical Style became a popular choice for commercial and governmental buildings, such as banks and courthouses.

Neoclassicism recalled the simple architectural features and techniques of the Greeks and Romans. Its most distinguishing characteristics include: use of the Ionic or Corinthian order for colossal pilasters and columns, flat or low pitched roofs, horizontality, symmetry, and balance. Main entrances are usually centrally located and often have elaborate, decorative surrounds based on Greek Revival, Adam, or Georgian precedents. Cornices often have dentils or modillions, and sometimes have a wide frieze band. Windows are usually double hung sash with various light configurations.

Ernest Daniel Ivey

Ernest "Ed" Daniel Ivey was born in 1887 in Branford, Florida, but his family moved to Boston, Georgia in 1896. He entered the Georgia Institute of Technology as a civil engineering student in 1905. During the 1907-08 term, Ivey persuaded the administration to start a Department of Architecture. He graduated from the new program in 1911, and was employed at the prominent Atlanta architectural firm of Hentz, Reid, and Adler, where he was an engineering specialist. He was working for this firm when he designed the Old Tarpon Springs City Hall in 1914. He completed the design work without ever having visited the building site.

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Desirous of starting his own business, Ivey and a friend, Lewis E. Crook, Jr., terminated their employment with Hentz, Reid, and Adler on May 1, 1923, and formed their own partnership in Atlanta, Ivey and Crook, Architects.

Ivey's work with Crook included approximately 460 buildings in Alabama, Georgia, Florida, the Carolinas, and Mississippi, consisting of private residences, public schools and libraries, government buildings, commercial structures, and churches; and forty buildings on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta. Many of the Emory buildings were placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

Ivey was a member of the Georgia chapter of the American Institute of Architects for twenty-six years and served as its secretary, treasurer, and president. He was awarded the coveted Fellowship in the AIA in the Public Service category for his role in the founding of the School of Architecture at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He died in 1966.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall is an excellent example of the Neoclassical Style, incorporating nearly all of the hallmarks of the style, including: use of the Corinthian order for colossal columns and pilasters on a central portico, a pedimented gable, a low pitched roof, boxed eaves with modillions, and double hung sash windows. The exterior fabric is brick, and there are brick quoins on the corners. The central, double door, main entrance has a cornice overhang and transom lights; the windows have lintels with keystones and concrete sills. Only four buildings in Tarpon Springs are designed in the Neoclassical Style, three of which are private residences. The City Hall is Tarpon Spring's only public building built in this style. In addition, the City Hall is an excellent example of the early work of one of the Southeast's most prominent architects, Ernest D. Ivey.

The Old Tarpon Springs City Hall has had minor alterations during its seventy-five year history, but the

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design, materials, and workmanship of the original 1915 building have remained faithful to Ivey's conception. Since 1988, the City of Tarpon Springs has received several state grants for the restoration of the Old City Hall. Under the direction of preservation architects in the Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation, and the architectural firm of Renker, Eich, Parks, Architects, the restoration has nearly been completed.

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Section number _____ Page _____ Old Tarpon Springs City Hall, Tarpon Springs, FL

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Mitchell, William R. <u>Lewis Edmund Crook, Jr. Architect,</u> <u>1898-1967</u>. Atlanta: History Business, 1984.

Stoughton, Gertrude K. <u>Tarpon Springs Florida, the Early</u> <u>Years</u>. New Port Richey, FL: Tru-Arts, 1975.

Tarpon Springs Leader. May, 15, 22 and July 24, 1947.

UNPUBLISHED RESOURCES

- City of Tarpon Springs. City Council. Minutes. February 23, 1915; March 4 and June 3, 1947.
- Coggan, Joseph L. Construction documents, "Addition to City Hall," October 15, 1962.
- Historic Property Associates, Inc., "Historic Properties Survey of Tarpon Springs, Florida," St. Augustine, FL, 1988.
- Letter, Mrs. Robert W. Wilson to R. Douglas Walton, April 17, 1990.
- Pinellas County. Deed No. 747, February 20, 1915, pp. 327-328.

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ORAL INTERVIEWS

- Colonel H. M. Salley, interview by John T. Parks, 1609 9th Street North, Suite B. St. Petersburg, Florida, October 1987.
- Kenneth Ennis, interview by John T. Parks, 1609 9th Street North, Suite B, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 1987.
- Mrs. R.W. Wilson, telephone interview by R. Douglas Walton, April 1990.

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Photographs		1	Old	Tarpon	Springs	City	Hall,	Tarpon	Springs,	FL
Section number	Page	<u></u>								

1) Old Tarpon Springs City Hall 1 2) 101 South Pinellas Avenue, Tarpon Springs, Pinellas County, Florida 3) Unkown 4) c1920 5) Tarpon Springs Historical Society 6) Streetscape of South Pinellas Avenue, camera facing 7) 1 of 10 1) Old Tarpon Springs City Hall 2 2) 101 South Pinellas Avenue, Tarpon Springs, Pinellas County, Florida 3) Kathleen Monahan 4) 1990 5) Tarpon Springs Cultural Center, 101 South Pinellas Avenue, Tarpon Springs, FL 6) West elevation, main entrance of 1915 building and the north wing, camera facing E 7) 2 of 10 Items 1-5 are the same for photographs 3-9, unless otherwise noted. 6) S and W elevations, camera facing NW 3 7) 3 of 10 6) W and N elevations, camera facing SW 4 7) 4 of 10 5 6) N elevation, camera facing S 7) 5 of 10 3) John T. Parks 6 4) 1987 5) Renker-Eich-Parks, Architects, St. Petersburg, FL 6) Stairway and first floor central hall before restoration, camera facing E. 7) 6 of 10 7 6) Interior, showing restored walls and floors in former City Clerk's Office, camera facing N 7) 7 of 10

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Photographs 2 Old Tarpon Springs City Hall, Tarpon Springs, FL
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- 8 6) Interior, showing restored cornices in former City Clerk's Office, camera facing SE
 7) 8 of 10
- 9 6) Restored stairway and entrance hall, interior of main entrance of the W elevation, camera facing E
 7) 9 of 10
- 10 1-5) Same as for Photo 1
 6) N and W elevations, camera facing SE
 7) 10 of 10





OLD TARPON SPRINGS CITY HALL

OLD TARPON SPRINGS CITY HALL ORIGINAL PLAN / RESTORED CONFIGURATION WATER METER REPAIR SHOP VAULT N---8 **(1**) CITY CLERK ADDITION 1947 FIRE DEPARTMENT HALL. 47 ٢ FIRST FLOOR N 1"= 10' ()-> Photograph # and direction

