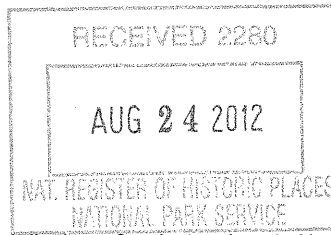


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



839

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

historic name SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE

other names/site number Wall House FMSF#LE5241

2. Location

street & number 2235 Chaires Cross Road n/a not for publication

city or town Tallahassee vicinity

state Florida code FL countv Leon code 073 zip code 32309

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara E. Mattick/DSHPO 8/17/2012
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the property is:
- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet
 - determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 - determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
 - removed from the National Register.
 - other, (explain) _____

Joe Signature of the Keeper Date of Action Edson H. Beall 10.9.12

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

"N/A"

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

French Colonial Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls BRICK

roof ASPHALT
other GLASS

Narrative Description

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

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.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- 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.
- 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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

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 or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1955

Significant Dates

1955

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Architect: Stidolph, Ernest

Builder: Gandy, Gerald

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 78.27 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 6 7 7 5 9 6 0 3 3 7 5 7 0 0
Zone Easting Northing
2 1 6 7 7 7 0 0 0 3 3 7 5 7 0 0

3 1 6 7 7 7 0 0 0 3 3 7 5 3 4 0
Zone Easting Northing
4 1 6 7 7 5 9 8 0 3 3 7 5 3 2 0

See 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 Robert O. Jones, Historic Preservationist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date July 2012

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone 850-245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state FL zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the 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 Mission San Miguel Holding Group, LLC

street & number Post Office Box 3146 telephone

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32315

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.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Sollner-Wall House is located at 2335 Chaires Road, in Leon County, Florida. The house sits on a high elevation overlooking a broad vista of rolling seventy-eight acres which is a portion of an original larger tract. The 1955, rectangular masonry house with a concrete slab and continuous wall foundation and brick exterior has a French Colonial Revival form with Adam Colonial Revival elements. The elements of the house are symmetrically arranged on all elevations. The basement walls rise above ground level on the west side, and a broad curving stairway provides access to the elevated, incised verandah that spans the west façade. The porch is supported by ten square brick columns that rise to the roof-line. Cast concrete segmental arches extend between each column under the edge of the porch. Screened porches extend off of the north and south gable ends of the house. Two brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge near the north and south ends. The east elevation features a centrally located balcony. On the basement level, two arched openings for automobile garages are in the north half, and two large multi-paned windows fill the south half. The house encloses 7,068 square feet. Ernest Stidolph was the architect, and Gerald Gandy was the builder.

SETTING

The house is located on a rise, one of two on the seventy-eight acres of largely open, rolling land. The façade of the house overlooks the long open land that has a large oak tree in the middle, roughly aligned with the center of the house (Photo #1). The property has been open land since the antebellum period when it had an agricultural use. The rise where the house is located slopes downward sharply to the east so that the basement level is exposed, and half buried on the west (main) elevation. A paved single lane entrance road runs along the northern boundary of the property and runs west to the north/south Chaires Road. The access road forms a circular drive at the west elevation of the house, and branches to the north to access the west side of the house. The United States Interstate Highway 10 runs east/west along the southern boundary of the property. Trees line the edges of the rectangular parcel, and are clustered around the house at its eastern end. In the 1970s, Interstate 10 was constructed, cutting through the property and separating the southern portion. The new highway also cut across what had been the Spanish Trail that ran from the 17th Century Spanish missions in Leon County, to the Spanish capital in St.

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Augustine. Archaeologists at this time plotted the trail across the Sollner-Wall property, and that route is kept mowed to visually indicate it (Photo #2).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior

The house has a concrete slab foundation with a continuous wall foundation to elevate the main floor. It is built with concrete block covered with brick, and large steel beams at the basement ceiling support the floor of the main story. Brick quoins are on each of the four corners. Windows are double-hung, wooden sashes with mostly 6/6 and 12/12 panes (Photo #3). The windows are flanked with wooden louvered shutters. (Main story shutters are currently stored in the basement). The roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles, which replaced original concrete tiles. As original to the house, the bricks are painted white and the porch ceilings are painted pale sky blue.

The west, main façade (Photo #4) fronts onto an open broad field, has a main story with an elevated basement, and an incised verandah that spans the elevation. The rectangular building has a gable end roof with two corbled brick chimneys that rise from the roof ridge. The “bel etage”¹ arrangement incorporates thirteen curving concrete stairs rising to the porch and centrally located main entrance. The stairway has an iron hand railing. The porch is supported by ten square brick columns that rise to the roof eaves. Between the columns and supporting the porch are cast concrete segmental arches, five on either side of the stairs. The verandah ceiling is painted pale blue to mimic the sky. At the basement level and visible under the porch, are four double-hung 8/8 wooden sashes flanking the main stairs, evenly spaced and centered between the columns. Green wooden louvered shutters flank each window. Aligned with the eight windows in the basement are eight windows on the main story that are filled with 12/12 double-hung sashes. They, too, have louvered wooden shutters for each window. On the underside of the enclosed roof eaves are rectangular modillions (Photo #5). The main, centrally located wooden paneled door is recessed under an arched top pediment (Photo #6). The door is flanked with half-high sidelights with leaded clear glass (Photo #7). Molding beside the door and lights is rectangular and fluted to appear as engaged columns. At forty-five degrees from the door

¹ A French expression for a main floor that is raised above ground level and accessed by a prominent stairway. Martin Pegler, *The Dictionary of Interior Design*, (New York: Bonanza Books, 1966), 48.

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Section number 7 Page 3 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

and lights at the sides of the recess are hinged louvered shutters. They open to reveal recessed lighting within the walls that at night provide ambient lighting for the entry. The pediment and top of the entry is trimmed with deep molding. The face of the pediment is decorated around its perimeter with small dentils. The broad side of the gable roof is visible from this elevation. Screened porches with smaller gable end roof extensions are visible at both the north and south ends of the house (Photo #8). Within the gable tympanums is a wooden fan ornament made of tapered slats. Square brick columns, the same size as those on the main porch, support the screened porch roofs. Two octagonal fixed windows are in the basement level of both porches.

The east elevation is the rear of the house (Photo #9). What is the basement level appears as a first story because of the property's slope (Photo #10). Two broad segmented arches provide openings to automobile garages on the north half, and segmented arches form the lintels of two large multi-paned windows. Four brick columns support a concrete second story balcony with iron hand railing located in the center of the elevation. Centered on the first story under the balcony is an octagonal window, and a single door is immediately north of it. Centered in the main story is an octagonal window identical to the one below it. Symmetrically flanking this octagonal window are single small windows with 12/12 sashes; two single 6/6 sashes with shutters; a window with a pair of 12/12 sashes with shutters. The screened porches to the north and south have screened doors near the main house block wall, and masonry dog-legged stairways leading up to both porches.

The north and south elevations each display the gabled end of the extended screened porches (Photo #8). Modillions are on the eaves of both the gable of the main block and the side eaves of the porches. Dog-leg masonry stairs are on the eastern side of both extended porches.

Interior

The spatial arrangement of the interior of the house is cleanly divided between front rooms, (west side), and back rooms, (east side), with a passage through the middle. There is the main floor and a basement. Some of the basement area was used for living activities. The floors within the house are oak, and the ceiling is made of particle board.

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Section number 7 Page 4 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

West/front half of the house

Entering the house through the main door, one enters the foyer, which has doors in all four walls (Photo #11). The floor has black and white tiles. The openings have molding with drip-molding. The central opening to the east accesses the east half of the house. The entry to the south accesses the dining room, and has louvered folding doors. An entry in the dining room in the southwest corner goes to the kitchen at the southwest corner of the house (Photo #12). In the kitchen, a fireplace with an elevated hearth is in the north wall, along with two built-in ovens (Photo #13). Food preparation counters with under-counter cabinets, and a six burner stove line the east wall. A sink, counters and under-counter cabinets and wall cabinets line the west wall and the south wall (Photo #14). A single door in the south wall exits onto the southern screened porch. From the main entry, a door to the north accesses the living room, which contains a fireplace in its north wall (Photo #15), and built-in shelves and cabinets at the northeast corner (Photo #16). An opening at the northwest corner of the room accesses a den that has wood-paneled walls (Photo #17). In the southeast corner is a canted fireplace that has a raised hearth that extends across the south wall (Photo #18). A firewood box is contained in the south wall. An eight-light paneled door at the northeast corner retaining original hardware (Photo #19) exits onto the northern screened-in porch. The ceiling retains its light blue paint like that on the main verandah ceiling (Photo #20). A screened door on the east side of the porch provides access from the dog-leg stairway to the east (Photo #21).

East/rear half of the house

At the northeast corner of the house is a bedroom with wood paneling (Photo #22). In the southwest corner of the room is a large walk-in cedar closet, and in the southeast corner is a door into a full bathroom. The bathroom is tiled with a canted opening into a standup shower in the northwest corner (Photo #23). A pocket-door in the bathroom accesses another bathroom to the south that is also tiled, and has a bath tub against the west wall. This bathroom exits onto a second bedroom with a door in the southeast corner that accesses the east elevation balcony (Photo #24). In the northwest corner of the room is a large walk-in closet (Photo #25), and in the southeast corner is a small closet. In the southwest corner of the room is a door into a short hall at the center of the house that permits passage between the east and west halves of the house. The hall serves as a landing to a dog-leg stairway to the basement (Photo #26). A pull-down ladder from a trap

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COUNTY, FLORIDA**

door in the ceiling accesses the attic, which is unfinished and has exposed trusses. To the south of the hall, and through another door is another bedroom with a door in the northeast corner that exits onto the east balcony. A closet is in the southwest corner, and a bathroom is in the southeast corner. Like the double bathrooms in the northern bedrooms, this bathroom is paired with another immediately south of it and connected with a door. The bathrooms are tiled, and have a bath tub in the northern most one, and a tiled walk-in shower with canted door in the southern one. The bathroom to the south has two identical sinks in the north wall (Photo #27). South of the bathroom is the house's southeastern room known as a family room (Photo #28). It has wooden paneling and a large walk-in closet in the northwest corner, and a narrow storage area in the west wall.

Basement

Approached from the east elevation, the garage area has two broad arched openings to permit parking of cars in two bays (Photo #29). Each bay could accommodate four cars. Separating the bays is a massive concrete block that supports steel beams that run north/south and support the main floor of the house. To the south of the garage area is a solid concrete block wall with a door at the southeast that gives access to a central entry area with a dog-leg stairway to the main floor. In the west wall of the entry is a door into a storage room that the Wall family called the "boot room" (Photo #30). Outdoor boots, hunting gear and guns were stored there, as well as out-of-season clothes. Shelves enclosed with folding doors line the "boot room." In the southwest corner of the entry is a door to a "recreation" room with a fireplace centered on the west wall (Photo #31). The two large multi-paned windows seen from the east elevation fill the east wall. A wet-bar used to be against the room's north wall. In the west wall north of the fireplace is a door into the mechanical room that contains a heating and air conditioning system that was custom built as a commercial unit by Westinghouse (Photo #32). The cooling and air distribution is located against the room's east wall (Photo #33), and a large water heater is in the middle of the room. A half-bathroom is in the room's southwest corner. South of the fireplace in the recreation room is a door in the west wall that accesses the maid's room and bathroom (Photo #34). At the south end of the recreation room is a door that accesses a storage/work area that is located under the southern screened porch (Photo #35). A ceramic water fountain is located here, and a small closet houses a trash shoot from the kitchen above. A room at the south end was used as an art room by Mrs. Sollner.

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Section number 8 Page 1 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Sollner-Wall House in Leon County, Florida, is nominated to the National Register under Criterion C for its local significance in the area of Architecture. Constructed during 1955, the concept of the house and the choice of the location were those of the owner Gerhard Sollner. The house has the form of a large French Colonial Revival house, with Adam Style elements. The house was designed by Tallahassee architect Ernest Stidolph, and constructed by Gerald Gandy, also of Tallahassee. The house sits near the east end of a 78-acre parcel that had been a part of a 150-acre property. A portion of the Camino Real, Old Spanish Trail, traverses the property covered by this nomination from east to west, but the 18th century resource is outside the period of significance.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

The French Colonial period of construction in the South and Gulf Coast area of the United States extended from 1700-1830. The French influence continued to be developed in New Orleans until around 1860. In urban areas the homes were primarily one-story without porches, and built up to the street or sidewalk. In rural areas it is more common to find houses with big porches, elevated off-grade with masonry foundations, and supported by slender columns. The large front porches were incised within the overhanging roof. Paired French doors and paired multi-light sashes were common and flanked with paired shutters. In later examples, Adam Style elements such as fanlights and elaborate door surrounds were introduced.¹ The use of off-grade masonry foundations and extensive use of verandahs or “galleries” (French) became common after the French had settled the Gulf Coast and Louisiana areas for a generation, and they had learned to accommodate the wet environment. By placing the main floor above the ground on masonry wall foundations, the wet environment was avoided and the “galleries” kept the sun and rain off the building walls. The shaded porch was cooler than the interior and it became a preferred area to sit, eat, and sometimes sleep in the summer.² By the second generation, the French had also

¹ Virginia and Lee McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1986), 121-124.

² Marion Donnelly, *Architecture in Colonial America*, Eugene, Oregon: University of Oregon Press, 2003, 99.

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Section number 8 Page 2 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

made their rural homes longer but not deeper. By keeping the houses narrow and aligning windows on either side of the house, cross ventilation was enhanced, keeping the interior cooler.³

Adam Style Colonial construction took place across the colonies from 1780-1840. Like the preceding Georgian Style, the house form was most commonly a compact rectangle with side-gable roofs. Sidelights were often included. Fan lights transoms, and decorative surrounds to the main entrances defined the style. Other prominent features were 6/6 double-hung wooden sashes in symmetrically aligned windows with shutters. Palladian windows were common, and small dentils or modillions were placed under the eaves. Quoins, carried forward from their Georgian predecessors, were sometimes included.⁴

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The house was conceived and built by Gerhard Sollner and his wife Louise. In the early 1950s, they had been flying over the Tallahassee area in their private plane, on their way from Palm Beach to Louise's family home in Tennessee, when Gerhard saw the property he chose to be their future home. Sollner was a commodities trader with seats on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange and the Chicago Board of Trade. The family moved to Tallahassee in 1953, and the house was built during the year of 1955. The family lived there only a couple of years, until Sollner learned that Interstate 10 was planned to cut through the southern portion of his property. Another issue that prompted Sollner to move was intermittent phone connections which sometimes made it difficult to conduct commodity trades in a timely manner.⁵

The Sollners sold their house to Dr. Charles K. Wall and his wife Margaret in 1957. Wall was a surgeon who had practiced in Thomasville, Georgia. The Walls were the primary residents of the house, living there from 1957 until 1987, when Margaret Wall died. Wall was a community spirited man who gave philanthropic assistance to several programs.

³ Mills Lane, *Architectures of the Old South*, (New York: Abbeville Press, 1993), 81.

⁴ Virginia McAlister, 153-156.

⁵ Rick Sollner, correspondence to Robin Fennema, February 8, 2012.

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Section number 8 Page 3 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

“Wallwood” was a 476-acre tract of land in Gadsden County, Florida, that he gave to the Boy Scouts for camping and regional gatherings. He also donated other lands to the Boy Scouts, Salvation Army, and City of Tallahassee.⁶

A portion of the Camino Real/Spanish Trail runs across the Sollner-Wall House property. The 17th century trail connected the western most Spanish mission, San Luis in present day west Tallahassee, and all the other missions eastward to the Spanish capital of St. Augustine. Two missions with the same name were located roughly a mile on either side of the house. The first, discovered in 1968, and identified as San Pedro de Patale, is located about 1 ½ miles southwest of the Sollner-Wall House. The second San Pedro de Patale is located about 1 mile to the east of the house, and was discovered in 1969.⁷ A portion of the Camino Real on the Sollner-Wall property runs between the two mission sites. In January of 1704, British Colonel James Moore of Carolina, with soldiers and Indian allies invaded Spanish Florida in an effort to eliminate the Spanish mission system. Moore was unable to take the main San Luis mission but took many others, including San Pedro de Patale. A battle near the Patale site on July 3, 1704, broke the Spanish confidence for remaining in the region.⁸

It is known that Spanish mission sites were relocated on occasion to move with the Indian villages they served. The current interpretation regarding the dating of the two Patale sites is that the second site is the “presumably later site for the Patale mission.”⁹ If continued investigation bears out this interpretation, the Sollner-Wall House property would be adjacent to or the likely site of the decisive battle of July 3, 1704, between the British and the Spanish.

⁶ Mission San Miguel Holding Group LLP, papers.

⁷ Florida Master Site File, LE5241; LE157; LE852.

⁸ Mark Boyd, *Here They Once Stood*, (Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press, 1951), 15-18.

⁹ Calvin Jones et al., “San Pedro y San Pablo de Patale: A Seventeenth-Century Spanish Mission in Leon County, Florida,” *Florida Archaeology*, #5, 1991, 128.

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Section number 8 Page 4 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

The current owner, Mission San Miguel Holding Group, is investigating the Sollner family, Wall family, and Spanish mission elements of the property's history. If sufficient information regarding Dr. Wall's family or archaeological evidence is discovered this nomination may be revisited to add information concerning the property's significance under additional criteria.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Gerhard Sollner was a commodities broker with a seat on the New Orleans cotton board. The French Colonial Style was prominent in the New Orleans region, and on a trip to that city, the distinctive style with elevated verandahs could easily have caught his attention. The house he built in Leon County was expressed as being his "dream house." Sollner hired Tallahassee architect Ernest Stidolph to plan the house; Gerald Gandy, also of Tallahassee, was the builder. The house took nearly a year to construct.¹⁰ Sollner and Stidolph went to the New Orleans area for a week to study and photograph French Colonial Style houses that Sollner found interesting in preparation for designing the house.¹¹

The Sollner-Wall House retains its architectural integrity to a very high degree. The engineering and workmanship is substantial. The concrete block house has a slab and continuous wall foundation. A continuous steel beam that rests on a major concrete block basement pier supports the main floor. All original electrical, air control and plumbing systems are in working order.

The house, with its imposing broad verandah supported by ten large square columns overlooking the broad west lawn, looks like a large manor house. The house is the only known French Colonial Style dwelling in Leon County, and it serves as an excellent revival version of that style, with Adam Colonial Style elements. The house incorporates features that define the French Colonial Style. It has a basic narrow rectangular form with a side-gable roof, and is only two rooms deep. On the interior, the east and west halves of the building are clearly delineated with pass-throughs only at the center and north and

¹⁰ Rick Sollner, correspondence to Robin Fennema.

¹¹ Mays Leroy Gray, interview with Robin Fennema, February 8, 2012, (employee of Stidolph).

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COUNTY, FLORIDA**

south ends. The house elements are symmetrically arranged. The façade is defined by the elevated “bel etage” main floor and incised verandah, accessed by the central broad and curving stairway with wrought iron railing. The spaces between the columns have cast concrete segmental arches that support the verandah. These arches help draw attention to the elevated verandah. The segmental arches are repeated on the east elevation for the lentils of the garage openings and large south windows. The central main entrance has an elliptical wooden pediment and half side-lights with colonial patterned leaded glass. Windows have double-hung, multi-paned sashes flanked with louvered wooden shutters. Large modillions are within the eaves on all elevations. Brick quoins are at the four corners of the house.

Architect: Ernest Stidolph (1909 – 1997)

Ernest Stidolph was born in New York City, in 1909, to parents who immigrated from England. He studied architecture and design at Columbia University (1930-32) and the Beaux Arts Institute of Design (BAID) in Manhattan (1929-1934).¹² The Beaux Arts Institute trained architects, sculptors, and mural painters, using the French Ecole des Beaux-Arts as a model. Fundamental to Ecole teaching was coordination among architects, sculptors and muralists to create integrated architectural experiences.

From 1929 to 1939, Stidolph worked for the acclaimed firm of Treanor & Fatio in New York and Palm Beach. They specialized in designing residences for the elite. Notable projects in New York during Stidolph's employment included the George W. Vanderbilt III estate in Sands Point, and Hawk Hill in Lattingtown, on Long Island. Their work is featured in “Long Island Country Houses and Their Architects, 1860-1940.” Sometime in the mid-1930s, Stidolph transferred to the Palm Beach office, run by Maurice Fatio. He worked on the design of Four Winds, the home of the parents of heiress Barbara Hutton, among other projects.¹³ The Palm Beach offices' designs and other papers are now in the possession of the Historical Society of Palm Beach.¹⁴ Numerous examples of their work

¹² American Institute of Architects Historical Directory,
<http://communities.aia.org/sites/hdoaa/wiki/Wiki%20Pages/ahd1043218.aspx>.

¹³ Mays Leroy Gray, interview. (Barbara Hutton was the granddaughter of F.W. Woolworth).

¹⁴ Debi Murray, interview with Robin Fennema, March 2012, (Curator, Historical Society of Palm Beach).

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COUNTY, FLORIDA**

were featured in the recent book Maurice Fatio: Palm Beach Architect. When Stidolph left the firm, he was draftsman to the designer - Maurice Fatio.

Ernest Stidolph's career took him to San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Apalachicola, prior to his establishing his office in Tallahassee. He was the premier architect in Tallahassee, in the mid-1950s. In addition to the Sollner-Wall House, he designed homes for B.K. Roberts in Tallahassee, and the McKissacks in Carrabelle.¹⁵ He also designed the state office Carlton Building and its addition on Calhoun Street in downtown Tallahassee, the IBM Building, and an addition to the Florida Court of Appeal.¹⁶ The decorative ironwork he designed for Sollner's house and Carlton Building harken back to his multidisciplinary training at BAID.¹⁷

Outside of Tallahassee, he designed the convalescent hospital in the retirement village for the Upholsters International Union in Jupiter, which was known as "SalHaven". In 1955, he served as the Director of the Florida Association of Architects; he was the director of the Association's North Central Region from 1955-59.¹⁸ Stidolph's firm employed three additional architects and two draftsmen.¹⁹ Stidolph semi-retired in the mid-1960s, and sometime afterward joined his sister near Louisville, Kentucky. He died in Washington, Kentucky, in January, 1997, at the age of 88.

¹⁵ Mays Leroy Gray, interview.

¹⁶ American Institute of Architects Historical Directory.

¹⁷ Mays Leroy Gray, interview.

¹⁸ American Institute of Architects Historical Directory.

¹⁹ Mays Leroy Gray, interview.

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Section number 10 Page 1 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE, LEON
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Parcel ID 121517 E0010
Mission San Miguel
15 1N 2E 78.27 acres
Lot 1 Block E

See site and boundary diagram.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The designated property is historically associated with the Sollner-Wall House.

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Section number Photos Page 1 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE,
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST

1. Sollner-Wall House, 2235 Chaires Cross Road, Tallahassee
2. Leon County, Florida
3. Robert Jones
4. February, 2012
5. View of property from west porch looking west
6. Photo #1 of 35

The information for items 1-4 are the same for the remaining photographs.

5. View of Cameno Real from south of house, looking west
6. Photo #2 of 35

5. Typical window sash, looking east
6. Photo #3 of 35

5. West main façade, looking northeast
6. Photo #4 of 35

5. Modillions at the eaves, looking northeast
6. Photo #5 of 35

5. West main entry, looking east
6. Photo #6 of 35

5. Main entry details, looking east
6. Photo #7 of 35

5. South porch extension, looking north
6. Photo #8 of 35

5. East elevation, looking northwest
6. Photo #9 of 35

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Section number Photos Page 2 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE,
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

5. View showing slope of east side of house, looking northwest
6. Photo #10 of 35

5. Interior of foyer, looking east
6. Photo #11 of 35

5. Dining room, looking south
6. Photo #12 of 35

5. Kitchen, east and north walls, looking northeast
6. Photo #13 of 35

5. Kitchen, south and east walls, looking south
6. Photo #14 of 35

5. Living room, looking north
6. Photo #15 of 35

5. Living room built-in cabinets and fireplace, looking northeast
6. Photo #16 of 35

5. Den, looking north
6. Photo #17 of 35

5. Den with fireplace, hearth and firewood box, looking south
6. Photo #18 of 35

5. Door fixtures at north porch extension, looking south
6. Photo #19 of 35

5. North porch ceiling, looking northwest
6. Photo #20 of 35

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Section number Photos Page 3 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE,
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

- 5. North porch screened door and porch, looking east
- 6. Photo #21 of 35

- 5. Northeast bedroom, looking southeast
- 6. Photo #22 of 35

- 5. Bathroom, looking north
- 6. Photo #23 of 35

- 5. Northeast central bedroom, looking southeast
- 6. Photo #24 of 35

- 5. Southeast central bedroom, closet and bathroom, looking north
- 6. Photo #25 of 35

- 5. Central dog-leg stairway, looking east
- 6. Photo #26 of 35

- 5. Bathroom with double sinks, looking north
- 6. Photo #27 of 35

- 5. Family room, southeast corner, looking north
- 6. Photo #28 of 35

- 5. Basement level garage, looking northwest
- 6. Photo #29 of 35

- 5. Storage "boot room," looking east
- 6. Photo #30 of 35

- 5. Recreation room, looking south
- 6. Photo #31 of 35

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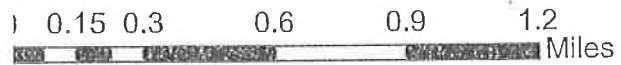
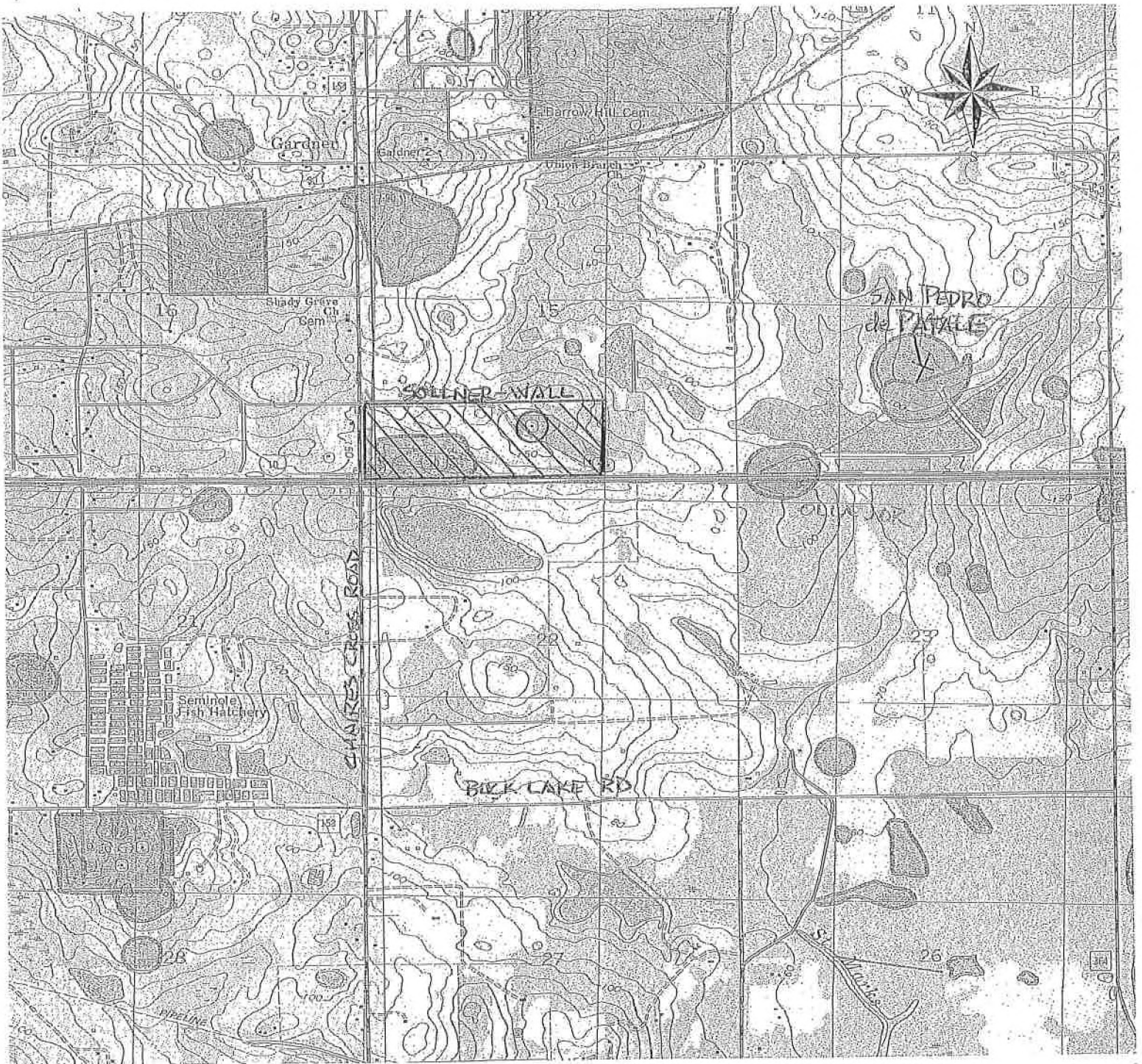
Section number Photos Page 4 **SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE,
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA**

5. Mechanical room, looking northeast
6. Photo #32 of 35

5. Mechanical room, looking southeast
6. Photo #33 of 35

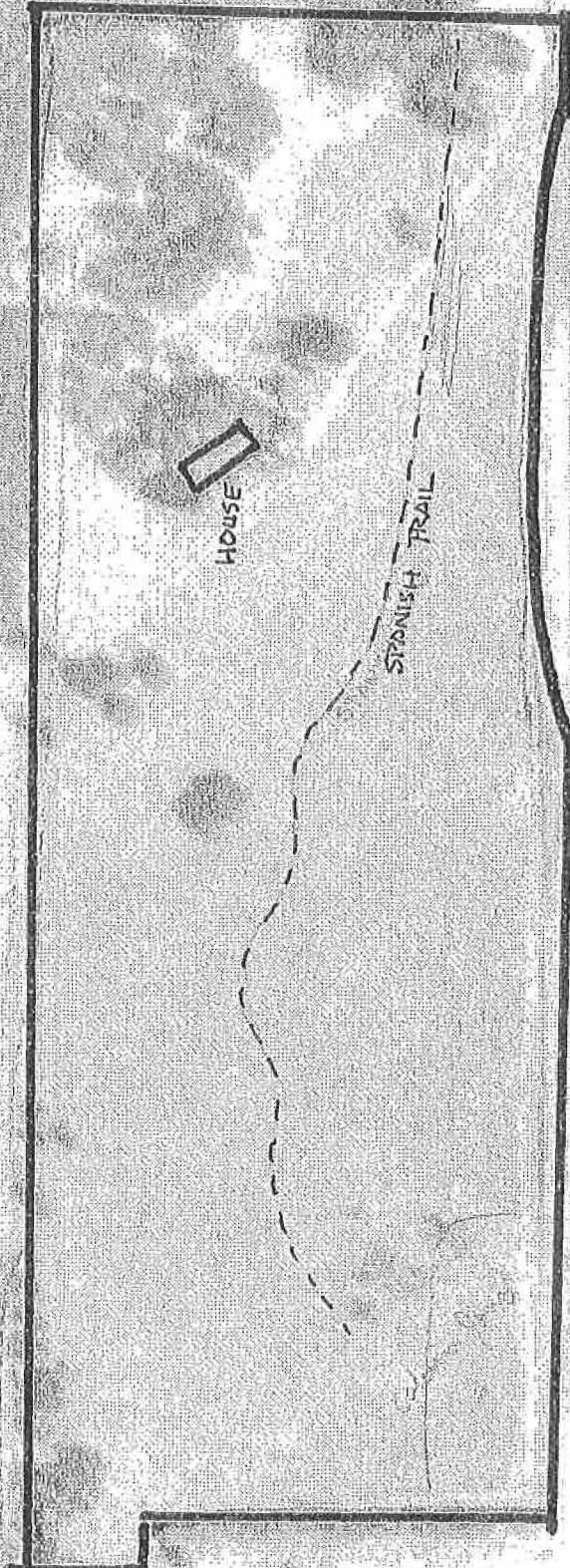
5. Maid's room, looking southwest
6. Photo #34 of 35

5. Trash shoot, storage, water fountain, looking northwest
6. Photo #35 of 35



SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE
Leon County, Florida

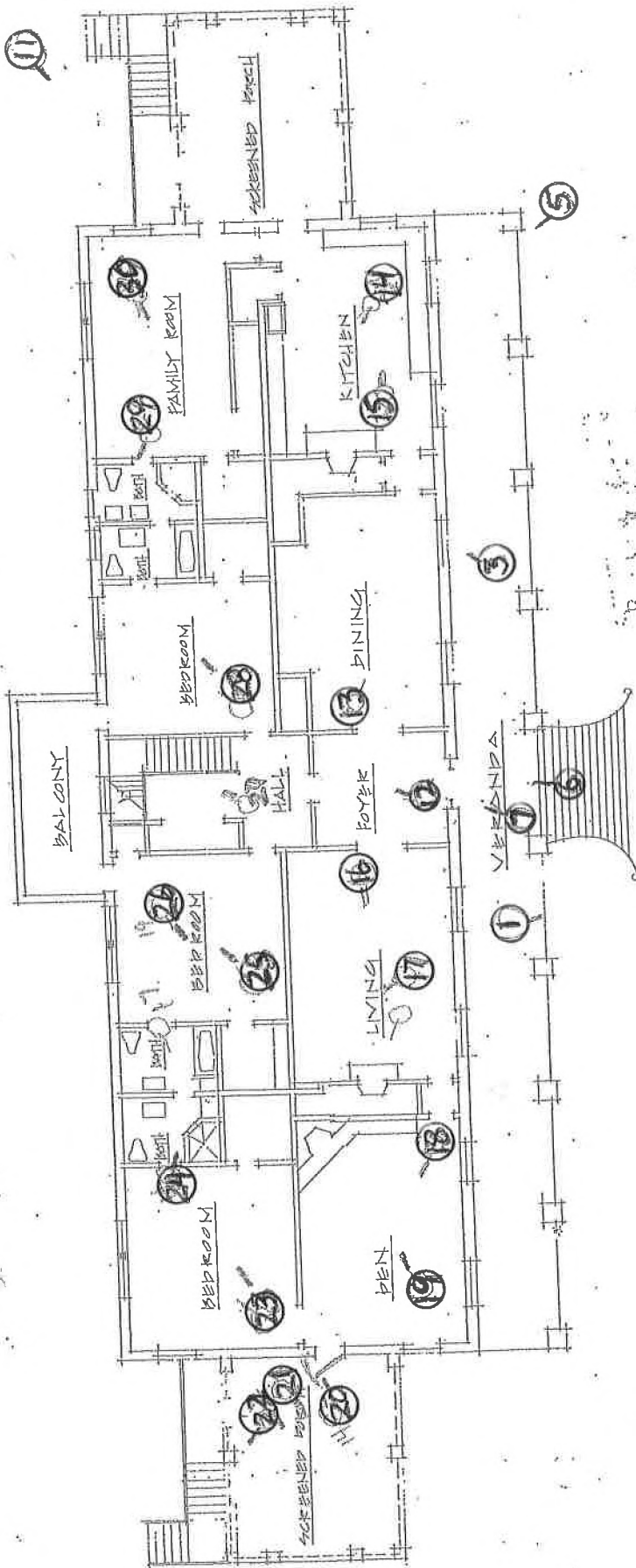
Locator Map



#121517 8000

SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE
Leon County, Florida
Site & Boundary Map

INTERSTATE 10



EXISTING LEVEL 1 FLOOR PLAN 1/8" = 1'-0"



9

10

11

12

13

BALCONY

BEDROOM

BED ROOM

BED ROOM

BATH

FAMILY ROOM

DINING

FOYER

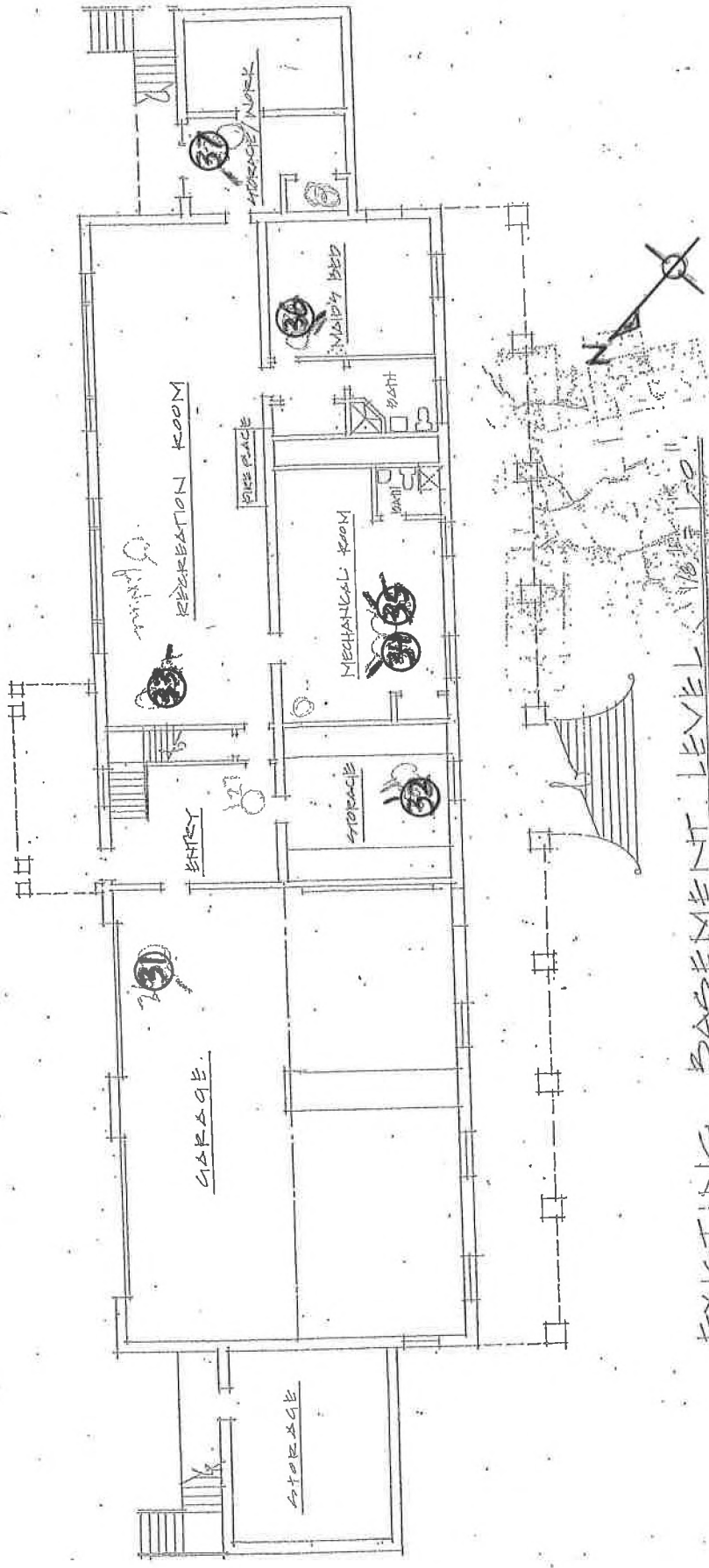
LIVING

PORCH

KITCHEN

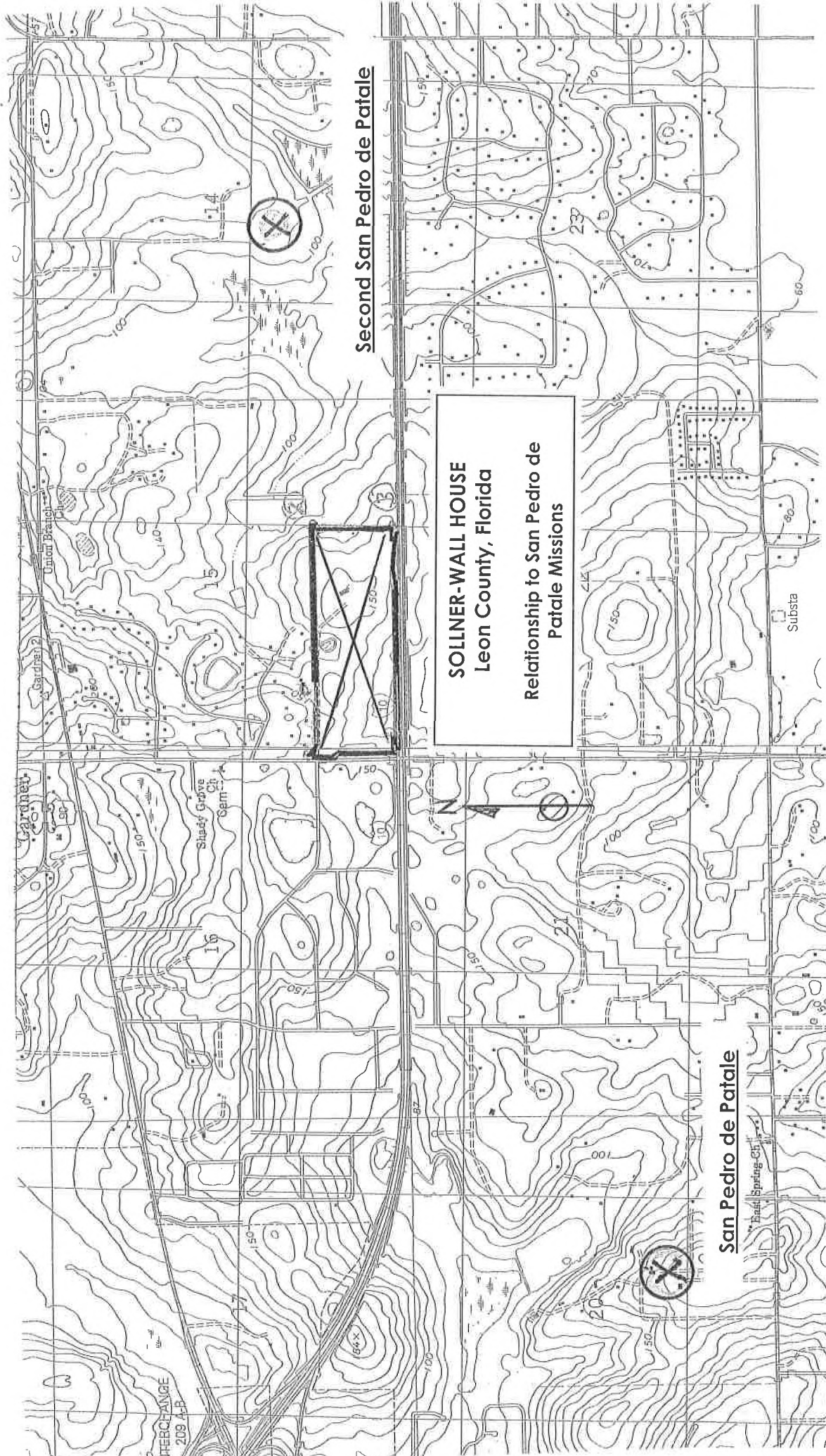
SCREENED PORCH

VERANDA



EXISTING BASEMENT LEVEL

Solomon - Wall House



Second San Pedro de Patate

SOLLNER-WALL HOUSE
Leon County, Florida
Relationship to San Pedro de Patate Missions

San Pedro de Patate

INTERCHANGE
209 A-B

Steady Grove
Ch. Cam.

Substa

Patate Spring Ch.