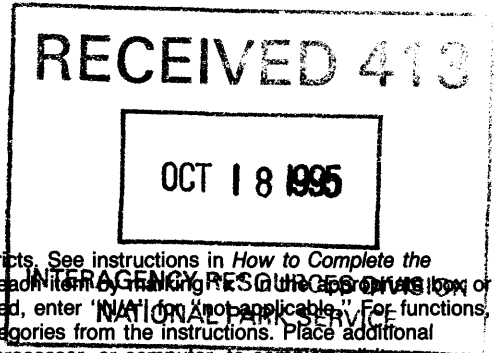


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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 entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "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 JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD B., HOUSE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 38537 5th Avenue not for publication

city or town Zephyrhills vicinity

state Florida code FL county Pasco code 101 zip code 33540

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.)
Suzanne P. Walker / Deputy SHPO 10/9/95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State of 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

- entered in the National Register. 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:)

Edson H. Beall Signature of the Keeper
11-29-95 Date of Action

Entered in the
National Register

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)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

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

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/ Single Dwelling

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/ Professional

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick pier

walls WOOD/ Weatherboard

roof METAL/ Tin

other

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

1911-1936

Significant Dates

1911

ca. 1920

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Jeffries, Captain Harold B.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown / Unknown

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 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

Name of repository:

Jeffries, Captain Harold B., House
Name of Property

Pasco Co., Fl.
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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

3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
Zone Easting Northing
4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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 Sherry Piland/ Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date October 1995

street & number R.A. Gray Bldg., 500 S. Bronough telephone (904) 487-2333

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 _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

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 to amend existing 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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JEFFRIES, INTERAGENCY RESOURCE DIVISION
ZEPHYRHILLS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SUMMARY

The Captain Harold Jeffries House is located at 38537 5th Avenue in Zephyrhills, Florida. The two-story, vernacular house was constructed in 1911, and enlarged in the early 1920s and in 1940. The frame residence is constructed primarily of heart pine and rests on a brick pier foundation. Wood lattices fill the space between the piers. The exterior of the house is covered with drop siding. Gabled dormers are on both the west and east sides of the main gable roof, which is surfaced with tin. Most of the windows in the house are double hung sash. A non-contributing garage-apartment, constructed in 1950, is located at the rear of the property.

SETTING

The Jeffries house occupies three lots at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Ninth Street in downtown Zephyrhills, just three blocks east of U.S. 301. Fifth Avenue is a two-lane street, divided by a four-foot median planted with grass and holly trees. The house anchors the eastern edge of the downtown area. East of the Jeffries House are single family residences and two of the area's largest churches. Residences and the city police station are to the north. To the south are commercial buildings and residences.

The grounds around the Jeffries House on the east, west, and south have oak trees, a magnolia tree, dogwoods, a fifty-year-old sabal palm, and a large assortment of flowering bushes and ground covers. A prominent element of the garden is the original flagpole erected by Captain Jeffries. The ground on the north side of the house, covered in open-work brick pavers, is used for parking.

DESCRIPTION

A porch extends across the main (south) and east facades of the house (Photo 1). The porch roof is supported by simple Doric columns, joined by a simple railed balustrade. A small pediment, surfaced with wood shingles, breaks the roof line on the south facade, indicating the primary entrance to the house. The entrance door has a glass upper panel and is surmounted by a

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ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.

transom (Photo 2). Flanking the door are 1/1, double hung sash windows.

The second floor of the south facade is fenestrated with a band of three, 1/1, double hung sash windows (Photo 3). The gable wall, above the windows, is surfaced with wood shingles. The wooden vergeboard is decorated with serpentine, scroll-cut, ornament.

The porch continues along the east elevation of the house (Photo 4). A multi-light entrance door is located on this elevation. Flanking the door are paired, 1/1, double hung, windows. Two large gabled dormers, each containing a pair of 1/1, double hung sash windows, are located on this elevation.

A single dormer, with a pair of 1/1, double hung, sash windows, is located on the west elevation (Photo 5). The end wall of the west elevation is fenestrated with three windows of varying size and style (Photo 6).

Extending across the rear (north) elevation is a one-story, 1950s addition consisting of a utility room, bath, and kitchen (Photo 7). The projecting kitchen area contains a door. Adjacent to the door are two pairs of casement windows. Another door is located on the north elevation of the one-story extension of the house to the west. A handicap ramp leads to this door (Photo 6).

The interior of the house features 10-foot high ceilings and pine wood floors. The main entrance leads directly into the parlor. A brick fireplace is located on the north wall of the parlor, facing the door (Photo 8). West of the entrance door is a staircase (Photo 9), handcrafted from heart pine, leading to second floor which contains two bedrooms and a bath. A door at the rear of the staircase provides access to the two bedrooms and bath on the west side of the house that were added in the 1920s. A storage area is located under the stairs. A double door leads from the parlor to the dining room. The dining room features a pass-through on the west wall that once led to the original kitchen (Photo 10).

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**JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD, HOUSE
ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.**

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ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

In the early 1920s, two dormers were added on the east roof slope and two rooms were added to the west side of the house. In the 1950s, the east porch was enclosed to create a Florida room and a kitchen, utility room and bath were added to the north (rear) side of the house. An entrance was added to allow access to the Florida room through the dining room. In 1992, the Florida room was removed and the porch was restored. A handicap ramp was also added, at the rear of the house, to meet city codes for use of the house as a commercial building.

NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING

A non-contributing, frame garage-apartment was constructed at the rear of the property in 1950 (Photo 11).

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ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.

The Captain Harold B. Jeffries House in Zephyrhills meets National Register Criteria A, B, and C, in the areas of Exploration and Settlement, and Architecture. The Jeffries House is one of the oldest residences in the town of Zephyrhills, which was originally known as Abbott. It was the home of the founder of the community, Captain Harold B. Jeffries and his wife, Helen, from the time of its construction in 1911 until their deaths in the 1930s.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Between 1880 and 1885, the state of Florida experienced a population growth of 25%. Even though Hernando County, on the central Gulf coast, was fairly remote, it also experienced a gain in population and the founding of new settlements. In 1887, prompted by increasing growth in the area, the Florida Legislature carved two new counties out of portions of Hernando County. A northern portion of Hernando County became Citrus County; a southern portion became Pasco County. In the area that became Pasco County, several ports and farming villages were scattered along the Gulf Coast, including Hudson and Port Richey. The first railroad reached the area in 1886, making settlement easier and aiding in the economic expansion of the area. The local economy was primarily based on the production of citrus, watermelon, cattle, hogs, poultry, and eggs.

In 1888, Simon J. Temple purchased 280 acres from the Florida Railway and Navigation Company and two years later registered a plat for the town of Abbott, named in honor of Dr. J. M. Abbott, a physician who ran a drug store and practiced medicine in the area. Abbott was primarily a railroad station, and in February 1888, acquired a post office. A year later, Abbott had a population of 100. By the 1890s, the Consolidated Naval Stores Company of Jacksonville began buying and leasing land in and around Abbott for the purposes of gathering pine resin.

In 1900, brothers J. M. and J. W. Grier moved from Georgia to Brooksville, where they established a lumber mill. Their mill provided employment for many of the citizens of Abbott. Consolidated Naval Stores and the Grier brothers worked out an agreement that after resin was harvested from timber areas, the lands would be released to the Griers. By 1904, the Consolidated

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ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.

Naval Store Company had ceased operations in the area, and, in a few short years the land surrounding Abbott was stripped of its virgin timber. Around 1906, the Griers worked with the Stebbins Realty Company of Tampa on a plan to sell thousands of acres of their property for development as citrus groves and home sites. In 1909, the Griers advertised their land in the National Tribune, a Washington, D.C. newspaper devoted to the interests of Union veterans of the Civil War. Shortly thereafter, they sold 35,000 acres in the area to Harold B. Jeffries.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

Captain Harold B. Jeffries was a journalist employed by the National Tribune. Born in Pennsylvania in 1843, Jeffries enlisted in the Union Army in April 1861. In December 1863, he married Helen McLeod of Carbondale, Pennsylvania. At that time he was a Lieutenant in Company E, 21st Pennsylvania Cavalry. By the time he retired from military service, he had attained the rank of Captain. While working for the National Tribune he became interested in starting a colony for Union Civil War veterans. Several of his co-workers expressed interest in the project and it was supported by the newspaper, which printed articles about the idea. The National Tribune sent Captain Jeffries and Raymond Moore, a New York capitalist, to investigate several sites. The publicity generated by the National Tribune brought in donations of approximately \$200,000 from veterans who supported the project. Moore and Jeffries inspected land in several counties, including Alachua, Lee, De Soto, and Sumter. Initially, a site in Sumter County was chosen for the colony, but before negotiations were completed, it was decided to purchase land in Osceola County near St. Cloud instead. Jeffries was opposed to the St. Cloud selection and continued to search for land on his own, and Moore brought the Grier property in Pasco County to his attention. Jeffries wrote the Stebbins Realty Company and arranged to visit the area. By February 1909, he purchased 35,000 acres in the area of Abbott. Jeffries then organized the Zephyrhills Colony Company to advertise, sell, and lease the land to Union Army veterans so they could live on their small pensions and enjoy the warm Florida sunshine.

The name of the community was changed from Abbott to Zephyrhills. The plat of Zephyrhills generally followed that of the Abbott plat of 1888. Jeffries advertised the colony through

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ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.

an advertising sheet called the Zephyrhills Colonist, which he sent out by the thousands. Five acre tracts were sold for \$75-100, with a city lot included at no additional cost. Payment plans were also available; land could be purchased for \$7.50 down and \$5 per month for 15 months.

The Zephyrhills Colony Company was formed by Jeffries to promote the town. The Company assisted those settling in town as well as those starting small farms. A custom began of making the new arrival feel at home as soon as possible. Every citizen exercised his duty of welcoming, introducing, and giving advice to every newcomer. The older residents of the community were eager for the success of the Zephyrhills Colony Company, for it provided jobs and an economic stimulus at a critical time when lumber and turpentine work was diminishing.

A 1910 account of the community's appearance was not very inviting. An abandoned turpentine distillery was near the train station. Opposite the station were a few houses for the railroad workers and a store. A school was nestled in the woods near the tracks. The only existing streets were Fifth Avenue and a few cross streets. Before long, however, the sounds of hammers and saws filled the air and the community began a period of spectacular growth. The population tripled between 1889 and 1911, from 100 to 300. During the next eight years a five-fold increase in population occurred, reaching 1,500 by 1918.

In 1910, a Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Post was built in Zephyrhills. Soon after, the Zephyrhills Library Association was organized and the Zephyrhills Cornet Band was formed. The city's first newspaper, the Zephyrhills Colonist, was founded in 1911, taking its name from Captain Jeffries advertising sheet. The State Bank of Zephyrhills was established in February 1912, and the town incorporated in 1914.

By 1918 the town could boast of two hotels, a school, four churches, an electric light and power plant, telephone service, and a Board of Trade. During the land boom of the early 1920s, growth in Zephyrhills continued at a rapid pace. An ice plant was constructed and housing construction was active. Housing was scarce even though at one time it was reported that seventy houses were erected in seventy days. Winter residents moving to the area had nowhere to live, so many of the townspeople built additions onto their homes to accommodate visitors. During this

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ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.**Section number 8 Page 4

period, Jeffries added two rooms and a bath to the west side of his house.

Captain Jeffries had built his own home on one of the main streets of the community in 1911 and lived there until his death in 1936. During that time he was actively involved in the growth and development of Zephyrhills. He was aided in this endeavor by Raymond Moore, who also became his son-in-law. Jeffries was instrumental in the building of the GAR Post in 1910 and served as Judge Advocate General of the Post. He was deputy Commander of the GAR encampment and a member of the Board of Administration of the Grand Army Department of Florida. Jeffries was also a member and chaplain of Zephyr Lodge #198 F & AM, a member of the Oddfellows, and a member of the county and state Republican Committee. In 1920, he made an unsuccessful run for Congress. Mrs. Jeffries was also active in the community as a charter member of the Women's Relief Corps (auxiliary of the GAR post), president of GAR Circle #8, member of the Woman's Club, Vice-President of the Zephyrhills Library Association, and chaplain of the Crescent Chapter of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Jeffries often hosted meetings of the Woman's Club and the Library Association at her home. She died in 1931.

ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT

Vernacular architecture embraces a diversity of folk and mass-produced building forms, designed and constructed by lay builders who drew upon traditional building techniques and contemporary stylistic preferences for their inspiration. Primary consideration was given to providing functional and comfortable spaces for the owners. Frequently vernacular buildings reflect a local adaptation to landscape, climate, and cultural patterns. Nineteenth century industrialism made it possible to standardize and mass produce building elements and disseminate them across the country. Decorative features were often applied liberally, exhibiting stylistic references without in and of themselves constituting a style of architecture.

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JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD B., HOUSE
ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Jeffries House is an excellent example of local vernacular architecture, and is one of the oldest remaining buildings in the Zephyrhills community. The wrap-around porch and the multiple windows for cross-ventilation are important adaptations for Florida's warm climate. It was constructed of locally available materials and incorporates only a few decorative elements, such as the decorated vergeboard and the use of shingled areas to add variety to the exterior wall treatment. The Jeffries House is a visual tie and reminder of the unique heritage of the community.

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JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD, HOUSE
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Section number 9 Page 1

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**JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD, HOUSE
ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.**

Section number 10 Page 1

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

City of Zephyrhills, Block 152, Lots 7-9 Incl., as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 54, public records of Pasco County, Florida.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary, as shown on the site plan map, encompasses the property historically associated with the Captain Harold Jeffries House.

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**JEFFRIES, CAPTAIN HAROLD, HOUSE
ZEPHYRHILLS, PASCO CO., FL.**

Section number Photo Page 1

1. Jeffries, Captain Harold, House
2. 38537 5th Avenue, Zephyrhills, Pasco County, Fl.
3. Steve Spina
4. 1995
5. Eileen Herman, 15405 Puckett Road, Dade City, Fl.
6. Main (south) facade, view looking north
7. Photo 1 of 11

Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs

6. Detail, entrance door, south facade; view looking north
7. Photo 2 of 11

6. Detail, gable wall, south facade; view looking north
7. Photo 3 of 11

6. Main (south) facade on left, east elevation on right; view looking northwest
7. Photo 4 of 11

6. Rear (north) elevation, view looking southeast
7. Photo 5 of 11

6. Rear (north) elevation on left, west elevation on right; view looking southeast
7. Photo 6 of 11

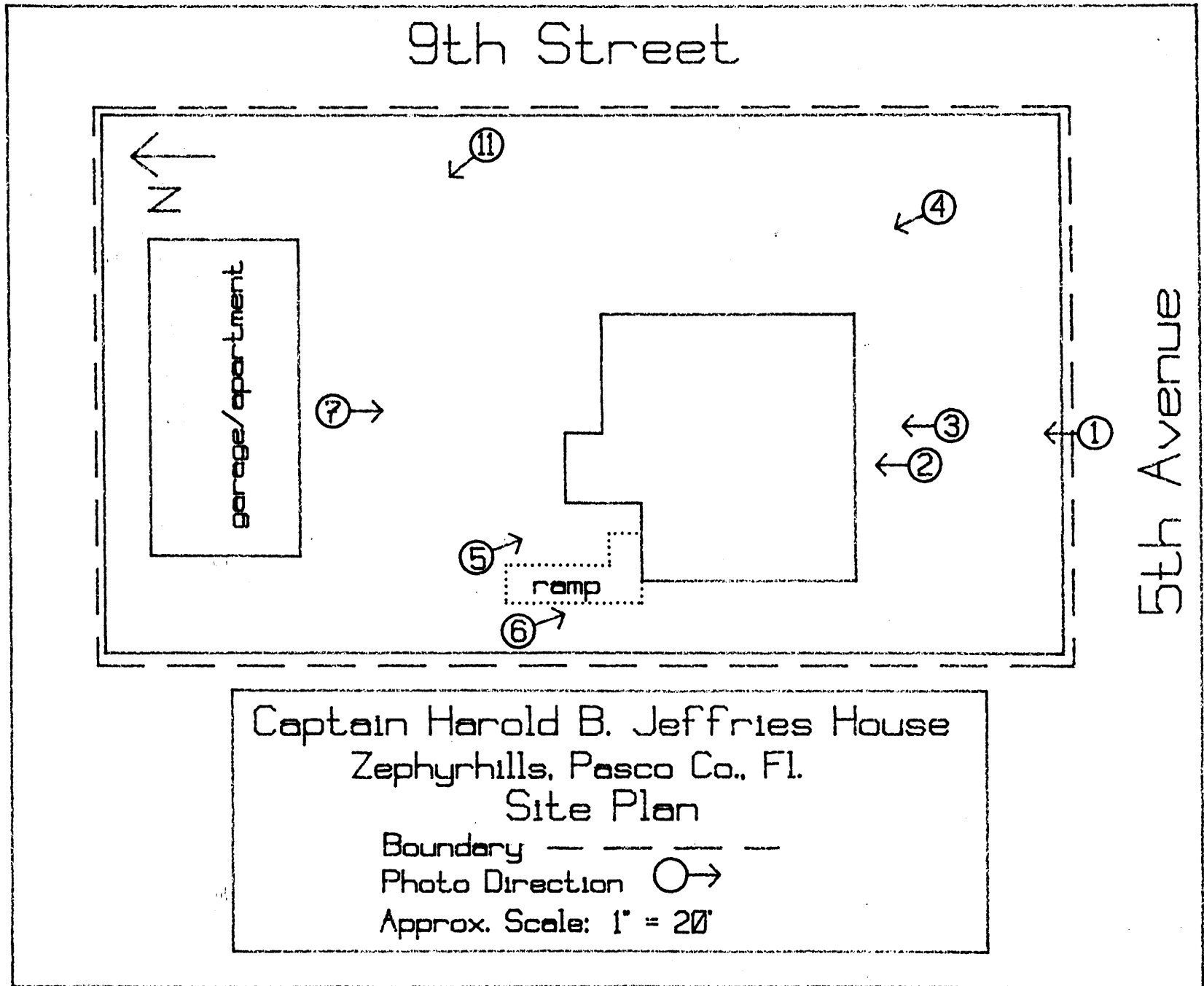
6. Rear (north) elevation, view looking south
7. Photo 7 of 11

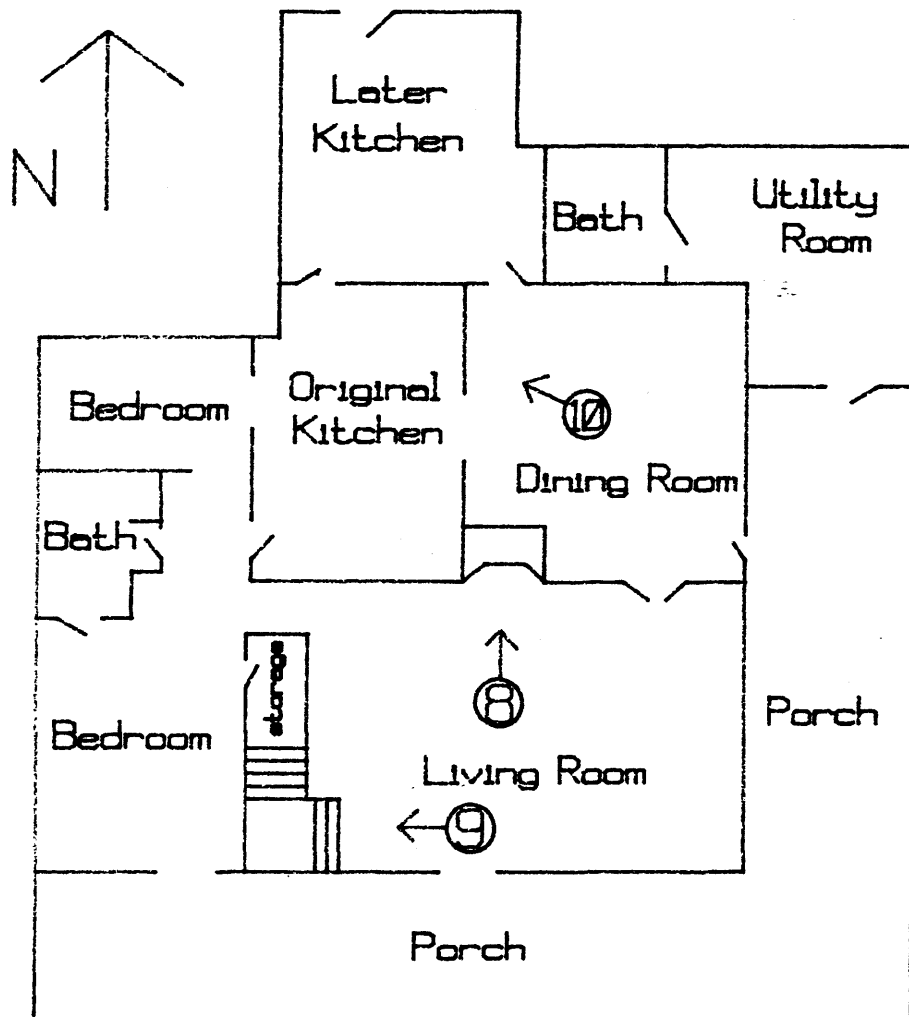
6. Interior detail, parlor fireplace; view looking north
7. Photo 8 of 11

6. Interior detail, stairway; view looking west
7. Photo 9 of 11

6. Interior detail, dining room, showing pass-thru to kitchen; view looking northwest
7. Photo 10 of 11

6. Garage-Apartment, view looking northwest
7. Photo 11 of 11





Captain Harold B. Jeffries House
 Zephyrhills, Pasco Co., Fl.

First Floor Plan

Photo Direction ○→

Approx. Scale: 1" = 12'