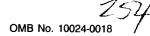
NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

RECEIVED 2280 FEB 9 1996 NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



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 an 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 Pro	perty

historic name Holland Jenks House

other names/site number Stuart Jenks House

Location			=		·····	
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	Auburndale				NZAv	i a i a i t
y or town	Auburndaie				N/_AV	icinity
te <u>Florida</u>	code	FL county]	Polk	code _	<u>105</u> zip co	ode <u>33823</u>
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5. Classification		1				
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		-	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.)			Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register			
N/A			0			
6. Function or Use		•				
Historic Functions		<u> </u>	rrent Function	~		
(Enter categories from instructions)			ter categories from			
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7. Description						
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)			terials ter categories from	n instructions)		
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				La-CULLA		

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

SEE ATTACHED

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.
- \Box **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

Bibilography

(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 # _____

Polk, Florida County and State

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1925

1925

Significant Dates

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A/

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

UNKNOWN/UNKNOWN

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
- □ Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

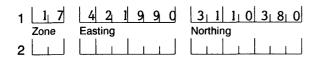
-9

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 1 1/2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)



Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

11. Form Prepared By

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

3					
Zone	Easting		Northin	g	
4					
See o	continuation	sheet			

Stephen Olausen/Gary V. Goodwin, Historic Preservation Planner Florida Department of State organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date January 22, 1996 R.A. Gray Building street & number _ 500 S. Bronough Street 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	•			
	at the request of SHPO or FPO.)			
name <u>Maur</u>	een MacHarris			
street & number	36814 Chestnut Lane	telephone .	(813) 788-0060	
city or town	Zephyrhills	state <u>FL</u>	zip code _33541	

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.

<u>Polk, Florida</u> County and State

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page ___1

Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The Jenks House is located at 116 Raintree Court, approximately three miles north of the City of Auburndale. It is an example of Mediterranean Revival style architecture. The two story building has an irregular plan, consisting of several gable roof units of varying height and setback. The structural system is poured concrete covered with stucco. The interior consists of ten rooms and contains decorative pecky cypress woodwork and arched vault ceilings. One non-contributing structure, a small utility facility, is included in the boundary.

SETTING

The Jenks house is located on a large, sloping lot overlooking Lake Juliana (photos 1 and 2). The house was originally the centerpiece of a fifty-acre tract that was planted with a variety of citrus trees and tropical plants. Most of the property was sold to the developers of the Reflections of Juliana Subdivision in 1989. Surrounding land has since been cleared for residential development, and several homes have been constructed in the area. Presently, the Jenks lot consists of approximately one and onehalf acres at the corner of Raintree and Image courts. Landscaping is limited to a well maintained lawn dotted with several palm, cypress, and pine trees.

PRESENT PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior

The building has an irregular plan consisting of a two-story, front-facing gable roof main unit with four one-story gable extensions. The roofs are surfaced with ceramic barrel tile. Load bearing walls are fourteen inch-thick poured concrete, finished with rough stucco. A partial basement is located below the twostory unit. A utility outbuilding is also present within the property boundary.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

Facade (West Elevation)

The facade contains a variety of elements (photo 3). A set of paired wood casement windows with three lights is located on the garage extension. The flat roof extension features an elongated arched window, two sets of casement windows, and a rectangular entrance that leads to the kitchen. A gable roof unit, which projects from the center of houses the dining room, the elevation. An oriel window with arched openings and a turned baluster casing extends from the north side of the extension and two sets of casement windows with four lights pierce the west side. A shed roof porch with three arched openings runs from the junction of the dining room extension and the southwest corner. Four pairs of casement windows with three lights are located in the second story of the main unit. The main entrance to the house is set behind the central bay of the porch and features arched fanlight and sidelight surrounds.

South Elevation

The south elevation is dominated by an entrance porch with three arched openings on spiral masonry column supports (photos 4 and 5). A T-shaped staircase at the southwest corner leads to a second story balcony. The second story of the facade has a central double door entrance that leads to the master bedroom. A decorative terra-cotta sundial is located east of the entrance. The first story features a prominent arched two-door entrance and two small arched casement windows.

East Elevation

The east side of the house consists of three projecting and receding units (photo 6). The main unit contains a large end, exterior chimney stack flanked by sets of paired casement windows with four lights in the second story and arched casements on the ground level. A sunken stairway leading to a basement is located north of the chimney. A side gable unit with two sets of paired casement windows extends from the northeast corner of the twostory block. Two square garage bays and a paired casement window are the prominent elements of the northernmost gable extension.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

North Elevation

The gable end of the garage extension contains a group of four decorative X-shaped concrete vents (photo 7). Two sets of paired casement windows with three lights are set between wall buttresses that extend from the corners. A flat roof extension off the west side of the garage contains an elongated arch window opening.

INTERIOR

The most significant features of the interior of the Jenks House are its decorative pecky cypress woodwork, vaulted arch ceilings, stuccoed walls, ceramic tile floors, and wrought iron lighting fixtures. The interior is divided into ten rooms, including a living room, dining room, breakfast nook, laundry, kitchen, bathroom, and two bedrooms on the first floor, and a master bedroom and bath on the second floor.

First Floor

The living room is the largest and most architecturally elaborate of the rooms on the first story. A fireplace on the east wall has an arched hearth, pecky cypress mantle, and arched niche with pecky cypress doors (photo 8). The ceiling consists of pecky cypress paneling and beams set in a grid pattern (photo 9). The floor is covered with burnt orange ceramic tile. A landing on the north end of the room features a pecky cypress newel post and a turned baluster balustrade (photo 10). Other decorative features include original wrought iron and clouded glass lighting fixtures and a decorative paired arch opening with a turned baluster balconette supported by carved brackets on the south wall.

The other rooms of the first floor are accessed through a vaulted arch hallway (photo 11). The entrance to the dining room is arched and has a pair of swinging doors with turned balusters (photo 12). An elaborate wrought iron chandelier hangs from the vaulted dining room ceiling. As in the living room, the floors are covered with burnt orange ceramic tile. The walls are pierced by an arched opening with a decorative cast iron bell, a notched

Holland Jenks House,

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

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Section number ____7 Page ___4 Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

opening with a wrought iron balustrade, and a paired arch opening with a turned baluster balconette on carved bracket supports.

An arched doorway on the north wall of the dining room leads to the breakfast nook, kitchen, and laundry rooms (photo 13). The breakfast nook contains an original built-in wood table and two wood benches. The bottom half of the kitchen walls are covered with glazed ceramic tile. Original wood cabinets are located on the west wall.

Two bedrooms with arched doorways, an adjoining bathroom, and original sconce lighting fixtures are accessed from the east side of the arched hallway (photos 14-16). A staircase at the south end of the hall descends to the garage.

The stairway to the second floor leads to a vaulted arch hallway (photo 17). All of the doors on the second floor are constructed of pecky cypress planks and have wrought iron strapping and latches. Ceilings of the master bedroom are slanted at the corners to match the pitch of the gable roof (photo 18). A fireplace similar to the one in the living room is located on the east wall. Original features of the master bathroom include a cast iron tub, glazed ceramic tile, and plumbing fixtures (photo 19).

Alterations

Alterations to the original appearance of the Jenks House are few and unobtrusive. The most obvious are the replacement of the original kitchen appliances and the installation of wall air conditioning units in the living room, south first floor bedroom, and master bedroom.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Jenks House, built in 1925, is significant under National Register criterion C in the area of Architecture at the local level. The building is an excellent example of Mediterranean Revival architecture and is one of only a few in the Auburndale area to exhibit that design.

Historic Context

Situated in an attractive area of pristine lakes and low rolling hills, the Auburndale area received its first permanent settlement in the early 1880s. In 1883 the Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West Railroad, which was later absorbed by the Atlantic gauge line Coastline Railway, completed a narrow between Kissimmee and Tampa. That same year a post office was established at Sanitaria, a small settlement on the west bank of Lake Mariana founded by a group of Chicago natives who came to Florida seeking a healthy climate. Unfortunately, the residents of Sanitaria were unable to convince the J.T.& K.W. Railway to buy land there for the construction of a depot. Instead, the railroad erected its station one mile to the west on a site donated by a group of 1884, the Town of property owners around Lake Ariana. In surveyed and platted with Auburndale was а central park containing the depot as its centerpiece.

The initial industry was vegetable farming, but extensive stands of tall pine trees soon attracted lumber companies to the area. By 1887 Auburndale contained several homes, three general stores, a real estate office, a drugstore, and a hotel. At the turn-ofthe-century the population of the town and its surrounding area numbered 775. A commercial district consisting of one- and twostory wood frame buildings grew along Main and Park streets. Citrus production replaced lumbering and vegetable farming as the leading industry in the area in the 1910s.

Auburndale experienced its most intense period of development during the Great Florida Land Boom years of the 1920s. The population of the town, which totaled 715 at the beginning of the

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

decade, ballooned to about 2,500 by the height of the Land Boom in 1925. The commercial district, which had completely burned in 1913, was filled with modern fireproof masonry buildings. New subdivisions on the outskirts of town were platted and annexed at a rapid pace. Between 1924 and 1926, over half a million dollars was expended on infrastructure improvements, resulting in a complete network of paved roads and expanded electrical, water, sewer, and drainage services.

A significant aspect of Florida's development during the historic period was the influx of northern tourists who came to the state seeking land for winter vacation homes. That trend, which began in the late nineteenth century, reached a fever pitch during the Land Boom. Although coastal communities were the most popular tourist destinations, interior towns and cities, such as Auburndale, which featured attractive and relatively cheap land for citrus production, also received large numbers of seasonal residents.

Holland W. Jenks came to the Auburndale area in the early 1920s to construct a winter residence. The property for the house was purchased by Holland's father, Winfield S. Jenks, and his partner Nelson R. Wood at a tax sale in 1910. The tract measured 673 feet by one-half mile and had frontage on the eastern bank of Lake Juliana. Winfield was the founder of W.S. Jenks Stoves, a successful retail outlet for heating stoves and related equipment in downtown Washington, D.C. Holland joined his father in business in the 1890s, and the store was renamed W.S. Jenks and Son. Still in operation with stores in northeastern Washington, D.C. and Arlington, W.S. Jenks and Son is among the oldest continually run businesses in the Capital City.

After Winfield's death in 1914, Holland Jenks became sole owner of the family business and, shortly after World War I, expanded the store into a general hardware concern. In 1922, he and his wife, Alice, began making plans to construct a vacation home on the tract of land near Auburndale. They purchased an additional 250 feet by 1/2 mile tract on the south side of the property in December and work on the house began the following year.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

The design for the Jenks House was based on Holland's preference for Spanish architecture. The style, which conjured visions of informal Mediterranean villas, was fast becoming the design of choice for large winter residences in Florida. In addition, Holland often dined at a Spanish style restaurant in Washington, D.C. Impressed by the design, he found out the name of the restaurant's architect and commissioned him to draw plans for his Florida residence. The name of the architect is not known.

The architect's plans called for the erection of a rambling, two story building with ten rooms, two large porches, and a two-car garage. The exterior and interior load-bearing walls were to be constructed of fourteen inch thick poured concrete. The elaborate interior featured vaulted ceilings, pecky cypress wood work, ceramic tile floors, and intricate wrought iron fixtures, some of which was salvaged from a razed Washington, D.C. hotel. A local Auburndale contractor was hired to execute the design.

Work progressed slowly, probably due to the complex nature of the construction and delays in obtaining materials. Holland's devotion to expanding the hardware store kept him away from the house while it was being built, but his wife, Alice, and son, Stuart, visited periodically to ensure progress was being made. Finally, in late fall 1925 the house was finished.

In addition to the house, Holland laid out an extensive citrus grove on his fifty acre tract. He and Alice came to the house each winter to oversee the groves and tend to the variety of decorative tropical plants that added beauty to the grounds surrounding the house. After Holland died suddenly in 1940, Alice gave up their home in Washington, D.C. and became a full-time resident of Florida.

In the early 1930s, Stuart Jenks left a career as an inventor to join his father in running W.S. Jenks & Son. After Hollands' death, Stuart continued to operate the store until 1955 when he sold it to Victor Siegle and moved to Florida where he managed the family's citrus groves. When his mother died in 1958, Stuart inherited the house and lived there with his second wife, Connie, and their family until his death in 1988.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

In 1989, after several severe freezes earlier in the decade, the Jenks heirs sold most of the property that originally supported the citrus groves to subdivision developer Gary Warnock. The first phase of the Reflections of Juliana Subdivision was opened that year and a second one is presently being developed.

Architectural Context

Mediterranean Revival is eclectic style containing an architectural elements with Spanish or Middle Eastern precedents. Found most commonly in those states that have a Spanish Colonial heritage, Mediterranean Revival broadly defines the Mission, Moorish, Turkish, Byzantine, and Spanish Eclectic revival styles which became popular in the Southwest and Florida during the early twentieth century. The influence of those Mediterranean styles found expression through a detailed study in 1915 of Latin American architecture made by Bertram Grovesnor Goodhue at the Panama-California Exposition in San Diego. The Goodhue exhibit prominently featured the rich Spanish architectural variety of America. Encouraged by the publicity afforded the South exposition, other architects began to look directly to Spain and elsewhere in the Mediterranean, where they found still more interesting building traditions.

Mediterranean Revival buildings in Florida display considerable Spanish influence. A popular building style in Florida during the 1920s, construction continued following the collapse of the land boom and even into the 1930s. Identifying features of the style include flat (sometimes hip) roofs, usually with some form of parapet; ceramic tile roof surfacing; stuccoed facades; flat roof entrance porches, commonly with arched openings supported by square columns; casement and double-hung sash windows; and ceramic tile decorations.

Architectural Significance

The Jenks House is significant under National Register criterion C in the area of Architecture. Constructed as a winter residence by a prominent Washington, D.C. businessman, the house is the

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

most elaborate of the few surviving Mediterranean Revival style residences in the Auburndale area. It is also a rare, in the context of Florida architecture during the historic period, example of poured concrete residential construction. With only very minor changes to accommodate several wall mounted air conditioning units, the house retains its original appearance to an unusually high degree.

The house was designed by a Washington, D.C. architect, who included many of the hallmark features of the Mediterranean Revival style, including an irregular plan with various intersecting units and multiple roof planes, barrel tile roof surfacing, arched window and porch openings, and stucco exterior wall fabric (photos 3-7). The house also has a relatively early example of an incorporated two-car garage. A small utility outbuilding is also present within the property boundary.

The interior contains a variety of decorative features that add to the distinctiveness of the house. Ceilings in the dining room and hallways are vaulted and several arched openings pierce the dining room walls (photos 11-12). The living room has a beamed pecky cypress ceiling, prominent fireplace with an arched hearth, and ornate wrought iron lighting fixtures (photos 8-10). Other decorative features include, ceramic tile floors, original cast iron bathroom fixtures, and turned baluster balustrades.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESOURCES

- Federal Writer's Project. The WPA Guide to Florida. Reprint of original 1939 edition. New York: Pantheon Books, 1984.
- Heatherington, M.F. History of Polk County, Florida. Reprint of the original 1928 edition. Chuluota, Florida: The Mickler House, 1971.
- "The History of Polk County, Florida," c. 1930. Manuscript located at the St. Augustine Historical Society Library.

Olausen, Stephen. Interview with Robert Jenks, August 31, 1994.

Polk County Deed Books, 101, p. 361 and 210, p. 516.

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The Washington Post, February 10, 1988.

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Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary runs along the property line of the Jenks House, which is located at Lot 18 of The Reflections of Juliana Subdivision, Polk County, Florida.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary was drawn to encompass the remaining property of the Jenks Estate. Originally, the property consisted of about fifty acres of land fronting on the east bank of Lake Juliana. Much of the original land was use for orange groves, but a series of freezes during the mid 1980s destroyed most of the trees. In 1989 the Jenks heirs sold the land surrounding the house to a developer, who platted The Reflections of Juliana Subdivision around the remaining property.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number <u>Photos</u> Page <u>1</u>

1) Holland Jenks House

Holland Jenks House, Auburndale, Polk County, Florida

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

2) Polk County, Florida 3) Stephen Olausen 4) September 1994 5) Historic Property Associates, Inc., St. Augustine, FL 6) View of property and building, facing northeast 7) 1 of 19 Items 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs 6) View of property and building, facing southeast 7) 2 of 19 6) View of facade (west elevation), facing east 7) 3 of 19 6) View of south elevation, facing north 7) 4 of 19 6) Detail view of balcony stairway, facing northwest 7) 5 of 19 6) View of east elevation, facing southwest 7) 6 of 19 6) View of north elevation, facing south 7) 7 of 19 6) View of living room fireplace, facing east 7) 8 of 19 6) View of pecky cypress living room ceiling, facing northeast 7) 9 of 19 6) View of living room landing, vaulted arch hallway, and staircase, facing north 7) 10 of 19

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Holland Jenks House, Section number <u>Photos</u> Page <u>2</u> Auburndale, Polk County, Florida 6) View of vaulted arch hallway, facing north 7) 11 of 19 6) View of dining room, facing southeast 7) 12 of 19 6) View of kitchen and laundry room, facing northwest 7) 13 of 19 6) View of south first floor bedroom, facing south 7) 14 of 19 6) View of first floor bathroom, facing north 7) 15 of 19 6) View of north first floor bedroom, facing northeast 7) 16 of 19 6) View of second floor hallway, facing north 7) 17 of 19 6) View of master bedroom, facing northeast 7) 18 of 19 6) View of master bathroom, facing north 7) 19 of 19

