

PH 014 0307
DATA SHEET

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Pinellas
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE APR 24 1975

1. NAME

COMMON:
(Manhattan Hotel)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Williams Mansion

*Williams
Mansion
see
course.*

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
444 Fifth Avenue, South

CITY OR TOWN:
St. Petersburg

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Eighth

STATE: **Florida** CODE: **012** COUNTY: **Pinellas** CODE: **103**

3. CLASSIFICATION

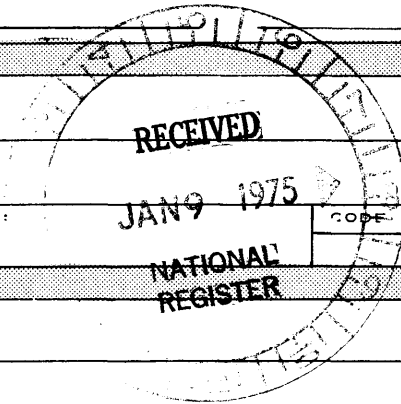
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple--see attached sheet

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Pinellas County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:
Clearwater Florida 012

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida	FOR NPS USE ONLY
COUNTY: Pinellas	
ENTRY NUMBER: APR 24 1975	DATE
DATE	

7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Williams House was originally a two-story frame house built in the Queen Anne style, that is with a stress on irregularity of plan and massing. It today comprises part of the east wing of the Manhattan Hotel. The southeast corner of the original structure has had the least modification and still appears much as it did when constructed. This is the portion of the house where verandas and entries were located. The principal entry into the parlor is within the veranda and set at a diagonal. There is an auxilliary entrance into a small hall off of the parlor. Both doors are single with colored glass in the transoms. All windows are double-hung sash with colored glass borders in the upper half. Although the house has asbestos siding, it was originally clapboard with shingle infill in the gables. The roof is pitched with cross gables and an octagonal tower (now truncated) set between gables in the southeast corner. The base of the tower above the second floor level is also covered with the same fish-scale shingles. The house has all of the jigsaw trim typical of the period, paling posts defining the veranda, hood mould over corner door at second level and bargeboards resting on brackets in the principal gables. The latter is a feature not commonly seen in Florida. In addition, there are paired or tripled glazed openings in each of the principal gables set into a common surround.

In addition to the removal of the corner balcony on the southeast, the addition of jalousie windows and doors and the asbestos siding, there have been numerous alterations to the interior of the building. Shortly after the purchase of the building by the Manhattan Hotel Company in 1906, the long west wing which comprises most of the Manhattan Hotel was added. Further alterations included the addition of two bathrooms and interior partitions in the west wing in 1946, the addition of a laundry room in 1954, the installation of 5/8 sheetrock on the interior in 1963 and the partitioning of parts of the porch in 1964.

Although portions of the original Williams Mansion have been subdivided into apartments, the two first floor parlors and entry hall have been left intact. Both parlors contain elaborate mahogany mantles with bevelled mirrors above and the larger parlor contains the stair with mahogany banister. Both parlors have stenciled decoration beneath the cornice.

Due to constant use and maintenance, the original house and hotel additions are in good condition today.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1891-1892

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

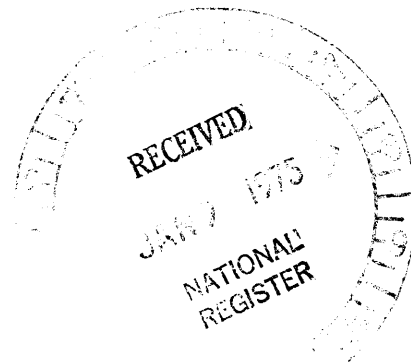
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Constantine Williams, born in Detroit, Michigan in 1817, first visited the Pinellas Peninsula in 1875. Shortly thereafter he purchased 1,600 acres from the State of Florida and W. F. Sperling. Williams' energies were devoted to bringing a railroad into the area and his efforts led him into negotiations with the Orange Belt Railroad, headed by a Russian exile, Peter A. Demens (Petrovich Demenscheff). Demens was searching for a terminus on the Gulf and he finally reached an agreement with Williams to develop a townsite.

In 1888, the townsite was surveyed and platted by A. L. Hunt, chief engineer for the Orange Belt Railroad. It is said that Williams is the one who insisted on the unusually wide streets (100 feet) and a large central park (Williams Park). The same year Williams built the first hotel in St. Petersburg, the Detroit, named for his birthplace. It still stands, although drastically modified, at 215 Central Avenue.

Williams, who is credited with the founding of the City of St. Petersburg, began construction on his Fifth Avenue home in 1891. He died in April of 1892, after having lived in the house for a very brief period. Not only was it the finest Victorian dwelling in St. Petersburg at the time of its construction, but it is today the last surviving example of recognizable Queen Anne architecture and one of the oldest houses in the city.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

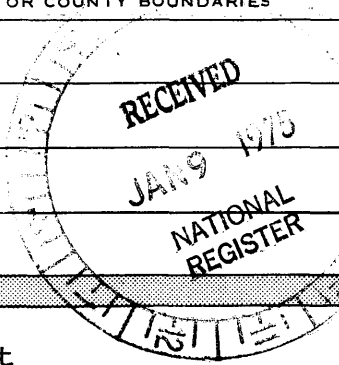
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N27° 45' 54"	W82° 38' 23"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

17/338410
3072100
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **less than one acre**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: **Div. of Archives, History and Records Mgt.** DATE: **10-10-74**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **012**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: *Robert Williams*
Robert Williams
Title: Preservation Officer

Date: December 16, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Al Worshusen
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/24/75

ATTEST:
W. M. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 23 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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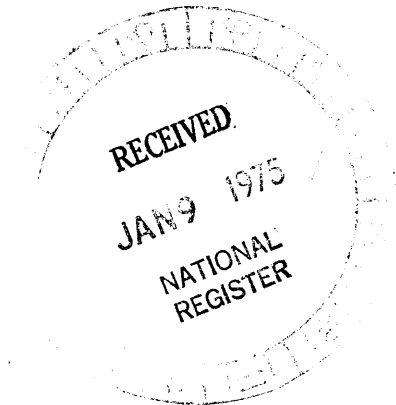
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Pinellas	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 24 1975

(Number all entries) 4. Owner of Property

-2-

1. Louise Ward Flint
1540 Opelika Road
Auburn, Alabama
2. Dow Flint Bond
903 Valley Ridge Drive
Birmingham, Alabama
3. Thomas McCall Flint
321 Skyline Park Drive
Hopkinsville, Kentucky
4. Lila Flint Payne
541 "I" Street
Little Rock, Arkansas



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(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries) 9. Major Bibliographical References

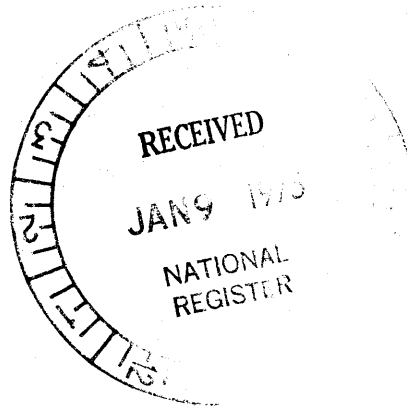
-2-

Fuller, Walter P. St. Petersburg and Its People. St. Petersburg: Great Outdoors Publishing Company, 1973.

Grismer, Karl H. History of St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg: Tourist News Publishing Company, 1924.

Grismer, Karl H. The Story of St. Petersburg. St. Petersburg: P. K. Smith and Company, 1948.

Pinellas County Courthouse, Clearwater, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Pinellas County Records. (Subgroup: deeds--complete chain of title from Sarah Armstead Williams, his widow, to the present in numerous deed books.)



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RECEIVED	APR 08 1975
DATE ENTERED	APR 24 1975

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

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Addendum to Manhattan Hotel nomination as per National Register staff request:

Description of west wing, added 1906.

Although added some fifteen years after the construction of the Williams House, the hotel wing is stylistically and visually in keeping with the original building. The wing is of frame construction, three stories in height with a mansard roof and multiple brick chimneys. Double-hung sash windows occur singly and in pairs-all with screens on the outside. There is a gallery at ground level with a pent roof above slender square columns. There are several entrances into the wing from the gallery or arcade as well as from the house proper.

The Manhattan Hotel has accomodated guests since the addition of the west wing, at which time it ceased to be a private residence. The hotel has always been a small "family" type opertion serving older guests who come to St. Petersburg and the Manhattan on a regular basis. The hotel is operated by Mrs. Alma E. Ward who lives on the premises, administrates to a small staff and keeps the building in good repair.

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