

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 10 1978  
DATE ENTERED NOV 21 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Stetson, John B. House

AND/OR COMMON  
"Gillen"

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER  
1031 Camphor Lane  
CITY, TOWN DeLand VICINITY OF 4th  
STATE Florida CODE 12 COUNTY Volusia CODE 127 ✓  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY                                        | OWNERSHIP                                   | STATUS                                              | PRESENT USE                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT               | <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED        | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED                 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE              | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH               | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS           | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT                |
|                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED          | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT                   |
|                                                 |                                             | <input type="checkbox"/> NO                         | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL                   |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                     |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                       |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                         |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                    |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC                   |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION               |
|                                                 |                                             |                                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                       |

OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Marino ✓  
STREET & NUMBER 1031 Camphor Lane  
CITY, TOWN DeLand VICINITY OF STATE Florida 32720

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Volusia County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN DeLand STATE Florida

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE  
DATE  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

# 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                   | CHECK ONE                                         |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |                                             |                                                   |

---

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John B. Stetson House is basically a three-story, L-shaped building with a low pitched hipped roof. There are, however, varied projections on the North and South elevations. Because a second wing was to be attached to the west elevation only a temporary porch was constructed. The East elevation is unremarkable except for contiguous outbuildings located at the Northeast corner. The present roofing material is asbestos, replacing the original wood shingles. It is understood that the current light yellow walls, green trim and red roof duplicated the originals.

The ridge of the roof is interrupted by two large brick chimneys while a third rises on the exterior at the Northeast corner of the house and is functional for both the wing and main house. The rafters are exposed around the entire cornice with the exception of the center of the South facade where the pediment of a balcony is superimposed.

The wall covering of the entire structure is composed of wood shingles of a variety of designs, including rectangular, semicircular, and imbricated.

The main as well as subsidiary entries are all located on the first floor of the North elevation. All three are located beneath second floor projections. Also on the North facade are two stairways expressed on the exterior by sets of triple windows following the line of the ascending stairs. At the second floor level there are two shed roof projections. The smaller with a large sash window houses a bathroom while the larger expresses a second floor hall with six paired casements surmounted by stationary sash. The third floor windows which illuminate the servants rooms are diminished.

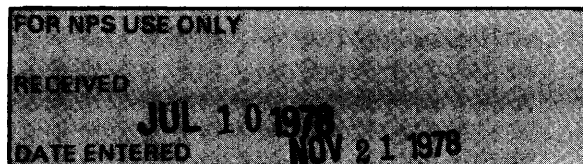
The most notable feature of the South facade is the first floor composition of a blind ogee arcade. The spandrel of the center and eastern arches is filled by the shingled pendant of a second floor oriel (in plan a semi-octagon). On the third floor, above the oriel, is a narrow projecting balcony with turned balustrade and three heavy posts. The posts, with swirled fluting, bear cushion capitals which support the shingled pediment. Shorter versions of these posts and capitals, placed in pairs, support a solid balustrade. There is a conical roof on the circular tower on the southwest corner of the building. On the Southeast corner, a semi-octagonal projection of only one story carries a pyramidal roof.

The window treatment reflects the variety of the facades. There are leaded and stained glass windows with semi-circular-headed, circular, truncated oval and double-hung sash, and casement windows, many of which have label moldings terminating in wood bosses.

(See Continuation Sheet)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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



John B. Stetson House  
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

Within the recessed arcade with ogee voussoirs are highly decorative shingles. Also between the second and third floors of the South and East facades is a plain belt course which visually distinguishes the family quarters from the servant quarters.

On the interior are carved wood mantels with tiled fascia. The main stairhall is wainscotted and separated from the first floor rooms by a divider composed of panelled wood wainscoting and pierced wood dado.

The grounds of "Gillen" originally included 300 acres. Presently less than 3 acres remain. Within the three acres, however, is a building once used as a schoolhouse, parts of the Stetson garden, now overgrown, and an alligator pit. The latter was built by Stetson to provide entertainment for his visiting Philadelphia friends.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD                                        | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |                                                 |                                                            |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                               | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE                        | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION   | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY                          | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                             | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY                        | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT               | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                               |                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |                                                            |                                              |

---

SPECIFIC DATES            1886                                    BUILDER/ARCHITECT    George T. Pearson, AIA

---

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John B. Stetson home was built about 1886 as the winter home of the famous Philadelphia hat manufacturer, whose name is associated with Stetson University, also in DeLand. In addition to its association with Stetson, the house is significant as one of the few in the area designed by an architect (George T. Pearson). While the extensive grounds of the estate have been subdivided, the unusual alligator pit and underground heating plant remain with the residence.

The site was originally owned by Dr. H. H. Gillen who sold the land in 1883 to Henry DeLand, founder of DeLand, Florida. Stetson bought approximately 300 acres as a homesite from DeLand in 1886 at which time he hired George T. Pearson, AIA, of Philadelphia to design his new winter residence.

During the 20 years that Stetson wintered at DeLand (1886 until his death in 1906), he developed a sincere interest in the surrounding community, particularly DeLand University. Due to his financial aid to the school it was renamed "Stetson University" in 1889 at the insistence of Mr. DeLand. In addition to funding the University deficit, Mr. Stetson also gave several of the tracts of ground on which the campus now stands, and endowed several faculty chairs. The President's House, Stetson Hall and Elizabeth Hall were also designed by Pearson and built at Stetson's expense.

The Stetson's residence is not, therefore, an isolated building within the DeLand community, but a portion of the Stetson philanthropy for DeLand as executed by George T. Pearson's design. Although the President's House has since been replaced by a library, both Stetson and Elizabeth Halls are university dormitories likely to be retained.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bowen, Olga. Typescript essays on John B. Stetson, DeLand, and Stetson Home.

Caruso, Mike. "Windows on the Past: The John B. Stetson House." Daytona Beach News Journal, June 24, 1973.  
(See Continuation Sheet)

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

UTM REFERENCES

|   |      |           |             |   |      |         |          |
|---|------|-----------|-------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 1 7  | 4 68 5 00 | 32 1 03 8 0 | B |      |         |          |
|   | ZONE | EASTING   | NORTHING    |   | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C |      |           |             | D |      |         |          |
|   |      |           |             |   |      |         |          |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All of that property described as Lot 13, Block Q, Stetson Home Estates.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elizabeth B. Monroe, Historic Sites Specialist 1/30/78

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Division of Archives, History and Records Management (904) 487-2333

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Department of State, The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL  STATE  LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

*[Signature]* 6/27/78

TITLE

DATE

|                                                                          |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY                                                         |                                 |
| I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER |                                 |
| <i>[Signature]</i>                                                       | DATE 11-21-78                   |
| DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION                | KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER |
| ATTEST: <i>[Signature]</i>                                               | DATE 11/17/78                   |
| KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER                                          |                                 |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| FOR NPS USE ONLY |             |
| RECEIVED         | JUL 10 1976 |
| DATE ENTERED     | NOV 21 1976 |

John B. Stetson House  
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 1

---

Hockaday, Alyce. "Stetson Mansion Still Work of Art," DeLand (Fla) Sun News, June 7-8, 1975.

Padden, Ann. "Company 'As Old as America' to Restore Victorian Stetson House," DeLand (Fla) Sun News, n.d.

Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.  
Biography and History of George T. Pearson.