

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	

**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

Jekyll Island Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Between Riverview Dr. & Old Villiage Blvd. NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Jekyll Island

— VICINITY OF

1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Georgia

CODE

13

COUNTY

Glynn

CODE

127

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Jekyll Island State Park Authority

STREET & NUMBER

214 Trinity-Washington Building

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Georgia

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Jekyll Island State Park Authority

STREET & NUMBER

214 Trinity-Washington Building

CITY, TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 village is comprised of 240 acres on the western shores of Jekyll Island in a beautiful setting of live oaks.

Jekyll Island Club House: Designed by Charles A. Alexander, Architect of Chicago, Illinois. This was the principal building of the Jekyll Club where most members stayed during their residence. It was the center of social activity and represented the luxury and splendor of the slowly declining Victorian Era. This building was constructed in two adjoining sections - a four story - main building with tower and wings completed 1887, and a four story annex completed 1901. There was a total of 56 rooms and eight four bedroom apartments to accomodate club members and their guests. Enclosed is the architect's rendering which appeared in "American Architect & Building News" January 8, 1887.

Today the Club House is being restored to appear as it did in 1900.

San Souci: A corporation of six club members, J. P. Morgan (elder), James J. Hill, Frederick G. Bourne, Pierre Lorillard, J. A. Scrymser, and William Rockefeller built this three story apartment building which contains six apartments. It is believed J. P. Morgan was the first in this country to incorporate the old Roman idea of multiple ownership of a single dwelling. The title "San Souci" means "without care."

Marina: The Jekyll Club wharf accomodated the most luxurious pleasure craft in the world but J. P. Morgan's Corsair II, 304 ft. long, was too large to dock and had to anchor in the channel. Other yachts owned by club members were: P. Lorillard's "Caiman;" the Astor's "Nourmahal;" the Vanderbilts' "Alvah" and "Valiant;" the Pulitzers' "Liberty" the Cranes' "Illyria" and the Goulds' "Hildegard," "Saono" and "Ketchum."

"Indian Mound" (William Rockefeller Cottage), constructed in 1892 by Gordon McKay of Pittsfield, Mass., was sold 1905 to William Rockefeller who made extensive alterations. This property remained in the Rockefeller family until the Club's closing in 1947. Of simple wood frame construction, the cottage includes 20 rooms, 12 baths and an elevator.

The Rockefeller Cottage, is now a museum displaying furnishings typically found in the Club Cottages. Pieces date from the late 1700's through the 1920's. The interior decor is that of the Edwardian Era. Restored 1970.

"Mistletoe" was built in 1903 and originally occupied by John Claflin of New York. The cottage is of wood frame construction with a gambrel roof and contains 15 rooms, and 5 baths and an elevator. In later years, "Mistletoe"

(Continued)

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 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 type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		History Private Resort

SPECIFIC DATES 1796-1886, 1888-1947
Restoration began 1968

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lying off the coast of Georgia, southeast of Brunswick, Jekyll or Jekyl as originally spelled, is one of several islands between Savannah to the north and Jacksonville to the south which are known as the Golden Isles of Georgia. Although most readily associated with the millionaire village of the late 19th century, Jekyll's historical significance begins much earlier.

The Guale Indians who occupied all the Georgia coastal area called the island "Ospos" and it was a popular hunting and fishing spot. General Oglethorpe established a base of operation at Fort Frederica on St. Simons Island and directed Major William Horton to maintain an outpost on Jekyll Island. In 1562 a group of French Huguenots had visited Jekyll and named the island "Isle de La Somme" but no further French interest evolved until 1796 when four Frenchmen purchased the island for commercial exploitation. Three of these men withdrew and their interests were acquired by Christopher Poulain DuBignon whose descendents retained possession until 1886. (A DuBignon was one of few Georgians belonging to the Club).

The beauty and charm of Jekyll Island attracted the notice of some of the North's wealthiest men who were looking for a desirable southern property where they might establish comfortable homes during the cold northern winter seasons. Negotiations for the island's purchase were terminated February 1, 1888, and the titles passed to the newly created Jekyll Island Club, with a membership limited to one-hundred. Some famous names appearing on the roster are: Rockefeller, Vanderbilt, Harriman, Baker, Pulitzer, Hill, Morgan, McCormick and many others. A rambling wood and brick, late - Victorian style clubhouse was the first building constructed and was soon followed by private residences known as "cottages." Every convenience was provided to insure an enjoyable stay and while visitors were allowed they were called strangers and their stay limited to two weeks.

With such an assemblage of prominent people wintering at Jekyll it is not surprising that many significant events occurred here. It was at Jekyll in 1910 that the first draft of the Federal Reserve Act was written which, in 1914, created the Federal Reserve Bank. It was from Jekyll in 1915 that Theodore N. Vail, President of A.T.&T., participated in the first transcontinental telephone call to San Francisco via Washington and New York.

(Continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Amory, Cleveland, "The Last Resorts."
 Fish, Tallu, "Once Upon An Island."
 Fish, Tallu, Scrapbooks of newspaper clippings pertaining to Jekyll events.
 Gibson, Dorothy R., "Jekyll Island's Historical Heritage."
 Lanier, Charles, "Jekyll Island Club," privately printed.
 Ledgers and Records of the Jekyll Island Club.
 Beedle, Rober K., Consulting Engineer, Jekyll Island State Park Authority, Original draft of National Register nomination form.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

UTM REFERENCES

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Ken de Bellis, Jekyll Island State Park; Georgia Historic Sites Survey Staff

ORGANIZATION

Georgia Historical Commission

DATE

5/19/71

STREET & NUMBER

116 Mitchell St., SW.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Atlanta

STATE

Georgia

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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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was purchased by J. K. Porter of Pittsburgh. Today "Mistletoe" houses the Jekyll Island Promotional Association offices and Visitor Information Center. Historical exhibits of Jekyll Island artifacts are displayed on the second floor. Restored 1974.

Goodyear Cottage was built in 1903 by Frank H. Goodyear of Buffalo, New York. This cottage is of wood frame with tile roof and white stucco exterior, depicting the Georgian Revival architecture of the period. Goodyear cottage now serves as the Jekyll Island Center for Creative Arts and is operated by the Jekyll Island Art Association. The cottage is in use throughout the year for various art classes, special traveling exhibits, displays of Island art, private collections and furniture collections. i.e., German Clock exhibit. Restored 1973.

"Moss" Cottage was built in 1896 by Robert Struthers of New York. In later years "Moss" was purchased by Valentine Everett Macy of New York. The building constructed, in the Dutch style with wood frame and gambrel roof contains 22 rooms and 5 baths, is to be restored in 1976. The first floor will be utilized as the Visitor Information and Orientation Center.

Crane Cottage was built by Richard T. Crane in 1916. It occupies the site of the Frederick Baker Cottage, "Solterra" which had been destroyed by fire in 1914. Constructed at a reported cost of \$500,000.00, this Spanish Villa was considered ostentatious by Club members who censured Mr. Crane severely. The grand salon, dining room and library interior, originally furnished with Mission furniture, have teak, beamed ceilings and tile, brick and oak floors. Crane Cottage is available to the public for wedding receptions, parties, exhibits, meetings, etc. Restoration has been in progress since 1969.

"Hollybourne Cottage" was built by Charles Stewart Maurice of New York and contains 24 rooms, 6 baths and an open solarium. Built in 1892 it is the only building within the Village constructed of "Tabby" concrete. Of the major buildings "Hollybourne" is the only one which has not been lived in since 1940. Application was made in May of 1975 for Federal funds to restore and preserve this fine building.

"Villa Ospo" was built late in 1928 by Walter Jennings, a Vice President of the Standard Oil Co. A Mediterranean style is followed throughout the interior and exterior of this cottage. Restoration of this building is nearly completed and for a short time it was used by the staff of "Drumbeats in Georgia;" an out of doors historical drama.

(Continued)

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"Villa Marianna" also in the Mediterranean style was built in 1928 by Frank Gould. Interior furnishings suggest a decor of the late Victorian Era in the Eastlake style. Architecturally, the Mediterranean style is reflected by its interior with tile roof, yellow stucco walls, porches, balconies, etc. Arched ceilings further enhance the appearance. "Villa Marianna" now houses the business offices of the Jekyll Island - State Park Authority. Restored in 1971.

"Cherokee" (Shrady - James Cottage) has 22 rooms and 8 baths. It was built in 1905 by Dr. George Frederick Shrady, who attended President U. S. Grant as consulting surgeon in his last illness. The cottage was last occupied by Dr. Walter Belknap James of New York. Partially restored in 1974, this building is presently not open to the public.

"Faith Chapel" this charming chapel is the second of two chapels erected on this site. It was built in 1904 of simple Gothic design exhibiting the English influence. Copies of four Notre Dame gargoyles may be seen at the exterior corners of the narthex. Both interior and exterior walls are shingled and two fine leaded glass windows, have been placed in the east and west walls. The King David Window (west wall) is said to have been personally installed by Louis C. Tiffany. The Adoration of the Christ Child is by Maitland Armstrong and his daughter, Helen. At the strut ends of the three roof trusses are hand carved grotesque animal heads. Faith Chapel now is used for weddings and special religious services. Regular religious services have been discontinued. Restored in 1970.

Morgan Tennis Court the indoor court was the scene of many tournaments. The Jekyll Club maintained a tennis and a golf pro for tennis, golf, bowling, croquet, polo and skeet were active sports.

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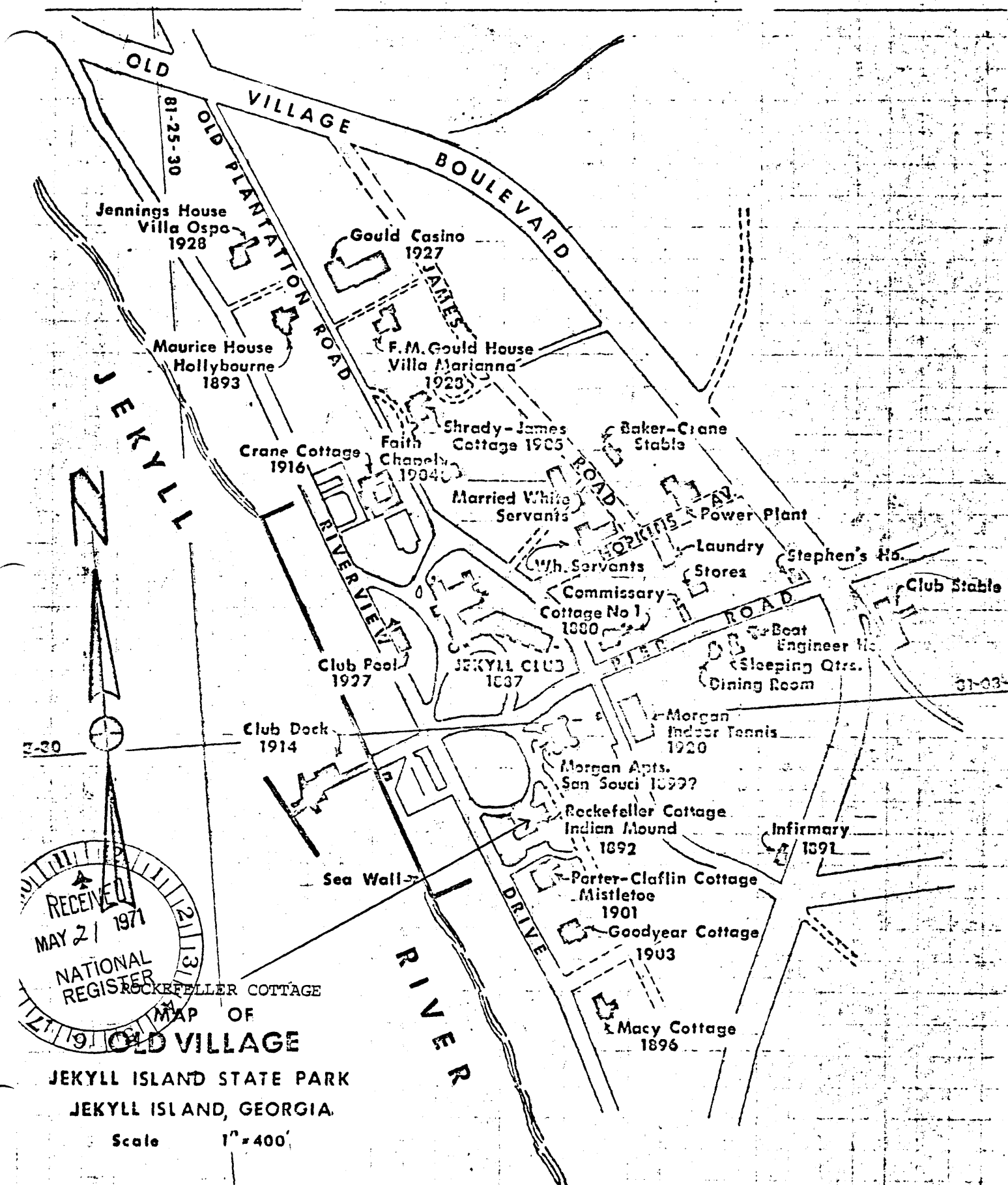
CONTINUATION SHEET

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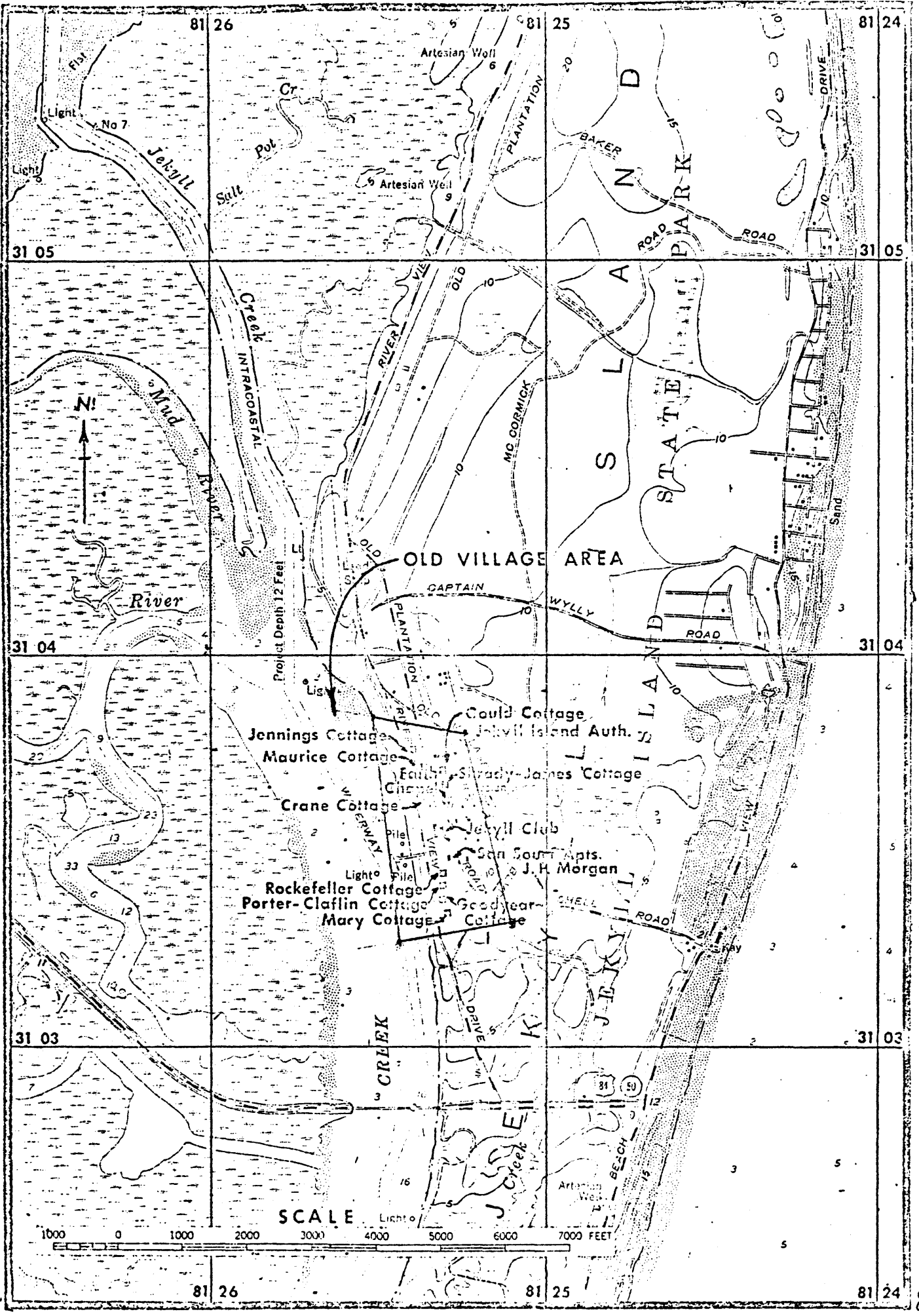
After 50 years as an exclusive private resort, activities came to an abrupt end in April 1942 with the torpedoing of a tanker in nearby St. Simons Sound by a German submarine. The U.S. government, fearing such a concentration of wealth gathered on the island might entice the enemy, ordered Jekyll Island evacuated and placed under the protection of the Coast Guard. While this event precipitated the closing of Jekyll it was not the entire reason. The end of an era had come. Other such resorts as Newport, Tuxedo Park, Nahant, Bar Harbor and Saratoga too were experiencing changing interests and new income tax laws played an important part in the closing of elaborate social clubs. Then too, the younger people sought the gayer life at Palm Beach and other resorts born during the twenties and thirties.

In 1947 the State purchased the entire island for a state park and placed it under the Jekyll Island State Park Authority. Jekyll Island has since developed into one of the state's most popular vacation spots with overnight facilities for swimming, golf, boating and many other recreational activities. The Jekyll Club and millionaire's "cottages" make up the Village Area on the western shores of the island. The Rockefeller cottage has been restored as the Jekyll Museum and furnished with furniture from various village homes.

In short, the Old Village Area is an architectural-historical museum district which preserves the ambience of a unique Gay Nineties' resort. Fashionable architectural styles from the 1880's until the 1920's and 30's are gathered in an enclave under moss-draped live oaks. The Old Village retains the atmosphere of a by-gone era and is being maintained as a unit so that one can feel something of what a Club "stranger" experienced in the days of Rockefeller and J. P. Morgan.



JEKYLL ISLAND STATE PARK
JEKYLL ISLAND, GEORGIA
Scale 1" = 400'

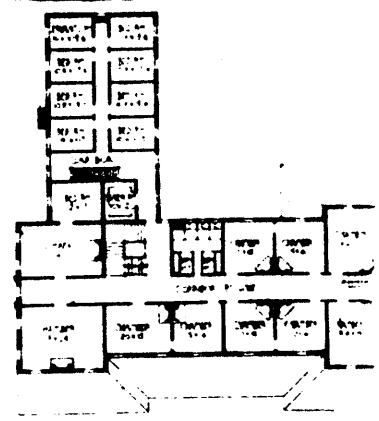
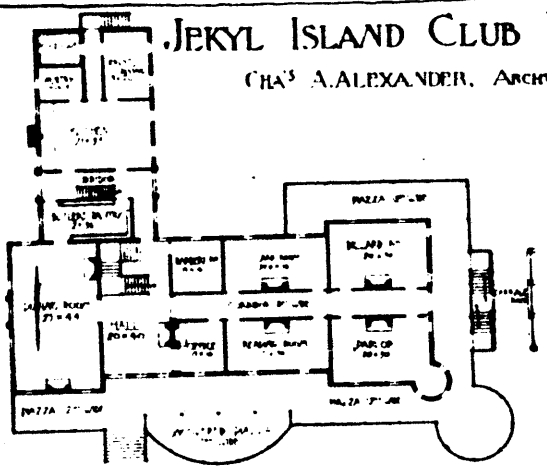


SCALE 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

AMERICAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS, JAN. 6. 1887

JEKYL ISLAND CLUB HOUSE, BRUNSWICK, GA.

CHAS. A. ALEXANDER, ARCHT. CHICAGO, ILL.



REGISTERED 1847 TUCKER S. I.

D. A. G. 1887