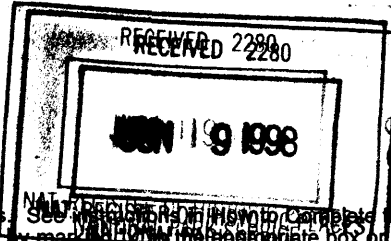


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. Complete each item by marking the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functional, 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 CLARKE, WILLIAM ESTATE

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1039-1057 Kingsley Avenue

N/A not for publication

city or town Orange Park

N/A vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Clay code 019 zip code 32073

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.)

Judith Pitts, DSHPO 6-11-98
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
State or 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

I hereby certify that the property is:

entered in the National Register See continuation sheet

determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain) _____

Edson H. Beall 7-15-98
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Clarke, William Estate
Name of Property

Clay Co., FL
County and State

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing		Noncontributing	
6	1		buildings
0	1		sites
0	0		structures
0	0		objects
6	2		total

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

Historic Architectural Resources of Orange Park, Florida

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
DOMESTIC: garage apartment
DOMESTIC: garage
DOMESTIC: storage shed

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT
VACANT
VACANT
VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: frame vernacular

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation WOOD
walls WOOD
ASBESTOS
roof METAL
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

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 36) 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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1912-1948

Significant Dates

1912

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Clarke, William, builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

Clarke, William Estate
Name of Property

Clay Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9,33 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1	7	4	3	1	0	0	0	3	3	3	7	2	4	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 Sidney Johnston/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date June 1998

street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (850) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida 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 Town of Orange Park

street & number 2042 Park Avenue telephone 904-264-9565

city or town Orange Park state FL zip code 32073

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Clarke Estate is located at 1039-1057 Kingsley Avenue, Orange Park, Clay County, Florida. The estate contains a concentration of historic buildings, and consists 6 contributing buildings, and 2 non-contributing resources. The 6 contributing buildings consist of 2 houses, 2 garage apartments, 1 garage, and 1 storage shed. Non-contributing resources are 1 public restroom and 1 playground of recent construction. All the historic buildings were built between 1912 and 1930, are of frame vernacular construction, and are one and two stories in height. Three of the historic buildings were surfaced with asbestos shingles in 1946.

PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clarke Estate is located one-and-one-half miles west of the St. Johns River, on the north side of Kingsley Avenue, the primary east/west corridor through Orange Park. A cemetery lies to the south. Commercial buildings and a church are on Kingsley Avenue to the southwest, and residences are to the west and east. The estate originally covered 30 acres, but the boundary encloses a tract of the estate in lot 21, section 8 of the town plan. To the north of the buildings lies a small lake and wetlands, part of the original estate that is currently under development as a passive park by the Town of Orange Park. The terrain is flat, and pecan and oak trees are present. The pecan trees appear in larger numbers behind the main house, planted in a square grove pattern with 100 feet between each tree. A dirt road winds among the buildings and trees (Photos #1&2).

Architectural Styles and Building Uses

The buildings are of frame vernacular construction. Three buildings are one-story, and three are two-stories. Three of the original horizontal wooden siding buildings have asbestos shingle exteriors. Fenestration includes 1/1 and 3/1, double-hung sashes, and casement windows. Some window openings have been covered with plywood. Paneled wood doors are present in the 4 residential buildings, and the doors in the 2 houses have multiple lights. Below grade brick piers support most buildings.

The primary dwelling at 1039 Kingsley Avenue (Photos #3-5) displays a side-facing gable roof surfaced with metal 3-V crimp panels, horizontal wooden siding walls covered with asbestos panels, and 1/1, double-hung sash windows set in singly and in groups of three (Photo #3). The main door has

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2 WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

a gable roof portico. A one-story, metal roofed verandah protrudes at the southeast corner, and wraps around partially on the east elevation (Photo #4). A brick chimney rises along the east elevation and a shed extension projects from the north (rear) elevation. The interior has an open arrangement with wood floors, and plaster walls and ceiling. Craftsmen style woodwork, popular at the time of its construction, is present (Photo #5).

The small house at 1047 Kingsley Avenue (Photo #6) has a continuous block foundation, front-facing gable roof, asbestos panels on the exterior walls, pairs of 3/1, double-hung sash windows, and an entrance porch with a gable roof.

Two garage apartments stand near the western edge of the estate. They are similar in design and materials. The building at 1055-1057 Kingsley Avenue (Photo #7), the smaller of the two and located west of the primary house, has a side-facing gable roof pierced by a shed dormer and a central entrance protected by a gable stoop. Asbestos panels cover the original wooden exterior wall. The asymmetrical facade displays paired and single arrangements of 1/1, double-hung sash windows. Casement windows with Craftsman-style 6-light mullions occupy the three elevations of a small sleeping porch at the west end of the building. The sleeping porch is integrated within the primary roof. Two vehicle bays are at the southeast corner.

The other garage apartment is northwest of the main house at 1049 Kingsley Avenue (Photo #8). It also has a side-facing gable roof with a shed dormer. The exterior horizontal siding is finished with corner boards. The building has a symmetrical facade with four vehicle bays along the first story and two groups of three, 1/1 double-hung sash windows on the second. A sleeping porch with a shed roof extends from the east elevation.

A small garage stands southeast of the main house at 1039A Kingsley Avenue (Photo #9). The building has a side-facing gable roof with standing seam surfacing, wood exterior wall fabric, and two vehicle bays.

A storage shed is behind the main house at 1039C Kingsley Avenue (Photo #10). It has a side-facing gable roof surfaced with standing seam metal panels, clapboard and vertical board exterior wall fabrics, and a slotted sliding door. A brick chimney rises along the south elevation.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

Non-contributing properties include a one-story concrete block restroom (Photo #11) with a hip roof, and playground with equipment and picnic tables, located near the southeast corner of the property (Photo #12).

CLARKE ESTATE INVENTORY

CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

ADDRESS	STYLE	DATE
1039 Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	1912
1039 A Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	c. 1930
1039 C Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	c. 1920
1047 Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	c. 1925
1049 Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	c. 1918
1055-1057 Kingsley Avenue	Frame Vernacular	c. 1918

NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES

Kingsley Avenue
bathroom

1039 B
playground

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Clarke Estate is nominated to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the local level in the areas of Architecture, and Commerce. The Clarke Estate is a rare complex of agricultural related buildings associated with pecan cultivation. The buildings display vernacular building traditions Clarke learned in north Florida and applied to his domestic, rental property, and agricultural needs, and are consistent with national and statewide trends in architecture. The estate contributes to the "Historic Architectural Resources of Orange Park, Florida" Multiple Property cover under the Historic Contexts of Progressive Era, Florida Land Boom and Bust, and Great Depression, World War II, and Aftermath, under the Property Type F.1., residential

HISTORICAL and ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

William F. Clarke's parents immigrated from England to the United States in the early 1860s, finally settling in Jacksonville. There, Clarke's father established a mechanical engineering business in 1869. William, who was born in 1886, learned the trade from his father, and about 1904 organized a plumbing company in Jacksonville. About 1909, seeking a more rural home, he acquired a thirty acre tract in Orange Park. He laid out and planted groves of pecan, persimmon, plum, and citrus trees, grape vines and gardens, and stocked the property with cows and goats. In 1912, he built the main house on the property (Photos #3-5). Although he moved his residence to Orange Park, Clarke continued to operate the plumbing business in Jacksonville.

Within several years, he found the fruit of the citrus, persimmon, and plum trees could not withstand the periodic hard freezes of north Florida. The pecan trees, however, thrived and provided him with a large crop of nuts each year. He began selling the nuts to neighbors and friends, expanded distribution, and eventually filled orders from England, France, Japan, and Norway. His business name of "Clarke's Pecan Grove" is on a metal sign within the main house (Photo #13). Clarke initially hired John Coleman, an immigrant from England, to manage the pecan grove and harvests, and tend to the livestock. Later, Robert Jacobs, an Orange Park resident, helped process the pecans for sale, milk the cows, and perform odd jobs. The storage building (Photo #10) with sliding doors was built about 1920 to wash and store the pecans after they were gathered.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

About 1918, to help provide additional income and provide shelter for his livestock and equipment, he built two garage apartments on the property (Photos #7&8). The first story bays stored vehicles, equipment, and livestock. He rented the second story apartments to Orange Park residents over the following decades. For a brief period in the 1930s, the apartment in the building at 1057 Kingsley Avenue was used by his son and wife, William E. and Georgia Clarke, who later ran the plumbing business. About 1920, a small building (Photo #10) was built north of the house to store pecans and washing equipment. Several years later the small house was constructed for rental purposes (Photo #6). About 1930, a garage was built southeast of the house (Photo #9).

Clarke entered local politics in the mid 1920s, initially serving as Orange Park's treasurer in 1924. Later in the decade, he won elections to the town council and then served as mayor. He also held posts as town clerk and tax collector for brief periods, and in 1937 again won the election as town treasurer, a post he held until his death in 1943.

To avoid painting and other exterior maintenance of the buildings, Clarke's widow, Carrie, installed asbestos panels on three of the buildings about 1946. She continued to reside in the house until her death two decades later. She served in various social organizations including the Baptist Church and its Children's Home, helped incorporate the Orange Park Woman's Club, and served as its president. The Orange Park estate remained in the Clarke family until 1991, when the Town of Orange Park purchased it. The town has restored the interior of the main house as part of developing the property for use as a public park and interpretive center.

The estate's arrangement and buildings reflect its rural agricultural uses. The buildings embody vernacular traditions Clarke adapted to serve several functions. Few of Orange Park's historic buildings remain, and few of the state's historic agricultural complexes are intact.

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National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9,10 Page 1 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bowles, John, "Clarke Homestead," unpublished, 1993.

Bureau of the Census, 1920, Florida, Clay County.

Clarke, Georgia (William Clarke's daughter-in-law), interview with
Sidney Johnston, 1996.

Clarke, Georgia. "Clarke's Pecan Grove." unpublished, no date.

Clay County Deed Book #4.

Jacksonville Florida Times Union, Nov. 22, 1943.

Polk, R.L. Jacksonville City Directory, Jacksonville, 1925.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lots 16 & 21, except part of lot 16, section 8 as recorded in DB 107, p.
172, 1369 p. 1458, and 1373 p. 302.

See attached scaled map of the Clarke Estate.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encloses the property historically associated with the
buildings of the Clarke Estate.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Photos Page 1 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

1. William Clarke Estate, 1039 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park
2. Clay County, Florida
3. Sidney Johnston
4. 1996
5. Historic Property Associates, Inc., St. Augustine, Florida.
6. View of dirt road and 1055 Kingsley Ave., looking north
7. Photo #1 of 13

Items 1-5 are the same for the following photographs.

6. View of dirt road and 1047 & 1049 Kingsley Ave., looking
 northeast
7. Photo #2 of 13

6. Main facade and west elevation of main house, 1039 Kingsley
 Ave., looking northeast
7. Photo #3 of 13

6. East elevation of main house, looking southwest
7. Photo #4 of 13

6. Interior of main house, first floor, looking east
7. Photo #5 of 13

6. Main facade, 1047 Kingsley Ave., looking northeast
7. Photo #6 of 13

6. Main facade, 1055-57 Kingsley Ave., looking northwest
7. Photo #7 of 13

6. Main facade, 1049 Kingsley Ave., looking northeast
7. Photo #8 of 13

6. Garage, 1039A Kingsley Ave., looking northeast
7. Photo #9 of 13

6. Storage shed, 1039C Kingsley Ave., looking east
7. Photo #10 of 13

**United States Department of the Interior
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Photos Page 2 **WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE, ORANGE
PARK, CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

6. Non-contributing bathroom, looking east

7. Photo #11 of 13

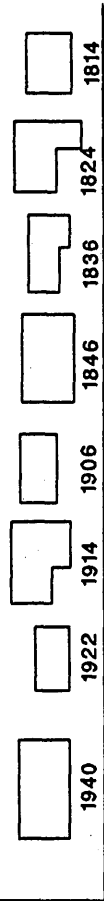
6. Playground, looking east

7. Photo #12 of 13

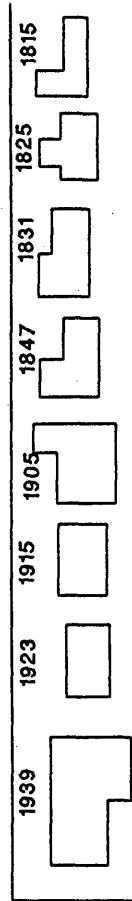
6. "Clarke's Pecan Grove" sign, main house, second floor, looking
east

7. Photo #13 of 13

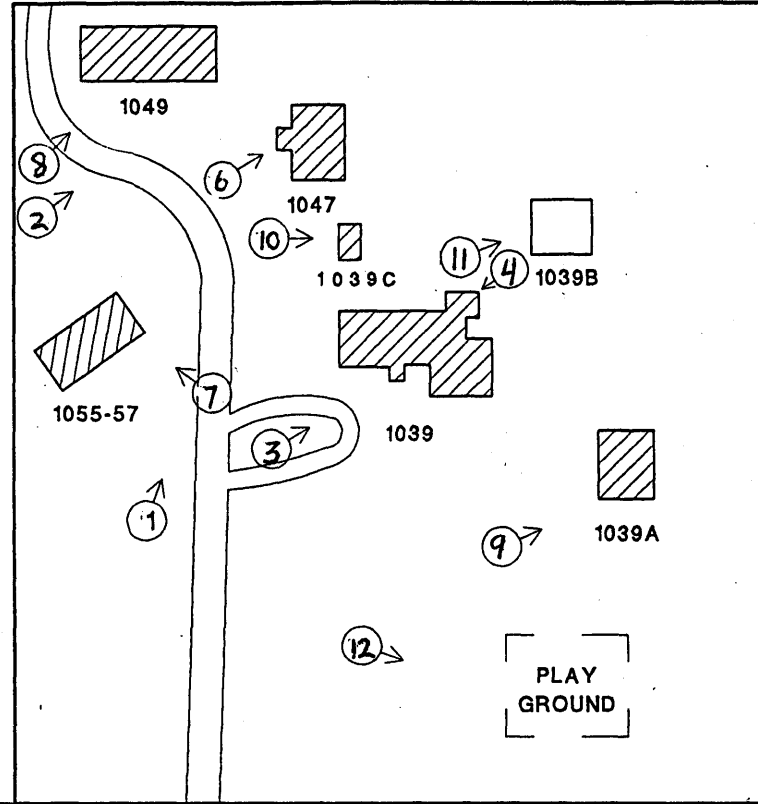
WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE SITE PLAN



GROVE DRIVE



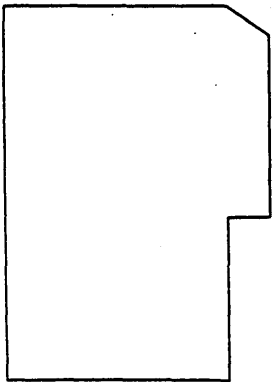
BOUNDARY



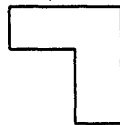
SOLOMAN AVENUE

KINGSLEY AVENUE

1100

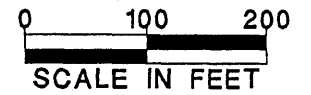


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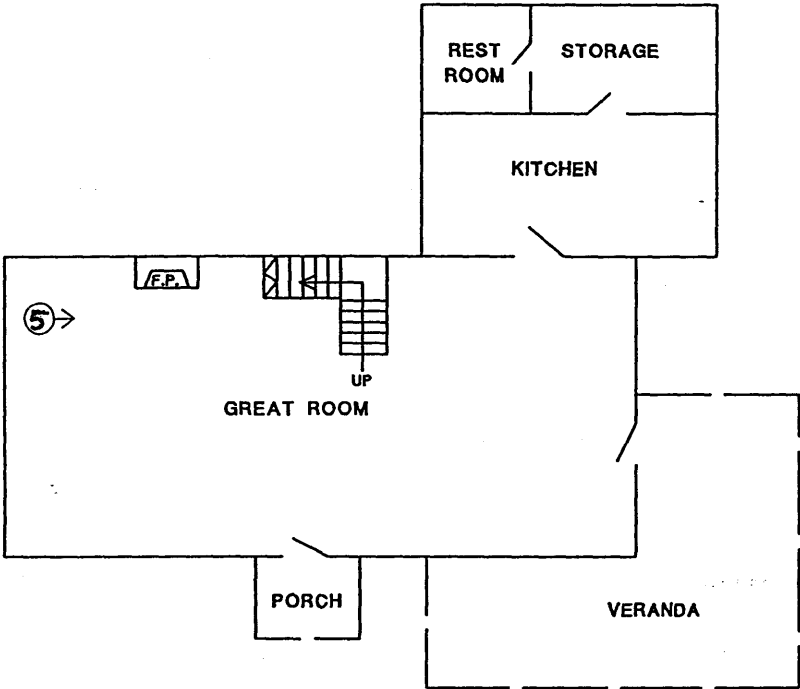


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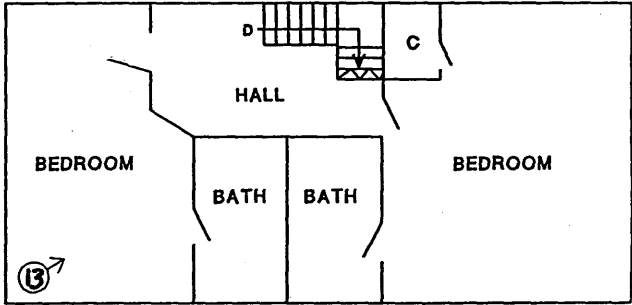
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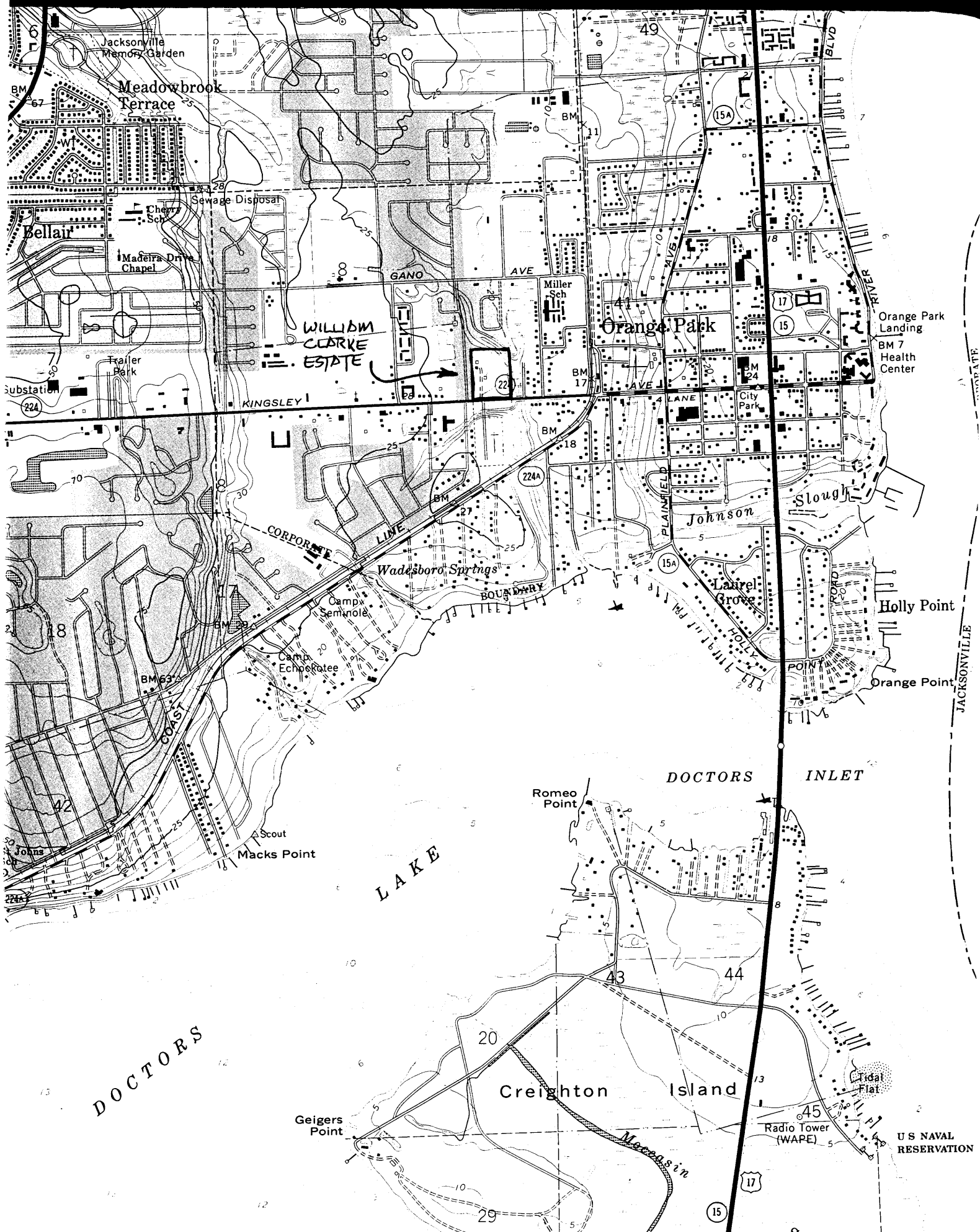
WILLIAM CLARKE HOUSE FLOOR PLANS



FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



DOCTORS

LAKE

Creighton Island

U.S. NAVAL RESERVATION

WILLIAM CLARKE ESTATE

Orange Park

Johnson

Laurel Grove

Holly Point

Orange Point

DOCTORS INLET

Meadowbrook Terrace

Bellair

GANO AVE

Miller Sch

Orange Park Landing
BM 7 Health Center

Wadesboro Springs

PLAINFIELD LANE

Slough

Romeo Point

Scout Macks Point

Radio Tower (WAPE)

Jacksonville Memory Garden

Cherry Sch
Madeira Drive Chapel

Trailer Park
Substation

City Park

KINGSLEY

CORPORATE LINE

BOUNDARY

JACKSONVILLE

Johns

BM 62

BM 18

224A

15A

17

15

BM 24

BM 17

BM 18

22

BM

27

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