

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 93000420

Date Listed: 5/21/93

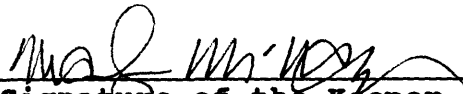
**Cleveland, U. J., House
Property Name**

**Mobile
County**

**ALABAMA
State**

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

for 
Signature of the Keeper

5/27/93
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 2

This nomination is amended to change the code for Mobile County from 093 to 097.

Section No. 3.

The nomination is also amended to show that the Alabama SHPO recommends that this property be considered significant locally.

These changes were confirmed by phone with the SHPO (5/22/93, 5/27/93).

DISTRIBUTION:

**National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

RECEIVED

4

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NOV 16 1992

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Ala. Historical Commission

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 Property

historic name Cleveland, U. J., House

other names/site number Smith, Thomas, House

2. Location

street & number 551 Charles Street not for publication

city or town Mobile vicinity

state Alabama code AL county Mobile code 093 zip code 36604

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.)

Therence D. ... 4-5-93
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State of 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.
- removed from the National Register.
- other. (explain:)

M. M. ... Signature of the Keeper Date of Action 5/21/93

Cleveland-Smith House

Name of Property

Mobile, AL

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)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: Gulf Coast Cottage

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

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

Cleveland-Smith House
Name of Property

Mobile, AL
County and State

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): NA

- 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1853, 1893

Significant Dates

1853, 1893

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Mobile Historic Development Commission

Cleveland-Smith House
Name of Property

Mobile, AL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1

1	6
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4	0	10	5	16	10
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3	13	9	14	2	10	10
---	----	---	----	---	----	----

Zone Easting Northing

3

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Zone Easting Northing

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 John Sledge/Architectural Historian, Melanie Betz/AHC Reviewer (205)242-3184

organization Mobile Historic Development Commission date 12 November 1992

street & number P. O. Box 1827 telephone (205) 438-7281

city or town Mobile state AL zip code 36633

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 Thomas Smith and Diane M. Smith

street & number 1122 South Drive telephone (205) 432-1175

city or town Mobile state AL zip code 36605

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.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, Alabama

The Cleveland-Smith House sits on a small, informally landscaped lot on the east side of Charles Street, just over one block south of the southern boundary of the Oakleigh Garden District in the City of Mobile. The property is surrounded by a chain link fence. A paved drive and detached garage are on the south side of the lot. The garage is a non-contributing frame structure.

The house itself stands in marked contrast to its neighbors most of which are turn-of-the-century Victorian cottages. The Cleveland-Smith House is a large frame Gulf Coast Cottage, with a gable roof parallel to the street. It is one and a half stories, five by three bays, with 6/6 windows and a recessed porch covering the facade, supported on boxed columns with capitals and balustraded. The four panel front door features a transom with bullseye block and channeled board surround. The entrance itself is flanked by a pair of brass Craftsmen lights, probably added during the teens.

The half-story gables feature paired 6/6 windows, with a louvered vent above. The peak of the roof is slightly offset, rather than centered over the paired windows. The rear elevation features a gable ell with a recessed porch running along its south elevation. This porch is balustraded with square post supports.

The interior plan of the house is unusual for Mobile, featuring a back hall dining room. The front door leads into a narrow hall, with the staircase running immediately up to the half story. There is a simple room to either side of the hall, each with plastered walls. Rather than running the width of the house, as is typical in Gulf Coast Cottages, the hall extends only one room deep. One then steps into a larger back hall dining room, finished with flush boards of irregular width. Smaller rooms open to either side, one on the south and two on the north. The ell is attached just off center rear. All interior doors are four panel with plain Victorian hardware.

The upstairs features a room on either side of the landing area with garret ceilings and wide floor boards.

The Cleveland-Smith House originally sat just a few hundred feet away from its present location. Built in 1853 on a much larger parcel, the house had to be moved in 1893 when

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

Charles Street was extended through the property. Now facing Charles Street, the house originally dead-ended the street. After the 1893 move, minor alterations were made to the house, including new doors and the entrance surround.

The Cleveland-Smith House maintains its integrity of style and design and is an important local example of the Gulf Coast Cottage style.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3 Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

The Cleveland-Smith House is significant under National Register Criterion C as an intact Gulf Coast Cottage with an unusual interior plan. The back hall dining room arrangement is extremely rare in Mobile, and distinguishes the Cleveland-Smith House from other local Gulf Coast Cottages.

The Cleveland-Smith House can be dated to 1853, when the City Tax Records first indicate improvements on the thirty acre parcel. The house was constructed by one U. J. Cleveland, who acquired the parcel in 1851. The area was sparsely settled during the 1850s, with only a few farms and dwellings. The new city cemetery (Magnolia Cemetery) had been opened just a few blocks to the west in 1836, this was then the outskirts of the city.

That Cleveland constructed a Gulf Coast Cottage was not unusual for an antebellum Mobile house. Gulf Coast Cottages were popular throughout the 19th century and had evolved from the older Creole Cottages of the colonial founders. Gulf Coast Cottages were distinguished by their frame construction, gable roofs parallel to the street and recessed porches. In this respect, they resembled the Creole Cottages. They differed in their use of interior hallways. Creole Cottages typically featured two front doors and no interior hallways (a French building preference), whereas Gulf Coast Cottages featured a central hall bisecting four rooms, which was an American adaptation of the older Creole plan. The back hall dining room arrangement chosen by Cleveland, was very unusual for Mobile, though some houses in central and northern Alabama used this plan.

Cleveland sold the house to George Cooper, a carpenter, in 1862, and Cooper held the property until the 1880s. By the 1890s the area had become more densely settled. Charles Street dead-ended into the property, which was much reduced from its thirty acres to about one acre. In 1893 the City of Mobile decided to extend Charles Street on to the south. This necessitated that the house be moved or demolished. The new owner, Evaline Duval, accordingly had the structure trundled several hundred feet to the north and east, so that it faced Charles Street on a 100'x150' lot.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 4 Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

The Cleveland-Smith House has remained at this location ever since. The present owner's family has owned the house for many years, and he is currently restoring it to its original condition.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 5

Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Mobile City Directories, various years.

Mobile County Deedbooks, various.

Mobile County Tax Records, various years.

Elizabeth Gould. From Fort to Port: An Architectural History of Mobile, 1711-1918. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1989.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 6

Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Begin at a point on the east side of Charles Street, one hundred feet south of the north line of the Middle Division of the Bernoudy Tract, running thence south one hundred ten feet for a front, and extending back eastwardly one hundred thirty-six feet for a depth, thence north for one hundred ten feet, thence west one hundred thirty-six feet to the point of beginning.

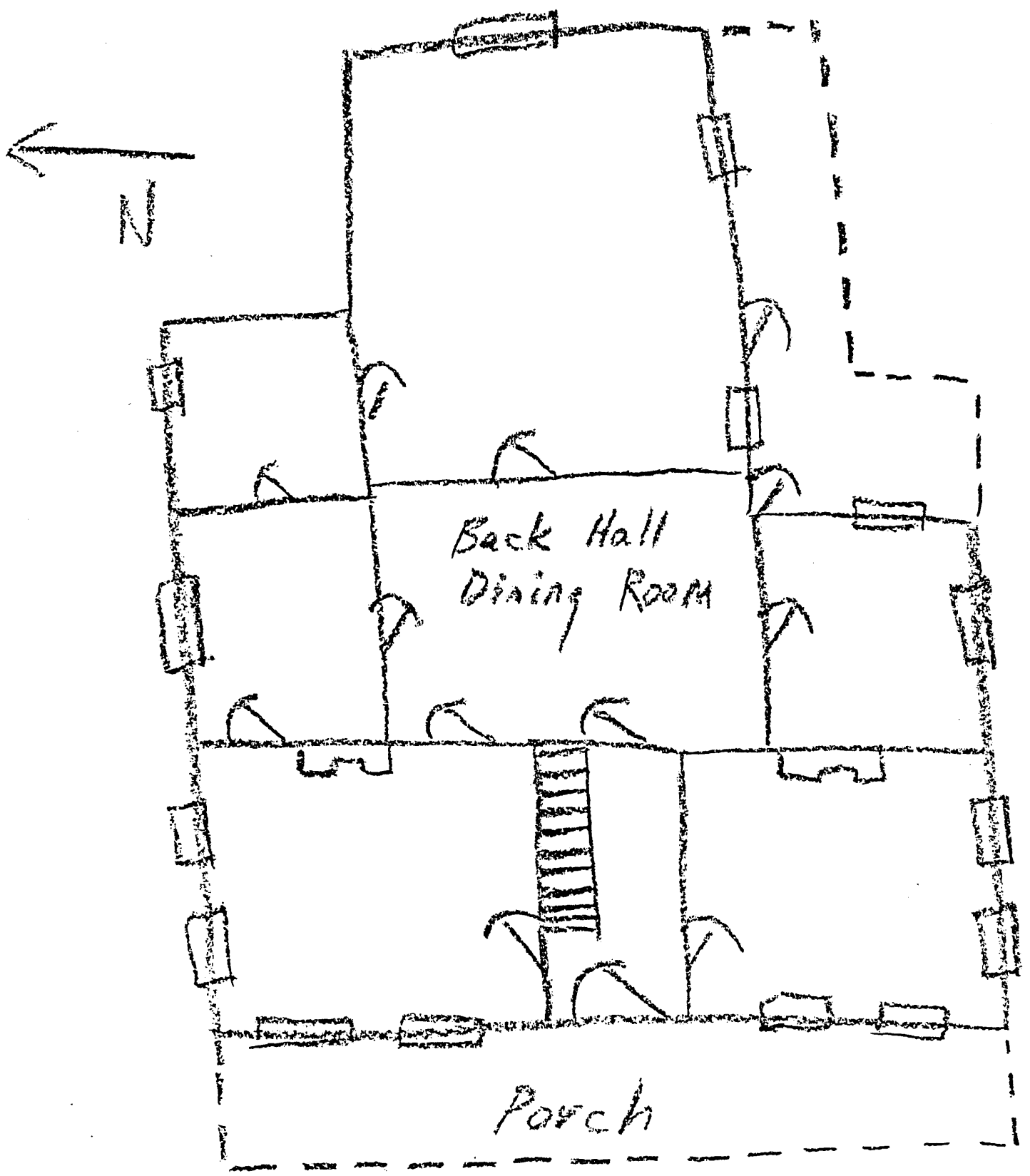
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary conforms to the present legal dimensions of the lot.

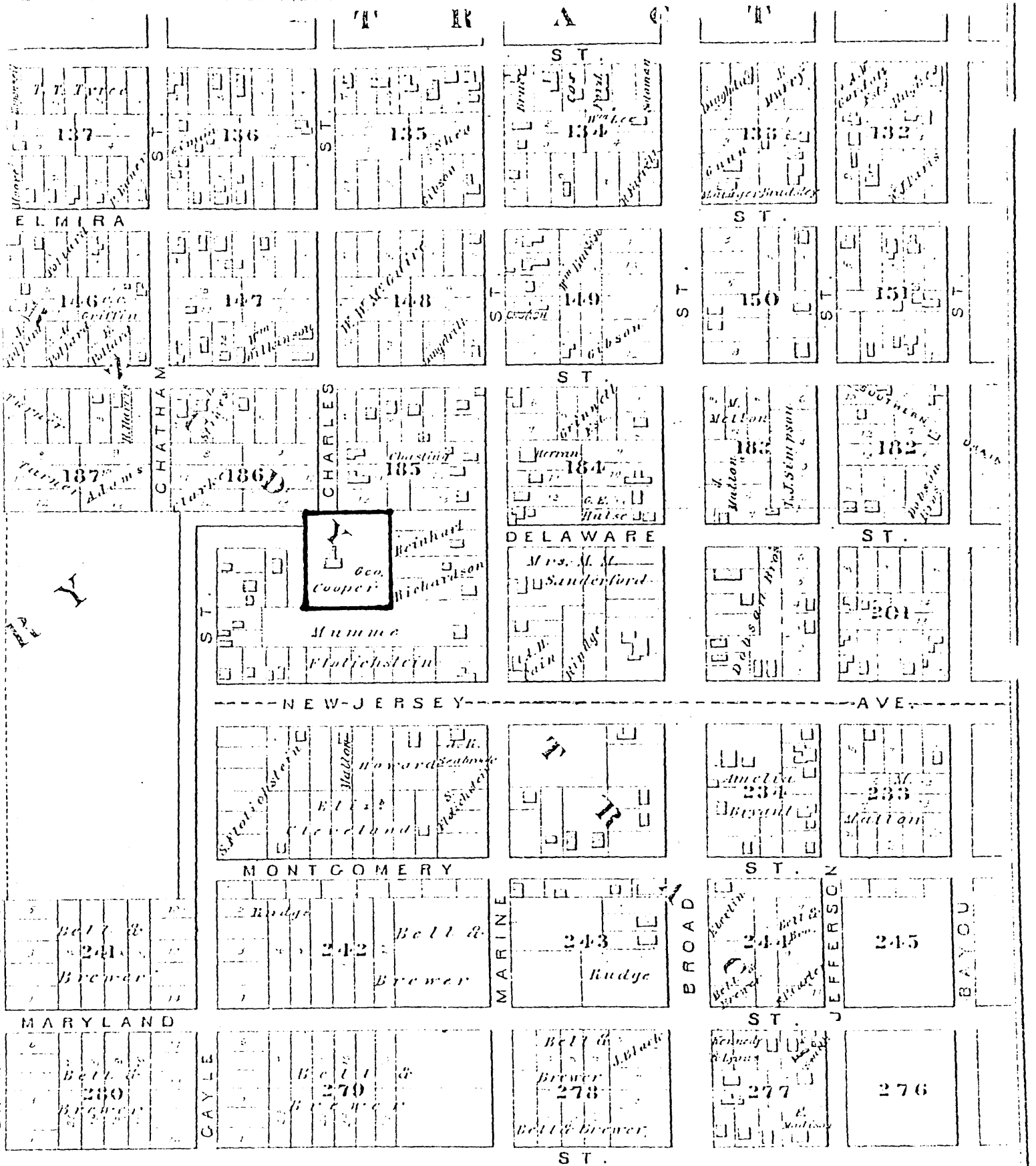
551 Charles St. Mobile, AL.

c. 1855

Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL



Charles St.

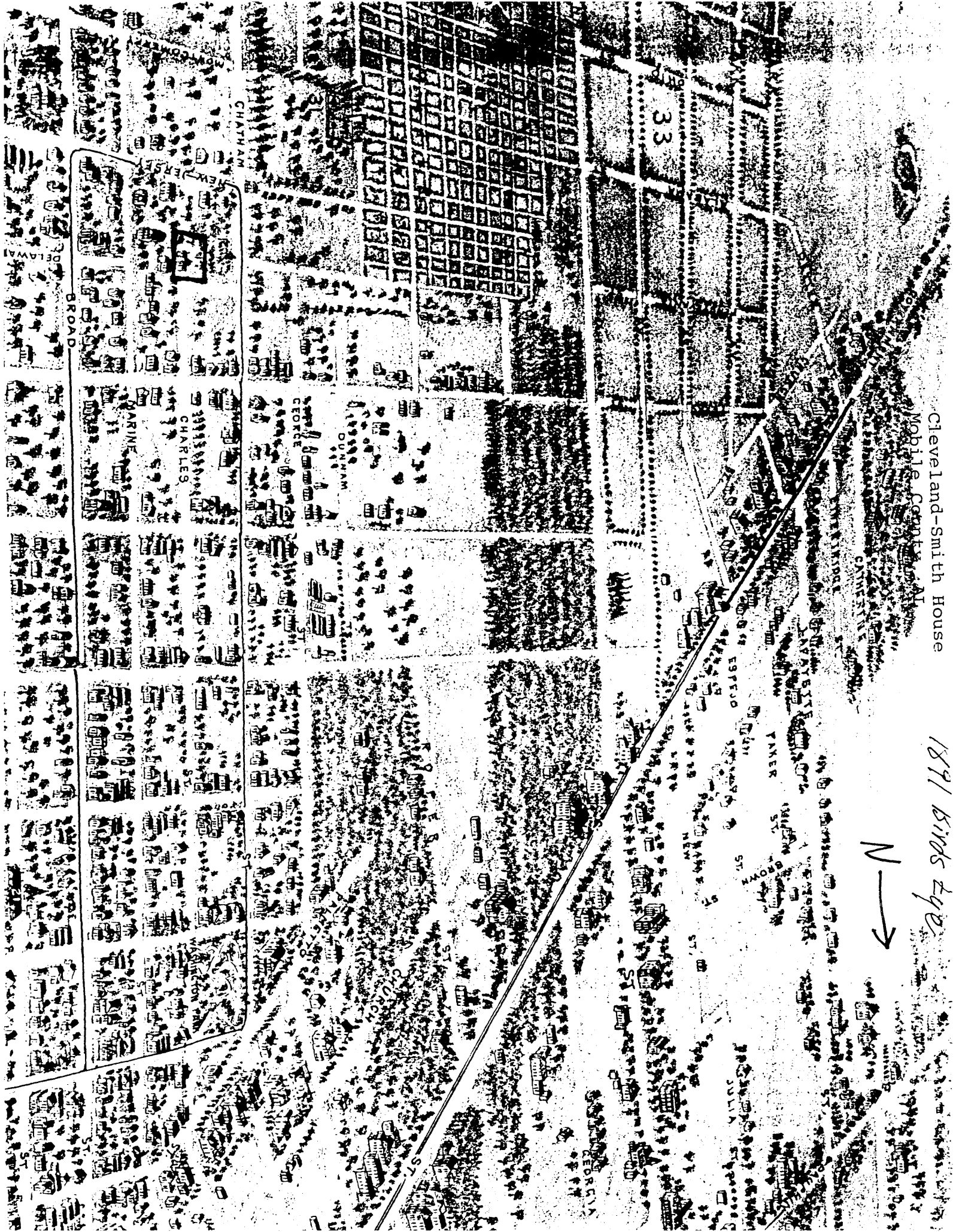


Geo. Cooper

Cleveland-Smith House

Mobile County, Ala.

1891 Birds Eye



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photo-
graphs Page 7

Cleveland-Smith House
Mobile County, AL

PHOTO LOG

Cleveland-Smith House
551 Charles Street
Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
John Sledge, photographer
October 1992
MHDC negative file MB #209

#	View	Frame
1.	Facade, camera facing E.	1
2.	General, camera facing SE.	3
3.	General, camera facing NE.	7
4.	Rear view, camera facing W.	9
5.	Interior hallway, camera facing E.	15
6.	Newel post detail.	25
7.	North front room, camera facing E.	11
8.	South front room, camera facing E.	16
9.	Back hall dining room, camera facing W.	21
10.	Same, camera facing NE.	18
11.	Upstairs, south room, camera facing S.	27