

RECORD NUMBER: 13

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X original
update

HISTORICAL STRUCTURE FORM
FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE

Site 8 _____

SITE NAME: 11 South Park Street

HISTORIC CONTEXTS: Depression/New Deal

NAT. REGISTER CATEGORY: Building

OTHER NAMES OR MSF NOS:

COUNTY: Putnum OWNERSHIP TYPE: Private, individual

PROJECT NAME: Survey of Crescent City: S+P DHR NO.

LOCATION:

ADDRESS: 11 South Park Street

CITY: Crescent City

VICINITY OF/ROUTE TO: See attached map

SUB: Crescent City

BLOCK 13

LOT 6

PLAT OR OTHER MAP: Putnam County Property Appraiser Maps

TOWNSHIP: 12S RANGE: 28E SECTION: 30 1/4: 1/4-1/4:

IRREGULAR SEC? y X n LAND GRANT: None

USGS 7.5 MAP: Crescent City 1970 PR 1980

UTM: ZONE: EASTING: NORTHING:

COORDINATES: LATITUDE: D M S LONGITUDE: D M S

HISTORY

ARCHITECT: Unknown

BUILDER: Unknown

CONSTRUCTION DATE: c. 1938 RESTORATION DATE(S):

MODIFICATION DATE(S):

MOVE: DATE: ORIG. LOCATION:

ORIGINAL USE (S): Residential

PRESENT USE (S): Residential

DESCRIPTION

STYLE: Masonry Vernacular

PLAN: EXTERIOR: Irregular

PLAN: INTERIOR: Unknown

NO. STORIES: 1 OUTBLDGS: 0 PORCHES: 1 DORMERS: 0

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM(S): Masonry, concrete block

EXTERIOR FABRIC(S): Concrete block

FOUNDATION: TYPE: Continuous

MATERIALS: Concrete

INFILL:

PORCHES: W/entrance/hip roof, square posts/3 bays

ROOF: TYPE: Gable

SURFACING: Composition shingle

SECONDARY STRUCS: Gable extension

CHIMNEY: NO.: 2

MATERIALS: Brick

LOCATIONS: N; end, exterior; S; end, exterior

WINDOWS: Double-hung sash, 3/1 lights

EXTERIOR ORNAMENT:

CONDITION: Good

SURROUNDINGS: Residential

NARRATIVE:

See continuation sheet

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AT THE SITE

FMSF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORM COMPLETED? y X n

ARTIFACTS OR OTHER REMAINS: None observed

RECORDER'S EVALUATION OF SITE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: Architecture

ELIGIBLE FOR NAT. REGISTER?	y	X	n	likely, need info	insf	info
SIGNIF. AS PART OF DISTRICT?	X	y	n	likely, need info	insf	info
SIGNIFICANT AT LOCAL LEVEL?	X	y	n	likely, need info	insf	info

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE

See continuation sheet

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* * * * DHR USE ONLY * * * * * DHR USE ONLY * * * * *
*           DATE LISTED ON NR _____ *
* KEEPER DETERMINATION OF ELIG. (DATE):  YES _____ NO _____ *
* SHPO EVALUATION OF ELIGIBILITY (DATE): YES _____ NO _____ *
* LOCAL DETERMINATION OF ELIG. (DATE):  YES _____ NO _____ *
* OFFICE _____ *
* * * * DHR USE ONLY * * * * * DHR USE ONLY * * * * *

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RECORDER INFORMATION: NAME: Stephen Olausen

DATE: 04/10/95 AFFILIATION: Historic Property Associates

PHOTOGRAPHS

LOCATION OF NEGATIVES: Historic Property Associates

NEGATIVE NUMBERS: Roll 1, fr. 16

PHOTOGRAPH

M A P

See Attachments

Architectural Description: This one-story masonry residential building is located at 11 South Park Street. It is an example of Masonry Vernacular architecture. It has an irregular plan consisting of a gable roof main unit and a gable extension. The exterior walls are concrete block and fenestration consists of double-hung sash windows with 3/1 lights. An entrance porch with a hip roof and square post supports extends from the facade. There are two brick chimneys and the building sits on a continuous concrete foundation.

Architectural Context: Masonry Vernacular is defined as the common masonry construction techniques of lay or self taught builders. Prior to the Civil War vernacular designs were local in nature, transmitted by word of mouth or by demonstration, and relying heavily upon native building materials. With the coming of the American Industrial Revolution mass manufacturers became the pervasive influence over vernacular house design. Popular magazines featuring standardized manufactured building components, house plans, and house decorating tips flooded consumer markets and helped to make building trends universal throughout the country. The railroad also aided the process by providing cheap and efficient transportation for manufactured building materials. Ultimately, the individual builder had access to a myriad of finished architectural products from which he could pick and choose to create a design of his own.

Masonry Vernacular is more commonly associated with commercial building types than with residential architecture where wood frame houses dominate. In Florida, most examples predating 1920 were brick, but a number of older examples feature the rough-faced cast concrete block popularized by Henry Hobson Richardson in his Romanesque buildings of the late nineteenth century. The Masonry Vernacular designs of the 1920s were most often influenced by popular Spanish designs of the period. The main masonry building materials during the period were hollow tile and brick. During the 1930s Masonry Vernacular buildings, influenced by the International and Modernistic styles and the increased use of reinforced concrete construction techniques, took on an increasing variety of forms. Since World War II concrete block construction has been the leading masonry building material used in Florida.

Statement of Significance: This building first appears on the 1948 Sanborn Fire Insurance map of Crescent City, indicating that it was built some time between that date and 1938, when the previous Sanborn map was prepared. Architectural evidence based on comparisons with buildings of similar size and design indicates that the building was constructed about 1940.¹

Historical Context: The first permanent white settlers in the immediate vicinity of Crescent City arrived in the early 1850s. Following the Civil War the pace of settlement increased significantly. In 1875 Charles R. Griffing acquired most of the land within the present boundaries of the city and had the townsite laid out the following year. The primary route to the area for early settlers was on the St. Johns River by steamship from Jacksonville. Rail service to the community, inaugurated in 1886, facilitated the transport of local goods and increased traffic to the area. The early economy was based on agriculture in the form to truck crops and citrus and tourism. Intensive advertising by Griffing's Crescent City Real Estate Company in the northeast and midwest attracted a significant number of winter residents to the shores of Crescent Lake. A movement to form a municipal government was begun in 1883, and two years later Crescent City was formally incorporated. By 1890 the population had grown to 554. The "Great Freeze" of the winter of 1894-95, however, effectively wiped out the area's citrus groves and caused many of the city's residents to abandon there holdings.

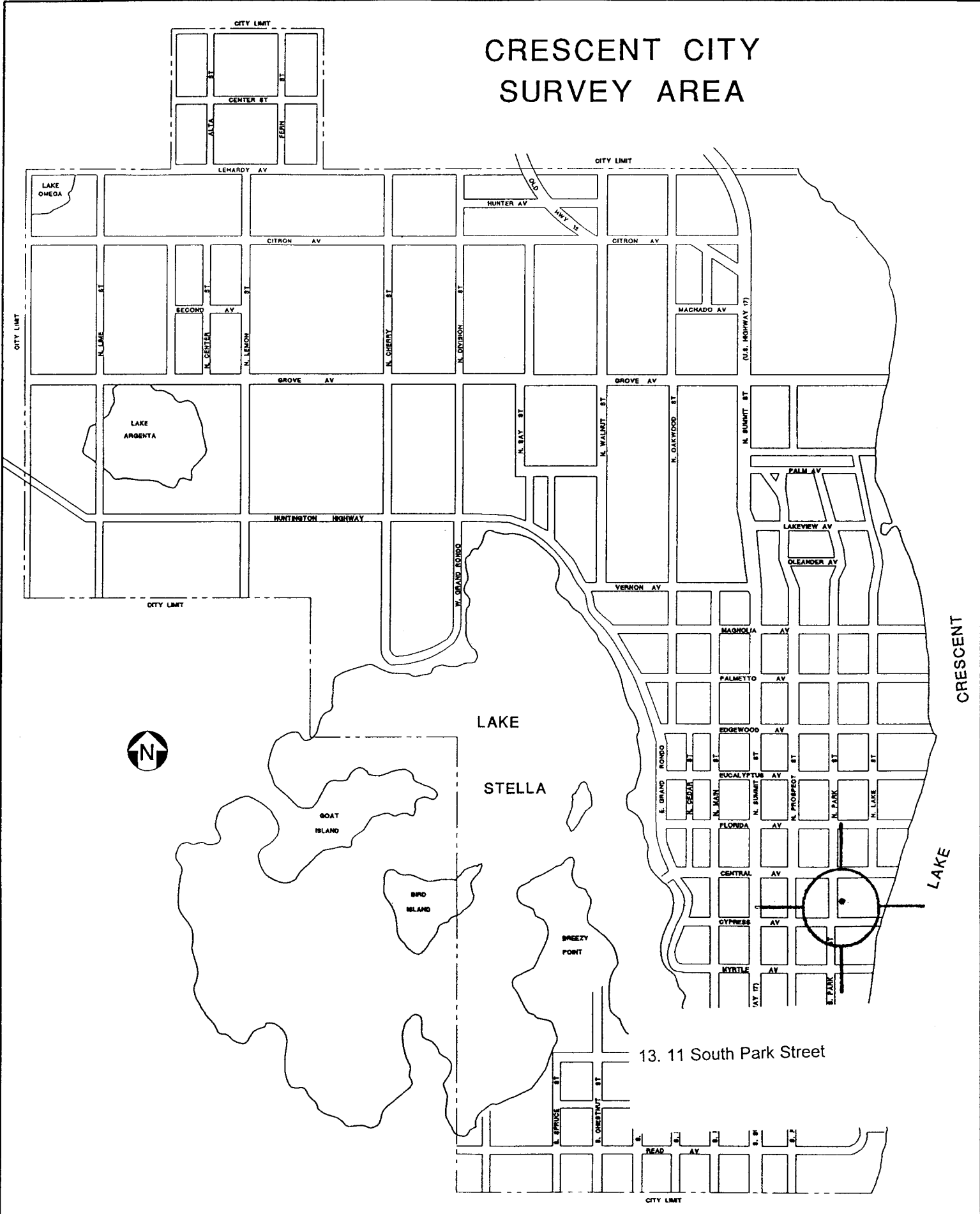
During the first two decades of the twentieth century, the town council initiated a variety of internal improvements. A waterworks, gasworks, electric light plant, and telephone exchange were established and greatly improved the quality of life in the town. The Village Improvement Association, forerunner of the Crescent City Woman's Club, was formed in 1890 and was a significant force in promoting beautification and improvement projects during the remainder of the historic period.

Crescent City experienced significant development during the Florida Land Boom of the 1920s. The construction of State Road No. 3 through the community in 1924 provided a valuable addition to the town's transportation system. The City Council continued to make additional improvements through large bond issues for road paving and the expansion of the waterworks and electric plants. The estimated population of the town at the height of the boom in 1926 was 1,200.

The collapse of the land boom in 1926 threw much of Florida into an economic depression three years in advance of the rest of the nation. The effects of the bust in Crescent City were moderated by the area's strong citrus industry. A Mediterranean fruit fly infestation in 1928, however, damaged area groves. During the Great Depression little in the way of new construction occurred in the city. Both of local banks failed and many residents were forced to seek relief through government sponsored programs. It was not until after World War II that Crescent City fully recovered from the effects of the depression.

¹Sanborn Map Company, *Fire Insurance Map of Crescent City, Putnam County, Florida* (New York, 1926, 1938 update, 1948 update).

CRESCENT CITY SURVEY AREA



13. 11 South Park Street